

# Daily Independent (Ashland, KY)

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## Railroad worker dies in accident

By TIM PRESTON

RACELAND — A CSX employee died early Saturday morning after being caught between two rail cars at the Greenup County rail yard in Raceland.

Raceland police said William L. Worsham, 52, was killed.

CSX spokesman Gary Sease said the fatal accident happened during a routine switching movement, with no initial indication of any improper action.

Worsham was on the end of a moving locomotive when it hit a parked rail car, he said. The accident remains under investigation. Worsham is believed to be a resident of the area, although his address remains unconfirmed.

A call came in to Greenup County 911 at 1:04 a.m. with the Raceland Fire Department, Greenup EMS and Worthington and Raceland police responding.

The incident happened at the same rail yard where emergency officials have responded to several chemical leaks in recent weeks.

Residents of the immediate area said they believe there was a derailment Saturday morning during the incident that killed Worsham. CSX officials have not released information about a derailment or confirmed what the nearby residents believe they saw in the hours after Worsham's death.

The fatal accident comes on the heels of multiple incidents at the Raceland rail yard in recent weeks. Most recently railroad workers and emergency response crews were called to the area to deal with a leaking tanker carrying a load of hydrochloric acid solution.

The hydrochloric acid release caused law enforcement to shut down U.S. 23 for several hours, evacuate about 20 residences along Vine Street in Raceland, issue a shelter-in-place order for the area and closed four school systems — Russell and Raceland on the Kentucky side of the Ohio River, as well as Ironton and Ironton St. Joseph.

There were no injuries attributed to the leak, although several people did seek medical treatment for symptoms including respiratory difficulties after they were told to leave their homes.

TIM PRESTON can be reached at [tpreston@dailyindependent.com](mailto:tpreston@dailyindependent.com) or at (606) 326-2651.