

**Michael O'Shea's trip to East Palestine
and Testimony at the PA Senate Hearing
2/23/23 to 2/24/23**

Michael O'Shea traveled from Cleveland to Monaca, PA on February 23, 2023 to give sworn testimony on the legal perils and issues associated with the toxic train derailment. During that Senate hearing, Mr. O'Shea spoke about the concerns he and his co-counsel had about the trickle money that NS is offering to vulnerable folks in the affected areas. Mr. O'Shea also informed that panel that almost all of his and his co-counsel's clients wanted really nothing more than to have their lives *back* as they knew it on February 2, 2023 (the day before the derailment), and that all the clients they are representing are very uncomfortable with having to rely on anyone other than themselves.

On February 24, 2023, Mr. O'Shea traveled throughout the EP town area, and personally inspected the derailment location, the so-called "controlled burn" site, the current location of the tanker cars, and the numerous tanker trucks and toxin containers. He took many photos, and also concentrated his inspection on the river called "Sulfur Run." Sulfur Run has always run directly east along, and right next to, the north side rail road tracks all the way up to North Pleasant Road, and then goes under the tracks and the runs behind the folks that live on East Taggart Street. Sulfur Run then travels all the way into downtown EP, and then merges with Leslie Run. NS has set up numerous hoses, booms and small hay dams because of the obvious and serious threat this poses to the waterways. The connection between Sulfur Run and Leslie Run is very close to the 5 wells that serve the City's tap/pipe water system. We will continue to monitor this issue and will try to verify what steps are working to prevent contamination of the City's tap/pipe water system and the effect Sulfur Run is having on the community.

When Mr. O'Shea returned to his home in Cleveland on February 24, 2023, he was unusually fatigued and had a severely sore throat all weekend (it was not a cold). Mr. O'Shea believes that the "dust" being blown around by the wind and the numerous trucks in the area must have contained a significant amount of the chemicals spewed by the train derailment, and has some serious concerns for any NS or governmental agencies who might be insinuating that the folks around EP are experiencing something other than the effects of the toxic spill.