


Bulletin of General Information

Death by electrocution of a private tree trimmer

Quévy - 10/07/2023

DOCUMENT VERSION TABLE

Version number	Subject of revision	Date
1.0	First version	23/08/2023



Any use of this report with a different aim than of accident prevention - for example in order to attribute liability - individual or collective blame in particular - would be a complete distortion of the aims of this report, the methods used to assemble it, the selection of facts collected, the nature of questions posed and the ideas organising it, to which the notion of liability is unknown. The conclusions which could be deduced from this would therefore be abusive in the literal sense of the term.

In case of contradiction between certain words and terms, it is necessary to refer to the French version.



1. GENERAL INFORMATION

1.1. NATURE OF THE EVENT

Death by electrocution of a private tree trimmer working on private land near the tracks.

1.2. TYPE OF EVENT AND SAFETY INVESTIGATION

Serious accident: the safety investigation is on-going.

1.3. DATE AND TIME OF THE EVENT

10/07/2023 – 2:05 p.m.

1.4. PLACE OF THE EVENT

Quévy, along line 96 (kilometre marker 75.100).

1.5. TRAIN

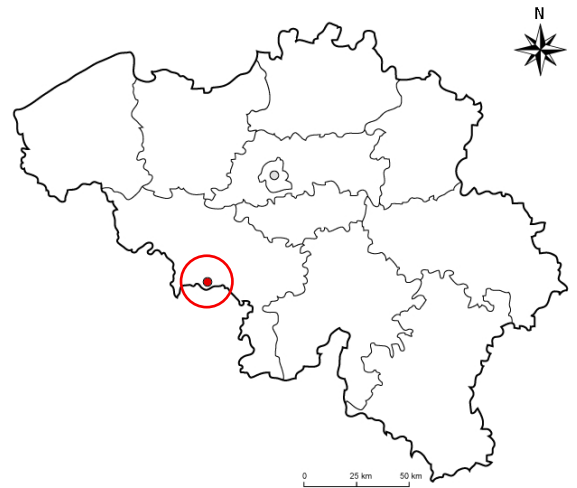
No train is involved.

1.6. VICTIMS

One person died.

1.7. DAMAGES AND CONSEQUENCES

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2. FACTS

On Monday 10 July, at around 2:05 p.m., a tree trimmer from a private company was working up a tree on private land along line 96 in Quévy (Belgium) near the French-Belgian border.

During this work, a branch falls on a live electric power cable: an electric arc is created between the cable, the branch, and the tree trimmer, who is fatally electrocuted.



3. INVESTIGATION

Due to the overlap of the technical installations of the Belgian and French infrastructure managers at this point close to the border, the Belgian Rail Accident and Incident Investigation Unit (RAIU) and the French Land Transport Accident Investigation Bureau (BEA-TT) have each opened an investigation; the investigations are coordinated and aim to determine the contributing, organisational and systemic factors that led to the accident.

Rail Accident and Incident Investigation Unit
<http://www.raiiu.be>

