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Midday crash closes part of Nebraska 2

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A stretch of Nebraska 2 in east Lincoln was closed to traffic for several hours Saturday after a container of radioactive waste slid into the sleeper cab of a flatbed trailer that was hauling it.

The driver wasn't injured, but the incident, which happened at about 11 a.m. at the intersection of Nebraska 2 and Old Cheney Road, stopped traffic briefly along the highway between 56th and 70th streets. The eastbound lanes between 56th Street and Apples Way weren't reopened until mid-afternoon.

Lincoln Fire and Rescue Battalion Chief Jeanne Pashalek said the truck made a sudden stop at a yellow light at the intersection, causing the container, filled with low-level radioactive material, to slide forward into the rear portion of the truck's cab.

The waste container and another on the truck each weighed as much as 17,000 pounds. Pashalek said heavy equipment from a local company had to be called in to assist with the cleanup.

She said there was no indication that any radioactive or hazardous material put any member of the public in danger.

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