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**(Neb)-Heavy Rain Blamed For Crash That Kills 5 Near Hwy 385-L62A Junction**

By: John Axtell Posted at: 08/12/2019 03:27 PM

BRIDGEPORT, Neb. (AP) - The Nebraska State Patrols says five people died a little before 6:00 Sunday evening when their SUV collided with a semitrailer on Highway 385 near its junction with L62A, about 10 miles north of Bridgeport.

Pronounced dead at the scene were the driver, 30-year old Amy Rednest, 13-year old Emma Reza, and 9-year old Falcia Reza, all of Alliance, and 31-year old Vanessa Gomes and 14-year old Nevaeh Montoya, both of Westminster, Colo. All were wearing seat belts.

The State Patrol says Rednest was northbound in a heavy rain when she lost control and the SUV hydroplaned into the southbound lane where it hit the rear of a semi driven by 61-year old Brian Schmer of Hudson, Colo.

Schmer was take to Morrill County Community Hospital in Bridgeport with non-life-threatening injuries. The accident remains under investigation by the State Patrol.