

Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network

Release 2010 – 628 Newsy Stuff

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August 8 2010

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NEW ZEALAND, AUCKLAND, AUGUST 1 2010. COUNCIL HOPES FOR IMPROVED FUEL CARE AFTER RECORD FINE.



Click-2-Listen http://www.radionz.co.nz/audio/national/ckpt/2010/07/28/petrol_station_spill_leads_to_record_fine



NZPA - Auckland Regional Council (ARC) hopes a record fine of more than \$200,000 for a petrol spill will encourage firms using fuel to take greater care. Four companies received combined fines of \$160,000 and costs of \$80,000 when they were sentenced in Auckland District Court over the fuel leak on Line Rd, Glen Innes in December 2007. URS New Zealand was sentenced to pay fines of \$55,000 and costs of \$31,200, Brown Bros fines of \$35,000 and costs of \$20,800 and Gasoline Alley Services (GAS) fines of \$40,000 and costs of \$20,800. All three had defended the charges. Fuelquip,

which had pleaded guilty, was fined \$30,000 and ordered to pay costs of \$7200. The court was told that Brown Bros accidentally drilled a hole the size of a 50c coin in a fuel line carrying 91 octane at a petrol station in Glen Innes resulting in the spillage of 10,00 litres of petrol. ARC lawyer Janet Whiteside believed it was the largest total fine a court had ordered for a regional council prosecution. "The largest one I know of was a fine of \$78,000 and costs of \$16,000, which was for three companies," she told NZPA. "There was also a case where one company was handed a \$55,000 fine." Ms Whiteside said the spill did not cause as much damage as it might have because the council "moved like lightning" to deal with it. "The impact could have been much worse," she said. "Hopefully people in the industry have ensured that their procedures are really tight to ensure things like this don't happen." Judge Fred McElrea also ordered an investigation into what fuel remained on the ground, with the potential for another huge outlay if a further clean-up is required.

<http://www.vox.co.nz/politics/council-hopes-improved-fuel-care-after-record-fine/5/56614>

UGANDA, KYADONDO, AUGUST 1 2010. PETROL TANKER VEHICLE KILLS ONE

At least one person has been killed after he was knocked by a petrol tanker along Jinja Road. The deceased has been identified by police as only Adong. He was knocked by trailer registration number KAT410M/ZC1995 just at the entrance of the Kyadondo Rugby Grounds, the place where the recent fatal bomb blasts took place. Sources say the driver of the trailer identified as Ali Yusuf attempted to save the pedestrian before he lost control. The regional traffic police officer, Lawrence Niwabiine blames the accident to reckless crossing of the road by the pedestrian, calling on all pedestrians to be more careful while crossing highways. The driver Yusuf and his turn boy were rushed to Mulago hospital in critical condition. The road remains closed as police tries to remove the trailer.

<http://www.ugpulse.com/articles/daily/news.asp?about=Petrol+tanker+vehicle+kills+one&ID=15268>

GERMANY, BERLIN, AUGUST 1 2010. BP MAY SELL GERMAN GAS STATIONS FOR \$2.6 BLN -REPORT

BP is seeking to sell its German petrol station chain Aral for around 2 billion euros (\$2.6 billion), German magazine Wirtschaftswoche reported on Saturday, citing investment bankers familiar with BP's plans. BP last week unveiled plans to sell \$30 billion of assets of mainly upstream oil and gas fields over the next 18 months to cover costs related to the Gulf oil spill, the worst in U.S. history. Wirtschaftswoche said France's Total, Russia's Rosneft and Avia, an independent chain of filling stations, were among the possible buyers. Rosneft would also be interested in BP's two German refineries, it said. BP and Rosneft declined to comment on the story. An industry source said that a sale of Aral was unlikely because the chain was integrated into BP's refinery system and BP's asset sales were focussed on oil and gas fields. Aral is the market leader in Germany where around 2,400 filling stations operate under its brand, it says on its website. BP bought the chain in 2002 as part of a larger deal with German energy group E.ON

<http://af.reuters.com/article/energyOilNews/idAFLDE66U05P20100731>

TAIWAN, TAIPEI, AUGUST 1 2010. TAIWAN AUTHORITIES PROBE OIL REFINERY FIRES

Taiwanese authorities said Saturday they were investigating the cause of two blazes that broke out in less than a month at the island's main oil refinery, amid growing safety concerns. Prosecutors will look into whether Formosa Petrochemical Corp. endangered public safety, after the incidents triggered panic of nearby residents, the United Evening News said. The probe came after Premier Wu Den-yih on Friday ordered the company to suspend operations at one of its refining units, in Mailiao in western Taiwan, pending safety checks. The company, an affiliate of Taiwan's leading industrial conglomerate, Formosa Plastics Group, has three refining units in Mailiao that host the island's biggest petrochemical complex. The shutdown is estimated to cost it at least 20 billion Taiwan dollars (625 million US) in monthly revenue, the report said. The company was also ordered to compensate local farmers who said heavy smoke from the fires had ruined their rice paddies and fisheries. Angry local residents held several protests after the second blaze broke out on Sunday to demand the company stop its

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ongoing expansion plans. Formosa Petrochemical apparently tried to play down the financial impact of the fire, putting the estimated losses at 500 million Taiwanese dollars. It also said the accident would reduce by one-third the complex's crude refining capacity of 540,000 barrels a day.

http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5hk_A9KsfCMM_wNBpKCvVVjfDxOQA

USA, MI, BATTLE CREEK, AUGUST 1 2010. THE ENBRIDGE DIRTY DOZEN>> MICHIGAN DISASTER FOLLOWS 12 OTHER BIG SPILLS OR PENALTIES THIS DECADE FOR GIANT AIMING TO PIPE TAR SANDS OIL TO KITIMAT

andrew nikiforuk



Controlled burn after 6,000 barrels of oil spilled from ruptured Enbridge pipeline in Cohasset, Minnesota in July, 2002.

Enbridge Inc, based in Calgary, Alberta, employs 6,000 workers and ranks 18th as one of Canada's largest companies in revenue. It operates the world's longest crude oil pipelines, through which it transports 12 per cent U.S. oil imports. Between 1999 and 2008 Enbridge recorded 610 spills that released 132,000 barrels of hydrocarbons into farms, wetlands and waterways on the continent. According to the Polaris Institute, this volume of crude "amounts to approximately half of the oil that spilled from the oil tanker the Exxon Valdez after it struck a rock in Prince William Sound, Alaska in 1988." Patrick Daniel, CEO of Enbridge, says that "Energy is necessary for us to live long healthy lives." He proposes to construct

a 1172-kilometre pipeline across 1,000 streams and rivers in northern B.C. to the port of Kitimat in order to put more cars on the road in China. Enbridge made headlines in July as one of its pipelines caused the largest oil spill in the history of the U.S. Midwest. Four months after the U.S. Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration cited the company for improper corrosion monitoring on Line 6B, the 40-year old pipeline failed and spilled one million gallons into the Kalamazoo River in Michigan, coating wildlife in oil and contaminating water sources for 100 homeowners. Michigan Governor Jennifer Granholm described the company's initial response as "anemic." On July 15, 2010 Richard Adam, the vice president of Enbridge, told a congressional hearing on pipeline safety that "Safety and protection of the public and environment are our highest priorities, indeed I think it is a fair reading of our publications and actions that we hold this as a core value -- not just a priority." At the same hearings experts testified that "pipeline corrosion regulations are inadequate." The U.S. Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration has cited Enbridge 31 times (including two "corrective action orders") since 2002 for not properly inspecting equipment or training its employees. What follows is a recent history of 12 other serious pipeline mishaps and regulatory penalties involving Enbridge.

January 2001: Enbridge's Energy Transportation North Pipeline leaked 23,900 barrels of crude oil into a slough near Hardisty, Alberta. The Transportation Safety Board of Canada noted that the site of the leak on the aging pipeline had been identified a "high priority location" just four months earlier.

July 2002: A 34-inch diameter steel pipeline ruptured in a marsh west of Cohasset, Minnesota. To prevent 6,000 barrels (252,000 gallons) of crude oil from reaching the Mississippi River, the company set the oil on fire. The plume of smoke extended one mile high. The U.S. National Transportation Safety Board blamed the rupture on "inadequate loading of the pipe for transportation." An Enbridge pipeline carrying crude oil from Saskatchewan to Chicago exploded, killing two workers trying to make a repair in Clearbrook, Minnesota in 2007. **January 2003:** A pipeline failure resulted in a spill of 4,500 barrels of oil at Enbridge's oil terminal near Superior, Wisconsin. Approximately 500 barrels flowed into the Nemadji River, a tributary of Lake Superior. **April 2003:** A gas explosion leveled an Etobicoke strip mall and killed seven people. It stands as the largest number of fatalities ever recorded in a pipeline incident in Canada. Ontario's Technical Standards and Safety Authority charged Enbridge with failure to provide accurate information and to ensure their contractors followed the law. The case is still in court.

April/May 2004: U.S. pipeline regulators fined Enbridge for failing to properly inspect oil and gas pipelines in Michigan, Indiana and Illinois, Minnesota and Wisconsin.

January 2007: A pipeline break near Stanley, North Dakota spilled 9,030 gallons of oil. Regulators fined Enbridge for exceeding pressure standards for the pipeline.

February 2007: An estimated 176,000 gallons spilled in two separate incidents in Clark and Rusk County, Wisconsin. One pipeline cracked open and couldn't be shut off until an operator in Canada shut down the line. In the second

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- incident work crews broke the same line, filling a hole 20 feet deep with oil and contaminating local groundwater. The company was fined \$100,000 for not following safety standards.
- November 2007:** A 34-inch pipeline carrying bitumen to U.S. Midwest markets exploded, killing two workers near Clearbrook, Minnesota. The pipe had leaked two weeks prior to the explosion and was being repaired. The fireball, which leapt 100 feet into the air, temporarily jacked up the price of oil by four dollars and closed four other pipelines delivering 1.5 million barrels of crude a day. The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration fined the company \$2 million for exceeding pressure in its pipeline and for failing to follow safety procedures.
- May 2008:** Alberta's energy regulator delivered a "high risk enforcement action" against Enbridge for using "valves, flanges and fittings" on its Midstream pipeline that were not suitable for maximum operating pressure. No fines were levied. January 2009: Enbridge agreed to pay a fine of \$1 million to the government of Wisconsin after it committed more than 500 violations of the state's wetland and waterway protection regulations while constructing the \$2 billion Southern Access pipeline to export 400,000 barrels of bitumen from Alberta to Chicago. Attorney General J. B Van Hollen said "the incidents of violation were numerous and widespread and resulted in impacts to the streams and wetlands throughout the various watersheds." Enbridge blamed the problems on "bad" weather.
- January 2009:** valve blew on a pipe at the Enbridge Cheecham Terminal tank farm, spilling 4,000 barrels of oil near Anzac, Alberta. The leak wasn't detected for three hours and Alberta regulators issued no statements, because no member of the public was affected. Greenpeace initially reported the spill.
- January 2010:** A pipeline built in 1956 leaked 3,000 barrels (126,000 gallons) near Neche, North Dakota. The PHMSA warned Enbridge twice that older pipelines were susceptible to failure. The line is part of the 1,900-mile-long Lakehead System that delivers crude from western Canada to Cushing, Oklahoma and Chicago.

Enbridge does not have the worst record in the oil patch. That distinction belongs to BP, polluter of the Gulf of Mexico. The PHMSA has cited the company 58 times for shoddy performance.

[Sources: U.S. National Safety Transportation Board; Transportation and Safety Board of Canada; U.S. Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration; Milwaukee Sentinel Journal; Ontario's Technical Standards and Safety Authority; Enbridge Corporate Social Responsibility Reports; Polaris Institute]

<http://thetyee.ca/News/2010/07/31/EnbridgeDirtyDozen/>

INDIA, KALYAN, AUGUST 1 2010. CHLORIDE GAS LEAKS FROM COMPANY TANK IN KALYAN

Several persons complained of breathing problems and eye irritation following a gas leak from a chemical company at Kalyan in neighbouring Thane district on Saturday morning. "Due to leaking of chloride gas from the main tank of the company A S Chemopharma at Murbad road in Kalyan, people living in the vicinity suffered from breathing problem and eye irritation," fire brigade officials said. The company immediately plugged the leak, officials said adding no one was hospitalised. "The company was not at fault and the leak was an accident," P D Jagtap, field officer of the Pollution Control Board said after visiting the site this morning. The company produces PTS Chloride and OTS Chloride used for pharmaceutical purposes. This is second instance of gas leak in the metropolis. On July 14, over 100 persons fell sick after inhaling chlorine gas leaking from a cylinder stored in Bombay Port Trust premises at Sewri in Mumbai

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/Chloride-gas-leaks-from-company-tank-in-Kalyan/Article1-580487.aspx>

USA, GA, ATHENS, AUGUST 1 2010. ANSWERS SOUGHT AFTER SPILL

allison floyd



A heron hunts in the North Oconee River near Whitehall Road on Saturday, four days after a fire at a chemical plant sent contaminants into Trail Creek, which flows into the North Oconee.

Locals clamored for information Saturday, asking state and local authorities what sort of chemicals spilled into the North Oconee River, which turned greenish-blue and began to give off fumes that irritated eyes and throats. "I want an answer: Is it safe to be in my backyard?" said Carol Myers, whose University Heights home backs up to the North Oconee. "And they don't know. I need someone with credibility to say, 'This is what we are working on, and this is what we will know and when.' " State environmental officials began testing Trail Creek, a North Oconee

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tributary, after a chemical plant burned Wednesday. Firefighters poured an estimated 1.5 millions gallons of water onto the fire at J&J Chemical Co. off Olympic Drive, washing toxic chemicals such as methanol, para-dichlorobenzene, formaldehyde and glutaraldehyde into the creek. By Thursday, Trail Creek turned bright blue and foamy, but officials said the dye wasn't dangerous and would break down quickly. Also read [Tests results on spilled chemicals expected Monday](#) from today. When Myers and her neighbors returned home from work Friday, they found the 3-day-old chemical spill had reached their backyards, along with a smell that many said irritated their eyes and throats. "I think I probably still had my bag on my shoulder when I picked up the phone," Myers said. Even local officials couldn't seem to get good answers about the extent of the spill. "I'm confused and angry," she said Saturday evening. Sandy Mitchell, who lives along the North Oconee River at Whitehall Road, also worried about what she saw in and around the river by Saturday. "It's not just the color," she said. "As the water falls across the rocks, it's foamy." Fumes coming off the water don't smell bad - sort of like fresh laundry - but the air does irritate the nose and throat, she said. Mitchell's not seen any dead animals in the area near her home, which usually is teeming with river life. Actually, she said, she's not seen many animals at all besides a heron that seemed to be watching the water, but not hunting. "If it was just dye, we wouldn't be as worried," Mitchell said. "But are we breathing toxic fumes? We don't know what anyone is doing about it." State Rep. Doug McKillip, D-Athens, was gathering information Saturday to be able to tell locals what authorities are doing, even as test results are trickling in. Tests showed no para-dichlorobenzene, McKillip said, and local authorities Saturday afternoon seemed to rule out that formaldehyde spilled. "The problem is most of the chemicals are water soluble and there's no good way" to clean up the spill, McKillip said. Communication has been "a major problem," said Ben Emanuel, Oconee River project director for the Altamaha Riverkeeper. "It's perfectly understandable that there would be lots of unknowns, but it seems if you don't know, the default position to the public should be a message to be careful," he said. Instead, officials seemed to try to dispel concerns, pointing out that the most visible part of the spill - the dye - isn't harmful. People look to him for answers, too, and he wishes he knew more, Emanuel said. While investigating this weekend, he saw a dead turtle. Fish may die from depleted oxygen in the water, Emanuel said, but turtles breathe air. "That may be a sign of toxicity, not just low oxygen in the water," he said. As constituents called looking for information, local officials tried to help. "As an elected official, it's been frustrating trying to get information," said Athens-Clarke Commissioner Andy Herod, whose district includes the University Heights area. He fielded calls from North Oconee neighbors Saturday, but worried that even more people wondered whether the water was dangerous to them or their pets. The state Environmental Protection Division was on the scene of the fire and spill before dawn Wednesday - as was the private company J&J hired to begin to contain and remediate the damage - but the agency's emergency response team has been slashed from 12 people to four in recent years, Herod said. "The EPD is basically the guys that are supposed to be calling the shots on this," he said. "Budget cuts - there is a price to be paid for them. And one of the prices may be public health."

http://www.onlineathens.com/stories/080110/new_689105142.shtml

AUSTRALIA, NORTHERN TERRITORY, AUGUST 2 2010. ARCHER LEADS CONSOLIDATION OF RIVAL PETROL PLAYERS

brett clegg john durie

AUSFUEL Group has approached Gull Petroleum about a merger to create a leading independent fuel distributor and service station owner. A merged company would have more than 130 owned and operated service stations across Western Australia, Queensland, the Northern Territory and New Zealand. It would be worth more than \$500 million, according to industry sources. The talks with the private equity Ausfuel come as the Australasian fuel refining and sales industry undergoes a restructure. Earlier in the year, Infratil led a \$NZ697m (\$560m) purchase of Shell's 200 New Zealand petrol stations, and 7-Eleven bought 295 service stations from Mobil Australia for less than \$300m. The Rae family, which owns Western Australia's Gull Petroleum, engaged Ernst & Young last year to review its strategic options, making it clear it was looking for options to expand into the east coast. The only sale so far was the \$40m transaction in which Coogee Petroleum, owned by Perth entrepreneur Gordon Martin, acquired Gull's Fremantle storage terminal. Fred Rae and son Neil, will use the terminal to supply their Gull network. Neither man has children in the business, which partly explains why they are exploring a potential sale. They built the network as an alternative to relying on the oil majors BP, Shell and Caltex for its fuel. BP has the only refinery in Perth, and Shell and Caltex jointly own another storage facility, but they are rumoured to be planning to sell it next year. According to its website, Gull and its single service station was founded in 1976 by a group of West Australian business people who saw the potential for an independent supplier. In 1984 ownership was consolidated by the Rae family and Gull now owns stations from Albany in the south of the state to Kalgoorlie and Carnarvon in the north. In 1998, it expanded across the Tasman, establishing a fuel terminal at the port of Mount Maunganui on New Zealand's North Island and later rolled out 30 branded stations. In its report on the industry, handed to the federal government last year, ACIL Tasman noted Gull Petroleum was the largest

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independent fuel company in Western Australia and had an agreement with independent fuel distributors throughout the state. Ausfuel is 75 per cent owned by private equity firm Archer Capital, which bought out AMP in May. Archer joined founder Dick David, a former truck driver who began delivering fuel in the Katherine region of Northern Territory in 1981. Its distribution and service station network stretches across the Northern Territory and Queensland. "It means that we've got a private equity partner rather than a bank," Brooke David, who bought Ausfuel from his father, told The Northern Territory News in May. "Nothing will change, except we'll grow the company interstate." Archer's ambitions remain to be seen. One industry player said there was a possibility it may seek to roll up Ausfuel-Gull with International Energy Services, a fuel transport business owned by CHAMP Private Equity that is being sold through JPMorgan. Such a business could be worth more than \$1 billion. IES is made up of fuel distributors Cootes Transport Group and IES Resources, and equipment manufacturer Liquip. Others have, however, downplayed Archer's likely interest in IES, noting that players such as Toll Holdings, Kohlberg Kravis Roberts-owned BIS Industrial Logistics and Linfox were also said to be reviewing the IES sale documents.

<http://www.theaustralian.com.au/business/industry-sectors/archer-leads-consolidation-of-rival-petrol-players/story-e6frg9h6-1225899733115>

UK, LONDON, AUGUST 2 2010. FUEL TANKER DRIVERS WARN OF STRIKES

christopher hooton



Motorists could face fuel shortages at the petrol pumps later this year after tanker drivers threatened to take strike action. The threat comes almost exactly a decade since protests by truck drivers over the price fuel paralysed Britain for seven days. Union officials have said that unless job losses, pay cuts and "constant reorganisation" by supermarket chains and oil companies were halted, tanker drivers would be "forced" to take industrial action. Unite, the country's biggest union, has called a special summit to consider what action to take after warning of discontent amongst the 3,000 members of the sector. National officer Ron Webb said: "We are now at a very dangerous moment for this sector. In my 15 years as a negotiator I have never witnessed such low morale among the drivers." Ten years ago much of the country's road network ground to a halt when protests over the

rising cost of fuel prevented tankers from leaving refinery sites and making deliveries to petrol stations. Around 3,000 petrol stations were forced to close due to a lack of fuel while supermarkets began rationing food. A spokesman for Unite said: "We have consistently warned the oil employers that their strategy of attacking wages and squeezing more and more out of their drivers but giving them less and less in return will backfire." It is claimed that the greater use of alternative contractors willing to undercut other employers was behind the driving down of wages and hitting conditions of employment.

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/uknews/road-and-rail-transport/7920135/Fuel-tanker-drivers-warn-of-strikes.html>

USA, AL, ANNISTON, AUGUST 2 2010. STATE TO ORDER FINE AGAINST LOCAL OIL COMPANY FOR POLLUTED LAND

patrick mccreless



Charlie's Tobacco Outlet in Oxford is on the site of a former filling station, land that its owners want cleaned up for sale.

The state wants to fine an Anniston-based oil company for not removing leaked pollutants from the underground fuel tank of a former Oxford service station. The site's owners just want the property cleaned up. The Alabama Department of Environmental Management filed an administrative order July 15 requiring the John T. Davis Oil Company pay a \$1,000 civil penalty for failing to fully analyze and remove pollutants from 1725 East Hamric Drive, which is now the site of Charlie's Tobacco Outlet. If the fine is not paid within 45 days of the order's issuance, ADEM plans to file a civil action against the company in Montgomery County Circuit Court. So far, ADEM has not received a response from the oil

company. "They have not responded, not to my knowledge," said ADEM spokesman Jerome Hand. Attempts Friday by The Star to reach officials with the company were unsuccessful. The polluted area was once the site of a gasoline service station owned by John Davis Oil. The company owns multiple service stations in the area. The land where the business once stood, however, is owned by Ehney Ambrose Family LLC. One of the property's three proprietors, Richard Ambrose, said his family

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wants to sell the land but cannot until it is free of pollutants. "We're trying to sell the property, but the banks won't loan money to potential buyers unless ADEM certifies it as clean property," Ambrose said. "We bear Davis Oil no ill will. We just want it cleaned up." ADEM has tried to get the oil company to do just that for some time. The company removed the underground tank when it abandoned the service station. However, preliminary data the company sent ADEM after the removal indicates some fuel leaked into the ground, Hand said. According to the administrative order, on July 22, 2004, ADEM issued a requirement for the oil company to perform an Alabama Risk Based Corrective Action Evaluation of the polluted site. "It was something they were supposed to do," Hand said. "We would have reviewed the data they sent us to establish protective limits for the groundwater of the community." ADEM never received a response and, in 2004, filed a notice of delinquency followed by two notices of violation in July 2005 and January 2010. It was after the last notice that ADEM regulators decided to issue the \$1,000 fine, Hand said. In addition to failing to respond to ADEM's requests, the department noted the oil company has a history of previous violations as a reason to justify the fine.

http://annistonstar.com/view/full_story/8957844/article-State-to-order-fine-against-local-oil-company-for-polluted-land?instance=1st_left

USA, MI, MARSHALL, AUGUST 2 2010. NATIONAL GUARD ASSISTING IN CALHOUN OIL SPILL

todd a. heywood

State officials on Saturday revealed that civilian members of National Guard programs from three states have been deployed to assist the ongoing oil cleanup in Calhoun county. Bonnie Kanicki Wilson of the Michigan State Police told press gathered for the daily briefing that civilian units from Ohio, West Virginia, and Louisiana have been deployed. The Coast Guard has had a unit in place since Wednesday. The guard units are assisting in air quality monitoring, specifically of the chemical benzene. Benzene levels have been a concern for officials since the spill response began Monday afternoon. Higher than acceptable levels have lead Calhoun county health officials to recommend a voluntary evacuation of an area nearest the source of the leak. Jim Rutherford, chief medical officer for the county, said as of Saturday about one-third of the 61 households affected by the order had decided to evacuate. Rutherford also addressed rumors that local emergency rooms had treated nearly 100 people effected by the oil spill. He said that number was exceedingly high. Since Monday, Battle Creek Health Systems has reported treating seven people for oil related issues while Oaklawn Hospital in Marshall reports having had only 15 emergency room visits. The poison control hotline reports only 12 calls since Monday relating to oil spill issues. Rutherford also said the county has instituted new protocol in relation to health inquiries received by the hotline. Health officials will be dispatched to the location of health related calls to "triage" the situation, and make a determination if medical care is necessary.

<http://michiganmessenger.com/40363/national-guard-assisting-in-calhoun-oil-spill>

RUSSIA, KHABAROVSK KRAI, VERKHNAYA EKON, AUGUST 2 2010. AMUR RIVER ON VERGE OF ECOLOGICAL DISASTER?

 **Watch the Video** <http://english.ruvr.ru/2010/07/30/13933461.html>



Moscow has urged Beijing to elaborate on an incident on Wednesday, when hundreds of barrels of chemicals were reportedly washed into the Songhua River in north-east China, hit by severe floods. The Songhua River is the largest tributary of the the Amur River, which forms the border between the Russian Far East and Northeastern China. In this connection, many Russian environmentalists have understandably voiced concern about the incident's potential environmental fall-out. They pointed to the year of 2005, when more than 100 tons of chemicals were washed into the Songhua River, leading to a major man-made disaster in the area. At the time, Russian and Chinese ecologists agreed to create an early warning mechanism, which they said could help contribute to environmental protection of the

Amur River. The topic was also on the table of last month's session of the Russian-Chinese Environmental Commission, which was held in the Russian Far Eastern city of Khabarovsk. For his part, Russia's Natural Resources Minister Yuriy Trutnev pointed to the fact that it was Khabarovsk, located in an area adjacent to the Amur River, which hosted the session. Discussing bilateral environmental cooperation in Khabarovsk will help us better concentrate on our top priorities on the subject, Trutnev says, stressing the importance of continuing to deal with the Amur River's ecological woes. Russian experts, in turn, lamented the fact that the Chinese side remained tight-lipped on the Wednesday incident in what they said rides roughshod over previously clinched environmental agreements between Moscow and Beijing. According to preliminary information, several thousand barrels containing more than 500 tons of chemicals have been washed into the Songhua River in the city of

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Jilin. The environmental situation there remains tense amid rescue teams' desperate efforts to retrieve the barrels. Less than half of them have been recovered thus far, with Russian experts continuing to check out the water in the Amur River, where they fear some barrels may well be spotted already next month. In light of this, Moscow said it wants Beijing to shed more light on Wednesday's incident in terms of its possible environmental impact on the territory of the Russian Federation, as well as the nature of chemicals and the exact date of the incident. On Friday, Chinese environmentalists briefed their Russian colleagues on the matter, declining to elaborate, though, officials said. Meanwhile, the Russian Emergencies Ministry said that it keeps an eagle eye on the situation, which is being specifically monitored by its branches in the Jewish Autonomous Region and the Khabarovsk District.

<http://english.ruvr.ru/2010/07/30/13933461.html>

INDONESIA, JAKARTA, AUGUST 2 2010. PERTAMINA BOSS SAFE DESPITE GAS, FUEL PROBLEMS: ANALYSTS

The recent series of 3-kilogram LPG canister explosions and more lately, the alleged distribution of low-quality gasoline have put state owned oil and gas company Pertamina under public scrutiny. But analysts said the cases would not affect the leadership of the company's president director Karen Agustiawan, although a number of NGOs had asked her to resign after being unable to solve the problems. Effendi Simbolon, a member of the House of Representatives' Commission VII overseeing energy and environmental affairs, said the gas explosions and alleged distribution of low-grade gasoline could not be fully blamed on Pertamina, because it was not the only party responsible for the problems. "Gas explosions are the responsibility of the government," he said. "I do not see Pertamina as being the only party to be blamed," he added. Effendi Simbolon said Pertamina had shown much progress under Karen's leadership. "More, importantly, she is still consistent with transparent management practices," he said. The government distributed millions of 3-kilogram LPG canisters during the period between 2007 and 2009 to low-income households in the country as part of its program to reduce the use of heavily subsidized kerosene. However, a series of 3-kilogram LPG canister explosions has caused outrage across the country, claiming lives and causing severe injury. According to an earlier police report, there have been 32 cases of gas explosions in Jakarta alone as of July 2010, killing seven and injuring 51 people. Experts claimed that explosions happened due to defective components of gas canisters. Thousands of taxis have broken down since the beginning of last month allegedly caused by poor-quality gasoline. The taxis mostly use the subsidized Premium gasoline distributed by Pertamina. Another legislator of Commission VII, Chandra Tirta Wijaya, said that Pertamina's performance under Karen was still good so far remembering that the company managed to reach its profit target of Rp 12 trillion (US\$1.34 billion) last year. Chandra also said the recent incident of gas explosions and the cases related to Premium's quality had yet to tarnish Karen's image as president director of Pertamina. "Gas explosions are not Karen's responsibility because it is still unclear who is responsible for this," he said. "The conversion is the government and BPH Migas' program, Pertamina is only responsible for supply products." Energy analyst Kurtubi said Karen must take firm action to control the quality of its Premium and sort out the canisters that do not meet national standards. "Pertamina's performance must be questioned," he said over the phone. "Karen's performance as the company's president director also needs to be questioned." Kurtubi said that under Karen's leadership, Pertamina had not yet taken firm action in handling the continuous gas explosions. (map)

<http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2010/08/02/pertamina-boss-safe-despite-gas-fuel-problems-analysts.html>

USA, N.C, BLADEN CO, AUGUST 3 2010. HAZMAT CLEANUP TOOK SEVERAL HOURS

The State Hazmat Team and Bladen County officials were on the scene of a head on collision in Bladen County, near the Cumberland County border off NC 87 Monday morning. According to officials with the North Carolina Emergency Management Team, two tractor trailers collided early Monday morning. One of those trailers was carrying 7,000 gallons of Methanol Gas and the gas was leaking between five to seven gallons a minute. Bladen Emergency Management Director Bradley Kinlaw said that about 6,000 gallons of Methanol has leaked out at this point. Cleanup crews were on the scene to maintain the spill. One driver was treated for minor injuries at Bladen County hospital. The other driver was uninjured. Both northbound lanes on 87 were closed while crews worked to clean the leak. One southbound lane is open to traffic.

<http://www.wect.com/Global/story.asp?S=12908501>

USA, PA, FALLS CREEK, AUGUST 2 2010. EMERGENCY PERSONNEL TRAIN IN TANKERS

Firefighters from Sandy Township and Falls Creek found themselves inside a tanker truck working to rescue people Thursday night. The setting staged - this time, but with increased Marcellus Shale drilling in the area, the next time could be a real incident and emergency responders want to be prepared. More than 60 personnel experienced this first hand in a three-hour drill at RNI Trucking in Falls Creek. Sandy Township fire Chief Bob Wilson said the drill was to demonstrate the type of tank

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rescue that is something firefighters could face. Fred Foster, RNI safety compliance officer, said, "We want you to know what danger there is in this type of condition and what to expect if you respond to this type of emergency." Foster said two or three employees get inside the tank for the cleaning. There are three hatches on the top and an access opening at the back of the tank. The tank is sectioned off inside with baffles to keep the fluids from shifting while being transported. These tanker trucks vary from gasoline trucks that contain four or five separate cells. Wilson set the drill scenario with the fire department receiving a call for two individuals down inside a tank. Firefighters discussed the safety equipment, gear and procedure that would be used. The nature of the response required a specialized approach due to the possibility of flammable vapors in the tank to ensure that no sparking equipment is to be used. Adrian fire Chief Steve Dunlap explained the confined space permit RNI places on the truck and the information on the form, including who entered the tank, when they entered and information on potential hazards. Wilson said a monitor is used to measure the carbon monoxide, oxygen, lower explosive levels (LEL) and hydrogen sulfide levels inside the tanker. That needs to be done before rescuers enter the tank. "We do not want responders to jeopardize their safety. We need to make the scene safe before proceeding with the rescue," he said. The levels are monitored constantly and fans are used to put air into the tank to keep the levels at an acceptable range. Personnel divided into groups and practiced using a tanker truck inside the building. The trucks haul 130 barrels of material, equal to 42 gallons per barrel, or about 5,500 gallons. Personnel also trained on a larger open space tank outside, a 500-barrel portable frac tank that is delivered to the site, dropped off and picked up later. The tank has two access holes; one in the front and one on the side with three hatches on the top. Emergency personnel were able to also observe a tanker returning from a drilling site, noting the condition, before cleaning work began.

http://www.leader-vindicator.com/site/news.cfm?newsid=20443123&BRD=2758&PAG=461&dept_id=572984&rft=6

USA, DE, DELAWARE CITY, AUGUST 2 2010. CAR CRASHES AT GAS STATION IN DEL CITY; 1 KILLED, 1 INJURED >> ONE PERSON DIED AND ANOTHER PERSON WAS INJURED AFTER A CAR CRASHED INTO FUEL PUMPS AT A DEL CITY GAS STATION.

robert medley,

 **Watch the Video:**

http://www.newsok.com/car-crashes-at-gas-station-in-del-city-1-killed-1-injured/article/3481481?custom_click=headlines_widget

One person was killed and another injured Saturday after a car crashed at a gas station near Interstate 40, authorities said. The crash was at Scott Drive and I-40, where the car hit the gasoline pump at Tinker Mart, 3129 Tinker Diagonal, said Del City police Capt. Jody Suit. An explosion was reported and firefighters responded about 8 p.m. The [Oklahoma Highway Patrol](#) confirmed that one person was killed. Another was taken to [OU Medical Center](#) for treatment. Their identities were not immediately available. Del City fire Maj. Brandon Pursell said a car was westbound on I-40 and hit two other vehicles before exiting at Scott Drive and crashing at the gas station. Glenn Mehraban, 62, owner of Tinker Mart, said he saw two people in the burning car. Capt. Chris West, highway patrol spokesman, said the incident is under investigation.

http://www.newsok.com/car-crashes-at-gas-station-in-del-city-1-killed-1-injured/article/3481481?custom_click=headlines_widget

USA, N.Y, NEW YORK, AUGUST 2 2010. DUO FOUND GUILTY IN JFK FUEL TANKS BOMB PLOT



Two men were found guilty Monday of plotting to bomb fuel tanks at New York's John F. Kennedy Airport.

Two men, including a former parliamentarian from Guyana, were found guilty Monday of plotting to bomb fuel tanks at New York's John F. Kennedy Airport. The duo face the possibility of life in prison after the jury's verdict in a Brooklyn federal court, a spokesman for the US attorney's office said. Sentencing was set for December 15. Russell Defreitas, 67, a former airline cargo worker, was accused of hatching plans in 2006 for the attack to avenge what he saw as US oppression against Muslims. He was found guilty on all counts. His co-defendant, former Guyanese parliament member Abdul Kadir, 58 was found guilty on five of six

counts. The six-week jury trial heard that Defreitas and Kadir had begun preparations to explode fuel tanks and the fuel pipeline under JFK International Airport. "The defendants believed their attack would cause extensive damage to the airport and to the New York economy, as well as the loss of numerous lives," the prosecutor's office said. Defreitas, a naturalized US citizen who immigrated to the United States from Guyana, was described as the originator of the plot and recruiter, while Kadir

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had engineering skills and contacts with militant groups in Iran and Venezuela. A third man, Abdel Nur, pleaded guilty before the trial to supporting the plot. He faces up to 15 years in prison. A fourth suspect has still to be brought to trial. Defreitas was arrested in New York in 2007, while Kadir was arrested in Trinidad when he was about to fly to Venezuela, en route to Iran. "The defendants intended to send a message by killing Americans and destroying the New York city economy," US Attorney Loretta Lynch said. "Today the only message is that those who engage in potentially deadly plots against the United States will be stopped and punished."

http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5gRGtJw5zSJn139uiWsOqCeP_Khw

USA, DE, DOVER, AUGUST 3 2010. FEDS SETTLE ALLEGED UNDERGROUND TANK VIOLATIONS

A Dover businessman will pay \$2 million to settle alleged violations of state and federal regulations regarding underground storage tanks. Federal officials announced an agreement Monday with Robert M. Duncan regarding alleged violations of regulations governing underground fuel tanks at 17 Super Soda convenience stores in Delaware and [Maryland](#) formerly owned by Duncan Petroleum Corp. The eight Delaware stations were located in Seaford, Bridgeville, Rehoboth, Dover and Camden. The nine Maryland locations were in Salisbury, Snow Hill, [Cambridge](#), Chestertown, Easton, Federalsburg and Preston. The settlement also resolves Duncan's alleged failure to perform compliance tasks under a 2006 consent agreement. Officials said Duncan had agreed to complete the tasks in order to bring five of the Maryland gas stations into compliance with the underground storage tank regulations.

<http://wiz.com/wireapnewsmd/Delaware.man.to.2.1838792.html>

USA, MI, MARSHALL, AUGUST 3 2010. U.S. GROUP THREATENS TO SUE ENBRIDGE OVER PIPELINE OIL SPILL >> CALGARY FIRM COULD FACE UP TO \$100M IN FINES, GROUP WARNS

suzanne wilton



Enbridge recovered 10,000 barrels of oil from a swamp area near the ruptured pipe in Battle Creek, Mich.

Enbridge Inc. could be headed to court over its pipeline oil spill in Michigan and face millions of dollars in fines if it's found to have violated a federal law, warns an environmental group that's threatening to sue. The Great Lakes Environmental Law Centre, a Michigan-based group, issued a notice of intent to file a citizen suit against the Calgary-based company. The group says it will sue for violations of the U.S. Clean Water Act resulting from the burst pipeline that has spilled millions of litres of oil into Talmadge Creek and the Kalamazoo River. On its blog, the group says the legal action will "help insure that Enbridge is held accountable for their violations of the Clean Water Act." In a letter to the company Monday, the group also states that

based on the estimated size of the spill, "Enbridge could face fines of over \$26 million." "And if Enbridge is found to be grossly negligent in its maintenance and operation of the pipeline (especially in light of the numerous warnings issued by federal regulators regarding corrosion of the pipeline), the company could face \$100 million in fines," the law centre said. The Clean Water Act requires a formal 60-day notice prior to commencing a citizen suit. In a news briefing Monday, Enbridge officials did not address the pending lawsuit but emphasized the company remains committed to its cleanup effort. "We are going to clean up this spill, we're going to restore this river, and we're going to continue to be a part of this community where we've been since 1969," said company president and CEO Patrick Daniel of the estimated 3.3-million-litre spill. Daniel said, "people do not have to sue Enbridge to be reimbursed. I've made the commitment from the outset: we will pay all legitimate damages from the spill." He also addressed "rumours" about when Enbridge knew about the leak, referring to statements published by local news agencies from local authorities that either an Enbridge employee was present at the spill site late Sunday night, or a truck belonging to the company was present. The Michigan Messenger reported Friday that two elected officials had confirmed the Marshall Township Fire Department report of the incident from Sunday included reference to an Enbridge employee being present. Daniel reiterated Monday, however, that the rupture was not reported to the company until Monday. "We have checked and double-checked our phone records. No such call was received by Enbridge on Sunday. We have confirmed again that no Enbridge employee at Marshall was out on that call on Sunday night," said Daniel. "Part of the investigation is attempting to determine if someone else's truck was in the area. But we know that if there was another white truck, it wasn't ours." He pleaded for information from anyone who knows about the rumoured white truck to help "clear up this misunderstanding. Daniel lashed out at the "misinformation" and speculation by people not "directly involved in the response or the investigation of the cause of the accident." "It is a very difficult task in front of us, we need to dedicate all of our

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resources to the task at hand; but the misinformation is causing everyone to spend time chasing down misinformation and that is not beneficial to this community or to the agencies." On Monday, another company official said an estimated 10,000 barrels of oil has now been recovered and it is the oil that never reached the creek and river but was contained in a swamp area adjacent to the pipe

<http://www.calgaryherald.com/news/group+threatens+Enbridge+over+pipeline+spill/3352205/story.html>

USA, TX, HOUSTON, AUGUST 3 2010. CONOCO TEXAS REFINERY UPSET HURTS 13

erwin seba


Thirteen workers were hurt on Saturday in a process upset at ConocoPhillips 146,000 barrel-per-day (bpd) joint-venture refinery in Borger, Texas, according to a report on Monday by the Amarillo Globe-News newspaper. Conoco reported a process upset in the gasoline-producing fluidic catalytic cracking unit at the refinery on Saturday, according to a notice filed with Texas pollution regulators. A Conoco representative told the Amarillo newspaper that a steam line failed during maintenance at the refinery and a portion of the refinery was evacuated. The workers were hurt during the evacuation, Conoco told the newspaper. Some workers sustained broken bones. A Conoco representative was not immediately available on Monday to discuss operations at the refinery, which is a 50-50 joint-venture between Conoco and Encana Corp.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSTRE67143820100802?type=domesticNews>

INDIA, PANNA/MUKTA FIELDS. AUGUST 3 2010. BG SHUTS OIL, GAS OUTPUT AT INDIAN FIELDS AFTER PIPELINE LEAK

rakteem katakey

BG Group Plc, the U.K.'s third- largest gas producer, shut crude oil and natural gas output from the Panna-Mukta fields off India's west coast on July 20 after a leak in a sub-sea pipeline. The company halted about 35,000 barrels a day of oil and 205 million cubic feet a day of gas production, the company said in an e-mail today. BG hasn't decided when operations will resume, according to the statement. "Inclement weather conditions have caused the restoration work to progress at a slow rate," the company said in the statement. "It is difficult to set a firm date for resuming production." Reliance Industries Ltd., India's most valuable company, and Oil & Natural Gas Corp., the country's biggest explorer, are BG's partners in the field. BG had previously shut the field on July 29, 2009, after a leak in under-water pipelines, according to Edel McCaffrey, a U.K.-based spokeswoman at BG. Production was restarted after two weeks.

 **Related Stories** [Panna-Mukta oil field shut after explosion; 1 dead](#)

<http://www.businessweek.com/news/2010-08-02/bg-shuts-oil-gas-output-at-indian-fields-after-pipeline-leak.html>

BERMUDA, PEMBROKE, AUGUST 3 2010. OIL SPILL AT BELCO FLOODS INTO GARDEN

elizabeth roberts



Absorbent pads have been placed across this Pembroke garden after oil and water flooded onto the property from the neighbouring BELCO plant. Black sludge from the oil can be seen marking the edge of the spill.

Heavy rain caused a giant oil and water spill at Belco, leaving a nearby homeowner with a 7,200 gallon slick in his garden. The problem stemmed from several inches of rain that's fallen in the past few days. The water flooded a tank where waste oil is processed at the company's Pembroke plant, causing it to overflow. The smell of the oil was still hanging in the air as the homeowner who requested his name not be printed spoke to The Royal Gazette last night. He explained: "I have a tenant downstairs and he called me at 8.30 this morning because he smelled the fumes from the oil. First of all there was a pool of water from all the torrential rainfall. Above that was a black layer of oil. I have a pretty big garden and it extended from one side to the other." The man called Belco to report the problem, and a "very apologetic" manager soon got in touch. "He said there was a leak. They have a dyke around the (oil) containers and somehow it failed. They're 30 feet away and it came over here. I was grateful he set things in motion to remedy things. It's a weekend, but within an hour there was a cleanup crew here," he said. Four truck loads of water, totalling 1,800 gallons each, were pumped out of the garden yesterday. There are now booms floating around the edge of the property to contain the slick, which has flooded flower beds and the lawn and left bluebird boxes sticking up out of the water. A series of white absorbent pads have been placed on the lawn to suck up the remainder of the oil. The homeowner says the Belco manager pledged to repair the damage once the clean-up is finished, and he does not

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believe wildlife has been impacted. "I'm sure there may have been a few little singing frogs suffering but I've not seen any birds or wildlife affected," he said. "It looked like a dark slick, like my own little Gulf oil spill but I guess he did well in the PR department and he didn't come off like that BP president." Explaining how the problem unfolded, Belco spokeswoman Susan McGrath Smith said: "At approximately 5.20 p.m on Saturday, Belco workers reported seeing oil on the ground near the company's Oily Water Treatment Plant, where waste oil is separated from water, processed and containerised for shipment overseas where it is recycled." By Sunday, rainwater had flooded the system at the plant in Serpentine Road, Pembroke, causing the oil and water mixture to overflow. "Immediately, Belco's Major Environmental Emergency Contingency Plan was set in motion with teams working to contain the spill with absorbent materials, including booms across the Pembroke Canal that runs through the central plant," said Mrs. McGrath-Smith. "At the same time, a Belco incident command team was called, including representatives of the company's operations, administration, environment and safety departments, arriving at the C. Eugene Cox Operations Centre by 6.30 p.m to coordinate and monitor the containment and clean-up effort. "Simultaneously, Bermuda Fire Service, Ministry of the Environment and Works and Engineering were notified, and contractors were called in to assist." According to Mrs. McGrath Smith, the liquid recovered is around 70 percent liquid and 30 percent oil. Belco estimates that 600-700 gallons of the mixture spilled. Approximately 3,600 gallons of oil and water were pumped from the Oily Water Treatment Plant to reduce the amount of liquid in the tanks on Saturday, and sent to Government's hazardous waste facility. Clean-up work is expected to continue for several days with booms remaining in Pembroke Canal throughout the process, and Mrs. McGrath-Smith said an investigation into the incident is ongoing. According to Bermuda Weather Service, around three-and-a-quarter inches of rain fell between Thursday July 29 and last night, but the weather is due to improve this week.

<http://www.royalgazette.com/rg/Article/article.jsp?articleId=7da813f30030001§ionId=60>

USA, N.H, MILFORD, AUGUST 3 2010. MILFORD, N.H., GAS STATION TO PAY FOR OIL SPILL CLAIMS

The owner and the operator of a gas station in Milford, N.H., have agreed to pay \$49,000 to settle U.S. Environmental Protection Agency claims that they violated federal Clean Water laws regulating preparedness for oil spills, under the terms of a settlement with the agency. Draper Energy, which owned the Snack Corner Mobil Station, and Energy North Inc., which operated the service station, failed to put in place a spill prevention plan and illegally discharged diesel fuel, according to a complaint that had been filed by EPA's New England office in September 2009. As a result of a leak at the Mobil Station on March 5, 2009, approximately 1,500 gallons of diesel fuel discharged into the Souhegan River. The discharge was the result of a break in a pipe connecting an above-ground storage tank containing the diesel to a pump. The automatic discharge alarm failed to alert anyone of the discharge and the oil flowed into the soil beneath the pump, into a granite culvert that runs beneath the facility and then discharged into the nearby Souhegan River. The Souhegan River subsequently connects to the Merrimack River and eventually to the Atlantic Ocean. Because of the alarm failure, the oil was released for almost three days before neighboring businesses noticed a strong smell and oil sheen on the water up to 10 miles downstream in the Souhegan River. Once the spill had been noticed, there was a prompt emergency response from the local fire department, the N.H. Department of Environmental Services and EPA. Both Draper and Energy North cooperated with the agencies in cleaning up the spill. The Mobil site has since been cleaned and the facility's two above ground storage tanks — one with gasoline and the other with diesel — have been removed. EPA's oil spill prevention regulations require that specific preventative measures be taken at facilities that store greater than 1,320 gallons of oil, and could reasonably be anticipated to release oil products into a waterway of the United States or adjoining shoreline areas. These regulations help ensure that tank failures or accidental spills do not lead to oil contamination of surface waters, such as rivers or streams, which could harm human and ecological health. Spill Prevention Control and Countermeasure plans specify spill prevention and response measures at facilities that store oil above certain threshold amounts to help ensure that tank failure or oil spill does not lead to oil reaching bodies of water.

<http://eponline.com/articles/2010/08/02/milford-gas-station-to-pay-for-oil-spill-claims.aspx>

USA, MI, CHEBOYGAN, AUGUST 3 2010. COAST GUARD INVESTIGATING SUNKEN TUG, DIESEL FUEL LEAK

 **Watch the Video** <http://www.9and10news.com/Category/Story/?id=244132&clD=1>

The U.S. Coast Guard is investigating a sunken tug boat in Duncan Bay off Cheboygan. The tug, JENNY LYNN, sank sometime overnight between Saturday and Sunday, leaking an unknown amount of diesel fuel into the bay. The Coast Guard boomed off the vessel and capped the vessel's fuel vents to prevent further leakage. Some sheen still exists on the bay, but the Coast Guard says most has already burnt off. The Coast Guard is not saying who owned the tug, but they do say the owner anchored JENNY LYNN and another vessel in the bay last week. They also believe the same person owns a third boat in the bay. Investigators from the Coast Guard are still trying to determine what caused the tug to sink. They will be working

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with spill contractors over the next few days to drain the tug of any remaining fluids. Then, they say it will be up to the owner to remove the boat.

<http://www.9and10news.com/Category/Story/?id=244132&clD=1>

UK, BURTON-ON-TRENT, AUGUST 4 2010. THIEVES STEAL PETROL WORTH £45,000 AT FILLING STATION - AND NO ONE NOTICES



The Morrisons filling station where thieves helped themselves to £45,000 of fuel.

Normally you fill your tank at a petrol station. But thieves who launched a nighttime raid on a supermarket topped up a tanker and made off with £45,000 worth of fuel. Under the cover of darkness they secretly drained the tanks at the Morrisons filling station in Burton, Staffordshire, unseen by the public and undetected by a sophisticated surveillance system. Detectives believe it would have taken four hours to siphon off the contents of storage tanks under the station forecourt. The gang struck between midnight and 4.30am yesterday, escaping with more than 22,000 litres of unleaded petrol and at least 16,000 litres of diesel. Police are still puzzled as to exactly how they pulled it off without raising suspicion, especially as it is believed they used pneumatic drills to break into the tanks. PC Adam Cornes,

at Burton police station, said: 'The offenders would have had to use a large vehicle or a tanker to remove this large quantity and it would have taken several hours. We are appealing to anyone who may have been travelling along Wellington Road and saw the fuel being removed to come forward.' A Staffordshire Police spokesman said staff were alerted to the theft by alarms. Detectives have launched an investigation into how the thieves managed to evade the filling station's CCTV cameras and automatic number plate recognition system, installed as part of Morrisons' defences against drive-away petrol theft. Officers were gathering evidence at the scene while a fuel tanker replenished the depleted stocks.

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1299979/Thieves-steal-petrol-worth-45k-filling-station--NO-ONE-notices.html>

USA, WASHINGTON D.C, AUGUST 4 2010. NTSB PROBES ROLLOVERS BY HAZMAT TRUCKS >> NHTSA: NEW TECHNOLOGY CAN PREVENT TRUCK ROLLOVERS

joan lowy



October 2009 crash in Indianapolis.

Stability control systems already on the market for tractor trailer trucks — including tank trucks hauling hazardous loads — could prevent nearly 3,500 rollover accidents and save an estimated 106 lives a year if they were required on trucks, a federal safety official said Tuesday. Nathaniel Beuse, director of crash avoidance standards at the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, said his estimate was based on tests of the stability systems the agency conducted with researchers from the University of Michigan. The study found almost 4,400 injuries a year could be prevented with the systems. All new passenger vehicles are required to have stability control systems, but not commercial trucks even though trucks represent a disproportionate share of rollover accidents. NHTSA is considering whether to mandate the systems for tractor trailer trucks, Beuse told a hearing of the National Transportation Safety Board. "It's just a really powerful

technology," said Michigan researcher John Woodrooffe, a co-author of the study. "It actually overrides the driver when it thinks he's going too fast even if he has his foot on the (gas) pedal." Tractor-trailer drivers often have no warning they're about to roll over, Woodrooffe said in an interview. "A truck driver can be perfectly happy going around a corner thinking everything is OK and suddenly he's over," Woodrooffe said. The safety board is holding a two-day hearing examining whether enough is being done to prevent tank trucks from rolling over. Tank trucks, more than other trucks, are susceptible to rollovers because the weight distribution of the liquid they carry can shift suddenly, causing an imbalance. Tank trucks represent 6 percent of large trucks, but they account for 31 percent of all fatal commercial truck rollover crashes. About half the accidents in which trucks hauling tank trailers rolled over because they went around a curve too fast could have been prevented with stability control systems, according to a Battelle Memorial Institute study. Tank trucks pose a special concern because they often haul hazardous cargo. The hearing was prompted by [an accident in Indianapolis last October](#) in which a tractor truck towing a tank loaded with propane ran off a busy interstate where it intersected with a second interstate, struck a guardrail and exploded.

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The giant fireball could be seen miles away. The trailer slammed into a bridge abutment, separating the pillar from the bridge. Five people were injured, but no one was killed. Loads are dispatched on tank trucks more than 100,000 times a day in the U.S. There are, on average, 1,265 cargo tank truck rollovers annually, the Battelle study said. Stability control systems employ sensors that tell the vehicle's onboard computer when weight is shifting or is about to shift. The computer automatically applies brakes to one or more wheels to compensate until balance is restored. There are several kinds of stability control systems. It would cost about \$1,200 to retrofit an existing tank truck with the most effective and expensive of the systems, a panel of technical experts told the board. The technology adds less than \$1,000 to the price of a new truck, they said. The systems became commercially available about five years ago. Some manufacturers are now including them as standard equipment on new tank trailers. However, Neil Voorhees, safety director for Trimac Transportation Systems, a national trucking company headquartered in Houston, said trucking companies are buying the systems at a slow rate. "Until the government steps up in this area, we're missing a golden opportunity," said Voorhees, whose company has been buying the systems. Trimac has seen its rollover accidents drop from 11 a year to one a year thanks to the systems, he said.

http://www.wavy.com/dpps/news/us_news/midwest/ntsb-probes-rollovers-by-hazmat-tanker-trucks-nt10-jgr_3524981

USA, UT, SALT LAKE CITY, AUGUST 4 2010. 1,500 GALLONS OF DIESEL LEAK FROM DERAILED TRAIN CAR

bob mims & samuel weigley

 **Watch the Video** <http://www.ksl.com/?nid=148&sid=11840913>

About 1,500 gallons of diesel fuel spilled Tuesday from a punctured tanker car in Salt Lake City. Union Pacific Spokesman Aaron Hunt said that at about 9:50 a.m., a remote control engine derailed from the UP's Warm Springs switching yard, near 800 North and 500 West. A fuel tanker was punctured and began spilling fuel. No injuries had been reported. Hunt said no waterways were impacted, and responders removed fuel from the tank as well as some of the fuel that leaked. Hunt said the spilled fuel was vacuumed up and contaminated soil removed, so no long-term problems were anticipated. The cause of the derailment was still under investigation, he said.

<http://www.sltrib.com/sltrib/home/50044177-76/fuel-1500-car-derailed.html.csp>

USA, FLA, ORLANDO, AUGUST 4 2010. MAN SUFFERS BURNS WHEN GAS CAN USED AS VEHICLE'S TANK

gary taylor,

A man who was using a plastic gasoline container as the gasoline tank for his truck was burned Monday afternoon, a spokesman for the Daytona Beach Fire Department said. Firefighters responded to vehicle fire at George W. Ingram Boulevard and Ellsworth Street about 3:15 p.m., Lt. Larry R. Stoney said. When firefighters arrived they found smoke coming from under the hood of a late-model Ford pickup truck, Stoney said. There was a red plastic five-gallon container located inside the engine compartment on the right side of the engine with a tube running from it to the carburetor, Stoney said. It was being used as the vehicle's gasoline tank, he said. The driver, who was not identified, told firefighters he believed the container lost prime and he was attempting to prime it when the engine compartment caught fire. The man suffered first- and second-degree burns to his hands, face and head, Stoney said. He was taken to Halifax Health Medical Center.

<http://www.orlandosentinel.com/news/local/breakingnews/os-daytona-man-burned-20100803,0,2082337.story>

INDIA, MUMBAI, AUGUST 4 2010. RIL, ESSAR TO BID FOR BP'S AFRICAN PETROL PUMPS

arijit barman

Old rivals of corporate India Reliance Industries (RIL) and Essar are back to competing against each other. Both are bidding to acquire the retail assets and lubricants business of BP in five African countries — Zambia, Malawi, Botswana, Namibia and Tanzania. According to two independent sources who did not wish to be identified, both Essar and RIL are likely to place bids in the range of \$400-450 million (Rs 1,844-2,075 crore). However, BP is expecting \$500 million (around Rs 2,300 crore), they said. The executives said the two Indian companies may submit the bids by the end of this week. RIL and Essar are the only companies bidding for the entire portfolio of 220 retail outlets, along with the lubricants business. Most other players, including local companies, are likely to bid for piecemeal assets. BP plans to sell assets worth up to \$30 billion over the next 18 months to fund the mounting costs of the massive oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico. "From a seller's point of view, if someone is bidding for the entire assets on the block, then they would naturally tend to prefer that. But everything will boil down to the actual money one puts on the table, as that's what matters in a competitive bidding environment." When contacted, officials from both RIL and Essar said: "As a matter of policy we do not comment on market speculation." Africa is a critical and strategic market for both the Indian oil and gas giants. Last week, Essar Group's chief executive, Prashant Ruia, had admitted the group was exploring the opportunity. "We are in the race with about a dozen other companies. It is in the early process. There are about

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five-six countries. We are going to look at all," he had told reporters. It was not clear if Essar would go alone or strike a joint partnership for the bid. Sources said in all probability Essar Energy will bid alone for these assets. Essar Energy Overseas Ltd, a subsidiary of Essar Energy Holdings, has a 50 per cent stake in the 80,000 barrels per stream day (bpsd) Kenya Petroleum Refineries Ltd, where the Kenyan government is the other big stakeholder. Essar had acquired the stake in 2009 from its earlier shareholders, Shell Petroleum Company Ltd, Chevron Global Energy Inc and BP Africa Ltd. Similarly, Reliance Industries (Middle East) DMCC a subsidiary of RIL, registered in the UAE, took over management control and majority shareholding of GAPCO Mauritius in July 2007. GAPCO is one of the largest independent petroleum marketing and trading organisations and is primarily involved in petroleum product imports, retail and wholesale marketing, trading, storage, distribution, supply and transport of oil products to the countries in East and Central Africa.

<http://www.business-standard.com/india/news/ril-essar-to-bid-for-bp%5Cs-african-petrol-pumps/403485/>

CANADA, TORONTO, AUGUST 4 2010. SUNRISE BLAST CAUSED BY ILLEGAL 'TANK-TO-TANK TRANSFER,' REPORT SAYS



The destructive Sunrise Propane blast in 2008 rained asbestos and burning metal over the area of Keele and Wilson.

The deadly 2008 propane blast was caused by an illegal "tank-to-tank transfer" and a gas hose leak, according to a confidential report by the Ontario Fire Marshal's Office. The 367-page report, which was obtained by the Toronto Star, said the cause of the explosion was accidental and occurred after a "tank-to-tank transfer" released liquid propane from a hose. About six minutes before the blast on the morning of Aug. 10, 2008, the leaked liquid propane from the hose vaporized. The actual cause of ignition is still unknown, says the report. The report notes that the Sunrise Propane did not have the appropriate license to conduct "tank-to-tank"

transfers. The company had previously been ordered to cease and desist tank-to-tank operations by the Technical Standards and Safety Authority in November 2006, the report says. "Tank-to-tank transfers continued to occur at the site subsequent to the 'order,'" the report says. The explosion and fire at the Sunrise Propane facility on Murray Rd., near Keele St. and Wilson Ave., caused the evacuation of a 1.6-kilometre area and affected thousands of residents and businesses. The destructive blast rained asbestos and burning metal over the northwest Toronto neighbourhood. The body of Sunrise employee Parminder Singh Saini, 25, was found in the charred remains of the propane facility. He was a student at Sheridan College in Brampton. Several sections of the report were blacked out, including accounts by witnesses and details of damages to nearby residences and businesses. Toronto city Councillor Maria Augimeri, in whose ward the explosion took place, says the report confirms her belief that such facilities shouldn't exist near residential communities, and that the Technical Standards and Safety Authority (TSSA) didn't properly enforce regulations. "One problem is the very fact that these types of establishments exist next door to communities," she said in an interview with the Star on Tuesday. "The other is the TSSA. We've always said that their bark was worse than their bite. They didn't have the teeth, the willingness to oversee the company that they purport," she said. The report says more consideration should have been given to whether it was appropriate for Sunrise Propane to have been built near a residential area. In 2009, the Sunrise Propane Energy Group and its directors were charged under the Environmental Protection Act. A class-action lawsuit is underway against Sunrise Propane and the owners of the site, claiming to represent any residents or business owners affected by the blast.

<http://www.thestar.com/news/gta/article/843631--sunrise-blast-caused-by-illegal-tank-to-tank-transfer-report-says>

USA, AL, OWENS CROSS ROADS, AUGUST 4 2010. FIRE AT FIREWORKS MANUFACTURING FACILITY IN OWENS CROSS ROADS

kim albright

Firefighters from Owens Cross Roads, New Hope and at least one other department responded to a blaze at a fireworks manufacturing facility Monday night. Firefighters were called to Ulte-tech Special Effects on Moon Drive shortly after 9 p.m. County fire officials say the facility was formerly known as Luna-tech. One building was heavily engulfed in flames when firefighters arrived. Authorities say the building apparently did not have any fireworks or explosives inside because no explosions were reported. Two Madison County fire investigators are on the scene and will begin work to determine the cause of the blaze once the scene is cool enough to allow them to safely enter the remains of the building. No injuries have been reported.

http://blog.al.com/breaking/2010/08/fire_at_fireworks_manufacturin.html

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USA, TX, TEXAS CITY, AUGUST 4 2010. BP HIT WITH \$10BN LAWSUIT OVER TEXAS CITY 'CHEMICAL LEAK'

rowena mason & james quinn



BP has been unexpectedly hit with a \$10bn (£6.2bn) lawsuit related to an alleged leak of toxic chemicals at its Texas City refinery earlier this year, adding to its woes over the Gulf of Mexico oil spill. Tony Buzbee, a Texas lawyer also representing Gulf residents affected by the spill, on Tuesday filed the class action lawsuit on behalf of 2,000 claimants linked to an incident in April and May. Mr Buzbee told The Daily Telegraph that his clients were seeking compensation for "health effects including all symptoms associated with acute benzene exposure". BP's troubled Texas City refinery in the US has previously been hit with fines and warnings about safety following an explosion at the plant that killed 15 people in 2005. The lawsuit came as it emerged that BP's exposure to environmental fines could be as high as \$21bn, after scientists confirmed its Gulf of Mexico oil disaster was the worst accidental spill in history. New estimates by US government scientists said 5m barrels of oil had been released into the ocean, paving the way for a record environmental penalty. Data released yesterday showed that 62,000 barrels per day had escaped from the well at its peak – significantly higher than the 1,000 barrels first claimed by BP. This leaves BP facing fines of \$5bn if it is hit with the lowest \$1,100 per barrel fine under the Clean Water Act. The figure could be as high as \$21bn if it is given the maximum \$4,300 per barrel penalty if there has been gross negligence. The high potential fines and new litigation overshadowed BP's sale of Colombian assets to Canada's Talisman Energy and

Colombia's Ecopetrol for \$1.9bn. The company is trying to sell \$30bn of assets to pay for its spill, but its liabilities are still uncertain.

What was Released?

- BP estimated 37,519 pounds of nitrogen oxides, 17,000 pounds of benzene, 189,000 pounds of carbon monoxide, 61,000 pounds of propane, 34,645 pounds of isobutane and about 160,840 pounds of other emissions were released between April 6 and May 16.
- The daily release of benzene was 40 times the state reportable levels.
- State law requires 10 pounds or more of benzene and 200 pounds or more of nitrogen oxides during a 24-hour period must be reported to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

Sources: BP, TCEQ

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/finance/newsbysector/energy/oilandgas/7925565/BP-hit-with-10bn-lawsuit-over-Texas-City-chemical-leak.html>

GREECE, ATHENS, AUGUST 4 2010. SHELL COMPLETES EXIT FROM GREEK RETAIL ARENA



Shell and Motor Oil Hellas Corinth Refineries have announced that they have completed the sale of Shell's downstream assets in Greece. As well as the sale, an agreement for the continued use of the Shell brand in the Greek market by Motor Oil Hellas was signed. Following approval from the Hellenic Competition Commission on 11 June 2010, the EUR245.6 million (USD333 million) transaction involves Shell's retail, commercial fuels, bitumen, chemicals, supply and distribution, and liquefied petroleum gas businesses, as well as a lubricants oil blending plant. With both companies due to co-operate on several levels going forward, the agreement includes the creation of a marketing joint venture between Shell and Motor Oil Hellas

for the trade of aviation fuels under the company name Shell & MOH Aviation Fuels. The Shell retail network of around 700 retail stations, as well as the new aviation joint venture, will retain the Shell brand and products through trademark licensing agreements. With the completion of the deal, Shell Hellas A.E. will be re-named Coral A.E. Shell Downstream Director Mark Williams said: "The decision to sell our downstream businesses in Greece follows a comprehensive strategic review. It fits with our drive to simplify our global downstream portfolio and concentrate on larger, integrated assets in growth markets."

<http://www.petroplaza.com/news/industry/MiZlbiY5OTc1JiYx>

CHINA, DALIAN, AUGUST 4 2010. DALIAN OIL SPILL FIGHTER'S DEATH PHOTOGRAPHED IN DETAIL

http://shanghaiist.com/2010/08/04/dalian_oil_spill_fighters_death_pho.php

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