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"RELEASE 2010 – 564 NEWSY STUFF"

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UK, PORTSMOUTH, JANUARY 10 2010. POLLUTION THREAT TO LAKE WILDLIFE AS OIL IS POURED DOWN THE DRAIN *ruth scammell*

Residents have been polluting a lake and endangering wildlife after pouring oil down drains. There has been a growing concern about the wildlife in Workhouse Lake, Gosport, after an oil slick was spotted on the surface of the water. The lake, which is classified as an SSSI (Sites of Special Scientific Interest) by Natural England, has had a history of pollution over recent years. But an investigation into the source of the oil showed that residents had been throwing oil down their drains and it had subsequently leaked into the lake. Now people are fighting to protect the birds and fish that use the lake, which is near Park Road and Alver Road. Andy Wing, 47, from Park Road, Gosport, said: 'Over the last 10 years we have had a number of incidents involving pollution in the lake. It's become a bit more of an issue since it became an SSSI. It made it more than your average creek. It has so many creatures and wildlife depending on it. We see a tremendous amount of wildlife and things going in there. It's a very frustrating situation. There are swans in there. I don't feel that any form of wildlife should suffer. We've had to have creatures die in the lake before anything has been done about it. People need to be more responsible for how they dispose of things. The environment has changed now, everything is accounted for and there are places for things to go.' An Environment Agency spokesman Jan Leslie said they will be contacting local residents urging them not to dispose of oil down the drains. 'We received a report of oil polluting the lake and swiftly went on site to undertake an investigation and meet council representatives and the complainant,' he said. 'Following our investigation we concluded the oil had come from nearby residential properties due to people throwing oil away down their drains. We will now be going out into the community to educate residents about the problems caused by irresponsible disposal of oil.' Cllr June Cully said the lake was very popular with the local residents, adding: 'It's extremely important. It does need active protection.'

<http://www.portsmouth.co.uk/newshome/Pollution-threat-to-lake-wildlife.5968347.jp>

USA, TX, DEER PARK. JANUARY 10 2010. STORAGE TANK OVERFLOWS AT SHELL FACILITY

Watch the Video <http://abclocal.go.com/ktrk/story?section=news/local&id=7209847>

andy certota

The cold weather is also causing problems for area petrochemical plants. Last night's freeze had some of the companies keeping close watch. There was a situation at Shell Deer Park facility. The company said there was never any danger to the surrounding community or the employees who were working at that particular site. Frigid temperatures overnight caused an equipment malfunction in a storage tank area which caused one storage tank to overflow. That tank contained about 250 gallons of a very corrosive material called liquid caustic, which is used in a variety of petrochemical processes. A Shell plant spokesperson told Eyewitness News that special preparations are made in advance of weather like this because they often expect some problems. "We follow our very detailed procedures and processes for preparing the plant first of all in advance of the freezing conditions. We protect the piping instrumentation and other critical equipment that we have on site," said Shell spokesperson Chris Bozman. "We have teams that work around the clock to monitor the situation and make sure we could quickly resolve any situation that comes up." The situation at the complex was resolved very quickly and with more frigid temperatures expected tonight, teams will be on standby to monitor those storage tanks in case there are any other problems.

<http://abclocal.go.com/ktrk/story?section=news/local&id=7209847>

USA, WV, CHARLESTON, JANUARY 12 2010. BAYER CITED FOR MIC TANK VIOLATIONS

ken ward jr.

Bayer CropScience has not properly maintained or tested the underground storage tank where it keeps roughly 200,000 pounds of methyl isocyanate, the deadly chemical that killed thousands of people in Bhopal, India, in 1984, state inspectors have alleged. Department of Environmental Protection inspectors issued four citations to Bayer for alleged mismanagement of the MIC tank. Inspectors discovered the problem during a June 2009 inspection, and formal violation notices were issued in late September. No fines have been issued, and DEP officials said last week they don't know if Bayer has fixed the problems. Tom Dover, a Bayer spokesman, said in an e-mailed response that the company "is in discussions" with DEP and wanted to "emphasize that the integrity of the referenced tanks is not in question, nor is the safe storage of our materials." But officials from the U.S. Chemical Safety Board, who reviewed the DEP violation notices at the Sunday Gazette-Mail's request, said the allegations concerned them. "It doesn't give us a warm and fuzzy feeling," board Chairman John Bresland said Friday. "I would have thought if you were dealing with a tank containing methyl isocyanate, you would always want to have the best practices in place." CSB investigators have been examining the Institute plant's operations in the wake of the August 2008 explosion and fire that killed two plant workers and forced thousands of Kanawha Valley residents to take shelter in their homes. For years, the Institute facility has been the only one in the nation to store large quantities of MIC onsite. Last April, congressional investigators concluded the explosion could have easily damaged a nearby MIC storage tank and triggered a disaster that would have been worse than Bhopal. CSB officials described the incident as "potentially a serious near miss, the results of which might have been catastrophic for workers, responders and the public." In late August, as the one-year anniversary of the deadly explosion in Institute neared, Bayer announced it was cutting its MIC storage by about 80 percent. After the changes, Bayer hopes to keep its daily maximum MIC inventory below 50,000 pounds -- still far more than any other chemical plant in the nation. The DEP violation notices concern corrosion protection systems installed on the underground storage tank where Bayer keeps most of its MIC stockpile. According to DEP, the tank is equipped with cathodic protection, a system that is meant to control corrosion of a metal surface by making it work as a cathode of an electrochemical cell. But DEP inspectors discovered that the contractors who installed the system in 2003 did not have proper state

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certification to perform that kind of work. Uncertified workers also performed required periodic tests to determine if the system was working properly, DEP inspectors found. DEP inspectors also cited Bayer because the tests the uncertified workers performed showed the corrosion protect system wasn't working properly. Agency officials instructed Bayer to have tests performed by qualified workers. Mike Zeto, DEP's chief environmental enforcement inspector, said he doesn't know if that has been done, and that Bayer has not formally responded to the violation notices. DEP has not yet taken any further action, but Zeto said the issue is "an active matter that we are pursuing. "The proper handling and protections associated with that material, given the nature of that material, is vitally important for the protection of the workers and the people who live nearby," Zeto said. "These are serious issues in our mind." Maya Nye, spokeswoman for the group People Concerned About MIC, said she was concerned that DEP hasn't taken additional action and also upset that the agency hasn't told the public about the violations. "I'm concerned about why this information wasn't made public before now," Nye said this week. "What gives them the right to call that confidential information? DEP is trying to keep confidential some very serious information."

<http://sundaygazette.com/News/201001090168>

USA, NY, KENT, JANUARY 12 2010. STATE ALMOST FINISHED WITH KENT GAS STATION CLEANUP

michael risinit

While the cold weather has slowed the progress of contractors removing polluted soil from the site of a former service station in Kent, it has also kept sediment and other materials from washing off the site and into nearby Lake Carmel, a state spokeswoman said. The contractors are expected to scoop about 1,000 cubic yards of soil from the property on Route 52. Some in town say the tarps covering the already removed soil in an effort to keep it in place aren't adequate and the piles' proximity to the lake poses a threat. The excavation work began last month and trucks started hauling the soil away last week. "They were doing the work, and the tarps came off the top (of the piles) and they were exposed," said Wanda Schweitzer, chairwoman of the Lake Carmel Park District Advisory Committee. The service station has been closed for more than a decade and its underground storage tanks removed at least 10 years ago. The property is owned by Anthony Scalfani of Stormville in Dutchess County and the remediation is being paid for by Mid Valley Oil Co. of Orange County and the Westchester-based Spain Oil Corp., according to the [state Department](#) of Environmental Conservation. The two businesses were the last owners associated with the station and signed a cleanup agreement with the DEC in 2003. DEC spokeswoman Wendy Rosenbach said the cold weather hampered the excavation work but also limited the potential for soil and pollutants flowing off the site. The work is expected to be finished this week. Testing in 2008, she said, found unacceptable levels of petroleum byproducts in the soil at several spots on the property. Samples of groundwater were found to contain elevated levels of gasoline additive MTBE, at less than 100 parts per billion. The state standard for drinking water is 10 parts per billion. Rosenbach said recent samples are "approaching standards." The area is mostly a commercial strip, although houses sit across Route 52. Rosenbach said four nearby homes have filters on their wells. She said the MTBE level in the homes' water recently ranged from 3 to 10.7 parts per billion, making it possible the filters could be removed once the excavation was finished. Mobil, the station's owner before Mid Valley and Spain, pays for the filters, Rosenbach said.

<http://www.lohud.com/article/20100110/NEWS04/1100345/-1/newsfront/State-almost-finished-with-Kent-gas-station-cleanup>

USA, MI, GENEVA TWP, JANUARY 12 2010. SOUTH HAVEN MAN RESCUED FROM FIRE>> POURS FLAMMABLE LIQUID ON STOVE

A South Haven man suffered smoke inhalation and singed hair when he was pulled from a house fire at around 10 a.m. Friday in Geneva Township. The man, who lived in the house, was taken to South Haven Community Hospital by South Haven Area Emergency Services Paramedics, according to a press release. When firefighters arrived on the scene at 63653 CR 284 in Geneva Township, they found a single-wide mobile home fully engulfed in flames. Firefighters were unable to navigate vehicles up a steep icy driveway, so they dragged fire hoses up a large embankment through deep snow to extinguish the fire, according to the report. The fire started when the man poured flammable liquid into a wood-burning stove to help the fire in the stove burn better, according to the release. The home was a total loss and a dog perished in the fire, authorities said.

http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2010/01/south_haven_man_rescued_from_f.html

USA, CT, NORWICH, JANUARY 12 2010. OIL SPILL CLEANUP AT MILL IN NORWICH COST \$720,000

claire bessette

The cleanup of the 2007 spill of PCB-laced oil at the abandoned Capehart Mill complex and into the Shetucket River cost \$720,000, state and federal environmental officials said. Initially, when the spill occurred in early July 2007, the state Department of Environmental Protection stepped in and paid for cleanup of the oil that had leaked into the Shetucket and onto the mill grounds. The leak was traced to vandalized abandoned transformers at the mill site that still contained the hazardous oil. In October 2008, the federal Environmental Protection Agency reached an agreement with representatives from the defunct ownership group, Foot of Fifth Inc., for a \$1 million cleanup of the contamination caused by the spill. Last week, the DEP placed a lien on the Capehart property for \$450,000 to cover its portion of the cleanup cost. Wing Chau, who oversaw the cleanup for the EPA's Boston regional office, said cleanup conducted by the owner totaled \$320,000. He added that the EPA's costs were "minimal" and involved oversight of the work the owner had agreed to do. The cleanup involved only the contamination that posed an immediate threat to the river and grounds. The property remains contaminated from decades of use as an industrial manufacturing plant, along with the lead paint and asbestos expected to be found in the buildings. The former Capehart Mill complex is the largest delinquent tax property in the city, with tax bills now in excess of \$600,000. In addition, the city has three demolition liens on the property totaling

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\$35,000 for costs incurred in trying to secure the partially collapsed mill from vandalism and fires that have occurred there, Tax Collector Kathy Daley said. Despite its poor condition and environmental contamination, New York-based developer POKO Partners LLC remains interested in the property. POKO proposed a \$60 million, 250-unit apartment complex at the site prior to the spill. The Norwich City Council voted on May 19, 2008, to assign the tax liens on the property to Capehart Ventures LLC, a subsidiary of POKO, in a move that would allow POKO to foreclose on the tax liens and take ownership of the property. POKO also has been negotiating with the current owners and state and federal environmental officials on the project. POKO principal Kenneth Olson said last week that his firm has approached the DEP and the state Department of Economic and Community Development on the possibility of incorporating the DEP's cleanup costs into the redevelopment project. DEP spokesman Dennis Schain said he could not comment on development discussions. He said the \$450,000 lien placed on the property Jan. 4 was an amount negotiated with the owners to cover the state agency's cleanup cost. The lien is to be paid off when the property is transferred. The state would be a top-priority creditor in any foreclosure actions, Schain said.

<http://www.theday.com/article/20100110/NWS01/301109866/-1/NWS>

USA, WASHINGTON, JANUARY 12 2010. THE ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES OF WAR

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Why militaries almost never clean up the messes they leave behind – An interesting article in the current edition of Washington Monthly. A short excerpt is reproduced below. If countries don't want to pay for cleanup, international law can hardly make them. While a number of treaties since the 1970s—the First Protocol to the Geneva Conventions, the Environmental Modification Convention, and others—have tried to limit the environmental consequences of war, they have all made broad exceptions for militarily necessary activity. They have also had weak, even nonexistent, enforcement mechanisms, and the definition of "militarily necessary" has been highly flexible. "Where the international community has sought to hold states and individuals responsible for environmental harm caused during armed conflict, results have largely been poor," concludes a recent report by the United Nations Environmental Program. Read Whole Article at:

<http://www.washingtonmonthly.com/features/2010/1001.risen.html>

USA, MD, BALTIMORE, JESSUP, JANUARY 12 2010. ROUTE 175 SHUT DOWN AFTER TANKER CRASH

Route 175 in Jessup was shut down for several hours Sunday after a car struck a tanker truck carrying 8,500 gallons of fuel. The crash happened shortly after 9 a.m. on Route 175 at Clark Road. Fire officials say the tanker was pulling out of a gas station when a vehicle struck the side of it. The car was pinned beneath the tanker. The driver of the car, identified only as a 19-year-old male, was doused in fuel. Firefighters were able to pull him out of the car. He was taken to the University of Maryland Shock Trauma Center with minor injuries. Crews spent hours trying to pry the car out from underneath the tanker. Officials say the car was preventing more fuel from spilling onto the roadway so they are trying to figure out a safe way to remove it. The cause of the crash remains under investigation.

<http://www.abc2news.com/news/local/story/Route-175-Shut-Down-for-Tanker-Crash/4ojPpavizE-4V079fgXu6g.cspg>

USA, CA, BAKERSFIELD, JANUARY 12 2010. OIL PRODUCERS LINE UP AGAINST ANTI-SPILL LAW

 **Photo's** <http://www.bakersfield.com/news/business/economy/x113239349/Oil-producers-line-up-against-anti-spill-law>



Arthur McAdams works with one of his service hoists. McAdams owns over 70 oil wells and was working a stripping job for a client north of town.

It's almost ironic. Kern oilman Arthur McAdams finally persuades one of his three daughters to take over the family business -- just as new rules are being crafted in Sacramento that he fears could ruin the industry for small operations like his. What worries him most is how much money he (and eventually, the 34-year-old daughter he's still training) might have to spend to comply with a new law intended to contain and prevent oil spills. "What they're going to ask us to do is going to be very difficult financially for a lot of guys. I mean, draining your tanks, electronically surveying them. That's downtime. That's a lot of expense. I don't know," said McAdams, who owns about 70 oil wells in the state, many of them just north of Bakersfield. "This I can see could put some people out of business." That sentiment is spreading fast among local oil

producers, especially the small independents with the least amount of money to spend on facility upgrades. The ambitious nature of the new law, known as AB 1960, may have destined it for controversy. Never in the 90-year history of the state Division of Oil, Gas & Geothermal Resources has there been so extensive a reworking of state oil regulations. AB 1960 expands DOGGR's oversight of oil production facilities. It gives the division new enforcement authority, including the power to shut down operations with a history of violations. Industry leaders agree that companies in the habit of spilling oil need to be disciplined. But they say the rules should not put responsible producers out of business. "We're not trying to stop the regulations, but we're trying to make them make sense," said Rock Zierman, CEO of CIPA, the California Independent Petroleum Association. Some industry groups assert that the burden of AB 1960 would fall hardest on small producers, the ranks of which are fairly common in Kern County. They point out that replacing an oil storage tank -- one of the most common measures envisioned by the industry under the law -- costs between a few thousand dollars and tens of thousands. Though bearable for a large producer, they say, that kind of outlay could prompt a small independent to close down an oil well rather than pay the expense. The California Independent Petroleum Association estimates that 17 percent of California's oil production comes from small operations that produce less than 10 barrels a day. But small

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producers are not alone in pushing for changes to the draft regulations. A spokesman for Chevron stated that the draft rules "seem to add red tape," and a spokeswoman for Bakersfield-based Aera Energy LLC sent an e-mail saying that the proposed regulations may be "overly bureaucratic," too prescriptive without setting performance standards, and "not cost effective." Part of the industry's anxiety relates to the fact that AB 1960 is but the latest actual or proposed legislative imposition on California oil production. A separate law intended to reduce greenhouse gas emissions has yet to be translated into enforceable rules. Meanwhile, the state Legislature is considering two separate proposals to levy new taxes on oil produced in the state.

Requesting Input, Not Resistance

The industry's increasingly vocal opposition to the draft rules frustrates the state's new oil and gas supervisor, Elena M. Miller, a lawyer viewed by some as an outsider unfamiliar with the technical aspects of the oil industry. She said producers and the trade groups representing them are rushing to judgment at a time when they ought to be focused on providing useful testimony. Among the misconceptions Miller said she is battling within the industry is the idea that draft regulations released last year are final. In fact, her team is still accepting public comments on the regulations. Last week she extended the comment period one additional week, until Thursday. The next step will be to sift through hundreds of oral and written comments presented by the industry and general public, which she said will take months. "Through the months of culling through them, the division will begin to learn what we've got right and what we need to reconsider," Miller said. "Any number of things can happen." "If any changes are made (to the draft regulations), then we would put those out to the public, and another public comment period could begin, and we would go through this all over again," she continued. "So you see, this could go on for a long period of time." Miller declined to estimate when new rules would take effect, saying, "I have no idea."

No Sitting Down Together

A point of disagreement between her and some industry groups is how the rule-making process should proceed. As Miller sees it, AB 1960 requires her division to issue new rules. But industry associations say the preferred way has been to convene an existing working group composed of regulators and industry that would then hash out a compromise. "We have a history of working together in a positive way," said CIPA's Zierman. "We regret that they didn't use this process this time," he added. Miller said it wasn't up to her. "There's no discretion," she said, "and so therefore it's not something that we could go to our industry friends and say, 'Help us with this.' Because we're mandated."

Strategizing Opposition

The industry's sense of helplessness has prompted strategies for fighting the proposed rules. For example, producers and their representatives have reached out to state Assemblywoman Jean Fuller, R-Bakersfield, who indicated that she is "reviewing the situation" and may yet intervene. "If there is something I can do to mediate the situation and ensure that independent producers across the state are fairly represented, I will work diligently on their behalf, as CIPA's member producers are critical contributors to California's economy and our national efforts to achieve energy independence," Fuller wrote in an e-mail. Another possible measure, Zierman said, might be to object to the regulations when they reach the State Office of Administrative Law, which reviews rules to make sure they are clear and legally enforceable. Earlier this month, local oil producer David Hartley, president of Kern-based Sacramento Energy Inc., and his brother, Roger Hartley formed a group of producers called California Oil Producers Association with the purpose of opposing AB 1960 as well as the proposed tax on oil production. David Hartley said the group still has fewer than 20 members and that it's open to any oil producer across the state.

Bureaucratic Takeover?

In his opinion, AB 1960 is nothing less than an attempt by state bureaucrats to close down California oil production. "They're not stupid, they're not misguided," David Hartley said. "They may not know the oil business, but they certainly know how to eliminate it." For her part, Miller said the industry's conflict is not with her division but with the Legislature and the law's author, state Assemblyman Pedro Nava, D-Santa Barbara. A spokesman for Nava could not be reached for comment last week. Added division spokesman Don Drysdale: "We're working on what we're told to work on."

<http://www.bakersfield.com/news/business/economy/x113239349/Oil-producers-line-up-against-anti-spill-law>

USA, SC, SUMMERVILLE, JANUARY 12 2010. FIRE NEAR PROPANE TANKER

A man is sent to the hospital for burns after a spark lights a fire near a propane tanker. It happened around 7:00 Saturday Night, at the Raisio Staest factory on Deming Way near Jedburg. Authorities say a man was delivering 10,000 gallons of propane to the plant when a spark ignited a fire. The driver was taken to the hospital for first and second degree burns. Authorities say materials around the tanker caught fire, but fortunately the propane did not. "It could be devastating, any time you have 10,000 gallons of fuel. Everyone is just fortunate that the fire was not any worse than it was," Joe Medlock, Assistant Chief, Old Fort Fire Department. Investigators are looking into what sparked the fire.

<http://www.wciv.com/news/stories/0110/694525.html>

FRANCE: CEDRE (CENTRE OF DOCUMENTATION, RESEARCH AND EXPERIMENTATION) HAS RELEASED NEW ENGLISH LANGUAGE CHEMICAL RESPONSE GUIDE FOR SPILLS OF UNLEADED GASOLINE

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This guide is intended for operational personnel liable to be confronted with a spill of unleaded gasoline in the marine environment or on a water body or course. This document does not deal with land pollution. It is designed to provide operational personnel with useful information on spill response and on the establishment of response plans in case of such a spill. This guide is designed to allow rapid access to the necessary initial information (see chapter entitled "First line emergency data"), in addition to providing

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relevant bibliographical sources to obtain further information. It contains the results of accident scenarios involving spills at sea, in a port and on a river. These scenarios are only intended to provide response authorities with indications of what to do in an emergency. Each real incident should be analysed individually and the response authorities should not underestimate the importance of taking in situ measurements (air, water, sediment and marine fauna) in order to determine exclusion areas. Download at:

<http://www.cedre.fr/en/publication/chemical/gasoline.pdf>

AUSTRALIA, TASMANIA, HOBART [WORKPLACE-STANDARDS-TASMANIA], JANUARY 12 2010.

Dangerous Substances Updates - [Fireworks information including key legislation changes](#) (Dec 09)

http://www.wst.tas.gov.au/safety_comply/dang_subs/fireworks

CHINA, GANSU PROVINCE, LANZHOU CITY, JANUARY 12 2010. A CHEMICAL PLANT EXPLODED IN LANZHOU PETROCHEMICAL

Five people were missing and six were injured on January 7 after a naphtha oil-tank farm exploded at around 5:30 p.m. at CNPC's Lanzhou Petrochemical Company in Gansu Province. The injured and missing are all employees of Lanzhou Petrochemical. The plant was 30 km away from downtown. Residential buildings near the plant were not affected. At present, the fire is under control. Field monitoring show that there is no toxic gas escaped from the facilities. All the water used for firefighting has been collected for treatment. Preliminary analysis said that the blast was triggered by static electricity of flammable gas which had leaked from a pyrolysis C4 tank and concentrated to a certain extent. After the accident happened, fire fighting and rescue work was deployed immediately. CNPC Vice President Liao Yongyuan and related experts headed for the scene in the evening to organize relevant relief and protection measures. Early this morning, CNPC sent an urgent message throughout the group, notifying the accident and urging further strengthening HSE effort.

http://www.cnpc.com.cn/en/press/newsreleases/A_chemical_plant_explored_in_Lanzhou_Petrochemical_.htm

USA, NY, BROOKLYN, JANUARY 12 2010. COAST GUARD PROBES ETHANOL-LOADING INCIDENT THAT DAMAGED SHIP IN NEW YORK HARBOR

A ship taking on ethanol was apparently overfilled, causing the vessel's tank to rupture and the U.S. Coast Guard says it wants to know what went wrong and why. The ship Sichem Defiance is isolated in Gravesend Bay off Brooklyn in the Lower Harbor while the investigation and recovery efforts continue. The incident occurred at around 9 a.m. Sunday when the ship's tank burst as the vessel was being loaded with 55,000 barrels of ethanol, causing a 3-foot section of the main deck to collapse. The 446-foot tanker is owned by Eitsen Chemical of India, but wears a Marshall Islands flag. Police and fire boats, and U.S. Coast Guard vessels rushed to the area. A 1,000-yard safety zone remains in effect around the vessel, which encompasses the entire Gravesend Bay anchorage. Other ships were moved to different anchorages. "Our paramount concern is for the safety of the crew still onboard the vessel and they will not commence any nighttime operations," said Cmdr. David Flaherty, Coast Guard Sector New York's incident commander on Sunday. "The vessel is currently listing at about six degrees, and the vessel's crew will not attempt to correct the issue until there is enough light tomorrow. The Coast Guard is working with the company, the vessel master and the operator to develop salvage and repair plans, as well as confirm any internal damage to the ship." There were no reports of pollution or injuries resulting from the rupture.

http://www.silive.com/news/index.ssf/2010/01/post_84.html

CANADA, MONTREAL, JANUARY 12 2010. SHELL TO CONVERT MONTREAL REFINERY TO STORAGE TERMINAL

Shell Canada Products (Shell) announced Thursday that a decision was made to undertake steps towards the conversion of its 130,000 barrels per day Montreal East Refinery to a terminal to receive gasoline, diesel and aviation fuels, which will continue to be distributed via Shell's nearby Montreal terminal. After reviewing a number of options for the Montreal East Refinery, Shell concluded the facility, founded 75 years ago, no longer fits with Shell's long-term strategy. "This difficult decision was made after extensive deliberation. We appreciate the decision impacts employees and their families and we certainly intend to support them throughout the process," said Christian Houle, General Manager for Shell's Montreal East Refinery. As more becomes known in the coming months about the overall plans for conversion to a terminal, employees, media, government officials and other stakeholders will be kept informed throughout the process. For the time being, it remains business as usual for our refinery operations. "During the process, we will continue to provide our customers with our usual high level of service and quality products. Safety of our employees and regulatory compliance in our operations remains our number one priority," said Lorraine Mitchelmore, Shell Canada President and Country Chair.

http://www.downstreamtoday.com/news/article.aspx?a_id=20385&AspxAutoDetectCookieSupport=1

USA, ND, PEMBINA, JANUARY 12 2010. ENBRIDGE ENERGY PARTNERS LAKEHEAD PIPELINE SYSTEM REPORTS CRUDE OIL SPILL IN NORTH DAKOTA

Enbridge Energy Partners, L.P. (NYSE: EEP) (the "Partnership") today reported that clean up was continuing on a crude oil leak, which was confirmed Saturday on Line 2b on the Enbridge Lakehead Pipeline System. An initial spill estimate of approximately 3,000 barrels (126,000 gallons) of light crude oil was reported to federal and state regulatory authorities. The leak, which is located in Pembina County, North Dakota, was detected by the Enbridge pipeline control center at approximately 11:30 p.m. CT, Friday,

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Jan. 8. The pipeline was immediately shutdown and isolated by closing valves upstream and downstream of the suspected leak site. The leak is contained within the Enbridge right-of-way, and no water or wildlife have been affected. Enbridge employees and contractors are on site removing crude oil from the affected section of the pipeline right-of-way. The cause of the leak is under investigation by Enbridge and pipeline regulatory authorities. Line 2b runs from Cromer, Manitoba, to Superior, Wisc. The segment of Line 2b between Cromer and Clearbrook, Minn. likely will remain out of service through Monday, Jan. 11. Oil that was designated for transportation on Line 2b is being moved on other Enbridge pipelines that parallel Line 2b until service is restored on that pipeline. Line 2B, from Clearbrook to Superior, Wisc., is continuing to move volumes sourced from Enbridge's North Dakota System as well as re-routed volumes from upstream of Cromer on Line 2b.

<http://money.cnn.com/news/newsfeeds/articles/markwire/0575364.htm>

USA, TX, SANTA FE, JANUARY 12 2010. OIL STORAGE TANKS OVERFLOW; SPILL CONTAINED

hayley kappes

Three crude oil storage tanks in the 6700 block of Avenue R just outside the city limits overflowed Sunday, but the spillage was contained within levee walls and did not pose environmental hazards, authorities said. A nearby resident noticed the tanks overflowing about 3:15 p.m. and called Houston-based Nordstrand Engineering Inc., which owns and manages the site, Ray Benoist, a Galveston County Sheriff's Office spokesman, said. The resident could not get through to the company, so he called Santa Fe Fire and Rescue. The sheriff's office, railroad commission and representatives from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality also responded, Santa Fe Fire and Rescue Chief C.T. "Tommy" Anderson said. Officials got in touch with a representative from Nordstrand who shut off the pumps, Anderson said. About 400 to 500 gallons of crude oil overflowed into the containment levees but did not spill onto the ground, Garret Foskit, Galveston County nuisance abatement officer, said. Nordstrand workers still were vacuuming the oil at 6 p.m. and will investigate the cause of the system malfunction today, Foskit said. Nordstrand employees told officials the company lost power a couple days ago but didn't know if it was a factor in the tanks' overflow, Foskit said. Each tank can hold 400 barrels of crude oil, Benoist said. The well pumps about seven barrels of oil and 15 barrels of water a day, he said.

<http://www.galvnews.com/story.lasso?ewcd=f2168fa7c3836eb4>

IRAN, KHUZESTAN, JANUARY 12 2010. PHOTOS: FIRES IN IRAN'S MAROON FIELD BROUGHT UNDER CONTROL; OIL SPILL IMPACT UNKNOWN

Photo's <http://www.payvand.com/news/10/jan/1096.html> [12 vivid pictures]

According to a [report](#) by [Mehr News Agency](#), the fires at Iran's Maroon oil field located in southwestern province of Khuzestan have been brought under control. On January 2nd, Iran's Oil Ministry reported an accidental release of oil and gas at the Maroon field, one of the largest in Iran with 500,000 barrels a day output. It is said that 50,000 barrels of oil spilled into Jarrahi River as a result of the incident. According to [ISNA](#), the fire was caused by the explosion of a pipe at a depth of 700 meters and the emergence of oil fountain as a result of it. But the report by Mehr states that the fires were done on the orders of oil ministry managers to prevent the oil and gas from spilling. Well number 104 which was involved in this incident produces 2000 barrels per day. Currently about 1500 barrels are burned to prevent the pollution of the area. Initial reports from the incident indicated 50,000 barrels of oil spilled into the nearby Jarrahi river as a result of the incident. But There has been conflicting reports about the cause of the fires. Some officials deny any spill into the river, while others dispute the amount (see [report](#) - in Persian). Some blame the cause of the incident is blamed on the old age of Well number 104. This well has been in service for 35 years without being rebuilt. But the oil ministry officials deny this and instead blame the incident on geological issues.

Related Article: [Identification of the Water Pollutant Industries in Khuzestan Province](#)

<http://www.payvand.com/news/10/jan/1096.html>

USA, HI, HONOLULU, JANUARY 12 2010. NEW YEAR'S FIREWORKS INJURED 112 IN ISLANDS >> HAWAII FIREWORKS BAN NOT A CAPITOL PRIORITY

Fireworks injured 112 people in Hawaii, half of them children, during the recent New Year's holiday, including seven who were admitted to hospitals with serious burns or blast wounds, according to the state Department of Health. The number of injuries is the highest since the agency's Injury Prevention & Control Program began tracking the data 10 years ago. "This New Year's we saw records for the number of injured (112), the number admitted to hospitals (seven), and the number transported by EMS (seven)," said Health Department epidemiologist Dan Galanis. "Those latter two observations indicate an increase in more severe injuries this year." The data reflect hospital emergency room visits for fireworks-related injuries during the period of Dec. 31 to Jan. 2. Ninety-nine cases were reported on O'ahu, seven on Maui, four on the Big Island and one each on Kaua'i and Lanai, according to the report. The ages of those injured ranged from 2 to 82. Seven were under the age of 5 and nearly 80 percent were males. Galanis pointed out that there were more children under the age of 16 hurt by fireworks during the three-day period than in an average month from car crashes (42), assaults (21), poisonings (13) or pedestrian collisions (9). Three-quarters of the injuries occurred while victims were holding or setting off fireworks, with observers suffering the remainder, the report said. Hands and fingers were the most commonly injured body part, accounting for 55 percent of cases. Of the cases in which the type of firework is known, firecrackers injured 15 people; spinning "flowers," nine; sparklers, five; and aeriels, four.

<http://www.honoluluadvertiser.com/article/20100110/NEWS01/100110003/New+Year%E2%80%99s+fireworks+injured+112+in+Islands>

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USA, CA, MARIN, JANUARY 12 2010. COUNCIL TO DISCUSS PERCLORETHYLENE SPILL AT FAIR ANSELM CENTER

The Fairfax Town Council will discuss the status of a perclorethylene spill at the Fair Anselm retail center during a 7:30 p.m. meeting Wednesday at the Women's Club at 46 Park Road.

http://www.marinij.com/fairfax/ci_14163277

USA, CA, LONG BEACH, JANUARY 12 2010. STORAGE TANK FINES WILL LEAD LONG BEACH CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

paul eakins

Officials must examine a \$1.7 million legal settlement on the same day as State of the City address. The City Council will have a short and early meeting Tuesday before Mayor Bob Foster's State of the City address. Foster will speak at 7 p.m. in the Terrace Theater of the Long Beach Convention and Entertainment Center, 300 E. Ocean Blvd., but no more tickets are available to the public. The address won't be broadcast live this year, but after Tuesday, it can be viewed online at [the State of the City Web site](#) or [the city's Web site](#), and on TV on Channel 8 for Charter Communications cable, and on Channel 21 on Verizon FiOS. The council meeting will begin at 4 p.m., instead of the regular 5 p.m., in City Hall, 333 W. Ocean Blvd. The meeting can be viewed live on Charter Communications Channel 8, Verizon FiOS Channel 21 or at [the city's Web site](#). Perhaps the most significant matter going before the council is a \$1.7 million settlement with the state Water Resources Control Board for Long Beach's noncompliance of required upgrades for Underground Storage Tanks, which store oil. The city had managed 66 tanks at 46 locations, but has scaled that back to 26 at 15 sites as it was required to under new rules in 2003 to test secondary containment systems to ensure they did not leak, according to a staff report. Although the majority of the city's tanks weren't in compliance and the city made efforts to fix those, the report says, one notice of violation was issued but never addressed. That violation totals 229,152 days of noncompliance, for which the Water Resources Control Board could fine the city between \$500 to \$5,000 per day, the report says. This could result in a penalty between \$114 million and \$1.14 billion for the city. Long Beach officials have been negotiating with the board for 18 months to reach a settlement valued at \$6 million. Of that amount, \$1.5 million is a cash penalty, \$2million is for enhanced underground storage tank improvements, and \$2.5 million is suspended contingent upon the city's ongoing compliance for five years. The city also must reimburse the board \$200,000 for its legal and other expenses.

http://www.presstelegram.com/news/ci_14163132

USA, PA, PHILADELPHIA, JANUARY 12 2010. LUKOIL BUYS 11 PHILA. GETTY STATIONS

Lukoil acquired 11 Philadelphia Getty gas stations for a total of \$9.8 million. The highest price paid for a station was \$1.6 million at 9100 Frankford Ave. and the lowest was \$652,700 for 12001 Roosevelt Ave., according to Philadelphia property records. This acquisition continues the spread of the Lukoil brand throughout the region. Lukoil bought 750 Mobile gas stations throughout New Jersey and Pennsylvania in 2004 and converted them to Lukoil. In 2000, the Russian oil company bought Getty Petroleum Marketing Inc. and has been making the switch at more than 1,000 stations. Getty continues to divest of service station properties to Lukoil, unloading in November another 164 properties and 339 other stations and its home heating business, according to the East Meadow, N.Y., company.

http://philadelphia.bizjournals.com/philadelphia/blogs/real_estate/2010/01/lukoil_buys_11_phila_getty_stations.html

USA, VA, HARRISONBURG, JANUARY 12 2010. TANKER TRUCK CRASHED ON I-81 BRIDGE, NOT INTO OVERPASS >> FIRE IS OUT, BUT SOUTHBOUND LANES STILL CLOSED AS OF 1:15 P.M.

rob longley

A tanker truck heading south on Interstate 81 crashed at mile marker 239 in Rockingham County at about 11:30 this morning. Reports first indicated that the truck had hit an overpass. As it turns out, the vehicle crashed on what is technically a bridge spanning the North River. The bridge is a part of I-81 and, aside from barriers on either side, does not look much different than the rest of the highway. The location of the crash is just south of the Bridgewater/Mount Crawford exit. The truck caught fire and the smoke billowing from the vehicle could be seen from miles around. At about 1:15 p.m. today, the vehicle was still smoldering, but firefighters had put out the blaze. I-81 southbound remains closed at this time and it's not clear when it might reopen. It's not clear if the driver of the truck, or any other motorists near the truck at the time of the crash, were injured.

http://www.dnronline.com/news_details.php?AID=43687&CHID=64

USA, DE, NEW CASTLE, JANUARY 12 2010. DNREC WILL HOLD PUBLIC HEARING ON UNDERGROUND STORAGE-TANK REGS

The Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control will hold a public hearing on proposed revisions to Delaware's underground storage tank (UST) regulations from 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 12 in the conference room at DNREC's New Castle office, 391 Lukens Drive, New Castle. The proposed changes would incorporate federal requirements, clarify language and help ensure protection of human health, safety and the environment. They include:

- Requirements for a tank operator training program as required by the Federal Energy Policy Act of 2005.
- Requirements prohibiting installation of new USTs within specific distances of public, industrial and domestic wells to ensure protection of drinking water supplies.
- Clarifications to specific sections in response to public comment. • Corrections to errors in the last edition of the UST regulations, issued Jan. 11, 2008.

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- Corrections and additions to conform to the federal requirement that state regulations are at least as stringent as the federal UST regulations.

The public and interested parties are invited to attend the hearing and make comments. Written comments can be submitted to: Jill Williams Hall, DNREC Tank Management Branch, 391 Lukens Drive, New Castle, DE 19720, and must be received by the end of the comment period as designated by the hearing officer at the hearing. Copies of the proposed regulations are available online at www.dnrec.delaware.gov/info/Pages/Rules.aspx. Copies also may be viewed during regular business hours at the Lukens Drive office, as well as, DNREC's main Dover office, the Richardson & Robbins Building, 89 Kings Highway, Dover, and the Sussex County office, Route 113, Sussex Suites, Unit 6, Georgetown. For more information, please call Jill Williams Hall, Tank Management Branch, 302-395-2500.

<http://www.sussexcountian.com/news/business/x1672004273/DNREC-will-hold-public-hearing-on-underground-storage-tank-regs>

USA, VA, HARRISONBURG, JANUARY 12 2010. TANKER TRUCK CRASHED ON I-81 BRIDGE, NOT INTO OVERPASS >> FIRE IS OUT, BUT SOUTHBOUND LANES STILL CLOSED AS OF 1:15 P.M.

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http://www.dnronline.com/news_details.php?AID=43687&CHID=64

USA, NY, STATEN ISLAND, JANUARY 12 2010. FIREFIGHTER HURT, CONTENTS SPILL WHEN TRUCK CARRYING MOTOR OIL, ANTI-FREEZE GOES ABLAZE IN BULLS HEAD



Firefighters prepare to go to work outside the Mobil station, as flames shoot out of the truck.

One firefighter suffered minor injuries battling a blaze in Bulls Head this morning, after a truck containing motor oil and anti-freeze caught fire on [Richmond Avenue near the intersection with Victory Boulevard](#), an FDNY spokesman said. Some of the vehicle's contents spilled, leaking into a nearby sewer, the spokesman confirmed. The truck was stopped near the Mobil gas station on Richmond Avenue at the time of the incident. The fire did not damage the station, according to the FDNY spokesman. A passerby, Michael LoSardo, said he witnessed the flaming truck being driven to the street in an apparent attempt to put some distance between the fire and the station's gasoline pumps and building. Traffic on Richmond Avenue and Victory Boulevard is being rerouted as emergency officials tend to the spill. According to the FDNY spokesman, the fire was reported at 8:22 a.m. and brought under control at 9:10. The injured firefighter was taken to Staten Island University Hospital, Ocean Breeze. An FDNY hazardous materials unit was summoned, as was a Sanitation sander and a salt spreader. Con Ed was also called to examine

overhead electrical wires for possible fire damage. The cause of the fire is not yet known.

http://www.silive.com/westshore/index.ssf/2010/01/2_hurt_contents_spill_when_tru.html

USA, OH, CLEVELAND, JANUARY 12 2010. HOUSE FIRE BLAMED ON LEAKY GAS STATION

More than 1,400 gallons of gasoline leaked from a Marathon gas station, infiltrated sewer lines and made a house burst into flames, 28 homeowners say in Cuyahoga County Court. Neighborhood residents say the smell of gas was so strong the Fire Department had to be called repeatedly, as people were "smelling the fumes from inside their cars with the windows closed." Plaintiffs Alessandra and Elisabetta Riscati "smelled a strong odor of gasoline in the basement of their house" and a few minutes later "flames exploded from the sanitary sewer lines" and spread throughout the house. The fire came after a heavy rainfall on Aug. 28, 2009. Residents of the neighborhood in Parma, Ohio say they were "exposed to toxic gasoline vapors containing benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, xylene and other dangerous chemicals." The homes share a sewer line with a Marathon station with four underground storage tanks, and a drainpipe to keep water from entering the tanks. An EPA investigation found that "groundwater-contaminated by leaked, spilled and overflow gasoline from the tank system had repeatedly and illegally been discharged into the sanitary sewer main whenever it rained" and that United Petroleum and High Point made no "effort to determine how toxic gas vapors originating from the station were penetrating the homes," according to the complaint. The Fire Department was repeatedly and "documented the presence of gasoline vapors inside each of the homes," and also "noted a strong smell of gasoline outside the homes and in the yards." United Petroleum and High Point were ordered to conduct a "site check to determine whether a leak, spill, or overflow of gasoline had occurred." A BUSTR (Bureau of Underground Storage Tank Regulations) inspection determined the tanks were "not in compliance with Ohio Administrative Code and issued it a citation for failing to perform periodic inspection of equipment," the complaint states. The reports confirmed that the "gasoline odors in the homes originated from the Marathon station property, and at a minimum had released 1,476 gallons of gasoline into the sanitary sewer main," according to the complaint. The gasoline station changed hands many times over the years. The homeowners also claim from "1979 and until September 2009 Parma Fire, the City of Parma Building Department, EPA and BUSTR and the Sewer District have all assured them that the

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gasoline odors in their homes were not caused by the tank system at the station property." They were told the odors came from other sources such as "cooking, natural gas, or sewage gases." The homeowners seek compensatory and punitive damages for property damage, property devaluation, cleanup, personal injury, pain and suffering, emotional distress and medical monitoring. Named as defendants are Prime Properties Limited Partnership, High Point Marathon Ltd., United Petroleum Marketing, Petroleum Station Properties, Emro Marketing Co., Speedway SuperAmerica, Marathon Petroleum Co., Chevron and Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District. The homeowners are represented by Jack Landskroner with Landskroner, Grieco & Madden.

<http://www.courthousenews.com/2010/01/11/23520.htm>

USA, WYO, CHEYENNE, JANUARY 12 2010. DEQ CITES SINCLAIR FOR REFINERY SPILL

The Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality has issued a violation notice against Sinclair Refinery for a spill that released nearly 3 million gallons of potentially explosive fluid. The department says in the Dec. 30 notice that Sinclair failed to correct problems that led to the spill. The spill happened May 3 at the plant near Rawlins when a floating storage tank roof took on fluid and sank. The roof punctured the tank bottom, causing the release of 65,000 barrels of gasoline-grade fluid. Bob Breuer, an inspection and enforcement manager for the department, says the agency is seeking a penalty against Sinclair. He declined to disclose the penalty amount. Refinery manager Mike Bellinger didn't immediately return a message today seeking comment.

http://www.trib.com/news/updates/article_7a59fb2c-fee8-11de-93ac-001cc4c002e0.html

NIGERIA, NIGER DELTA, JANUARY 12 2010. MILITANT ATTACK: CHEVRON SHUTS IN 20,000 BPD FACILITY

chika amanze-nwachuku

Following Federal Government's amnesty programme for repentant Niger Delta militants, which had culminated in a ceasefire and significant increase in crude oil production in the region, United States oil major, Chevron, has shut down its Makaraba-Utonana pipeline in Delta State. Chevron said the closure was sequel to the attack on its 20,000 barrels per day (bpd) facility by suspected militants at the weekend. The country's crude production had dropped below 1.3 million barrels following years of unrest in the oil-rich region. However oil production, including condensate had increased to about 2.2 million following the October 4, 2009 implementation of the amnesty to thousands of militants who laid down their weapons. But the latest attack, which comes five days after four Chevron workers in Delta State were killed in a shooting incident involving the military, is a pointer that the grave-yard like peace which exists in the region might be shattered as the repentant youths are said not to be happy with the slow progress in implementing the terms of the amnesty. Sources said the absence of President Umaru Musa Yar'Adua, who has been in a Saudi hospital for nearly seven weeks receiving treatment for a heart problem, may further heighten tensions in the region. The recent attack was endorsed by the Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta (MEND), the main militant group which often claimed responsibility for most attacks in the past. The group however said its fighters were not involved. MEND claimed responsibility for the attack on a major crude oil delivery pipeline in the creeks of Abonema, Rivers State on December 19, 2009. The group said it carried out the attack to protest the prolonged absence of ailing President Yar'Adua from the country, adding that the slow pace of implementation of the post-amnesty programme was unacceptable to them. The group's spokesman, Jomo Gbomo, said MEND would review its ceasefire declared in October last year because of the slow progress in implementing the terms of the amnesty and announce a decision by 30 January. Chevron, according to Reuters, confirmed that there was a breach on its Makaraba-Utonana pipeline in Delta State last Friday. The news agency also reported that militant attacks on oil facilities in Nigeria had prevented the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) member from pumping much above two-thirds of its three million bpd production capacity, costing it an estimated \$1 billion a month. Makaraba-Utonana pipeline last year suffered series of attacks by MEND, which declared an "all-out war" against the military and oil installations in the region. The Makaraba-Utonana pipeline, which Chevron operates on behalf of a joint venture with the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC), was breached on March 13, 2009, forcing the company to shut-in about 11,000 barrels per day of oil production. The company's facility was also breached in May last year by the same group, which in June attacked the Chevron-operated Abiteye flow station, which feeds oil from the Escravos export terminal also in Delta State.

<http://www.thisdayonline.com/nview.php?id=163989>

USA, W.V, CHARLESTON, JANUARY 12 2010. LAWMAKERS MIGHT PROPOSE LIMITS ON MIC STORAGE

alison knezevich

Some Kanawha County state lawmakers say they might propose limits on the storage of methyl isocyanate, a deadly chemical kept at the Bayer CropScience plant in Institute. At an interim legislative meeting Monday, lawmakers heard from Nick Crosby, Bayer's vice president of Institute site operations, who outlined changes the company has made since an August 2008 explosion and fire killed two workers at the plant. Last year, congressional investigators determined the explosion could have damaged a nearby MIC storage tank, causing a disaster worse than the 1984 catastrophe that killed thousands in Bhopal, India. Bayer officials announced last August they plan to reduce the Institute plant's roughly 200,000 pounds of MIC storage by 80 percent. Crosby on Monday described those plans and other steps Bayer has taken since the explosion. "We have learned a lot of lessons," he said. "We want to do what is right." But some lawmakers say that even with the planned 80 percent reduction, they are still concerned about the amount of MIC stored at Institute -- especially after the Sunday Gazette-Mail [reported this weekend](#) that state [Department of Environmental Protection](#) officials have cited the plant for alleged mismanagement of the MIC storage tank. After the meeting, Kanawha County Delegates Bonnie Brown and Patrick Lane said they and others are considering proposing storage-limit legislation in the session that starts Wednesday. "We're working with counsel to see what is possible," said Brown, a Democrat who

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co-chairs the interim committee. "That's a question of how much effect can we, as legislators, have on a private-industry business." Lane, a Republican, said he and many others were shocked at how much MIC is kept at the plant, which is the only one in the United States that stores the chemical in large quantities. "I respect Mr. Crosby and the efforts that Bayer has made thus far," said Lane, who lives near the plant. "But quite frankly, I think that the history of repeated, numerous and serious violations should give us all concern." Crosby told legislators Bayer officials are involved in an "ongoing dialogue" with the DEP about the alleged tank mismanagement. He also said the integrity of the storage tank is "in excellent condition." Lawmakers on Monday also heard from Maya Nye, spokeswoman for the group [People Concerned About MIC](#). Nye said the group is "very thankful" for the planned reduction. "My question is, is that enough?" she said. "Are we safe?" She added, "Frankly, we don't really know what the worst-case scenario is." Also at the meeting, Sen. Corey Palumbo, D-Kanwaha, said he believes the DEP should monitor MIC, which it currently doesn't. "With how potentially harmful this chemical is, the cost should not be as big of a concern as the safety of people in this area," he said.

<http://wvgazette.com/News/201001110588>

USA, W.V, INSTITUTE, JANUARY 12 2010. STATE INSPECTORS FIND SERIOUS CORROSION ISSUE AT METHYL ISOCYANATE TANK IN INSTITUTE

tony rutherford

New safety concerns have been raised concerning the storage of MIC at the Bayer CropScience Plant in Institute, WV. The Charleston Gazette has revealed that WV DEP inspectors issued violation notices which allege corrosion issues on an underground storage tank. Specifically, the state inspection alleged that the workers who installed the corrosion control system were not properly certified to install the system. The report indicated that uncertified workers have been the one's testing the equipment and that WV DEP inspectors demanded that the system be tested by qualified workers. However, the paper quoted Mike Zeto, DEP chief environmental enforcement inspector, explaining that Bayer has not yet formally responded. "These are serious issues," Zeto told the Gazette. Inspectors discovered the problems during a June 2009 inspection. Bayer told the Charleston paper that discussion are ongoing with WV DEP, stressing that neither the tank's integrity or safety is at issue. But, the newspaper contacted the Chairman of the U.S. Chemical Safety Board. "It doesn't give us a warm and fuzzy feeling," stated John Bresland. The Institute plant --- not far from the West Virginia State University campus --- contains 200,000 pounds of methyl isocyanate, the deadly chemical that killed thousands of people in Bhopal, India, in 1984. Following an August 2008 accident at the plant, residents and county officials have gone to a state of higher vigilance and at the request of WV representatives, Congress investigated the incident which left two workers dead. Bayer announced on the one-year anniversary of the accident that it would cut the amount of MIC kept at the facility. The company recently donated a warning siren to the county. A spokesman for People Against MIC has asked why the inspection and non-compliance issue(s) had not previously been made public.

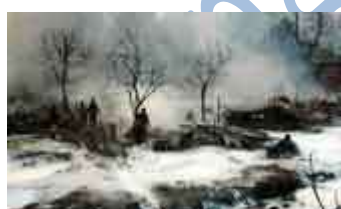
<http://www.huntingtonnews.net/state/100111-rutherford-statemictank.html>

CHINA, ANHUI PROVINCE, YUEXI CO, LIANYUN TWP, JANUARY 12 2010. 4 DEAD, 2 INJURED IN EAST CHINA FIREWORKS BLAST

A fireworks blast killed four, including an infant, and injured another two Sunday in east China's Anhui Province. The blast occurred at 2 p.m. in a farmer's home, which had no production license, in Lianyun Township, Yuexi County. Six rooms collapsed, a spokesman of the county government said. The injured were in stable conditions, he said. The householder Jin Jiaming, who was killed in the explosion, had transported fireworks raw materials from another illegal workshop in Zhongguan Township, the spokesman said. It has been a long tradition for the Chinese to set off fireworks to celebrate the Spring Festival which falls on Feb. 14 this year. Fireworks were banned in large cities such as Beijing and Shanghai in the early 1990s, but the ban was gradually lifted to allow the public to enjoy a festive atmosphere

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2010-01/11/content_12787171.htm

INDIA, NOONMATI, GUWAHATI REFINERY, JANUARY 12 2010. 200 FAMILIES HOMELESS IN GUWAHATI REFINERY FIRE - VICTIMS TRADE CHARGES ON CAUSE OF BLAZE



Firefighters extinguish the fire at Noonmati on Monday.

Nearly 200 families were left homeless in a fire that broke out near Guwahati Refinery in Noonmati this morning. The fire, which broke out around 7am, razed shanties on a 1km stretch along a sewage drain, which runs parallel to a railway track. Seven fire tenders struggled for more than two hours to douse the blaze. However, there was no report of any casualty or injury. An official of the Kamrup (metro) district administration said crude oil spilled onto the sewage drain because of a leak in a pipeline of Oil India Limited (OIL). "The fire was suspected to have been caused by a spark in the sewage drain," he said. "The leakage has been detected and plugged. Repairs are going on in full swing," he said. The source said there were chances that somebody might have thrown a bidi stub or a matchstick in the drain which sparked the blaze. The flames feeding on the crude oil spread fast to all houses along the drain and razed them all. "The fire rapidly spread from Matghoria to Bonda but timely action by the fire brigade prevented it from spreading," the official said. A large quantity of foam was used to douse the flames. Rupeswar Das was fast asleep with his seven-year-old son by his side. When he woke up, a raging fire had engulfed the house. "I somehow picked up my son and ran out. But the rising flames engulfed my house within minutes. I lost all my possessions. My grocery shop was also destroyed," Das said. Soon after the fire

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broke out, thick smoke enveloped the area with panic-stricken people running for safety. The district administration has arranged for food and shelter for the fire victims at Bapuji Vidyalaya and a local community hall. He said more than 500 people, including women and children, have taken shelter at these two places. The administration has announced relief for the fire victims for the next two days. However, uncertainty prevails on payment of compensation to the fire victims as most of them had their shanties built on encroached railway land. The residents of the area alleged that the fire was caused by a spark in the effluents released by the refinery in the drain. "The fire was waiting to happen as it was a common practice of the refinery to release effluents in this sewage drain. The negligence of the refinery led to today's incident," said Lakhan Kumar, whose house was gutted. The authorities of the IOC-owned refinery have denied the allegations, saying those were baseless. Social welfare minister and local MLA Akon Bora, Kamrup (metro) deputy commissioner Prateek Hajela and SSP (city) P.C. Saloi, among others, visited the area to take stock of the situation.

http://www.telegraphindia.com/1100112/jsp/northeast/story_11970459.jsp

INDIA, NOONMATI, GUWAHATI REFINERY, JANUARY 12 2010. MAJOR FIRE NEAR GUWAHATI REFINERY

A devastating fire resulting from a leakage in a crude oil pipe of Oil India Limited near Guwahati Refinery gutted over a hundred hutments and destroyed property at Madgharia area in close proximity to the refinery this morning. No human casualty has been reported in the inferno which lasted nearly three hours. The area affected stretched to almost half-a-km on either side of the railway track. Police said the fire broke out around 6-30 am, following which fire tenders from different fire stations of the city as well as from the refinery were pressed into service. Local residents said that the fire took everyone by surprise as it occurred early in the morning. "It was an inferno with black smoke darkening the atmosphere. There was total chaos and panic, and the police and fire-tenders did not arrive in time," a resident said, adding that they themselves started dumping sand and earth on the drain to prevent the fire engulfing more areas. Kamrup (Metro) Deputy Commissioner Prateek Hajela, who visited the site, said that the fire was caused by crude oil that leaked from inside the refinery campus and found its way outside through a drain. "Then somebody might have accidentally thrown a matchstick or any other burning object to the drain, triggering the fire," he said, ruling out any sabotage angle to the incident. Police, however, maintained that their response had been quick and that was the reason the fire could not engulf a greater area. "About a dozen fire tenders were on the spot by 7 am and it took two hours to douse the blaze," a police official from Noonmati police station said. Attributing the fire to a leakage on the crude oil pipeline of OIL, Chandrima Sarma, manager, corporate communication, Guwahati Refinery, said that following the fire, pumping in the affected pipe was stopped and the flow of oil in the drain was checked with bunds so that it could not spread to more areas. "A large quantity of crude oil got mixed with the drain water, and besides removing the oil, we foamed the entire drain so that there was no chance of any further fire. We also sensitized the local people about the precautions to be taken under the circumstances," she said. The incident raises vital questions over the security of the people living near oil pipelines. "We were fortunate that the fire did not occur during night hours. It could have caused loss of human lives," a resident said, and also expressed reservations over the quality of monitoring of the pipelines. "There has apparently been laxity in the monitoring of the pipelines," he felt.

<http://www.assamtribune.com/scripts/details.asp?id=jan1210/at03>

USA, AKA, ADAK ISLAND, JANUARY 12 2010. UNDERGROUND FUEL TANK LEAKS ON ADAK ISLAND

An underground fuel tank containing roughly 100,000 barrels of diesel fuel leaked an unknown amount at Adak Island in a spill reported Monday, according to the U.S. Coast Guard. Coast Guard officials began responding to the report about 6:40 p.m. after Adak Petroleum personnel reported the No. 2 diesel fuel was leaking from the tank into Sweeper Cove, Coast Guard officials said late Monday. Adak Petroleum officials told the Coast Guard the fuel is contained by a boom in the cove and its crew is working to clean it up, the Coast Guard said. Coast Guard and Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation officials plan to fly to far-flung Adak, in the Aleutian Islands, today (Tuesday) to investigate the cause of the spill, its size and to supervise the cleanup efforts.

<http://www.adn.com/aleutians/story/1089087.html>

VIETNAM, HANOI, JANUARY 12 2010. HUGE LIGHTERS A HIGH EXPLOSION RISK, EXPERTS WARN



Experts have voiced concern over the large lighters that have recently proliferated in street stalls in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City, warning they implied high risk of explosion.

Over the past few weeks people driving past and walking on Nguyen Thi Minh Khai, Bui Vien and Ly Thuong Kiet streets in HCM City have seen huge lighters put on display on pushcarts together with other items like helmets and socks. Some street vendors have just piled them up on the ground. The lighters which are five times bigger than the common ones, are sold at VND20,000-35,000 (US\$1.08-1.89) apiece. A seller at the junction of Truong Dinh and Tu Xuong streets in District 3 said a lighter was sold at VND20,000, but those that used batteries cost VND25,000, and those with two lights at the bottom cost VND35,000. While sellers advertise them as "Thai lighters", Thanh Nien reporters observed the devices were printed with labels in Chinese with

different logos like the earth or Bodhisattva Kuan-yin. The owner of one of the four stalls selling the lighters at Kim Bien Market in District 5 said he sold them for between VND14,000-16,000 apiece to retailers. Kim Lien from District 4 said: "I found them [lighters] strange so I bought one to give it a try. But it's a bit scary because the fire comes out very strongly with just a little push. I have

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never seen such huge lighter before." Lien isn't the only one who bought the lighters for their huge size. Some customers told Thanh Nien they bought the devices because they are bigger with more gas and therefore more advantageous than common ones.

Experts in Gas Safety Techniques Disagree.

Nguyen Kha, in charge of safety at Saigon Petro Company, said there was a chance that the huge lighter used a mix between high pressure and low pressure gas to save money instead of just the low pressure one as regulated to guarantee safety. Therefore, "the new lighter implies a very high risk of explosion," Kha said, stressing that it was made of crispy plastic while containing a large amount of gas, making the risk much higher. Agreeing with Kha, Le Phuc Dai, general director of Vinagas Company, was concerned that refilling of the lighters would increase risks of explosions and fires as well. "It's very likely the lighters were smuggled [into Vietnam]. The city's market management agency will strengthen inspections, especially of distributors," said Le Xuan Dai, deputy head of HCMC Market Management Agency.

Made in Vietnam

The giant lighters began selling in Hanoi a couple of months ago. Tam, director of Tam Giang Ltd., Co., which distributes the lighters to stalls in Dong Xuan Market and others, said: "The lighter is a hot item now; young people are hunting for them to play around at night." Tam said the lighters were produced in Vietnam, guaranteeing that their safety was very high and could be re-used by refilling gas. Nguyen Thi Hang, who claimed to be the representative of Long Dang Company headed by a Chinese man in the northern province of Lang Son, said her company was the only one to produce the lighters in Vietnam. According to Hang, the lighters were selling like hot cakes. "Now we don't have enough goods to distribute to HCMC because the demand there is very great. We are only supplying to our agency in Hanoi."

<http://www.thanhniennews.com/features/?catid=10&newsid=54638>

USA, WYO, GREEN RIVER, JANUARY 12 2010. WORKERS TREATED AFTER SOLVAY CHEMICAL SPILL

Eighteen contract workers at the Solvay Chemicals plant near Green River were hospitalized briefly last week after a chemical spill. Superintendent of Human Resources Jim Maxfield says a fiberglass line containing sodium bisulfite solution ruptured in the specialty production area of the facility on Friday afternoon. He says the rupture released sulfur dioxide gas into the area. The gas can cause nose, throat and breathing problems. The workers potentially exposed to the gas were taken to the hospital for observation and treatment. Solvay says all of the workers were released from the hospital within five hours. Maxfield says the company reported the incident to federal and state mine safety authorities.

http://www.trib.com/news/state-and-local/article_0c253e11-ac08-56dc-8540-a3db603f31ff.html

USA, ND, NECHE, JANUARY 12 2010. PIPELINE CREWS CLEANING UP OIL LEAK NEAR NECHE

Enbridge Energy Partners says crews are wrapping up repair and cleanup work after a pipeline leak spilled about 126,000 gallons of crude oil in Pembina County in northeast North Dakota. The cause of the leak detected late last week near Neche (NEE'-chee) is still under investigation by Enbridge and pipeline regulators. Officials with the Pipeline Hazardous Materials Safety Administration and the North Dakota Health Department visited the site Monday. Health Department environmental scientist Kris Roberts says the oil did not soak into the frozen ground but that it still might be a week or more before officials are willing to say the cleanup is done. The pipeline runs from Cromer, Manitoba, to Superior, Wis. Enbridge spokeswoman Lorraine Grymala says the spill was confined to the pipeline's property, and no water or wildlife have been affected.

<http://www.waow.com/Global/story.asp?S=11807127>

AUSTRALIA, VICTORIA, MELBOURNE, JANUARY 13 2010. WORKSAFE ISSUES WARNING AGAINST WORKING IN CONFINED SPACES

Worksafe has issued a warning about the dangers of working in confined spaces after a tank cleaning company was convicted and fined \$500,000 following the death of a worker. According to WorkSafe, Depot Vic, a company which cleans and repairs storage tanks for the chemical industry, pleaded guilty to failing to provide and maintain a safe workplace. It was also found guilty to failing to properly train and instruct its employees. The Depot Vic employee was found dead inside a 25,000L tank after using a chemical to remove latex from inside the vessel. WorkSafe's investigation found the company's training and application of appropriate safety standards was inadequate. WorkSafe manufacturing, logistics and agriculture program director Ross Pilkington said confined spaces including tanks, silos drains and pits were high risk, high consequence environments. "With the addition of chemicals and gases into these places, those risks are magnified," Mr Pilkington said. "Safeguards include having and using systems of work which incorporate safe work procedures, appropriate atmospheric testing and personal protective equipment. "Developing hazard identification and risk assessment systems to control access such as a 'confined space entry permit' is a common approach." WorkSafe provides a range of materials aimed at people required to work in confined spaces.

Related Links

- [Hyde Park Tank Depot – Company Sale](#)
- [Worksafe Prosecution result Summaries](#)
- [Worksafe Victoria Media Release](#)
- [OH&S News Australia - Company Fined After Worker Dies in a Storage Tank](#)
- [ABC News \[Vic\] - Company fined for worker death](#)

http://www.safetowork.com.au/news/worksafe-issues-warning-against-working-in-confine?utm_source=20100113&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=newsletters

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USA, NC, MOREHEAD CITY, JANUARY 13 2010. EXPLOSIVES ACCIDENT LEADS TO SCARE, CLOSURES

josh shaffer & martha quillin

This busy coastal town got a brief scare followed by a daylong headache after a forklift at the State Port accidentally punctured nine barrels of PETN, the same explosive used in the attempted Christmas Day bombing of a Northwest Airlines jet. The accident closed U.S. 70 until Tuesday evening, blocked off roughly 12 blocks of Morehead City and closed a nearby inlet. Mayor Gerald Jones emphasized that the spill had no connection to terrorism, that the substance did not come aboard a military ship and that the accident involved private contractors. The barrels arrived at Morehead City, one of two seaports in North Carolina, inside a 40-foot shipping container. None of the PETN, or pentaerythritol tetranitrate, spilled into the water, said Jo Ann Smith, Carteret County emergency services director. But U.S. 70 stayed closed for roughly 12 hours. The downtown evacuations were voluntary, and many chose to stay in the newly created ghost town. "The city is just what you'd call dead," said Mike Chaanine, manager at Raps Grill and Bar. "Nobody coming in. Nobody coming out." Morehead City moved 1.8 million tons of material in 2009, about half what came through Wilmington, its sister port. Morehead City also saw 115 ships and 415 barges in 2009. Rubber and sulphur products are the top imports there, and Brazil, Venezuela and India the top trading partners. Hazardous materials are common at Morehead City, ports spokeswoman Karen Fox said, and a security plan was in place before the spill.

<http://www.charlotteobserver.com/local/story/1176989.html>

USA, AKA, ADAK ISLAND, JANUARY 13 2010. OVERFILLING TANK BLAMED FOR DIESEL SPILL ON ADAK ISLAND >> UNDERGROUND TANK MAY HAVE OVERFLOWED.

megan holland

The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation and the U.S. Coast Guard on Tuesday responded to an Adak Island diesel fuel spill that could be as much as 143,000 gallons. The No. 2 diesel spilled from an underground storage tank, said DEC on-site coordinator Gary Folley. It happened as a tanker was offloading fuel Monday afternoon and may have occurred because the tank overflowed, he said. Officials believe most of the fuel spilled on land around the tank farm. Visual estimates from the owners of the storage tank, Adak Petroleum, were that a small fraction -- about 1,000 gallons -- made it to the nearby small boat harbor. Adak Petroleum is a subsidiary of Aleut Enterprises. As soon as workers knew about the spill, they set up booms to try to contain it from leaking into nearby water sources, Folley said. They first noticed something was wrong when a diesel smell was detected in Sweeper Cove, he said. The DEC said the fuel likely made it to the harbor and cove by escaping into a drainage system that collects water from around the tank farm and discharges it to a salmon creek that drains out to the cove. By Tuesday, the spill appeared to have been stopped, the DEC report said. While cleanup began on the drainage system, no cleanup was undertaken in the cove because of "safety concerns associated with conducting night operations," the DEC report said. Diesel fuel is a light refined petroleum. No oiled wildlife has been observed, the DEC report said, but a sheen has been seen on the south side of the boat harbor and at the mouth of another nearby creek. The DEC, Coast Guard and a private cleanup company, Alaska Chadux, went to Adak with more oil response cleanup equipment on Tuesday. The island, on the Aleutian Chain 1,300 miles southwest of Anchorage, is home to 180 people. It was not clear what the fuel was being off-loaded for but the Aleut Enterprises Web site says it provides fuel at Adak for commercial fishing, marine cargo, private tourism and other boats and ships traveling through the North Pacific. "Adak Petroleum is conducting a comprehensive investigation to identify and correct all procedural, equipment failure and inappropriate third-party action that may have caused or contributed to the discharge," according to an Adak Petroleum press release. Adak's waters are home to migratory birds and some 300 sea otters, wildlife officials say. Steve Delehanty, manager for the Alaska Maritime National Wildlife Refuge, said the initial on-site reports from Sweeper Cove were that not many migratory birds, such as sea ducks, were around Tuesday. But he said refuge managers were just beginning to understand the scale and scope of the problem. Sweeper Cove, along with all the waters around the island, is considered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to be "critical habitat" for the southwestern sea otter, an animal susceptible to the dangers of an oil spill and protected under the Endangered Species Act. There are an estimated 40,000 sea otters left in Southwest Alaska. The critical habitat designation for the sea otters applies from the end of the Aleutian Islands to lower Cook Inlet and includes the Kodiak Archipelago. Sweeper Cove has just a couple of sea otters, according to U.S. Fish and Wildlife biologist Verena Gill. Surveys from the past decade have counted from zero to two sea otters in the cove, she said.

<http://www.adn.com/front/story/1090072.html>

AUSTRALIA, VICTORIA, MELBOURNE, JANUARY 13 2010. RESERVE BANK AUSTRALIA SUBSIDIARY IN CHEMICAL SPILL CONTROVERSY

alison caldwell

- [Map: Craigieburn 3064](#)

A Reserve Bank subsidiary has been criticised for failing to report a potentially dangerous chemical spill at its Melbourne headquarters, which may have polluted a popular local waterway. The chemical leak occurred sometime on New Year's Eve but authorities were not notified until the following week. Security International estimates around 25,000 litres of methyl ethyl ketone (MEK) - used in the manufacture of polymer for plastic banknotes - leaked from a ruptured hose. On New Year's Day a security guard noticed the strange smell - similar to butterscotch or acetone - at the company's premises in Craigieburn in Melbourne's outer north-west. An organic chemist at the University of Melbourne, Professor Ian Rae, is an advisor to the Environment Protection Authority in Victoria on hazardous waste. He says MEK is a solvent frequently used in industry. "It belongs to a class of compounds, the most common one of which is acetone, so it's like a big brother of acetone," he said. "Bit more volatile, not quite so

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sharp smelling. Very flammable. Not as flammable as ordinary petrol." Securency International is an EPA-licensed site, which means it has to adhere to strict environmental conditions, including contacting the EPA as soon as a chemical spill occurs. Sources have told AM there is a good chance some of the MEK might have entered Merri Creek, a waterway which winds through Melbourne's north-western suburbs, including Craigieburn, Coburg, Brunswick and Fitzroy, before it joins the Yarra River not far from the Collingwood Children's Garden. Two market gardens run alongside the Merri Creek, children and dogs swim in it, and people have been known to catch fish from it. The threatened growing grass frog breeds in a dam in Merri Creek just down from Securency International's Craigieburn headquarters. The manager of the Merri Creek Management Committee, Louisa MacMillan, says she is horrified. "I think the analogy would be if someone we knew had swallowed something toxic, and we decided to wait four or five days before calling a doctor," she said. "The EPA or the agency who determines whether there has been environmental damage ... also has the capacity to do clean up and it's absolutely imperative that they be aware of any contamination, potential contamination of waterways and any breaches of the Environmental Regulations Act as soon as possible." Securency International also failed to tell the local council about the chemical spill. The EPA took water samples from Merri Creek on Tuesday last week, five days after the spill, and did not find any traces of MEK. The situation may have been far more serious if there had not been heavy rain in the area in the first two days of January. Forty millimetres of rain fell on Melbourne and sources say it would have flushed away any MEK which may have leaked into Merri Creek. Securency International blames a defective hose for the leak and says the chemical spill was contained on the site. Professor Rae says the company should have contacted the EPA much sooner. "By the time the EPA learned about it the problem would have disappeared because it was very hot on the 30th," he said. "So a lot of the MEK would have evaporated. The stuff that got into the stream would have washed away by the big storm we had. It's just good luck for the environment." Securency International would not comment.

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2010/01/13/2791098.htm?section=justin>

USA, MA, LINCOLN, JANUARY 13 2010. SUDBURY WOMAN ESCAPES UNHARMED FROM RTE. 2 TANKER WRECK

kathy uek

Watch the Video:

<http://www.wickedlocal.com/lincoln/news/x370521584/Public-safety-personnel-respond-to-multi-vehicle-crash-on-Route-2>



The driver of this car, Elizabeth Buchanan of Arlington was taken to Emerson Hospital with minor injuries.

Bernard Rabich called it a miracle that his wife, Christiane, walked away unharmed yesterday after a speeding tanker truck rolled onto her minivan, partially crushing it along with two other cars. "You realize later...what happened and how lucky she was," said Bernard Rabich, a Sudbury resident. Christiane Rabich and the drivers of other vehicles were traveling west on Rte. 2 in Lincoln, approaching Crosby's Corner, at about 9 a.m. when the crash occurred. "(The truck) was up on the embankment and I was thinking, 'Why is this truck passing me on the right?' That's it. That's all I saw," she said. John Revene, 47, of Westborough, who was driving the truck, suffered serious injuries, state police said. Police cited him for speeding.

Emergency personnel from Concord, Lexington and Lincoln responded to the crash on the busy stretch of the state road. A medical helicopter landed on Rte. 2 to take Revene to Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston. None of the vehicles had passengers. Rabich and another driver, Richard Frese, 64, of Concord, were unhurt. The third driver, Elizabeth Buchanan, 52, of Arlington, needed to be rescued from her car. She was taken to Emerson Hospital in Concord with minor injuries. The Rabich family, originally from Germany, moved to Sudbury around Thanksgiving. Rabich was returning home after dropping her son off at the German International School in Boston. "I only thought, I'm glad my son was not with me," she said. "I was planning the day in my head, but I think that has changed now." Later, when Bernard Rabich went to remove personal items from his wife's minivan, he saw how it had been crushed. "There must have been guardian angels out there," he said. The tanker, owned by Trans Speck Trucking of Millbury, was carrying 8,500 gallons of diesel fuel, which did not spill. A Lincoln hazardous materials team and a Department of Public Works crew responded as a precaution. Rte. 2 was closed for about 2 1/2 hours.

<http://www.metrowestdailynews.com/features/x1530318141/Sudbury-woman-escapes-unharmful-from-Rte-2-tanker-wreck>

USA, KY, STANFORD, JANUARY 13 2010. ONE KILLED, TWO INJURED AS EXPLOSION RIPS APART STANFORD AMMUNITION BUSINESS

Watch the Video <http://www.wkyt.com/home/headlines/81265252.html>

A series of explosions ripped apart a guns and ammunition business this afternoon, killing one person and injuring two others. Authorities believe the blasts killed retired state trooper Shannon Corman, who owned the business behind his home on Oak Street off of Herndon Avenue in a residential neighborhood. "We believe it was him, but we don't know for sure yet," said Kentucky State Police Capt. Eddie Johnson, who was on the scene. Lincoln County Coroner Farris Marcum said it would likely take awhile to positively identify the victim "because of the nature of the explosion." Corman's wife, Louise, and an unidentified man were injured in the explosions, which occurred about 3:30 p.m. and were felt throughout Stanford. Louise Corman and the unidentified man were burned and suffered other injuries, but were talking as they were transported to the hospital, witnesses said. The explosion occurred in an outbuilding just behind the Corman's brick home, one of many buildings on the property that Shannon Corman used in his business. He ordered black powder in kegs and repackaged it in smaller units, and also sold firearms and related supplies. "He did reloads and sold guns out of his home," said Judge-Executive Bill Demrow. "There's no telling how many rounds of

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ammunition he had in there." The explosions shattered all of the windows at the rear of the home, Demrow said. Louise Corman is believed to have been in the basement of the home when the blast occurred, Johnson said. After the initial explosions, rounds of ammunition could be heard going off in the fire that followed. Several people who gathered near the scene were warned by police to seek safety. One officer was heard telling neighbors, "Go ahead and get back in your house, OK, because there's live rounds going off in the fire down in that house." Mary Morton, who lives about one block from Corman's residence and has known him for about 50 years, said after the explosion you could hear spurts of ammunition exploding every few minutes. "It was popping like fireworks," Morton said. The initial explosion itself was ground-shaking. "It took things off the wall," said next-door neighbor Diana Gaines. "All I know is when I was able to get back up ... it was just all up in big black smoke." Gaines said she had seen Corman walking past her house toward his with a garbage can just minutes before the explosion. Corman had been working on something behind his house with another man, she said. Demrow was in his office in the courthouse when the explosion rattled the windows. "I thought a plane went down or something," said Demrow, a former coroner. "I knew it was something big." Former Stanford mayor and current City Councilman Eddie Carter was at work at his office a couple of blocks away when the explosion occurred. "It sounded like a bomb going off. It was a major explosion. I'm afraid we've got a tragic accident here," he said. KSP detective Bill Collins is conducting a death investigation. Agents from the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms were enroute to the scene this afternoon. Johnson said Corman, who was about 80, retired in 1982 after 28 years with the state police. During his career, he served as a trooper, driver's license examiner and uniform crime liaison officer. He also ran unsuccessfully for sheriff after retiring and was currently volunteering as a special deputy, serving court papers for the Lincoln County Sheriff's Office.

<http://www.amnews.com/stories/2010/01/12/loc.331621.sto>

UK, KENT, JANUARY 13 2010. OIL SPILL COULD HAVE BEEN DISASTROUS - ENVIRONMENT AGENCY



A spillage of more than 600 litres of diesel threatened to destroy fishing lakes at Bearsted when it got into the waterways. The incident happened when a lorry was involved in a multi-vehicle accident during deteriorating weather on the M20 near Maidstone. More than 600 litres of diesel were spilt and made its way through the motorway drainage system, down the Lilk Stream and into the top of Majors Lakes fishery at Bearsted. [Environment Agency](#) officers were swiftly dispatched to reduce the harmful effects of the oil. Oil booms were successfully deployed to contain the spill and minimise the damage. Jan Leslie, spokesman for the Environment Agency, said: "We respond quickly to eliminate the threat posed by this serious pollution. "Due to our prompt efforts the impact of the pollution of the environmentally sensitive waterways has been greatly reduced, and was prevented from spreading across the fishing lakes. "If this oil had got into the water there'd have been a big ecological disaster. "Surveys of

the affected stretch of river will take place to assess the impact of any ecological impact over coming weeks." The accident happened at the end of last week, during the bad weather. People are encouraged to report any instances of pollution to the EA incident hotline on 0800 807060.

http://www.kentonline.co.uk/kentonline/news/2010/january/12/oil_spill_in_bearsted.aspx

CHINA, SICHUAN PROVINCE, PENGSHAN COUNTY, JANUARY 13 2010. 2 DIE IN FACTORY H2S GAS OVERFLOW

At least two people were killed and six others sickened after hydrogen sulfide overflow in a factory in southwest China's Sichuan Province Sunday, the local government said. The accident took place in Nikeguorun New Materials Co. Ltd. in Pengshan County in the morning as workers added excessive amount of sulfuric acid during an experiment, which led to the overflow of the toxic hydrogen sulfide, the publicity office of the county government said, based on an initial investigation. The privately-owned company, engaged in lithium battery research and production, has more than 600 employees. It was founded in 2000 with an registered capital of more than 10 million yuan (1.47 million U.S. dollars), according to the homepage of the company. The six sickened were in stable condition in a local hospital. Hydrogen sulfide is a colorless gas with an offensive stench. It can poison several different systems in the body, with the brain and respiratory system being the most affected. The local work safety watchdog was investigating the accident.

<http://english.cri.cn/6909/2010/01/10/2001s541316.htm>

MALAYSIA, PAHANG, KUANTAN, JANUARY 13 2010. 4,000KG OF FIREWORKS IN 2 LORRIES SEIZED

Customs officers seized two lorries laden with 4,000kg of fireworks and firecrackers at separate locations near Al-Muktafibilah Shah town, Terengganu, yesterday. Acting on a tip-off, officers spotted the first lorry at Km92 of Jalan Jerangau-Jabor on its way to Kuala Lumpur at 9.50am. Two men, believed to be the lorry driver and his assistant, fled when they saw a Customs vehicle giving chase. The officers found the second lorry abandoned near the spot where the first lorry was spotted at 10.05am. State Customs director Datuk A. Samawe Hassan said the items were valued about RM280,000 (S\$116,704), with RM182,000 in unpaid duties. "We believe the firecrackers and fireworks were smuggled from a neighbouring country by the same syndicate."

<http://news.asiaone.com/News/AsiaOne%2BNews/Malaysia/Story/A1Story20100113-191478.html>

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