

Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network

Release 2010 – 619 Newsy Stuff

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July 07 2010

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UK, LINCOLNSHIRE, NORTH KILLINGHOLME, JUNE 30 2010. MAN FOUND DEAD AFTER REFINERY BLAST

 **Watch the Video** <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/england/humberside/10457260.stm>



Smoke billowing from the Lindsey Oil Refinery.

An oil worker has been found dead following an explosion at a refinery. The man, who has not been named, was working close to a crude oil distillation unit which caught alight then exploded at the Lindsey Oil Refinery. More than 50 firefighters from Humberside Fire and Rescue Service were called to the plant where black smoke was seen billowing from burning crude oil. Some 10 appliances were brought in to tackle the blaze. People living in the area surrounding the plant in North Killingholme, North Lincolnshire, reported hearing the explosion. Employees said the fire started in a superheated industrial heater close to where they walked to work. In a statement oil company Total, which runs the refinery, said: "It is with deep regret that Total Lindsey Oil Refinery can confirm that there has been a fatality following the fire and explosion at 11.57. "The deceased has yet to be formally identified. Formal investigations have been launched by the Police and the Health and Safety Executive. We are fully co-operating with these inquiries in order to understand exactly why this tragic incident occurred." Two people were treated for minor injuries following the blast. One was taken to the Diana Princess of Wales Hospital in Grimsby. Humberside Police initially warned residents to stay indoors and keep their windows closed but people have since been told they can safely leave their homes. Police are now working with the fire service to determine the cause of the fire which has been extinguished.

<http://www.mirror.co.uk/news/latest/2010/06/30/man-found-dead-after-refinery-blast-115875-22370714/>

USA, N.Y, CATSKILL, JUNE 30 2010. CHEMICAL SPILL CLOSES T-WAY >> TRUCK OVERTURNS, DUMPING 3,000 GALLONS OF CHLORINE; ROAD SHUT FOR 7 HOURS

susan campriello

An early morning accident closed the Thruway for seven hours and left state and local responders to clean more than 3,000 gallons of a chlorine solution from the roadway, according to authorities. According to State Police Troop T, at around 1:50 a.m. Monday a truck owned by Slack Chemical Company, of Carthage, that was heading northbound on the Thruway overturned, spilling an estimated 3,200 gallons of hypochlorite solution, or chlorine. The accident occurred at mile marker 110.9, the Thruway Authority. Minor injuries were reported, police said. State Department of Environmental Conservation Region 4 Spokesman Rick Georgeson said such spills in the area are rare. "I can't remember a spill like this in a long time," he said. DEC Spills staff and the Greene County HzaMat Team responded to the incident along with a state police Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Unit and several emergency response crews, authorities said. Georgeson said crews cleaned from the roadway a 12.5 percent chlorine solution with a pH level of 11 as well as a small amount of motor oil. He said the liquid could have "definitely" damaged wildlife in the nearby Cauterskill Creek but the department believes the waterway was spared contamination. Randy Ormerod, deputy director of Greene County Emergency Services, said the county's responders contained and cleaned the spill. Crews also monitored air quality in the vicinity of the spill, he said. The roadway's pavement was not damaged, according to the Thruway Authority. The vehicle's driver, Robert Lawrence, 55, of Galway, swerved to avoid hitting a deer in the roadway and lost control of the truck, police said. He was treated at the scene for minor lacerations and transported to Albany Medical Center for precautionary measures, police said. Lawrence was not ticketed. The truck contained 4,700 gallons of the solution, which is commonly used as a swimming pool shock treatment, police said. The remainder of the solution was removed from the truck, police said. Northbound traffic was diverted from the Thruway at Exit 20, at Saugerties, at until 9 a.m., according to authorities. Traffic during the cleanup effort was backed-up 10 miles between the exit and Exit 19, at Kingston, according to authorities.

<http://www.thedailyemail.net/articles/2010/06/29/news/doc4c29786c3d661455114463.txt>

AUSTRIA, VIENNA, JUNE 30 2010. TWO DEAD AS CAR CRASH SETS AUSTRIAN PETROL STATION AFIRE

A car crashed into an Austrian motorway petrol station Tuesday and set it ablaze, causing an accident that left two persons dead and injured two others, police reported. The car drove into the station in Muehlbachl near Innsbruck at around 100 kilometres per hour, hit a petrol pump and caught fire after it was hurled through the air by the impact. The male driver of the Austrian-registered vehicle died instantly. Police have not been able to identify the victim. The man might have fallen asleep at

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the wheel, according to investigators. A 54-year-old man from [Japan](#) was hit by the petrol pump and died after being brought to a [hospital](#) in Innsbruck. He was travelling with two other Japanese nationals, who suffered injuries. Although nearly the entire petrol station burned, no other customers or employees were hurt. Firefighters quickly brought the flames under control. <http://www.earthtimes.org/articles/news/332283.station-afire-summary.html>

USA, MO, RANKIN CO, STAR, MISS. FIREFIGHTER LOSES OWN TRUCK PUSHING BURNING CAR FROM GAS STATION

■ **Watch the Video** <http://bit.ly/c1UlcV>

A Star volunteer firefighter used his own truck to push a burning car away from the pumps at a gas station on June 26, according to [WLBT-TV](#). Firefighter Mike Lee was this first to respond to the scene at the West Quick Stop Gas Station just before noon. A Mercedes had caught fire and was parked next to the pumps. While pushing the car to safety, his Ford pickup truck stalled and caught fire. The truck was destroyed by the flames. Lee told the news station that he's just glad he was able to prevent the gas pumps from catching fire. "I didn't want the station to blow up. We would have had a big problem then," he said. "If I have to do it all over again, yes I would. Trucks are replaceable, lives aren't. Lee and his wife, Sadie-Diane, have worked as volunteer firefighters for almost two years. The department is asking for donations to help Lee get a new truck. Donations can be sent to the Star Fire Department, in care of Mike Lee, P.O. Box 70, Star, MS 39167.

<http://www.firehouse.com/news/top-headlines/miss-firefighter-loses-own-truck-pushing-burning-car-gas-station>

USA, IOWA, SIOUX CITY, JUNE 30 2010. 1940'S AIRPORT CONTAMINATION SITE TO FINALLY BE CLEANED-UP

After three decades of waiting for the federal government to clean up an underground mess at the airport, Sioux City's closer to getting the job done on their own. Monday night, they hired a company to evaluate the pools of jet fuel underneath Sioux Gateway's airfield. The source of that contamination is underground fuel tanks that date back to World War Two. When the leak was first discovered in the early 80's, the city expected the federal government to pick-up the tab. "There's really no way to prove in a court of law that the air force contributed to this, so we have to find ways go get it through some other funding rather than the department of defense directly," admitted Air and Transportation Director Curt Miller. The city may have to do the work up front and get reimbursed later. City estimates show there's 300,000 to 400,00 gallons of fuel floating underneath the surface. The cost to clean it up may be upwards of a million dollars. The city intended to get all the fuel cleaned up before a new water treatment plant is constructed nearby. Even though it's sat in a pocket all these years, they're afraid that once they start pumping water for the new plant, the fuel will start seeping in. However wells are already being constructed. Miller assures that measures will be taken to protect the drinking water from contaminants in the nearby soil.

<http://www.ktiv.com/Global/story.asp?S=12724218>

USA, ALA, PRATTVILLE, JUNE 30 2010. EPA REMOVING TOXIC CHEMICALS FROM CLOSED FACILITY IN PRATTVILLE >> SULFURIC ACID. CYANIDE SULFATE. MURATIC ACID. NICKEL SULFATE.

marty roney



Workers remove materials during a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency cleanup at Deep South Plating in Prattville last Wednesday.

These are just some of the chemicals and compounds a cleanup crew is dealing with at a hazardous materials site in Prattville. Work began last week, under the direction of the Environmental Protection Agency, to remove toxic materials from a long-closed metal plating facility. The process is expected to take three months and cost taxpayers about \$800,000. The discovery of hazardous materials in closed industrial sites, old warehouses and even behind bushes "happens more than we want it to," said Tom Barnes of Compliance Specialists Inc. The environmental health and safety consulting company is based in McCalla. Barnes has been in the hazardous materials field for more than 23 years. "There's no telling what is out there and what we haven't found," he said. "It's not unusual to receive reports like this, that hazardous materials were discovered in a closed or abandoned building or

even in rural areas away from any industrial-type setting. "Even though these materials and compounds are hazardous, they are safe when used properly. With the Prattville situation, things are much safer now as compared to when the building was accessible to children going inside and not being aware of what they were dealing with." The biggest danger would have come if the site hadn't been discovered in time and the chemicals leaked and mixed, Barnes said. "Sulfuric acid is highly corrosive

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and could blind you or cause severe burns," he said. "The corrosive nature of the chemicals meant their storage containers were degrading. If they mixed in sufficient quantities, you could have reactions that produce a lot of heat. That could have led to fires and explosions." The situation came to light in February, when a city councilman complained about the dilapidated condition of the building on Industrial Park Drive in south Prattville. How long the business has been closed isn't known, but city officials said it has been at least 10 years. The city's code enforcement officer was sent to check the building, and he knew something was wrong when he walked inside. He first noticed open vats of liquids. "There were also metal drums that were leaking on the concrete floor," Carl Wilson said. "The steel I-beams holding up the roof weren't I-beams anymore. They had corroded away to almost nothing. It looked like the front wall had been so weakened by corrosion, parts of it just collapsed." The Alabama Department of Environmental Management was called, and they kicked the matter to the EPA, said Scott Hughes, spokesman for the state environmental enforcement agency. The federal agency has the money and resources to handle such large-scale hazardous materials problems, he added. EPA officials secured the building and placed the leaking drums in containers. That made the situation safe until crews could begin the cleanup, said Dawn Harris-Young, a spokeswoman with the EPA's Region 4 office in Atlanta. "The compounds will be separated and classified," she said. "The items that are hazardous will be disposed of properly in a landfill designed to handle that type of waste. The items that aren't hazardous will be recycled if possible or sent to landfills permitted to handle that type of waste." The EPA is looking to find the owners of the business to see if they can recoup the expense of the cleanup process. Harris-Young said it is not unusual for the government to have to pick up the full tab because many closed businesses might have declared bankruptcy and past owners can't be found. In 2009, ADEM spent \$36,193.81 cleaning up hazardous substances in the state. The cleanup efforts included:

- An asphalt plant in Tuscaloosa that closed in 1985, when the site was abandoned. According to state reports, ADEM inspectors concluded the site offered an eminent danger to the public because of accessibility and wastes remaining onsite. The site also was close to the Black Warrior River, which raised concerns about contaminants reaching the river. At the site are sludge pits, lagoons, various storage pits and abandoned drums. The EPA now is cleaning up the site, Jerome Hand of ADEM said.
- A residence in Loxley in Baldwin County where the occupant renting the home was a chemist. The man moved into an assisted-living facility. When the owner of the house went to prepare the house to be rented again, he discovered what he thought were hazardous materials. ADEM personnel met with officials from the Baldwin County Emergency Management Agency and inspected the house. They found a fully equipped chemistry laboratory, fume hood and various classes of hazardous chemicals including corrosives, poisons and highly flammable substances. There also were several containers of explosive powders, fuses and cardboard tubes used for assembling fireworks.
- The investigation led to a nearby paid storage facility where the former homeowner had stored other similar hazardous materials. A private contractor removed the chemicals with some being reused as commercial chemical products and all other chemicals disposed of in a hazardous materials landfill. Not all the finds were of hazardous materials:
- At a lot off U.S. 231 in Wetumpka, five 55-gallon metal drums were found. During the ADEM inspection, the property owner explained that the drums contained purge water from on-site groundwater monitoring wells. The lot was the location of an old gas station, where an underground storage tank leak occurred. The wells were set up to determine the amount of groundwater contamination on site. The company monitoring the wells was told to remove the drums.

Hughes said people finding suspicious materials need to contact their local public safety agencies, which will call ADEM if the situation warrants. "If people know of places where there may be problems, those problems need to be addressed," he said. "If there are hazardous materials at a place, the proper officials need to be informed so they can take action to remove the problem. "The good thing about what happened in Prattville is we were informed before something more serious occurred at the site. The building and its contents were made safe, and after the cleanup is completed, they won't offer any more dangers to the community."

<http://www.montgomeryadvertiser.com/article/20100629/NEWS01/6290324/EPA-removing-toxic-chemicals-from-closed-facility-in-Prattville>

USA, WASHINGTON D.C, JUNE 30 2010. EPA TO INCLUDE EMPLOYEES IN CHEMICAL SAFETY INSPECTIONS

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has released [interim guidance](#) that would provide greater transparency in the agency's chemical safety inspections process. Under the guidance, EPA inspectors will offer employees and employee representatives the opportunity to participate in chemical safety inspections. In addition, EPA will request that state and local agencies adopt similar procedures under the Risk Management Program. Through this program, EPA seeks to reduce the

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risks to surrounding communities that arise from the management, use or storage of certain hazardous chemicals. Owners and operators of covered facilities must develop a risk management plan, which includes facility plans for the prevention and response to chemical accidents. Under the Clean Air Act, the [Chemical Accident Prevention Provisions](#) require facilities that produce, handle, process, distribute, or store certain chemicals to develop a Risk Management Program, prepare a risk management plan, and submit the plan to EPA. The agency expects to issue final guidance on participation of employees and employee representative in RMP inspections later this year.

<http://eponline.com/articles/2010/06/29/epa-to-include-employees-in-chemical-safety-inspections.aspx>

USA, TX, HOUSTON, JUNE 30 2010. OIL COMPANIES MOVE WORKERS FROM GULF RIGS

brett clanton

Oil companies on Tuesday continued removing workers from oil and gas drilling rigs and platforms in the Gulf of Mexico as Hurricane Alex gained strength and took aim at South Texas. Royal Dutch Shell brought another 110 workers to shore for a total of 900 so far and halted production and drilling on facilities in the central and western Gulf. The company said it still has 630 personnel offshore and will evacuate more if necessary. ConocoPhillips, Apache Corp., Exxon Mobil Corp., Anadarko Petroleum Corp. and BP said they have also evacuated nonessential workers from offshore facilities.

<http://www.chron.com/disp/story.mpl/business/7087138.html>

INDIA, MUMBAI, JUNE 30 2010. ESSAR AIMS TO ADD 400-PLUS RETAIL OUTLETS BY NEXT MARCH

India's Essar Oil Ltd is planning to fast-track the launch of its fuel retail outlets, so they can touch the 1,750 figure by March next year, a top company official said. Following the Indian government's decision to deregulate the price of petrol, it will also be able to sell fuel at the same price as government-owned marketing companies -- thereby boosting sales figures, he added. "I believe that we will be able to reach the figure of 1,750 much faster now, and may even have more outlets by the end of this financial year. Moreover, the sales volume from these outlets will go up significantly," the official said on the condition of anonymity. At present, the company has 1,342 outlets. "As the largest active private sector fuel retailer in India, we are well-placed to capture additional sales for fuel and non-fuel items. We expect to see significant volume growth in both areas. We already have in place plans to increase significantly the number of retail fuel outlets that we have across India," he said. Essar Oil sells oil in Gujarat on par with public sector companies. However, in other states it charges a premium of 0.50-1.50 rupees. The official said that with the government deciding to deregulate petrol prices, Essar Oil would be able to achieve parity in the prices of petrol and diesel. Stating that this will help the company double sales volumes at its outlets, he said, "We were selling at a higher price (than government-owned companies), so volumes were taking a hit. Now, with a level playing field, I believe we will be able to double the volume by March." Essar Oil, which sells 70,000 kiloliters (KL) of fuel per month from its outlets, is targeting 120,000-130,000 KL by March, he said.

http://www.downstreamtoday.com/news/article.aspx?a_id=23191&AspxAutoDetectCookieSupport=1

USA, MO, ROGERSVILLE, JULY 1 2010. TCE FOUND IN ADDITIONAL WELL IN THE ROGERSVILLE AREA

Another round of sampling of private drinking water wells west and southwest of Rogersville by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources has found trichloroethylene, or TCE, in one additional well. The department sampled 58 wells June 15 and 16 as part of the continued environmental inquiry. This included an expanded sampling area southwest of Rogersville and south of the original sampling area. Out of 121 wells sampled to date, 13 have TCE present. Of the 13 wells, six have TCE levels in excess of the federal drinking water standard of 5 parts per billion. However, one of those wells is not used as a drinking water source. Those residents have been notified. The department recently obtained access to the well that tested positive for TCE. This well is located in the original sampling area and on the same road that had four wells that previously had tested positive for TCE. The department will resample the well, both outside at the wellhead and inside from the tap, to confirm the result. A map of the sampling areas is online at www.dnr.mo.gov/env/hwp/sfund/Rogersville.htm. The goal of the latest effort was to try to determine the extent of TCE contamination in area wells. The geology of the area, which includes caves, springs and sinkholes, is very complex and makes identification of the source a challenge. The sampling information helps give a glimpse into what is happening below the ground. Figuring out how the TCE is distributed through area groundwater provides clues as to potential location of a contamination source. The department has also been conducting research into current and past businesses in the area to plan for sampling of potential sources in July. The department will continue to work with the city of Rogersville, county officials in both Webster and Greene counties, the Environmental Protection Agency and the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services to understand better the extent of TCE in the western Rogersville area groundwater. The department's inquiry started when a small cluster of wells near Compass Plaza, a

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commercial area on Rogersville's western edge tested positive for TCE. Since then, the department has returned to Rogersville multiple times, testing and retesting water wells. The department continues to monitor the drinking water at the Logan-Rogersville primary, middle and high schools and Rogersville's two municipal wells. To date, none of these wells have shown TCE contamination. The Missouri Department of Natural Resources also hosted a public meeting May 25 in Rogersville. Staff from the departments of Natural Resources and Health and Senior Services, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, or ATSDR, and the Greene County Resource Management Department's Environmental Section were at the meeting to answer area residents' questions. Information presented at the meeting is available online at www.dnr.mo.gov/env/hwp/sfund/rogersville.htm. Trichloroethylene is a nonflammable colorless liquid used mainly as a solvent to remove grease from metal parts, but it is also an ingredient in adhesives, paint removers, typewriter correction fluids and spot removers. In concentrated form it has a somewhat sweet odor and a sweet, burning taste, but it would be unlikely that such characteristics would be noticed in water with TCE contamination. Long-term exposure to low levels of TCE may increase the risk of certain health effects. The Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services is addressing any health concerns for residents whose well water has shown TCE contamination. Residents who want their well tested or have questions about the inquiry should contact Pia Capell with the Department of Natural Resources at 573-751-1087 1087.

<http://www.news-leader.com/article/20100630/BREAKING01/100630028/TCE-found-in-additional-well-in-the-Rogersville-area>

NIGERIA, NIGER DELTA, JULY 1 2010. NIGERIANS ANGRY AT OIL POLLUTION DOUBLE STANDARDS

christian purefoy

• Watch the Video: [Shell in Nigeria](#)

• Watch the Video: [Nigeria's oil spill crisis](#)



Story Highlights

- Nigeria has suffered devastating oil pollution in Delta region over 50 years
- Activists angry at attention being given to Gulf of Mexico
- Figures are disputed but one cause of Nigerian spills is oil thieves and militants
- Niger Delta is one of the world's most oil-polluted places and one of its most important wetlands.
- Watch a CNN International 30-minute special at 1630 GMT June 30 putting the Gulf oil spill in a global context. Why the spill has repercussions beyond the Gulf and where to find the untapped or under-exploited oil reserves.

Nigeria's Niger Delta is one of the most oil-polluted places on the planet with more than 6,800 recorded oil spills, accounting for anywhere from 9 million to 13 million barrels of oil spilled, according to activist groups. But occurring over the 50 years since oil production began in the Delta, this environmental disaster has never received the attention that is now being paid to the oil-spill catastrophe hitting the U.S. Gulf coast. "The whole world is trembling and even the president of America had to do a personal visit to the site. The U.S. will have put serious measures in place to stop such situations happening in the future," said Ken Tebe -- a local environmental activist who is visibly shaken by what he regards as a double standard. "It's funny because we've been dealing with this problem for 50 years. I even heard BP will pay \$20 billion in damages (for the U.S. spill). When will such hope come to the Niger Delta?" Tebe asked. The U.S. imports about eight percent of its oil from Nigeria. That is nearly half of Nigeria's daily oil production and makes Nigeria the fifth-largest exporter of oil to the United States. Tebe, like other activists, focuses his energy and anger against his own government and the oil companies he blames for neglecting the region -- but he feels the U.S., as the largest consumer of Nigerian oil, also must also play its part. "It's very, very bad because Nigeria is the fifth largest exporter of oil to the U.S., and the fact that Nigeria has been going through such issues for the past 50 years with little or no concern even from the U.S. government goes a long way to show you that they look at the Niger Delta as an oil field that people don't need to live in." According to Amnesty International, people living in the Niger Delta have experienced oil spills on par with the Exxon Valdez disaster every year for the last half century. In its June 2009 report, Petroleum, Pollution and Poverty, Amnesty said independent environmental and oil experts estimated between nine million and 13 million of barrels had leaked in the five decades of oil operations. It also quoted U.N. figures of more than 6,800 recorded spills between 1976 and 2001. Oil companies operating in the Niger Delta believe the figures are exaggerated. Mutiu Sunmonu, the managing director of Shell Nigeria, told CNN the industry is committed, after any spill, to "restore the environment to its previous status." In the 1990s, Shell was forced to stop operating in Ogoniland after mass protests against the lack of investment and environmental damage culminated in a military crackdown. Then, a special tribunal found Nigerian

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writer-activist Ken Saro-Wiwa guilty of complicity in the murders of four Ogoni chiefs. The government executed him and other activists in a move widely condemned internationally. Shell last year paid \$15.5 million in an out-of-court settlement in a civil case brought by members of Saro-Wiwa's family and others. Shell, which denied any wrongdoing in the case, also refuted charges it was complicit in human rights abuses in the Delta. It was the only company operating in Ogoniland, and no oil has been pumped there since, yet the locals continue to complain of oil spilling from the maze of pipes criss-crossing their land. We took a boat into the creeks of Ogoniland in the Niger Delta to see for ourselves. As we traveled to the site, it began to rain heavily. The heavy raindrops splashed black in the thick oil coating the river. We were unable to access the pipe in the rain and mud. The leak had been repaired but no one here knows how much oil was spilled. Plumes of dark oil haunt the nearby rivers, the mangroves are stained black, and most conspicuously, there are no fishermen here. Instead we found Peter Bornu and his wife, knee-deep in thick, oily mud pulling at the branches of the mangroves and stacking them in their wooden boat. "There's no fish in the river anymore," he told us, his clothes sodden in the rain, "So there's no way I can feed my family apart from fetching firewood like this." The money he makes from selling the wood helps pay for food. The 700,000-square-kilometer Niger Delta is one of the most important wetlands in the world and home to 31 million people -- 60 percent of whom, according to the U.N. Development Program, depend on the natural environment for their livelihoods. Chevron, Agip, ExxonMobil are among the other companies operating in the Delta, but Shell is the only company in the region to release regular reports on its operations. Shell maintains that more than 90 percent of spills are caused by militants and oil thieves tapping into pipelines to steal oil. And then, Shell says, locals often refuse access to the ruptured pipelines until the oil companies have paid for access. Shell's Sunmonu said: "I am not naive to believe that Shell can fix the problem in the Delta. Ninety-five percent of our revenue -- after tax, after costs -- goes back to government." And so the oil companies' argument goes: They pay the Nigerian government and it is the government's responsibility to provide investment, security and pressure on private business. In all those areas the government has notably failed in the poverty-stricken and conflict-racked Niger Delta. "Even if we pour all our earnings into the Delta - into development and infrastructure - it would still be a drop in the ocean," said Sunmonu. However, when pressed on the one issue for which the oil companies are legally responsible -- whatever the difficulties -- oil spill cleanup, Sunmonu insisted: "We will clean up and remediate the environment regardless the cost of the spill." Yet, as we leave Peter Bornu and his wife scavenging for firewood, it's clear many locals don't believe the oil companies. Environmental reports put the cost of the environmental damage in the tens of billions of dollars. "Soil is turned upside down, money has been allocated and the cleanup is done," explained Ken Tebe. The oil companies regularly contract out the cleanup operations to local crews, he says, who carry out their operations on the cheap. "The truth is that the oil has not been mopped up from the soil. We have a series of spills in the Niger Delta for more than 30 years that have not been cleaned up," Tebe said. And if the U.S. cuts oil production off its coast because of the BP oil spill it will put more pressure on places like Nigeria. "There'll be new oil blocks so we can meet the quota we send to the U.S." said Tebe. "That'll mean there'll be an increase in oil spills, more gas flares, and resources conflict is going to be on the increase."

http://edition.cnn.com/2010/WORLD/africa/06/29/nigeria.oil/?fbid=m42A-5_jDtN

USA, S.C, Horry CO, MYRTLE BEACH, JULY 1 2010. TANKER SPILLS FUEL ON GEORGE BISHOP, DHEC WORKING ON CLEANUP

 **Watch the Video:**

http://www2.scnw.com/scp/news/local/grand_strand/article/gas_leak_in_horry_county_causing_traffic_delays/207198/



Horry County Fire Rescue crews say this truck spilled between 70 and 80 gallons of fuel at a gas station near George Bishop Parkway early Wednesday morning. Environmental crews are on George Bishop Parkway Wednesday working with Horry County Storm Water Management to clean up a diesel fuel spill. Horry County Fire Rescue was called to the Exxon station at 102 George Bishop Parkway, just off of US-501, around 5:30 a.m. Wednesday. The driver of a tanker truck said the gas tank caught on the curb as he was pulling onto George Bishop and began spilling diesel. The driver told officials the tank lost about 60 gallons of fuel. Ted Ambrose, environmental manager for the SC Department of Health and Environmental Control, said HCFR crews worked to build a dam to prevent fuel from entering nearby storm water drains. Ambrose said DHEC crews are on scene and are absorbing any visible fuel. They will then work with Horry County Storm Water Management to flush out the lines and vacuum out any diesel that made it

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into the drain. Ambrose said cleanup efforts will likely end Wednesday afternoon. The Exxon station is closed until HCFR gives the all-clear.

<http://www.wmbfnews.com/Global/story.asp?S=12732694>

USA, OK, KIEFER, JULY 1 2010. TWO INJURED IN KIEFER TANK EXPLOSION



Two people are injured after a tanker explosion in Kiefer. The explosion took place around 11am Wednesday in Kiefer. The two injured have been life-flighted to Tulsa. Witnesses on scene tell NewsChannel 8 that one man did suffer serious burns. Jim Smith, a nearby landowner, said he noticed a several thousand gallon tank leaking oil and salt water on Monday and he called to report the leak. Crews arrived on Tuesday to repair the leak and had returned today to continue their work when the explosion took place. Smith said he heard two loud explosions and looked out to see the two burned men running away from the fire. We are being told that the crew was using flaming torches on the tank when the fumes caught fire and exploded. Emergency officials on scene are waiting for the fire to burn itself out at this time.

<http://www.ktul.com/news/stories/0610/751073.html>

USA, UT, WEST HAVEN, JULY 1 2010. U-TURN SPARKS UTAH FIRE AT WEST HAVEN GAS STATION

An early morning blaze started by a tractor-trailer attempting a U-turn in a gas station caused nearly \$250,000 worth of damage Monday. Weber County Fire Chief David Austin said the fire started around 3:40 a.m. at the Texaco Foodmart at 1514 W. 2100 South. Austin said a tractor-trailer was attempting a U-turn at the station early in the morning after missing an exit to Interstate 15. The driver drove the truck between the fuel pumps and building but got caught on a fuel pump. "As the trailer comes through, it tore one of the fuel pumps completely off, causing fuel to spill for a while," Austin said. "Then the trailer got lodged against a beam or a column that is holding the canopy up." Austin said either the gas pump being dragged along the cement or the top of the trailer dragging along the canopy created a spark, igniting the spilled gasoline. "The driver then disconnected the tractor, and moved onto the street," Austin said. The trailer became totally engulfed in flames and was threatening the convenience store when fire crews arrived on the scene. Crews kept the fire away from the store and successfully extinguished the flames. Austin said the contents of the trailer, which included many items such as kitchen cabinets, transmissions and garden supplies, were lost in the blaze, as was the trailer, which was owned by Michigan-based STS Transportation. He said about \$250,000 in damage was caused by the fire, including damage to the gas station.

<http://www.firehouse.com/news/top-headlines/tractor-trailer-u-turn-triggers-utah-fire>

UK, LONDON, JULY 1 2010. KILLER CHEMICALS AND GREASED PALMS – THE DEADLY 'END GAME' FOR LEADED PETROL >> TETRA ETHYL LEAD IS BANNED IN UK BUT ELLESMERE PORT FIRM USED DIRTY TACTICS TO ENSURE EXPORT MARKETS KEPT ON BUYING.

david leigh, rob evans, guy grandjean, mona mahmood & ziad zafar

 **Watch the Video** <http://www.guardian.co.uk/business/video/2010/jul/01/tel-oil-toxin>

Tetra ethyl lead (TEL) is a killer chemical, nowadays banned in the west for use in car fuel. The colourless, oily liquid is so toxic that workers went mad and died during the first attempt to manufacture TEL commercially, at the Bayway refinery in New Jersey in 1924. American newspapers called it "loony gas". After that scandal, double-skinned rubber gear and goggles became de rigeur in its manufacture. TEL is the "lead" in leaded petrol: a heavy metal compound to improve engine performance. It was promoted by the oil industry for 50 years, until evidence of childhood neurological damage eventually outlawed it by 2000 in Europe and the US. It was a political triumph at the time for veteran British campaigner Des Wilson. But the grim-looking Octel plant alongside the Manchester ship canal went on making TEL, the only place in the world to do so. Postponing the day when they were forced to stop endangering foreign children, Octel's British managers made high profits, with generous salaries and share options. Indonesia and Iraq continued for years to buy TEL, allowing their citizens to inhale lead dust from exhausts. The researched effects of such exposure can include reduction in children's IQs, and long-term increases in violent crime and mental illness. Octel's former chief executive, Dennis Kerrison, said: "Our strategy was to win the endgame for TEL." He assured investors in 1998: "Developing these markets promises us more than sufficient cash flow for at least the next eight years." "Maximise the cash flow" became the company's mantra. They aggressively jacked up TEL prices as all rival manufacturers left the field. The company even managed to keep the Iraq market alive while diversifying into

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other chemicals. How did they succeed? According to the new management, the answer is one word: bribery. At least \$9m (£6m) was corruptly paid during the "endgame" in Iraq and Indonesia, simultaneous court hearings in London and Washington were told in March. According to court documents, Octel bribed at every turn. Brown envelopes with £1,000 "pocket-money" were slipped to various officials visiting London. Octel even agreed to pay \$13,000, purportedly for a top Iraq oil ministry official to honeymoon in Thailand in 2006. The official identified in the documents, the deputy oil minister Ahmad al Shamma, denied indignantly in a video interview with the Guardian that he had ever taken money or indeed visited Thailand. He promised an investigation into the other corruption allegations, and suggested that the company's Lebanese middleman, Osama Naaman, might have extracted some of the bribe cash from Octel under false pretences. Naaman has been extradited and is currently under arrest in Washington, where he is negotiating a plea bargain, according to court files. Southwark crown court found in March that in Indonesia Octel had set out to bribe the head of the state oil company, Rachmat Sudibyo, and financed "Defence of lead" campaigns, delaying a ban through "a slush fund to corrupt government figures with the intention of blocking legislative moves to ban ... TEL". Company accounts show that from 1998 to 2009, Octel's revenue from exporting TEL to various developing countries was \$1.8bn, with profits totalling more than \$600m. Kerrison, the CEO who ran Octel's "endgame", stepped down in April 2005. He was handed a severance package recorded at \$4m. He told the Guardian his departure was by agreement, unrelated to bribery allegations and that the company failed to pay all he was due. He insists he knew nothing of bribery: "I did not in any way turn a blind eye. In fact, at every opportunity, I tried to improve the company's compliance record." Kerrison's successor as CEO, Paul Jennings, himself took a payoff in March 2009. Jennings, who was treasurer of Britain's Chemical Industries Association, stepped down saying he could not "move the business on" while criminal investigations continued. For Jennings too, there had been six fat years of income and share options from playing the "endgame". His severance package was costed at \$1.8m. He collected more than \$13m in total. There was a previous history of corruption at Octel. The company hired the subsequently-disgraced lobbyist Ian Greer in the 1980s, in an early attempt to stop health curbs on lead biting into Octel's profits. The first rumours of bribery were heard in 2003, when US troops invaded Iraq. Oil ministry files fell into their hands. Washington published an audit of the thousands of UN-approved contracts for goods supplied under sanctions to Saddam. Among the list of suspiciously expensive deals was one for nearly 2,000 tons of TEL. At almost \$20m, it was alleged to be 37% over-priced. The seller was named as an obscure Swiss-registered firm, Alcor. Alcor proved to be part of Octel, and the barrels of toxic chemical involved must, in fact, have been shipped to Saddam from Octel's British factory at Ellesmere Port. The UN inquiry into "Oil for Food" was set up under Paul Volker, looking at Octel, among many others. In autumn 2005 the Alcor deals were included in those publicly labelled as crooked. The Octel file went to the US justice department in Washington, which launched a criminal investigation. Later the Serious Fraud Office in London joined in. In early 2006, as news of the US Department of Justice investigation became public, Octel changed its name to Innospec. The investigations took a further four-and-a-half years. Bank and company files were subpoenaed and a wider range of Octel crime began to open up. But a lenient corporate plea agreement was thrashed out in March this year, when the company pleaded guilty to corruption. The department of justice says that due to initial obstruction by the firm some executives can no longer be prosecuted because their cases are out of time. It also says profits were milked away: "Innospec dissipated more than \$26m in assets through dividends and stock buybacks that could have been used to satisfy any obligations or judgments in this case." Relatively small global penalties were agreed by US and UK prosecutors. It was claimed the company would go out of business otherwise. At Southwark crown court in March, the judge, Geoffrey Rivlin, protested about leniency in the face of such "massive criminality". Instead of what would have been at least \$400m in fines, Innospec was let off with a tenth of that amount – \$40.2m – and allowed to pay in instalments. So far, the only individuals to have suffered penalties have been the nameless children who spent time on the traffic-choked streets of Jakarta and Baghdad in recent years, and who may have inhaled lead dust. But effects on them are bound to prove more difficult to document.

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/business/2010/jun/30/lead-bribery-octel>

AUSTRALIA, NORTHERN TERRITORY, NHULUNBUY, JULY 1 2010. FUEL LEAK CLEAN-UP TO TAKE WEEKS: RIO TINTO ALCAN

alex johnson

Information: [About Nhulunbuy](#)

Rio Tinto Alcan says more than 50,000 litres of fuel that leaked from a tank at its Nhulunbuy alumina refinery in the Northern Territory is still in the ground. The company revealed two weeks ago that a 40-year-old tank was found to have leaked petrol into the soil beneath it. It is now believed 62,000 litres of fuel escaped from the tank. But the company's Alan Tietzel says the clean-up could take several weeks, with only a limited amount of fuel pumped from recovery wells so far. "It's not in the tens of

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thousands, it's in the thousands of litres," he said. "Obviously that includes some water. "The majority of it is fuel, but some of it is also water that has been extracted along with the fuel."

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2010/07/01/2942067.htm>

USA, MT, WHITEFISH LAKE, JULY 1 2010. DIESEL FROM 1989 SPILL DISCOVERED IN WHITEFISH LAKE



A Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway train curves its way around Mackinaw Bay in Whitefish Lake. Last fall, a hunter discovered an oily sheen thought to be left over from a 1989 freight train derailment.

Last fall, a hunter in Whitefish Lake's Mackinaw Bay stepped into the water and yanked his boot out of the lakebed's muck. When he looked down, the water glimmered with an unmistakable petroleum-tinted sheen. The hunter contacted the Whitefish Lake Institute, which conducted soil and water tests. Hydrocarbons indicating diesel were detected. Lab results showed that the contaminant level in the water was 16 times higher than the maximum level suitable for drinking water, and contamination in the soil was eight-and-a-half times higher, according to Whitefish Lake Institute Director Mike Koopal. As far as Koopal and city officials know, there's only one reasonable explanation: The diesel is leftover from a 1989

incident in which a Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway freight train derailed and dumped 25,000 gallons of fuel into Mackinaw Bay on the lake's west shore. It's the only recent oil sheen sighting stemming from the 1989 derailment that Koopal is aware of, and it comes on the heels of the 2007 sheen discovery in the Whitefish River. That discovery prompted the cleanup effort currently taking place on the river. "For this to be manifesting 20 years later," Koopal said, "we suspect that there's still a large parent source of contaminated soil." He added: "We don't think the concentration levels are in the acute zone for aquatic or plant life, but it's a chronic situation that's detrimental to the aquatic life." Koopal points out that measuring the contamination levels in terms relative to drinking water is simply a useful way to communicate the information, not a suggestion that anybody's drinking water has been compromised. "Obviously people aren't out there drinking it, but there's no other way to communicate it to the public," he said. At a June 21 meeting, the Whitefish City Council voted to send a letter to the Environmental Protection Agency. The letter has been drafted and, as of last week, was awaiting the signature of Mayor Mike Jenson. It reads, in part, that the city would like to "pursue having the area of Whitefish Lake where the diesel spill occurred in 1989 (Mackinaw Bay) designated for remedial clean-up under the Oil Pollution Act, much as the Whitefish River is being cleaned-up. Please consider this letter as such a request." Koopal took David Romero, an on-scene coordinator with EPA's Region 8, out to Mackinaw Bay in the winter. Romero is in charge of the ongoing Whitefish River cleanup. Because of wintery conditions, Koopal said he and Romero weren't able to see much. But EPA sent a contractor in the spring who took soil samples and conducted tests. Last Wednesday, Koopal said he hadn't yet seen EPA's lab results. In early June, Whitefish officials held an update work session with Koopal where he discussed the oil sheen. Shortly afterward, City Manager Chuck Stearns sent an e-mail to BNSF and received a response the next day. BNSF quickly dispatched an environmental consultant who accompanied Stearns and Koopal on a site visit June 18. They stirred up sediment near the shore and saw nothing. But, taking into account the higher water levels than during the fall and spring tests, they moved to deeper water. Stirred sediment then produced a rainbow-colored sheen. "It's significant enough to let people know about it and see what can be done," Stearns said. "It seems like it's trapped down in the sediment as opposed to being a regular occurrence." After the derailment in 1989, the Montana Department of Environmental Quality oversaw a cleanup effort and then closed its file on the case, Koopal said. If the hunter hadn't been in the lake during low water, Koopal said the lingering diesel might not have ever been discovered. "I think it's a good lesson with the Gulf spill," Koopal said. "Petroleum products persist in the environment longer than people suspect. They're volatile compounds and they evaporate, but when they're in the soil it's a different story."

http://www.flatheadbeacon.com/articles/article/diesel_from_1989_spill_discovered_in_whitefish_lake/18406/

USA, WI, SUPERIOR, JULY 1 2010. "TOXIC TUESDAY" ANNIVERSARY

On this date in 1992 thousands of people in the Twin Ports left their homes and businesses in the downtown and waterfront areas to avoid toxic benzene fumes that were drifting through the air. The fumes were coming from a derailed rail car that fell off a bridge early that morning and ruptured, releasing thousands of gallons of benzene into the Nemadji River south of Superior. A couple dozen people were treated at local hospitals but the fumes had dissipated by later in the day. The incident became known locally as "Toxic Tuesday".

<http://www.kdal610.com/news/articles/2010/jun/30/toxic-tuesday-anniversary/>

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ISRAEL, NETANYA, JULY 1 2010. BP TO SELL FRENCH RETAIL BUSINESS TO ISRAEL'S DELEK



British oil giant BP has agreed to sell its French retail business to Israeli conglomerate Delek Group for 180 million euros (\$241.5 million), Delek informed. Delek said its Delek Europe BV unit will acquire BP France SA's fuels and convenience business in a deal expected to be completed in the second half of 2010, pending regulatory approvals. "Since (BP's) acceptance, the parties have been in discussions and working towards the signing of the final documentation and completion of the transaction," Delek said. The deal comes as part of a trend among major oil companies to cut exposure to low-margin fuel retailing. Delek will buy 416 French petrol stations and interests or ownership in three fuel distribution depots. BP branding will remain on the forecourts for several years under a

licensing agreement and BP will have a supply agreement with Delek.

<http://www.petroplaza.com/news/industry/MiZlbiY5OTE1JiYx>

NIGERIA, LAGOS, JULY 1 2010. CHEVRON FAULTS OIL SPILL REPORT IN NORTHERN DELTA

Mohammed shosanya

Chevron Nigeria Limited [CNL] has faulted media publication on oil spill in the Niger Delta area of the country, saying some of them are not accurate. Femi Odumabo, the company's General Manager, Policy, Government and Public Affairs, who disclosed this weekend when executive members of the National Association of Energy Correspondents (NAEC) paid him visit at the company's corporate headquarters in Lagos, said such publications have negative impacts on the operators. According to him, Chevron has recorded less than 1 per cent of oil spill which is mostly caused during operational discharged and other third party factors. "We at Chevron are very conscious of our environments and places where we operate and have the interest of the host communities and the country at heart in whatever we are doing," he said. He said that Chevron has committed nearly one billion dollars to the development of communities, which he said had made the working environments more peaceful. Odumagbo said that Nigerians should not be unduly panic about the oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico. "What was experienced in the Gulf of Mexico cannot happen here in Nigeria. All the oil companies in Nigeria will work together to ensure quick response to reported cases of spill. "There is no spill that happened that we cannot handle within 24 to 48 hours. "It is a fallacy for people to compare the spill in Gulf of Mexico to what happens here in Nigeria," he said. Odumabo, therefore charged journalists to ensure accurate reporting of issues relating to the oil and gas sector. Mr Emeka Ugwuanyi, Chairman NAEC lauded the good initiative of the organisation in ensuring that journalists covering energy sector are well informed through capacity building workshop and facility tour. He assured the company that his members would always strive to balance their reports before publications, urging the organisation to respond promptly to his members' enquiries about its operations.

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201007010156.html>

USA, NY, NEW YORK, JULY 2 2010. JFK JET-FUEL SUPPLY TANKS AND GAS PIPELINES EXPLOSION WAS MEANT TO GO 'THROUGH TO QUEENS,' WITNESS TESTIFIES

The men on trial for plotting explosions at John F. Kennedy International Airport planned a blast that would "blow through the airport and through to Queens," a witness testified Thursday. Donald Nero said he had been involved with defendants Russell DeFreitas and Abdul Kadir in the initial stages of planning the attack. He told the court he participated in several meetings held in Guyana, his native land, in late 2006. In those meetings, he said, DeFreitas and others conspired to bomb jet-fuel supply tanks and gas pipelines at JFK, one of the United States' busiest airports. DeFreitas and Kadir were charged in 2007 with conspiracy to attack a public transportation system, conspiracy to destroy a building with fire and explosives, conspiracy to attack aircraft and aircraft materials, conspiracy to destroy an international airport and conspiracy to attack a mass transportation facility. Kadir was also charged with surveillance of a transportation facility. They sought to inflict "economical damage, destruction of airport property and loss of life" Nero said. He testified that "DeFreitas said the plot would be payback for the United States sending weapons to Israel to kill Palestinians." Nero said that DeFreitas told those gathered at these meetings that he personally loaded U.S. "bombs, missiles and planes" bound for Israel while working at JFK. DeFreitas is a United States citizen and former JFK cargo worker. Kadir is a citizen of Guyana who has served as a member of Parliament there. A third defendant, Abdul Nur, pleaded guilty Tuesday to providing material support to terrorists. Nur is also from Guyana. Prosecutors have said the men tapped into an international network of Muslim extremists to develop the plot and start work toward carrying it out. A criminal complaint accuses the men of obtaining satellite photos of the airport and using

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DeFreitas to conduct surveillance and identify potential targets and escape routes. An informant secretly taped conversations in which DeFreitas allegedly described the symbolic importance of targeting JFK, the complaint says. "Anytime you hit Kennedy, it is the most hurtful thing to the United States," he allegedly said, according to the complaint. "If you hit that, this whole country will be in mourning. It's like you kill the man twice." All three men have been in U.S. custody for the past two years after a court in Trinidad and Tobago rejected their attempt to avoid extradition. Their lawyers had earlier argued that Trinidad and Tobago law does not allow for extradition on terrorism conspiracy charges. New York Police Commissioner Raymond Kelly has said officials were concerned not only about a possible attack on the airport, but also about an attack on the 40-mile aviation fuel pipeline that runs from a fuel tank farm at JFK through Staten Island, Brooklyn and Queens. The trial is being held before federal District Judge Dora Irizarry in Brooklyn.

http://edition.cnn.com/2010/CRIME/07/01/new.york.jfk.bomb.plot.trial/?fbid=m42A-5_jDtN

USA, AKA, JULY 2 2010. STATE SETTLES 2006 TANKER SPILL FOR \$429,870

joshua saul



The oil tanker Seabulk Pride grounded a half a mile north of Kenai Pipeline Dock in Nikiski after heavy ice flow caused it to break free from its moorings, February 2, 2006.

In the winter of 2006 a 600-foot oil tanker was taking on fuel from the Tesoro refinery in Nikiski when massive ice floes tore it away from its moorings. After breaking free the tanker drifted to the north and became beached a few hundred yards away. The accident only ended up spilling about 84 gallons of gasoline into the waters of Cook Inlet, but the tanker was carrying almost 5 million gallons of oil. Though the tanker was refloated the next day, the potential damage was enormous. An investigation into the accident found the crew failed to follow key rules such as having the bridge manned and the engine ready for a quick start. On Thursday the state Department of Law and the state Department of Environmental Conservation

announced a settlement with Seabulk Tankers Inc. and Tesoro Alaska Co. over the accident. The tanker, named the Seabulk Pride, was operated by Seabulk Tankers, a Florida company, and chartered by Tesoro. In the agreement to pay the \$429,870, the companies did not admit to any violations. "It shows we take pollution prevention measures very seriously, and if people don't comply with them we'll bring enforcement action," said Breck Tostevin, a senior assistant attorney general who worked on the settlement. The settlement includes a civil assessment of \$360,000 based on the money Seabulk saved by ignoring the readiness requirements of Tesoro's oil spill contingency plan, and \$64,870 to pay the state back for its response and investigation costs. Tesoro also agreed to spend \$35,000 to produce a video to train Cook Inlet mariners on ice hazards during winter operations. "Protecting the environment and economy from the risk of spills is very important to the state," DEC Commissioner Larry Hartig said in the release. "The spill prevention requirements in DEC-approved oil spill contingency plans are a key line of defense." According to the release, Tesoro has since made improvements to its Cook Inlet operations, including better monitoring of line tension and the stationing of a specialty tug at the dock during winter ice conditions. "They've put in a lot of prevention measures as a result of this spill," Tostevin said. "That's part and parcel of the settlement results."

<http://www.alaskadispatch.com/dispatches/energy/5873-state-settles-2006-tanker-spill-for-429870>

USA, MA, FOXBORO, JULY 2 2010. FUEL FOUND IN TEST WELL

frank mortimer



A worker hauls a hose at the site of Sunday's jet fuel spill Wednesday afternoon.

Jet fuel from Sunday's tanker truck spill at the Interstate 95 and Interstate 495 cloverleaf has entered the groundwater, state Department of Environmental Protection officials said Wednesday. The new results, from test wells drilled at the hazardous spill site, will extend the emergency cleanup period to a matter of weeks, followed by months of monitoring and possible on-site water treatment, said Ed Coletta, spokesman for the DEP. Officials initially thought they were able to prevent any of the fuel from getting into the groundwater. A long-term "pump and treat system" may have to be installed near the site. The system is designed to suck up the groundwater, remove the fuel, and return the water to the ground. The

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tanker truck, bound for T.F. Green Airport in Warwick, R.I., was carrying 11,900 gallons of jet fuel on Sunday morning when it overturned, spilling its load on the roadway at the Foxboro-Mansfield line. The massive cleanup tied up traffic for much of the day. "Just about all of it spilled," Coletta said. The agency issued a notice of responsibility to trucker C. White and Sons Inc., requiring it to pay for the cleanup and to hire a licensed site professional to oversee the cleanup, which is being done by Moran Environmental Recovery. The fuel spilled onto the grassy area of the ramp and onto the ramp pavement. Some of the fuel ran into catch basins and flowed into a nearby swale that includes wetlands. As of nightfall Sunday, 4,600 gallons had been vacuumed up. The vacuum work continued Monday. Small trenches were dug to capture the fuel. The agency authorized the removal of 250 cubic yards of contaminated soil, with additional excavation and soil replacement possible. Shallow wells, called microwells, were drilled to monitor the groundwater at the site. Initial readings found that the fuel had not reached the groundwater, which is only about five feet below the surface at that location. State and local authorities on Monday expressed confidence that the spill would not affect drinking-water supplies. "It did not run off into any rivers or streams," Coletta said that day. "It did not impact any drinking water sources." On Tuesday, however, jet fuel was found floating on the groundwater in a test pit. Art Reynolds, Foxboro's assistant water and sewer superintendent who consulted with the DEP at the site on the morning of the accident, said Wednesday that his department had no word from the agency that jet fuel was later discovered in the groundwater at the site. "Until they officially contact the Foxboro Water Department, we're under the impression that our wells are fine, and not under any threat, based upon what we know," Reynolds said. Reynolds also said Foxboro has no wells near the highway cloverleaf. Mansfield DPW Director Lee Azinheira said it's his understanding that the "prevailing groundwater flow" is away from Mansfield's nearest wells, which are about a quarter of a mile from the spill site. Philip Henderson, chairman of Foxboro's board of water and sewer commissioners, did not return a call Monday and department head Leo Potter could not be reached Monday or Wednesday.

<http://www.thesunchronicle.com/articles/2010/07/01/news/7627371.txt>

VENEZUELA, CARACAS, JULY 2 2010. FISHES IN LAKE MARACAIBO ARE "STAINED"

maria teresa luengo



The oil spill which appeared in Lake Maracaibo waters last June 2 has advanced without any control to the Eastern Coast, causing environmental damages and also harming small-scale fishermen in western Zulia state. The thick oil layer can be seen along the banks of at least seven municipalities, where the cleaning ordered by the authorities of state-run oil holding Petróleos de Venezuela (Pdvsa) has not eased the plight of local residents, who cry out for the government reply. Fishermen of seven municipalities with no income, three weeks after the spill

Environment

"What else can I tell that I have not told journalists or the (state-owned oil company Petróleos de Venezuela) Pdvsa people? Today, here another day of losses goes, because, since the oil spill appeared in the lake, it is harder to take some fish which is not stained with oil," replied Mr. Javier Araujo, in arriving at home, in the Las Tierritas sector, very close to the coastguard dock in the city of Cabimas. He

starts his fisherman's task at 4:00 a.m. The work has taken him over 15 years and allows him to sustain his wife and four children. Worry can be seen in his face, while he soaks the net in a container filled with gasoline to remove the sticky stains. He takes out from his vessel some buckets and, together with two of his children, shows the trapped fish and little by little throws away the stained one. "Formerly, between 70 and 90 kilos were fished, now I do not think that it even reaches 10 kilos... the guys of Pdvsa and Iclam (Institute for Preservation and Control of the Basin) started to collect the oil from the shore some days ago. Several groups arrived there and explained to us how to help; but I do not think it is much helpful, and I think they should stop that oil spill; the stains in the net are darker." As he showed his darkened clothes, work implements and the rash on his arms due to the use of gasoline; some neighbors approached and commented that every time the tide rises, the oil spill is carried to their places. Some of them show muddy backyards and walls that should be cleaned with gasoline. "Because of the rains, the water carried the oil on the shore and there was a mess in the houses backyards. A Pdvsa commission came, but they just took photos and have not said anything else," Ms. Gladys Riera related. The situation brings another risk: these families have at home containers full of gasoline to use it as "daily stain remover." Children, elderly and women have dermatitis, others have lung disease.

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"This is not a Lie"

As a matter of fact, three weeks after the finding of the oil spill, these workers are more concerned about their dwindling income. Araujo commented that formerly, more than 300 kilograms of fish a day were taken to nearby restaurants and markets. However, over the past three weeks, they barely complete 50 or 70 kilos a day. "We can tell deputies and ministers that this is not a lie; it is something very serious and all of us are alarmed. It is hard to fish anything free of stains," he said. Members of the Unified Team and the Federation of Zulian Workers (Fetrazulia) estimate daily losses at USD 116,000-140,000. They have met with associations and community councils. The Zulia State Parliament declared environmental emergency due to the lack of information at the beginning, contradictions and failure of national and environmental authorities to show up and provide a rationale. Cleaning works were carried out in Maracaibo and San Francisco, but nothing has been said about what will happen to fishermen. Twenty days after the finding, last June 2, Iclam President Jorge Pedroza admitted that some oil spill and gas leakage were located in the Lagunillas oilfield, due to alleged electricity sabotage. About 600 affected people plan to file charges against Pdvsa for the damages caused and the environmental impact.

http://english.eluniversal.com/2010/07/01/en_pol_esp_fishes-in-lake-marac_01A4117731.shtml

USA, FLA, CLEARWATER, JULY 2 2010. OIL SPILL: FUEL SHEEN FOUND OFF CLEARWATER BEACH

jim peppard



A fuel sheen up to a mile long has been found off shore from Clearwater Beach, but it appears not to be related to the Deepwater BP oil spill, the U.S. Coast Guard said tonight. The sheen was discovered by a Coast Guard helicopter on a routine patrol at about 1:20 p.m. Thursday. The crew picked up a marine science technician to observe it, and determined there were several areas of light sheen up to a mile long about four miles west of Clearwater Beach, the Coast Guard said, "This appears to be an illegal discharge of fuel," said Capt. Tim Close, commander of Coast Guard Sector St. Petersburg. "The sheen appears to be a refined oil product, rather than a crude or naturally occurring oil." Samples were collected by a member of the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and will be sent to the Coast Guard Marine Safety Laboratory in New London, Connecticut, for testing, the Coast Guard said. The sheen appeared to be a mixture of diesel fuel or gasoline and is expected to

dissipate naturally. The Coast Guard said it reported the sheen to the National Response Center, even though it did not appear to be related to the BP Deepwater Horizon spill.

<http://www.wtsp.com/news/local/story.aspx?storyid=135288&catid=8>

INDIA, NEW DELHI, JULY 2 2010. MRPL PLANS TO ROLL OUT 500 FUEL OUTLETS

neeraj thakur

Mangalore Refinery & Petrochemicals Ltd (MRPL) is planning to open 500 retail fuel outlets in southern India after the government decided to de-regulate petrol prices in the country. The company, which is a subsidiary of Oil and Natural Gas Corporation, currently operates one petrol pump. "After the government de-regulated the prices of petrol we are planning to revive our plans to open retail fuel outlets. We have license to open 500 retail outlets" said U K Basu, managing director, MRPL. "Our focus will be Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Goa for setting up retail outlets," Basu said without divulging the investment and the time period that the company will take to roll out the outlets. In 2008 MRPL was working on 20 locations in Karnataka to set up its retail outlets before it put the plan off, as the company could not compete with the subsidised retail outlets of Indian Oil Corporation, Bharat Petroleum and Hindustan Petroleum. After the government freed petrol prices in the country on June 25, private players like Essar, Reliance Industries Ltd among others have also decided to revive their plans to set up retail fuel outlets in the country. The government is now working on the periodicity of the retail price revision for the oil marketing companies and the final decision would be taken by the end of this month. Also, MRPL has renewed its agreement to supply petroleum products to State Trading Corp of Mauritius for three years starting August. "The product comprising jet fuel, gas oil and furnace oil will be supplied for a period of three years and the total value of this deal at current prices is \$2 billion," the company said. MRPL will supply 1.1 million tonne refined products annually to Mauritius. The managing director said Mangalore Refinery will undertake a 25-day shutdown of its 8 million tonne crude distillation unit II in August-September. "We will shut down our CDU-II capacity in Aug-Sep for 20-25 days for maintenance. The shutdown is likely to hit production of naphtha, kerosene and a little bit of diesel output as well," Basu said. He said the company is on track to commission the expansion of the refinery by 2011 and almost 48% of the work is has been completed. The Mauritius government is also

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... mulling setting up of a refinery hub in the island country. "We are seeking technical help from India to set up a refinery hub. We are immediately going to set up a technical committee in Mauritius to consider setting up an equal joint venture between India and Mauritius," Mauritius' Trade Minister Showkuttaly Soodhunsaid. At the same event, Indian Oil Corp chairman B M Bansal said his company, which has a subsidiary in Mauritius, is planning to lay a 70 km oil pipeline and build a storage facility of 25,000 kilolitre there.

http://www.dnaindia.com/money/report_mrpl-plans-to-roll-out-500-fuel-outlets_1404048

USA, CA, EL MONTE, JULY 2 2010. EL MONTE POLICE SEIZE 4 TONS OF FIREWORKS VALUED AT \$275,000 IN 2 RAIDS

El Monte police seized 4 tons of illegal fireworks valued at around \$275,000 and arrested one man during raids this week on two locations in Los Angeles, authorities said Thursday. Det. Ralph Batres said authorities received information about fireworks at a residence in the city of Los Angeles. On Monday, police went to the house, the address of which was undisclosed, and seized 2 tons of fireworks valued at \$125,000, Batres said. The next day, officials followed up at another location, a mini-mart in the 700 block of South Kern Avenue in East Los Angeles, Batres said. There, they seized another 2 tons of fireworks valued at around \$150,000, Batres said. Police also arrested Los Angeles resident Victor Nolasco, 32, on suspicion of possession of illegal fireworks in connection with the contraband found at the mini-mart, Batres said. Nolasco appeared in court, Batres said. It was unclear whether the man posted bail. There were no arrests in connection with the illegal fireworks seized from the residence, Batres said. "The case is ongoing," Batres added. He warned residents against participating in illegal fireworks displays over the upcoming Fourth of July celebrations. "If you have a family, you're better off if you take your kids to a stadium, or somewhere that's safe," Batres said.

<http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/lanow/2010/07/el-monte-police-seized-four-tons-of-illegal-fireworks-valued-at-around-275000-and-arrested-one-man-during-raids-this-week-o.html>

USA, SD, SIOUX FALLS, JULY 2 2010.., OIL LEAK TO SURPASS 140 MILLION GALLON [630 Million Litre] MARK SOMETIME TODAY

 **Watch the Video** [Oil leak to surpass 140 million gallon mark sometime today](#)



Hurricane Alex was far from the Gulf oil spill, but cleanup vessels are now sidelined by the hurricane's ripple effects. Based on the highest government estimates, the oil that's gushed for two-and-a-half months is expected to surpass the 140-million gallon mark sometime Thursday. Hundreds of miles from Hurricane Alex, high winds have sidelined skimmer boats, setting back the clock on the oil cleanup. Now white-capped waves are delaying that effort for another day or two. National Incident Commander Thad Allen said, "You can't have more than about three to five feet, and then you start having not very good results in skimming, especially off shore, and especially with the size of boom that you have." The world's largest oil-skimming vessel - a ten story, 325-yard-long behemoth called "a whale" - will join the effort. As far away as the Alabama-Florida border high waves broke the metal boom at Perdido Pass, sending oil rushing into inland waterways. On Capitol Hill,

Interior Secretary Ken Salazar promised the leak would be largely contained in the next month. Meanwhile BP said no oil on the beach likely means no compensation, even if public concern over the oil spill hurt business. Ken Feinberg, an administrator for the Disaster Victim Compensation Fund said, "If there's no physical damage, probably, I venture to say the law of Florida doesn't give any of them compensation." One of two relief wells, the best hope of ending the leak, is now within sixteen feet of its target. BP still says it'll take until mid-August, but sources tell ABC News it could be done much sooner than that.

<http://www.ksfy.com/Global/story.asp?S=12739768>

GREECE, ATHENS, JULY 2 2010. SHELL COMPLETES SALE OF DOWNSTREAM ASSETS IN GREECE

Royal Dutch Shell PLC has completed the sale of its retail, commercial fuels, bitumen, chemicals, supply and distribution, and LPG businesses and a lube oil blending plant in Greece to Motor Oil (Hellas) Corinth Refineries SA. The \$300 million deal includes formation of a marketing joint venture between the parties for the trade of aviation fuels under the name Shell & MOH Aviation Fuels AE.

http://www.ogj.com/index/article-display/3361606247/articles/oil-gas-journal/general-interest-2/companies/2010/07/shell-completes_sale.html

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USA, AZ, PHOENIX, JULY 2 2010. FIREWORKS EXPLOSIONS INJURE THOUSANDS

steve kuzj

 **Watch the Video** <http://www.abc15.com/dpp/news/state/fireworks-explosions-injure-thousands>

They are spectacular, bright, and patriotic, but fireworks can also seriously hurt or kill a person. Fireworks will explode all over Arizona this 4th of July weekend, although they are still illegal in the state. Many do not respect the danger that comes with the entertainment. More than 7,000 people were taken to U.S. hospital emergency rooms injured by fireworks in 2008, according to the National Fire Protection Association. An NFPA study showed a majority of injuries are to hands and fingers, with eye injuries coming in second. The Phoenix Fire Department said sparklers cause thousands of burns every July. Deputy Chief Frank Saloman said a burning sparkler can reach 1,200 degrees Fahrenheit. "That's hot enough to melt glass and some metals; imagine what it can do to a child's skin," said Deputy Chief Saloman. Fireworks also pose a fire risk. Fireworks celebrations in Flagstaff are canceled this 4th of July because of the chance the displays could spark wildfires. Fireworks caused an estimated 22,500 fires in 2008, according to a study by the NFPA. A new law will allow Arizonans 16 or older to buy and use ground and hand-held fireworks as of December 1, 2010. The law will still make it illegal for people to purchase or use any fireworks intended to rise into the air and explode, like Roman Candles and bottle rockets, without a permit. For a list of fireworks safety tips from The National Council on Fireworks Safety, visit www.fireworksafety.com.

<http://www.abc15.com/dpp/news/state/fireworks-explosions-injure-thousands>

SCOTLAND, EDINBURGH, JULY 2 2010. RIVER WILDLIFE HIT BY LATEST DIESEL SPILL

A diesel spill in the River Almond has halved the number of animals found in one part of its waters.

A major clean-up operation was launched last month after vandals caused 2,000 litres of diesel to spill into the water. The Scottish Environment Protection Agency (Sepa) said "extensive pollution" to the river had occurred at the scene of the spill in Kirkton, Livingston. Ecologists monitoring the spill have recorded a 50 per cent reduction in invertebrates in the river at Livingston Rugby Club. Simon Cole, a senior environmental protection officer for Sepa, said: "Sepa ecologists have been carrying out ecology impact assessments in the area and found that there was a 50 per cent reduction in invertebrates in the Almond at Livingston Rugby Club. "However, the river appears to be recovering." Sepa said a "great deal" of the fuel had been collected and removed, adding that a final warning letter had been served on the company responsible for the site.

<http://edinburghnews.scotsman.com/edinburgh/River-wildlife-hit-by-latest.6397591.jp>

USA, NY, ULSTER PARK, JULY 3 2010. TANKER FIRE DESTROYS ULSTER WAREHOUSE

jim gordon

A fire resulting from a collision between a dump truck and an oil truck last week destroyed a warehouse in Ulster Park on Route 9W and closed a portion of the road for several hours. Two truck drivers escaped with only minor burns after the accident at 8:15 a.m. June 29. The warehouse stored porcelain reproductions of classic signs and apparently also held fireworks. According to the Ulster County Sheriff's Office, a dump truck owned by the J.W. Smith Co. of Marlboro and driven by Jeffrey W. Kays, 55, of Milton, was northbound towing paving equipment to a job site in Ulster Park when he passed his intended turnoff and attempted to turn around. A northbound oil tank truck owned by Bottini Fuel Co., driven by Kevin M. Jiave, 42, of Hyde Park, struck the driver's side of the turning dump truck causing both vehicles to become engulfed in flames. The Bottini truck was carrying 3,000 gallons of fuel oil and the collision caused a fireball that could be seen for miles around and even in Hyde Park, across the Hudson River from the crash site. The fire from the trucks spread to a warehouse owned by Ande Rooney Inc., and that building also became engulfed in flames, authorities said. No one was in the building at the time. The warehouse was used primarily to store merchandise for the Highland-based porcelain sign and magnet company, owned by Rooney, but there also were fireworks inside the structure, and they were set off by the fire, making it difficult for firefighters to battle the blaze, authorities said. A woman who answered the phone at the Ande Rooney's Choice Ltd. in Highland said Rooney was not available and declined to discuss what was in the warehouse. The company's website says it makes and sells porcelain reproductions of classic advertising signs. Rooney's husband, Peter, is the Republican candidate for the 101st state Assembly District seat now held by Democrat Kevin Cahill.

<http://www.westfaironline.com/hudson-valley-biz/article/8027-fire-destroys-ulster-warehouse.html>

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