



Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network Release 2011 – 701 Newsy Stuff

<http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/DangerousGoods>

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USA, PA, LEVITTOWN, APRIL 9 2011. CREEKS CLEAR FROM FUEL SPILL

gema maria duarte

The Newtown and Neshaminy creeks are all cleaned up after thousands of gallons of fuel contaminated the waterways. A poorly maintained 10,000-gallon diesel fuel tank from which the diesel fuel spilled Nov. 8 is owned by First Student Inc., a school busing company that is housed on a State Street lot in Newtown. Since the spill, the company has removed the tank, said Deborah Fries, a spokeswoman for the Department of Environmental Protection, which supervised the cleanup efforts. The busing company hired Lewis Environmental of Royersford and Strata Environmental of Tennessee to conduct the cleanup. The fuel spill stretched from the tank to the confluence of the Newtown and Neshaminy creeks about a mile downstream. It entered the Newtown Creek from the lot and got close to the Aqua Pennsylvania plant in Middletown, but didn't contaminate the utility's water.

http://www.phillyburbs.com/news/local/courier_times_news/creeks-clear-from-fuel-spill/article_7c5c7b10-61fd-11e0-b6f7-001a4bcf6878.html

USA, N.D, APRIL 9 2011. SATURDAY'S SALTWATER, OIL SPILL IN NORTH DAKOTA IS THE FIRST INTO LAKE SAKAKAWEA

lauren donovan

The first spill of oil and saltwater into Lake Sakakawea could result in enforcement action under the federal Clean Water Act against oil well and pipeline owner Petro-Hunt LLC, of Dallas. For the lake's natural resource manager, Linda Phelps, the relatively modest spill from a ruptured pipeline leaves her feeling like the lake dodged a bullet, though a growing number of pipelines and oil wells near the lake means that particular gun is still loaded. "It is a concern and it should be to everyone," Phelps said. Petro-Hunt reported that 100 barrels of potentially toxic saltwater and five barrels of oil spilled Saturday after the 3-inch line ruptured when a hillside sloughed away. The location is about 12 miles north of Keene, in McKenzie County, on the south side and about one mile from the lake. The mixture of oil and saltwater ran into an unnamed creek running full with snowmelt and into the lake. State Health Department Water Quality Division spokesman Mike Sauer said most of the oil has been recovered, though there's an oil sheen on the lake water where the ice shrank away from the shoreline. He said all 100 barrels of saltwater - the same as 4,200 gallons - went into the lake and he was still waiting Wednesday to find out how salty it is and what other chemicals it may contain. Sauer said Petro-Hunt used booms and absorbent material to trap the oil and any oil still clinging to exposed grass along the receding creek would be burned off with propane torches. "The saltwater that's in the lake, there's nothing that can be done about it. It can't be captured," he said. Sauer said the saltwater was hugely diluted into the snowmelt. "It should dissipate fairly quickly," he said. Steve Dyke, a conservation supervisor for the State Game and Fish Department, said he wouldn't expect any impact to the lake, or to fish, from the saltwater, because of dilution from the creek and the lake. "I don't think there will be a fish kill. The saltwater is fairly mixed out," he said. "The old saying is, 'The solution to pollution is dilution.' If it's quickly dispersed, there should be relatively little effect." Three calls to Petro-Hunt were not returned. The Army Corps of Engineers' Phelps said even though the spill was minor, it does illustrate the vulnerability of the lake as more oil wells are drilled around it. She said neither her agency, or state agencies, have a response plan specific to oil and gas spills on the lake. "We're not aware of one out there," she said. Sauer said the health department water quality division responds to all reports of spills, but had no specific comment on whether a plan is needed for Lake Sakakawea. "Yes, it's a concern, but so is the Little Missouri (River)," and others, he said. There are 46 oil wells on corps' land immediately adjacent to the lake and 34 pending requests, along with wells on private and tribal land near the water. The Petro-Hunt well is located on the Little Missouri National Grasslands. Spokeswoman Sharon Higley said the spill doesn't appear to have been the result of negligence. She said the matter will be turned over to a U.S. attorney, who will decide whether to take action under EPA rules, or defer to state agencies.

http://www.rapidcityjournal.com/news/article_94de6bb6-6163-11e0-b512-001cc4c03286.html

TURKEY, ISTANBUL, APRIL 9 2011. BP TURKEY TO OPEN 40 NEW STATIONS

Aiming for growth in parallel with the fuel oil market in Turkey, BP's local branch plans to open 40 new filling stations in the Turkish market this year, a written statement from BP Turkey said Friday. Speaking at the Petroleum Istanbul 2011 fair that started Thursday, BP Turkey Fuel Manager Richard Harding said BP offers service quality to its customers with more than 600 filling stations in Turkey. "We target a strong growth in 2011 in parallel with the fuel oil market. We plan to expand our station network, increase productivity and take 40 more stations in operation," Harding said. "Being a company that has invested in the Turkish energy sector and economy since 100 years, we will continue investing with our innovative perspective in the upcoming period." At the fair, Harding shared his ideas related to BP Turkey's growth strategy with representatives from the

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sector. Higher customer satisfaction can only be provided by happy dealers and workers, the BP statement read. It added that BP Turkey implements advanced management standards and programs to increase productivity. "BP Turkey uses all its experience and power to provide a better environment for its dealers," the statement said. As well as distributing and marketing fuel, oil and lubricants, BP Turkey's activities include liquefied petroleum gas, or LPG, commercial and industrial fuels and exploration for petroleum, gas and energy.

<http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/n.php?n=bp-turkey-to-open-40-new-stations-2011-04-08>

FIJI, VATUKOULA, APRIL 9 2011. SPILL STOPS SUPPLY

samantha rina

A diesel spill at the Emperor Gold Mines in Vatukoula has forced the closure of water supplies to parts of Tavua. And urgent works are being undertaken by mine officials to contain the spill. In a statement released last night, Water Authority of Fiji said diesel was discovered in a river adjacent to the raw water intake for Tavua. The source of the diesel was a creek leading from an area at the gold mines where officials were working. "Our laboratory personnel have visited the site and taken samples from the raw water treatment plant and reticulation system to test for fats, oils and grease with results to be known tomorrow (this afternoon)," the WAF said. While there were no obvious signs of oil at the Tavua treatment plant, WAF said the clarifier had been emptied as a precaution. WAF said filters would be backwashed as soon as the plant restarted. As a precautionary measure, the water system will remain shut until the first lab results are known today and no visible sign of diesel at the raw pumping station is confirmed. Three water trucks will provide water to those living between Yasiyasi to Tagitagi and Nabuna to Rabulu from this morning. The WAF said water tanks placed previously at those locations will also be refilled to meet the needs of the public.

<http://www.fijitimes.com/story.aspx?id=170294>

PHILIPPINES, MANILA, APRIL 10 2011. MAKATI HINTS AT LAWSUIT AGAINST PIPELINE OWNER

ferdinand fabella

The Makati city government hinted of a lawsuit against the First Philippine Industrial Corp. following a Senate committee report affirming the liability of the Lopez-owned firm in the massive gas spill at the West Tower condominium. City information officer Joey Salgado said legal action against FPIC had always been an option for the city government since the catastrophic leak started July last year. However, Salgado said it is not the current priority of the city government as of this time. "We wanted to focus on the more urgent matter of finding the source of the gasoline leak and stopping the leak," he said. The city government, Salgado said, has been consulting with environmental lawyers to plan their next move, "but definitely there has to be just compensation for all affected sectors." The Senate Committee on Environment and Resources has found FPIC liable for the gas leak and ordered the company to provide compensation to affected unit owners and Barangay Bangkal residents. The 25-page Senate report stated that compensation "must take into consideration any and all damage and inconvenience suffered by the residents and all the necessary expenses incurred by them as a consequence of the fuel leak." Tenants at West Tower condominium have since abandoned the building after their pleas of assistance from FPIC remained unanswered. Several residents have also filed a P2-billion damage suit against the company before the Makati Regional Trial Court. FPIC said it is working 24-hours to hasten the rehabilitation of the areas affected by the extensive oil spill.

<http://www.manilastandardtoday.com/insideMetro.htm?f=2011/april/9/metro3.isx&d=2011/april/9>

USA, M, GRAFTON, APRIL 10 2011. MISTAKE CLOUDS SITUATION >> TOXIC VAPORS FORCE EVACUATION

linda bock & elaine thompson



Workmen wait across from 88 Westboro Road in Grafton, where an accident involving nitric acid caused a vapor cloud to erupt yesterday.

A worker at a trucking company who accidentally emptied nitric acid into a drum containing water caused a vapor cloud to erupt, which led to the evacuation of nearby homes and businesses and North Grafton Elementary School yesterday. Fire Chief Michael Gauthier said when authorities received a call from Dana Transport at 88 Westboro Road at 11:06 a.m., they thought there had been a spill of the hazardous chemical. But it was later determined that a worker had accidentally emptied nitric acid into a wastewater drum that was sitting beside the one he should have used. "Nitric acid is very dangerous. It reacts with water, and it can actually kill you. We were very lucky there were no injuries," Chief Gauthier

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said during an afternoon press conference a few hundred yards from the facility. The company, which has been at the site for 60 years, specializes in short- and long-haul chemical and petroleum transportation. Mr. Gauthier said wind conditions were perfect, sending the large mustard-yellow cloud straight up and into a nearby unoccupied wooded area. Michael Polselli, the company's Northeast regional manager, said the employee, who is assigned to washing tractor-trailer tanks, immediately recognized what he had done wrong and called for help. He said about four or five gallons of nitric acid were involved. Homes and businesses within a tenth of a mile radius were evacuated. North Grafton Elementary School, at 46 Waterville St., is not within the evacuation area, but students were bused three miles to Grafton Elementary School, at 105 Millbury St. as a precautionary measure. School Superintendent Joseph Connors said faculty and support staff performed admirably in implementing the district's evacuation plan. Buses arrived within 10 minutes of the school being notified of the problem. Parents were notified through the school's emergency calling system, he said. Afternoon kindergarten at North Grafton Elementary School was called off. "Things couldn't have gone smoother," Mr. Connors said. "Students were told they were going on a field trip to Grafton Elementary School." Neighbor David Flood of 82 Westboro Road (Route 30) was working in his yard yesterday morning and saw firetrucks converge on the trucking business. "I had no idea what was happening at first. We could see the trucks pull in. Then I could see the yellowish-brown cloud, almost a concentrated cloud, when I looked over there," Mr. Flood said. "Luckily it blew off in the opposite direction. The wind carried it away." A hazmat team cleaned up the area and representatives from the state Department of Environmental Protection were called in to monitor the situation. Westboro Road reopened at 2:30 p.m.

<http://www.telegram.com/article/20110409/NEWS/104099959/-1/NEWS04>

USA, N.J., WOODBRIDGE, APRIL 10 2011. HAZMAT RESPONDS AFTER TANKER TRUCK CRASHES ON ROUTE 440 IN WOODBRIDGE

jake remaly

Route 440 in Woodbridge was closed Saturday evening in both directions because of an accident involving a tanker truck carrying 8,500 gallons of gasoline, New Jersey State Police said. The two-vehicle crash occurred on the highway around 6:30 p.m. The tanker was leaking fuel, and firefighters sprayed foam to prevent a fire, according to alerts about the crash posted on the New Jersey State Police Twitter account. The driver of the tanker was flown to Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital in New Brunswick, police said. The driver of the other vehicle was not injured, according to police. The New Jersey State Police HazMat unit was on the scene, and police said there was no danger to the surrounding area. State Police said they would be posting updates to the account as additional information became available at <http://twitter.com/njsp>.

<http://www.mycentraljersey.com/article/20110409/NJNEWS/110409007/0/NJSPORTS0310/HazMat-responds-after-tanker-truck-crashes-Route-440-Woodbridge?odyssey=nav/head>

URUGUAY, MONTEVIDEO, APRIL 10 2011. CRUDE SPILL CLEANUP CONTINUES IN MONTEVIDEO

Clean-up efforts continued on Saturday in the Solis Grande district of the Uruguayan capital after the rupture of a section of oil pipeline between Montevideo and Punta del Este. The spill was contained at about midnight Friday, and was caused by the explosion of a maintenance hose on the section that ran between a buoy and the La Teja refinery in the capital. Workers from the Ancap oil company and sailors used a floating barrier to contain the spill and dug trenches on the coast to channel the oil. Ancap vice president German Riet said they should know today how much oil spilled.

<http://www.insidecostarica.com/dailynews/2011/april/09/latinoamerica11040903.htm>

NORWAY, OSLO, APRIL 10 2011. NORWEGIAN AUTHORITIES INVESTIGATE GAS LEAK AS 63 WORKERS ARE EVACUATED FROM OIL RIG



A gas leak on an oil platform off Norway's west coast forced the evacuation of 63 workers Saturday, officials said. No injuries were reported. Rig operator Statoil said the leak at the Visund platform was stopped just before 1:00 p.m. (1100 GMT), almost five hours after the company was first informed of the incident. Norway's Petroleum Safety Authority said it will launch an investigation. "It's difficult to say how serious the leak is," authority spokesman Oyvind Midttun told Norwegian news agency NTB. "But a hydrocarbon leak is always serious regardless." Midttun said

the regulatory authority did not automatically investigate incidents of this kind. "In this case, it was the particular nature of the incident that prompted us to make the decision," he said. Sixty of the 123 people working at the platform stayed behind to bring the leak under control, Siv Namork of Norway's Joint Rescue Coordination Center told The Associated Press. Statoil said

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the leak most likely occurred in a fixed riser carrying oil and gas from a well to the platform. The company said it was now preparing to return the workers to the rig after their evacuation to two nearby platforms. The Visund platform is located in an oil and gas field about 90 miles (150 kilometres) northwest of the coastal city of Bergen.

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/canadianpress/article/ALeqM5iwDQ0SkuLjdpRSyGTEeMkwi9mebQ?docId=6516046>

USA, N.J, MIDDLESEX CO, APRIL 11 2011. N.J. ROADWAY REOPENS AFTER TANKER CRASHES, SPILLS FUEL

Watch the Video <http://newyork.cbslocal.com/2011/04/10/n-j-roadway-reopens-after-tanker-crashes-spills-fuel/>

Watch the Video <http://www.wpix.com/news/wpix-tractor-trailer-story.0,7204567.story>

Emergency crews are still on the scene where a tanker crashed in Middlesex County on Saturday evening. The tanker, which was carrying 7,000 gallons of fuel, crashed and overturned on Route 440 in Woodbridge around 6:30 p.m. State police closed the highway in both directions while hazmat crews worked overnight to clean up any fuel that leaked into the roadway. The roadway has since been reopened. Police told CBS 2 that 2,000 gallons were lost in the grass. The driver of the tanker was airlifted to Robert Wood Johnson Hospital in New Brunswick where his condition is unknown.

<http://newyork.cbslocal.com/2011/04/10/n-j-roadway-reopens-after-tanker-crashes-spills-fuel/>

USA, TEXAS, APRIL 11 2011. INFORMATION ABOUT FRACKING CHEMICALS TO BE ON NEW WEBSITE

jack z. smith

Re posted with permission of Carl Weimer of the Safe Pipelines Group

<http://tech.groups.yahoo.com/group/safepipelines/>

A new website containing information about chemicals used in hydraulic fracturing, or fracking, of individual U.S. oil and natural gas wells completed on or after Jan. 1 will be formally announced and become available to the public starting Monday. The website, www.fracfocus.org, is being implemented by the Ground Water Protection Council and Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission, national organizations affiliated with state regulatory agencies. Mike Paque, executive director of the Oklahoma City-based council, confirmed Friday in a telephone conversation with the Star-Telegram that a formal announcement of the site will be made Monday. He said a number of energy companies have agreed to provide information about their wells. Chesapeake Energy CEO Aubrey McClendon, whose company will participate in the website, told members of the news media at the Society of American Business Editors and Writers in Dallas on Friday that they could expect to hear a major announcement Monday about a new effort to disclose information about fracking chemicals. He said it will be "a big move forward for the industry" but declined to provide further details. He was the featured speaker at an Editors and Writers luncheon at Southern Methodist University. The council and commission had disclosed in October that they planned to create a Chemical Registry for Hydraulic Fracturing, a national Web-based system to obtain, store and publish information concerning chemicals used in fracking, which some environmental groups say can contaminate groundwater. drinking supplies. Fracking is used extensively to complete wells in North Texas' Barnett Shale as well as oil and gas wells in other fields nationwide. Huge volumes of water and sand along with a much smaller volume of chemicals are pumped down a wellbore to fracture underground rock formations and allow oil and gas to flow. Paque said the website can be viewed immediately but won't be ready for "full viewing of information" until Monday. It includes general information and well search tool. As of Thursday morning, "we already had companies uploading to it. I think in 30 days we'll have over 30 companies using it and more than 200 frack jobs in the system," he said. Online: www.fracfocus.org

<http://www.star-telegram.com/2011/04/08/2986458/information-about-fracking-chemicals.html>

NORWAY, OSLO, APRIL 11 2011. STATOIL LAUNCHES VISUND INVESTIGATION

josh lewis



Under investigation: Statoil is investigating a gas leak at the Visund field in the North Sea.

Norway's Statoil has launched an investigation into the gas leak that occurred at the Visund field in the North Sea over the weekend. Gas was observed on the sea surface near the Visund platform on Saturday and the majority of the crew was evacuated to nearby installations. Statoil said the source of the leak was found to be in a riser carrying oil and gas from well A21 to the Visund platform and has since been halted. "Statoil is investigating the incident, and will also support the Petroleum Safety Authority in their investigation of this incident," executive vice president for

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development and production Norway, Oystein Michelsen said. "Safety is our first priority, and through our investigation we wish to secure further knowledge to avoid this type of incident in the future." The company said the volumes of hydrocarbons that leaked out were limited due to production at the field already being temporarily suspended. Statoil shut down the field on Friday so it could carry out inspections on the risers, after damage to the inner layer of steel that protects the pressure barrier was found in some of the risers at Njord. The Norwegian operator said some of the steel pipe risers on Visund had design and operational similarities to those at Njord. The company has already inspected the risers on Snorre B and replaced three of the pipes. Statoil said equivalent risers were also in operation on five of its other installations – Veslefrikk, Snorre A, Norne and Asgard A og B. However it added those installations had other technical solutions and other operational conditions than Visund and Njord which reduced the chances of a change in pressure leading to damage to the risers. "There are no observations that would indicate that any other risers are damaged at this time," the company said in a statement. "Statoil has carried out a risk assessment of all such risers on other platforms, and we do not consider there to be any danger from continued production from these installations." However, it added that would re-evaluate its risk assessments as a result of the leak which occurred on Saturday. The Njord field had been producing about 70,000 barrels of oil equivalent per day prior to shutdown, while Visund was producing about 50,000 boepd. Statoil said evacuated personnel had returned to the Visund platform but production would remain shutdown

<http://www.upstreamonline.com/live/article251919.ece>

INDIA, VISAKHAPATNAM, APRIL 11 2011. PANIC SPREADS AS FIRE BREAKS OUT NEAR REFINERY

A fire broke out near the [Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited](http://www.hindustanpetroleum.com) refinery located on a hillock on Sunday afternoon, creating panic among the locals. While there were no casualties, the cause of the fire is yet to be ascertained. Three fire tenders rushed to the spot to put out the fire. Those familiar with the area say the dry grass, bushes and waste in the area easily catch fire during the summer days. Nearly three lakh people reside in the Malkapuram area where the [HPCL](http://www.hpcl.co.in) is located. Anxious residents ran out of their homes as flames and thick smoke covered the hillock. However, the HPCL management said it was a minor incident, adding that there was no threat to the refinery.

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/hyderabad/TNN0d-firetimPanic-spreads-as-fire-breaks-out-near/articleshow/7937950.cms>

CHINA, XINCHANG CO, SHAOXING CITY, APRIL 11 2011. 14 HOSPITALIZED AFTER INDUSTRIAL GAS LEAK IN CHINA

Altogether 14 workers were hospitalized after an industrial gas leak at a pharmaceutical plant in east China's Zhejiang Province, local sources confirmed Monday. The accident happened at around 7:40 a.m. Sunday at Xinchang Pharmaceutical Plant in Xinchang County, Shaoxing City, said a source from Xinchang county committee of the Communist Party of China. Preliminary investigations showed that the gas leak was caused by a cracked cushion ring in the reaction vessel, which sickened some of the workers working at the workshop at the time. The nature of gas was not identified. The leak was stopped soon after. Local authorities were carrying out further investigation over the gas leak.

<http://english.cri.cn/6909/2011/04/11/2021s631363.htm>

USA, TX, PORT ARTHUR, APRIL 11 2011. A DECADE-LONG FIGHT FOR PORT ARTHUR >> NATIVE SON WILL GET GREEN NOBEL FOR GRASS-ROOTS ENVIRONMENTALISM

matthew tresaugue



Port Arthur's Hilton Kelley is one of the recipients of the 2011 Goldman Prize, known as the Green Nobel.

Port Arthur's Hilton Kelley is one of the recipients of the 2011 Goldman Prize, known as the Green Nobel. The other **Green Nobels** Are:

- Raoul du Toit: Helped to preserve the largest remaining black rhino population in Zimbabwe.
- Dmitry Lisitsyn: Fought to protect endangered ecosystems in Russia.
- Ursula Sladek: Created the first cooperatively-owned renewable power company in Germany.
- Prigi Arisandi: Initiated local movement to stop industrial pollution from flowing into a river that provides water to 3 million people in Indonesia.

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- Francisco Pineda: Led a citizens' group that stopped a gold mine from destroying El Salvador's dwindling water resources.

The Goldman Environmental Prize

The public housing project where Hilton Kelley was born and raised sits in the shadows of two refineries that belch toxic chemicals into the air. His mother moved him away from Carver Terrace long ago, but he is still here, waging what seems to be a one-man crusade in one of America's most polluted places. With many of this Gulf Coast town's poorest residents suffering from asthma, skin irritations and cancer, he has neither forgotten nor forgiven. So for the past decade he has pushed and prodded, with a bit of shouting, mostly by him, for more restrictions on industrial construction and stricter monitoring of plant emissions. And now, what once seemed like a quixotic pursuit — greater environmental and public health protections in a refinery town - no longer seems so quixotic. "Port Arthur has been a dumping ground for years because this was the area of least resistance," Kelley says. "But this is a new day." For his work, Kelley is one of the 2011 winners of the Goldman Environmental Prize, sometimes called the Green Nobel as the highest honor of its kind for grass-roots environmentalists. He will be in San Francisco today to receive the award, given annually to an environmentalist from each continent, and the \$150,000 check that goes with it. Past winners have sought justice for victims of environmental disasters at Love Canal and Bhopal, India, resisted oil drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and tried to prevent the U.S. military from incinerating chemical weapons.

Film, TV in California

- The 50-year-old Kelley came to environmentalism late and without any training in community organizing. He left Port Arthur for the U.S. Navy in 1979 and later settled in Oakland, where he worked as a stuntman and extra on movies and television shows filmed in the San Francisco Bay area, including CBS's Nash Bridges.
- During a visit for Mardi Gras in 2000, Kelley saw his once-vibrant hometown in a relentless decline - its storefronts shuttered, its fields filled with rusty debris, its residents sick and its children with nothing to do. He returned to life in California, but not for long.
- "I didn't see anyone doing anything about it," he said. "And then one day I looked in the mirror and said, 'I'm from Port Arthur. What am I doing about it?'"
- Kelley recognized that the town could not pull itself back up without addressing the environmental problems first, but he knew change would not come easy in a community dependent on refineries and chemical plants for jobs. One of his early protests outside City Hall attracted only two people, and one was his brother.

Paid for Air Samples

Port Arthur, near the Louisiana border, was built on oil wealth. The city's west side, which is largely African-American, is home to eight major industrial plants, including the Motiva and Valero oil refineries. Without the support of many, including the mayor at the time, Kelley took a different tack, collecting air samples during "upset events," unpermitted releases caused by lightning strikes, human error, startups and shutdowns. He used the results, at a cost of \$500 per sample, to prod regulators and the plants to take action. Among his victories was a deal with an expanding refinery that included new pollution controls and a \$3.5 million fund to support small businesses and provide health coverage for residents of Port Arthur's west side. He also managed to stop the shipment of highly toxic PCBs from Mexico for disposal at a nearby incinerator. And his efforts have made Port Arthur visible again. Last year, the Environmental Protection Agency put it on a list of 10 cities nationwide that would receive attention and funding over two years to address disproportionate environmental burdens. "I have a lot of respect for Hilton," said Al Armendariz, the EPA's chief for Texas and four adjacent states. "I really admire his work. He cares a lot about his community and he pushes our agency to do all we can to serve them. He is successful because he doesn't give up and because his goals are to help others."

Jobs Come First

So far, the discussions, which involve Kelley and representatives from the city, EPA and industry, have touched on the relocation of Carver Terrace, additional emissions reductions and an improved alarm network for upset events. Kelley said his goal is not to close the refineries and chemical plants but to make them cleaner, so that Port Arthur may be able to regain a bit of its past self. "We understand that Port Arthur may never be what it was, but it can be better than it is," he said recently while standing among a row of abandoned storefronts on Procter Street, once a main commercial strip in the city's downtown. At the same time, his focus on rebuilding the city has at put him at odds with other environmentalists. Kelley, for example, does not oppose the proposed Keystone XL pipeline, which would bring heavy crude from Canada's oil sands to the Port Arthur area for refining, because the city has 17 percent unemployment. "That pipeline will bring thousands of jobs," he said. "Our fight starts when we smell the sulfur. I'm hopeful that by the time the pipeline is done, the proper emissions controls will be in place."

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Matthew Tejada, director of the environmental group Air Alliance Houston, said Kelley's position made him rethink how he does his job. It's easy for activists "in the treetops," like himself, to lose sight of the nuances at the grass-roots level, Tejada said. "He is one of the best environmental activists in the country because he takes his marching orders from the community," Tejada said. "It's not born out of idealism. It's about seeing the state of a community he loves and grew up in and doing something about it."

<http://www.chron.com/disp/story.mpl/metropolitan/7516089.html>

AUSTRALIA, WESTERN AUSTRALIA, PERTH, APRIL 11 2011. RECORD NUMBER OF EXPLOSIONS ROCK WA

Explosives were found in the Swan River, thunderstorms ignited dynamite and Perth drivers have accidentally set fuel stations alight, a new report reveals. Two people were seriously injured and several others hurt last year, according to the Department of Mines and Petroleum's 2010 dangerous goods incident report. It details dozens of life-threatening near-misses. There were a record 37 explosive accidents in 2010 caused by human error or mechanical failure, the report says. In January, a driver was burnt when refuelling caused a flash fire at a Rivervale petrol station. A road train trailer loaded with explosives became uncoupled while the truck was turning in the Goldfields in March. And 10,000 litres of petrol leaked from the Flying Squadron Yacht Club into the Swan River in Nedlands in September. Police also pulled explosives from the river in Bassendean in November. Explosives were lost, dumped, misfired and even ignited by a thunderstorm at WA mine sites. And thousands of litres of diesel, cyanide, hydrochloric acid and petrol spilt in suburbs across Perth, in the Swan River and at Rottne Island, the report said. In Henderson, 10kg of ammonium nitrate was found at a landfill. Ammonium nitrate is dangerous and requires just a small amount of diesel or hot temperatures to create an explosion. The number of accidents involving explosives has been increasing by a factor of 35 in the past five years, according to department figures. The total number of dangerous goods incidents in 2010 was a record 64 and this number does not include hundreds of spills not detailed in the report. Department of Mines and Petroleum director for dangerous goods Philip Hine said WA had more than 3000 licensed dangerous goods sites, and he considered the incident rate low. "The total number of reported incidents, excluding major hazard facility incident reports, has remained relatively constant over the last 20 years," Mr Hine said. It is acknowledged that the actual number of incidents is greater than the number reported, so year-to-year variations should not be over-interpreted," he said. For example, the significant increase in explosives incident reports is more attributable to increased awareness of reporting responsibilities by mining companies." But Mining and Pastoral Region MLC Robin Chapple said: the rise in dumping of dangerous goods could be from people trying to avoid land fill charges. "We should be seeing a reduction if the department is actually doing its job," he said. In 2010, three people died while working on WA mines.

<http://www.perthnow.com.au/business/news/record-number-of-explosions-rock-wa/story-e6frg2qu-1226037139071>

SOUTH AFRICA, WEST CAPE, RIVIERSONDEREND, APRIL 12 2011. OIL LEAKS FROM OVERTURNED FUEL TANKER ON N2 NEAR CALEDON



Fire and Rescue officials inspect the remains of a fuel tanker which crashed near Riviersonderend.

A fuel tanker overturned on the N2 near Caledon this morning after the driver had a heart attack and lost control of the vehicle. The driver died. The accident occurred just before 6am, as the BP Atlantic tanker was travelling towards Cape Town. Western Cape traffic department spokesman Harold Williams said the truck had left the road at Meerkraal. The Western Cape Department of Health said the driver's body had been taken to the Hermanus branch of provincial forensic services for an autopsy. Williams said oil was leaking from the tanker and cautioned motorists to make use of alternative routes. Officials were clearing the scene and the stretch of road was cordoned off at the time of going to press. BP Atlantic declined to comment. Sapa reported this morning that 13 people, including

eight pupils, had been injured in an accident involving three vehicles near the Frans township outside Pietermaritzburg in KwaZulu-Natal. ER24 spokesman Derrick Banks said one woman was in a critical condition and three people, including a pupil, were in a serious condition. "Three vehicles – a bakkie, a Toyota Corolla and a Toyota Venture – collided on the R56 near the Frans location around 8am. We are taking all 13 injured people to hospital." The eight injured pupils were aged between six and 12. On Thursday, two people, the driver of the tanker and his passenger, were slightly injured on the N2 at Heidelberg, when a tanker overturned. As the tanker was lying on its side, officials used hydraulic pumps to transfer the petrol to another truck. In a separate incident, a truck driver was killed in a collision involving three trucks on the N2 at Grabouw. An

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18-wheel truck carrying a container towards Cape Town collided head-on with one coming from Cape Town at the Peregrine Farm Stall in Grabouw.

<http://www.iol.co.za/capeargus/oil-leaks-from-overturned-fuel-tanker-on-n2-near-caledon-1.1055011>

USA, ORE, HILLSBORO, APRIL 12 2011. GASOLINE FUME EXPLOSION CAUSES MINOR DAMAGE



An accumulation of fumes from a gasoline-soaked rug in a washing machine produced a small explosion causing minor structural damage to a Hillsboro home late Sunday afternoon. No one was injured in the blast at 6566 SE Lois Street. Hillsboro Fire and Rescue responded to a report of a dryer fire at the home. When firefighters from the Brookwood Fire Station No. 2 arrived they found a two-story, wood frame home. The home contained light smoke throughout but no fire. Firefighters set about removing the smoke from the structure. A Fire Investigator called to the scene interviewed the home's owners and found the owners had placed a rug that had been accidentally soaked in gasoline into the washing machine. Forty-four year old Zobaidah Yasmeen Dowllah told investigators her husband had spilled gas on the rug and brought it in for her to wash. She placed it in the washing machine, switched it on, and turned on the dryer to dry clothes that had been previously washed. She and her daughter went upstairs and within ten minutes, they heard an

explosion. They escaped unharmed. The blast, heard throughout the neighborhood, caused the following damages:

- Minor structural damage to the laundry room
- Blew out the sliding door of the wash room
- Blew the bathroom door off its hinges
- Blew the door to the garage out of its frame
- Blew out the sliding glass door in the kitchen
- Total damages will likely exceed \$5,000.

Hillsboro Fire and Rescue reminds citizens that concentrated gasoline fumes are extremely volatile and can be easily ignited by light switches, pilot lights and other heat sources. Any gasoline-soaked materials should remain outdoors or in a well-ventilated area away from any heat or ignition sources. Dispose of oil, solvent or gasoline-soaked materials in a sealed metal container at a household hazardous materials disposal site. Contact Metro at 503-234-3000 or visit www.metro-region.org for the nearest disposal site. Keep gasoline stored in approved safety cans with tight fitting lids. Store gasoline in a separate storage area or shed away from your home. For more fire and life safety information, visit www.ci.hillsboro.or.us/fire.

<http://www.kuik.com/Article.asp?id=2158148&spid=>

USA, ILL, MADISON, APRIL 12 2011. 3 INJURED IN EXPLOSION AT MADISON ETHANOL PLANT

• **Watch the Video** <http://www.kmov.com/news/local/Flames-break-out-at-Illinois-plant-119598199.html>

• **Watch the Video** <http://www.ksdk.com/news/article/254205/3/Three-burned-in-plant-explosion>



Emergency workers respond to an explosion at Abengoa Bioenergy in Madison Monday morning. Two workers were injured and taken to the hospital.

Three people were being treated for injuries after a flash fire at an ethanol plant in Madison, authorities said. The plant, run by Abengoa Bioenergy of Illinois, is near Route 3 in the 300 block of Bissell Avenue, a fire official said. It is the site of the old Army depot. The report of an explosion came out at about 9 a.m., according to Madison Fire Chief Jeff Bridick. Men were working near a container in a maintenance shed when the container exploded. The fire had burned itself out by the time firefighters arrived, Bridick said. The three injured workers included one with serious burns to the lower extremities. He was taken to St. John's Mercy Medical Center. The others received more minor burns to the head and neck. They were taken to a hospital in Illinois. Bridick declined to give their names. No one from the plant or at Abengoa's corporate office in Chesterfield was available for comment. Bridick declined to give more details about the explosion pending an investigation by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration. "Right now the cause of the fire and explosion is under investigation," he said.

http://www.stltoday.com/news/local/crime-and-courts/article_fe897646-6447-11e0-930c-001a4bcf6878.html

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PHILIPPINES, MANILA, APRIL 12 2011. PHILIPPINES' PETRON MAY SPEND \$500M TO RELOCATE DEPOT

Petron Corp., the Philippines' largest oil company, may have to spend about US\$500 million to relocate its depot outside of Pandacan, Manila in the next five years. Petron chairman and CEO Ramon Ang said the company has already informed the Supreme Court of its decision to move out its operations in Pandacan. "We are really leaving (Pandacan). We filed in at the Supreme Court last year to say that we are moving out of Pandacan within our promised five-year period," Ang said. Petron had earlier filed a motion with the Supreme Court informing the court of its decision to leave Pandacan for "economic and business reasons." "May be within the next two to three years' time, we will have left (Pandacan) already," he said Ang said the relocation cost will be shouldered by Petron's parent firm San Miguel Corporation. "We have a parent company named San Miguel Corporation, with so much cash," Ang said. He said Petron's costs would be lower once it moves out of Pandacan because vessels that deliver petroleum products to Pandacan can carry only 1,000 tons because of the low water level of the Pasig River. "In the new site, the vessel can carry around 20,000 tons," Ang said, but did not disclose where they plan to transfer. Petron president Eric Recto said in earlier interviews that the company's acquisition of a 35 percent stake of Manila North Harbor Port Inc. would help in reducing its depot operations in Pandacan. "North Harbor has lots of features interesting to us," he said. Petron, Pilipinas Shell Petroleum Corp. and Chevron Philippines jointly operate the Pandacan depot which supplies around half of the country's total fuel demand and 100 percent of lubricant requirements, not only those of the transport sector, but also of the industrial sector. The depot likewise serves 70 percent of the shipping industry's fuel needs and 75 percent of aviation fuel requirements.

http://www.downstreamtoday.com/news/article.aspx?a_id=26304&AspxAutoDetectCookieSupport=1

TANZANIA, SINGIDA, MANYONI, APRIL 13 2011. 5 PEOPLE KILLED IN TANKER, TRAIN ACCIDENT



Grisly: Wreckage of petroleum tanker with registration number T 483 BLM said to have been involved in a collision with a train at Manyoni in Singida Region.

Five people have been killed and 44 others seriously wounded when a fuel tanker caught fire after crashing into a locomotive engine. Reports from the scene of accident said the fuel tanker heading to Mwanza from Dar es Salaam crashed into the train, overturned, spilling fuel, which people rushed to collect. The accident happened around 18:30 evening on Sunday along Manyoni – Singida highway and the central railway. It was during the rush to collect the fuel that, the tanker exploded, killing the five people on the spot and injuring 44 others. The Singida regional police commander, Celina Kaluba identified the tanker involved in the accident as having registration no. T 483 BLM with its trailer T 312 BBH. She said the tanker was carrying 40,000 litres of petroleum. Kaluba named the dead policeman as G 7084 PC Alfayo John. The other police officers who were injured in the accident were

identified as G 1025 PC Philipo, E 2054 PC Marus, F 9435 PC Mosses, G 7553 PC Ally, G 7552 PC Adinani, F3778 D/C Yoramu, G 5609 PC Gift, G 8054 PC George, G 4831. PC Mikidadi, F 5913 D/C John, G 7175 PC Stanley, G7088 PC Hamisi, G 3534 PC Cleopa and F4916 D/C Nurdin. "After the accident, police officers who were stationed at Manyoni Township rushed to the scene for security purposes, but later the tanker caught fire," said Kaluba. She said fire spread quickly burning people who were collecting fuel, killing five of them. The RPC named two of the dead as Mauld Nasibu (37) a motorbike mechanic at Manyoni and Maru Sereya, a Manyoni resident. The remaining two were yet to be identified. She said their bodies were being preserved at Manyoni district hospital. The RPC said some of the victims were admitted at Manyoni district hospital, St Gaspar district designated hospital in Itigi while others were being treated at Dodoma regional hospital. "Those sent to Dodoma were in critical condition," said Kaluba, adding: "The railway section has also been damaged... trains cannot move from Dar es Salaam to Kigoma at the moment," she said.

<http://www.ippmedia.com/frontend/index.php?l=28005>

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, SANTO DOMINGO, APRIL 13 2011. FEAR OF SPILL PROMPTS INSPECTION OF GROUNDED TANKER

Environment minister Jaime David Fernandez yesterday announced a new inspection of a boat that ran aground at the coast near Pedernales, where a potential spill of millions of gallons of fuel oil poses a threat to the marine environment. He said although technicians determined that the Konstantino didn't contain fuels in 2003, he ordered a new investigation, through the Ministry's Quality Department, to make sure that it isn't a new find by technicians. "We read the news with surprise. That boat has been there for many years. We have a report from 2003 where the technicians determined that there was no danger

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because it didn't have anything of this (fuels)." Yesterday newspaper Hoy reported that the marine life and beaches of Alto Velo and Beata islands, and the coast of Pedernales, including Bahia de las Aguilas, are threatened by the possible oil spill.
<http://www.dominicantoday.com/dr/local/2011/4/12/39225/Fear-of-spill-prompts-inspection-of-grounded-tanker>

USA, PA, PLUMSTEAD, APRIL 13 2011. GAS SPILLS AFTER CAR STRIKES GAS PUMP

bill devlin

A car fishtailed and struck a fuel pump at the Wawa station in Plumstead on Monday night, causing a spill of more than 30 gallons of gasoline. Plumsteadville Fire Co. Chief Brian Dubree said some of the fuel leaked into the storm drain. "We were able to contain most of it, but not all of it," said Dubree. He called the Bucks County haz-mat team to the site at Route 611 and Stump Road. Dubree said Wawa was also sending a Hazmat unit. The accident occurred at around 8:30 p.m. Dubree said the driver fled the scene. Crews were still on the scene late Monday night.

http://www.phillyburbs.com/news/local/the_intelligencer_news/gas-spills-after-car-strikes-gas-pump/article_95061cd7-5839-5abd-af2e-3bb3fb5ca2f1.html

NEW ZEALAND, AUCKLAND, APRIL 13 2011. FUEL TANK ABLAZE AT KOPUKU COAL MINE

belinda mccammon



Fire Out: The diesel tank caught fire during refuelling at Glencoal Mine in Kopuku. A northern fire communications spokesman said firefighters were now beginning clean-up activities, and would begin leaving the scene gradually. The diesel tank caught fire during refuelling, at Glencoal Mine in Kopuku. The spokesman said they originally thought the fire involved 30,000 litres of fuel, but it was later discovered it was closer to 50,000. He said there had been no injuries during the fire, and no risk to life. The surrounding buildings had been protected by foam and water and there was consequently no damage to them. About 40 firefighters were involved to battling the flames.

<http://www.stuff.co.nz/national/4878067/Fuel-tank-ablaze-at-Kopuku-coal-mine>

USA, PA, GRANVILLE SUMMIT, APRIL 13 2011. OIL & GAS INDUSTRY SPILLS HAPPEN "ALL THE TIME" >> SIX-MONTH INVESTIGATION FINDS AT LEAST 6,500 SPILLS, LEAKS, FIRES OR EXPLOSIONS AT WELLS AND PIPELINES NATIONWIDE IN 2010

armen keteyian

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Watch the Video

[Sen. Menendez: Gov't not holding oil companies accountable](#)

Watch the Video

[Oil spills, leaks happen daily across U.S.](#)

Slideshow

[Oil spills, leaks, fires and explosions](#)



A CBS News investigation has found that dangerous spills and leaks by the U.S. oil and gas industry are happening all the time across the country. "Everyday there's numerous releases happening throughout just this country," said oil and gas safety expert Mike Sawyer. "Sometimes every couple of hours there's a new incident." Truman Burnett says his dream home in rural Pennsylvania was destroyed by a spill at a nearby gas well that killed everything in a pond. "The fish were dead in two weeks," Burnett said. "Two nests of wood ducks, that was my wife's favorite animal - but they're all gone now." We've learned that no one in the government knows just how many incidents there are. Dr. Sam Mannan of Texas A&M University said, "If you don't even know how many releases are occurring, if you don't even know what the overall consequences are, you can not answer the question of whether we are safe enough." CBS News collected reported incidents for 2010 at wells and

pipelines from three federal agencies and 23 of 33 oil and gas producing states. Not counting the BP disaster, we found at least 6,500 spills, leaks, fires or explosions nationwide - that's 18 a day. Overall, at least 34 million gallons of crude oil and other potentially toxic chemicals were spilled. That's triple the size of the 1989 Exxon Valdez spill. While exactly how much

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was cleaned up isn't known - the impact certainly is - poisoned drinking water. Dead wildlife, destroyed land, illness, injury, and people being forced from their homes. Last July, a nearly one million gallon pipeline spill in Marshall, Mich., turned John Laforge's backyard - and miles of rivers and streams - into an oily mess. Today, Canadian oil giant Enbridge is still cleaning up the crude oil, and the legal mess that followed. "The full creek was solid packed with oil," Laforge said. "I don't want to leave here but I haven't got any choice." The issue of oil and gas spills is so touchy, both the lead industry trade group and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) wouldn't speak to CBS News on camera. Former Shell Oil president John Hofmeister however did speak with us. "Very few people in the scheme of things, are impacted," Hofmeister said. "But nobody should be impacted." "But 34 million gallons, in one year, that's a pretty significant number," Keteyian said. "It's big, it's big. And this is a big country with 300 million consumers," Hofmeister replied. "That's not to excuse it. One gallon lost is one too many." "It doesn't seem like they're doing a very good job John." "I don't want to sound insensitive. But you have an industry that knows how much could happen. And relative to what could happen, from their perspective, very little does happen." As for Truman Burnett, his dreams are shattered. "We were hoping to spend quite a bit of time here with our children and grandchildren. My wife doesn't want to come up anymore." They're innocent victims of an unquestionable threat, only now becoming clear.

<http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2011/04/12/eveningnews/main20053283.shtml>

USA, ME, FAIRFIELD, APRIL 13 2011. FAIRFIELD OIL SPILL CONTAINED AFTER TANK LEAKED

scott monroe

About 200 gallons of heating oil spilled from an outdoor tank at a residence Sunday night, but local firefighters were able to stop it from spreading. Officials with the Maine [Department of Environmental Protection](#) responded to the spill and contracted with the Clean Harbors firm to clean it up. Fairfield Fire Chief Duane Bickford said the spill occurred because the fuel tank's oil filter broke off when the ground beneath it shifted and sunk on one end. The Department of Environmental Protection also said accumulating snow was a factor, falling onto the tank's piping. Bickford said the incident is a good reminder for the general public. "This should get other people to look around their tanks," Bickford said. "It was sitting on cinder blocks. The filter itself should be covered to protect from snow falling off the roof, and the tank should sit on a cement pad or secure patio blocks." Fairfield firefighters responded to the spill at a mobile home on Hardwood Lane just after 7:20 p.m. Sunday and left the scene about four hours later. About 200 gallons of oil had leaked from the 275-gallon tank, according to Samantha DePoy-Warren, a spokeswoman for the Department of Environmental Protection. Bickford said some oil had leaked across the front lawn, down a slope, and a small amount had dispersed into a culvert in a nearby ditch. Firefighters contained the oil with absorbent pads, while blocking the culvert in the driveway to stop the flowing water from carrying the oil away. Clean Harbors returned Monday with a large truck-sized vacuum to suck out oil and contaminated gravel underneath the mobile home, DePoy-Warren said. "One well is at risk of a contamination, but this may be prevented due to a high water table at this time," DePoy-Warren said.

http://www.onlinesentinel.com/news/oil-spill-contained-after-tank-leaked_2011-04-11.html

AUSTRALIA, NEW SOUTH WALES, SYDNEY, APRIL 13 2011. FUEL IMPORTS GROW AS SHELL PLANT CLOSURE AXES 500 JOBS

matt chambers, sallie don & amos aikman

Australia will be forced to import almost a third of its petrol and diesel after Shell flagged it would shut its Clyde refinery in Sydney, putting up to 500 jobs at risk. The move will cut the number of local refineries from nine eight years ago to seven, with Shell saying the ageing Clyde refinery that supplies 40 per cent of NSW's petrol could not compete with giant, new Asian refineries. Shell said it was awaiting feedback from Clyde's 310 workers before it formally gave the go-ahead to turn the 90-year-old refinery into an import terminal by mid 2013. The move is expected to be confirmed within weeks. Including contractors, up to 500 jobs are at risk at Clyde, unions said. The closure paints a gloomy picture of the future of Australian refining businesses but BP and Caltex were quick to assure that maintenance on their plants would keep them operating despite the economies of scale of the bigger Asian plants. It also raises concerns about Australia's exposure to problems at the big new plants. Staff told The Australian they had learned of the plan at about 1pm, when management called a briefing. Siva Arjunan, 40, of Toongabbie, has been an operations worker at the refinery for more than six years and said he was "very disappointed with the decision". "I've got a three-year-old and a mortgage so of course I'm worried." Another worker, who asked not to be named, said the workforce was "disappointed and stunned". He said staff had been given the impression it was a fait accompli. "Everybody now has got to go home and tell their families that they're going to lose a fairly well-paying job and they've got to replan their lives," he said. Shell's local head of refining, Andrew Smith, said the company would redeploy as many workers as it could within the company. He said Clyde was being priced out of the market because of the big new refineries in India and Korea and ones planned in the Middle East. Some of the refineries are 15 times the size of Clyde. "The

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refineries in the region can supply Australian-specification products in significant quantities these days, which wasn't the case in the past," he said. Mr Smith would not comment on the future of the firm's other refinery, in Geelong, but pointed out \$67 million was recently spent on improving it. ExxonMobil, which is dismantling the Port Stanvac refinery in Adelaide it mothballed in 2003, refused to comment on its plans. Exxon's remaining Altona plant in Melbourne - the nation's smallest - is seen as a candidate for sale or closure. Deutsche Bank analyst John Hirjee said the increased reliance on imports would raise the risks of a petrol supply squeeze here if overseas refineries went down. In 2008-09, Australia imported 22 per cent of the 50.6 megalitres of petrol, diesel and other refined fuel it used. When Clyde closes, an extra 4.7 megalitres of Australian refinery capacity will be lost, bringing the levels of imports to about 31 per cent. Federal Resources Minister Martin Ferguson said an initial assessment suggested Shell's plans would continue to provide a secure and reliable supply to the Australian market.

Related Coverage

- [A future without oil refineries in Aust](#)
- [Oil refinery death knell as jobs to go](#)
- [Shell shifts focus on fuel refinery](#)
- [Crude shock for NSW oil refinery](#)

The Daily Telegraph
The Daily Telegraph
The Australia
Herald Sun

<http://www.theaustralian.com.au/national-affairs/fuel-imports-grow-as-shell-plant-closure-axes-500-jobs/story-fn59niix-1226038108632>

USA, IA, CHEROKEE, APRIL 13 2011. CFD BATTLES BLAZE THAT DESTROYS BUSINESS >> FIRE CREWS WORK OVER NIGHT TO KEEP FIRE UNDER CONTROL

mike leckband



Five fire crews including Cherokee Fire and Rescue, Aurelia, Cleghorn, Meriden and Larabee were called to put out a early morning blaze at the Filter Recycling, Inc. in Cherokee on Tuesday. Officials report explosions at the oil filter recycling plant.

The Cherokee Fire and Rescue responded to a fire at Filter Recycling, Inc. located at 5167 Old River Road. The fire was reported about 12:45 a.m. and fire crews quickly responded. Fire crews from five departments around Cherokee County were called out to battle the overnight blaze at the plant that recycles oil filters from cars. Fire officials think the fire broke out in the facility's office and spread from

there. Nobody was reported hurt from the blaze, but there were several explosions at the recycling plant. Doug Gochenour of Cherokee Fire and Rescue stated, "There's been explosions because there is oil, diesel fuel, jet fuel and propane tanks and everything inside of this building. So it's been kind of interesting." Crews from Aurelia, Cleghorn, Meriden and Larabee were called in to help the Cherokee fire department battle the blaze. The cause of the blaze has yet to be determine but the State Fire Marshal was expected to be on the scene sometime on Tuesday to see if there was anything left to help in the investigation. The fire crews were still on the scene some twelve hours later.

<http://www.chronicletimes.com/story/1718077.html>

AUSTRALIA, NEW SOUTH WALES, SYDNEY, APRIL 13 2011. TWO BURNT AS FUEL TANK EXPLODES IN REPAIR SHOP

georgina robinson

Two men are in a serious condition in hospital after a car's fuel tank exploded in western Sydney today. The men, aged 25 and 35, were taken to Westmead Hospital with burns to their faces and heads following the explosion, which is believed to have occurred at a mechanic's shop on Joyce Street in Pendle Hill, about 12.45pm. Fuel vapours are believed to have ignited, causing the explosion, a NSW Ambulance spokesman said. Police were investigating but could not immediately provide further details.

<http://www.smh.com.au/nsw/two--burnt-as-fuel-tank-explodes-in-repair-shop-20110413-1ddni.html>

USA, LA, NEW ORLEANS, APRIL 13 2011. EXXONMOBIL, OTHERS SUED OVER BENZENE EXPOSURE

michelle massey

A Mississippi resident is suing several companies who he claimed produced benzene containing products which resulted in him developing multiple myeloma. Donald Moore Sr., Donald Moore Jr., Wendy A. Brunet and Melissa M. Moore Adair filed

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suit against ExxonMobil Corp., Bridgestone Americas Tire Operations f/k/a Bridgestone/Firestone Inc. and Firestone Tire & Rubber Co., Chevron USA Inc., f/k/a Gulf Oil Corp. and Texaco Inc., Shell Oil Co., Radiator Specialty Co., United States Steel Corp. and the Sherwin-Williams Co. on April 7 in federal court in New Orleans. According to the lawsuit, from 1952 through 1978, Donald Moore Sr. worked on cars, bikes and motor-bikes and cleaned guns as a police officer with Liquid Wrench. Other products he used that allegedly contained benzene included paints, thinners, cleaners and strippers, Esso Rust-Ban, Varsol, Esso Handy Oil, Mobil Penetrating Oil and Mobil Handy Oil, Shell Lock Ease, Shell Vinyl Cleaner, Shell Solvents, Shell Lighter Fluid and Spot Remover, Firestone Rubber Cement, Firestone Paint Thinner and Firestone Rubber Repair Kit, Gulf Engine Degreaser and Gulf Lock Ease and Texaco Carburetor Cleaner. "The development of multiple myeloma as a result of chronic benzene exposure has been well documented, and death resulting from multiple myeloma has been associated with benzene exposure," states the lawsuit. The defendants are accused of negligence and strict product liability for designing and selling benzene containing products, for failing to test their products for health risks, failing to instruct or warn regarding the health hazards, failing to recall their products and for misrepresenting the product's safety. The lawsuit is seeking damages for physical pain and suffering, mental anguish, emotional distress, disfigurement and embarrassment, physical impairment, lost earnings, loss of earning capacity, physical impairment, physical and mental disabilities, medical expenses, loss of enjoyment of life, fear of cancer and other diseases, loss of society, consortium, companionship, services, nurture, love and affection and wrongful death and survival damages. The plaintiffs are represented by L. Eric Williams Jr. of Williams Law Office in Metairie and Richard J. Fernandez and Amber Cisney of Richard J. Fernandez in Metairie. A jury trial is requested. U.S. District Judge Martin L. C. Feldman is assigned to the case.

<http://www.louisianarecord.com/news/234695-exxonmobil-others-sued-over-benzene-exposure>

SINGAPORE, APRIL 13 2011. SINGAPORE CONDUCTS MULTI-AGENCY CHEMICAL SPILL EXERCISE

mustafa shafawi

A multi-agency exercise, showing Singapore's readiness to respond to major chemical spills, was carried out Wednesday, observed by over 60 delegates at the International Chemical and Oil Pollution Conference and Exhibition. Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA) Group Director (Hub Port), Captain M Segar, said with the Straits of Malacca and Singapore being heavily used by vessels, it is essential to be operationally-ready in case of any major spills. Code-named CHEMSPILL 2011, the scenario involved a chemical tanker, MT Chemical Carrier, suffering a steering failure and being hit by another tanker in the Sinki Fairway off Jurong Island. The impact of the collision also caused three crew members of MT Chemical Carrier, who were on the catwalk to fall to the main deck. More than 10 vessels and 120 personnel from 13 agencies were involved in the exercise. The agencies included the Singapore Armed Forces, the Police Coast Guard, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Transport, the National Environment Agency and MPA. The exercise was held in conjunction with the 6th Singapore Maritime Week.

<http://www.channelnewsasia.com/stories/singaporelocalnews/view/1122540/1/.html>

USA, WASHINGTON, DC, APRIL 13, 2011. U.S. CHEMICAL SAFETY BOARD INVESTIGATION TEAM DEPLOYS TO HAWAIIAN FIREWORKS STORAGE FACILITY EXPLOSION SITE; FIVE FATALLY INJURED.



The U.S. Chemical Safety Board (CSB) has deployed a four-person team to the site of an explosion in a fireworks storage facility near Honolulu, Hawaii. According to media reports, the incident occurred in a bunker used to store confiscated fireworks at Donaldson Enterprises, Inc. on Friday April 8. Five workers were fatally injured as a result of the incident. CSB Investigator-in-Charge Don Holmstrom arrived in Honolulu on Sunday to begin gathering information. Upon arrival in Honolulu, the CSB team initiated interviews with eyewitnesses and began documenting site conditions. The CSB conducts root-cause investigations of chemical accidents at fixed industrial facilities. Root causes include deficiencies in safety management systems and critical factors that would have prevented the accident had they not occurred. Other accident causes may involve equipment failures, human errors, unforeseen chemical reactions or other hazards. The CSB does not issue fines or citations, but does make recommendations to plants, regulatory agencies such as the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), industry organizations, and labor groups. In accordance with its Congressional mandate, the CSB is independent of all other government agencies so that its investigations might, where appropriate, review the effectiveness of regulations and regulatory enforcement by regulators. The CSB investigative staff includes chemical and mechanical engineers, industrial safety

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experts, and other specialists with experience in the private and public sectors. Many investigators have years of chemical industry experience. After a CSB team reaches a chemical incident site, investigators begin their work by conducting detailed interviews of witnesses such as plant employees, managers, and neighbors. Chemical samples and equipment obtained from accident sites may be sent to independent laboratories for testing. Company safety records, inventories, and operating procedures are examined as investigators seek an understanding of the circumstances of the accident.

www.csb.gov.

USA, LA, NEW ORLEANS, APRIL 14 2011. TUG SKIPPER WHO ABANDONED POST, LEADING TO COLLISION ON THE RIVER, GETS PROBATION

paul purpura



The oil-spattered bow of the 590-foot tanker Tintomara was photographed July 22, 2008.

An Illinois man who left control of a tug with an unlicensed seaman, leading to a collision with a ship on the Mississippi River nearly three years ago, was sentenced today to three years of probation. Terry Carver, 40, of Glasford, Ill., should have been at the helm of the Mel Oliver on July 20, 2008, but went to Illinois for personal reasons and left the vessel under the control of an under-licensed employee, U.S. Attorney Jim Letten announced. U.S. District Judge Helen "Ginger" Berrigan sentenced Carver for his violation of the Ports and Waterways Safety Act, Letten said in a news release. John Bavaret, who lacked the appropriate license, was in control of the Mel Oliver when it veered into the path of the 590-foot tanker Tintomara, causing the release of almost 300,000 gallons of fuel oil and the closure

of the Mississippi River from the Crescent City Connection. Bavaret has pleaded guilty to his role in the incident and is awaiting sentencing. DRD Towing Company LLC, of Harvey, operated the Mel Oliver, was fined \$200,000, and a co-owher, Randall Dantin of Marrero, was sentenced to 21 months in prison and fined \$50,000, for his guilty plea of obstruction of justice.

http://www.nola.com/crime/index.ssf/2011/04/tug_skipper_who_abandoned_post.html

SINGAPORE, APRIL 13 2011. SINGAPORE OIL CAVERNS AIMED AT END-USERS RATHER THAN TRADERS

keith tan

Underground oil storage being built on Singapore's Jurong Island will target oil processing companies as users rather than the trading community, an official at JTC Corp. said Wednesday. "Our first priority is not for trading but to support manufacturers [of oil products and petrochemicals]," Heah Soon Poh, director of the state-owned infrastructure developer's biomedical and chemicals cluster, told Platts during a site visit. The Jurong Rock Caverns will have a total storage capacity of 1.47 million cubic meters spread across five caverns in Phase 1, to be completed by 2014, and excavation work is 30% complete. The project's first phase costs S\$844.2 million (\$671.8 million), according to Singapore's 2011 budget document. Petrochemical producer Jurong Aromatics Corp. has committed itself to use the first two, which will be completed in 2013, for the storage of condensate. JTC generally seeks a minimum lease period of 15 years. JTC officials declined to name other parties in talks to use the facility, which can also store crude oil, gasoil and naphtha. In order for the caverns to be competitive, lease charges should be "not more expensive than the bucket rate of tank storage," Heah said, adding that formulas will be used to calculate rates as tank storage fees fluctuate. The complex comprises one 150,000 cu m cavern and four with capacity of 330,000 cu m each, 152 meters below ground level at its deepest point. Each cavern, formed through drilling and blasting, will be 20 m wide, 27 m high and 271 m long for the smaller-sized one and 340 m long for the larger configuration. Sedimentary rock surfaces are coated with "shotcrete," a mixture that includes steel fibers, for stability. Each cavern is served by common inlet pipelines and dedicated outlet pipelines. Pump capacity per cavern is 12,000 cu m/hour inward and 3,000 cu m/hour outward. The slower outlet rate enables users to pump oil back onto a vessel for export in case it does not need to use it as feedstock, for example in the event of a plant shutdown, Heah said. The complex also comprises a jetty that can accommodate 120,000 dwt vessels, scheduled for completion by June 2012. It will also be connected to trader Hin Leong's Universal Terminal jetty, which has two berths for Very Large Crude Carriers.

Tender for Operator in Third Quarter

JTC Corp. will open a tender in the third quarter of 2011 seeking an operator to run the caverns, and it has so far seen interest from some parties. The tender will likely be awarded by the middle of 2012, Heah said, adding that potential candidates include tank operators, operators of other existing rock caverns or terminal operators, which would be expected to begin work

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by the middle of 2013. Land scarce Singapore will save 60 ha worth of space thanks to the caverns and be yet another piece contributing to the city state's status as an oil refining and trading hub. JTC recently completed its first front-end engineering and design study for 300,000 cu m of floating storage and is seeking to award engineering and procurement contracts by the end of this year. Phase 2 of the rock caverns project could involve the construction of six caverns near the present site with a capacity of 1.32 million cu m, although plans to go ahead with it would depend on the success of the first phase, another official said.

<http://www.platts.com/RSSFeedDetailedNews/RSSFeed/Petrochemicals/8787685>

USA, N.Y, GOSHEN, APRIL 14 2011. 3 FAMILIES ARE LIVING WITH MTBE NIGHTMARE >> NEW SPILL HEIGHTENS NEIGHBORS' WORRIES ABOUT TOXIN IN GOSHEN

john sullivan



Stephanie Cockburn, who lives on Police Drive in Goshen, and her neighbors blame MTBE for a variety of problems: pet deaths, blood disorders and skin rashes. Cockburn says her kids, including daughter Heather, 10, say their house has "cancer water."

For years, three families on Police Drive have lived with the fear they've been irreparably harmed by toxic chemicals from two gasoline spills at government properties on their street. They were surprised recently to learn of yet another spill at one of the sites they believe to be the source of their nightmare. A March 3 state Department of Environmental Conservation report revealed yet more petroleum contamination at an Orange County Department of Public Works garage, even after more than a decade of cleanup efforts to rid the soil and ground water of methyl tertiary butyl ether, or MTBE. The site is already being targeted by lawyers for three families living nearby on Police Drive, as the most probable source of the toxin, which they learned five years ago to be at harmful levels in their well water. The families have sued the county and the Town of Goshen, which had a spill at its police department — located on the same road in the early 1990s. Members of the families have or have had cancer; their pets have died of cancer; and their children have developed learning disabilities, blood disorders and skin rashes, according to their lawyers. Stephanie Cockburn's kids say their home has "cancer water." The family tries to

avoid baths or any other long exposure to their tap water. "I couldn't even describe the anxiety," she said. Officials did not inform the Cockburns or the other two families about any of the spills, according to Dave MacCartney, one of their lawyers. "It's just an inexcusable lapse of government judgment and responsibility," he said. Goshen Supervisor Doug Bloomfield said the state has determined the source of contamination to be the county garage, not the town's. Town workers at the police department and animal shelter downhill of the county garage were also in harm's way, he said. "We're kind of the victims and not the perpetrators," he said. Both the DEC and the county declined to talk about ongoing litigation. Though not as significant as the prior spills, the latest contamination found at the county garage raises questions about the successful containment of the MTBE, which a county consultant reported in February as having been isolated and successfully treated on-site with microbes and peroxide. County spokeswoman Kristin Jensen insisted the latest spill was oil, not gasoline, and thus not connected to the prior spill. However, DEC spokeswoman Wendy Rosenbach said by email that, "A relationship is possible; the DEC is investigating." For the three families, the news of yet another spill adds to the uncertainty of their lives. The state is providing two of the families with deliveries of bottled water, but their lawyers say they won't be safe until the town or county pays for their homes to be hooked up to clean water from the Village of Goshen. "Every time you (go to) use the sink, you can't, because you're scared about it," Cockburn said.

About MTBE

Methyl tertiary butyl ether, or MTBE, is an additive used to achieve more efficient burning of unleaded gasoline.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has concluded that high concentrations of MTBE are a potential cause of cancer.

<http://www.recordonline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20110413/NEWS/104130374/-1/SITEMAP>

KENYA, KILELESHWA, APRIL 14 2011. FUEL STATION WANTS SHELL TO PAY SH112 MILLION

alphonce mung'ahu

A petrol station in Kileleshwa wants Kenya Shell Limited ordered to pay more than Sh112 million awarded to it by court as damages. Kileleshwa Service Station director Alykhan Hussein says Shell Kenya had been ordered by another court to pay them but is yet to do so. The service station had sued Shell for damages suffered when the multinational company ended its

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operations in Kenya. Through lawyer Joseph Wagara the station wants the commercial court to issue an order compelling Kenya Shell to urgently deposit the money in court to resolve the dispute. According to the court papers, Shell is in the process of disposing its entire business and assets in Kenya and is set to leave the country any time now. Hussein said his company has invested more than Sh13 million in the Kileleshwa petrol station. Among the documents filed in court by the station includes a letter from PS Patrick Nyoike of the Office of Prime Minister addressed to the Shell country chairman Jimmy Mugerwa. The letter dated May 13, 2010 is asking shell to consider putting the sale of Kileleshwa Service Station on hold until the court process is finalised. The case is scheduled for mention before Justice Muga Apondi on Friday, for further direction.

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201104130097.html>

USA, N.J., TRENTON, APRIL 14 2011. N.J. SUPREME COURT DENIES EXXONMOBIL'S APPEAL OF BERKELEY HEIGHTS WOMAN'S \$7M AWARD

maryann spoto



N.J. Supreme court hears its first cases of the 2010-11 term Monday at the Richard Hughes Justice Complex in Trenton. Appellate Judge Edwin Stern joins the bench on temporary assignment in this September 2010 file photo.

It's news that would usually send someone jumping for joy. But that's not quite how Bonnie Anderson felt after learning her \$7 million verdict against ExxonMobil for her deadly disease was allowed to stand Tuesday after the state Supreme Court declined to take up the appeal brought by the oil giant. "It's bittersweet because I'm going back into chemotherapy," said the 62-year-old Berkeley Heights resident. "I wish I could tell you it was a glorious day to learn this but you take life in perspective. I'd rather not be sick." Anderson contended — and a jury agreed in

2008 — that she contracted mesothelioma, a rare cancer, by coming in regular contact with the asbestos-laden clothes her husband wore while working at Exxon's Linden Bayway Refinery or through her own work there. It also argued this should have been a worker's compensation matter — something that would have limited how much she could have received in damages. Anderson worked at the refinery from 1975 to 1986 mostly as an electrician in jobs that did not put her in contact with asbestos. Her husband, who retired in 2004, does not have signs of the disease. At trial and in its argument to the Appellate Division, ExxonMobil insisted there was no way to know how Anderson contracted the disease, which develops in the linings surrounding various body cavities, such as the pleural cavities enclosing the lungs, the peritoneal cavity enclosing the abdomen, or the pericardial cavity enclosing the heart. As one of its witnesses, ExxonMobil called an expert in internal and pulmonary medicine who testified only a few hundred cases like Anderson's in women can be linked to past asbestos exposure. Anderson claimed her exposure to asbestos came from washing her husband's clothes. For the first six years of John Anderson's quarter-century with the refinery, his job involved removing insulation to fix pumps and filters. He regularly came home with his clothes covered in insulation dust — a dust that she always shook out before tossing his clothes in the washing machine. She was diagnosed in 2001 with malignant peritoneal mesothelioma. Since then, she has undergone two surgeries, several blood transfusions and multiple rounds of chemotherapy involving five different types of drugs. She said she starts another round in July on yet another drug. Her radiation protocol gave her leukemia. ExxonMobil had limited comment. "We are disappointed the New Jersey Supreme Court has decided against hearing our appeal," spokesman Kevin Allexon said in a statement. "We are evaluating our options." In addition to the \$7 million for Anderson, the jury awarded her husband \$500,000. Since being diagnosed, Anderson has worked to raise awareness of the disease. She was instrumental in getting Sept. 26 designated state and national Mesothelioma Awareness Day. Her attorney, John Guinan of New York, said Anderson now should get some peace of mind. "She knew the battle she was in for," he said. "She's always been up for whatever she's had to do."

http://www.nj.com/news/index.ssf/2011/04/nj_supreme_court_upholds_bekel.html

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