



## Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network

### Release 2011 – 737 Newsy Stuff

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

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#### USA, PA, BETHLEHEM, JULY 23 2011. ACCIDENTAL GASOLINE FIRE DESTROYS 12 CARS AT PA. DEALER

 **Watch the Video** <http://www.wfmz.com/lehighvalleynews/28639579/detail.html>

Investigators say an accidental fire destroyed a dozen used cars at a Pennsylvania dealership after flaming gasoline floated on water running beneath the vehicles. Fire officials in Bethlehem say gasoline vapor ignited as workers refilled a power washer at the Chevy 21 dealership. They say the washer's water container melted, sending the flaming gasoline down the lot and under a line of cars. Employees unsuccessfully tried to knock down the flames before firefighters arrived. It took firefighters about 30 minutes to control the blaze.

[http://www.timesonline.com/news/state/accidental-fire-destroys-cars-at-pa-dealer/article\\_1b2dc7d6-54a0-5081-8ddf-7f757a195bfe.html](http://www.timesonline.com/news/state/accidental-fire-destroys-cars-at-pa-dealer/article_1b2dc7d6-54a0-5081-8ddf-7f757a195bfe.html)

#### USA, ILL, EDWARDSVILLE, JULY 23 2011. ANOTHER LEUKEMIA PATIENT SUES SHELL, BP >> SUIT CLAIMS BENZENE EXPOSURE CAUSED ILLNESS

*sanford j. schmidt*

For the third time this year, a victim of an aggressive form of leukemia who spent time in Roxana schools has filed suit against Shell Oil Co. and BP, claiming benzene around its refinery caused the disease. Greg Wells of East Alton, who formerly lived in Wood River and attended Roxana schools, has been diagnosed with acute myelogenous leukemia. His lawyer, Christopher Dysart, said his client was diagnosed in May 2010. The lawsuit filed in Madison County Circuit Court claims Wells will have a shorter life expectancy, suffer mental anguish, will incur medical bills and will have to get treatment for the rest of his life. The two-count suit seeks more than \$50,000 in damages on each count. The complaint alleges that Shell has known about the dangers of benzene causing cancer for decades, but publicly minimized and hid those dangers. The suit claims that Shell has known about the risks of benzene exposure entering homes and other property since it performed studies in the 1980s. The complaint states the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency have cited Shell for numerous environmental violations. Dysart claims Shell most recently was cited 41 times in May 2008 for exceeding the standards for the release of benzene and other chemicals into the groundwater of Roxana. Dysart also represents Scott Monroe, who attended school in Roxana. He also has been diagnosed with acute myelogenous leukemia. Monroe filed suit last month. Debra Ochs, who died of AML in 2008, was a teacher in the district from 1983 until she died. Her estate filed suit Jan. 20. Dysart's firm also has filed a class-action suit, claiming the benzene problem has decreased property values in Roxana and surrounding areas. The problem of refinery emissions in Roxana has come into sharper focus recently as the Illinois Environmental Protection has been digging test wells and taking other actions to detect possible leaks in the area. State officials said they have detected some emissions recently, but they have downplayed the level and danger of those emissions. An IEPA official said the agency has been closely monitoring the area around the plant since a benzene release in 1986, when the plant was owned by Shell Oil Co. Shell has agreed to pick up the tab for the monitoring, because that company was the owner during the 1986 benzene release. Benzene is a component of gasoline but is toxic and may cause cancer. IEPA officials said there is benzene in the soil around the plant, but it is 40 to 45 feet below the surface. Shell announced the increased monitoring in 2009. The company said it would check for benzene, which was released from an underground pipeline in 1986. A total of 8,400 gallons of benzene leaked from the pipeline in 1986. That line extended from the plant to barge loading facilities on the Mississippi River, along a route parallel to Rand Avenue. The underground pipeline was abandoned and replaced with an above-ground section of pipe.

<http://www.thetelegraph.com/news/benzene-56906-shell-suit.html>

#### USA, N.D, DICKINSON, JULY 23 2011. HELMS: OIL SPILL NOT CLEANED PROPERLY

*ashley martin,*

A hearing will likely be held to address \$588,371 in fines assessed to Halek Operating ND LLC for alleged improper cleanup of an oil leak near here in April, according to the North Dakota Industrial Commission. A hearing will likely be held to address \$588,371 in fines assessed to Halek Operating ND LLC for alleged improper cleanup of an oil leak near here in April, according to the North Dakota Industrial Commission. "Our records show that 10 percent or less was actually cleaned up. I don't know how much has biodegraded at this point, but cleanup operation didn't pick up very much of it," said Department of Mineral Resources Director Lynn Helms. Shane Herman, president of Enviro Shield Products Inc., which Halek hired to clean up the spill, said the site is up to state standards. "On the contaminated grounds, there was less than 200 parts per million of hydrocarbons, which in the state and federal levels is passable in North Dakota," Herman said. Helms does not believe enough oil was removed to satisfy state standards. The spill occurred when snowmelt caused a Halek drilling pit to overflow

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about six miles southwest of Dickinson, officials said. About 150 barrels of crude oil and drilling mud flowed out of the pit, into a drainage area and spread about three-fourths of a mile away from the pit, Helms said. "In this case, the containment system that they deployed was inadequate because it allowed pit fluids to continue flowing down that drainage towards Patterson Lake," Helms said. "And the collection of spilled fluids was inadequate as was the amount of time it took them to respond and the lack of follow up." He does not believe Patterson Lake was contaminated but said heavy rains could cause the oil that allegedly hasn't been cleaned to flow into the lake. "At that point it can kill fish, it can contaminate public water supplies, and it becomes a significant incident that EPA would certainly get involved in," he said. However, North Dakota Department of Health Environmental Geologist Kris Roberts, who inspected the spill site Thursday, doesn't believe that's a concern anymore. "This doesn't worry me at all," Roberts said of the crusty brown material left in the path of the spill. "It's not anything that's got a lot of oil content in it. This is just residuals left behind." Herman said Enviro Shield could have cleaned up more but stopped because Halek did not pay for their service. "We went over and above and beyond the call of duty on that situation, and we haven't received a dime of payment on any of it," Herman said. Enviro Shield continued soaking up oil even when it was evident Halek wasn't going to pay, Herman said. "I only went down there and did the final cleanup because, you know, this is my home state," he said. "This is where I was born and raised, and this is where I do business, and I want to protect the state of North Dakota." Helms said cleanup is Halek's responsibility and Enviro Shield won't be fined if it was not done properly. "We were under the impression that he (Herman) did what the operator asked him to do, but based on our inspection and the health department's inspection, it's not even close at this point," Helms said. Roberts was happy to see some vegetation growing through the crust of oil and algae, but he and Herman say more can be done to aid the recovery. "They could easily help it out by tilling it up and seeding it," Roberts said. Helms said his main priority is cleaning up what's left but is unsure who will finish cleaning or when it will be done. Halek made a settlement proposal after the complaint, he added. Helms would not say how much they offered but said it was "substantially less" than the fines assessed. "Depending on when they clean it up ... there could be additional fines for the time that it wasn't cleaned up and charges for the expenses incurred by us and by the health department," Helms said. A message left for a Halek representative was not returned.

<http://www.inforum.com/event/article/id/327927/group/News/>

### **MALAYSIA, KUALA LUMPUR, JULY 23 2011. EXXON MOBIL MAY SELL MALAYSIA RETAIL ASSETS, BUSINESS TIMES SAYS**

*jonathan burgos & elfie chew*

Exxon Mobil Corp. the world's biggest energy company by market value, will make a decision soon on selling part of its retail business in Malaysia, the Business Times reported, citing people familiar with the matter. Exxon could raise about 1 billion ringgit (\$336.5 million) by selling its network of 560 service stations in the Southeast Asian nation, according to the newspaper. That compares with Royal Dutch Shell Plc's more than 900 gas stations in the country and Boustead Holdings 330, it said. Divesting the retail business would enable the Irving, Texas-based company to focus on oil and gas exploration, production and refining operations in Malaysia, according to the report. Two calls to Exxon offices in Kuala Lumpur weren't immediately returned outside of business hours. The company will jointly invest more than 10 billion ringgit in a production-sharing project with Petronas Carigali Sdn., the exploration arm of state oil and gas company Petroliaam Nasional Bhd., Prime Minister Najib Razak said in January.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-07-23/exxon-mobil-may-sell-malaysia-retail-assets-business-times-says.html>

### **USA, OH, MCCUTCHENVILLE, JULY 24 2011. MACHINE SHOP DAMAGED IN FIRE >> WELDING ON FUEL TANK BLEW CAUSES EXPLOSION**



A fire at Bucky's Machine Shop caused extensive damage to the building Friday afternoon. McCutchenville Fire Chief Bob Palmer said a fuel tank blew up as someone was welding on it, causing a large fire to ignite at 8400 S. CR 47. "The whole building was on fire when I got there," he said. Palmer said because the fire spread quickly through the metal fabrication shop, the building is considered a loss. He estimated damage to the equipment inside to be significant. "There are a lot of expensive machines in there," Palmer said. "That's a fantastic shop. They make and do everything there." Firefighters weren't able to assess the damage in detail Friday because the roof had fallen in. "We don't know what's damaged or ruined," he said. "It'll take a day or two to figure out the loss." The owner of the shop suffered scrapes and scratches on his arms from the fire, and he was treated at the scene, Palmer

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said. Palmer said McCutchenville firefighters were assisted at the scene by NBS, Sycamore and Bascom firefighters.

<http://www.advertiser-tribune.com/page/content.detail/id/538838/Machine-shop-damaged-in-fire.html?nav=5005>

### USA, MA, SAUGUS, JULY 24 2011. ROUTE 1 TANKER EXPLOSION SPEWS FIRE INTO SAUGUS NEIGHBORHOODS >> 1 DEAD, ROAD CLOSED IN BOTH DIRECTIONS

 **Photo Gallery**

<http://www.wickedlocal.com/saugus/photos/x1009569702/PHOTO-GALLERY-Route-1-gas-tanker-crash-and-explosion>

 **Watch the Video:**

[http://www.necn.com/07/23/11/Fiery-crash-causes-new-concerns-Gas-leak/landing\\_newengland.html?blockID=543155&feedID=4206](http://www.necn.com/07/23/11/Fiery-crash-causes-new-concerns-Gas-leak/landing_newengland.html?blockID=543155&feedID=4206)



*A massive fireball lit up the early morning sky in Saugus when a gas tanker crashed Saturday morning, killing the driver.*

The driver of a truck was killed in a fiery explosion early Saturday morning in Saugus when his tanker carrying gasoline overturned and exploded, but miraculously no one else was killed as a river of burning gasoline flowed through a nearby neighborhood. Wicked Local's news partner [WCVB reports](#) that when the tanker overturned on Route 1 Northbound around 2:30 a.m., the fireball extended over the Essex Street bridge, as the gasoline flowed into a drainage culvert and then into a nearby neighborhood. Neighbors said they heard 10 explosions as the gasoline traveled down a nearby brook. "There was an explosion as the brook lit up, the whole brook erupted in flames. Lights were shaking from the ceilings of the homes, and people woke up to see flames in the back of their houses," said Saugus Fire Chief James Blanchard. Residents in

nearby homes were evacuated and three buildings, including a commercial greenhouse, caught fire. "We thought the gas lines were going," said James Kelble. "We thought houses were going, because every five minutes or so you would hear pop, pop, bang, bang! We thought we were under attack or something. It was really bad." No one in the neighborhoods was injured. However, several drivers heading up Route 1 crashed as their cars skidded in the gasoline. At least six cars were involved in crashes. Four drivers suffered injuries and were taken to hospitals. One was being treated for serious burns. Massachusetts State Police spokesman David Procopio said it wasn't clear what caused the initial crash, but the tanker slammed into the median, rolled over and went up in flames. "It set off a fireball several feet high," he said. Officials said there was damage to the Essex Street bridge and the road over the highway was closed. Route 1 north was closed at Route 60 in Revere and Route 1 south was closed at the Lynn Fells Parkway. Two firefighters suffered minor injuries.

<http://www.wickedlocal.com/saugus/breaking/x920808142/Route-1-tanker-explosion-spews-fire-into-Saugus-neighborhoods?img=2#axzz1SxyqG8sb>

### INDIA, CHENNAI, JULY 24 2011. LEAKING DIESEL TANKER SENDS LOCALS SCURRYING FOR BUCKETS

For residents of Vadakkarai junction near Red Hills, it was an opportunity to load up on something more precious than water – fuel. It wasn't the water truck they were crowding around this time, but a diesel tanker whose valve got damaged while negotiating a speed breaker on Saturday. The residents quickly brought out their pots, pans and whatever else they could find to scoop out the diesel spilling out from the truck. Among them was Rajamani, a taxi driver, who was rushing to the truck, unconcerned about the fire hazard and the slippery surface around the vehicle. In a short time, he was able to collect a bucket full of diesel. "I am getting all this for free. I know the value of diesel. I pay for it with my life's earnings," he said. Not just the adults, but children, too, joined in the fun. Quick-thinking kids grabbed plastic bottles and rushed, beating many of the adults to the spill. The crowd didn't have the truck to themselves for long. "The incident happened at 11.45 am and we reached the spot immediately after we received the message. We prevented the people from coming near the truck. Even a small spark could have caused a big fire and injured many of the people. Observing all precautions, we transferred the diesel to another tanker lorry," said a police official. The tanker was carrying diesel to the Andhra-Tamil Nadu border via Red Hills. "The jerk caused by the speed breaker could have given a sudden shock to the valve and it started leaking," said the police. Diesel continued to leak out until 2pm. "The fire force reached the spot and pumped foam around the area to ensure safety as there are a lot of shops and vehicles moving around at the junction," said a local shop owner. "Still people were collecting diesel in small bottles and some of them even filtered the diesel," he added. The incident brought the traffic to a stand still. Trucks, vans and cars

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lined up on the Vadakkarai-Chennai stretch. By 2.30pm, the police and fire services personnel had managed to shift the diesel to another tanker and the area was cleared off.

[http://articles.timesofindia.indiatimes.com/2011-07-24/chennai/29809416\\_1\\_diesel-tanker-lorry-truck](http://articles.timesofindia.indiatimes.com/2011-07-24/chennai/29809416_1_diesel-tanker-lorry-truck)

### USA, GA, ATHENS, JULY 24 2011. YEAR AFTER MASSIVE CHEMICAL SPILL, TRAIL CREEK'S FUTURE REMAINS MURKY

lee shearer

 **Photo Gallery** [http://www.onlineathens.com/stories/072411/new\\_861474786.shtml](http://www.onlineathens.com/stories/072411/new_861474786.shtml)



*Ben Emanuel, Oconee River project coordinator for the Altamaha Riverkeeper, takes in Trail Creek during a recent survey of the area.*

Thursday marks one year since a fire and the flood of poison-laden water that followed wiped out life in an Athens stream in one of the most spectacular chemical spills in state history. As fireballs billowed into the sky, Athens-Clarke firefighters poured on more than 700,000 gallons of water in a doomed effort to put out the July 28 fire at the J&J Chemical Co. on East Athens' Trans Tech Drive before commanders decided to let the fire burn itself out. Much of the runoff wound up in nearby Trail Creek, carrying a heavy load of formaldehyde, dichlorobenzene and other toxic chemicals, along with a sweet oily perfume and a brilliant dye that colored the creek a toilet-bowl blue for miles downstream, all the way to Dudley Park near downtown Athens. Today, little evidence of the contamination remains, at least in the lower reaches of the stream. Fish,

salamanders and other aquatic creatures have returned. The state Environmental Protection Division quit testing the Trail Creek water more than six months ago because the agency's lab tests were no longer detecting cancer-causing formaldehyde and dichlorobenzene in the water. But in many ways, the Trail Creek saga is still unfolding. "Trail Creek a year after is still an open case file in many ways," said Ben Emanuel, the Oconee River project coordinator for the Altamaha Riverkeeper. "This is still an active issue." Although life has returned to the waters, sediments are still toxic in a wetland just below where the runoff poured into Trail Creek, according to University of Georgia scientists who returned to the area as recently as Friday to take samples of wetland muck to take back to a UGA laboratory for testing. "We have reason to think something there is quite toxic to aquatic life," said Jay Shelton, a fisheries biologist in UGA's Warnell School of Forestry and Natural Resources. Shelton and Marsha Black, a UGA toxicologist, hope to get a grant to study just what is toxic in the stream bed, since tests they've done show that something in the sediment kills tiny water creatures. When Black runs water through some of her sediment samples, she sees lingering evidence of the spill. "We picked up nice blue color," she said. "It's still patchy, depending on where you sample." To find out just what's toxic about the sediment, however, the scientists would have to run expensive analytical tests that identify specific chemicals. That's an important question to understand in the aftermath of Trail Creek, and what if anything anyone should do to help it heal, Shelton said. There's some evidence that previous spills put other toxic chemicals into the creek, which joins the North Oconee River in Dudley Park, he said. And Trail Creek, like many urban streams, gets regular small doses of pollution from many sources, he said. The toxicity mystery is only part of the unfolding legacy of the fire, however. The chemical company spent millions of dollars to clean up the spill site, hauling off tons of contaminated dirt and the remains of its factory, where the company made toilet bowl cleaner, graffiti remover and similar products. The company has nearly finished building a new plant outside Crawford in Oglethorpe County, although that plant was planned even before the huge July 28 fire, said Athens lawyer Ed Tolley, who represents J&J. By last December, workers hired by J&J had largely finished a state-mandated cleanup, hauling off the contaminated earth to a landfill licensed to accept such hazardous material. But EPD officials have still not signed off on the cleanup effort and have required more tests to detect remaining pollution, he said. In the meantime, the J&J factory site on Trans Tech Drive is a moonscape, where deep pits collect rainwater. J&J owner Todd Boyd plans to fill in the pits when EPD officials allow it, but will not rebuild on the site, Tolley said. Also unresolved is a lawsuit downstream property owners filed against J&J last August. The chemical flood reduced their property values and denied them the use and enjoyment of their property, according to legal papers. Lawyers for the property owners are now awaiting a ruling from Clarke County Superior Court Judge Lawton Stephens on whether the case can proceed as a class-action lawsuit, said Eric Krasle, a lawyer for the property owners. Tolley says experts hired by J&J say the spill hasn't damaged the property owners in any lasting way -- and anyway, it's not the company's fault. "The problem was the way the fire was put out, not the facility," Tolley said. The correct protocol for fighting chemical fires is to either use foam or to let the fire

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burn itself out, not to pour water on it, he said. Though one expert hired by J&J says in court documents the spill caused "no observable impacts to the creek's aquatic habitat and long-term water quality," other scientists are not ready to make that call. According to Shelton, no one can say just yet what the lasting damage from the spill is or how the pollution might be removed or reduced. Sediments downstream are still toxic, he noted. And biologists may not know for years the full extent of how life in Trail Creek is impacted. Sometimes, a fish species can disappear years after a spill, even though the spill is to blame, he said. "It's just too soon to say what the long-term ramifications of it are," Shelton said. For Emanuel, maybe the biggest question is whether the EPD is any better prepared to protect the public now than the agency was a year ago. Emanuel helped organize a community-wide response in the days after the spill, focusing almost entirely at first on getting warnings out to the public that the blue water might be dangerous. Days passed before state or local officials posted warning signs, and Emanuel was one of dozens of Athens residents who questioned why it took so long. Two months ago, another fish kill in South Georgia raised almost identical questions, according to Ogeechee Riverkeeper Dianna Wedincamp. Something suddenly killed thousands of fish below a water discharge pipe at King America Finishing, a textile plant on the Ogeechee in Screven County. "The lack of response has been the same," she said. "We thought it would be better after Trail Creek, but we just had a really bad response, considering people swim in the river downstream." Officials didn't post warnings until days after EPD officials learned of the spill, she said. "The response was pretty much the same (as at Trail Creek). Small signs were put up in a couple of different places, nothing the public could actually see," Wedincamp said.

[http://www.onlineathens.com/stories/072411/new\\_861474786.shtml](http://www.onlineathens.com/stories/072411/new_861474786.shtml)

### USA, MA SPRINGFIELD, JULY 24 2011. SPRINGFIELD FIRE DEPARTMENT: OIL TANK FIRE AT EPIPHANY TOWER CAUSES SMOKE DAMAGE



*This 2007 Republican file photo shows Epiphany Tower, a prominent State Street building that has long been vacant. The building is located on State Street, between Dwight and Willow streets, directly across from the MassMutual Center in downtown Springfield.*

A small fire at Epiphany Tower -- an historic, eight-story building that is slated to become a chain hotel triggered a big response from city firefighters Friday evening. "It attracted a lot of attention," [Springfield Fire Department](#) spokesman Dennis G. Leger said of the 7:57 p.m. blaze, which looked worse than it was, sending thick, black smoke into the air shortly before sundown. Leger said the fire was sparked by workers who were cutting up and removing an old oil tank from the State Street building, which is located between Willow and Dwight streets. Leger was unsure if workers used a blow torch to dismantle the roughly 2,000-gallon tank, but a section of pipe that still had oil in it apparently caught fire, he

said. The smoke was visible from the street and caused about \$10,000 in damage, according to Leger. Located across from the [MassMutual Center](#), Epiphany Tower is poised to become a [Holiday Inn Express Hotel](#), according to the latest plans for the downtown building.

[http://www.masslive.com/news/index.ssf/2011/07/oil\\_tank\\_fire\\_in\\_epiphany\\_towe.html](http://www.masslive.com/news/index.ssf/2011/07/oil_tank_fire_in_epiphany_towe.html)

### USA, FLA, MANGO, JULY 24 2011. OFFICIALS WRESTLE WITH LEAK IN TAMPA-ORLANDO FUEL PIPELINE

A large pipe that carries jet fuel between Tampa to Orlando ruptured Friday night, spewing thousands of gallons of fuel into a creek, according to authorities. The line ruptured on a stretch that runs along railroad tracks in Mango, in the vicinity of East Broadway Avenue and Williams Road, authorities say. Workers managed to shut off valves at either end of the pipe that ruptured, but the distance between the two shut-off points is 10 miles, said Craig Lynn, chief of operations for Hillsborough County Fire Rescue. That means there was still much fuel contained in the stretch of pipe that broke when the valves were turned off, and as of Saturday night, it continued to leak into the creek, Lynn said. As of 3 p.m. Saturday, it was estimated between 8,000 and 32,000 gallons had leaked into the creek. It has proven difficult to repair the rupture -- which Lynn described as a hole -- because of the pipe's location with respect to the creek. The operations chief did not have an exact description, but he said the creek is either right under the pipe or right next to it, or the pipe runs through the creek, he said. The fear is that the fuel, which Lynn likened to kerosene, is going to go from the creek into a bypass canal and then into Tampa Bay, he said. Lynn said he expected authorities to be dealing with the situation through the weekend and until Monday. The U.S. Coast Guard is involved, he said.

<http://www2.tbo.com/news/breaking-news/2011/jul/23/officials-wrestle-with-leak-in-tampa-orlando-fuel--ar-246068/>

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#### USA, WI, WALWORTH, JULY 24 2011. TANKER OVERTURNS, CLOSES HIGHWAY 14

Fire and environmental crews spent Friday afternoon and evening clearing wreckage from an 8,500-gallon gasoline tanker that overturned at Highway 14 and Willow Bend Road in Walworth, authorities reported. The Walworth Fire Department responded and called for mutual aid shortly after 3:30 p.m. Friday after it discovered a tanker overturned in the ditch and a small fire in the tanker's engine compartment, Walworth Emergency Services Director Chris Severt said. Crews quickly extinguished the fire, and other fire departments brought foam to suppress any additional fires. Highway 14 and connecting roads near the wreck remain closed to traffic throughout the evening Friday as the Walworth County Sheriff's Office and the Wisconsin State Patrol continued to investigate the crash, Severt said. The driver was apparently uninjured, Severt said. No information was available Friday on what caused the tanker to overturn. Severt said the tanker was full of gasoline, and it spilled a "minimal" amount of fuel before fire crews were able to seal off its tank. He said the Environmental Protection Agency was cleaning up at the scene Friday.

<http://gazettextra.com/news/2011/jul/23/tanker-overtURNS-closes-highway-14/>

#### AUSTRALIA, A.C.T, CANBERRA, JULY 24 2011. NICNAS [NATIONAL INDUSTRIAL CHEMICALS NOTIFICATION AND ASSESSMENT SCHEME] NICNAS REGISTRATION RENEWALS

It's almost that time of year, again .....NICNAS's next registration year commences 1 September 2011 and runs to 31 August 2012. This is the time when all introducers (importers and/or manufacturers) of relevant industrial chemicals for commercial purposes must register with NICNAS, prior to introducing chemicals – regardless of the amount of industrial chemicals they are introducing.

##### Renewal Notices

NICNAS registrants should expect to receive: an Application form for renewal of Registration/Non-renewal and a Renewal Tax Invoice to all current registrants during July. To ensure you receive your renewal package, please advise NICNAS of any changes to contact details, registered and mailing addresses prior to 8 July 2011. You may email your contact and address changes to [registration@nicnas.gov.au](mailto:registration@nicnas.gov.au). If you are currently registered and do not receive the renewal package by 31 July 2011 please contact NICNAS on 1800 638 528.

##### Registration Level

There are three levels (tiers) of registration. Your registration tier is based on the total value of relevant industrial chemicals introduced each year. Your registration may not be current if you are not registered at the correct tier. Additionally, your registration renewal invoice and application form for 2011-12 will be based on your registration tier as at 8 July 2011. Please review your current registration tier against the value of relevant industrial chemicals introduced (including projected values for the remainder of 2010-11) and advise NICNAS of any changes required, to read more:

[http://www.nicnas.gov.au/Publications/NICNAS\\_Matters/NICNAS\\_Matters\\_%20JUL11\\_PDF.pdf](http://www.nicnas.gov.au/Publications/NICNAS_Matters/NICNAS_Matters_%20JUL11_PDF.pdf)

#### UK, LONDON, JULY 25 2011. MOD INVESTIGATES FORMER CHEMICAL WEAPONS FACTORIES FOR CONTAMINATION >> LINGERING RISKS OF CONTAMINATION FROM TENS OF THOUSANDS OF TONNES OF CHEMICALS DUMPED ACROSS UK SINCE FIRST WORLD WAR

rob edwards

**Map:** [Interactive map of UK chemical weapons contamination](#)

**Documents** [The Project Cleansweep briefing document](#)



*MoD Porton Down, one site where chemical weapons were stored, but not one of the 14 Project Cleansweep sites.*

The [Ministry of Defence](#) has investigated 14 former chemical weapons factories and stores across the UK for contamination, according to an [official briefing](#) seen by the Guardian. Tens of thousands of tonnes of [mustard gas](#), phosgene and other lethal chemicals have been made, stored, burned and dumped at sites in England, Wales and Scotland since the [first world war](#). Some areas are still fenced off to protect the public today. After a four-year investigation of the sites considered potentially hazardous – named Project Cleansweep – it has concluded that there is "no indication of significant risk to public health or

environment" from the sites. That has been questioned, however, by one expert, who pointed out that there was still no scientific proof that all harmful traces of the weapons have been removed, particularly after they were burnt. [Prof Alastair Hay](#), an expert on chemical weapons and who is a professor of environmental toxicology at the University of Leeds and an official

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adviser to the [health and safety executive](#), argued that more sampling might still be needed at the sites. Some areas should be kept secure as a failsafe because mustard gas can be very persistent in the environment, he warned. "The more problematic areas are where physical destruction took place," he said. "Incineration is a well-recognised method of disposal, but you need to ensure all is burned. We have no details of these procedures." Chemical weapons were extensively used by both sides in the first world war, and have been blamed for 100,000 deaths. Soldiers particularly feared chemical gas attacks because they could cause blindness, blistering and a slow, painful death. The weapons are [now outlawed by international agreement](#) in most countries. The MoD launched [Project Cleansweep](#) in 2007 to provide "reassurance" that residual contamination at UK sites did not pose a risk to human health or the environment. A briefing on the project has been released in response to requests under freedom of information law. The project initially considered 46 sites, but whittled that down to 14 that required detailed investigation. Although sites may have been cleared in the past, "we do not have scientific evidence that all harmful traces of the agents were removed or disposed of", the MoD briefing stated. The 14 sites included two former US chemical weapons stores at Aberfoyle in South Lanarkshire and at Worksop in Nottinghamshire. At Bowes Moor in Durham, 17,000 tonnes of chemicals were stored on 564 acres of moorland. According to the MoD, areas historically used for the disposal of mustard gas are still fenced off at Riseley in Bedfordshire and at [Spalford Warren in Nottinghamshire](#). Spalford Warren has also been designated as a site of special scientific interest because of "its importance as a grass-heath habitat". The sites are now safe, the MoD briefing said, and "suitable for their current use, provided any management systems, restrictions or procedures remain in place". A comprehensive report on Project Cleansweep is due to be published later this year.

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2011/jul/24/mod-chemical-weapons-factories-contamination>

#### USA, OK, OKLAHOMA CITY, JULY 25 2011. HAZARDOUS MATERIAL ROLLS DAILY ACROSS STATE'S ROADS >> OKLAHOMA'S FIRE DEPARTMENT HAZARDOUS MATERIALS TEAMS ARE TASKED TO SPILLS, INCLUDING GAS AND ACIDS.

*tiffany gibson*



Thirty minutes after [Oklahoma City](#) fire [Maj. Kevin Jackson](#) got to work March 25, a call came in that a gasoline tanker truck had rolled over and burst into flames on the Northwest Expressway near Sara Road. Oklahoma Highway Patrol troopers do inspections at rest areas and weigh stations on carriers hauling hazardous materials. Currently there are five weigh stations in the state. Matt Skinner, spokesman for the state Corporation Commission, said two new weigh stations are under construction through a partnership with the state Transportation Department. Terri Angier, the Transportation Department's chief of media and public relations, said a \$9 million station is being built on Interstate 40 in Beckham County near Erick, and a \$7.5 million station on Interstate 35 in Kay County, and the state has plans to build more. The new stations are funded by a one-cent a gallon assessment paid by gas station owners, Skinner said. As he left the station near NW 23 and Broadway, Jackson began to mentally prepare for a potentially life-threatening situation. "As soon as I got on I-44, you could see the smoke," he said. "You start going over it in your head with all of the training you've had." The tanker truck, which contained 8,000 gallons of unleaded gasoline and diesel fuel, had collided with a passenger car driven by a 17-year-old girl on her way to Piedmont High School. Both vehicles were on fire and the smoke was visible for miles. No one was injured. A berm was established to keep the spill from spreading, and firefighters using foam were able to put out the blaze in about 30 minutes. This was one of 81 hazardous materials highway incidents in Oklahoma so far this year, resulting in more than \$800,000 in damage, according to

the [U.S. Department of Transportation](#) Pipeline Hazardous Materials and Safety Administration. Only one person has been injured, not seriously. Nationally, there have been 6,017 incidents on the highway this year, resulting in four deaths and a dozen injuries serious enough to require hospitalization. The majority of spills in the [U.S.](#) involve corrosive materials and combustible liquids, including paint and gasoline. One of the more unusual spills Jackson was involved in occurred several years ago in Moore. A tractor-trailer carrying 330 gallons of muriatic acid, often used to clean swimming pools, was leaking the highly corrosive substance. The road was closed and people nearby were evacuated. No injuries were reported, but the acid

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could have been harmful, Jackson said. "It could burn your skin and the vapor could burn your lungs if you breathed it in," he said. "People would be amazed by what goes up and down the highways."

#### Hazmat Responses

Fire department hazardous material specialists also are called to the scene of minor accidents. The substance might not have spilled or leaked, but firefighters still can make an assessment of the chemicals and the dangers that may be present. In May, a tractor-trailer carrying explosives from an ammunition plant in [McAlester](#) was involved in an accident near the Interstate 40 and Interstate 35 junction. Oklahoma City fire Capt. David Record said he stayed a distance away and first looked at the scene through binoculars. Another firefighter used a thermal imaging camera to monitor the explosives inside. Interstate 40 was shut down for several hours. "I had a conversation with a lieutenant colonel from the Pentagon, and he gave us his blessing to get into it," Record said. After several hours, the explosive material was deemed safe and the interstate was reopened.

#### Federal Tracking

Tracking hazardous materials is controlled mainly by the federal government. [Stephen O'Connor](#), director of the office of packaging and transportation in the office of Environmental Management, said the Department of Energy uses a tracking system called Transcom to keep an eye on hazardous materials that could be highly dangerous. "Typically state agencies don't track them," O'Connor said. "Material that is more hazardous to the population, we know where it is." The Department of Energy ships hazardous substances including radioactive material. Commercial carriers that ship these materials also will use a GPS tracking system on their tractor-trailers, O'Connor said.

#### Filling Out a Form

In order to ship materials, commercial and private carriers must fill out a form with the [Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration](#). [Larry Ramsey](#), FMCSA Oklahoma safety program manager, said the paperwork helps keep track of bulk shipments of hazardous materials. Carriers hauling radioactive material or at least 55 pounds of explosives, 3,500 gallons of methane, natural gas or poisonous inhalants are also required to fill out a separate form, Ramsey said. This doesn't apply to government entities, he said. "We don't ever know what they're hauling," Medcalf said. "It could be anywhere from nothing to nuclear warheads." Medcalf said [Energy Department](#) shipments do not have to stop at weigh stations for inspections. Commercial carriers hauling radioactive material, however, must notify the [Oklahoma Highway Patrol](#). "If a carrier is carrying radioactive material then they're required to tell what day and route they take and stops they make in the state," he said. To make sure carriers are following federal regulations, trained OHP troopers make inspections on tractor-trailers at weigh stations. "Troopers will contact the driver and get a copy of the shipping paper and placard," Medcalf said. "They check and make sure the package it is in is the package that is required to move that material."

#### Traffic Problems

Jackson said hazardous materials are to be shipped in safe and appropriate packaging. The main thing to worry about is driving carefully next to them on the highways, he said. "People need to realize that they're loaded down with a lot of weight and can't stop like we can," Jackson said. "If you give them room to get up and down the highway, there won't be as many problems."

<http://newsok.com/hazardous-material-rolls-daily-across-states-roads/article/3588391>

### USA, MI, EMMETT TWP, JULY 25 2011. THE ENBRIDGE OIL SPILL ONE YEAR LATER >> UNCERTAINTY REIGNS FOR LOCAL RESIDENTS

*todd a. heywood*



*Oil and water flow over the Ceresco dam.*

Michelle Barlund-Smith walks through Baker Estates Trailer Park, pointing out empty trailers and telling the sad tales attached to each one — tales of resurgent cancer from remission, kidney failure, sickened and dead pets, strange lesions and skin pox pepper her conversation. "[There have been] upper respiratory infections, pneumonia, rashes, a lot of urinary tract infections, especially people who are allergic to sulfur. You go to the doctor, they hand you a five day pack of antibiotics and they tell you to see if that works, then it doesn't or maybe it does, the first time, but within a month you're back in [their office]. We've had people in the park that have been hospitalized three, four or five times since the oil spill," she says. "It doesn't matter which age group, everyone has seen a decrease in their health. It's been frustrating. And a lot of people don't trust the doctors because all you get is, 'Here you go, here are some antibiotics.'" Smith continued, "Everyone has lost weight, unless they've put you on steroids. Steroids seem to help some people, not other people. People will lose anywhere from twenty to fifty pounds once they drop the steroids." Smith has lost forty pounds and her husband has lost twenty pounds, "On average [in the park] I would

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say it's about thirty or thirty five pounds, we continue to see it and here we are a year later." This is what living in the shadow of the Midwest's worst oil disaster in history is like. Smith says her world changed dramatically on July 25 last year, although she wouldn't know how dramatically until days and weeks later. That's when people started having symptoms of upper respiratory illness and skin lesions. She is convinced it is the oil that is causing the health concerns, but health authorities for Calhoun county and the state won't disclose the results of short term health studies that have been completed. A partial report released in December by state health officials did note some immediate exposure-related illnesses directly after the spill. The health authorities say they are waiting to complete a full report on all the testing conducted in relation to exposure to the chemicals, heavy metals and oil residents along the river may have been exposed to. "[Michigan Department of Community Health] did document some of the acute, short-term health effects of the spill in a report that was released in December but has not conducted any medical testing to determine if there have been long-term respiratory, skin, or other effects of the oil spill on the Baker Estates residents," said Kelly Niebel, spokesperson for MDCH. "Jim Rutherford, Health Officer for Calhoun County Public Health Department, noted that he has petitioned the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) for a study of potential long-term health effects of the oil spill." Niebel notes that MDCH is not planning any long term health studies. "ATSDR has the resources – epidemiologists and medical doctors – better able to address this request," Niebel said. The smell of tar sands oil – a thick bitumin oil harvested from deep in the earth in Alberta, Canada using high pressure steam – invaded the park like a blanket late that evening a year ago. The smell and contamination remain. An estimated one million gallons of the thick, tarry oil, contaminated with heavy metals and cut with a lighter oil mixture called diluent, filled a marshy woodland area in Freedomia Twp. A segment of Canadian Enbridge Energy Partners' Lakehead Pipeline 6B had ruptured, creating a six and half foot long gash on the pipe that expanded into a so-called fish mouth opening with its widest point being four and half inches wide. For the first several days after the spill, authorities responding to the spill were working from Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) for generic oil. The oil company would not provide environmental workers with an MSDS for tar sands crude until several days after the spill. To top that off, Enbridge denied the oil was from the tar sands until Michigan Messenger pushed CEO Pat Daniels on the issue with U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) maps showing the oil was coming from the same bitumen deposits as the Alberta tar sands. Even after that admission was made, officials overseeing the spill clean up didn't start testing for the heavy metals found in larger quantities in that kind of oil until after Messenger pushed them on the issue. Slight levels of mercury and nickel were identified last year, and last week officials from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality acknowledged that certain heavy metals were being found in the river that exceeded maximum safety levels. The oil pushed through the thick marsh soil into Talmadge Creek and then into the Kalamazoo River. From there the oil contaminated nearly 40 miles of river. Last year, the EPA said the oil spill had been stopped at Morrow Lake just inside the Kalamazoo County line. But last week officials admitted that they were "surprised" at how large of a footprint of contamination the spill caused. Officials say as many as 200 acres of river bottom is contaminated with thick, tar-like deposits of the oil. Some of that has been discovered at Morrow Lake, the point where environmental officials thought they had contained the contamination. An EPA fly over photo of the lake shows a thick rainbow swirl sitting on top of the lake – the tell tale sign of oil contamination. Back at Baker Estates, Smith shows the small flood plain and side pools literally 30 yards from trailers in the park. They are contained by heavy plastic boom – not the heavy white absorbent boom common to actual clean up. The plastic boom is about containment. Putting a stick in the submerged sediments promptly provides a bubbling of rainbow sheen as the submerged oil is shaken loose from the mud. On the flood plain, Smith points to a tree which about two and half feet off the ground forms a near perfect right angle. It is coated in thick black oil stain. EPA and MDEQ officials say they are "well aware" of the problem in the shallows and "overbank" behind Baker Estates. In a press briefing officials said the cleanup efforts should reach the park within two or three weeks Smith says two residents in the park suffered recurrence of cancers that had been in remission for years prior to the spill. She thinks the cancer resurgence is tied to the spill. Dr. Kenneth Rosenman is a Professor of Medicine in the College of Human Medicine at Michigan State University. He is a physician specializing in general internal medicine and occupational and environmental medicine. During an interview with Messenger, he addressed some of the short and long term health effects of the spill those residing in the park. "Unfortunately 40 percent of us get cancer, almost half of us get cancer in our lifetime so it's occurring all the time," Rosenman said. "So if you have a large enough population you're going to see people start to get cancer because they're going to get cancer anyway. That may make people more anxious, particularly when they are not aware of the physiological mechanisms that cause cancer twenty or thirty years after exposure. The fact that [people get cancer] the next day, the next week, the next year has nothing to do with that recent exposure." "From what I am aware of, about the exposures that occurred, I would not consider anybody in risk of a long term disease from exposure," Rosenman. Rosenman went on to say there are various jobs in which people are exposed to these types of chemicals on a daily-basis for years through their type of work and show much higher levels of exposure than those in Baker Estates would and they exhibit no long term health maladies. "Based on what we know about these chemicals

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or metals, I would not expect long term effects. One, based on levels of exposure and two, based on a relative short term [exposure], not saying days or weeks is acceptable, but it's short term versus thirty years. Presumably, the levels are less now than they were immediately after the first spill." Those living in Baker Estates are mainly lower income, working at low wage jobs or relying on fixed incomes, which according to Dr. Rosenman tends to lead to more initial health problems not related to the spill due to poor diet, increased levels of smoking and difficult access to healthcare. However, he believes the reported lower levels of exposure do not endanger those in the park any more than people exposed in a more affluent neighborhood or those with quality healthcare. "Maybe my one exception to that is if there were higher rates of emphysema and asthma [in the community], then yes, those are the types of conditions that would be aggravated by this type of exposure." Rosenman said that short term effects of this type of exposure are two-fold, there is an irritant effect which can cause a runny nose, sore throat, irritated eyes and can aggravate respiratory problems like emphysema and asthma. And there are neurological effects like dizziness, headaches and fatigue. "MDCH is not investigating these cancer cases. Cancer is a complex set of diseases – not one disease – with many different causes, presentations, treatment protocols, responses to treatment by going into and out of remission, and prognoses" MDCH's Niebel said. "Cancer's also very common, with one in three people getting cancer in their lifetime. It wouldn't be possible to determine if those particular cancer resurgences.

<http://michiganmessenger.com/51128/the-enbridge-oil-spill-one-year-later>

### AUSTRALIA, NEW SOUTH WALES, CLYDE, JULY 28 2011. SHELL CLOSES NSW REFINERY, GEELONG PLANT SAFE

peter begg



*Guaranteed: As Shell yesterday guaranteed the future of its Geelong operations, the oil giant was reassuring the public a plume hanging over the bayside refinery was nothing to worry about.*

Shell has again guaranteed the future of its Geelong operations after confirming an end to refining at its Sydney facility. The petroleum giant yesterday said it would convert its Clyde refinery and Gore Bay terminal in NSW into a fuel import terminal and end refining at the site before mid-2013. But the company said the decision did not affect its Geelong refinery, pointing out \$140 million of investments in its Corio plant in recent times. Shell said the decision was not the result of any government policy including any proposed price on carbon. The

company said the decision recognised that the Clyde Refinery was no longer regionally competitive against Asian mega-refineries due to its small size. The Clyde Refinery turns out about 79,000 barrels of fuel a day, compared to the Geelong refinery's 120,000 a day. Clyde refinery employs 310 staff, and the company said this would be reduced to between 30 and 50 staff to operate as a fuel import terminal. Shell's Australia downstream vice-president Andrew Smith said the company would continue to grow its New South Wales business through its strategic infrastructure assets at Clyde and Gore Bay and that it remained committed to servicing its customers through a reliable supply of fuel into the state. "While this is a sad day for Shell's operations in New South Wales and many of our employees at the refinery, the decision to convert Clyde into a terminal is consistent with Shell's strategy to focus its refining portfolio on larger assets, and to build a profitable downstream business here in Australia," he said. Mr Smith said this news would be very difficult for many employees and Shell was committed to supporting them through the transition.

[http://www.geelongadvertiser.com.au/article/2011/07/28/270301\\_news.html](http://www.geelongadvertiser.com.au/article/2011/07/28/270301_news.html)

### USA, CA, LITTLEROCK, JULY 28 2011. EVACUATION ORDERS LIFTED AFTER HAZMAT TRAIN DERAILMENT >> HAZARDOUS MATERIALS EXPERTS FOUND NO LEAKS.

**Watch the Video** <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/nationworld/ktla-union-pacific-train-derailed,0,3725739.story>



*As many as 22 train cars overturned when a Union Pacific train derailed near Littlerock.*

Residents in Littlerock have been allowed to return home after a [Union Pacific](#) train carrying hazardous materials derailed, causing concerns of a chemical leak. The accident happened around 1:25 p.m. Wednesday near the intersection of 92nd Street and Avenue T, prompting the evacuation of some 250 homes. Twenty-one cargo carrying cars -- out of the train's 62 cars -- derailed, according to the Los Angeles County Fire Department. The only people aboard the train

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were its operators, who were not injured. Fourteen cars were identified as containing hazardous materials. Fire officials asked residents from 87th Street East to 106th Street East between Avenue S and Avenue T to evacuate as a precaution. Hazardous materials experts found no signs of a hazardous materials spill, and the evacuation orders were lifted around 3 a.m. Thursday. [The Red Cross](#) set up an evacuation center at Almondale Middle School, located at 9330 East Avenue U. Authorities began up-righting the train cars early Thursday morning. Investigators were trying to determine what caused the train to disconnect from the rail.

<http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/nationworld/ktla-union-pacific-train-derailed.0,3725739.story>

### AUSTRALIA, NEW SOUTH WALES, JULY 28 2011. WORK HEALTH AND SAFETY WEBINARS AVAILABLE FOR DOWNLOAD



Instructional webinars on the new Work Health and Safety Act are now available for download from the WorkCover website. The new Work Health and Safety Act will be introduced in January 2012, and will affect everyone working in the manufacturing industry in Australia. Three separate webinar recordings are available, designed for different groups of people working in industry. Find them here:

- [Duty holders and their responsibilities](#)
- [Consultation](#)
- [Incident notification and WHS entry permit holders](#)

First-time viewers may need to register with GoToWebinar to view the recordings.

<http://www.manmonthly.com.au/news/work-health-and-safety-webinars-available-for-down>

### USA, MA, SAUGUS, JULY 28 2011. LIPPED TANKER NEXT DOOR SPEWS FLAMES, SNARLS TRAFFIC

mike gaffney



*Near the Rt. 1 highway sign for the Essex Street exit toward Melrose, flames rage from a gas tanker that exploded and produced a massive fireball on Saturday, July 23.*

A New Hampshire man died in a fiery explosion when the oil tanker he was driving overturned on Route 1 early Saturday morning, sending a river of fire hurtling toward nearby dwellings that also burst into flames. State Police said Neil Michaud, 59, of Manchester, N.H., was headed north on Route 1 around 2:10 a.m. when his 1998 Peterbilt tractor-trailer rolled on the guardrail median and landed on the southbound side of the highway. The impact caused the tanker to ignite into a fireball that extended more than 60 feet in the air, police said. Some of the burning 11,000 gallons of gasoline let loose flowed south from the accident site, engulfing the highway surface and overhanging signs.

Authorities pronounced Michaud dead on the scene. Another driver, Kevin Fitzgerald, 60, of South Hamilton, was rushed to Massachusetts General Hospital with severe burn injuries. According to State Police, seven additional vehicles were involved in the crash and several were severely burned. Two other motorists were taken to Melrose-Wakefield Hospital to be treated for minor injuries. "I tried to get all three of us across the street before it exploded," victim Jose Neves said. An investigation remains ongoing as to what roles the damaged vehicles played in the accident, police said. Saugus Fire Capt. Arthur Sinclair immediately called for a second alarm upon arriving at the crash site and arranged for Massport to bring foam to contain the leaking gasoline, Saugus Fire Chief James Blanchard said. Firefighters positioned themselves in between the burning tanker and the Essex Street overpass to prevent the flames from reaching the steel support girders, Blanchard said.

#### River of Fire; Burning Brook

North of the tanker, the Engine 1 crew concentrated on corralling what Blanchard termed a "river of fire" that flowed where the gasoline spilled. Firefighters set up near the Hess gas station to direct water on the fire so it didn't explode the gas tanks. When Blanchard arrived to survey the scene he struck a third and fourth alarm and designated Saugus' Anna Parker Playground as the staging area for fire apparatus. "Thank God for the staging area because shortly after that the brook behind the highway exploded," Blanchard said. While firefighters doused the tanker and several burnt-out vehicles, escaping gasoline collected in highway storm drains and flowed into a drainage culvert that leads to Penny Brook. Eventually the gasoline ignited, which caused a major explosion on the brook that extended hundreds of feet all the way to Davis Court, Blanchard said. "I said 'what the hell was that?' and I turned around and saw 50-foot flames in the air," Blanchard said. "The brook was all

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lit up, it all erupted in flames. It was like a jet dropped napalm there." Multiple structures abutting Penny Brook caught fire, including a residence at the intersection of Vine Street and Essex Street and several buildings at M. Huberman's Nursery. Neighbors reported hearing as many as 10 explosions as the gasoline made its way down the culvert and into the brook. "We thought the gas lines were going," said Elizabeth Court resident James Kelble. "We thought houses were going, because every five minutes or so you would hear pop, pop, bang, bang! We thought we were under attack or something. It was really bad." Blanchard said the explosion spawned roughly 20 fires along the brook's path. Engines and ladder trucks were called in from the staging area to handle the fires. Through a coordinated response firefighters managed to stop the fire from getting past the nursery. Crews ejected foam into the blazing brook to choke out the flames and blanketed the fire with a steady stream of water. Firefighters struck an eighth alarm and police officers evacuated approximately 120 people living in the neighborhood. Panicked residents deluged dispatchers with calls reporting their homes were on fire and ran outside worried that they would lose everything, Blanchard said. "Lights were shaking from the ceilings of the homes, and people woke up to see flames in the back of their houses," Blanchard said.

#### **Saugus Residents Evacuated**

The Saugus Senior Center was setup as an emergency shelter where residents could stay until they received permission to return to their homes. Both the Huberman nursery and home at the intersection of Vine Street and Essex Street sustained "significant" damage in the fire, Blanchard said. Crews also put out numerous brushfires in the area. The state Department of Environment Protection sent in workers to remove gasoline from the brook and to assess the environmental impact. Blanchard said the DEP recovered 300 gallons of gasoline — meaning the vast majority of the 11,000 gallons hauled by the tanker burned away. A Lynnfield firefighter suffered a heart attack during the response and is expected to make a full recovery, Blanchard said. A Medford firefighter also wrenched his knee. Both sides of Route 1 were closed through most of Sunday so crews could repave the charred roadbed and fix the damaged guardrail. All lanes of Route 1 reopened Sunday at 4 p.m. after the repairs were completed, according to State Police Spokesperson David Procopio. Altogether 21 communities responded for the tanker fire and subsequent explosions. Blanchard credited all of the firefighters for staying calm and working together to bring everything under control. "It was an extremely professional operation," Blanchard said.

#### **Heroes Step Up & Save Lives**

The casualty total could have been higher if not for three people from Rochester, N.H., who are being hailed as heroes for rescuing a handful of people from their cars moments before the tanker exploded. Zachary Duclos and friends Pieter Dewet and Aleecia Wormald came upon the aftermath of the grisly scene and helped at least five people to safety. "There was an older man with his 3-year-old daughter — I ran over to him — he was yanking his daughter out of the car," Duclos said. "He tripped and fell with his daughter, who was in a car seat — so I ran over and picked her up with the car seat, grabbed him and ran back over here. Then I say within two minutes his car was engulfed with flames and that's when the tanker truck blew up." The group said they do not consider their actions heroic. "All he said is, 'You're a good man,' that's all he said to me as we were running away. He must've said 'thank you' about 100 times to me," Duclos added.

<http://www.wickedlocal.com/melrose/features/x404070457/Flipped-tanker-next-door-spews-flames-snarls-traffic-into-Melrose#axzz1TYEsSbgN>

#### **UK, LONDON, JULY 28 2011. FIREWORK FACTORY BLAZE WIDOWS WIN RIGHT TO COMPENSATION**

*ben parsons*

The widows of the two firefighters killed when a fireworks factory blew up have won the right to compensation from its owner. Watch commander Geoff Wicker, 49, and photographer Brian Wembridge, 63, were killed in the blast at Marlie Farm, Shortgate, near Lewes, in December 2006. Their widows, and 12 injured firefighters and police officers, have been told they are entitled to substantial damages payouts from owner Martin Winter. He was jailed for seven years for manslaughter by gross negligence in 2009. His son, Nathan, was jailed for five years but later had his sentence reduced to four years on appeal. At a High Court hearing in London yesterday, a senior judge ruled that Martin Winter was liable for damages. Mr Justice MacDuff said the 53-year-old had no way of defending a claim, except a slight possibility that Mr Wembridge had contributed in a small way to his own death. Mr Wembridge, a retired firefighter, was filming the operation on December 3 and Mr Wicker was working to put out the blaze. Firefighters Anthony Etheridge, Julyan, Clive Widgery, Peter Alexander Lilley, Richard Philip Ross, Julie Rose Skeffington, Henry John Wark, Michael Sweetman and Terence Leslie Lazenby were all told they are entitled to damages, along with police officers Mark Simmonds, Daniel James Pitcher, Trevor Andrew Scott and Gregory Allcorn. Mr Justice MacDuff left it open for Mr Winter to argue that Mr Wembridge was partly at fault, saying it was "just arguable" because he had returned to close proximity of the fire after being asked to withdraw. If damages are not agreed

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a High Court hearing will decide the issue. No decision has yet been made on a claim against East Sussex Fire and Rescue Authority.

[http://www.theargus.co.uk/news/9162730.Firework\\_factory\\_blast\\_widows\\_win\\_right\\_to\\_compensation/](http://www.theargus.co.uk/news/9162730.Firework_factory_blast_widows_win_right_to_compensation/)

### **NIGERIA, BAUCHI, JULY 28 2011. PETROL TANKER BURSTS INTO FLAMES IN FILLING STATION**

A petrol tanker today caught fire and got burnt, injuring two people in the incident at an AA Rano petrol station along Federal low cost Housing estate road in Bauchi metropolis. In his account of the incident an eye witness Mallam Iiyasu Nasiru, a Petrol Attendant in the filling station told Daily trust that, "the Petrol Station belongs to AA Rano Nigeria Limited, belong to a Kano based businessman, and our Tanker with registration plate number AA 692 GDM Yobe had off- loaded fuel in the morning, but could not finish as there were many customers waiting for that the tanker came back at 5.30 pm because we had less customers. It was while it was discharging the last batch of the fuel in the other compartment that there was spark where the petrol was been discharged and busted into flame". Nasiru said "we were in the Manager's office with him when we heard people shouting fire fire, we all ran out and got Fire Extinguishers and tried to put out the fire but e were unable and had to call the Fire Service." Though it took men of the Fire Service several minutes to come, when they came they were not able to put out the fire immediately.

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201107280917.html>

### **NORTHERN IRELAND, CO ANTRIM, BALLYMENA, JULY 28 2011. BALLYMENA 'HUCKSTER' SITE RAIDED**



An Illegal filling station has been dismantled in Ballymena, Co Antrim as part of ongoing operations to tackle fuel fraud. Nearly 10,000 litres of suspected illicit fuel, vehicles, pumps, tanks and equipment along with over £30k in cash were removed from the site by HM Revenue & Customs staff and officers from the PSNI. Officers also seized a 40' curtain sided lorry containing two 15,000 litre fuel tanks as part of the operation. Three people were arrested, a man and a woman from Co Antrim and one man from Co Armagh. "HMRC takes very seriously the unfair and illegal practice of selling illicit fuel", John Whiting, Assistant Director, Criminal Investigation, HMRC, said. "It is wrong that honest businesses should be undercut by criminals. "Those involved in the illegal fuel trade are not

providing a public service; it is organised criminality, which impacts on local communities and makes it more difficult for legitimate businesses to compete. "The fact that this 40' lorry contained two large fuel tanks secured only by a few canvas straps shows a total disregard for the safety of other road users and we would encourage anyone with information about this type of activity to contact us."

<http://www.u.tv/News/Ballymena-huckster-site-raided/b6fedc8f-7e42-4f52-b4b9-bb8495250464>

### **CANADA, AB, LEDUC, JULY 29 2011. DIESEL SPILL SEES 'QUICK RESPONSE'**

*stephanie dubois*



*Clean up crews were out at Rollyview Road on July 19 cleaning up after a tanker rolled over and leaked approximately 16,000 litres of diesel.*

A tanker truck that rolled over on July 18 left approximately 16,000 litres of diesel spilled just off of Rollyview Road near Range Road 244, according to RCMP, leaving residents wondering the extent of the damage on the area. "The fact that it occurred near Saunders Lake is a little worrying. As a member of the Saunders Lake Improvement Coalition, it's of interest to me to see what's going on and what's being done about it," said Thomas Taylor, a resident who lives two miles north of the spill zone. According to Leduc RCMP, the driver of the tanker truck swerved to avoid a deer while heading east on the secondary highway, causing the truck to roll into the ditch. Leduc Co-op was dispatched to clean up the diesel spill and were spotted cleaning up the nearby water on July

19. Leduc Co-op managers refused to comment on the incident and on the extent of the spill, but Alberta Environment officials say that the spill has been taken care of. "Our job is to deploy a responder, assess the situation, oversee clean-up and make sure there is an environment company on site," said Jessica Potter with Alberta Environment, who confirmed that a local environmental group was involved with the clean up. Taylor added that after having discussions with an Alberta Environment

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first responder who was on site, there was "a quick response to this." "They told me that they were able to implement actions to mediate the amount of the disaster. My impression at the moment is everything is being done that can be done," he said. Environmental groups say that although diesel is considered to be a lighter fuel than other petroleum products and does evaporate quicker, there can be short and long-term effects on the natural habit surrounding the spill if the diesel wasn't completely removed. "If it's a heavy spill and not properly contained, it is toxic to animals and especially toxic to plants as well. It can break down the plants ability to photosynthesize properly. However, in the long term, there is a good chance the system can recover well as long as it has been contained properly and the extent of the spill isn't too great," said Jonathan Thompson, a regional research biologist for Ducks Unlimited Canada. Although environmental officials erred on the side of caution for the spill, local residents are wondering what can be done to avoid future spills. "Perhaps this would be an indication that the road needs to be widened and they need to put a slow truck lane. That would make it much safer," said Taylor.

<http://www.leducprep.com/ArticleDisplay.aspx?e=3234796>

#### AUSTRALIA, NEW SOUTH WALES, PERISHER, JULY 29 2011. PROBE CONTINUES INTO SKI RESORT POLLUTION SPILL

[Map: Perisher Valley 2624](#)

Investigations are continuing into a diesel spill at the Perisher Valley Sewage Treatment Plant in the New South Wales Snowy Mountains. Fire crews contained the spill after park rangers noticed a strong odour last week. The National Parks and Wildlife Service says the person responsible has not been found and it is asking people with information to come forward. The Perisher operations manager, Andrew Logan, says he is confident the ski resort avoided a major disaster. "We're still awaiting the results from the laboratories on those tests but we're fairly confident that no diesel, or a very small amount of diesel, got into Perisher Creek," he said. "We are aware that in terms of our discharge from our treatment plant, there would've been some levels of nutrients which are higher than our licence limits."

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2011-07-29/probe-continues-into-ski-resort-pollution-spill/2815362>

#### INDIA, ASSAM, DHUBRI, JULY 29 2011. AVIATION FUEL SUSPECTED IN KEROSENE >> AVIATION FUEL IN KEROSENE LOWERS FLASH POINT

A source in Bongaigaon Refinery and Petrochemicals today said there was a possibility that aviation fuel was present in the kerosene samples that were tested after the recent explosions of stoves in Dhubri and Bongaigaon districts. Aviation fuel is a kerosene-based substance and contains zero percentage water. It is cheaper than the kerosene sold under the public distribution system (PDS). Aviation fuel lowers the flash point (the temperature at which the fuel burns) of kerosene when mixed with it and makes it a highly inflammable substance. Every fuel has a separate flash point. In case of kerosene, it is 35 degrees Celsius, which means that kerosene will catch fire at that temperature. If the flash point comes down below 35 degrees Celsius, then it means that the kerosene contains some high inflammable substance or substances, which catch fire below 35 degrees Celsius, a source said. He added that the racketeers involved in mixing aviation fuel with kerosene usually ensure that the flash point of kerosene (distributed under the PDS) remains between 30 and 33 degrees Celsius so that it causes no damage. In the recent cases of explosions, more aviation fuel seems to have been mixed with kerosene to earn more money, resulting in much lower flash point, he alleged. The two samples of kerosene collected from Dhubri by Indian Oil Corporation officials were found to have flash points of 25 and 28 degrees Celsius. The IOC submitted its report to the Dhubri district deputy commissioner on Tuesday. It is being alleged that a section of IOC officials and district administrators in connivance with some traders are making efforts to cover up the anomalies in blue-coloured kerosene. A senior police official in Dhubri district said they had sent samples of kerosene to the Guwahati Forensic Laboratory and its report was expected by tomorrow. Dispur today asked the deputy commissioners and sub-divisional officers (civil) to collect the blue-coloured kerosene samples from sensitive areas and depots and send these to the Forensic Laboratory at Guwahati for investigation and to take all preventive and precautionary steps to ensure the safety of consumers. Dispur has also asked officials to associate IOC officials while conducting their inquiry. Assam food and civil supplies minister Nazrul Islam arrived here today and met family members of the victims, visited the wounded in hospital and enquired about the medical treatment being provided to them. He told reporters that he had asked the superintendent of police to register criminal cases against those responsible for the explosions. He announced an ex gratia of Rs 1 lakh to the next of kin of the deceased and Rs 50,000 to Rs 5,000 to the wounded. The general manager (operation) IOC, Guwahati, Priya Vas Dey today said their final report would be available within 24 hours. "There is no fault in our kerosene supplied to dealers. Anyone can test it for his satisfaction," he added.

[http://www.telegraphindia.com/1110729/jsp/northeast/story\\_14301783.jsp](http://www.telegraphindia.com/1110729/jsp/northeast/story_14301783.jsp)

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#### USA, ORE, BRIDAL VEIL, JULY 29 2011. I-84 RE-OPENED AT TANKER CRASH CLEANUP SITE

 **Watch the Video** <http://www.nwcn.com/home/?fId=126221463&fPath=/news/local&fDomain=10202>

 **Photo Gallery** <http://www.kptv.com/story/15157288/one-lane-remains-closed-on-i-84-after-fuel-spill>



A major cleanup project continues on I-84 in the Gorge, where a tanker truck rolled near Multnomah Falls and spilled more than 1,000 gallons of gas. Hazardous materials teams were preparing the site for major excavation and taking soil samples Tuesday. Some of the gas seeped into the soil and experts were also concerned it could get into groundwater and eventually reach the Columbia River. Starting early Wednesday morning, the HazMat crews will dig up the contaminated soil and vacuum out the gas. In addition, crews with the Oregon Department of Transportation were working to repair 500 feet of guardrail that was torn out during the crash. "It does have poisonous qualities that would affect anything from plankton up to ducks," said Mike Greenburg with the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality. "It's toxic to fish and right now there are fish migrating through the Columbia to their spawning habitats," explained Lorri Epstein with Columbia Riverkeepers. "The number one priority is

getting to it as soon as possible." Greenburg believes the groundwater in the area is likely already contaminated. "Once it gets into the surface water there's not much of anything you can do to control it," he said. The entire cleanup project will take several days. Western Hyway Oil, the Portland-based company that owned the tanker, will cover the costs. The driver of the semi-truck was not injured in the crash. He was later cited for failing to maintain a lane of travel.

The crash shut down I-84 eastbound for 15 hours and caused major travel delays. An eastbound lane that had been closed since the accident was reopened late Wednesday morning.

<http://www.nwcn.com/home/?fId=126221463&fPath=/news/local&fDomain=10202>

#### SOUTH AFRICA, DURBAN, FEBRUARY 29 2011. STRANDED TANKER SET TO BE SOLD

duane petrus

 **Photo Gallery [10]** <http://www.news24.com/SouthAfrica/News/Stranded-tanker-set-to-be-sold-20110728>



*The Phoenix, a derelict bulk tanker sits aground at Salt Rock on Durban's North Coast.*

Durban - The South African Maritime Safety Authority (Samsa) says its attempts to communicate with the Indian owners of the tanker that ran aground in Salt Rock, north of Durban, on Monday have been fruitless. Samsa had initially been in touch with the owners of the Phoenix about getting it removed from the South African Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). The owners promised to provide a salvage tug to take over from Smit Amandla and continue the voyage to the scrapyard in India, Samsa said. The tanker is still aground and Samsa approached the KwaZulu-Natal High Court to get permission to seize and sell the Phoenix, in order to recoup the expenditure incurred in preserving the vessel,

safeguarding the lives of the crew and removing the pollution threat. The order has been granted and potential buyers have already been identified for the tanker, which is to be auctioned on August 4. Salvage engineers are currently on board the Phoenix, attempting to pump out 400 cubic metres of marine gas oil and assessing what will need to be done to strengthen parts of the derelict vessel that will bear the load when it is to be refloated. Operations on the tanker will only be done in daylight, Samsa says, as a result of the bad weather. Meanwhile, a clean-up operation is under way on the beach. KwaZulu-Natal cooperative governance MEC Nomusa Dube is leading a government delegation to "ensure the oil spillage does not cause an environmental disaster", department spokesperson Mthatheni Mabaso told Sapa.

#### Related Stories

- [Stranded tanker set to be sold](#)
- [Tanker still stranded near Durban](#)
- [Rough seas leave tanker stranded](#)
- [Tanker runs aground near Durban](#)

<http://www.news24.com/SouthAfrica/News/Stranded-tanker-set-to-be-sold-20110728>

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