



Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network

Release 2011 – 787 Newsy Stuff

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

December 17 2011



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AUSTRALIA, NORTHERN TERRITORY, DECEMBER 8 2011. RIO TINTO ALCAN FINED \$160,000 FOR GOVE FUEL SPILL

miles morgan

MAP: [Darwin 0800](#)



Rio Tinto Alcan says it has spent three million dollars on remediation work after a fuel spill at its Gove plant.

Mining company Rio Tinto Alcan has been fined \$160,000 by a Northern Territory court over a petrol spill. The company pleaded guilty to spilling 62,000 litres of unleaded petrol into the soil and groundwater at its Gove site in Arnhem Land last year. General manager of Gove operations, Julio Costa, says the company accepts its responsibility and is now trying to stop further environmental harm. "(The) immediate priority is to keep the remediation plan ongoing," he said. "All the projects we have in place and all the enablers we've put in place, and consultants working with us, are working until we are sure that all the contamination is removed from the area." Mr Costa says the spill has taught the company lessons. "There

have been a lot of improvements, not only in the standards but in the compliance and behaviours," he said. "When we have an instance like that, we investigate thoroughly and learn more, and incorporate the learning into the systems." Rio says it has spent three million dollars on cleaning up and containing the spill.

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2011-12-08/20111208-rio-tinto-alcan-fuel-spill-fine-gove/3720784>

PHILIPPINES, MANILA, DECEMBER 8 2011. DOH INSPECTS FIREWORK FACTORIES IN BULACAN

Authorities inspected several firework factories and outlets in Bocaue, Bulacan on Wednesday as part of the Department of Health's (DOH) "Akasyon: Papatok Injury Reduction. DOH Secretary Enrique Ona, together with Metropolitan Manila Development Authority Chairman Francis Tolentino and officials of Bulacan province, conducted a safety inspection to ensure that the retailers are not selling prohibited firecrackers. Health Secretary Ona noted that the retailers they visited in Bulacan are selling safe fireworks. He also encouraged the public to designate a common fireworks display area in their community to ensure safety. Bulacan police named "Bin Laden," "pla-pla," "Goodbye Philippines," and "Goodbye World," as some of the fireworks that are prohibited. Vendors caught selling these products will be apprehended and stripped of their license to operate. Authorities stressed that smoking in the vicinity of stalls and the testing of firecrackers prior to purchase are strictly prohibited. Vendors are also required to have a fire safety inspection certificate before being allowed to operate. A spot check was also done for fire extinguishers and drums of water and sand, which can be used if a fire breaks out. Violators will face stiff penalties.

<http://www.abs-cbnnews.com/nation/regions/12/07/11/doh-inspects-firework-factories-bulacan>

USA, ALA, OXFORD, DECEMBER 8 2011. DIESEL FUEL SPILL >> LATE-AFTERNOON THURSDAY RE-OPENING SEEN FOR FRIENDSHIP ROAD

Authorities Thursday could possibly reopen a section of Friendship Road in Oxford closed since Tuesday due to a diesel fuel spill. Oxford Fire Chief Gary Sparks said officials hoped to have the road open by late Thursday afternoon. He said it would be up to Oxford police Chief Bill Partridge and the head of the city's Street Department to determine if the road was safe to reopen. Sparks said the rainy weather Wednesday slowed the cleanup of the fuel, which accidentally sprayed Tuesday morning from a pipeline at a booster station owned by Atlanta-based Colonial Pipeline. Sparks said environmental crews were still working Wednesday to clean up the fuel, but the rain made the road potentially dangerous. "We wanted to wait until it dried out to make sure it was safe," Sparks said. Early estimates are that 420 gallons of diesel fuel sprayed mainly over Colonial Pipeline's surrounding property and parts of Friendship Road. Colonial Pipeline shut down the pipe immediately after the leak was discovered. No injuries were reported from the accident. The Alabama Department of Environmental Management sent environmental crews to the site to assist in the cleanup. Crews protected nearby Choccolocco Creek with temporary barriers early on after the accident occurred, saving it from contamination, ADEM spokesman Gerome Hand said Tuesday. Repairs made at the booster station enabled Colonial to resume safe operations of the diesel fuel line Tuesday evening. "Colonial works very hard every day to prevent an unexpected release from any of our pipelines or facilities," said Doug Belden, Colonial's vice president for operations. "We deeply regret this incident, but we very much appreciate how the fire, police and



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the 911 operators in Oxford responded. Their quick and effective response helped ensure the public safety, a goal we all share." The cause of the accident is currently under investigation and may not be known for days or weeks. The road closure has caused only minor inconveniences for motorists and residents, including Renae Pruitt, who lives with her husband, Steve, on Friendship Road. "We just had to reroute — we've just been going around the Oxford Exchange," Pruitt said Wednesday. "It was a little inconvenient, but we understand the situation. We just want everybody to be safe." Colonial Pipeline delivers a daily average of 100 million gallons of gasoline, diesel fuel, home heating oil, jet fuel and fuels for the U.S. military. The company's pipeline connects the refineries of the Gulf Coast with markets across the southern and eastern United States. Residents with concerns about the spill can contact Colonial Pipeline at 1-800-733-6175 for more information.

<http://annistonstar.com/bookmark/16683151-Late-afternoon-Thursday-re-opening-seen-for-Friendship-Road-updated->

AUSTRALIA, NEW SOUTH WALES, NEWCASTLE, DECEMBER 8 2011. RESIDENTS ANGER OVER LATEST ORICA LEAK

Map: [Newcastle 2300](#)



Residents say Orica's emergency warning system failed after yesterday's spill at the Newcastle plant.

A Stockton resident says explosives maker Orica's emergency warning system for its Newcastle plant is not good enough. Yesterday about 20,000 litres of ammonium nitrate solution overflowed from a tank, with some spilling over a bund and soaking into the ground. It is the fourth incident at the site since August and comes just a day after Orica was given approval to restart part of the plant. Orica and NSW Health say the incident posed no risk to the surrounding community, but resident Rick Banyard says he was notified by Orica about the incident an hour after hearing it from someone else in the community. "Here we have the first time the warning system is going to be used and it's clearly failed," he said. "If there had been an escape of significant gas from the factory and it was blowing my way I

would think that in 57 minutes I would probably be dead." Stockton residents group president Kate Johnson says if Orica is trying to regain the community's trust, it is failing miserably. "It does seem to be a bit of a circus," she said. "I mean it seems to be that its an ailing plant that the plant management there just don't seem to be able to operate effectively. "They haven't made it through 24 hours of operation so to me it seems like there doesn't seem to be control of the equipment that they have there." Minister for Environment Robyn Parker says while Orica notified the EPA about the spill immediately, another incident is unacceptable. "Orica has issues to address it is unacceptable, it's an ongoing problem," she said. "What we need to know from Orica is how they are going to address their ongoing concerns. "The community needs to have confidence in Orica and currently that confidence is very much shaken."

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2011-12-08/residents-anger-over-latest-origa-leak/3719196?section=business>

USA, MD, FINKSBURG, DECEMBER 8 2011. TWO INJURED, FUEL SPILLED AFTER COLLISION INVOLVING TANKER TRUCK >> OVERTURNED TANKER TRUCK CLOSES MD. 140

s. wayne carter jr.



Both lanes of Md. 140 were closed Wednesday afternoon following a vehicle collision involving an overturned tanker truck near the intersection of Md. 140 and Bethel Road in Westminster.

A crash involving a tanker truck that spilled 8,000 gallons of diesel fuel and sent two people to Shock Trauma could've been much, much worse, police said. The incident occurred just after noon Wednesday when a fuel tanker, owned by Westminster-based Bosley Oil, Inc., struck a Buick just in front of the Royal Farms store on Md. 140 near Bethel Road, causing the tanker to overturn crossing an embankment and coming within feet of striking active gas and diesel fuel pumps, also well as a propane hauler

that was parked in the lot of the Royal Farms. "How it got in there, it's purely a miracle that it didn't strike an active fuel pump and cause an explosion," said Lt. Jim DeWees, commander of the Westminster barrack of the Maryland State Police. "If you would've looked at it, you would've thought it unloaded the gas there and it made a U-turn and overturned," he said. "It's just



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enough room, literally, to get that fuel tank on its side. "Minus the environmental impact, this could've been a lot worse." Police said the fuel tanker, driven by Richard Donald Eckard, 62, of Taneytown, was traveling west on Md. 140 through the intersection at Bethel Road when the car driven by Carl F. Frock Jr., 79, of Westminster, made a left turn in front of it. Eckard was unable to avoid striking the Buick by steering to the right, police said, and went off the roadway into the parking lot of the Royal Farms, turning on its side. The drivers of both vehicles were taken by the University of Maryland Shock Trauma Center in Baltimore. Eckard was discharged at 5:30 p.m. and Frock was listed in critical condition at 7 p.m. Wednesday. The fuel tanker struck a large sign in the parking lot which pierced the front chamber of the fuel tanker holding about 8,000 gallons of diesel fuel. Some of the fuel spilled into the drainage system at the rear of the store, police said. Md. 140 was closed for nearly two hours while police and other state and local agencies responded to the incident. Area businesses were evacuated by first responders until the area was deemed safe. MDE and state troopers were continuing to work at the scene as of 3 p.m. Wednesday and were expected to be there for several hours until the tanker is removed. "Getting tanker out of the parking lot is going to be pretty intricate," DeWees said. Once removed, state police's Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Division will conduct a full inspection of the tanker. Troopers are still conducting their investigation to determine who was at fault. Weather likely wasn't a factor in the collision, DeWees said. Anyone who may have witnessed the collision is asked to contact Trooper Granville Fairbanks at 410-386-3000.

http://www.carrollcountytimes.com/news/local/md-reopens-after-collision-gas-spill/article_f6a23566-20f9-11e1-839d-001871e3ce6c.html

USA, OH, MINERVA, DECEMBER 8 2011. DRIVER INJURED AFTER TANKER OVERTURNS ON ROUTE 172



An 18-wheel tanker truck rolled over on state Route 172 near Moultrie in Columbiana County on Wednesday.

The driver of a Kenan Advantage Group tanker truck was taken to a hospital after it overturned Wednesday afternoon on state Route 172 just outside of Moultrie in Columbiana County's West Township Wednesday afternoon. Route 172 remained closed in the 24000 block as the truck is blocking both lanes and spilling fluid. A dispatcher with the Lisbon Post of the Ohio Highway Patrol said at about 10 p.m., crews were still cleaning up at the site and the road likely wouldn't be open before midnight. The driver of the truck, owned by Kenan Advantage Group was taken to a hospital after it overturned, blocking both lanes. The 6,500-gallon tanker leaked about 700 gallons of oil, which didn't get into any waterways, officials said. Kenan Advantage is "North America's largest tank truck hauler and logistics provider,

transporting fuel, chemicals and food-grade products," according to the company's website, thekag.com. Its headquarters are on Mount Pleasant Street NW in Jackson Township.

<http://www.cantonrep.com/news/x731453099/Tanker-overturms-blocks-Route-172-near-Moultrie?img=2>

AUSTRALIA, QUEENSLAND, ROCKHAMPTON, DECEMBER 8 2011. HIGHWAY RE-OPENS AFTER CRASH



Truck Rollover near Raglan.

Police have advised the Bruce Highway has now re-opened following a fuel tanker rollover north of Raglan Creek. Traffic delays were experienced in the area, 60km south of Rockhampton, as police and road crews decanted fuel from the tanker, which rolled over about 1am. A 100m exclusion zone had been in place. The driver of the truck sustained minor injuries only.

<http://www.gladstoneobserver.com.au/story/2011/12/08/highway-delays-after-tanker-crash/>



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USA, CO, DENVER, DECEMBER 8 2011. AURORA SAYS TOXIC LEAK WON'T AFFECT CITY WATER QUALITY

sara castellanos



Toxic Spill:

A workers cleans up a chemical spill in Sand Creek north of Denver in Commerce City, Colo., on Wednesday, Nov. 30, 2011. Colorado state health officials fear that a leaky underground pipe that leads to a tank at a Suncor Energy refinery might have leaked a "sizable" amount of petroleum near the South Platte River, a major source of water for Colorado and Nebraska. The leak reported by the refinery this summer is about a half-mile away from where an oily substance began seeping into Sand Creek on Monday, raising concerns about how much petroleum would need to leak for it to migrate underground from the source to the creek, said the health department's Hazardous Waste Corrective Action Unit supervisor, Walter Avramenko.

Aurora water officials say they see no reason for concern about local water quality because of a threat of toxic chemicals seeping from a refinery upstream from one city water source. Federal officials say a trench dug to block toxic chemicals from seeping from a refinery into a creek northwest of Aurora is working. Environmental Protection Agency spokesman Matthew Allen said Monday a 240-foot trench completed over the weekend is preventing a gasoline-like substance from seeping from the Suncor Energy refinery into Sand Creek and the South Platte River. The city's Praire Waters Project pumps groundwater from the South Platte downstream of the spill back to Aurora for treatment and use in the city's water system. Crews over the weekend worked in subfreezing temperatures cleaning up the spill, which may have been caused by a leaking pipe. The EPA said crews have recovered between dozens of gallons of an oily substance, but it was unclear how much may have seeped into the creek or made it into the river. Aurora's water supply is derived primarily from snowmelt runoff in the Colorado, Arkansas and South Platte river basins far upstream of the and unrelated to the toxic spill. Aurora Water officials received notice from the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment about an unknown substance potentially in a tributary of the South Platte River on Nov. 28, said Greg Baker, spokesman for Aurora Water. "We have not been notified at this point that the spill has directly affected the Platte," Baker said. Aurora's water supply is not in jeopardy, he said. "While a small percentage (of Aurora's water) comes from the South Platte downstream of the impacted site, we are not currently taking water from the river because of our typical, seasonal, low water demands," he said. "If contamination were to occur at a time when we were using our South Platte River supply, we have numerous protocols in place to ensure that any impact on the river will not affect our drinking water supply." Aurora Water officials have not been asked to assist with any federal efforts to dig a trench.

http://www.aurorasentinel.com/hp_metro/article_ceb083f6-2017-11e1-a9cc-0019bb2963f4.html

VIETNAM, HO CHI MINH CITY, DECEMBER 8 2011. CITY INSPECTORS OUT DEALERS FOR SELLING POOR-QUALITY PETROL



Customer buy petrol in HCM City's District 1. All stations were ordered to provide customers tools to check the amount of petrol they bought.

The city's Department of Science and Technology's Directorate for Standards, Metrology and Quality (STAMEQ) has announced the names of 11 businesses in the city that sell poor-quality petrol with an octane index lower than regulated. STAMEQ also found that 16 out of 32 petrol samples did not meet the national standards. Among these were 11 out of 16 samples of A92 petrol and five out of 10 samples of A95 petrol. The petrol stations have been selling poor-quality petrol for many years, department officials said. The inspection was carried out at 55 petrol stations in the city by STAMEQ, the Market Management Bureau and an inspection team from the Department of Science and Technology between September 27 and November 16. STAMEQ has transferred all documents about the violations to the inspection section

of the Department of Science and Technology for follow-up action. The Department of Science and Technology has ordered petrol stations in the city to provide necessary tools for customers to check the amount of petrol bought by them to prevent cheating, and to issue petrol invoices to customers that ask for them. Hoang Lam, deputy director of STAMEQ 3, said most



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vehicles in the city's roads were now designed to use petrol with high octane indices, like A92 and A95. Petrol A83 is no longer suitable for modern vehicles. Its use could affect the vehicle's engines and shorten their life, he said.

<http://vietnamnews.vnagency.com.vn/social-issues/218418/city-inspectors-out-dealers-for-selling-poor-quality-petrol.html>

AUSTRALIA, NEW SOUTH WALES, SYDNEY, DECEMBER 5 2011. SHIPPING DANGEROUS GOODS BY AIR - CHECKING PROCEDURES

michael underdown.

Everyone in the supply chain is required to be familiar with the legislation governing the transport of dangerous goods by air. In the light of a recent incident involving the shipment of a dangerous cargo across three continents on two passenger flights, it is probably timely to remind all involved in such shipments to check the procedures they have in place for handling dangerous cargo. In this particular case, there was a lack of proper care on the part of the shipper, freight forwarder and airline. The packing list prepared by the shipper correctly identified the cargo as "dangerous goods" by reference to the Proper Shipping Name, UN Number, Hazard Class (5.1 – Oxidising Substances) and Packing Group (I – Great Danger). However, the commercial invoice did not identify the cargo as dangerous. The Air Waybill issued by the airline's freight forwarder also failed to mention the dangerous nature of the cargo. As a consequence, the cargo was shipped on two passenger flights instead of on the required cargo-only flights and also handled by ground crew at the connecting airport unaware of the dangerous nature of the consignment. In fact, the description of the goods on the Air Waybill produced by the airline's agent did not accord with the description on either the packing list or the commercial invoice and would not have alerted anyone as to the nature of the goods. The cargo in question explodes on contact with water. However, there was probably little likelihood of a serious incident occurring because the containment vessels would have had to be breached and then the outside packaging. In addition, there would need to have been water present in the aircraft cargo hold. The point is, though, that carelessness at several stages gave rise to a potential risk to airline passengers and aircraft.

What is The Law on Shipping Dangerous Goods?

It is important to note that, regardless of who prepares the Air Waybill, it is the shipper who states:

"Shipper certifies that the particulars on the face hereof are correct and that insofar as any part of the consignment contains dangerous goods, such part is properly described by name and is in proper condition for carriage by air according to the applicable Dangerous Goods Regulations." From a global perspective, Annex 18 of the Chicago Convention contains the policy on the carriage of dangerous goods by air. This is supplemented by ICAO Technical Instructions for the Safe Transport of Dangerous Goods, which have been implemented in Australia. In many cases, airlines follow the IATA Dangerous Goods Regulations, which improve on the ICAO instructions in some aspects. The relevant Australian legislation is the Civil Aviation Act 1988 and Regulations made under that Act. Section 23 deals with the consignment of dangerous goods on board aircraft, while section 23A concerns statements concerning the contents of cargo.

What You Need to Do

Everyone in the supply chain is required to be familiar with the legislation governing the transport of dangerous goods by air. Purely from a risk management point of view, shippers need to pay particular attention to their procedures for:

- identifying and describing dangerous goods
- labelling dangerous goods
- packing dangerous goods (and double-checking if an external contractor is being used for this purpose)

They also need to ensure uniformity in identifying and describing dangerous goods across all relevant documentation, including packing slips and commercial invoices, as well as in Customs, insurance and other related records. Whether the shipper or carrier is using a freight forwarder, the shipper needs to double-check the correctness of the Air Waybill. This is even more important now that electronic signatures are widely used. The reason for this step should be obvious. Finally, carriers need to ensure themselves, as happens in shipping, that the goods are correctly described, properly packed and correctly identified as dangerous or not. Normally, only the Air Waybill is carried by the airline, but surely it is a better practice to keep a set of documentation together, which may become a useful tool when the airline is undertaking its checks prior to loading the cargo.

http://www.claytonutz.com/publications/edition/08_december_2011/20111208/shipping_dangerous_goods_by_air-checking_procedures.page



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USA, WYO, PINEDALE, DECEMBER 8 2011. NATURAL GAS SITE FIRE HITS WYOMING NATURAL GAS PRODUCTION

jeremy fogleberg



Flames tower into the air from the Falcon natural gas compressor in the Jonah Field south of Pinedale on Tuesday. The now-offline compressor, a key part of collecting and moving gas out of the fields, is hurting production from the area, operators say.

A Tuesday fire at a natural gas compressor in southwestern Wyoming shut down the site, hampering production from the region. The Falcon compressor station is a key part of the Jonah Gas Gathering System, which collects and transports gas from the Jonah and Pinedale Anticline fields in the Upper Green River Basin. Now, two producers in the area are scrambling to figure out a new way to move gas out of the area. Shell Oil Co. has had to temporarily stop production in the Pinedale area, from which the company typically produces 320 million cubic feet of gas a day, said company spokeswoman Kayla Macke. Houston-based Enterprise Products Co., which owns the gathering system, is taking steps to get the company's gas out of the field, she said. "Enterprise is rerouting production to another compressor station, and we have started to restore production that had to be temporarily shut-in," she wrote via email. "We will wait for further updates from Enterprise to understand when we can safely restart our producing operations." Cally McKee, a Ultra Resources Inc. spokeswoman, echoed Macke's comments to local news website pinedaleonline.com. Spokesmen for Encana Corp. and QEP Energy Co. said gas produced from the fields by their companies wasn't flowing through the station. Macke said it's too soon to speculate on the impact to production or the duration of the shut-in. The Falcon station, which sits in the Jonah Field south of Pinedale, was moving gas from the Pinedale Anticline field, according to Rick Rainey, spokesman for Enterprise Products Corp. The station is

one of several compressor stations in the gathering system, which can transport up to 2.55 billion cubic feet a day of gas through a network of 849 miles of pipe to processing plants and interstate pipelines, according to a 2010 company filing with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission. Rainey said Tuesday he was unsure how much gas was flowing through the compressor when the fire started. Ronnetta Eaton, Enterprise investor and public relations manager, said Wednesday she wasn't certain of the extent of the damage to the system. The company would meet to discuss the situation Thursday morning, Eaton said. The company has said it'll be conducting an investigation into the fire. Shane Templar, a detective sergeant at the Sublette County Sheriff's Office, said the office would release another statement about the incident Thursday morning.

Related Links [Two suffer injuries from fire at Wyoming natural gas site](#)

http://trib.com/news/state-and-regional/natural-gas-site-fire-hits-wyoming-natural-gas-production/article_a332a1f2-417f-5f7a-9599-a079c0e32db5.html

NEW ZEALAND, MT MAUNGANUI, DECEMBER 8 2011. GULL TO BUILD 10 MILLION LITRE FUEL TANK IN MT MAUNGANUI

Gull today announced that construction of a new ten million litre fuel tank at their Mt Maunganui storage facility operated by Terminals (N.Z.) Limited (TNZ) a member of the Gull group of companies. This major investment further focusses the company on growth in the New Zealand market. As New Zealand's only family-owned independent oil company, Gull has committed to a long future in the country by building the new tank, which will bring TNZ's total storage capacity to 88 million litres – the equivalent of approximately 35 Olympic swimming pools. Dave Bodger, GM of Gull New Zealand, says the new tank will make the company's Mt Maunganui fuel storage facility among the largest in New Zealand. "The Whangarei refinery will have significant storage, but this build puts us within 15% of the capacity of the oil giant's terminals in South Auckland. Bodger says that construction will start in earnest in January 2012 employing around 15 skilled workers. Gull has previously worked with the Tauranga firm Page and Macrae who were successful in the tender. Bodger also says that Gull is proud to do business differently from the oil giants and proud to invest in New Zealand. "Investing in key assets such as this new tank this



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gives Gull efficiencies over our opposition who in the main work with much smaller facilities and so duplicate costs all around the country. Modern, economic, state of the art storage enables Gull to keep pump prices low and discount even further when we can, and we're currently the only ones who consistently give Kiwi motorists that choice. Bodger notes that investment in infrastructure of this size is also a vote of faith in the Port of Tauranga. "Mt Maunganui offers a central location for fuel distribution and Gull's investment is a vote for in favour of the future of the New Zealand service station industry. While major oil companies are constantly evaluating their presence in this market, Gull views both New Zealand and Tauranga as a stable and reliable market to invest in."

About Gull

Gull New Zealand is the independent oil company that is credited with keeping the fuel market competitive and giving savings to the Kiwi motorist. It has become a serious player, offering a real choice for motorists in an extremely competitive market. The company remains today a family owned operation. Gull New Zealand was founded in 1998 by the Rae family who saw the need and potential for an independent energy supplier. Adherence to a philosophy of low cost management, prudent investment decisions and a carefully planned marketing strategy commenced with the building of a state of the art terminal in Mount Maunganui in 1998. Tanks were relocated from Marsden Point by barge, a feat the opposition said was "impossible". Gull New Zealand made the first retail sales of petrol in 1999 and has grown the network to over 40 branded sites. Gull has been a first mover in introducing innovative new products to the New Zealand energy market. These include low sulphur diesel bringing environmental benefits well ahead of the opposition, as well as New Zealand's first biofuel, Gull Force 10 (a 10% ethanol mixed with premium gasoline giving higher octane and cleaner performance). 2010 saw Gull achieve another first and extend its environmental focus with release of Gull Diesel Max, a high quality bio diesel blend sourced from sustainable New Zealand vegetable oil. Gull now has four service stations that only sell bio fuels which is another first for New Zealand.

For more information please visit www.gull.co.nz

<http://auckland.scoop.co.nz/2011/12/gull-makes-multi-million-dollar-investment-in-mt-maunganui/>

AUSTRALIA, NEW SOUTH WALES, NARRABRI, DECEMBER 9 2011. TESTS REVEAL CONTAMINATED WATER NEAR GAS SITE

ben cubby



Dirty water ... high levels of ammonia, methane, carbon dioxide, lithium, cyanide, bromide and boron were found near a coal seam gas operation.

The state's first case of water contamination from coal seam gas drilling has been discovered in north-western NSW, according to independent tests. High levels of ammonia, methane, carbon dioxide, lithium, cyanide, bromide and boron were found around a water discharge point near a Santos coal seam gas operation in the Pilliga forest, near Narrabri. The state government last night confirmed it would conduct its own investigation and testing of the site. Water samples gathered by environment groups Friends of the Earth and The Wilderness Society were tested by East West EnviroAg, an independent laboratory in Tamworth that services agricultural and mining clients. It found samples from Bohena Creek, near a coal seam gas well discharge pipe, contained ammonia at three times the safe level recommended by drinking water guidelines. Upstream samples were uncontaminated. Santos, which took over the exploratory drilling site from Eastern Star Gas last month, said it had not seen the test results and had doubts about the credibility of the environment groups that collected the samples. It cited a NSW Office of Water study that said ammonia levels in the waterway were normally high, as a result of runoff from nitrate-based fertilisers. "Discharged water is tested on a monthly basis and all recent results have met NSW requirements," the company said in a statement. "Santos is confident it is not in breach of its authority or having any adverse impact on water resources in the area." The NSW Department of Trade and Investment, Regional Infrastructure and Services, which is responsible for regulating most aspects of the coal seam gas industry, yesterday launched its own investigation. The NSW Environment Protection Authority told the Herald last night it had also contacted the department and would follow up on the investigation. The water being discharged into Bohena Creek is



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pumped from deep underground during the drilling and gas extraction process, and is released into the creek under licence from the government after being treated by a reverse osmosis plant. Carmel Flint, a spokeswoman for Friends of the Earth, said she resented the claim from Santos that the high contaminant levels in the water might be from farming. "We are astonished that Santos are apparently trying to shift the blame to farmers for their own polluting activities," she said. "There is no farming along the Bohena Creek where the water was collected - it is located entirely in the Pilliga State Forest ... This is Santos's coal seam gas water, it is their very own pollutants that are flowing in to that creek system." The plan inherited by Santos from Eastern Star Gas calls for 1100 gas wells across the Pilliga forest. The test results were released as the NSW parliamentary inquiry into coal seam gas conducted another hearing in Sydney. It heard from industry executives and engineers that there had been no known incidents of water pollution resulting from coal seam gas operations in the state.

Related Links [Code of practice for Qld gas wells](#)

<http://www.smh.com.au/environment/water-issues/tests-reveal-contaminated-water-near-gas-site-20111208-1oldj.html>

USA, TN, MILLINGTON, DECEMBER 9 2011. CHEMICAL LEAK AT MANUFACTURING PLANT CAUSES SCARE

Fast Facts:

- The Osmose manufacturing plant in Millington experienced a leak.
- A ball valve was leaking ammonium hydroxide.
- One person from a neighboring business was treated for [high blood pressure](#).

An ammonium hydroxide leak at the Osmose plant in Millington activated a quick response from Shelby County fire and hazmat crews Thursday night. At 7p.m., Shelby County firefighters were called about some people experiencing [shortness of breath](#) and other minor issues. It turns out the Osmose plant had a leak from a ball valve at a connecting pipe between two large tanks. A small amount of ammonium hydroxide was leaking into a retaining area. Both employees at Osmose and employees next door at Safety Kleen were told to clear the area, but were allowed to stay on property. No one was evacuated. Officials used special devices to check the air quality in the area, and they determined no threat to life or health. One person from Safety Kleen was treated for high blood pressure, but emergency crews told News Channel 3 that was not likely directly related to the leak. If exposed to large quantities of ammonium hydroxide, a person can sometimes experience shortness of breath or skin irritation, for example. But the leaked amount was not enough to cause a threat, according to the Shelby County Fire Department. According to the Osmose company website, they specialize in wood preservation technology. They are based in Buffalo, NY and the Memphis location is one of several manufacturing plants. Ammonium hydroxide can be found in many household cleaners. In the furniture industry, it can be used to stain woods.

<http://www.wreg.com/news/wreg-chemical-leak-at-manufacturing-plant-causes-scare-20111208.0.4028659.story>

PAKISTAN, RAWALPINDI, DECEMBER 10 2011. TWO OIL TANKERS BLOW UP AT RAWALPINDI DEPOT



Two oil tankers exploded as they were exiting an oil depot near the Benazir international airport in Rawalpindi early Friday morning, Express News reported. No casualties were reported. An eye witness said that two oil tankers were exiting the oil depot, located near the airport, after topping up when one of the tankers experienced a problem with its air locks. As its driver tried to remove the obstacle, some sparks flew. Shortly there after the two tankers blew up with a loud explosion. Emergency teams from Islamabad and Rawalpindi and the armed forces have reached the spot and managed to put out the resultant fire. They are currently working to prevent any further fires from erupting at the depot. DSP Civil Lines Naveed Tariq said that there were no casualties in the blast, the crew of the two tankers were safe. He added that the depot contains petrol, diesel and flammable oils. He also confirmed that a spark from the air lock first caused a large fire ball with a blast soon thereafter. Eye witnesses say emergency services brought in two dump trucks full of sand to cover the spilt oil to prevent the spread of fire. Drivers of the other tankers parked at the depot said that their vehicles were out of danger. Police and security forces have cordoned off the area. Surrounding residential areas of Gharibabad and Rahmatabad have been evacuated, Express News reported.

<http://tribune.com.pk/story/303945/two-oil-tankers-blow-up-at-rawalpindi-depot/>



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USA, TX, TEXAS CITY, DECEMBER 10 2011. COAST GUARD SAYS TWO CRUDE PIPELINES IN TEXAS CITY 'THREATENED'

dan x. mcgraw

Crews are removing oil from two pipelines containing 1,000 barrels after a retaining wall at an Enterprise Products Partners LP dock in Texas City, Texas, partially collapsed, the U.S. Coast Guard said in a statement posted on its website. All operations at the dock have been suspended, while the Port of Texas City remains open to all traffic, the Coast Guard said.

<http://fuelfix.com/blog/2011/12/08/crews-removing-oil-from-threatened-pipelines-in-texas-city/>

INDIA, JAIPUR, DECEMBER 10 2011. GAS TANKER TURNS TURTLE ON JAIPUR-AJMER HIGHWAY, FUELS FRENZY

It was sheer providence that the entire Bagru-Chitrauli area didn't turn into a fireball when a tanker carrying highly inflammable gas turned turtle here in the wee hours of Thursday. The accident took place near Chitrauli Village on Jaipur-Ajmer highway around 4.30 am when the IOC tanker carrying approximately 15 tonnes of propylene gas overturned thrice before ending up in a gorge and one of its nozzles was disturbed, resulting in leakage. According to the driver, Izhar Khan, the mishap was a result of his attempt to avoid colliding with a truck which was heading towards it from the wrong direction. However, cops claim the driver had fallen asleep behind the wheel. Khan, whose mobile had fallen in the tanker, ran to the village to alert the police. Fire fighters, who reached the spot in half an hour, opened the valve and diluted the gas by throwing water on it, chief fire officer Ishwar Lal Jat said, adding that the situation was brought under control by 10am. Had the diesel tank caught fire or the engine/battery triggered sparks, a major fire would have spread thick and fast after coming in contact with dry agro waste lying around, charring to death hundreds of people within a few minutes, said assistant controller (civil defence) Phool Chand Chaudhary. "It was just God's grace that the accident did not trigger a major tragedy," he added. Also, the fire could have speedily travelled to trigger another major fire at a petrol pump just 100 meters from the accident spot, taking in its folds the BPCL gas pipeline running underground from Delhi to Gujarat, wrecking deadly havoc among the 50,000 people residing in the accident spot's vicinity, Chaudhary said. Meanwhile, the accident caused major traffic snarls on the highway as movement of all vehicles had to be blocked till all the gas was released. It took 12 hours to clear the traffic, said Sharat Kaviraj deputy commissioner of police.

<http://daily.bhaskar.com/article/RAJ-JPR-gas-tanker-turns-turtle-on-jaipur-ajmer-highway-fuels-frenzy-2626371.html>

AUSTRALIA, VICTORIA, MELBOURNE, DECEMBER 10 2011. OIL LEAK FORCES MFB OUT OF HEADQUARTERS

Staff have been evacuated from the Metropolitan Fire Brigade (MFB) headquarters in East Melbourne. A 500 litre tanker used to power a generator leaked overnight and diesel has contaminated three floors of the building. Seven fire fighting trucks have been redeployed around the CBD and up to 50 administrative staff have been sent home. Operations Commander Ross Trimboli says the spill will not effect the MFB's fire fighting capabilities. "Fire fighting capabilities really won't effect us at all because we're deploying all of our appliances in strategic locations," he said. "It just really puts the inconvenience on the fire fighters in relation to their mess facilities and their normal routine in relation to there meals and sleep accommodations."

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2011-12-09/oil-leak-forces-mfb-out-of-headquarters/3722124?section=vic>

USA, R.I, NEWPORT, DECEMBER 10 2011. FUEL DRAINED FROM BARGE WITHOUT SIGNIFICANT SPILL

 **Photo Gallery** [October Nor'easter](#)

 **Watch the Video**

- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jixukXxAfms>
- http://www.wpri.com/dpp/news/local_news/east_bay/jamestown-sunken-barge-brought-to-surface



The salvage crew working on the barge that sank in Rhode Island's Narragansett Bay in the October snow storm has pumped out the diesel fuel without a significant spill. Pollution of the bay was a concern for officials overseeing the operation and the salvage company. The Providence Journal reports (<http://bit.ly/uGz8Jy>) that Jill Eastman, an emergency-response official at the state Department of Environmental Management, says the operation went well. Divers said they extended wands attached to hoses into the tanks, and used pumps to siphon the oil to tanks on a barge at the surface. They pumped until clear water came through, showing that the



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fuel tank was emptied. The fuel was to be used to operate equipment on the barge while the bridge was being repainted.

Related Links

- [Salvage co. hired to life sunken barge](#)
- [Crane prepares to raise sunken barge](#)

http://www.boston.com/news/local/rhode_island/articles/2011/12/08/fuel_drained_from_barge_without_significant_spill/

AUSTRALIA, QUEENSLAND, SUNSHINE COAST, DECEMBER 10 2011. BOWSER BANS FIRE UP COAST TOWNS

Residents of some hinterland towns face round-trips of up to 40km to fill their tanks after the Sunshine Coast Council ordered at least five fuel outlets to stop selling petrol. The directive appears to have been issued this week to businesses selling fuel from bowser on public property. The council has described the decision to stop the fuel supplies as "difficult." The decision has been blamed on state legislation which identifies people walking on footpaths with mobile phones or smoking as an unacceptable risk of igniting fuel vapours or spills. Affected businesses include small businesses in Peachester, Eudlo, Eumundi, Conondale and Cooroy. Some of them have sold fuel from footpath bowser for up to 50 years. Palmwoods Auto Care has already removed its bowser after being contacted by the council and there is now no fuel available in the town. When the Conondale General Store's supply runs in a few days, the nearest fuel will be 20km away at Kenilworth or Maleny. Owner Ashley Hamilton locals would not be able to buy fuel for the generators during power outages and there would be no local fuel supply for the rural fire brigade if there was a fire. He said the loss of the fuel would have a huge impact on his business. "We don't make a lot of money out of it but it does bring people through the door," he said. Eudlo store owner Ian Hughes said it would cost \$10,000 to decommission an underground tank, a cost which he and his wife could ill afford after having decommissioned another earlier this year. "I'm over it, I'm sorry. Where does it end?" he said. Mayor Bob Abbot said in a statement that an independent risk assessment had left the council with no option but to act immediately. "This is not something we wanted to do nor do we feel happy about doing it," he said. "But at the end of the day, not only is the council obligated to help local businesses comply with this legislation but we also have a community obligation - and that is to ensure that our community is kept safe," he said. The five affected businesses were among nine identified as an "extreme risk" in a report commissioned by the council after changes in state legislation. The council has offered support to some of the affected businesses but others were still awaiting written notification yesterday. This week's directive came as a shock to at least three operators, who understood they had complied with the council's licensing requirements.

<http://www.sunshinecoastdaily.com.au/story/2011/12/10/bowser-bans-fire-up-coast-towns-residents-face-up/>

CANADA, CALGARY, DECEMBER 10 2011. ENCANA ON DEFENSIVE OVER GROUNDWATER FOULED BY FRACKING

nathan vanderklippe

The U.S. [Environmental Protection Agency](#) has discovered drinking water contaminated by hydraulic fracturing in a U.S. natural gas field operated by Encana Corp a finding that could have serious and far-reaching consequences for industry. The EPA, in documents released Thursday, flatly contradicts contentions from Encana and the broader industry that its drilling practices in Wyoming are safe and do not harm drinking water. The Calgary-based company, however, continued to state that there is no link between its work and fouled groundwater. Concerns about fracturing have already led to studies and even bans in numerous places, from New York state to Quebec to France. The use of fracking has spurred a remarkable growth in oil and gas development across the continent, bringing massive new volumes of hydrocarbons surging to the surface from reservoirs once considered impossible to tap. There are, however, important distinctions between the type of fracking used in new shale gas plays and the Encana field the EPA examined in its new report. The agency began investigating groundwater in Pavillion, Wyo., three years ago, after local residents reported that some of their drinking water had been fouled with a gasoline-like odour and had become undrinkable. The gas industry has 169 production wells near Pavillion, which sits on a native reservation and has fewer than 200 people. In a series of studies, which involved sampling dozens of water wells and drilling two of its own test wells, the EPA discovered the strong presence of numerous contaminants – including gasoline, diesel and substances used in fracturing. Its conclusion, revealed in a draft report released publicly Thursday, states: "Data indicates likely impact to groundwater that can be explained by hydraulic fracturing." Levels of potassium and chloride in some areas were 18 times expected levels. According to the EPA, "the formulation of fracture fluid provided for carbon dioxide foam hydraulic fracturing jobs typically consisted of 6-per-cent potassium chloride." Other types of synthetic organic compounds, like tert-butyl alcohol – which is not expected to be found naturally in groundwater – were also discovered. Sampling showed the



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elevated presence of gasoline, diesel, benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene and xylene. Some of those substances matched with materials used in oil and gas work. Fracking involves pumping huge amounts of water, sand and chemicals under high pressure into wells. That pressure cracks apart deep rocks, allowing oil and gas to flow through the fractures that are created. Fracking techniques have spurred an energy revolution in the U.S., bringing on such vast new supplies of [natural gas](#) that prices have been severely depressed. A subsequent boom in fracking for oil has opened enough new crude output that some now believe North America could displace all OPEC imports with its own production. The industry has long claimed fracking is safe. If it is found to be dangerous, however, it could imperil some of the industry's biggest plans. Shares in several shale gas producers – including Encana, Talisman Energy Inc. and Chesapeake Energy Inc. – all fell about 5 per cent Thursday, although investors said the selloff was largely attributable to broader market malaise. The S&P/TSX energy index fell 2 per cent. There are important distinctions between the fracking around Pavillion and the fracking used in major new shale oil and gas plays, such as Marcellus, Bakken and Haynesville. In shale plays, industry typically fractures rock from the horizontal leg of deep wells located at depths of one to three kilometres. In Wyoming, the fracturing happens from vertical wells – an important difference – that are shallower, ranging from a kilometre to 372 metres below the surface. Some water wells in the area go down to 244 metres, creating a relatively close linkage. In addition, the EPA notes what may be imprudent industry practices. Only two gas wells around Pavillion have “surface casing” – a protective metal sleeve inside a well that is cemented in place to prevent drilling fluids from leaking out – that goes deeper than the deepest water wells. That means almost every gas well has unprotected stretches at depths people draw water from. The EPA itself, in a news release Thursday, said conditions in Wyoming are “different from those in many other areas of the country.” But in an interview, spokesman Larry Jackson said it's possible that what's happened at Pavillion has “commonalities that could result in similar findings elsewhere.” <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/report-on-business/drinking-water-contamination-in-wyoming-apparently-linked-to-natural-gas-fracking-epa-says/article2264884/>

USA, MI, ITHACA, DECEMBER 10 2011. INQUIRY INTO ITHACA GAS SPILL BEGINS

linda gittleman

Complaints of gasoline or varnish smells in Ithaca have nearly disappeared and even in those places where the smells were strong, little of the gas vapors can now be detected by the odor. Even so, work begun Thursday to excavate the north part of the Beacon and Bridge gas station. Shallow shallow ground water will also be vacuumed up in order to diminish any further spread of contaminants.

Benzene is the Biggest Concern.

Canvassing of a six block area in the neighborhood of the gas station is also set to begin. A screening process of the air in the buildings will take place and if possible, a survey will be conducted asking questions concerning health and if any other types of odor-producing products such as paints or solvents are stored in the home. At a community meeting Wednesday night, environmental consultants, officials from the Environmental Protection Agency, the Michigan Department of Community Health, the state's Department of Environmental Quality and Ithaca city officials were on hand to answer residents' questions. Dan Wynn, vice president of operations for Beacon and Bridge was also in attendance. “It was a safety valve failure,” he said. “We thought it was contained. We hired the best minds we could find – this is something I'm not used to dealing with. I apologize to the people who've been affected. We want more than anything to get this problem fixed.” He also said that it isn't known how much gasoline was released, but estimated that it was “several hundred gallons.” Curt Chapman, project manager for August Mack, an environmental concern hired by Beacon and Bridge, said the gasoline leakage appears to follow the sewer lines. Although the company's gas tanks are now confirmed to be leak free, the sanitary sewer's clay-tiled joints are allowing water and the gas spilled previously to infiltrate the sewer main. According to the city's public works director, Bob Studt, a lining will be placed in the sewer main to stop the leakage from about four spots, where it's known leakage is occurring. Foster said contaminants may also be found in the utility corridors in addition to the sewer line itself. A total of 21 homes and businesses have received or will receive “summa” canisters which monitor the air quality in buildings over a 24 hour period. Results should be available next week, Foster said, adding that he expects very low levels of vapors, if any at all.

Beacon and Bridge are Paying all the Costs.

When asked by a resident how long this monitoring process would continue, Clifford Knaggs, a lawyer for Beacon and Bridge, said the investigation is only beginning. Once that is completed, “We can then develop a corrective action plan,” he said. “The company will be required to address this. This isn't the end.” History of the area, he pointed out, will also be part of the investigation. Fire Chief Dave Nelson, who has conducted the initial investigations, told the audience that Beacon and Bridge



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cannot clean up the site by itself. It must work with the DEQ to develop a plan. And Foster said after the meeting that an air monitoring plan and sewer use violation response plan are being finalized. "The excavation today, as well as additional soil borings/monitoring wells will help the company develop a comprehensive action plan," Foster said. Also on the agenda is the installation of the summa cannisters at North Elementary School. Although no odors have been detected, and the building is located out of the area impacted, Foster said the company "believes it's prudent to test there." The gasoline leakage was reported in October. Representatives from the Department of Community Health were asked why it took so long for them to respond. "Does it take a month and a half before you're getting into the residences?" asked Diane Borrello, a geologist and member of the Pine River Superfund Task Force. It was explained that the initial reports contained inconsistencies, and the data gathered show infrequency of odors. It is only now that the department is understanding the migration of the leak, the audience was told. It was also explained that the health agency cannot order anyone to evacuate a home. They recommend that those impacted see their physicians, and they hope that doctors are aware of the situation. If physicians have any questions, they may call the department. Knaggs also said the he was leaving a stack of business cards and that if anyone has a claim, he or she may contact him. Foster again stated that if anyone has any concerns or problems with odors, to please contact city hall at 875-3200 or 911.

<http://www.themorningsun.com/articles/2011/12/09/news/doc4ee11328ad65d901739110.txt?viewmode=fullstory>

PHILIPPINES, MANILA, DECEMBER 10 2011. SKIPPER HELD FOR PETROL SMUGGLING

john carlo m. cahinhinan

A skipper was apprehended recently for transporting dangerous cargoes without the necessary permit in Palawan. Lt. Commander Algier Ricafrente, Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) Public Affairs chief said that skipper Renato Quncela was transporting 150 drums of assorted petroleum products onboard his small shipping vessel, M/V Q-Carrellyn III, from Delpan, Manila to Taytay, Palawan. He said that Coast Guard Detachment Taytay received information from their field agent and confirmed that the vessel was loaded with 100 drums of fuel oil, 45 drums of regular gasoline and five drums of kerosene. In an initial investigation, Quncela admitted that he did not have any PCG permit for the transport of the products. The PCG spokesman explained that the suspect instead presented an official receipt and sales invoice from Ler-Marine Land Enterprise with business address 245 Tuazon Mabuhay St. in Tondo, Manila. The team issued Inspection and Apprehension Report (IAR) and Boarding Certificate for the carrying of dangerous cargoes without permit to load in accordance with Headquarters Philippine Coast Guard Memorandum Circular 02-96 (HPCG MC 02-96). Quncela was advised to settle his violation at Coast Guard Station Liminagcong within seven days upon receipt of the IAR.

<http://www.mb.com.ph/articles/344224/skipper-held-petrol-smuggling>

USA, WA, FERNDALE, DECEMBER 10 2011. HUGE CYLINDER HEADED FOR BP CHERRY POINT FALLS IN WATER

zoe fraley

 **Watch the Video** [Huge nitrogen tank rolls into sea near BP's Cherry Point Refinery](#)

 **Watch the Video** [Mishap sends million-pound nitrogen container into Salish Sea](#)

 **Watch the Video** [Nitrogen tank dropped into water at BP refinery near Ferndale](#)



Members of the BP oil response team inspect the top of a 130-foot cylinder that apparently fell off a barge early Friday morning, Dec. 9, 2011, about 500 yards from the beach south of Cherry Point.

A 950,000-pound cylinder intended for use in BP Cherry Point Refinery's clean diesel program remained stuck in the water about 500 yards offshore after an industrial accident early Friday morning, Dec. 9. The cylinder, about 130 feet long and 12 feet in diameter, was coming in on a barge when it rolled off and plunged into the water off of Gulf Road, south of the refinery. One worker on the barge was injured in the accident. The cylinder ended up in about 120 feet of water, with part of it resting on the seafloor and the tip of it showing above the water. Crews were

unsure when they would be able to get the cylinder out of the water, but it could be several days before removal can begin, according to BP spokesman Bill Kidd. The cylinder is filled with nitrogen gas to prevent corrosion, but it remained sealed, Kidd said. The gas is not dangerous. It was unclear what caused the cylinder to become loose and fall into the water. When it fell



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off, the cylinder damaged the barge, Kidd said. Whatcom County Fire District 7 crews responded to the incident at about 6 a.m. and transported the injured worker to St. Joseph hospital. Details on the person's injury were not released. The cylinder was to be brought ashore and moved by Barnhart Crane and Rigging Co., a national firm that does heavy-industry moving and lifting. A spokesman from Barnhart said the accident was under investigation. The cylinder is used as a reactor to make clean diesel; the process involves filling it with a catalyst that removes sulfur from fuel. BP is installing a \$400-million, ultra-low-sulfur unit to meet new federal environmental regulations. The Department of Ecology and the U.S. Coast Guard also responded to the incident. A small amount of diesel spilled into the water from a diesel-powered pump that tipped, said Ecology spokeswoman Katie Skipper. An electric lift also fell in the water, but Skipper said it's unlikely that would cause any significant environmental damage.

<http://www.thenewstribune.com/2011/12/09/1938880/huge-cylinder-headed-for-bp-cherry.html>

AUSTRALIA, QUEENSLAND, SUNSHINE COAST, DECEMBER 10 2011. COUNCIL CLOSES HINTERLAND SERVICE STATIONS >> IN RESPONSE TO QLD GOV DANGEROUS GOODS SAFETY ACT 2001.LEGISLATIVE CHANGES



Sunshine Coast Council has been forced to direct five hinterland service stations across the Region to close in response to Queensland Government Legislative changes to the Dangerous Goods Safety Act 2001. The impact of these changes is being felt across the whole State. In response to the legislative changes, council commissioned an independent risk assessment report into eleven (11) sites currently operating as Large

Dangerous Goods Locations in the region. This review was limited to those premises that were operating on council owned public footpaths and lands. The subsequent report alerted council to a range of unacceptable community safety and liability risks in relation to the operation of five fuel service stations on the Coast. These businesses have today been directed to stop operating. Some of the businesses may be able to reopen if they undertake identified actions to reduce the risks to an acceptable level, however for other businesses such actions will be cost prohibitive. In one of the hinterland towns the business operator will cease the provision of fuel as alternative fuel sources are easily available to the local community and the provision of fuel was only a small part of the business. In another hinterland town the business operator will cease the provision of fuel immediately with no alternatives for fuel sources within that township. This local operator has said that whilst he understood council's role, he would hope that council representatives act in good faith and in an expeditious manner to assist in resolving the current situation for the sake of his business, his clients as well as the local community in general. "I have been operating the service station for over a decade and in that time, I have contributed every day to local community associations and projects on a voluntarily basis. "Council's actions have now prevented me from carrying out my current means of earning a living. "I don't think Council realise how much this will affect me and the community that I have to face everyday." Sunshine Coast Council Mayor, Bob Abbot said the outcomes and recommendations within the independent risk assessment report left council with no option but to act on this issue immediately. "Having received the independent report on the risks, the findings can not be ignored especially given the number of people who frequent some of the locations on a regular basis. "Unfortunately, that's the reality – and it's a tough reality particularly so close to Christmas and in the economic climate of today." "Knowing the consequences and If something happened that caused severe injury or loss of life, neither the responsible officers in council nor the operator would be able to live with themselves I'm sure. "Council understands that businesses are doing it tough and while I know that this process is happening throughout Queensland – in some places where the only fuel bowser for hundreds of kilometres is the one at the general store with fuel tanks sitting under the footpath – it doesn't make this any easier. "What we are doing is working with the operator to minimise the economic impact to that business and the local community. "Already our economic development officers have contacted the operators and arranged to meet with them and we hope this will be the start of an ongoing business planning process to assist the handful of business impacted by this change to State legislation. "We will also be working with the operators to decommission the fuel tanks and to provide continued support in relation to the Dangerous Goods Safety Management Act 2001 and the incoming Work Health and Safety Act 2011. "The success of the towns impacted lies in the strength of their communities – I know they will be getting behind the service station and the general stores. "In conjunction with the local divisional councillors, I will ensure council staff continue working with the operators and community to make sure we have done everything possible to minimise the impact of these changes". A range of local business support measures are available to the impacted operators including: Professional advice and support from Council staff regarding the Dangerous Goods Safety Management Act 2001 and the incoming Work



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Health and Safety Act 2011 and the role of the Queensland State Government in this matter and in particular to assist you in understanding the directive and risk mitigation actions that you need to undertake; Support in communicating this matter to your customers and local community; and Independent business advisor support to assist you to develop and implement individual business plans for the ongoing future of your enterprise. This is not something we wanted to do nor do we feel happy about doing it," Cr Abbot said. "But at the end of the day, not only is council obligated to help local businesses comply with this legislation but we also have a community obligation – and that is to ensure that our community is kept safe."

Related Links

- [Dangerous Goods on Public Land](http://www.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au/sitePage.cfm?code=dangerous-goods) www.sunshinecoast.qld.gov.au/sitePage.cfm?code=dangerous-goods
Council responds to Queensland Government legislative changes to the Dangerous Goods Safety Management Act 2001

<http://viewnews.com.au/sunshine-coast/2011/council-closes-hinterland-service-stations-451850/>

USA, DE, MONTCHANIN, DECEMBER 10 2011. TRAIN DERAILMENT FORCES DETOURS IN MONTCHANIN

beth miller

 **Photo's [5]** [Train-derailment-shuts-Montchanin-Rockland-roads](#)



Train derailment in Montchanin.

Four cars of a freight train jumped the tracks this afternoon, snarling traffic at Del. 100 and Rockland roads in Montchanin but causing no injuries. Montchanin Road (Del. 100) was closed about two hours but has been reopened, DelDOT says. But [Rockland and Kirk Roads](#) remain closed near the tracks. Railroad and emergency officials weren't sure what caused the derailment, which happened just before 2:30 p.m. behind the old Montchanin train station. One tank car had about 27,000 gallons of butane in it, but no leaks were detected and many other cars were empty. At least one empty car had some damage, according to East Penn Railroad Vice President Al Sauer, and several intersections were blocked off as workers responded to the scene. The train was moving at about 10 mph when the incident

occurred. Officials planned to decouple the cars from the 20-car train, removing the unaffected cars with a locomotive sent to the scene from Pennsylvania. Then, they planned to work to get the derailed cars back on track - possibly with a crane. "They may have to fix a little section of track, too," said Talleyville Fire Company Chief Tom Looney. No environmental hazard was expected, according to Jamie Bethard of the state Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control. "It may be a little noisy around here for a while, though," he said. "It's not all going to happen tonight either." East Penn Railroad is based in Kennett Square, Pa., and has several short lines in Pennsylvania and Delaware.

<http://www.delawareonline.com/article/20111209/NEWS/111209038/Train-derailment-shuts-Montchanin-Rockland-roads?odyssey=nav%7Chead>

USA, ME, OTISFIELD, DECEMBER 10 2011. OTISFIELD OIL SPILL CAUSED BY THIEF CUTTING COPPER TUBING

leslie h. Dixon

 **Watch the Video** [portable classroom moved](#)



Although the tank from which the copper tubing was cut is encased in cement, oil leaked onto the ground because the copper was cut from outside the cement casing. If it had been cut on the inside of the casing, the oil would have been contained inside the box.

Crews continued to work this week to remove contaminated soil from the Otisfield Community School after someone cut the copper tubing from an oil and propane tank over Thanksgiving Day weekend in an apparent attempt to sell the scrap metal. The copper tubing was estimated by school Superintendent Rick Colpitts to be worth only about \$30, but the damage being caused by the cleanup of more than 100 gallons of spilled oil is expected to cost hundreds if not thousands of dollars. The cost includes removal of a portable classroom to accommodate the necessary



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removal of contaminated soil. Officials said the thief took a bolt cutter and snipped copper tubing that went to outside oil and propane tanks feeding two portable classrooms on the east side of the main school. One attempt was unsuccessful because the tubing was buried in the ground, but another attempt to get the tubing was successful. About half a tank full of No. 4 fuel oil leaked from the encased 240-gallon oil tank when the line was cut outside the encasement, Jon Woodard of the Maine Department of Environmental Protection said. On Tuesday, the DEP, with the assistance of Boom Technology, a 24-hour emergency response team out of Gorham, began digging the site, which is on a 15-foot strip of land between two portable classrooms on the east side of the school. But after a hole an estimated 8 feet deep and 10 feet wide had been dug, workers determined on Wednesday that it would be necessary to move one of two portable classrooms from the site to allow them access to the contaminated dirt under that unit. The classroom was moved to the back of the school's parking lot on Thursday afternoon. Because the soil is hard silt, it is hard to dig, Woodard said. "You can't plan for vandalism," Woodard said of future plans to protect the site that could include using a partial iron pipe. While the school's insurance and the DEP's own insurance program for such environmental problems will cover the costs of the cleanup, Colpitts said the school will have to test the water over the next six months to make sure no oil has gone into the private well. No cost has been determined yet.

<http://www.sunjournal.com/news/oxford-hills/2011/12/10/otisfield-oil-spill-caused-thief-cutting-copper-tubing/1125487>

AUSTRALIA, VICTORIA, ROWVILLE, DECEMBER 11 2011. UPDATE: DRIVER CRITICAL AFTER TANKER EXPLOSION IN ROWVILLE

wayne flower

 **Watch the Video** <http://www.skynews.com.au/topstories/article.aspx?id=695341&vld=2911304&cld=Top%20Stories>



The remains of the petrol tanker after it burst into flames at a petrol station next in Rowville early this morning.

Firefighters arrived to see a "burning wall" leading from the service station all the way to the hotel, which was promptly evacuated.

A driver has suffered serious burns after a petrol tanker exploded at a service station in Melbourne's southeast overnight, sending a wall of flames 150 metres down the road and setting fire to cars. Up to 100 Country Fire Authority firefighters tackled the inferno, which lit the night sky about 1am this morning at the intersection of Wellington and Stud Roads in Rowville. The driver of the tanker was taken to the Alfred Hospital with burns to his hands and legs and remains in a serious but stable condition. CFA deputy group officer from Knox Peter Shaw said firefighters arrived to see a "burning wall" leading from the service station all the way to the Stamford Inn, which was promptly evacuated. "There was a trail of flames. Two cars were set alight and another one crashed trying to escape the flames," he said. "It had a huge potential for disaster. We had two fire fronts – one at the service station and the other running down the drive way." Firefighters managed to blanket the flames with foam and remain at the scene while crews work to drain the remaining fuel from the tanker, which has a hole ripped in its side. It remains unclear how the fire began.

<http://www.heraldsun.com.au/news/more-news/tanker-explosion-lights-up-night-sky-in-rowville/story-fn7x8me2-1226219135986>

INDIA, GUJARAT, SURAT, DECEMBER 10 2011. MAN HELD WITH 77 KG AMMONIUM NITRATE

Police arrested one person and seized 77 kg of ammonium nitrate, 1,110 electronic detonators, 1118 non-electric [detonators](#) and 2,109 metres of safety wire from a stone quarry at Zab village of Mandvi taluka in Surat district on Thursday. The explosives were seized from Annapurna Quarry as the stock kept there was beyond its permissible limit. Surji Vasava, an employee at the quarry, was arrested while its owner [Bipin Patel](#) and [Kevin Karodiya](#) were declared wanted by the police. Later, a plaint in connection with the case was registered at [Mandvi police](#) station.

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/surat/Man-held-with-77-kg-ammonium-nitrate/articleshow/11050071.cms>



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