



Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network Release 2011 – 735 Newsy Stuff

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

July 25 2011



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USA, WI, ADAMS CO, ROME, JULY 18 2011. FIREWORKS BLASTS INJURE 11 >> FIREFIGHTER AMONG THOSE HURT IN ROME EXPLOSION

 **Watch the Video** <http://www.myfoxwausau.com/story/15095345/fireworks>

Authorities say they believe a fireworks malfunction caused an explosion that injured 11 people, including a person setting off the display and a town firefighter. Derek Bodette, 28, of Wisconsin Rapids, who is a member of Sight and Sound Fireworks, and Marlene Fuller, 77, of Janesville were flown by helicopter to Theda Clark Memorial Hospital in Neenah after the Saturday night explosion in the town of Rome, south of Wisconsin Rapids. Both were listed in stable condition Sunday, Rome Fire Chief Adam Grosz said. Bodette had cuts to his left leg and injuries to his forearm, including a racquetball-size hole in the arm, said Justin Bodette, his brother. The injuries were more shrapnel-type than burns, said Justin Bodette, who visited his brother in the hospital Sunday morning. "He's doing well," he said. "He's bummed that he's got to stay in the hospital." Justin Bodette, who didn't assist in the fireworks show on Saturday, said the hardest part of the ordeal was not knowing what was happening in the moments after the incident. The explosion occurred at about 9:30 p.m. Saturday during a professional fireworks show at Romano's Pizzeria, 108 Highway Z, Grosz said. An initial investigation indicated that a 5-inch tube malfunctioned and exploded while on the ground, causing several other fireworks to also explode and send debris into the crowd of spectators, Grosz said. Sight and Sound Fireworks of Wisconsin Rapids, in conjunction with Spielbauer Fireworks Co., was conducting the display. One Rome firefighter was taken by ambulance to Riverview Medical Center in Wisconsin Rapids, where she was treated and released, Grosz said. Two other people were taken by ambulance to Riverview Medical Center with nonlife-threatening injuries. No further information was available about those three victims Sunday. Six other people received medical treatment at the scene and were not taken to the hospital. The Rome Police and Fire departments and Adams County Sheriff's Department continue to investigate the incident. Sight and Sound Fireworks has a great safety record and crews take every precaution, Justin Bodette said. "This was one of those times when something happened," he said. The business had a fireworks permit, and Rome firefighters were standing by at the scene. Romano's Pizzeria is host to the display every year, Justin Bodette said. The owners of Romano's and Spielbauer Fireworks Co. did not return messages left Sunday.

<http://centralwisconsinhub.wausaudailyherald.com/article/20110718/WDH0101/107180388/Fireworks-blasts-injure-11?odyssey=tab|mostpopular|text|FRONTPAGE>

USA, MT, BILLINGS, JULY 18 2011. EXXON EXEC SAYS DOESN'T KNOW MONTANA SPILL'S CAUSE

molly born



Emergency response crew hired by Exxon Mobil clean up an oil spill along the Yellowstone River in Laurel, Montana, July 6, 2011.

An Exxon Mobil executive on Friday told a House committee that the firm had met all regulatory standards even as the company takes full responsibility for an oil spill that dumped an estimated 42,000 gallons of crude into Montana's Yellowstone River this month. ExxonMobil Pipeline President Gary Pruessing and others said at a hearing of the House Railroads, Pipelines and Hazardous Materials Subcommittee no one yet knows the cause of the July 1 spill that spread nearly 1,000 barrels of toxic chemicals at least 80 miles downstream to Laurel, Mont. the third major oil spill in the U.S. in 15 months. Cynthia Quarterman from the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration said the investigation is ongoing and determining the cause of the oil spill will

take several months. Examining the pipeline itself will take several weeks because high water currently prevents crews from removing it. Cleanup along the shoreline is underway. However, there was some confusion regarding when the river itself will be cleaned up. The Environmental Protection Agency — part of the team that will determine how to safely clean the river is giving Exxon until Sept. 9. This was news to Pruessing. Exxon Mobil hasn't released a cleanup date, he said, but he also didn't know anything about EPA's announcement: "I'm not aware of any dates that the EPA has said," Pruessing said. Exxon Mobil and the EPA will work together with Montana officials to determine the most effective way to clean the river, Pruessing said. Tester, a Democrat, appeared before the House pipelines subcommittee to make a statement at the beginning of the hearing and said Exxon needs greater regulation. In this case, Exxon was tasked with regulating itself and now "we're paying a price for it," he said. "Does that sound familiar?" Tester said. "Wall Street had no regulators either and it lead to the collapse of our nation's economy." But Rep. Denny Rehberg, a Montana Republican, thanked Pruessing for his presence in Billings. Pruessing said he would stay in Montana until he got the job done. Both Pruessing and Quarterman are set to testify Friday

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before a panel of the House Energy and Commerce Committee's energy subcommittee, which will hear testimony on pipeline safety legislation. Sen. Jay Rockefeller (D-W.Va.) is currently trying to pass a pipeline safety bill in the Senate.

http://www.marketwatch.com/story/exxon-exec-says-doesnt-know-montana-spills-cause-2011-07-14?reflink=MW_news_stmp

USA, AZ, PHEONIX, JULY 18 2011. MINING FIRM WILL PAY \$150,000 FOR ACID SPILL

tony davis

Freeport McMoRan Morenci Inc. has agreed to a \$150,000 settlement for a 2008 acid spill of 168,000 gallons from a company pipeline into a river tributary in Greenlee County, state officials said Thursday. The mining company will pay a \$75,000 penalty and conduct a \$75,000 supplemental environmental project as part of the consent judgment in Maricopa County Superior Court, said the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality. The supplemental project will include conducting one or more household-hazardous-waste collection events for residents of Graham or Greenlee counties, in eastern Arizona. Simultaneously, the ADEQ also filed a complaint in Maricopa County Superior Court, listing alleged violations by Freeport of its state permits that regulate discharges into surface water and groundwater. The settlement brought an end to the complaint at the same time it was filed. The October 2008 spill flowed about 2.1 miles down Chase Creek to about 120 feet from where the creek flowed into the larger San Francisco River. The highly acidic, foul-smelling liquid - a blend of sulfuric acid and copper - was stopped by four temporary earthen dams that Freeport workers built after the spill started. The spilled liquid flowed past the towns of Morenci and Clifton. The Department of Environmental Quality's complaint said the spill occurred because a Freeport contractor had in July 2008 incorrectly connected a pipeline used to transport a copper-sulfuric acid solution for mine operations into a second pipeline that transports water around the mine into Lower Chase Creek. The incorrect pipeline connection remained in place until Oct. 30, 2008, when the company put some of the copper-acid solution into the water pipeline that flowed into the creek, ADEQ said. The agency said Freeport had failed to inspect and identify the erroneous connection in previous months. Besides building the earthen dams, the company removed about 93,000 gallons of contaminated liquid from the creek by Oct. 31, 2008, and removed 84,481 tons of contaminated soil by Nov. 10, 2008, ADEQ said.

http://azstarnet.com/business/local/article_fb2707ca-969e-5cd9-8513-12f6282d4522.html

USA, MD OCEAN CITY, JULY 18 2011. SHIPWRECKS' EFFECT ON ENVIRONMENT PROBED >> OIL LEAKING FROM VESSELS COULD BE A CONCERN

scott muska



Standard Oil tanker W.L. Steed, unarmed and carrying 66,000 barrels of oil, was torpedoed by an Axis submarine on Feb. 2, 1942, about 90 miles off Ocean City. The attack set the W.L. Steed ablaze and sank it; only a handful of the crew of 38 survived.

Veteran scuba diver Ted Green isn't worried about sunken vessels near area beaches that are under scrutiny for potential oil leaks. The oil they once held, he thinks, is long gone -- already dispersed into the sea. You would be very hard-pressed to find a shipwreck off the coast of Delmarva that has any appreciable amount of oil left in it, said Green, the owner of OC Diver. If he's right, he's ahead of the curve now that the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration is combing through documents about known shipwrecks to decide

which ones might be at risk for leaking oil. NOAA is working to determine which of the more than 30,000 coastal shipwrecks they've identified contain fuels that could cause ecological damage, if they spring a leak. Lisa Symons, NOAA damage assessment and resource protection coordinator, pointed out five submerged vessels offshore of the resort the administration is assessing. The closest is the Marine Electric, a coal carrier that sank in 1983. Another is the India Arrow, a tanker that had been carrying a cargo of 88,369 barrels of diesel fuel during World War II when it was torpedoed by a German U-boat and sank about 20 miles southeast of Cape May, N.J. Green routinely dives both locations and said to the best of his knowledge the vast majority of oil has been gone from both vessels for years, maybe even decades. The India Arrow would have posed a greater ecological threat due to the nature of its cargo, but Green's travels through the inside of the boat have indicated to him that the holds that used to contain oil have all emptied out, meaning any damage done from its fuel cargo has long since transpired. "The boats that are carrying fuel are going to carry more potential for hazard than the others whose only fuel on board was what they were actually using for transportation," Green said. "The damage from those boats is still significant, but definitely not the same as a tanker full of oil." Green said that even if a ship is leaking oil, it wouldn't pose any kind of threat to

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a scuba diver. There are a number of ships along the East Coast he said do still contain oil, and leak it in small droplets that quickly dissipate in the water and cause "fairly minimal" environmental damage. It's not clear whether the submerged vessels will pose an environmental threat or not, according to Symons. She doesn't know for certain whether or not oil is still onboard any of the vessels. The agency hopes to conclude its investigation by the end of this year, she said, and at that point will turn its findings over to various Coast Guard bureaus. The Coast Guard will then decide if measures should be taken to further investigate the wrecks and possibly extract the fuels to prevent future leaks. The vessels in question will most likely fall under the jurisdiction of the Fifth Coast Guard District, based in Portsmouth, Va. "It's still very much in the assessment process," Symons said of the project. "We're trying to be as smart as we can about working through this and providing the Coast Guard with the most accurate risk assessment we can." Some of the vessels may not have broken apart completely and may still have intact fuel tanks that could begin to leak as corrosion progresses, according to Symons. The ships assessed by the NOAA were sunk after 1907 and meet a specific criteria for size and amount of fuel on board, Symons said. Many of them were sunk by U-boats during World War II. "That's not to say they're the only ones, because there are smaller boats with not as significant amounts of fuel on board that were ruled out," Symons said. There are many sunken boats off Ocean City's coast, but Monty Hawkins of the Maryland Artificial Reef Committee agrees with Green that the waters surrounding the resort will dodge any problems from sunken vessel oil leaks. Many of the sunken ships were put there intentionally as part of the artificial reef program, like the USS Arthur W. Radford, which is slated to be sunk off the coast sometime this year. "When we sink a ship, it has to be very clean, and the Radford, for instance, is so clean right now you could open a restaurant on it tomorrow," Hawkins said. "I don't really see us having much of a problem from leaking shipwrecks near Ocean City."

Investigations

Shipwrecks marked for oil content assessment by the NOAA within 100 miles of Ocean City beaches:

- The Varanger was torpedoed Jan. 25, 1942, while carrying 12,750 tons of fuel oil. The ship sank about 28 miles southeast of Atlantic City, N.J.
- The W.L. Steed was carrying 65,936 barrels of crude oil when it was torpedoed and sunk about 90 miles off the mouth of the Delaware River.
- The India Arrow was torpedoed and sunk 12 miles southeast of Cape May, N.J., on Feb. 5, 1942. It was carrying 88,369 barrels of diesel fuel.
- The John Morgan sunk during its maiden voyage on June 1, 1943, near Cape Henry. It was carrying military supplies.
- The Marine Electric foundered in heavy seas 30 miles east of the Chincoteague Inlet on Feb. 10, 1983. It was carrying 25,000 tons of coal.

<http://www.delmarvanow.com/article/20110717/NEWS01/107170311>

USA, WASHINGTON, DC, JULY 18, 2011. CSB DECLARES FLORIDA'S FAILURE TO ADOPT CSB RECOMMENDATION ON PROTECTING PUBLIC WORKERS "UNACCEPTABLE;" CHAIRPERSON RAFAEL MOURE-ERASO ASKS STATE TO RECONSIDER LEGISLATION

The U.S. Chemical Safety Board (CSB) today announced it has declared Florida's inaction and failure to adopt a [CSB recommendation](#) to provide federal-level workplace protections for state and municipal public workers an "[Unacceptable Response](#)." It is the first time that a CSB recommendation issued to a state and its legislature has been closed due to an unacceptable response by the recipient. At the same time, CSB Chairman Rafael Moure-Eraso called on the state to reconsider legislation that would provide adequate workplace protection for public employees. The recommendation was originally issued by the CSB presidentially-appointed board in 2007 following an [extensive investigation](#) into a January 11, 2006, methanol fire and explosion at the Bethune Wastewater Treatment plant in Daytona Beach that killed two public employees and seriously injured a third. Sparks from a welding torch used by Daytona Beach city workers above a tank of methanol ignited vapors that exploded. The CSB found that the if the city had implemented hot work and hazardous communication (HAZCOM) programs conforming to Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) safety standards, "the hazards of using a torch in proximity to the methanol tank would likely have been identified and possibly prevented." In Florida, OSHA safety and health protections apply to private employees, but not public employees, even though many such workers perform potentially hazardous work. [In a letter](#) to Florida Governor Rick Scott, CSB Chairman Rafael Moure-Eraso noted that in recent years, proposed legislation to provide workplace protections for public workers had been strongly supported by a broad coalition of trade groups, businesses, and unions but failed to pass in 2009 and 2010. "Since no bill to secure health and safety protections for Florida's public employees was introduced during the 2011 legislative sessions, the Board has concluded that neither you nor the State Legislature intend to take action to implement the CSB's

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recommendations." Chairman Moure-Eraso urged state officials to take up the recommendation anew, saying in the letter to Governor Scott, "The Board maintains that implementation of these recommendations is necessary to secure the health and safety of Florida's public employees. We therefore strongly encourage you and your colleagues in the state legislature to reconsider the CSB's recommendations." Chairman Moure-Eraso said, "Florida's inaction is unacceptable as it means public employees doing potentially hazardous work have inadequate workplace protections – which they would have if they were private-sector workers. The CSB has found that currently 27 states and jurisdictions operate safety and health programs for their public employees. There can be little doubt that these basic workplace standards help prevent accidents and save lives in those states." The CSB's Bethune investigation found that in addition to the accident that occurred at the wastewater treatment plant in Daytona Beach, 33 other chemical-related incidents had occurred in Florida from 2003 to 2007. These incidents all involved chemicals that would be covered by the federal OSHA hazard communication regulations. The CSB is an independent federal agency charged with investigating industrial chemical accidents. The agency's board members are appointed by the president and confirmed by the Senate. CSB investigations look into all aspects of chemical accidents, including physical causes such as equipment failure as well as inadequacies in regulations, industry standards, and safety management systems.

www.csb.gov.

SCOTLAND, GRANGEMOUTH, JULY 18 2011. CHEMICAL GIANT 'INEOS' FINED £100,000 FOLLOWING AN OIL RELEASE

INEOS Manufacturing Scotland Limited has been fined £100,000 following an uncontrolled release of crude oil at their Grangemouth refinery in May 2008. The incident happened when a pipeline containing crude oil became over pressurised as a result of a process known as thermal expansion. The failure of the pipeline caused extremely flammable crude oil to spray out across a nearby pumphouse and adjacent pipelines containing other dangerous substances. The Health and Safety Executive (HSE) investigated the incident that happened on 7 May 2008 with the assistance of the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA). HSE's investigation found that INEOS were aware of the risks from thermal expansion and the need to install and use engineering controls, but instead they chose to rely on staff to manually drain crude oil from the pipeline. Falkirk Sheriff Court heard that crude oil drained from the pipeline was stored in a metal skip, not designed for the safe storage of an extremely flammable substance, so the risk of fire and explosion was increased. INEOS Manufacturing Scotland Ltd, of Bo'ness Road, Grangemouth, FK3 9XH, was fined £100,000 after pleading guilty to breaching Section 2(1) of the Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974. After the hearing HSE's Investigating Inspector Brian Kennedy said: "The crude oil involved in this incident was extremely flammable and had the potential to result in serious injury had there been a fire or explosion. "Despite having recognised the need for engineered thermal relief on their crude oil pipelines following an incident at their refinery a year earlier, INEOS chose instead to rely on a manual system for managing thermal expansion. This system of work actually increased the risk of fire and explosion and ultimately failed to prevent the pipeline from becoming over pressurised. "The risk of over pressurising pipelines and storage vessels as a result of thermal expansion are well understood, as are the required control measures. "HSE takes breaches of health and safety legislation very seriously, regardless of whether people have been injured or there has been damage to the environment."

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/press/2011/coi-sco-05311.htm>

USA. UT, SANTAQUIN, JULY 19 2011. BYU STUDENTS SERIOUSLY BURNED AFTER FIREBOMB ACCIDENT

justin smith

Four people were admitted in a critical condition to University Burn Center on Saturday after dropping gasoline bombs into a mine shaft. A group of Brigham Young University students suffered serious burn injuries while dropping Molotov cocktails down a mine shaft near Eureka. Ambulances transported a dozen individuals to area hospitals, Utah County sheriff's Lieutenant Darren Gilbert said. Four individuals are still in the hospital and considered in critical condition. "We are not releasing the names of those involved right now," Gilbert said. "Criminal aspects are still under investigation including criminal mischief, reckless burning and trespassing." Three groups of people including a large group of BYU students were participating in pyrotechnics and dropping gasoline down the shaft Saturday night, Utah County sheriff's Sergeant Spencer Cannon said. The Tintic Mining District shaft is a popular site for illegal pyrotechnics. "They were dropping fireworks and small bombs into the shaft," Cannon said. "About two to three gallons of gasoline was lit and kicked or spilled over." The fire spilled on the sides of the shaft and burned up the shaft inflicting injuries on the individuals sitting on the grated shaft cap. Some of the participants were sitting on the grate with their legs hanging down when the gasoline was spilled over. "I heard rumor that

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there may have been up to 30 individuals there," Gilbert said. "I met with the ambulances in Syracuse; 12 individuals were transported by ambulance that night." Vickie King, executive assistant of public affairs at University of Utah Healthcare, spoke about some of the patients. "Six patients were admitted," she said. "Two have been treated and released and four are still in critical condition." "Those involved are very fortunate that no one was killed," Cannon said. "Several years ago we had a rash of students participating and we issued a number of citations. There is a weird attraction to kids to participate." Craig Foster, 25, a senior studying anthropology, said he has participated in dropping explosives down the shaft. "My friends invited me to go to the fire hole with them a few summers back," Foster said. "Their trunk was full of milk jugs and bottles of gasoline. When we got to the hole, which is covered by a large open grate, we ripped up t-shirts and stuffed them in the jugs. We lit them and threw the jugs to the bottom where they would explode and send fire up the shaft. It didn't really seem dangerous. It was really fun."

<http://universe.byu.edu/index.php/2011/07/18/byu-students-seriously-burned-after-firebomb-accident/>

NEW ZEALAND, TOKOROA, WHAKAMARU, JULY 19 2011. GAS STATION, CHURCH, DESTROYED BY FIRES

[Watch the Video: Fire at Whakamaru petrol station](#)



Firefighters at Gasoline Alley in Whakamaru.

A gas station building near Taupo has been destroyed by fire this morning. The Fire Service says the Gasoline Alley station in Whakamaru caught fire just after 1.30am. Fifty fire fighters and 10 fire engines from Mangakino, Tokoroa and Taupo were used to tackle the fire in the 20 by 30 metre building which was well alight when the fire crews arrived. Nigel Richards, Assistant Area Commander for the Central Lakes Fire Area, told ONE News because so many calls were received early about the fire, crews were able to attend earlier and prevent it spreading to the forecourt. He said despite it being in a petrol station there was no chance of it going up. "The way the weather is at the moment, it's particular cold and the wind direction actually pushed the flames away ... so there was no risk of explosion in the forecourt." Richards said there were no indicators about what caused the petrol station fire but special investigators from the Taupo Fire

District are at the scene this morning.

<http://tvnz.co.nz/national-news/gas-station-church-destroyed-fires-4310774>

AUSTRALIA, SOUTH AUSTRALIA, ADELAIDE, JULY 19 2011. CALTEX AUSTRALIA SIGNS DEAL FOR NEW TERMINAL

Caltex Australia has signed a 25-year deal with Terminals Pty to double its fuel storage capacity by building a new terminal that will house diesel, biodiesel and ethanol. As part of the arrangements, Caltex will become a foundation customer of the new fuel storage terminal being built at Adelaide's Outer Harbour. Terminals is waiting for stage one of the project to be approved and then it will begin construction with the new facility due to open in 2013 and hold 85 million litres to begin with, extending to 135 million litres over time. The first phase will cost AUS\$80 million (€60.46) and Caltex's MD and CEO Julian Segal says the increase in storage will help to meet Adelaide's growing demand. At the end of last year, Caltex faced criticism from the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) for buying an ExxonMobil terminal, as the ACCC said the purchase could prevent the entry of independent fuel suppliers in the regional market. However, Segal says the new development will be beneficial for the local area. He says: 'This project is part of Caltex's overall commitment to develop infrastructure and capability to meet Australia's growing transport, agricultural and mining fuel needs.'

http://www.tankstoragemag.com/industry_news.php?item_id=3830

ISRAEL, JERUSALEM, JULY 19 2011. IATA INCONCLUSIVE ON BEN GURION JET FUEL CONTAMINATION >> THE ORGANIZATION'S PRELIMINARY REPORT RETRACTS EARLIER FINDINGS THAT PAZ WAS RESPONSIBLE.

anat shihor-aharonson

Shortly after the International Air Transport Association (IATA) draft report found that [Paz Oil Company Ltd.](#) (TASE:PZOL) was responsible for the jet fuel contamination at Ben Gurion Airport in early May, the preliminary report submitted on Friday to the airlines operating in Israel and the jet fuel operators could not determine culpability for the contamination. IATA states that its

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delegation reached no conclusion about the source of the contamination, but that the investigators were able to prove the following facts:

- Contamination was found in the filters of the jet fuel tankers owned both Paz Aviation Services Ltd. and [Mercury Aviation \(Israel\) Ltd.](#)
- Contamination was found in the filters of the fuel tanks of Paz, and the entry and exit of the excise terminal, and in the filters of the pipelines leaving Paz Ashdod Oil Refinery. No contamination was found in the filters of [Oil Refineries Ltd.](#) (TASE: [ORL](#)) in Haifa.
- No product was received via the import channel.

It recommends an immediate cleaning of the supply line from Paz Ashdod Oil Refinery to the excise terminal, and from the excise terminal to Paz's fuel jet tanks to remove any residual contaminants. IAIT also recommends a review of the contents and format of the notice to air crews to create a direct and clear notification procedure, which will be the sole official source. In a notice to the TASE, Paz said in response, "In contrast to the draft report, the IATA interim report does not determine that Paz Ashdod Oil Refinery was the source of the contamination. The IATA team did not visit Paz Ashdod and held no meetings with its staff. The IATA findings are not based on laboratory tests, but on summaries of meetings, and they contradict the authorized laboratory tests in our possession, which were sent to the Ministry of National Infrastructures investigative committee."

<http://www.globes.co.il/serveen/globes/docview.asp?did=1000665133&fid=1725>

USA, N.J, RINGWOOD, JULY 19 2011. ENVIRONMENTALIST: ENTIRE N.J. TOWN SHOULD BE TESTED FOR LEAD >> FEARS OF CONTAMINATION PLAGUE RINGWOOD MINES, SURROUNDING NEIGHBORHOODS

lou young

 **Watch the Video** <http://newyork.cbslocal.com/2011/07/18/environmentalist-entire-n-j-town-should-be-tested-for-lead/>



A sample of the soil taken at the Ringwood Mines Site in Ringwood, N.J., where environmentalists believe there is a serious lead contamination problem.

The contamination has spread further than anyone imagined. Lead levels in homes just outside a New Jersey superfund site have been found to be dangerously high and that has some observers demanding quick action. The sludge dumped on the site continues to surprise the people trying to clean it up and the residents trying to live their lives nearby. Environmentalist Robert Spiegel is so alarmed he said the entire population of this rural community should be screened for contamination. "Everybody should be tested for lead and dioxin," Spiegel told CBS 2's Lou Young. Spiegel is chairman of the advisory board charged with monitoring the decades-long clean-up at the Ringwood Mines Site, where the vast amounts of paint sludge from a nearby Ford car plant

was dumped in the 1960s and '70s. The Environmental Protection Agency has twice declared the site clean only to re-open it. "There's still mine shafts just full of toxic waste up here," Spiegel said. Recent soil tests show that some homes in the area have lead levels of 22 thousand parts per million in their yards. That's 50 times what the government considers safe. The EPA said it has removed 37,000 tons of soil and debris from the site since 2004 and has no estimate how much more is left. "We have such high death rate around here. And one of my concerns is, do some of the adults have high lead levels?" Upper Ringwood resident Vivian Milligan said. The New Jersey Department of Health has offered lead screening for children living here, but not for adults, few of whom have health insurance or the means to get the tests themselves. A spokesperson for department in Trenton said it's taking the advisory panel's recommendation under advisement.

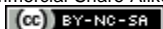
<http://newyork.cbslocal.com/2011/07/18/environmentalist-entire-n-j-town-should-be-tested-for-lead/>

USA, TX, DALLAS, JULY 19 2011. TENARIS GLOBAL SERVICES, (USA) CORP. TO PAY \$717,324 FOR ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTING VIOLATIONS

 **Click-2-Listen** <http://www.epa.gov/region6/6xa/podcast/jul2011.html>

Tenaris Global Services, (USA) Corp., a manufacturer and supplier of steel pipe products for the oil and energy industry, has agreed to pay \$717,324 of civil penalties to the United States to settle violations of environmental regulations at seven facilities related to the public reporting of toxic chemicals at its facilities in Louisiana, Texas and Arkansas. "These laws are in place to

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protect workers, emergency responders and the community in the event of an accidental release or fire," said Regional Administrator Al Armendariz. "Without accurate information, local officials can't make informed decisions and people don't know what to do." The company failed to report quantities of chemicals on site that were manufactured, processed or otherwise used at the facility during 2005-2008. The regulated chemicals included lead, manganese, nickel, nitrate compounds, xylene, chromium, nitric acid, glycol ethers and zinc compounds. Companies are required to report these chemicals each year. The following facilities were levied fines:

- Hydril Company, McCarty Manufacturing Plant, Houston, Texas, \$141,344
- Hydril Company, Westwego Manufacturing Plant, Westwego, Louisiana, \$108,717
- Maverick Tube Corporation, Hickman Facility, Blytheville, Arkansas, \$119,422
- Maverick Tube Corporation, Tenaris Conroe Facility, Conroe, Texas, \$43,281
- Tenaris Coiled Tubes, Precision Tube Technology, Houston, Texas, \$105,661
- Tenaris Coiled Tubes, Subsea Center, Houston, Texas, \$34,171
- Maverick Tube Corporation, ARAI facility, Houston, Texas, \$164,728

Submission of the annual toxic chemical reports is a requirement of the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA). Under EPCRA regulations, large companies are required to submit annual reports to EPA and state authorities listing the amounts of regulated chemicals that are manufactured, processed or otherwise used at the facility. The reports provide an important source of information to emergency planners and responders, and residents of surrounding communities. EPCRA was enacted by Congress in 1986 for the protection of the public from chemical emergencies and dangers. For information on EPA's Emergency Planning and Community Right to Know Act, visit

<http://www.epa.gov/compliance/civil/epcra/epcraenfstareq.html>

<http://www.epa.gov/aboutepa/region6.html>

CHINA, SICHUAN PROVINCE, SUINING CITY, J HUIMA TWP, JULY 19 2011. FIREWORKS FCY BLAST INJURES 3

At least three people have been confirmed injured after an explosion occurred at a fireworks factory in Suining City, Southwest China's Sichuan province, Tuesday morning. A spokesman with the city's fire department said one who was seriously injured had been sent to the central hospital of Suining City. Burning fire caused by the explosion was put off at around 10:00 am. The explosion happened at around 7 am in the fireworks workshop in Huima Township of the city. The exact number of casualties has yet to be confirmed. Residential houses in the nearby area within a radius of several kilometers from the explosion site had some of their glass fragmented by the shockwave of the blast. A dozen or so villagers are receiving medical treatment at a local clinic for their wounds caused by glass fragments. Some netizens left micro-blog messages on the Internet Tuesday morning saying the explosions at the fireworks plant caused such severe tremors that local people feared it was an earthquake. They suspected there might be more casualties. Cause of the explosion is being investigated.

http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/china/2011-07/19/content_12934360.htm

USA, CA, LOS ANGELES, WINNETKA, JULY 20 2011. HEATING OIL SPILL CAUSED THE CLOSING OF TWO WINNETKA BEACHES ON TUESDAY

john p. huston

 **Photo Gallery** <http://triblocal.com/winnetka-northfield/galleries/2011/07/crews-respond-to-heating-oil-leak-in-winnetka/>



A member of the U.S. Coast Guard examines a heating oil leak at Elder Lane Beach in Winnetka on July 19.

As the temperature topped 90 degrees on Tuesday afternoon, two Winnetka beaches were closed after an unspecified amount of heating oil poured through the village's storm sewer into the lake. Elder Lane Beach and the Centennial Dog Beach are closed until further notice, according to an alert from the Winnetka Park District. The beaches were closed at 10 a.m. after a strong smell of gasoline was reported at Elder Lane Beach, said Lee Volpe, the park district's superintendent of recreation. A private contractor specializing in environmental clean-up was brought in to test the water and remediate the spill, said Steve Saunders, Winnetka's public works director. By 4 p.m., Saunders' crew traced the spill, originally thought to be gasoline, to a storm sewer in the 400 block of Willow

Road, where a private plumbing contractor had apparently struck a heating oil tank in a home's basement. The heating oil

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traveled through the water pipe into a pit in the center of the street, where it filtered into the village's storm sewer through a broken pipe, officials said. The area's storm sewer feeds to an outflow at the end of Elder Lane Beach's pier, where a rainbow-colored slick was bobbing against the beach Tuesday afternoon. While a crew on the Elder Lane Beach worked to isolate and remove the heating oil from Lake Michigan, another crew in the 400 block of Willow worked to plug the storm sewer and scrub the inside of the pipe so more oil wouldn't escape into the water. Otherwise, "The next time it rains, everything will get washed back out to the beach," Saunders said. The home's 1,000-gallon underground heating oil tank dates to 1943 — before the village switched to a natural gas heating system, Saunders said. U.S. Coast Guard members were on site to monitor the clean-up process, and officials said the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service had been notified of the spill. The village's two other swimming beaches, Tower Road Beach and Maple Street Beach, remained open Tuesday, Volpe said. Kelly Duff, of Winnetka, brought her soon-to-be 2-year-old son Jack to Elder Lane Beach to play in the sand, but discovered it was closed. "It's a bummer," Duff said. "We actually live closer to the Tower Road Beach, but we come here because we like it better." Officials said Tuesday's oil spill had nothing to do with the frequent beach closings at Elder and Centennial beaches, which are attributed to high bacteria levels. Duff said the closings gave her pause. "I grew up playing at this beach," she said. "It makes me wonder about when I used to swim here 25 years ago." A recent Natural Resources Defense Council report titled "Testing the Waters 2011" looked at water quality and public notification for public beaches across the country. Illinois ranked 26th in the country in beach water quality, but it was Elder Park Beach and Centennial Dog Beach in Winnetka that topped the state's most contaminated list for 2010. Elder was closed or posted an advisory day 42 times between Memorial and Labor days in 2010. Centennial Dog Beach was closed or had an advisory day 34 times. Winnetka has what is referred to as a "spiller pays" ordinance, meaning the homeowner where the heating oil tank was ruptured could be held accountable for the clean-up costs, including those at the beach. "At some point when this is all said and done, we'll have to look at the cost and see if it fits with the criteria of the ordinance," said Winnetka Fire Chief Alan Berkowsky.

<http://triblocal.com/winnetka-northfield/2011/07/19/two-winnetka-beaches-closed-due-to-gasoline-spill/>

USA, FLA, PUNTA GORDA, JULY 20 2011. BOY, 9, BADLY BURNED PLAYING WITH GASOLINE

 **Watch the Video** <http://www.abc-7.com/story/15103501/2011/07/18/young-boy-badly-burned-in-accident-with-fire>

A 9-year-old boy was badly burned while allegedly playing with gasoline, according to officials with Charlotte County Fire and EMS. Emergency crews were called out to 30089 Oak Road in Punta Gorda shortly after 8 p.m. Monday. According to the victim's grandfather, 9-year-old Logan Nelson and several of his friends were playing with gasoline in a vacant field. "They had gotten some gas and set it on fire and one of the kids kicked whatever they had the gas in and splashed it all over Logan. And of course at that point he was on fire," said Douglas Nelson Sr, Logan's grandfather. Douglas Nelson Jr said the gasoline was in a two liter jug. "We're assuming they got it from the other two little boys property because my father doesn't leave gas cans laying around," said Nelson Jr. Douglas Sr said his grandson has burns over 80-percent of his body. "All over his body, up and down his arms were peeling off. His legs were peeling," said Nelson Sr. Deputies say they are still investigating but do not plan to make any arrests. After the fire, Logan was flown to Tampa General Hospital's burn unit. He was then flown to the Shriners Hospital in Ohio for further treatment. "I feel so bad for him and I miss him real bad," said Nelson. Logan was in critical condition Tuesday morning, but his injuries are not considered life threatening.

<http://www.abc-7.com/story/15103501/2011/07/18/young-boy-badly-burned-in-accident-with-fire>

USA, FLA, PALM BEACH, JULY 20 2011. 7-ELEVEN ADDS 33 LOCATIONS IN PALM BEACH COUNTY >> S. FLORIDA GROWTH IS PART OF NATIONAL EXPANSION

toni-ann miller

Convenience-store giant 7-Eleven recently expanded its holdings in Florida, pumping \$57 million into [Palm Beach County](#) to purchase dozens of gas stations and plans to take over 30 others in [Broward County](#). 7-Eleven Inc. in December announced its plan to acquire [Exxon Mobil](#)'s retail interests in 183 Florida sites, five of which are unused parcels. The deal is for sites in Orlando, Southwest Florida, and Broward and [Palm Beach](#) counties. 7-Eleven bought each of the 33 locations in [Palm Beach County](#) for between \$196,246 and \$5,061,067, according to the county clerk's website. The total of the 33 purchases was about \$57.6 million. The company bought 30 locations in Broward that they plan to open by the end of the year. 7-Eleven's presence in Florida is a part of a nationwide expansion, according to 7-Eleven spokeswoman Margaret Chabris. The company plans to add 500 stores in the U.S. and Canada this year. Read More at:

<http://www.sun-sentinel.com/business/pb-7-eleven-expands-20110718.0.7138859.story>

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USA, ARK, BLYTHEVILLE, JULY 20 2011. BLYTHEVILLE PIPE MANUFACTURER FINED \$119,422

peter urban

Maverick Tube Corp. was fined \$119,422 for failing to report certain chemicals used at its Hickman facility in Blytheville over a four-year period. The penalty was part of a larger \$717,324 fine that Tenaris Global Services agreed to pay to settle violations of environmental regulations at seven of its facilities in Louisiana, Texas and Arkansas, according to the Environmental Protection Agency. The facilities manufacture steel pipe for the oil and gas industry. "These laws are in place to protect workers, emergency responders and the community in the event of an accidental release or fire. Without accurate information, local officials can't make informed decisions and people don't know what to do," said EPA Regional Administrator Al Armendariz. The company failed to report quantities of lead, manganese, nickel, xylene, chromium, nitric acid, glycol ethers, nitrate compounds, and zinc compounds used at the facilities during 2005-2008, EPA said.

<http://arkansasnews.com/2011/07/18/blytheville-pipe-manufacturer-fined-119422/>

AUSTRALIA, NEW SOUTH WALES WORKSAFE SAFETY BULLETIN: SWITCHLOADING WHEN TRANSFERRING FLAMMABLE LIQUIDS

This safety alert is published following a recent coroners finding into an incident in Peak Hill in 2008 that highlighted the dangers of switch-loading & static electricity.

Download Alert at:

[Switch-loading When Transferring Flammable Liquids](#)

AUSTRALIA, NEW SOUTH WALES WORKSAFE SAFETY BULLETIN: FIRE AND EXPLOSION RISKS AT WINERIES

An explosion and subsequent fires occurred at a winery in the Hunter Valley on 17 January 2008 that resulted in the tragic death of two persons and serious burns to another person. While the causes of the incident are still being investigated, initial investigations indicate that welding work was being done at the time in the vicinity of a building where ethanol and other flammable liquids were stored.

Download Alert at:

[Fire & Explosion Risks at Wineries](#)

AUSTRALIA, NEW SOUTH WALES WORKSAFE SAFETY BULLETIN: WARNING ON SAFE STORAGE OF EXPLOSIVES

Concern is held that explosives may not be stored safely by those with a blasting explosives users permit who hold small quantities of explosives on their premises, thus presenting a risk to anyone in close proximity to those explosives.

Download Alert at:

[Warning on Safe Storage of Explosives](#)

CANADA, PE, MONTAGUE, JULY 20 2011. OIL TANK 'JUST LET GO' >> MONTAGUE BAKERY OIL TANK TAGGED, INSPECTED BY THE PROVINCE UNTIL 2016

steve sharrat



Montague Bakery owner Kent Myers and employee Ashton Schellen say the drive-thru is still open as the business copes with the clean up after a freak accidental oil spill.

The drive-thru at the Montague Bakery is still open as employees in the bake shop and owner Kent Myers try to cope with a freak oil spill over the weekend. That's when an outdoor storage tank – years away from expiry date – rotted through the bottom and sent 1,500 litres into the ground. "It just let go," said owner Kent Myers, whose Main Street business is across from Sobeys. "And three quarters of the tank was into the ground." Myers has nothing but praise for Irving Oil and dubious appreciation of a provincial inspection program that tagged his tank as having a lifespan until 2016. "Someone tagged that tank and said it was good for another five years," said Myers. "I'm not an expert, I just

followed the rules." But that rule, along with an insurance coverage that doesn't pay for oil spills, is costing Myers out of pocket expenses ranging up to almost \$10,000. He isn't asking for compensation, but wouldn't turn his back on government help in this case. His outdoor storage tank was properly mounted on concrete footings and he says he complied with all regulations. It let go Friday night around 9 p.m. and within a few hours the ovens were back on thanks to Irving Oil. "I complied with all the

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Department of Environment regulations and they've been great during this predicament," he said next to a gaping hole that used to contain 180 tonnes of soil. "I was advised that outdoor tank would last me until the end of inspection." The New Democrats released a statement insisting the government has a responsibility to provide Islanders with answers to protect them from the costs of faulty oil tanks and spills. "Is it a case of inferior oil tanks that rust out long before their normal lifespan? Or is it a problem with additives or other components in the home heating oil itself?" NDP Leader James Rodd asked. "Homeowners bought these tanks in good faith, paid good money for them, and were led to believe that they would last. It's not the homeowners who are at fault here!" Rodd said if it's a manufacturer defect, the company should pay the bill. He also notes that home heating oil suppliers might be remiss if their products are accelerating the rusting process inside a fuel tank. "We believe the Ghiz government has the ability and responsibility to get to the bottom of this," he said. Meanwhile, Myers says its business as usual and the bread is still being baked and the coffee still being poured. "We're lucky, we have a lot of loyal customers who don't mind the temporary mess," he said noting the clean up should be done within a week.

<http://www.theguardian.pe.ca/News/Local/2011-07-19/article-2665018/Oil-tank-just-let-go/1>

USA, N.J, BRIDGEWATER, JULY 20 2011. FIRM TOLD TO TREAT CONTAMINATED GROUND WATER

bob makin



Groundwater monitoring pumping stations at the American Cyanamid Superfund site in Bridgewater, along Cole Drive.

Environmentalists said that a Courier News investigation of hazardous leaks in toxic chemical lagoons on the American Cyanamid Superfund site led the Environment Protection Agency to force the owner to install a system to collect and treat contaminated water. Levels of carcinogenic benzene 20,000 times greater than regulatory standards had been found in the nearby Raritan River, the EPA reported. As a result, Wyeth Holdings, a subsidiary of Pfizer, will be forced to design and construct a system to prevent contaminated water from seeping into

the Raritan, as well as Cuckhold's Brook and Middle Brook, said Elias Rodriguez, an EPA spokesman. The river is a source of drinking water for millions of Central Jersey residents. To test and improve water quality, a trench will be constructed along the river as an interim solution to block, capture and prevent ground water from seeping into it, Elias said. The groundwater contamination believed to be coming from two of the site's 14 chemical lagoons will be studied so that a long-term remedial solution can be found, Elias said. The water captured in the trench will be treated and disposed of properly, he said. A more immediate solution needs to be found, and air quality tests also need to be done, said Robert Spiegel, the executive director of Edison Wetlands Association. The nonprofit organization has pressured the EPA to remediate other Superfund sites, including Chemical Insecticide Corp. and the Kin-Buc Landfill, two Edison sites that were turned into public parks. "While it's a step in the right direction for the EPA to require Pfizer to install a collection system, there are likely many other impacts," Spiegel said. Spiegel is featured this week in the HBO documentary "Mann v. Ford," which tells of his work to protect Ramapough Indians from toxic sludge dumped by the Ford Motor Co. on their North Jersey land in the late 1960s and early 1970s. The documentary and other recent media investigations show the health impact on Ringwood residents, many of whom have died from cancer medically linked to the lead dumped near their homes. Because of benzene, as well as mercury and other contaminants seeping from the American Cyanamid chemical lagoons into the river and possibly into ground water, Spiegel said residents of Bridgewater and neighboring Bound Brook should have the air quality in their basements tested. "The EPA needs to do more," Spiegel said. "They need to get rid of those chemical lagoons. I liken it to a surgical wound that is bleeding. You don't operate on a surgical wound. You stitch it up and get rid of it. Don't wait until 2012 to determine what to do with these chemical lagoons. Get rid of them now, not a year from now. They are threat to the people of Bridgewater and Bound Brook and anyone who jogs on the Delaware & Raritan Canal Tow Path who breathes the air next to those lagoons. That's how much of a threat they pose." The EPA confirmed that soil and ground water at the site are contaminated with nonvolatile inorganic compounds and volatile organic compounds, which are potentially harmful contaminants that can easily evaporate into the air. According to the EPA, the American Cyanamid Superfund site has a legacy of industrial pollution dating back to 1915. For nearly 100 years, prior owners used the location for manufacturing chemicals. The EPA has supervised the long-term cleanup of the site since 1983, when it was placed on the federal Superfund list because hazardous chemicals were found in the soil and ground water. The 435-acre Superfund site contained various areas used for the disposal of chemical sludge and other wastes. In 1998, EPA delisted 140 acres of the site from the Superfund list. That land was made available for redevelopment and now includes TD Bank Ballpark. The riverside site is secured and largely fenced off, and access is restricted. Yet, Spiegel found teenagers riding off-road vehicles through the chemical lagoons last year. He warned them of the

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dangers and posted a video of the encounter on YouTube. Since 2009, Pfizer assumed responsibility for the site as part of its purchase of Wyeth. "Even though Pfizer didn't cause the contamination, we've taken responsibility for cleaning it up," said Russell Downey, Pfizer's project manager for site remediation. "Pfizer is committed to and has a reputation for addressing environmental concerns quickly, responsibly and in full cooperation with regulatory agencies and the communities involved. We are proceeding as quickly and as aggressively as we can, with the goal of a solution that is protective of human health and the environment." Spiegel disagreed. He accused Pfizer of having ED, "environmental dysfunction." He said: "Clearly, the fact that the newspaper brought this to light in a series of articles is the reason why this is being done. If not for that, the EPA would still be talking about this, and it would be dragging on forever. The Courier News reporting pushed this issue to the forefront."

<http://www.mycentraljersey.com/article/20110719/NJNEWS/307190042/Firm-told-to-treat-contaminated-ground-water>

USA, MT, LAUREL, JULY 20 2011. AN OIL SLICK RUNS THROUGH IT >> IN MONTANA, RANCHERS REEL FROM THE OIL SPILL ON THE ICONIC YELLOWSTONE RIVER.

kate sheppard



Alexis Bonogofsky points to a pool of oily water left behind on their farm.

I'm standing in a field next to Montana's Yellowstone River, a gentle breeze swaying the pasture grass and tempering the 85-degree heat. White fluffs from a cottonwood tree drift slowly across the sky like cartoonish snowflakes. It would be an idyllic scene, if it weren't for the strong smell of crude oil and the guys in hazmat suits patrolling the farm next door. It's two weeks to the day after ExxonMobil's Silvertip pipeline ruptured under the Yellowstone, spilling an estimated 42,000 gallons of oil into the raging waters in [Laurel, Montana](#). When the spill started late in the evening of July 1, the river had overflowed its banks, pushing water out into the surrounding fields. This meant that the oil, too, flowed in, and when the floods receded they left a ring of black crude around this particular field, and the thick gunk still clung to the blades of grass. Most of the damage was within 50 miles of the site of the break, though oil has been

reported as far as 240 miles away. The pair that owns the field that I'm visiting today are ranchers, a middle-aged couple that raises cattle here. They asked that I not use their names, as their lawyer advised that it could affect their claim with Exxon for the damage. I'll call them Sarah and Jim. As we talk, cleanup workers are mowing oil-stained grass at the farm next door and shoveling oil into bags to carry away. Not long before the spill, Sarah and Jim had been talking about fencing off the field and moving their cattle in to graze; they planned to sell the hay this fall, but given the stripe of crude, now no one will be buying it. The property's blue ranch house, usually inhabited by Sarah and Jim's daughter, has been vacant ever since the fumes from the oil drove her to a hotel. "I never thought about it," says Sarah, referring to the pipeline. "I don't know that I was even aware there was one in the river." The 12-inch Silvertip pipeline is buried 5 feet below the riverbed, which [was supposed to be far enough](#) to prevent a spill like this from happening. It's still unclear what caused it to leak. There has been speculation that the increased flow in the river, erosion, and fast-moving debris caused or contributed to the break. And while the company claimed that the pipeline only carried light crude, two weeks after the spill it [finally confirmed](#) that it was also used to transport tar sands oil—which is heavier, more toxic, and more corrosive than conventional crude. Richard Oppen, the director of the Montana Department of Environmental Quality, told me that Exxon and the state responders likely won't know for sure what caused the spill until they can unearth the pipeline in September or October, when the river's waters have subsided. Farther down the Yellowstone from the Silvertip spill, I meet a young woman named Alexis Bonogofsky, who runs her family's goat farm with her partner. Bonogofsky, who is also a senior tribal lands coordinator with the National Wildlife Federation, tells me she had been eager for the floodwaters to irrigate the grazing area that her goats use in late summer and early fall. But when she got to the pasture the morning after the spill, she was surprised by the overwhelming stench of petroleum, and she could see that crude had sloshed nearly a quarter of a mile into their fields. Although Bonogofsky's farm is only 14 miles from the spill site, no one had notified her about the spill. She didn't find out what had happened until she checked the local paper's website. Bonogofsky and her partner have found it hard to track down information about how to mitigate the oil damage on their property. The county emergency response office told them to call Exxon's hotline. Exxon asked for information but had little to provide. When they finally got a hold of someone from the company, Bonogofsky said, "they told us 'off the record' to get our livestock away from the oil." They were handed a brochure put out by the American Petroleum Institute, the lobbying group for the oil industry, on how to protect livestock from crude oil. Crews have come in and cut down some plants covered in oil and dropped large

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cloths that resemble diapers over other patches. But the water that sits in their slew is a sickly brown color, and you can still see oil sheens atop puddles in the low-lying areas. The spill came at a time when pipeline politics were already on many Montanans' minds. Just 160 hundred miles downstream from the spill site is where the proposed Keystone XL pipeline would also cross the Yellowstone. Three times larger and many miles longer than the Silvertip, the Keystone would transport up to 21.4 million gallons of tar sands oil every day from Alberta to Texas. It would cross more than 70 rivers and streams—including the Yellowstone—in addition to the Ogallala Aquifer, which provides nearly one-third of the groundwater used to irrigate US crops. A recent [study](#) found that a single spill on the Yellowstone, the study found, could release up to 5.8 million gallons—140 times more than the spill earlier this month. Dena Hoff, a farmer who lives farther downstream along the river in Glendive, Montana, has been active in the debates over the Keystone XL through the regional environmental group Northern Plains Resource Council. She references the recent study as she sits with me last Saturday afternoon, taking a few minutes away from a bridal shower for her granddaughter to talk about the spill and the proposed pipeline. Monitoring of pipelines in general is "a real joke," says Hoff, who worries about what a spill from the Keystone XL pipeline could mean for the nearly 500 acres of farm and ranch land she owns and relies on the river to irrigate. Federal law requires fewer than half of all lines that carry liquid fuels to be inspected regularly, focusing on those that run through "high consequence" areas—or those with large populations. Federal inspectors only check those pipelines every 5 years, leaving the rest up to industry to maintain. "Pipeline lure holds that there are two kinds of pipelines," says Hoff. "Those that are leaking and those that are going to leak." In the wake of the spill, seventy protesters showed up at Gov. Brian Schweitzer's office in Helena last week, demanding that he drop his support for Keystone XL. A populist Democrat with a cowboy swagger and a personality large enough for the Big Sky State, Schweitzer has lambasted Exxon for a lack of transparency. But he's remained a staunch supporter of the new proposed pipeline. "I don't think one ought to confuse what happens with this particular old technology, Silvertip, with what will occur in the future," he told the energy wire Platts. "Unless people are willing to park their cars and move into a cave and live naked and eat nuts, we're going to continue to produce energy and that energy needs to be moved to the source of consumption." As we wrap up our interview, Hoff offers me some iced tea to take along for my drive back to the scene of the spill. In the very least, she says, she hopes that this spill is a reminder of what's at stake for the Yellowstone. "It should be a national treasure, not a sacrifice river."

<http://motherjones.com/environment/2011/07/yellowstone-oil-spill-montana>

USA, MI, KALAMAZOO, JULY 20 2011. OVER 90 PERCENT OF OIL CLEANED UP IN KALAMAZOO RIVER, EPA SAYS MORE OIL SUBMERGED UNDER 200 ACRES OF RIVER BED

fritz klug



A view of the Talmadge Creek in July 2010, less than a mile away from the pipeline leak.

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency officials say that while more than 90 percent of the oil spilled into the Kalamazoo River in [last summer's pipeline break near Marshall](#) has been cleaned up, there is still much work to do, including extracting submerged oil from 200 acres of the river's bottom. "It's a bigger footprint than we expected seeing," Mark Durno, deputy incident commander for the EPA's cleanup, said during a telephone conference call with federal, state and Calhoun County officials Tuesday. Tuesday's update on progress cleaning up the river comes almost one year after 819,000 gallons of oil from a ruptured pipeline owned by Enbridge Energy Partners gushed into Talmadge Creek then the Kalamazoo River last July. The oil found in 200 acres

in the Morrow Lake, Mill Pond and Ceresco Dam areas during an assessment of the river this spring is mixed with the sediment at the bottom of the river, Durno said. The EPA has directed Enbridge to clean up those areas by Aug. 31, he said. Beyond those 200 acres, Durno said may be other areas not yet identified that need to be cleaned up over the next couple years as the EPA continue to assess the river. "There will certainly be areas of submerged oil that we haven't identified or (oil that) has moved since we first identified it in the spring," he said. So far, around 94 percent — 766,000 gallons — of the oil has been recovered, according to Susan Hedman, administrator of EPA Region 5. Since some of the oil seeped into the ground, about 113,000 cubic yards of contaminated soil and debris were collected and sent to EPA-approved disposal facilities, Hedman said. Also, 15 million gallons of oily water have been collected and disposed. Clean up work is being done by Enbridge and contract crews. There are around 500 people working on the spill site, down from 2,500 from last August. Officials said Tuesday that the EPA so far has spent \$29.1 million on the cleanup, which is being reimbursed to the agency by

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Enbridge. Agencies are still looking into the health impacts on people from the spill. The Michigan Department of Community Health is conducting a study looking at who may be exposed to toxic chemicals and the long-term health risk, said Jennifer Gray with the MDCH. It will be released in the next few months, she said. The Kalamazoo River will not be open for public use until at least mid-August, when the EPA will hold a public meeting to discuss the status of the cleanup. That meeting is scheduled for 6:30 p.m. Aug. 15 at the Marshall Community Center, 126 West Michigan Ave. Reopening of the entire river is not likely to happen this year, Durno said. Before an area is opened, he said, the EPA needs to be sure the public can have contact with the river without any oil present, that any remaining oil is not toxic, and that the public can use the river safely while clean-up crews are still present. "We hope to be in a position to report whether some segment or segments can be reopened this year," Hedman said of the mid-August public meeting. "That is our goal, but we are not there yet."

http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2011/07/over_90_percent_of_oil_cleaned.html

AUSTRALIA, VICTORIA, CORIO, JULY 21 2011. FIREFIGHTERS RACE TO POISON GAS LEAK

megan levy

 Watch the Video:

<http://www.smh.com.au/victoria/firefighters-race-to-poison-gas-leak-20110721-1hpn2.html>



Shell Australia confirms the 'all clear' has been given following a suspected hydrogen sulfide leak at its Corio oil refinery.

Two workers were exposed to a poisonous gas at the Shell refinery near Geelong this morning, firefighters say. The contractors were working at the Refinery Road site in Corio when a refinery pump began leaking hydrogen sulphide just after 8.35am. A Country Fire Authority (CFA) spokesman said refinery employees isolated the leak within minutes, and the two workers suffered only minor exposure. "Both attended the site's health centre for assessment and observation by their team and Ambulance Victoria. They were not taken to hospital. It's a mild exposure," he said. The CFA spokesman said

there appeared to be a leak of hydrogen sulphide, a poisonous flammable gas. A warning siren was sounded at the plant at 8.35am, before the all-clear was given at 9.03am. Eight CFA trucks, including a Hazmat vehicle, from Belmont, Geelong, Corio and Lara were sent to the site. The cause of the gas leak is under investigation. A Victoria Police spokeswoman said road blocks were erected during the drama, but had since been removed and workers were allowed back into the site.

<http://www.smh.com.au/victoria/firefighters-race-to-poison-gas-leak-20110721-1hpn2.html>

USA, AKA, LISBURNE, JULY 21 2011. BP REPORTS NEW PIPELINE LEAK AT ALASKA



BP reported yet another pipeline leak at its Alaskan oilfields, frustrating the oil giant's attempts to rebuild its reputation after the Gulf of Mexico oil spill. BP has said that a pipeline at its 30,000 barrel per day Lisburne field, which is currently closed for maintenance, ruptured during testing and spilled a mixture of methanol and oily water onto the tundra. The company has a long history of oil spills at its Alaskan pipelines – accidents which have hurt its public image in the U.S., where around 40% of its assets are based. The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation said the spill occurred on Saturday and amounted to 2,100 to 4,200 gallons. A BP spokesman said the cleanup was under way and the company would determine the cause "in due course."

Lisburne, which is managed as part of the Greater Prudhoe Bay Unit, has produced no oil since 18 June, according to Alaska Oil and Gas Conservation Commission records, suggesting maintenance work requiring a prolonged shutdown. The spokesman said the field had been undergoing "its annual maintenance." BP's blown out Macondo well caused the worst offshore oil spill in U.S. history after the Deepwater Horizon drilling rig exploded, spewing almost 5m barrels of oil into the Gulf and putting BP's future in the U.S. at risk. Previous problems including leaks from corroded pipelines in Alaska and the fatal Texas City refinery blast in 2005 have already earned the company a poor reputation for safety, something analysts say it needs to address if it is to continue to grow in North America. BP shares were down 1.089% at 454p this morning. Production from the entire Lisburne field remains shut off while the spill is addressed, Alaska officials said. Immediate efforts are focused on containment and cleanup, said Tom DeRuyter, the state on-scene coordinator for the Department of Environmental Conservation. The methanol-produced water mix has

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spread into wet tundra as well as onto a gravel pad, bringing risks to slow-growing vegetation, DeRuyter said. "You have actively growing plants and they're very susceptible to the contaminants." He went on to say that the pipeline will also have to be dug up to allow for an investigation into why it failed. Resumption of normal operations at that part of the field may require a relatively long wait. "I think they're looking at trying to get that pad back up before freeze-up," he added.

http://www.tehrantimes.com/index_View.asp?code=244342

USA, PA, LACKAWANNA COUNTY, SCRANTON, JULY 21 2011. DIGGING FOR SOURCE OF GASOLINE LEAK

sofia ojeda

 **Watch the Video** <http://www.wnep.com/wnep-lacka-digging-for-source-of-gasoline-leak-20110720.0.4633572.story>

Neighbors worry harmful gasoline vapors have made their way into their homes in Scranton's Bullshead section after a leaky gasoline line was found at Joe's Kwik mart Valero. Wednesday crews were digging for answers. Work crews sent by the state department of environmental protection continued to search for answers beneath Joe's Kwik Mart and Valero on Providence Road in Scranton. DEP said it began getting complaints within the last week from about 60 residents about gasoline vapors seeping into their homes. There is still no definite word on exactly where the leak is, but DEP did pinpoint it to somewhere at the gas station. DEP said the vapors made their way to homes through old sewer lines. In the last few days, crews worked to excavate and cap those lines and the state believes gasoline vapors are not at dangerous levels in any homes. Several people who spoke to Newswatch 16 said the smell is very strong, and it's been going on since April. It's only recently that officials have been able to figure out exactly what kind of smell it was. One man said since the leak he has been getting sick. His doctor told him he shouldn't stay at his home anymore. Another man said at one point the levels were so high, fire officials told him his home could blow up. Again DEP said now that the lines have been capped, the homes are safe. Calls to the gas station owners were not returned. DEP said it is looking into the company's past inspections before it considers any citations.

<http://www.wnep.com/wnep-lacka-digging-for-source-of-gasoline-leak-20110720.0.4633572.story>

USA, TX, BIG SPRING, JULY 21 2011. MAN RELEASED FROM THE HOSPITAL AFTER BEING BURNED AT ALON REFINERY

A man suffered second degree burns while working at the Alon oil refinery in Big Spring. According to Big Spring Fire Marshall Carl Condray, the man was burned when steam was released and hit his body. The Vice President of the refinery tells NewsWest 9, the employee was working on a leak near the boiler. When the man tried to lower the level of the boiler, he was sprayed with hot water. He was transported to Scenic Mountain Medical Center and then to Lubbock's University Medical Center. We're told he suffered second degree burns to over nine percent of his body. However the man was released from the hospital around 3 a.m. Wednesday morning.

<http://www.newswest9.com/story/15111547/update-man-burned-at-the-alon-refinery-in-big-spring>

USA, TX, HOUSTON, JULY 21 2011. 1 KILLED IN FIERY WRECK INVOLVING TANKER TRUCK

stacy morrow

 **Watch the Video:**

<http://www.khou.com/home/Sugar-Land-Police-1-killed-in-fiery-wreck-involving-tanker-truck--125850663.html>



A woman was killed Tuesday in a chain-reaction crash involving an 18-wheeler tanker truck on Highway 59 at Grand Parkway 99, Sugar Land police said. Police said the tanker truck, which wasn't carrying any product, rear-ended a Lincoln Continental about 5:45 p.m. in the southbound lanes of Highway 59. The Lincoln then slammed into five other vehicles and burst into flames. Three of those vehicles also caught fire. The Lincoln driver, 66-year-old Doris Walters, died as a result of her injuries. Another motorist was treated for minor injuries sustained in the crash. Two more vehicles collided during the traffic backup caused by the 18-wheeler accident, bringing the total involved in the chain-reaction crash to nine. All

main lanes of Highway 59 were shut down for an extended period of time and drivers expressed frustration as traffic backed up for miles. "It pretty much took like an hour to go two miles," said Nikki Trembath. Another driver, John Ramos, said there was another fatal wreck in the same area recently. "It's in the evening rush, everybody is hurrying to get home, [traffic] comes in from four lanes and all of a sudden it drops to two lanes and it just backs up; that's the majority of the reason for the

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wrecks," he said. "You can't stop a truck on a dime, when everything backs up, you're actually just on your own by a prayer," he said. Traffic returned to normal around midnight.

<http://www.khou.com/home/Sugar-Land-Police-1-killed-in-fiery-wreck-involving-tanker-truck--125850663.html>

USA, N.Y, SOUTHAMPTON, JULY 21 2011. TRUCK SPILLS OIL ON MONTAUK HIGHWAY IN WATER MILL

colleen reynolds



A worker pours sand along Montauk Highway in the westernmost part of Water Mill to absorb oil from a spill.

A tanker truck spilled a quantity of oil Wednesday morning along Montauk Highway in Water Mill, just east of Southampton Village, according to police. The spill happened sometime before 8 a.m. Emergency crews, including the Southampton Fire Department, Southampton Village Police and the fire police responded and spread sand across the roadway to mop up the spill. Eastbound traffic was directed onto Flying Point Road. Additional details were not immediately available.

<http://www.27east.com/news/article.cfm/Southampton-Village-Surrounding-Areas/392007/Truck-Spills-Oil-on-Montauk-Highway-In-Water-Mill>

BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS, TORTOLA, JULY 21 2011. GAS TANKER OVERTURNS IN VG



More than 500 people were evacuated but the situation was "under control" as of yesterday following the Tuesday overturning of a Liquefied Natural Gas tanker truck in Virgin Gorda, according to a statement issued by the Ministry of Communications and Works. The 40-foot tanker was carrying more than 10,000 gallons when it overturned on Airport Road between Speedy's Garage and Valley Methodist Church shortly after 10 a.m. "Residents who were evacuated [Tuesday] are safe and sound thanks to the quick response and action by the Virgin Islands Fire and Rescue Services Department,

Department of Disaster Management and the Royal Virgin Islands Police Force," said MCW Acting Permanent Secretary Arlene Smith-Thompson in the press release. The evacuees were permitted to return home overnight after having received the all-clear from DDM. The tanker was monitored overnight to make sure no one tampered with it. As of yesterday afternoon, technicians were still meeting to plan the cleanup, which was expected to commence today.

http://www.bvibeacon.com/1/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=803:gas-tanker-overturns-in-vg

UK, CUMBRIA, KENDAL, JULY 21 2011. AUTHORITIES INVESTIGATE HEATING OIL SPILL

The Environment Agency is investigating an incident in which around 10,000 litres of heating oil leaked from an underground tank at a hotel in Cumbria. According to the Westmorland Gazette, the spill occurred at the County Hotel, which is located near the River Kent in Kendal. The water there was tested by United Utilities, which confirmed it has not been contaminated, while the establishment's owner UK Holiday Group assured the public there is no threat to health as a result of the spill. A spokeswoman for the Environment Agency added: "To date we have not seen any negative impacts on the environment, ground water or to the River Kent," although she stated the extent of the leak is still being determined. She added they would continue to monitor the situation closely and work to ensure all necessary steps are taken to clean up the spill as quickly as possible. The Environment Agency operates throughout England and Wales and works to improve and protect the country's natural landscape for the benefit of both people and wildlife.

<http://www.boilerjuice.com/news/1686/Authorities-investigate-heating-oil-spill.html>

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