



Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network Release 2011 – 721 Newsy Stuff

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

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USA, TX, HOUSTON, JUNE 9 2011. ROAD OPENED AFTER OVERTURNED TANKER TRUCK SHUTS DOWN 59 SOUTH NEAR SUGAR LAND, DRIVER DIES

kevin koloian

 **Watch the Video** <http://abclocal.go.com/ktrk/story?section=news/local&id=8175554>



TxDOT is assisting the Sugar Land Police Department with an accident and fuel spill on US 59 Southwest Freeway southbound mainlanes at SH 99. The accident involved an 18-wheeler carrying diesel fuel. All southbound mainlanes of US 59 at SH 99 and two inside southbound frontage road lanes are currently closed. All traffic is being detoured to the outside two frontage road lanes at the SH 99 exit. Environmental crews are working to clean the roadway of the 8,000 gallons of diesel that was spilled, and offload any remaining diesel in the tanker. Initial estimates to restore traffic are between 3 to 4 hours. Motorists should expect significant delays and are strongly encouraged to seek alternate routes. TxDOT Houston District Emergency Operations Center is currently at Level 2 (Escalated Response).

http://www.yourhoustonnews.com/fort_bend/news/article_721fb8a4-9134-11e0-b314-001cc4c03286.html

USA, WI, JACKSON CO, BLACK RIVER FALLS, JUNE 9 2011. CRASH CAUSES ACID LEAK ON HWY. 121 IN JACKSON COUNTY



A semi crash led to an acid spill Wednesday afternoon on Hwy. 121 in Jackson County.

Cleanup crews will be back on the scene this morning after a semi crash led to a sulfuric acid leak Wednesday afternoon in Jackson County. According to the Jackson County Sheriff's Department, a semi hauling containers of sulfuric acid and caustic soda crashed shortly before 4 p.m. on Hwy. 121 near NW Burnette Road in the town of Garden Valley. Units from the Alma Center Fire Department, Alma Center First Responders, Black River Falls Fire Department and EMS, Jackson County Sheriff's Department and Wisconsin State Patrol responded to the scene along with Jackson County and Eau Claire hazmat teams. The driver of the semi was transported to Black River Memorial Hospital, where she was treated and released. Hwy. 121 was closed to traffic until approximately 1:40 a.m. today as the scene was cleaned up and the semi

removed. With cleanup crews returning today, any unnecessary travel in the area is discouraged, according to the sheriff's department.

http://lacossetribune.com/news/local/article_a9c89bac-92b2-11e0-a0fa-001cc4c03286.html

CHINA, GUANGDONG PROVINCE, MAY 9 2011. SINOPEC STUCK IN OIL SLICK

A series of defective oil problems nationwide have forced Sinopec to tighten its internal supply chain of oil, with its petrol stations in Guangdong Province stopping business to keep their market secure or sending prices upward to compensate. Last month, many car owners reported their engines losing power and shaking after filling up with No. 93 petrol from a Sinopec service station in Yueyang, Henan Province, with around 10,000 cars in the city awaiting repairs, according to the Xinhua News Agency. Branch manager Yuan Lifeng told Xinhua that tests found no problems with the Yueyang petrol supply, and blamed the defective batch on metal additives. However, following on from this, a Sinopec station in Yuyang, Zhejiang Province, was found to have added water to the petrol. On Tuesday, consumers reported blue smoke and a red liquid emerging from their vehicles' exhaust pipes after filling up at a Sinopec branch in Baotou, Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region, the Guangzhou Daily reported. Concerned with the consumers' complaints, Sinopec stated that three types of oil were now banned, namely any whose producers could not be confirmed, any whose original producers were not pre-approved by Sinopec, any whose producers could not provide a quality safety report, Zhong Jian, vice president of cbichina.com, a Shanghai-based consulting company for bulk commodities, told the Global Times. "This limitation tightened Sinopec's inner supply chain, causing some areas to stop wholesale business or to raise petrol prices," Yao Daming, the head of oil department of Guangdong Oil and Gas Association, told the Guangzhou Daily. To ensure retail market supply, Guangdong

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Sinopec stations have stopped selling No. 93 petrol or have priced it prohibitively high, according to the report. The price of No. 93 petrol in Guangdong branches suddenly rose from 9,500 yuan (\$1,467) per ton to 9,924 yuan per ton, according to JYD Online, a bulk commodity e-commerce platform. A Sinopec branch staff member in the province told Guangzhou Daily that the petrol quality was safe with only a few cars needing repairs. According to Guangzhou Daily, although Sinopec is mainly self-sufficient for its oil supply, it still purchases 15 percent of its petroleum from external suppliers. Sinopec has scrubbed many suppliers from its books nationwide in response to the crisis.

<http://business.globaltimes.cn/industries/2011-06/663271.html>

USA, ILL, ROXANA, JUNE 9 2011. ROXANA RESIDENTS ASSAIL SHELL OVER BENZENE WORRIES >> LARGE CROWD ASKS QUESTIONS ABOUT UNDERGROUND PLUME

gloria lloyd



An employee of URS Corp. tends equipment Wednesday on Chaffer Avenue near East Fourth Street in Roxana, where fumes from an underground benzene plume are being recovered. Some residents have been told not to go in their basements. The Simmons law firm met with more than 100 Roxana residents Tuesday night to discuss possible civil action against Shell Oil Co., one of the former owners of the refinery.

Residents concerned about the ramifications of benzene leaks at the former Shell Refinery in 1986 came to an informational meeting Tuesday night looking for reassurance, but many left with more questions than answers. A crowd of more than 100 residents packed the Rox-Arena to hear a presentation by Simmons law firm attorney Mike Stewart, who outlined a brief history of the benzene plume under Roxana. Benzene is a carcinogenic chemical that is linked to blood cancers. Stewart said leukemia is benzene's "signature illness." The

benzene leak has been monitored by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, paid for by Shell Oil Co., which owned the refinery at the time of two 1986 benzene leaks. On Monday night, the Roxana Village Board hired Simmons to represent the city in any legal action against Shell related to the benzene. Residents expressed worry about the effects of rainfall on benzene levels in their basements and how the water table has been affected. Stewart emphasized that because he only recently became involved at the city's behest, he could not answer every question residents had but was educating himself on the topic. "The village has been trying to give me links and information," Stewart said. "I've read everything I can get my hands on." Stewart emphasized that the extent of any benzene damage is not fully known until Simmons undertakes a full investigation using outside experts. "It has been controlled by Shell," he said. "You're going to have to do your own testing. "For those folks that decide to retain us as counsel, we will engage experts, folks that know what to do," Stewart said. "I'm just a lawyer, right? I'm not an engineer. We hire experts. We test and re-test." Stewart said that once individual residents who feel they have suffered damages from the benzene plume hire Simmons to represent them, the law firm's first step will be an investigation on behalf of those residents. Some residents wanted immediate reparations. "I think they should pay for us all to live somewhere else," one attendee said. "My kids' rooms are all in the basement, so we're all just piled in upstairs. This is ridiculous." In a telephone interview Wednesday with The Telegraph, Shell spokeswoman Marti Powers said that elevated levels of vapor were detected this spring in the ground beneath the basements of three houses along the refinery fence line. Powers said Shell sent a mobile unit to the scene to draw soil vapors out of the ground and has applied for a permit for a larger mobile unit to further eliminate the vapors. These three property owners were told not to go in their basements as a precautionary measure, and the vapors were measured underneath — not inside — the homes. "We've not seen any vapors in the house," Powers said. "We have offered alternative lodging and compensation for meals and out-of-pocket expenses for those residents. Only two have taken us up on the offer," Powers said. "As we're doing remediation efforts, we're reducing the levels that are in those homes. We're working closely with the IEPA and the Illinois Department of Public Health." Several meeting attendees were upset that the damage may have been accruing for a quarter of a century. "It's not like it has been sitting for this long time; there has been a lot of work that has been happening," Powers said. "There's quite a bit of activity right now, which is quite visible, which is drawing some questions about what is really going on." "Why wouldn't they put us in a motel?" one woman asked at the meeting. Another responded, "Putting us in a hotel means they're admitting guilt." Contingency contracts and questionnaires were available at the meeting for residents who wanted to hire Simmons. Stewart said he would meet personally with anyone who decided at a later time to hire his firm in the matter. Stewart explained that Simmons had determined that individual lawsuits are the best way to proceed, rather than a single class action lawsuit. "The

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damage depends on how close to the plume you are, or any illnesses. Everybody is not similarly situated," Stewart said. "One person may have a \$50,000 home, one person may have a \$200,000 home. One person may have lived here their whole life, another person may not have." Stewart said any lawsuits would be consolidated for the discovery process, which he said was the best way to actually discern the extent of the damage. "During the discovery process, we take that information and go to Shell and say, 'What about this?' We make them commit to it or deny it," Stewart said. "That's what discovery is for." Stewart said that during the discovery process of a civil lawsuit, Simmons could request any and all test results stemming from the Roxana benzene monitoring. Many residents asked questions of Stewart and fellow Simmons attorney Bill Kohlburn, who also would be working on any potential lawsuits. Powers referred community members to Shell's website (<http://roxanainvestigation.urs-stl.net/>), where the company has posted results of testing, as well as fact sheets. Stewart said his firm received a number of concerned telephone calls and decided to host a village meeting. Powers said IEPA and city officials plan to hold a more formal informational meeting at some point, which Shell representatives will attend. Residents expressed concern about being able to go in their basements, and Stewart said that residents are having difficulty selling their houses. "It becomes an issue if you've got benzene in your house," Stewart said. "You can't sell your house unless you disclose it to the new buyer. Most people are going to say, 'Eh.'" Many wondered what the extent of any benzene damage actually is, with Stewart and Roxana City Attorney James Schrempf both stating they felt the current benzene monitoring, paid for by Shell, is not reliable. Powers said the contractor conducting the testing, URS Corp., is one of America's largest engineering consulting firms. "They have a pretty good reputation with public agencies, governments and companies like ours," Powers said. "Because of that experience and reputation, the IEPA and some of these other agencies like working with them." Kohlburn responded to a questioner who asked about benzene levels rising with rainfall. "Unless you're monitoring constantly, we're not going to know for sure," he said. The monitoring does not cover all of Roxana. Stewart said the best information he had indicates the monitoring is taking place from First Street to Eighth Street to Illinois Route 111. Powers said the IEPA determines where testing takes place, as well as the testing protocol itself. One questioner said she contacted the IEPA in January to request that her house be tested for benzene, and the IEPA declined to test her house because it was outside the predetermined borders for monitoring. "That's for you to decide as a citizen," Stewart said. "If you're the one living on top of a plume of benzene, that's for you to decide (to monitor)."

<http://www.thetelegraph.com/news/benzene-54992-residents-roxana.html>

USA, TX, HOUSTON, MAY 9 2011. JUDGE REJECTS EXXON ATTEMPT TO END LAWSUIT OVER REFINERY POLLUTION >> COURT GIVES BOOST TO ENVIRONMENTAL ADVOCATES SEEKING ACCOUNTABILITY BY COURT BOOSTS ENVIRONMENTAL ADVOCATES SEEKING ACCOUNTABILITY BY REGULATORS



A Citgo refinery in Corpus Christi, Texas

Environmental groups seeking stronger enforcement of air pollution laws received a boost from a federal judge in Houston who rejected an Exxon Mobil Corp. request to dismiss a case involving release of cancer-causing toxins at a major refinery. As a result of the court's Tuesday ruling, involving a Baytown, Tex., Exxon refinery and nearby chemical plant, environmental groups will be able to press a case in which they accuse Exxon of violating the Clean Air Act thousands of times over the last five years by releasing toxins well above the law's limit into the environment. Exxon has said its releases were within limits allowed under federal law, while the Sierra Club and Environment Texas argue that state agencies have failed to do the job expected of them in curtailing emissions under the Clean Air Act. The environmental groups assert that the refinery and chemical plant have spewed 10

million pounds of toxins into the air. Ineffective policing by state and federal agencies is a recurring theme in lawsuits by environmental groups, and [iWatch News](#) recently reported on an instance of [justice delayed](#): Even when enforcers find violations of anti-pollution laws, sanctions are hardly immediate. Almost four years ago, a federal jury convicted Citgo Petroleum Corp. of two criminal violations of the Clean Air Act, having found that that company's refinery in Corpus Christi, Texas, afflicted a nearby community with toxic air pollution. For nearly a decade, the jury found, emissions of benzene and other hazardous chemicals — from two hulking, uncovered tanks — regularly swept into a mostly poor, minority neighborhood known as Hillcrest. That was in June 2007. To the dismay of the refinery's neighbors, Citgo still hasn't been sentenced — a delay legal scholars say is unusual. A Citgo lawyer blames federal prosecutors for the delay. In the Exxon case, environmental groups are trying, in effect, to hold regulators accountable. The groups argue that state or federal agencies should have stepped in based on the levels of reported pollution. "The court's decision is not a comment on the merits of the suit," Exxon

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spokesman Kevin Allexon [told Reuters](#). "Over the last five years the Baytown refinery and chemical plant has produced total annual emissions that are nearly 40 percent below the federal permit limits set by EPA." In 2008, a similar lawsuit by environmental groups led to a settlement with Royal Dutch Shell. In that settlement, the company agreed to pay nearly \$6 million for pollution control programs. In a series of investigations into refineries, iWatch News has reported on toxic releases that [sometimes threaten nearby communities](#) and on other problems festering at the factories that refine the nation's fuels. Labyrinthine complexes full of hazardous chemicals, they are plagued by [often-preventable accidents](#), putting workers at risk and endangering nearby communities.

<http://www.iwatchnews.org/2011/06/08/4855/judge-rejects-exxon-attempt-end-lawsuit-over-refinery-pollution-0>

USA, WASHINGTON, JUNE 9 2011. EPA REMOVES CONFIDENTIALITY CLAIMS FOR MORE THAN 150 CHEMICALS >> PART OF CONTINUING EFFORT TO PROTECT AMERICANS' HEALTH BY INCREASING ACCESS TO CHEMICAL INFORMATION

In order to provide the public has as much information as possible about the health and the environmental impacts of chemicals, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has made public the identities of more than 150 chemicals contained in 104 health and safety studies that had been claimed confidential by industry. Today's announcement is another in a series of unprecedented actions that EPA is taking to provide the public with greater access to information on the chemicals that are manufactured and used in the United States. For these 104 studies, the chemical identity will no longer be redacted, or kept from view. The chemicals involved are used in dispersant formulations and consumer products such as air fresheners, non-stick and stain resistant materials, fire resistant materials, nonylphenol compounds, perfluorinated compounds, and lead. "This action to disclose the identity of more than 150 chemicals is an important step in EPA's commitment to give the American people access to critical information about chemicals that their children and families may be exposed to," said Steve Owens, assistant administrator for EPA's Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention. "A health and safety study with the chemical name kept secret is completely useless to the public." In 2010, EPA challenged industry to voluntarily declassify unwarranted claims of confidential business information (CBI). The agency also issued new guidance outlining plans to deny confidentiality claims for chemical identity in health and safety studies under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA). Based on this guidance, EPA notified a number of companies in February 2011 that the agency had determined that their CBI claim was not eligible for confidential treatment under TSCA and that EPA intended to make the information public. The health and safety studies include some declassified by the agency and other voluntary declassifications by companies in response to EPA's challenge. EPA is committed to posting new declassified materials under TSCA on the agency website on a regular basis. In addition to these actions, EPA over the past several months has taken a number of other steps to make chemical information more readily available. The agency has provided the public, for the first time ever, with free access to the consolidated TSCA Inventory on the EPA and Data.Gov websites. EPA also launched a new chemical data access tool that for the first time gives the public the ability to electronically search EPA's database of more than 10,000 health and safety documents on a wide range of chemicals that they may come in contact with every day. EPA will continue to take actions to increase the public's access to chemical information.

<http://www.epa.gov/oppt/existingchemicals/pubs/transparency.html>

CHINA, ZHEJIANG PROVINCE, HANGZHOU, MAY 9 2011. CHEMICAL FIRM INVESTIGATED OVER TOXIC LEAK



A woman in Yuhang district in Hangzhou, capital of East China's Zhejiang province, tries to grasp a metal jug as she takes water from a truck on Tuesday.

A chemical company in East China's Zhejiang province is being investigated on the suspicion that it discharged waste that polluted a local river and disrupted tap water supplies. Zhejiang Jinzhili Chemicals Co Ltd in the city of Lin'an is suspected of contaminating the Tiaoxi River on Sunday with 12 pollutants, including benzene and alkene, the environmental protection bureau in the provincial capital of Hangzhou said in a statement on Wednesday. The bureau is working with public security authorities to investigate the case, the statement said. An environmental monitoring report issued on Wednesday morning said that no more pollutants have been detected in the Tiaoxi River, but it is unclear when local waterworks will resume operation. The pollution has disrupted the

operation of two downstream water treatment facilities and affected tap water supplies in Hangzhou's Yuhang district, which has a population of about 848,400. The Pingyao Waterworks, which treats water from the Tiaoxi River and supplies drinking

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water for the nearby townships of Pingyao and Liangzhu, halted operation on Sunday and about 200,000 residents in the two towns were advised not to drink tap water until 4 pm on Thursday, because of the lack of alternative water sources. Bottled water has sold out in many supermarkets in the two towns and the local government has sent water trucks to supply drinking water. However, most residents have remained calm. "Families with babies and pregnant women should be careful, but I think boiled water is safe," said a shopkeeper surnamed Zhou in Liangzhu. More than 120 companies in Lin'an have now halted production due to water shortages. Wang Feng, deputy director of the administrative office of the Yuhang environmental protection bureau, told China Daily that an emergency committee had been established by the Hangzhou government to deal with the incident. "Our staff has spent some sleepless nights, testing the water every two hours. The samples are being sent to provincial testing departments in case our equipment is incapable of detecting the pollutants," said Wang. Environmental monitoring reports are being updated on the Hangzhou environmental protection bureau's website every few hours. A report issued on Wednesday morning said that no more pollutants have been detected in the Tiaoxi River water intakes of the Liangzhu and Pingyao Waterworks. The investigation of the chemical company comes on the heels of a carbolic acid leak that polluted Zhejiang's Xin'an River on Saturday. The river is a major source of drinking water in Zhejiang and the pollution forced the temporary closure of five water utility companies. Jiang Guoliang, a villager in Chongfu village of Liangzhu, said that villagers were rushing early in the mornings with pails to a stream carrying water from the nearby Daxiong Temple Reservoir, because "it is too expensive to use bottled water". "The pollutants must have accumulated for several days, then have been washed to the river by a rainstorm a few days ago. Otherwise, it would have been hard to detect them," he said.

Related Links

- [Polluted water raises a stink in Hangzhou](#)
- [Panic water buying persists in E China](#)

http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/china/2011-06/09/content_12661653.htm

USA, N.Y, ROME, JUNE 9 2011. TRAIN CAR CARRYING FLAMMABLE SUBSTANCE DERAILS IN ROME

sarah blazonis

Watch the Video http://centralny.ynn.com/content/top_stories/546176/train-car-carrying-flammable-substance-derails-in-rome/



No injuries have been reported following the derailment of freight train cars in Rome Wednesday night. Our Sarah Blazonis tells us why the contents of one of those cars has officials proceeding very cautiously with their clean-up effort.

The sound of trains passing by is nothing new to the people who live along Reber Road in Rome. The tracks are less than a mile away. What they heard Wednesday afternoon was something quite different, something they at first mistook for thunder. "A small boom, not a big boom. I didn't know anything was going on until I heard sirens coming," said Christine Teteuscher, who says she's lived on Reber Road for 62 years. But it wasn't a coming storm. It was the sound of three cars of a CSX freight train derailing in the woods less than a mile away. Two contained scrap metal, but the other contained toluene, a highly flammable substance. "That derailed, went off the tracks into a swampy area. Initial review of that tanker is that it's intact and not leaking," said Lt. Philip Rougeux with the

New York State Police. Still, they proceeded with caution. They weren't allowing anyone near the accident site and Hazardous Material Response Teams with Oneida County and CSX were called to the scene. "We're more concerned about any fire aspect to it. A part of the tracks was smoldering as a result of some electrical feeds down there. It was smoldering. CSX took care of that with some fire extinguishers," said Oneida County Fire Coordinator Kevin Revere. The car carrying the toluene was partially submerged when it derailed. CSX officials were expected to inspect the car and work to either drain or right it, a process authorities said could take several hours.

http://centralny.ynn.com/content/top_stories/546176/train-car-carrying-flammable-substance-derails-in-rome/

USA, FLA, TAMPA, JUNE 9 2011. NEARLY 5,000 GALLONS OF DIESEL LEAK INTO PORT OF TAMPA

Crews were working on Thursday morning to clean up a 5,000 gallon diesel spill from Tuesday night in the Port of Tampa. The fuel discharged from a crane barge at Hooker's Point, near Berth 219. The crane barge belongs to Kinder Morgan, a transportation and energy storage company. The Coast Guard said that the fuel tank was capable of holding 6,000 gallons of

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fuel. Coast Guard officials said 4,900 gallons spilled into the water. About 500 gallons had been removed mechanically on Wednesday afternoon and an unknown amount had dispersed or evaporated. The Coast Guard, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and Kinder Morgan were all working on the cleanup. All containment equipment and booms will stay until the fuel is gone, according to the Coast Guard. The Coast Guard said a pollution investigation will be conducted at the same time as the cleanup to determine what caused the spill.

<http://www.tampabay.com/news/publicsafety/coast-guard-officials-cleaning-up-diesel-fuel-spill-in-port-of-tampa/1174220>

USA, CT, MONTVILLE, JUNE 9 2011. ACID SPILL CLOSSES NEIGHBORHOOD NEAR ROCKTENN >> MONTVILLE'S FOUR FIRE DEPARTMENTS, DEP HAZ-MAT TEAMS RESPOND

carrie jacobson



A puncture in a container of an organic acid led to a deployment of emergency personnel and the closure of the neighborhood near the former Smurfit-Stone building Wednesday afternoon. Fire Marshal Ray Occhialini said there were about 25 emergency workers at the scene, including three Department of Environmental Protection hazardous materials workers, police, and firefighters and emergency personnel from all four Montville departments. Jeff Chandler, emergency response supervisor with the DEP, said Wednesday that a tote on a box truck was probably punctured during transit. The hole was near the top of the container, Chandler said, and so the acid spilled mostly during the sloshing that comes from turning around and parking. The driver of the truck, who did not wish to be photographed or identified, said he smelled no odor during the trip, and had seen no evidence of any leak before reaching the parking area. The acid is used to treat water during the process of making cardboard, Chandler said. Chandler

said he thought that fewer than 10 gallons of acid had spilled. "It's a low pH," he said. It would burn skin, but posed no inhalation issue. Occhialini said the leak was reported just before 4 p.m. Ron Turner of the Montville Fire Department was the incident commander, Occhialini said. Emergency workers left around 6 p.m. An American Ambulance truck headed onto the scene at about 4:30. Occhialini said the truck was to give assistance to emergency workers, who were fully suited in plastic, in the 90-degree heat. DEP "made the entry," Chandler said, and the fire departments performed the decontamination, making sure that he was clean when he came out of the hot zone. Chandler said the effort was hampered by the fact that the label on the container in the truck, and the name of the material on the shipping list did not match. "The first step is always identify the product."

<http://montville-ct.patch.com/articles/acid-spill-closes-neighborhood-near-rocktenn>

CANADA, VANCOUVER, MAY 10 2011. GOVERNMENT FAILED ON RESPONSE TO MALAHAT OIL TANKER SPILL, SAYS REPORT

rob shaw

 **Photo Gallery:**

<http://www.vancouversun.com/news/Government+failed+response+Malahat+tanker+spill+says+report/4919527/story.html>



Sunday: Safety crews, RCMP and firefighters attend the scene of Saturday's rollover by a Columbia Fuels truck near Goldstream Park. The Malahat highway remained blocked in both directions until about 4 p.m. Sunday.

Transportation ministry staff and cleanup crews failed to adequately control traffic and inform the public of road closures during an oil tanker crash on the Malahat in April, a government review has found. The review, ordered by Transportation Minister Blair Lekstrom, says that although enough personnel were on the scene to handle the incident, they underestimated the severity of its impact on the travelling public. "Although significant effort was put into traffic management and communication throughout the closure, the ministry and

maintenance contractor personnel did not adequately ensure site co-ordination for traffic management and public communications throughout the closure," reads the report, released today. "This was due, in part, from underestimating the length of the closure and the severity of the impact on the transportation network as well as delays in decision making and

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resourcing regarding traffic management." A Columbia fuels tanker truck crashed into a rock wall near Goldstream Provincial Park April 16, spilling 40,000 litres of gasoline into the river and forcing the closure of the highway for 22 hours. The road closure on such a major route — the main connection between Greater Victoria and the rest of the Island, used by 22,000 people a day — left commuters stuck in traffic for hours. Adding to the confusion were mixed messages from the ministry on when the highway would reopen, whether there were alternative routes and what types of delays motorists could expect. The government review, written by assistant deputy minister Dave Duncan, makes eight recommendations for improvement, including:

- Better training for staff and contractors
- Enhanced communications for www.drivebc.ca with more detailed updates and other communication methods
- Better integration between ministry staff and contractors to ensure traffic impacts are part of the incident discussion and that closure estimates are accurate
- At least six traffic control personnel should be at all closures on the Malahat, and they should walk the traffic queue to inform travellers about estimated wait times

"Clearly more could and should have been done to attend to those who were caught at the crash site and to provide travellers and businesses with the accurate timely information they needed to make informed travel choices," reads the report. Among its other findings:

- The ministry response team didn't adequately assume overall site co-ordination; as a result, they didn't accurately estimate the length of the road closure throughout the incident, failed to assess or communicate potential detour options, and didn't recognize the impact the closure had on the travelling public.
- Ministry staff and maintenance workers weren't clearly identifiable and had trouble communicating with each other.
- Site crews didn't have proper radios or other equipment, and the radios they had weren't able to communicate between each end of the crash site, leading to delays in establishing a Finlayson Arm detour route.
- Detour routes were not well identified and weren't communicated to the public.
- DriveBC website was the sole tool available to communicate with the public, and it was inadequate to the task.

"This review was important to identify ways we can improve public communication in future incidents of this nature," Lekstrom said in a news release. "By implementing the review's recommendations, we will ensure motorists have the best information possible on their travel options and timelines for reopening the road, should an event like this ever occur again."

 **Document** [Read the full incident report:](#)

Related Links

- [PDF: Malahat incident full report](#)
- [Malahat snafu expensive for fuel company](#)
- [Three weeks after crash, Goldstream River remains blighted by fuel spill](#)
- [First Nations demand to be involved in Goldstream River cleanup, threaten roadblock](#)
- [Malahat fuel spill forces new location for fish release](#)
- [B.C. orders review into Malahat shutdown](#)
- [Fuel spill casts doubt on river's salmon future](#)

<http://www.vancouversun.com/news/Government+failed+response+Malahat+tanker+spill+says+report/4919527/story.html>

NEW ZEALAND, MOKAU, JUNE 10 2011. TANKER PLOUGHS INTO MOKAU SLIP

leighton keith

An LPG tanker left the road after it ploughed into a slip covering State Highway 3 just south of Mokau yesterday. The rocks and dirt came crashing down across Taranaki's vital link north, three kilometres south of the town, about 5.30am cutting off both lanes. The road was closed for a short time and reduced to one lane for about three hours while the mess was cleaned up. Minutes after the rock and dirt came crashing down, a northbound truck and trailer unit hit the debris. Constable Daniel Walter said the accident had the potential to have been a major incident. "The driver's tried to swerve to avoid it and has hit some rocks and dirt and has gone off the road and come to a stop on the grass verge," Mr Walter said. "If he had gone another 1 1/2 metres he would have ended up going down the bank and into the river." Firefighters were called to the scene as a precaution, he said. A contractor's truck was used to pull the truck and trailer unit back onto the road. The site has caused ongoing problems over the years and in September last year contractors used explosives to bring down part of the unstable cliff face. Heavy duty wire netting hangs down over the cliff face but didn't stop yesterday's slip or another in April from covering the highway. "There is something going on up there that's causing all of the dirt to come down," Mr Walter said.

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Regional Transport Committee chairman Roger Maxwell said the slip was another reminder of how vulnerable the section of SH3 was. "It just reinforces again the importance of getting more money spent on the road and getting it upgraded," he said. The NZTA was not able to respond to Taranaki Daily News questions about what work is planned for the area to improve its safety yesterday.

<http://www.stuff.co.nz/taranaki-daily-news/news/5125041/Tanker-ploughs-into-Mokau-slip>

USA, AZ, CHANDLER, JUNE 10 2011. EXPLOSION ROCKS INTEL'S ARIZONA FAB, 4 HOSPITALIZED >> CAUSE OF EXPLOSION IS UNKNOWN

jason mick



The explosion led to four employees being hospitalized.

An explosion on Tuesday rocked Intel Corp.'s Fab 22, a semiconductor manufacturing facility located near Chandler, Arizona. The explosion comes just weeks after [a tragic explosion](#) at a Chinese plant owned by Hon Hai Precision Industry Co Ltd. subsidiary Foxconn. The Chinese plant was being used to manufacture Apple Inc.'s iPad 2 at the time, and has [since reopened](#). The incident claimed three lives as fires and secondary explosions raged for some time after the incident. By contrast the damage at the Intel fab was limited by high tech safety systems. Seven workers were in the room when the explosion occurred and six were outside of it. Fire controls kicked in, as designed, limiting


the extent of the damage. The employees were evacuated for precautionary purposes, but there was no major damage to the Fab or disruption of production. One worker was taken to the local Maricopa Medical Center with serious, but non-life threatening injuries. Two others were transported to local hospitals immediately after the incident with less serious injuries. And a fourth worker was hospitalized later in the day. Workers inside the fab room wore protective face shields, aprons, and gloves. This stands in contrast to workers at Chinese assembly plants that often have minimal protection. The protective measures are important as the fab, like many, deals with toxic and/or flammable compounds, such as concentrated hydrochloric acid, sulfuric acid, hydrogen peroxide, and ammonium hydroxide. Josh Walden, Intel's vice president and general manager for fab sort manufacturing, released a statement [commenting](#), "We're trying to ascertain what happened. All we know is that there was no damage or release of chemicals to the community." The room where the explosion occurred was a solvent treatment room. Intel uses chemical solvents, like the aforementioned chemicals, to carry out parts of its semiconductor manufacturing process. After use, these compounds are treated before being shipped to a toxic waste disposal facility. It is believed that the workers were just starting to treat a batch of solvents when the explosion occurred. Firefighters arrived at the building at 2 p.m., with employees being cleared to return inside by 3:30 p.m. Intel would not speculate on what the financial costs of the damage would be. However, based on Mr. Walden's comments, it appears that the damage was minimal and localized to the solvent treatment room, so this should not be a major setback for Intel.

<http://www.dailytech.com/Explosion+Rocks+Intels+Arizona+Fab+4+Hospitalized/article21844.htm>

USA, NE, OMAHA, JUNE 10 2011. 'LAKE OF FIRE' AT PLANT

bob glissmann & jason kuiper

 **Watch the Video** <http://www.omaha.com/article/20110609/NEWS01/706099872/1123>

 **Photo Gallery** http://odc.omaha.com/index.php?u_page=5002&p=2576#photo-showcase-four-alarm-fire



Fifty-five to 60 workers were inside Nebraska Machine Products when the fire call went out Wednesday morning. The fire spread to barrels outside, which exploded.

A combination of hazards confronted Omaha firefighters who responded to an explosion and fire at a manufacturing plant on Wednesday. The Nebraska Machine Products building was spewing black, acrid smoke as fire crews responded shortly after 10:30 a.m. A wastewater and oil evaporator inside the plant had exploded, and the smoke from the fire soon was visible for miles. Three workers in the plant had been burned in the blast. When crews arrived at the building, 9370 N. 45th St., they were told that one worker still might be inside, said Assistant Fire Marshal Jim Gentile. Firefighters entered the 36,000-

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square-foot structure and started searching as others knocked a hole in the roof to release heat and smoke. The crews inside pulled back after they learned that everyone had been accounted for, Gentile said. It took nearly four hours to bring the four-alarm fire under control. About 70 firefighters, including command staff, responded. The injured were taken to Creighton University Medical Center in serious condition, but later they had been upgraded to fair condition. Company co-owner and president Ron Rosso said the most serious injury was to a worker who suffered smoke inhalation and fluid burns. The man was described by another employee as a forklift driver who had been about 10 feet from the explosion. Rosso said he talked to the injured workers on the phone at midday, and they assured him they were OK, with singed hair the main damage. Besides the oil-fueled fire and heat from both the flames and the outside conditions, fire officials also were concerned about the building's truss roof, Gentile said. When such a roof is exposed to intense heat, he said, it starts to bend and deform. Then, when cool water is sprayed on the metal, the metal will contract, and the roof can buckle like a crushed aluminum can. In April 1996, Omaha Fire Capt. John Goessling was killed when a truss roof on a Family Dollar store at 30th Street and Newport Avenue collapsed on him. Goessling was unable to escape before his air tank emptied. Wednesday's four-alarm fire also forced the evacuation of nearby businesses. Doug White, who works at Nebraska Engineering Co., said his plant was evacuated shortly after 11 a.m. Shortly before that, some employees had been asked to move their vehicles because of the smoke pouring from the building next door. Then, White said, he heard a loud explosion. Within minutes, firefighters arrived and power was disconnected to his plant. Crews fought the fire from the outside, spraying foam and water into the structure for hours. The 55 to 60 workers who had been inside the Nebraska Machine Products plant stood about 50 feet from the building's east entrance, upwind from the heavy smoke that blew to the south. Many were concerned about how they would retrieve their vehicles, which were parked west of the plant, because their keys were in the building. Earnest Crosslen was standing under a tree after exiting the building's east side, on the other end of the plant from where the blast occurred. Crosslen, who had been about 75 to 100 feet from the evaporator, said, "It just blew up. I heard a boom. Then I saw a ball of fire." Rex Tupper, a plant employee from Council Bluffs, said he was around a corner when he heard a "bang." Tupper looked toward the explosion. "I saw a lake of fire and just ran," he said. A half-hour after the first fire call came in, the blaze intensified. The building's sheet-metal walls buckled and flames inside could be seen through gaps in the walls. A third alarm was issued at 11:10 a.m. The fourth went out at noon as flames and fireballs jumped a parking lot to ignite barrels and chemicals stored about 25 to 30 yards west of the plant. Isidoro Osorio thought he had moved his 2004 Ford Explorer out of harm's way after the fire broke out. But the flames that ignited the barrels spread to stacks of wood pallets and then to Osorio's and another worker's vehicle. By 12:15 p.m., the 29-year-old's Explorer was a burned-out shell. Had Osorio not moved it, the recently purchased SUV would have been fine. "It was my baby," Osorio said. Matt Starr was much more fortunate. Starr, 60, was close to the evaporator when the explosion occurred. He said he heard a "whooshing" sound before flames shot into the air. Starr, a 14-year employee who works in quality assurance, said he bolted toward a dock door on the building's west side. He said he could feel heat on the back of his arms and head as he ran. He slipped suddenly as the blast pushed him forward. Those who saw him fall told him later that a wall of flames rushed over him as he headed outside. He made it to safety, the hair on his head singed. "I was pretty lucky," he said. The fire finally was declared under control just before 2:15 p.m. One firefighter who became overheated was carted down the hill to a parked rescue squad for treatment. Gentile said inspectors remained at the plant after fire crews left shortly after 5 p.m. Rosso said a small fire at the plant shut down production for a few hours about 10 years ago. This fire, of course, was much worse, although firefighters were able to keep flames away from the office on the building's east end. "It looks pretty grim," Rosso said, "but we did get everybody out." Rosso said he already had received calls from customers and suppliers offering assistance and office and shop space. The company, founded in 1966, manufactures machine parts.

<http://www.omaha.com/article/20110609/NEWS01/706099872/1123>

USA, FLA, PASCO CO, JUNE 10 2011. \$1M EPA GRANT TO HELP IDENTIFY, CLEAN UP CONTAMINATED SITES

lisa buie

Lands tainted by gasoline, motor oil and chemicals can be public relations nightmares, but Pasco officials plan to use a \$1 million federal grant to hunt down those properties and turn those brownfields into greenbacks. The Environmental Protection Agency announced this week that the county won the grant, a first in county history, to find contaminated properties along the county's major north-south corridors. Once the properties are identified, owners can qualify for cleanup grants and redevelopment incentives. "(The program) was very competitive," said Philip Vorsatz, brownfields coordinator for the EPA region that includes Florida and seven other Southern states. "Less than one in five who applied were approved." Pasco County will use the grant to target properties along U.S. 19 in west Pasco, U.S. 41 in Land O'Lakes and U.S. 301 in east Pasco, which includes the Dade City Business Center, formerly an orange juice plant and now the site of a biodiesel plant.

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Also included is the old Cummer Cypress Co. sawmill site in Lacoochee, among the county's poorest areas. Sites in the cities along U.S. 19 and U.S. 301 also are eligible. The grant application shows a huge need for cleanup of hazardous sites. According to the state Department of Environmental Protection, Pasco is home to 2,143 underground storage tanks. Of those, 546 are leaking. The county also has 53 cattle dipping vats that contained chemicals used to rid livestock of ticks, as well as a host of scrap metal salvage yards, dry cleaners and car and boat repair shops. Even old railroad ties give off arsenic. "A lot of times it's things you might not even think of," said Melanie Kendrick, the county's senior planner for economic development and redevelopment. "Even dental X-rays back in the day." Kendrick, along with a consultant, helped write the grant proposal, which will spend half of the money targeting petroleum sites and the other half on hazardous waste. The county plans to form a committee of stakeholders to develop a plan to review a history of the county and interview longtime residents to track down potential waste sites. The second phase will involve taking water and soil samples. Owners aren't required to participate, so a key component of the program is to make them aware of the benefits, which include cleanup grants, tax breaks and redevelopment programs. "It's a touchy subject," Kendrick admitted, but the designation can actually attract investment. "There are companies that develop only on brownfields," she said. One example of a successful brownfield site is the Ikea furniture store in Ybor City. Home to a cannery from 1936 to 1981, the property was described by local media as "a gritty industrial site." Now it's a destination for chic end tables and bookcases. County officials, eager to transform Pasco from a bedroom community to one with high-paying jobs, hope to use the brownfield program to redevelop rundown areas such as U.S. 19, which has seen businesses shut down and new developers favoring sites in tonier Trinity. County grant writers said they fear the empty strip malls will serve as the "broken window" that invites more abandonment and crime. Along U.S. 301, they hope to provide "economic justice" to a community that for years has been plagued by poverty and crime. In 2003, concerns about the Lacoochee area came to a head when sheriff's Lt. Charles "Bo" Harrison was shot to death in his patrol car as he kept an eye on a nightclub that had been a site of trouble. His killer, a local teenager, is serving life in prison. It wasn't always that way. With sawmill jobs, the community thrived from 1922 to 1959. After the mill closed, opportunities dried up. Several gasoline and diesel storage tanks were removed in 1987, and officials found contaminated soil. Even though the area was cleaned up, an "environmental stigma" remains, the county proposal said. Kendrick said the grant requires no local matching money and hopes it will encourage companies to invest in the county. "It's all coming from the Feds," she said. "People complain about their tax dollars being wasted, but this is money coming back to them to improve the area."

Fast Facts - About the Program

The brownfields program encourages redevelopment of America's estimated 450,000 abandoned and contaminated waste sites. As of May, the EPA's brownfields assistance has leveraged more than \$16.7 billion in cleanup and redevelopment funding, and 69,700 jobs in cleanup, construction and redevelopment. These investments and jobs target local, underserved and economically disadvantaged neighborhoods – places where environmental cleanups and new jobs are most needed.

In the latest grant cycle, 26 Southeast communities have been selected to receive brownfields grants to assess, cleanup and redevelop properties. Nationally, 40 states and three tribes will share more than \$76 million in brownfields grants.

<http://www.tampabay.com/news/growth/1m-epa-grant-to-help-identify-clean-up-contaminated-sites/1174513>

RUSSIA, PERM, JUNE 10 2011. RAILWAY TANK CARS IN RUSSIA DERAILMENT

Eleven railway tank cars carrying gas derailed in the Russian city of Perm, with one of them overturning, but no injuries have been reported, authorities said. Rail traffic was suspended in both directions on the line following the accident at the Osentsy rail station that occurred Thursday at 11:26 a.m., ITAR-Tass reported. Authorities said no buildings were damaged and there was no threat to the environment. Cleanup efforts were under way and an investigation into the cause of the accident was in progress, ITAR-Tass said.

http://www.upi.com/Top_News/World-News/2011/06/09/Railway-tank-cars-in-Russia-derailment/UPI-78891307637928/?spt=hs&or=tn

USA, UT, SALT LAKE CITY, JUNE 10 2011. LITTLE BUGS TELL BIG STORY: RED BUTTE CREEK STILL HURTING A YEAR AFTER SPILL

judy fahys

Gone is the black slime that oozed eerily through pretty parks and tidy backyards on Salt Lake City's east side. So too are the swarms of workers scrubbing, scooping, suctioning and spray-washing Red Butte Creek. A year later, Chevron's pipeline burst is history. The spill zone, in many ways, looks like its old self. But it isn't. To understand why, consider what you don't see — namely, the worms, flies and other creepy crawlies at the low end of the food chain that live at least part of their lives on the stream bottom. "The bugs are the best barometer," says John Whitehead, assistant director of the Utah Division of Water

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Quality. "Water and sediment tests have confirmed there is little oil left in the stream. Those are not telling us as much, we think, as the organisms." Adds Ben Holcomb, the division's bug guru: "Just because you can't see it or smell it doesn't mean there's nothing wrong. The effects of the spill are still visible." Especially in the missing bugs. A bug's life • Bob Thompson, a watershed scientist for Salt Lake County, conducted a study of the bugs in Red Butte Creek the fall before last year's spill on June 11 and 12. He found lots of bugs and no signs of chemical pollution. All signs, he says, pointed to a "reasonably healthy riparian community." But Whitehead and Holcomb, who went out last week, are finding very different conditions. At Miller Park, a scenic forest near 1500 East with Red Butte Creek running through its heart, Holcomb steps carefully into the stream — it's running high — and stirs up the bottom with a net. When he brings it to the shore, he and Whitehead stare inside. They see a few handfuls of BB-size gravel and nothing but a snippet of a worm that seems to be alive. "That's not a good sign," Holcomb says. At a second monitoring site near the University of Utah's greenhouses, more than a football field's distance away from where the pipeline broke, the water normally would be teeming with bugs. Instead, Whitehead and Holcomb find a single midge casing. "Nothing jumping out of the net here," Holcomb says. Recent findings show some improvement from last June and August, when state water watchers counted fewer than 300 bugs at a site downstream from the spill. Above the spill, they tallied more than 4,500 bugs in June and about 9,500 in August. It's clear, Whitehead says, that something about the spill is having a lingering effect. Whitehead wonders if pockets of crude in tiny underwater spaces between rocks remain toxic for the bugs. Another possibility is that the cleaning itself stripped the creek of eggs and other signs of so-called macroinvertebrates. He points out that many residents wonder why his agency doesn't force Chevron to remove the oil completely by digging up the streambed and replacing everything. "What we're trying to find here," Whitehead says, "is do we clean up more or do we let the natural alternative work?" Learning from Alaska • Sue Mauger, a stream ecologist with the Cook Inlet Keeper in Alaska, says finding a balance between scrubbing out the oil and letting nature do it is a delicate question — as experts learned in Alaska in the 22 years since the Exxon Valdez oil spill. Mauger notes that, with crude, "to get that stuff out, you have to blast it out," and that can be hard on living things and their habitat. "If they [the bugs] haven't come back, that means there's still a problem there," she says. "There's probably another year or two to approach recovery." A bug-survey site near the spot of the Red Butte spill offers some hope. Holcomb wades into the grasses and scoops up another net of gravel and small rocks. He points to a restless caddisfly getting ready to shed its pupal case and emerge from the water. "So we are seeing some life here," says a relieved Whitehead. Walking her dog into Miller Park, Lisa Long, whose Yalecrest home shoulders Red Butte Creek, stops to listen to Whitehead talk about the spill's lingering impacts. She worries the stream is ruined forever. "There's no going back in the short term," says Whitehead, reflecting on when the bugs will return. "Maybe not this year. Maybe not next year. There's no quick fix. ... The question is: Can we live with a cleanup that takes three or four years?" The extra mile • Chevron can provide a long list of what it has done to restore the environment after the 33,600-gallon spill in June and the quickly contained 21,000-gallon spill on Dec. 1. Company spokesman Mickey Driver, responding to questions via email, notes that all of the work was done under the direction of the Unified Command, a kind of spill SWAT team of federal, state, county and city officials, as well as Chevron personnel. Crews cleaned debris from the creek, washing affected areas, capturing the crude and disposing of it. They sopped up oil with absorbent booms and pads on Red Butte Creek, Liberty Park's pond and the Jordan River. Driver notes Chevron even improved the pond (which reopened May 14), replacing the crumbling perimeter ring, rebuilding the boat ramp and installing silt fences. "At Liberty Park Lake," he says, "we have removed seven years of bird droppings and normal creek sediment fill that totaled to more than 9,000 cubic yards." But Driver points out more work remains. Crews need to assess the trees and plants along Red Butte Creek and monitor the water and soil long term. Chevron's goal, he says, is to "fully comply with the applicable regulatory requirements to ensure the continued protection of human health and the environment." Whitehead says the company will be on call to clean up any oily hot spots along the stream. Plus, there will be state fines on top of the federal ones already issued. "It's not if," he says, "but what penalties will be appropriate."

 **Related Stories** [A year later, Salt Lake City spill is with us still](http://www.sltrib.com/sltrib/politics/51967125-90/says-spill-whitehead-bugs.html.csp)

<http://www.sltrib.com/sltrib/politics/51967125-90/says-spill-whitehead-bugs.html.csp>

USA, IA, MILFORD, JUNE 10 2011. DNR INVESTIGATING SMALL PETROLEUM LEAK

A farmer found a petroleum leak running into a stream south of Milford early Thursday afternoon. The farmer reported a sheen on the water and a strong petroleum odor to the Iowa Department of Natural Resources about 1:30 p.m. The DNR checked with two pipeline companies in the area and was working with them to locate the source of petroleum. So far, investigators have tracked the leakage to a farm field tile line that apparently intersects a buried petroleum pipe line. The farm field is less than 10 miles south of Milford. The leak is apparently a slow one, since the pipeline's automatic shutdown has not been activated by a pressure loss. However, most of the petroleum has pooled in a farm pond about two miles downstream where a

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few dead fish and tadpoles have been found. Absorbent booms and pads have been placed in the stream and farm pond to prevent further downstream contamination. The unnamed stream eventually flows to the Little Sioux River. The DNR will continue to investigate the source of the leak and work with the pipeline company and landowner to stop the leakage and clean up the site. The DNR will consider appropriate enforcement actions.

<http://www.spencerdailyreporter.com/story/1735305.html>

USA, CA, SAN ONOFRE. JUNE 10 2011. 75 GALLONS OF ACID SPILLED AT NUKE PLANT

paul sisson

A leaky flange at San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station spilled 75 gallons of sulfuric acid at the seaside plant last month, according to hazardous materials spill report published by the California Emergency Management Agency. The incident report indicates that the spill occurred at 2:40 p.m. May 28 and was contained by unspecified means. Plant spokesman Gil Alexander said Thursday that the spill was outside the plant's two containment domes and not near any radioactive equipment. He said the spill was contained within a catch basin, or sump, which prevented it from entering any other area of the plant as designed. Alexander said a faulty seal allowed the leak to occur and the seal has since been replaced. Found in most car batteries, sulfuric acid is a strong mineral acid that, upon contact, can cause burns to the skin, eyes, lungs and digestive tract, according to the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry. At San Onofre, the acid is used to remove minerals from water before the water is used in various plant equipment. The incident was not reported to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, which oversees safety at all nuclear plants in the United States. Lara Uselding, a spokeswoman for the NRC, said Thursday that plants are not required to report spills under 1,000 gallons that are contained by safety equipment. Southern California Edison, the utility that operates San Onofre, did report a much larger spill two years ago. The utility reported that 1,000 gallons of sulfuric acid "overflowed" from a storage tank at the plant on April 10, 2009, but said that the "acid was contained within a berm around the tank and there was no release to the environment."

http://www.nctimes.com/news/local/sdcounty/article_c4551cec-4c33-530b-8914-dbb40a4a081e.html

USA, ME, FARMINGTON, JUNE 10 2011. MT. BLUE MIDDLE SCHOOL CLOSED FRIDAY

Mt. Blue Middle School will remain closed Friday while crews continue cleaning up Number 2 fuel that spilled on the grounds Tuesday. An oil delivery resulted in an overflow because an alarm failed. That caused fuel to seep out of the tank through a vent in the school's central courtyard. Personnel from the Maine Department of Environmental Protection's Bureau of Remediation and Waste Management remained on the scene Thursday, along with workers from Environmental Projects Inc., the cleanup contractor hired by C.N. Brown. While the DEP staff has still not been able to determine exactly the amount of oil that discharged from the 10,000-gallon tank, the delivery was for 1,500 gallons, so they know it was less than that, and may actually be under 500 gallons, Samantha DePoy-Warren, DEP spokesperson, said. A DEP agent estimated 40 gallons was cleaned up from a catch basin Tuesday afternoon but crews continued to work Wednesday and Thursday. About 350 students were evacuated around noontime Tuesday and remained at the school for their regular bus run. The stain on the soil is about 10 feet by 30 feet and so far, workers have dug down three feet and are still finding saturated soil, so it is a significant spill and more than the 100 gallons initially estimated, DePoy-Warren said. Cleanup is complicated by the fact that the courtyard where the spill occurred is surrounded on all sides by the school building. That makes it inaccessible to the excavation equipment that would typically be brought in to help with cleanup. The contaminated dirt is being loosened with shovels and sucked up by two vacuum trucks that have hoses running through the hallway into the courtyard. The plan is to temporarily cover the hole Friday so that school can resume Monday, and then finish the cleanup after school closes for the summer.

<http://www.sunjournal.com/franklin/story/1044084>

USA, PA, TOWONDA, ARMENIA TWP, JUNE 10 2011. FINAL REPORT ON ARMENIA TWP. DIESEL FUEL SPILL COMPLETED

eric hrin

Clean-up costs for the diesel fuel spill in March 2010 at Talisman's Putnam 77 Marcellus natural gas well pad in Armenia Township weren't cheap. A final report summary on the spill from the state Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) shows that the clean-up cost was approximately \$500,000. During the Armenia Township supervisors meeting Thursday, the spill was briefly covered during the correspondence portion of the meeting. When asked for comment, township secretary Mallory Babcock said that Talisman was responsible for the clean-up costs, not the township. This past January, the DEP office in Williamsport announced it had fined Talisman Energy USA Inc., of Horseheads, N.Y., \$24,608 for the spill. "This spill went off the well pad and into a neighboring farm field," stated DEP North-central Regional Director Nels Taber in a press

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release issued by DEP at that time. "Talisman is extremely fortunate it did not impact surface water or wetlands," the statement added. The release stated that cleanup required 3,800 tons of contaminated soil to be excavated and that 132,000 gallons of contaminated water was collected, from which about 450 gallons of diesel fuel was recovered. Also, Talisman had issued a statement declaring it "deeply regrets the diesel spill on the Putnam wellsite," adding "Protecting the environment is a core company value we take very seriously." The company statement continued: "Talisman Energy USA Inc. has entered into a settlement agreement with the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) fully meeting the regulatory directives of the department. Talisman is committed to continued safe and environmentally respectful operations." The final report summary stated that based on findings presented in the Diesel Fuel Release Investigation Report, "human health and the environment have not been adversely impacted from the release of diesel fuel from the Putnam 77 Wellpad site and no further action or investigation is recommended or warranted." Supervisor Leon Putnam confirmed that the spill occurred on his property in a hayfield. He expressed satisfaction with DEP's handling of the matter.

<http://thedailyreview.com/news/final-report-on-armenia-twp-diesel-fuel-spill-completed-1.1159833>

USA, N.D, BISMARCK, JUNE 10 2011. FIRMS FACE \$3M IN FINES OVER FLOODED OIL PITS ACROSS NORTH DAKOTA

North Dakota regulators said Thursday that they had levied \$3 million in fines against 20 companies that failed to protect oilfield waste pits from spring flooding. Lynn Helms, the director of the state Department of Mineral Resources, said about 10 percent of the state's 500 waste ponds were swamped this spring by meltwater from one of the state's snowiest winters on record. The waste pit breaches came despite regulators' warnings that they could happen. Tallahassee, Fla.-based Oil For America LLC was fined \$1.26 million for spills at two sites in North Dakota's oil patch. Company spokesman Bob Anger said he had not seen the violation notices and could not comment on them. Dave Glatt, the director of the state Health Department's environmental health section, said his agency also is sending violation notices to companies involved in at least five of the waste pit spills cited by the state Department of Mineral Resources. The Health Department also plans to sanction and fine companies involved in about a dozen other swamped waste pit incidents. Glatt said those fines could tally hundreds of thousands of dollars in each case. "It depends on the extent of the spill, how quickly they responded to it and how well they cleaned it up," he said. Runoff from the waste pits, which are about the size of a large swimming pool and can contain oil, diesel, drilling muds and chemicals, has not threatened drinking water sources, Glatt said. Cleanup is still going on at many of the spill sites and could take months, he said. Regulators called and sent letters to oil companies in March, warning them to build dikes and take other precautions to prevent overflow of the open pits due to runoff. Authorities said some of the companies did not do enough to protect the waste pits and others simply ignored the warnings. Helms said money collected from fines his department issued would be distributed to school districts where the spills occurred. Health Department fines go to the state's general fund, Glatt said.

http://www.bismarcktribune.com/news/state-and-regional/article_bdd7ddfa-92ae-11e0-ad96-001cc4c03286.html

SCOTLAND, NORTH LANARKSHIRE, WISHAW, JUNE 10 2011. SURVIVING CAR EXPLOSION 'A MIRACLE' SAYS WISHAW WOMAN >> CAR EXPLODED IN WISHAW SUPERMARKET CAR PARK LEAVING WOMAN WITH FIRST DEGREE BURNS.



Click-2-Listen <http://news.stv.tv/scotland/west-central/255461-woman-describes-car-explosion-ordeal/>



A woman who was badly burned when her car exploded in a supermarket car park has spoken to STV news about her ordeal. Roseanne Armstrong, 38, was taken to hospital after her car blew up outside the Tesco supermarket in Wishaw, North Lanarkshire, on Sunday night. She was standing close to the car, which she had just purchased 24 hours earlier and filled with petrol, when it ignited. She described what happened, saying: "I came home from the bingo and popped in for a quick packet of cigarettes because I don't smoke in front of the kids. "I was on the phone to my mum for a little bit and I lit my cigarette and that's all I can remember. The next thing I remember I woke up on the car park floor. "I had been blown out the car ... and the sensation, the pain of the burning." She came to just

as paramedics arrived on the scene. She said: "I think it was more a shock that anything. I just felt that everyone around me was shouting, more than anything else. You couldn't think of anything else other than the pain, the sensation of the pain, the burning feeling. "I just didn't realise how horrific it was until I came home and my husband showed me the state of the car, and

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I couldn't believe it, that I'd actually got out of it." She was taken by ambulance to Wishaw General Hospital for treatment to her burns. She said: "I'm a walking miracle more than anything else. I'm a bit of a sight, I've had better days, I wish it was a nice suntan and not burn marks, but it's a miracle." She added: "I think the Lord was my passenger, he saved me out of it, no one would walk free from that. "None of my kids were with me, normally I have two or three but because I was coming came back from the bingo I didn't have any kids with me and I had them all day." An investigation into the cause of the explosion involving Strathclyde Fire and Rescue and Strathclyde Police is now under way. It's thought that the investigation will focus on a flammable cleaning product used on the interior of the vehicle shortly before it was sold.

<http://news.stv.tv/scotland/west-central/255461-woman-describes-car-explosion-ordeal/>

SCOTLAND, NORTH LANARKSHIRE, WISHAW, JUNE 10 2011. WOMEN SOAKED IN PETROL AFTER PUMP BURSTS AT WISHAW TESCO >> THREE FRIENDS SHOCKED AS FAULTY PETROL PUMP SPRAYS GALLONS OF FUEL ACROSS FORECOURT

jamie borthwick



Firefighters begin the clear up at Tesco Wishaw .

A Wishaw woman was left soaked in petrol after a pump at a Tesco garage burst. Lisa Sweeney was filling her car up at the the supermarket giant's Belhaven Road station when a faulty fuel trap gushed gallons of the flammable liquid through a fractured hose. And despite her clothes being ruined and the stress and fear of the incident, Lisa and her passengers claim she was charged £10 by the petrol attendant for filling up. Now Lisa and passengers Jacqueline Prentice and Siobhan Sweeney are demanding answers from Tesco as to why such an incident could occur— and why there was only one member of staff manning the garage. Lisa's friend, Jacqueline, said: "Lisa was at the pump while

Siobhan and I were sitting in the car. "It was really busy on the forecourt and the staff member was working on her own so there was a big queue. "I was talking to Siobhan when I suddenly realised Lisa was banging on the car and shouting on us. "When I stepped out I saw she was covered in petrol and standing there with the nozzle. I was terrified. "I ran over and shouted on the woman working to tell her what was happening and when she saw it she smacked the emergency stop button to prevent any more petrol coming out." The incident occurred at around 2.15pm on Sunday June 5. Jacqueline claims that customers were left to deal with the spill as the staff member had a queue of customers waiting and could not abandon the cash till. Jacqueline said: "It was really unsafe - I honestly didn't know what to do. A man helped us and we scattered sand around it to stop it flowing. "Still nobody from the store had come over to help us until two boys came up from the shop. "By this point Lisa was really upset, everybody couldn't really believe what had happened." The forecourt attendant triggered the emergency cut-off button, which cuts power and means there is no automated way of taking in cash. However, according to Jacqueline, the attendant still asked customers to be honest about how much fuel they had used. Lisa agreed to hand over £10. Jacqueline added: "Since we got home and got out of the clothes, we've been feeling really sick and had headaches. "It's also going through my mind about what a lucky escape it was. One spark and it could have blown up half of Wishaw. "It was bizarre. We've decided to write to Tesco and ask for an explanation because something like that can't be allowed to happen. "We have all got bits of clothing we've had to throw out now too, so we should have a case to claim for them." A Tesco spokesperson said: "We are very sorry for the shock and distress experienced by our customer yesterday during this incident. "Safety is an absolute priority and we regularly carry out robust checks and maintenance on all of the equipment in our petrol forecourts. "We have reported this incident to the engineer and will be conducting a thorough investigation into the circumstances of what happened."

<http://local.stv.tv/wishaw/news/18991-women-soaked-in-petrol-after-pump-bursts-at-wishaw-tesco/>

USA, OH, DAYTON, JUNE 11 2011. MOM: 'ZACK WOULD BE DEAD' WITHOUT SUPERVISOR'S ACTIONS >> 21-YEAR-OLD REMAINS IN INDUCED COMA WITH CAUSTIC SODA BURNS ON 60% OF HIS BODY

Tammy Hale knows her son is only alive after he fell into a tank filled with cleaning chemicals Tuesday because of the heroic actions of a co-worker. Zack Hale, 21, is in an induced coma and on a ventilator at Miami Valley Hospital in Dayton, Ohio, with second- and third-degree chemical burns covering 60 percent of his body. He fell into a tanker filled with caustic soda (sodium hydroxide) while working at Levi Holdings on the city's northwest side. Hospital officials Thursday afternoon said Hale remained in critical condition. If not for Dan Redd, the tank cleaning supervisor at Levi Holdings, Tammy Hale says her son would have been stuck in the tank and died with no way to escape. "Dan said he was out riding around on his golf cart from

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location to location like he does and he heard someone screaming and he knew it was Zack," Tammy Hale said Thursday. "He said Zack had fallen (into the tank) feet first and he had a hard time getting him out because the chemical was so slippery. But he pulled him out, stripped him and washed him off. "If it wasn't for Dan, Zack would be dead right now. (Dan) is having a really hard time with this, but I called him last night and tried to convince him that what he did was really a great thing. He was pretty shook up." Redd suffered burns on his hands and arms. He was treated and released Tuesday from Reid Hospital. He could not be reached for comment Thursday. Zack Hale's job at Levi Holdings, 1655 Rich Road in Richmond, was to climb onto empty tankers, insert a hose into a man-hole sized opening and dispense cleaning agents. Hale was found by Redd being burned alive by the chemicals, but no one witnessed what happened to cause Hale to end up in the tanker. "The nurse (at Miami Valley) said it looked like there were marks on his back that made it look like he had to have slipped and fallen into the hole," Tammy Hale said. "But no one was there to witness it, so we still don't really know exactly what happened." Hale was told by physicians at Miami Valley that the next 48 hours are pivotal for her son. Zack, a former Northeastern and Richmond high school student, suffered burns from the chest down, and surgery could be performed today that will allow doctors to see if his lungs were burned on the inside. "They said if you breathe it in, it is like setting the inside of your lungs on fire -- it is that kind of burning," Tammy Hale said. "If there is a blessing in any of this, it is that his upper extremities were saved. If you look at him, it looks like he was just perfectly dipped into the tanker and pulled back out." Tammy Hale said Thursday that her younger son, Chris, 19, has not been able to see his brother in the hospital because it is too emotionally difficult. Chris is in remission from Crohn's disease and Zack has been a great supporter of his brother during his illness. "He drove us to the Mayo Clinic when Chris had to go for treatments -- they are very close," Hale said. "I know Chris is having a very hard time with this."

<http://www.pal-item.com/article/20110610/NEWS01/106100312/Mom-Zack-would-dead-without-supervisor-s-actions>

USA, OH, TOLEDO, JUNE 11 2011. 50 YEARS AGO: ANTHONY WAYNE TRAIL FIRE >> LETHAL INFERNO SEARED INTO TOLEDO'S MEMORY >> 4 FIREFIGHTERS KILLED IN BLAZE THAT HURT 71

 **Watch the Video** <http://www.toledoblade.com/Police-Fire/2011/06/10/Lethal-inferno-seared-into-Toledos-memory.html>



Seven firefighters survived injuries sustained in battling the tanker fire.

Only 13 years old on June 10, 1961, Raymond Mercurio was lying in a makeshift emergency room with burns on his arms, the back of his neck, and his ears. A man, a Toledo firefighter, who lay on the hospital bed next to him, shielded only by a curtain, was screaming. "I can't breathe, I can't breathe," Mr. Mercurio, now 63, recalled the firefighter yelling. Days later, the firefighter died. Friday is the 50th anniversary of the Anthony Wayne Trail fire and explosion that injured 71 people -- 38 of whom were children -- and eventually claimed the lives of four Toledo firefighters. At noon in Chub DeWolfe Park, in front of station No. 1 on Huron Street, the fire department will host a memorial service to remember the lives lost in the blaze and other firefighters who made the ultimate sacrifice. It was a hot spring day. Mr. Mercurio and his buddies were going to play sandlot baseball on a triangular-shaped plot of land they turned into their field of

dreams. They hadn't been there long when they heard a scraping sound. A trailer of a Standard Oil tanker truck toting 7,900 gallons of gasoline crashed on the Trail near Vinton Street. There was a crunch and a thud. Nothing dramatic, Mr. Mercurio said. Then the truck was enveloped in black smoke. "Ding-ding, ding-ding, ding-ding-ding." The first fire alarm from fire box 223, at Erie and Logan streets, sounded at 10:56 a.m. "It just came in as a box alarm," said retired firefighter John Repp, Sr., 85. Mr. Repp is now the curator of the Toledo Firefighters Museum. "We didn't know what it was." Station 5, at Broadway and Logan Street, was called in first -- then two more alarms came in. The second sounded at 11 a.m., the third at 11:08. In all, 57 firefighters responded to the blaze. The truck, driven by Edward Baum, 49, of Swanton, was mangled, and it burned for about 15 minutes. Accounts of the crash suggest that thousands of people gathered around to watch. People living in homes nearby stood in their yards, people were in shock watching from bridges, and the boys, like Mr. Mercurio, watched in awe. "It was getting hotter," Mr. Mercurio said. He told his friends they should probably leave and head back home. The boys turned to walk away. Mr. Repp was told by his station's Deputy Chief Ewald Bode to check on a pumper that was headed to the scene and to help those firefighters lay down hose. Mr. Repp and Mr. Mercurio recalled hearing the same sound. "Wooh, wooh, wooh." There was a small explosion followed by a massive blast that destroyed several nearby homes. Firefighters, police officers, and spectators were pushed back by the heat. "Several guys were caught in it. Some were thrown backward," fire Lt. William

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Bondy told The Blade in 1961. "Others were running. At least four of them were completely ablaze. We grabbed them, tore off their coats, and rolled them in the grass. "Spectators were screaming and falling back from the flames. A short time later, first aid arrived." Mr. Mercurio's mother came running to where the boys played ball. Her son walked toward her, holding his arms bowed out at his sides, telling her he was burned. "It was like a gel," he said, "and it burned." He and his mother got into a police car and were driven to then-St. Vincent's Hospital, where he spent several hours in the emergency room. He was one of 71 people injured in the blast -- 38 were children, 10 listed as critical. Eleven of the injured were firefighters battling the blazes. "All you saw was a ball of fire," Mr. Repp said. Mr. Repp was working with other firefighters to extinguish the fires that were destroying homes. On June 15, Robert Harrison, a firefighter from Station 5, died from his burns. Glenn Carter, also from Station 5, died on June 23, also of burns. William Genson, from Mr. Repp's squad, died from burns exactly one month after the initial blast on July 10. Deputy Chief Bode, who was not wearing fire gear, died from his burns on July 28. No other fire in the city's history has claimed the lives of more firefighters. "The chief who died -- he told me to walk away," Mr. Repp said. "He saved my life." Mr. Mercurio was in bandages for weeks after the fire. The scars faded over time and, now, are hardly visible. Standard Oil gave him a settlement of about \$300, which he used to buy his first drum set. The drums changed the direction of his life, he said. He went on to teach drum lessons and play music all over. He played with the Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra for a time, making a name for himself in the jazz scene. Mr. Mercurio can hardly believe 50 years have passed. "Those firemen -- they were heroes, just like they are today," he said. He said he wants to attend the memorial too. Mr. Repp, who joined the department at 27 years old, retired in 1981. "Looking back, I'd go home and start weeping," he said, adding that back then, counseling services were generally not available, as they are now. He said only 17 of the men who responded to the fire are still alive -- some who were very badly burned. They have all been invited to attend the memorial, which Mr. Repp will attend. He'll remember the men he worked with who gave their lives, and the chief who saved his.

<http://www.toledoblade.com/Police-Fire/2011/06/10/Lethal-inferno-seared-into-Toledos-memory.html>

USA, GA, SUWANEE, LIVE OAK, JUNE 11 2011. BRANFORD GAS TANKS ACCIDENTALLY FILLED WITH DIESEL

jeff waters

Branford residents who filled up at the C-Square gas station and convenience store on Highway 27 on June 8 may need to look for a mechanic. Johnson & Johnson, who supplies the fuel for the station, inadvertently refilled one of the tanks with diesel fuel instead of gasoline, according to a company spokesperson. That person said a new employee had accidentally filled the tank with diesel. It's unclear how many vehicles may have been impacted. However, Rahul Patel of C-Square, said that the fuel company is paying for necessary vehicle repairs for those who pumped diesel into their gasoline engines and that the company corrected the problem quickly. Patel said he learned of the problem on June 9 and the matter was subsequently fixed. "We already fixed it, they flushed out the pumps," said Patel. If you think your vehicle may have been impacted, you can contact C-Square at 386-935-2354.

<http://suwanneedemocrat.com/suwannee/x1943987940/Branford-gas-tanks-accidentally-filled-with-diesel>

INDIA, PATNA, JUNE 11 2011. OIL TANKER CATCHES FIRE, TRAFFIC PARALYZED

Movement of vehicles on [Patna-Gaya Main Road](#) remained paralyzed for over two hours after an oil tanker carrying kerosene came in contact with an overhead high tension wire and caught fire at [Deokuli village](#) under Dhanarua police station in Patna district on Friday afternoon. On getting information, the Dhanarua police along with its SHO reached the spot and blocked the movement of the vehicles due to security reason. The SHO said that three fire tenders rushed to the spot and doused the flames. He said that since the driver and cleaner of the oil tanker are missing, it was very difficult to know where the tanker was going. Efforts are on to trace their whereabouts, the SHO said and added that vehicular movement was later restored on the road.

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/patna/Oil-tanker-catches-fire-traffic-paralyzed/articleshow/8807738.cms>

USA, TX, HOUSTON, JUNE 11 2011. EXXON'S TEXAS REFINERY REPORTS PROPYLENE LEAK

Environmental groups say Exxon Mobil Corp. has told Texas environmental regulators there was an eight-week-long, 108,000-pound propylene release at the company's Texas refinery. Sierra Club and Environment Texas say Exxon reported to regulators a tubing leak was discovered on June 2 and was isolated within a half-hour. However, Exxon says the leak may have started on April 12. Propylene is a component of ground-level ozone. Exxon and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality did not immediately comment on the report from the environmental groups.

<http://abclocal.go.com/ktrk/story?section=news/local&id=8183459>

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