



Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network Release 2011 – 708 Newsy Stuff

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May 9 2011



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MEXICO, COAHUILA, SAN JUAN DE SABINAS, MAY 4 2011. HOPES FADE FOR MEXICAN MINERS

brenda alcala

 **Watch the Video** <http://edition.cnn.com/2011/WORLD/americas/05/04/mexico.mine.blast/>

 **Photo Gallery** <http://www.newsday.com/business/3-dead-11-trapped-in-mexican-coal-mine-explosion-1.2854985>



People wait outside a coal mine in [San Juan](#) de Sabinas, in the Mexican state of Coahuila, Tuesday, May 3, 2011. Authorities in northern Mexico said a gas explosion in the mine has trapped 14 miners.

Mexican officials reported little hope Wednesday of finding survivors of an explosion in a coal mine in northern Mexico, as five of 14 trapped miners were confirmed dead. Labor Minister Javier Lozano reported a fifth body pulled out early Wednesday on social network Twitter. "There are no signs of life and the outlook is bad," Lozano told Televisa TV network. "Experts say there is almost no chance that they could have survived." The strong blast, which officials blamed on methane gas, also struck a teenager who was working outside the mine and later had to have his arms amputated, investigators said. The explosion occurred early Tuesday at the mine near the town of Sabinas, in northern Coahuila state near the US border and the site

of a 2006 mine explosion which left 65 dead. It provoked new criticism of officials over failings in mine safety, as well as the inability to recover most of the bodies from the blast in 2006. Several rescue workers managed to enter the small mine some 60 meters (yards) deep but were hampered in their efforts due to methane emissions, officials said. Anxious families gathered outside the Mexican mine, as rescue efforts picked up Wednesday. President Felipe Calderon meanwhile said he had ordered the Attorney General's Office to open an investigation into the explosion. The mine had been operating in precarious conditions with 15 workers for only 18 days and its legal status needed to be checked, Lozano told Televisa Wednesday. "They didn't even tell us they had started to operate," he said. The miners, metalworkers and steelworkers union on Tuesday urged the government to take stronger action against companies who do not take sufficient safety measures. A 2006 explosion in the Pasta de Conchos mine, also near Sabinas, killed 65 miners. Only two of those bodies have been recovered. A team of Chilean experts was due to arrive Wednesday, despite little hope now for a miraculous rescue like that of the 33 Chilean miners trapped for 69 days more than 600 meters underground last year.

Related Stories

- [3 dead, 11 trapped in Mexican coal mine explosion](#)
- [Mexico mine blast traps 14](#)
- [Workers Trapped In Mexican Coal Mine](#)

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5g7dBAJoofULTQmLler3037DJXEdQ?docId=CNG.c4e5aaec1a6b9ae498dbef05c7cebd341>

CANADA, ALTA, CALGARY, MAY 4 2011. ALBERTA OIL PIPELINE LEAK LARGEST TO HIT PROVINCE IN 36 YEARS

dina o'meara



Work is being done to contain 28,000 barrels of crude oil that poured out of a broken pipeline near the community of Little Buffalo, about 100 kilometres northeast of Peace River.

An oil spill in a remote northwestern corner of Alberta has turned out to be the province's largest in 36 years, according to regulators. Approximately 28,000 barrels of oil were spilled in the Rainbow pipeline rupture, which was discovered April 29, the Energy Resources Conservation Board said Tuesday. A spill of that magnitude on a provincial pipeline hasn't happened since 1975 when the Bow Valley line leaked 40,000 barrels of oil, said board spokesman Davis Sheremata.

"This is the biggest crude oil pipeline spill that we've had in certainly some time," Sheremata said. Crews reached and exposed the damaged section of Rainbow pipe Tuesday afternoon after being hampered by boggy conditions. Sheremata said the spill had been contained and cleanup efforts were ongoing, Sheremata said. The Rainbow pipeline carries about 187,000 barrels of oil per day from Zama in northwest Alberta 770 km south to Edmonton. Last Friday, operator Plains Midstream Canada, a branch of Houston-based Plains All American Pipeline, discovered the spill after its system detected a drop in pressure about 100 kilometres northeast of Peace River. It was the second in six years on the line, which ruptured near Slave

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Lake in 2005, releasing about 930 barrels of oil. The company has not determined the cause of last week's leak, and had not released an estimated volume of the spill. The oil spread along the pipeline's right-of-way and into nearby sloughs, but remains about 300 metres, slightly more than a city block, away from flowing water or runoff, the ERCB said. Last year an Enbridge Inc. pipeline ruptured in Michigan, releasing more than 20,000 barrels of sour oil into waterways leading to the scenic Kalamazoo River. Backlash over the incident, which shut down the Line 6 system for nine weeks, resulted U.S. congressional hearings, tightened regulations and millions of dollars in fines for the Calgary-based pipeline giant. Plains said it resumed partial operations south of the ruptured Rainbow pipeline on Monday after installing plugs on either end of the damaged section. The open section will flow about half the usual volume of oil. The company expects to complete repairs by the end of the week, but restarting the repaired section of the line will require regulatory approval. The Rainbow leak was the second to happen in Alberta in less than two weeks. On April 22 landowners riding horseback discovered oil on their property near Edson, resulting in Kinder Morgan shutting down its Alberta-to-Washington Trans Mountain pipeline for almost a week. An investigation into the incident uncovered a crack in a welded segment of the 57-year-old pipeline as the probable cause of the leak. Environmental think-tank the Pembina Institute questioned how quickly the Rainbow pipeline was approved to resume partial operations, and whether age played a factor in the break in the 44-year-old pipeline. "There are some important questions that need to be asked about whether or not, as that infrastructure ages, is the government increasing its scrutiny and requirements of pipeline operators to make sure those pipelines are still safe," said spokesman Dan Woynilowicz. "Or are we actually on the cusp, as some of these pipelines break the 40- or 50-year mark, of having higher incidents of spills." Alberta is criss-crossed by thousands of kilometres of oil and natural gas pipeline, which are regularly inspected and maintained by their operators, with age playing a relatively small factor in their overall integrity, said Brenda Kenny, president of the Canadian Energy Pipeline Association. Advances in technology have increased pipeline maintenance procedures and safety, she noted. Where more work does need to be done is in pushing operators to be more open with the public. "We all benefit from strong regulation and we need a continued and growing measure of transparency so that people can have increased confidence that we are doing the right things," Kenny said. "We owe it to the public to be held accountable for that." Major regional operator Pembina Pipeline, which transports about 1.1 million barrels of oil per day through the province and British Columbia, said inspections, repairs and replacement of pipeline sections enables operators to keep running systems safely. "With proper maintenance we expect the life of a pipeline to be infinite," spokeswoman Shawn Davis said. Until the Rainbow pipeline is fully operational, oil producer Penn West Petroleum said it was using trucks, storage and alternative pipelines to move its production south. The Calgary-based company produces about 100,000 barrels per day of oil in northern Alberta, but did not disclose how much crude was being trucked. Trucking company EnerMAX Services said it was moving oil along routes east to Gordondale rather than Valleyview because of the outage, according to Bloomberg.

Related Stories

- [Alberta school closed after oil spill sparks health complaints](#)
- [Alta. oil pipeline leaked 28,000 barrels](#)
- [Alberta oil spill largest since 1975](#)
- [Plains says repairing damaged Canadian pipeline](#)

<http://business.financialpost.com/2011/05/04/alberta-oil-pipeline-leak-largest-in-36-years/>

USA, AKA, NORTH SLOPE, MAY 4 2011. BP IS FINED \$25 MILLION FOR '06 SPILLS AT PIPELINES

john m. broder



BP will pay \$25 million in civil fines [to settle charges](#) arising from two spills from its network of pipelines in Alaska in 2006 and from a willful failure to comply with a government order to properly maintain the pipelines to prevent corrosion, federal officials [announced on Tuesday](#). The fine is the largest per-barrel assessment ever levied against an oil company in a spill case and represents a new blow to BP's corporate treasury and reputation. The aggressive approach of federal prosecutors in this case could portend huge fines and penalties from [BP's much larger spill in the Gulf of Mexico](#) last year. That case, which is still under investigation, could cost the British oil giant more than \$20 billion if the company is found grossly negligent, as it was in the Alaska pipeline matter. "This penalty should serve as a wake-up call to all pipeline operators that they will be held accountable for the safety of their operations and their compliance with the Clean Water Act, the [Clean Air Act](#) and the pipeline safety laws," Ignacia S. Moreno, head of the environmental enforcement division at the Justice Department, said in a conference call with reporters. "This agreement will help prevent future

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environmental disasters and protect the fragile ecosystem of Alaska's North Slope." Ms. Moreno declined to answer any questions about the investigation into the Deepwater Horizon explosion and spill in the gulf in April 2010, which killed 11 people and poured nearly five million barrels of oil into the ocean. BP Exploration Alaska owns the largest share of the consortium that runs the pipeline and depends on income from North Slope production to pay for damages caused by the gulf blowout. As a result of corrosion and poor maintenance of its pipelines in Alaska, BP was found responsible for the discharge of more than 5,000 barrels of oil onto the Arctic tundra and into a lake on the North Slope in March 2006; a much smaller spill occurred in August of that year. The company paid more than \$20 million in criminal fines and restitution and was ordered by the federal Department of Transportation to perform extensive repairs on its system of 1,600 miles of pipelines. The Department of Transportation's pipeline safety division determined that BP had failed to fully comply with the order to clean and replace miles of pipeline, and the government sued the company again in 2009. The consent decree announced on Tuesday requires BP to develop a program to maintain the safety and integrity of its pipelines and will subject the company to enhanced surveillance of its operations by federal regulators. The company also will be required to hire an outside monitor to ensure that it is regularly inspecting and maintaining its pipelines. "We are not just going to take BP at its word," said Cynthia Giles, director of the [Environmental Protection Agency](http://www.epa.gov)'s office of enforcement and compliance assurance. "This requires an independent monitor to assure that BP is fully complying with the terms of today's settlement. This case sends a clear message that we are vigorously enforcing the nation's environmental laws." Since the Deepwater Horizon spill and a fatal natural gas pipeline explosion last year in San Bruno, Calif., federal regulators have been taking a much harder regulatory line on drilling permits and pipeline inspections in general. In a brief statement, BP said the company did not admit to any liability in reaching the agreement with the government. The company also said the penalty was not calculated on a per-barrel basis, although government officials described the payment in those terms. BP did not say how it was calculated or offer specifics. The settlement must be ratified by a federal court to take effect. Alaska's North Slope is one of BP's most important oil fields and provides a vital income stream. BP produces nearly two-thirds of the 600,000 barrels a day that come from the North Slope, a giant oil field that has been in decline for many years but still produces about 3 percent of the crude oil consumed by the United States. Last week BP reported a first-quarter profit of \$5.37 billion excluding one-time items and inventory changes, down 4 percent from a year earlier. The results included a \$400 million charge related to the gulf spill.

http://www.nytimes.com/2011/05/04/science/earth/04pipeline.html?_r=1

CHINA, FUJIAN PROVINCE, LONG YAN, MAY 4 2011. CHINA'S ZIJIN MINING FINED \$4.6 MILLION FOR TOXIC SPILL AT COPPER MINE

elaine kurtenbach



Click-2-Listen <http://english.peopledaily.com.cn/90001/90776/90882/7369723.html>

A court in southeastern China's Fujian province has ordered the country's biggest gold miner, Zijin Mining Group, to pay a criminal fine of \$4.6 million for toxic mine spills that highlight the challenges of policing heavy polluters with close ties to local authorities. A company vice-president and the manager, deputy manager and environmental protection officer of the mine were detained in connection with the spills at the Zijinshan Gold and Copper Mine nearly a year ago, which poisoned a river, killing off fish and devastating the area. Longyan City Intermediate People's Court rejected the company's appeal against an earlier ruling fining it 30 million yuan (\$4.6 million) for a "serious offence related to environmental pollution," Zijin Mining said Wednesday in a notice to the Hong Kong Stock Exchange. The court ordered the company to pay the balance remaining after taking into account administrative fees already paid, and five defendants were given prison terms of between 3 years to 4 1/2 years in the case, it said without specifying details. As public awareness grows of the pervasive damage done to the environment over more than three decades of rapid industrialization, authorities have been tightening controls and shutting down some of the heaviest polluters. But fines imposed are often just a pittance for big, government-backed companies. Zijin Mining reported 27.8 billion yuan (\$4.3 billion) in revenues in 2010, and 4.8 billion yuan (\$738.5 million) in profit. The ore processing facility at the Zijinshan open-pit mine was using a leaching process that employs highly toxic cyanide, according to reports in the Chinese media and information on the company's website. Zijin publicly apologized and acknowledged a waste pond at the mine was improperly built and operated, causing accidents on July 3 and July 16. Weeks later, on Sept. 21, a tailing dam at another Zijin facility, the Yinyan Tin Mine in southern China's Guangdong province, collapsed in torrential rainfall brought on by a typhoon. A local Environmental Protection bureau notice put the direct economic toll from the Zijinshan accidents at almost 32 million yuan (\$4.9 million). That notice, issued late last year, also ordered Zijin Mining's chairman, Chen Jinghe, to pay a fine equal to half of his annual income from the company, or 705,997 yuan (about \$108,600). In its recently issued 2010 annual report, the company said it had "seriously learnt the lessons" from the disasters and would make safety

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and environmental protection priorities. But Chinese media have questioned Zijin's links with local officials, many of whom own stock in the company.

Related Stories

- [China's Zijin fined \\$4.6 mln for Fujian toxic spill](#)
- [China's Zijin Mining fined \\$4.6M for toxic spill](#)
- [Zijin punished for toxic spill](#)

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/canadianpress/article/ALeqM5gFwMNP3qwPLLqUM9N1pSwK1G6PxQ?docId=6750454>

AUSTRALIA, NEW SOUTH WALES, KURNELL, MAY 4 2011. CALTEX REFINERY CALLED TO ANSWER

marianna papadakis



Protect: Residents return to Silver Beach at Kurnell after an oil slick in March which the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage said caused no environmental damage.

Caltex faces legal action from the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage because of an oil slick which leaked from its Kurnell refinery in March. An OEH spokeswoman said the department (formerly NSW Department of Environment and Climate Change) would determine an appropriate response after it completed its investigation of the incident on March 20. She said the OEH considered Caltex breached the conditions of the environment protection licence which forbids discharges of oily water to Botany Bay. She did not say how long the investigation would take but that it would be completed as soon as possible. Inspections by

department officers found "no environmental damage was observed" and no impact on the shoreline of Botany Bay, including Towra Point Nature Reserve from the oil slick. The incident occurred because the refinery was flooded when around 165 millimetres fell over a 24-hour period. This caused the flooding of oily water separators and waste water treatment plants, which leaked the contaminated water into the bay. Caltex and Sydney Ports Corporation deployed oil booms to prevent the sheen from spreading and effecting the shoreline. The oil corporation will be required to take additional measures to reduce the likelihood of this type of incident reoccurring, the OEH spokeswoman said. Caltex was fined \$45,000 in the NSW Land and Environment Court after oil and other pollutants were found in samples of sediment taken from Towra Point beach 12 months after an oil spill at the Kurnell refinery in 2004.

<http://www.theleader.com.au/news/local/news/general/caltex-refinery-called-to-answer/2151198.aspx>

USA, ILL, ROXANA, MAY 4 2011. DRILLING PROMPTED BY OLD BENZENE LEAK

sanford j. schmidt



Environmental drilling workers from URS stand near a hole they cut in East Fourth Street in Roxana where a recovery well was being installed Tuesday. Representatives of the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency and the Illinois Department of Public Health were in Roxana to monitor a situation where hydrocarbons have been seeping into the soil.

Workers from URS Corp. attracted some attention from neighbors near Chaffer Avenue and Fourth Street when they began digging a relief well. "It's strictly a precaution," said Chris Cahnovsky, regional manager of the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, Bureau of Land. Cahnovsky and Gina Search, an investigator with the IEPA, were on hand Tuesday as the contractor worked on a relief well and visited homes to drill holes for further investigation. Representatives with the Illinois Department of Public Health also were present. He said the digging is part of an overall plan in reaction to the detection of an elevated level of hydrocarbons along the west fence line of the ConocoPhillips Wood River Refinery. "It's part of an overall project," Cahnovsky said. People from URS and the IEPA also are visiting homes, asking neighbors for permission to drill small holes in their basements. "It's about the size of a dime," Cahnovsky said. The holes are drilled to detect any hydrocarbons from the soil. The holes then will be filled back up, he said. Search said the situation in Roxana is far different than in neighboring Hartford, where an underground

plume of gasoline rises and falls with the water table. "It's a different geology," she said. The presence of URS workers and

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government officials Tuesday is not related to recent heavy rains, she said. In Hartford, residents' basements would fill with fumes each time the water table rose. In some cases, years ago, homes would burst into flames on occasion. Roxana Mayor Felix Floyd said he checked with contractor URS, the IEPA and other officials. "They assured me there is no threat to the health and safety of our residents," he said. Floyd said he and other village officials are going to continue to monitor the situation. Public Works Director Marty Reynolds said a series of monitoring wells already are in place. They detect gas vapor and refined products in the soil, he said. Cahnovsky said the IEPA has been monitoring the area around the plant closely since a benzene release in 1986, when the plant was owned by Shell Oil Co. Shell has agreed to pick up the tab for the monitoring, because that company was the owner during the 1986 benzene release. Benzene is a component of gasoline but is toxic and may cause cancer. Search said there is benzene in the soil around the plant, but it is 40 to 45 feet below the surface. Shell announced the increased monitoring in 2009. The company said it would check for benzene, which was released from an underground pipeline in 1986. A total of 8,400 gallons of benzene leaked from the pipeline in 1986. That line extended from the plant to barge loading facilities on the Mississippi River, along a route parallel to Rand Avenue. The underground pipeline was abandoned and replaced with an above-ground section of pipe. An increase in benzene levels was discovered in 2005. Shell sent out letters to local residents stating the increased level could have been from the migration in the groundwater from the 1986 release. The IEPA has approved a program of monitoring that has been going on since the increased levels were discovered. Dale Carroll, of the 100 block of Fourth Street, said he has lived there all his life and feels he always has been treated fairly by Shell and ConocoPhillips. However, he owned a business, Carroll Supply Co., near the 1986 leak and was not notified. He said he owns a few rental properties in the area and has given permission for the workers to drill in the basements. Carroll said the work in the area started out small and has grown to a point at which people have noticed. "It has gotten to be quite a project," he said.

<http://www.thetelegraph.com/news/benzene-53535-iepa-cahnovsky.html>

USA, MD, ANNAPOLIS, MAY 4 2011. MARYLAND ATTORNEY GENERAL TO SUE DRILLER OVER PA. FRACKING LEAK

susan phillips



a gas-drilling company over a leak that spilled thousands of gallons of hydraulic fracturing fluid into a Pennsylvania creek last month. That creek feeds into the Susquehanna River. The lawsuit is the first time the downstream state has weighed in on the debate over Pennsylvania's gas boom. Maryland gets almost half of its drinking water from the Susquehanna River. Upstream in Pennsylvania, the rush to drill for natural gas has spurred questions about how that drilling might affect rivers, streams and aquifers. Critics worry about a process known as hydraulic fracturing or "fracking," which uses high-pressured water, sand and chemicals to free the gas. In the past year, contamination linked to the drilling industry has led to methane bubbling up in parts of the Susquehanna River. Last month, an equipment failure at a Chesapeake Energy drill site in Bradford County led to the spill of thousands of

gallons of the potentially toxic frack water into a tributary of the Susquehanna River. Steve Ruckland, an attorney with the Maryland attorney general's office, said one issue the state has with fracking solution is "that because some of the materials are proprietary we're not in a position to evaluate from afar what the risks are from such a spill as the one that happened on the 19th. So this is an effort to determine more how we would be affected by the spill that occurred in our watershed." The Oklahoma-based Chesapeake Energy says the Susquehanna River and Chesapeake Bay are too far away to be affected by the spill. Brian Grove, a company spokesman, said environmental testing at the spill site showed no damage to the creek or its wildlife.

<http://www.newsworks.org/index.php/health-science/item/18791-02spfrack>

AUSTRALIA, NEW SOUTH WALES, NEWCASTLE, MAY 4 2011. NEWCASTLE PORT CORPORATION INVESTIGATES SPILL

Map: Newcastle 2300

Newcastle Port Corporation crews are working to clean up a diesel fuel spill in the harbour which has spread across a large area along Throsby Wharf near the Honeysuckle precinct. Fire crews were called to the harbour just before 9:00pm (AEST) last night and estimate around a thousand litres had spilled from a dredge operating in the area. Port Corporation CEO Gary Webb says it appears the spill happened during a fuel transfer operation. Rock walls along the shoreline have been washed

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clean and at this stage there are no reports of wildlife being affected. "This morning Newcastle Port Corporation personnel have completed an assessment, have put booms around the dredger and have commenced flushing of the rock walls along that area," he said. "It's a good day for it, the wind is up, the sun is out and dispersion is taking place through heat, through mechanical activity and through the action of the waves." Mr Webb says an investigation is underway and a prosecution of the company involved is possible. "Newcastle Port Corporation has started an investigation into this incident and clearly this type of incident is unacceptable to us. "The investigation will focus on the reasons why and the quantity (of fuel). "Any spill in the harbour from vessels is a serious incident and we appreciate the immediate action of Police, NSW Fire and Rescue and NPC." <http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2011/05/04/3207494.htm?site=newcastle>

USA, DE, SLAUGHTER BEACH, MAY 5 2011. VICTIM HOISTED FROM OIL TANKER FOLLOWING A 20 FOOT FALL

A crew member on an oil tanker fire fell down a cargo hole off the coast of Slaughter Beach, near Milford, May 3, leading to a joint air and sea rescue of the man. Around 11:55 a.m. the Sussex County 911 Center received an emergency call from the Greek oil tanker Cosmic approximately 5 miles off the coast of Slaughter Beach. The ship's captain reported crew member Leovie Caguite, 54, of the Philippines, had fallen 20 feet down a cargo hole and struck his head. The chief of the Slaughter Beach Fire Department immediately activated the Delaware Air Rescue Team DART, which consists of volunteer fire personnel specifically trained to perform rescues from the rear of Delaware State Police Helicopters. It took approximately 25 minutes for the Delaware Bay Launch Service to transport a Sussex County paramedic via boat to the oil tanker, to assist Caguite with his injuries. Once on board the tanker the Sussex County paramedic "back boarded" the patient for transport. Delaware State Police Trooper 4 helicopter then lowered medical personnel from the Lewes Fire Department to the ship via a hoist. Once the hoist arrived on the deck of the tanker, Caguite and the Lewes Fire Department personnel were hoisted back to Trooper 4. Trooper 4 then transported the patient to the Slaughter Beach boat ramp where he was stabilized by Slaughter Beach ambulance personnel for further transport. After being stabilized Caguite was then flown to Christiana Hospital where he is being treated for head trauma and is listed in critical condition. Rescue agencies consisting of Delaware State Police Aviation, the State Fire Service, Wilmington Police Department, Slaughter Beach Fire Department, Sussex County Paramedics, Lewes Fire Department and the United States Coast Guard all played a hand in the rescue efforts.

<http://www.doverpost.com/newsnow/x916857301/Victim-hoisted-from-oil-tanker-off-Slaughter-Beach-following-a-20-foot-fall>

USA, ORE, PORTLAND, MAY 5 2011. TRAIN COLLISION IN PORTLAND CREATES MASSIVE FIRE, EVACUATIONS

 **Watch the Video** <http://www.kwch.com/news/kcpq-fiery-train-derailment-in-portland-20110504.0.5172874.story>

 **Watch the Video** http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/42905145/ns/us_news-life/

 **Watch the Video**
<http://www.king5.com/news/Train-derailment-on-US-30-in-Oregon-creates-major-fire-evacuation-121276624.html>

 **Photo Gallery** <http://www.kptv.com/news/27777882/detail.html>

 **Photo Gallery** <http://www.katu.com/news/local/121275869.html?tab=gallery>



In this video still provided courtesy of KGW shows a burning tanker car Wednesday, May 4, 2011, northwest of Portland, Ore. A train carrying lumber derailed and struck several tanker cars carrying a flammable liquid, causing a massive fire on a highway northwest of Portland. Portland fire department spokeswoman Alisa Cour says Wednesday that the derailment forced the evacuation of a half-mile area around the fire. No injuries were reported.

A train derailment along Highway 30 west of Cornelius Pass Road created a massive, two-alarm fire Wednesday afternoon, causing evacuations in the area. A Hazmat team was also sent in to evaluate the situation and crews had the fire put out around 4 p.m. Multiple crews from the Portland Fire Bureau, Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue and Scappoose Fire Department were dispatched, but later pulled back after the possibility of an explosion of nearby tankers holding 20,000 gallons of ethanol, Portland Fire & Rescue crews said. Fears of a possible explosion or exposure to the toxic fumes forced crews to pull back and call for evacuations in the area. The highway was closed and evacuations were ordered for a half-mile around the area. Drivers were advised to expect long delays and Hwy 30 commuters were encouraged to take Interstate 5 to Longview or Highway 26 west as alternate routes Wednesday evening. The derailment happened near NW Chestnut Lane. Highway 30 was closed from NW Rocky Point Rd to NW Newberry Rd and Cornelius Pass Rd. was closed at Skyline. NW Logie Trail Road was closed between Highway 30 and

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NW Skyline. Local access was being provided from NW Skyline Blvd. to Cornelius Pass area residents who live as far east as Sheltered Nook. The train's owner told KGW that a train with 59 lumber cars was traveling westbound when it derailed. The derailed trains hit a group of 20 stationary tanker cars on a side track, including 13 ethanol tanker cars. That caused the fiery blaze. Restrictions on the Columbia River were also put in place. The train engineer was not injured, according to the train's owner. Several crews were parked on the highway and pouring water from raised platforms, both on the flames and in the immediate area, as the burning ethanol vaporized off of the cars. Fire crews said unmanned "ground turrets" sending streams of water to cooling nearby uninvolved tankers were to prevent an explosion. The tanker cars were owned by Genessee & Wyoming, the parent company of Portland & Western railroad.

Related Stories

- [Ore. train derailment, fire visible from Clark County](#)
- [Train Derailment in Portland Oregon Causes Huge Fire and Evacuations](#)
- [Oregon firefighters mull tactics after derailling](#)

<http://www.king5.com/news/Train-derailment-on-US-30-in-Oregon-creates-major-fire-evacuation-121276624.html>

NORTHERN IRELAND, BELFAST, MAY 5 2011. 'ILLICIT FUEL OPERATION' UNCOVERED AFTER BLAZE

connla young

A house has been badly damaged after an alleged fuel laundering plant caught fire in south Armagh. Customs chiefs uncovered the alleged plant after a blaze broke out at a building on Cladymore Road, near Newtownhamilton on Tuesday. It is understood police and Customs officials were called in after firefighters managed to extinguish the blaze. A private dwelling and an outhouse were both damaged in the fire. A spokeswoman for Revenue and Customs said that evidence of fuel laundering has been uncovered. She said: "After assessing the remains of the fire late yesterday evening, HMRC can now confirm that they believe the outbuilding was being used as a fuel laundering facility. "Due to the intensity of the fire the damage to the property was severe and it has been difficult to ascertain exactly how much fuel could have been involved or the scale of the laundering operation. "A fuel tanker, oil drums, fuel and other equipment commonly used in the laundering process were found within the remains of the premises." Armagh councillor Noel Donnelly branded laundered fuel a "plague". The DUP man added: "The more that can be caught the better."

<http://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/local-national/northern-ireland/lsquoillicit-fuel-operationsquo-uncovered-after-blaze-15151267.html>

USA, WA, RICHLAND, MAY 5 2011. WA AGENCIES TESTING OIL SPILL RESPONSE AT RICHLAND

Employees of three Washington state agencies are testing how they would respond to an oil spill in the Columbia River at Richland. About 60 people from the Ecology Department, Fish and Wildlife Department and Department of Natural Resources are gathering at Columbia Point Marina Park for Wednesday's exercise. They're measuring the river current, taking water and sediment samples, and using GPS readings. Early assessments in the event of an oil spill help responders decide how to deploy gear and protect habitat

http://seattletimes.nwsources.com/html/localnews/2014952103_apwaoilspilldrill.html

USA, CO, DENVER, MAY 5 2011. ROCKY MOUNTAIN PIPELINE CLEAN AIR ACT SETTLEMENT

"Complying with the Clean Air Act's fuel regulations is critical to ensuring that our nation's important emissions standards at met. Today's settlement shows that EPA is committed to protecting the air we breathe by reducing illegal air pollution." - Cynthia Giles, Assistant Administrator of EPA's Office of Enforcement and Compliance and Assurance.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Justice Department today announced a settlement with Rocky Mountain Pipeline System, LLC, Western Convenience Stores, Inc., and Offen Petroleum, Inc. to resolve claims that they illegally mixed and distributed more than 1 million gallons of gasoline that did not meet Clean Air Act emissions and fuel quality requirements. The companies will pay a \$2.5 million civil penalty and conduct an environmental project designed to offset the harm caused by their failure to meet federal gasoline quality requirements. Gasoline that does not meet Clean Air Act standards for fuel can result in increased emissions from car tailpipes, which can harm Americans' health, affect vehicle performance, and in some cases can damage engines and emission controls.

Overview of Company

Rocky Mountain Pipeline System, LLC (Rocky Mountain) owns and operates petroleum product terminals in Dupont and Fountain, Colo. Rocky Mountain is an indirect subsidiary of Plains All American Pipeline, L.P., which is a publicly traded

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master limited partnership engaged in the transportation, storage, terminalling and marketing of refined products and other petroleum products. Western Convenience Stores, Inc. (Western) owns and operates retail gasoline stations in Colorado and Nebraska. Offen Petroleum, Inc. (Offen) owns and operates retail gasoline stations in Denver and distributes gasoline and diesel fuel to customers in Colorado and Wyoming.

Violations

The Defendants produced gasoline at Rocky Mountain's terminals in Dupont and Fountain by blending natural gasoline and ethanol with previously certified gasoline (PCG) in tanker trucks. Natural gasoline is a byproduct of natural gas production. Section 211 of the Clean Air Act allows refiners to produce gasoline by adding blendstocks to previously certified gasoline, but anyone that produces gasoline by this method must meet the same emissions standards as other refiners and must comply with similar sampling, testing and quality assurance requirements to ensure that the gasoline meets the applicable standards. The complaint alleges that the Defendants violated the fuels regulations promulgated under the Clean Air Act by failing to comply with sampling, testing, and recordkeeping requirements. The complaint also alleges that the Defendants failed to comply with the renewable fuel standards and that some of the gasoline that they produced did not meet the gasoline volatility standards, which are designed to limit emissions of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) from gasoline. Western and Rocky Mountain produced gasoline in violation of the fuels regulations from October 2006 through February 2009, and Offen produced gasoline in violation of the fuels regulations from May of 2007 through February 2009. The Defendants stopped producing gasoline when EPA issued a Notice of Violation in February of 2009.

Injunctive Relief

The settlement requires the following actions from the Defendants:

Environmental Mitigation Project

- EPA estimates that the Defendants' violations of the gasoline volatility regulations resulted in a total of 10.3 tons of excess emissions of VOCs. In order to mitigate the environmental harm caused by these violations, Rocky Mountain agreed to install a geodesic dome on one of the gasoline storage tanks at its Dupont, Colo. terminal.
- This project will reduce emissions of VOCs from this storage tank by over 8.6 tons per year for each year that the geodesic dome remains in place. Rocky Mountain is required to maintain the geodesic dome during the five year time period that the Consent Decree will remain in effect, but the geodesic dome is expected to result in continued emissions reductions for many years into the future. Rocky Mountain will spend about \$200,000 on this project.

Compliance Plan

- The Consent Decree prohibits the Defendants from producing gasoline in tanker trucks. If any Defendant decides to produce gasoline by other methods, they must prepare a compliance plan and have it reviewed and approved by an independent engineer.

Renewable Fuel Program Mitigation

- The renewable fuels regulations require refiners, including refiners that produce gasoline by adding blendstocks to previously certified gasoline, to meet a renewable fuel standard. The Defendants failed to fully comply with the renewable fuel standard. The Consent Decree requires the Defendants to acquire and retire sufficient credits, or Renewable Identification Numbers (RINs), to offset the number of RINs that they should have retired to meet their obligations under the renewable fuels regulations.

Pollutant Impacts

- EPA estimates that the Defendants' violations of the gasoline volatility regulations resulted in a total of 10.3 tons of excess emissions of VOCs.

Health and Environmental Effects

- The Defendants emitted excess VOCs that contribute to the formation of ground-level ozone.

Volatile Organic Compounds- VOCs, along with NOx, play a major role in the atmospheric reactions that produce ozone, which is the primary constituent of smog. People with lung disease, children, older adults, and people who are active can be affected when ozone levels are unhealthy. Ground-level ozone exposure is linked to a variety of short-term health problems, including lung irritation and difficulty breathing, as well as long-term problems, such as permanent lung damage from repeated exposure, aggravated asthma, reduced lung capacity, and increased susceptibility to respiratory illnesses such as pneumonia and bronchitis.

Civil Penalty

- The Defendants will pay a \$2.5 million penalty.

Comment Period

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The proposed settlement, lodged in the U.S. District Court for the District of Colorado, is subject to a 30-day public comment period and final court approval. Information on submitting comments is available at the [Department of Justice](http://www.dhs.gov) website.

For more information, contact:

Jeff Kodish, Air Enforcement Division, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, 1595 Wynkoop Street (8MSU), Denver, CO 80202-1129, kodish.jeff@epa.gov, (303)-312-7153

[Press Release](#) (05/04/11)

[Consent Decree \(PDF\)](#) 8pp, 2MB, [About PDF](#)

<http://www.epa.gov/compliance/resources/cases/civil/caa/rockymountainpipeline.html>

USA, WA, SEATTLE, MAY 6 2011. POULSBO, WASH. GAS STATION AGREES TO PAY OVER \$11,000 FOR FAILURE TO MONITOR UNDERGROUND FUEL TANKS

Central Valley Grocery gas station in Poulsbo, Washington, has agreed to pay \$11,356 for failing to properly monitor three underground storage tanks (USTs) for leaks for over a year. Owners and operators of USTs are required to test their tanks for leaks on a monthly basis. Failure to do so puts ground water at risk and is a violation of both state and federal law. According to Edward Kowalski, EPA's Director of the Office of Compliance and Enforcement in Seattle, leaking USTs are a major cause of groundwater contamination in the United States. Congress enacted laws requiring UST owners and operators to prevent tanks from leaking, detect leaks quickly if they do occur, and clean up leaking tanks. "Leaking tanks have the potential to endanger drinking water sources, so tank leak prevention and detection are crucial," said EPA's Kowalski. "Conducting regular checks is a small investment that can prevent costly, complex soil and groundwater cleanups." EPA inspected the Central Valley Grocery station in December 2008 and found that the release detection equipment was not operating and that the owners failed to use other methods to properly check the integrity of the tanks. According to owner/operators Julius Templeton and T & A, LLC, attempts to correct the problem were made in 2009, but were unsuccessful. EPA alleges that Central Valley Grocery remained in violation from at least December 2007 through June 2010. The owners installed new equipment in November 2010 and the three tanks are now in compliance.

For More Information on the UST Program, Visit the Following EPA Websites:

- <http://yosemite.epa.gov/R10/water.nsf/ust/ust+lust+home>
- <http://www.epa.gov/swrust1/index.htm>

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/0/0df252d3c1a4a61a85257887006dec0e?OpenDocument>

KUWAIT, SHUWAIKH, MAY 6 2011. TOUGH SAFETY REGULATIONS VITAL TO CUT NUMBER OF INDUSTRIAL ACCIDENTS, EFFECTIVE GOVT MONITORING NECESSARY

"An unidentified Egyptian man was burned to death inside a garage in the Shuwaikh Industrial Area, reports Al-Watan Arabic daily. According to reports three brothers were repairing a fuel tank and one of them perished when the tank exploded in a ball of fire" (Arab Times April 26, 2011).

There is no one particular strategy or one specific regulation to stop all industrial and workshop-related accidents in Kuwait. However, implementing already existing safety regulations and precautionary procedures will help decrease such unlucky accidents. Nevertheless, one also needs to be realistic here and confess that we in Kuwait tend to lack consistency in implementing safety procedures. What happened recently in the Shuwaikh's garage exposes yet another safety failure we need to overcome. For example, conditions in car workshops tend to be chaotic, unregulated and likely to cause accidents. One only needs to visit any workshop (garage) in Shuwaikh to realize how messy some of these places are! In poorly maintained garages one may not be surprised to find welding machines being operated near gas tanks and inflammable objects! What we need to see implemented in Kuwait's industrial areas, especially in car workshops, is tougher regulations and more effective government monitoring of safety violations. Otherwise, the lack of proper and reliable inspections of such workshops will definitely increase the number of mishaps. In addition, we are supposed to be working toward transforming Kuwait into a financial and commercial center capable of competing with newly emerging regional markets. However, achieving such national goals requires real and committed reexaminations of the conditions of industry in Kuwait. It is no longer acceptable to ignore the fact that if one wishes to achieve the basic global requirements of safe international investment one needs to have in place effective safety regulations, financial and otherwise. We should not separate what happens in the Shuwaikh "industrial area" with what happens in the rest of the country. We are certainly in need of real and effective application of international safety standards in all sectors of our local economy.

<http://www.arabtimesonline.com/NewsDetails/tabid/96/smld/414/ArticleID/168777/t/Tough-safety-regulations-vital-to-cut-number-of-industrial-accidents/Default.aspx>

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IRELAND, CO MEATH, KNIGHTSTOWN, MAY 6 2011. FOUR HELD OVER ILLEGAL FUEL PLANT



A Customs officer walks past vehicles seized during a raid at a fuel laundering plant in Knightstown, Co Meath.

Four men have been arrested after a substantial fuel laundering plant was discovered. A man from Meath and another from Louth were detained along with two others from Northern Ireland after the illegal oil operation was found. The laundering plant was unearthed in Knightstown, Co Meath, by Customs and Garda officers. Illegal fuel was being put through the specialist cleansing machines when the officers raided the site. Some 30,000 litres of laundered fuel, 12,000 litres of leftover sludge, two tanker trailer units and four vehicles were seized at the plant. Officers also dismantled and seized some other ancillary equipment. Customs said the plant had the capacity to launder an estimated 7.8 million litres of fuel a year with a potential loss to the Exchequer of approximately 4 million euro. Investigations are ongoing.

<http://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/local-national/republic-of-ireland/four-held-over-illegal-fuel-plant-15151579.html>

NEW ZEALAND, AUCKLAND, MAY 6 2011. NEW SHELL BRAND BEING PUMPED OUT

Greenstone Energy is promising "the biggest business launch in New Zealand for New Zealand" next Wednesday, when it unveils its plans to revamp the nationwide network of 220 Shell service stations. Greenstone, an Infratil offshoot, bought Shell New Zealand's downstream assets - service stations, a 17.1% share in the Marsden Point oil refinery, as well as commercial operations, storage and distribution facilities - last March, in 50-50 joint venture with the New Zealand Superannuation Fund. While the business has three years rights to the use of the Shell retail brand, Greenstone's chief executive, Mike Bennetts, has made no secret of the fact that a review of the brand is a fundamental part of Greenstone's challenge. Revamped retail and customer experience strategies have also been decided, with Greenstone working from its earliest days to build its image as a 100% New Zealand-owned oil industry player. The company believes this helped its market share grow against market trends, especially by bringing its commercial sales call centre back to New Zealand and because of BP's embarrassment last year over the Deepwater Horizon rig explosion and oil spill. However, the potential appeal of a new Kiwi petrol brand has to be offset against the risks to market share risks that could come by ditching a globally recognised consumer brand for an unknown new identity. On the other hand, using Shell's branding requires Greenstone not only to abide by rigid global brand rules, but also to consider the wider Shell's reputation in its public stance on issues, not to mention hefty annual fees for rights to the Shell name. An invitation received by journalists sports a wrapped petrol station sign plinth, glowing slightly and suggestive of whatever logo Greenstone chooses to go with, but gives no hint as to the big decision

<http://tvnz.co.nz/business-news/new-shell-brand-being-pumped-4156401>

USA, N.J, MOUNT OLIVE, MAY 6 2011. POLICE REPORT FUEL SPILL NEAR MOUNT OLIVE GAS STATION ON ROUTE 46

dan goldberg

A few gallons of gasoline spilled Wednesday morning outside the Sun Energy Gas Station on Route 46, according to a press release from the Mount Olive police. Residents on Wildwood Avenue contacted police after smelling the gasoline, said Officer Marianne Wurtemberg. The fuel spill was estimated to be between 5 and 10 gallons, police said. The accident appears to have occurred after the gas station received a delivery from a tanker truck registered to United Fuel Lines Inc., which contracted with an outside company to clean the spill and decontaminate the area, police said.

http://www.nj.com/news/index.ssf/2011/05/gasoline_spill_on_rt_46_in_nj.html

ISRAEL, TEL AVIV, MAY 6 2011. EMERGENCY COMMITTEE FORMED TO INVESTIGATE FUEL CONTAMINATION

avi bar-eli, zohar blumenkrantz & haaretz service

Israel Transportation Minister Yisrael Katz says committee will look into the contamination, advise how to proceed; for interim jet-fuel to be transferred to Ben-Gurion airport from emergency tanks so flights can resume. srael Transportation Minister Yisrael Katz formed an emergency inspection committee on Thursday, led by his head of office Dan Harel, to look into the fuel

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contamination that has halted all flights departing Ben-Gurion Airport. In addition to the formation of the committee, jet-fuel is currently being transferred from Israeli emergency gas tanks to the airport in Lod in a bid to resume outgoing flights. Katz arrived at Ben-Gurion airport Thursday to discuss the contamination, telling the media that "a serious problem was discovered today in the fueling of airplanes departing from Ben Gurion Airport. It was therefore decided to ground the airplanes and begin inspections immediately." The transportation lamented the severity of the situation, saying "this is a very serious issue. I have instructed that an inspection committee be created immediately, led by the head of my office, that will look into the incident and advise on how to proceed in the next few days." Katz explained that for the interim, jet-fuel would be transferred to the airport from emergency tanks in Pi Giliot so that the grounded planes can depart as soon as possible. He said that the contaminated gas is being contained and planes are being fueled with enough gas to reach Cypress, where they can fill their tanks to capacity and continue to their intended destination. Katz said that seven of the delayed planes will not take off Thursday night, and that passengers will be notified of further developments. The transportation minister clarified that "there was never any doubt regarding the safety of passengers, and all fuel inside planes is not contaminated." He added that the contaminated gas was discovered on Thursday, prompting the immediate halting of all flights. The symptoms of the contaminated jet fuel which stopped flights out of Ben-Gurion International Airport on Thursday were also seen in recent weeks in buses and trucks across Israel, TheMarker reported. The contaminated fuel contains unidentified greasy liquid parts that get stuck in the filter of gas pipelines, damaging the tank of the vehicle. The biological Institute in Nes Tziona was summoned a few days ago to take samples at a fuel terminal in Israel's central region. The halting of departures and rerouting of foreign airliners in need of refueling is expected to cause massive flight delays, and has left thousands of passengers stranded.

Related Stories

- [All flights from Israel grounded over 'contaminated fuel' fears](#)
- [Aircraft grounded at Tel Aviv airport](#)
- [Tel Aviv take-offs halted over contaminated fuel-UPDATE 2](#)

<http://www.haaretz.com/news/national/emergency-committee-formed-to-investigate-fuel-contamination-1.360067>

USA, N.Y, TONAWANDA, MAY 6 2011. LAX SAFETY BLAMED IN DEATH AT DUPONT

stephen t. watson

 **Watch the Video** <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kP80tTmPuAk>

 **Watch the Video** <http://www.wivb.com/dpp/news/erie/Companies-face-violations-after-deadly-explosion>

 **Watch the Video** <http://www.wgrz.com/news/article/120504/1/OSHA-Cites-Dupont-Contractor-in-Fatal-Plant-Explosion>



Responders: In this Nov. 9, 2010 file photo, emergency responders are on site at DuPont in Tonawanda.

Federal regulators Thursday said "serious" safety violations at the DuPont chemical plant in the Town of Tonawanda led to last November's chemical explosion that killed a contractor working at the site. Following a six-month probe, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration announced it plans to fine DuPont and contractor Mollenberg-Betz nearly \$117,000 for 17 violations stemming from the blast that killed Richard J. Folaron and badly burned a co-worker. A search of The Buffalo News archives found the combined penalty is the largest proposed fine issued by the local OSHA office for workplace safety violations over the past two

years. OSHA cited the companies for failing to make sure that any chemical residue and flammable vapors were cleaned out of the storage tank before Folaron and William R. Freeburg started doing welding work there. "This death and injury graphically underscore how vitally important it is that employers anticipate the hazards associated with welding in potentially explosive atmospheres and institute all protective measures before allowing such work to begin," said Arthur Dube, area director in OSHA's Buffalo office, which conducted the investigation. In response, DuPont spokesman Rick Straitman said the company planned to meet with OSHA officials soon. He emphasized that DuPont has cooperated with the probe. A Mollenberg-Betz representative said the small, family-owned mechanical contractor disputes the OSHA findings. "DuPont is the company that directs the work. [Mollenberg-Betz] followed the processes and procedures of DuPont and feel they did nothing wrong," said attorney Robert G. Walsh. The explosion occurred the morning of Nov. 9 at the DuPont Yerkes facility at 3115 River Road, near Sheridan Drive. Folaron and Freeburg were attaching a bracket to a 10,000-gallon metal storage tank that had held a solid-liquid mixture of polyvinyl fluoride, or PVF, a chemical used as a protective coating for solar panels. Hot sparks from the welding ignited vapors, causing an explosion that blew off the tank's top, killing Folaron, 57, of South Wales,

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and burning Freeburg's face. Last November, DuPont officials said the storage tank had been cleaned, inspected and taken out of use. But OSHA's investigation found the tank still was connected by a piping system to two operating slurry tanks, allowing the vapors to seep inside. Both companies were cited for violations that included allowing welding in potentially explosive conditions, performing welding without disconnecting the pipelines connected to the slurry tank, failing to properly vent the containers and not thoroughly cleaning the tanks. OSHA plans to fine DuPont \$61,500 for nine violations and Mollenberg-Betz \$55,440 for eight violations of workplace safety standards. Over the past 24 months, OSHA's Buffalo office has proposed fines ranging from \$61,000 to \$106,800 against five other companies, The News has reported. DuPont and Mollenberg-Betz have 15 business days from receiving the citation and proposed penalties to comply, meet with OSHA's area director or contest the findings. DuPont's statement did not specifically address the issues raised in the OSHA citation. Walsh, the Mollenberg-Betz attorney, said OSHA should not hold the contractor responsible for any safety violations. Mollenberg-Betz was following the safety procedures set by DuPont, which has the specialized expertise, for working in those conditions, he said. The DuPont Yerkes plant, which has 623 workers, produces film for solar panels and Corian countertops and sinks. Folaron and Freeburg had been working at the site for a couple of weeks before the blast. Town of Tonawanda police and DuPont officials said at the time that the explosion did not release chemicals into the environment.

Related Stories

- [Last year, an OSHA official explained the tank had been emptied two weeks prior](#)
- [The company's president was stunned by the death, the business's first serious accident in 100 years of operation](#)
- [Folaron's co-worker, who was burned, was said to be more concerned about Folaron's family after the accident than himself](#)

<http://www.buffalonews.com/business/article414021.ece>

ISRAEL, TEL AVIV, MAY 6 2011. TERRORISM RULED OUT AS CAUSE OF FUEL CONTAMINATION CRISIS >> NATIONWIDE FUEL CONTAMINATION SCARE PARALYZES ALL AIR TRAFFIC.

dana weiler-polak, zohar blumenkrantz, avi bar-eli & anshel pfeffer



Traveling, Hopefully: Maccabi Tel Aviv fans headed to the Euroleague Final Four in Barcelona were among thousands stranded at Ben-Gurion International Airport last night

Ben-Gurion Airport manager Shmuel Kandel says that fuel discovered to be contaminated that would have been used by Israeli aircraft has been sent for laboratory analysis, and testing has revealed that the cause of the contamination was not sabotage or terrorism. However, the source of the pollutant is still unknown at this time, Kandel said. Commercial air traffic out of Israel was shut down yesterday after airplane fuel at Ben-Gurion International Airport was found to be contaminated. From 1 P.M. all flights out of the country were halted, stranding tens

of thousands of passengers. Domestic flights were also grounded, halting air service to Eilat. Interim arrangements were being made to bring other fuel stocks to the airport to enable aircraft to take off with limited fuel, requiring a refueling stop prior to reaching their final destinations. The shut-down initially affected primarily flights to Europe, waylaying, among others, fans en route to Barcelona to watch the Maccabi Tel Aviv basketball team compete in the Euroleague Final Four. Incoming flights from abroad were forced to make a stop at nearby airports such as Amman in Jordan and Larnaca, Cyprus for refueling. Kandel ordered a halt to the refueling of aircraft after getting word from the firm Aviation Assets, a Paz subsidiary, which supplies fuel to the airport's fuel pipeline, that it had found contaminants in the fuel. Fueling of aircraft at the country's other domestic airports was also halted. Initial concerns about aircraft fuel supplies arose about two weeks ago, when it was noticed that the fuel filters on trucks supplying fuel to aircraft were clogging. Concerns have been expressed, however, that the contamination problem has affected not just fuel supplied to the airport but is a more widespread in the country's fuel supply. In anticipation of a resumption of air traffic at Ben-Gurion Airport, extra border control personnel were brought in overnight to handle the expected crush. Many travelers who had already gone through passport control chose to spend time in the duty free shops, despite the uncertainty over when flights would resume. "This is a serious matter," Transportation Minister Yisrael Katz said yesterday, adding that he ordered an immediate investigation. He said the process of emptying the fuel tanks on planes that had received the suspect fuel had begun, and fuel from the Pi Giliot fuel storage facility was being brought in to replace it. Priority was being given to planes that had not been refueled, Katz said. The planes would be given enough fuel to reach a nearby foreign airport, where they would take on additional fuel. National Infrastructure Minister Uzi Landau also ordered his

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ministry to investigate. Defense officials, including officials from the Shin Bet security service, confirmed that no evidence has been found of sabotage as a cause of the contamination, but security sources said the most recent incident is the latest in a string of serious mishaps concerning the country's strategic infrastructure. The problems, they said, should set off alarm bells. Regular supply of fuel in the country is the responsibility of the National Infrastructure Ministry, while supplying fuel during times of national emergency is delegated to the Defense Ministry. The Israel Air Force uses fuel supplies that are entirely separate from the sources used in the civil aviation sector. An air force source said the IAF's fuel supplies have been checked and confirmed to be free of contaminants. El Al Israel Airlines announced the cancellation of 20 departing and arriving international and domestic flights yesterday as a result of the fuel contamination problem. The scrapped flights included services to New York as well as London, Moscow and other European destinations. El Al said affected passengers would receive a refund or could opt to fly on future flights to any destination in the same region of the world. "The company is working to find a solution for its passengers as quickly as possible, and will continue to provide updates," an airline spokesman said yesterday. Arkia Airlines announced the cancellation yesterday of 12 domestic flights on its route to and from Eilat, saying it would provide its passengers with transportation by road. Arkia also canceled flights to Rome and Poland. Concern over contamination of jet fuel is motivated by the fact that it can cause airplane engines to stall. Foreign particles in jet fuel can clog fuel filters and damage aircraft engines. Contaminants in airplane fuel can also promote the growth of bacteria in the fuel tank that can cause fuel clogs. Although the source of the current contamination problem is unknown, possible sources include the contamination of fuel supplies before the fuel reached Ben-Gurion Airport. There were reports of contamination of bus and truck fuel elsewhere in the country in recent weeks, affected by an unidentified oily substance clogging the vehicles' fuel filters. The Egged bus cooperative, for example, had fuel tested after receiving reports that the filters on its buses had been clogged and that fuel filters had been ruined. The Nes Tziona Institute for Biological Research was enlisted two days ago to test samples from a fuel depot in the center of the country. Yesterday steps were taken to use stocks in the country's strategic emergency reserves, at this point for airplane fueling only. In April 2005, after a contaminant was found in jet fuel, aircraft from El Al and foreign carriers were grounded for several hours. The aircraft were then required to make refueling stops elsewhere. After additional inspections at the time of that incident found the fuel again met standards, traffic at the airport returned to normal.

<http://www.haaretz.com/print-edition/news/terrorism-ruled-out-as-cause-of-fuel-contamination-crisis-1.360087>

NEW ZEALAND, BAY OF PLENTY, MAY 6 2011. TANKS EMERGE IN CALTEX CLEAN UP PROJECT

genevieve helliwell & sandra conchie



Underground petrol tanks were removed from the former Caltex service station site on Hewletts Rd yesterday.

Petrol tanks from the former Caltex service station on Hewletts Rd were removed by crane yesterday and taken to a hazardous waste site. Diggers and excavators spent last week clearing and preparing the forecourt for removal of three underground petrol tanks which lay metres below the surface. The service station closed its doors permanently in November last year. Since then, Chevron New Zealand, which markets Caltex in New Zealand, had continued to lease the property while the site was cleared and work began to decommission the site for return to the landlord. Chevron New Zealand spokeswoman Sharon Buckland said the tanks had each contained 50,000 litres of petrol. She said decommissioning of the site was a

rigorous process from a safety and environmental point of view. An independent environmental consultant was on site today carrying out an elaborate inspection to ensure the area is environmentally sound. The inspection includes environmental engineers carrying out numerous soil tests to check if there has been any seepage of petrol or diesel, she said. "There may be nothing down there, or we may have to open it up and let the gas fumes evaporate out, or there might be a diesel spill and we might have to take out the contaminated soil." Ms Buckland said the timeframe for reinstating the site for return to the landlord depended on the outcome of the independent consultant's inspection report, as well as any recommendations to ensure the site is returned in a pristine state. Jeremy Clarke from Chevron New Zealand said it had been a purely economic decision to close the Hewletts Rd service station, and it was "not viable" to continue operating.

<http://www.bayofplentytimes.co.nz/local/news/tanks-emerge-in-caltex-clean-up-project/3950823/>

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USA, CA, SANTA ROSA, MAY 6 2011. LEAKING CHEMICAL CANNISTER PROMPTS HAZARDOUS MATERIALS RESPONSE IN SANTA ROSA

mary callahan



Click-2-Listen <http://www.kgoam810.com/Article.asp?id=2178673&spid=>

Watch the Video http://abclocal.go.com/kgo/story?section=news/local/north_bay&id=8113585



Santa Rosa firefighters go through decontamination after checking out a leaking gas cylinder on Kerney Street. May 5, 2011.

A leaking cannister of compressed hydrogen chloride collected as recyclable scrap metal turned a west Santa Rosa neighborhood into a hot zone Thursday as hazardous materials personnel investigated a cloud of vented gas. A Kerney Street resident thought the gas cloud was smoke when she reported a debris fire in her neighbor's side yard at 6:30 a.m. Thursday, authorities said. Responding firefighters were investigating the "smoke" when they lifted a piece of plastic sheeting and observed the rusted tank with a "poisonous" label that explained why their throats were becoming irritated, fire officials said. They quickly retreated, and the area at the Kerney Street/Lance Drive was closed to traffic, while neighbors were told to stay indoors and close windows, police said. Helen Lehman

Elementary School a few blocks down Jennings Avenue was issued similar instructions, though for a shorter period. A police officer who talked occupant of the duplex unit learned he was a scrap metal recycler who had recovered the old tank from a Highway 12 land-owner, thinking it empty. A full-scale hazardous materials response was launched, bringing fire, police, hazardous materials and medical personnel to the area for several hours of elaborate set-up, complete with decontamination area, preceding an approach to the tank by two men in encapsulated suits. The tank continued venting for at least an hour after the initial call, but no vapor was visible by the time the team approached it, Battalion Chief Mike Jones said. The two men sealed a leaking valve but determined the tank was virtually empty of liquid, though some vapor would have remained inside, Jones said. They were unable to get a sample of the gas but found labeling for hydrogen chloride, a gas that can cause irritation and ulcerous burns to eyes, lungs and mucous membranes, depending on the concentration, as well as burning to skin in contact with the liquid, according to the federal Occupational Health & Safety Administration. Instrument testing produced results consistent with hydrogen chloride, Battalion Chief Jason Jenkins said. Fire officials could not identify a use for the gas that would explain why it might be used locally. Typically it is used in the manufacture of vinyl chloride, fertilizers, dyes, paint pigments and in electroplating and leather tanning. The two firefighters who first responded had irritated throats and mild headaches, but were cleared by medical personnel at the scene, Jenkins said. They were receiving follow-up evaluation Thursday afternoon "just as an extra layer of safety," he said.

<http://www.pressdemocrat.com/article/20110505/NEWS/110509749/1350?Title=Leaking-chemical-cannister-prompts-investigation-in-Santa-Rosa->

USA, AKA, FAIRBANKS, MAY 6 2011. TOXIC WASTE CLEANUP AT FORT WAINWRIGHT HOUSING COMPLEX DEEMED A SUCCESS

The discovery of buried toxic waste delayed the completion and opening of the Taku Gardens housing on Fort Wainwright in 2005. Now, after years of cleanup, the 55-unit development could be ready for residents as early as October 2012, according to speakers at a town hall Tuesday on Fort Wainwright. The top level of soil is now considered safe, although new tenants will not be able to dig wells or garden without using raised beds because of contamination deep in the ground, said Joe Malen, the Army's cleanup manager. The Army anticipates the private firm North Haven will operate Taku Gardens, but it is prepared if the company is not interested, said Mike Meeks, director of public works at Fort Wainwright. "If North Haven chooses not to run the housing because of potential liability, I'll step up and do it," he said. "I'll have those houses filled within 15 days." The study and cleanup of Taku Gardens cost more than \$21 million. It began in 2005 when construction workers noticed an unusual smell in an area later found to contain toxic PCB compounds, Malen said. During the next several years, workers studied the Army's use of parts of the area as a dumping ground in the 1940s and 1950s. Crews dug up nearly 8 acres, reaching depths of up to 18 feet. They removed hundreds of tons of scrap metal, more than 3,300 cubic yards of PCB-contaminated soil and about 3,000 munition materials, including a few rockets that had propellant fuel but no live warheads. Some areas where material was removed required leveling with up to two feet of clean dirt from outside Fort Wainwright.

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Some of the groundwater under the site is still considered contaminated, but because drinking water for the housing comes from elsewhere on base, this will not stand in the way of people living in the homes, Malen said. Sentry wells were dug between Taku Gardens area and the base's main wells to determine whether the contamination is spreading. Restoration is now considered complete except for a plan that will determine how often the site will re-inspected for contamination, Malen said. The 55 homes have been structurally completed since 2005. Construction on finishing details could begin as early as this summer.

<http://www.ktva.com/home/outbound-xml-feeds/Toxic-Waste-Cleanup-at-Fort-Wainwright-Housing-Complex-Deemed-a-Success---121349844.html>

USA, MO, SPRINGFIELD, MAY 6 2011. GROUNDWATER CONTAMINATION BELOW JORDAN VALLEY PARK

 **Watch the Video** <http://www.ky3.com/news/ky3-groundwater-contamination-below-jordan-valley-park-20110505.0,817445.story>

A dry cleaning chemical called perchloroethylene, or perc, has been found in a well there. It's now a known human carcinogen, and experts are trying to figure out the extent of the contamination. Heavy equipment is drilling into the ground at Jordan Valley Park in central Springfield. It's because the ground water there is contaminated. A dry cleaning chemical called perchloroethylene, or perc, has been found in a well there. It's now a known human carcinogen, and experts are trying to figure out the extent of the contamination. Drills are in motion at Jordan Valley Park, trying to get to the bottom of the problem. "This really goes back to the creation of Jordan Valley Park and there was sort of some light industrial there that is now a park," says Mike Brothers with the City of Springfield. An industrial laundry company called Tri-State [Services](#) once sat on the site, and left behind the chemical perchloroethylene. The maximum drinking water standard of Perc is five parts per billion; the level at the site is 110. "They really found that there were no major issues with the chemicals, but there is some presence there," Brothers says. The well is no longer used, and the Department of Natural Resources says there are no other wells used for drinking water nearby. The closest are about a half-mile away, and DNR says when they were tested about ten years ago, they were safe. The water in Jordan Valley Park comes not from a well, but the CU system. "If you've ever played in it, you know it smells a little like chlorine, like a pool, because that's exactly what it is, perfectly safe for anybody to play in," says Brothers. The drilling will go on through the month of May, and the three wells, 50 to 150 feet deep, will be monitored quarterly for at least a year. "Once the equipment is out of there, you really won't even notice," says Brothers. The park is still open to the public. The monitoring wells will give experts an idea of how much perc is in the area, and if it's moving toward any other wells. Then, they'll decide if further steps need to be taken. The former laundry [company](#) is paying a \$25,000 deductible for the project, and a state fund, the Drycleaning Environmental Response Trust, is covering another \$186,000.

<http://www.ky3.com/news/ky3-groundwater-contamination-below-jordan-valley-park-20110505.0,817445.story>

USA, LA, IBERIA PARISH, MAY 7 2011. TRUCK CARRYING NITROGEN OVERTURNS IN IBERIA PARISH

Haz Mat teams in New Iberia Parish are on the scene of an overturned 18-wheeler believed to be carrying nitrogen, according to a report by KATC-TV. The accident happened near Jefferson Island Road and Highway 90. The tanker is carrying nitrogen but is not leaking. Traffic is moving slowly through the area due to the accident.

<http://www.theadvertiser.com/article/20110506/NEWS01/110506004/Truck-carrying-nitrogen-overturms-Iberia-Parish?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|FRONTPAGE|p>

USA, LA, LAFAYETTE, MAY 7 2011. GAS STATION REOPENED AFTER MAN DUMPS GAS INTO STORM DRAIN



Lanes at the intersection of Kaliste Saloom and Martial Ave. are now open, and the Shell gas station at 2200 Ambassador Caffery Pkwy. Is open, as well. Fire Department spokesperson Alton Trahan says a customer accidentally filled his diesel truck with gas then siphoned it into a wheelbarrow and dumped it in a storm drain. Trahan says about 10 gallons were dumped. The fire department diluted the gas in the drain, and an environmental company cleaned it up. The Department of Environmental Quality is investigating and charges against the man could be pending.

<http://www.katc.com/news/update-gas-station-reopened-after-man-dumps-gas-into-storm-drain/>

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