



## Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network Release 2011 – 713 Newsy Stuff

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

**May 24 2011**



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### **USA, OH, AMSTERDAM, MAY 17 2011. ROUTE 43 REOPENS 13 HOURS AFTER SEMI ROLLOVER**

*nancy schaar*



A West Virginia man driving this 2004 Mack Standard went off the right side of the road Sunday afternoon, spilling fuel and antifreeze, and forcing the 13-hour closure of state Route 43. But he was not injured in the crash near Amsterdam. State Route 43 near Amsterdam reopened to traffic Monday morning after being closed more than 13 hours after a semi truck hauling well equipment overturned. Myron C. Anderson, 43, of Vienna, W.Va., was southbound on state Route 43 in Loudon Township when the 2004 Mack Standard he was driving went off the right side of the roadway and overturned at 5:30 p.m. Sunday. Anderson was not injured. EMA Director Tom Cottis was called to the scene because about 100 gallons of fuel was leaking from the wreckage. Cottis said Monday another issue arose after 100 gallons of antifreeze also was spilled. Cottis said the truck company has the right to clean up its own mess, but the company called a wrecker that could not get the truck upright. A crane was finally brought in early Monday morning from Wintersville that was able to turn the truck over, according to Cottis. The trucking company, according to Cottis, wanted to take the contaminated soil out, put it on plastic sheets, and then let it sit until a company from Washington, Pa., could come in to transport and dispose of it. That solution and timeline was not acceptable to Cottis. He said the county HAZMAT team dug pits, put booms around it, and contained the spillage before further damage could be done. Ohio State Highway Patrol troopers said Monday afternoon the report was not yet completed and charges or citations against Anderson had not been recorded yet.

<http://www.timesreporter.com/news/x2005898139/Route-43-reopens-13-hours-after-semi-rollover>

### **USA, IND, MIAMI CO, MAY 17 2011. MAN KILLED WHEN CAR HITS FUEL TANK >> CAR FLIPS, PLOWS INTO BARN IN RURAL MIAMI COUNTY**

A man was killed over the weekend when his car hit a fuel tank in Miami County, Indiana State Police said. The crash happened at about 3:25 a.m. Saturday on State Road 124, near County Road 625 East. Police said Roger Grimm, 41, of Wabash, lost control of his car in a curve and traveled into a yard. "(The car) struck a fuel tank, causing it to go airborne, landing on its top," said Sgt. Tony Slocum. The car slid more than 300 feet on its top, smashing through a barn, before hitting a pickup truck parked in the barn. Grimm was pronounced dead at the scene. Police said he was wearing a seat belt, but the impact of the crash was too severe for survival. Police said they think excessive speed was a factor in the crash.

<http://www.theindychannel.com/news/27906627/detail.html>

### **USA - PHMSA NATIONAL PIPELINE MAPPING SERVICE WALKTHROUGH**

Re posted with permission of Carl Weimer of the Safe Pipelines Group

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

PHMSA maintains an online mapping services where you can find out where pipelines are in your community. Unfortunately, it can be sometimes difficult to use, so here is our tutorial on how to use the National Pipeline Mapping Service.

<http://www.pstrust.org/library/walkthrough.htm>

### **INDIA, CHENNAI, MAY 17 2011. PORT POLLUTANTS MOVE FROM CHENNAI TO ENNORE >> NORTH CHENNAI, A BHOPAL IN THE MAKING?**

*gokul chandrasekar*

The residents of North Chennai are living in a condition similar to that of the Bhopal disaster victims, says a report by Community Environmental Monitoring. It cautions that any minor accident in the region can have a significant impact on the dense residential colonies sandwiched between industrial units. The report titled, 'Is North Chennai another Bhopal?', by Community Environmental Monitoring notes that "the potential for a major fire is immense, given the large quantities of petroleum products stored in tank farms dotting the area." The environmental monitoring data released by the Chennai-based Community Environmental Monitoring (CEM) in 2005 and 2007, showed the presence of highly toxic chemicals in the ambient air around the factories and residential areas. "These too have been ignored by the industries and monitoring agencies," claims the report. CEM reported the presence of 14 highly toxic chemicals in the air samples: Hydrogen sulphide, Carbon Disulphide, Ethanol, Acetone, Iso propyl alcohol, 2-butanone, N-hexane, Benzene, Toluene, Ethyl benzene, M,p-xylenes, O-xylene, Bromomethane, Methyl Ethyl Ketone, Ethylbenzene and N-Nonane. "All chemicals target the eyes, 11 chemicals target the skin, central nervous system and the respiratory system, four chemicals target the liver and kidneys, three chemicals target

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the blood, two chemicals target the peripheral nervous system, reproductive system and the gastrointestinal system and one chemical affects the cardio vascular system. One chemical – benzene – is a known human and animal carcinogen, which also causes the rare childhood cancer Leukemia or blood cancer,” says Madumitta Dutta, the author of the report.

<http://expressbuzz.com/cities/chennai/port-pollutants-move-from-chennai-to-ennore/275022.html>

### USA, LA, NEW ORLEANS, MAY 17 2011. HALLIBURTON ENGINEER DECLINES TO TESTIFY IN OIL SPILL SUIT

*margaret cronin fisk & laurel brubaker calkins*



*Halliburton technical adviser Jesse Gagliano testifies during the Deepwater Horizon joint investigation hearings by the U.S. Coast Guard and Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, Regulation and Enforcement on Aug. 24, 2010 in Houston.*

A [Halliburton Co](#) engineer who said he warned [BP](#) of the risk of a natural-gas surge before the Macondo well blew up has declined to testify in litigation over the incident, [Transocean Ltd](#) said today. Jesse Gagliano, a technical adviser who was Halliburton's cementing engineer on the well offshore of [Louisiana](#), “refused to testify last week” in a deposition and invoked his Fifth Amendment rights against self-incrimination, Transocean said in a court filing. Transocean asked the magistrate overseeing depositions to give the company more time to question personnel from Houston-based Halliburton. The Macondo well blowout and the explosion that

followed killed 11 workers and set off the worst offshore oil spill in U.S. history. The accident and spill led to hundreds of lawsuits against London-based BP, which owned the well, Switzerland-based Transocean, which owned the oil rig, and other partners and contractors including Halliburton. Transocean's filing today came as parties are seeking sworn testimony by witnesses and representatives of companies involved in the lawsuits. A trial on determining liability for the incident and subsequent spill is set for February 2012 in federal court in [New Orleans](#). Depositions conducted by the various parties may be used in that trial and others.

#### BP Warning

Gagliano told the U.S. Coast Guard at a hearing last year that he warned BP five days before the explosion that its design for the well was susceptible to a “severe” natural-gas surge. He said he advised BP to assemble the well with 21 centralizers, devices used to ensure the steel pipe lining the well could be properly secured. BP used six centralizers, according to the report on the explosion by a U.S. presidential panel. Joshua Berman, Gagliano's attorney, didn't immediately return a call for comment. Donald Godwin, Halliburton's lead trial lawyer in the litigation, declined to comment. The case is In Re [Oil Spill](#) by the Oil Rig Deepwater Horizon in the [Gulf of Mexico](#) on April 20, 2010, MDL-2179, U.S. District Court, Eastern District of Louisiana (New Orleans)

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-05-16/halliburton-engineer-declines-to-testify-in-oil-spill-lawsuit.html>

### USA, CO, DENVER, MAY 17 2011. NATURAL GAS OFFICIALS, REGULATORS SAY DEGETTE'S FRAC ACT WOULDN'T STOP GROUNDWATER CONTAMINATION >> DISCLOSURE OF CHEMICALS SECONDARY TO HOLDING PIT LEAKS, PIPELINE BREAKS, BAD CEMENT JOBS

*david o. williams*



*A natural gas holding pit.*

Colorado's top oil and gas regulator and the head of one of the state's leading industry lobbying groups both say federal legislation compelling disclosure of the chemicals used in hydraulic fracturing would not have prevented the state's worst cases of groundwater contamination. “Has the action of injecting at high pressure these fluids into the hydrocarbon formation, do we have evidence that that has contaminated groundwater? No, we don't,” said David Neslin, executive director of the Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission, which regulates natural gas drilling for the state. “But I've also made no secret of the fact that, yes, there have

been other operational aspects of oil and gas development such as pit leaks, pipeline breaks and in a couple of cases bad cement jobs that have leaked methane, which have impacted the environment.” U.S. Reps. Diana DeGette and Jared Polis, both Colorado Democrats, are sponsors of the [Fracturing Responsibility and Awareness of Chemicals \(FRAC\) Act](#), which would require public disclosure of chemicals used in hydraulic fracturing, or “fracking.” DeGette says it's necessary to disclose the chemicals and regulate the process under the Safe Drinking Water Act because of public fears and anecdotal evidence

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that fracking has contaminated groundwater supplies. The process has been exempt from the Water Act since the Energy Policy Act of 2005. Industry officials, however, say secrecy is necessary for proprietary reasons. They also maintain fracking — which involves the high-pressure injection of mostly water, sand and some chemical additives deep into natural gas wells to force open fissures and free up more gas — occurs so far below the surface that there's no way the chemicals, some of which are known human carcinogens, are contaminating much shallower groundwater supplies. "The main question that I contemplate is why the focus on disclosure?" said Tisha Schuller, executive director of the Colorado Oil and Gas Association (COGA). "Disclosure doesn't actually prevent groundwater contamination." Schuller also echoed Neslin's sentiments in an [article posted on the COGA website](#): "The two most important areas to prevent environmental effects are spills and proper well construction. Both of these areas are regulated by state law." But DeGette, the ranking member of the House Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee, has helped spearhead two recent congressional probes showing the [use of diesel fuel](#) in fracking, as well as up to [29 known human carcinogens](#). "We have all of this anecdotal reporting of hydraulic fracturing fluid harming people, but because [companies] don't have to report what's in it [under the Safe Drinking Water Act], then we don't have proof that that's what's harming people," DeGette said, "so I've suggested an interim remedy since the industry says there's nothing wrong with this fluid of reporting it." Her bill would only require companies to report the types of chemicals used in fracking, not the proportions. Current Colorado regulations require operators to keep a list of chemicals being used on site at drilling operations and to make it available to state regulators and emergency responders upon request within 24 hours. "But if the industry thinks, 'Well, gee, we should regulate these holding ponds and the casings and things like that,' what that is, that's my original bill that they really disagree with," DeGette said. "So they may not want to make that argument, because the issue of disclosure is sort of a medium-range issue." The record state fine for contamination of a drinking water well was leveled against Oklahoma-based Williams, the largest natural gas producer on Colorado's Western Slope. Ned Prather chugged benzene-laced water from his well near Prather Springs, prompting a \$423,000 fine for Williams and shattering the old mark of \$390,000 against Oxy USA in the Cascade Canyon spill. "Would requiring the disclosure of the chemicals in the fracking fluid that was used for the well in question have better protected Mr. Prather from impact or prevented a leak of condensate from the pit? No, it wouldn't have," Neslin said. "A better lined pit and better monitoring and maintenance of the pit would have reduced the risks in question in the Prather situation and so that's what we should be focusing on." Lined holding pits are used to store fracking fluids for re-use, but they also hold condensate (hydrocarbons naturally present in the formation that come to the surface during drilling) and produced water (water naturally in the formation that's "produced" along with oil and gas). The most famous case of groundwater contamination occurred when a badly cemented well bore resulted in methane flowing into West Divide Creek in Garfield County. For years, that case held the record fine amount of more than \$370,000 leveled against EnCana. "The cement job that everybody thinks of is Divide Creek of course, and that didn't involve contamination by fracking fluids. It involved contamination by methane," Neslin said. "These are important issues, but we need to deal with them factually and deal with them specifically and deal with them in context." Neslin was accused by the nonprofit [Checks and Balances Project](#) of misleading the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee when he testified last month that hydraulic fracturing has never been found to have contaminated groundwater in Colorado. He later told the project's reporter that other aspects of drilling — bad cement jobs, pit leaks and pipeline failures — have caused contamination. "I don't view it as compartmentalizing," Neslin said. "I view it as our job as regulators to look at the different aspects of oil and gas development, try to understand the risks associated with those different operations or aspects of development and ensure that those risks are properly regulated and mitigated." But Democratic lawmakers, and even some Republicans, continue to make the argument that if hydraulic fracturing is so benign, then the industry should simply disclose the chemicals and no longer hide behind the Safe Drinking Water Act exemption for the process granted by Congress during the Bush administration in 2005. "It's a Catch 22 in that there's no reporting [of chemicals] and so they say there's no evidence [of fracking contaminating groundwater], so let's find out," House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi told the Colorado Independent. "It may be that they're not in violation of the Safe Drinking Water Act and that they're going deeper or whatever it happens to be. But if there's so much natural gas that they want to get at, the public has a right to know." Neslin said that so far this year about 75 percent of the new natural gas wells in Colorado have been drilled by companies that are participating in or have committed to participating in the state's new [voluntary disclosure website](#). He hopes that percentage will only increase over time. "I know that there have been concerns about the fact that it's a voluntary website, but if you look on the website, it contains an impressive level of detail and information and in terms of accuracy there are ways that organizations involved can audit the information or have audits of the information done to hopefully provide even greater levels of credibility for that website," he said.

<http://www.realvail.com/article/641/Natural-gas-officials-regulators-say-DeGettes-FRAC-Act-wouldnt-stop-groundwater-contamination>

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#### USA, LA, BATON ROUGE, MAY 17 2011. ARGES GET LOOSE ON RIVER, TWO HIT BRIDGE

joshua auzenne

 **Photo Gallery** <http://www.wafb.com/story/14646021/barges-get-loose-on-mississippi-river>

 **Watch the Video** <http://www.wafb.com/story/14646021/barges-get-loose-on-mississippi-river>



The barge on the left was one of the ones that broke loose.

Authorities said 25 barges dislodged in Baton Rouge north of the Huey P. Long Bridge (old bridge) Saturday afternoon. Officials said two of the barges hit the bridge. The bridge was closed in both directions as a precaution as crews checked to see if any damage was done. The Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development, as well as the US Coast Guard inspected the bridge. The all-clear was given around 3:45 p.m. and the bridge was re-opened. Officials added all 25 barges have been contained and no longer pose a threat.

<http://www.wafb.com/story/14646021/barges-get-loose-on-mississippi-river>

#### USA, TN, NASHVILLE, MAY 17 2011. 1 DEAD AFTER AMMO STORE FIRE ON NOLENSVILLE PK. >> ATF, FIRE DEPARTMENT INVESTIGATE WHETHER BUSINESS WAS LEGAL

 **Watch the Video**

<http://www.newschannel5.com/story/14655318/1-killed-1-missing-in-fire-explosion-at-ammunitions-store?redirected=true>

 **Watch the Video** <http://www.wsmv.com/news/27914055/detail.html>

 **Photo Gallery** <http://www.wsmv.com/news/27914055/detail.html>

The sex of the victim was not immediately known because the body was severely burned, according to Deputy Chief Kim Lawson of the Nashville Fire Department, and the fire's cause hasn't been determined. The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and the Nashville Fire Department are investigating whether the ammunition business, Well Done Bullets, was legal. "It was on an urban street and really out of place," Lawson said to CNN. "We were unaware of its existence." Callers told Metro dispatch that it sounded like ammunition was going off in the 4800 block of Nolensville Road. "At first, I heard explosions like fireworks," a witness said. "It started just pop, pop, pop, pop, one after another." Firefighters used axes to knock into the first floor of the building. "We had a lot of people that were still in this building that we had to evacuate. They reported that they did hear what appeared to be a firecracker sound, shells going off," said Fire Chief Charles Shannon. Police were blocking the area off, and Nolensville Pike has been shut down. The fire was in a two-story building called Hamilton Place with several businesses, including a family dentist and tax preparer, inside.

<http://www.wsmv.com/news/27914055/detail.html>

#### USA, LA, NEW ORLEANS, MAY 18 2011. LOUISIANA FLOOD ZONE RESIDENTS FACE CHEMICAL CONTAMINATION THREAT

sue sturgis



Photo of the 2005 spill from the Murphy Oil Refinery [from the Environmental Protection Agency](#).

About 60 miles southwest of New Orleans lies the small Cajun and Native American bayou community of Grand Bois, La. Back in 1994, massive open pits there were [filled with toxic waste](#) from an Exxon petroleum treatment plant in Alabama, causing widespread illnesses among residents. Now the Mississippi River flood waters being diverted from Louisiana's major cities by the opening of the Morganza Spillway flood control structure north of Baton Rouge threaten to unearth the benzene, xylene, arsenic and other deadly chemicals dumped there. The toxic threat facing Grand Bois is part of a much larger problem looming over Louisiana communities being

flooded by the Mississippi's diversion: the release of oil, diesel, drilling mud and chemicals into residential areas and the Gulf of Mexico. "I have been asking for spill prevention measures for the last two weeks and have gotten little to no information from industry or emergency response officials," says Anna Hrybyk of the Louisiana Bucket Brigade (LABB), a grassroots nonprofit that monitors industrial pollution. "People living in the flood zone need to be prepared for serious chemical contamination and cleanup." Government data compiled by LABB estimates that the flood waters in Louisiana threaten 13,000

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oil and gas wells; 3,600 petroleum extraction operations; 4,000 oil waste pits; four oil storage terminals; and the Alon Refinery in Krotz Springs, La. Those numbers could be even higher, as the data is several years old. While the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality issued an [emergency order](#) [pdf] last week that addresses steps that should be taken by wastewater treatment systems and other potential pollution sources, it did not specifically address preparations by oil and chemical facilities and waste sites. LABB is sending a letter today to relevant agencies requesting plans for soil and water sampling and cleanup in the event of spills. The watchdog group is especially concerned about the thousands of oil waste pits like the one in Grand Bois. Officials with the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality told LABB that they have ordered only three of the 4,000 such pits to be emptied in preparation for the flooding. In response to concerns about flooding of oil waste pits on Louisiana's Bateman Island at the base of Atchafalaya Bay, the state Department of Natural Resources [told KATC TV](#) that the facility has a perimeter levee designed to keep out flood waters and that owner U.S. Liquids of Louisiana has recently begun work to raise the levee's height from 12.5 to 14 feet. These pits have been causing problems in other states. Regulators in North Dakota say [oil companies may have ignored warnings](#) to protect the structures from spring floods, resulting in some three dozen spills in recent weeks. Nineteen companies now [face millions of dollars in fines](#) as a result. LABB Director Anne Rolfes notes that regulatory agencies had no effective plans for dealing with widespread chemical pollution following Hurricane Katrina in 2005 -- including a million-gallon oil spill from the Murphy Oil Refinery in a residential community of St. Bernard Parish just east of New Orleans (photo above). "Oil was everywhere - in the house, in the slab. It was unreal and we decided to move away," says Johnny Lewis, who lived nearby. "I got zero information from the refinery, zero from government who is supposed to be looking out for us." LABB is holding a press conference in New Orleans today in hopes of prompting industry and the state to properly inform residents about the potential for chemical contamination in flood areas. Residents who witness spills and other contamination incidents can report them to the group's Chemical Accidents Crisis Map at [map.labucketbrigade.org](http://map.labucketbrigade.org).

<http://www.southernstudies.org/2011/05/louisiana-flood-zone-residents-face-chemical-contamination-threat.html>

#### AUSTRALIA, VICTORIA, MAY 18 2011. SAFE DISTANCES WHEN USING EXPLOSIVES

 **Document** [Safe distances when using explosives \(PDF 463kb\)](#)

**Date First Published:** 10 May 2011

**Summary:** The guidance note provides advice to employers and contractors about safe distances for general explosive blasting operations and setting up exclusion zones.

<http://www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/wps/wcm/connect/wsinternet/worksafe/home/forms+and+publications/guidance+notes/safe+distances+when+using+explosives>

#### AUSTRALIA, VICTORIA, MAY 18 2011. BLAST MANAGEMENT PLANS

 **Document** [Blast management plans \(PDF 397kb\)](#)

**Date First Published:** 10 May 2011

**Summary:** The guidance note provides advice to shot firers and others involved in explosives blasting work on developing a blast management plan to control risk.

<http://www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/wps/wcm/connect/wsinternet/worksafe/home/forms+and+publications/guidance+notes/blast+management+plans>

#### AUSTRALIA, SOUTH AUSTRALIA, ADELAIDE, MAY 18 2011. CANCER-CAUSING CHEMICAL IN HOMES AT PORT PIRIE

*michael milnes*

Two homes in Port Pirie have recorded levels of the carcinogenic chemical, benzene, above World Health Organisation recommended guideline levels. The results come after soil testing in December and January identified a toxic mix of known carcinogens resulting from a former gasworks site. The Environmental Protection Authority said it knew of potential contamination on the site in 2004, but had no proof it may have spread to nearby residential areas. SA Health's Public Health Director, Dr Kevin Buckett, said benzene is a common chemical found in the urban environment and most exposure occurs as a result of vehicle emissions, burning of fuel and, indoors, from tobacco smoke. "In Solomontown, the benzene appears to have entered houses as vapour from soil and contaminated ground water," Dr Buckett said. EPA Director of Science and Assessment Peter Dolan said the EPA and SA Health were talking directly with owners and residents of these homes regarding their results. "We are taking immediate action to improve air quality within these homes," Mr Dolan said. "Portable indoor air purifying equipment will be temporarily provided to the affected homes, with the agreement of residents, and closely

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monitored by the EPA and SA Health, while more permanent options for ventilating those homes are explored in consultation with the residents and owners," he said. Sampling in Edwardstown revealed the presence of low levels of perchlorethylene (PCE), however the levels are below recommended health guideline levels and do not indicate a risk to health. "Twenty homes located in areas with the highest likelihood of chemicals being present were sampled for vapour," Mr Dolan said. "SA Health advises that anyone with a bore should have the water tested regularly to ensure it is fit for purposos, residents in the affected areas of Edwardstown and South Plympton have been advised not to use bore water until further notice."

<http://www.adelaidenow.com.au/news/south-australia/cancer-causing-chemical-in-homes-at-port-pirie/story-e6frea83-1226059163918>

### USA, S.C, ANDERSON CO, BELTON, MAY 18 2011. TANKER TRUCK EXPLODES; ONE INJURED



Anderson County fire officials are investigating a tanker truck explosion. The explosion happened at 5 p.m. Monday at 3T Services in Belton. The company does service work on tankers. Anderson County Fire Chief Billy Gibson said a worker was on top of a gasoline tanker making repairs when it exploded. Gibson said flames from the welding torch may have sparked some residual fumes that could have been in the tanker. The explosion blew off the back of the tanker, sending it 50 feet and debris flew as far as 300 feet. The cause is still under investigation. One person was taken to Anmed Health with a broken arm and minor burns.

<http://www.wyff4.com/news/27915136/detail.html>

### USA, CT, MIDDLETOWN, MAY 18 2011. DIESEL ODOR FROM KLEEN ENERGY PLANT RAISES CONCERNS >> YEAR AFTER DEADLY EXPLOSION, FACILITY IS IN TESTING PHASE

osh kovner

 **Watch the Video** <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f9q1nMbbQXc>

 **Watch the Video:**

<http://www.courant.com/community/middletown/power-plant-explosion/hc-kleen-energy-odors-0518-20110517.0.4940788.story>



Environmental regulators are trying to trace the source of an acrid odor that has wafted over neighborhoods surrounding the rebuilt Kleen Energy power plant in south [Middletown](#). The plant, site of a fatal explosion last year, has been test-firing its turbines. Residents on Bow Lane, adjacent to the plant, in [Durham](#), and across the [Connecticut River](#) in [Portland](#), have complained to the Department of Environmental Protection about a powerful odor of diesel fuel coming from the power plant. The turbines primarily run on natural gas, but they also burn oil as a back-up, and the units must pass tests using both fuels, said DEP officials. DEP inspectors spent several hours in and around the plant Tuesday, and were to return Wednesday for a meeting with plant representatives. The inspectors are reviewing operating records of the turbines to see if they can match the tests with the complaints. "We're responding to the complaints and trying to determine if there

have been any violations of air-quality and emissions standards," DEP spokesman Dennis Schain said Tuesday afternoon. He said the DEP may request that a test of the turbines be performed while inspectors are present. Linda Roberts, executive director of the Connecticut Siting Council, which licensed the plant, said the plant operators are expected to notify area residents on a call list when tests are conducted. However, no such notifications were made. Area residents said they cannot live with the noxious odors. "I'm a tough old bird, and I can take a lot, but what I was breathing in last night, standing in the middle of my field, was offensive to breathe. It was acrid," Bow Lane resident Earle Roberts said Tuesday. He's a former Middletown councilman, fire commissioner, and a Navy veteran. "I'm sorry, but they don't have the greatest track record out there, and we don't have a lot of confidence about our safety," Roberts said. The 620-megawatt electric generation plant was

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rebuilt after a deadly natural-gas explosion killed six workers and injured several dozen on Feb. 7, 2010. Kleen Energy was issued a new operating license by the siting council after the plant agreed to a series of safety measures, including a ban on using high-pressure natural gas to clear pipe lines. That procedure, known as a "gas blow," was linked to the explosion, which was heard more than 40 miles away. The blast led to a statewide ban on gas blows. The plant was 96 percent complete when the explosion occurred. The rebuilt, \$1 billion plant has now reached its "start up and testing phase," said South Fire District Chief Edward Badamo. The chief said the department answered two odor calls on Monday, one from [Middlesex Community College](#) off Training Hill Road, and one from residents of Bow Lane, adjacent to the power plant. The sprawling plant is built on a former feldspar mine on a cliff overlooking the Connecticut River. Badamo will participate in the meeting with plant officials and the DEP Wednesday. Middletown health officials will also be there. Badamo said it's reasonable to assume that the plant is the source of the fumes, but he said he can't be certain because he didn't smell anything when he responded to the plant with fire crews n Monday, or when he met with plant representatives on Tuesday. Badamo did smell the odor on Bow Lane, and he likened it to a furnace backfiring or diesel exhaust from a truck. He said meter readings in and around the plant detected no carbon monoxide or other contaminants. He said weather conditions — moisture-laden air, wind, and fog — may have slowed the dissipation of any fumes. He also said that he expects the turbines to operate more efficiently after the testing phase is done. Linda Roberts, of the siting council, said her agency received e-mails from concerned residents and is monitoring the situation. "It's natural people are going to be concerned," she said, but added, "This may be part of the process of getting the plant on line." She did not have an immediate response when told that residents were not notified of the tests. She said the siting council was waiting for an explanation from plant representatives about the odor problem and any issues with notification. Lee Hoffman, a lawyer representing the plant, said he did not know what was producing the odors. He said testing was expected to continue until early next month. He said the plant has to pass tests for Connecticut Light & Power and for ISO-New England, operator of the electricity grid that provides power to the region. When the tests are done, Kleen Energy can begin selling power to the grid, Hoffman said. DEP inspectors spent several hours in and around the plant Tuesday, and were to return Wednesday for a meeting with plant representatives. The inspectors are reviewing operating records of the turbines to see if they can match the tests with the complaints. "We're responding to the complaints and trying to determine if there have been any violations of air-quality and emissions standards," DEP spokesman Dennis Schain said Tuesday afternoon. He said the DEP may request that a test of the turbines be performed while inspectors are present. Linda Roberts, executive director of the Connecticut Siting Council, which licensed the plant, said the plant operators are expected to notify area residents on a call list when tests are conducted. However, no such notifications were made. Area residents said they cannot live with the noxious odors. "I'm a tough old bird, and I can take a lot, but what I was breathing in last night, standing in the middle of my field, was offensive to breathe. It was acrid," Bow Lane resident Earle Roberts said Tuesday. He's a former Middletown councilman, fire commissioner, and a Navy veteran. 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for ISO-New England, operator of the electricity grid that provides power to the region. When the tests are done, Kleen Energy can begin selling power to the grid, Hoffman said.

[http://www.courant.com/community/middletown/power-plant-explosion/hc-kleen-energy-odors-0518-20110517\\_0.4940788.story](http://www.courant.com/community/middletown/power-plant-explosion/hc-kleen-energy-odors-0518-20110517_0.4940788.story)

### **USA, TX, SOUTH PADRE ISLAND, MAY 18 2011. MAN DRIVES OFF WITH GAS NOZZLE IN PICKUP**

*isaac garcia*



*A firefighter extinguishes a fire that started when a man drove away from a gas pump with the nozzle still in his gas tank on South Padre Island on Monday.*

No charges will be filed against a man who drove away from a gas pump with the nozzle in his gas tank on Monday, causing a fire that destroyed the pump. South Padre Island Police said the fuel pump fell over and the fire started when the man, whose name was not released, drove away from the Exxon Mobil station on Padre Boulevard with the nozzle in his pickup. A gas station attendant pushed the emergency shut-off valve, minimizing the fire, and burning about two gallons of gas. The fire department arrived and extinguished the fire. The pump was destroyed, but no injuries or structural damage to the gas station were reported, officials said. The

man responsible for the small fire went to the police station Tuesday to take responsibility. He said he mistakenly drove away with the nozzle still attached to his pickup and was scared after seeing the damage, officials said. Police determined the fire was an accident.

<http://www.brownsvilleherald.com/news/padre-126613-pickup-drives.html>

### **USA, PA, SCRANTON, MAY 18 2011. EP FINES CHESAPEAKE MORE THAN \$1 MILLION FOR FIRE, CONTAMINATION INCIDENTS**

*laura legere*

The state Department of Environmental Protection has fined natural gas driller Chesapeake Energy a record \$1.1 million for a series of water contamination incidents and a well-site fire that injured three workers in the last year. The company will pay \$900,000 for allowing methane to migrate up faulty wells in Bradford County, contaminating 16 families' drinking water beginning in 2010. It also will pay \$188,000 for a Feb. 23 tank fire at a well site in Avella, Washington County. DEP Secretary Michael Krancer said the contamination fine is the largest single penalty the agency has ever levied against a driller while the tank fire fine is the highest allowed under the state's oil and gas law. "Our message to drillers and to the public is clear," he said. "It is important to me and to this administration that natural gas drillers are stewards of the environment, take very seriously their responsibilities to comply with our regulations, and that their actions do not risk public health and safety or the environment." The water contamination incidents in Bradford County are similar to those experienced in Susquehanna County: improperly cased and cemented natural gas wells allowed methane trapped in the shallow rock between the surface and the Marcellus Shale to escape into drinking water aquifers. It bubbled up in a private pond, a beaver pond and the Susquehanna River from as many as six sets of faulty wells in five towns. In some cases, the methane became an explosion risk and families had to be evacuated from their homes. In other cases, residents could light their tap water on fire. As part of the consent order issued by the department, Chesapeake will have to remediate the contaminated water supplies, take steps to fix the faulty gas wells and report any water supply complaints to the DEP. If methane dissolved in the drinking water wells does not decrease within 60 days to a point far below any risk of explosion or asphyxiation, Chesapeake will have to restore or replace the affected water supplies if it has not done so already. For families who may refuse the company's fixes, Chesapeake will have to fund escrow accounts with an amount to be determined by DEP to pay to replace the water. In a statement, Chesapeake said the methane contamination is "possibly caused" by natural gas drilling activities and that the company has worked cooperatively with DEP to address the issues since they emerged last year. "Even though the results of our joint review remain inconclusive at this time, we believe proceeding with an agreement and taking prompt steps to enhance our casing and cementing practices and procedures was the right thing to do," spokesman Brian Grove said. The company has changed its casing and cementing methods to add a third string of nested steel pipe to its wells - a practice that is now required by the state's updated gas drilling regulations. The Bradford County contamination incidents addressed in the order are unrelated to a blowout at a Chesapeake well site in April that spilled an estimated 10,000 gallons of wastewater onto a field and into a stream. The department has issued a violation notice in that case but has not yet assigned a penalty. In the Avella incident, DEP found that Chesapeake was improperly handling condensate - the highly flammable natural gas liquid produced with so-

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called "wet gas" from the Marcellus Shale in southwestern Pennsylvania. Three subcontractors were injured on Feb. 23 when three condensate separator tanks caught fire while workers were testing and collecting fluids from the wells. Chesapeake was using open tanks that allowed the condensate vapor to escape into the air next to several potential ignition sources, including flaring gas wells. The company will now have to get approval for a condensate management plan for each of its well sites, according to a DEP order.

<http://thetimes-tribune.com/news/gas-drilling/dep-fines-chesapeake-more-than-1-million-for-fire-contamination-incidents-1.1148039#axzz1Mnb7LiOT>

### **UK, CHESHIRE, ELLESMERE PORT, MAY 18 2011. OIL TANKER THIEVES BAILED**

Two men from Lancashire have been granted bail until June 30th 2011, after being arrested in connection with the theft of three oil tankers. The lorries were taken from an industrial unit in Ellesmere Port and around £150,000 worth of diesel was said to be on board the trio of trucks, the Ellesmere Port Pioneer reports. Police managed to seize two of the tankers in Preston, while the third load has also since been recovered and returned to the rightful owner. Cases of diesel theft have risen in recent months, as thieves realise that the fuel is currently trading at record high prices across the UK. Detective inspector Sharon Case told the news provider: "The vehicles stolen were not only valuable in themselves, but were laden with fuel at a time when fuel prices are on the increase." Last week, Truckpol advised HGV drivers to be vigilant against the threat of diesel theft and to use secure overnight parking areas, while also making fuel tanks as inaccessible to criminals as possible.

<http://www.thefuelcardpeople.co.uk/fuelnews/800546412/Diesel%20fuel%20card/Fuel%20card%20news:%20Oil%20tanker%20thieves%20bailed>

### **CANADA, SASKATCHEWAN, RAYMORE, MAY 18 2011. EVACUATION ORDER AFTER SEMI CARRYING ANHYDROUS AMMONIA ROLLS**



2 km area around a semi that rolled over while carrying anhydrous ammonia evacuated.

A semi carrying 11,232 kgs of anhydrous ammonia has rolled into a ditch at the intersection of Highways 6 and 15, causing the evacuation of everyone within 2 km of the crash. RCMP say the tanks carrying the anhydrous ammonia are not punctured but the liquid must be transferred to another tanker before the rolled semi can be flipped back onto its wheels and removed from the ditch. Police say the transfer could take several hours and all persons within 2 km of the roll over must leave the area while the transfer takes place. Traffic is being stopped on Highway 6 at Southey and Raymore. Anhydrous ammonia may be fatal if inhaled, ingested or absorbed through the skin and the vapours are extremely irritating and corrosive.

<http://www.globaltoronto.com/Evacuation+order+after+semi+carrying+anhydrous+ammonia+rolls/4798930/story.html>

### **RUSSIA, MURMANSK, MAY 18 2011. WHITE SEA OIL SPILL OF EARLY MAY CREEPS UP ON KANDALAKSHA NATIONAL PARK**

anna kireeva, translated by maria kaminskaya

 [http://www.bellona.ru/articles\\_ru/articles\\_2011/1305537785.81](http://www.bellona.ru/articles_ru/articles_2011/1305537785.81)



*It has become apparent that oil pollution in the area of the coastline adjacent to the petrol bulk plant responsible for the latest spill is rather of a chronic nature.*

The May 7 oil spill in Kandalaksha Bay of the White Sea in Russia's far northern Kola Peninsula now presents an immediate threat to a nearby nature reserve. Cleanup measures have been deployed, but the oil slick from a coastal petrol bulk plant is now approaching Kandalaksha National Park, only a kilometre and a half away, which is home to hundreds of protected wild species. State environmental authorities in Russia's Northwest Federal District say the polluted area totals around 200,000 square metres. An investigation has been started into the accident, the authorities say. Click [here](#) for a slide show on the progression of the spill. The spill has been traced back to Belomorskaya (White Sea) petrol bulk plant, an enterprise based in the town of Kandalaksha, on the shore of the White Sea's Kandalaksha Bay in Russia's

far northern Murmansk Region. However, Belomorskaya director Sergei Khmelyov says the circumstances at hand do not

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warrant for calling the incident an oil spill, much less attributing it to his company's operations. "Water emulsion with oil products mixed in has leaked out of the ground, from ground waters onto the surface, as a result of a [recent] flood," Khmelyov told Bellona.Ru in an interview. Khmelyov blames the culture of utter disregard for ecological safety that was prevalent during the Soviet times for what is now happening in Kandalaksha: Back in the Soviet Union, all oil spills from loading racks used to simply go into the ground and get absorbed by the soil and ground waters. The recent springtime flood has lifted this decades-old emulsion out of the ground with flood waters, according to Khmelyov. "Since 1995, when Belomorskaya Oil Bulk Plant was created here, the loading racks have undergone complete renovation, and no leaks can possibly happen here from the equipment or the pipelines," Khmelyov told Bellona. Belomorskaya's director said it is currently hard to determine precisely the area of pollution as there are also small local slicks only a millimetre or less thick. However, Bellona has learnt from conversations with some of the company's employees, who wished to remain unnamed, that oil leaks happen regularly at the enterprise – though they have never seen a spill as large as this most recent one. "It is apparent that oil pollution in the area and part of the coastal line adjacent to the petrol storage depot is that of a chronic nature," Nina Lesikhina, an expert with Bellona-Murmansk, said. "This may be due to an inefficient effluent water purification system at the plant, leaky storage tanks, or the accumulation of oil products in the soil over the many years, which then start seeping onto the surface, pushed by flood waters." Lesikhina said environmental authorities would yet have to establish the precise cause of this latest spill, but the responsibility for the accident would still lie solely and entirely with the owner of the storage depot. "It is apparent that it was none other than neglect of the rules of environmental safety and lack of appreciation of ecological risks that has led to this pollution of the White Sea," she added. The spill is being investigated by the department for marine environmental safety supervision of the Russian Federal Service for the Oversight of Natural Resources (Rosprirodnadzor) in the Northwest Federal District, which includes Murmansk Region. According to the department's head, Nina Sukhanova, an inspection of the Kandalaksha Bay coastline revealed that a stretch of the basin between the first and fourth piers was polluted with oil products. The slick was two to five millimetres thick. "It has been established from a detailed survey of the coastline and the basin of Kandalaksha Bay that 71,000 square metres of the basin of the bay has been polluted in the area around [...] Belomorskaya Petrol Bulk Plant. The water in the port is polluted within an area of 128,000 square metres. The total area of water pollution comes to 199,000 square metres, and shoreline pollution totals another 400 square metres," Sukhanova told the Russian news agency RIA Novosti. Sukhanova said department specialists have attributed the oil spill to the spring flood, which caused oil products to seep out of the ground and spread from the territory of the storage depot across the adjacent area and into bay waters. The experts drew up an inspection report, took soil and water samples, and determined the incident merited initiating an administrative violation case.

#### The Ecological Threat

Specialists are hard-pressed to assess at the moment the scope of resulting environmental damage, including to the nearby Kandalaksha National Park. "Installing booms in the affected area is currently impeded by the ice conditions in the bay," Sukhanova said. Meanwhile, the spot where the oil products are leaking is just a kilometre and a half away from the territory of the Kandalaksha nature reserve. "It is at this point difficult to estimate the consequences of the oil spill for the animals and birds of the Kandalaksha reserve," said Ivetta Tatarenkova, an employee of the reserve's. "The specialists will have yet to investigate the damage after this spill. There could be a threat to the eiders, which are not yet showing up on the shore." Kandalaksha is one of Russia's oldest and northernmost nature reserves. Sprawling across 70,000 hectares, of which 70 percent accounts for part of the basins of the White and Barents Seas and includes over 370 islands, it is home to around 9,500 animal and bird species and was founded with the specific cause of protecting the invaluable eider population in the area. According to Tatarenkova, these rare birds are currently staying in the water and, should the oil spill expand significantly across the bay waters, the birds will be at risk of smearing their wings with the oil. A slick has already been discovered by the Kandalaksha reserve's specialists during an inspection of the area around one of the archipelago's largest islands, Ryazhkov. "The ice there is dirty, it's black; the same can be observed near the island of Oleny. The invertebrates could come under harm, too – mussels, crayfish, and other families of the order," Tatarenkova said. Bellona-Murmansk specialists note that extensive oil pollution and generation of oil slicks on the surface of seawater prevents oxygen from entering the water, which impedes photosynthesis. The presence of oil and oil products in the water has thus a toxic effect on the animals and organisms inhabiting the sea. Even insignificant amounts of pollutants can cause serious damage to the plant and animal life, environmentalists say. And in areas where low temperatures are prevalent throughout the year, the process of recovery from the stress of oil pollution is extremely slow for marine organisms and ecosystems.

#### Cleanup Measures

Efforts are ongoing in the area to contain and clean up the spill; Belomorskaya petrol depot has deployed its coastal rescue brigade and the necessary equipment to handle the accident. More people and equipment have been engaged from the

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emergency rescue outfit called Navekoservice, a branch of Ecocentre group of companies, to assist in the efforts to prevent further expansion of the pollution. According to Ecocentre head Alexander Glazov, what happened is an alarming sign indicating a broader syndrome that affects all petrol bulk plants on the Kola Peninsula: All of these enterprises are quite old and may well have accumulated spilled oil products in the ground and ground waters on their territory. Specialists say the cleanup may take up to a month. Remediation measures will then have to be enacted to restore the soil and water in the polluted area. In order to rule out the risk of further pollution, a survey will then have to be conducted, followed by drilling a well to pump out the remaining oil. Save these measures, small and large slicks threatening local wildlife are bound to be observed in the bay each year that the spring season floods Kandalaksha with snowmelt waters after another snowy winter. Bellona-Murmansk's Lesikhina underscores the very high ecological risks of oil and gas operations in the Arctic territories, including dealing with the consequences, as the environmental danger is not just confined to the specific vulnerability of the Arctic climate to such impacts. "Not only do the severe weather conditions precipitate the risk of accidents, but they also hamper timely and efficient emergency response to oil spills such as this," she said.

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- [The future for Arctic counties: Oil and gas bonanza or environmental catastrophe?](#) (09/02-2011)
- [Russian environmental laws offer inadequate protection from oil disasters from the Arctic to the Black Sea](#) (14/11-2007)
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- [Murmansk Region oil-spill cleanup plan: just empty words on paper?](#) (15/02-2006)

[http://www.bellona.org/articles/articles\\_2011/kandalashka\\_spill](http://www.bellona.org/articles/articles_2011/kandalashka_spill)

### **PHILIPPINES, SARANGANI, KIAMBA, MAY 19 2011. NO THREAT OF OIL SPILL IN BAKUD REEF: EXEC**

*ben o. tsiorna*

Wednesday, May 18, 2011

The threat of an oil spill that may affect the protected seascape of Sarangani Bay is already remote after the tanker salvor transferred the fuel from the front portion of the ship that was wrecked to the rear compartment. Malayan Towage salvor master Daniel Sarmiento said the current situation of the M/V Double Prosperity that rammed into the Bakud Reef last May 8 is stable. "Some fuel was transferred to another compartment near the aft or rear portion of the ship as a precautionary measure to avoid pollution. At this point in time, I would say there is no possibility of pollution," Sarmiento assured. "A spill boom has been placed surrounding the ship primarily to prevent the threat on pollution. Fortunately, the ship is double bottom. That assures safety of the cargo if ever one of the hulls will rupture," said Vice Admiral Ramon Liwag, Philippine Coast Guard commandant. Liwag also directed the salvage company to facilitate the removal of a portion of the cargo to lighten the ship and to make sure no oil or coal pollution will occur. Sarmiento said a barge with crane is already coming to do such. The salvor attempted to refloat the overseas bulk carrier on Tuesday but to no avail. "Salvor again tried to refloat the grounded vessel by using engines and tugboat with negative result due to still very big grounding magnitude," the PCG said in a report to Sarangani Governor Miguel Rene Dominguez. The PCG reported that repair equipment from Subic has arrived onboard a barge towed by a small tugboat. The PCG said the salvor would try to refloat the vessel on May 19 when highest tide of the month takes place and the arrival of Hercules barge on Wednesday where the cargo will be unloaded. M/V Double Prosperity ran aground the protected Bakud Reef on May 8. It is the largest ship in recent history to be grounded in the Philippine waters. Bakud Reef is one of Sarangani Bay's 11 marine protected areas. Sarangani Bay itself is a protected seascape through Proclamation no. 756.

#### **Letter of Guarantee**

Meanwhile, Provincial Legal Officer Arnel Zapatos said that as of May 16, the ship owners represented by the Del Rosario and Del Rosario Law Offices submitted a letter of guarantee, assuring that they are willing to pay the indemnity that they will suffer because of the grounding of their vessel. The letter of guarantee addressed to Governor Dominguez, who is also vice chairperson of the Protected Area Management Board (PAMB), was signed by Takaya Kijima, general manager of The Japan Ship Owners' Mutual Protection & Indemnity association, Imabari Branch. "It assures us that whenever there is a written demand and it is agreed upon, they will go for settlement if not, I will file also the case and that the judgment will be assured of the letter of guarantee," Zapatos said. Zapatos said "this is the first step for the issuance of a surety bond". "Once we get the proper data of the actual damage we will demand from the ship owners through their lawyers that there will be a bond," the legal officer said. Zapatos said the Provincial Government has commissioned experts coming from the University of the Philippines Marine Science Institute and they are about to dive Bakud Reef on May 19. The experts will need three days in

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## Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network Release 2011 – 713 Newsy Stuff

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

**May 24 2011**



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order to finish their study. A team composed of the media, Governor Dominguez, representatives of the ship owners and top officials from the Philippine Coast Guard went to inspect the area aboard a patrol boat early Monday. "We took it as a very serious matter and we are bent on throwing all the books in ensuring that the company will be liable and responsibility will be to the account of the ship," Dominguez said. Earlier, M/V Double Prosperity master Danilo Santa Ana admitted the grounding of the ship over the Bakud Reef, 2.5 nautical miles off the coast of Kiamba, was due to human error. "Human error was involved, but there is also mitigating factor like strong current that affected my vessel. We were pushed by a strong current," Santa Ana said.

### **Not Enough**

Earlier, Sarangani Bay Protected Seascape area superintendent Dirie Macabaning was quoted as saying that his office initially placed the value of the damage caused by the incident on the reef at P30 million. Experts said though that the P30-million initial estimate could be too small a compensation. In a research posed at the [Science Daily website](http://www.sciencedaily.com), the economic research shows that a single hectare of coral reef provides annual services to humans valued at US\$130,000 on average, rising to as much as \$1.2 million per year. Based on analysis of more than 80 coral reef valuation studies, the worth of services per hectare of coral reef breaks down as follows:

- Food, raw materials, ornamental resources: average \$1,100 (up to \$6,000);
- Climate regulation, moderation of extreme events, waste treatment/water purification, biological control: average \$26,000 (up to \$35,000);
- Cultural services (eg. recreation/tourism): average \$88,700 (up to \$1.1 million).
- Maintenance of genetic diversity: average \$13,500 (up to \$57,000).

The area damaged in Bakud Reef is estimated to be about four hectares; thus, the estimate cost of damage could reach to as much as \$4.8 million or roughly about P204 million.

### **Related Stories**

[They should pay - Environment & Natural Resources Secretary Ramon Paje wants the owner of the ship that plowed into the Bakud Reef in Kiamba, Sarangani to pay not only the cost of the damaged coral area but the total worth of marine services lost.](http://www.sunstar.com.ph/davao/local-news/2011/05/18/no-threat-oil-spill-bakud-reef-exec-156219)

<http://www.sunstar.com.ph/davao/local-news/2011/05/18/no-threat-oil-spill-bakud-reef-exec-156219>

## **USA, TN, NASHVILLE, MAY 18 2011. 1 KILLED IN AMMO STORE FIRE IN SOUTH NASHVILLE**

chris echegaray

 **Watch the Video** <http://www.newschannel5.com/story/14655318/1-killed-in-fire-explosion-at-ammunitions-shop>



*A fire caused a death and major damage Monday at an ammunition business at 4813 Nolensville Pike.*

Kenedy Rojas, 42, died of smoke inhalation and severe burns after Monday's afternoon explosion and fire at Well Done Bullets at 4813 Nolensville Pike. Today's autopsy showed no signs of foul play, Metro Police spokesman Don Aaron said. Rojas, and his wife, Dina, were the owners of the the shop that opened in February, Aaron said. Rojas was federally licensed to sell and import firearms, according to the ATF. However, Rojas was not licensed to manufacture ammunition. Rojas was known to keep containers of gunpowder for reloading ammunition. A Nolensville Pike ammunition store caught fire, killing a man, forcing the evacuation of firefighters and blocking South Nashville roads during rush hour Monday. The fire at the ammunition manufacturer, Well Done Bullet, 4813 Nolensville Pike, a small strip plaza with several businesses, started at 3:35 p.m. The victim's name was withheld pending family notification. With the threat of the building collapsing, firefighters had to leave the building, Nashville Fire Department spokesman Joaquin Toon said. An engineer checked whether the building was structurally sound and a fire crew reinforced the building with steel and other equipment. "We were concerned about the stability of the structure and we had to get them out," Toon said. Firefighters found the victim's body inside the store, but it was so

severely burned that they couldn't tell whether it was a man or a woman. From a nearby fire hall, firefighters heard "ammunition popping, like fireworks," Toon said. Nearby businesses, including a dental office, had smoke damage. The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives is investigating.

### **Related Links** [Ammo store death investigated](http://www.tennessean.com/article/20110517/NEWS/305170039/1-person-killed-ammunitions-store-fire-South-Nashville)

<http://www.tennessean.com/article/20110517/NEWS/305170039/1-person-killed-ammunitions-store-fire-South-Nashville>

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### USA, MA, BOSTON, MAY 18 2011. US APPEALS COURT LIFTS INJUNCTION ON OIL SPILL LAW

A federal appeals court has ruled the U.S. Coast Guard failed to comply with its obligations under the National Environmental Policy Act when it promulgated regulations pre-empting a Massachusetts law designed to prevent oil spills. The 1st U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals found the Coast Guard failed to prepare either an environmental impact statement or environmental assessment during the rulemaking process. The 2004 Massachusetts Oil Spill Prevention Act required tugboat escorts for all tank vessels transiting Buzzards Bay that carry 6,000 or more barrels of oil. The Coast Guard found the tug escort needn't apply at all double-hulled barges. In 2003 a barge hit an underwater ledge in Buzzards Bay and spilled 98,000 gallons of oil, polluting 90 miles of shoreline. Nearly 100,000 acres of shellfish beds closed. The appeals court lifted the injunction against enforcing the state law.

[http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2011/05/17/us\\_appeals\\_court\\_lifts\\_injunction\\_on\\_oil\\_spill\\_law/](http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2011/05/17/us_appeals_court_lifts_injunction_on_oil_spill_law/)

### AUSTRALIA, NEW SOUTH WALES, NAROOMA, MAY 19 2011. CALTEX SITE AT NAROOMA TO BE SOLD AFTER REMEDIATION



The old Ampol service station being cleaned up earlier this month.

A Caltex spokesman says remediation work on the old Ampol service station on McMillan Road will take some time. The company does not expect that the property will be ready for sale this year. The site ceased operating as a service station in 2009. The site is to be remediated in accordance with Caltex's stringent procedures for decommissioned sites, he said.

<http://www.naroomanewsonline.com.au/news/local/news/general/caltex-site-at-narooma-to-be-sold-after-remediation/2167140.aspx>

### USA, LA, MONROE, MAY 19 2011. SP HAZMAT TEAM WORKS FUEL LEAK IN WEST MONROE

*robbie evans & zack southwell*

The Louisiana State Police Hazardous Materials Response Team worked Tuesday to contain a gasoline leak in West Monroe. The team was called out Monday to respond to the leak near the intersection of North Seventh Street and Arkansas Road at a convenience store. Troop F spokesman Trooper Mark Dennis said gasoline from a previous leak at the site had been pushed up toward the surface of the ground because of saturated soil from recent heavy rains. A portion of Arkansas Road that was closed while the site was cleaned reopened Tuesday night. "It is going to take another day or two to devise an extraction well and get the remainder of the gas out of there," Dennis said. "This isn't an underground rupture." Dennis said the ground moisture pushed existing gasoline in the soil into an underground phone line junction box. Dennis said no water or sewer lines had been contaminated by the seeping gasoline. West Monroe fire chief Bobby Buchanan said the leak was found when AT&T employees working on fiber-optic cables opened a manhole and found the leak. He said crews were waiting on an auger drilling device to dig down and see what caused the leak. "Once we determined the leak was not too widespread, we sectioned off just the store," Buchanan said. He said the area was cordoned off Monday night out of public safety. Lance Beauvais, from the Department of Environmental Quality, said the cause of the leak remained unknown Tuesday. He said the leak did not pose a threat to the area.

 **Related Stories** [Gasoline Leak](#)

<http://www.thenewsstar.com/article/20110518/NEWS01/105180317>

### USA, WA, EVERETT, MAY 19 2011. CHEMICAL CAUSES FUMES AT WASTE TRANSFER STATION

*eric stevick*

 **Watch the Video**

<http://www.king5.com/news/local/Hazmat-crews-responding-to-spill-at-Everett-transfer-station-122151524.html>

Fumes that rose from a Snohomish County waste transfer station on Wednesday morning apparently were caused by a corrosive chemical dumped in with garbage. Hazardous material crews from several fire departments responded to the

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chemical spill inside a county waste transfer station near Paine Field. Snohomish County Fire District 1 spokeswoman Leslie Hynes said tests showed the chemical was potassium hydroxide. It has a number of industrial uses, but it also is sometimes used in the manufacture of illegal drugs. Firefighters located two five-gallon plastic buckets with residual amounts of potassium hydroxide in the area where the vapor cloud was seen, Hynes said. "Potassium hydroxide had to react with some other substance to generate a vapor cloud like the one described by the transfer station employees," Hynes said. The fumes were spotted about 7 a.m. and were confined to an enclosed space within the transfer station at 10700 Minuteman Drive. Workers left the area and called 911. No one was injured. More than 30 firefighters from six agencies went to the scene. Hazardous material teams from districts 1 and 7 as well as Everett and Marysville fire departments were on the scene, as well as firefighters from Mukilteo and the Snohomish County Airport. The chemical apparently was mixed in with materials delivered by a commercial garbage truck. "We probably won't ever know how much of the chemical was there to begin with. It may have been a residual amount or there may have been more that spilled as the trash was being pushed into the hopper," Hynes said. The transfer station was expected to be closed all Wednesday while a contractor cleaned up the site.

<http://heraldnet.com/article/20110518/NEWS01/705189808/-1/news01>

### **USA, OH, CLEVELAND, MAY 19 2011. OHIO SETTLES WITH CSX OVER DERAILMENT SPILLS INTO CUYAHOGA, CREEKS**

*kim wendel*



*A CSX train derailed Oct. 11, 2007, a quarter-mile east of Ohio 44 in Painesville. Firefighters let much of the spilled ethanol burn off.*

Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine and the Ohio EPA have filed a proposed settlement in Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Court with CSXT to resolve an eight-count complaint brought against CSXT for discharging fuel, coal and other wastes to state waters, including the Cuyahoga River. The settlements involve CSX Transportation Inc. (CSXT) of Jacksonville, Florida, and Arcadis U.S. Inc. of Highlands Ranch, Colorado. The eight spills occurred between April 2006 and March 2009. CSXT's trains were involved in all the mishaps. The incidents of water pollution and public nuisances caused by eight of its derailments and malfunctions included the derailment and resulting explosion and fire in Painesville in 2007. The spills include:

- April 2006, Springdale (Hamilton Co.), locomotive engine leak, diesel fuel discharged to Beaver Run Creek
- October 2007, Painesville (Lake Co.), derailment, burning materials and ethanol fuel discharged to Black Brook Creek
- December 2007, Cuyahoga Falls (Summit Co.), train-truck collision, diesel fuel discharged to the Cuyahoga River
- February 2008, Walbridge (Wood Co.), punctured fuel tank, diesel fuel discharged to Cedar Creek
- November 2008, Kent (Portage Co.), derailment and collision with city sewer line, coal fines and sewage discharged to the Cuyahoga River
- February 2009, Lake Township (Wood Co.), locomotive engine leak, diesel fuel discharged to Cedar Creek
- February 2009, Lake Township (Wood Co.), oil/water separator malfunction, fuel discharged to Cedar Creek
- March 2009, Hamler (Henry Co.), derailment, coal discharged to Beaver Creek.

Arcadis was contracted by CSXT to perform cleanup at two train accidents and, in two of the eight counts, was charged with polluting the Cuyahoga River. The settlement has CSXT paying a civil penalty of \$200,000, and Arcadis U.S. Inc. paying a civil penalty of \$60,000 for causing water pollution and a public nuisance in Ohio. CSXT also will pay an additional \$150,000 to be placed in Ohio's Surface Water Improvement Fund.

<http://www.wkyc.com/news/state/article/190402/23/Ohio-settles-with-CSX-over-derailment-spills-into-Cuyahoga-creeks>

### **USA, NE, LINCOLN, MAY 19 2011. 2 ARRESTED IN GREASE THEFTS**

*cindy gonzalez*

[Watch the Video Briefing On Arrest](#)

A pair of suspected grease thieves didn't slip away this time. Lincoln police — armed with intelligence on what to look for in a used cooking oil bandit — pulled over a suspicious truck Wednesday about 2 a.m. A woman and man from Missouri reportedly told officers they had siphoned oil from a receptacle outside a Japanese restaurant, said Officer Katie Flood of the Lincoln

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Police Department. Authorities, she said, now are investigating whether the two were involved in a string of similar capers in Lincoln, Fremont and Omaha, as well as the Iowa cities of Davenport, Iowa City and Des Moines. The World-Herald reported a few weeks ago that thieves had stolen about 4,200 pounds of used restaurant grease from six Lincoln fast-food restaurants, including a Taco Bell and a Dairy Queen. Total estimated value: \$900. It turned out there is a market for used cooking oil. Stored in locked bins outside restaurants, the product normally is picked up by a recycler that cleans and sells it for use in biodiesel fuel. A manager of one such Omaha recycler said grease thefts traditionally spike when fuel prices go up. The two Missourians arrested Wednesday were jailed on suspicion of misdemeanor larceny, said Flood. They were released after posting bail. Through interviews, police determined that Christy Harris, 34, of Everton, Mo., works at a grease company in Missouri. "So she is familiar with the process," said Flood. Arrested with Harris was Jesse Moore, 36, of Springfield, Mo. Flood said that Lincoln police had been briefed on the recent thefts and were told to be on the lookout for a truck, likely hauling a large tank and hoses. Lincoln officers near 56th and O Streets spotted such a vehicle, which also lacked a rear license plate. They questioned the occupants, who, Flood said, admitted stopping at four places. They said they took grease from only one restaurant, the Shogun at 3700 S. Ninth St., because the others didn't have enough. Flood said it was too early to tell what the pair planned to do with the Shogun loot. She was uncertain how much was stolen. Those familiar with the market say grease can be used to make fuel — there are home, do-it-yourself kits on the Internet — or it can be sold. They say grease thefts are on the rise nationally due to the increasing value of the finished product. Grease also can go into animal feed. Since April, Lincoln police have learned more than they'd ever known about the grease market. "Up until recently," she said, "this was an unknown crime to us."

 **Related Stories** [4,000 Pounds Of Food Grease Missing](http://www.omaha.com/article/20110518/NEWS97/705199993)  
<http://www.omaha.com/article/20110518/NEWS97/705199993>

### AUSTRALIA, VICTORIA, MELBOURNE, MAY 19 2011. MAN DIES AFTER EXPOSURE TO MOLTEN PHENOL AT NUFARM FACTORY IN LAVERTON NORTH

matthew schulz & mark buttler

 **Watch the Video** <http://news.ninemsn.com.au/national/8251154/man-dies-after-chemical-exposure>



*Emergency service crews at the Nufarm site in Laverton where a man was killed*

A man has died from chemical exposure after a pipe carrying a toxic substance burst at a large factory in Melbourne's western suburbs. Four workmates desperately tried to revive the man in his mid-50s before paramedics and MFB officers arrived at the Nufarm farm chemicals factory in Laverton North, and donned protective gear and continued to perform CPR. But after suffering a cardiac arrest, following exposure to what is believe to be [molten phenol](#) he could not be revived. Police said the man was working on an exterior pipeline when the pipe connection failed, spraying him with the toxic chemical. He ingested a fatal amount of the acid-based solvent. His four workmates, all male, were taken to hospital to

be treated for exposure. Ambulance Victoria spokesman Paul Bentley said it appeared the man tried to wash the chemicals off in a shower, but collapsed following the incident about 11.15am. Nufarm is one of the world's biggest manufacturers of farm pesticides and other chemicals. MFB spokesman John Taylor said authorities were investigating whether the man was exposed after a pipe or other equipment exploded at the plant on Pipe Rd. "It appears he's gone to the showers to decontaminate, because they're very much aware of the dangers," Mr Taylor said. The three workmates are still being assessed for chemical exposure. WorkSafe is investigating the incident, while the MFB's scientific officer and dangerous goods unit also headed to the scene. All of the emergency services workers are expected to be decontaminated before leaving. Molten phenol is classed as an S6 poison, considered to have "moderate to high toxicity". Information about the chemical warns it is toxic through contact with the skin or if swallowed. It also causes burns and exposure risks serious damage to the eyes. The chemical is also flammable, and can give off toxic fumes while burning. Chemical safety advice is that anyone exposed to the chemical should use overalls, full face shield, elbow-length impervious gloves, splash apron and rubber boots. The chemical features in the film about a runaway train carrying the substance called *Unstoppable*. A report is expected to be prepared for the coroner. WorkSafe spokesman Michael Birt said the death was a grim reminder for employers and workers to "make their workplaces as safe as possible". He said there had been three workplace deaths this year.

<http://www.heraldsun.com.au/news/more-news/man-dies-after-chemical-exposure-at-laverton-north-factory/story-fn7x8me2-1226058858220>

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