



## Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network

### Release 2011 – 756 Newsy Stuff

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

**September 26 2011**



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#### PERU, LIMA, SEPTEMBER 18 2011. EXPLOSIONS AT PERU GAS TANK STORAGE

 **Watch the Video** <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-latin-america-14956065>

Firefighters battled a large fire after gas tanks exploded at a storage site in the capital city, Lima. The facility was located in a residential neighbourhood, but there were no reports of any injuries. The gas canisters are widely used in Peru for powering cookers.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-latin-america-14956065>

#### INDIA, GOA, PONDA, SEPTEMBER 18 2011. OIL REFINERY GUTTED IN FIRE AT KHANDEPAR-PONDA

[Marico's coconut oil refinery](#) at [Khandepar-Ponda](#) was gutted in a fire on Saturday evening. Company officials have claimed a loss of 2 lakh. Ponda fire station personnel doused the raging fire within two hours, before it could spread to the entire plant. "We received a call stating that fumes were emanating from the factory premises despite it being closed on Saturday," a fire station official said. Officials from the Ponda central fire station will inspect the gutted premises to ascertain the exact loss and cause of fire, a fire personnel told STOI.

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/goa/Oil-refinery-gutted-in-fire-at-Khandepar-Ponda/articleshow/10023707.cms>

#### CANADA, AB, CALGARY, SEPTEMBER 18 2011. CHEMICAL SPILL NETS \$185,000 FINE FOR IMPERIAL

Imperial Oil has been fined \$185,000 for spilling an anticorrosive agent into a settling pond connected to the fishbearing waters of the Mackenzie River system. On Thursday, the company pleaded guilty to releasing 3,000 litres of NALCO 7390, anti-corrosive chemical, through its pipeline system. Pius Rolheiser, spokesman for Imperial Oil, said the company accidentally used the wrong chemical, which wound up in a settling pond near its facilities in Norman Wells, N.W.T. Testing exposed the leak. The company then contacted the regulatory authorities. "Shoreline and aerial surveys at the time revealed no evidence of a detrimental impact," he said. The company was fined \$5,000 and forced to contribute an additional \$155,000 toward local conservation efforts. That money will be funnelled toward an Environmental Damages Fund that will be used to protect fish and habitat in the Sahtu region of the Northwest Territories. Rolheiser said Imperial Oil had used the chemical in error and had since treated the settling pond and switched to a different anti-corrosive compound. The company was also ordered to pay \$25,000 for violating the conditions of its water licence.

<http://www.calgaryherald.com/Chemical+spill+nets+fine+Imperial/5420341/story.html>

#### NIGERIA, RIVERS STATE, GOKANA, GOI, SEPTEMBER 18 2011. LIVING WITH OIL SPILL IN OGONILAND

*george onah*



*Oil spill.*

As the convoy of cars from Bodo town conveying journalists veered into the road leading to Goi community, the air became fetid. The air was so offensive that two members of the entourage made to throw up. The air had been poisoned by the smell of crude oil that had enveloped the river serving the five communities of Goi. The deeper the convoy rolled along the tarred road towards the river, the stronger the smell of the deadly spill. The stench, it was learnt, is worse at night when the ebbing river returns. As the vehicles brushed through the grasses that have grown into the road, few youths and elders stared at the group with gloomy faces. The road had obviously not been in full use because the spill had emptied the clan of its

population. None of the onlookers offered a smile. While mothers clutched their naked pale-looking babies, the old people and youths stood akimbo wearing long faces. The appearance of the rural folks reflected the extreme trauma the oil spill had programmed their lives. Minutes later, many deserted houses came into view. As we approached the inner part of Goi, we beheld a community under siege by a demonic crude oil. Most of the buildings were in a state of disrepair. The occupants have since fled because of the massive spill. Goi, said to be the oldest in the area, and with a population of nearly 60,000, is tucked on a quiet hill in Gokana Local Government Area of Rivers State. The Goi River, which has its source as Bonny River, flows through Opobo Channel and Bodo West, with tributaries scattered around the villages of the clan.

#### Damage

While examining the volume of destruction, it was observed that an area of the river, where spring water was gushing, had been covered by a mass of oil. The thick oil stretched all around the edges of the water which overlooks the swamp in the far

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end of the river. It was the community's source of drinking water. Clearly, aquatic life in the river had gone extinct. Paramount ruler of the clan, Mene Livinus Kobani, said the spring water used to accommodate crocodiles and boa, which the community embraced as its deities. According to him, "Mudskippers and periwinkles, which sprinkled along the shores of the river and welcomed visitors to the water, are all gone. With what has happened here, no one can fish in the next 50 years". Scores of carcasses of fishing canoes and other seafaring materials littered the shores of the river. Even all the farmland, where the waterfront slopes in the clan, had been made infertile. The exposed roots of coconut and palm trees whose leaves flutter as the ebbing water returns had started dying from the roots to the fronds. Spokesman of the land Alhaji Muhammad M. Kobani said four villages and scores of canoes in the clan were razed by a mystery fire when the spill spread round the area. The fire and the spill have, according to him, rendered over 30,000 of the communities inhabitants homeless. "Those who refused to move out are daily inflicted by various ailments. Because the people do not have any choice of drinking water now, they scoop whatever they can find including water polluted with benzene. As at last count, we have lost 15 people in one month. What is happening here is a gradual extinction of our people by oil spill". When Sunday Vanguard visited Bodo General Hospital, the medical doctor in charge refused to comment on the effect of the spill on the people. He said he would need authorisation of the state government to speak. But some patients, including pregnant women, old people and youths said they started experiencing pain and nausea as soon as the spill was noticed in their river, three years ago (2008). Many pregnant women were said to be miscarrying at an alarming rate. Mr. Barinua, a resident, said he had spent all his life savings catering for his sick family since the spill was noticed in the community. "We spend so much money on drinking water. If you have to spend so much on water alone, what about food, school fees, hospital bills and others? This oil spill has scattered the community and many families". Another resident, Mrs. Barigboma Williams, said she had lost three pregnancies in a row due to the "bad water, smell of oil every day and the general hardship" occasioned by the spill. "We cannot even relocate because of the financial implications. I used to farm and trade while my husband fished to sustain the family. But we have lost our sources of livelihood because of the spill".

#### Sources of Spill

Narrating the sources of their woes, Alhaji Kobani said the first spill in the area was in 2004 and was ignored by Shell Petroleum Development Company, SPDC, because they said it was sabotage. He said the spill of 2008, which has remained till date, was accepted by SPDC as system failure at Bomu Manifold – Trans Niger Pipeline. The spokesman explained that Goi has "always been at the receiving end of system failure and pipeline sabotage as claimed by Shell". The paramount ruler of the place, Mene Livinus Kobani, said he was taken aback that the UNEP report on the oil spill in Ogoniland did not mention Goi. Kobani said he was also surprised that the community has also not been involved in the distribution of drinking water by the Rivers State government.

#### Demands

Mene Kobani said, "Presently, there is no government or Shell presence in the community" and, for life to return to the area, they require a health centre. My people want to return to the river to fish as well as to the land to farm. So, Shell should clean up the area and carry out remediation. We want adequate compensation from Shell and we want the company to build schools here. Rivers State government should help us by supplying drinking water to this community". The lack of drinking water, he said, has contributed to the people leaving the area in droves. "The five sources of drinking water have been badly polluted. You see, only those who experience things would know the extent of pain. We are undergoing severe hardship in this community and the entire clan as a result of the oil spill here".

<http://www.vanguardngr.com/2011/09/living-with-oil-spill-in-ogoniland/>

#### SWEDEN, TJÖRN, SEPTEMBER 18 2011. OIL SPILL CLEAN-UP CONTINUES IN SWEDEN

karen hols



About 110 cubic metres of oil has been removed from Sweden's west coast following one of the largest oil spills to affect Sweden in years, according to the National Coast Guard (Kustbevakningen). The clean up efforts following the spill near Tjörn, in western Sweden, continued well into Saturday night resulting in the removal of 110,000 gallons of oil. Five coast guard ships, four smaller vessels, an airplane and about 50 coast guard personnel have been involved in the operation at the west coast's strait between Härön and Kyrkesund. Surveillance aircraft was sent up Sunday morning to get an overview of how much oil remains and the extent of its

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spread. "There is an awful lot," Jonas Åkerlund, operator with the Western Region's Coast Guard, told local newspaper Göteborgs Posten (GP). "As of now, the oil has not spread – it remains inside the booms at Härön. It appears we will have good weather today so we hope to remove a lot of the oil during the day." The oil slick tracks from a ship collision on September 10th off the Danish west coast. Gothenburg's Bird Centre (Göteborgs Fågelcentral) had received 15 oiled birds by Saturday afternoon but the extent of the damage to birds and other wildlife remains uncertain. "It is difficult to assess how many birds are affected. But presumably it can involve hundreds, perhaps up to a thousand. There may be injured birds on the islands and reefs that can only be reached by boat," Tommy Järås from the bird centre told GP. Several of the birds submitted to the centre were beyond salvation.

<http://www.thelocal.se/36210/20110918/>

#### **KENYA, NAIROBI, MUKURU SINAI, SEPTEMBER 18 2011. WERE SINAI LOCALS TIPPED OFF?**

▶ **Watch the Video** [Search for Bodies Continues in Mukuru Sinai](#)

▶ **Watch the Video** [Disaster looms large in Mukuru Sinai Slum](#)

▶ **Watch the Video** [The Lurking Danger In The Slums](#)

▶ **Watch the Video** [Disaster looms large in Mukuru Sinai Slum](#)



*A resident of Sinai slum in tears during the search for more victims of the fire tragedy in the Ngong River. Locals suspect some of their missing relatives and neighbours could have drowned as they escaped from the raging inferno. No body was recovered on Saturday as residents grapple with the search alone without government assistance.*

Resident of Sinai slum say presence of illegal fuel vendors who always have prior knowledge of imminent spillage is enough evidence There is a possibility that some residents of Sinai slum were expecting the petrol that swept through an open drain,

fuelling a fire that killed more than 100 people and left scores nursing serious burns on September 12. Survivors told the Sunday Nation that the presence of illegal petrol vendors at the scene before the fuel came surging through indicates that somebody had advance knowledge of what Kenya Pipeline Company (KPC) has termed as a spillage. The vendors are believed to have been among the people who perished in the fire. Enquiries indicate there could be a strong link between some residents, the illegal fuel vendors and some elements within KPC. According to Mr George Njoroge, who escaped with burnt arms, every few months, the drainage system discharges diesel and kerosene when KPC is cleaning fuel storage tanks.

#### **Fuel Vendors**

"Every time this happens, illegal fuel vendors who operate along Lunga Lunga road come to the slum to purchase the diesel from residents who scoop it from the drainage system. There is always advance information when this is going to happen. It was no different on Monday only this time, what came through was super petrol," he said. However, KPC, through its spokesperson Jancita Sekoh-Ochieng, discredited this version of events, saying the company has never made discharges into the drainage system. Ms Sekoh-Ochieng added that had this been the case, there should have been adverse reports made against the company. "We have always protected the environment. There are other companies that use the city council storm drainage system, and they use heavy fuels. For us we only transport fuels. It went into the drain because of this accident," she said. According to the residents, the seepages that they are used to come in trickles, and scooping the fuel is a tedious process that many people cannot be bothered to do.

#### **Past their Knees**

"What came through on Monday was a river of petrol. It was so much that you could dip in a 20-litre container into it. People who were standing in the drainage had fuel going way up past their knees," said Ms Njeri, a survivor. The huge volume of petrol makes residents doubt KPC's explanation that the spillage was a normal accident. "It is incredible that an ordinary spill could result in a raging river of petrol," said Mr Patrick Orege, another survivor. Some of the residents believe someone inside KPC could have deliberately triggered the spillage to cover up the theft. The reasoning is that once the fuel had been discharged into the drainage system, even petrol that may have been stolen would be accounted for together with what went into the river. PC managing director Selest Kilinda has maintained the spillage occurred because of a technical hitch in the by-pass between Nairobi-Mombasa and Nairobi-Eldoret pipelines. "The section of the pipeline was depressurised and emergency response initiated to the site after we had detected the spillage in the water drain," Mr Kilinda said. He added that by the time

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this was done, the spillage had already flowed to the drain leading to Mukuru-Sinai slums. The company said there was no burst pipe at Sinai or anywhere else, adding that the petrol reached the informal settlement via a City Council storm sewer in the vicinity. "There was no negligence or complicity on part of KPC. The issue of illegal settlements is multifaceted and requires joint action by various government agencies," KPC said in a statement. While KPC distances itself from spillages into the drainage system, Sinai residents have been consistent in their claims that diesel regularly trickles down through a manhole and into an open trench that empties into the Ngong River. As fate would have it, Sinai is located off Lunga Lunga Road, which is home to a large fuel syndicate in which millions of shillings change hands every day. Slum residents, therefore, have a ready market for any fuel they can lay their hands on.

#### Hawking at the Roadside

"When we get some fuel, we sell it to the vendors who know how to dispose of it. You can't just get fuel and start hawking at the roadside," Mr Njoroge said. Week-long investigations by the Sunday Nation have revealed that the vendors are part of an elaborate fuel black market that feeds many independent petrol stations around the country. This fuel is obtained in several ways. Petrol tankers normally retain some residue when they go to load a new consignment at KPC. The crews drain it out and sell it to the vendors for cash. The "washed fuel" is put in drums dispatched to various outlets at night. Some residents say residue left after when the pipeline is flushed out between transmission of diesel and petrol also enters the illegal market. According to our sources, there is big money to be made in the racket, and the brains behind it are wealthy people with plenty of disposable cash. Every player runs scores of vendors whose job it is to secure fuel for which they are paid a commission.

#### Immediate Cash

"There is immediate cash for any amount of fuel. Even if you brought petrol worth a million shillings, all it will take is a phone call. The 'boss' is never far away," said our source. In addition to the residue fuel from tankers, many long-distance truck drivers and their crews siphon fuel from their trucks; it also ends up in this black market. Residents of Sinai say they do not know any fuel vendor who lived in the slum. They point out that the vendors make enough money to live in better places. Opinion is divided as to how the fuel caught fire. While some residents claim it was ignited by a cigarette, others say it is possible fumes swept into houses where breakfast fires had been lit, sparking the explosion.

**Related Links** [Company admits its pipelines were faulty](#)

<http://www.nation.co.ke/News/Were+Sinai+locals+tipped+off/-/1056/1238134/-/okf5m1/-/>

#### MALTA, VALETTA, SEPTEMBER 18 2011. FIREWORKS INQUIRY 'CLOSE TO COMPLETION'



##### *The deadly explosion at Għarb.*

An inquiry board set up a year ago to investigate the cause of several fireworks factory blasts is still awaiting "important feedback" to conclude its work, according to the chemist heading the team. "The work is very close to completion but we're waiting for important feedback that would hopefully arrive within the next one to two weeks, following which the report of the inquiry can quickly be finished," Alfred Vella, from the University's Chemistry Department said. He did not give details on the type of feedback the board was waiting for. In July, Prof. Vella had said the board was expected to conclude its investigations by the end of summer after conducting tests

on explosive material and speaking to chemical importers and fireworks enthusiasts. The board also examined the findings of the magisterial inquiries into accidents that happened over the past 20 years to look for any patterns in the reported causes of explosion. A full festa season has passed since the board was set up and fireworks factories have already started gearing up for next year's production. "Unfortunately, it's hard to respect deadlines with great accuracy because one doesn't have control over all the variables," Prof. Vella said. The inquiry board was set by the Home Affairs Ministry after a massive explosion killed six people and razed a fireworks factory in the limits of Għarb in Gozo. The ministry had said at the time it expected the board to conclude the investigation in "the shortest time possible". The Għarb explosion was the second deadly accident in less than a month. In August last year, a man died when a fireworks factory exploded in the limits of Mosta. There were three other fireworks explosions in 2010, when three men died. The accidents had, among other things, raised doubts on the quality of the chemicals used in the manufacture of fireworks and the board was tasked to examine the matter, see what had caused the accidents and recommend measures to improve safety. The other board members are chemist Servolo Delicata, biologist Victor Axiak and veteran fireworks enthusiast Joe Theuma.

<http://www.timesofmalta.com/articles/view/20110917/local/Fireworks-inquiry-close-to-completion-.385010>

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#### USA, MD, BROOKLYN PARK, SEPTEMBER 19 2011. GASOLINE EXPLOSION LEAVES MAN WITH LIFE-THREATENING BURNS

*chris kaltenbach*

A gasoline explosion in the basement of a [Brooklyn Park](#) home left a man with life-threatening second- and third-degree burns, Anne Arundel County fire officials said Sunday. The explosion in the 100 block of Franklin Avenue was reported at 7:16 p.m. Saturday. The 41-year-old victim was taken to [Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center](#), department spokesman Capt. James Rostek said. No major damage to the house was reported, police said. Officials have not released the name of the victim or indicated what lead to the explosion. Rostek said the case has been turned over to fire investigators.

<http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/maryland/bs-md-briefs-explosion-20110918,0,5416597.story>

#### AUSTRALIA, VICTORIA, MELBOURNE, SEPTEMBER 19 2011. WORKSAFE SAFETY ALERT - PETROL POWERED PORTABLE GENERATORS >> CONTROLLING THE RISK OF STATIC ELECTRICITY WHEN REFUELLING PORTABLE GENERATOR

##### Background

Filling portable generators with petrol creates vapours that can be easily ignited by static electricity or other ignition sources. Workers can be killed or seriously injured if petrol ignites.

##### Dam Incident

Workers lining a dam with high density polyurethane (HDPE), a plastic, suffered burns when the portable generator they were refuelling ignited. The movement of the workers on the HDPE liner resulted in the generation of static electricity. The static electricity discharged (sparked) and ignited the petrol vapours released during the fuelling process.

##### Construction Site Incident

A 42-year-old worker sustained serious burns when the portable generator he was refuelling on the back of his ute caught fire. Petrol vapours generated by pouring or spillage during the refuelling process may have been ignited by static electricity or the hot components of the generator.

##### Control Measures

Before using a portable generator, consider the following:

- Is a petrol generator really necessary?
- Is there a source of mains power available?
- Is there a diesel generator available?

Where it is not practicable to use mains power or a diesel generator, a petrol generator may be used. When filling a portable generator consider the following measures:

- Use approved fuel containers and funnels to reduce the risk of generating static electricity while decanting petrol.
- Ensure suitable fire extinguishers are immediately accessible.
- Inform workers of the hazards and control measures required to make fuel decanting safe.
- Ensure portable generators are always placed on firm ground, in well-ventilated areas, away from heat and possible ignition sources.
- Do not fill generators in low lying areas where vapours could accumulate and increase the risk of ignition.
- Do not fill generators inside a vehicle, trailer or surface that prevents the discharge of static electricity such as on a plastic surface. In the case of the dam incident, the generator should have been positioned outside the dam to allow any residual static to discharge.
- Before filling the generator with fuel check the generator is sitting on firm ground or earth and the person filling touches the generator and fuel filling container to ensure any build up of static electricity can be dissipated before starting the filling operation.
- Ensure the container cap is replaced tightly on the filled generator before moving the generator.
- Allow the motor to cool and ensure the generator is in an upright position in a well-ventilated space before transporting

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### Further Information

- AS/NZS 2906 – Fuel containers – Portable – Plastics and metal
- AS/NZS 1940 – Storage and handling of flammable and combustible liquids
- Service stations – Filling portable containers with flammable liquids, WorkSafe Victoria
- Always refer to the operators manual for guidance.

### Disclaimer

This Alert contains information following WorkSafe's inquiries into the incident at the date of this report. The information contained in this report does not necessarily reflect the final outcome of WorkSafe's action with respect to this incident. WorkSafe does not warrant the information in this report is complete or up-to-date and does not accept any liability to any person for the information in this report or as to its use.

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### USA, MO, ADAIR CO, SEPTEMBER 19 2011. TANKER WRECKS ON HIGHWAY 6 IN ADAIR COUNTY



*The scene of a crash on Highway 6 in Adair County.*

An SUV and tanker truck carrying gasoline collided on Highway 6 west of Brashear caused road closures Sunday in Adair County. According to a Missouri State Highway Patrol crash report, a 2001 Hyundai SUV driven by Joseph W. Chatfield, 24, of LaBelle, crossed into the path of a 2010 International Tractor Trailer around 11 a.m. The report states Chatfield suffered from a medical condition. The tractor trailer, which was carrying gasoline, overturned and came to rest on its side on the south side of Highway 6, around five miles west of Brashear. Chatfield, who was wearing a seatbelt, sustained moderate injuries and was transported to Northeast Regional Medical Center by Adair County Ambulance. The driver of the tractor trailer, Patrick Cordes, 34, of Fieldon, Ill., was not injured, according to the report.

<http://www.kirksvilledailyexpress.com/news/x1804873571/Tanker-wrecks-on-Highway-6-in-Adair-County>

### EUROPE, SEPTEMBER 19 2011. : 8,866 POSSIBLE SPILLS WERE DETECTED & REPORTED BY FIRST GENERATION CLEANSEANET

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Prior to the launch of CleanSeaNet in 2007, the use of satellite images for pollution detection and identification of polluters was limited. Four years later, 72 authorised users in 24 coastal States are using the service for pollution monitoring operations. The European Maritime Agency (EMSA) has just published a report on CleanSeaNet First Generation Service, covering the period from 16 April 2007 to 31 January 2011. Some key figures from the operational results are given below:

- Over 8,000 satellite images have been delivered, an average of over 2,000 images per year;
- The service was based on 3 polar orbiting SAR satellites: the European Space Agency's ENVIAT, and the Canadian Space Agency's rADArSAT-1 and rADArSAT-2;
- Image coverage density varies from 1-2 images per month in some areas to more than 20 images per month in others, based on coverage requirements defined by the coastal States;
- Over 1,000 million km<sup>2</sup> were monitored. To cover the same surface area with aerial surveillance would have required more than 50,000 flight hours;
- 8,866 possible spills were detected and reported by CleanSeaNet;
- On average, the trend is a global reduction in the number of possible spills detected in the images: from 1.38 possible spills identified per image in 2008 to 1.0 in 2009 and to 0.75 in 2010;
- 2,828 satellite detections were checked on site of which 745 were confirmed as mineral oil or other substance;
- 50% of spills checked by aircraft within 3 hours of satellite acquisition were confirmed;
- Of the confirmed spills, 80% were mineral oil and 20% were other substances;
- CleanSeaNet provided emergency support for 10 accidental spills.

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#### Document

- [Report on CleanSeaNet First Generation 16 April 2007-31 January 2011 61 pages, includes reports on Member States' use of CleanSeaNet](http://www.emsa.europa.eu/)

<http://www.emsa.europa.eu/>

#### **USA, ILL, ROBINSON, SEPTEMBER 19 2011. MARATHON ILLINOIS REFINERY REPORTS CYANIDE RELEASE**

Marathon Petroleum Corp's 206,000 barrel per day Robinson, Illinois, refinery reported a hydrogen cyanide release on Friday during a stack test on a gasoline-producing fluidic catalytic cracking unit, according to a notice filed with pollution regulators. The refinery filed the initial notice of a continuous release of 49.68 pounds per day (22.5 kilograms per day) to state and federal pollution.

<http://af.reuters.com/article/commoditiesNews/idAFWEN833620110918>

#### **USA, LA, NEW ORLEANS, BARATARIA BAY, SEPTEMBER 19 2011. REPORTS OF CRUDE OIL IN BAYOU DUPONT**

The Coast Guard continues the response to a report of a crude oil discharge in Bayou Dupont and north Barataria Bay, Sunday. The Coast Guard has determined that approximately 2,016 gallons of oil have been recovered from the site of the oil discharge in Bayou Dupont, near Wilkinson Canal in Jefferson Parish. Response crews have secured the source of the first reported discharge and the second leak has ceased discharging. A third leak was discovered, Wednesday, near the southwest corner of the site and is no longer actively discharging. Containment boom has been placed around the leak by response crews. Coast Guard Sector New Orleans is coordinating response efforts with the Louisiana Oil Spill Coordinator's Office, Louisiana State Police, Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and Louisiana Department of Natural Resources and Jefferson Parish Department of Environmental Affairs. Watchstanders at Coast Guard Sector New Orleans received a report at 2:05 p.m., Sunday, from a Plaquemine's Parish operator, that a pipeline from a platform was leaking crude oil into Bayou Dupont. The platform and associated wellheads are classified as orphaned by LDNR with the last owner of record listed as Cedyco Corp. Under authority provided by the Federal Water Pollution Control Act, the Coast Guard issued an administrative order to Cedyco to secure the source of the discharge and to conduct clean-up operations. The Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund has been opened to provide monetary support for any federal clean-up organizations. The Coast Guard contracted Oil Mop, an oil spill removal organization, for clean-up operations. Approximately 13,080 feet of boom have been deployed to contain the oil and seven oil response boats, two skimmers and 59 personnel are on scene participating in the clean up. LDWF is on scene to assess any impacts to wildlife. There are currently no reports of impacts to wildlife. Other than the safety zone that was issued, there is no impact on fishing or recreational boating. All mariners are advised to avoid crossing boom or interfering with the response area and to avoid transiting through or fishing in any oiled areas. If oil sheen is spotted, it is requested that mariners report it to the National Response Center at 1-800-424-8802. The LADEQ does not expect there to be any effect on seafood. Coast Guard investigators have concluded that the sheens, oiled pelicans and tarballs reported this week in other parts of Barataria Bay are not related to this spill. The Coast Guard is investigating the cause of the incident.

<http://www.katc.com/news/reports-of-crude-oil-in-bayou-dupont/>

#### **USA, TN, UNION CO, SEPTEMBER 19 2011. BRIDGE CONTRACTOR CLEANING OIL SPILL ON NORRIS LAKE**

 **Watch the Video** <http://www.wbir.com/news/article/184488/2/Bridge-contractor-cleaning-oil-spill-on-Norris-Lake>



Britton Bridge LLC is working to clean up an oil spill in Norris Lake over the weekend. Crews working on the Highway 33 bridge inadvertently pumped the product into the water from a barge Saturday. Company spokesman John Van Mol said crews on the barge thought they were pumping water out of a compartment on the vessel when they realized it was a petroleum-based substance instead. Currently, they estimate less than five gallons spilled. Britton has contracted out the clean-up job. Boaters at nearby Beach Club Resort and Marina say the spill looks much larger than Britton's estimate. Bob Stewart owns a houseboat at the docks and says the clean up has been slow-going. "This isn't a little bit of cooking oil in your pool, or sun tan oil in your pool. There's a lot of

slick in the harbor," he said. Stewart expects the boats to sustain little damage, but he worries the docks could be in real

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trouble. He said the substance will eat away at styrofoam which keeps the dock afloat. "That's what worries up, because the owner-share spent a lot of money trying to make this a nice marina," he said. "If what's holding the catwalks up starts degrading, then we have a problem." Marina owners say tourism took a hit this weekend, too. "We had a full listing of boats rented for today out of the marina. They all cancelled," said co-owner Ned Bass. "People didn't want to put their kids in the water [swimming](#) around all this." Van Mol said crews expect to have everything cleaned up within 24 hours. Then work on the bridge will continue.

<http://www.wbir.com/news/article/184488/2/Bridge-contractor-cleaning-oil-spill-on-Norris-Lake>

### USA, MO, KIRKSVILLE, SEPTEMBER 19 2011. ETHANOL SPILL TEMPORARILY CLOSES HIGHWAY 6

*jackie kinealy*

One man was injured and Highway 6 was closed to traffic after a tractor trailer leaked hundred of gallons of ethanol when it overturned in an accident east of Kirksville yesterday. The driver of an SUV, 24-year-old Joseph Chatfield, sustained moderate injuries in the crash. He was traveling eastbound when he suffered from a medical condition that caused his vehicle to cross the lane divider and strike a tractor trailer carrying 8,000 gallons of ethanol. The driver of the truck, 34-year-old Patrick Cordes, did not sustain injuries in the collision, according to the crash report from the Missouri Highway Patrol. Workers at the scene were preparing to re-open the road around 11 p.m. Sunday. Michael Weiseman, a radio operator for the Missouri Highway Patrol, said he estimated that 500 gallons of fuel spilled from the trailer throughout the day. At 10 p.m. Sunday, Weiseman said that highway patrol and the Adair County Sheriff's Department were helping to pump the remaining fuel to another trailer. Weiseman said the highway patrol has responded to fuel spills in the past, but they are generally much smaller, between 50 to 100 gallons. Chatfield's condition at Northeast Regional Medical Center was unavailable Sunday night.

<http://www.trumanindex.com/breaking-news-ethanol-spill-temporarily-closes-highway-6-1.2597265>

### CHINA, BOHAI BAY, SEPTEMBER 20 2011. CHRONOLOGY-CONOCOPHILLIPS OIL SPILL IN CHINA'S BOHAI BAY

An oil spill from an offshore field operated by ConocoPhillips China, a subsidiary of Houston-based ConocoPhillips, lasted three-months and polluted 5,500 sq km of waters in China's Bohai Bay. China's marine authority has ordered ConocoPhillips to halt all operations at Penglai 19-3, China's largest offshore oilfield, after the company failed to seal leaks. The incident shows Chinese government is taking a tough line on industrial pollution. ConocoPhillips owns a 49 percent stake in the 168,000 barrels-per-day oilfield and acts as the operator, while China's top offshore oil and gas producer CNOOC Ltd has a 51 percent stake. Here are some key dates relating to the incident:

Date	Events
June 4	Sheen found near platform B of Penglai 19-3 oilfield
June 17	Oil and gas bubbles observed on sea surface near platform C of Penglai 19-3
June Late	Local media report the oil spill, while industry sources say oil leaks have been largely cleaned up
July 5	State Oceanic Administration (SOA) says oil spill has polluted 840 sq km of waters and ConocoPhillips is to blame for the accident
July 13	SOA orders ConocoPhillips to halt production at platform B and C. ConocoPhillips estimates 1,500-2,000 barrels of oil and oil-based mud had been leaked into the sea.
Late July	SOA asks ConocoPhillips to completely seal off oil spill sources by Aug. 31.
Aug 12	ConocoPhillips China says as much as 2,500 barrels of oil and oil-based mud leaked into the sea.
Aug 16	SOA North China Sea branch say to select lawyers to sue parties responsible for ecological damage.
Aug 19	ConocoPhillips China say more than 85 percent of oil-based mud from the spill has been recovered, has not found evidence of harm to marine life.
Aug 26	SOA says Bohai spill, which polluted 5,500 sq km of water, is the most serious marine ecological incident in China and ConocoPhillips will have to pay for it.
Aug 31	ConocoPhillips submits a report to SOA showing it had already sealed off the leaks ahead of the Aug. 31 deadline. The company estimates total amount of oil and mud from oil leaks at around 3,200 barrels.
Sept 2	SOA orders ConocoPhillips China to halt all operations at Penglai 19-3 oilfield as it failed to seal the leaks, saying the oil spill is "an accident caused by negligence".
Sept 6	ConocoPhillips say shutdown of Penglai 19-3 oilfield completed.

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- Sept 7 ConocoPhillips says will establish fund to benefit Bohai Bay. Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao says the government will strictly control new petrochemical projects around Bohai and establish a pre-warning mechanism for the bay's marine environment.
- Sept 10 State Administration of Work Safety asks for thorough safety checks between Sept. 10 and Dec 10 on all offshore oil exploration and production.

<http://af.reuters.com/article/energyOilNews/idAFL3E7K60J320110919>

### USA, MA, NEW BEDFORD, SEPTEMBER 19 2011. BOUCHARD SPILL REMEDIATION BEGINS WITH MEETINGS THIS WEEK

*steve urbon*

More than eight years after Bouchard Transportation Co. Barge No. 120 split open on a rock and disgorged 98,000 gallons of No. 6 fuel oil into Buzzards Bay, it is time to start talking about remediation, government officials say. With a \$6 million settlement in hand, the officially designated Natural Resources Damages Trustee Council has scheduled two public hearings this week. The public has been invited to join the process of preparing a restoration plan for the Massachusetts and Rhode Island shoreline affected by the April 27, 2003, spill. The council will decide whether to restore, replace or acquire new resources to mitigate the lingering damage caused by the spill. This settlement is in addition to settlements reached with property owners, and the trustee council will function in much the same way as the trustee council that was established for New Bedford Harbor remediation after PCB contamination. There has been considerable study already about the effects of the Bouchard spill. Immediately following the event, the trustees council — a designated group of people from various environmental agencies at the state and federal levels — started a systematic inventory of damage. Now it must be decided what can be done with the \$6 million to repair damage that is still evident. The opportunities will be broken down into several categories:

- Shoreline resources including tidal salt marshes and various types of shorelines.
- Aquatic resources including finfish, lobsters and river herring.
- The Ram Island bird sanctuary.
- Piping plovers.
- Loss of use, such as boating, shell fishing and access.
- The meetings will start with an hour of informal discussion, followed by a formal presentation and a question-and-answer session. The first meeting is Wednesday at the Massachusetts Maritime Academy, Admiral's Hall, in Buzzards Bay. The second is Thursday at the Heritage State Park Visitors Center on the Fall River waterfront near Battleship Cove.

<http://www.southcoasttoday.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20110919/NEWS/109190327/-1/NEWS10>

### USA, CO, WESTBROOK, SEPTEMBER 19 2011. OILFIELD FIRE BURNS 30 ACRES

According to the Colorado City Record: All three local fire departments responded to a pipeline fire last week two miles south of I-20 on Conaway Road. Westbrook Volunteer Fire Department received the call at 7:45 a.m. on Thursday morning, September 8 and asked for assistance from Colorado City and Loraine fire departments. A leak in the pipeline caused the fire which burned approximately 30 acres. "When it ignited, it flashed and burned 30 acres," Westbrook Fire Chief Brandon Hale said. "We got that contained pretty quick." Chevron representatives isolated the line and took steps to help put out the fire. "They shut off both ends of the pipeline and let it just burn out," Rufino Martinez, CCFVD chief said. "We had to cool the valves off until it burned itself out," Hale said. Members of the Howard County Sheriff's Office provided traffic control and the Snyder fire department sent a truck to assist. Colorado City sent six fire fighters and three trucks and Loraine sent one truck to assist the three trucks fielded by Westbrook.

[http://www.ktxs.com/big\\_country\\_news/29222698/detail.html](http://www.ktxs.com/big_country_news/29222698/detail.html)

### PHILIPPINES, PALAWAN, SEPTEMBER 20 2011. TANKER RAMS FISHING BOAT OFF PALAWAN; 2 MISSING

An unidentified tanker rammed and destroyed a fishing boat anchored off an island Palawan, leaving two fishermen missing. Lt. Cmdr. Algier Ricafrente, spokesman of the Philippine Coast Guard, said the boat was anchored off Tara Island when an unidentified tanker rammed it early Sunday. The fishermen were thrown overboard by the impact. Ricafrente said that the tanker disappeared in the darkness without a trace. The boat owner reported the incident to authorities. A coast guard search

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for the missing fishermen is under way. Sea accidents are common in the Philippine archipelago because of badly maintained boats and weak enforcement of safety regulations.

<http://www.philstar.com/Article.aspx?articleId=728821&publicationSubCategoryId=200>

### USA, LA, BATON ROUGE, SEPTEMBER 20 2011. SAFETY RISKS UNDERScoreD BY VIOLATIONS AT EXXONMOBIL REFINERY >> THOUGH VIOLATIONS WERE SERIOUS, FIXES NEED NOT BE IMMEDIATE

*alexandra duszak*



*An Exxon Mobile refinery in Bayton, Texas.*

As an investigation by the Center for Public Integrity's iWatch News has shown, oil refining is one of the country's most dangerous industries, where even seemingly small recurring events such as equipment breakdowns and fires can have fatal consequences. Yet an easily manipulated regulatory system allows companies to delay or avoid improvements. While the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration occasionally appears to take a tough stance, identifying perils and proposing fines, the fines are often small and can be appealed for long periods of time, delaying fixes. OSHA this week made public [its findings](#) at ExxonMobil's Baton Rouge refinery: Nearly two dozen safety violations, most of which the agency says presented a "substantial probability" of death or serious harm. The company failed

to adequately inspect equipment, analyze potential dangers and investigate past incidents – violations that could have resulted in a fire or explosion, according to OSHA. ExxonMobil has 15 days to respond to the OSHA citations, although a response does not necessarily mean the problems will be fixed immediately. The company also can contest the citations and accompanying penalties before the Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission, a process that could take years. "We hope that OSHA will reconsider its findings and withdraw a number of the citations," Exxon spokeswoman Rachael L. Moore told iWatch News ExxonMobil could receive a fine of \$126,000 for the violations at its Baton Rouge facility, which employs 2,100 people. The sum is barely a blip on the balance sheet for the oil giant, which posted a second-quarter profit of \$10.68 billion. Moore stressed the company's commitment to safety and said it would work closely with OSHA to meet performance standards. Exxon "is committed to ensuring that our facility operates safely at all times," she said, "and nothing is more important than the safety and health of our employees, our contractors and the people who live and work around our operations."

<http://www.iwatchnews.org/2011/09/19/6653/safety-risks-underscored-violations-exxonmobil-refinery>

### UK, WALES, ANGLESEY, SEPTEMBER 20 2011. TANKER AND FISHING TRAWLER COLLIDE OFF ANGLESEY COAST

*chris hogg*

A tanker and a fishing vessel have collided 20 miles west of the coast of Anglesey. The Ocean Lady tanker, bound for Milford Haven, collided with a fishing trawler called the Bridget Carmel at 3.16am this morning. Holyhead Coastguards were alerted to the incident after intercepting radio communications between the two vessels and the Holyhead lifeboat was dispatched. A Coastguard spokesman said: "The fishing vessel did sustain some damage but luckily it was not below the water line." There were no reported injuries as a result of the collision although the spokesman said the tanker failed to stop after the incident, despite a radio exchange between the two vessels. The spokesman also confirmed that a full investigation into the collision will take place later today.

<http://www.northwaleschronicle.co.uk/local/106329/tanker-and-fishing-trawler-collide-off-anglesey-coast.aspx>

### USA, N.Y, NEW YORK, SEPTEMBER 20 2011. EPA WARNS NY CITY RESIDENTS ABOUT DANGERS OF ILLEGAL PESTICIDES >> AGENCY SWEEP OF BUSINESSES REVEALS ILLEGAL PRODUCTS ARE EASY TO FIND

*john martin*

An investigation conducted last week by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency revealed that dangerous and illegal pesticides are widely available in New York City. Federal and state experts conducted 47 inspections and found 16 different types of illegal pesticides. The pesticides were not registered by EPA and consumers have no way of knowing how dangerous they are, because they were not subject to testing requirements or manufacturing controls that are required in the registration process. In all, nearly 350 illegal products were collected from the businesses in just three days. Store owners and vendors

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found with the illegal pesticides were given a warning and told why selling these products are dangerous and illegal. Separate but related criminal investigations conducted by EPA with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, the U.S. Attorney's Office, U.S. Customs, the U.S. Postal Service and the Manhattan District Attorney's office produced similar results and several charges were made against individuals last week, resulting in 12 arrests. "Illegal pesticides can make people sick, especially kids who might mistake them for candy," said EPA Regional Administrator Judith A. Enck. "Illegal pesticides can and do poison people. When businesses sell these products, they put their customers at risk. I encourage all New York City retailers to check their shelves and make sure all their pesticides have the required EPA labels. Consumers should be careful to look for the EPA registration number printed on product labels, and to follow the directions for use, storage and disposal. If a pesticide product does not have an EPA registration number, it should not be purchased." "The sale of illegal pesticides poses a direct threat to the health and safety of our community. In the cases charged by our Office, that threat was particularly imminent in the Chinatown neighborhood," said District Attorney Vance. "Some of these illegal products look and smell like cookie crumbs, making them dangerously tempting to children. Some of the other products are so toxic that one small vial can kill an adult male. It is my hope that our collective criminal and civil law enforcement actions will prevent future injury or death." "The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation has zero tolerance for the sale of illegal pesticides and we will continue law enforcement efforts such as these to ensure that the health of our communities is protected," stated Department of Environmental Conservation Regional Director Venetia Lannon. "We commend the EPA for their leadership, our partners at the Manhattan District Attorney's Office and our own Division of Law Enforcement for a successful sting operation." The inspections, which took place the week of September 12, targeted stores in neighborhoods in Brooklyn, Manhattan and Queens. Among the items confiscated were various rodenticides, mosquito repellants and mothballs. These items will be safely destroyed. Under federal pesticides law, all products sold in the United States that contain pesticides must be registered with EPA. Before a pesticide product is registered, the producer of the product must provide data from tests done according to EPA guidelines, to ensure that the product does not make people sick. EPA then examines the ingredients and the way in which the product will be used, and assesses a wide variety of potential human health and environmental effects associated with use of the product. Distributors and retailers are responsible for ensuring that all pesticides distributed and sold fully comply with the law. Pesticides have been linked to various forms of illnesses in humans, ranging from skin and eye irritation to cancer. Some pesticides may also affect the hormone or endocrine systems. In many situations, there may be non-chemical methods to control pests. EPA recommends considering and using these methods as part of an overall pest management strategy. EPA has created an illegal pesticides fact sheet in multiple languages, which it will be distributing to businesses and community organizations in the targeted neighborhoods. In a separate series of actions earlier this week, the U.S. Department of Justice charged two New York City-based individuals, who together had distributed and sold thousands of packages of illegal pesticides in recent months, with misdemeanor violations of federal pesticide laws. The Manhattan District Attorney's office also charged 10 retail sellers with selling dangerous and illegal pesticides and with reckless endangerment. Agents seized many more illegal pesticides from the individuals during their respective arrests

<http://www.epa.gov/region2/pesticides>

### **SWAZILAND, KAPHUNGA, SEPTEMBER 20 2011. FOUR MEN FOUND DRAINING PETROL FROM UNITRANS TRUCK**

*starsky mkhonta*

Four men were found siphoning petrol from a Unitrans tanker at KaMfishane near KaPhunga last Thursday. The four men, including the driver of the tanker, were found in an awkward position 'emptying' the tanker. It is said the tanker had parked closer to a twin cab vehicle with 17 plastic drums of 20 litres inside. All the containers were already filled up when the twin cab was about to drive off, only to be stopped by police from KaPhunga.

#### **Standing**

The police had acted on a tip off. Someone, who was passing by, is said to have noticed the Unitrans truck parked far away from the main road, with a group of four men standing nearby and another vehicle carrying plastic drums. This raised suspicions that they could be up to something. It is said the unidentified whistleblower then alerted the police through the 999 call free line and the KaPhunga Police acted swiftly. Indeed they caught the culprits on the act. The four are said to have cooperated with the police. They were asked if they were in possession of a document allowing them to be in possession of the quantity of the fuel in the drums loaded at the back of the twin cab. None one of them had a permit, and they were arrested. They were taken to the police station, where they were formally charged.

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#### Calculated

Unitrans' directors were called and arrived at the police station, where the truck was parked and the plastic drums were displayed. The directors calculated the fuel siphoned from the truck to be 340 litres and valued at E3 053. 20. The four are Samuel Dlamini (38) of Malandzela area under Chief Mabizo, Sipho Shongwe (31), Bheki Vilakati (27) and Lucky Mathunjwa (29) all from Nkonjwa under King Maja II. Police Deputy PRO Assistant Superintendent Stephen Dlamini said he was still crosschecking the information with the KaPhunga Police. "I am experiencing communication problems with the station," said Dlamini.

<http://www.observer.org.sz/index.php?news=29942>

#### USA, IA, WEBSTER CITY, SEPTEMBER 20 2011. HAZMAT TEAM REMOVES TRANSFORMERS FROM BOONE RIVER

*sandy mickelson*

Hazmat technicians pulled five discarded electrical transformers from the Boone River below the bridge on 210th Street just north of Webster City on Sunday. Region V Hazardous Materials Response Team Coordinator Bruce Ahrens said, "They were empty of the oil that's in them and the copper wire. We assume somebody stole them and discarded them after they took the copper out of the inside." The transformers were spotted by a man working in his yard near the river, Ahrens said. The river at that point is running only about 2 feet deep. Two Hazmat vehicles responded from the Fort Dodge Fire Department, he said. Others responding to the call were the Hamilton County Sheriff's Department, the Hamilton County emergency manager and a representative of the Iowa Department of Natural Resources. "We did remove all of them," Ahrens said. "We did absorb some oil that was on the sand bar. We put a boom across the river to catch some more oil. Once we did that, we removed the booms and we were done and had everything secured. The DNR will arrange for removal of the transformers and the booms. They're in a secure location now. Everything is secured and sealed. It definitely was a hazard to be removed."

<http://www.webstercitynews.com/page/content.detail/id/516392/Hazmat-team-removes-transformers-from-Boone-River.html?nav=5006>

#### USA, TX, HOUSTON, SEPTEMBER 20 2011. "ALL CLEAR" AFTER ETHYLENE LEAK FROM TEXAS STORAGE

- Leak at Mont Belvieu, key hub for natural gas liquids
- State highway closed for about an hour
- No exposures, no injuries, Targa Resources says

An ethylene leak, that temporarily closed a portion of a Texas highway near Houston, was "under control" late Monday morning, a Mont Belvieu police spokeswoman said. The leak of the petroleum product, which is used to make plastics and other chemicals, occurred at the Targa Resources storage and shipment center in Mont Belvieu, Texas. "They had some type of leak, but everything is under control," said the police spokeswoman, who identified the substance leaked as ethylene. "There were no exposures, no injuries, and the road was closed purely as a precaution," a Targa spokesman said just after midday. "All clear." Ethylene is a liquid when stored under pressure but becomes a colorless, nearly odorless gas under atmospheric conditions. Inhalation of large quantities can be fatal, experts say. The incident late Monday morning caused police to close about a one-mile-long stretch of Texas Highway 146 for about an hour, the spokeswoman said. It was reopened just before midday. Mont Belvieu is a huge storage and pipeline transshipment site, and a New York Mercantile Exchange pricing hub, for natural gas liquids. Most of the storage is done in underground salt caverns.

<http://af.reuters.com/article/energyOilNews/idAFS1E78I19F20110919>

#### USA, LA, BARATARIA BASIN, BAYOU DUPONT, SEPTEMBER 2011. EFFORTS CONTINUE TO CURTAIL OIL LEAKS FROM ABANDONED WELL IN LOUISIANA

The U.S. Coast Guard officers are continuing their efforts to curtail oil leaks from an abandoned oil well in a coastal basin in southeastern Louisiana since the leaks were reported on Sept.11. A contingent of 59 personnel have used about four kilometers of boom -- a kind of materials used for oil spill containment -- in catching the oil, with the help of other equipment, and had plugged one leak in the well head and worked to ensure the second leak and the third, which was discovered Wednesday, have stopped oil discharging, local media quoted sources from the U.S. Coast Guard as saying on Monday. More than 60 barrels of oil have been recovered from the site of the oil spills in the abandoned well, which is said to be owned by Houston-based Cedyco Corp. State officials said the oil spills didn't adversely affected the quality of seafood. Investigation over the cause of the spills is underway. In April last year, British oil giant BP's Macondo well ruptured after an oil rig exploded

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

**September 26 2011**



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and sank off the Louisiana coast, spewing up to 4.9 million barrels of oil into the Gulf of Mexico for nearly three months in the worst oil spill in the U.S. history.

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/world/2011-09/20/c\\_131147837.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/world/2011-09/20/c_131147837.htm)

#### SWEDEN, TJORN, SEPTEMBER 20 2011. SWEDEN HIT BY 'SUBSTANTIAL' OIL SPILL: COAST GUARD



*A small Swedish Coast Guard vessel sailing on a thick oil slick in Tjorn, western coast of Sweden, on September 17. A recent oil spill near the Sweden's southwest coast is the worst in the area in years and the clean up will take weeks, the Swedish coast guard said Sunday.*

A recent oil spill near the Sweden's southwest coast is the worst in the area in years and the clean up will take weeks, the Swedish coast guard said Sunday. Authorities first learnt of the spill on Thursday, but its magnitude was not immediately clear. "The accidental oil spill, on which the coast guard is working day and night in the Bohuslan [archipelago](#), is the most substantial in the southwest of Sweden in many years," a statement said. Coast guard official Birgitta Andersson said authorities suspect the petrol contaminated the sea

following a collision between two boats off Denmark's west coast on September 10. "We don't know where the oil came from, but that's probably it," she said, adding the oil was likely pushed to land by [strong winds](#). The clean up operation began Thursday night and will continue "for several weeks but most of the work will be completed in the coming days," she said, adding that decontaminating the affected beaches will likely take much longer. The coast guard has already collected more than 130 cubic metres (130,000 litres) from Sweden's southwest coast, according to the statement. The Gothenburg Post, citing a bird rescue official, reported up to 15 birds covered in petrol have already been discovered. "It is difficult to assess how many [birds](#) are affected, but we can estimate hundreds, perhaps a thousand," Tommy Jaeraas of a Swedish [bird rescue](#) centre was quoted as saying.

#### Related Links

- [Ship collision off Danish coast causes area's biggest oil in spill in years](#)
- [Sweden hit by 'substantial' oil spill: coast guard](#)
- [Sweden hit by 'substantial' oil spill: coast guard](#)

<http://www.physorg.com/news/2011-09-sweden-substantial-oil-coast.html>

#### AUSTRALIA, WEST AUSTRALIA, AUSTRALIND, SEPTEMBER 20 2011. MILLENNIUM CHEMICALS FINED OVER ACID SPILL

[map](#) [Australind 6233](#)

A company responsible for an acid spill at a chemical plant in the South West has been fined \$90,000. Millennium Inorganic Chemicals pleaded guilty in June to breaching the Dangerous Goods and Safety Act after a pipe carrying sulphuric acid exploded at its Australind plant in February last year. Four men were injured, including one man who suffered burns to 45 per cent of his body. Millennium was handed the \$90,000 fine and ordered to pay more than \$2,000 in costs.

#### Related Links [Acid explosion under investigation](#)

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2011-09-19/millennium-fined-over-burns/2906734>

#### UK OVERSEAS TERRITORY OF MONTSERRAT, BRADES, SEPTEMBER 20 2011. REGIONAL RAPID EXCHANGE SYSTEM FOR DANGEROUS GOODS BEING DEVELOPED



Montserrat is to be a part of a new alert system to notify other Caribbean nations of dangerous goods. Last Wednesday, representatives from government, private sector and non-profit groups met with Ioannis Sidiropoulos, an IT Consultant working with the Caribbean [Community](#) (CARICOM) to develop the Regional Rapid Exchange System. The system will cover non-food [products](#) Sidiropoulos explained that CARICOM wants to improve the level of consumer protection with regard to the safety of products. [The project](#) which began in May and ends November 15 is to develop the comprehensive

framework for the rapid exchange system for dangerous products, a computerised system to track notifications, and a training

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programme for all participating nations. The consultant said the goal is to create a system that all users are able to work with immediately and by which information can be exchanged quickly between authorities. It covers all non-food products excluding industrial products, consumer services, drugs and tobacco. In November, one person from each member state will participate in a train the trainers programme to be able to pass on knowledge of [the system](#) to colleagues. The Caribbean model, being called CARREX – CARICOM Rapid Exchange system is based on the European Rapid Exchange system (RAPEX) which has been in use for more than 30 years. The CARREX Secretariat will function as the central node with 15 national contact points, and the OECS Secretariat as an associated contact point. The 15 national networks will be made up of members from public administration bodies and institutions, economic operators and individual consumers and consumer organisations. According to Sidiropoulos, a product is [classified](#) as dangerous when you find out that although it has been manufactured and achieved certification it is proven to cause health or safety problems for consumers.

<http://www.sknvibes.com/news/newsdetails.cfm/42561>

### USA, OK, BLAINE CO, WATONGA, SEPTEMBER 20 2011. OIL RIG EXPLOSION ROCKS WATONGA

 **Watch the Video** [http://newsok.com/oil-rig-explosion-rocks-watonga/article/3605908?custom\\_click=headlines\\_widget](http://newsok.com/oil-rig-explosion-rocks-watonga/article/3605908?custom_click=headlines_widget)

 **Watch the Video** [http://www.kfor.com/news/local/kfor-watonga-oil-rig-explodes-in-flames-20110920\\_0.6552449.story](http://www.kfor.com/news/local/kfor-watonga-oil-rig-explodes-in-flames-20110920_0.6552449.story)



*An oil rig explosion near Watonga on Monday, Sept. 19, 2011.*

A dispatcher at the Blaine County sheriff's office said the burning oil rig is about two miles east and two miles south of town. The explosion occurred about 10:30 p.m. An explosion Monday night at a working oil rig rocked Watonga, authorities said, but they did not immediately know if anyone had been hurt. A dispatcher at [Blaine County](#) sheriff's office said the rig is about two miles east and two miles south of town. The explosion occurred about 10:30 p.m. Maria Slay, who was about three-quarters of a mile away, was able to take some photos of the flames shooting into the night sky. She said she heard four or five explosions. She said her husband is an oil field worker, and he said it sounded like a blowout. Slay said the explosion was at an oil drilling rig that had crews working around the clock. She did not know if anyone had been injured. The explosion occurred in a rural area of Blaine County.

About a half-dozen homes within a mile of the rig were evacuated, [Watonga Assistant Fire Chief Verlen Bills](#) said. About two dozen firefighters from Watonga and nearby communities are working to contain the blaze and evacuate homes until oil company representatives can arrive to extinguish the blaze, he said. The cause of the fire wasn't known late Monday, Bills said.

[http://newsok.com/oil-rig-explosion-rocks-watonga/article/3605908?custom\\_click=headlines\\_widget](http://newsok.com/oil-rig-explosion-rocks-watonga/article/3605908?custom_click=headlines_widget)

### NIGERIA, OGALE, SEPTEMBER 20 2011. OIL SPILL CONTAMINATES DRINKING WATER IN OGALE, ELEME



*An oil-contaminated stream in the area.*

For most Ogoni, the multinational oil giant, Shell is their number one enemy because of the strong impression they have that the operations of the oil giant in their area before it was halted only brought them misery, anguish and pain. The bitterness was evident as residents of Ogale community, Eleme spoke to the Vanguard Metro, VM, recently about the impact of benzene on their water. They said at the moment water under the soil in the area was contaminated with BTEX (Benzene agent) which is a major cause of cancer in humans. And this has made the water unfit for consumption. They traced this sad situation to oil spill from the operations of the Anglo-Dutch oil giant. "Our water has been polluted by benzene. When you fetch it you will see oil all over the water which makes it unfit for consumption. We can't even cook with it," one of them said. United Nations

Environment Programme, UNEP, corroborated the above in its report on Ogoni after it conducted a three-year environment assessment of the area to determine the degree of pollution from oil spill. According to its report, the ground water is contaminated with BTEX, Benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene and xylenes and PAHS – polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons. It added that with prolonged consumption of the water, the benzene agent is known to cause cancer in humans. The paramount ruler of

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Ogale community, Chief Bebe Okpabi regretted that several weeks after the UNEP report was released, Shell had not deemed it necessary to come to the aid of the community. He said the area was the second largest oil bearing community in Eleme Local Government Area with nine oil wells. Adding, also that the area has the largest manifold in West Africa. Meantime, the Rivers State government has swung into action to save residents of Ogale from further consumption of the cancerous water underneath its soil. In the last four weeks it had supplied over 2.6 million litres of potable water to the area. This was confirmed by the paramount ruler, Chief Okpabi who was full of gratitude to the state government when the Commissioner for Water Resources, Patricia Simon Hart came on a visit to assess the success of the emergency water intervention project to the area. She said the state government truck about 100,000 litres of water to the area daily. She explained that it was an interim measure put in place to immediately provide potable water to the area while effort was on to guarantee the people steady drinking water. The state government, according to the Commissioner, had concluded plans to rehabilitate an existing water station at Eleme, a nearby community to take care of the water needs of the community. She assured that when work on the water station was completed the people would have steady access to safe drinking water. But in the interim, according to her, the government would continue to truck water to the people until the rehabilitation work was completed. "GP tanks are positioned at strategic locations within the community to ensure easy access to the water by the community at the moment. The Rivers State Ministry of Water Resources has supplied over 2.6 million litres of potable water to the community with a minimum daily water supply of 100,000litres," she said The paramount ruler, Chief Okpabi who received the Commissioner at his palace graciously thanked the Governor for his timely response. He, however, appealed that the number of points where they drop water for the community on a daily basis be raised to 18 because of the population of the area which he placed at about 75,000, noting also that the community is made up of nine villages. "I want to say on a very light note that the points are inadequate, government should make it a minimum of 18 points. We thank the Governor for what he is doing," he said. He further enjoined the government to set up a water plant in the community. According to him, if the area relies on the water station from the neighbouring Eleme as being proposed by the government it would affect the psyche of residents of his community towards any gift of nature for human consumption in his community. "If government goes ahead to feed us with water from Eleme, a neighbouring town, it would make residents of this community to conclude that anything found here is not safe for consumption . So I appeal to the government to consider setting up the water plant it proposed as a permanent solution here in Ogale," he pleaded. Benzene is also found in water in Goi, Gokana Local Government Area. Residents of the community recently raised alarm on the issue, saying that several persons had been hospitalised of different ailments because they drank the water from underneath their land which has been contaminated by the dreaded benzene. Fear of Benzene in water from the ground level has become the beginning of wisdom in most parts of Ogoni area of Rivers State. The collective appeal from the area is that Shell, NNPC and government should act quickly to save lives presently being endangered by this Benzene agent in water known to cause cancer in humans.

<http://www.vanguardngr.com/2011/09/oil-spill-contaminates-drinking-water-in-ogale-eleme/>

#### CHINA, SHANGHAI, SEPTEMBER 20 2011. CONOCOPHILLIPS SETS UP 2ND CHINA OIL SPILL FUND

ConocoPhillips plans a new fund to address environmental problems in China's Bohai Bay, following harsh criticism from marine authorities and environmentalists over oil spills in the heavily polluted sea. The Houston-based company's announcement of the fund did not include any details regarding its size or specific uses. The company earlier said it would set up a separate fund to pay compensation for damage from the spills, which began in June in Penglai 19-3, China's largest oil field. Small seeps from the spills are continuing, according to a report Monday on the State Oceanic Administration's website. The government ordered ConocoPhillips China, which operates the Penglai 19-3 oil field with state-owned partner China National Offshore Oil Corp., to stop all production pending a full cleanup and review to ensure no more oil seeps into the sea. But last week it allowed Conoco to resume pumping of some oil meant to relieve pressure thought to be causing oil and drilling fluid to seep through faults from the offshore reservoir. Conoco said it was setting up the two oil spill funds "in recognition of its obligations to the people and the government of China, and as part of its commitment to a long term relationship with them." The company has contended that any oil still seeping from the wells, which have been sealed, is residual from the earlier spills, which released about 700 barrels of oil and 2,500 barrels of mineral oil-based drilling mud — used as a lubricant for drilling. But its earlier report that it had completely cleaned up and stopped the spills by a late August deadline was rejected by the authorities. It said it was continuing to sample and study the sea floor and clean up any residual seeps. "This work will continue until ConocoPhillips, CNOOC and Chinese authorities are satisfied that the cleanup is complete," it said.

<http://newsinfo.inquirer.net/62063/conocophillips-sets-up-2nd-china-oil-spill-fund-2>

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