



## Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network

### Release 2011 – 801 Newsy Stuff

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

**January 22 2012**



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#### VIETNAM, HO CHI MINH, JANUARY 12 2012. FOUR PETROL-TANKER DRIVERS SUSPENDED FOR ADULTERATING FUEL

*t.ngoc*



##### *The petrol adulteration process.*

Four drivers of gasoline transport tankers were suspended from their jobs for adulterating and stealing petrol before delivery to filling stations in Ho Chi Minh City, reported a Sai Gon Giai Phong Newspaper journalist. Drivers Vo Minh Toan, Vu Duc Thuan, Pham Anh Tuan and Cam Thanh Tam admitted to stealing about 15-20 liters of petrol per delivery trip. Driver Toan and his assistant Thuan were in charge of tanker No.57K-8275, belonging to the Vietnam National Petroleum Corporation (Petrolimex). It was learnt later that both would first drive the tanker to Hoang Quoc Viet Street where they extracted petrol from the tanker, mixed it with other cheaper substances and then drove the tanker to deliver the adulterated fuel to various filling stations managed by Petrolimex. The other two drivers of the Petrolimex Company were Tuan in charge of truck No.57K-7616 with Tam in charge of truck No.57K-2316. A representative of Petrolimex said that the company had asked the police to investigate the case thoroughly and asked its staff to conduct a detailed check of the entire process from the first stage to the last, whereby petrol reached consumers. Under-cover journalists investigating into the secret world of petrol adulteration and black marketing in Ho Chi Minh City discovered a murky world, which had possibly

been the cause of a spate of unexplained vehicular fires nationwide, causing much public concern. According to regulations, a 16,000 litre capacity gasoline tanker is only authorized to transport petroleum directly to petrol stations for sale to consumers. However, these four drivers made unscheduled stops, after collecting petrol from Nha Be depot, to steal and adulterate the petrol before delivery to filling stations. The journalists detected that the trucks stopping at Hoang Quoc Viet, Dao Tri and Huynh Tan Phat Streets in District 7 included tankers from major petroleum companies such as Vietnam National Petroleum Corporation (Petrolimex) and those hired by petrol stations. All of these unauthorized stops were not scheduled by companies, nor were activities here monitored by them.

<http://www.saigon-gpdaily.com.vn/Law/2012/1/99339/>

#### INDIA, ASSAM, GUWAHATI, JANUARY 11 2012. OIL REFINERY BLAST LEADS TO FIRE, 7 INJURED

Seven persons got burn injuries after explosions caused a major fire in the Indian Oil Corporation's Guwahati Refinery on Tuesday. The banned United Liberation Front of Asom (Ulfa) claimed responsibility for the blasts but refinery authorities attributed it to a technical snag. "A technical snag resulted in the fire in a tanker. The blaze spread immediately to the tanker's surroundings," refinery general manager Biswa Priya Das said. The Guwahati Refinery, with a production capacity of 1 million metric tonnes per annum, is India's oldest public sector refinery and is celebrating its golden jubilee (50 years). While fire tenders fought the flames, Ulfa took 22 minutes to claim responsibility for the blasts. "We bombed the refinery as part of our regular exercise against exploitation of Assam's natural resources by colonial India," said the outfit's spokesperson Arunodoi Dohotia. Targeting oil installations and pipelines has been a ritual for the Ulfa since the 1990s. Senior police officials said it was too early to believe the Ulfa claim. "The fire has been completely doused. We will be able to say what caused the blasts and fire in the refinery after investigation," inspector general of police (central-western range) GP Singh said.

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/India-news/Imphal/Oil-refinery-blast-leads-to-fire-7-injured/Article1-794347.aspx>

#### USA, TX, GALVESTON, JANUARY 12 2012. SUIT FILED OVER TOXIC RELEASE AT BP

*john suayan*

A local man who was working in the vicinity of BP's Texas City facility at the time of an alleged toxic release last year is pursuing legal action. Eric John Kingston claims in a lawsuit filed Dec. 7 in Galveston County Court at Law No. 1 that he "was exposed to significant amounts of toxic and noxious chemicals as well as benzene" for 40 days after a hydrogen compressor in the refinery's ultracracker unit went offline on Apr. 6, 2010. According to recent court documents, the defendant chose to send the gasses to a flare in response to the compressor being out of service. "BP did this, even though it knew the flaring process would be incomplete and allow chemicals to escape into the atmosphere," the suit says. "BP followed this illegal



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'procedure' until May 16, 2010, when the compressor was restarted." The suit asserts the defendant released at least 540,000 pounds of chemical and compounds, including 17,000 pounds of benzene, into the environment, stating the emissions were kept a secret from Texas City officials until they were completed. Kingston adds he had no opportunity to protect himself while performing his work duties at a nearby facility. "This action by BP caused the plaintiff to seek medical treatment for symptoms to include respiratory disorders, difficulty breathing, headaches, drowsiness, dizziness and burning eyes," the suit says. "BP because of its failure to alert the public of its release of chemicals into the environment exposed the plaintiff to a very punitive chemical release causing the plaintiff to miss days from work, in order to seek medical attention and rest from the toxic exposure." Kingston consequently seeks unspecified monetary damages and a jury trial. He is serving as his own counsel. The case has been assigned to Galveston County Court at Law No. 1 Judge John Grady. Cause No. 66,503

<http://www.setexasrecord.com/news/240833-suit-filed-over-toxic-release-at-bp>

### USA, IN, VALPARAISO, JANUARY 12 2012. TRAIN CRASH RESPONDERS SICKENED, LIKELY FROM FOOD THEY WERE SERVED

erin guerra

 [Photo Gallery Train Crash Responders Sickened](#)



Three westbound CSX trains crashed Friday afternoon, causing a massive fire and damage to passenger cars in the area of County Roads 600N and 500E in rural in Jackson Township in Indiana.

Numerous emergency workers who responded to a three-train crash in Northwest Indiana Friday became violently ill over the weekend, and authorities said it might have been the food served to them — and not the chemicals spilled in the crash — that sickened them. The crash caused chemicals including ethanol and diesel fuel to spill, and the diesel fed fires that sent up enough smoke for emergency personnel to evacuate an area one mile to the north and east of the crash site, northeast of Valparaiso. Porter County Health Department director of nursing Connie Rudd confirmed the department is investigating complaints of emergency workers getting sick. "It does not appear to be anything that came from the train," she said. Sgt.

Larry Laflower, who was spokesman for the Porter County sheriff's department at the crash site, was one of the people who got sick. He said he knew of many police officers and firefighters who had the same symptoms through Monday, and believes the common denominator was a meal the Red Cross served them as they responded to the wreck. Angie Fox, volunteer manager of the Porter County Red Cross, referred questions to the health department. Health Department administrator Keith Letta was noncommittal about the cause, noting he is aware of probably 20 people who became ill among more than 300 who were at the crash site. Rudd said the department began investigating chemicals or food poisoning as possible causes when it started receiving complaints Monday. So far, chemicals appear to have been ruled out as the cause of the vomiting and diarrhea.

<http://www.suntimes.com/news/metro/9934877-418/train-crash-responders-sickened-likely-from-food-they-were-served.html>

### AUSTRALIA, NEW SOUTH WALES, BOWRAVILLE, JANUARY 12 2012. TOXIC CHEMICAL SPILT AT BOWRAVILLE NORCO

Five houses in Bowraville were evacuated after a toxic chemical was spilt at Norco Rural Store on Carbin Street, on the afternoon of January 11. The spill was contained inside the building, but created a "vapour cloud", said acting captain of the Bowraville Fire Brigade Max Duncan. The chemical was a highly toxic pesticide. "Members of Fire and Rescue NSW attended with breathing apparatus and chemical spill suits on. They entered the building to clean up the spill, and it was placed in a HAZMAT recovery bin," Mr Duncan said. "Five residential houses were evacuated, as well as three of the staff at Norco. We closed down Carbin Street and set up a 100m exclusion zone (while clean up was underway)." The three Norco staff came into "minimal contact" with the pesticide, and were checked over by ambulance crews before being released. NSW Fire and Rescue NSW and HAZMAT crews involved in the clean-up were decontaminated on site. Specialised Hazmat crews from Coffs Harbour were called to the spill, along with Macksville and Bowraville fire brigades, police and ambulance.

<http://www.nambuccaguardian.com.au/news/local/news/general/toxic-chemical-spilt-at-bowraville-norco/2418058.aspx>



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#### USA, OK, EDMUND, JANUARY 12 2012. UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL OKLAHOMA SCIENCE BUILDING EVACUATED AFTER DISCOVERY OF HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE

tiffany gibson

 **Watch the Video** <http://www.koco.com/r/30188907/detail.html>



Edmond hazmat firefighters and the police bomb squad work Wednesday to remove picric acid, a potentially hazardous chemical, from a chemistry lab at the University of Central Oklahoma. The acid is a crystalline solid that can be detonated by extreme heat or electric charge.

Howell Hall at the University of Central Oklahoma in Edmond was evacuated Wednesday after an acid substance was discovered in a chemistry lab. The building was reopened about an hour later. [Adrienne Nobles](#), spokeswoman for the university, said a professor was doing inventory in a lab inside [Howell Hall](#) when he discovered picric acid, a crystalline solid that can be detonated by extreme heat or electric charge.

#### About the Acid

The acid is an explosive chemical compound and can cause severe poisoning if ingested, according to the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#). Nobles said hazmat firefighters and the Edmond police bomb squad were called to the scene to ensure the safety of students and faculty. Crews spent about an hour cleaning the building before allowing students back inside. According to the school's [Twitter](#) account, 2 p.m. classes in Howell Hall were canceled, but classes in other buildings were not interrupted. Classes inside the building resumed at 3 p.m. Wednesday.

<http://newsok.com/university-of-central-oklahoma-science-building-evacuated-after-discovery-of-hazardous-substance/article/3639456>

#### USA, CT, STRATFORD, JANUARY 12 2012. EPA: RAYMARK POLLUTION COULD EXTEND UNDER CONDOS

brittany lyte

A 500-acre pool of severely contaminated groundwater that's part of the Raymark Superfund site could extend beyond boundaries originally assigned to it by regulators. A federal agency wants to expand testing at the site to determine whether the groundwater pool -- which is tainted by suspected carcinogens and other toxins -- lies under a 68-unit condominium complex on Ferry Court. The Environmental Protection Agency is seeking permission from the homeowners association at Village Square Condominiums to install two to four groundwater monitoring wells on the property and test the indoor air quality. The issue is not that the groundwater pool is moving, but that there aren't enough wells for regulators to determine its precise footprint, said [Ron Jennings](#), a longtime EPA project manager for Raymark waste remediation. "The real objective here is to just be able to better delineate the outer edge of the plume," said Jennings. "We think we've got it, but it would be nice to have a higher level of confidence." More than 30 groundwater monitoring wells have been installed in the neighborhood adjacent to the complex. No additional wells have been installed since 2003, Jennings said. The groundwater here is not used for drinking. But when it's contaminated, it releases a toxic gas that permeates the soil and disperses into the air. The gas can enter homes through plumbing gaps and cracks in the foundation. When trapped within four walls, the toxins become concentrated and potentially hazardous to breathe. If the EPA finds contaminated groundwater beneath the condominiums, the property would likely be adopted into the Superfund program, Jennings said. "It worries me a little bit," said Bev Kochiss, a six-year resident, "but this place has been here a long time. I think it's going to be fine." Lehti Hutzell, who has lived at Village Square with her husband for 15 years, said she plans to vote in favor of the groundwater testing. "When I first moved here, I was aware of the Raymark Superfund site," said Hutzell, playfully swatting at Tokin, the intrepid house cat stretched across her shoulder blades. "But I saw the [Walmart](#) they built where the factory had been and I kind of assumed it has all been taken care of and capped. So this is a little surprise." Barbara Dugan, an eight-year resident, said she would rather see the EPA spend money on cleanup projects than well installations that could reduce her property value and might not be necessary. "What bothers me is that the EPA has said there is a one in a million chance (of a groundwater contamination issue on the property)," Dugan said. "If they're not worried, why are they trying to put in wells? Why 10 years later? If the chances of our health being affected is one in a million, why are they even bothering?" Dugan said she's also worried the condo complex could be adopted into the Superfund program if groundwater monitoring wells are installed on the property. But depending on



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whether the water beneath the complex is contaminated, Village Square could already be part of the Superfund site even though it hasn't been designated as such in the past, Jennings said. "If there is contaminated groundwater under the property, then it's part of the Superfund site; whether or not there's a well on the property has no bearing on its status as a Superfund site," Jennings said. "The groundwater doesn't stay in one place, so I don't know if I could say for certain that (the condominiums) are not part of the Superfund site. I don't know if I could say for certain without sitting down and looking at a map that any property is or is not part of it." Andrea Boissevain, director of the town [Health Department](#), said she doesn't think Village Square currently has Superfund status. But she said the more data regulators have about the whereabouts of the groundwater, the better. "It's a double-edged sword," she said. "You want to know, but if you find out there are levels of concern, you have to deal with what does that mean." If the project wins approval from homeowners, new wells would be installed over the course of about a week. Groundwater test results would be available about one or two months after installation, Jennings said. Indoor air sampling would take place over a 24-hour period and results would be available in about a week, hesaid. Jennings said the association is set to vote on whether to allow testing on the property at the end of the month.

<http://www.ctpost.com/news/article/EPA-Raymark-pollution-could-extend-under-condos-2460494.php>

### USA, HI, HONOLULU, JANUARY 12 2012. TESORO PLANS TO SELL HAWAII OPERATIONS INCLUDING KAPOLEI REFINERY AND 32 GAS STATIONS

 **Watch the Video** <http://www.kitv.com/r/30182081/detail.html>

 **Watch the Video** <http://www.hawaiinewsnow.com/story/16493598/tesoro-hawaii-up-for-sale>



Tesoro Corporation (NYSE: TSO) today announced its plan to sell its Hawaii operations, including the 94 thousand barrel per day (mbpd) Kapolei refinery, operations at 32 retail stations and all associated logistical assets. "Following a comprehensive analysis, we've determined that our business in Hawaii does not align with our strategic focus on the Mid-Continent and West Coast, and can provide greater value for a company that will invest in the business and employees," said Greg Goff, president and CEO of Tesoro. "While the Hawaii business is no longer in line with our vision for Tesoro's future, there is no question that it offers value for the right investor." The Kapolei refinery enjoys a favorable geographic position, excellent logistical infrastructure and an advantaged configuration that make it an

attractive business for interested buyers. The refinery yield is distillate-focused and is complementary to the on-island demand for utility, jet and military fuels. The facility has the necessary logistics to support product movements to and from the U.S. West Coast or Pacific Rim markets, and is well positioned for participation in existing State of Hawaii and U.S. Department of Defense renewable fuels projects. This is a fully integrated business which includes:

- Advantaged hydrocracking refinery
- Network of retail stations
- Deep draft single point mooring facility for crude and product movements
- Proprietary pipelines with connections to crucial business hubs such as Honolulu International Airport, the military fuel depot and Barbers Point inter island barge harbor
- Terminal access and barge operations to supply the major outlying islands

Tesoro Hawaii indicated its operations are focused on continuing to meet all its business commitments during the marketing and sales process. Tesoro Hawaii anticipates completing the sale no sooner than the second half of 2012, subject to regulatory and other approvals.

#### About Tesoro

Tesoro Corporation, a Fortune 150 company, is an independent refiner and marketer of petroleum products. Tesoro, through its subsidiaries, operates seven refineries in the western United States with a combined capacity of approximately 665,000 barrels per day. Tesoro's retail-marketing system includes nearly 1,200 branded retail stations, of which over 375 are company operated under the Tesoro®, Shell® and USA Gasoline™ brands.

<http://www.hawaii247.com/2012/01/10/tesoro-plans-to-sell-hawaii-operations-including-kapolei-refinery-and-32-gas-stations/>



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#### **USA, ARK, HOT SPRINGS CO, JANUARY 12 2012. CHEMICAL LEAK ON I-30 LEADS TO SHUTDOWN NEAR FRIENDSHIP**

A chemical leak in Hot Spring County leads to interstate shutdown. According to ADEM, a semi-truck tipped over on I-30 near Friendship, leaking a chemical known as n-propyl acetate. They've shut down both lanes around mile marker 86. ADEM does not know how long it will take to clean up. N-propyl acetate is a colorless, volatile solvent with an odor similar to acetone. It has solvency power for many natural and synthetic resins. It is miscible with many organic solvents.

<http://www.todaysthv.com/news/article/189829/2/Hazmat-spill-leads-to-interstate-shutdown-evacuation>

#### **USA, ILL, HOMER GLEN, JANUARY 12 2012. HOMER GLEN MAY BAN PRIVATE WELLS NEAR FORMER GAS LEAK SITE**

*michelle mullins*

Homer Glen is considering banning future private wells in an area near an underground gasoline leak that occurred eight years ago at a gas station at 143rd Street and Bell Road. Village officials are also urging those in the area of the gas leak who have private wells to get the water supply tested, although the chance of contamination is "very unlikely," according to the village's environmental consultant, Greg Michaud. The village will request that Shell Oil, the owner of the station, pay for any water testing in the area. One of the station's underground storage tanks began leaking about eight years ago, and the contaminants remain in the ground, Michaud told the village board Tuesday night. He said it appears the soil contamination has spread beyond the station property. As part of Shell's corrective plan with the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, it is asking the village board to pass an ordinance banning future private wells within a radius of an eighth-mile of the station. Michaud emphasized that the effects of the leak pose "no immediate risk to residents or the environment," but any excavation work in that area would have to take extra precautions. Some private wells are near that intersection. When the intersection of 143rd Street and Bell Road is widened in the near future, Homer Glen and Will County will ask Shell to remove the contaminated soil and clean up the area, Mayor Jim Daley said. "Nobody is letting Shell off the hook," Daley said. In other news, Homer Glen plans to apply for a grant to help protect its ash trees from the emerald ash borer beetle that has invaded the Chicago area and killed thousands of ash trees in recent years. If received, the grant of up to \$20,000 would help the village take an inventory of its ash trees and assess their health, said Trustee Margaret Sabo, chairman of the village board's environment committee. It's not known how many ash trees are in Homer Glen, she said.

<http://heraldnews.suntimes.com/news/9941441-418/homer-glen-may-ban-private-wells-near-former-gas-leak-site.html>

#### **AUSTRALIA, WESTERN AUSTRALIA, FORRESTFIELD, JANUARY 12 2012. EXPLOSIONS, FIRE AT FORRESTFIELD HOME**

A man is in hospital with serious burns after an exploding gas tank caused a fire at a house in Forrestfield yesterday afternoon. The man was repairing an LPG tank on a four wheel drive vehicle about 5pm when the car caught fire. Neighbours reported hearing several loud bangs at the Reynolds Road property. A fire spread throughout the double storey house, causing extensive damage. A second man was taken to hospital with minor injuries, but was discharged last night.

<http://www.inmycommunity.com.au/news-and-views/local-news/Explosions-fire-at-Forrestfield-home/7611642/>

#### **USA, CT, HARTFORD, JANUARY 12 2012. GAS STATIONS AT RISK AS STATE FACES DEADLINE TO SALVAGE ANTI-POLLUTION PROGRAM**

State government is facing a deadline this spring to resolve an \$80 million backlog in a fuel cleanup program -- or risk hundreds of gasoline stations going out of business. But a state Department of Energy and Environmental Protection spokesman said the department already is mobilizing industry representatives, state legislators and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to craft a long-term solution for the Underground Storage Tank Petroleum Cleanup Program. Plagued by backlogs stretching back nearly a decade, the program owes \$17 million in aid already approved for Connecticut businesses -- primarily gasoline stations -- that faced leaking underground tanks. The program also has \$81.6 million worth of backlogged applications that haven't been processed yet, DEEP spokesman Dennis Schain said. Typically, about 70 percent of the applications have been approved. If that ratio were to hold with the backlogged cases worth \$81.6 million, the state would likely have to pay another \$57 million in aid. Since Congress toughened regulation of leaking underground tanks in 1984, state cleanup programs became a crucial alternative nationwide for gasoline stations often unable to get private insurance to cover their liabilities. For more than two decades, Connecticut funded its cleanup assistance program by dedicating a portion of



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receipts from its wholesale fuel tax. Between 1990 and 2009 the state's transfer averaged \$9.7 million per year, according to budget records. As the last recession hit and state officials raided a host of programs to avoid deficits, the annual transfer was cancelled. In its place, legislators and former Gov. M. Jodi Reil allocated \$4.7 million for the program in 2010 and 2011. This past spring, Gov. [Dannel P. Malloy](#) and the legislature approved just [\\$1.3 million](#) for the program, both for the current year and for 2012-13. And of that \$1.3 million, only \$250,000 is available to help businesses, with the remainder to cover administrative costs. But federal officials in the EPA's Boston regional office [warned](#) state officials in July that it might stop recognizing the Connecticut program as an alternative to insurance, given the huge discrepancy between pending awards and applications, and available assistance funds. "At current funding levels, most owners and operators will not receive reimbursement in their lifetime," James T. Owens III, director of the EPA's Office of Site Remediation and Restoration, wrote to state Environmental Protection officials. "Clearly, in its current condition, the use of the state fund as a means of financial responsibility does not encourage -- or in some cases enable -- releases to be addressed promptly." Without federal endorsement of the state program, most stations -- particularly those with any history of tank leakage -- would be forced to self-insure, said Michael J. Fox, executive director of the Stamford-based Gasoline and Automotive Dealers Association of America. Fox, whose group represents more than a third of Connecticut's nearly 1,200 licensed gasoline stations, said he thinks close to half of all stations would have to close. Those large enough to self-insure would have to raise retail prices drastically. "I think the EPA is 100 percent dead serious about this issue," Fox added. "We have to deal with it this year." A follow-up letter from the EPA's Boston office in [September](#) pressed state officials for a solution by October. "EPA is taking this matter very seriously, and looks forward to working with the state to resolve the problem," the federal agency added Wednesday in a written statement. State officials have asked for more time, noting that the administration cannot dedicate new resources for the program unilaterally. The regular 2012 General Assembly session starts Feb. 8 and ends in early May. And both Schain and state legislators said Tuesday that it is clear Connecticut must work quickly toward a solution. Schain added that this process already is under way. "We are working closely with all interested parties, including the EPA, the UST (oversight) board, industry representatives, the legislature and the governor's office to fashion a solution to what is a complex issue," he said. "We believe good progress is being made." Eugene Guilford, director of the Independent Connecticut Petroleum Association, said the Malloy administration "has shown it thoroughly understands the necessity of putting this program back into a position where it can do what it is supposed to do." Key state legislators said Tuesday that they also believe they are facing a May deadline to resolve the backlog to the satisfaction of federal officials. Whether the solution lies with borrowing funds to a one-time infusion of cash, once again dedicating a portion of fuel tax revenues, or some combination, wasn't clear Tuesday. But Rep. [Patricia Wilitz](#), D-Guilford, House chairwoman of the Finance, Revenue and Bonding Committee, said she's confident lawmakers understand the need to act promptly. "I was rather appalled by the situation," she said. But she also noted that the current legislature and administration already have a good track record when it comes to unraveling fiscal problems created during the last recession. Malloy, who campaigned last fall against a growing trend of using fuel revenues for general budget purposes, worked with the legislature last spring to begin shifting fuel dollars back into transportation programs. They dedicated nearly \$227 million, or two-thirds of Connecticut's wholesale fuel tax receipts, for that purpose this fiscal year. Sen. [Edward Meyer](#), D-Branford, co-chairman of the Environment Committee, said he would like to see the underground storage tank program once again receive a regular share of these tax receipts as well. "If we go back to the previous system, we will know our environment will be better in the long run," he said. "But I am very much committed to dealing with it this year."

<http://www.ctmirror.org/story/15013/gas-stations-risk-state-faces-deadline-salvage-anti-pollution-program>

#### **BULGARIA, GABROVO, JANUARY 12 2012. WOMAN DIES IN EXPLOSION AT AMMO FACTORY IN BULGARIA'S GABROVO**



A 49-year-old woman died and a man was injured in an explosion at an ammunition factory in the Bulgarian town of Gabrovo on January 11 2011, a day after three people were injured in an explosion at an ammunition factory elsewhere in the country. The area around the Gabrovo factory was sealed off for investigation. Police said that there was no danger of a further explosion. The man's injuries were described as slight. He was being treated in hospital in Gabrovo. The factory is in a wooded area, away from the main part of the town. Darik Radio said that the ammunition factory was owned by a private company which was part foreign-owned. On January 10, three people were injured in an explosion at the Vazovski



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Mashinostroitelni Zavodi (VMZ) ammunition factory, the largest of its kind in Bulgaria. The three were treated in hospital and the incident was being investigated, reports said.

[This is the second incident with explosions in the last two days – three workers were injured Tuesday by an explosion at VMZ Sopot, Bulgaria's largest military factory.](http://www.sofiaecho.com/2012/01/11/1742554_woman-dies-in-explosion-at-ammo-factory-in-bulgarias-gabrovo)

[http://www.sofiaecho.com/2012/01/11/1742554\\_woman-dies-in-explosion-at-ammo-factory-in-bulgarias-gabrovo](http://www.sofiaecho.com/2012/01/11/1742554_woman-dies-in-explosion-at-ammo-factory-in-bulgarias-gabrovo)

### USA, OH, KETTERING, JANUARY 12 2012. EPA: PURSUIT OF GASOLINE DUMPER SPURS DEBATE OVER FUGITIVES LIST

john mcardle

*It wasn't hard to track down Jun Wang the first time he ran from the crime that would eventually land him on U.S. EPA's list of wanted fugitives. Wang fled after employees of a Kettering, Ohio, tire shop confronted him as he drained gasoline from his delivery truck into a storm sewer near their store on Nov. 18, 2003. Amid the commotion, the panicked Wang failed to replace his fuel-tank plug, and his truck trailed gasoline through a parking lot and through the streets of Kettering. He didn't replace the plug until his next food delivery stop. But it was too late. Authorities weren't far behind. Wang, a Chicago native, was eventually charged with one count of criminal violation of the Clean Water Act. Facing up to three years in prison and a quarter-million dollars in fines, he ran a second time.*

This time, he's been harder to track down. To aid in the ongoing search, EPA added Wang to its online database of environmental fugitives three years ago. Since it was created in 2008, EPA officials credit that list with helping nab a handful of eco-fugitives and informing the public about the agency's law enforcement work. But it has also increasingly become a rallying point for EPA critics who believe the agency has overstepped its original mission with its criminal enforcement efforts. Adrian Moore, the vice president of policy at the free-market Reason Foundation, questioned last week whether Wang's deeds truly warranted a criminal charge and potential three-year prison sentence. "That seems to me like a ticketable offense," Moore said in an interview. Wang's case is a perfect example, he said, of the unbridled expansion of criminal law into areas of society that were once overseen by regulatory enforcement and civil law. "Regulatory agencies like the idea of criminalization because it gives them more clout, it gives them more tools to use against offenders," Moore said. "It's a classic problem in government agencies, trying to do too many things." But one of the men who helped create the EPA fugitive list said last week that that effort, and EPA's larger criminal enforcement program, play a vital role in the agency's mission. "It's a specialty crime. ... And for certain types of crime you need to develop an expertise," said Mark Measer, who spent nearly two decades as an EPA special agent before retiring in 2010.

#### 'Stop What You're Doing!'

Ken Bontrager, the service manager at the Gallagher Tire Center in Kettering, remembers the day that Wang walked into his shop to borrow a 3/8-inch ratchet. Wang, a driver for the New Shun Shing International Trading Co., had accidentally filled up one of his delivery truck's two fuel tanks with gasoline. The truck ran on diesel. After making his delivery at a Chinese buffet restaurant in the shopping center, Wang parked over the storm drain in the alley behind Bontrager's tire shop and decided to take care of his fuel problem. Not that he told Bontrager or anyone else in the shop what he had in mind when he borrowed the ratchet. "He saw a golden opportunity with that drain there I guess," Bontrager recalled in an interview last week. "He went out there, squatted down there and popped the plug." The smell of gasoline that soon began rising from Gallagher Tire's floor drains tipped off shop employees as to what was happening out back. "We had no idea what he was going to do until we seen it then we started hollering at him," Bontrager said. "At first he said 'Wait!' and we said 'No! No wait! Stop doing what you're doing!' And that's when he jumped in the truck and took off." Bontrager remembers Wang's truck barreling down the alley with gas pouring from the open fuel drain. "He knew that he was gonna be stopped," Bontrager said. "Whatever it was gonna take, I'm sure the guys were gonna stop him." According to a release from the U.S. Attorney's office when his indictment was announced, Wang had drained about 32 gallons of gasoline into the storm drain before he was stopped. The Kettering Fire Department and Dayton area HAZMAT crews had to be called to clean up the fuel, some of which drained it into Little Beaver Creek, a tributary of the Ohio River that is classified as a national wild and scenic river. "It is a federal crime to dump hazardous materials into storm drains since they often drain directly into our water supply," said Gregory Lockhart, U.S. attorney for the Southern District of Ohio, in a July 2004 release. "Only prompt action by the tire shop employees and the first responders from the Kettering Fire Department and area HAZMAT crews prevented further environmental damage."



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#### 'Trivializing' Most-Wanted Lists?

Because Wang fled, the case never made it past indictment, and nearly eight years later he remains on the lam. Investigators from U.S. EPA's Office of Criminal Enforcement, Forensics and Training (OCEFT) -- the agency's criminal investigative arm -- say Wang may be living somewhere near Shunyang in northeast China. That information, along with a physical description of Wang and an EPA-produced wanted poster all appear on EPA's fugitive database. But in recent months some wonder whether that list, and the ongoing search for fugitives like Wang, is really the best use of EPA resources. Last fall, former Justice Department counsel and Federal Election Commission appointee Hans von Spakovsky blasted EPA's fugitive list in a blog post for the National Review Online. Spakovsky expressed concern over how Congress has, over the years, given federal regulatory agencies such as EPA the ability to criminalize conduct. "There is no doubt that there are occasionally serious violations of our environmental laws that should be pursued by the federal government," wrote Spakovsky, who now works as the manager of the civil justice reform initiative at the conservative think tank, Heritage Foundation. "But creating a most-wanted list for these types of environmental violations, something that the FBI has used to hunt down truly dangerous criminals ... trivializes the seriousness of criminal most-wanted lists and makes a mockery of environmental law." "It also makes the EPA look like an out-of-control federal agency that should be featured in National Lampoon or The Onion," he added. Today the fugitive list includes 18 individuals whose alleged crimes span a broad range of environmental wrongdoings. Some are charged with building entire enterprises around skirting environmental laws in order to line their pockets. One is charged in connection with the transportation of hazardous materials that blew up on the 1996 ValuJet flight that crashed in the Everglades near Miami ([Greenwire](#), May 1, 2011). And then there is Wang, who's [smiling mug shot](#) stands out as the friendliest face on EPA's fugitive list. The Reason Foundation's Moore questioned whether a technocratic agency like EPA is equipped to deal with the tricky tradeoffs and judgment calls that often come with criminal law enforcement and wondered whether the case would have risen to that level if the FBI had been allowed to look into the matter and exercise its judgment. "There's no need for environmental law enforcement; there's need for law enforcement," Moore said. "EPA should stick to environmental protection and if they have an issue that crosses into criminal they should partner with those specific federal agencies," which specialize in criminal law enforcement. Paul Larkin, a senior legal fellow who manages the Heritage Foundation's overcriminalization project, told [Greenwire](#) last week that he agreed that the FBI would be a better choice for investigating environmental crimes. The acknowledgment is notable coming from Larkin, who spent six years as an agent in EPA's office of criminal enforcement.

#### A Question of Resources

OCEFT was not an original part of EPA when it was formed in 1970 and the agency had no criminal enforcement functions in its early years. In fact, it wasn't until 1976 that the first extensive guidelines for proceeding with criminal cases were issued by EPA. A decade later, EPA's investigative staff still had fewer than three dozen agents. Today, OCEFT is made up of fewer than 400 staff, including about 200 special agents and 125 forensic specialists and scientists who work at the National Enforcement Investigations Center in Colorado. But despite that growth, OCEFT employees still represent 2 percent of EPA's total staff of around 17,000. Larkin said the FBI simply has more bodies and more equipment that could be employed more effectively when serious environmental crimes need to be investigated. The FBI "is an agency that is committed to law enforcement, that's its mission," he said. "The EPA has very different missions, one of them is environmental, one is scientific, one is regulatory, one is to help people. Criminal enforcement was not seen by anybody as being a really important mission, although they'll deny that." He added that EPA's criminal division was chronically underfunded during his time there. Others have criticized the program for high attrition rates and poor management in recent years. In 2010, an EPA-sponsored independent review of the office's personnel practices and a survey conducted by the Office of Personnel Management painted a picture of an office rife with management challenges and low moral ([Greenwire](#), March 2, 2011). A 2010 survey of criminal enforcement division employees that was conducted by the outside group showed that 43 percent believed that the headquarter's managers do not provide sufficient resources -- including time, training and dollars -- to promote improvement throughout the organization. Still, Larkin said he is certain EPA's office of criminal enforcement is not going away anytime soon. "I think EPA likes to be in a position where they can say 'Agree to this civil penalty or we'll sick our big brother on you,'" he said. "I don't think that's why it was initially formed, but I think that's what it has become."

#### 'Timing is Everything'

As EPA's fugitive list hit its third anniversary last month, the agency can count five members who have been captured and two others who have turned themselves in. Measer, who was part of the EPA working group that developed the fugitives list in 2008 and now works at the Burnside Environmental Group in Washington, D.C., said that the effort is a success. He also is



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skeptical that EPA's criminal efforts would be as successful if the entire effort was simply shipped over to the FBI. Just as FBI agents develop expertise in counterterrorism or bank robbery investigations, Measer said, EPA agents know what to look for when investigating Clean Water Act or Clean Air Act crimes. During his years at the agency, Measer said he met a few FBI officials who showed an interest in environmental crimes, but it was never a top priority for the bureau. And in the wake of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, environmental crimes fell off the FBI's radar. "They pretty much withdrew from environmental crimes after 9/11 when they refocused their priorities," he said. As for the recent criticism over the fugitives website itself, Grant Nakayama, a former EPA assistant administrator for the Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance who first proposed creating a list in 2006, wonders if the concern might be more about politics than concerns about the criminal justice system. "Timing is everything," said Nakayama, who is now a partner with Kirkland & Ellis in Washington, D.C. "When we began the list it was under an administration where EPA was being criticized for not doing enough. The website has been around for a while and it has had success in catching fugitives. It's interesting that people want to go after it now for being too aggressive." He added that there will always be people who are concerned about EPA's enforcement efforts. "But the enforcement office just takes the rules and enforces them. It's probably the least political office" at EPA, he said. Mears said he also believes that criticism of EPA's criminal program might have more to do with politics than anything else. "I think some people in certain foundations and organizations and of certain political ilk don't want to make these business people into criminals," he said. "They don't want to label the vice president of some corporation a bad person. But these were people who knew what the law was and to save money they chose to break the law."

#### 'It's a Big World'

Back in Kettering, Ohio, Ken Bontrager doesn't care much about the politics of EPA's criminal enforcement program. He sees the Wang incident as a case of a guy trying to fix a costly mistake by doing something he knew was wrong. And he shouldn't get away with it just because he decided to run, Bontrager said. "I think it warrants whatever it takes to get him. Sure," he said. But, he also acknowledged that that may be easier said than done. "It's a big world," he said. "There's a lot of places to hide."

#### Special Report



The EPA Fugitives list has served an important function for the criminal enforcement program besides simply getting the word out about environmental fugitives. It has also become an useful PR tool for the agency. In this report, E&E looks at EPA's armed law enforcement department as well as some of the criminals who are currently on the lam. [Click here](#) to view the report.

<http://www.eenews.net/public/Greenwire/2012/01/11/1>

#### USA, PA, CANTON TWP, JANUARY 12 2012. POLICE PROBE HYDRAULIC FRACTURING FLUID SPILL IN BRADFORD COUNTY >> AS MANY OF 20,000 GALLONS POUR OUT OF TANK

[Watch the Video Authorities Investigating Suspicious Spill](#)

[Watch the Video Criminal Mischief in Bradford County Fracking Spill](#)



Pennsylvania State Police, the state Department of Environmental Protection and Talisman Energy are investigating the Tuesday morning spill of up to 20,000 gallons of wastewater created by the hydraulic fracturing process at a natural gas well pad in Bradford County. The actual volume of the spill at the well on Ayres Road in Canton Township was unknown Tuesday afternoon because the company had not yet finished measuring it, said Natalie Cox, a spokeswoman for Talisman Energy. State Police in Towanda are investigating the spill as criminal mischief. Someone intentionally tampered with a tank on the well pad between midnight and 8:30 a.m. Tuesday to cause the spill, according to a police report. Cox could not confirm the cause of the spill because it is still under investigation. The spilled liquid is called production brine or "flow back water," Cox said, explaining that it's "the water that comes back after the hydraulic fracturing is complete." It flows to the surface after

water and hydraulic fracturing fluid are injected into the well, she said. "It comes back with rock chippings and pieces of the earth in with it," Cox said, noting that it's similar to what was dumped Dec. 1 on state game land in the county. Josh Foster, 27,



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of Temple, Ga., is charged in the December dumping, in which 800 gallons of sludge were found on Pennsylvania Game Land 219 in Warren Township, Bradford County. He is scheduled to appear Jan. 17 in District Court. The brine that leaked Tuesday was released into an area designed to contain spills, which Cox described as a shallow hole with a "deep plastic liner." Cox didn't know how thick the liner is, but said it's the kind of liner that is standard in the energy industry. The spill was vacuumed out of the containment area and put back in the tank, she said. A DEP spokesman could not provide additional information about the spill Tuesday. Police are asking that anyone with information on the incident call them at (570) 265-2186.

<http://www.stargazette.com/article/20120110/NEWS01/201100344/Police-probe-hydraulic-fracturing-fluid-spill-Bradford-County?odyssey=tab%7Ctopnews%7Ctext%7CFRONTPAGE>

### **SOUTH AFRICA, JOHANNESBURG, JANUARY 12 2012. WORLD'S MOST EXPENSIVE FUEL ARRIVES IN GAUTENG >> PIPED FROM DURBAN TO GAUTENG, FIRST FEW LITRES "COST" R23.4BN.**



*Transnet chief executive Brian Molefe and the parastatals chairman, Mafika Mkhwanazi, officially open the Gauteng terminal of the R23 billion pipeline at Jameson Park.*

Transnet CEO, Brian Molefe on Wednesday tapped the first few litres of fuel from the new R23.4bn multi-product petroleum pipeline from Durban to Gauteng. The pipeline, Transnet's biggest single investment so far, was finished on time, if not on budget. It is a masterpiece of engineering that is largely invisible, as it is buried. Molefe said it was a "legacy project that has an expected life of more than 80 years, probably 100 years, and should ensure that Gauteng does not run out of fuel soon". The line consists of 550km of pipe, three pump stations (at Durban, Maritzburg and at the base of Van Reenen's Pass) a huge tank farm and "distribution centre" with 160km of pipe at Jameson Park near Heidelberg. It will be powered by Eskom but

there are stand-by generators of 3.5 MW at each of the pump stations just in case. The decision to build dates back ten years when it became apparent that the old Durban-Johannesburg pipeline was inadequate and corroded. Initially a 16-inch line was proposed but the present government ordered the gauge to be expanded to 24 inches. The new line brings to 3 800km the distance covered by Transnet Pipelines. The line had to be built under 49 rivers, including the Vaal, which had to be temporarily dammed after two wet years in the interior. It "sensitively" crossed 481 wetlands. At Natalspuit, out of consideration for a large wetland, special construction was undertaken. The pipeline was concrete coated in situ to overcome buoyancy. The concrete-coated line was then pulled over a 1km section before being sunk into a specially prepared trench at the bottom. A 1.5km section was passed under the Uncle Charlie's spaghetti junction without disturbing traffic at all. The project was delivered in spite of heavy rains and copious snows. While Molefe, as CEO, did the honours today, he has been aboard Transnet for a short time. Charl Möller, CEO of Transnet Pipelines has worked there since 1966. He is especially proud of his new baby. Neville Eve was the main Transnet supervisor of the project. Group Five and Spiecapag were the main contractors, though many of SA's best engineering firms were also involved. Hall Longmore made the pipe, Arup and WorleyParsons were project managers. Some 75% of the project by cost was locally supplied. Completion will aggravate the work shortage in SA's construction industry. It was phase one that was opened today. There is still some work to be done to complete tank farms in Gauteng but Molefe was confident there will be no further cost escalations. Safety and care of the environment added significantly to cost. On most pipelines, only 10% of welds are inspected. On this 100% were X-rayed. "Intelligent pigs" travel up and down the pipeline monitoring the pipeline wall, pressures and picking up leaks before they occur. Less intelligent pigs clean the pipe walls and separate different types of product in the line. Each wetland was crossed with special care. At the terminal, special provision was made for the rare Giant African Bullfrog. The tank farms are equipped with containment dams and multi-million foam-based fire fighting equipment. The probability of fire, said Eve, is miniscule as it is designed out of the system. Initially the system will carry only diesel but eventually it will carry five different products. Transnet is on a roll. On Monday it took delivery of 43 GE locos built at Transnet's own Koedoespoort workshops. This week Molefe will sign a contract for the construction of a new railway line through Swaziland to shorten the distance of the Richards Bay coal line. Some statistics:

- Km of pipeline: 550 of 24 inch pipe from Durban to Gauteng, 160km of 16 inch pipe inside Gauteng
- Altitude gained: 1 600m at Van Reenen's Pass, about 1500m at terminal



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- Capacity: 3 ml a day, which theoretically could replace 1 000 road tankers a day
- Pressure in pipe: 100 bars
- Litres of "dead stock" in the system at any one time: 148km
- Speed of fuel movement: 6km/h
- Km of wetland traversed: 100km
- Jobs generated: 600 permanent, 12 000 during construction
- Artisan trained during construction: 2 100

<http://www.moneyweb.co.za/mw/view/mw/en/page295043?oid=559389&sn=2009+Detail>

#### USA, MD, PRINCESS ANNE, JANUARY 12 2012. TANKER BURSTS INTO FLAMES ON ROUTE 13

 **Watch the Video** [Fuel Truck Explodes in Princess Anne](#)



Princess Anne firefighters work to control a truckfire on Route 13 near the intersection of Mount Vernon Road. The truck was hauling kerosene when it was involved in an accident and caught fire. No one was injured in the accident, which required a rescue.

Nearby businesses were evacuated and a section of northbound Route 13 was closed for several hours Tuesday after a truck loaded with kerosene flipped over and burst into flames. The Delmarva Oil tanker truck was northbound on Route 13 when a car headed east on Mount Vernon Road failed to stop at a red light and pulled into the truck's path at about 2:30 p.m., said Princess Anne Police Chief Scott Keller. The truck driver swerved to avoid a collision, which caused the truck

to flip. The driver was able to get out before it burst into flames, he said. "That thing was a pretty good ball of fire when we got there," Keller said. Witnesses at the scene pushed the car and its driver, who was still inside, away from the burning truck. They also carried the truck driver further away from the fire after he collapsed in the road. Both drivers were conscious and taken to Peninsula Regional Medical Center. Keller said he was unsure of their conditions Tuesday evening. A nearby BB&T Bank and Hardee's restaurant -- the two buildings closest to the scene -- were evacuated during the fire as a precaution. "We didn't want anybody in the buildings," Keller said. Police and fire officials also closed down a section of northbound Route 13 for several hours while they extinguished the fire and cleaned up the scene. Highway traffic was rerouted through town, causing backups along the two-lane Somerset Avenue into the evening. State environmental and highway personnel also were on the scene assessing the damages Keller said.

<http://www.delmarvanow.com/article/20120111/NEWS01/201110371>

#### USA, LA, COUSHATTA, JANUARY 12 2012. COUSHATTA PROPANE TANKER TRUCK FIRE UPDATE, ONE MAN HURT

 **Watch the Video** <http://www.ktbs.com/news/30179622/detail.html>

A dangerous situation has been quelled at the intersection of LA 514 and Springhill-Church with a propane tanker truck fire on a gas drilling site in Coshatta. After a small explosion, Firefighters and Hazardous Materials officers were able to contain the fire which is located on a natural gas drilling rig site in Coshatta. According to a witness, there was a loud explosion and then people started scattering. The first explosion was followed by three or four more blasts. Earlier, Red River Sheriff's Department has ordered an evacuation for a half mile to a mile from the scene. Currently, the Sheriff's Department is recommending evacuation for only Springhill-Church Road. The Sheriff's Department said a man has been injured and taken to LSU Hospital for treatment. His injuries are said to be non-life threatening. Stay with ktbs.com for updates.

<http://www.ktbs.com/news/30179622/detail.html>

#### SCOTLAND, BANFFSHIRE, JANUARY 12 2012. MAN DROWNS IN WHISKY VAT

*gaby leslie*

A distillery employee took his own life by drowning himself in a vat of water and yeast at a whisky plant in Scotland. Father-of-two Brian Ettles, 46, climbed up the 50,000-litre tank before reportedly jumping into the container known as a washback used in the early stages of distilling at the Glenfiddich Distillery in Banffshire, Scotland. Following the discovery of his body, emergency services were called to the scene on Saturday night but efforts to revive him failed. Mr Ettles – a senior employee



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– had worked at the world-renowned distillery for 23 years and died the day before his wife's 54th birthday. Friends spoke of their shock at Mr Ettle's suicide. Neighbour Eileen Mackenzie, 67, said: "I am just really shocked. It's such a horrible way for someone to go and most people I have spoken to are really quite upset about it. "He was just a young man and I have no idea what might have made him want to take his own life in such a way." Glenfiddich bosses shut the malt whisky distillery on Monday and Tuesday. A spokesman for the firm said: "We would normally have been open but we decided to close as a mark of respect for the person who died and their family and colleagues." "Officers were called to a report of a sudden death of a 46-year-old man at an address in the Dufftown area on 7 January. There are no suspicious circumstances and as is usual in such circumstances a report will be submitted to the Procurator Fiscal in due course," a spokesperson for Grampian Police said.

<http://uk.news.yahoo.com/man-drowns-in-whisky-vat.html>

### AUSTRALIA, VICTORIA, JANUARY 12 2012. OPERATOR ALLEGES FUEL COST COLLUSION VIA TEXT MESSAGE

*michelle ainsworth*

Service station operators are regularly pressured via text message to mark up big petrol price jumps, a regional manager said yesterday. If they don't obey within the hour, they are penalised for the lost profits, he said. The man, who did not want to be named, leases a petrol station in northern Victoria. He said he received a text message every seven to 10 days telling him the new price for unleaded petrol. (Diesel and LPG prices changed far less regularly.) He then had to change his price within an hour, or pay the landlord for lost profits. "Every week or 10 days the price rises by about 15-20c a litre," he said. "On Sunday, I received an SMS at 10.40am that told me to increase the price of ULP from \$1.31 to \$1.48. "It is the same fuel but the price has risen by 17c a litre, or about \$10 a tank." The SMS was from the landlord but he believed the decision was made by someone else. The price always jumped by at least 10c but came down in 1c or 2c lots. "It's gone from \$1.31 to \$1.48 on Sunday. It's already come down to \$1.44. It'll continue to come down in 1c increments until Sunday, Monday, Tuesday of next week, and then it will go up again. "It's just a crooked way of doing business," he said. He said he didn't make any money from petrol sales. "We're at a very low commission of 1.1c per litre, so whether we sell it for \$1 or \$2 or \$4, we still get the same money. We only survive on the drinks and the cigarettes and the lollies and chocolates. We make virtually nothing on selling fuel." He said the peak price in a cycle had slowly increased from a high of \$1.40 at this time last year, compared with \$1.49 to \$1.51 this week. "Somebody, somewhere says 'OK, now is the time to put the price up' ... Now, who is that person and how do they make that decision? "It's as obvious as the nose on your face that it must be collusion, because these things don't happen coincidentally and it all happens at pretty much the same time, and it's to the same price," he said. "If the ACCC can't find the collusion, they're not looking hard enough."

<http://www.heraldsun.com.au/news/more-news/sms-allegations-point-to-pump-price-racket/story-fn7x8me2-1226242109796>

### CANADA, HALIFAX, JANUARY 12 2012. NAVY DIDN'T INSPECT REPAIRS AFTER HALIFAX LEAK: REPORT



*HMCS Preserver, one of Canada's operational support ships, designed to carry large amounts of fuel, provisions, and dry stores during naval operations, is pushed by tugs in Halifax harbour on Wednesday, Oct. 19, 2011.*

The Royal Canadian Navy didn't inspect repairs to a ship's drainage pipe that later leaked about 14,000 litres of diesel fuel into the Halifax harbour last year, says an interim report into the spill. HMCS Preserver was fuelling at a refinery when an improper seal allowed fuel to seep into the pipe, which carries solid waste, and then flow into the harbour, the report says. The navy was able to recover most of the fuel before it spread to shore or cause extensive damage. The report dated March 29, 2011 -- about two weeks

after the spill -- was obtained through access-to-information legislation. A final report hasn't been completed. Irving Shipbuilding was contracted by the navy to carry out an inspection of the 41-year-old supply vessel's drainage lines in September 2010. It found sections of the pipe were "deteriorated and required replacement," says the report. Irving was then hired to replace the pipes and install new fasteners and gaskets. But navy staff weren't given the opportunity to inspect those repairs, the report says. "National Defence quality assurance representative staff had responsibility to verify that these repairs were done correctly," says the report. "This did not happen for a myriad of reasons which will be determined over the course of the investigation." The report says the lead investigator should find out why the drain line was not tested by Irving and the



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navy. Mary Keith, a spokeswoman for Irving Shipbuilding, declined to be interviewed but in an email said the company hadn't seen the report. "We are not aware of a report, nor were we invited to participate, and therefore are not able to comment," she said. "Our commitment has and continues to be the provision of quality service to the navy in the building and repair of vessels." Cmdr. Larry Jones, the commander of HMCS Preserver, said the navy has inspected other drainage lines on the ship to ensure there isn't another leak. "When you discover one technical issue, then you ensure that all of your other systems are sound," he said in a phone interview. "My ship's staff have done a complete investigation of all the other systems, particularly with regard to fuel systems to ensure there are no other irregularities." Jones wasn't the ship's commander at the time of the leak and said he couldn't comment on the report's findings, but he believes the problem won't occur again. Maj. Paul Doucette, a spokesman for the Defence Department, also declined to comment on the report. In his report, Lt.-Col. J.F. Sangster says he will provide recommendations about the ship's drainage system in the short-term, as well as more long-term solutions for the aging supply vessels. In a separate email sent March 17, 2011, the day after the leak, a senior navy engineer raised concerns with other officers about the aging vessels. Cmdr. R.W. Jones said for 10 years, the designs and diagrams that outline systems such as the drainage lines aboard HMCS Preserver and its sister ship, HMCS Protecteur, had not been as well maintained as the records on other navy ships. "The decision was very deliberate, given that 10 years ago we were all expecting Preserver and Protecteur to be razor blades by now," he said in the email, which was also obtained through access-to-information legislation. "The technical drawings now have gaps/inconsistencies."

<http://www.ctv.ca/CTVNews/Canada/20120112/hmcs-preserver-halifax-harbour-fuel-leak-report-120112/>

#### USA, AKA, ANCHORAGE, JANUARY 12 2012. 6,300-GALLON SPILL AT XTO NIKISKI FACILITY

Alaska environmental officials say a faulty gasket on a tank led to a spill of 6,300 gallons of crude oil and process water at the XTO Energy onshore facility at Nikiski, southwest of Anchorage. In a situation report Tuesday, the state Department of Environmental Conservation said no resources have been affected. It says all of the spill discovered late Monday afternoon was captured within a secondary containment area. The state says XTO Energy responded with contractors Monday night to recover free liquid from the secondary containment area — a bermed area with a 60-mil liner. On Tuesday, the company began removing contaminated snow and ice.

<http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/n/a/2012/01/11/financial/f081042S06.DTL>

#### PHILIPPINES, MANILA, JANUARY 12 2012. PETRON JOINS EXXONMOBIL MALAYSIA



*Signed and sealed?: Petron, 68% owned by San Miguel, says agreement has been signed for a stake in Esso Malaysia which owns a refinery, terminals and service stations.*

Philippines - Petron Corp., one of the country's oil refiners, on Wednesday said it is investing in ExxonMobil's downstream oil operations in Malaysia. In a disclosure with the Philippine Stock Exchange (PSE), Petron said the investment plan was approved during its executive committee's meeting on Wednesday. The amount and percentage sharing for the investment has yet to be determined, Petron said. Downstream oil operations involves retail and distribution. San Miguel Corp. (SMC), which now fully owns Petron, said last year that Petron would be in charge of Exxon operations. In August last year, SMC announced it had acquired for \$610 million Esso Malaysia Bhd. (EMB), a publicly traded company of which ExxonMobil owns a 65-percent stake; and wholly owned Exxon Mobil Malaysia Sdn. Bhd. and Exxon Mobil Borneo Sdn. Bhd. SMC said the three subsidiaries form an integrated

business engaged in the refining, distribution and marketing of petroleum products. Eric Recto, SMC director, said the physical assets include the Port Dickson refinery with a rated capacity of 88,000 barrels per day; seven fuel distribution terminals; and a network of roughly 560 branded service stations, 420 of which are company-owned. Recto said that SMC would fund the expansion program through internally generated funds and loan and some equity. Recto said SMC has already received offers from both Malaysian and international financial institutions. "Malaysian banks will be more adept at providing financing for Malaysian opportunities, Filipino banks will not be as competitive in providing ringgit financing," he said. Recto said SMC is looking at a number of financing structures. Recto said Esso currently has over 500 stations in Malaysia, which is second to Malaysia's largest oil player, Petronas. "We are a smaller player in Malaysia, but we intend to be a strong, secondary player in that market. We think we will continue to grow from a consumption standpoint," he said. Recto, who is also Petron's president, said SMC sees the potential of the oil business in Malaysia. "We want to develop that potential the way we saw the potential in



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Petron. Three years ago, when we took over Petron and we've seen how successful we have been in turning the company around and we want to do the same in Malaysia," he said. Recto said they are looking at a supply synergy between Petron and Esso. Petron owns a 180,00 barrels a day refinery in Bataan while the Malaysia refinery has a capacity of 88,000 barrels per day.

<http://www.abs-cbnnews.com/business/01/12/12/petron-joins-exxonmobil-malaysia>

#### CANADA, BRITISH COLUMBIA WORKSAFE, JANUARY 13 2012. HAZARD ALERTS WORKER EXPOSED TO HAZARDOUS GAS AT MUSHROOM COMPOSTING OPERATION

Keywords: gas, mushroom, agriculture

Industries: Agriculture

Year: 2011

Alert: Injury 2011-09 (PDF in English, Vietnamese, and Punjabi)

 [View](#)

 [Print PDF](#) (358 KB)

#### BLASTING DANGEROUS TREES: PLAN TO DO IT SAFELY

Keywords: blasting, certificate, dangerous, trees

Industries: Construction, forestry, petroleum (oil & gas)

Year: 2011

Alert: WS 2011-03

 [View](#)

 [Print PDF](#) (107 KB)

#### PESTICIDE STORAGE [Watch the Video](#)

Pesticides are most dangerous when in concentrated form. On most farms, this means when they're in storage. This video demonstrates the importance of – and requirements for – proper storage to avoid pesticide poisoning. (1 min 56s)

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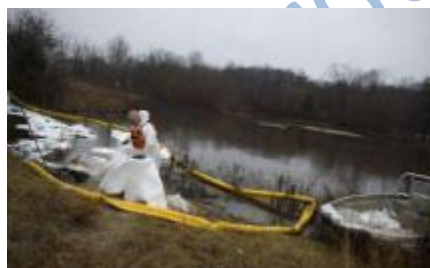
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<http://www.worksafebc.com>

#### USA, N.J, SOUTH JERSEY, JANUARY 13 2012. LARGE FUEL SPILL THREATENS SJ STREAMS

 [Watch the Video](#)

- [http://www.myfoxphilly.com/dpp/news/local\\_news/oil-spills-into-new-jersey-lake](http://www.myfoxphilly.com/dpp/news/local_news/oil-spills-into-new-jersey-lake)
- [http://www.nj.com/gloucester-county/index.ssf/2012/01/heavy\\_sheen\\_on\\_timber\\_creek\\_bu.html](http://www.nj.com/gloucester-county/index.ssf/2012/01/heavy_sheen_on_timber_creek_bu.html)
- <http://abclocal.go.com/wpvi/story?section=news/local&id=8502842>
- <http://www.courierpostonline.com/article/20120113/NEWS01/301130015/Diesel-fuel-fouls-S-J-waterways>



*A member of the Clean Venture Cycle Chemical Staff, soaks chemicals from the waters of the Greedlock Lake in Gloucester Township.*

State and county officials are working to contain a large fuel spill that has contaminated parks of Timber Creek and surrounding lakes near the Gloucester Township and Washington Township borders. A Camden County official said approximately 25,000 gallons of diesel fuel spilled from a New Jersey Transit facility in Washington Township over the night and has subsequently spread through the soil to Grenloch and Blackwood lakes. "It's pretty major," said Ralph Green, director of the Camden County Division of Environmental and Consumer Health Services. "That's a huge volume of fuel that has been released." Green said

the fuel spilled over the night after an underground fuel line near the 30,000 gallon tank ruptured. Fire officials were called to the area around the Black Horse Pike in Lakeland around 8 a.m. this morning after a fuel smell was reported in the area. An "oily sheen" was then reported on the area waterways. Green said state and county hazmat teams are now working to boom



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the water in attempts to stop the spread of the fuel. Green said state wildlife officials have been notified of the spill as rescue workers reported seeing several geese and ducks in the water that seemed to have been affected by the fuel. State officials are expected to hold a press conference about the incident this afternoon.

<http://www.courierpostonline.com/article/20120112/NEWS01/120112005?odyssey=mod%7Cmostcom>

### USA, AZ, PHOENIX, JANUARY 13 2012. RICIN SCARE: UTAH-ARIZONA STRETCH OF I-15 REOPENED AFTER SUSPECT'S SUICIDE

*bob mims*

A section of Interstate 15 along the Utah-Arizona border was reopened early Wednesday, the day after the Arizona Department of Public Safety ordered both northbound and southbound lanes closed in the wake of a bank robbery, the suspect's suicide and a ricin scare. According to the Utah Highway Patrol, the closure of the interstate in the Virgin River Gorge — from Exit 2 on southbound I-15 in Utah to Exit 8 on I-15 in northwestern Arizona — lasted until 4:30 a.m. Wednesday while hazmat-suited emergency crews carefully examined the vehicle for the deadly toxin and explosives suspected to be in the suspect's car. Carrick Cook, spokesman for the Arizona Department of Public Safety, said Wednesday that Troy Eugene Williams, 43, of Florida, had been pulled over about 1 p.m. Tuesday in connection with a bomb threat during the robbery of a bank and subsequent carjacking in Mesquite, Nev. When police stopped the car in Arizona and approached the vehicle, the driver shot himself in the head. What brought about the freeway closure was discovery of at least two suspicious boxes in the back of the suspect vehicle. After the car and the packages were thoroughly examined by hazmat teams brought in from Phoenix, the vehicle was towed away and the interstate reopened. Cook confirmed Wednesday that public safety officials acted with such deliberate care because Williams' family had warned police that the suspect had boasted of having a quantity of ricin and hand grenades. Cook said the substance found in the car was determined harmless, though he did not further identify it. No explosives were found, either, he said. The incident was being further investigated by the Mohave County (Ariz.) Sheriff's Office.

<http://www.sltrib.com/sltrib/news/53278119-78/arizona-suspect-car-utah.html.csp>

### USA, N.J, BAYONNE, JANUARY 13 2012. BAYONNE FIRE OFFICIALS ASSIST IN RESPONDING TO OVERTURNED GASOLINE TANKER IN KEARNY

*kate kowsh*



*Bayonne fire officials assisted in responding to an overturned gasoline tanker in Kearny on Thursday, Jan. 12, 2012.*

Bayonne Fire Department's Hazmat Team was dispatched to assist an 8,000-gallon overturned tractor trailer this afternoon in Kearny, which caused traffic delays along the Newark Turnpike, officials said. Dispatched on a request for assistance, Hazmat team technicians arrived to witness the tanker heavily leaking gasoline, according to Bayonne Fire Chief Gregory Rogers. The driver was transported to a local hospital, Rogers said. What caused the accident, which occurred around 3 a.m. this morning, remains unclear as authorities are investigating, officials said. "Technicians worked with Kearny Firefighters to deploy containment materials, and provide fire foam support in an effort to keep the vapors down. Fortunately, the vapors that were in proximity to a nearby power sub-

station, did not ignite," Rogers stated in an e-mail. "Gusty wind and heavy rains made for a long difficult operation." While the Hazmat team was dispatched to assist in Kearny, the Bayonne Fire Department, Jersey City and Hoboken Fire Department, provided emergency hazmat support throughout Hudson County, Rogers added.

[http://www.nj.com/hudson/index.ssf/2012/01/bayonne\\_fire\\_officials\\_assist.html](http://www.nj.com/hudson/index.ssf/2012/01/bayonne_fire_officials_assist.html)



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