



Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network

Release 2012 – 845 Newsy Stuff

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

June 6 2012



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USA, CA, LOS ANGELES, MAY 25 2012. PIPELINE COMPANY TO PAY L.A. \$1.75 MILLION FOR OIL SPILL



A pipeline company will pay \$1.75 million to end a criminal case filed over a 2010 oil spill at the Port of Los Angeles, according to lawyers for City Atty. Carmen Trutanich. Crimson Pipeline Management and its affiliated companies will make the payment to resolve allegations they allowed petroleum to wash into the Dominguez Channel and, eventually, the harbor. The company also had been accused of failing to inform state regulators of the spill, which originated in Wilmington. Trutanich's office claims Crimson spilled 1,300 barrels of petroleum over three months. Crimson said it released fewer than 40 barrels but agreed to the settlement anyway. Deputy City Atty. Nick Karno, who handled the case, said the settlement is the largest ever secured by his office from an oil spill. It will

provide \$1.3 million to the city's general fund budget, \$245,000 for the city's watershed protection office, \$179,000 to the Department of Fish and Game and \$26,000 to the state's Air Resources Board. The payment also will result in the dismissal of a 61-count criminal case filed by Trutanich. A lawyer for Crimson said the settlement "vindicates Crimson's belief that criminal charges should never have been filed" by the city last year. The company also said the spill was the result of damage done to a pipeline during construction of a drainage system for the nearby Alameda Corridor, a rail trench that serves port cargo. "The damage occurred years before Crimson Pipeline purchased the pipeline and was entirely unknown to Crimson until the time of the discharge," said Crimson attorney Manny Medrano. City officials said the settlement also will require Crimson to adhere to an environmental compliance plan, which includes regular audits of the company's pipelines and the hiring of a third-party consultant to test their condition. Crimson and its affiliates own and operate 700 miles of pipeline in Southern California, according to the lawsuit.

<http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/lanow/2012/05/pipeline-company-to-pay-la-175-million-for-oil-spill.html>

USA, CA, STOCKTON, MAY 25 2012. CRASH SHUTS DOWN HIGHWAY 4 FOR HOURS >> JACKKNIFED SEMITRUCK FORCES MAJOR HAZ-MAT CLEANUP

Watch the Video

- [Big Rig Crash Shuts Down Highway 4 In Stockton](#)
- [EB Highway 4 in Stockton reopened](#)



A hazardous-material spill from an overturned tanker truck shut down a major highway for most of the day Wednesday. The crash about 12:30 p.m., in which a semitruck jackknifed and blocked all three lanes, took place on eastbound Highway 4 near Wilson Way. More than 3,000 gallons of liquid fertilizer leaked from the two tankers attached to the truck as a result, according to the California Highway Patrol. No major injuries were reported in the wreck, which involved a commercial truck and two people visiting from Texas in a passenger car, according to the CHP. The crash is under investigation, but officials suspect it was sparked by an unknown driver cutting off the truck. "The (truck) driver alleges he was going about 55 mph when he was cut off by a white sedan," said

Sgt. Steve True of the CHP. "The truck changed lanes, and the driver tried to regain control of the trailers but couldn't." More than 40 yards of tire marks from the semitruck were visible in the roadway prior to the rollover. A Chevrolet Malibu with extensive damage to its left side was sideways in the roadway about 60 feet from the truck. The driver of the sedan, Tim Wooten, of Austin, Texas, and his wife were in the rented car coming from the Sacramento International Airport when they were hit by the truck. The semi crashed into his car as it was losing control and forced the couple into an ice plant growing on the hillside by the freeway, he said. Wooten had a skinned knee; his wife was unharmed. After realizing they were OK, he said, the couple turned their focus to their luggage. "I was afraid it was fuel leaking from the truck, so we grabbed our bags and put them out of the way," he said. The fluid seeping from the truck was a water-based liquid fertilizer, according to the Stockton Fire Department. The material is a skin irritant, but its fumes are harmless, officials said. Hazardous-materials crews were able to patch leaks in the truck to prevent the 5,000 gallons of fluid from spilling and dammed the roadway to prevent the liquid from entering the sewer system. The California Department of Fish and Game confirmed the spill did not leave the sewer's pump



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station and enter the ecosystem. The crash created gridlock on surrounding streets and highways as crews rerouted traffic and motorists were ordered to drive the wrong way on the Crosstown Freeway to the nearest exit. Eastbound Highway 4 was partially reopened around 6:15 p.m. and fully opened later that evening.

http://www.recordnet.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20120524/A_NEWS/205240334/-1/A_NEWS02

NEW ZEALAND, TAURANGA, MAY 25 2012. CAPTAIN JAILED OVER NZ SHIPWRECK DISASTER

dominique schwartz

Watch the Video:

- [Rena Captain & Officer Sentenced to 7 Months Jail](#)
- [Captain Jailed over NZ Shipwreck Disaster](#)
- [Rena captain, navigator given prison sentences](#)

Photo's:

- [View images of last year's Bay of Plenty shipwreck disaster](#)
- [Leonil Relon \(left\) and Mauro Balomaga in court in Tauranga.](#)

Map: [New Zealand](#)



File photo shows tanker Awanuia carrying out operations to pump oil from the stricken container ship Rena near Tauranga.

The captain and navigational officer of a cargo ship which ran aground off New Zealand last year have each been sentenced to seven months in prison. The Tauranga District Court heard that the men's gross incompetence bordered on recklessness, and that they then tried to cover up their mistakes by altering ship documents after the grounding. The officers were in charge of the Liberian-flagged Rena when it hit the Astrolabe Reef seven months ago, spilling more than 350 tonnes of oil and hundreds of shipping containers. The ensuing oil slick killed thousands of birds and fouled beaches in the North Island's pristine Bay of Plenty. It has been described as New Zealand's worst

environmental maritime disaster. There were no words from Rena captain Mauro Balomaga and second officer Leonil Relon as they entered court, but their actions haunt a community still cleaning up oil and debris. The court heard Balomaga took no action to avoid the reef when it appeared on radar, assuming it was a false signal or a small vessel. The court also heard Relon changed the ship's course to avoid late entry into Tauranga after the captain urged that corners be cut. The pair had pleaded guilty in February to a range of charges, including attempting to pervert the course of justice by altering navigation records after the accident. They also admitted to operating a ship in a dangerous manner and discharging harmful substances from the cargo vessel. Prosecutors had been seeking at least a two-year jail term for the pair. Defence lawyers argued for home detention, saying their clients had pleaded guilty, had apologised to local Maori affected by the spill, and were remorseful.

Held to Account

Maritime New Zealand director Keith Manch welcomed the sentences, saying the ship's officers had to be held accountable for their actions. "This grounding has had significant consequences for the Bay of Plenty community and the country as a whole," he said. "Today marks a milestone in the response, which is still underway." Colin Reeder, who represents the local Maori community in the Bay of Plenty, says his people have forgiven the men. "They were only one cog in the machine that caused this disaster. We'd rather direct our anger and rage at the system that allowed this to happen," he said. "The two men made a mistake that was generated by the need to save time. The route cause must be fixed as the potential for disaster will still be there." Tauranga mayor Stuart Crosby says some local businesses lost hundreds of thousands of dollars. The Daina Shipping Company has also been charged with discharging harmful substances. The offence carries a fine of \$480,000 and \$80,000 for every day the offending continues. The wrecked ship's stern sank in heavy weather in April, causing more debris to wash ashore.

Related Links

- [Rena skipper to be sentenced](#)
- [Rena 'errors' heard ahead of sentencing](#)



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- [Shipping company charged over NZ grounding](#)
- [Captain pleads guilty over NZ wreck disaster](#)
- [Rena slipping off New Zealand reef](#)

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2012-05-25/stricken-ships-captain-sent-to-prison/4033504>

SPAIN, CACERES PROVINCE, MORALEJA, MAY 25 2012. ONE DEAD IN WAREHOUSE EXPLOSION IN SPAIN

One person has died and two remain missing following an explosion in a warehouse in southwest Spain on Thursday. The explosion happened around mid-day in the village of, but firemen were not able to commence rescue work until around three and a half hours later as they had to first extinguish the flames which were burning outside of the building and cool down the zone. Firemen were obliged to take turns entering the building and had to use oxygen masks due to the heat and flames. As the building contains fuel and underground storage tanks, there is still a risk of further explosions and the EX-109 road, which passes close by has been closed to traffic in both directions. The force of the explosion caused massive damage to the warehouse, causing the roof to fall in, which had the virtue of allowing the firemen to hose down the interior from a crane. As well as the one confirmed victim and the two missing men, two further people, a man aged 45 and another aged 50, were injured in the blast and were taken to hospital in the nearby town of Coria.

<http://english.cri.cn/6966/2012/05/25/2724s701922.htm>

USA, MD, PRINCESS ANNE, MAY 25 2012. SOMERSET PLANT INVESTIGATED >> MDE ORDERS BIODIESEL MANUFACTURER TO CLEAN UP REDDISH SUBSTANCE

A biodiesel manufacturing plant has been ordered to rid a pond on the property and a stormwater drainage ditch next to a neighborhood park of a reddish-colored substance, as the state investigates whether Greenlight Biodiesel is guilty of unauthorized discharges in or around the Princess Anne Industrial Park. The investigation comes as Greenlight decides whether to continue production of biodiesel at the plant on Progress Lane, saying that currently, the plant is not accepting new shipments of animal fat or spent cooking grease to manufacture the alternative to diesel fuel. Jim Kingdon, president at the Charlottesville, Va.-based Greenlight, said in a telephone interview Wednesday that while biodiesel manufacturing continues at the plant, new loads of ingredients for processing currently were not coming in, but did not elaborate. An MDE inspector in March discovered the reddish substance in a drainage ditch alongside the Garland Hayward Youth Center park downstream from the Greenlight plant, according to MDE spokesman Jay Apperson. The substance trailed upstream to the biodiesel plant, where the inspector uncovered a substance burgundy in color in a pond, he also said. "There is an active, ongoing investigation," Apperson said Wednesday. "We went to the site, saw the substance in the ditch adjacent to the park and going upstream to the plant. The water in the pond was burgundy in color, and we saw a red pigment at the stormwater pond's discharge culvert. Our inspector noticed leakage from chemical containers at the site." In a statement, Kingdon denied deliberately dumping materials into the stormwater pond. "Greenlight and MDE determined (that) a limited quantity of non-hazardous, biodegradable waste vegetable oil passed through an oil water separator that is part of the approved stormwater management system," Kingdon said in the statement. He also did not call MDE's involvement an "investigation." Rather, MDE and the company are working together on stormwater maintenance at the facility, he said, calling the process routine. "There was no specific unintentional spill of material," Kingdon said. "The on-site work with MDE is related to regular site maintenance and maintaining the integrity of the storm water management pond." According to Apperson, an MDE inspector went to the site March 22 after a complaint of an "oily substance with a strong odor of sewage or cooking" in the drainage ditch downstream next to the park in the Hampden Avenue community. To date, MDE has not officially identified the substances, the spokesman also said. Meanwhile, Kingdon said in his statement that the Princess Anne plant is considering other locations to manufacture biodiesel. "Greenlight is evaluating options for continuing to produce biodiesel at our Princess Anne facility," he said. "We are working with our network of refining partners to continue to produce and market Greenlight biodiesel." Hampden Avenue area residents raised concerns about safety at the plant several years when an explosion killed a contract welder. The plant halted production for several months to regroup and repair damage. Apperson said Wednesday that Greenlight has no permit to discharge materials into the stormwater pond, and that the investigation into unauthorized discharging continues. The penalty for unauthorized dumping into a stormwater pond, a civil offense, is up to \$10,000 a day, he also said.

<http://www.delmarvanow.com/article/20120524/SH01/205240403/Somerset-plant-investigated>



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USA, CA, SAN FRANCISCO, MAY 25 2012. EPA ANNOUNCES \$69.3 MILLION TO CLEAN UP CONTAMINATED SITES AND REVITALIZE COMMUNITIES

Today the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announces \$69.3 million in grants for new investments to provide communities with funding necessary to clean and redevelop contaminated properties, boost local economies and create jobs while protecting public health. In California, \$1.2 million will be split among the cities of San Francisco, Emeryville, Chico and Grass Valley to assess and clean up contaminated properties. Today's announcement also includes Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund supplemental awards totaling nearly \$1 Million for Humboldt County, the City of Sacramento and California's Department of Toxic Substances Control. 'Restored Brownfield properties can serve as cornerstones for rebuilding struggling communities. These grants will be the first step in getting pollution out and putting jobs back into neighborhoods across the country,' said EPA Administrator Lisa P. Jackson. 'Clean, healthy communities are places where people want to live, work and start businesses. We're providing targeted resources to help local partners transform blighted, contaminated areas into centers of economic growth.' Nationally, the 245 grantees include tribes and communities in 39 states across the country, funded by EPA's Brownfields Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund, and Cleanup (ARC) grants, and Revolving Loan Fund Supplemental grants. The grants awarded will assess and clean up abandoned industrial and commercial properties. Nearly half of the grantees this year are new awardees who demonstrate a high level of commitment for undertaking specific projects and leveraging the funding to move those projects forward. EPA has selected the City and County of San Francisco for two brownfields assessment grants totaling \$400,000. Community-wide hazardous substances grant funds will be used to inventory brownfield sites and conduct environmental site assessments in the targeted Bayview Hunters Point community of San Francisco. Grant funds also will be used to conduct community outreach activities. Petroleum grant funds will be used to conduct the same tasks at sites with potential petroleum contamination. EPA has selected the City of Emeryville for a \$200,000 brownfields cleanup grant. Hazardous substances grant funds will be used to clean up the Star Intersection Affordable Housing site at 3706 San Pablo Avenue. The one-acre site was used by several businesses, including an auto service business and a lock and key company. Site soil and groundwater are contaminated with solvents. Grant funds also will be used to conduct community outreach activities. EPA has selected the City of Grass Valley for a \$200,000 brownfields assessment grant. Site-specific hazardous substances grant funds will be used to perform an environmental site assessment at the Village of South Auburn site at 750 South Auburn Avenue. The 11-acre site is adjacent to a historic mining property and has been used for illegal dumping. Grant funds also will be used to prepare a cleanup plan for the site and conduct community outreach activities. EPA has selected the City of Chico for two brownfields assessment grants totaling \$400,000. Community-wide hazardous substances grant funds will be used to inventory brownfield sites and conduct environmental site assessments. Preference will be given to assessing brownfields located in the city's Park Avenue Brownfields Corridor. Grant funds also will be used to conduct community outreach activities. Petroleum grant funds will be used to conduct the same tasks at sites with potential petroleum contamination. Approximately 29 percent of the grants are being awarded to non-urban areas with populations of 100,000 or less, 16 percent are being awarded to "micro" communities with populations of 10,000 or less, and the remaining grants are being awarded to urban areas with populations exceeding 100,000. There are an estimated 450,000 abandoned and contaminated waste sites in America. In 2011, EPA's brownfields program leveraged 6,447 jobs and \$2.14 billion in cleanup and redevelopment funds. Since its inception EPA's brownfields investments have leveraged more than \$18.3 billion in cleanup and redevelopment funding from a variety of public and private sources and have resulted in approximately 75,500 jobs. More than 18,000 properties have been assessed, and over 700 properties have been cleaned up. Brownfields grants also target under-served and low income neighborhoods places where environmental cleanups and new jobs are most needed.

- See List of all Awarded Brownfields Grants by State: http://cfpub.epa.gov/bf_factsheets/
- More information on EPA's Brownfields Program: <http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/>
- More information on Brownfields Success Stories: <http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/success/index.htm>

<http://www.environmental-expert.com/news/epa-announces-693-million-to-clean-up-contaminated-sites-and-revitalize-communities-296395>

CHINA SHANDONG PROVINCE, ZIBO, MAY 25 2012. SINOPEC OIL PIPELINE LEAKS 'LARGE AMOUNT' OF DIESEL

A Sinopec oil pipeline running from Jinan to Qingdao has spilled a "large amount" of diesel, the official Xinhua news agency said Friday, without citing any sources. Xinhua didn't identify whether this was parent company China Petrochemical Corp. or



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listed company China Petroleum & Chemical Corp. (SNP), both of which are known as Sinopec. The leak was caused by damage from a construction crew, Xinhua said. The size of the spill is being calculated and is still being cleaned up, it added.

<http://www.foxbusiness.com/news/2012/05/25/sinopec-oil-pipeline-leaks-large-amount-diesel-xinhua/>

ENGLAND, LINCOLNSHIRE, MAY 26 2012. MAN TELLS OF ILLEGAL VODKA FACTORY BLAST IN LINCOLNSHIRE

Watch the Video

- [5 Killed in Vodka Explosion](#)
- [Bootleg Alcohol Explosion: Inquest Records Accidental Death](#)
- [Accidental Death Verdict in Explosion Inquest](#)



A man who survived a blast at a factory where illegal vodka was being made has said he is still having treatment for his injuries almost a year later following an inquest into his colleagues' deaths today. Lithuanian national Rytas Gecas, 25, of Peterborough, suffered extensive burns in the incident at the industrial unit on Broadfield Lane, Boston, Lincolnshire, on July 13 last year. His five Lithuanian-born colleagues, Erlandas Duzinskas, 19, Vaidas Krupenkinas, 39, Laimutis Simkus, 32, Ovidijus Mejeris, 26, and Ricardus Gecas, 24, all died from the toxic fumes in the blast. Maureen Taylor, coroner for Boston and Spalding, recorded a verdict of accidental death into the five deaths. The cause of death was given as inhalation of fire fumes. Lincolnshire Police are still investigating how the blaze started but the inquest at Spalding Magistrates'

Court heard that the most likely cause was a cigarette, the spark from which may have caused toxic vapours which had built up in the unit to ignite. Ian Woods, deputy divisional officer from Lincolnshire Fire and Rescue Service, told the hearing that smoking materials and debris were found in significant quantities near the seat of the fire. Mr Gecas, who gave evidence through an interpreter, said the men regularly smoked while they worked. Mr Woods said the heat in the unit would have increased by several degrees following the blast and that anyone inhaling the smoke and vapours would have had a "rapid demise" within minutes. No smoke alarms were fitted in the unit. The inquest heard thick black smoke was pouring out of the building when ambulance crews arrived at the scene. Witnesses described seeing a man running out of the building with his hair and clothes on fire. Mr Gecas, who had been working at the factory for just two weeks putting tops on the bottles, was treated at the scene for severe burns before being taken to hospital. The five others were pronounced dead at the scene after being overcome by the smoke and fumes inside the building. High levels of alcohol were found in the bloodstreams of three of the victims - Krupenkinas, Mejeris and Simkus. Krupenkinas and Simkus each had 143mg of alcohol per 100ml of blood while Mejeris had 106mg. The UK drink-drive limit is 80mg of alcohol per 100ml of blood. Recording her verdict after a short hearing this morning, Miss Taylor said: "Vapours arising from their illegal activities were easily flammable. "But despite the dangers, they all smoked while working and did not consider the possible dangers although aware of them." "I don't know how the fire started, whether it was from a cigarette, who smoked that cigarette, or where. "The only certainty was that illegal activities were going on." Speaking after the verdict today, Det Insp Lorraine Bradley, of Lincolnshire Police, said: "On the 13th of July last year five young men were killed and it has been a complex and difficult case trying to establish the circumstances leading up to their deaths. "The industrial unit contained apparatus which was being used as a filtration plant for the production of illicit alcohol "We believe this alcohol was being sold on as counterfeit vodka and bottling and labelling materials were also found at the scene. "Over the subsequent months following the investigation a dedicated team of officers worked to try and identify whether any individual bore responsibility for what had happened. "Extensive inquiries were made in Lincolnshire and in the Peterborough area where the victims were living. "We worked closely with our colleagues in HM Customs and Trading Standards to examine the wider business of illicit alcohol production. "In March this year the evidence gathered during the police investigation was reviewed in detail by a senior lawyer for the East Midlands Complex Case Unit who concluded that neither the cause of the explosion nor the identity of the person responsible could be established to a criminal standard. "This means that Lincolnshire Police have been unable to charge anyone in connection with the five deaths. "The events of last July were tragic and have shocked Boston town. "It brought the production of illicit alcohol into focus and the community have worked with us supporting intelligence-led operations that disrupt the activities of those involved in this dangerous practice."

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/crime/man-tells-of-illegal-vodka-factory-blast-in-lincolnshire-7788889.html>



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TRINIDAD & TOBAGO, PORT OF SPAIN, MAY 26 2012. SERVICE STATIONS IMPLICATED IN RACKET

mark bassant

With the diesel fuel racket stretching its tentacles across the energy sector, few have been left untouched. In the past few months services stations have come under the microscope by Energy Ministry officials, as Government seeks to regulate the sale of subsidised fuel. Issues of irregular activities of receiving storage of diesel fuel have been the subject of an ongoing investigation. And an investigation into a south Trinidad service station late last year, showed there was cause for concern. What Energy Ministry officials found there suggested questionable practices based on the documents obtained. What the investigation found, according to petroleum inspector Marlon Baksh, for the months of August, September and October 2011 the volume of diesel fuel sold was greater than the volume received. For instance, in the month of September some 80,000 litres were received from the wholesaler. But yet the gas station's sales were 138,000 litres. Questions were asked about where the station was getting the extra fuel to sell. National Petroleum chairman Neil Gosine said they moved in on the gas station. "At the station, what we realised was occurring was they purchased 50,000 litres and were selling three times that amount. NP took immediate action and closed it down. And an investigation was launched with the Ministry of Energy and our internal people and it is continuing and we are also looking at other stations along the coastline that do the same thing," Gosine said. Ministry officials who have been tracking this illicit trade, in a detailed document showed several ways the diesel would ultimately find its way to the black market. With service stations at most times the middle-man. For instance, in one case the diesel was delivered through NP to the service station and then some of the diesel was sent to unregistered coastal storage tanks. The fuel was later filled in intermediate bulk containers before being loaded onto a pirogue and then to another vessel which later took the diesel out of Trinidad and Tobago. Gas station company Unipet's chief executive Ron Milford said they were prepared to deal with any gas stations under their remit found breaking the law. Milford said, "First of all, if there is any illegal activity undertaken they should be closed down. The retail marketing licence granted is very specific about how you operate and you must operate within the law." Milford indicated the Ministry of Energy has moved quickly to clamp down on errant service stations. "The Ministry of Energy put out a circular that no gas station is allowed to sell in excess of 100 litres of fuel to any one customer," explained Milford. NP's Gosine said gas stations deal with 60-65 per cent of the diesel fuel sold on the Trinidad and Tobago market. But he has adopted a zero tolerance policy against any station under NP's remit. "One of the things we are looking at in our stations is the volume we sell them and the volume they sell. If there is a discrepancy we are looking at those stations and if we have to close them down and do an investigation into them that is what we are doing," said Gosine. How then will the government be able to put a stranglehold on a thriving trade that milks the nation's coffers of millions of dollars every year? "There are several variations to the whole scheme that can take place this is why it is important to monitor the whole chain and find the loopholes. Where ever there is a price differential we always have to recognise that there will be opportunities for creative minds to find new ways and when you close one channel another one will open," former energy minister Carolyn Seepersad-Bachan explained to the Express. The Express asked Minister of Energy Kevin Ramnarine if they could catch the big fish involved in the racket. "I think there is a mentality in Trinidad that says there are certain things we can't touch and that things will continue as they always have. One of the things that this government has done is step back from the problems and looked at them differently with new ways of approaching it. Nobody is above the law."

http://www.trinidadexpress.com/news/Service_stations_implicated_in_racket-153887975.html

USA, MT, ROCKY BOY'S RESERVATION, MAY 26 2012. LEAK ON ROCKY BOY'S RESERVATION SHUTS DOWN GAS STATION

karl puckett

One of only two gas stations on the Rocky Boy's Reservation has been shut down, and absorbent booms have been placed on Sun Dance Creek at Rocky Boy Agency following a significant gasoline leak, Environmental Protection Agency and tribal officials said Thursday. Also, 300 to 500 cubic yards of soiled dirt, or 20 to 25 truck loads, have been hauled to a prepared cell at the reservation landfill for disposal, said Paul Peronard, an EPA on-scene coordinator. The leak came from an underground pipe carrying gasoline from storage tanks to gas pumps at the Bear Paw Pastime Gas Station, Peronard said. Gasoline in Sun Dance Creek, which is 150 feet away from the store, was first reported Tuesday. The Chippewa Cree Tribe said in a news release that the Bear Paw will remain closed indefinitely while an extensive investigation is done to determine the source of the leak. Efforts to establish alternative fuel sources are being arranged. Preliminary tests indicate the contamination is isolated to the vicinity of the gas station and the Rocky Boy Rural Water System has not been affected, the news release states. The amount leaked isn't known at this time, but initial reports ranged from 500 to 2,000 gallons, Peronard said. The



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EPA classifies a spill of more than 1,000 gallons as moderate. "It's a fair amount of gasoline leaked out of the system over time," Peronard said. Absorbent booms and pads were placed on the creek to collect the fuel. The EPA hired a contractor to dig an interceptor trench on the slope between the gas station and creek to collect gasoline. That dirt is now being hauled to the landfill. The worst of the soil should be cleaned up in a couple of days, Peronard said. The Chippewa-Creek Tribe is monitoring water quality of the creek, and the effects appear to be localized, he said. The incident was more of a gradual release rather than a spill, and it probably got worse as time went on, Peronard said. Valves were shut off and the tanks emptied when the release was discovered. The cause still is being investigated, Peronard said.

<http://www.greatfallsribune.com/article/20120525/NEWS01/205250325>

INDIA, UTTAR PRADESH, GHAZIABAD, MAY 26 2012. 2 KILLED IN TANKER BLAST IN GHAZIABAD

Two persons died while another two were critically injured after a tanker blasted while it was being cut with a [gas cutter](#) in Hindon Vihar near Meerut T-point in Ghaziabad. Police said that the amount of gas which had built up inside the closed tanker during the cutting process was so high that its cap, weighing around three quintals, flew in the air and landed around 100m away. Cops said that they are yet to ascertain the place from where the four cylindrical tankers were brought. The three junk dealers who brought them are absconding. SP (City), SS Yadav, said that the incident took place around 9.45am. "It seems that the pressure inside the tanker increased due to gases while it was being cut leading to the blast. The gas cutter, Subhrati, died on the spot while three other women cutting grass nearby got injured. One of the women, Noorjahan, got critically injured and was declared dead on arrival at the district hospital in Ghaziabad. Two other women, Zarin and Shahin, sustained critical burn injuries and are currently being treated." The injured women live in Arthla area. The gas cutter was a native of Basti district in Uttar Pradesh. "The accused scrap dealers have been identified as Ompal, Raees and Sohan. They reportedly live in Kela Bhatta area in Ghaziabad. A hunt has been launched to nab the accused. We have brought the male family members of the accused to the police station for questioning. If required, we will even book them," Yadav added. A case has been registered under Section 304A of IPC at the [Sihani Gate police](#) station. The callousness of police and district administration also came to the fore when they did not cordon off the area. People were seen moving around the huge tankers, peering inside them. None of the tankers have been shifted to a safe location and they still lie in an open area. Even children were seen playing with parts of the blasted tankers. When asked how the four cylindrical tankers were brought inside the city, Yadav said, "We have not been able to ascertain from where the tankers were purchased as the accused are absconding after the incident. Once they are arrested, we will get the details." A local resident said that the area where the tankers were kept is frequently used by junk dealers. "The containers were brought around four days ago. The iron scrap dealers use this area for cutting junk into smaller parts," said Nafisa Begam, a local resident.

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/delhi/2-killed-in-container-blast-in-Ghaziabad/articleshow/13498342.cms>

USA, FLA, BOYNTON BEACH , MAY 26 2012. GAS TANKER SPILLING FUEL; BOYNTON BEACH BOULEVARD AND JOG ROAD INTERSECTION REMAIN CLOSED

cynthia roldan

[Watch the Video Gas Tanker Leak Closes Intersection of Boynton Beach Boulevard, Jog Road](#)



Palm Beach County firefighters sprayed foam on an overturned gas tanker at the corner of Boynton Beach Boulevard and South Jog Road.

A fuel tanker that flipped over has forced authorities to close four directions of traffic in suburban Boynton Beach this afternoon. The intersection of Boynton Beach Boulevard and Jog Road is expected to remain closed until as late as 9 p.m. Palm Beach County Fire Rescue crews and Palm Beach County Sheriff's Office deputies were dispatched to the intersection at 12:53 p.m. after the tanker flipped onto its side. The tanker, which has an 8,500-gallon tank, rolled over as it attempted to turn north onto Jog Road. At least 200 gallons of gasoline have spilled from the tanker, said Palm Beach County Fire Rescue spokesman Capt. Don DeLucia. All businesses surrounding the intersection - including a CVS Pharmacy, a bank branch, restaurants and a medical office

building - have been evacuated. No injuries have been reported. Boynton Beach Boulevard is closed from El Clair Ranch



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Road to Hagen Ranch Road. Jog Road is passable, except at the intersection. Drivers are being instructed to turn around and use other roads to reach their destination. Hazardous materials crews from the county, Boca Raton, West Palm Beach and Delray Beach laid a foam blanket around the tanker to prevent the leaked gasoline from igniting. Crews have managed to slow the amount of leaking gasoline. They plan to pump out what remains in the tank and then lift the tanker back onto its wheels. The second tanker arrived at about 5 p.m. The flipped tanker is owned by Southgate Trucking of Pompano Beach. DeLucia said the company will be billed for the cost of the cleanup, but he could not say today how much that will be. Jeremy Vincent, with the law enforcement division of the state Department of Environmental Protection, said that as soon as the tanker is uprighted, vacuum trucks will suck up gasoline that ran into storm drains. A team of local American Red Cross volunteers are on the scene providing water to fire rescue crews and deputies.

<http://www.palmbeachpost.com/news/gas-tanker-spilling-fuel-boynton-beach-boulevard-and-2375635.html>

USA, CA, HUMBOLDT CO, EUREKA, MAY 26 2012. HERTZ FINED \$18K IN HUMBOLDT COUNTY SETTLEMENT

Humboldt County has fined the Hertz Corporation \$18,279 in connection with violations associated with an underground fuel storage tank at the Arcata/Eureka Airport. The Humboldt County Division of Environmental Health secured a settlement agreement with Hertz after inspectors identified numerous environmental violations associated with the tank, which stored gasoline, according to the Humboldt County Department of Health and Human Services. The violations include a failure to maintain the underground storage tank according to the conditions of the permit, a failure to properly train employees for three consecutive years and a failure to perform timely monitoring of leak detection and spill systems. The Division of Environmental Health has determined that the Hertz Corporation is now in compliance with the settlement requirements, including full payment of penalties and agency costs, according to Health and Human Services.

http://www.times-standard.com/localnews/ci_20708909/hertz-fined-18k-humboldt-county-settlement

CANADA, ALBERTA, RAINBOW LAKE, MAY 26 2012. CREWS WORK TO CLEAN UP OIL SPILL AT REMOTE ALBERTA SITE



Crews work to clean up at Rainbow Pipeline's oil spill, the worst Alberta oil spill in 35 years, dumping 28,000 barrels of oil into a wetland area at Evi, Alberta in 2011. An investigation is underway into another spill of oil from an energy site surrounded by muskeg in northwestern Alberta.

An Alberta-based oil and gas company has crews working around the clock at a remote area of the province to clean up oil that leaked from a pipeline. Calgary-based Pace Oil and Gas announced the spill on Thursday on its website, after it was spotted during a flyover on May 19. The spill is located at a well site in the muskeg in northwestern Alberta, about 20 kilometres southeast of Rainbow Lake. The affected area is about 500 metres long by 200 metres wide, said Fred Woods, president and CEO of Pace Oil and Gas Ltd. Woods told CTV Calgary the company has about 40 people on-site, working around the clock to clean up

the oil. "We're berming the location and we'll have the berms in place there tomorrow," he said Thursday. "We're currently draining it, we're taking the emulsion, which is a combination of oil and water, off the site right now and from there we'll start the remediation." There's no word yet on how much oil leaked, but the province told CTV Calgary it is considered a "significant" spill. Woods said a local wildlife management firm has been brought in to ensure wildlife does not migrate onto the site, and the provincial environment ministry has assessed the area. "To date wildlife has not been discovered within the affected area," stated the release from Pace. However, Woods said the environmental impact has not yet been determined. Because the area is muskeg, which is similar to a bog or swamp, Pace had to build a road using logs in order to bring in the equipment needed to perform the cleanup, Woods said. He said there is no timeline yet on how long the cleanup will take. Woods said it's the first leak of its kind the company has experienced, and similar well sites are now being inspected for possible weaknesses.

Update:

- The calculated release volume is 3,500 m3 of emulsion.
- As of today, approximately 400 m3 of oil and water emulsion has been recovered.



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- The amount of emulsion recovered is 11 per cent of the total fluid released.
- The emulsion is 50 per cent oil and 50 per cent water.
- The leak was detected on May 19th.
- There are no detected or anticipated harmful emissions. Ambient air modelling shows levels below criteria.
- A cell tower booster has been installed to increase connectivity to the area.
- By end of day today, the impact area will be fully accessible.
- The source of the leak was completely shut-off May 19th.
- President and CEO Fred Woods is meeting with the Dene Tha' today to discuss collaborative efforts.
- Western Canadian Spill Services, the industry's oil spill cooperative has mobilized additional resources.
- In addition to existing on-site reclamation expertise, one of North America's leading emergency spill response specialists, SWAT Consulting Inc. has been engaged and dispatched to the incident site and will arrive today.

<http://www.ctv.ca/CTVNews/TopStories/20120525/pace-oil-spill-alberta-muskeg-120525/>

USA, CO, DENVER, MAY 26 2012. SUNCOR SPILL CLEAN-UP MONTHS, YEARS AWAY

karen e. crummy

 **Watch the Video** [Suncor Spill Clean-Up Years Away](#)



Sand Creek runs north of the Suncor plant in Adams County.

Six months after Suncor Energy's oil refinery contaminated Sand Creek and nearby property, obstacles remain in containing the pollution, and a full cleanup may be years away. Current data show that surface-water levels of benzene at the point where the creek meets the South Platte River are still much higher than drinking water standards, but remain stable. And the source of the leak — a pipe within the refinery — is fixed. But one health department official says a "mass of contamination" continues to dissolve into the groundwater, and isolated pockets of pollution — much of it underground — are spread over large areas within the refinery and off-site, making it difficult to locate. While the health department has tapped various methods of remediation, officials say it will take another two months to determine their effectiveness. Walter Avramenko, head of the state's

Hazardous Waste Corrective Action Unit, said it took two decades to study and remedy historical contamination at the refinery, part of a 75-year-old industrial site, and come up with a long-term management plan. "It took only a short period of time to reverse all those gains, and we're not planning to wait another 20 years to fix it. We're pushing the refinery very hard," Avramenko said. "This is a very difficult, complex hydrogeologic environment for which there are no easy solutions." Suncor and health officials don't know how long and at what rate the refinery pipe was leaking, making it impossible to determine how much liquid was released. However, the health department characterizes the spill as "serious and significant." Over the past few months, 785,320 gallons of contaminants — about the amount that could fill an Olympic swimming pool — have been pulled from the groundwater. That doesn't include the pollution that already went into Sand Creek. Suncor vice president John Gallagher said the refinery "fell short" of its commitment to the community and its employees to operate in a safe and environmentally responsible manner. Suncor, he said, has met all the deadlines and requirements issued by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. "We believe that the permanent solutions being installed and operated ... will effectively isolate liquid hydrocarbons, manage the plume of contaminated groundwater and dramatically lower the contamination in Sand Creek," he said in an e-mail. Suncor, which bought the refinery from Conoco nine years ago and processes 90,000 barrels of crude oil a day, is on the hook for the cleanup costs. Spokeswoman Lisha Burnett said the company would spend "what it takes." She also said a "refinery outage or shutdown" to remediate the contamination will not be necessary. Critics, including WildEarth Guardians, point out that Canada-owned Suncor has had problems in the past. Most recently, it was [fined \\$2.2 million for air-quality violations](#) at the refinery. "We can't keep putting Band-Aids on the problems every few years," said Jeremy Nichols, climate and energy program director of the nonprofit environmental group. "Suncor made a huge mess. Are they cleaning it up? Yes. But if this goes on for months, maybe they should shut down the refinery to clean it up." By the time a [fisherman noticed an oil sheen](#) on the surface of Sand Creek on November 27, both Suncor and the health department had known for months that polluted groundwater from the refinery was contaminating large areas on and off



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site and that the "situation is not under control," according to a health department summary of events. Between 2009 and April 2011, pollution was found at various sites: between an underground barrier wall and Sand Creek; between the refinery and Metro Wastewater Reclamation District plant; in wells on Metro property; and in a pond in the refinery's northwest corner. The pollution included benzene, an organic compound. [Long-term benzene exposure can cause anemia and leukemia](#), according to the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry. Symptoms often take years to appear. Although Suncor and the state took investigative and corrective actions along the way, by May 2011, health officials characterized the situation as "deteriorating." In August, Suncor noticed an oil sheen on the surface of Sand Creek. Not all the pollution came from the same source. One leak stemmed from a corroded pipe. It was fixed but then broke again, causing the August seep into Sand Creek. The pipe was repaired again and the sheen disappeared. Chemical fingerprinting tracked the pond pollution back to the area of Tank 55 in the refinery. Although the leaking pipe was fixed in February 2011, health officials would later learn that it had caused widespread contamination both on and off site. "At that time, there was nothing to suggest an imminent threat," Avramenko said. "(But) we were seeing evidence of things happening in different areas. I wanted the facility to take a more holistic approach. Something bigger was happening." On Oct. 26, the health department gave Suncor deadlines to contain and stabilize contamination and mandated an investigation into off-site pollution, records show. It wasn't in time. "Between October and November, material migrated onto Metro's property from the general area of the refinery," said Rob Beierle, the health department environment-protection specialist tasked with overseeing Suncor's cleanup. And again into Sand Creek. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency launched an emergency response. Almost immediately, benzene levels in the creek measured 24,000 times the drinking water standards. That was also 23 times times the higher "warm-water aquatic life" standard. Suncor does not have a permit to discharge any level of pollutants in the creek. The situation now indicated "human health and the environment are in immediate peril," wrote Avramenko in a Dec. 1 letter to Suncor. The state and Suncor, he added, seemed to have "limited understanding of the contamination present at the refinery," which was "evidently more extensive and mobile than originally believed." Suncor was required to conduct daily inspections along the creek, monitor indoor air at the Metro plant and investigate contamination under the plant, among other things. The wastewater plant had to temporarily close a technical services building and employees had to wear respirators because of toxic vapors. Additionally, pollution under the plant — Suncor doesn't know if the source is the same as what entered Sand Creek or old contamination — permeated a plastic pipe that brought drinking water into the refinery. About 675 Suncor employees and contractors were blood-tested; however, the results are "considered private and confidential," Gallagher said. "At this time we do not know that anyone drank contaminated water," he said. "Results indicated only two of the locations that were sampled from across the refinery showed benzene at levels higher than drinking water standards," he said. Employees have been provided bottled water and the pipe was replaced with metal. The Occupational Safety & Health Administration is currently investigating worker conditions. Herb Gibson, OSHA's Denver-area director, said he could not provide further details. The material on Metro's property was chemically identical to the contamination found earlier that year in the pond, which was traced to a broken pipe near Tank 55. That escaped liquid — similar to gasoline — didn't flow in a straight line, Avramenko said. Instead, it scattered into pools throughout the refinery. Along the way, it dislodged old, previously immobile contaminants from the industrial site and dispersed them, he said. Pockets of pollution seeped out of the refinery through a gap between two underground walls: one along the Burlington Ditch and the other along Sand Creek. While much of the refinery was dammed, this area was thought to have little contamination and was never sealed, Beierle said. Although the Suncor site requires extensive cleanup, the No. 1 priority cited by both Suncor and the health department is to remediate contamination that escaped the refinery. But doing that is not as easy as scooping it up like a skimmer in a pool. First, it's liquid. Second, the contamination is made up of both floating and dissolved material. Finally: "It's in oily form. As it moves, blobs break off the main body and are left behind. The blobs dissolve in water, but not fast," said Kenneth Reardon, a chemical and biological engineering professor at Colorado State University. "It's very difficult to get in and find the little blobs, especially since they are underground." Reardon said it's hard to predict where contamination is going. The soil is not perfectly layered like a terrarium. Instead, some layers are mixed together, and water moves through it at different speeds, making its path hard to forecast. Relatively insoluble in water, the compounds, including benzene, that were recently released tend to spread laterally and form a layer on top of the water. Health officials refer to this floating material, along with a soup of other organic compounds, as "free phase." Suncor trenched an underground hanging wall to fill in the gap where the contamination escaped the refinery. That wall stops the free phase, which is then pumped out of the water and back to the refinery. Any residual free phase is stopped at a second wall. Dissolved contaminants flow underneath both walls but are extracted before hitting the creek through an air-sparging and soil vapor-extraction system. Currently, free phase has stopped flowing into the creek, but dissolved contamination continues, health



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officials said. A new, unrelated leak was found two weeks ago. Gallagher said the "material is well contained within refinery property." Gallagher also said he believes the trenching and treatment systems will successfully isolate the contamination and lower the benzene levels in Sand Creek. The health department, however, is more cautious. "We're going to monitor, adjust, monitor, adjust, monitor and then, by summer, hopefully we will be able to say, yes, it's working, or no, it's not," Avramenko said. While there is a lot of remediation technology available, "every site is different and every technology will behave differently as a result of different conditions and different environments," he said.

http://www.denverpost.com/breakingnews/ci_20710927/suncor-spill-clean-up-months-years-away?source=googlenews

ENGLAND, SALFORD, MAY 27 2012. 44 MOTORISTS CONK OUT AT THE ROADSIDE AFTER BUNGLING TANKER DRIVER FILLS UNLEADED TANK WITH DIESEL

amy oliver

- Tanker driver caused around £14,000 of damage after mix-up
- Sainsbury's has agreed to cover cost of vehicle repairs
- Average repair for cleaning out petrol tank contaminated with diesel is £330



Bungling: The driver of the tanker caused around £14,000 worth of damage after the mix-up at a Sainsbury's forecourt in Salford, Manchester.

A bungling tanker driver left dozens of motorists stranded and caused thousands of pounds worth of damage to their cars after accidentally putting diesel into an unleaded storage tank. The driver caused around £14,000 worth of damage after the mix-up at a Sainsbury's petrol station forecourt in Salford, Manchester. A total of 44 cars were affected - and now owners face bills of hundreds of pounds to get their engines fixed. Bosses at the Regent Road store in Salford closed the pumps when they discovered the mix-up. By then, reports were coming in of cars conking-out on the streets. Sainsbury's apologised and has

already agreed to cover the cost of repairs to the vehicles. One of the car drivers, from Manchester, said the blunder had ruined a friend's birthday. The 35-year-old had filled her Peugeot 3008 with £40 of the wrong fuel. She said: 'I drove away and the car felt strange but I thought it was just cold or something. It was only 7.40am. I made it to work, but when I came back at lunchtime to go and meet my friend, it wouldn't start. I thought about phoning Peugeot and give them a hard time, but rang the AA instead. The man arrived and said they had had a call from Sainsbury's saying there had been a problem with the fuel. 'I was supposed to go out with a friend to a spa in Cheadle for her birthday. The whole afternoon was ruined.' The mistake is believed to have happened during an early-morning delivery last week. Garages across Salford reported brisk trade as affected motorists contacted them to fix their broken-down cars. Tony Everall, owner of AL Everall on Blackfriars Road, Salford, said: 'One woman brought in a Mini One. She had filled up at Sainsbury's and thought she had put petrol in. 'She got as far as Deansgate and the car started conking out. When we got it going, it started blowing smoke out the back like a James Bond car.' An AA spokesman said the average repair for cleaning out a petrol tank contaminated with diesel was £330. Sainsbury's spokesman said: 'As soon as we became aware of this isolated and extremely rare incident we immediately closed the filling station. 'Our priority has been to ensure that our customers' cars are fixed and we have been in contact with those affected to arrange and cover all the costs for these repairs. 'We're very sorry for the inconvenience caused to these customers and we are working closely with our suppliers to help prevent this from happening again.'

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2150282/You-fuel-44-motorists-conk-roadside-bungling-tanker-driver-fills-unleaded-tank-diesel.html?ito=feeds-newsxml>

USA, MO, ST.CHARLES, MAY 27 2012. BOAT EXPLOSIONS INJURE MAN IN ST. CHARLES COUNTY

john knicely

[Watch the Video Boat Explosions Injure Man](#)

A man had just filled up his boat with more than 100 gallons of gas Friday night when something sparked an [explosion](#). Paul Kribbs had just pulled his boat into his slip at North Shore Marina on the Mississippi River in St. Charles County. Orchard Farm Fire Chief Jeremy Hollrah says they aren't sure what sparked the initial fire. But that caused the Kribbs' gas tank to explode. Then a boat one slip over caught fire, causing its gas tank to explode as well. A third boat had minor damage. No one else



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was in the boats. A paramedic was able to pull Kribbs out but not before he suffered serious burns. Firefighters were hosing down the boats when one started floating across the way toward the gas station while still on fire. "We thought it was going to blow up the gas pumps," said Kelly Gamblin who was in another boat in the marina. She says the marina owner jumped in his boat and was pushing the flaming boat away from the gas pumps while firefighters hosed it down. Fire crews eventually extinguished the fires with no further damage. Kribbs was airlifted to Mercy Hospital in critical condition.

<http://www.kmov.com/home/Man-suffers-serious-burns-after-apparent-boat-explosion-in-St-Charles-154308665.html>

USA, MS, SARDIS, MAY 27 2012. EXPLOSIONS AT SCRAP YARD SEND METAL FLYING

michele reese

 **Watch the Video** [Scrap Metal Yard Explosions](#)

Once every couple of weeks, sharp explosions rattle the walls of Bessie Bobo's Sardis home. "I came around I seen this thing laying on the ground and there was this big hole then my shingles are off," she said. But this week, a huge piece of an old oxygen tank came flying over the fence from the Martin Brothers scrap yard and hit her newly remodeled house. "I just had a room built. When it blew up it knocked off part of my house," she said. While Ms. Bobo's concerned about projectiles hitting her home what worries her most is one hitting a child. "I have a lot of children come to my house and I'm concerned children coming here what if they get killed," she said. "I'm really scared to be outside." And Bobo's not alone. One neighbor told us his windows were blown out by a different explosion. Another neighbor moved out when the scrap yard moved in about 3 years ago. They all share the same sentiment. They're tired of the flying car parts and noisy scrap yard in their once peaceful country town. "They're bad neighbors," Bobo said. Bobo said the company did however offer to pay to fix her home, but they told her estimate was too high. "He told me to take him to court he'd been there before," she said. She hopes won't come to that. This is not the only complaint against the company. We are told that at the last board of supervisors meeting several neighbors spoke out about all the 18-wheelers going through the small neighborhood. We tried to contact the owners of the Martin Brothers scrap metal yard but we were unable to get a comment.

<http://wreg.com/2012/05/25/explosions-at-scrap-yard-send-metal-flying/>

USA, MD, BETHESDA, MAY 27 2012. AHEAD OF MEMORIAL DAY, STATE INSPECTORS PUT GAS STATIONS TO THE TEST >> INSPECTIONS HELP ENSURE CONSUMERS ARE BUYING THE TYPE OF GAS ADVERTISED, OFFICIALS SAID.

erin donaghue



When you head to the gas station to fuel up this holiday weekend, will you be purchasing the type of gas that's advertised? Maryland Comptroller Peter Franchot hopes so. Thursday, ahead of Memorial Day, Franchot joined state field enforcers during a routine inspection of a Bethesda Exxon station near the [Westfield Montgomery Mall](#). State inspectors regularly perform tests at Maryland stations to determine whether the gasoline grade that's advertised matches the fuel's octane level, Franchot said. "We want to make sure when someone comes into a gas station in Maryland and pays money for high octane gas, that it is in fact high octane gas," Franchot told reporters. Of the 2,300 gas stations in Maryland, more than 2,000 have been inspected this year by state regulators, Franchot told reporters. Of those inspected, about one percent failed, Franchot said – a rate that tends to be higher in states without regular oversight. Stations

that fail an inspection can be subject to having their pumps taken out of service, officials said. Thursday, a state inspector used an octane reader to test the gas at the Montgomery Mall Exxon. The device uses a laser to estimate the octane levels in the fuel, according to Nathan Essey, a supervising inspector in the comptroller's office. The reading indicated the fuel matches the gasoline grade advertised, though the samples will be sent back to Maryland's motor fuel testing lab for an official reading, Essey said. "I want to assure Memorial Day travelers that when they come in to buy gas in Maryland, they're going to get exactly what is advertised and what they're paying for," Franchot said.

<http://wheaton-md.patch.com/articles/ahead-of-memorial-day-state-inspectors-put-gas-stations-to-the-test-456e5711>



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INDONESIA, JAKARTA, MAY 27 2012. JAKARTA'S FILLING STATIONS RAISE HEALTH FEARS

Living with a gas filling station next door is apparently still considered normal in Jakarta, though people have become aware of the health threats it poses. Saaduddin Mansur has been residing right beside a gas station belonging to state-owned oil company Pertamina at Palmerah in West Jakarta for more than 30 years. He said he was aware of the potential health threat posed by living side-by-side with a gas station and inhaling benzene (a chemical component of fuel) everyday, yet he had no choice but to accept the situation. "Yes, I inhale the smell of fuel every morning, but what can I do? This is my home, and I have been living here since I was born." In addition to health risks, the citizens have to live in fear as explosions and fire-related incidents could occur at any given moment. This could be a problem for some people who wish to have their houses insured. "Insurance companies refused to cover my house, because they thought that insuring it would be risky," said Meiyana, a resident who lives near a gas station in Cempaka Putih, East Jakarta. Despite the threats they pose to citizens, gas stations that are built adjacent to residential houses, such as those in Palmerah and Cempaka Putih, are prevalent in the capital, including some gas stations belonging to foreign-owned oil companies. Tommy Firman, a city planning and urban development expert at the Bandung Institute of Technology, criticized the presence of gas stations in the heart of residential zones. He said that the Jakarta administration had been terribly erroneous in developing the city and segregating the zones allotted for residential, commercial or public facilities. "In theory, [gas stations] must be placed quite far from residential areas. At least, there must be a 'buffer zone' area, such as parks or green spaces, to put distance between gas stations and residential houses," he argued. Berlian Siagian, a public health expert at Pelita Harapan University, argued that gas stations should be built at least 100 meters away from residential areas. Any closer and the presence of gas stations could result in negative long-term effects for the health of nearby residents, he added. "For example, various studies show that children residing in close proximity with gas stations are four times more likely to suffer from leukemia," he said in a recent public discussion, referring to a type of lethal cancer that attacks a person's immune system and white blood cells. Various illnesses, such as anemia, disruption of women's menstruation, and giving birth to underweight babies, could also likely occur for the residents, Berlian added. Many suspect that the process to issue building permits for gas stations, which involves the Construction Supervision and Regulation agency (P2B) of the city administration, is marred with corruption and that permits are issued as long as money is provided to the officials in charge. P2B head I Putu Ngurah Indiana denied such speculation, saying that all building permits that the agency issued were done so professionally according to the city's carefully considered plans. He argued that no official would dare to receive bribes to issue a permit that is not in line with city planning regulations as there were legal consequences for such fraudulent acts. "If an official issues a [building] permit that breaches the rules of Jakarta city planning, he could face up to three years in prison," he said. The P2B head snapped back at residents who opposed the building of gas stations near their houses. "From my previous experiences, most of the residents' protests were mainly driven by economic motives."

<http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2012/05/26/jakarta-s-filling-stations-raise-health-fears.html>

USA, WYO, RAWLINS, MAY 27 2012. CITATIONS EXPECTED IN WYOMING REFINERY FIRE

At least three citations are expected to be issued against the Sinclair oil refinery in Wyoming where a flash fire injured four workers. John Ysebaert, administrator of standards and compliance for the Wyoming Department of Workforce Services, said that no citations have been issued, but the company can expect to be penalized after the investigation is complete. The fire occurred May 8 at the Sinclair Oil Corp. refinery, about five miles east of Rawlins, and one worker, Tim Bjork, remains hospitalized in satisfactory condition at a burn center in Salt Lake City. Ysebaert says Sinclair will have 15 days once the investigation is complete to informally contest the citations. A formal appeals process involving public hearings and administrative hearings would follow.

http://billingsgazette.com/news/state-and-regional/wyoming/citations-expected-in-wyoming-refinery-fire/article_d8edbb68-9e63-5961-9298-f99c262de5ad.html?comment_form=true

AZERBAIJAN, BAKU, MAY 27 2012. SOCAR DENIES REPORT OF PLANS FOR REFINERY, GAS STATIONS IN LIBYA

zulfugar agayev

State Oil Co. of Azerbaijan, or Socar, denied reports it plans to build an oil refinery and filling stations in Libya. "We are not implementing any project in Libya," Socar President Rovnaq Abdullayev told reporters in Baku yesterday. "No Socar official has been to Libya." Agasalim Shukurov, the Azeri ambassador in Tripoli, told Libya's Oil and Gas Minister Abdulrahman Ben Yezza that Azerbaijan may build a refinery and a chain of gasoline stations in the North African country, according to a May 14



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statement by the Azeri Foreign Ministry. Abdullayev said Socar has no plans to operate in Libya because of political instability in the country. The company has filling stations in Azerbaijan, Ukraine, Georgia and [Romania](#), and is building a refinery in Turkey's Izmir region.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2012-05-25/socar-denies-report-of-plans-for-refinery-gas-stations-in-libya.html>

USA, WA, COUPEVILLE, WHIDBEY ISLAND MAY 28 2012. CREW RUSHES TO RECOVER SUNKEN FISHING BOAT IN PENN COVE >> CREWS ARE RACING TO RECOVER A SUNKEN, 140-FOOT FISHING BOAT FROM THE PENN COVE SEABED.

Watch the Video

- [Preparation Under Way to Raise Crab Boat](#)
- [Salvage Fleet Races to Penn Cove to Remove Sunken Boat](#)
- [Dept. of Ecology | Video from divers of the sunken boat](#)

Inside a high-tech, converted Chevy truck, state officials and contractors are racing to figure out how to hoist up that old, sunken 140-foot fishing boat, which weighs maybe 750,000 pounds. There's a sense of urgency: Crews already have recovered 1,400 or so gallons of oil that leaked from the derelict boat after it caught fire and sank two weeks ago, shutting down the island's world-famous mussel beds. Now is the mussels' peak spawning season; their harvest has been closed until cleared by toxicity tests. The truck, with an ominous-looking skull-and-crossbones "hazardous materials" logo on its side, is a temporary office for state and private contractors with laptops and smartphones, sometimes sketching on the whiteboards that line the walls. It is a delicate and plainly brutish operation they are planning, with the hoisting maybe on Monday, but more likely in two or three days. For example, what happens if the boat landed atop a rock spire and has a huge hole in its side? It's not until the boat is lifted to just below the water surface that they'll find out. The boat will hang there for whatever work needs to be done. "We can patch a six-inch hole by welding underwater. But a 10-by-15-foot hole, it's not worth it," says Kris Lindberg, environmental-operations manager for Global Diving & Salvage, the Seattle-based contractor that will lift the boat from the seabed. Instead of trying to refloat the derelict boat and tow it to a shipyard, it might have to be placed on a barge. The person everyone here answers to is Dick Walker, the state Department of Ecology's on-scene coordinator. Out of old habit, he still jingles a pocketful of quarters in his pant pocket. He is 61, has been with the agency for 27 years, 15 of them dealing with oil spills, and he remembers the days when he was dealing with some spill in some remote location, and communication consisted of finding a pay phone at a gas station. Now his BlackBerry rings constantly. And, instead of having to look for pay phones, he has the converted Chevy Kodiak command truck. The tab for the Penn Cove recovery just keeps increasing, as Walker tracks the costs on his laptop. A crew of five or six divers? And the survey work on the wreck, which is on its side in 50 to 60 feet of water, resting in two to three feet of silt? That's \$10,600 a day. Cost of the two crane barges, with their crews and tugboat, that'll be used for hoisting the boat? That'll be \$70,000 a day. Cost of the boom and boats that encircle the sunken vessel and stop the leaking oil from spreading? That's \$14,000 a day. "It wouldn't surprise me if this went to \$1 million," says Walker. It's already at \$750,000 since the Deep Sea sank, and for now, the taxpayers are footing the bill. The owner of the sunken boat, Rory Westmoreland, a scrap dealer, carried no insurance on the boat, says Walker. Westmoreland has said he has no money to pay for the cleanup, although the state says it'll go after him for reimbursement. "To a certain extent, boating in Puget Sound is like the last of the Wild West," says Walker. You moor a boat at a private facility, it'll demand you carry insurance. There is no such law about parking your boat on Puget Sound, says Walker. Inside the command center, it's all about the details. Like how the boat will be lifted. Two link chains, each 90 feet long, each attached to its own crane, will be used. Needless to say, they are too heavy for the divers to maneuver under the sunken boat. So, instead, divers will literally tunnel under the hull with jet pumps. They then will run a "messenger line" a half-inch in diameter through that tunnel, and then hook it to the chain. By then, the divers also will have blown out the silt that has accumulated inside the boat to lighten it. There is the potential the boat was damaged enough to break in two. So the less it weighs, the less chance of that happening, says Walker. Divers already have helped pump an additional 3,100 gallons of fuel safely from the tanks. But could there be more? Everyone knows the urgency of the operation, says Walker. Ian Jefferds, co-owner of Penn Cove Shellfish, says his company is losing \$50,000 a day from not being able to harvest not only the mussels, but also clams and oysters it grows at Penn Cove. It has been able to partially mitigate those losses by harvesting at its facility at Quilcene Bay. Still, he says, "Without question, it hurts." At the war room, the details keep getting worked out. Nobody knows what caused the boat fire, which burned for some 18 hours. Walker says one reason the boat filled up with water is it



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used PVC piping that went out the sides of the boat. The heat was such during the fire that it melted the piping, and water gushed in. With the boat hoisted up, the plan is to fill the holes with plugs made of wood and epoxy foam. This weekend, the planning just keeps going, detail after detail. "We are always thinking, what could go wrong. What sounds like a good idea, and what could go wrong?" says Walker.

http://seattletimes.nwsources.com/html/localnews/2012296526_penncove27m.html

ENGLAND, GLOUCESTERSHIRE, MAY 28 2012. WOMAN KILLED AFTER CRASH AT PETROL STATION

A woman from the Chipping Norton area has died after an accident at a petrol station forecourt in Gloucestershire. The 43-year-old's car, a yellow Vauxhall Corsa, left the road and crashed into other cars in Alderton Garage on the B4077 at about midday on Saturday. She was declared dead at the scene. A young male, who reportedly worked at the station, was airlifted to Frenchay Hospital in Bristol with life-threatening injuries. Police said he is in a stable condition. A woman from Alderton was freed from her car by the fire service and taken to the Cheltenham General Hospital with serious but non life-threatening injuries. The fire service also ensured the safety of the fuel pumps.

http://www.witneygazette.co.uk/news/wgheadlines/9729513.Woman_killed_after_crash_at_petrol_station/

THAILAND, BANGKOK, MAY 28 2012. GAS KILLS 5 WORKERS AT PIG FARM

Two Thai and three Burmese workers died after inhaling poisonous gas while connecting pipes in a biogas well at a pig farm in Ratchaburi's Pak Tho district on Sunday morning, police said. Pol Maj Passakorn Yuyen, the duty officer at Pak Tho police station, said the incident took place at the pig farm of SPM Animal Feed Co in tambon Huay Yang Thon at about 9am. He said the five workers went down into the biogas well of the pig farm to connect pipes to supply gas to a power-generating plant inside the farm without wearing protective gear. They collapsed after inhaling gas and died after being brought up from the well. Their bodies were sent to Ratchaburi Regional Hospital for autopsy.

<http://www.bangkokpost.com/breakingnews/295281/5-workers-die-inhaling-gas-at-pig-farm>

AUSTRALIA, VICTORIA, MELBOURNE, MAY 28 2012. EXXONMOBIL TO KEEP REFINERY DESPITE STRAINS

ExxonMobil says it has no plans to close its Melbourne refinery, despite expectations it will post a loss for 2011, according to a report by The Australian. Andrew Warrell, the company's new head of Australian and New Zealand refining, says that the Altona-based refinery is making money this year, despite ongoing threats to the industry, and warns that the carbon tax would bring more strain, according to the report. "Despite the very tough conditions, we're managing to make money and we have a very good improvement program at the site that makes me confident we can grow profitability," Mr Warrell said, according to The Australian.

<http://www.businessspectator.com.au/bs.nsf/Article/ExxonMobil-to-keep-refinery-despite-strains-pd20120528-UPTQM?OpenDocument&src=hp11>

RUSSIA, NIZHNY NOVGOROD OBLAST, MAY 28 2012. FLAMES RISE ABOVE FUEL TANK WAGONS AT A RAILWAY STATION OUTSIDE THE CITY OF NIZHNY NOVGOROD



Flames rise above fuel tank wagons at a railway station outside the city of Nizhny Novgorod May 28, 2012. A fire unexpectedly broke out on Monday morning at the "Gorky-Sortirovochny" railway station, where fuel tank wagons were situated, and was later extinguished by 150 firefighters and 21 vehicles, according to the press service of the Russian Emergencies Ministry.

<http://www.trust.org/alertnet/multimedia/pictures/detail.dot?mediaNode=afb705c0-d2cc-43f3-b67b-e1c37a09da6f>



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