



Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network

Release 2012 – 873 Newsy Stuff

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

August 27 2012



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AUSTRALIA, QUEENSLAND, EUMUNDI, AUGUST 12 2012. EUMUNDI SERVO IS PUMPING AGAIN

kate clifford



Protestors outside the Eumundi Service Station after the ban.

The last of five hinterland service stations deemed too dangerous to pump fuel has been saved, with bowsters at the Eumundi outlet reopening for businesses. Council forced the closure of the service stations last December in response to a change to the Dangerous Goods Safety Act, which found several kerbside pumps to be dangerous. After a review of the findings and the installation of several safety measures, stations at Conondale, Eudlo and Peachester were able to reopen. Eight months on, the Eumundi Service Station has received approval, with owner Bob Loudon relieved his business has been saved. "I am elated, but not just for myself but for the whole town as well," Mr Loudon said. "The community was so involved in getting us back up and running. The support has been absolutely huge." Council originally banned the stations from selling fuel because the kerbside bowsters put patrons at risk. Modifications to the pumps and changes to the business conditions to allow only employees to refuel customers' cars has

allowed the businesses to reopen. However Mr Loudon's station faces another condition and is banned from selling fuel during peak market hours. Eumundi Chamber of Commerce president Barrie Adams said the community was thrilled to see petrol on sale in the town again. "The servo is iconic. It has been here for 83 years, so it has a lot of history with many of the locals," Mr Adams said. A celebration will be held at the station today as the first fuel flows. Palmwoods was the only station out of the five opting to close its service for good.

<http://www.sunshinecoastdaily.com.au/story/2012/08/12/eumundi-service-station-is-pumping-again-fuel/>

CANADA, B.C, VANCOUVER, AUGUST 12 2012. STEEL FURNACE OIL TANKS ARE AS OBSOLETE AS DINOSAURS

shell busey

It feels like summer has just arrived, but fall is well on its way. Heating companies usually get inundated with phone calls when the first week of cold weather arrives, so it's best if you don't delay any projects related to your home heating system. Many of you who do not have access to a natural gas supply line in rural areas use oil as the fuel to heat your home. Those dated oil tanks mounted alongside or inside thousands of homes in B.C. are becoming a thing of the past. Three main factors have contributed to their demise. First, many steel furnace oil tanks in use have been in place for many years, sometimes decades. Their exterior surfaces may have become corroded and in disrepair. Even more importantly, the interior surfaces can also be badly corroded. Interior corrosion can become a recipe for disaster! Exterior steel surfaces corrode rapidly in our wet, humid West Coast environment when paint is nicked or damaged, but how does the interior of the tank corrode? Condensation forms on inside surfaces of steel tanks which, over time, begins to accumulate at the bottom of the tank, even if it is inside a home. An acidic microbial growth forms where the fuel and water meet, which in turn eats away at the interior surface. New, clean-burning, low sulphur and bio-heating fuels add even more acidity. There is no known way to prevent this corrosion. Second, home insurers are aware of the significance of furnace oil tanks that are in poor condition. Far too many steel tanks have "let go" and spilled their contents, an ugly and expensive mess to clean up. Many insurers require all furnace oil tanks - despite their outward appearance - be replaced every 10 years. Many more insurers require all tanks moved outdoors because of actual and perceived insurance risks associated with the tanks. The manufacture date that is usually indicated on the Specification Plate mounted on the tank is the best way to determine how old the tank is. If your tank doesn't have one of these plates, then the tank is probably greater than 10 years old. Third, as in all parts of our lives, technology changes and improves. New tank technology has resulted in the development of non-metallic furnace oil tanks that will never corrode. Many provincial and territorial governments support the migration from steel to non-metallic tanks. As well, major oil companies are adopting the non-metallic tank options. In response, some steel tank manufacturers have introduced a "second bottom" to their



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tanks to extend the lifespan, but these tanks remain subject to corrosion and insurance difficulties. Strong, lightweight fibreglass tanks manufactured in Canada are available. Fibreglass furnace oil tanks eliminate corrosion and insurance concerns. "Best in class" fibreglass tanks also carry warranties and insurance that provide 30 years of protection and up to \$5 million environmental protection.

<http://www.theprovince.com/Steel+furnace+tanks+obsolete+dinosaurs/7078566/story.html>

USA, WI, JACKSON, AUGUST 12 2012. GAS SPILL CLEANUP EFFORT CHANGES LANDSCAPE

don behm



A worker pumps water from a test well Friday.

More than three weeks after a July 17 gasoline pipeline spill, this is what a cleanup looks like:

An encampment of office trailers, awnings, portable toilets, flood lights, backhoes, flatbed trailers and pickup trucks lines a gravel access road stretching more than one-third of a mile north of the 1800 block of Western Ave. There are generators, a communications tower and utility terrain vehicles. This is just the staging area. Signs on the paved road alert drivers to utility work but motorists cannot see beyond a rise in the open fields to the north. That is where an industrial-scale soil and groundwater cleanup effort has been growing steadily larger to the point where it has overrun the once-secluded 20-acre residence of Patrick and Sally McComis. Their home is 200 feet west of the pipeline break. The family has not returned there since being evacuated July 18. They are moving out of hotel rooms this weekend and into a Cedarburg home rented for them by West Shore Pipe

Line Co. Bulldozers created a gravel access road across their backyard Thursday so that two trailers housing a mobile groundwater cleanup system could be parked there for at least several months or longer. The large trailers arrived Friday and West Shore officials say the system will be operated as long as state officials say it is necessary. The treatment plant will separate gasoline from groundwater and discharge clean water to a nearby creek north of Mill Road, under a state permit. The gravel drive to the trailers starts behind the family's garage and skirts the outside of a large pit that was dug when contractors excavated gasoline-soaked soil in the wake of the pipeline break. The west rim of the pit is less than 100 feet from the home. Several wells used to monitor depth and flow of groundwater have been drilled between the spill site and the residence. Four plastic pipes sticking above the ground in a half circle around the house mark locations of soil vapor testing holes. The pump of the family's private well is being pulled out so that scientists can study a recent unexpected spike in benzene contamination in the water. Tests of a water sample collected Monday found up to 29,600 parts per billion of the chemical, nearly 6,000 times the federal drinking water standard of 5 parts per billion. Concentrations of several other gasoline components, including toluene and ethyl benzene, also spiked that day. Friday morning, a vacuum truck was extracting gasoline-contaminated groundwater from a large-diameter well on the northeast corner of the property. This is one of the wells that will be pumped regularly to remove tainted groundwater from 100 feet or more beneath the surface so that it can be treated. Contractors call it a recovery well. If tests show there still is a significant volume of gasoline around the bottom of the McComis well, it could be enlisted to extract groundwater that would be sent through the mobile treatment plant. Friday afternoon, two more wells were being drilled while two vacuum trucks worked at removing tainted groundwater from other wells. Two additional groundwater removal wells are being dug on the east side of the pipeline. This is the Sweet Dreams farm owned by John and Suzanne Fenton. A 10-inch fuel pipeline owned by West Shore ruptured July 17 and spilled an estimated 54,600 gallons of gasoline. The break occurred on the Fenton farm, about 25 feet east of the McComis property. Two-thirds of the pit left behind by the soil cleanup is on a Fenton pasture. Their home, however, is about one-third mile south of the break, close to Western Ave. The couple have been staying in local hotels where the company is paying for their room. Even so, John Fenton said he is growing tired of the daily disruption of their lives. "There's no down time, no escape," he said. There's no end to the constant parade of vehicles entering and exiting the encampment. Flood lights from the encampment fill the sky with light. Fenton said he can no longer walk out of his rural house and see stars.

23 Contaminated Wells

Gasoline that spilled out of the pipeline flowed into fractures in dolomite bedrock just a few feet beneath the surface. Twenty-three private wells in the town that tap into a shallow dolomite aquifer for water have been contaminated with gasoline. By



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Friday, a contractor for the company had installed 68 well filter systems at residences in all directions from the spill. Most of those wells are in a state-designated restricted water use area where residents are warned to use well water only for flushing toilets. There should be no skin contact with well water within this zone and it should not be used to water lawns or flowers. State environmental and health officials are telling families with the new filtration units that they should continue using the water for flushing toilets only at this time. One reason for the delay is that officials are preparing guidelines for testing water samples from the filter systems. Those guidelines will be distributed to private laboratories. "We need tests showing filtered water is safe to use" before giving approval to use wells with the filters, said Scott Ferguson, spill coordinator for the Department of Natural Resources in Milwaukee. Even then, the filtered well water will be deemed safe for laundry or washing dishes but not for drinking and food preparation, he said. It is not known how long it will take to flush unsafe levels of gasoline from the shallow groundwater. The flush-only advisory area extends from the Prairie Meadows Estates subdivision along Wildflower Lane north of Mill Road to the subdivisions along Mockingbird and Hummingbird drives south of Western Ave. The western boundary is the block of Maple Road between Mill Road and Western Ave. The area extends a few hundred yards east of the pipeline spill. Private well filtration systems are being installed at some wells along Division Road, east of the flush-only area, as a precaution. Though West Shore's revised map of a plume of gasoline flowing in groundwater away from the spill shows contamination east and northwest of the flush-only advisory area, the boundaries of the zone will not change at this time, said Stephen Ales, the DNR's private water section chief in Madison. One well to the east where benzene had been detected in late July has tested clean in several subsequent tests, Ales said. There are no wells in the plume extension immediately northwest of the flush-only zone, so there is no reason to alter the boundary at this time, he said. The DNR is watching test results for several private wells further northwest, along Sherman Road, in case the plume spreads that far, Ales said. West Shore is providing bottled water to all families in the flush-only zone and a larger drinking water advisory area where residents are urged not to use water from private wells for drinking, cooking and food preparation. The drinking water advisory area extends from Jackson Drive on the west to Center Road on the east, from Sherman Road on the north to Spring Valley Road on the south. West Shore is providing hotel rooms for families in the flush-only area as well as laundry and pet boarding services.

<http://www.jsonline.com/news/ozwash/pipeline-0h6epsc-165765966.html>

USA, TX, PORT ARTHUR, AUGUST 16 2012. NAME RELEASED OF MAN KILLED IN REFINERY TRENCHING ACCIDENT



Update: Officials with the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office have released the name of a man killed Tuesday in a construction accident at a Port Arthur refinery. [James Keith Hudnall](#), 65, of Orange died after becoming trapped in a trench at Total.

Previous reporting: A 65-year-old contract worker employed at the Total Port Arthur refinery was killed Tuesday in a construction accident. The unidentified man, who is from Orange, became trapped in a trench and was transported to [Christus St. Mary Hospital](#) where he was pronounced dead, according to information from the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office. "It is with great sadness that we report he has since passed away," a press release from Total's Houston

office stated. "The incident did not involve the operations of the refinery and was confined to the construction site. We are unaware of any other injuries at this time," the press release stated. The refinery, located in Port Arthur, is working with authorities on an investigation of the accident, according to the release.

<http://www.beaumontenterprise.com/news/article/UPDATE-Name-released-of-man-killed-in-refinery-3788143.php>

USA, LA, BATON ROUGE, AUGUST 12 2012. PLANT NEIGHBORS COMPLAIN OF AILMENTS

naomi martin

Sharon Warren said she and her children have been experiencing severe headaches and respiratory problems since the June 14 benzene leak at the nearby ExxonMobil Chemical Plant in north Baton Rouge. "I don't want my children to play outside anymore," she said. "They both asthmatic, they come in complaining of headaches, not feeling good. I don't know what's in that air." Warren was among about 70 residents attending a meeting on the release and its impacts Friday night at Allen Chapel on Scenic Highway. The meeting was hosted by 'Pray for our Air,' a community group, with presentations by the



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Louisiana Bucket Brigade and the Louisiana Environmental Action Network. The leak released 28,688 pounds of benzene, according to a compliance order and notice of potential penalty that DEQ filed against ExxonMobil Chemical on July 19. The plant typically releases about 22,600 pounds of benzene per year, said Marylee Orr, executive director of the Louisiana Environmental Action Network. Benzene is a potentially cancer-causing chemical that can cause those exposed to it symptoms such as blood cell damage, headaches, nausea, dizziness, vomiting and irritation of the throat, skin, eyes and nose, Orr said. Several neighborhood residents who attended Friday's meeting complained of headaches, respiratory problems and generally feeling unwell. They said the air has also taken on a more pungent smell since the spill. Anna Hrybyk, program manager for the Louisiana Bucket Brigade, said her office received 22 reports of health problems on July 14, including two babies who were sent to the hospital because they were vomiting white fluid, a symptom she attributed to the benzene release. Stephanie Cargile, ExxonMobil Baton Rouge's public affairs manager, said neither ExxonMobil nor state Department of Environmental Quality monitors detected any air quality problems in the wake of the spill. "I can't comment on their health problems," she said, adding the corporation aims to maintain an open dialogue with the surrounding community through regular meetings and a newsletter. She said neighbors experiencing problems can call (225) 977-8393 to file a complaint or speak with a plant representative. "Since the spill, we've gotten one neighbor complaint, and that is it," Cargile said. Neighbors at the meeting complained that they were never notified about the June 14 spill by ExxonMobil or government authorities. "(ExxonMobil) never told us nothing like, 'Something came out — keep your kids inside,'" Warren said. Cargile said ExxonMobil did not alert the neighbors about the June 14 spill because "there was no action for them to take." The state Department of Environmental Quality issued a compliance order and notice of potential penalty against ExxonMobil Chemical on July 19 that in part states the facility did not notify the state and other agencies when estimates of a leak amount June 14 substantially changed. Representatives from the national Environmental Protection Agency will hold a meeting Tuesday to hear residents' concerns about the leak. The meeting will be at Faith Place, 6180 Winbourne Ave., from 6 to 9 p.m. Anyone with questions about the meeting can contact Israel Anderson at (225) 665-3138.

<http://theadvocate.com/home/3602499-125/plant-neighbors-complain-of-ailments>

INDONESIA, EAST JAVA, MALANG, AUGUST 16 2012. FOUR DEAD, FIVE INJURED IN FIREWORKS EXPLOSIONS

wahyoe boediwardhana



At least four people died and five were injured in the three separate fireworks explosions in Malang, East Java, on Tuesday. The first explosion took place at 7pm in Tumpang subdistrict, killing three: Ponari, 50, Listiana, 35 and Sodikin, 17. Siamah, Listiana's mother, suffered severe burns and was rushed to Saiful Anwar Hospital in Malang. Ponari was allegedly a fireworks maker and was working on some when the explosion occurred. "The explosion destroyed Ponari's house. The victims' bodies are still buried under the house's rubble," said Malang Police chief Adj. Sr. Comr. Rinto Djatmono on Wednesday. At 8 p.m., an explosion occurred in Pakis subdistrict, killing a man named Sugianto and injuring three others, who were admitted to Saiful Anwar Hospital and Lavallette Hospital in Malang for medical treatment. Two hours later, fireworks exploded in Kedungkandang subdistrict, severely injuring Mulyanto. He was also taken to Saiful Anwar Hospital. East Java Police spokesperson Sr. Comr. Hilman Thayib said that the police were currently investigating the cause of the explosions and the materials used to make the fireworks. The police's forensic team was also deployed to collect of the victims' remains. "Their bodies are scattered everywhere due to the big explosion," he said. The police claimed that they had created strict regulations on fireworks to prevent such incidents from happening. Those found guilty of making and distributing fireworks could face up to 12 years in prison. "The problem is that residents keep making fireworks despite the regulation," he said.

<http://news.asiaone.com/News/AsiaOne%2BNews/Asia/Story/A1Story20120816-365678.html>

SPAIN, ELCHE, AUGUST 16 2012. SPANISH FIREWORKS EXPLODE PREMATURELY, INJURING 28

 Watch the Video's

- [Spanish Firework Display Backfires, Injuring 28](#)
- [Massive Firework Blast Injures 28 in Spain](#)



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• [Dozens Injured in Fireworks Mishap in Bell Tower](#)

A fireworks explosion over a church bell tower set the sky ablaze and resulted in 28 injuries during a festival in eastern Spain. Fireworks stored in a church bell tower in the town of Elche were scheduled to go off at midnight Monday, an Elche Town Hall representative told [The Press Association](#). Instead, the fireworks, protected by a blanket and in a pack inside the tower, were struck by rogue fireworks that had launched from somewhere else. That strike caused the covered fireworks to launch prematurely, sending an explosion of mini-rockets into the air and raining sparks and burning material down on people below. The town representative said three of the 28 people injured were fireworks operators who had to be hospitalized for serious burns. The other 25 people were treated for minor injuries.

<http://www.eastidahonews.com/2012/08/watch-spanish-fireworks-explode-prematurely-injuring-28/>

USA, GA, FAYETTE CO, AUGUST 16 2012. TOXIC LEAK MAY AFFECT N. FAYETTE WELL WATER SAFETY

john munford

Additional testing performed at the Philips Services Corporation plant just across the Fayette-Fulton County line has shown that chemicals leaked from a now-closed solidification pit into the ground and also the groundwater. This is the same site just off Ga. Highway 92 and Spence Road where a chemical release of a pesticide six years ago caused short-term illnesses for nearly 800 people who lived near the plant and affected 2,200 households in a three-mile radius of the plant. PSC sent a notice of the groundwater contamination findings to the Georgia Environmental Protection Division May 1. That report showed groundwater contamination of vinyl chloride, arsenic, barium, lead, selenium, acetone and benzene. The chemicals were detected between five and 12.5 feet underground, according to that report. While the Fayette County Water System does not draw groundwater from the area, the nearest drinking water well is located at the Landmark Mobile Home Park in north Fayette County, according to the notice submitted by PSC. The Landmark well is two-thirds of a mile from the contaminated site, PSC says in the report. The water from the Landmark well has not yet been tested to see if it contains any of the contaminants, according to an EPD spokesperson. That may become a requirement for part of the site remediation, said EPD Solid Waste Program Manager Jeff Cown. "As far as the drinking water, we'll look at that if we believe the levels are high enough and if the well is close enough we'll do that," Cown said. "But we have not made a determination on that." The latest tests were ordered by EPD as a part of closing the solidification pit for the site, officials said. Connie Biemiller Thomas, who led a citizen's task force in the wake of the 2006 chemical release at PSC, urged Fayette and Fulton officials to "become heavily involved with assuring the welfare of our citizens." "To find 30 chemicals such as mercury, barium and chromium within our soil is disturbing," Thomas said. "PSC further reports eight chemicals that have contaminated the groundwater below the depth of five feet or more such as arsenic, barium, lead and vinyl chloride. Each one of these chemicals is alarming on its own and the synergistic effects could be staggering as well." Thomas said the task force would want to be involved in the remediation plan created for the PSC site. If corrective action is necessary, there are a number of ways to clean up the site, including soil removal or treating the soil with pumped-in air. PSC would be responsible for making a suggestion in terms of clean-up and EPD will have the final say on how it is done, Cown said. Cown noted that PSC was also ordered to do surface water testing on a stream next to the contaminated area. But the stream was down to a trickle recently and was unable to be sampled, Cown explained. "It's a little bitty creek," Cown said. PSC formerly operated a solid waste processing facility at the site prior to a controversial release of chemicals that sickened nearly a thousand nearby residents and their pets in north Fayette and south Fulton counties in 2006. That incident resulted in a negotiated "fine" of \$100,000 being levied against PSC in a consent order that also required upgrades at the solid waste processing plant, which was later closed. Fulton County government officials also withdrew sewer access and capped the sewer pipe at the PSC facility so Fulton would no longer accept any chemicals treated by the company. A lawsuit was subsequently filed against PSC and was settled for \$4 million to the owners of more than 2,200 homes in a three-mile radius of the plant. The chemical release of the pesticide ethoprop and the chemical odorant propyl mercaptan caused symptoms in nearby residents including prolonged nausea, vomiting, headaches and a variety of respiratory problems including first-time diagnoses of asthma and pleurisy subsequent to being exposed to the strong onion-like odor. The most recently discovered chemicals at PSC were found in the groundwater and also in the ground. PSC's May 1 notice also explained that a variety of chemicals from mercury and barium to lead and acetone were found in two depth ranges: from six to 24 inches and "greater than 24 inches." The EPD has about 90 days to review the report from PSC and determine what remediation steps, if any, will be necessary, officials said. In a letter to EPD, a consultant for PSC claims that the former solid waste treatment facility would process "bulk and small quantity shipments of



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solid non-hazardous wastes." However, the various chemicals listed in the reports are considered "regulated substances" which can be considered hazardous depending on their concentrations. In the letter, Quintin G. Macdonald of Environmental Management and Engineering, Inc. indicates that testing ordered by EPD on April 2 resulted in the contamination being discovered. Despite the findings, Macdonald contends that the site currently no longer exhibits elevated concentrations of contamination, particularly in the groundwater results. While PSC has completely shut down its solid waste treatment plant and no longer has access to the Fulton County sewer system, it continues to operate a 10-day hazardous waste transfer facility that is permitted by EPD and must follow state rules for solid waste management.

<http://www.thecitizen.com/articles/08-15-2012/toxic-leak-may-affect-n-fayette-well-water-safety>

TRINIDAD & TOBAGO, AUGUST 16 2012. CLEANING UP OIL SPILLS

essiba small



Flashback 2006: A pair of oil-stained ducks which were affected following a well blowout at Diggity Trace, Penal.

When you live in an oil-producing country, with over four million barrels traversing the waters on a daily basis, oil spillage seems par for the course. Last December, PowerGen's bunkered fuel tanker spilled out into Invaders Bay and left a slick that was almost two miles long. The spill affected boats at the Port of Spain harbour and leaked into the drains near PowerGen's Wrightson Road location. As recent as June, NP took responsibility for the spillage of 1,500 gallons of diesel into the Guanapo River near the Water and Sewerage Authority's (WASA) Guanapo Water Treatment. WASA was forced to shut the plant down due to the incident. When spilled into the ocean, oil can lead to the devastation of life under water. Many

would remember the massive Exxon Valdez oil spill of 1989—its mass destruction poignantly illustrated by Reuters and AP photos of washed-up, oil-slicked dead birds and fish. There was also a reduction in population of ocean life and the pink salmon populations were stunted. The DeepWater Horizon Spill of 2010, better known as the BP spill in the Gulf of Mexico, was said to be 20 times worse than that of the Exxon Valdez with even more marine life lost. Brothers John and Andrew Collier have seen first-hand the damage caused by oil spills locally and they are concerned about their effects on the environment. "People are aware of the oil spills that occur in this country but they don't seem too interested about the effects these have on marine life and how it can affect us later on if these spills are not properly dealt with," said John Collier. "You'd only find them responding if the oil spill is a major one; but even small spills do damage." Two years ago, the brothers started Trinidad and Tank Fuel as a way of solving fuel issues in the marine sector. They partnered with Algae X International, a fuel-conditioning company in the United States, and together they provided fuel-polishing services for large tanks. Through colleagues and clients mainly in the oil sector, the Collier brothers were made aware of some products used by oil workers in the field that were harmful to the skin, the health of users and environment. "Some degreasing products caused skin to dry; others made it difficult to breathe when using," Andrew Collier said. "We wanted to bring in products that were environmentally aligned, like our services, to clean tanks and spills." In his search for eco-friendly degreasers, Andrew came upon De Oil it, a product made in the US that also eliminates oil spills. The product has been hailed by environmentalists as today's answer to the world's petroleum waste problems. Trinidad Tank and Fuel Ltd is its sole distributor in this country. "If you've ever seen an oil spill in water you'd notice that when it is treated, the spill just moves around in the water," John said. "When it disappears from the surface, what happens to it? What happens to the marine life or the trees that grow on the land when the spill washes up in drains on the beaches?" In both the Exxon and BP oil spills, the dispersant Corexit was used to eliminate the spill. The product, when deployed on spilled oil, "is broken up into tiny bio-degradable droplets that immediately sink below the surface where they continue to disperse and bio-degrade", according to the website of the Corexit's manufacturer's Nalco. Corexit's dangerous effects on humans and wildlife have been well documented. Gulf toxicologist Dr Susan Shaw, also the founder and director of the Marine Environmental Research Institute, told CNN back in 2010 that shrimpers, after casting their nets into water treated by Corexit, experienced "headaches that lasted three weeks, heart palpitations, muscle spasms and bleeding from the rectum". Dr Chris Pincetich, a marine biologist and toxicologist, also out of the US, tested the effect of the chemical on fish and found that Corexit disrupted cell membranes. His research found that the fish that were alive 96 hours after exposure (96 hours being the US Environmental Protection Agency's time frame for ensuring the product was harmless to marine life) were dead two weeks later. "In their many forms, petroleum waste kills the earth's natural bacteria, which slows



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down the natural breakdown process for decades. When applied to grease, fuel, and oil spills, our product has the ability to disarm these toxic molecules and they are no longer bio-available," John said. He insisted that "after using De Oil It, all that's left is air, water and carbon—dirt—which can then be safely returned back to the eco-system. Our product does not pose a threat to water column, plants, or marine life and is non-toxic and completely biodegradable". The Colliers demonstrated to the Express how De Oil It works, using crude oil they poured into a clear dish. When the product was sprayed onto the oil, it immediately separated into smaller blobs. Within minutes, the thick, sticky and pungent oil started to look more like dirt in water. To the touch, the oil was grainy and the smell was also notably less offensive. John believes Trinidad Tank and Fuel is ahead of the times in terms of the company's use of eco-friendly products and wants those in the local oil industries and marine sector to start thinking along the same lines when choosing products. The brothers also want members of the public to change their mindset and start embracing green living, for the sake of the next generation. "We do things without even thinking about the environmental impact it may have," John said. "Cleaning the engine with kerosene is something that most people do because it is cheaper and they are accustomed to doing it. But look at the black smoke that emits from the exhaust pipe after the process and tell me what that does to the environment. "We need to stop thinking about the here-and-now and instead think about what kind of world our children would inherit. In small ways we can make a difference."

http://www.trinidadexpress.com/featured-news/Cleaning_up_oil_spills-166351436.html

USA, MI, PITTSFIELD TWP, AUGUST 16 2012. HAZARDOUS MATERIALS RELEASE RESOLVED EARLY WEDNESDAY WITHOUT INJURY

ben baird

The Washtenaw County Hazardous Materials team and Pittsfield Township firefighters responded to a violent chemical reaction at a township business early Wednesday morning. Emergency responders worked together to cool and contain a 35-gallon container used for the production of neodymium nitrate acid solution and they were able to resolve the situation without any injuries, according to the Pittsfield Township Department of Public Safety. Firefighters first responded to the scene after receiving a report at about 12:13 a.m. from a passerby who saw what appeared to be smoke coming from a building in the [4000 block of Runway Boulevard](#). It was determined the smoke was actually an acidic vapor cloud caused by a reaction from mixing two chemicals, according to the public safety department. In this case neodymium oxide and nitric acid were being mixed to produce neodymium nitrate acid solution. While this is the normal process for this type of production, according to the township press release, the reaction in this case was unusually violent and forced three employees out of the building. One of the employees was exposed to the acidic vapor, but fortunately was wearing chemical protective clothing and a respirator. Together, firefighters and the county HazMat team determined that cooling the 35-gallon container of chemical product would stop the release of vapors enough for it to be contained. HazMat team personnel used level B chemical protective equipment to enter the area and cool the product below its reaction temperature.

http://www.heritage.com/articles/2012/08/15/ann_arbor_journal/news/doc502bba96d32ba590594969.txt

USA, WA, OLYMPIA, AUGUST 16 2012. ECOLOGY ADOPTS CHANGES TO IMPROVE UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK SAFETY

The Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) has adopted changes to the state's rule for preventing leaks from underground storage tank systems containing petroleum and other hazardous substances. The Legislature directed Ecology to revise the rule to implement changes to the state's compliance program required by state and federal laws. The program addresses the serious threat that leaking systems pose to human health and the environment. Leaks from underground storage tank systems can contaminate groundwater, the source of drinking water for 60 percent of Washington's residents. Ecology currently regulates more than 9,500 systems at more than 3,600 facilities throughout the state. A majority of the systems are located at gas stations. Others are owned and operated by other businesses and by local, state and federal governments. Each year, about 50 new releases are confirmed at regulated facilities. The rule changes – which take effect Oct. 1, 2012 – will help to reduce the number and severity of those releases. The rule changes:

- Authorize Ecology to stop regulated substances from being delivered to systems that don't comply with regulatory requirements.
- Require training for people who operate and maintain systems. Operators must be trained by Dec. 31, 2012.
- Require secondary containment of new tanks and pipes.



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- Require containment under new dispenser systems.

Ecology held a public comment period in the spring. The agency hosted public hearings in April in Spokane, Yakima, Bellevue, and Lacey. Documents related to the rule are posted on [the Toxics Cleanup Program's website](#). This action is exempt from Gov. Chris Gregoire's executive order that suspends non-critical rule work. The adopted rule amendments are needed to maintain Ecology's federally delegated underground storage tank program and to continue to receive federal funding for the work. [See more information](#) about the rule suspension on Ecology's website.

More Information:

Read More About The Rule: www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/regs/ust/2012/rule-making.html

Ecology's Social Media: www.ecy.wa.gov/about/newmedia.html

<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/news/2012/268.html>

USA, WI, OSHKOSH, AUGUST 16 2012. MILWAUKEE MAN ARRESTED FOR THROWING UNLIT LIGHTER AT JET FUEL STORAGE TANK

A Milwaukee man was arrested Tuesday afternoon after he threw an unlit lighter a storage tank containing jet fuel on the airport grounds. Oshkosh Police received a report from a witness who saw the 49-year-old man throw an object at a fuel storage tank at Orion Flight Services, 525 W. 20th Ave., at 3 p.m. Tuesday. Police found the man, who was intoxicated, outside the Wittman Regional Airport terminal. A cigarette lighter was found by the fuel storage tanks, said Joe Nichols, spokesman for the Oshkosh Police Department. No damage was done to the tanks and no fuel was exposed to the lighter, Nichols said. Police said they didn't believe it was a public safety issue since the lighter was not lit when the man threw it. The man was arrested for disorderly conduct and taken to the Winnebago County Jail, where a no bond condition was placed on him.

<http://www.thenorthwestern.com/article/20120815/OSH0101/308150306/Milwaukee-man-arrested-throwing-unlit-lighter-jet-fuel-storage-tank?odyssey=tab%7Ctopnews%7Ctext%7CFRONTPAGE>

USA, TX, HOUSTON, AUGUST 16 2012. HAZMAT SPILL CLOSES PART OF THE SAM HOUSTON TOLLWAY

According to TranStar, the incident has been cleared as of 1:22 a.m. and all the mainlanes have been reopened. A truck spilled some type of material along a section of the Sam Houston Tollway in east Harris County, causing a traffic shutdown in the area. Houston TranStar officials said a single truck was responsible for the spill that happened about 9:15 p.m. Wednesday along a section of the East Sam Houston Tollway near Jacinto Port Boulevard. TranStar officials called the substance a "corrosive liquid chemical" and said people in the area were reporting burning eyes and throats. They asked any motorists to avoid the area until further notice. Authorities closed down both north and southbound lanes of the tollway at the scene for the cleanup effort. It wasn't clear how long that would take and whether it would be completed in time for Thursday morning commuters. No other information was immediately available.

<http://blog.chron.com/newswatch/2012/08/hazmat-spill-closes-part-of-the-sam-houston-tollway/>

USA, N.J, GARFIELD, AUGUST 16 2012. SITE OF CHROMIUM SPILL SET TO BE DEMOLISHED IN GARFIELD

kristie cattafi

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced on Aug. 8 that the demolition of the E.C. Electroplating plant, the cause of a chromium spill almost 30 years ago in [Garfield](#), is expected to start on Oct. 1. [Garfield](#) was added to the Superfund list of the most toxic places in the nation in September after 30 years of contamination in part of the city. The area is bordered by Van Winkle Avenue, Monroe Street, Sherman Place and the [Passaic](#) River. The E.C. Electroplating Co. plant is located on Clark Street, which is believed to be the source of the contamination. The E.C. Electroplating site is located in a mixed residential and commercial area of [Garfield](#). In December 1983, approximately 3,640 gallons of chromium plating solution (chromic acid) containing about 5,400 pounds of chromium was discharged from a partially below ground storage tank contaminating groundwater beneath the site. Wells were installed to monitor groundwater and partially recover some of the discharged product. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Regional Administrator Judith Enck announced at a press conference on Aug. 8 in front of the building that the demolition is the next major step in getting the Superfund site clean and called it a historic day for [Garfield](#). New Jersey Sen. Frank Lautenberg, Sen. Robert Menendez and Congressman Bill Pascrell Jr. along with the [Garfield](#) Mayor Joseph Delaney, council members, City Manager Tom Duch, Board of Education



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Superintendent Nicolas Perrapato, BOE Business Administrator Tom Egan along with other BOE trustees and Garfield officials were on hand for the announcement. The building located at 125 Clark St. is contaminated with hexavalent chromium that is reaching the basements of some area residences and businesses through the groundwater. Hexavalent chromium is extremely toxic, may cause cancer and can cause nervous system damage. "The EPA has done a great deal of work since 2002 to reduce the health risks to the people who live and work in the area of [Garfield](#) affected by chromium contaminated ground water," Enck said. "Today we're pleased to announce that we're ready to take a step forward in the long-term cleanup of the Garfield Superfund site." Lautenburg, Menendez and Pascrell all said that they will continue to keep fighting for resources for the EPA to clean up not only [Garfield](#) but the rest of the contaminated sites in New Jersey. "We don't have a choice about the science of what we are doing. To deny it is not only foolish but a hazard to the people in [Garfield](#). For the people who talk about doing away with the EPA they need their heads examined and I want to call them out on it," Pascrell said. "Garfield is going to go through tough times and say 'this is hell' but the end result will make us all better. We will make sure citizens of Garfield stay whole and keep their sanity. This is not going to be a pleasant thing and will be a big project over time." Preliminary sampling shows that parts of the E.C. Electroplating building, its two basements and the soil located under the structure are contaminated with the chemical hexavalent chromium. The structure needs to be demolished in order to properly dispose of the contaminated sections of the building and to remove the contaminated soil underneath. The EPA tested the industrial materials left at the former E.C. Electroplating and safely removed and properly disposed of them at licensed facilities. The demolition process is expected to be a month long. The EPA is currently preparing the building for demolition by removing more than 220 drums and cleaning the building's surface. Strict procedures will be followed to control dust during the demolition, with special attention paid to the [Garfield](#) School 7 and to a daycare center located near the site. The EPA will establish an air monitoring network to ensure that contamination is contained during the demolition work and the plan will be shared with the public before work begins. Drinking water for [Garfield](#) comes from the Garfield Municipal Water Supply, which is not contaminated and is routinely tested to ensure that it meets federal and state drinking water standards, which it does. More than 500 [Garfield](#) homes and businesses were inspected by the EPA. Only 13 required a cleanup or some mitigation, which has been completed.

http://www.northjersey.com/community/166365696_Site_of_chromium_spill_set_to_be_demolished_in_Garfield.html

USA, CA, RICHMOND, AUGUST 16 2012. ATTORNEYS SUE CHEVRON OVER REFINERY FIRE, CLAIMING 'GROSS

robert rogers

 **Watch the Video** [Attorneys Sue Chevron over Refinery Fire](#)



Firefighting crews pour water onto a unit after a fire at a Chevron refinery.

A probe into what caused a massive fire at the Chevron refinery Aug. 6 is stalled while engineers work to make the site safe for investigators, but legal action stemming from the blaze that sent thousands of residents to hospitals is gathering steam. Three Bay Area law firms sued in Contra Costa County Superior Court on Wednesday, accusing the energy giant of "gross negligence" in its handling of refinery maintenance and emergency response to the fire. In a news conference held just a block from the claim center that Chevron opened last week for affected residents, Oakland civil rights attorney John Burris told a gaggle of media and residents that refinery leaders allowed a leaky pipe to "fester," putting Richmond residents in unnecessary peril. "This community has borne the brunt of (Chevron's) negligence," Burris said. Burris, joined by San Francisco attorneys Matthew Kumin and Partick Goggin, sued Wednesday on behalf of nine local residents, including three children, according to court records. Burris said there would be more plaintiffs and that a class-action suit was likely. More than 1,000 people have contacted his office since the fire, Burris said. Goggin said the lawsuit seeks extensive safety upgrades, including improved community alert systems, along with unspecified punitive and compensatory damages to the plaintiffs. As part of the 21-page complaint, the attorneys alleged that Chevron has a history of toxic accidents that have harmed residents' health, including 13 fires and uncontrolled emissions from 1989 to 1999. Chevron spokeswoman Melissa Ritchie said Wednesday that the company is not aware of any other lawsuits. "When we receive lawsuits, we will review each case based on the merits of their claim and handle as appropriate through the legal process," Ritchie wrote in an email Wednesday. Soon after the fire, Chevron opened 24-hour claims hot lines, and it has taken more than 7,500 claims by phone and 1,300 more in person at the claims



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center it opened last week at the Nevin Community Center. Chevron has vowed to clear all claims -- many related to expenses incurred by the more than 9,000 hospital visits in the aftermath of the fire -- within 30 days. Representatives of the State Bar of California handed out legal fliers to visitors at the claim center last week, and other area attorneys have distributed fliers and other advertisements offering legal services to Richmond residents. During his news conference, Burris said he advises all residents to refrain from filing claims with Chevron or accepting any compensation from the company to ensure they do not constrain their legal rights. Ritchie on Wednesday reiterated her earlier assurances that no one who files a claim with Chevron or is reimbursed by the company is asked to sign any documents. "Residents do not give up their right to file a lawsuit if they receive a claim settlement from Chevron," Ritchie wrote. It had been thought that all hospital visits were for minor discomforts, usually respiratory issues. But Randy Sawyer, director of Contra Costa County's hazardous materials program, said this week that two or three people, including a small child, suffered severe respiratory symptoms that required hospitalization. "My understanding is that a child with pre-existing asthma conditions was hospitalized with respiratory problems," Sawyer said. A spokeswoman from Doctors Medical Center in San Pablo, which handled more than 3,000 people in the five days following the fire, said one person was hospitalized there. Meanwhile, the site of the fire remains unsafe, preventing investigators from accessing what they said may be the most crucial piece of evidence, a leaky 8-inch pipe that apparently precipitated the fire. At a Tuesday news conference outside the refinery, U.S. Chemical Safety Board officials said several times that the pipe, its condition and past maintenance -- including a decision not to replace it -- was a "key line of investigation." A Chemical Safety Board official on Wednesday said a report in the San Francisco Chronicle that the agency believed an idling fire engine "likely" ignited the fire was inaccurate. "The CSB did say yesterday that (the truck) is a possible ignition source but that there were multiple potential ignition sources, and the actual source may not be determinable and is not a major focus of investigation," CSB spokeswoman Shauna Lawhorne wrote in an email Wednesday. Chemical Safety Board officials said they viewed Chevron surveillance video that showed a dense vapor cloud, fueled by the leaky pipe, grow to roughly 200 feet wide and 200 feet tall at the refinery's Crude Unit No. 4, briefly enveloping about a dozen workers. Don Holmstrom, a CSB investigator, said initial work has involved viewing the video, interviewing about 50 Chevron workers and requesting thousands of pages of maintenance documents and other records from Chevron. The source of the leak was an 8-inch pipe carrying 600-plus degree hydrocarbons from the crude unit. Repair crews initially responded but within minutes evacuated the area. "If (the vapor cloud) would have ignited sooner, this would have been a much more serious incident," he said. Residents have been quick to praise the public health response after the fire. "I went to Kaiser hospital (on Aug. 7) because I was feeling the respiratory impacts," said the Rev. Andre Shumake, a longtime resident. "It was orderly and professional despite a flood of people. It was phenomenal in the midst of the crisis." Residents and hospital officials have also praised Doctors Medical Center for handling a tremendous volume of people. Only one of the plaintiffs was on hand at Burris' news conference. Charles Simmons, a 67-year-old resident of North Richmond, which sits nearly adjacent to the refinery, said he was suing because he has been wracked with physical and emotional distress since the fire. Simmons said he suffered a sore throat, sinus irritation, upset stomach and other symptoms since the fire. Burris, who has a reputation for suing law enforcement agencies for alleged misconduct, said Wednesday that his legal action was more about improving safety and alert systems at the refinery than securing monetary damages. "We want to force the kind of remedial actions that will minimize the likelihood of this happening in the future," he said.

http://www.conrastatimes.com/ci_21319770/claims-continue-mount-wake-chevron-refinery-fire-lawsuits

USA, CO, DENVER, AUGUST 16 2012. 1 DEAD, 3 HURT IN NATURAL GAS WELL EXPLOSION NEAR FORT LUPTON

yesenia robes



Workers look over the site of a gas explosion at an Encana Natural Gas site north of Fort Lupton on Wednesday. One person was killed, and three were injured.

An explosion at an Encana Corp. natural gas well east of U.S. 85 between Platteville and Fort Lupton killed one man and injured three other workers just before 1 p.m. Wednesday. Weld County Sheriff's spokesman Tim Schwartz said the explosion appears to have been related to a pressure issue at the well. "Whatever machinery they were working on, that well head exploded," Schwartz said deputies on the scene saw no fire. "There was no fire to put out. Nothing was scorched." A Flight for Life helicopter responded to the Davis well pad near the intersection of Weld County Roads 22 and 31. Medical crews performed CPR on the 60-year-old victim but he could not



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be revived, Schwartz said. A deputy leaving the scene of the accident Wednesday afternoon said the dead man was from Wyoming. He said two of the workers with minor injuries were taken for treatment in private vehicles. Those people were treated at a hospital and released, company spokeswoman Wendy Wiedenbeck said. An ambulance took the third person to North Colorado Medical Center in Greeley for treatment Wednesday, she said. The dead man and the two workers who had minor injuries were employed by a company contracted to Encana. The worker who is hospitalized is an Encana employee. Encana is investigating the accident, she said. Schwartz said he expects the accident will be investigated by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration. Details of the accident are unclear, but Encana spokesman Doug Hock said a new well was being drilled and a high pressure release of gas occurred during the process of completing that work. The pad is used for directional drilling for oil and gas, Wiedenbeck said.

http://www.denverpost.com/news/ci_21323110/1-dead-3-hurt-natural-gas-well-explosion

USA, IND, WHITING, AUGUST 16 2012. FIRE INJURES 3 AT BP WHITING REFINERY

BP Plc on Wednesday confirmed local media reports that three contractors were hurt in a flash fire at its Indiana refinery late Tuesday and were in stable condition at a hospital on Wednesday. BP spokesman Scott Dean said the fire at the 337,000 barrels-per-day Whiting refinery, the largest in the U.S. Midwest, was quickly extinguished.

http://articles.chicagotribune.com/2012-08-15/business/chi-fire-injures-3-at-bp-whiting-refinery-20120815_1_coker-unit-indiana-refinery-bp-spokesman-scott-dean

USA, PA, HARRISBURG, AUGUST 17 2012. PENNSYLVANIA DEP: VAPOR-RECOVERY SYSTEMS NO LONGER NEEDED AT FUEL STATIONS

andrew maykuth

Pennsylvania will no longer require gasoline stations to install costly vapor-recovery systems, a fixture at fuel pumps for two decades. The systems are no longer necessary because modern vehicles are equipped to capture emissions from fuel tanks, the state Department of Environmental Protection said Wednesday. Its announcement followed a directive in May from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency that determined the systems were redundant. Several other states have also moved to relax mandates to install the systems, which capture fumes released during refueling. Gasoline vapors, if allowed to escape, can contribute significantly to ground-level ozone. "These so-called Stage II vapor-recovery systems must still be operated and maintained at existing facilities until further notice," DEP Secretary Mike Krancer said in a statement. "We will, however, use our discretion to not enforce these requirements for any new gas station in the greater Pittsburgh and Philadelphia areas because the diminishing benefits do not justify the cost of installing new systems." The EPA estimates the vapor-recovery equipment, required since 1994, costs from \$20,000 to \$60,000 to install. For a typical gas station, the systems cost \$3,000 a year to maintain. About 70 percent of all vehicles now have onboard vapor-recovery equipment, which manufacturers began installing in 1998. All new vehicles have had the gear since 2006.

http://articles.philly.com/2012-08-16/business/33233701_1_fuel-stations-vapor-recovery-systems-gas-station

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES, ABU DHABI, AUGUST 17 2012. EMARAT TO HAND OVER 74 FUEL STATIONS IN UAE >> ADNOC WILL MANAGE 74 STATIONS IN THE NORTHERN EMIRATES AS OF JANUARY 2013

shehab al makahleh



An Emarat petrol station in the Al Hazana district of Sharjah. Emarat petrol stations in the northern emirates are being replaced by Adnoc.

The handover process of 74 petrol stations by Emarat to Adnoc Distribution in the Northern Emirates is expected to be completed by mid September 2012. The move follows losses incurred by Emarat to the tune of Dh80 million in the Northern Emirates section of its gasoline sales business on a monthly basis due to petrol subsidies, a top ranking oil industry source told the Gulf News on Thursday. "The acquisition is a gift on the Eid Al Fitr. Based on the deal between Emarat and Adnoc, Emarat will save up to Dh1 billion annually after Adnoc takes over the running of 74 petrol stations operated by Emarat in Sharjah, Ras Al Khaimah, Ajman, Umm Al Quwain and Fujaira," the oil industry source said. The

source said: "The takeover process began last June as scheduled and that Adnoc Distribution, a unit of the Abu Dhabi



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National Oil Company (Adnoc), and Emarat will jointly operate the pumps. Initially, Emarat will assist Adnoc in running of the stations. Emarat will continue to honour its ongoing contracts with contractors and suppliers of gasoline, most of which will end by end-2012."

<http://gulfnews.com/news/gulf/uae/government/emarat-to-hand-over-74-fuel-stations-in-uae-1.1062727>

NIGERIA, LAGOS, AUGUST 17 2012. NSCDC ARRESTS FIVE, RECOVERS PETROL STORED IN SACKS



The Lagos State command of the Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC), has arrested two men with boats laden with over 12,000 litres of petrol. The suspects allegedly put the petrol in plastic bags and stored them in sacks. The officers also arrested three others with 43 jerry cans of petrol, bought from suspected pipeline vandals. The spokesman for the command, Mr. Sunday Eromosele, who disclosed the arrest, said the suspects were attempting to smuggle the products to neighbouring countries. "At about 12PM in Ijora, Lagos, on Monday, based on information we got, we intercepted and arrested two suspected oil pipeline vandals on a boat loaded with petrol which they had stored in nylon bags and these nylon bags were stored in sacks. Each sack contained about 120 litres and we were able to recover over 100 sacks" Mr Eromosele stated. "Two people

were arrested while trying to convey the products and we suspected that they were taking the petrol to a neighbouring country to sell."

<http://www.channelstv.com/home/2012/08/16/nscdc-arrests-five-recovers-petrol-stored-in-sacks/>

SCOTLAND, DUNBAR, CROMWELL HARBOUR, AUGUST 17 2012. HISTORIC HARBOUR IN DUNBAR HIT BY DIESEL OIL SPILLAGE



Angusina sinks in the Cromwell Harbour, Dunbar.

East Lothian was on pollution alert for the second time in less than a week after a fishing boat sank in an historic harbour at Dunbar on Saturday. The incident happened just days after a diesel oil spill at North Berwick's west beach sparked an emergency operation and fears for wildlife. Fire crews from Dunbar, East Linton and Haddington raced to Cromwell harbour in Dunbar after the alarm was raised by fishermen around 6.30am. It was discovered that the nine metre boat 'Angusina,' which weighed 13 tonnes, was sunk at its berth.

<http://www.eastlothiannews.co.uk/news/local-headlines/historic-harbour-in-dunbar-hit-by-diesel-oil-spillage-1-2468622>

USA, WI, JACKSON, AUGUST 17 2012. WORK CONTINUES ON JACKSON GASOLINE SPILL CLEANUP >> OFFICIALS SAY REPAIRS COULD TAKE MONTHS

 [Watch the Video Work Continues on Jackson Gasoline Spill Cleanup](#)



The drinking wells of nearly two dozen families were contaminated and the effort to help is growing. "The second tank is just in case this one fills up with all the bad stuff," resident Mark Fitzgerald said. He talked with 12 News reporters about the water filtration system recently installed in his Jackson home with frustration in his voice. Last month a gasoline pipeline broke a half-mile away, forcing Fitzgerald's family and dozens of others onto bottled water and into uncertainty. "Most people take for granted that they can walk up to their sink and turn on the water and wash their hands and brush their teeth. Now you've got to carry around bottled water everywhere," noted Fitzgerald. Pat Hodgins is the safety director for the pipeline



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operator. West Shore is using drilling to try to stop thousands of gallons of gasoline from spreading farther underground. "They're drilling a 6-inch well. You've got another one on either side of the pipeline right away," Hodgins said. "We're drilling through 75 feet of rock, so it takes some time. We're bringing another drilling rig onsite to drill even quicker." The goal is to reach contaminated ground water. Wednesday was the first time a news crew had been allowed this close to the drilling operation where the pipeline broke. When they're done drilling, there will be more than three dozen new wells. "We're 166 feet deep in some of them. The goal there is to extract the water and oil, gas substance from the various layers within the rock and bring it to the surface," said Hodgins. The gasoline-tainted groundwater is being sucked up, hauled away and cleaned up. Officials said the cleanup effort could take several months.

<http://www.wisn.com/news/south-east-wisconsin/ozaukee-washington/Work-continues-on-Jackson-gasoline-spill-cleanup/-/10151118/16147552/-/vtj10e/-/index.html>

AUSTRALIA, NEW SOUTH WALES, NEWCASTLE, AUGUST 17 2012. RESIDENTS EVACUATE AFTER EXPLOSIVE CHEMICAL SPILL

Map: [Tomago 2322](#)

About 100 residents were evacuated from their homes as authorities cleaned up a toxic spill at an industrial site north of Newcastle. A large plastic tank came off its stand at Tomago, spilling up to 1,000 litres of the toxic and highly explosive chemical methyl ethyl ketone (MEK). Emergency crews established a 300-metre exclusion zone and power has been cut. New South Wales Fire and Rescue Inspector Chris Sedgwick says traffic in the area will be affected for some time. "We've sent six fire stations plus the heavy Hazmat out of Newcastle," he said. "Now they're in the process of containing it. "It hasn't gone into any watercourses. "It's mainly on a hard stand, on a concreted area, so we're able to dam it and we're now starting to absorb it so we can try and clean the area and render it safe."

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2012-08-16/exclusion-zone-at-newcastle-chemical-spill/4203554>

CHINA, TIANJIN CITY, AUGUST 17 2012. SHELL HAS BEGUN TO CONSTRUCT THE LARGEST LUBRICANT PLANT IN CHINA



According to Xinhua News Agency, Royal Dutch Shell started its largest lubricant plant in China yesterday. The plant worthing \$100 million is located in Tianjin Binhai New Area, the industrial hub of Tianjin city. Up to 3,000,000 tons lubricant can be produced after the plant start function in the year 2015. Shenjian, general manager responsible for Shell's mainland and Hong Kong market said, "as lubricant supply for northern China has been lagging behind, the newly built plant will focus on the northern market of the country." Mark Gainsborough, executive vice president of Shell's global commercial business, said that China is one of Shell's most valued markets, which has been growing fastest in all its markets in recent years. The vice president expected that market of lubricant in Asia will account for

more than half of world's lubricant demand, and in 10 years, China may replace U.S. to be the largest lubricant market in the world. The new plant in Tianjin is the seventh lubricant plants of Shell in China. The company has set up plants in places including Zhejiang province, Guangdong province, and the total production capacity has reached 1.5 million tons. According to Shen, Shell's market share in China has been growing with more than 10 percent in the past years, but analysis from 315.com.cn stated that market share is still far less than PetroChina and Sinopec Co. With the development of auto and construction industry, lubricant demand has been growing recent years, which also attracts foreign investment.

http://www.morningwhistle.com/html/2012/Company_Industry_0816/213560.html

USA, MA, NORTH ADAMS, AUGUST 17 2012. MAN IN CRITICAL CONDITION AFTER FUEL TANK BLAST IN N. ADAMS

phil demers

A city man injured in an explosion at 497 Daniels Road on Monday night is in critical condition at Albany Medical Center, according to hospital officials. The victim, Anthony Randall, 24, of Daniels Road, suffered a serious head injury from the blast and was taken by helicopter to the New York hospital after a swift response by both neighbors and city emergency personnel. City Fire Director Stephen Meranti said Tuesday that early investigations indicate that a 100-gallon fuel tank was the source of the blast. Reports say the steel tank, meant to be mounted on a pickup truck to haul diesel fuel to machines at a work site,



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exploded after Randall attempted to weld some iron on the object. Authorities aren't sure whether the tank contained fuel or just vapors at the time of the explosion. Meranti said that neighbors were active at the barn where the explosion occurred before responders arrived. "We were lucky to have the [neighborhood residents] there to help out and assist us, especially by extinguishing the fire and preventing it from spreading to the rest of the building," Meranti said Tuesday. "Really, all we had to deal with was the victim." Immediately following the explosion, which was reported at 8:41 p.m., flames had begun to catch in several areas of the barn. But, according to Meranti, neighbors from the surrounding Daniels Street houses had removed Randall from the building, put out the fire with a garden hose and shut off the electricity and gas to the welder before emergency responders arrived. "There was a number of neighbors there that helped out," Meranti said. "After we arrived, [Randall] was treated at the scene and sent by ambulance to MCLA's softball field on West Shaft Road, where a helicopter picked him up." The city's Police Department, Fire Department and North Adams Ambulance Service responded to the scene, along with an officer of the Clarksburg Police Department. Meranti said further investigation of the explosion will be conducted by the state Fire Marshall's Office.

http://www.benningtonbanner.com/local/ci_21323007/man-critical-condition-after-fuel-tank-blast-n

USA, N.Y. SACKETS HARBOR, AUGUST 17 2012. MORE CLEANUP WORK LIKELY FOR FORMER AUGSBURY OIL SITE IN SACKETS HARBOR

gordon block

The village's Local Development Corp. may see costs as high as \$525,000 to continue cleanup work at the former Augsbury Oil terminal brownfield following a recent inspection by the state Department of Environmental Conservation. The soil quality issues were brought up at a meeting Aug. 6 between the LDC and DEC, following up on an inspection conducted the week before. The LDC was informed about the potential issues by its consultant in July. Cleaning of the site on Ambrose Street near Bolton's Farm has been in the works for several years. A DEC spokesman said the site still showed high levels of contamination. The LDC's leadership contends that DEC's soil-cleaning standards have changed since the cleanup began, a charge the department denies. "We thought we had satisfied the requirements," said Donald L. DiMonda, the LDC's president. "After this, we find out the requirements have changed." However, a DEC spokesman said the standards have not changed and there might have been a miscommunication between the LDC and its consultant on what would be necessary. Mr. DiMonda said a miscommunication was possible, because of the technical nature of the cleanup work. A phone message left Thursday with H. Nevin Bradford, president of Strategic Environmental LLC, Baldwinsville, the LDC's consultant for the project, was not returned. According to Mr. DiMonda, the department's tests indicated 3,500 yards on the south side of Ambrose Street and 1,200 yards on the north side of the site were not up to par. LDC officials will continue discussions with DEC at a meeting scheduled for early September that will involve the development of an additional measurement of the contamination and a new remediation plan. Two options that might be available for the cleanup would be either removal or rotation of the contaminated soil. The costs for the extraction and dumping of the contaminated soil would come to about \$525,000. If the soil rotation option were to be allowed, the LDC's costs would drop to about \$300,000. "It's not something we look forward to," Mr. DiMonda said. "We have capital, but we're trying to be as careful as possible as far as spending that capital." While the LDC still has funding from its 2006 sale of 40 acres of cleaned land to the state, Mr. DiMonda said, grants are being pursued to help ease costs of the work. He estimated the LDC has invested \$100,000 in the cleanup so far. "These environmental things, these usually take longer than you think, and cost more than you would hope," Mr. DiMonda said. The sold land, which later was added to the Sackets Harbor Battlefield State Historic Site, netted the LDC \$789,000. Mr. DiMonda said the LDC's goal is to reach compliance with the department. "You want to make sure the ground is clean and that nobody will have a problem with it," he said.

<http://www.watertowndailytimes.com/article/20120817/NEWS03/708179921>

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO, KINSHASA, AUGUST 17 2012. OVER 60 MINERS DEAD IN CONGO SHAFT COLLAPSE: OFFICIALS

jonny hogg

At least 60 miners were killed when a shaft collapsed in a remote part of northeastern Democratic Republic of [Congo](#), where local armed groups complicated rescue efforts, officials said on Thursday. The local miners were digging for gold in shafts up to 100 meters (109 yards) underground when the accident occurred on Monday in Mambasa territory in Orientale Province, said Simon Pierre Bolombo, the provincial head of mines. He said the collapse had been caused by a landslide. "It was deep



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in the forest, there was a landslide, at least 60 people have been killed," Bolombo told Reuters by telephone from the town of Bunia in northeast Congo. Congo's minister of mines, Martin Kabwelulu, told Reuters the workers were there illegally and that their shafts were deeper than the 30-metre (32-yard) limit required by the mining code for small-scale mining. Hundreds of thousands of people in eastern Congo make a living in non-industrial mines, where safety precautions are almost nonexistent and accidents are common. The area where the mine is situated is currently in the hands of a local rebel group - known as Mai Mai Morgan - which will likely hamper any rescue efforts, Bolombo said. "(The mine) is controlled by the rebels ... There's almost total insecurity, it's difficult for us (to reach)," he added. Mining companies AngloGold Ashanti and Randgold operate in the region, which is known to be rich in tin and gold, although the accident did not take place on either company's concession, officials said. Armed groups across eastern Congo use illegal and small-scale mining to help fund their activities, despite international attempts to stamp out so-called "conflict minerals".

https://www.google.com/webhp?sa=N&hl=en&tab=nw#hl=en&sugexp=les%3B&gs_nf=1&tok=uNEVnP3nX9eYsHagQLMkWQ&cp=17&gs_id=15&xhr=t&q=where+is+KINSHASA&pf=p&output=search&scient=psy-ab&oq=where+is+KINSHASA&gs_l=&pbx=1&bav=on.2.or.r_gc.r_pw.r_cp.r_qf.&fp=f3748917355b8dbb&biw=1280&bih=598

USA, CA, RICHMOND, AUGUST 17 2012. CHEVRON FIRE TRUCK DIDN'T SPARK FIRE

jaxon van derbeken

State investigators have ruled out the possibility that an idling Chevron fire rig was the ignition source for a vapor-cloud blaze that destroyed part of the company's Richmond refinery last week, officials said late Thursday. Investigators with the [U.S. Chemical Safety Board](http://www.uschemicalsafetyboard.gov) who are looking into the reason for the blaze said Tuesday that the recently purchased truck, which was destroyed in the Aug. 6 inferno, could have ignited the gigantic vapor cloud emitted from a leaking pipe in the refinery's crude-oil-processing unit. The cloud, now estimated to have been 1,000 feet high, turned into a fireball when something gave off a spark. Late Thursday, however, a spokesman for the [California Occupational Safety and Health Administration](http://www.dir.ca.gov/CalOSHA/), which investigates workplace safety, said the \$750,000 fire truck had been equipped with a shutoff device that senses airborne hydrocarbons and can stop the diesel engine's air-intake process, preventing it from overheating and causing an explosion. "Cal/OSHA has officially ruled out the fire truck as an ignition source," said spokesman [Dean Fryer](#). "It did have an air intake shutoff valve and was not the source of ignition that led to the fire." Diesel engines have long been associated with refinery and drilling rig disasters because they can overheat and rev to the point of explosion when their intake valves suck in hydrocarbon vapor. Officials of the Chemical Safety Board could not be reached for comment late Thursday. They had stressed earlier that they were looking into other possible ignition sources for the Richmond fire, including a furnace at the refinery, and said it may never be known what set off the inferno. Efforts to investigate the fire have been delayed because hydrocarbons continue to leak from the ruptured line.

Shutoff Devices Opposed

Ironically, Chevron fought a proposed California regulation two years ago that would have required all diesel-powered equipment at refineries to be equipped with emergency shutoff devices. [Ben Sloan](#), a top maintenance and reliability specialist with Chevron's El Segundo plant in Los Angeles County, told a Cal/OSHA panel on safety standards in January 2010 that such a regulation was "a solution in search of a problem" and that a vapor-cloud-fueled catastrophe "could never happen in California." The rule was never adopted. Chevron officials said Thursday that [Sloan's](#) remarks were misconstrued and that he had been talking about a specific type of event only at the El Segundo refinery. The diesel-spurred blast scenario played out most tragically in a 2005 explosion at BP's refinery in Texas City, Texas, where a vapor cloud ignited and killed 15 workers after drifting into the path of a backfiring diesel pickup truck. The driver had fled as his truck began to overheat from taking in the flammable vapor.

Required in Europe Canada

Emergency cutoff valves, such as the one California officials say was installed on the Chevron fire truck in Richmond, are required at refineries in Europe and Canada. A Houston company that makes the devices, Amot Controls, sought from 2008 to 2010 to persuade California to require them. Retrofitting old equipment with the devices typically costs between \$300 and \$2,000, depending on the engine involved. State officials sided with refinery representatives, saying existing regulations sufficed because of the lack of vapor cloud explosions at California refineries. A firefighter for Chevron's El Segundo refinery, [Robert Taylor](#), told regulators "that vapor releases are not uncommon." He said the state had been lucky in escaping calamity. <http://www.sfgate.com/default/article/Chevron-fire-truck-didn-t-spark-fire-3794857.php>



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