



Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network

Release 2012 – 897 Newsy Stuff

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November 05 2012



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INDIA, MAHARASHTRA, DOMBIVLI, OCTOBER 21 2012. OVER 150 ILL AS GAS LEAKS FROM PHARMACEUTICAL PLANT IN MIDC

pradeep gupta

Over 150 people needed treatment and three are in intensive care after bromine gas leaked from a pharmaceutical company in Dombivli's MIDC and spread over a 1-km radius area affecting over 2.5 lakh people. Anger and fear are frothing in the surrounding settlements as this was the fourth instance of carelessness with chemicals that has imperiled people in the industrial area in the past two months. A negligence case has been registered against the management of [Aarti Industries](#), which mainly manufactures cough suppressants and anti-nicotine aids, after an initial probe by the Manpada police found lapses in maintenance.

Related Links

- [Safety norms not followed in MIDC chemical zone'](#)
The blame game has begun over Friday's boiler blast at Aarti Industries in Dombivli. Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation (MIDC) and Maharashtra Pollution Control Board (MPCB) officials said they were not directly concerned with the issue ...
- [Plants lax on safety, watchdogs blind?](#)
Are industrial units in Dombivli MIDC not following pollution and safety norms? The question arises as toxic fumes or hazardous gas have leaked several times over the last couple of months, putting the lives of lakhs in danger in the well-populated ...
- [Worst gas leakage since the MIDC came up: Kalyan residents](#)
Babu Ganpat Potekar, a 75-year-old who lives in Laxmi Nagar, had stepped out of his house on Friday morning to enjoy the sun before going for his bath when he noticed a heavy smog. Soon, he began to feel an irritation in his throat, his eyes ...

http://articles.timesofindia.indiatimes.com/2012-10-20/thane/34605957_1_gas-leaks-fire-brigade-bromine-gas

USA, CA, SAN ANTONIO, OCTOBER 21 2012. VALERO MAY LOOK TO SHED CALIFORNIA REFINERIES >> BENICIA & WILMINGTON



San Antonio-based Valero Energy Corp. could be looking to exit the California refining business. The Wall Street Journal reported late Friday that the company has retained Citigroup to sell its two California refineries, citing unnamed sources familiar with the deal. Valero spokesman Bill Day said the company could not comment on whether it plans to sell its California refineries. But he did say that California's increasingly stringent environmental rules, lack of pipelines connecting it with the rest of the country and the resulting reliance on shipping make it a challenging place to operate. "Operating expenses at California refineries are significantly higher than our other refineries, especially those along the Gulf Coast," Day said. "It's something we have to look at." In last year's third quarter conference call with

analysts, Valero Chairman, President and CEO Bill Klesse said, "We're looking at our options," regarding the California refineries, but didn't elaborate on what those options might be. California laws call for lower greenhouse gas emissions by 2020. "We think their policies turn their back on the negative economic impacts," Klesse said. Andy Lipow of Lipow Oil Associates said that California's environmental rules remain caught up in litigation, but that the state's low-carbon fuel standard has made the future more uncertain for refiners. "The question is, Will California refineries shut down because it will be too expensive for them to meet the California low-carbon fuel standard in the future?" Lipow asked. "That's probably what Valero is thinking: Perhaps it's a good time to exit given the new regulations." California's gas prices recently surged over \$5 per gallon following a power outage at a refinery that reduced supply and corrosion issues in an important pipeline. California gas prices are particularly susceptible to outages because the state is mostly cut off from the pipelines spanning the rest of the country, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration. California also has its own gasoline blending requirements. Valero acquired its Benicia refinery near San Francisco from ExxonMobil in 2000. Products made there include propane, butane, gasoline, ultra-low-sulfur diesel, jet fuel, fuel oil, residual oil and asphalt. The company's Wilmington, Calif. plant near Los Angeles produces gasoline, diesel, jet fuel, ultra-low-sulfur diesel, propane, coke and asphalt.

<http://fuelfix.com/blog/2012/10/19/valero-may-look-to-shed-california-refineries/>



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USA, CA, HINKLEY, OCTOBER 21 2012. HUNDREDS OF HINKLEY HOMEOWNERS AGREE TO LEAVE TOWN OVER CONTAMINATED WATER- CHROMIUM 6 PLUME

 **Watch the Video** [Hundreds of Hinkley Homeowners Leave Town](#)

Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E) has offered to buy hundreds of homes and relocate the families after their plant polluted the groundwater of Hinkley. Countless residents described getting serious illnesses over time. Greg Mills, reporting for CBS2 and KCAL9, said that more than 200 have accepted the deal. Hinkley is in the high desert, just outside Barstow. It's the town made famous in the movie "Erin Brockovich." Mills spoke to Dee and Bob Peabody, hard-working husband and wife ranchers. Bob says, "We're out in the country. We've got our horses." The couple moved to Hinkley 45 years ago to raise their sons and their horses in the great outdoors Bob says, "I'm 75. I intended to live the rest of my life here. But now that the water is bad..." Actually, Mills corrects, the water has been bad for years. PG&E admits they are responsible for dangerous levels of chromium 6 a known carcinogen in the groundwater supply. Peabody feels awful about having to leave his home behind. "To me its a tragedy. This should've never happened." PG&E says they are doing everything they can to help residents. They're bringing in bottled water. And they've offered to buy homes and relocate people. Peabody adds, "I don't really relish it. I've got a lot of friends here that I've known for many years. To me, this is home." Mills spoke to a number of homeowners planning on selling their homes, but many told him they didn't think PG&E was offering a fair price. If the relocation plan goes through, the town will lose two-thirds of its population. There is concern with so few people to populate the town, the school and post office will be shut down. Mills spoke to many residents who planned on high-tailing it out of California. Dee and Bob Peabody have their hearts set on Apple Valley or Hesperia. Mills reports when the Peabody's do move, horses Darlin' and Rebel are going with them. After all, Bob says, they're part of the family.

<http://losangeles.cbslocal.com/2012/10/19/hundreds-of-hinkley-homeowners-agree-to-leave-town-over-contaminated-water/>

USA, N.M, ALBUQUERQUE, OCTOBER 21 2012. CHEMICALS FOUND IN ALBUQUERQUE GROUNDWATER

john fleck

Crews working on an old Air Force fuel spill have stumbled on what could become a new Superfund hazardous waste site beneath a southeast Albuquerque neighborhood. The potentially cancer-causing chemicals, which officials say most likely came from an old neighborhood dry cleaner, showed up in groundwater less than 2,000 feet from a major Albuquerque drinking water well. Crews working for the Air Force found the contamination in water about 500 feet underground when they were installing test wells in the neighborhood of Louisiana and Southern SE, near Phil Chacon Park. The threat is to groundwater, not to people living in the neighborhood above the contamination, said Jim Davis, head of the state Environment Department's Resource Protection Division. Officials said Friday they are only beginning to assess the seriousness of the situation, but they said the chemical's discovery could trigger action under the federal Superfund law, a program aimed at the nation's most serious hazardous chemical contamination problems. The chemical, perchloroethylene or PCE, appears to be unrelated to the nearby Air Force fuel spill problem, Davis said. None of the many test wells drilled to monitor the Air Force fuel spill have found PCE, suggesting another source for the chemical. "This chemical comes from dry cleaners," Davis said in an interview. But its discovery could significantly complicate the already difficult problem of cleaning up the nearby decades-old Air Force fuel spill, said Bruce Thomson, a University of New Mexico engineering professor and groundwater contamination expert. The Air Force, state regulators and the local water utility are already grappling with the spill of millions of gallons of aviation fuel, which was already believed to be spreading toward Albuquerque drinking water wells. The discovery of PCE nearby, even closer to the drinking water wells, is "going to make life complicated," Thomson said in an interview. "This is a big deal." The Albuquerque Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority is evaluating the situation and has not yet seen any signs of PCE during routine tests in the nearby Ridgecrest drinking water well field. It is between 1,700 and 2,000 feet from the nearest PCE-contaminated groundwater, according to Rick Shean, the utility's water quality hydrologist. Crews working for the Air Force found the PCE when they were installing test wells in the neighborhood of Louisiana and Southern SE. They were trying to determine how far contamination from the longstanding Kirtland Air Force Base jet fuel spill had spread. According to Davis, when they pumped up some water to test the wells, initial sample analysis found PCE at levels above the federally established safe drinking water level. Davis said the state Environment Department plans to start an aggressive investigation next week to scour the neighborhood looking for possible sources of contamination. More detailed testing of the wells will also be needed to clarify the extent and seriousness of the contamination, Davis said. One preliminary sample suggested concentrations of PCE in the water more than 15 times the safe drinking water limit, according to Davis. While that sounds high, Davis noted that



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there are more than a dozen known PCE contamination sites around the state, many of them with far higher levels than those initially found in the southeast Albuquerque wells. "We are determined to confirm the source of this PCE," state Environment Secretary David Martin said in a statement, "and work with the city of Albuquerque, the EPA and the neighborhood to clean this up." Thomson called the discovery "serendipitous." If not for the drilling to try to track the Kirtland contamination, the PCE might not have been discovered until it showed up in Albuquerque's drinking water, he said.

Related Links

- [Possible Superfund Site Discovered Under Southeast Albuquerque Neighborhood](#) 10/19/2012
- [KAFB Widens Aquifer Search For Jet Fuel](#) 04/19/2012
- [Official: Response Slow On Fuel Spill](#) 06/21/2012
- [Albuquerque water board to discuss Air Force jet fuel spill](#) 10/18/2011
- [Jet Fuel Plume Still Spreading](#) 10/04/2011

<http://www.abqjournal.com/main/2012/10/20/news/chemicals-found-in-albuquerque-groundwater.html>

USA, N.C, WAKE FOREST, OCTOBER 21 2012. AT LEAST 9 HOMES POTENTIALLY CONTAMINATED WITH CARCINOGENIC CHEMICAL >> TRICHLOROETHYLENE

[Watch the Video Contaminated Water Found in Wake Forest](#)

[Document More information on TCE](#)



Mangum Estates in Wake Forest.

Preliminary results from the Environmental Protection Agency indicate that nine of 18 wells tested this week in Wake Forest showed signs of dangerous levels of a carcinogenic chemical. The new contamination was discovered earlier this week at homes in a brand new community called Mangum Estates. The homes are about two and a half miles north from the Stony Hill Road area, where the Environmental Protection Agency discovered Trichloroethylene in the well of two dozen homes. The EPA has sampled all 21 homes in Mangum Estates. Preliminary results on 18 of those wells indicate nine tested for positive for dangerous levels of Trichloroethylene. Liz Allen, who bought her home five months ago, lives across the street from some of the houses in Mangum Estates that have tested positive for TCE. She says she was surprised when the EPA

showed up this week to sample her well. "We are on pins and needles until we hear from the EPA," Allen said. "But we are still going to make sure we have safe water regardless because I just won't be able to sleep well thinking that we are drinking something that is not good." Allen says she is buying water filters regardless of the EPA's test results. The EPA says the results should be finalized on Monday. In the meantime, water is being delivered to those homes this afternoon to last the households through the weekend. The bottled water is an "interim option" while the EPA determine how to mitigate the problem longer term. One option, based on concentration levels, is a whole-house filtration system. Another step would be larger tanks of bottled water. EPA will meet with homeowners and engineers to look at longer term solutions, which could include extending pipes into the neighborhood from a different water source. That solution is one familiar to many in the area of Stony Hill Road. Homeowners will be offered guidelines about bathing with water from the tainted wells, such as taking shorter showers and making sure ventilation fans are on to get rid of vapor since vapor from TCE is also hazardous. An EPA spokesperson says it is unlikely the source of this contamination is linked to the contamination discovered last month on Stony Hill Road.

Related Links

- [Wake Forest Wells Test Positive for Toxic Chemical](#)
- [Toxic Water Found Near Wake County Homes](#)
- [NBC-17 Investigates: Wake Forest man says he witnessed chemical...](#)
- [Wake Forest families demand answers about well contamination](#)
- [EPA says piping clean water to all Wake Forest contaminated homes...](#)
- [Carcinogenic chemical found in 2nd Wake Forest community](#)

<http://www2.nbc17.com/news/2012/oct/20/least-9-homes-potentially-contaminated-carcinogeni-ar-2711473/>



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HONDURAS, LA PAZ, LA CONCEPCION, OCTOBER 21 2012. 1 DEAD, 5 INJURED IN HONDURAS FIREWORKS FACTORY EXPLOSION

At least one person died and five were injured Saturday when a fireworks factory exploded in the central Honduran province of La Paz, officials said. Fire Department spokesman Oscar Triminio told reporters that the explosion occurred at 11:00 a.m. local time (1700 GMT) inside a fireworks factory in the La Concepcion neighborhood of La Paz. The fatality was identified as Jose Cruz, owner of the fireworks firm, the spokesman said. The injured, identified as Marcio Castillo, Jorge Iglesias, Marco Tulio Bulnes, Donaldo Mejia and Eduardo Orellana, were taken to the Roberto Suazo Cordova Hospital, he said. Triminio said that three of the injured, all factory employees, "had burns on almost 100 percent of their bodies," while the other two "have slight burns." Firefighters are working "to establish the causes of the explosion," which also damaged several nearby homes, Triminio said without give further details.

<http://latino.foxnews.com/latino/news/2012/10/20/1-dead-5-injured-in-honduras-fireworks-factory-explosion/>

ENGLAND, LONDON, OCTOBER 21 2012. MOTORISTS FILLING UP THEIR CARS WITH WRONG FUEL COSTS BRITAIN £150M



Top up the tank: Motorists fill up their car with the wrong sort of fuel every one minute and 45 seconds.

Putting the wrong type of fuel in the car costs British motorists at least £150million a year. Somebody puts diesel in a petrol tank or vice versa every one minute and 45 seconds, meaning 300,000 vehicles a year need to be repaired. It costs between £500 and £3,000 to fix a car and only half of owners can claim the cost back on their insurance. Industry experts believe the rising number of people switching to more economical diesel cars is to blame for the increasingly common gaffe. Rory Carlin from Halfords Autocentres, which compiled the figures, said: 'We saw a noticeable increase in mis-fuelling during March and September – the peak months for new-car purchase – which could be attributed to new owners. 'If you put the wrong fuel in the car, do not attempt to drive off as this will circulate it and could cause more unnecessary damage.' In May 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 owners faced 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

agreed to cover the cost of repairs to the vehicles.

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2220871/Motorists-filling-cars-wrong-fuel-costs-Britain-150m.html?ito=feeds-newsxml>

ENGLAND, LANCASHIRE, OCTOBER 21 2012. TOXIC FUMES RELEASED BY WORLD WAR II 'DAD'S ARMY' HAND-GRENADE LEAVES 13 PEOPLE NEEDING TREATMENT IN HOSPITAL

- Workmen disturbed a stockpile of phosphorous grenades left in the sealed-up cellar of a property in Bamber Bridge near Preston, Lancashire
- Five people exposed to the fumes were rushed to Royal Preston Hospital
- Two paramedics and six hospital staff subsequently became unwell

A 'Dad's Army' hand-grenade left over from the Second World War left 13 people needing hospital treatment. The casualties, who were not seriously injured, were exposed to toxic fumes after workmen disturbed the stockpile of phosphorous grenades left in the sealed-up cellar of a property in Bamber Bridge near Preston, Lancashire. It is thought one of the grenades, issued to members of the Home Guard during the last World War, was dislodged and cracked, Lancashire Fire and Rescue Service said. The device is a glass bottle about eight inches high which on being thrown and hitting the target was intended to break



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and release the contents, a highly flammable mixture of phosphorus and benzene, self-igniting on exposure to air. It was to be used by the 'Dad's Army' of reservists against Hitler's Nazi occupiers if Britain had fallen to German invasion, but had been left and forgotten about for almost 60 years in the sealed-off cellar of a former fire station, now used as the premises of a printing firm. The cellar of the old fire station is linked with that of the former Town Hall next door - now an estate agent - and a further six such devices have been found in the shared cellar space. Both cellars had been bricked up for some years. Firefighters were first called to reports of a fire at the premises of Sprint Print on Station Road in Bamber Bridge at 12.23pm yesterday. But on arrival they soon established that wisps of smoke thought to be from a fire were in fact chemical fumes from a source, thought to be a small container or bottle of acid, in the cellar. Two drainage company employees investigating a report from the occupier of damp masonry are thought to have inadvertently dislodged one of the bottles in the stockpile, causing it to leak and release fumes. They were exposed to the fumes and were injured along with three workers at Sprint Print. Of these five casualties, two suffered chemical burns and three experienced breathing problems. Two paramedics and six hospital staff at the Royal Preston Hospital - where the casualties had been taken, subsequently also complained of breathing difficulties. One casualty suffered blisters to the exposed skin of his arms but all 13 casualties have responded well to treatment and have been allowed home. The cracked grenade has now been made safe and removed from the building for disposal by an army disposal team and the rest of the stockpile will be disposed of in a controlled explosion, the fire service said. At the height of the incident five fire engines, a Hazardous Materials Unit, Mobile Fire Station and approximately 40 firefighters were sent to the scene and a 50-metre exclusion zone put in place.

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2219991/Toxic-fumes-released-World-War-II-Dads-Army-hand-grenade-leaves-13-people-needing-treatment-hospital.html?ito=feeds-newsxml>

USA, LA, WEBSTER PARISH, OCTOBER 21 2012. LA NATIONAL GUARD IDENTIFIES MATERIAL THAT EXPLODED AT CAMP MINDEN

carolyn roy

 [Watch the Video LA National Guard Identifies Explosion Material](#)



The Louisiana National Guard has released photos from the site of Monday's explosion at Camp Minden and identified the substance that exploded. According to a statement released Friday, the substance that exploded was a smokeless powder that does not pose a threat outside of Camp Minden. The force of the blast from the underground bunker shook homes and businesses in Webster Parish and rattled nerves when it happened around 11:30 p.m. Monday. The Louisiana National Guard statement recounts the chain of events as follows: "On Monday night the Camp Minden post security heard a loud sound which could have been a possible explosion. Subsequently, the post security physically surveyed the camp in accordance with established protocols and conferred with contractor tenants who stated that they were not able to confirm the origination of the sound. Upon daylight on Tuesday morning, a Camp Minden tenant organization, Explo Inc., discovered that one of their storage areas had exploded

and reported the incident to the Louisiana National Guard. Following this report, the Louisiana National Guard notified local authorities and the Louisiana State Police of the explosion in accordance with standard protocol." The incident is under investigation by the Louisiana State Police. Investigators are poring over photo evidence from the site at the Hazardous Materials Unit in Baton Rouge. It could take weeks before a determination is made as to what caused the blast. Louisiana State Police have confirmed that there is the possibility of a violation in connection with the explosion. The Louisiana National Guard says Explo is currently conducting cleanup operations at the site. All inquiries regarding details of the explosion and their operations have been directed to Explo, which so far has declined to comment.

Related Links

- [LSP: Investigation into blast at Camp Minden could take months](#)
- [Enforcement action possible in Camp Minden explosion](#)
- [Minden bunker blast 911 tapes released](#)
- [Explosion causes damage in the Minden area](#)



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- [Details about blast site from above](#)
- [Explosion from Camp Minden shows up on radar](#)
- [Webster S.O. confirms bunker explosion at Camp Minden](#)

<http://www.ksla.com/story/19867542/la-national-guard-identifies-material-that-exploded-at-camp-minden>

CANADA, B.C, VANCOUVER, OCTOBER 21 2012. OIL SPILL IN CREEK CAME FROM HYDRO TRANSFORMERS

james weldon

Cleanup crews rushed to the West Vancouver waterfront this week after some 300 litres of oil spilled from downed transformers into a waterway connected to Ambleside Park. The mess was triggered Sunday afternoon when heavy winds brought down a tree onto wires next to Taylor Way, which in turn pulled down a power pole supporting three transformers. The devices cracked open, spilling insulating oil into a nearby storm drain. The oil quickly made its way downhill to a "bioswale" - a kind of marshy water catchment - west of the Ambleside playing fields, into Sway'wey Creek and on into the nearby duck pond. B.C. Hydro crews arrived on scene a short time later, and were soon joined by environmental officials from several government agencies. They tracked the chemical downhill, setting up booms and absorbent pads in the swale, the creek, the pond, and even the ocean beyond the park. The municipality closed the playing fields and portions of the park as a precaution, while crews took samples and used a vacuum truck to remove some 5,000 litres of contaminated water from the system. A cleaning station was set up at the site in case any waterfowl were affected, but it ultimately proved unnecessary, according to Hydro. Much of the oil was caught by a Stormceptor under Marine Drive, a device designed specifically to remove contaminants from storm water, but a portion got through into the neighbouring waterway, with workers reporting an oily sheen on parts of the duck pond as late as Friday. Hydro has insisted the oil itself was nontoxic, although tests revealed it contained PCBs at a concentration of 10-13 parts per million - a little more than double the level deemed acceptable in soil, but still too low to impact human health. The utility estimates a total of 3.3 grams of PCBs escaped in the spill. Crews completed their cleanup Friday, although they left some booms on site as a precaution.

<http://www.nsnews.com/health/spill+creek+came+from+Hydro+transformers/7423405/story.html>

ENGLAND CUMBRIA, CARLISLE, OCTOBER 21 2012. ENVIRONMENT AGENCY INVESTIGATING FUEL SPILL INTO CARLISLE BECK

duncan bick

Fuel has been spilled into a beck in Carlisle. A small amount of diesel was been found in Durrhill Beck with many residents reporting that the pollution was giving off "strong fumes". One local resident told the News & Star: "Last night it wasn't even possible to go outside without getting a headache because of all the fumes." The Environment Agency is aware of the situation. A spokesman for the organisation said: "We are currently investigating an incident of minor pollution in the Durrhill Beck watercourse that appears to be a spill of diesel. "Although the pollution impact is small at present we recognise the unpleasant diesel odours are a concern for local residents. "We are therefore working closely with Carlisle City Council to identify the source and prevent the pollution from getting any worse. We will continue this work over the weekend if necessary." A city council spokeswoman confirmed the authority's staff were helping with the clean up.

<http://www.timesandstar.co.uk/environment-agency-investigating-fuel-spill-into-carlisle-beck-1.1006721?referrerPath=home/2.1681>

USA, CA, SAN FRANCISCO, OCTOBER 22 2012. 15 EVACUATED AFTER APPARENT S.F SUICIDE >> HYDROGEN SULFIDE

sam whiting

Two four-story buildings in North Beach were evacuated Saturday evening after a resident was found dead from inhaling poisonous gas. A third party calling from outside the Bay Area alerted San Francisco police to a suicide attempt at 1539 Powell St., at 7:30 p.m. Emergency responders were confronted by "a strong odor of rotten eggs, indicative of a deadly release of hydrogen sulfide," said [San Francisco Fire Department](#) Battalion Chief [Bryan Rubenstein](#). The hazardous materials unit was summoned, and 15 residents were escorted outside, where they were comforted by [Red Cross](#) workers with blankets, food and water. "The release of this gas in such a densely populated area represented a potentially extreme hazard for many individuals," said Rubenstein, who led the unit. After clearing the two buildings, firefighters in protective equipment entered the



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first-floor unit and found the victim, a man in his 20s, Rubenstein said. By midnight the hazard had been neutralized and removed, and residents were allowed to return to their units. Only the unit where the victim was found remains sealed off pending investigation by the police homicide unit.

<http://www.sfgate.com/bayarea/article/15-evacuated-after-apparent-S-F-suicide-3969530.php>

AUSTRALIA, SOUTH AUSTRALIA, ADELAIDE, OCTOBER 22 2012. BP STARTS LARGS NORTH TERMINAL EXPANSION

alexandra economou

The \$20 million expansion of the BP Largs North terminal will ensure greater security of diesel supply for South Australia. Mineral Resources and Energy Minister Tom Koutsantonis today officially launched construction at the site which will include a new 30-million litre tank for diesel storage. He said businesses investing in SA needed the reliability of supply that BP planned to deliver when the storage facility came on line in November next year. Mr Koutsantonis said the expansion was the first stage of a \$41 million pipeline of infrastructure investment in SA being considered by BP for the next five years. "The Largs North terminal is already a key element of South Australia's energy infrastructure, providing storage that gives our state security of supply," he said. "South Australia's growing mining sector requires energy. "Those demands are growing with each new mine that begins construction and with each new shipment of ore that heads to our markets offshore." BP has also recently completed a \$4 million upgrade to the terminal's fire-fighting system, as well as \$2 million on a vapour recovery unit. BP Australasia president Paul Waterman said the increased storage capacity at Largs North would allow the company to further optimise its shipping operations. "We also plan to continue to invest in our terminal infrastructure to reduce risk and ensure our operations are safe, reliable and able to meet the needs of our customers," he said.

<http://www.adelaidenow.com.au/business/sa-business-journal/bp-starts-largs-north-terminal-expansion/story-e6fredel-1226500548029>

USA, VA, LORTON, OCTOBER 22 2012. LORTON GIRL 7, BURNED BY GASOLINE FIRE, MEDEVACED TO BURN CENTER >> VICTIM'S INJURIES "LIFE-THREATENING," ACCORDING TO FAIRFAX COUNTY FIRE AND RESCUE.

mary ann barton

A 7-year-old Lorton girl received life-threatening injuries Saturday afternoon when she was burned in a gasoline fire in the garage of her family's home, according to Captain William Moreland of [Fairfax County Fire and Rescue](#). The emergency call to 911 came at approximately 5 p.m. Saturday, Moreland said. Due to her injuries, the child was medevaced by a Fairfax County medical helicopter from her home on the 10000 block of Old Colchester Road to the [Burn Center at MedStar Washington Hospital Center](#), according to Moreland. Moreland said he did not yet know exactly how the incident occurred. "I don't have all the details on that, to the actual action itself," he said. Patch will update the story as more information becomes available.

<http://lorton.patch.com/articles/lorton-girl-7-burned-by-gasoline-fire-medevaced-to-burn-center>

USA, IN, LAFAYETTE, OCTOBER 23 2012. FEATURED VIDEO: LAFAYETTE INDIANA NATURAL GAS EXPLOSION

 [Watch the Video Construction Crew Strikes Natural Gas Line](#)

On November 27, 2002 the Lafayette Fire Department responded to a "routine" gas leak. Dispatch reported that a construction crew struck a natural gas line while installing a traffic signal light. At least four separate explosions destroyed four homes that day. Responders from the Lafayette Fire Department share their experience and key takeaways in the video below including information about how to plan for the unexpected, anticipating migrating gas, proper gear, clear communication and the importance of ICS and advance partnerships with operators.

<http://www.pipelineawareness.org/featured-video-lafayette-case-study>

USA, MD, SOMERSET CO, OCTOBER 23 2012. TWO INJURED IN OIL TANK EXPLOSION

A 21-year old man using a cutting torch on an oil tank was severely burned in an explosion at a farm located in the 27000 block of Crisfield Marion Road on Saturday. Deputy state fire marshals have concluded the Tasley man and his father were using an acetylene torch and performing a cutting operation on a large oil tank, which had previously been used to store gasoline when the tank exploded, injuring both men, one severely. The explosion subsequently ignited a nearby 20-foot-by-30-foot pole building. It is believed that neither man knew the tank had previously stored the flammable liquid. The 21-year old suffered



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second-and-third degree burns to more than 90 percent of his body, third-degree burns being the most serious. The man, who was in critical condition, was flown to Bayview Medical Center's burn unit in Baltimore by Maryland State Police Aviation. The 52-year old father was initially transported to McCready Memorial Hospital in Crisfield with nonlife-threatening injuries but was later transferred to Bayview Medical Center as well. The explosion, which took place at 12:48 p.m., brought 15 firefighters from Marion Volunteer Fire Company to the scene, and it took about 25 minutes to bring the fire under control. Senior Deputy State Fire Marshal Oliver Alkire said names have not yet been released and the father is also from Tasley. He also said the men had permission to be at the site and were there in a professional capacity.

<http://www.delmarvanow.com/article/20121022/NEWS/310220012/POLICE-FIRE-REPORT?odyssey=nav%7Chead>

USA, CA, LOS ANGELES, OCTOBER 23 2012. CALIFORNIA GASOLINE CONSUMERS HURT BY FEW SUPPLIERS, OUTAGES >> CALIFORNIA HAS ABOUT HALF THE NUMBER OF REFINERS IT HAD IN THE EARLY 1980S. GASOLINE PRICE SPIKES, SUCH AS THE ONE THIS MONTH, HURT INDEPENDENT STATIONS TOO.

ken bensinger

 **Watch the Video**

- [Why are California Gas Prices Still So High](#)
- [Why gas prices are going up](#)

 **Photo's** [The gas miser list](#)



For nearly two decades, Santosh Arya has pumped some of the San Diego area's cheapest gas at his three Homeland Petroleum stations. But his streak ended early this month, when wholesale prices started rising sharply, then shot up 40 cents a gallon overnight. To break even, Arya calculated he would have to sell a gallon of regular at \$5.10 — almost a buck higher than at nearby Shell and 76 stations. Instead, he shut down and waited for prices to drop. "I've never seen anything like it," said Arya, who said he lost \$2,000 a day while hanging "out of gas" signs on his pumps. He has since reopened his stations in Vista, San Diego and Mira Mesa, but has struggled to keep his prices under \$4.50 a gallon. "You can't believe how customers talk to me," said Arya, who was born in India but has

lived in the U.S. for almost 40 years. "They say, 'You foreigner, you're gouging.'" While Arya was losing money, the state's oil refiners were raking it in. For the week that ended Oct. 8, when the average price for a gallon of gasoline in California hit a record high of \$4.67, the portion of the retail price going to refiners, or margin, jumped to \$1.22 a gallon. That was up 75% from the previous week. And it was nearly triple the average margin of 42 cents a gallon this year, according to California Energy Commission data. The price run sparked howls of protest from angry motorists and calls for investigations by California Democratic U.S. Sens. Dianne Feinstein and [Barbara Boxer](#). But the reason refiners made a killing while retailers such as Arya lost their shirts isn't conspiracy, it's economics. Oil companies operate what amounts to a legal oligopoly in California — an arrangement that probably will contribute to more wild gas spikes in the future. That's because the Golden State's gasoline market is essentially closed. The state's strict clean-air rules mandate a specially formulated blend used nowhere else in the country. Producers in places such as Louisiana or Texas could make it, but there are no pipelines to get it to the West Coast quickly and cheaply. As a result, virtually all 14.6 billion gallons of gasoline sold in California last year were made by nine companies that own the state's refineries. Three of them — [Chevron](#), Tesoro and [BP](#) — control 54% of the state's refining capacity. "We live on a gasoline island," said Gordon Schremp, a fuels analyst at the California Energy Commission. "The control refiners have is an artifact of the closed marketplace we've created." Shielded from outside competition, these refiners benefit from keeping supplies tight. Even as gasoline consumption has declined in California in recent years because of high unemployment and increased vehicle fuel efficiency, refiners have been able to keep prices about 35 cents a gallon higher than the rest of the country. At the same time, the number of refineries operating in California has declined to just 14 today from 27 in the early 1980s. The lack of competition is also reflected at the retail level. About 85% of California's gas stations sell branded gas such as Chevron, Arco, [Valero](#) or Mobil. Pump prices at these outlets are directly or indirectly controlled by refiners. In other states, such as Texas, independent, non-branded stations make up as much as 50% of the market, creating more competition. But California's independent stations are the first to suffer when there's a hiccup in the state's fragile supply chain. In the case of an outage, refiners scramble to supply their own stations first. Independents such as Arya, meanwhile,



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have to rely on the volatile spot market to fill their underground tanks. California Energy Commission data show that independent retailers and distributors lost, on average, 10 cents for every gallon sold in the days leading up to the price spike this month. "Gas stations are the ones left holding the bag," said Liza Tucker of Consumer Watchdog. The state's fuel problems are magnified, critics say, because refiners have consolidated over the years, giving fewer players more market power. Most recently, BP in August agreed to sell its 265,000 barrel-a-day Carson refinery, along with the Arco brand, to Tesoro for \$2.5 billion. If the transaction is approved by regulators, just two companies — Tesoro and Chevron — will control more than half the state's gasoline refining capacity. Tesoro spokesman Brian Kennedy said the merger would help it meet environmental requirements and prevent outages. But some industry experts say the deal could lead to even higher gas prices. "As the market becomes more concentrated, the incentive to restrict output increases," said Severin Borenstein, an economist at [UC Berkeley's](#) Haas School of Business who has researched the market power of California refineries. "If one refinery goes down, everyone else makes a bucket of money." It might all sound like a conspiracy, but the [Federal Trade Commission](#) and California's attorney general have investigated this market several times, never finding evidence of collusion or price fixing. California refineries can turn crude oil into a number of products, including jet fuel and asphalt, to supply customers inside and outside the state. If a refiner can make more money selling diesel to Mexico, it has every incentive to do so, especially if it helps keep supplies tight and prices high at home. Optimizing profits by choosing what products to sell where and when is at the core of running a successful refinery. "It's called arbitrage," said Schremp of the energy commission. "You sell where it makes the most sense to." Refiners contend that the price of gas reflects the higher cost of doing business in California. It costs as much as 15 cents a gallon more to refine the state's clean fuel blend, and green regulations chip away at the bottom line. Fuel taxes, too, are higher than in many other regions. "It's a very difficult, challenging market," said Tupper Hull, spokesman for the Western States Petroleum Assn., whose members include most of the region's oil companies and refiners. In August, the group released a report predicting that state rules to limit greenhouse gas emissions and push alternative fuels could force as many as eight of California's refineries to close in coming years. As the number of refineries shrinks, the chances that an outage could create disruptive shortages and painful price hikes increases. "The fragility of the refining system makes California really vulnerable to spikes," said Carl Larry, president of consulting firm Oil Outlooks & Opinions. "What happened this month looks like the result of a hurricane. But there are no hurricanes in California." October's spike was triggered by two unplanned outages in the state. In August, Chevron's 110-year-old Richmond refinery caught fire, putting the nearly 250,000-barrel plant partially offline for months. Then on Oct. 1, [Exxon Mobil's](#) refinery in Torrance lost power and went out of service for the better part of a week. The market was already stretched perilously thin. Refiners always try to keep supplies tight, but they're particularly conservative before the semiannual switch between summer and winter gas, so as not to get stuck with inventory they can't sell. Chevron had also closed a pipeline for repairs, and [ConocoPhillips](#) announced planned maintenance on two in-state refineries. "This was building up," said Denton Cinquegrana, executive editor of the Oil Price Information Service. "You could almost see it coming." Exxon Mobil's shutdown sent traders into a panic as distributors scrambled to secure fuel. In just two days, wholesale prices leaped nearly a dollar in some places. Tesoro and Valero stopped selling to independent distributors in order to meet contractual obligations to stations such as SuperValu and Shell. That forced retailers including Costco to shut down their pumps and drove up street prices 12% in a week. On Oct. 7, Gov. [Jerry Brown](#) took the highly unusual step of allowing refiners to begin selling winter formulation gas ahead of the Nov. 1 switch to boost supply. Gas prices have since fallen. On Sunday, a gallon of regular averaged \$4.44 in California, according to [AAA](#). But the finger-pointing continues. Oil refiners and distributors blamed speculative commodities traders, and Sens. Boxer and Feinstein called for investigations into the spot gasoline market. Environmentalists have accused refiners of exploiting the spike to sway public opinion against important anti-pollution controls. Nazhi Simaan, owner of SS Fuel in Paramount, doesn't know what to think. Two days into the run-up, his station's underground tanks ran dry and he had to refill at fast-rising prices. Just to break even he charged \$5.39 for regular. Customers balked. He went from selling as many as 2,000 gallons of fuel a day to barely 100. "We couldn't even pay the employees," Simaan said. "Why did this happen?"

<http://www.latimes.com/business/la-fi-california-gas-prices-20121022,0,4297927,full.story>

USA, PA, HARRISBURG, OCTOBER 23 2012. PENNSYLVANIA DEP ENCOURAGES HOMEOWNERS TO INSPECT, REPAIR HOME HEATING OIL TANKS

Proper Tank Maintenance Can Save Energy, Money. As cold weather approaches, the Department of [Environmental Protection](#) is urging homeowners to act now to save energy and money by inspecting indoor and outdoor home [heating oil](#) tanks for potential problems prior to re-filling them. "A quarter of all Pennsylvania homes use heating oil to stay warm in the



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winter," DEP Secretary Mike Krancer said. "It is very important that these homeowners maintain and inspect their oil tanks to ensure they are safe and function properly; and at the same time, they will benefit by saving energy and money this winter." Leaking heating oil could cause indoor air problems and potentially contaminate groundwater and private drinking water wells. A spill cleanup may cost up to \$50,000 and may not be covered by [homeowner's insurance](#). Residents who think their oil tank may have a problem should immediately contact their oil company for help. DEP encourages homeowners to consider these tips:

- For [safety reasons](#), always assume the tank contains at least some oil;
- Routinely inspect the exterior of the tank and all attached equipment;
- Check for signs of rusting on the tank and its structural supports;
- Examine the tank's fill line and feed line to the furnace for leaks;
- Never tip over or empty a tank on the ground;
- Enlist a professional to perform maintenance or alterations to a heating oil tank system; and
- Recognize that wet spots or odors near the tank may signal a problem.
- For fuel delivery, make certain that the home address is clearly visible and the tank's fill line clearly marked. If a resident cannot be home when [fuel oil](#) is delivered, clearly mark the fill pipe with a red flag or marker and inform the oil company of the location. Ensure that any disconnected fill pipes that remain above the ground are permanently sealed and cannot be opened.

While heating oil prices have come down since last year, residents are urged to avoid needlessly losing fuel and to protect the investment they have made to keep themselves warm. For more information and to download a free fact sheet, "Tips for Residential Heating Oil Tank Owners," visit www.dep.state.pa.us, keyword: [Storage Tanks](#), or call the agency's Division of Storage Tanks at 717-772-5599.

<http://www.sacbee.com/2012/10/22/4929971/pennsylvania-dep-encourages-homeowners.html>

RUSSIA, MOSCOW, OCTOBER 23 2012. RUSSIAN MILITARY TO ABANDON MUNITIONS DISPOSAL BY EXPLOSION



The Russian Defense Ministry is planning to use "safe" industrial technologies rather than explosions in the scrapping of old munitions starting in 2013, Deputy Defense Minister Gen. Dmitry Bulgakov said on Monday. "Our long-term cooperation with industry has finally paid off, and we are planning to abandon the disposal of munitions by explosion, especially at training grounds, starting in 2013," Bulgakov said at a meeting of the Public Council at the Defense Ministry. The general did not specify the new methods of disposal but said the ministry had received several proposals from Russian defense industry firms. Russia currently stockpiles about 3.6 million metric tons of munitions. The military is planning to dispose of 2.16 million tons and keep 1.4 million tons in reserve. This

year, the Defense Ministry allocated 10 billion rubles (about \$321 million) on munitions disposal. The Russian Military has experienced a series of incidents involving the poor handling of munitions at disposal sites and firing ranges across Russia in the last few years. The most recent incident took place in October at a munitions disposal site in Russia's Urals region when more than 4,000 tons of ammunition exploded, injuring an officer and forcing the temporary evacuation of residents from nearby villages. The poor handling of munitions and frequent violation of safety rules during the munitions disposal by explosion have prompted serious criticism from Russian lawmakers who demanded that the military take urgent measures to prevent such incidents in the future.

http://en.ria.ru/military_news/20121022/176832715.html

YEMEN, ADEN, OCTOBER 23 2012. SIX SOLDIERS KILLED IN YEMENI DEPOT BLAST

An accidental blast at an army munitions depot stocked with mines and explosives killed six soldiers in south Yemen on Monday, a local municipality official said. The blast occurred Monday morning in an explosives warehouse at an army base in the southern port city of Aden, "killing six soldiers and wounding others," local municipality chief Abdel Munim al-Abd told AFP. He said an initial investigation revealed that the explosion took place "while soldiers were organising the explosives in the



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warehouse." According to Munim, the warehouse is stocked with large quantities of mines and explosives that were recovered after Al-Qaeda's retreat from their strongholds in the southern Abyan province in June.

<http://www.nation.com.pk/pakistan-news-newspaper-daily-english-online/international/23-Oct-2012/six-soldiers-killed-in-yemeni-depot-blast>

AUSTRALIA, NEW SOUTH WALES, BYRON BAY, OCTOBER 23 2012. REPORTS OF OIL SPILL AT BYRON BAY

Map: [Byron Bay 2481](#)

Authorities are investigating reports of an oil spill near Byron Bay. Staff from the Roads and Maritime Service and the Byron Shire Council have been sent to Belongil Beach. Local man Bruce Clarke says a murky slick is washing up and spreading north. "A long strip of red, murky oil which is just about to touch the beach," he said. "It's now reached the white water and it's extending from the lagoon at Belongil, well at least around probably two kilometres north. "It's a strip about maybe 100 metres of very badly stained water." The Byron Shire Council sent officers to investigate the reports late yesterday afternoon, but they found no surface scum or oil residue on the sand. The council says it will continue to monitor the situation.

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2012-10-22/byron-oil-spill/4327440?§ion=news>

MEXICO, TEPEJI DEL RIO, OCTOBER 23 2012. MORE THAN 1,000 EVACUATED IN MEXICO AFTER GAS LEAK

More than 1,000 people were evacuated from their homes as a precaution after would-be thieves ruptured a pipeline in the central Mexican town of Tepeji del Rio, authorities said Monday. The leak also forced the closure of a 30-kilometer (19-mile) stretch of the Mexico City-Queretero highway, the deputy emergency services chief in Hidalgo state, Miguel Garcia-Conde Alvarez, told Efe. The liquefied petroleum gas pipeline belongs to Petroleos Mexicanos, the state oil monopoly. "We have around 1,100 people preventatively evacuated," Garcia-Conde said, adding that it will be up to Pemex to decide when residents can return to their homes. The Pemex and government technicians dealing with the problem are equipped with explosimeters to gauge the risk of a blast and have tried using water to dissipate the cloud of gas, the official said, pointing out that LP gas is "heavier than air." The leak was caused by thieves who tried to siphon fuel from the pipeline, Pemex said in a short statement. Pemex estimates annual losses from fuel theft at around \$500 million. The federal highway administration said it hoped to reopen the heavily traveled Mexico City-Queretero expressway by Monday evening.

<http://latino.foxnews.com/latino/news/2012/10/22/more-than-1000-evacuated-in-mexico-after-gas-leak/>

USA, CA, SAN DIEGO CO, SAN ONOFRE, OCTOBER 23 2012. SAN ONOFRE FINDS NONRADIOACTIVE HYDROGEN LEAK >> OFFICIALS SAY THE MINOR LEAK IS UNRELATED TO OTHER PROBLEMS AT THE PLANT, MAJOR COMPONENTS OF WHICH ARE NOW UNDERGOING TESTING.

adam townsend

 **Watch the Video** [Hydrogen Leak Detected at San Onofre](#)



Workers at the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station are set to replace a pipe fitting after routine maintenance turned up a small hydrogen gas leak in Unit 2 at the plant. Southern California Edison officials said in a press release that the leak was unrelated to pressure testing of steam generators going on at the plant. According to the company, the leak isn't a safety risk because the flammable gas is dissipating into the open air around the pipe, and the pipe is near the turbine building on the non-nuclear side of the plant. The leak set off a flurry of regulatory reports and provided fodder for critics of the plant who want to see it closed down. "SCE submitted an event report Sunday to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission," the release states. "The utility also notified

the California Emergency Management Agency and the San Diego Department of Environmental Health." Anti-nuclear advocates are continuing to hammer the plant's safety record, citing this hydrogen leak as one more in a long line of problems. "It just conjures up more images of corroded equipment at this facility," said [Gary Headrick](#) of San Clemente Green. "Things like this come up and people like me and the general public are like, 'what's next?' Moving forward (on the plan to restart the plant) is even more concerning when they have a hydrogen leak." Both units of the San Onofre plant are currently shut down. Unit 2 was taken out of service Jan. 9 for a [planned outage](#). Unit 3 was taken offline Jan. 31 after station operators detected a



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[leak in a steam generator tube](#). The small leak revealed that the generators at the plant were [riddled with faulty tubes](#), and the entire plant has been offline since. Regulators are currently [reviewing a restart plan](#) for Unit 2 to operate at partial strength for a shortened operating period, but there is no restart date set.

Related Links [Click here for hundreds of articles in chronological order detailing the history of the San Onofre Nuclear Generating Station over the past three years.](#)

<http://poway.patch.com/articles/san-onofre-finds-nonradioactive-hydrogen-leak>

USA, CT, WESTPORT, OCTOBER 23 2012. ILLEGAL FIREWORKS LEAD TO STORE OWNER'S ARREST

james lomuscio



The owner of a longtime Westport auto parts store was arrested Sunday for selling and storing at his business a huge cache of illegal fireworks that "posed serious incendiary danger to persons and property," police said today. Sanford Cooper, 64, an Easton resident and owner of Cooper's Auto Parts, 1763 Post Road East in the Westfair shopping plaza near the Fairfield line, turned himself in Sunday after an arrest warrant had been administered the same day following a continuing investigation into the possession of illegal fireworks, according to Capt. Sam Arciola. Under state law, illegal fireworks are those that carry much larger explosive power than those legally sold in stores around the Fourth of July. "Our investigation into this was part of the Easton investigation where his house caught on fire, and they discovered a number of sizeable, illegal fireworks, there," Arciola said. On May 18, explosions from fireworks were heard as Cooper's Judd Road Colonial home burned to the ground, according to Easton

police. "The house was fully engulfed, and the only thing that was left was the chimney," said Joanne Benson, records clerk for the Easton Police Department. "Explosions could be heard, and the firefighters could not go in because the explosions of the fireworks put them in danger," she added. Benson said that Cooper subsequently turned himself in to the Easton police on Sept. 18 following a warrant that charged him with second-degree endangerment and the illegal possession of fireworks, explosives and their storage. He was released on a promise to appear in Bridgeport Superior Court in November, she said. In Westport, Arciola said the investigation led police to uncover a large amount of illegal fireworks in the storage area of Cooper Auto Parts. According to the arrest report, Cooper faces charges for the sale, use and possession of illegal fireworks and for the storage, transportation and use of explosives and blasting agents. The Westport police released Cooper on a \$5,000 bond. He is scheduled to appear in Norwalk Superior Court on Wednesday, Oct. 31.

http://www.westportnow.com/index.php?v2_5/comments/illegal_fireworks_lead_to_store_owners_arrest/

CANADA, B.C, VANCOUVER, WEST END, OCTOBER 23 2012. OIL SPILL IMPACT LASTS A LIFETIME: MARINE SCIENTIST >> EXPERTS DISCUSS POTENTIAL DISASTER TO ECOLOGY

joanne abshire

The impact of an oil spill in Burrard Inlet would last a lifetime according to a prominent marine scientist. About a hundred people turned up for the event held at the West End Community Centre to hear about the dangers of a potential disaster on animals on land and in the sea. Lance Barrett-Lennard with the Vancouver Aquarium, Ben West with the Wilderness Committee and Robyn Worcester with the Stanley Park Ecology Society were among the panelists. You've seen the images of fish and birds covered in oil but what you can't see is just as harmful says Lance Barrett-Lennard. "The affects that people aren't as aware of is how long these impacts go on. The oil gets in the sediment, it gets in the rocks, it gets in the gravel and then it leaches slowly out over time. It poisons the food change, not necessarily lethally but injures the food chain. It impairs the food chain for tens of years," says Barrett-Lennard. To make matters worse, he says bitumen will be even harder to clean up than crude oil. "One of the scariest things about this type of oil, it's very different from diesel, it's very different from lighter oils. It sinks. So imagine you've got an oil spill effort focused on skimming off the oil on the surface, that's hard to do, but there is technology for doing that. (If) it ends up on the beaches, that's hard to clean but there is some technology for doing that. (If) it ends up on the bottom of the ocean, then there's no technology for dealing with that," explains Barrett-Lennard. After hearing experts talk about declining marine populations as a result of pollution, many people came out of the meeting depressed or



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angry. Some people question how prepared governments would be in response to such disasters. "With the heavier oil, it's almost impossible to clean up, and that's scary," says Jim. "If you walk through the aquarium, the thought of all that being damaged, just being wiped out is horrifying," adds Karen. "People are going to see all the animals that potentially use their habitats and their lives and they still won't get out of their cars," says Monica. Some area also worried Stanley Park would lose its recreational value if there was a spill.

<http://www.news1130.com/news/local/article/414474--oil-spill-impact-lasts-a-lifetime-marine-scientist>

USA, IN, TIPPECANOE CO, OCTOBER 23 2012. CREWS WORK FOR DAYS TO CLEAN UP OIL SPILL

elisabeth rentschler

 **Watch the Video** [Crews Work for Days to Clean Up Spill](#)

It looked like a winter wonderland in parts of Tippecanoe County this weekend. Yet, it wasn't winter and the white powder on the ground wasn't snow. It was a powder used to help absorb vegetable oil that spilled across a 26-mile stretch of road from Carroll County to Tippecanoe County. More than 48 hours after the spill, crews in Tippecanoe County were still hard at work. "Unfortunately, because of the length of the spill, it can't be addressed in a quick fashion," said West Lafayette Police Lieutenant Bill Gallagher. "So, it's a long drawn out process, and it's really critical for the citizens to be aware so they can take the proper precautions." Gallagher said crews began cleaning a section of U.S. 52 between Duncan Road and the end of the construction project, around 11 Monday morning. Gallagher said the cleanup could take hours, if not days. "They can clean one mile in one hour to get the roadway safe again and free of the spill," said Gallagher. According to Gallagher, in that one mile, there's a lot going on. "They actually have a steam cleaner that comes through, steams it, then they put AbsorbAll down, and then they have the sweeper that sweeps it up," said Gallagher. Gallagher said while most of U.S. 52 should be fixed by the end of Monday evening, the cleanup doesn't stop there. "I know there's another stretch of 52 that still needs addressed that they're going to be working on in the over night hours when traffic is very light," said Gallagher. "They'll have to shut 52 down because with the construction, it's only a two way." Lieutenant Gallagher estimates that closure will come sometime after midnight on Monday. For the latest on road closures, make sure to check back here on our website.

<http://www.wlfi.com/dpp/news/local/crews-work-for-days-to-clean-up-oil-spill>

USA, MI. DETROIT, OCTOBER 24 2012. LUBRICATING OIL FROM U.S. STEEL DISCHARGED INTO DETROIT RIVER

 **Watch the Video** [Lubricating Oil from U.S. Steel Discharge](#)

Crews were working Tuesday to clean up an oil slick on the Detroit River. It began outside a U.S. Steel plant in Ecorse and continued two miles south to Grosse Ile. The plant has a wastewater treatment facility with outflow that goes into the river. The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality says the plant was shut down on Monday. It's believed 10 to 20 gallons of oil lubricant was released when the system was started back up. In a statement to FOX 2, U.S. Steel says it's working to clean up the oil sheen and trying to figure out how it leaked into the river.

<http://www.myfoxdetroit.com/story/19893496/chemical-sheen-reported-on-detroit-river>

ZAMBIA, LUSAKA, OCTOBER 24 2012. 'FUEL CONTAMINATION COSTING OMCS'

gideon thole

Energy and Water Development Minister Yamfwa Mukanga has said the contamination of fuel is costing Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) and motorists millions of Kwacha and negatively affecting the fuel business in the country. Mr Mukanga said the Energy Regulation Board (ERB), the OMCs and other stakeholders should find a lasting solution to the problem which was now becoming a drain on resources. "ERB which licenses fuel tankers should take a leading role in seeing to it that all reported cases of fuel adulteration should be followed up and immediately addressed," he said. He said there was need for ERB to work closely with filling stations in tracing the point at which fuel was adulterated by a few selfish individuals who were now costing OMCs and motorists millions of Kwacha. He said some motorists were now forced to shun buying fuel from some filling station after suspecting that it was adulterated resulting in filling stations incurring losses. "Motorists have had their vehicle engines damaged because of buying adulterated fuel. This is too costly for the nation and I want it to come to an end. ERB should act on behalf of the citizens," he said. And the Tanzania Zambia Mafuta (TAZAMA) has said the fuel which it was selling to OMCs through its subsidiary Tazama Petroleum Products Limited, after being refined at Indeni met the international standards and that it was only being contaminated on its way to the filling stations. Tazama petroleum products general



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manager Patrick Musenyesa said there was need to ensure that set standards were adhered to by those tasked with transporting fuel. "We have had situations where a truck carrying fuel leaves TAZAMA terminal at 10:00 hours and it reaches a filling station within Ndola at 16:00 hours. OMC's should see to it that the electronic tracking system, seals and other devices on the trucks always remain intact," he said.

<http://www.times.co.zm/?p=16735>

USA, WASHINGTON D.C, OCTOBER 24 2012. ABOUT 295,000 HAZMAT DRIVERS PER YEAR TO UNDERGO SECURITY THREAT ASSESSMENTS

jacob goodwin



TSA plans to continue performing security threat assessments of approximately 295,000 commercial truck drivers each year who apply for what is known as a "hazardous materials endorsement." "The driver is required to submit an application that includes personal biographic information (for instance, height, weight, eye and hair color, date of birth); information concerning legal status, mental health defects history, and criminal history; as well as fingerprints," said a [TSA notice](#) published in the Federal Register on Oct. 22. TSA is revising the list of the information it intends to gather for applicants, to include U.S. State Department forms showing birth abroad to U.S. citizens, as well as a U.S. Passport number. The applicant will also be asked whether or she is a new applicant, or is applying to renew or transfer an existing hazardous materials endorsement. "TSA is removing items concerning military service," the notice adds, but it does not explain why this information will not be gathered going forward. The

notice estimates that it will cost responding drivers a total of \$25 million annually to complete the application forms and undergo the background checks.

http://www.gsnmagazine.com/node/27657?c=disaster_preparedness_emergency_response

NEW ZEALAND, OTAGO, OCTOBER 24 2012. CAR FIRE AT PETROL STATION QUICKLY BROUGHT UNDER CONTROL

Patrolling police officers and a quick-thinking teenager helped to avoid a potential disaster on Monday when they spotted a car on fire at a petrol station. Members of the Alexandra-based Otago Rural drink-drive team had been conducting roadside checks on motorists between Oamaru and Otematata during Labour Weekend, and officers were on hand when a Mini caught fire at an Omarama petrol station about 6pm. Omarama Challenge service station forecourt attendant Cuillin MacKay (19) said she was working at the time of the incident, but police were on the scene "in 30 seconds". Omarama Volunteer Fire Brigade Chief Fire Officer Howard Williams said the fire was over quickly, but added there had been "the potential" for the incident to have been much worse. "It was just a wee Mini on fire in the engine bay. They put it out, and it was all over." The fire was caused by fuel leaking on to the exhaust manifold. Police kept a high profile in the Waitaki Lakes area over the long weekend to ensure there was no repeat of the alcohol-fuelled trouble seen in 2009. Senior Sergeant Jason McCoy, of Oamaru, said barring the fire it had been a relatively trouble-free weekend. The rural drink-drive team stopped 2820 vehicles between Oamaru and Otematata, and noted 90 offences, and two instances of drink-driving. A 14-year-old boy had been forbidden to drive after he was stopped driving through the township on Friday night, Snr Sgt McCoy said. "It appears that his father thought it would be a good idea to give a driving lesson, but at 14, you're not allowed to drive, so, not such a good idea." The boy's father, who was a passenger in the car, was issued with an infringement notice.

<http://www.odt.co.nz/regions/north-otago/231691/car-fire-petrol-station-quickly-brought-under-control>

USA, MA, TAUNTON, DIGHTON, OCTOBER 24 2012. DIGHTON OFFICIALS LOOK AT OPTIONS FOR CLEANING CONTAMINATED SOIL

The Dighton Board of Selectmen met with Highway Superintendent Tom Ferry and Finance Committee member Nancy Goulart to discuss the ongoing cleanup of contaminated soil at the highway garage on Tuesday. The issue before the selectmen was to decide how to close sites 1 and 2 at the garage — the site where the original contaminants were found (site 1) and the site where the two previously undiscovered underground tanks were found in the same area (site 2). The selectmen were presented with two options to close these sites, as proposed by Green Seal Environmental, which was contracted by the town to assist with the cleanup. Option 1 would test the soil in the vicinity of where the underground tanks were located to



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determine how much, if any, soil needs to be removed. Option 2 would simply remove 200 yards of soil from where the tanks were located. The selectmen and Ferry agreed that option 1 was a better choice because it would ensure that all the remaining contaminants were removed. "If you start with option 2, you may still go back to option 1," Ferry said. "If you start with option 1, you know what you have." "It's a no-brainer," Selectmen Chair Dean Cronin added. The cost for option 1 — not including the disposal of the contaminated soil — is estimated to be about \$23,000. To date, the estimated cost incurred for the cleanup at the highway garage is about \$130,000. The selectmen said as it stands right now, the total cost for cleanup is estimated to be about \$160,000, although that number could still increase. Site 3 at the highway garage — located in the front of the property where a third underground tank was found — may contain up to four underground tanks, Ferry said, which would further increase costs. The selectmen and Ferry also discussed how the cleanup will be financed with Goulart. With about \$543,000 recently certified in free cash, voters will likely be asked to appropriate funds for the cleanup from free cash at the upcoming Special Town Meeting scheduled for Nov. 29 at 7 p.m. at the Dighton-Rehoboth Regional High School. The contaminated soils and underground tanks were likely from when the property was used as a train depot, automobile repair facility and gas station, before the town acquired the property. Now that the garage is town property, the cleanup becomes the responsibility of the town.

<http://www.tauntongazette.com/newsnow/x346785115/Dighton-officials-look-at-options-for-cleaning-contaminated-soil>

USA, S.D, SIOUX FALLS, OCTOBER 24 2012. TANKER CARRYING 1,300 GALLONS OF FUEL CATCHES FIRE NEAR TEA

[Watch the Video Tanker Carrying 1,300 Gallons of Fuel Catches Fire](#)



No one was injured when a tanker carrying 1,300 gallons of diesel fuel burst into flames in I-29 south of Sioux Falls. Tea Fire Chief Grant Van Riesen tells KSFY the truck lost a U-joint, which sparked the blaze. The driver made it out unscathed. Tea firefighters had the fire out within 15 minutes, however, leaking fuel caused a Hazmat situation. This caused a two-hour closure of northbound lanes. The remaining fuel was transferred to another tanker before I-29 was reopened.

Earlier Story:

A fuel truck fire has rerouted traffic along Interstate 29 south of Sioux Falls, and traffic is expected to be slow as crews continue to clean up the area. It happened near the 73-mile marker on I-29. Fire rescue crews responded to the fuel truck fire at about 10:50 am Monday. No one was injured in the fire. Harold Timmerman, Lincoln County Emergency Management, said the fire is out and

traffic will be held back for a bit until the Department of Transportation can put a lane closure in place. Timmerman said with the lane closure traffic will be allowed at a very slow rate of speed, but he said he is not sure when traffic in the area will be back to normal. Timmerman said the fuel truck had a malfunction that caused a fire to spread up to the cab. Timmerman said they are not totally sure what caused the fire to start. The truck is a total loss. The fire also spread to the ditches, but Timmerman said those fires along with the truck fire were extinguished quickly. Early Monday afternoon, crews were spreading sand to absorb the diesel fuel that had spilled on the interstate. Lincoln County Emergency Management, Lincoln County Sheriff's Office, South Dakota Highway Patrol, the South Dakota Department of Transportation, Sioux Falls Fire Rescue and Tea Fire Rescue all responded to the fire.

<http://www.ksfy.com/story/19886022/tanker-carrying-1300-gallons-of-fuel-catches-fire>

NEW ZEALAND, TE PUKE, OCTOBER 25 2012. FUEL SPILL AT GAS STATION

Emergency services are at a gas station in Te Puke after reports of a fuel spill on the forecourt. Volunteer firefighters were called to the Z service station in Te Puke just after 8am this morning. Fire communication shift manager Steve Smith said the petrol spill was relatively small. He said firefighters would have to collect the fuel and get it into a container somehow, as they were not allowed to wash it down the drain. "They'll probably use something to suck it up and then put it into a container," he said. At 8.30am, firefighters were still at the scene.

<http://www.bayofplentytimes.co.nz/news/fuel-spill-gas-station/1596394/>



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