



## Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network

### Release 2012 – 903 Newsy Stuff

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**November 21 2012**



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#### USA, N.Y, NEW YORK, NOVEMBER 7 2012. BILL WOULD REQUIRE GAS STATIONS TO HAVE ON-SITE GENERATORS

*christopher sullivan*

With growing frustration building among tri-state area commuters unable to fill up their gas tanks, Sen. David Carlucci, D-Clarkstown, has introduced legislation that will require gas stations in New York state to have electric generators on site, ensuring that they are able to weather a storm in the event a power outage occurs. Many gas stations have been unable to distribute gasoline in the last week because they lost power as a result of Superstorm Sandy. The Associated Press reports that from storm-scarred New Jersey to parts of Connecticut, a widespread lack of gasoline or electricity to pump it brought grousing, gridlock and worse, compounding frustrations as millions of Americans struggled to return to normal days after Superstorm Sandy. A man pulled a gun in one gas-line fracas that led to an arrest. Lines of cars, and in many places queues of people on foot carrying bright red jerry cans for generators, waited for hours for the precious fuel. And those were the lucky ones. Other customers gave up after finding only closed stations or dry pumps marked with yellow tape or "No Gas" signs. "New York state must have a back-up plan in place when power is lost so that gas station operators, the lifeblood of our energy delivery system, have the capacity to service the millions of commuters on a daily basis," said Carlucci. "We need to face the reality that these 100-year storms are now occurring on a regular basis. This legislation will provide a safeguard to our energy supply and will allow us to double-down our efforts to ensure that when disaster strikes, we can rebound to recovery." The proposed legislation, which is modeled off of similar laws enacted in other states such as Florida in 2007, would require:

- Each terminal facility and wholesaler which sells motor fuel to be capable of operating its loading racks using an electric generator for a minimum of 72 hours. They would be required to have the generator source power available no later than 24 hours after a major disaster.
- Each newly constructed or substantially renovated motor fuel retail outlet given a certificate of occupancy issued on or after July 1, 2013 that must be capable of operating all fuel pumps, dispensing equipment, life safety systems and payment acceptance equipment using an alternative generated power source.
- Each motor fuel retail outlet, which is located within one half mile to an interstate highway or state-federally designated evacuation route, must be capable of operating all fuel pumps, dispensing equipment, life safety systems and payment acceptance equipment using an alternative generated power source.
- Each motor fuel retail outlet must also have a transfer switch installed by a professional electrical contractor and keep a copy of the documentation of the installation at its site or corporate headquarters. They must also keep a written statement stating that they have done testing and have ensured that the equipment is working.

The legislation would apply to any self-service and full-service station or combination of the two regardless of whether the outlet is located on the grounds of or owned by another business that does not engage in the business of selling motor fuel. It would not apply a car dealer, a person who operates a fleet of motor vehicles, or a retail outlet that has an agreement with a public hospital where the hospital agrees to provide the retail outlet with the alternative power source. In addition, added financial incentives would be offered to gas station operators who are not necessarily required to purchase generators. The legislation calls for an added tax credit of 50 percent of the expense to purchase and install a generator, not to exceed \$2,500. <http://www.legislativegazette.com/Articles-Top-Stories-c-2012-11-05-82210.113122-Bill-would-require-gas-stations-to-have-onsite-generators.html>

#### USA, N.J, NORTH BRUNSWICK, NOVEMBER 7 2012. HESS GAS MIXUP IN NORTH BRUNSWICK RESULTS IN DIESEL FUEL PUMPED INTO REGULAR-GAS CARS

*anthony g. attrino*



*About 35 Hess customers complained they received diesel fuel instead of regular gas on Saturday. The company has apologized.*

Dozens of drivers who came to a Hess Gas Station on Route 1 Saturday to fill up their cars with regular gasoline got diesel fuel by mistake. The motorists drove away with their cars knocking, pinging and in some cases stalling, according to Hess spokeswoman Lorrie Hecker. "We feel terrible," Hecker said. "We know people are already dealing with enough right now and this is just adding to everything else." Hecker said about 35 motorists complained their cars weren't running right after they fueled up at the Hess Gas Station, located at 2800 Route 1 North near Finnegan's Lane.



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"When we began receiving customer complaints, we shut down the station, pumped out the product and cleaned the tank," Hecker said Monday. "The station was put back in service Saturday night." Hecker said a third-party carrier delivered gasoline to the station about 4:30 a.m. Saturday. By 11:30 a.m., the complaints were rolling in and Hess shut everything down. They turned away hundreds of people waiting for gas. Many of them thought the station had simply run out, Hecker said. "We are investigating this issue, but it appears that the driver loaded gasoline on top of some leftover diesel in the tanker truck." A Hess quality control person analyzed the gas and determined that the regular tank contained diesel. The amount of diesel mixed with regular gas was unclear. And they don't know how many vehicles received diesel instead of regular gas. "We don't know the extent of it," Hecker said. Hecker said Hess would not identify the third-party carrier or the driver. Diesel and regular gas are two different type of fuel made for different types of engines. Operating a vehicle on the wrong fuel can harm the engine and fuel pump. In a statement, Hess said, "We sincerely regret any inconvenience this has caused our customers, particularly at this difficult time in the aftermath of the hurricane. Customers with questions or concerns should contact the Hess customer line directly at 1-800-437-7645 or by email to [retailwebmaster@hess.com](mailto:retailwebmaster@hess.com). "We stand behind the product we sell and will put things right for our customers," Hecker said. "We also are contacting our outside carriers to ensure all appropriate quality control procedures are followed."

[http://www.nj.com/middlesex/index.ssf/2012/11/hess\\_gas\\_mixup\\_in\\_new\\_brunswic.html](http://www.nj.com/middlesex/index.ssf/2012/11/hess_gas_mixup_in_new_brunswic.html)

### USA, TN, ROGERSVILLE, NOVEMBER 7 2012. FUEL DELIVERY DRIVER ACCIDENTALLY PUTS DIESEL INTO UNDERGROUND TANK FOR REGULAR GAS AT MURPHY OIL STATION IN ROGERSVILLE

*jeff bobo*

Murphy Oil is advising customers of the Rogersville station to call an 800 number if they pumped diesel fuel into their regular gas vehicle last month due to a mistake made by the station's fuel delivery driver. Murphy Oil Vice President of Operations Support Services Angelos Lambis told the Times-News Monday that on the evening of Oct. 25 a fuel delivery driver accidentally put diesel fuel into an underground tank for regular gas pumps. Lambis said he didn't know exactly how many customers were affected, but those who suffered mechanical problems will be reimbursed for the cost of repairs. "We've had a handful right now, and we are currently taking care of those customers," Lambis said. "When an incident like that happens, they typically tell us right then and there, and our policy is to take care of our customers. We had the delivery that evening, and by morning we were already shut down and taking care of customers." Lambis added, "We stand behind the quality of our fuel, and unfortunately the carrier in this instance made a mistake in how they dropped the fuel. But we're more than happy to take care of our customers." Customers who believe they were affected by the fuel mix-up can call 1-800-843-4298. Customers will be asked to verify their proof of purchase with a receipt or credit card statement. The cost of repairs can reached several hundred dollars. A certified mechanic told the Times-News that although diesel fuel won't cause permanent damage to a regular gas vehicle, the regular gas vehicle will not run on diesel fuel. In these cases the vehicle's gas tank, fuel lines, and fuel injection or carburetor system must be completely drained.

<http://www.timesnews.net/article/9053788/fuel-delivery-driver-accidentally-puts-diesel-into-underground-tank-for-regular-gas-at-murphy-oil-station-in-rogersville>

### USA, N.Y, NEW YORK, NOVEMBER 7 2012. A NEW APPROACH TO MILITARY NUCLEAR WASTE

*matthew l. wald*

The United States has many pressing nuclear waste problems, but the worst may be the leftovers from the manufacturing of nuclear weapons. Unlike the wastes from civilian reactors, the military wastes are liquids and sludges stored in underground tanks in environmentally sensitive areas. Scores of tanks have leaked some of the material into the dirt. And there is no debate about how the wastes might be repurposed; they have already been scavenged for useful materials like uranium and plutonium. So for decades, the goal has been to solidify them by mixing them with glass, a process called vitrification, so the material can eventually be buried in a repository. With great difficulty and delay, the Energy Department [opened a factory to do just that](#) in 1996 at its Savannah River nuclear reservation near Aiken, S.C. In 1989, the Energy Department signed an agreement with the Environmental Protection Agency and Washington State to start work on solidification at the Hanford nuclear reservation on the Columbia River. The process was to begin by 1999, but [the pact has repeatedly](#) been rewritten as deadlines were missed. Savannah River had been built and operated by DuPont, a chemical company, and its wastes were simpler and easier to handle there. Hanford had been run by many different contractors, and its wastes had many components that had to be removed before the remainder could go to the glass factory. The federal government has drafted plans for a



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new glass plant at Hanford several times but dropped them because of technical problems. [A plant under construction now](#), described as being more than 60 percent complete, was originally supposed to cost \$5.6 billion but its price tag is now put at over \$12 billion, not counting operating costs. It is supposed to run for decades, with the start date now estimated at 2019. But given the extraordinary delays and cost increases, a start-up, [Kurion](#) of Irvine, Calif., sees an opening. Kurion has already done nuclear work at Fukushima Daiichi in Japan, where it built a system to filter cesium out of contaminated water at the plant's stricken reactors. So far it has not convinced the Energy Department to hire it at Hanford, however. In the vitrification process, the wastes and glass are typically heated to melting temperature by giant electrodes submerged in the mixture. But the electrodes will eventually wear out — a problem if the plant has to run for decades and is so radioactive that the maintenance work has to be done by remote control, noted [Richard Keenan](#), Kurion's vice president for engineering. So Kurion uses inductive heating, in which an object that can conduct electricity is put in a chamber surrounded by coils. This creates a fluctuating magnetic field that generates heat without physical contact. "If there is no contact with electrodes, there are no corrosivity concerns," Mr. Keenan said. The technique could be used for tank wastes and for soil contaminated by tank leaks. Another twist is meant to address the nature of the tanks at Hanford. They accepted waste that was strongly acidic, but the tanks are made of ordinary carbon steel, which could not tolerate the acidity. So workers added a neutralizing agent that led the wastes to divide: a heavy sludge falls out of the mixture and lines the bottom, and a liquid fills the top. Kurion is trying to convince the Energy Department that the liquid should be filtered with materials like the ones it used at Fukushima because when those have captured much of the radioactive materials, they are easy to melt into glass. The company is also suggesting glass mixtures that are tailored to the waste. The goal is to make glass that will not leach its radioactive contents in millenniums to come. With careful attention to glass chemistry, Mr. Keenan said, technicians can get more radioactive material into each batch without spoiling the glass. So far, the Energy Department seems resolved to complete the main vitrification plant. But a spokeswoman, Lori M. Gamache, said, "At the appropriate time we will evaluate whether their technologies represent cost-effective methods of vitrifying waste." She said the department planned to submit a report on bulk vitrification, the technology for handling contaminated dirt, in two years. At the end of the vitrification process, the molten glass cools in stainless steel containers that are then welded shut. What happens to those is still an open question. At one point they were supposed to go to [Yucca Mountain](#), a proposed national waste repository in Nevada, but the Obama administration shelved that plan. The federal government has not proposed an alternative site and has no method in place to select one.

<http://green.blogs.nytimes.com/2012/11/06/a-new-approach-to-military-nuclear-waste/>

### USA, N.Y, NEW YORK, NOVEMBER 7 2012. NEW YORK LOOKS INTO CRAIGSLIST GASOLINE SALES AT \$8 A GALLON

aaron clark



*A pedestrian carries empty gasoline cans at a Hess gas station in New York, on Nov. 2, 2012.*

The New York attorney general's office is looking into whether gasoline offered through the Craigslist website for as much as \$8 a gallon is legal as motorists cope with retail shortages after Hurricane Sandy. The price for fuel in New York City and Long Island by some individual sellers on Craigslist, the online-classified ad site, was almost double the latest average city price of \$4.102 published today by AAA, the largest motoring organization. The New York State Agriculture and Markets Department's Bureau of Weights and Measures is investigating gasoline advertised for sale on Craigslist, the agency said today in an e-mail. Drivers in the New York area have been forced to stand in hours-long lines or go to other states to fuel up after Sandy shut East Coast refineries and harbors, curbing

gasoline production and imports. The storm made landfall Oct. 29 near Atlantic City, New Jersey. "A lot of times in the wake of a disaster, people are trying to find resources and the normal networks are blocked," Mark Skidmore, an economics professor at Michigan State University in East Lansing, said by phone yesterday. "So people find creative ways to get it in, but it's more expensive. They are providing a service in some sense."

#### Fuel-Sale Laws

Melissa Grace, a New York City-based spokeswoman for Attorney General Eric T. Schneiderman's office, said yesterday that the agency is looking into whether sales from Craigslist or informal networks are legal. New York is investigating complaints



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from consumers about price-gouging, Grace said. Laws regarding the sale, quantity and quality of petroleum products fall under the New York State's Bureau of Weights and Measures, Joe Morrissey, an Albany-based spokesman for the agency, said in an e-mail. Craigslist didn't immediately respond to an e-mail asking for comment. A Craigslist advertisement offering \$8 gasoline yesterday for delivery to Brooklyn or Staten Island was answered by a man who would only give his first name, Mike. The Coney Island, New York, man said he had sold between 50 and 60 gallons (189 to 227 liters) of the fuel after purchasing about 100 gallons in Connecticut. A separate \$8-a-gallon listing was answered by a man who said he bought two drums of gasoline that hold about 70 or 80 gallons from friends who purchased the fuel in upstate New York. He said he was delivering the fuel to customers near Woodmere, Long Island, at a cost to him of about \$7.50 a gallon, including transport. He declined to be identified because he said he wasn't sure if reselling the fuel was legal.

#### **\$20 a Gallon**

A. Omar. Almodovar, a 35-year-old medical secretary in New York, paid \$100 for five gallons of gasoline today to a person who advertised on Craigslist, he said in a telephone interview. The seller of the \$20-a-gallon fuel was asking for \$30 more for the gasoline container, which Almodovar didn't purchase. A Uniondale, Long Island, man who returned a telephone message today from a number listed on Craigslist yesterday said he is selling 2.5-gallon fuel containers, filled with gasoline, for \$49.99. The man said he is a financial consultant and that he had sold 15 of the containers mostly in Queens and New York City. The man said he purchased the fuel in Connecticut and the containers in Pennsylvania.

#### **Street Sales**

New York's Bureau of Weights and Measures "has also responded to a few complaints regarding people selling gas on the street," Morrissey said. The state Environmental Conservation Department regulates all retail fuel stations for gasoline emissions, Emily DeSantis, an Albany-based spokeswoman, said in an e-mail. As long as sellers aren't earning more than \$600 in each quarter of the year from reselling the fuel, there "really is not a tax implication involved here," Geoff Gloak, an Albany-based spokesman for New York Taxation and Finance Department, said in a telephone interview. "It's the same as if you have a garage sale at your house." Seventy to 75 percent of retail fuel stations are open in New York City, Michael Green, a Washington-based spokesman for AAA, said in an e-mail today, up from 60 to 65 percent yesterday. The figure rose to 65 to 70 percent in New Jersey from 55 to 60 percent yesterday and increased to 60 to 65 percent from 50 percent to 55 percent on Long Island.

<http://www.businessweek.com/news/2012-11-06/new-york-looking-into-craigslist-gasoline-sales-at-8-a-gallon>

#### **KENYA, WUNDANYI, NOVEMBER 7 2012. PETROL LEAK INTO WUNDANYI RIVER**

*raphael mwadime*

The National Environmental Management Authority, Taita Taveta county has directed Shell petrol station, Wundanyi to repair its leaking underground oil tank. County director of environment Ali Mwanzei said oil from the petrol station was leaking into Wundanyi river, which is a few metres from the petrol station. "We were undertaking a mapping exercise of all the hydrocarbon emission outlets in the region when we realised the river was being polluted," he said. He said they had ordered the petrol station management to mop up the oil from the leaking tank. "We will not allow any petrol to be brought from the station until we certify that the tank is not leaking," he said. Youth from the area have dug holes at the river banks where they are decanting the oil draining from the petrol station. Mwanzei said that the oil posed a health risk to the residents who use the water downstream. "Oil contains heavy metals like lead which cause dangerous diseases to humans and animals," he said.

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201211060103.html>

#### **USA, UT, SALT LAKE CITY, NOVEMBER 7 2012. WOODS CROSS REFINERY SUES 4 COMPANIES OVER 2009 EXPLOSION, FIRE >> COURTS » SUIT SEEKS \$75 MILLION IN DAMAGES.**

*paul beebe*

Silver Eagle Refining has sued four companies, alleging their negligence and breaches of contract led to a [massive explosion in 2009](#) that rocked the company's Woods Cross crude oil refinery and damaged dozens of nearby homes. The lawsuit filed Monday in U.S. District Court in Salt Lake City seeks more than \$75 million from Professional Service Industries Inc., Sun Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Co., Sun Oil Co. and Moose's Construction as defendants. Jeremy Seeley, an attorney with Plant Christensen and Kanell in Salt Lake City, said Tuesday that Silver Eagle had not authorized him to discuss the case. The explosion at the 10,250-barrel-per-day refinery happened on Nov. 4, 2009 shortly after 9 a.m., when a 10-inch pipe filled with pressurized hydrogen suddenly failed. A resulting fireball and vibrations surged east toward a Woods Cross neighborhood. At



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least one house was blown off its foundation. No one was hurt, but 10 homes were seriously damaged and nearly 300 homes were affected. Professional Services, a suburban Chicago engineering consulting and testing company, allegedly failed to inspect the pipe. The company didn't respond to a request for comment. Sun Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Co. manufactured the pipe, which was attached to a dewaxing unit at the refinery. Sun Shipbuilding, a Pennsylvania company, allegedly improperly designed and manufactured the pipe and dewaxing unit. The company appears to have gone out of business in 1989. Sun Oil Co. allegedly misrepresented the "fitness and integrity" of the dewaxing unit. The Philadelphia-based company did not respond to a request for comment. Moose's Construction, a Wyoming company, allegedly failed to install the pipe, failed to use proper materials and didn't inspect its work. The company apparently no longer exists. Silver Eagle's suit said the explosion and fire caused "extensive damage" to homes in the neighborhood; it didn't calculate the amount. The company did say that its refinery suffered more than \$3.3 million in damage.

<http://www.sltrib.com/sltrib/money/55219399-79/company-explosion-refinery-eagle.html.csp>

### USA, N.Y, RONKONKOMA, NOVEMBER 7 2012. COPS: DELIVERYMAN SELLS GAS FROM HIS TRUCK

*ellen yan*

The owner of a gas delivery company sold fuel directly from his tanker to drivers in [Ronkonkoma](#) Sunday night, [Suffolk](#) police said Monday. Robert Faulkner, owner of [Farmingville](#)-based Direct Marine Fuel Corp., charged \$4.80 a gallon from his tanker at the Lake Shore Plaza on Portion Road, police said. Sunday night, more than 100 vehicles were gathered in the shopping center and along Portion Road to buy Faulkner's gas when Sixth Precinct officers arrived, police said. Faulkner, who primarily delivers fuel to vessels and to Verizon, said he had originally arranged to fill up friends' cars at the plaza, but saw an opportunity in the long lines at the gas station across the street. He even paid five friends to keep order in the lines, he said. He denied he was breaking any law, saying his business permits allow him to distribute fuel and that town officials should "bend the rules" in the crisis. "I had an opportunity to make more money," Faulkner said. "I'm not hiding that fact, but you know what? I was helping people in the process." He said he had waited three hours Sunday at a petroleum wholesaler's [Holtville](#) location to fill his tanker with about 2,800 gallons of regular fuel. An estimated 800 to 900 gallons was sold before police arrived, Faulkner said. One of the customers, he recalled, included an elderly woman who said she had waited futilely in three different lines in three days. Faulkner, 48, of 10 Antrim Lane, Farmingville, was issued town summonses for handling flammable liquids without a permit and also for improper dispensing of flammable liquids, police said. The summonses were from a [Brookhaven](#) Town fire marshal and town building and fire prevention official, police said. The [New York State Department of Taxation and Finance](#) was notified, police said.

<http://www.newsday.com/long-island/suffolk/cops-deliveryman-sells-gas-from-his-truck-1.4190469>

### USA, OH, BROOKFIELD TWP, NOVEMBER 7 2012. TANKER TRUCK ACCIDENT SHUTS DOWN PORTION OF ROUTE 7

A portion of Route 7 in Brookfield Township was closed Tuesday morning after a tanker truck overturned. The accident happened around 8:30 a.m., one mile south of Route 82. It appears the driver drove onto the soft shoulder of the road and tipped over. No one was injured in the accident. Hazmat was called to the scene, but it didn't appear that the contents of the tanker was leaking. The truck was carrying aluminum sulfate. The road was closed for about three hours so crews could clear the accident. The Ohio State Patrol is investigating.

<http://www.wyvtv.com/mostpopular/story/Tanker-Truck-Accident-Shuts-Down-Portion-of-Route/cOy7sO52IEKDPCJmOb2Oeg.csp>

### INDIA, TAMIL NADU, NOVEMBER 7 2012. JAYANTHI LAYS STRESS ON SAFETY PROTOCOLS TO ADDRESS OIL SPILLS

The Union Environment and Forests Ministry will take up with the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas the issue of according systemic protocol for monitoring pipelines to prevent oil spill, Union Minister of State for Environment and Forests Jayanthi Natarajan said here on Tuesday. Taking suo motu cognisance of a [report in The Hindu](#) on the oil spill from an ONGC pipeline destroying paddy fields for the third consecutive year in Nagapattinam, she arrived here to inspect and ascertain the facts from the farmers. The extensive operations of the ONGC, with over 30,000 km of pipeline in the country and over 675 km in the State, must be backed by safety protocols to address issues of spills, leaks and corrosion. "Not a single life should be lost or single acre rendered waste due to lack of safety protocols." It was inconsequential if the organisation concerned was a PSU or a private organisation, she said. Ms. Natarajan said that soil reclamation of sullied fields was a serious issue and this would



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also be placed before the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas. "As the Environment Ministry, we will also have to step up our monitoring protocols that we exercise stringently while granting environment clearance for a project." Referring to industrial control systems such as SCADA (Supervisory and Control Data Acquisition), Ms. Natarajan said international practices mandated computerised pressure surveillance, and such a system would have been put in place when thousands of kilometres of pipelines passed through natural assets.

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/states/tamil-nadu/jayanthi-lays-stress-on-safety-protocols-to-address-oil-spills/article4071797.ece>

#### USA, N.J. CARTERET TERMINAL, NOVEMBER 7 2012. BIODIESEL LEAKED FROM CARTERET, NJ TERMINAL: KINDER MORGAN

*selam gebrekidan*

About 238 barrels (some 10,000 gallons) of biodiesel leaked from Kinder Morgan Energy Partners' Carteret, New Jersey terminal after storm Sandy devastated the U.S. East Coast, the company said on Tuesday. The fuel spilled into nearby Rum Creek and reached the Arthur Kill waterway, which separates Staten Island in New York City from New Jersey. The spill "was contained within a day of the storm passing and recovery efforts have been completed", Kinder Morgan spokeswoman Emily Mir said in an email. The Carteret terminal can store up to 7.8 million barrels of fuel. The U.S. Coast Guard said it had recovered 780,000 gallons of an oily water mixture from the terminal and was rebuilding containment walls around the tanks at the facility. The Coast Guard had first reported on Monday that the leak came from Kinder Morgan's Perth Amboy, New Jersey terminal, some six miles south of the Carteret facility.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/11/06/us-storm-sandy-energy-kindermorgan-idUSBRE8A50XJ20121106>

#### INDIA, NEW DELHI, NOVEMBER 7 2012. OIL SPILL: ONGC TO PAY RS 47,500/ACRE RELIEF TO FARMERS

Taking stock of the oil spill in Nagapattinam district in Tamil Nadu where a leak from an abandoned ONGC pipeline affected a large area of under-cultivation farmland, Union Environment Minister Jayanthi Natarajan said Tuesday she would apprise Petroleum Minister Veerappa Moily of the losses suffered by the farmers and also the impact the spill would have on their livelihood in the coming years. Natarajan will have a meeting with Moily to seek a detailed protocol and stricter standard operating procedure for preventive action against such occurrences. Invoking relevant sections of the Environment Protection Act, the ministry is also going to ask the ONGC to probe all the pipelines that are lying unused and decommissioned and file a report. The incident has left officials in the Environment Ministry and Central Pollution Control Board worried that there could be many more such pipelines going undetected mainly because the oil company does not have a computerized system of detecting such leaks. Later in the evening, ONGC agreed to pay a compensation of Rs 47,500 per acre within 15 days. It was decided at a meeting between company officials, farmers and the district administration. Speaking to the media after inspecting the fields in Keezhvelur and Karunavali villages in Nagapattinam district that forms a part of the Cauvery Delta, the rice bowl of Tamil Nadu, Jayanthi said the question was not just about the compensation to be provided to the affected farmers for their immediate loss. "They will not be able to cultivate for the next three years because the oil has seeped deep into the soil. It is not just cultivation. Fish at the aquaculture farms have died, and there are other health complications as well. All these will have to be taken into consideration," she said. Farmers said the spill has completely destroyed crops in over 15 acres and seriously affected 100 acres. The small irrigation channel carried the oil slick to an approximate total of 300 acres of paddy fields, the effects of which would be felt not just this year but the coming years too.

<http://www.indianexpress.com/news/oil-spill-ongc-to-pay-rs-47500acre-relief-to-farmers/1027856/0>

#### AUSTRALIA, QUEENSLAND, BRISBANE, NOVEMBER 7 2012. MAJOR CHEMICAL SPILL SOUTHWEST OF BRISBANE



*Emergency crews at the scene of a chemical spill at Heathwood, near the Logan Motorway.*

**Updated - 1.35pm**

One person has been taken to hospital after 1000 litres of a liquid chemical spilled at a warehouse southwest of Brisbane this morning. A 21-year-old man and a 50-year-old man with breathing difficulties were treated at the scene by paramedics. One of the patients was taken to the Queen Elizabeth II Hospital as a precaution.



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Queensland Fire and Rescue crews wearing breathing apparatus are still assessing the scene, which is understood to be the site of Freightrite Transport.

#### Earlier

Police and emergency services are at the scene of a major chemical spill at an industrial site southwest of Brisbane. A 250-metre exclusion zone was established around a warehouse on Stradbroke Street in Heathwood, near the Logan Motorway, where 1000 litres of a liquid chemical spilled about 10am. "The chemical has not yet been identified," a Department of Community Safety spokeswoman said. All buildings adjoining the warehouse on Stradbroke and Moreton streets have been evacuated. Five Queensland Fire and Rescue crews along with a HAZMAT team are at the scene. A 21-year-old man and a 50-year-old man are being treated by ambulance paramedics for breathing problems at the scene. "The patients are still being assessed," the spokeswoman said. Motorists are advised to avoid the area.

<http://www.brisbanetimes.com.au/queensland/major-chemical-spill-southwest-of-brisbane-20121107-28xih.html>

#### USA, TX, MONTGOMERY CO, CONROE, NOVEMBER 7 2012. PROPANE TANK BLAST IN CONROE INJURES 8

robert stanton

 **Watch the Video** [Propane Tank Blast in Conroe Injures 8](#)

 **Photo's [7]** [Propane Tank Blast in Conroe Injures 8](#)



*Firefighters try to extinguish a propane gas fire.*

Eight people were injured in an explosion Tuesday afternoon after a tank leaked and ignited a fire at a propane distribution company near Conroe. Montgomery County firefighters responded to AmeriGas at 10985 FM 1485 near Waukegan Road after an explosion was reported about noon, according to a dispatcher at the sheriff's office. Two of the injured were flown via Life Flight to the [University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston](#) in critical condition. Six others were transported by ambulance to [Conroe Regional Medical Center and Memorial Hermann The Woodlands Hospital](#), according to the Montgomery County Fire Marshal's Office. The resulting flash fire was brought under control in about 15 minutes. Montgomery County Fire Marshal Jimmy Williams said workers were filling propane tanks when one of the tanks began to leak and ignited, sparking about five flash fires that burned several trees and some grass on the property. The explosion occurred in a cylinder exchange area where propane tanks are filled for use in RVs and boats, for home heating and outdoor barbecues.

<http://www.chron.com/news/houston-texas/houston/article/Propane-tank-blast-in-Conroe-injures-8-4012964.php>

#### CANADA, N.S, HALIFAX, NOVEMBER 7 2012. THE HALIFAX EXPLOSION

gordon b. hinckley

"The course of our lives is not determined by great, awesome decisions. Our direction is set by the little day-to-day choices which chart the track on which we run." -- Gordon B. Hinckley. The date: Thursday, December 6, 1917. The place: Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada. The event: The collision of the French cargo ship S.S. Mont-Blanc and the Norwegian S.S. Imo. Here is that story:

Because Halifax has one of the deepest, ice-free natural harbors in the world, in 1910 it became the command center of the Royal Canadian Navy. Halifax thrived during times of war and was even more prominent during World War I. On December 3, 1917 the Norwegian ship S.S. Imo had stopped in Halifax on its way from Holland to New York to take on relief supplies for Belgium. While there the Imo had a neutral inspection and waited two days for refueling. Waiting for the anti-submarine nets to be raised, the Imo had to wait one more day. The French cargo ship S.S. Mont-Blanc, fully loaded with munitions (TNT, picric



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acid, Benzol and guncotton) arrived from New York the same evening. Crossing from the outer harbor into the basin required passage through a section known as "The Narrows," which allowed traffic in both directions simultaneously. The rules for shipping traffic were similar to land-based traffic -- ships were expected to keep to the starboard (right) side of the Narrows as they passed oncoming traffic. The Imo was granted clearance to leave the basin at 7:30 a.m. on the morning of December 6 but due to traffic, entered the Narrows on the port (left) side. The Imo had to stay on that side to pass a tug boat which was also in the Narrows. Meanwhile the Mont-Blanc was cleared at 7:00 a.m. to make its way to the basin. She stopped briefly for ferry traffic to pass before resuming passage down the Narrows. She then spotted the Imo approaching her lane at a high rate of speed. In spite of blasts from both ships and emergency maneuvers, the collision occurred at 8:45 a.m. pushing the Imo nine feet into the Mont-Blanc hull. Sparks caused an uncontrollable fire and at 9:04:35 a.m. the cargo of the Mont-Blanc exploded with more force than any manmade explosion before it. The force released was equivalent to roughly three kilotons of TNT destroying the ship and launching the remains of her hull nearly 1,000 feet into the air. White-hot shards of iron rained down on Halifax and neighboring Dartmouth. The barrel of one of Mont-Blanc's guns landed 3.5 miles to the north while part of her anchor landed 2.0 miles to the south. A cloud of smoke rose 20,000 feet in the air while over 400 acres was completely destroyed by the explosion. A tsunami rose 60 feet above the harbor's high-water mark, carrying the Imo onto the shore at Dartmouth. Nearly 2,000 people were killed while 9,000 were injured. Every building within a 16 mile radius (over 12,000) was destroyed or badly damaged. Hundreds of people who had been watching the fire from their homes were blinded when the blast wave shattered the windows in front of them. The disaster damaged buildings and shattered windows 10 miles away and was felt and heard as far away as Prime Edward Island approximately 130 miles north and North Cape Breton approximately 220 miles east. In 1994 a team of scientists and historians compared a total of 130 major non-nuclear explosions and they included, "Halifax harbor remains unchallenged in overall magnitude as long as five criteria are considered together: number of casualties, force of the blast, radius of devastation, quantity of explosive material, and total value of property destroyed." No one wanted that awful explosion to take place. A multitude of minor decisions could have avoided it entirely. How easy it is to put all of our attention only on the biggest decisions. As Kerri Russell said, "Sometimes, it's the smallest decisions that change your life forever." Think about it.

[http://www.huffingtonpost.com/don-meyer-phd/the-halifax-explosion\\_b\\_2082135.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/don-meyer-phd/the-halifax-explosion_b_2082135.html)

**SCOTLAND, EDINBURGH, PENTLAND, NOVEMBER 7 2012. 'FREAK' FIREWORKS: APOLOGY AFTER DISPLAY IN OXGANGS BRAE GOES WRONG >> ORGANISERS HAVE APOLOGISED AFTER A FIREWORK DISPLAY WENT WRONG IN EDINBURGH.**

 **Watch the Video's:**

- [Stray Rocket Set Off Entire Firework Display](#)
- [Footage of the Event, Which Took Place on Monday Evening](#)

A rocket at the Pentland Community Centre display misfired and ricocheted into the remaining fireworks, setting them all off at the same time. The community centre said it was a freak accident but it would be reviewing safety procedures. A girl suffered a burn to the side of her face and was taken to Edinburgh's Royal Hospital for Sick Children. However, no-one was seriously injured in the incident at Oxgangs Brae. It is understood that £2,000 worth of fireworks were involved. In a statement, Pentland Community Centre said: "The management committee of PCC would like to express our sincere apologies for any upset caused following the unfortunate incident at our annual firework display on Monday evening. "One of the rockets misfired towards the end of the display and ricocheted into the remaining undetonated fireworks, setting them off all at once. "This was a freak accident, and most regrettable, but this is the first incident we have had in 10 years of holding this popular community event, and we extend our apologies to everyone who was alarmed." The next thing I heard was several bangs and then a massive explosion". The statement added that safety protocols would be reviewed. It said: "But it must be stressed that this is a well-organised event, approved by the City of Edinburgh Council and the emergency services, and it is a fact of life that sometimes unforeseen things happen, despite the best of planning and precaution." Susan Ross, a local resident at the display, said: "My friend and her daughters were standing at the side of the post office and the showers of fireworks were coming over them and they had to jump over the girls to stop the sparks landing on their jackets. "The next thing I heard was several bangs and then a massive explosion. "I turned around and everybody was just scattering and running across the road away from it. "I saw people lifting buggies up off the ground because people had their brakes on the buggies and they were



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physically lifting their kids by the arms to get away." She added: "My heart was going along with everybody else. Some of the kids were crying because they did get a fright. "I do think it should be run again next year, though."


#### 'Social Fabric'

Geoff Crow, director of 21 CC Fireworks - which was not involved in the Pentland event - said: "Looking at the video, it clearly could have been a catastrophe. "I think part of the issue was the fireworks were contained in a very, very close space, which meant all the fireworks cross ignited at once." He added: "I think what people are trying to achieve with small community events is a sense of community. "They are trying to sew into the social fabric of society locally and we would commend that. "If people want to do their own events, there is a lot to be said for training. "I wouldn't say fireworks for a local community is a bad thing. I think it is an awareness issue of safety." Cammy Day, Edinburgh City Council's community safety leader, said: "The council is currently investigating the circumstances surrounding the incident at the community-organised fireworks display in Oxbgangs last night, which was obviously very alarming for all those involved."

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-edinburgh-east-fife-20220853>

### USA, LA, ASSUMPTION PARISH, NOVEMBER 7 2012. SINKHOLE DEADLY WEATHER WARNING RAISES EXPLOSION CONCERNS

deborah dupre

 **Hear:** [podcast.cbc.ca/mp3/podcasts/asithappens\\_20121105\\_79116.mp3](http://podcast.cbc.ca/mp3/podcasts/asithappens_20121105_79116.mp3) [Listen to the report on CBC around 34 minutes into the program]

Assumption Parish officials re-issued a NOAA National Weather Service [warning](#) Monday out of New Orleans regarding the [Bayou Corne sinkhole area](#) expecting a dangerous evening storm due to bring deadly cloud-to-ground lightning, damaging winds, and destructive hail. The storm's impact on the sinkhole remains unknown to the public, but it came on the heels of heightened methane explosion concerns.

#### 'Prepare for Dangerous Storm Warning'

"This is a dangerous storm. It has a history of producing large hail," the warning states. "If you are in its path... prepare immediately for damaging winds... destructive hail...and deadly cloud to ground lightning. Independent physicists recently explained that lightening [could potentially ignite the methane](#), one main reason some locals excluded from the mandatory evacuation order want that [Bayou Corne sinkhole disaster](#) evacuation zone enlarged as a matter of the human rights, including that of security rights. "If there is enough methane in the air, just about anything (like a rock hitting another rock, causing a spark) could ignite explosions," said [physicist Steve Knudsen](#). Assumption Parish officials referred readers to the severe warning on its sinkhole blog. "People outside should move to a shelter... preferably inside a strong building but away from windows." The NOAA site said that national weather service meteorologists detected a severe thunderstorm "capable of producing quarter size hail" and "damaging winds in excess of 60 mph." The storm was then located 21 miles west of Pierre Part, less than five miles from the sinkhole where chemicals, earthquakes and jolts involved in the sinkhole disaster. Since Monday night, the cold front that brought the severe weather pushed into the Gulf of Mexico Tuesday morning. Assumption Parish officials have not posted the impact of the storm as of 9:30 a.m. Tuesday morning. Not long after Hurricane Isaac moved over the sinkhole area, it expanded. The Bayou Corne sinkhole is less than 70 miles west of New Orleans and approximately 50 miles southwest of Baton Rouge. The massive sinkhole has swallowed the equivalent of approximately seven football fields of swampland in Assumption Parish and contaminated an aquifer. The declared state disaster that has cost Louisiana Department of Natural Resources over \$2 million for emergency response efforts. There is no estimate of when the emergency response needs will end. There is also no aid for some people who want to leave the area to protect their families.

*No aid for some wanting to leave sinkhole area chemicals, quakes and possible explosion*

Assumption Parish Sheriff Michael Waguespack [told reporters](#) Friday that there is a possibility of a methane explosion in the sinkhole area. That's on top of chemical releases from the sinkhole and the earthquakes. Carol Off and Jeff Douglas on Canadian Broadcasting Corporation (CBC) Radio reported Monday during As It Happens, the podcast edition, that the [Louisiana sinkhole](#) has forced residents out of their homes with no answers when they can return. "I live two miles away from the sinkhole and i can smell it daily," one resident, Alicia Heilig told author and journalist Carol Off. "I think there should be a much bigger area of evacuation, considering many of the methane sites are outside the evacuation area." "There's people five, six, seven miles away feeling the tremors that are happening over here. They call them 'tremors' but they're actually



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earthquakes," said Heilig, mother of two. "I believe it should be a good ten mile radius should be under the evacuation order." Governor Bobby [Jindal is being petitioned by Americans across the nation](#) to expand the evacuation zone. He has yet to respond. The [Bayou Corne Sinkhole Facebook page](#) is expanding almost as fast the sinkhole. The page, now with 542 "Likes" that Heilig administrates, hosts a discussion by people supporting and advocating for Assumption Parish residents, including those excluded from aid to flee the area. Off asked Heilig, "If you were under the evacuation, you'd get some funding to do that, right?" "Right," Heilig replied.

#### Related Links

- [La. sinkhole methane explosion possible says sheriff, refuting naysayers](#)
- [Sinkhole explosive methane officially life threatening, residents not told](#)
- [Sinkhole massive collapse confirmed](#)
- [La. sinkhole methane caused Minden explosions is possibility physicists say](#)
- [Nation tells Jindal to expand La. sinkhole evacuation area](#)

<http://www.examiner.com/article/sinkhole-deadly-weather-warning-raises-explosion-concerns>

#### CANADA, ONT, OWEN SOUND, NOVEMBER 7 2012. OIL CLEANUP ALMOST COMPLETE



*Mick Callaha, an employee with Detox Environmental of Bowmanville, uses a vacuum hose to suck a transformer oil slick off the surface of the Sydenham River above the Mill Dam in Owen Sound on Thursday.*

The cleanup of hydro transformer insulating oil that leaked into the Sydenham River last week is almost complete. Cleanup crews are continuing to monitor the site and remove any visible oil they find after last week's storm knocked down a hydro pole on the 6th St. E. hill in Owen Sound sometime after midnight on Tuesday. Power was knocked out to an undisclosed number of people on the east side of the city and about 160 litres of insulating oil was released from the transformer. Hydro One spokeswoman Nancy Shaddick said Monday that vacuum trucks from Detox Environmental in Bowmanville were in the city last week where they removed visible mineral oil on the surface along the banks of the Sydenham River, as well as skimmed the surface of the river

at the Mill Dam. "They will remain on site to monitor and if any visible oil occurs they will remove it with two absorbent booms," said Shaddick. The transformer that broke was from the 1970s, when PCBs (polychlorinated biphenyls) were often used in the manufacturing of electrical equipment, heat exchangers, hydraulic systems and other specialized applications. Shaddick said last week that the spilled oil contained 11 parts per million of PCBs. Ministry of Environment standards call for special handling and destruction of material when PCBs exceed 50 parts per million. Shaddick said soil samples were taken and the MOE will be notified once Hydro One has results.

<http://www.owensoundsuntimes.com/2012/11/06/oil-cleanup-almost-complete>

#### NORWAY, OSLO, NOVEMBER 8 2012. OIL RIG WORKERS EVACUATED FROM FLOATING HOTEL



*This is an undated image released by Statoil of the Statoil hotel rig Flotel Superior, right, and the Njord A-platform in the Norwegian Sea. Statoil on Wednesday Nov. 7, 2012 evacuated 326 oil rig workers from a North Sea platform after the structure began to tilt, the Norwegian oil company said. Company spokesman Ole Anders Skauby said that most of the 374 people on the "Flotel Superior" were airlifted by helicopter after one of the floating pontoons started taking on water, causing the structure to list.*

Statoil on Wednesday evacuated 326 oil rig workers from a North Sea platform after the structure began to tilt, the Norwegian oil company said. Company spokesman Ole Anders Skauby said most of the 374 people on the "Flotel Superior" were airlifted by helicopter after one of the floating pontoons started taking on water, causing the structure to list. The company was notified about



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the problem in the early hours of the morning. Some security staff stayed on the accommodation rig to stabilize the platform. There was no immediate danger to the life and safety of the workers, Skauby said. Statoil said oil production was not affected as the oil field had been closed for maintenance. The Njord field, named after a Norse god, is located some 130 kilometers (80 miles) northwest of the city of Kristiansund off the Norwegian coast.

[http://fuelfix.com/blog/2012/11/07/oil-rig-workers-evacuated-from-floating-hotel/?utm\\_source=WhatCountsEmail&utm\\_medium=FuelFix&utm\\_campaign=FuelFixNewsLetter](http://fuelfix.com/blog/2012/11/07/oil-rig-workers-evacuated-from-floating-hotel/?utm_source=WhatCountsEmail&utm_medium=FuelFix&utm_campaign=FuelFixNewsLetter)

### USA, CA, SAN JOAQUIN CO, ESCALON, NOVEMBER 8 2012. 2,000 GALLONS OF FUEL SPILLED ON ROAD

sam cohen

A tanker truck spilled about 2,000 gallons of fuel in San Joaquin County, and the mess will keep the road closed for hours. The truck crashed along Lonetree Road in Escalon. The driver is ok. No word on what may have caused the accident. Clean-up crews say they will keep the road closed until 10 a.m. to clear the roadway. There was about 4,000 gallons on the truck when it crashed, the remaining 2,000 gallons will need to be off-loaded before the truck can be moved.

<http://fox40.com/2012/11/07/2000-gallons-of-fuel-spilled-on-road/>

### USA, AZ, PHOENIX, NOVEMBER 8 2012. TRAILER CARRYING HOT AIR BALLOON BASKET EXPLODES

 **Watch the Video's:**

- [1 Hospitalized with Severe Burns after Propane Explosion](#)
- [Gas Station Propane Explosion](#)
- [Propane Tanks Explode in Trailer Carrying Hot Air Balloon in Phoenix](#)
- [Trailer Carrying Hot Air Balloon Basket Explodes](#)



*A person filling a propane tank was hospitalized with burns after a violent explosion at a filling station in north Phoenix.*

A trailer carrying propane tanks caught on fire in north Phoenix Wednesday morning. The trailer was left a burned-out shell. It happened at an AM PM gas station near 19th Ave and Rose Garden. The fire erupted and turned the trailer into a fireball in a manner of seconds. The fire department says the flames reached a 2,000 gallon propane tank, and had it exploded, it would've been catastrophic and caused mass property damage. "Heard the first explosion, just rattled the windows," says Bob Smith, who works across the street. "Within two minutes a second explosion rattled the windows and flames went up 50 feet."

Amateur video shows black smoke coming from a trailer after four 7 ½-gallon propane tanks exploded inside. The fire department says a hot air balloon pilot was filling up the tanks when something caught fire, causing them to explode inside the trailer. "I'm telling you it was a noise I've never heard in my life, it was very scary," says Linda Bender, floor manager of Q-Bar, next door to the gas station. "It definitely shook the building. It shook the building and like I said, in two seconds we were out that door." The trailer was parked next to the 2,000-gallon propane tank it was refueling from. While there were flames touching the tank, it did not explode. Firefighters don't know the cause of the fire, but Kevin Flanagan, a friend of the balloon pilot, says he just bought the trailer off Craigslist a few days ago. "Had to be faulty wiring in the trailer, ignited the fire," says Flanagan. Gas station workers were able to get the emergency valve shut off quickly and fire crews were on the scene in a matter of minutes to put out the flames. The pilot suffered minor burns on his arms, but has been released from the hospital.

<http://www.myfoxphoenix.com/story/20036421/2012/11/07/trailer-carrying-hot-air-balloon-basket-explodes>

### USA, CA, RICHMOND, NOVEMBER 8 2012. CHEVRON DETAILS RICHMOND REFINERY REPAIRS, SAYS IT WILL REPLACE PIPES WITH CHROME ALLOY TO WARD OFF CORROSION

george avalos

Chevron will use chrome alloy to replace all the piping in the sections of its Richmond refinery that were damaged in an Aug. 6 fire that hobbled the fuel factory and curtailed its production, the energy giant said in a letter it released Wednesday. The chrome alloy pipes could address one of the key issues that contributed to the fire. Chevron has notified industry officials that thinning and corrosion in pipes at the refinery may have caused pipe failures ahead of the accident and fire, according to the



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letter issued by Nigel Hearne, general manager of the Richmond refinery. Hearne sent his letter to the city of Richmond and the Bay Area Air Quality Management District. The fire knocked out the refinery's crude unit No. 4, which processes and distills crude oil and is deemed to be the heart of the plant. Since the fire, the Chevron refinery has been operating at around 60 percent capacity and has primarily blended gasoline. "We are optimistic we can complete our planned repairs and be in a position to restart the crude unit by the first quarter of 2013," Hearne wrote in the letter. San Ramon-based Chevron intends to replace damaged support structures, pressure vessels, tanks and pumps, along with the chrome alloy pipe replacement. The company also intends to repair the cooling tower, motor control center, and fix an array of instruments and electrical systems. "It was helpful to have the planned repairs laid out in a fairly comprehensive way," said Bill Lindsay, Richmond's city manager. "For us, we will keep evaluating and reviewing the permit applications that are submitted. We hope to be able to do what the City Council wants us to do, which is to process the permits for repairs and rebuilding expeditiously." City officials also were encouraged about the Chevron plans to replace the pipes that may have corroded with pipes made with chrome alloy. "It is significant that Chevron is changing the material in their pipe replacement," Lindsay said. "I understand that it is a better material to deal with the conditions that led to the thinning and the accident." United Steelworkers Local 5, which represents 600 employees at the Chevron refinery, is also following the repair and replacement efforts closely. "Our main focus is on the safety of the workers, the safety of the environment and the safety of the community," said Mike Smith, a representative for Local 5. "We will be vocal if we think anything is going in the wrong direction." The refinery has the capacity to handle 244,000 barrels of crude oil a day. Soon after the fire knocked the refinery offline, gasoline prices spiked in the Bay Area. Prices have retreated somewhat since then, however. The refinery's restoration could offer welcome relief for California drivers since the plant is one of the largest refineries in the nation. The average price of gasoline was \$3.94 a gallon on Thursday, which was 2.1 percent above the \$3.86 average price in the hours before the early August fire. When Bay Area prices rocketed to a record high average of \$4.70 a gallon in early October, those per-gallon prices were about 22 percent higher than the fire. "We look forward to returning the refinery to full production," Hearne said in his letter.

[http://www.mercurynews.com/business/ci\\_21952127/chevron-details-richmond-refinery-repairs-says-it-will](http://www.mercurynews.com/business/ci_21952127/chevron-details-richmond-refinery-repairs-says-it-will)

#### USA, WA, PORT ANGELES, NOVEMBER 8 2012. FUEL OIL SPILL CONTAINED IN PORT ANGELES HARBOR

rob ollikainen & arwyn rice

**Watch the Video's:**

- [840 Gallons of Fuel Oil Spills in Port Angeles](#)
- [Pre-Boom Prevents Bigger Oil Spill in Port Angeles](#)



*An oil spill response boat works next to a fuel barge at the west end of Port Angeles Harbor on Wednesday after fuel was spilled into the harbor.*

What was initially believed to be an 840-gallon heavy fuel oil spill in Port Angeles Harbor early Wednesday turned out to be much smaller, state Department of Ecology officials said. Despite earlier reports, the actual spill was between 50 and 100 gallons. "Most of it stayed on the deck of the barge and didn't go into the water," Curt Hart said Wednesday afternoon. The spill was reported at 3:20 a.m. after a fuel barge owned by Harley Marine Services was overfilled during fueling operations at the Tesoro Port Angeles Terminal, said Hart, state Department of Ecology spokesman. Global Diving and Salvage placed a precautionary oil boom around the barge before fueling began. Pre-booming is required for large-volume oil transfers under state law. Another boom was placed around the perimeter after the spill was reported. "The good thing is the Coast Guard did an overflight this morning and found that the oil was contained within the oil spill containment booms," Hart said. Ecology, the Coast Guard, Marine Spill Response Corp. and Global Diving and Salvage continued to clean up the site with absorbent pads and vacuum trucks Wednesday. Ecology and the Coast Guard will investigate the cause of the spill once the oil is gone, Hart said. Fish and Wildlife officials determined that no birds, mammals or fish were harmed. "Fortunately, it's just in this area, the ring around the barge," Hart said. The Marine Spill Response Corp. maintains a pollution response ship in Port Angeles Harbor, the W.C. Park Responder, which is designed and built specifically to recover spilled oil. The ship, built in 1992, is approximately 210 feet long, has temporary storage for 4,000 barrels of recovered oil and has the ability to separate oil and water aboard ship using



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two oil-water separation systems. A Coast Guard 25-foot response boat crew from Coast Guard Air Station/Sector Field Office Port Angeles maintained a safety zone around the barge Wednesday morning, said Shawn Eggert, spokesman for the Coast Guard. Three skimming vessels, two response vessels and several workboats were at the scene Wednesday. Hart said it is important to get the oil out as quickly as possible to prevent it from mixing with water and escaping from the booms. "We're glad the volume got ratcheted back," he added. Information about the spill will be posted as it becomes available at Ecology's incident Web page at [www.tinyurl.com/ajns43](http://www.tinyurl.com/ajns43).

<http://www.peninsuladailynews.com/article/20121108/NEWS/311089980/fuel-oil-spill-contained-in-port-angeles-harbor>

### USA, LA, TENSAS PARISH, ST. JOSEPH, NOVEMBER 8 2012. 2 OIL WELL WORKERS SUFFER BURNS IN TENSAS

zack southwell

Two employees working on an oil well in Tensas Parish were severely burned Wednesday morning. According to Tensas Parish Sheriff Ricky Jones, the two men were closing the well for Chess Oil Well Services around 9 a.m. when vapors rose to the surface and were then set off by the heat of a pumper truck nearby. Jones said only the two employees were injured, but he was not sure to what extent. He said they were taken to a medical center in Jackson, Miss., with reportedly severe burns. Jones said one man had been blown off the platform and the other was in the truck when the explosion occurred. According to Jones, hazmat teams with Louisiana state police were called to the scene and determined the Tensas Parish Fire Department had taken care of the fire. State police spokesman Trooper Albert Paxton said no evacuation was ordered. The incident remained under investigation.

<http://www.thenewsstar.com/article/20121108/NEWS01/211080304>

### INDIA, MUMBAI, NOVEMBER 8 2012. 6 INDIAN SAILORS DIE DUE TO POISONOUS GAS LEAK ON SHIP NEAR PORBANDAR

At least six Indian sailors were asphyxiated by leaking gas aboard the LPG vessel Maharshi Krishnatreya in the Arabian Sea, officials said in Mumbai on Monday. The ship was en route to the UAE when the incident occurred in the compressor room of the vessel, according to the Directorate-General of Shipping (DGS). The ship's chief officer, a gas engineer and four other seamen were attempting to repair a damaged gas pipe in the compressor when they were overcome by the gas. On learning of the accident around 11 am on Monday, the vessel's owners, Messrs. Varun Shipping in Mumbai alerted the Indian Navy and Indian Coast Guard for relief and rescue operations. The distressed ship has been diverted to Porbandar port in Gujarat and two vessels with a medical team and a Sea King MK-42C helicopter have been deployed for evacuation of the crew. Another naval ship cruising in the vicinity, INS Tabar was diverted to render assistance to Maharshi Krishnatreya. Meanwhile, the Mercantile Marine Department, Kandla, has been ordered to conduct an inquiry into the incident, the DGS said.

<http://www.ndtv.com/article/india/six-indian-sailors-killed-in-gas-leak-aboard-ship-288874>

### ARGENTINA, BUENOS AIRES, NOVEMBER 8 2012. ARGENTINE COURT ORDERS SEIZURE OF CHEVRON'S ASSETS TO ENFORCE \$19-BN ECUADORAN RULING



*Plaintiffs say Texaco polluted land in the Ecuadorean Amazon.*

An Argentine court has ordered to seize US oil giant Chevron Corp's assets in the country in order to carry out an Ecuadorean court ruling that awarded \$19 billion to plaintiffs in an environmental damage lawsuit in the Amazon, a lawyer representing Ecuadoran plaintiffs yesterday said. Argentine lawyer Enrique Bruchou told reporters in a conference call that Judge Adrian Elcuj Miranda ordered the seizure of Chevron's assets in Argentina so that the plaintiffs could collect the proceeds of a court order in a court in Ecuador last year. Residents of the Amazon rain forest in the Lago Agrio region in Ecuador had filed a lawsuit in May against Chevron in Canada, Argentina and Brazil seeking to seize the

company's assets in these countries in order to enforce an \$18-billion ruling they won in a lawsuit in Ecuador for polluting the Amazon basin. Since Chevron does not have any assets in Ecuador, the lawyers for the plaintiffs had asked the courts in these countries to seize the San Ramon, California-based oil giant's shares and assets in their respective countries in order to enforce the Ecuador judgment. Argentinian court's judge Miranda ordered that all cash flows from sales and bank deposits be frozen until the entire \$19 billion order by the Ecuador court is collected. The rare order includes the entire shares and



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dividends of Chevron in Argentina, its entire minority stake in the oil pipeline transportation company Oleoductos del Valle, and 40 per cent of any current or future money that Chevron Argentina holds as well as 40 per cent of all its hydrocarbon sales. Chevron said that it is not aware of the order from the Argentinean court and its operations in the country had nothing to do with the Ecuador lawsuit. "The plaintiffs' lawyers have no legal right to embargo subsidiary assets in Argentina and should not be allowed to disrupt Argentina's pursuit of its important energy resources," said James Craig, a Chevron spokesman for Latin America and Africa. "The Ecuador judgment is a product of bribery, fraud, and it is illegitimate." Although Chevron can file an appeal, it would have to do so in Ecuador since the Argentinean judge ordered the seizure based on the request by the Ecuadorean court.

### Background

In the legal saga that has spanned nearly two decades, Chevron was held responsible by an Ecuadorian court in early 2011 for dumping chemical-laden wastewater in the Amazon basin from 1964 to about 1992 by Texaco Inc, a company that was acquired by Chevron in 2001. After an Ecuador appeals court upheld the lower court ruling, the plaintiffs threatened to seize Chevron's assets in foreign countries and freeze its international accounts. Chevron had previously alleged fraud in the case in which it is also facing accusations of defrauding the Ecuadorean court to hide the scale of the oil contamination. The suit was initially filed in a New York federal court in 1993 against Texaco. Fearing an adverse order, Chevron in 2002 requested that the case be shifted from US federal court to Ecuador. The trial court in Ecuador had in February 2011, found that Chevron systematically dumped billions of gallons of toxic waste into the Amazon rain forest for nearly three decades, poisoning waterways that local inhabitants use for drinking, leading to cancer among the inhabitants. The court set damages at \$18 billion, \$9.5 billion in remediation costs and plaintiff damages, and an additional \$8.6 billion if Chevron refused to apologise for environmental damages. By the time the judgment was announced in 2011, the case had wound its way through US and Ecuadorean courts for over 17 years. Chevron, which has been shifting the lawsuit between US and Ecuadorean courts, has refused to pay the damages on the ground that it did not pollute the jungle, and it had properly cleaned up the contamination for which it was responsible. Chevron is also seeking to block enforcement of the judgment under a treaty between the US and Ecuador. In February, it filed a case before the Permanent Court of Arbitration in The Hague seeking its order to stop the plaintiffs from enforcing the seizure of its assets globally, based on the Ecuadorean court ruling. "We plan to exercise our legal right to collect every penny of the legitimate judgment from Ecuador, even if we have to drag Chevron kicking and screaming into courts around the world," Pablo Fajardo, the lead lawyer for the plaintiffs had earlier said. Fajardo told the Associated Press that the plaintiffs will soon initiate proceedings against Chevron in Asia, Europe and elsewhere. "Environmental crime will not go without punishment and we're going to chase them anywhere in the world," he said. Chevron, which has a market capitalisation of \$193 billion, has constantly faced the wrath of its investors, who have urged the company to settle the Ecuador litigation. Investors holding over 38 per cent of the company's shares had voted for a resolution that challenged Chevron CEO John Watson's authority on the Ecuador case. Nearly 40 institutional shareholders have also urged the company to come to a settlement on the case. Many experts have castigated the company for avoiding its responsibility just because Ecuador is a third-world, developing country. They argue that had Chevron been in BP's place, could it have dragged the issue on for nearly two decades without paying a cent to the American people or the US government over the Gulf of Mexico oil spill in 2010. In contrast to Chevron, London-based BP has not only spent over \$37 billion to date over the spill that caused the Gulf of Mexico pollution in the region, but is facing thousands of lawsuits from ordinary American citizens and four coastal states and various government agencies. Not only is Chevron facing flak in Ecuador, in March, the Brazilian government had filed criminal charges against the oil giant and its partners and 17 of the companies' employees for environmental crimes in connection with an oil leak off Rio de Janeiro's coast and is seeking \$5.5 million in damages and about \$549,100 from each executive and a 31 years prison sentence. This is over and above an earlier civil lawsuit seeking 20 billion reais (\$10.7 billion) in damages (See [Brazil slaps another \\$11 billion suit on Chevron, Transocean for oil spill](#)). The company is also trying to wriggle out from paying damages in Brazil, but it would be interesting to see the outcome of the court case in one the world's oil rich country and where Chevron has assets worth billions of dollars.

### Related Links

- [Argentina: Chevron's Assets Are Frozen](#)
- [Argentine Judge Orders Chevron Asset Seizure, Plaintiffs Say](#)
- [Lawyer Says Argentine Judge Embargoes Chevron Assets](#)
- [Chevron assets frozen in Argentina over Ecuador case](#)



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- [Argentine judge embargoes Chevron assets: lawyer](#)
- [Argentina Judge Embargoes Up to \\$19 Billion of Chevron Assets - Lawyer](#)
- [Argentine Judge Orders Seizing 100% of Chevron Argentine Assets](#)
- [Argentine judge slaps embargo on \\$19 billion in chevron assets](#)
- [Chevron Assets in Argentina Frozen over Ecuador Environmental Case](#)
- [Argentine Judge Freezes Chevron Assets In \\$19B Judgment Row](#)
- [Chevron Wants Docs On Ecuadoreans' Allegedly Tainted Report](#)

[http://www.domain-b.com/companies/companies\\_c/Chevron/20121108\\_amazon\\_oneView.html](http://www.domain-b.com/companies/companies_c/Chevron/20121108_amazon_oneView.html)

#### USA, OK, TULSA, NOVEMBER 9 2012. OIL TANKER CRASH SHUTS DOWN DOWNTOWN TULSA HIGHWAY RAMP

Watch the Video's:

- [Semi Blocks Roadway](#)
- [Oil Tanker Crash Shuts Down Highway Ramp](#)



View of the oil from the tanker contained by dams created by firefighters.

Two ramps on downtown Tulsa's Inner Dispersal Loop were closed Thursday morning due to a wreck of a truck carrying crude oil. [TIGA Logistics, LLC](#), the Houston company that owns the truck, was cited for faulty equipment because several of the tires on the truck/trailer are completely bald. The rig's driver was cited for speeding. The Oklahoma Highway Patrol said Interstate 244 and the U.S. Highway 64/U.S. Highway 412 ramps to northbound Tisdale Parkway were closed down. The Oklahoma Department of Transportation re-opened the ramps at 12:30 p.m. The Tulsa Fire Department's Hazardous Materials team was called to the scene. Fire officials say the tanker was carrying 8,000 gallons of crude oil

at the time in rolled over. Firefighters were able to contain the crude oil with dirt dams, but it will take some time to remove it. The driver was reportedly taken to a local hospital. News On 6 contacted TIGA Logistics and we were told the company is not taking calls at this time.

<http://www.newson6.com/story/20040033/oil-tanker-crash-shuts-down-downtown-tulsa-highway>

#### USA, LA, JENNINGS, NOVEMBER 9 2012. TANKER SPILLS CRUDE OIL

sheila smith



Crews were still working this morning to clean up crude oil spilled when an 18-wheeler overturned on Exit 65 in Jennings Wednesday. Louisiana State Police Troop D Sgt. James Anderson said the crash occurred around 11:30 a.m. Wednesday when the tanker, driven by Michael Charles Mitchell, 41, of Waynesboro, Miss., ran off of the left side of the Interstate 10 exit ramp leading onto La. 97.

<http://www.jenningsdailynews.net/?p=15343>

#### INDIA, MUMBAI, NOVEMBER 9 2012. 5 KILLED BY POISONOUS GAS INHALATION ABOARD LPG TANKER

Five mariners have died due to inhaling gas that escaped from one of the chambers on an LPG tanker. One of the crew was saved and he was airlifted off the vessel at sea by the Indian Navy. Currently, his condition is critical. The ship in question is the MV Maharshi Krishnatreya, an Indian-flagged tanker owned by Varun Shipping Company – a private firm. The Indian Navy received a distress call from the shipping company regarding the casualties onboard the LPG tanker, which was heading to the United Arab Emirates. According to authorities, a helicopter flew from Mumbai for casualty evacuation of personnel from the ship. Additionally, a naval vessel already at sea, was sent to provide assistance. The Indian Coast Guard also sent out two ships with medical teams to assist as well. The Maharshi Krishnatreya reportedly had 20 crewmembers onboard, but five sailors had already died onboard the tanker after inhaling the poisonous gas before assistance arrived. The directorate general of shipping has initiated necessary action in the incident. The identities of the deceased have not been released.

<http://www.maritime-executive.com/article/5-killed-by-poisonous-gas-inhalation-aboard-lpg-tanker>



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