



## Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network

### Release 2012 – 898 Newsy Stuff

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

**November 08 2012**



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#### USA, N.J, OCEAN TWP, OCTOBER 24 2012. [LETTERS TO THE EDITOR] - EARLIER INSPECTOR MISSED APPARENT OIL TANK LEAKS

Nine years ago, we switched our source of energy from oil to gas. At the time, people were having their underground oil tanks opened, cleaned, and filled with sand or foam. We chose sand. Before the tank could be filled, however, my town engineer had to inspect it for leaks. With his approval, the tank was filled and covered, and he gave me a signed certificate stating, "no apparent leaks." Now we move forward to the present, where no one wants to buy a house with an oil tank in the ground, inactive or not, so today we had it completely removed. Surprise, we have oil contamination, and today's inspector could not explain how nine years ago we had no oil, but today we do. Shouldn't the town be responsible for the expensive clean-up that follows? I really did not expect this. Alan Porter Ocean Township

<http://www.app.com/article/20121023/NJOPINION02/310230016/Earlier-inspector-missed-apparent-oil-tank-leaks>

#### AUSTRALIA, A.C.T, CANBERRA - OFFICE OF CHEMICAL SAFETY. SUBMISSIONS—REVIEW OF THE NATIONAL INDUSTRIAL CHEMICALS NOTIFICATION AND ASSESSMENT SCHEME 2012

The Discussion Paper: Review of the National Industrial Chemicals Notification and Assessment Scheme (NICNAS)—June 2012 was released on 1 June 2012. Submissions were received between 1 June and 27 July 2012. The comments received from this consultation process will be used to inform the government of stakeholder views.

- [Submissions—Review of the National Industrial Chemicals Notification and Assessment Scheme 2012 December 2011 submissions to the review of NICNAS A Review of Emergency First Aid Treatment of Anticholinesterase Pesticide Poisoning in Australia Termite Protection: Available treatments and hazard information about termiticides](#)
- [3M Australia Pty Ltd](#)
- [COAG Standing Council on Environment and Water](#)
- [DIC Australia P/L](#)
- [Johnson & Johnson Pacific Pty Ltd](#)
- [Michael Gonlag](#)
- [Mobil](#)

#### [Drug Import/Export Licensing and Compliance](#)

The following organisations and individuals provided responses to the [call for public comment](#) on the Discussion Paper: Review of the National Industrial Chemicals Notification and Assessment Scheme (NICNAS) June 2012:

Read Further:

<http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/ohp-nicnas-submissions-2012>

#### NEW ZEALAND, WELLINGTON, OCTOBER 24 2012. CAA WON'T PROSECUTE OVER DANGEROUS CANISTERS ON JET

Click-2-Listen [Listen to Checkpoint interview with Graeme Harris](#)



*Air New Zealand.*

The Civil Aviation Authority says it will not be prosecuting anyone over an incident in 2009 which the Air Force put potentially explosive gas canisters on an Air New Zealand flight to Canada. The authority on Wednesday released an interim report into how the canisters were carried on the flight from Auckland to Vancouver in 2009 when they are not permitted. Air New Zealand says it was never told about them. The director of Civil Aviation, Graeme Harris, says the interim report shows significant failings in the Air Force which itself found that the canisters were packaged and labelled incorrectly. Neither were they made safe for transport with the required safety pin. The report recommends further investigation into communication processes between the Air Force and agencies such as the authority that were not aware of the

incident. Mr Harris told Radio New Zealand's Checkpoint programme on Wednesday the Air Force has made several changes since 2009 and it has had no further reports of problems involving dangerous goods on civilian planes. "That was one of the issues we really turned our minds to to begin with ... to assure ourselves that the system was safe and that there was no immediate action required to fill any gaps and we're happy about that." Mr Harris says the purpose of the authority's



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investigation is not to blame anyone, but to reduce the risk of something like this happening again. The Civil Aviation Authority is likely to provide a final report in the first half of next year, along with recommendations for any improvement in the way dangerous goods are carried - especially those of military origin, he says. The Air Force says it will look at the way it communicates with other agencies. It says it has almost implemented all of the 22 recommendations from its own inquiry, including new electronic systems, clearer roles and procedures, and staff training.

#### Related Links

- [No prosecution for RNZAF](#)  
The air force will not be prosecuted for illegally shipping dangerous chemicals on a passenger plane from Auckland, putting nearly 400 lives at risk.
- [No prosecution over dangerous cargo](#)  
The Royal New Zealand Air Force will not be prosecuted by the Civil Aviation Authority after it put the lives of hundreds of people at risk by illegally shipping chemical oxygen generators on a passenger flight to Canada.
- [No charges after RNZAF safety blunder](#)  
The air force won't be prosecuted after potentially dangerous oxygen canisters were shipped on an Air New Zealand flight without the airline's knowledge.
- [Labelling blamed for illegal cargo on flight](#)  
Communication errors are being blamed for the transporting of dangerous cargo on an Air New Zealand passenger flight. The Civil Aviation Authority has released its interim report into the incident, where cannisters were illegally transported.
- [Incident report finds failings within Royal NZ Air Force](#)  
An interim report from an investigation into dangerous goods being carried on a passenger plane has found significant failings within the Royal New Zealand Air Force.

<https://news.google.com.au/news/story?ncl=http://tvnz.co.nz/national-news/no-charges-over-dangerous-cargo-air-nz-flight-5156971&hl=en&geo=au>

#### USA, ARK, EL DORADO, OCTOBER 24 2012. MURPHY OIL SEPARATES U.S. DOWNSTREAM BUSINESS, ANNOUNCES DIVIDEND, \$1 BLN SHARE BUYBACK

*carrie white*

[Murphy Oil](#) Corp announced Tuesday that it plans to spin off its U.S. downstream subsidiary and also authorized a special dividend of \$2.50 per share, as well as a share buyback program of up to \$1 billion. Shares of the company shot up 6.41 per cent as at about 10:25 a.m. EDT, trading at \$62.78 The company said that it will spin off [Murphy Oil](#) USA, Inc. into an independent and separately traded company, and said that the special dividend will total approximately \$500 million. The spin-off of Murphy USA is expected to be finalized in 2013. Murphy also reaffirmed the plan to divest the U.K. downstream operations and stated that it is continuing to review possible options with respect to selected assets. "We look forward to these two separate well positioned companies growing and prospering in their respective industries," said president and CEO Steven Cossé. "Our strong balance sheet provides the opportunity to enhance value to our shareholders through this special dividend and share repurchase program." The company said it believes that creating two publicly traded companies will offer the advantage of each business being able to focus on its strategic priorities with financial targets that best fit its own market and opportunities. Additionally, Murphy said that each business would be able to allocate resources and deploy capital in a manner consistent with its priorities. Further the company said that investors, both current and prospective, would be able to value the two businesses based on their respective financial characteristics and make investment decisions based on those characteristics. Murphy USA will continue to be a flexible, low-price, high volume fuel seller with key strategic relationships and experienced management, the company noted, adding that Murphy USA's business will consist of retail marketing of petroleum products and convenience merchandise through a large chain of retail gasoline stations. It added that Murphy USA's assets will include seven product distribution terminals and two ethanol production facilities in North Dakota and Texas. Murphy said that it will become an independent exploration and production company with principal activities focused in the United States, Canada and Malaysia. The company said it will continue its exploration program and offshore development projects alongside its North America onshore businesses, primarily in the Eagle Ford Shale and Seal areas. The UK downstream operations will remain with Murphy until such time as these assets are fully divested, it said. Murphy said that the



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special dividend is payable on December 3, to holders of record as of November 16. This is in addition to the dividend of 31.25 cents per share previously announced and also payable on December 3. [Murphy Oil Corp.](http://www.proactiveinvestors.com/companies/news/36035/murphy-oil-separates-us-downstream-business-announces-dividend-1-bln-share-buyback--36035.html) is an oil and gas exploration and production company with refining and marketing operations in the United States and the United Kingdom. Its operations are classified into two business activities: exploration and production, and refining and marketing. The exploration and production business explores for and produces crude oil, natural gas and natural gas liquids worldwide.

<http://www.proactiveinvestors.com/companies/news/36035/murphy-oil-separates-us-downstream-business-announces-dividend-1-bln-share-buyback--36035.html>

### **NORTHERN IRELAND, CO LOUTH, DUNDALK, OCTOBER 25 2012. ALL 11 PLANTS RAIDED IN 2012 WITHIN 30KM OF DUNDALK, SAYS CUSTOMS CHIEF >> DIESEL LAUNDERING**

The 11 diesel-laundering plants raided by Customs officers this year have been within 30km (18 miles) of Dundalk, Co Louth. Two sites raided within a 12-hour period yesterday were 3kms apart and one was described by the Revenue Commissioners as the largest so far this year. The 11 plants had the capacity to launder 86 million litres annually which, according to Seán Kelleher, assistant principal officer in charge of customs enforcement along the Border, equates to a "loss to the exchequer of some €43 million. That is the sort of money that these criminal gangs are pocketing." The first operation this week was at Tatebane, Hackballscross, some 3km from the Border with Armagh. Officers estimated that €9 million would have been lost to the exchequer in unpaid taxes and excise as a result of the plant's laundering capacity. An illegal drinking den was also discovered at the location. The second raid was at Courtbane, Hackballscross, where officers uncovered a plant operating on a smaller scale. Between both locations 51,000 litres of laundered fuel, three tankers, one lorry and a van and ancillary equipment were seized. Mr Kelleher confirmed that the Revenue Commissioners are in an "ongoing battle" against diesel laundering and that all 11 of the plants raided this year "were within 30km of Dundalk". Three men were arrested at the first plant.

<http://www.irishtimes.com/newspaper/ireland/2012/1025/1224325681441.html>

### **NORTHERN IRELAND, CO LOUTH, DUNDALK, OCTOBER 25 2012. NI ARRESTS OVER LOUTH LAUNDERING PLANT**

Click-2-Listen [Warning for Motorists over Cheap Fuel](#)



*The scene at the illicit fuel plant at Tatebane, Dundalk.*

Three men, two of whom are from Northern Ireland, have been arrested in relation to a Co Louth illicit fuel plant which had the capacity to launder around 18 million litres of fuel a year. Officers from the Irish Revenue's customs service and gardai shut down the site at Tatebane, Hackballscross, Dundalk, in the early hours of Wednesday morning. It is estimated the operation could have cost the Irish state around €9 million a year in lost revenue. Around 30,000 litres of illegal fuel, three lorries, a tanker and other oil laundering equipment were seized at the plant. Officers also recovered 36 tonnes of toxic waste and spirits on which Irish duty had not been paid. The men were all taken to Dundalk Garda Station. The

third man has an address in Co Louth. Surveillance activity was being carried out by custom officials in the area. Meanwhile, another plant was found on Wednesday morning in the county in nearby Courtbane in a separate operation. This was the second discovery made inside a 12 hour period. The plant had the capacity to launder approximately four million litres of fuel annually with a potential loss to the exchequer of €2 million every year. Twenty one thousand litres of illicit fuel, a quantity of bleaching earth, one tanker, one van and equipment were seized in a shed at the back of a private house. Officers also discovered four tonnes of toxic waste. A Revenue spokesman said the discoveries were part of an ongoing crackdown on fuel laundering. He also warned motorists against buying illegal fuel. "Revenue would like to remind motorists and the public that they should be aware of the risks posed to their vehicles by using laundered fuel," he said. "It also takes much-needed funds from the Exchequer, hurts legitimate trade and of course it is funding criminal activity."

#### **Related Links**

- [Two fuel laundering plants raided](#)

Two fuel laundering plants have been raided by Revenue Customs officers in Co Louth today with combined potential Exchequer losses of €11 million.



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- [Three diesel laundry plants raided in Louth](#)  
One of the laundries had the capability to wash the colour from 18 million litres of agricultural diesel a year, costing the State €9m in lost revenue.
- [Two fuel laundering plants raided in County Louth](#)  
An oil laundering plant with the capacity to launder about 4m litres of fuel per annum has been uncovered in County Louth. The find, at Courtbane, was the second in the area in 12 hours.
- [Gardai shut down €9m-a-year-oil laundering plant and drinking den near Border](#)  
An oil-laundering plant that could have cost the state about €9m a year has been shut down. About 30,000 litres of illegal fuel were seized at the site in Tatebane, Hackballscross, Dundalk, Co Louth.
- [Louth oil laundering plant discovered](#)  
Louth oil laundering plant discovered. Wednesday, October 24, 2012 - 07:58 AM. An oil laundering plant has been discovered in Co Louth today.
- [Warning for motorists over cheap fuel](#)  
Motorists are being advised that if the price of petrol or diesel looks too good to be true then it probably is. The warning comes in the wake of the discovery of two separate oil laundering plants in Co. Louth this morning.
- [Three Arrested Following Oil Laundering Plant Find](#)  
Three Arrested Following Oil Laundering Plant Find. Three men have been arrested after an oil laundering plant was discovered in Co Louth.

<http://www.u.tv/News/NI-arrests-over-Louth-laundering-plant/b80fa6ff-0687-4c3f-8a0c-05ae38662d68>

### AUSTRALIA, NEW SOUTH WALES, SYDNEY, OCTOBER 25 2012. PORT PRIVATISATION FUELS PETROL PRICE FEARS

The privatisation of Port Botany and Port Kembla could lead to a rise in petrol prices, industry heads have warned. New fees and charges imposed by a private port owner would lead to costs being passed on to customers in the form of more expensive fuel, they claim. In a letter to NSW shadow treasurer Michael Daley, Port Botany industry chiefs said the proposal from the government would result in "raising petrol and jet fuel prices across NSW, due to the impact on storage and transportation costs of independent retailers, distributors and importers of petrol, diesel and jet fuel". It is signed by representatives from firms including plastic maker Qenos, LPG gas firm Elgas and Vopak, which stores and handles liquid chemicals, gas and oil products. "There are already enough international factors putting upward pressure on the cost of fuel," Mr Daley said. "The last thing we need is [Premier] Barry O'Farrell and [Treasurer] Mike Baird sending petrol prices soaring because they have decided on a fire sale of our ports." Opposition Leader John Robertson said: "Barry O'Farrell's plan to privatise Port Botany and Port Kembla will cost every family in NSW through higher petrol prices."

[http://afr.com/p/business/companies/port\\_privatisation\\_fuels\\_petrol\\_yzVYi0P5lrqIK2DOO2wfYI](http://afr.com/p/business/companies/port_privatisation_fuels_petrol_yzVYi0P5lrqIK2DOO2wfYI)

### ENGLAND, LONDON, OCTOBER 25 2012. EUROPE PETROL STATIONS CLOSE AS MAJORS FOCUS ON PRODUCTION

A move by major oil companies to focus on exploration and production has contributed to the closure of 4,573 petrol stations around Europe since 2007, according to property consultancy CBRE. The number of petrol stations in 27 European markets declined by 3.3 percent to 132,526 in July 2012, compared to 137,099 at the start of 2007, CBRE found based on analysis of data from Datamonitor. The biggest drop took place in Italy, with the closure of 1,250 stations, followed by the UK at 1,200 and [France](#) at 805 closures, according to the data. "This reduction can be attributed to the trend among large oil companies such as Shell, ExxonMobil, BP, and Total to divest their less profitable sites as they rationalise their downstream assets to pursue more profitable activities further upstream," the CBRE report said. The soaring cost of fuel and Europe's weak economy have led to a dip in sales volumes at the pump, with a 0.55 percent decline in the first half of the year, the report said. Oil majors and independent retailers, meanwhile, are increasing the number of unmanned petrol stations to keep costs down, the report said. "(Datamonitor unit) Verdict Research forecasts that by 2013 there will be 10,616 unmanned sites in Europe, an increase of 3.7 percent," the report said. Countries with increasing unmanned site count include Austria, Belgium, Denmark, France, [Italy](#) and Switzerland, CBRE said.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/10/24/filling-station-decline-idUSL5E8LO2H420121024>



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#### USA, MD, BALTIMORE, OCTOBER 25 2012. ALL LANES REOPEN ON THE BAY BRIDGE

cheryl conner

 **Watch the Video**

- [All Lanes Reopen on the Bay Bridge](#)
- [Tanker Truck Leaking Propane Shuts Down Lanes on Bay Bridge](#)



We watched cars crawl through the eastbound toll plaza, even a few hours after all lanes reopened. Emily Williams pulled over to rethink her plans of an evening on the Eastern Shore. "People were honking horns at me. People were cutting me off. So I was just getting really tired of it," said Williams. Changing plans is not as easy if you live across the bridge. It was bad timing for a 9,000-gallon propane tanker to start leaking. A traffic camera showed it spewing from the top. It was the height of rush hour and when Annette Stine was trying to get home from her job in Bethesda. "We sat for over an hour past Red Hot and Blue before we really even moved to get up here to even just get off," said Stine. We saw people stopped and out of their cars when all lanes, east and

west, were shutdown. The backup stretched about four miles in both directions until all lanes opened around 5:30 p.m. Tuesday. That tanker put on the brakes just before reaching the westbound span. Then a perimeter was set up to keep traffic back from the danger. "...to keep vehicles and sources of heat or anything that could cause the gas to ignite," said Sgt. Jonathan Green, Maryland Transportation Authority Police spokesman. The leak was plugged and the tanker was taken over to Sandy Point State Park where the rest of the gas was emptied, according to the Maryland Department of the Environment. Slow to go home and a switch in plans is familiar ground for people who live on the shore. "When you live on the Eastern Shore and you work on the Western Shore, you have no options. Going around Baltimore is way too far to go," said Stine. The Maryland Department of the Environment says the tanker went to Sandy Point State Park to get rid of the remaining propane. As for Route 50, a spokesman says the gas will dissipate on the road.

<http://www.abc2news.com/dpp/news/state/hazmat-incident-blocks-bay-bridge>

#### NEW ZEALAND, GREYMOUTH, OCTOBER 25 2012. FORMER PIKE RIVER BOSS DENIES CHARGES

deidre mussen

 **Watch the Video** [Former Pike River Boss Pleads Not Guilty to 12 Charges](#)



*Pleas Entered: Peter Whittall arrives at court today.*

Former Pike River Coal boss Peter Whittall has denied all charges of alleged health and safety failures over the mining disaster nearly two years ago. His lawyer, Stuart Grieve, QC, told the Greymouth District Court today that he was entering on Whittall's behalf pleas of not guilty to all charges. "Surprise, surprise," some families muttered in the gallery. The former Labour Department, now part of the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment, charged Whittall almost a year ago with 12 failures under the Health and Safety in Employment Act, alleging he failed to protect workers from harm relating to methane, strata and ventilation management, and mitigating explosion risk and impact. Each charge carries a maximum fine of \$250,000. On November 19, 2010, 29 miners and contractors were killed when the first of a series of explosions ripped through the West Coast underground coalmine.

Outside court, spokesman for most Pike families, Bernie Monk, said the families had expected Whittall to deny the charges. "He's obviously defending something that we don't agree with. He's got to face up to the facts now and go on his own course." Whittall had promised he would bring the men home but had walked away from the families after the final explosion on November 24, Monk said. "Peter left the families a long long time ago." The men's bodies remained entombed in the mine under the Paparoa Range and no rescue or retrieval team had gone further than 300m along its 2.4km tunnel since the first explosion. In a statement issued after his court appearance today, Whittall said he was sorry the tragedy "ever occurred". "As I have said often in the past, I am deeply sorry for the losses that the Pike River families have suffered. I am very sorry that this tragedy ever occurred as it has affected the lives of so many good people," the statement said. "On the separate matter of the Department of Labour charges, I am looking to move forward with these as they are also taking a huge toll on everyone involved, including me and my family." Whittall's lawyers, Minter Ellison Rudd Watts, said in the statement that



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unlike others, Whittall had chosen to remain in New Zealand to cooperate with all the organisations involved in dealing with the aftermath of the explosions and the subsequent investigations. "Also, unlike others, he has been unemployed since being made redundant by Pike River in 2011," the statement said. Whittall became the tragedy's public face as Pike River's chief executive, a role he took only seven weeks before the fatal explosion. When the charges were laid almost a year ago, he claimed through his lawyers that he was the scapegoat as the sole individual to face charges, and he would fight them. "Mr Whittall is a coalminer. He comes from a coalmining town and has worked in underground mines all his life. He maintains that he would never do anything to put men who worked with him at risk," his lawyer, Stacey Shortall, said after the department announced Whittall's charges last November. Whittall was today remanded at large until a status hearing into the case on March 14 next year. Judge Jane Farish excused his appearance at that hearing. However, she asked defence and prosecuting lawyers to develop a joint memorandum on when a defended hearing was likely to proceed, which she wanted them to file before the March hearing. Whittall's appearance today was his first after four adjournments since the case was first called in January. Valley Longwall International's in-seam drilling subsidiary, VLI Drilling, was charged with three failures over the disaster and pleaded guilty in July. The Sydney-based company is due to be sentenced tomorrow in the Greymouth court. The ministry's lawyers are today expected to seek leave from the court to file victim-impact statements in the VLI Drilling case. It had employed three of the victims, driller Josh Ufer, 25, Ben Rockhouse, 21, who was the driller's offsider, and Joseph Dunbar, the youngest of the 29 men killed, who turned 17 the day before the mine exploded. Pike River Coal Ltd (in receivership) has been charged with nine alleged failures over methane, strata and ventilation management, mitigating explosion risk and impact, plus health and safety management for contractors, subcontractors and their employees. In July, the company's lawyer told the court it would take no part in the legal process other than appearing at sentencing if charges were proved. The ministry said a "formal proof" hearing into Pike River Coal's charges was unlikely to proceed tomorrow.

#### **Related Links - Pike River Mine Disaster**

- [Pike River recovery to be reconsidered](#)
- [Attempt to re-open Pike hearing](#)
- [Miners' lives were 'sacrificed for money'](#)
- [Pike victim's family to hold service](#)
- [Drilling firm pleads guilty in Pike River mine case](#)
- [New Pike River evidence call](#)
- [Whittall worried at Kiwi safety](#)
- [Former Pike mine boss shuts up shop after tragedy](#)
- [Families' fight to recover Pike bodies over](#)
- [Mine disaster doco will be hard to watch](#)
- [Missing Pike River robot](#)

<http://www.stuff.co.nz/national/pike-river-mine-disaster/7859106/Peter-Whittall-to-enter-plea-on-charges>

#### **MALTA, BIRZEBBUGA, OCTOBER 25 2012. LARGE OIL SLICK IN BIRZEBBUGA**

 **Watch the Video** [Large Oil Slick](#)



A large slick of what is believed to be oil was reported in St George's Bay, Birzebbuga, this morning. There was also a strong smell of diesel. Birzebbuga mayor Joseph Farrugia said he did not know what had caused the slick, adding that he was concerned that the sea may even push the film of oil onto the road, causing a traffic hazard. It is not unusual for seawater to flow onto the street, particularly close to the council's offices. The slick broke into a number of separate parts later in the day. Mr Farrugia said the slick could have come from a large ship in the bay, or from a bunkering operation. The spill was reported to the Transport Malta and officials went on site. They lifted samples to identify the

source of the slick. In a statement in the afternoon TM said the authority took the necessary steps to clean up the bay by engaging a local oil spill response contractor specialised in the handling of such incidents. The clean-up operation commenced early this afternoon and is still in progress. TM personnel remained on-site to monitor and direct operations.

<http://www.timesofmalta.com/articles/view/20121024/local/oil-spill-at-birzebbuga.442442>



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#### USA, TX, HOUSTON, OCTOBER 25 2012. NATURAL GAS: DRIVER CONCERNS ABOUT SAFETY PUT TO REST

*james menzies*

When Saddle Creek Transportation brought together drivers to introduce them to the company's new fleet of natural gas trucks, director of transportation John Erwin stood at the back of the room where he could hear the grumbling. Drivers were wary of sitting on "time bombs" that could explode at any minute. Erwin decided to dismiss the formalities and instead turned to YouTube, where he found videos to show his drivers of natural gas fuel tanks being shot with rifles, set atop bonfires, and all manner of other silliness that shouldn't be tried at home, but nonetheless makes a compelling case for the safety of the system. "It helped drivers ease some fear," Erwin told delegates at the Natural Gas Fleet Vehicles North American Congress. "Safety was a big factor." So, how safe is natural gas? It doesn't ignite until 1,200 degrees F, which is well above the flash point of diesel. The storage tanks are nearly impenetrable. Liquefied natural gas (LNG), in fact, is so clean that spills are harmless. Dave Jaskolski, manager of Pivotal LNG, said any LNG that escapes the tank immediately vaporizes. "LNG is not corrosive, it's not toxic, it's not even flammable," Jaskolski explained. "It has to return to gas and be in a 5-15% concentration to air (to become flammable). If you spill it, it vaporizes into the air, it doesn't spontaneously combust. It doesn't pool, it won't go down into the sewers. If anyone has ever had a diesel spill, it's not the same thing." Fuelling with LNG requires additional training and equipment, namely gloves and a face shield. But Jaskolski noted that's just because it's cold, not because it's harmful. LNG is stored at -260 F (-160 C), which is about as cold as the oil in a deep fryer is hot. Fleets looking to make a large-scale transition to natural gas and do their maintenance in-house may require some costly shop modifications. For fleets in temperate climates like Florida-based Saddle Creek, that consists of as little as keeping shop bay doors open during the day and parking the trucks outdoors at night. Fleets working with LNG, on the other hand, may be required to install methane detection systems. Chris Nordh, senior manager, alternative fuels and finance with Ryder, said his company has upgraded six shops, each costing between \$50,000-\$150,000. "Ryder is very conservative when it comes to safety and goes beyond what is required by code," he noted. Ryder's systems can completely exchange all the air in the shop within seconds and automatically open the doors while sounding alarms and flashing lights to warn people to exit the building. Paper Transport calls on its local Cummins dealer to service its natural gas engines, so it didn't have to make any modifications to its shop. Chuck Diehl, trucking fleet manager with Smith Dairy, said his company installed a methane detection system, valves off the fuel systems before bringing the trucks inside and parks them outside overnight. As early adopters of natural gas, fleet managers speaking at the Congress said it's important to bring local fire departments and first responders into the shop and to provide training. "Three weeks ago, the Fire Marshall for the state of Ohio brought in 25 fire chiefs to our site and my youngest technician trained all of them," Diehl said.

<http://www.trucknews.com/news/natural-gas-driver-concerns-about-safety-put-to-rest/1001791674/>

#### USA, WI, JEFFERSON, OCTOBER 25 2012. DIESEL FUEL SPILL GOES INTO RIVER

*steve sharp*



*This is a view of the fuel spill taken this morning from the downtown Jefferson pedestrian bridge looking south toward the dam.*

The city of Jefferson, the county, the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources and the trucking company that may have created the environmental hazard have been working to remediate a diesel fuel spill that occurred late Monday afternoon just north of downtown Jefferson. A large amount of diesel fuel, an amount yet to be determined, found its way to the east bank of the Rock River Monday, where it entered the body of water. The source of the spill is believed to have been an overflow of a diesel tank at the Jefferson County Highway Department. "Monday at about 6:15 p.m. the Jefferson Fire Department was dispatched and responded to the smell of a diesel fuel spill," Jefferson City Administrator Tim Freitag told the Daily Times Tuesday. "The

department backtracked the spill to right around the Jefferson County Highway Department and that is the suspected source." City leaders said a highway department tank was likely overfilled during a delivery and the fuel drained into the Rock River. "The fuel migrated to the river, so pretty much through the night the fire department worked on containment. They did have a call in for an environmental services company, Enbridge of Fort Atkinson, to help with the containment," Freitag said. There are now three booms across the Rock River from the north down to the wastewater treatment plant and the focus is on



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cleanup, according to Freitag. "It is thought) that the source is the highway department and their supplier, who overfilled a tank. This isn't going to be cheap to clean up," he said. Freitag said the volume of the spill is unknown, but a sheen can be seen on the water, accompanied by a strong odor. "It's not five gallons, I can say that. But I have not heard an estimate on the size of the spill. I don't think anyone really knows how big it is," Freitag said. A boom is located between the downtown pedestrian bridge and the city dam. A second is situated by the Jefferson wastewater treatment plant. A third is located farther down County Highway N on the river, according to city officials. "They went that far down the river to try to get ahead of the spill," Freitag said. "That's a large stretch. It seems to collect at the wastewater treatment plant and that is where it is then skimmed." The Daily Times met via conference call this morning with Jefferson County Highway Commissioner Bill Kern, Jefferson fire Chief Ron Wegner and Freitag. "We determined the source of the spill was at the highway department when a vendor was putting fuel in a fuel tank," Kern said. "We think it occurred at approximately 3 p.m. Monday." The vendor that likely made the spill is MOC Trucking, based out of Waunakee, according to Wegner. Wegner said a Jefferson police officer detected an odor and located the spill around the highway department diesel tanks. Wegner said he joined the officer and they made contact with the Jefferson County Sheriff's Department dispatch after hours. At that point the group consulted with DNR Conservation Warden Ryan Ellifson, who is based in Helenville, and under direction of the DNR a response was undertaken. The Jefferson Fire Department was at the spill scene until 2 a.m. Tuesday. "We had contacted Enbridge in Fort Atkinson and they provided equipment and resources for us to put booms across the river in two places," Wegner said, adding the county highway department shop personnel monitored the situation and other environmental remediation personnel arrived on scene shortly after 8 a.m. Tuesday. Another boom was then placed north of the downtown dam. The water is stagnant in that area and we thought we should capture it up there rather than wait for it to come to the other boom," Wegner said. Wegner said the cost of cleaning up the spill will lie with the trucking company that created it and enforcement of payment of this cost will come through the Wisconsin DNR and Jefferson County Local Emergency Planning Commission. There were no injuries incurred by those conducting the investigation and remediation, and Wegner said he believes the spill has not caused damage to wildlife or fish in the river. The Fort Atkinson Fire Department provided absorbent materials to the cleanup project. A time for completion of the cleanup has yet to be determined. "We will be meeting with the DNR and the local emergency planning commission and other decisions will be made as we progress," Wegner said. "I appreciate the responses of Ron Wegner and Jefferson police Chief Gary Bleecker," Freitag said. "I can't tell you how helpful it is to have good, competent and experienced persons who can handle this. I also appreciate the effort of the county."

[http://www.wdtimes.com/news/article\\_d5617f26-1df9-11e2-b56b-001a4bcf887a.html](http://www.wdtimes.com/news/article_d5617f26-1df9-11e2-b56b-001a4bcf887a.html)

### INDIA, GOA, OCTOBER 25 2012. PLAN, PREVENT AND PROTECT AGAINST OIL SPILLS

*joseph fonseca*

The need to prevent oil spills and bring into place rapid response operations were the main highlights of the Oil Spill India Conference 2012.

There has been one oil spill too many recently. Some spills have gone unreported, including one in the KG basin on the East coast of India, another in South India near Kochi, et al. But the big oil spill have made headlines including the one caused by MSC Chitra & M V Khalijia III collision in August 2010, which became an eye opener for the Indian administration, authorities and the maritime industry. Whether oil spills come to the notice or not the risk they pose to the environment can be colossal often bringing to bear heavy liabilities and losses on various concerned agencies and also affect the livelihoods of many. While the initial focus has been on prevention, but now the accent is also on giving high priority to developing capability to respond to spills. To deliberate on these serious environmental concerns, the Oil Spill India Conference 2012 was organized by iTen Media at Goa last week from September 13 to 15 under the theme "Plan, Prevent, Protect". India being a signatory to the Oil Pollution Prevention Convention, the importance of maintaining certain minimum facilities and equipment at ports to deal with operational and accidental oil leakages as well as to receive contaminated ballast from tankers became the crux of the deliberations. In his address to over 250 high profile delegates representing almost the entire section of the maritime trade and industry, the Convenor, Capt. Sandeep Kalia, Executive Director, Great Offshore Salvage Services Ltd. said, "Today, protection of the marine environment is the dominant consideration in most salvage and oils spill response operations. Salvor's mission is to 'keep the pollutant in the ship'". He emphasized on the imperative need for an "Association or body" in India which deals with all relevant aspects of oil spills, including sources of oil spills, contingency planning, mitigation strategy, need for review of different existing legislation for oil spill management and the need for training and re-training. P Elango, CEO, Cairns India Ltd and A K Hazarika, ex CMD of Oil & Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) & currently Director – Onshore, ONGC



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provided nationwide perspective of the oil spill response capabilities available in the country and mitigation strategies put in place by ONGC as well as Cairns Energy. The Chief Guest, Sudhir Vasudeva endorsed the theme 'Plan - Prevent – Protect' as it aptly reflects the concerns of the society with regards to oil pollution, as the entire E&P fraternity is venturing from deep to deeper waters to discover and produce more hydrocarbons. Mr Vasudeva highlighted the fact that the country has to depend heavily on the import of crude oil to meet its domestic needs. ONGC has set a target of doubling India's domestic production by 2030 and overseas acquisitions by almost nine times. What this means he concluded is that ONGC will have to step up exploration and with growth of such quantum there would be an imperative need to bolster their own abilities to gear up for potential pollution threat, Tier 3 and beyond. He recalled the Macondo incident in Gulf of Mexico - an accident which cannot be allowed to be repeated here. Expert opinions were presented by eminent speakers belonging to teams from ITOFF, Norway, Singapore, OSRL & UK Oil Spill Association. They gave an exhaustive account of their response capabilities through their presentations. The conference culminated with an expert panel discussion comprising of J. G. Chaturvedi, Executive Director ONGC, Capt S B Bhambani - Sr. VP SCI, Dilip Mehrotra ex Dy Director General-DG Shipping, Dr. R K Raju of Reliance Industries Ltd and Hari Kumar of Cairns Energy India and moderated by Capt. Sandeep Kalia. The panelists were in agreement on one main issue viz that none of the existing legislations wholly answers the requirement of oil spill management. Furthermore, the aspects considered by the individual organizations do not answer all the requirements of oil spill management and need major changes. It was also observed that there exists inordinate delay in mobilization of equipment and manpower from overseas. It was agreed that there is a compelling need for the country, its administrators, authorities and the stake holders to give highest priority in developing the national response capability beyond Tier 1 & 2, by engaging professional National Salvage & Response companies, who can provide expeditious response and be overall cost effective!

<http://www.maritimeprofessional.com/Blogs/Plan,-Prevent-and-Protect-against-Oil-Spills/October-2012/Plan,-Prevent-and-Protect-against-Oil-Spills.aspx>

#### USA, CA, TEMECULA, DE LUZ, OCTOBER 25 2012. DE LUZ: ASPHALT TAR SPILL FOULS CREEK

sarah burge



*A cleanup crew works Wednesday, Oct. 24, to remove asphalt tar that fouled a stretch of Sandia Creek in the rural De Luz area west of Temecula.*

Hundreds of gallons of asphalt tar that spilled from an overturned truck this week in the rural De Luz area west of Temecula flowed into the pristine Sandia Creek and cleanup of the mucky mess is expected to take days, authorities said. A petroleum scent hung in the air around the creek Wednesday, Oct. 24, as crews in hazmat suits shoveled contaminated soil into buckets and pumped water flowing from upstream around the spill area blocked with containment booms. The asphalt tar — a heavy, sticky petroleum product — coated vegetation and sank to the bottom of the creek. The California Department of Fish and Game is overseeing the cleanup, which is being performed by a private contractor hired

by the asphalt company that caused the spill. A Fish and Game news release described Sandia Creek as one of the last pristine, free-flowing creeks in Southern California. "This is a pretty special creek for Southern California," said Lt. Michael Horn, the incident commander for Fish and Game. "It has really nice habitat in it and it does maintain a year-round flow." "This is actually a tributary to the Santa Margarita River, which runs to the Pacific Ocean," Horn said. "But we're a substantial distance from the river." Horn said about 600 gallons of the tar spilled but it's unclear how much flowed into the creek. Authorities said initially that the spill had been contained to a 300-yard stretch, but Horn said water flowing through the site had spread some of the oily substance farther downstream. Biologists are investigating possible effects on wildlife, he said. Luckily, Horn said, the creek flow has been low so the spill has been largely contained. Crews have not found any sensitive species harmed by the spill, but a tree frog and 16 mosquito fish were found dead, officials said. Janna Rinderneck and Daniel Orr, environmental scientists with the Department of Fish and Game, said the creek is home to species of concern such as the coastal range newt and the arroyo chub. It also lies within the range of the arroyo toad, a federally listed endangered species, Orr said. The spill happened about 12:30 p.m. Monday when a truck overturned along De Luz Road near Sandia Creek, said California Highway Patrol Officer Nathan Baer. The driver took a turn too fast, Baer said, and the load of water, sand and asphalt tar oil in the truck shifted. The asphalt tar flowed out of the tanker, along the roadside and into the creek several yards



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away. "It just got worse and worse," Baer said. The name of the driver and the asphalt company were not available Wednesday, Baer said.

<http://www.pe.com/local-news/riverside-county/temecula/temecula-headlines-index/20121024-de-luz-asphalt-tar-spill-fouls-creek.ece>

#### USA, FLA, TAMPA BAY, OCTOBER 25 2012. SMALL FUEL SPILL AT USF CONTAINED

Hazardous materials teams worked to clean up 100 gallons of diesel fuel that leaked from a storage container at the University of South Florida BullRun Transportation Center Wednesday night. Tampa Fire Rescue stopped the leak at 13327 USF Plumb Drive after receiving a call at 8:57 p.m. Fire Rescue contained the spill and contacted contractors to clean up the fuel. The university did not announce if the spill would interrupt any transportation Thursday.

<http://www.tampabay.com/news/publicsafety/small-fuel-spill-at-usf-contained/1258247>

#### INDONESIA, JAKARTA, OCTOBER 26 2012. FIRE AT GAS STATION, A MOTORIST SUFFERS SEVERE BURNS



A fire incident happened again in Jakarta. This time, the fire engulfed Pertamina gas station (SPBU) No. 34-10702 on Jl. Pangeran Jayakarta, Sawahbesar, Central Jakarta, Wednesday (10/25). Due to the incident, a motorist suffered serious burns, so he had to be rushed to Manggadua Community Health Center (Puskesmas) and then referred to Kramatjati Indonesia Police Hospital, East Jakarta. Based on the information gathered, the fire incident happened around 09.10 AM. The victim who suffers from severe burns all over his body is Junaidi (54), a motorist who rode a Suzuki Thunder motorcycle and was filling up for pertamax type fuel at the gas station. Heri (25), one of the gas station operators, explained the fire came from Junaidi's motorcycle which was suddenly fell when it was being filled up with pertamax. When it fell, flame sparked and burned Junaidi's motorcycle gas tank and the gas station's fuel dispenser. The fire got bigger instantly. What was worse, the big fire spread and burned a Daihatsu

Xenia car parked nearby. "The fire came from the Thunder motorcycle when it was filling up for fuel. The fire then promptly burned the fuel dispenser and the Daihatsu Xenia parked nearby," told Heri. Beni (48), another eyewitness, said the motorcycle rode by the victim is a rented one. The victim was evacuated to Manggadua Selatan Urban Village Puskesmas. But due to the severity of his burns, the victim was referred to Kramatjati Hospital for further treatment. Head of Sawahbesar Sector Police, JR Sitingjak, ensured that the spark of fire that caused the incident came from the motorcycle. "The fire was then spread to the fuel dispenser and a car," he stated. The fire was extinguished 15 minutes after a unit of fire handling vehicle from Central Jakarta Fire and Disaster Handling Sub-Department came to the location. Meanwhile, the owner of the burned car and one of the gas station operators are still being questioned by the police.

<http://www.beritajakarta.com/2008/en/newsview.aspx?idwil=0&id=25450>

#### USA, TX, TEXAS CITY, OCTOBER 26 2012. SHELTER-IN-PLACE LIFTED FOR TEXAS CITY RESIDENTS

Residents in Texas City were asked to shelter-in-place for hours overnight because of a hydrochloric acid leak at the city's docks. The incident happened around 11pm at the Dallas Group of America in the 300 block of Dock Road. Texas City's emergency manager Bruce Clawson says there was a hydrochloric acid leak from a tank in the port area and it created a cloud that began traveling over the city, prompting officials to issue a Level 3 shelter-in-place. People were advised to stay inside, turn off air conditioning and keep windows and doors closed. City officials lifted the citywide lockdown just after 5am. Access to several roads in the south part of the city were closed for hours but have since reopened. "A couple of firefighters were exposed and there were a number of workers, 4 or 5. They were all transported to the hospital to be checked out," Clawson said. We're told their conditions are not life-threatening. Officials say they will be in clean up phase for the next several days. There were no evacuations issued for nearby residents. Hydrochloric acid is a widely used strong corrosive irritating acid that is normally present in dilute form in gastric juice. According to the [city's emergency management website](#), a Level 3 emergency means:

"An incident has occurred the situation is not under control and protective action may be necessary for the surrounding or offsite area. Additional IMAS aid may be needed. The EOC is activated, the Siren warning is given to



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the Public, Channel 16 and Radio Station 530 AM are constantly updated informing the Public of the status of the incident. You may also want to use any major television station in the Houston area for updates. The situation is often fluid and up-to-date information can be obtained by using these stations as they often have live broadcasts of the event."

According to the website, any time sirens are sounded, residents should go indoors, shut all windows and doors and turn off the air conditioning. The Dallas Group is a producer of adsorbent synthetic magnesium silicate and the only North American-based manufacturer of ammonium chloride, according to the company's website. People were advised to stay inside, turn off air conditioning and keep windows and doors closed.

<http://abclocal.go.com/ktrk/story?section=news/local&id=8859419>

### **SOUTH AFRICA, KLERKSOORD, OCTOBER 26 2012. BIOFUEL FACTORY EXPLOSION SPREADS OIL FIRE THROUGH FACTORIES**

yolande du preez



*Firefighters battle an inferno after an explosion at the Marleda Oil factory in Klerksoord, north of Pretoria, destroyed three business properties.*

Pretoria - A massive explosion at a biofuel factory in Pretoria North on Wednesday sent about 200 000 litres of burning oil in a lava-like stream into neighbouring factories, destroying everything in their path. A cloud of black smoke could be seen from kilometres away as Tshwane Emergency Services personnel worked tirelessly to extinguish the rapidly spreading fire, which broke out at Marleda Oil. Foreman Claude van Niekerk stood shaking his head as the last of the flames were extinguished. He had inhaled some of the smoke and said his chest and throat were "on fire". "I'm struggling to talk and would prefer not to say too much. I have no idea what happened. One minute there was smoke and the next this massive explosion. It is a miracle no one was injured," he said.

Tshwane emergency services spokesman Johan Pieterse said the fire began at about 2.30pm. The cause was unclear but it was suspected a burner caught fire, leading to the explosion, he said. Pieterse explained oil freely flowed from the containers after the explosion. The fire spread quickly, destroying several other factories as well as cars and a flatbed truck. "As the oil spread, it caught fire and it was difficult to contain. We had seven fire trucks and three water tankers attending," Pieterse said. Gilbert Bosch, of Mountain View, said he was returning from a meeting when he saw black smoke. "I decided to take a closer look and when I arrived I could see something was wrong," he said. "While I was speaking to the fire brigade, the explosion happened." Bosch said the flames were huge and the fire so intense he could feel the heat from the opposite side of the R566, the old Rosslyn road. Adri van Staden, an employee of L&L Bakery nearby, said she heard a loud bang. "I ran outside and saw massive flames. I could feel the heat. The first thing my colleagues and I did was to run back to the bakery, remove all the gas bottles, place them in our cars and move the cars across the road," she said. Pieterse said large parts of Montana and Rosslyn were without power because power cables had snapped in the fire. "Fire safety will conduct an investigation into the cause of the fire," he said.

#### **Related Links**

- [Pretoria fuel factory on fire](#)  
Independent Online-24/10/2012, A fuel factory in Klerksoord, Pretoria North, was on fire on Wednesday afternoon, Tshwane emergency services said.
- [PTA fire contained](#)  
Eyewitness News-12 hours ago, The fire at a bio-fuel factory in Klerksoord in Pretoria.

<http://www.thepost.co.za/explosion-spreads-oil-fire-through-factories-1.1410717>

### **USA, PA, PHILADELPHIA, OCTOBER 26 2012. SUNOCO TO PAY \$117,000 TO SETTLE HAZMAT COMPLAINT**

The [U.S. Environmental Protection Agency](#) said Sunoco Inc. is paying a \$117,000 fine to settle alleged violations of hazardous waste storage regulations at one of its former plants in northeast Philadelphia. The [EPA](#) said it cited Sunoco for violating a federal law governing the storage and disposal of hazardous waste. The alleged violations were discovered during an



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inspection in September 2010. Sunoco sold the facility in July 2011. The alleged violations related to storage of phenol sludge, a leaking lead-acid battery and light bulbs containing hazardous material. As part of the settlement announced Thursday, Sunoco has neither admitted nor denied liability for the alleged violations.

<http://www.chron.com/default/article/Sunoco-to-pay-117-000-to-settle-hazmat-complaint-3981682.php>

#### USA, N.Y, NEW YORK, OCTOBER 26 2012. TWO RETAILERS FACE UST FINES >> EPA FILES COMPLAINT AGAINST KWIK FILL, SETTLES WITH NOCO

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has issued or settled legal complaints to two convenience store owners and operators in New York State for allegedly violating federal regulations. The first complaint, which seeks \$42,295 in penalties, was issued to United Refining Co., Warren Pa., for violations at its Kwik Fill stations in Dunkirk, Westfield, Jamestown, Fredonia and Rochester, New York. The complaint involves violations at 17 underground storage tanks at six gasoline stations in Western New York. In addition to paying penalties, the complaint requires the facilities to come into full compliance with the environmental regulations, according to the EPA. The complaint alleges the company failed to:

- Upgrade piping at one service station.
- Keep adequate records of corrosion protection at one service station.
- Ensure equipment was running properly at one service station.
- Keep adequate records of release detection monitoring at three service stations.

The law authorizes the EPA to seek between \$11,000 and \$16,000 per tank for each day a violation exists. In a separate action, the EPA reached an agreement with NOCO Energy Corp., Tonawanda, N.Y., to settle violations involving 39 underground storage tanks at 13 stations in the Buffalo area and in Rochester. Under the terms of the agreement, NOCO will pay the EPA \$14,000 and has agreed to operate its underground tanks in full compliance with the law. "When underground tanks are not properly maintained, ground water can be contaminated, putting people's health and the environment at risk," said EPA regional administrator Judith A. Enck. "Gas station owners have a legal obligation to maintain underground tanks so pollution does not damage the community."

<http://www.cspnet.com/news/fuels/articles/two-retailers-face-ust-fines>

#### ENGLAND, LONDON, OCTOBER 26 2012. OIL COMPANIES GOING UNPUNISHED FOR THOUSANDS OF NORTH SEA SPILLS >> FINES ISSUED FOR ONLY SEVEN OF 4,123 OIL SPILLS SINCE 2000, WITH NO COMPANY HAVING TO PAY MORE THAN £20,000

leo hickman



*Shell's Gannett Alpha oil platform, which leaked oil into the North Sea in 2011.*

Oil companies operating in the North Sea have been fined for [oil spills](#) on just seven occasions since 2000, even though 4,123 separate spills were recorded over the same period, the Department of [Energy](#) and Climate Change (Decc) has confirmed. The disclosure came as [Decc said on Thursday](#) that the government had offered a "record-breaking" 167 new licences to [oil and gas companies](#) seeking to drill in the North Sea. A further 61 "blocks", or licences, are under environmental assessment. Total fines resulting from prosecutions between 2000 and 2011 came to just £74,000 and no single oil company had to pay more than £20,000. Two companies received fines of £20,000: BP, for causing 28 tonnes of diesel to spill into the sea in 2002 from the Forties Alpha

platform, and, a year later, Total E&P, for causing six tonnes of diesel to enter the sea during a transfer between fuel tanks on the Alwyn North platform. Information about the fines was released by Decc after [a freedom of information request](#) and further inquiries by the Guardian. The smallest fines over this period were those imposed on two companies, Venture North Sea Oil and Knutsen OAS Shipping, of £2,000 each, after 20 tonnes of crude oil was spilt during a tanker transfer on the Kittiwake platform. In total, 1,226 tonnes of oil were spilt into the North Sea between 2000 and 2011, [according to Decc's archives](#). Decc said there is no "volume threshold" determining whether a company will be prosecuted over a spill at sea, although a spill of less than five tonnes is unlikely to go to court. A tonne of crude oil is broadly equivalent to seven barrels, or, more precisely, 1,136 litres. Decc said its inspectors, all of whom have enforcement powers, judge each case separately to assess the



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## Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network

### Release 2012 – 898 Newsy Stuff

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

**November 08 2012**



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circumstances and the seriousness of the alleged offence. Slightly different arrangements exist in Scotland from those in England, Wales and Northern Ireland, for pursuing a prosecution. A Decc spokesman said: "The UK has one of the toughest and most successful oil and gas regimes in the world and we work closely with industry to ensure the highest standards of environmental protection are in place and enforced." "There are a number of enforcement options available to Decc, with court action reserved for serious offences. On the rare occasions legal proceedings have been deemed necessary, it is for the court to decide the level of fines to hand down." Environmental campaigners said it was worrying that Decc viewed itself as operating the global gold standard of offshore regulation, especially as oil companies were now pressing for permission to drill in extreme and vulnerable environments such as the Arctic. Vicky Wyatt, a Greenpeace campaigner, said: "Ministers and oil companies can spout all the carefully crafted quotes they like to tell us how safe drilling at sea is. But while they're spouting these words, their rigs are all too often spouting oil into our [oceans](#). The government should hit these companies who pollute the oceans in this way with meaningful fines." "A few grand is not even a slap on the wrist for companies who pocket millions of pounds every hour. "It's both staggering and wrong that some of these companies are now also drilling in the fragile and pristine Arctic, where a similar oil leak would be catastrophic." Speaking about the issuing of new drilling licences, the energy minister, John Hayes, said: "Fortune has favoured the UK. Oil and gas from our waters provides around half the energy we need to heat our homes, fuel our cars and power our industry. "It is the single largest industrial UK investor, supporting 440,000 jobs, and benefits the UK's trade balance to the tune of £40bn." He added: "This successful licensing round shows we are taking the right action to offer certainty and confidence to investors. Our fiscal regime is now encouraging small fields into production and our licensing regime supports new faces as well the big players to invest. Importantly, we are guaranteeing every last economic drop of oil and gas is produced for the benefit of the UK. It is our work with industry that is cultivating this precious resource, making our seas a fertile landscape for investors for many years to come." Fined North Sea oils spills since 2000:

- **Kerr McGee North Sea (UK) Ltd – 22 October 2000**  
Release of about 400 tonnes crude oil to sea from subsea pipeline: £10,000 fine. Pipeline between NW Hutton platform and Hutton TLP, northern North Sea.
- **BP Exploration Operating Company – 2 December 2002**  
Release of approximately 28 tonnes diesel to sea due to accidental draining of fuel to open drain system and sea sump: £20,000 fine. Forties Alpha platform, central North Sea.
- **Total E&P UK PLC – 17 June 2003**  
Release of about 6 tonnes diesel after diesel transferred from tanks via valve not identified as dump valve: £20,000 fine. Alwyn North, northern North Sea.
- **Shell UK Ltd – 12 May 2003**  
Release of 7.5 tonnes diesel to sea during bunkering operations – return path for diesel supply system found to be closed and plant condition not as expected: £7,000 fine. Cormorant Alpha, northern North Sea.
- **Amoco (UK) Exploration Company – 1 July 2004**  
Release of 31 tonne diesel to sea from day tank during bunkering operations: £12,000 fine. Lomond, central North Sea.
- **Shell UK Ltd – 10 November 2004**  
Release of 7.33 tonnes oil-based mud to sea during bunkering operations. £3,000 fine. North Cormorant, northern North Sea.
- **Venture North Sea Oil Ltd and Knutsen OAS Shipping AS – 5 April 2007**  
Release of 20 tonnes crude oil to sea from SAL [single anchor loading] during transfer onto tanker. £2,000 fine each. Kittiwake, central North Sea.

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2012/oct/25/oil-companies-north-sea-spills?newsfeed=true>

#### CANADA, B.C. HAZELTON, OCTOBER 26 2012. FUEL SPILLED IN TANKER ROLLOVER NEAR HAZELTON

*mike hager*

A fuel tanker truck has rolled over and spilled a small amount of fuel on Highway 16 near Hazelton in northwestern British Columbia. No one was injured as the truck rolled after pulling onto a shoulder to let other cars pass around 11:30 a.m. Wednesday. The highway was closed temporarily as crews pumped out fuel to a reserve unit, but will be open to alternating



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traffic until a crane is brought in later tonight to right the truck. Only a small amount of fuel leaked and was contained, according to an RCMP news release. New Hazelton Mounties continue to investigate the incident and there is no indication alcohol or speed played a role in the crash, according to the release. Investigators are confident the truck and scene will be cleared Wednesday night. Mounties want anyone who saw the crash or anyone who has information about it to phone them at (250) 842-5244. Hazelton is a community almost six hours by car northwest of Prince George.

<http://www.vancouversun.com/news/metro/Fuel+spilled+tanker+rollover+near+Hazelton/7442250/story.html>

### **NIGERIA, LAGOS, BERGER, OCTOBER 27 2012. PANIC AS FUEL-LADEN TANKER FALLS IN LAGOS**

*chukwuma okparaocha*

**Watch the Video** [Passengers Stranded as Fuel Tanker Blocks Lagos-Ibadan Expressway](#)

A tanker filled with petrol fell on Friday, near Berger Bus Stop, a Lagos suburb, a development which resulted in a traffic gridlock on the Lagos-end of the Lagos-Ibadan Expressway. The tanker reportedly lost control and rested on its side at about 7am forcing traffic officers to halt vehicular movement on the Ibadan-bound lanes, thereby causing a massive traffic jam that had stretched to Ojota as at noon. The gridlock later extended to both sides of the road and spilled over to the Ojodu-Berger Road up to Agidingbi. The timely intervention of security operatives and transport managers prevented the tanker from going up in flames as they cordoned off the scene, and prevented scooping of petrol and diversion to other routes traffic. The development restricted vehicles going to and from Lagos with many commuters resorting to trekking, while commercial vehicle drivers increased their fares. Some affected passengers said that they had left home early in the morning so as to participate in the Sallah morning prayer, but could not meet up, while others who revealed that they had rushed out to make brisk businesses on the Sallah day got trapped in the traffic. The General Manager of the State Traffic Management Authority (LASTMA), Mr Babatunde Edu, said that the accident was a lone one which might have resulted from the driver's carelessness. He however, revealed that no life was lost to it. "We are taking our time to trans-load the content in order not to cause more danger. "We had to call on experts from the National Union of Petroleum and Natural Gas Workers to help in the evacuation; fire service workers are well on ground. "The process of evacuation is ongoing, and very soon traffic will be normal as the blocked lanes will be opened," Edu promised. The Lagos State Sector Commander of the Federal Road Safety Corps, Mr Nseobong Akpabio, also confirmed the incident saying the fall of the tanker had also negatively affected traffic on the Lagos-Abeokuta Expressway.



#### **Related Links**

- [Thousands of Passengers Stranded as Fuel Tanker Blocks Lagos-Ibadan Expressway](#)

Thousands of passengers and motorists plying the Lagos-Ibadan expressway were on Friday stranded for several hours as a tanker carrying petroleum product fell on one part of the road.

<http://www.channelstv.com/home/2012/10/26/sallah-thousands-of-passengers-stranded-as-fuel-tanker-blocks-lagos-ibadan-expressway/>



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#### USA, N.Y, QUEENS, OCTOBER 27 2012. 2,700 GALLONS OF GAS SPILL NEAR LAGUARDIA, TREATMENT PLANT EVACUATED

Thousands of gallons of fuel spewed out of a car rental near LaGuardia Airport this morning with enough of it pouring into the local sewers to cause a nearby wastewater treatment plant to shut down, sources tell us. It all started earlier this morning when a gas pump at the [Enterprise Rent-a-car](#) across from the airport was damaged. Though the NYPD has yet to comment on the incident, we are told it is being treated as an act of vandalism. A source tells us that 2,700 gallons of gasoline then poured out on the street and into the sidewalk this morning just before 5 a.m. (we've heard from other sources the number of gallons lost may be much higher). Worse, a portion of the fuel made its way into the sewer system and from there into the nearby Bowery Bay Wastewater Treatment plant. Luckily the system quickly detected the volatile substance and set off alarms. The plant was briefly evacuated but wastewater treatment continued, according to officials. The FDNY soon flushed the sewer system by opening up fire hydrants and kept the remaining fuel in check with sandbags. Officials believe that 80 percent of the gasoline evaporated. When we called the Enterprise for more information, an operator there told us "he really didn't know anything" but that the NYPD, the FDNY and National Gas were all on the scene investigating. His manager Melissa then picked up and told us only that "if we are releasing any statements we will, but not at this time."

#### Related Links:

- [Hundreds of Gallons of Fuel Spilled near LaGuardia Airport](#)

About 700 gallons of fuel spilled into a car rental agency near LaGuardia Airport early Friday morning, an FDNY spokesman said.

[http://gothamist.com/2012/10/26/2700\\_gallons\\_of\\_gas\\_spill\\_near\\_laga.php](http://gothamist.com/2012/10/26/2700_gallons_of_gas_spill_near_laga.php)

#### USA, TN, RED BANK, OCTOBER 27 2012. ARGON SPILL IN RED BANK CONTAINED FRIDAY AFTERNOON

The Red Bank Fire Department and Hamilton County Hazardous Materials teams responded to 110 East Meadowbrook Drive in Red Bank at 1:07 p.m. on Friday to an 18-wheeler accident. The tanker was carrying Argon gas. Hazmat officials reported the driver of the tanker was lost trying to make a delivery to AirGas (on Access Road). His GPS device rerouted him to turn on East Meadowbrook Drive. When the truck driver tried to make the turn, he realized the road was too narrow and the back wheels began to come up off the pavement. He decided to park the tanker until emergency personnel arrived. Argon gas is a non-flammable gas used for welding. It is not toxic and will not harm the environment. Emergency officials had to release a few pounds of pressure of the gas to stabilize the tanker before the unit could be re-positioned on the road. No injuries were reported and no damage was done to the tanker or the environment. The company carrying the 4,000 pounds of gas is Linde Industrial Gas. Emergency officials stated their appreciation to the public in Red Bank for their patience.

<http://www.chattanooga.com/2012/10/26/237241/Argon-Spill-In-Red-Bank-Contained.aspx>

#### USA, AKA, ANCHORAGE, OCTOBER 27 2012. COLD WAR JET-FUEL TANKS, OTHER DEBRIS HAULED FROM ALASKA PARKS

The U.S. National Park Service has completed a five-year clean-up of fuel tanks ejected by U.S. fighter jets over Alaska during the Cold War, along with other junk unrelated to the planes, officials said on Friday. The litter, largely consisting of spent fuel tanks dumped by military jets doing maneuvers in the 1970s, was hauled off park lands in the Kobuk Valley National Park and the Noatak National Preserve in northwestern Alaska. The remote parks are near Alaska's maritime boundary with Russia, and the airspace above them was used for military flights that no longer take place, Western Arctic Parklands Chief Ranger Dan Stevenson said. Taken off the parklands were 25 aluminum fuel tanks, each weighing about 450 pounds, that are believed to have come from F-4 Phantom fighter jets flown by the U.S. military. Also removed were abandoned fuel drums, old snowmobiles and all-terrain-vehicle frames. Allowing the items to remain as eyesores was contrary to the park service's stewardship responsibility, Stevenson said. Cleanup work was done in the summer, with the debris hauled out on slings dangling from aircraft, officials said. The 1.5 million-acre Kobuk Valley National Park is home to the largest active sand dunes north of the Arctic Circle in North America. The park also holds archaeological sites that date as far back as 8,000 years. The 6.5 million-acre Noatak National Preserve holds the nation's longest undisturbed river basin. The preserve also holds archaeological sites that date back to the time of human migration across the Bering Land Bridge. Both park units are home to hundreds of thousands of caribou, as well as other wildlife.

<http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/sns-rt-us-usa-alaska-coldwarbre89p13q-20121026,0,6223610.story>



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