



Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network

Release 2012 – 896 Newsy Stuff

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

November 03 2012



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USA, IA, DES MOINES, OCTOBER 20 2012. THOUSANDS OF GALLONS OF FUEL SPILLS IN DSM RIVER

lisa martone

 **Watch the Video** [Thousands of Gallons Of Fuel Spills](#)

A faulty generator on top of Hy-Vee hall caused more than 2,000 gallons of diesel fuel to pour into the Des Moines River Thursday morning. It's hard to miss it in the water. "You walk over there you could see purple water," said passer-by Joe Yang of Des Moines. "It is kind of reddish in the corner over there, you can see a lot of red, you can definitely smell it." Bright patches of red and the sheen of oil cover areas of the Des Moines River, near the pedestrian bridge on Second Street all the way to the Southeast 14th Street Bridge. The cause: red diesel fuel. "There was some type of an issue that caused the back up, which caused the diesel fuel to go into the river," said Chris Connolly of the Iowa Event Center. "We are going to investigate what happened." What we do know so far is a generator on the roof of Hy-Vee Hall backed up, causing the diesel fuel to overflow, flood the roof, get into the storm system and then make its way into the river. Approximately 2,500 gallons made its way into the water system before it was controlled. "The positive, is we found out about this early, caught it early on and were able to contain it," Connolly said. "Now we are just going through the cleanup measures." The spill is below the city's intake for our drinking water so that should not be affected. A private HazMat team was on site the entire afternoon cleaning up. The Department of Natural Resources is telling people to avoid contact with the fuel. If it does get on your hands wash them immediately. They also say it should not be harmful for most wildlife because the concentration of the fuel in the river is low.

<http://www.woi-tv.com/story/19857812/thousands-of-gallons-of-fuel-spills-in-dsm-river>

USA, TN, KNOXVILLE, OCTOBER 20 2012. PICKUP TRUCK CRASHES INTO GAS PUMP IN SOUTH KNOXVILLE



The truck was knocked into a gas pump at a nearby Shell station, located at 4323 Chapman Highway.

Two vehicles collided at a South Knoxville intersection Friday morning, sending one into a pump at a nearby gas station and spilling a small amount of gas. Knoxville police say the accident started when a car traveling north on Chapman Highway hit a pickup truck at the intersection with Young High Pike. The car remained in the intersection after the collision, but the truck was knocked into a gas pump at a nearby Shell station, located at 4323 Chapman Highway. An alert employee at the gas station immediately shut off the gas pumps and called 911. The driver of the pickup was taken to a nearby hospital for possible minor injuries. Knoxville firefighters were called to clean up a small amount of gasoline that spilled near the pump. Police are continuing to investigate to determine which vehicle ran the red light to cause the accident.

<http://www.wate.com/story/19862592/pickup-truck-crashes-into-gas-pump-in-south-knoxville>

ENGLAND, HAMPSHIRE, WINCHESTER, OCTOBER 20 2012. UK DEFENCE COMPANY ADMITS MISJUDGEMENTS IN FATAL NITROGLYCERIN EXPLOSION



Anthony Sheridan, 37, from Over Wallop, Hampshire, died in the blast at Wallop Defence Systems in June 2006. He had been emptying an oven containing flare pellets when the nitroglycerin, a by-product of the process, exploded. WDS previously pleaded guilty to breaching safety regulations. The firm will be sentenced on 9 November. Winchester Crown Court heard that WDS had been making decoy flares for the Ministry of Defence and a 2004 report had recognised that the pellet curing process inside low-temperature ovens created nitroglycerin as a by-product. Prosecutor Mark Harris told the court that measures had been taken by the company after it had been identified as a "serious explosive risk". WDS set up a cleaning process but failed to carry out a series of risk assessments, he said. The court was also told that bins to store the volatile chemical were not emptied for a year and left outside, risking an



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explosion as the substance crystallised. Mr Harris said: "There was no conscious decision to take a shortcut for commercial gain but the pressure to increase production caused the management to be highly negligent in addressing the risks at the time." He also said the company did not have a licence to store a hazard such as nitroglycerin. The Ministry of Defence asked the company to hand over its design for the flares to another company who had managed to cure the pellets and not produce nitroglycerin, the court heard. The court was also told that there had been a further fire and explosion in 2008 when the company was dismantling one of the ovens. No one was hurt because the site had been evacuated but the company had not asked for advice from the Health and Safety Executive beforehand. Mr Sheridan was blown 29 metres by the explosion on 26 June 2006, that also sprinkled debris more than 300 metres. An inquest into his death in 2009 recorded a narrative verdict, which found that he had not been trained to handle nitroglycerin. WDS pleaded guilty at a previous court hearing to breaching Section 2 and Section 3 of the Health and Safety at Work Act from 2004 to 2006 in connection to the death, and to a further Section 2 breach for the second explosion. It admitted it had failed in its duty to ensure the health, safety and welfare of Mr Sheridan and other workers.

<http://www.hazardxonline.net/article/53840/UK-defence-company-admits-misjudgements-in-fatal-nitroglycerin-explosion.aspx?ArealD=2>

USA, WA, BELLEVUE. OCTOBER 20 2012. EVERETT TUG FINED FOR SEATTLE OIL SPILL

The Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) has fined Dunlap Towing Co. (Dunlap) of Everett \$14,000 for an oil spill to Elliott Bay in Seattle last year. The Dunlap tug, Manfred Nystrom, spilled 33 gallons of diesel fuel oil to the bay while taking on fuel at the north end of Harbor Island on July 1, 2011. The company promptly reported the spill and organized a cleanup response that recovered 31 gallons of the oil. "This spill was avoidable by a twist of a valve," said Ecology's spill response supervisor, David Byers. "As much as we appreciate the prompt response to this spill, Dunlap's vessels, including this tug, have had several similar spills." During the past five years, Dunlap tugs have spilled 1 to 20 gallons of fuel five times during fuel transfers, including a 2008 incident involving an incompletely closed valve on the Manfred Nystrom. Ecology determined that in the most recent incident a valve thought closed during the fueling operation was partially open. As a result, incoming fuel continued to flow into a full tank and overflowed through a vent on that tank onto the deck. Oil then flowed overboard through openings that were inadequately blocked to prevent oil from spilling overboard. Ecology penalties may be appealed to the Washington State Pollution Control Hearings Board. "We greatly regret this spill," said Robert Clinton, Dunlap Director of Safety and Training. "Dunlap takes environmental protection very seriously. Our 27 towing vessels have safely loaded approximately five million gallons of diesel fuel so far this year alone. We believe in constant improvement and have implemented new procedures to further reduce the likelihood of another incident of this type." Besides the \$14,000 fine, the state issued a \$414 assessment on Oct. 3, 2011, for damages the spill caused to the public's environmental resources. The assessment is based on the amount spilled and the resources it placed at risk. Dunlap has paid this assessment.

<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/news/2012/348.html>

AUSTRALIA, QUEENSLAND, BRISBANE, OCTOBER 19 2012. BIODIESEL EXHAUST LINKED TO RESPIRATORY ILLNESS



Queensland University of Technology research team in their lab.

Burning biodiesel produces compounds that can cause respiratory disease, researchers from Queensland University of Technology have found. The scientists say the discovery could lead to restrictions on the use of biodiesel as an alternative to petroleum diesel. "With fossil fuel reserves dwindling, developing renewable alternative fuels is important," said postdoctoral fellow Dr. Nicholas Surawski. "But we should be particularly careful to protect against unwanted respiratory illness when we adopt new transport fuels." The team looked at a range of biodiesels made from soy, canola and tallow, a rendered form of beef or mutton fat. They analyzed particle emissions from a single compression ignition engine operated at one test mode with three biodiesel fuels made from the three different feedstocks – soy, tallow, and canola. They tested four different blend percentages – 20, 40, 60 and 80 percent biodiesel.

Using specialized analytical monitoring equipment developed at Queensland University of Technology, they discovered that



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burning diesel fuels with a high percentage of biodiesel produced higher emissions of compounds linked to respiratory disease. These biologically active compounds are called "reactive oxygen species" and form on the surface of small soot particles in the exhaust emissions, Surawski explained. Reactive oxygen species can lead to the type of cell damage called oxidative stress which, over long periods of time, can progress to serious respiratory disease. The team is now looking at ways of cleaning up biofuel exhausts. "This is a very important discovery," Surawski said. "Now we've identified a component of the emissions that causes the problem we can start to look for solutions." Led by Professor Zoran Ristovski, the research team is now focusing on understanding the way reactive oxygen species in the emissions are generated, and on how to remove them. The research was published last year in the journal "Environmental Science and Technology." Biodiesel can be used as a fuel for vehicles in its pure form, but it is usually used as a blend to reduce levels of particulates, carbon monoxide, and hydrocarbons from diesel-powered vehicles. Key consumers of biodiesel include urban and public transport fleets, harbor and marine operators in ecologically sensitive locations, underground mines, power stations, and users of machinery or vehicles in confined or closed areas. An increasing number of Australian mining and transport companies are trying B20 to B100 blends of biodiesel and petroleum diesel because of the greenhouse reduction benefits. Biodiesel blends are available at an increasing number of service stations in all Australian states. The Queensland University of Technology scientists say their work is aimed at providing the transport industry with fuels that not only have a favorable environmental impact, but also place a lower burden on respiratory health.

<http://ens-newswire.com/2012/10/19/biodiesel-exhaust-linked-to-respiratory-illness/>

INDIA, RAJASTHAN, ALWAR, OCTOBER 20 2012. FIRE AT PETROL PUMP TRIGGERS PANIC

Panic gripped Alwar's Behror town when an oil tanker caught fire at a petrol pump on Friday. Bikes of three people who had come to get petrol were also gutted. The local residents staged a demonstration when the police and fire tenders did not arrive at the spot immediately after being informed. The fire took place at Ghanshyamdas and Sons Petrol Pump situated at Jaguas Chowk around 8.30 am. It is suspected that friction while opening an oil tanker's valve caused the fire. The fire engulfed the tank. Seeing this, the petrol pump employees and the customers fled. Some employees tried to douse the fire by using sand and water, but they could not succeed. The fire also gobbled up three bikes parked nearby whose owners had fled. The blaze led to chaos in the area as people feared that the entire petrol pump might explode. Some local residents also pitched in to help the petrol pump employees in throwing water to stop the fire from spreading. Many residents had called up the police and fire tenders, but they did not arrive immediately. Two fire tenders were rushed to the spot which controlled the fire in about an hour. The police, meanwhile, tried to evacuate the area. It led to a huge traffic jam on the National Highway 8, which connects Jaipur and Delhi. However, police claimed that there was no delay in their response. "A team had been immediately rushed to the spot. We controlled the fire in an hour," said SHO Behror Pradeep Yadav.

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/jaipur/Fire-at-petrol-pump-triggers-panic/articleshow/16884166.cms>

USA, WI, TOWN OF JACKSON, OCTOBER 20 2012. OVER 90 FAMILIES IN TOWN OF JACKSON SIGN UP FOR PLANNED LAWSUIT OVER PIPELINE SPILL

 Watch the Video [Lawsuit Planned Over Pipeline Spill](#)



Problems from a huge gasoline spill in Jackson are likely heading to court. So far, over 90 families have signed up with two different law firms in a potential lawsuit against the pipeline company and their operator. The families selected local law firm Habush, Habush and Rottier S.C., and a Baltimore law firm that specializes in gas spills for the legal representation. No lawsuit has been filed yet. Back in July, more than 55,000 gallons of gas leaked from a ruptured pipe under a massive dig site in the Washington County town. The law firms argue only about 2,000 of those gallons of gas have been recovered from the soil. So far benzene, the chemical in gas, has been found at high levels in 26 private wells in the area. Many homes around the spill are still in a drinking water advisory. Residents said back in July they were considering hiring attorneys because they felt their property values and quality of life would never be the same. "You look at the value of your home on Monday and Thursday it's zero,"



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claims Jackson resident John Fenton. "Every day I would walk outside and thank God for this amazingly peaceful place, it's not peaceful anymore," says Jackson resident Sally McComis. "The concern of never being able to return there is a really big concern of mine." Today's TMJ4 reached out to the West Shore Pipe Line company, but they did not return any calls.

Related Links

- [24 private wells contaminated from gasoline spill in Town of Jackson](#)
- [Growing concerns regarding huge gasoline spill in Washington County](#)
- [Problems from gasoline spill in Washington County far from over](#)
- [Four private water wells contaminated from gasoline spill in Washington County](#)

<http://www.todaystmj4.com/news/local/175015811.html>

USA, VA, MONTVALE, OCTOBER 20 2012. COMPANY FINED OVER FUEL SPILL AFTER DEADLY CRASH

The company whose tanker overturned on Route 460 in Montvale earlier this year and spilled fuel will have to pay the state \$16,000. The Department of Environmental Quality fined Watts Petroleum for the deadly accident that happened in May. The initial fine was more than \$43,000. But Watts agreed to pay \$16,000 within 30 days as part of a settlement. The rest of the fine will be waived as long as the company performs additional cleanup and monitors nearby water. The eastbound lanes of Route 460 were closed after that accident for four months.

<http://www.wset.com/story/19866081/company-fined-over-fuel-spill-after-deadly-crash>

USA, MS, MANTACHIE, OCTOBER 20 2012. 2 YEAR OLD CHILD HOSPITALIZED WITH SEVERE BURNS >> SPILT GAS TANK FLAMES OVER CHILD

A Mantachie child has been hospitalized after suffering severe burns, Thursday night. Two-year-old Gabriel Wiggington is being treated at a burn center in Georgia after reportedly suffering second and third degree burns to more than 60 percent of his body. According to Kirk Reese with the Mantachie Fire Department, firemen responded to a call from a home on Peck Road in the Shiloh Community at around 7:50 p.m., where Wiggington's grandfather was reportedly burning the gasoline out of a gas tank when the accident occurred. Believing the fire to be extinguished, Wiggington's grandfather turned the tank on its side, spilling flames atop the child. Wiggington was initially carried to the North Mississippi Medical Center in Tupelo via ambulance but was then transferred to the Georgia treatment facility. Officials are still investigating the fire.

http://www.itawamba360.com/view/full_story/20549658/article-Child-hospitalized-with-severe-burns?instance=home_news_right

USA, IN, INDIANAPOLIS, OCTOBER 20 2012. BOMB SQUAD CALLED TO GAS STATION AFTER PERSON SETS SELF ON FIRE

The bomb squad has been called to a gas station in the Castleton area after a person set fire to themselves. Officers were called to the Speedway gas station at 82nd and Allisonville just after 9 a.m. Friday on a report that someone had set themselves on fire there. The bomb squad was investigating a report of explosives in a vehicle at the station. Westbound 82nd Street was closed while the bomb squad was checking the vehicle, but had reopened just before noon, emergency officials said.

http://www.wishtv.com/dpp/news/local/marion_county/bomb-squad-called-to-gas-station-after-person-sets-self-on-fire

USA, FLA, WEST PALM BEACH, OCTOBER 20 2012. FORMER TORRINGTON COP TO SEEK DAMAGES FOR FLORIDA SHELL GAS STATION BURNS

ricky campbell

A former Torrington man and Palm Beach County Sheriff's Deputy may seek punitive damages against gas station corporation Circle K and Shell Oil after a 2009 fiery motorcycle accident that left him with more than 60 percent of his body covered in burns. Richard Ragali, now 55, was taken to intensive care after his Harley-Davidson motorcycle fell over at a gas pump and into a puddle of fuel left by a previous customer, igniting the bike and Ragali. Reports indicate that store management had repeatedly poured "kitty litter" onto the spill, instead of making an emergency repair or cleaning the liquid up completely. The fumes from Ragali's motorcycle likely ignited the fuel. Reports state that a bystander assisted Ragali during the Oct. 2, 2009 incident in Marathon, Fla., and he was taken to Miami's Jackson Memorial Hospital, where he was remained in critical



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condition for six weeks. Last week, a Florida judge denied a motion by Shell Oil Co.; Shell Oil Products Co., LLC.; Circle K Stores, Inc.; and Motiva Enterprises, Inc. to reconsider punitive damages to Ragali. A statement by Ragali's legal representation said they may now amend the complaint of "willful and wanton disregard of public safety by Circle K/Shell Oil in its failure to repair a dangerous gas pump" and seek damages for their client. Ragali is being represented in Florida's 16th Circuit Court by Searcy Denney Scarola Barnhart & Shipley, P.A., who specialize in victims of negligence, defective products and corporate wrongdoing. Judge Ruth L. Becker is presiding over the case, and made the most recent announcement on Oct. 9. A Torrington native and son of a retired city police officer, Ragali graduated Oliver Wolcott Technical High School and served briefly at Torrington Police Department before joining the Palm Beach County Sheriff's office in 1982.

<http://www.registercitizen.com/articles/2012/10/18/news/doc5080d8c946507239854076.txt>

AUSTRALIA, QUEENSLAND, NARANGBA, OCTOBER 20 2012. EXPLOSION AT BORAL ASPHALT SITE

jorge branco

 **Watch the Video** [Smoke Billows from a Bitumen Tanker at Narangba](#)

 **Photo Gallery [7]** [Explosion at Boral Site](#)



Flames erupted and smoke billowed from an exploded bitumen tanker at this Boral Asphalt site in Narangba.

A nearby tanker containing fuel, LPG and more bitumen was also in danger of catching alight before fire crews brought the blaze under control. A large explosion rocked the industrial estate off Boundary Road at Narangba early this afternoon as flames engulfed a bitumen tanker at the Boral Asphalt plant. This video was contributed by a witness. Rowan Carnes was working at the mill across the road when he heard the explosion. "It sounded like a tyre had popped on my forklift," he said. "Next thing you know all the boys were pointing over this way and there's big smoke and flames coming out. "It was quite large. Everyone in the whole mill, right across to the other side of the mill, could feel

the concussion from it." Karen Wintle said via facebook that she felt the impact at her work kilometres away in Deception Bay. There were 21 workers on-site when the explosion took place, including six in the immediate vicinity of the blaze but none were injured. The Boral workers were all evacuated along with more than 100 employees from neighbouring plants. A Department of Community Services spokesperson confirmed the explosion took place at about 12.20pm. Several police and ambulance vehicles as well as 25 fire-fighters attended in four fire trucks rushed to the scene. Acting Inspector Jeff Barker, from Burpengary Command, said crews were able to see large volumes of smoke en-route and the tanker was well engulfed when they first arrived. "There had actually been an explosion in the bitumen tank, which contained approximately 8000 litres of bitumen," he said. "We were able to contain the fire in the tanker and therefore bring it under control. "It's all been contained within the site. We've had environmental agencies here to control the runoff." Act Insp Barker said the workers "in close proximity" to the explosion were "very lucky" to escape. "The explosion was quite substantial as far as I understand, with a fireball," he said. "(There was) thick black smoke, we were lucky that the wind direction took it away from any neighbouring properties." Superintendent David Tucker from Redcliffe Police District said it was still unclear what caused the explosion and Boral would be fully investigating the incident. "Everything has the potential (to become very serious) but obviously the plant has acted appropriately under the circumstances and all the plans have been enacted beautifully."

<http://www.caboolturenews.com.au/news/explosion-boral-asphalt-site/1557945/>

AUSTRALIA, VICTORIA, WARRNAMBOOL, OCTOBER 20 2012 ASPHALT PLANT EXPLOSION LEAVES WORKER IN HOSPITAL

A man in his 40's received burns to his arms and face when a mixing chamber exploded and caught on fire. The incident happened just before 9am yesterday at an Asphalt plant in Warrnambool. The plant mixes together hot sand and cement and the CFA that attended said that one of the mixing chambers containing tar and diesel had overheated and caught on fire. He added that there was an explosion prior to the fire. The injured worker received burns to approximately 20% of his body and was transported to the Warrnambool hospital.

<http://tinyurl.com/9xn2a8y>



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AUSTRALIA, NEW SOUTH WALES, SYDNEY, OCTOBER 20 2012. SAFETY ALERT - CLEANING SOLVENTS AND THINNERS



This safety alert is about the adverse health effects of volatile solvents and thinners. All volatile solvents have the potential to cause a person to lose consciousness, and suffer a cardiac arrhythmia and possibly death when used in an enclosed or poorly ventilated area. Toluene xylene, hexane, methyl ethyl ketone, naphthalene, and other petroleum-based solvents have been implicated in deaths. Other chemicals present in proprietary thinners can greatly increase skin absorption causing or exacerbating toxic effects.

Background

A young worker died while using a volatile solvent to clean the inside of a boat's hull. The solvent vapours were inhaled and the solvent absorbed through the skin causing the young worker to lose consciousness and

die due to cardiac arrhythmias.

Contributing Factors

The solvent was similar to paint thinners. It had a combination of volatile ingredients that made it easy to inhale vapours and the solvent was readily absorbed through the skin. The boat hull had no ventilation to remove the solvent vapours. No appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) was worn, such as a respiratory mask or gloves.

Additional Risks

Vapours from some solvents can create a hazardous atmosphere, which may lead to a fire or explosion if ignition sources are present.

Action Required

A person controlling a business or undertaking (PCBU) must:

- Manage the risk to health and safety associated when using, handling, generating or storing a hazardous chemical at a workplace, as outlined in clause 351 of the Work Health and Safety Regulation 2011 (WHS Regulation).
- Ensure that information, training and instruction on the risks associated with the use of volatile solvents and thinners is provided to workers, as outlined in clause 39 of the WHS Regulation.
- Ensure that a current safety data sheet (SDS) is readily accessible to any worker who uses a hazardous chemical, as outlined in clause 344 of the WHS Regulation.
- Ensure that no-one at the workplace is exposed to airborne concentrations of hazardous chemicals that exceed the exposure standard, as outlined in clause 49 of the WHS Regulation.
- Provide appropriate PPE, as per the requirements of clauses 44-47 of the WHS Regulation.
- Ensure there are no ignition sources present, such as lighting or electrical equipment that is not designed for safe use in hazardous atmospheres, as outlined in clauses 51, 52 and 355 of the WHS Regulation.
- Follow the requirements outlined in clauses 62-77 of the WHS Regulation if the work is undertaken in a confined space.

Risk Control Measures

- Substitute the solvent-based cleaner with a water-based cleaner.
- Ensure there is enough ventilation to keep the solvent vapours below the Australian Exposure Standard (ES).
- Read the SDS to determine what PPE is necessary to prevent absorption, and what engineering controls are appropriate.
- Train workers on how to use PPE.
- For areas that are enclosed or partially enclosed, stand outside the area and use a long-handled mop to clean the confined area.
- Ensure there are no ignition sources when using solvents in an enclosed or partially enclosed area, as there is potential for creating a hazardous atmosphere.

Additional Information

- AS 2865: 2009 Working in confined spaces
- AS/NZ 60079.10.1: 2009: Explosive atmospheres – classification of areas – explosive gas atmospheres (IEC 60079-10-1, Ed.1.0 (2008) MOD)



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- AS/NZ 1715: 2009 Selection, use and maintenance of respiratory protective equipment
- Australian Exposure Standards at safeworkaustralia.gov.au
- WHS Regulation

http://www.workcover.nsw.gov.au/formspublications/publications/Documents/cleaning_solvents_and_thinners_3824.pdf

USA, CA, GOLETA, OCTOBER 21 2012. TANKER TRUCK DRIVER PREVENTS MAJOR FIRE ON HIGHWAY 101

tom bolton

A big-rig driver averted a major disaster late Friday night when his truck caught fire on Highway 101 near Goleta, according to the Santa Barbara County Fire Department. The trucker was hauling some 8,700 gallons of gasoline from Southern California to Lompoc shortly after 11:30 p.m., when he noticed a fire in the tractor portion of his rig, said Fire Department spokesman Vince Agapito. The driver pulled to the side of northbound Highway 101 near the Turnpike Road exit, and separated the tanker portion of the rig, Agapito said. "The action of the driver prevented the tanker portion from igniting," Agapito noted. Firefighters were able to quickly extinguish the blaze, which began in the rear wheels of the big-rig's tractor unit, Agapito said. The northbound freeway lanes were closed down for about 20 minutes while firefighters controlled the fire. No injuries were reported. Cause of the blaze was not reported.

http://www.noozhawk.com/article/101912_tanker_truck_driver_prevents_major_fire_on_highway_101/

INDIA, MUMBAI, OCTOBER 21 2012. TANKER RUNS OVER 15-YEAR-OLD CYCLING ON ANDHERI ROAD

A 15-year-old boy, who was riding a bicycle on the wrong side of the road in Chandivli, Andheri(East), was crushed to death after being run over by a tanker on Thursday afternoon. The deceased, Chandan Gupta, fell off the bicycle after the oncoming tanker knocked him down. The driver of the tanker, which was headed in the direction of Saki Naka, was unable to stop the speeding vehicle in time. "The boy, who came under the left rear tyre, died on the spot," said senior inspector Bajirao Bhosle of Powai police station. "A few bystanders took the boy to a nearby hospital where he was declared dead." Chandan, a school student, lived in the same locality with his parents – his father is a labourer and his mother is a homemaker. Soon after the accident, the driver of the tanker, Yatin Shaikh, 38, fled the mishap site, fearing he would be targeted by the crowd which had gathered at the spot. "The driver, who later surrendered at Powai police station, was arrested and has been charged with causing death due to rash and negligent driving," said Bhosle.

http://www.dnaindia.com/mumbai/report_tanker-runs-over-15-year-old-cycling-on-andheri-road_1754271

USA, ALA, TUSCALOOSA, OCTOBER 21 2012. GAS PUMP LOCATIONS SPARK DEBATE IN TUSCALOOSA

 [Watch the Video Gas Pump Locations Spark Debate](#)

The Forest Lake Neighborhood Association is upset about an amendment that changes where gas pumps can be placed in the recovery zone. The Tuscaloosa Forward plan is the city's strategy on how to rebuild in the tornado path. In the plan there is a section requiring gas stations to put their pumps on the back part of the property. An amendment came before council that would allow pumps to be on the front section of the property. An empty lot with old slab showing is "the norm" on Fifteenth Street in Tuscaloosa. One developer wants to turn the property into a restaurant, gas station, pharmacy, and doctor's office. The developer encouraged an amendment that would allow him to build this five million dollar project with gas pumps on the front of the property. The Forest Lake neighborhood is within walking distance from the project site. The neighborhood association president said, they weren't necessarily opposed to the gas pump location specifically, but more that the Tuscaloosa forward plan is being amended again. Forest Lake Neighborhood Association President Robert Kemp said, "Issues of private ownership, property issues, are going to exist through here. There have been a lot of fears especially for homeowners here in the Forest Lake neighborhood about how the city might come through and use some of the property." Council approved the amendment that allows gas stations in the tornado recovery zone to put pumps on the front of the property. Any other gas station that wants to put pumps on the front must be able 300 feet from another gas station like the one that sparked the debate that also has pumps on the front. Councilman Kip Tyner voted in favor of the change. It's the changes specifically that he hopes to continue to see in the Tuscaloosa forward plan. Tyner said, "I'd expected it to be changed. This isn't the last time. There will be other times. There may be an amendment to that amendment. You know as long as you pretty much stay on course you're going to have some things that you're going to have to tweak and frankly that's the only reason I voted for it in the first place." With amendments still in discussion from the neighborhood association and from councilman Tyner, this might



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not be the last change in the tornado recovery. The property where the new gas station is proposed use to be home to Honeybaked Ham Company and Smoothie King.

<http://www2.alabamas13.com/news/2012/oct/19/3/gas-pumo-locations-spark-debate-tuscaloosa-ar-4789950/>

USA, MN, ORONO, OCTOBER 21 2012. CAMPER TIRE EXPLODES, SENDS MECHANIC TO THE HOSPITAL

 [Watch the Video Camper Tire Explodes](#)

An auto shop worker is recovering Friday, after a bizarre accident on the job. The worker was checking out the tires on a camper at the Amstar on Shoreline Drive in Orono, when one of the tires exploded. The owner of a camper and one of the mechanics were using an air hose when it blew up. Mechanic Brady Lobitz was working on a car inside the station, when he heard something outside that shook the entire building. "It was very loud, sounded like a bomb," he said. He went outside and saw two men on the ground. "Because of the concussion of it, it blew us back and we were wondering if all of our parts were attached," said Jim Cleary, the camper owner. Cleary was trying to put air in one of the inside tires of the truck as it has rear duals. "We were just filling it, when the tire exploded," Cleary said. "My hand was close to the tire, and blew us both back about four feet." The mechanic helping Cleary was taken to the hospital. Metal shavings from the tire hit the mechanic just below the eye. He'll be OK, and he'll regain his hearing in a week, doctors said. The camper's tire was old and worn out and Cleary hadn't changed it in seven years. Experts say at that age, you should just replace tires rather than fill them up as they can become dangerous.

<http://minnesota.cbslocal.com/2012/10/19/camper-tire-explodes-sends-mechanic-to-the-hospital/>

USA, WASHINGTON DC, OCTOBER 21 2012. NIGERIANS' SEARCH FOR JUSTICE FROM SHELL LANDS IN US SUPREME COURT

ameto akpe



Sebastian Kpalap in Oghale village. The whole area is contaminated due to repeated oil spills. Kpalap points to a spot near his house where soldiers with guns harassed him while a technical crew inspected an oil spill on his land. "Some members of this Oghale community were shot dead for merely passing on this pipeline to their farm land," he said.

Solomon Mnaa, a cassava farmer in the Ogoni region of Nigeria's oil-rich Niger Delta, says he was accosted on his way to the farm by "a gang of soldiers" led by the infamous Lieutenant Colonel Paul Okuntimo, head of the regional Internal Security Task-force. "They stopped me, collected my machete and they cut me," he said, slowly taking his shirt off to reveal the scars on his back.

Tambari Anamakiri, a former farmhand who is now unemployed, was also beaten and humiliated by Okuntimo's thugs. "I was stripped naked in front of the whole village, beaten till I fainted, then kept in the prison at Kpor for one week three days. They said I was a member of MOSOP (Movement for the Survival of the Ogoni People). Okuntimo said he will shoot me at midnight," he recalled. Joseph Wogobe, a retired civil servant, had his mouth bashed with the butt of a gun during a security forces raid on the annual Ogoni day festival. "They dragged me down the coal-tarred road. Blood streamed down my body. Then they dumped me in their car boot and took me to Kpor. I was kept there without any care for 12 days. I was sure I would die," he said. Their stories mirror the testimonies of many others in the Ogoni region including the 12 plaintiffs of the *Kiobel v. Royal Dutch Shell* case currently before the United States Supreme Court. Shell is accused of abetting human rights violations and faces allegations of conspiring with Nigerian military personnel to commit crimes during the 1990s, notably the torture and execution of the "Ogoni Nine"—Barinem Kiobel, a former state government commissioner, Ken Saro-Wiwa and seven others arrested in May 1994 by the military regime. Shell insists it had no financial relationship with the Nigerian military, although it admits "it paid 'field allowances' on two occasions." However, there is little doubt that the international oil companies in Nigeria not only sponsor military personnel in the Niger Delta, but they also use their immense resources to manipulate government officials. In 2010, secret cables from the U.S. embassy in Abuja spoke of Shell's "tight grip" on the nation. A report in August from oil industry watchdog, Platform, based on leaked Shell documents, reveals that nearly \$383 million was doled out by Shell between 2007 and 2009 for protecting its interests in the Niger Delta. About \$65 million of this sum funded 1,300 armed forces drawn from "the Nigerian military and the infamous 'kill



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and go' police. These personnel are often described as being on 'special duties,'" the report said. Generally, armed military personnel selected to be on "special duties" either work with oil companies or banks, or they are sent to conflict areas like the Niger Delta or northern Nigeria. Thus, an organization with a documented history of violence and human right abuses meets a ready flow of cash, facilitating continuous conflict in the region. Sebastian Kpalap lives in Oghale village, an Ogoni area crisscrossed by pipelines where tensions still run high. He points to an area a few meters away and says, "It's a common occurrence. Some members of this Oghale community were shot dead for merely passing on this pipeline to their farm land. The task force men guarding the pipelines shoot them." In the early 1990s, MOSOP, a group established by Saro-Wiwa, initiated and sustained massive public campaigns, protesting against Shell and the company's abuse and devastation of Ogoni lands. Thousands died between 1993 and 1994 as the Nigerian military forces retaliated against Ogoni villages. "The killing was done by Nigerian government but it was Shell that brought in soldiers to unleash mayhem on the people," said Stevyn Obodoekwe of the Center for Environment, Human Rights and Development (CEHRD), a civil society organization active in Ogoni. "Shell and the Nigerian government were working hand in glove. Crimes were committed, everybody knew it, so Shell is only making a mockery of itself saying 'we did nothing' because the world knows." Sadly, though the world does seem to know, very little has changed for the Ogoni since the oil companies continue business as usual. Obodoekwe, reflecting the general pessimism of many Nigerians, said he doesn't see Shell or any of the other major oil companies becoming more accountable for their activities. "The thing is there is no government to stand up to them. When we have a government with the political will to say 'behave or pack out,' then you will see them living up to proper corporate accountability," he argued. Emmanuel Alozie, a mathematics teacher and activist known here as "the Spirit of Ogoni," has his own tale of abuse and torture at the hands of the Nigerian armed forces, but he also points a finger at some of the leaders of the Ogoni people. According to Alozie, Shell's ample resources mean the company can buy silence and buy witnesses. He alleges that some youth leaders, all the chiefs and the traditional rulers in Ogoni were "bought" by Shell and the Nigerian military government. "They betrayed us," says Alozie, "Before my eyes Nzide, the majesty of Nyo-Khana, sent a bottle of hot drink and four wraps of alligator pepper to the soldiers at Sogho where I had been detained and he told them to kill me because I was one of the Saro-Wiwas. They asked me to sit in some stagnant water. They beat me and taunted me. They said Saro-Wiwa was deceiving us. That they would kill the entire Ogoni people and that we would not achieve our aim. "The truth is not hidden," said Alozie. "Shell is as guilty as the Nigerian state." In the village of Kpor, where Barinem Kiobel's family lives, the sun sets on the calm beauty of the region's rich vegetation. The sweet evening breeze masks the village's history of violence and the present plight of its residents. Sitting in her austere living room, Kiobel's stepmother recounts her family's tragedy. She points at a picture of her late husband and Barinem's father, Jim Kiobel. She says he died in 2011 still mourning the son who was the main source of material support for his family. None of his siblings could continue their schooling after he was killed, she adds. Esther Kiobel, the widow of Barinem, and the other plaintiffs in the Kiobel v. Shell case hope to prove in U.S. courts under the Alien Tort Statute (ATS) that Shell was complicit in human rights abuses against the Ogoni people ([VIDEO](#)). Their lawyers argue that the ATS allows foreigners to bring civil suits against corporations to U.S. courts for violations of international law. "The case was taken to the U.S. because Shell is part of the Nigerian government. We want a fair judgment. We want his name cleared," asserts Darituka Kiobel, Barinem's brother. "What has happened has happened. But at least let us know that he did not die in vain." In Nigeria, the prevalent perception is that judges are easily bribed and the courts can't be trusted to deliver fair judgments. "So very few people actually have the financial muscle or confidence to go up against a seeming superpower like Shell," says Vivian Bello of Social Action, an organization promoting citizen participation in policy issues. When asked for its official position on the Kiobel v. Shell case, the Ministry of Justice's spokesman Ambrose Momoh said there was none, as the case "does not mention the Nigerian government." Most of Nigeria's vast oil wealth comes from the Ogoni region, also known as Ogoniland. Companies like Shell, Chevron and ExxonMobil have made billions of dollars in oil revenue and have, in turn, enriched one Nigerian administration after the other, yet the Ogoni people live in poverty. There are no roads, pipe-borne water or proper health care. Farmlands have been damaged by repeated oil spills; surface and ground water poisoned; aquatic life destroyed. Central to the palpable tension in Ogoniland is the absence of a clear and strategic response from government to the long term problems in Ogoni. "The government is criminally silent on these issues," says Obodoekwe. "All they want is for oil money to keep flowing. When there is any attempt to stop oil from flowing they bring in soldiers and crush the people. They don't care, they don't inhale the polluted air or drink the poisoned water, and they don't feel the pains the people feel. All they see in Ogoni is oil, they don't see human beings." The Supreme Court decided to rehear the Kiobel case on Oct. 1, which coincidentally marks Nigeria's 52nd independence anniversary. The Court has broadened the issue and is asking whether the ATS applies to cases that arise on foreign soil at all. The Obama administration is backing Shell. Lawyers



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at Earth Rights International (ERI), a Washington-based human rights law nonprofit, says it is disturbing that the U.S. Supreme Court appears to be on the verge of shielding corporations like Shell from legal responsibility for their abuses in developing countries. "Eliminating one of the few paths to justice for people who have suffered through the most egregious human rights abuses would, in itself, be tragic and offensive," the group said. Nodding toward a sign posted a few yards from his house that simply reads "Contaminated Land," Kpalap, the man from Oghale village, says, "We need some vindication and that is what the Kiobel case means for me and for many of my kinsmen." But then he asks, somewhat wistfully, "When gold rusts what should iron do? If we can't get justice in the U.S. that claims to be champions of human rights and democracy, where would we get justice?"

<http://pulitzercenter.org/reporting/nigerians-justice-us-supreme-court-kiobel-shell-oil-ogoni>

USA, ILL, CHANNAHON, OCTOBER 21 2012. GASOLINE RELEASE AT JOLIET-AREA EXXON MOBIL REFINERY SLICKENS ROADS

bob okon

 **Photo's [6]** [Gasoline Release at Exxon Mobil Refinery](#)

An airborne release of oily substance from the ExxonMobil Refinery spread east as far as five miles away on Friday, shutting down a major road and landing on at least some houses in Elwood. ExxonMobil described the substance as "gasoline and heavier material" but said they did not believe it caused any health hazards. The material released at 9 a.m. made Arsenal Road so slippery that it was shut down for the rest of the day and was expected to remain closed until midnight. The road was shut down from I-55, where the refinery is located, to Illinois 53. Kelsey Hirmer, a resident in the Noel Estates subdivision near Illinois 53 and Arsenal Road, said some houses there had been coated with the oil, including hers. "The roof was covered with oil," Hirmer said. "It's on patio furniture. It's all over the yard." Her neighbor's house, she said, "looked like someone took a power sprayer and sprayed oil on it."

 **Related Links** [ExxonMobil Statement](#)

<http://heraldnews.suntimes.com/15842943-417/gasoline-release-at-joliet-area-exxon-mobil-refinery-slickens-roads.html>

USA, LA, BARATARIA BAY, OCTOBER 21 2012. EXXON FIXING CRUDE LINE AFTER OIL SHEEN IN LOUISIAN

ExxonMobil Pipeline Company said on Friday it had shut down a 12-inch pipeline carrying crude after finding an oil sheen in the water near Barataria Bay, Louisiana. Exxon said it planned to resume its operations later on Friday after repairs. The pipeline carries Heavy Louisiana Sweet crude from Empire in the state's southernmost Plaquemines Parish to Raceland in Lafourche Parish.

http://articles.chicagotribune.com/2012-10-19/business/sns-rt-us-exxon-louisiana-sheenbre89i1cj-20121019_1_oil-sheen-crude-line-heavy-louisiana-sweet-crude

WA, VANCOUVER, CLARK COUNTY, CAMP BONNEVILLE, OCTOBER 21 2012. CLEANUP WORK PROGRESSES AT CAMP BONNEVILLE >> PROJECT IS BACK ON TRACK ON COUNTY LAND PEPPERED WITH DECADES OF ARMY MUNITIONS

erik hidle



A danger sign warns of potential explosives in the Central Impact Area of Camp Bonneville, where 105 mm and 155 mm projectiles were once fired. At top, flags mark spots where ordnance detection teams detected metal underground and had to dig on the Parade Ground.

Sitting in an all-terrain vehicle near the center of a former Camp Bonneville firing range, Clark County engineer Jerry Barnett sees both the past and future of the site. The range, roughly the size of two football fields, is lined with old concrete blocks once used to prop up targets gussied up as Soviet soldiers. The spot was intended for machine gun use, for U.S. Army target practice up to 1,000 meters. But as cleanup crews removed old munitions from the site over the past few years, it became clear the location had been used to try out all types of explosives. In



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fact, all the camp's fields — even the parade grounds — were used for a hodgepodge of ways to blow things up. The site was an active range between 1909 and 1995. Crews have found everything from World War I-era mortars to 35 mm subcaliber rockets popular in the 1970s littered across the camp's 3,840 acres. There's a chance of discovering World War II-era rockets, which are particularly pesky because the practice and high explosive rounds look nearly identical. There are grenades, fixed artillery rounds and other things that go "boom," with manufacture dates reaching back to the early 1900s. Specialists cleaning the site say digging into the grounds of Camp Bonneville is like delving into a munitions history book. You just never know what chapter you're going to turn to. But seven years from now, the plan is to have an RV camping site where machine guns once shredded targets. To the south, there may be an equestrian center. An amphitheater is tentatively planned just to the east. "Nothing is certain," said Barnett, the project manager at the camp. "We need to revisit the expected use, but these things have been talked about." The real goal, Barnett says, is the same as it's always been: Get the site "open to the public." For the past five months, about 30 explosive ordnance disposal experts from Weston Solutions Inc. have worked to get the county closer to that goal. Hired by Clark County this year to reboot the cleanup effort at the explosives-riddled camp, Weston is tasked with clearing out Phase One of the 3,840-acre, mostly forested land on the east side of Clark County. The first of four planned cleanup phases, the work encompasses 449 acres of the lowest points of the camp. It requires crews to dig 14 inches deep to remove explosives, and it's expected to take until June 2014. The entire effort is expected to be complete by 2019. The U.S. Army has agreed to pay Weston just under \$7 million for this first phase. The Army is paying Clark County a bit more to manage the cleanup. The work involves scanning the earth with machines that map underground anomalies, planting hundreds of colored flags and then carefully digging up the spots where there might be bombs. The goal is to remove both dangerous explosives, which could maim or kill, and spent munitions, which can taint the land with chemical runoff. "What makes this site so unique is, there is a little bit of everything here," said George Overby, project manager for Weston. "From 14.5 mm rounds up to the big 105 mm (ammunition). It's a wide variety." About 1 percent of the explosives that crews discover are active, and when those types are discovered, they're often detonated on the spot. There's no need to salvage an old bomb still seeking to fulfill its purpose of destroying something. "All our people are ex-military EOD (explosive ordnance disposal)," Overby said. "They know what they're doing. A lot of people think you're out there poking at the ground with a stick, but there is a lot of science to it. And, yes, you have to be careful." Carefulness is key for the county — not just in the physical act of removal, but also with the fiscal oversight of the project. Cleanup came to a halt in 2009 when then-project-lead Mike Gage declared the Army had misrepresented the amount of work to be done at the base. The Army told the county it should expect to find about "15 or 20" devices, said county munitions safety adviser Greg Johnson. "Between (October of) 2006 and when work stopped in (September of) 2009 ... they pulled out around 1,500," Johnson said. Officials say they have stopped even trying to guess the volume of ordnance on the site. The Army had agreed to pay Gage's nonprofit, Bonneville Conservation Restoration and Renewal Team, \$28.6 million for cleanup work across the entire camp. But when work stopped, Gage fell under criticism by the Army for squandering funds on opulently priced meals, picking up bar tabs and purchasing gift boxes. In May 2010, the county terminated the contract with Gage, and for nearly two years Camp Bonneville went uncleaned. Now the county has a new deal. "With Weston, it's a limited scope. The first phase is just the valley floor," said Pete Capell, county public works director. "That way, we have the option to hire them for more if the first phase goes well." Capell said that while the payment is still a fixed-price model, the limited scope of work gives the county more control over spending at the site. Barnett said the county is currently preparing to estimate costs for Phase Two of cleanup, which will include more-heavily used areas. He said the Army will be paying for all four phases.

<http://www.columbian.com/news/2012/oct/19/clean-up-work-progresses-at-camp-bonneville-projec/>

INDIA, PUNE, OCTOBER 21 2012. LOW-INTENSITY EXPLOSION CREATES PANIC IN VADGAON MAVAL >> AMMONIUM CHLORIDE & COPPER SULPHATE

A low-intensity explosion near the main bazaar road created panic in [Vadgaon Maval](#) on Friday afternoon. The blast occurred around 12.15 pm. No one was injured. Police officials who rushed to the spot found that pellets used by nomadic tribes to hunt pigs had caused the explosion. Superintendent of police (Pune rural) [Manoj Lohiya](#) said, "The incident took place in one of the tenements belonging to a nomadic family from Madhya Pradesh, who arrived in Vadgaon Maval around three days ago. They had illegally stored ammonium nitrate powder and Navsagar, a chemical adulterant used to make illicit liquor. They use the material to hunt pigs." He said, "The nomadic tribes prepare pellets by mixing ammonium nitrate powder and Navsagar. Pigs die after consuming these pellets. The blast did not take place due to gelatine sticks, as we were earlier informed. The pellets



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were kept near a stove and exploded due to the heat." "We have seized the materials from one tenement. Two people were detained for questioning. We have registered a case under relevant sections of the Explosive Substances Act," he added.
<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/pune/Low-intensity-explosion-creates-panic-in-Vadgaon-Maval/articleshow/16885193.cms>

ENGLAND, SUSSEX, UCKFIELD, OCTOBER 21 2012. PETROL TANKER CRASHES NEAR UCKFIELD



Emergency services were called to an incident on the A26 near Little Horsted this morning after a car collided with a petrol tanker. The incident happened at 06:10 and the road was shut for a short time before being reopened at around 07:00 after emergency services confirmed that no fuel had spilled from the petrol tanker. A petrol tanker was involved in a crash near Uckfield. One person was trapped in the car and had to be released by firefighters before being taken to hospital. Sussex Police said the driver of the car was arrested on suspicion of a driving offence.

<http://www.thisissussex.co.uk/Petrol-tanker-crashes-near-Uckfield/story-17134965-detail/story.html>

USA, N.Y, NEW YORK, OCTOBER 21 2012. OIL SPILL CAUSES HEADACHES ON WEST 56TH STREET



Hell's Kitchen — Tenants are fuming after an oil spill released thousands of gallons of heating oil in the basement of a West 56th Street building — and days of cleanup have brought loud, idling trucks with smelly fumes.

The spill happened on Monday, when a crew was pumping No. 4 heating oil into the rear sub-basement of the [Sheffield Building](#) at 322 W. 57th St. The building was in the process of converting its heating system from No. 6 heating oil to No. 4, which is cleaner, but its system was not ready to accept the huge load of fuel, according to a spokesman for the state [Department of Environmental Conservation](#), which is overseeing the cleanup. "It wasn't really built to catch as much as was coming in, so a bunch got into the basement floor itself," said the spokesman, Rodney Rivera. Rivera said "a few thousand gallons" had been spilled and the cleanup was ongoing, but there was no immediate danger to neighbors. Rivera added that some of the oil overflowed into the sewer system,

but that it would be cleaned out by the city's water purification system. "With the exception of inconvenience and a dirty sub-basement, there's nothing that's going to be of any concern to any residents in the immediate area," he said. But neighbors said the cleanup has been nothing but a mess, with loud trucks outside their windows and crews working 24 hours a day. "Trucks have been here nonstop since Monday," said Molly Wulkowicz, who lives across the street from the spill, on West 56th Street between Eighth and Ninth avenues. "That means hours of nonstop fumes and both the exhaust of the trucks and the fuel." Wulkowicz said her 6-year-old daughter, who has asthma, had been suffering from a hacking cough since the spill. "There's a filter in her room, but there's only so much we can do," she said. According to the DEC, three companies were involved in the spill and its cleanup: Leardon Boiler Works was converting the fuel tanks, Rite Way Tank Maintenance was cleaning them, and the oil itself came from the Hess Corporation. Rite Way has since been involved in the spill cleanup. This is not the first time residents on West 56th Street has had trouble with the company. Over the summer, the company often had trucks idling for eight hours or more on the block, residents said. The problem got so bad that Councilwoman Gale Brewer's office wrote to the city's [Department of Environmental Protection](#) in hope that it would investigate. "The fumes and smokes have been terrible since then," since Wulkowicz. "The first day it came in August, there were plumes of smoke and the entire block emptied out. A spokesman for the Sheffield's management said that its staff were cooperating with the DEC and DEP to the best of their ability. According to a spokesman, the DEP issued a cleanup order to the Sheffield's management and issued a violation because oil leaked into the sewer. As of Friday, the DEC was still investigating the spill, but did not assign blame to



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any of the companies involved. "There was no real fault, it was just a couple of bad mishaps, but just because it was such an egregious amount spilled, we're still looking into it," Rivera said. Brewer's office said they are looking into the spill, and that it was concerned that so few neighbors had been informed by city agencies and the Sheffield itself. Rivera said the cleanup should be done by Monday, and for the time being the constant noise and fumes is just an unpleasant reality of a much-needed cleanup. "You want to get it done as quickly as possible so there's nothing lingering around," he said. "The longer you let it sit there, the more potential is there for things to get worse."

<http://www.dnainfo.com/new-york/20121019/hells-kitchen-clinton/oil-spill-causes-headaches-on-west-56th-street>

INDIA, TAMIL NADU, COIMBATORE, OCTOBER 21 2012. ACID SPILL POLLUTES AVARAMPALAYAM >> FUMES TRIGGER EYE IRRITATION AND BREATHING DIFFICULTIES



Fire and Rescue Services personnel cleaning up the acid spill at Avarampalayam on Friday.

Formic acid spill in Avarampalayam on Friday afternoon troubled the area residents and also road users. Fire and Rescue Services Department had to rush two tenders to clean the area and contain the damage. According to the Coimbatore City Police, in the spill that happened around noon, the acid that was stored in a 50-litre can spilled when the mini lorry carrying the can and 99 others of the same capacity moved over the speed breaker at the Avarampalayam railway crossing. Fumes from the can quickly spread, triggering irritation in the eyes, difficulty in breathing and vomiting among residents and road users. Road users said they could not drive through the Avarampalayam Pirivu stretch of the Sathyamangalam Road as the irritation in the eyes left them with watery eyes. A passerby said that many motorists stopped their vehicles alongside the road to vomit. The acid comes with a pungent, penetrative odour. Soon after the acid spill information reached their ears, the Fire and Rescue Services Department rushed the first tender from the Ganapathy Fire Station and the second from the Coimbatore South. Divisional Fire Officer N. Subramanian said that the rescue personnel at the tenders spread sand and then washed the affected area with water. The operation took around 40 minutes. Avarampalayam resident J.R. Selvakumar said that for the 30 minutes the acid fumes invaded the area, the residents had a horrible time. Those in the vicinity could not open their eyes as the irritation was beyond explanation. Many elderly residents also experienced breathing difficulties.

Panic

He said the worst part was that they could experience the pungency and irritation but could not identify the smoke or fumes. A few residents panicked and rushed out of their homes. The city police said that the lorry carrying 5,000 litres acid was on its way from a chemicals company in Ganapathy to Udumalpet to be used as a cleaning agent in a poultry there. The police also said that the Ganapathy company had bought the acid from a manufacturing unit in Ranipet, Vellore. The acid spill affected traffic flow in the area.

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Coimbatore/acid-spill-pollutes-avarampalayam/article4015861.ece>

USA, LA, NEW ORLEANS, OCTOBER 21 2012. BP SAYS GULF OIL SHEEN NOT FROM A FRESH LEAK

carol guzy

 **Document** Initial Report: [Fresh Oil Sheen at Deepwater Horizon Site](#)

BP said Thursday that an oil sheen detected in the Gulf of Mexico last month probably came from crude trapped in the giant coffer dam that the company used in a futile attempt to capture the oil that was spilling from a BP well in 2010. The Coast Guard ordered BP and drilling rig operator TransOcean to send a remotely operated vehicle to inspect the well site, which lies one mile beneath the water's surface and 50 miles off the coast of Louisiana. BP said the inspection showed that oil was not leaking from the capped Macondo well, which blew out April 20, 2010, killing 11 men and causing the largest oil spill in U.S. history. BP pointed to the coffer dam — an 86-ton, 40-foot-tall steel containment dome — that was lowered over a leaking pipe



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

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at the Macondo well site in May 2010 in an attempt to funnel the oil to the surface. The effort failed when a mixture of oil and slushy methane hydrates lifted the contraption off the bottom, rendering it useless. BP said Thursday that some of the mixture remained trapped inside the coffer dam, which has been lying on the seafloor. Video taken over three days by the remotely operated vehicle showed "small, intermittent drops of oil coming from an opening at the top and another on one side of the coffer dam," BP said. The company said it would compare samples of the droplets it collected from the opening at the top of the coffer dam with oil from the surface sheen first seen in September. The Coast Guard supervised the ROV inspection. BP said it also examined the 4,500-foot pipe known as the riser and the relief well. It said it did not detect any oil leaks there. BP said it was the third time it had examined the Macondo well since it was sealed in September 2010.

http://www.washingtonpost.com/business/economy/bp-says-recent-gulf-oil-sheen-was-not-a-leak/2012/10/18/5bf387e8-195c-11e2-bd10-5ff056538b7c_story.html

CANADA, ALBA, CALGARY, OCTOBER 21 2012. TRANSCANADA SHUTS KEYSTONE AFTER 'SMALL ANOMALY' FOUND

carrie tait

 [Watch the Video Why Canada needs Northern Gateway and Keystone](#)



TransCanada Corp. has shut down a major pipeline and expects it to be out of commission for three days. The company stopped moving oil through its Keystone pipeline Wednesday after finding "a small anomaly on the outside of the pipe after analyzing the data from an in-line inspection tool," Grady Semmens, a TransCanada spokesman, said in an e-mail Thursday. The Calgary-based company has not detected any leaks on the system but shut it down as a precaution, Mr. Semmens added. TransCanada wants to expand the Keystone network so oil sands crude can reach refineries on Texas' Gulf Coast. President Barack Obama last year delayed making a decision whether to approve the pipeline, and the company has since proposed an alternate route in Nebraska in

order to protect the environmentally delicate Sand Hills region. Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney has said he will immediately approve the Keystone XL, which expands on the existing Keystone network, if he wins the election. Some observers believe Mr. Obama put off making his decision until after the coming November vote to avoid political backlash rather than basing his decision on environmental concerns. "We expect the [Keystone] system to be down for three days before it is re-started," Mr. Semmens said. "Once restart happens we expect normal operations and flows for the remainder of October." Environmentalists have already struck back at TransCanada's most recent pipeline problem, arguing heavy oil pipelines will "eventually fail." "The reason TransCanada needs to keep shutting down Keystone is because pipelines are inherently dangerous," Joe Mendelson, the climate and energy policy director at National Wildlife Federation, said in a statement. "The best approach to our energy challenges isn't building more pipelines, it's embracing clean energy solutions that don't spill or explode." Oil sands producers, as well as companies operating in North Dakota, are keen to have Keystone XL approved because it would increase the price they receive for their crude. There is a glut of oil at Cushing, Okla., one of North America's refining hubs, and that is keeping North American oil prices below the international benchmark. Meanwhile, Enbridge Inc. wants to build a pipeline to Canada's west coast to access Asian markets and Kinder Morgan Inc. wants to expand its Trans Mountain line to a port near Vancouver. This would also jack up the price oil sands producers receive because the crude would eventually reach Asia, where prices are higher. All three pipeline companies face environmental opposition, but also enjoy support from industry and some politicians.

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/globe-investor/transcanada-shuts-keystone-after-small-anomaly-found/article4621291/>

ENGLAND, SOMERSET, OCTOBER 21 2012. FIREWORKS ORGANISER CHARGED WITH SEVEN COUNTS OF MANSLAUGHTER A YEAR AFTER HORRIFIC M5 CRASH

- Geoffrey Counsell, 50, from Somerset, will appear at Bristol Magistrates Court next month accused of seven counts of manslaughter
- Counsell was operating fireworks display at Taunton Rugby Club at the time of the smash on the M5 last November
- Collision described as one of the worst British motorway crashes in memory



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Watch the Video

- [The Scene of the Accident & Police Statement the Day after...](#)
- [Aerial footage of scene of M5 crash](#)



A fireworks organiser has been charged with manslaughter over a crash on the M5 motorway described as one of the worst on British roads. Geoffrey Counsell, 50, from Somerset, will appear at Bristol Magistrates' Court next month accused of seven counts of manslaughter. Anthony and Pamela Adams, Maggie and Michael Barton, Malcolm Beacham, Terry Brice and Kye Thomas died and 51 people were injured in the collision between 34 vehicles on the M5, near Taunton, on November 4, 2011. Counsell was operating a fireworks display at the nearby Bridgwater Carnival at Taunton Rugby Club at the time of the smash on the northbound carriageway. Avon and Somerset Police and the Crown Prosecution Service, said in a joint statement: 'Since the collision we

have worked closely together to thoroughly investigate the circumstances of the collision and to carefully consider all the evidence. 'Having considered the evidence in line with the Code for Crown Prosecutors, the CPS decided there was sufficient evidence to charge Geoffrey Counsell, the provider of the fireworks display at Taunton Rugby Club on the night of the collision, with manslaughter. 'The charges are due to his failings in the planning and operation of the display. 'It was clear from the investigation carried out by Avon and Somerset Police that there was insufficient evidence to prosecute for driver error and therefore no action will be taken against any motorists. 'The CPS also considered the culpability of Taunton Rugby Club and reached the conclusion that there is insufficient evidence for a realistic prospect of conviction.' Counsell will face magistrates on November 12. Lorry drivers Terry Brice, from Patchway, south Gloucestershire, and Kye Thomas, from Gunnislake, Cornwall, died in the crash. Father and daughter Michael and Maggie Barton, from Windsor, Berkshire, grandparents Anthony and Pamela Adams, from Newport, south Wales, and battle re-enactor Malcolm Beacham, from Woolavington, near Bridgwater, were also killed in the pile-up. Among those badly injured in the crash was Emma Barton, 19, who woke from a five-day coma to discover she had been orphaned. Her wheelchair-bound father Michael, 67, and 30-year-old sister Maggie died.

Related Links

- [Miracle of the M5 crash survivor: Girl whose whole family died in motorway horror speaks of her extraordinary recovery... and how she plans to be back in high heels for her wedding](#)
- [Fireworks boss at centre of M5 crash investigation forced to leave home after hate campaign](#)
- [No! With just one word and a single tear, M5 crash girl realises she is an orphan](#)
- [Manslaughter charges for firework operator over M5 crash](#)

A man has been charged with manslaughter following a pile-up on the M5 in which seven people were killed. A further 51 people were injured as 34 vehicles collided in what was described as one of the worst British motorway crashes in memory.

- [M5 crash: fireworks display organiser charged with manslaughter](#)
M5 crash: fireworks display organiser charged with manslaughter. A man who organised a fireworks display near the M5 has been charged with manslaughter following a pile up on the motorway which killed seven people.
- [Man charged over UK motorway pile-up](#)
Geoffrey Counsell, 50, from Somerset, will face court in Bristol next month charged with seven counts of manslaughter.
- [M5 crash deaths: Geoffrey Counsell on manslaughter charges](#)
A man has been charged with seven counts of manslaughter over a pile-up on the M5 in Somerset last year.
- [Man charged with manslaughter over M5 death crash](#)
A Fireworks company boss has been charged with manslaughter after a fatal collision on the M5 in Somerset in November last year.

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2220532/Fireworks-organiser-charged-manslaughter-M5-motorway-deaths.html?ito=feeds-newsxml>



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