



Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network

Release 2013 – 963 Newsy Stuff

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May 23 2013



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USA, N.C, THOMASVILLE, MAY 17 2013. CAR CRASHES INTO FUEL TANKER ON I-85 IN DAVIDSON COUNTY

ryan sullivan

 [Watch the Video Car Crashes Into Fuel Tanker](#)



The northbound lanes of Interstate 85 in Davidson County were temporarily closed on Wednesday due to a wreck involving a tanker truck. Officials say a car struck the back of the tanker around 1:45 a.m. near mile marker 104. Dispatchers say both drivers were taken to the hospital, but their conditions were not clear. The tanker was hauling 8,100 gallons of ethanol. There were no leaks, but the fuel still had to be pumped out of the tanker. One lane of I-85 North was closed during the morning commute. Authorities shut down all northbound lanes around 10:45 a.m. so they could move the fuel. Two of the northbound lanes reopened around 1:45 p.m. It was not clear when the third lane is expected to reopen. No other details about the crash were immediately available.

<http://myfox8.com/2013/05/15/crash-involving-fuel-tanker-closes-lane-of-i-85-north-in-davidson-county/>

CHINA, BEIJING, MAY 17 2013. CHINESE PROTESTERS TAKE TO STREETS IN KUNMING OVER PLANS FOR CHEMICAL PLANT

jonathan kaiman



Residents in Kunming, China, demonstrate against a planned refinery producing paraxylene, a suspected carcinogen.

Thousands of protesters have gathered in the southern Chinese city of Kunming for the second time this month to voice concerns over the environmental impact of a planned chemical plant, underscoring the increasing willingness of China's emerging middle class to challenge government decisions by taking to the streets. Around 2,000 protesters gathered in front of the Yunnan provincial government headquarters in a demonstration which drew a large police presence and began with one arrest, but remained largely non-violent. Kunming's first environmental protest this month was held, without arrests, on 4 May, after China National Petroleum Corporation announced plans to build the chemical plant in

nning, a county seat 18 miles south-west of the city centre. Every year, the refinery would produce 500,000 tonnes of the chemical paraxylene (PX), a suspected carcinogen used in production of polyester, according to the state-run China Daily newspaper. Kunming's municipal government has denied the claim, but residents fear the city's air and water will be polluted. "We don't need speedy development. What we need is a healthy and peaceful country," a Kunming resident, Liu Yuncheng, told the Associated Press. "I still haven't given birth to a baby. I want to be pregnant and I want a healthy baby." China's nimby demonstrations have proliferated in recent years, as its affluent, educated, and tech-savvy rising middle class grows exasperated with the government's "growth-first" development model and shadowy decision-making process. The risks are high – the Chinese government strictly forbids most public protests, and crackdowns on similar demonstrations have been severe. Another "anti-PX" protest earlier this month in Chengdu, the capital of adjacent Sichuan province, was pre-empted by the arrival of hundreds of anti-riot and paramilitary police. Yet experts say that if protesters refrain from challenging the Communist party's grip on power – and if the potential costs of cracking down outstrip those of ceding to public demand – authorities may tread with caution. Chinese people have a "much higher sense of environmental rights" than they have in the past, said Ma Jun, the CEO of the Institute of Public and Environmental Affairs in Beijing. Ma added that Sichuan authorities may have clamped down because the PX plant near Chengdu was already nearing completion. "To my knowledge [the Kunming project] is in an earlier phase, and I think there are still opportunities there for reconsideration," he said. Furthermore, the province is still reeling from a devastating earthquake last month, raising the risk that a mass demonstration could spin out of control. Thursday's demonstrators donned face masks displaying "anti-PX" messages, shouted: "Roll out, protest!" and sang the national anthem in unison, according to firsthand reports on Twitter. Photos posted online show a thick line of police pressed tightly against rows of protesters, many of them documenting the standoff with smartphones and digital cameras. "We cherish blue skies and white clouds, as well as good air. If you want to build a refinery with 10m tonnes of capacity here in the place where we live, we resolutely oppose it," said a Kunming resident who identified herself only by her surname, Liu. "We



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want a good life. We women want to be beautiful," she told the Associated Press. At about 4pm, Kunming's mayor, Li Wenrong, addressed the crowd in a seemingly impromptu press conference. Li promised "equal dialogue", public hearings about the refinery's future, and increased investment in pollution control, the Hong-Kong-based South China Morning Post newspaper reported, adding that some onlookers dismissed his vows as lip service. Li parried censorship-related queries by saying: "All levels of government have good intentions ... but their methods may not always be right," the newspaper reported. "Protest activities only happen on the precondition that the government doesn't offer opportunities for information transparency, dialogue and negotiation," said an influential Kunming-based blogger who uses the name Bianmin, or "frontier person", in an email interview. "If the government clings to its position, the public's resistance will only increase." Concessions to such protests by local governments and state-owned companies are not without precedent. A Shanghai battery manufacturer announced on Wednesday that it would cancel plans for a new plant after hundreds of locals staged three successive protests about its potential environmental impact. In August 2011, a massive protest in the north-eastern city of Dalian led local authorities to announce that they would relocate a polluting PX plant. Last autumn, authorities in Ningbo City, in coastal Zhejiang province, scrapped plans to expand a similar state-owned plant after a week-long demonstration by thousands of aggrieved residents. Li Bo, head of the Beijing-based NGO Friends of Nature, said the recurrence of "anti-PX" demonstrations showed that China's environmental authorities had been slow to learn from past mistakes. "There were various attempts to find out more about this project by citizens in Kunming, but they have had a lot of difficulty getting satisfactory information," Li said. "A lot of worries and doubts have accumulated, which is more or less what happened with the previous PX projects in Dalian and Ningbo."

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2013/may/16/chinese-protesters-kunming-chemical-plant>

USA, FLA, FORT LAUDERDALE, MAY 17 2013. FUEL TANKER COLLIDES WITH SEMI-TRUCK OUTSIDE PORT EVERGLADES

A fuel tanker collided with a semi-truck outside Port Everglades on Thursday morning. The crash happened at Ellen Drive at the entry of the port about 11:50 a.m. No injuries were reported, according to the Broward Sheriff's Office Department of Fire Rescue. Because of how the trucks collided, BSO officials said they were careful to avoid causing a spark when pulling them apart. The tanker was full of fuel. BSO foamed the area around the trucks and pulled them apart without sparking a fire.

<http://www.local10.com/news/fuel-tanker-collides-with-semitruck-outside-port-everglades/-/1717324/20174836/-/pt981cz/-/index.html>

USA, FLA, TARPON SPRINGS, MAY 17 2013. SKIMMERS REMOVING FUEL SPILLED INTO ANCLOTE RIVER DURING BOAT FIRE

brittany alana davis

 **Watch the Video** [4,900 Gallons of Diesel Mix Collected Near Sponge Docks](#)

 **Photo's [11]** [Skimmers Removing Fuel Spilled into Anclote River](#)



The U.S. Coast Guard will continue to roll drum skimmers over the surface of the Anclote River today to soak up the diesel fuel spilled during a boat fire Tuesday night. It took about four hours for the Coast Guard to remove more than 1,500 gallons of the fuel from the water Wednesday, said Coast Guard Petty Officer Eric Garza. "This is unusual, and it doesn't happen very often," he said. "But when it does, the Coast Guard is quick about it." The 85-foot shrimp boat Skye Marie caught fire while it was anchored at the Chevron fuel depot at the city's historic Sponge Docks after being filled with 5,000 gallons of diesel fuel, for a total of 6,000 gallons onboard. The cause of the fire is under investigation. Tom Ericson, 49, manager of Gulf Marine Ways, was relaxing along the docks around 7:30 p.m. Tuesday when he saw flames coming from the top of the boat's cabin.

He called 911 and watched as firefighters battled the blaze until after 1 a.m. "It took them a long time to get the foam going," said Ericson. "Putting water on diesel fuel doesn't do much good." Multiple agencies were involved in the firefight and aftermath, including fire departments from Pinellas and Hillsborough counties, the Coast Guard, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, the state Department of Environmental Protection, Homeland Security and local law enforcement.



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At one point, it appeared firefighters had tamped down the blaze, but then it ballooned. Fuel spilled into the water and spread, and the flames followed it across the river's surface, igniting a dock on the north side of the Anclote. Witnesses said it looked like the river was on fire. From the north side of the river Wednesday, it was easy to see the extent of the damage: The whole side of the Skye Mariewas gutted. The boat was listing, and part of its mast had collapsed onto the shrimp boat Carol Jean, which was anchored beside the Skye Marie on Tuesday and was left scorched by the flames. Workers used a crane Wednesday afternoon to move the Skye Marie and free the Carol Jean. They also placed a floating boom around the Skye Marie to contain leaks, and an environmental cleanup crew dipped white pads into the water to soak up the fuel. The pads, when they were pulled out of the river, were stained red from the fuel. The drum skimmers are more efficient at soaking up the fuel. City Manager Mark LeCouris said any contamination will be cleaned up, but he wasn't sure who would have to pay the cost. Wally Ericson, Tom's father, said as he and his son watched the fire worsen Tuesday night, they decided to move their own 65-foot boat, which was anchored on the north side of the river opposite the fuel dock. But as they were preparing to untie the boat and get under way, flames from the Skye Marie ignited the fuel in the river and fire began streaming across the surface of the water toward the Ericsons' boat. With the flames only 6 feet away, Wally Ericson said they cut the tie ropes with a knife and gunned their engine to get away. He said there have been other fires at the Sponge Docks, but none so bad. The firefighters "were doing the best they knew how," he said, but he said it took them hours to start using foam to smother the diesel fire in the ship's hull, and they instead used water, which boats are built to resist. Joe Young, owner of the Chevron fueling station, said, "It's common sense" to use foam, not water, on a fuel fire. He said 20,000 gallons of diesel fuel is stored in underground tanks at the fueling station, along with 10,000 gallons of gasoline. At times Tuesday night, he feared the whole property would ignite, he said. Tarpon Springs Fire Rescue Deputy Chief Don Sayre said firefighters dumped 30,000 gallons of foam onto the fire, and they acted quickly. He emphasized the boat that caught fire was initially tethered between two other boats, and firefighters managed to save all but the Skye Marie. "You know early on from the fire academy, fuel fires need foam," he said. "It was all a part of the initial plan. This was just a very stubborn fire and difficult to get to." It wasn't clear Wednesday how far the fuel spread up the river or what its impact on marine life in the river would be. Scott Conger, a biologist and owner of the Tarpon Springs Aquarium, said the impact likely would be minimal, but he called the situation a "waiting game." Most of the diesel will evaporate within a few days, he predicted. Then he can go back to using the river water to fill the aquarium's tanks. Retiree Bob Ruoff, a friend of Skye Marie owner Billy Harris of Port Richey, stopped by the Sponge Docks on Wednesday. Ruoff lamented the impact the fire would have on Harris and his ability to earn a living. "It's just so sad," Ruoff said. "These people work so hard. They work on such a slim margin. You hate to see it happen."

Related Stories

- [Diesel fuel cleanup continues in Anclote River; no cause yet for boat fire](#)
- [Divers try to measure fuel remaining in burned Tarpon shrimp boat](#)
- [Fuel contamination in Anclote River now visible following overnight boat fire](#)
- [Fuel leaks from sunken boat into Anclote River](#)

<http://www.tampabay.com/news/publicsafety/fire/firefighters-still-at-the-scene-of-tarpon-springs-shrimp-boat-blaze/2121025>

INDIA, TAMIL NADU, COIMBATORE, MAY 17 2013. SMOKE FROM TANKER CREATES TENSION



Fire fighters spraying water on a tanker carrying chemicals after smoke emanated from it in Erode on Tuesday. The tanker was found carrying hydrogen peroxide and the lid was not closed properly.

Tension prevailed for a short period at the BP Agraharam after people noticed smoke billowing from a tanker lorry carrying a chemical from an industrial unit. People alerted fire and rescue services personnel, who rushed to the spot and found the tanker containing hydrogen peroxide and its lid was not closed properly. "We found a leak in the tanker, which is the reason for the smoke. So we sprayed water because the chemical could be diluted," a firefighter said. The personnel also found the emergency information panel of the tanker carrying wrong information about the chemical loaded in it. "The tanker is not meant to transport hydrogen peroxide. This is a serious violation and it puts us in danger,"

an official pointed out. Every tanker transporting chemicals will have the details written or painted on its emergency information panel. Deciphering the HazChem (Hazard Chemical) code on the panel of the tanker involved in the accident is a vital



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component of fighting chemical disasters. The alphanumeric code suggests the agent to be applied, whether the firefighters should go for dilution or containment and whether the nearby residents need to be evacuated. "If a chemical other than the one stated on the panel is loaded, it will result in disastrous consequences," the official said and appealed to the industries to follow the rules strictly while transporting chemicals.

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Coimbatore/smoke-from-tanker-creates-tension/article4717340.ece>

FRANCE, PARIS, MAY 17 2013. TOTAL ACQUIRES SHELL FUEL RETAIL NETWORK IN EGYPT

geraldine amiel



Total confirmed it acquired Shell fuel retail network in Egypt as part of its strategy to strengthen its distribution position in the country and wider region. "Through this acquisition, we reaffirm our ambition to pursue our development in Africa and in the Middle East in the retail business," a spokesman for Total said. Asked about the price of the transaction, he declined to disclose any detail. Total already owns 70 fuel stations in Egypt, representing a 4% market share, and will

acquire 85 more from Shell to become Egypt's fourth largest gasoline retailer, doubling its market share, the company said. Total is strengthening its position as the largest gasoline retailer in Africa, the spokesman added. Gasoline retail activities have decreased in Western Europe, on the back of lower consumption due to the prolonged economic crisis. Lower cost retailers have also emerged, forcing some major companies to rethink their refining and marketing strategy and focus instead on oil exploration and production. Prospects in the retail sector are brighter in emerging markets, where demand for gasoline and transport fuels is growing faster. "The sale is consistent with Shell's strategy to concentrate its downstream footprint on a smaller number of assets and markets," Shell said in a statement. It cited the recent sale of some refineries in the United Kingdom and Germany and its refining and marketing businesses in Finland and Sweden as examples of this. Total, which has engaged in a massive exploration effort to find new oil and gas reserves, has nevertheless reaffirmed the importance of downstream activities within its business model, even though it has idled some refineries in Europe.

<http://www.hydrocarbonprocessing.com/Article/3206459/Latest-News/Total-acquires-Shells-fuel-retail-network-in-Egypt.html>

AUSTRALIA, SOUTH AUSTRALIA, ADELAIDE, MAY 17 2013. ON THE RUN OWNERS THE SHAHIN FAMILY HAVE BOUGHT OUT BP FUEL OUTLETS IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA

miles kemp



Yasser Shahin flanked by staff members Hana, Walid, Hayley, Harry, Michaela and Toni at BP on the Run in Tranmere.

Motorists have been promised a new petrol discounting war after the biggest deal in the Shahin family's history resulted in a takeover of all BP fuel outlets in South Australia. In a deal worth tens of millions of dollars, the family has bought all BP's 16 metropolitan and 12 regional sites, subject to approval from the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission. Michaela Webster, the general manager of the family's company, Peregrine Corporation, said today she was planning a fuel discount deal which would take 8c a litre off the price of unleaded petrol with a \$15 purchase from the group's on-site franchise stores

such as Brumby's, Oporto, Happy Wash, Subway, Smokemart, SA Lotteries and C Coffee. The Peregrine deal involves only BP stores owned by the oil giant. Dozens of other BP stores around South Australia remain in independent ownership. Ms Webster said a \$10 purchase would provide a 4c/l discount. "The benefit we have is that people need to buy meals each day and this will allow them to buy fuel on any day not just a shopping day," Ms Webster said. The Shahin family, who trace their origin in SA to the migration from Palestine of the late Fred Shahin in 1984, pioneered the teaming of fuel sales with big-name franchise food outlets at its On The Run service stations. Starting with the purchase of a BP service station in 1984, the Shahins have become one of SA's most successful family businesses. On The Run took over the 26 Mobil service stations in 2010, taking the number of On The Run sites to 81. A director of Peregrine, Yasser Shahin, said the company had since spent \$17 million on developing the former Mobil sites and creating 250 new jobs directly. "Similar plans would be in store for the BP network," he said. "Our competitors are typically many times larger than our business but, thanks to the strong support of the Adelaide community, we have been successful by remaining local and unique. "There are very few champions of SA industry



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and we hope that the community keeps behind us." The deal, which takes Peregrine's assets to 109 fuel outlets, was backed yesterday by Premier Jay Weatherill, who said Peregrine had a record of investing in SA.

<http://www.adelaidenow.com.au/business/sa-business-journal/shahin-family-buying-out-bp-on-the-run-fuel-outlets-in-south-australia/story-e6fredel-1226642429024>

USA, MI, SAWYER, MAY 17 2013. HAZMAT TANKER EXPLOSION

 **Watch the Video** [HazMat Tanker Explosion](#)



[usdotgov-90 videos](#)

The video clip that follows is of a hazardous materials transportation tank incident that happened July 21, 2011, in Sawyer, Michigan. While stopping at a truck stop, the driver saw that the tank was leaking and that pressure inside the cargo tank was higher than normal. Local police were called to the scene and a safety perimeter was established while waiting for the fire department response unit. Watch what happens next! Improperly shipped hazardous materials can sometimes end with a catastrophic failure of the container. In this case, one firefighter was injured with burns to his face. The cause was human error in shipping a corrosive material in an aluminum cargo tank which was not compatible for that substance. That is why following the Hazardous Materials Regulations is so important. The company involved paid a \$120,200.00 civil penalty for not following the regulations.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8ZqRU9mBOf8&feature=youtu.be>

USA, N.C, JONES CO, MAY 17 2013. STATE INSPECTORS TESTING "BAD GAS" FROM JONES COUNTY STATION

When you stop to fill up at a gas station, you expect what's labeled on the pumps is what's going into your tank. But some drivers in the east say that's not what happened when they filled their tanks at one gas station in Jones County, and it's causing major problems. State inspectors visited a Trenton gas station Tuesday morning to see if there is really a problem. Many drivers pumped gasoline into their tanks Tuesday at the C-Mart BP gas station off James Street in Trenton, unaware of a problem. County Manager Franky Howard said they, "Got the diesel mixed up with the gasoline, so not a good thing." Tests have yet to confirm that is exactly what happened, or if it was just bad gas. That's what a service manager at one car dealership told us who's working on several vehicles that fueled up at the station last week. Driver John Graham filled up \$96 worth Tuesday and was shocked to hear what happened. Graham's reaction was, "Is that right? My gosh, that was a disaster for these folks." The county manager says 5 of the sheriff's department's 20 cars are affected. "It started causing some problems so we sent it over to the Ford dealership to get it checked out," said Howard. The gas station told WITN that the problem has since been fixed. "We know the state has come in and took samples of the fuel to try to get answers for us," said Howard. Drivers tell WITN the station says they will reimburse them for the gas but not the repairs. For drivers like Graham he is starting to question the gasoline he bought Tuesday. "I wish I would have known this before," said Graham. We spoke to the state inspector who says the test from Tuesday came back normal. Now they will test the gasoline being pumped out of the vehicles that have had problems.

<http://www.witn.com/news/watercooler/headlines/State-Inspectors-Testing-Bad-Gas-From-Jones-County-Station-207537311.html>

INDIA, KERALA, KODUVALLY, MAY 17 2013. LPG TANKER OVERTURNS AT KODUVALLY, SCHOOLBOY KILLED



Fire and Rescue Services personnel spraying water on the overturned LPG tanker at South Koduvally in Kozhikode district on Wednesday. Though leak was sealed, wait for experts lasts for hours.

Bearing an eerie similarity to the LPG tanker lorry accident at Chalai in Kannur which claimed the lives of 20 people, a speeding LPG tanker overturned near a thickly populated area at Koduvally here on Wednesday, killing a 14-year-old boy. Fire and Rescue Services personnel rushed to the spot within 15 minutes and plugged the leak temporarily with their limited resources. However, small levels of leakage continued as the police and fire and rescue personnel waited

for the arrival of an expert team from Mangalore to transfer the contents to another tanker caused panic in the locality for more than eight hours. An area of 500 metre radius around the accident spot was evacuated immediately fearing a flare up similar to Chalai. Residents from hundreds of houses had to shift to their relatives' houses until the leak was safely plugged. The



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accident occurred in the early hours at a sharp turn near the South Koduvally Madrassa Bazaar on National Highway 212, around 25 kilometres from Kozhikode city. According to eye witnesses, the tanker lorry coming from the Thamarassery side, swerved to avoid a motorcycle and overturned. "We were having our morning prayers at the mosque adjacent to the accident spot, when we heard a loud thud and rushed to the spot. The tanker had overturned and hit the wall of a house. Both legs of the boy were severed," said T. Moitheen Koya, a resident of the area. The deceased, M. Mohammed Feroze, was a part-time newspaper vendor. He along with two others was sorting the day's newspaper when the incident occurred. Newspapers were seen scattered near the spot. A tree was uprooted and a portion of a nearby shop was damaged in the accident. Following the accident, the electricity supply to the area was disconnected. The police imposed a ban on the use of mobile phones near the accident spot. Fire and Rescue Services personnel sealed a leak, near the tanker's pressure gauge, using M-seal. "We brought the situation under control within an hour by sealing the leaks. Also, there has been constant sprinkling of water over the tanker to keep it below the safe temperature," said Arun Bhaskar, Assistant Divisional Officer of the Fire and Rescue Services, Kozhikode. However, fears about other leakage spots on the bottom side of the tanker and the faint smell of LPG in the air, kept the local people on their toes. A team from the Indian Oil Corporation's LPG plant at Chelari here arrived at the spot to provide standby support until the Hindustan Petroleum (HP)'s team arrived from Mangalore. The lack of quick response teams of the petroleum companies delayed effective action after the accident as traffic through the highway connecting Kozhikode and Wayanad remained closed even late in the evening. The availability of a parallel route through Chathamangalam averted the possibility of a day long traffic block. The team from Mangalore reached only at 2 p.m., more than eight hours after the accident. The only gas plants of the HP in Kerala are in Palakkad and Cochin. When contacted, an official at the Palakkad plant told The Hindu that a rescue team had left from there at 9 a.m. He said that he was unaware of the reasons for the team not reaching the spot even in the afternoon. "Usually when an accident like this happens, a team will be sent from the nearest gas plant, irrespective of the owning company of the tanker involved in the accident. In this case, a team was sent from the Chelari plant of the IOC. However, major recovery operations can be done only after the fully equipped team from the parent company arrives. Only those who are on ground can answer for the delay in arrival," said the official.

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/kozhikode/lpg-tanker-overturns-at-koduvally-schoolboy-killed/article4718736.ece>

INDIA, ANDHRA PRADESH, VISAKHAPATNAM, MAY 17 2013. MAJOR FIRE AT HPCL VISAKHA REFINERY

Watch the Video's:

- [Fire Accident at Hpcl \(Visakhapatnam\) \(16-5-2013\)](#)
- [Massive Fire Accident in HPCL Visakhapatnam](#)
- [Fire Accident in HPCL Visakhapatnam](#)



A major fire occurred at the Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited, (HPCL) Visakhapatnam Refinery at Malkapuram on Thursday night. Sources said the blast took place at the Crude Oil Distillatory Unit 3 (CDU3), due to a spark that ignited the fuel. However, no casualties have been reported and the flames have been brought under control, preventing a major disaster. Though the reasons behind the fire have not yet been ascertained, officials and workers suspect a short circuit had caused the accident. The crude oil unit had caught fire and was swallowed in raging flames that spread to the pipelines. Nearly 10 fire tenders from the Navy, Visakhapatnam Steel Plant (VSP), Coromandel Fertilisers and a large number of fire personnel from HPCL that jumped into action immediately have brought the

flames under control using foam. Police officials on the refinery premises stated that the prompt response of the workers and fire tenders alike had prevented the fire from spreading to other units containing highly volatile substances, which could have proved disastrous. Following the blast, power supply to the entire Malkapuram area has been cut off to prevent any short circuit within HPCL, which might have caused further damage. Meanwhile tension prevailed in Malkapuram area after scores of citizens, fuelled by rumours of the whole place about to blow up, grabbed whatever belongings they could and poured into the streets in a mad race to escape the area. Several families have taken to the streets fleeing the place despite police personnel deployed in the area announcing that the flames are under control and that the residents need not fear. The accident on Thursday night is the second of its kind since the horrific blast that jolted the city on the morning of September 14,



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1997. The second blow-up follows despite the stringent and fail-proof safety systems of international standards that have been put in place after the 1997 blast that claimed 60 lives and caused damage worth crores of rupees.

http://newindianexpress.com/states/andhra_pradesh/Major-fire-at-HPCL-Visakha-refinery/2013/05/17/article1593677.ece

USA, ILL, ATKINSON, MAY 17 2013. CHEMICAL SPILL CLOSES I-80 BETWEEN ATKINSON AND ANNAWAN

 **Watch the Video's:**

- [Crash Closes Interstate 80](#)
- [I-80 Reopens as Annawan Deals with Fallout](#)

According to a release sent by the Illinois State Police, on May 16 at approximately 5:55 a.m. a semi-truck tanker combination was traveling west on Interstate 80 west bound in the vicinity of Mile Marker 29. According to witnesses the semi-truck was traveling in the left lane, crossed to the right lane, continued through the right shoulder and rolled in the North ditch. The driver was transported from the scene with non-life threatening injuries to Hammond Henry Hospital. A small chemical spill occurred from the tanker. Hazardous Material Teams have responded to the scene for clean-up. There is no immediate public health risk due to the spill. I-80 is currently shut down between Atkinson and Annawan. All traffic is being diverted to US 6. It is strongly recommended for local traffic to find alternate routes. Delays are expected for the foreseeable future. The shut-down of Interstate 80 is anticipated to continue through most of today.

<http://www.geneseorepublic.com/article/20130516/NEWS/130519474/-1/Columns>

EU, MAY 17 2013. BP, SHELL, STATOIL OFFICES RAIDED IN OIL PRICE FIXING PROBE

European Commission investigators raided the offices of oil companies BP, Royal Dutch Shell and Statoil as well as data collector Platts as part of a larger inquiry into price manipulation of the global crude market. The unannounced inspections were carried out because of concerns the companies may have colluded in reporting distorted prices to a price reporting agency to manipulate the published prices for a number of oil and biofuel products, according to the European Commission. The inspections, which occurred at oil companies' offices throughout Europe, are a preliminary step to [investigate anti-competitive practices](#), the EC says. The EC says the inspections are not an indication of guilt and the investigation is expected to last months. However, UK Prime Minister David Cameron says oil executives could face jail if they did keep prices high by rigging the market, the [Independent](#) reports. The price paid for [oil, fuel and related products](#) around the world is determined by a handful of benchmarks. Price-reporting agencies, such as, Platts and Argus Media, gather transaction data from oil companies, banks and hedge funds to calculate the benchmark price. Investigators are focused, in part, on the price reporting system for oil and other petroleum products, the [New York Times](#) reports. Companies like Platts determine benchmark prices by polling traders and using other industry data. Platts also has developed an electronic window, where a significant amount of oil is traded, which has raised concerns that companies could distort prices through a flurry of last-minute trades, according to the NYT. The probe marks the third time global pricing benchmarks have drawn regulator scrutiny in the past year following investigations into bank manipulation of the London interbank offer rate, or Libor, and the benchmark for the swaps market ISDAFix, [Bloomberg](#) reports.

<http://www.environmentalleader.com/2013/05/16/bp-shell-statoil-offices-raided-in-oil-price-fixing-probe/>

BELGIUM, BRUSSELS, MAY 17 2013. CHINA AGAIN TOPS EU ALERT LIST OF DANGEROUS GOODS

A growing number of toys, clothes and gadgets made in China are being flagged in a European Union alert system for dangerous goods, according to figures released Thursday by the European Commission. However, speaking against the backdrop of increasingly strained trade relations, European Union officials in Brussels were keen to stress that the statistic was a reflection of the Asian country's dominant position as an exporter and did not necessarily mean that Chinese products were becoming less safe. In 2012, 58 per cent of notifications to the EU's rapid alert system for non-food dangerous products - known as RAPEX - related to products from China. Chinese products accounted for 54 per cent of notifications in 2011. Next in the 2012 list was Turkey, another major exporter to the EU, at 5 per cent. The 2,278 products flagged to RAPEX in 2012 include clothing and textiles, toys, electrical appliances, cars and cosmetics. "The high number (of Chinese products) is due to the significant market penetration of Chinese-manufactured consumer products in European markets," said EU Consumer Affairs Commissioner Tonio Borg. China is the EU's number one supplier of goods, according to EU figures, with more than 90 per cent of toys sold coming from the Asian country. Octavian Vasile, a policy officer at RAPEX, said ensuring Chinese companies comply with EU law is a challenge, since they are often not aware of the rules. "We are trying to work on that in



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organizing workshops especially meant for the Chinese industry, especially on toys because this is quite a sensitive category of products," Vasile said. Items confiscated last year included dolls made of harmful plastics, items that were small enough for a child to swallow, or lighters that could be mistaken for toys. RAPEX registered a 26-per-cent increase in the number of overall alerts compared to 2011, noting that this could be due to improved enforcement work. "The recurring high numbers are a disconcerting reminder that too many risky goods still reach the shelves of our shops," said Monique Goyens of the European Consumer Organization BEUC. "Monitoring authorities just aren't managing to stop the flow of hazardous items." Products identified by RAPEX can be banned, withdrawn from the market or recalled from consumers, or rejected by customs authorities. Thursday's figures come amid EU allegations of illegal trade practices by China in areas including solar energy products and the telecommunications industry. The EU probes risk escalating a trade tit-for-tat. dpa hm npr Author: Helen Maguire

http://en.europeonline-magazine.eu/china-again-tops-eu-alert-list-of-dangerous-goodseds-epa-photos_281222.html

USA, GA, MAY 17 2013. COLONIAL PIPELINE COMPANY CLEAN WATER ACT SETTLEMENT >> U.S. REACHES LANDMARK SETTLEMENT WITH COLONIAL PIPELINE FOR OIL SPILLS IN 5 STATES, \$34 MILLION CIVIL PENALTY IS THE LARGEST PAID BY A COMPANY IN EPA HISTORY

Overview:

On April 1, 2003, the United States announced a settlement with Colonial Pipeline Company resolving violations of the Clean Water Act arising from spills from the company's pipeline in several states. Under the consent decree, Colonial will upgrade environmental protection on the pipeline at an estimated cost of at least \$30 million, and pay \$34 million, the largest civil penalty a company has paid in EPA history. The United States filed a complaint on Nov. 28, 2000, in the Northern District of Georgia. The Clean Water Act authorizes penalties up to \$1,100 per barrel discharged, and up to \$3,300 per barrel discharged for violations that are the result of gross negligence.

Three spills for which the United States alleged gross negligence were:

Reedy River, South Carolina: In June 1996, Colonial spilled nearly one million gallons (22,800 barrels) of diesel fuel in Simpsonville, S.C. The spill polluted a 34-mile stretch of the Reedy River, causing significant environmental damage. Floating oil extended about 23 miles down the river. Approximately 35,000 fish were killed, along with other aquatic organisms and wildlife. Groundwater was contaminated with oil and remained contaminated for more than three years after the spill. Colonial had known for many years that its pipe in the Reedy River was exposed, rusted, and partially missing a protective coating.

Goose Creek/Tennessee River, Tennessee: In February 1999, in Knoxville, Tenn., Colonial spilled approximately 53,550 gallons (1275 barrels) of fuel oil, some of which entered Goose Creek and the Tennessee River, polluting approximately eight miles of the Tennessee River. The released fuel saturated 10 homes in the area and caused the evacuation of six homes. The day before the spill, Colonial found anomalies on the pipeline, including on the area where the rupture later occurred, but did nothing. At the time of the spill, Colonial received information of a sudden drop in pipeline pressure. Despite receiving this information indicating a leak, Colonial continued to send fuel oil through the line. Colonial briefly shut down the pipeline, but reopened it and sent fuel oil again, despite continued indications of a leak, until they were alerted by the Knoxville Fire Department that Colonial's fuel was running into Goose Creek.

Bear Creek, Georgia: On May 30, 1997, Colonial spilled approximately 18,900 gallons (450 barrels) of gasoline, some of which entered an unnamed creek and its adjoining shoreline in the Bear Creek watershed near Athens, Ga. During the spill, a vapor cloud of gasoline formed, causing several Colonial employees to flee for safety. This spill resulted from a calculation error related to a regular procedure. No one checked the calculations, nor did Colonial have a procedure in place to check such calculations.

Four other spills for which Colonial Pipeline Company was penalized:

- **Darling Creek, Louisiana:** Over a period of years, more than 420,000 gallons (10,000 barrels) of gasoline spilled from small leaks in Colonial's pipeline near Darling Creek in St. Helena Parish, La., before Colonial finally discovered the leak in December 1997. As of September 1999, a plume of gasoline, including leaded gasoline, extended over approximately 14 acres on the groundwater surface, more than 60 acres of groundwater had been contaminated, and some of the gasoline had entered Darling Creek.
- **Blacksburg, South Carolina:** Approximately 1,386 gallons (33 barrels) of gasoline spilled, some of which entered an unnamed creek and adjoining shoreline near Blacksburg, S.C., around April 23, 1996.



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- Greensboro, East Fork Deep River, North Carolina: At least 714 gallons (17 barrels) of kerosene spilled, some of which entered a pond that flows into a tributary of the East Fork Deep River in Greensboro around May 19, 2000. The kerosene spill caused a sheen about 40 feet by 40 feet in the pond.
- Greensboro, North Carolina: Approximately 50 gallons (1.2 barrels) of gasoline spilled, some of which entered an unnamed creek and adjoining shoreline in Greensboro, N.C., around May 17, 1996.

Documents:

- [Settlement Press Release](#) (04/01/03)
- [Consent Decree \(PDF\)](#) (232K, 45 pp)
- [Filing of Suit Press Release \(PDF\)](#) (11/28/00) (90K, 2 pp)
- [Complaint \(PDF\)](#) (773K, 16 pp)

<http://www.epa.gov/compliance/resources/cases/civil/cwa/colonial.html>

USA,IN, FRANKLIN, MAY 17 2013. I-TEAM 8 INVESTIGATES THE SAFETY OF 400 FERTILIZER PLANTS HERE IN INDIANA >> DANGEROUS FERTILIZERS ARE NEAR POPULATED AREAS



One month after a massive explosion at a fertilizer storage facility in Texas, criticism continues to grow over why so many homes and buildings were so close to it. I-Team 8 found Indiana also has very few rules in place to keep the storage of potentially dangerous fertilizers away from populated areas. The explosion in West, Tex. on April 17 killed 14 people and left nearly 200 hurt, some critically. Dozens of nearby homes and buildings, including a nursing home, apartment complex and hospital, were damaged or destroyed in the blast, which was so violent it registered as a small earthquake. A 93 foot crater was left in its wake. At a news conference on Thursday, investigators said they had completed their scene investigation but not ruled out criminal activity. They announced last week that they had launched a criminal investigation into the explosion after the arrest of a West paramedic accused of possessing bomb-making materials. He has not been linked to the fire or explosion. Possible

causes of the fire that triggered two explosions have been narrowed to a 120-volt electrical system at the plant, a golf cart or an intentionally set fire, officials said. The golf cart was parked in the seed room and had been recalled by its manufacturer. All that was found of it were a brake pad and an axle. Critics say many of the injuries sustained from the blasts could have been prevented because structures were allowed to be built too close to the facility. I-Team 8 discovered that type of zoning is not uncommon, and in many states, laws meant to keep fertilizer facilities away from populated areas are filled with loopholes.

Just Down the Street

In a quiet neighborhood just a few blocks north of downtown Franklin in Johnson County, Dennis Dougherty sat on a bright orange riding lawnmower and contemplated how to best improve his front yard. Until recently, his biggest concerns over fertilizer centered on how to make his lawn greener. Then, he saw the images from the West explosion. "I was surprised at the size of it," he said. "It was very surprising. I thought--could fertilizer really do that?" It's suddenly a critical question in Dougherty's neighborhood. Two fertilizer storage facilities similar to the one in Texas sit one block away from Dougherty's home. Other neighbors live even closer. "They [had] no notice or anything like that," said Mary Griffin, whose son lives right across the street. "Those things don't happen. You don't get a notice." Eyeing the storage tanks down the street, Griffin said, until recently, she had no idea what went on there. "I knew the farmers come in and got tanks of stuff for their fields," she said. "But, I never even thought about it exploding or anything like that. I understand they do have alarms, but it makes me nervous now. Could it explode, too?" It's a question now being repeated in communities across Indiana.

How Close is Too Close?

In Franklin, Charlottesville, and dozens of other communities across Indiana, the boom of growing fertilizer distribution centers ended decades ago. These days, the small number of new fertilizer retail and storage facilities that pop up across the Midwest are built in the middle of nowhere. It's done that way on purpose to keep populated areas safe. But, hundreds of older plants are still in operation in what used to be the middle of nowhere. "In West, Tex., you can see where the town grew up around them," said Crop Production Services General Manager Danny Carmony, standing near a set of storage tanks at fertilizer facility in Hancock County. "We've had that in a lot of our locations across the U.S. When they started, a lot of these plants



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were built in the 60's and 70's [out in the middle of nowhere]. Then, fast forward 30, 40, 50 years, and here's a town around it." That's exactly what happened at CPS' facility in Charlottesville, just off U.S. 40 near Greenfield. "When it started, there were some houses out there on Highway 40," Carmony said, pointing just off the property. "It has [crept back toward the plant] since then." I-Team 8 dug deeper to find out just how close those neighborhoods can be to a fertilizer facility. Our research found that the answer depends on several factors, including where you live, what the building is used for, and what the plant is storing. In Texas, state code requires buildings to be at least a quarter of a mile—or 1,320 feet—away from fertilizer storage tanks. But, zoning variances are often granted. The West Fertilizer Company was given a special u permit to operate within 3,000 feet of a school. Inspectors at the time deemed the facility's "impact potential" to be "low." Other states, like Tennessee, allow some homes to be built as close as 200 feet from storage tanks, while neighboring Ohio and Illinois increase the distances to 600 and 1,000 feet for large tanks placed near schools, hospitals or nursing homes. Indiana also breaks its fertilizer proximity laws down by building type. Storage tanks must be kept at least 2,000 feet from hospitals and nursing homes, 1,000 feet from "places of assembly," like schools and businesses, and 400 feet from homes.

But, is That Far Enough?

In West, nearly everything within four blocks, including houses, an apartment complex and a nursing home were reduced to rubble. Damage was sustained to some buildings more than half a mile away from the center of the blast. And, I-Team 8 discovered, in Indiana, there's an even bigger catch: those rules only apply to one type of fertilizer. Dry fertilizers—including ammonium nitrate, which is suspected of igniting the blast in West--can be stored anywhere in Indiana, in any amount, as long as the area is properly zoned.

Who's Watching?

More than 400 fertilizer storage and retail facilities are scattered across Indiana. Around 300 of them are similar in size and scope to the West, Tex. facility, which did not produce fertilizer, but stored it to sell directly to farmers. Only 44 fertilizer production plants exist nationwide. But, there are more than 6,000 U.S. fertilizer storage and retail facilities. Many of them carry similar, if not identical chemical fertilizers to the West, Tex. facility. In Indiana, the task of regulating such facilities falls primarily to the Office of the Indiana State Chemist (OISC), based at Purdue University. "As a regulator, from our perspective, we're concerned about some of the immediate assumptions people can make about these facilities, about their safety, and about the importance of the industry in their community," said Indiana State Chemist Dr. Robert Waltz. Waltz said more information is still needed to understand exactly what happened in Texas, but the explosion itself was a result of one thing. "They had a fire. It heated tanks. The tanks apparently exploded because they got too hot. The fire then also moved into a facility where the ammonium nitrate was kept. And, it was hot enough to ignite the ammonium nitrate. But, what caused all of that, we still don't know," Waltz said. While other agencies like the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Indiana Department of Environmental Management, and Indiana and U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration do have jurisdiction at fertilizer facilities, I-Team 8 found visits by inspectors are rare. Records show IOSHA only inspected one fertilizer plant in Indiana since 2011--T&T Fertilizer in Elkhart County. The inspection of that plant, and subsequent fines, only occurred after a small explosion there left four workers hurt. n many states, including Indiana, inspections by outside agencies usually only occur if a complaint is filed. The only agency charged with regular inspection of fertilizer storage facilities in Indiana is the OISC. But, Waltz admits, not every facility gets an annual visit. "You don't check every facility every year," he said. "But, you go through and check records and do background work on various facilities. It's a random thing." OISC has eight inspectors on staff for the entire state. Some specialize in specific types of fertilizer. But, here's the bigger key: when inspectors do enter a facility, they're usually only looking at the quality of the fertilizer, not at the amount of it. "What our office focuses on is on the product, the fertilizer material itself," Waltz said. "Our responsibility is to make sure it is, in fact, true to [manufacturer] claims. They are required to report the tonnage to us. So, in our inspections, we may confirm that they have that kind of product available." "We just make sure that the numbers kind of add up," agreed OISC Fertilizer Administrator Matt Pearson. "There is no limit as to how many tons you can store. We just want to make sure that what they're storing and what they're reporting makes sense."

A Massive Pile

Records show the West, Tex. facility was authorized to store at least 270 tons of ammonium nitrate at the time of the explosion. But on Thursday, the Texas State Fire Marshal's office estimated that only 150 tons was on site at the time. The Fire Marshal estimated that between 28 tons and 34 tons of it had exploded, equivalent to 20,000 pounds of dynamite—much less than previously thought. To put that in perspective, approximately 2.4 tons of ammonium nitrate was combined with diesel fuel and other chemicals in a bomb detonated outside an Oklahoma City federal building in 1995. 168 people were killed in



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that blast. Investigators say the size of the pile of directly contributed to the force of the blast. But, I-Team 8 found some fertilizer facilities in Indiana may be keeping piles that make the West facility look small by comparison. "That sounds like an enormous pile," Pearson said. "But, when you're talking at Co-Alliance, for example, or at some other retail places, they will hold 400 tons, easy." Still, Pearson says there is one major difference between the piles in Indiana and Texas: while ammonium nitrate is stored for use as fertilizer in some parts of Indiana, it's not as widely used by farmers in its solid form here as it is in Southern states. "Ammonium nitrate is on an island all by itself, in terms of [explosiveness]. The other ones, like potash, you could use it as an ice melt. It's very safe. Almost like road salt," Pearson said. Many Indiana farmers do use a modified form of ammonium nitrate, kept in liquid form. It's known as Urea Ammonium Nitrate, or UAN. At plants like Crop Production Services in Charlottesville in Hancock County, UAN is a popular commodity. Two massive tanks on site together hold nearly 1 million gallons of it. Carmony, the CPS General Manager, called the explosive risk of nitrates in liquid form "low." But, his crews still take extra precautions. "All of our tanks go through a pressure test every three years. They're pressure tested and certified. And, two people at every one of my facilities are trained for 40 hours on emergency response. Then every year they have at least an 8 hour refresher course," he said.

The Ammonia Wild Card

The West, Tex. facility was holding another wild card on site as well: anhydrous ammonia. Records show West Fertilizer was authorized to fill two, 12,000 gallon tanks with anhydrous ammonia. The facility's permit allowed them to store around 54,000 pounds of the substance, which Texas authorities list as flammable and potentially toxic. Anhydrous ammonia can also explode, but only in very high temperatures of at least 1,562 degrees Fahrenheit. Investigators estimate the fire at the West facility likely eclipsed that temperature. Anhydrous ammonia is Indiana's third most popular fertilizer, Pearson said. At least 300 storage facilities across the state store it under pressure, either in gas or liquid form. Many of the tanks authorized to store the product in Indiana are at least as large as the tanks used at the West facility. OISC has the regulatory authority to remove ammonia tanks that it deems unsafe. But, I-Team 8 discovered it never has. Pearson says it's never been necessary. "We've never had to take action. The whole pre-approval thing works really well," he said. Once the tank is built and filled, new homes and buildings are supposed to be kept away. But, Pearson admits, that's rarely checked. "If it's close, then we can go out there with a tape measure or a wheel and measure the distance. But, when the site is approved, we are confident that that is in compliance with our restrictions," he said. At CPS's Charlottesville facility, there are two 18,000 gallon bulk anhydrous ammonia storage tanks, and dozens of 1,000 gallon "nurse" tanks on site as well, Carmony said. This time of year, the product moves quickly. "A tank will last about one day," he said. "When these guys run, they'll go through probably eight to ten semi loads a day." With so much turnover of a potentially dangerous product, Carmony says extra stress is put on safety. "Anhydrous ammonia, you have to respect it," he said. "And, we do a lot of things to ensure it's safe, not only for us, our customers, but for the community."

Emergency Planning

Because of the dangers surrounding anhydrous ammonia, CPS has added additional safety measures, not mandated by state or federal rules, Carmony said. "Our local law enforcement, whether it be the volunteer fire department or the sheriff's department, they come out and do a walkthrough with us. They look at everything. We just open up the facility and say, come in. Take a look at what we've got. Here's where we store chemicals and fertilizer, so they clearly understand what we have here. We also put in valves that shut down the whole system. So, if somebody has a problem or something happened to leak, all of our lines, the whole system can be shut off with one button. It's done, rather than using a trip wire or someone manually trying to close the system down, Carmony said." But, that approach may not be universal. While the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency does require "risk management plans" to be filed on ammonia storage facilities, many states do not require any additional emergency measures to be filed. Texas law does not require fertilizer dealers to have an emergency safety plan in writing, and the West plant did not. Indiana stopped mandating emergency safety plans at fertilizer plants and storage facilities in 1996. Unless local or county ordinances require them, some fertilizer plants simply may not have one. "It does [concern me], that some may not be fully prepared, as far as the communities that are involved," Carmony said. Some in those communities are concerned as well. This week, opponents of a proposed \$950 million southern Indiana fertilizer plant formally asked state officials to block the project because of dangers highlighted by the explosion in West, Tex. State officials have previously said they hope there are regulatory lessons that can be learned from the tragedy. Carmony says he hopes others in the industry are paying close attention, too. "I hope if they saw the explosion in Texas, that they were asking questions," he said. "I hope they thought--what are we doing here to protect our community? What kind of safeguards do we have in place? Is



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everything the way it should be? I hope people nearby our plants see that. And, I hope none of them lose any sleep at night knowing we're here, because we're trying to do things the right way for them."

http://www.wishtv.com/dpp/news/i_team_8/i-team-8-investigates-indiana-fertilizer-facilities-face-few-regulations

USA, KY, LOUISVILLE, MAY 18 2013. WESTBOUND GENE SNYDER FREEWAY CLOSED AFTER CROSSOVER TANKER ACCIDENT

charles gazaway



A crossover accident involving an overturned tanker has closed the westbound lanes of the Gene Snyder Freeway (KY 841). According to MetroSafe, the accident happened at 6:19 p.m. just west of the New Cut Road entrance ramp when a truck, a small oil tanker, that was heading eastbound lost control, crossed the median and came to rest in the westbound lanes. The truck, the only vehicle involved in the accident, is owned by Riverside Paving of Louisville. The driver was not seriously injured. Westbound traffic on the Snyder is put off at the New Cut Road exit. Eastbound traffic coming from Dixie Highway and Stonestreet Road is not impacted by the wreck. The LMPD traffic unit is on the scene. The westbound Snyder is not expected to reopen until midnight at the earliest.

<http://www.wave3.com/story/22275702/westbound-snyder-closed-after-tanker-accident>

USA, N.C, BEAUFORT CO, CHOCOWINITY, MAY 18 2013. GAS TRUCK OVERTURNS IN BEAUFORT COUNTY, PROMPTING EVACUATION



An SUV crashed with a fuel truck in Beaufort County Friday afternoon, causing the truck to overturn and forcing several families to evacuate from their homes.

According to Chocowinity Fire Chief Curtis Avery, the wreck happened at the corner of Frederick and Taylor Roads just before 1 p.m. Friday. There was no word on how the SUV and the fuel truck collided. But once the truck overturned, diesel fuel began leaking from the vehicle, forcing crews to evacuate at least five houses, Chief Avery said. The SUV suffered extensive front-end damage. Both drivers involved were taken to Vidant Beaufort Hospital. Although the extent of their injuries are unknown, Chief Avery said the victims were walking around after the wreck. Firefighters were spraying foam onto the wrecked fuel truck. Crews

will transfer its fuel to another truck that is heading to the scene, Chief Avery said. Investigators did not say whether they will file charges. School bus delays are possible because of the wreck, according to an official with Beaufort County Schools. Chocowinity Middle School, Chocowinity Primary School, and Southside High School may be affected.

<http://www.wcti12.com/news/gas-truck-overturms-in-beaufort-county-prompting-evacuation/-/13530444/20193558/-/d0mxunz/-/index.html>

ENGLAND, WEST YORKSHIRE, MAY 18 2013. M62 IN WEST YORKSHIRE CLOSED FOLLOWING TANKER CRASH



The westbound carriageway was closed for the air ambulance to land.

A lorry driver has been airlifted to hospital after a crash between his vehicle and a tanker that closed the M62 motorway. The crash happened on the eastbound carriageway just before 13:00 BST between junctions 26 and 27 near Birstall, West Yorkshire. All three lanes were reopened and queues were easing by 17:50 BST. West Yorkshire Fire Service said a large goods vehicle had run into the back of a chemical tanker.

Flammable Liquid

Mick Smith, from the fire service, said the driver of the lorry had leg injuries and was rescued by up to 20 firefighters. A cordon was put up at one point after a small leak of flammable liquid from the tanker. There were major delays on surrounding routes after traffic was diverted off the M62 during the closure. A cordon was put up after a small amount of flammable liquid leaked from the tanker. The westbound carriageway was also closed for a time to



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allow the air ambulance to land. A West Yorkshire Police investigation is under way. The crash comes four weeks after a fatal collision on the same motorway when six air ambulances landed on the carriageway. Bethany Jones, 18, died when a minibus was in collision with a lorry on 26 April. Eleven women and the male minibus driver were also seriously injured.

Related Stories

- [One driver badly hurt in crash involving a lorry and a tanker on M6](#)
- [Traffic bulletin: M62 totally closed between Bradford and Leeds, West Yorkshire](#)

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-leeds-22571322>

USA, NV, NORTH LAS VEGAS, MAY 18 2013. 1 PERSON DEAD IN EXPLOSION, FIRE



Sections of wall and roof are missing from a building after a blast at Nevada Truck and Trailer Repair.

One person is reported dead following an explosion and fire at a facility located at North Las Vegas Boulevard and Sloan Lane, near Nellis Air Force Base. Fire officials say the explosion and fire happened at Nevada Truck & Trailer Repair where a tanker parked inside the building exploded. According to the Clark County Fire Department, it took about five minutes to put out the fire. Traffic is being diverted away from the area.

<http://www.8newsnow.com/story/22283277/breaking-news-fire-crews-respond-to-explosion>

USA, KY, LOUISVILLE, MAY 18 2013. GAS STATION FIRE CLOSES BUECHEL INTERSECTION FOR A TIME >> BOLT OF LIGHTNING STRUCK THE MARATHON STATION

 Watch the Video [Gas Station Fire Closes Intersection](#)



A fire at a gas station in Buechel had the intersection of Hikes Lane and Bardstown Road blocked for a time on Thursday. One witness tells WDRB News that a bolt of lightning struck the Marathon station. It happened shortly after 11 a.m. "It was a really long, really thin stream of lightning," Mark Carwile said. "Really neat, really cool, I liked it. Not neat that it closed it down, but I ain't never been that close to lightning in my life, so that's kinda cool." Carwile described a large cloud of smoke coming from the building and said one person was trying to extinguish the flames with a fire extinguisher. He said the fire department responded quickly. Buechel firefighters confirm the lightning strike, saying it hit a component on the building, and blew a gas meter off. What

started as a small initial fire was fed by a gas line. The building suffered only a little external structural damage. No one was hurt. Buechel, Okolona, Camp Taylor, and McMahan fire departments responded.

<http://www.wdrb.com/story/22273455/gas-station-fire-closes-buechel-intersection-for-a-time>

LIBYA, TRIPOLI, MAY 18 2013. BP WITHDRAWS STAFF FROM LIBYA

BP is withdrawing some of its staff from Libya amid potential violence in the country. BP said in a statement Sunday that it was withdrawing non-essential overseas staff out of Libya "as a precautionary measure" following advice given to it by the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office. However, BP said that its Libyan staff remain in its office in the country. Last week, the Foreign Office noted that armed groups were disrupting access to a number of government ministries in Tripoli, Libya's capital city, and that there was potential for violence and clashes between rival armed groups. The FCO advised Friday UK citizens against all but essential travel to Tripoli and against all travel to the rest of the country. It has also withdrawn a small number of its own staff who work at the British Embassy. Also last week, Italy's ENI – the international oil major with the biggest operations in Libya – said it expects unrest to continue in the country. On Friday, ENI Chief Executive Paolo Scaroni was quoted as saying that he is optimistic that the situation in Libya will eventually improve as the country embraces democracy. The latest violence is likely to delay further BP restarting its operations in the country. The company indicated several times in 2012 that it was looking to restart its operations after it suspended them during Libya's civil war in 2011, but even before the recent violence differences between the Libyan government and foreign firms over the use of foreign security forces in oil zones within the country are already thought to have been an obstacle to BP resuming operations.



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http://www.rigzone.com/news/article.asp?a_id=126440&utm_source=WeeklyNewsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_term=2013-05-17&utm_content=read&utm_campaign=feature_1

TURKEY, HATAY PROVINCE, TUNISMA, MAY 18 2013. 10 DIE IN FUEL TANK EXPLOSION

At least 10 people were killed yesterday in an explosion after alleged smugglers set a fuel depot on fire in response to a police crackdown, a local official said. The suspects set ablaze an illegal fuel depot located in the basement of a three-storey building in a small village near Turkey's border with Syria, triggering a strong explosion that also wounded nine people. Among the wounded were three suspected smugglers as well as several security officers, Anatolia news agency reported. The suspects were trying to elude a crackdown by security forces who raided their shelter after a tip-off, Hatay city governor Celalettin Lekesiz was quoted as saying by Anatolia. Since the beginning of the Syrian conflict, security along the lengthy border has weakened, with border towns becoming a hub for fuel smugglers, who can sell Syrian oil at a much higher price inside Turkey. The explosion came days after twin car bombs rocked a border town in the same region on Saturday, killing 51 people. Official reports did not establish a connection between the incidents. Those bombings were the deadliest case of what observers see as an increasing regionalisation of the Syrian conflict that started in March 2011 and has taken 94,000 lives according to rights groups. Ankara has sided with the rebels fighting to topple the Damascus regime and shelters around 400,000 refugees as well as army defectors along its frontier.

<http://main.omanobserver.om/node/164653>

USA. N.Y, CAROLTON, MAY 18 2013. MAN BURNED WHEN ABOVE GROUND GAS TANK EXPLODES

 **Watch the Video** [Man Burned When Gas Tank Explodes](#)

A 75-year-old Orleans County man was severely burned when a gas tank he was attempting to weld exploded. Wesley Baes was flown to Strong Memorial Hospital in Rochester after the tank exploded around 11:20 a.m. at a home on South Hillcrest Drive in the Town of Carolton. Authorities say Baes was attempting to patch a hole in the 200-gallon above ground gas tank when residual vapors ignited, causing an explosion. Baes suffered severe burns. His condition is not known

<http://www.wivb.com/dpp/news/orleans/man-burned-when-gas-tank-explodes>

USA, MN, AUROA, MAY 18 2013. FUEL OIL SPILL CLEANUP ONGOING

Environmental crews have been cleaning up approximately 1,800 gallons of diesel fuel that spilled east of Highway 135 near Aurora on Tuesday evening. The driver of a tanker truck carrying diesel fuel to Northshore Mining near Babbitt died when the truck rolled over. A complete report will be posted on this website later today and will be in Saturday's MDN.

http://www.virginiamn.com/crime_map/article_a2e2fd1c-bf35-11e2-ac25-001a4bcf887a.html

ENGLAND, CHANNEL ISLANDS, GUERNSEY, MAY 18 2013. SACKED DRIVER CLAIMS TAKING FUEL WAS A PERK OF THE JOB



Former Channel Island Fuels tanker driver Martin Crittall, centre, enters an employment held at Les Cotils yesterday. Mr Crittall was sacked from his job last year after being caught taking fuel – known as drain-offs. It was something, he said, that was commonplace among other drivers and something which the firm knew about.

A tanker driver who was accused of stealing up to 180 litres of fuel in a month has challenged his dismissal. Martin Crittall, 48, had worked for Channel Island Fuels since 2004, but was sacked last year for gross misconduct, after being caught taking the fuel. At an employment tribunal, held at Les Cotils yesterday, he argued that many drivers took the dregs of petrol and diesel – known as drain-offs – from the tankers as a perk, something the management was aware of. Terminal operations manager David Cowens said that taking fuel 'was

certainly not commonplace. It was also not a cheaper method of disposal.' He denied being aware of staff benefitting from the 'perk'. The panel's decision will be published within three weeks.

<http://www.thisisguernsey.com/news/2013/05/17/sacked-driver-claims-taking-fuel-was-a-perk-of-the-job/>



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USA, MS, CHELMSFORD, MAY 19 2013. TANKER ROLLS IN CHELMSFORD, SPILLS SOME OF ITS FUEL; ROADS SHUT

 **Watch the Video** [Tanker Rolls in Chelmsford](#)

 **Photo's [21]** [Overnight Tanker Crash Creates Mess for Drivers](#)



A tanker loaded with 11,000 gallons of fuel leaked fuel after rolling over on Route 3 near the Lowell Connector.

A fuel tanker rolled over on Route 3 near the Lowell Connector late Friday night, spilling some of its fuel on the highway, Massachusetts State Police said. State police said the tanker, which was carrying 11,000 gallons of fuel, was leaking and that a regional Hazmat team responded. As a precaution, authorities said that all roads within 1,000 feet of the crash site were closed, and there were a number of other closures overnight. Route 3 northbound was closed at Route 129, Route 3 southbound closed at Drum Hill Rotary was closed overnight. Traffic heading northbound was getting by using the breakdown lane Saturday morning. Ramps that were closed: Route 3 north to Lowell Connector inbound, Route 129 to Route 3 north and 3 south, Route 495 north ramp to Route 3 south, Route 3 south to Route 495 south, Route 110 to Route 3 southbound. David Procopio of the Massachusetts State Police said the cause of the crash remains

under investigation and authorities are looking into whether the tanker rolled after being cut off by another vehicle. No injuries have been reported.

<http://www.wcvb.com/news/local/boston-north/tanker-rolls-in-chelmsford-spills-some-of-its-fuel-roads-shut/-/11984708/20202384/-/5fb05hz/-/index.html>

USA, VA, HAMPTON, MAY 19 2013. CAR BURSTS INTO FLAMES AFTER HITTING GAS PUMP IN HAMPTON

 **Watch the Video's:**

- [Explosion at Hampton Gas Station](#)
- [Flames Engulf Gas Station in Hampton](#)
- [Car Bursts into Flames after Hitting Gas Pump](#)

 **Photo's [4]** [Car Bursts into Flames after Hitting Gas Pump](#)

 **Photo's [5]** [Two-vehicle collision causes gas station fire](#)



A car burst into flames when it ran into a gas pump at a Hampton gas station Friday afternoon. 13News viewers sent us images of the fire and a burned vehicle at the Exxon station at Mercury Blvd. and Big Bethel Road. Fire officials there was a two-vehicle accident and one of the cars hit the gas pumps. That started a small fire which quickly grew as the gasoline ignited. Fire officials say that driver was taken to the hospital for treatment of a minor cut. Everyone in the other vehicle escaped without injuries. As of 1:30 p.m., Mercury Blvd. eastbound at Martha Lee Drive was closed for the investigation. [Click here to check](#) the traffic at the intersection of Mercury and Big Bethel. At the Shell gas station across the street, the owner told WVEC.com she shut down the pumps as a precaution.

<http://www.wvec.com/my-city/hampton/Car-bursts-into-flames-after-hitting-gas-pump-in-Hampton-207893911.html>



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