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Release 2013 – 959 Newsy Stuff

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May 10 2013



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USA, PA. TUNKHANNOCK, MAY 1 2013. SPILL AT WELL SITE SEEPS INTO HOUSE, MINIATURE HORSE FARM

laura legere

 **Watch the Video** [Spill on Wyoming Co Road Affects Neighbors](#)

Briny waste fluid spilled from a natural gas well site in Wyoming County on Tuesday morning and flowed onto a miniature horse farm and into the farmhouse basement and garage before it could be contained, the state Department of Environmental Protection said. The spill at the Mazzara well site along Sickler Road in Washington Twp. was the second in fewer than two months at a Carrizo Oil and Gas well pad in the municipality. Approximately 9,000 gallons of filtered waste fluid spilled at the site beginning about 9 a.m. after a hose came loose on a tank, DEP spokeswoman Colleen Connolly said. Brine from another gas well was being transferred from a truck to a storage tank on the site for reuse in an upcoming fracking operation, Wyoming County Emergency Management Agency Director Eugene Dziak said. An unknown amount of the fluid escaped the pad, flowed down a hill, crossed a road and entered the basement and garage of a nearby farmhouse, Ms. Connolly said. It soaked property at the horse farm, whose owners were out of state, but a farmhand kept the animals safely away from the fluid, she said. A second residence was also impacted by the spill, she said, but it was not clear how. The fluid was contained and the flow was "reduced to a trickle" by around 3 p.m., she said. Cleanup crews were working on site to remove the spilled fluid and Carrizo arranged to provide fresh water for the horses to drink as regulators and company contractors test nearby water supplies. Mr. Dziak said the company moved quickly to stop the spill and clean it up. "There wasn't any period of time that the public was in any danger because of the brine solution," he said. An equipment breach during fracking at Carrizo's nearby Yarasavage well pad on March 13 caused about 220,000 gallons of fluid to flow from the well, most of it captured in tanks. That incident led to the overnight evacuation of three families and shut down Carrizo's fracking operations in the state for three weeks before regulators cleared the company to resume work. Efforts to reach a Carrizo spokesman were unsuccessful on Tuesday evening.

<http://thetimes-tribune.com/news/dep-spill-at-well-site-seeps-into-house-miniature-horse-farm-1.1481928>

AUSTRALIA, NEW SOUTH WALES, TWEED HEADS, MAY 1 2013. FUEL SPILL INTO TWEED RIVER CONTAINED WITH CATCH BOOM

emma galliott

One hundred litres of diesel fuel leaked from a Tweed Shell-Coles Service Station and some has escaped into the Tweed River. On Monday works were being carried out when the spill occurred at the Frances St business. "They moved the fuel and it's caused a spill," Tweed Heads NSW Fire and Rescue Senior Firefighter Dick Fraser said. "It appears some did escape and go into the river." The Tweed Heads crew had to install a hydrocarbon boom to catch the diesel. "It's a long snake type thing that is absorbent and soaks up the fuel," he said. Snr Firefighter Fraser said the fuel leaked from the shut off valve and it took the crew roughly an hour to stop. Sand was also used to help clean up the fuel. A Tweed Shire Council spokeswoman said council was contacted yesterday morning by the fire brigade. "Response was very good by the company themselves who acted immediately and captured the vast majority on the site and contained it on the site," she said. "The fire brigade put in additional measures. "Council needs to consider the response and under these circumstances, there will be no fine. "It wasn't a purposeful breach of law as it was an accident and the company acted promptly and properly in response." She said it was "only a minor incident in that a very small amount made its way to the river, less than would run off a carpark after heavy rain." My Daily News contacted Shell and is awaiting comment.

<http://www.mydailynews.com.au/news/oil-spill-into-tweed-river-contained-with-catch-bo/1850480/>

USA, MA, PITTSFIELD, MAY 1 2013. CHARGES LEVIED BY DEP OVER OCT. '12 FUEL SPILL

andrew amelinckx

A North Adams municipal employee is facing criminal charges related to an October 2012 diesel spill in which fuel leaked into the Hoosic River. Glenn A. Robert, 63, of North Adams, pleaded not guilty Monday in Berkshire Superior Court to three charges: violation of the notification requirement of a release or threat of release of oil or hazardous waste, illegal disposal of hazardous waste and discharging a pollutant into the waters of the commonwealth. He was released on his own recognizance by Judge Daniel A. Ford and is expected back in court in July for a pretrial hearing. Robert's attorney, Richard D. LeBlanc, told New England Newspapers that he had just received Robert's case and was unable to comment. The spill that led to the charges, filed by the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, occurred at about 7:30 a.m. on Oct. 15, 2012, at the North Adams Department of Public Works facility on Ashland Street. According to DEP documents, Robert left a fuel pump



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unattended and about 20 gallons of diesel spilled onto the ground after the pump slipped out of the city vehicle that was being refueled. The fuel went into a storm drain and made its way into the nearby Hoosic River. On Tuesday, Mayor Richard J. Alcombright said that after the spill, the city's DPW supervisor was notified, as was the fire department and the DEP. "A containment boom was used [in the Hoosic River] by the fire department," said the mayor. A Springfield-based company issued a report on behalf of the city after the incident that stated residents near the river smelled diesel fuel and contacted the fire department, which in turn contacted the DEP. By law, a spill of this type must be reported within two hours, which the DEP alleges wasn't done in this case. The spill was made worse when Robert sprayed water on the fuel in an attempt to remove it from the ground near the pump, according to the report. "The fuel pump operator did not realize that the application of water to the fuel spill would exacerbate release conditions," the report states. The report found that a heavy rain on the night of the spill and into the next morning helped dilute any fuel left in the river, that the fire department's actions also helped, and that the released fuel did not pose a public safety risk. "[We] would expect that any petroleum remaining in the environment after deployment and recovery of the absorbents would rapidly diminish within a matter of days," the report stated. The spill has "been found to pose no significant risk of harm to human health, safety, public welfare, and the environment." Alcombright said Robert is still employed by the city. The mayor didn't want to comment on anything related to the pending litigation. He said the city has, and continues to, educate its employees on environmental issues. The state DEP referred all questions to the Berkshire District Attorney's Office, which refused to answer any questions related to the case.

http://www.thetranscript.com/headlines/ci_23144218/charges-levied-by-dep-over-oil-spill-12

USA, ALA, MOBILE, MAY 2 2013. COMPANY INVOLVED IN MOBILE RIVER BARGE EXPLOSION HAS RECORD OF OSHA CITATIONS; WORKER RELEASED

brendan kirby



The fuel barge involved in the Wednesday, April 24, explosion on Mobile Bay is pictured on Thursday, April 25, after the fire was extinguished. The company performing work on the barge has been cited in the past for OSHA violations but not in recent years.

A company that was cleaning a pair of oil barges that [exploded on the Mobile River](#) last week has a history of safety violations but not in the recent past, according to data provided by OSHA. The federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration is

conducting an investigation, along with the U.S. Coast Guard and the Mobile Fire-Rescue Department, into the cause of a series of explosions that severely injured three workers on April 24. One of those workers, Casey Tyson, got out of the University of South Alabama Medical Center today. A hospital spokesman said the other two, Justin Benoit and George Erickson, remain in critical condition. OSHA has up to six months from that date of the incident to issue its findings. It is not the first time that the business, Oil Recovery Co. of Alabama, has come under OSHA scrutiny. The company paid \$1,000 in penalties in 1991 after OSHA alleged eight "serious" violations in 1989. OSHA also cited the company for minor violations in 1990 and 1997, but neither of those resulted in fines. Representatives from the company have not returned repeated phone calls seeking comment. The most significant blemish on the company's OSHA record involved a number of safety violations that OSHA issued. The agency initially proposed penalties totaling \$3,240, but the ultimate resolution involved a \$1,000 fine. The penalties resulted from an "unprogrammed" inspection, which means it was scheduled in response to alleged hazardous working conditions, according to the agency. OSHA spokesman Mike D'Aquino said detailed records of the case were not readily available because it is so old. The regulations cited, however, give a sense of the conduct that the government alleged. It included:

- Not having a designated employee with knowledge of OSHA regulations.
- Having obstructions across the gangway to a vessel.
- A failure to verify that a required occupational hazard assessment had been performed.
- A violation involving eye and face protection.
- Four violations having to do with a hazard communications plan.



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OSHA defines a "serious" violation as one in which there is a "substantial probability that death or serious physical harm could result from a hazard about which the employer knew or should have known." The agency strikes a harsher posture for repeat violations or instances in which inspectors deem the violation "willful," or when the company fails to correct the problem. The other violations on Oil Recovery Co.'s record are listed as "other-than-serious" violations, which means there is a direct relationship to job safety and health but probably not one that would not cause death or serious injury. The 1997 violation had to do with lead exposure, a problem the company corrected the following month. The 1990 violations had to do with not having a designated employee with knowledge of OSHA regulations and a violation involving the hazard communications plan.

http://blog.al.com/live/2013/04/company_involved_in_mobile_riv.html

USA, MA, ARLINGTON, MAY 2 2013. ARLINGTON VOTES NO ON ALLOWING SELF-SERVE GAS STATIONS

Brock Parker

A bid to bring self-serve fueling stations to Arlington ran out of gas on the Town Meeting floor Monday, leaving the town as one of the last in the state in which an attendant must pump gasoline for customers. By a voice vote, Town Meeting voted against a proposal to begin allowing self-serve gasoline stations in Arlington after the lead sponsor for the proposal, Town Meeting member Carl Wagner, changed his mind citing unintended consequences of altering the local law. Wagner said that his proposal to bring self-serve gasoline stations did not do enough to keep full service from disappearing completely at gas stations, and also would not prevent "megastations" offering self service from moving into Arlington. "It needs more work," Wagner told Town Meeting, before urging the body to reject his proposal. Arlington banned self-service at gasoline stations in 1975 and is one of a dwindling number of towns in Massachusetts that require full service at the pump. Weymouth, Milford, and Upton also do not allow self-serve gasoline stations, but the state fire marshal's office, which oversees plans required for all self-serve stations, does not keep a list of which communities require full service and was unaware if any others ban self-serve stations. By a majority vote, Arlington Selectmen had backed Wagner's original proposal to change the local laws and allow self-serve gasoline, said Selectmen Chairman Dan Dunn. In the board's report to Town Meeting, Selectmen said the town's ban on self-service gasoline sales is out-dated and no longer sensible. "Technological advances since the introduction of self-service gasoline sales in the market have reduced safety hazards associated with the practice," the board reported. "Removal of the ban will make Arlington competitive with surrounding communities that offer self-service gasoline sales." The proposal to bring self-serve gasoline to Arlington had drawn some mixed reviews from local service stations and motorists. Some local service station workers said motorists are often careless at the pump, which leads to accidents including people driving away with the pumps still in their tanks. But others have said allowing self-service would improve the ability local gas stations to compete with those in surrounding communities. Wagner said he thinks selectmen voted correctly on the idea that Arlington can move forward from a 1950s-style law to having self-service. But Wagner said after the board had initially voiced its support for the change, he learned from town inspection workers that if his proposal was approved by Town Meeting, Arlington would have to allow stations that would have no full serve gasoline and there would be no limit on the size of gas stations. "Although some of you might think I'm a crazy person for wanting to have self-serve, I think everybody would probably like to have full serve, self-serve, and not have a change in the feel of our gas stations," Wagner said. "So I ask you to resoundingly vote no." Wagner said he has been pleased to learn that other processes underway in the town, including a comprehensive review of local zoning bylaws, could revisit the question of allowing self-serve gasoline.

http://www.boston.com/yourtown/news/arlington/2013/04/arlington_votes_no_on_allowing.html

USA, FLA, CRESTVIEW, MAY 2 2013. CRESTVIEW GAS STATION ACCIDENT

 **Watch the Video** [Crestview Gas Station Accident](#)

Highway 85 in Crestview was shut down for nearly 30-minutes this morning. Around 8:00 the Tom Thumb gas station next to Robinson Avenue caught on fire. Crestview police say a car ran off Ferdon Boulevard onto the gas station property. That car hit another car at Tom Thumb. The man who was pumping gas was pinned between his car and the pump. Witnesses were scared the gas station was going to explode. "You can still see the smoke damage here at the Tom Thumb store. Police say a woman driving down Highway 85 ran off the road and hit a man pumping gas, pinning his body against the pump." Jeremy Cochran works next door...He was getting ready to start his day when he heard a loud noise and a lot of screaming. Jeremy Cochran "The pumps on fire a dude's underneath his car on fire." Cochran jumped into action. "I went and grabbed a fire extinguisher and by the time I got in the middle of the road they had already almost had the fire put out." Witnesses said the fire department quickly put the flames out. And pulled the man stuck between the pump and his car to safety. He's listed in



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critical condition. Many people who work nearby were worried..."I was a little scared that it was going to blow up because there was a lot of fuel on the ground that could blow half this block up." Karaca Wright "Everything could've blew up around this surrounding area of the gas station." Michael Gregg "We kept talking about how we need to get away just in case the pump actually exploded. Most residents said it was an accident they never thought would happen at their local gas station. "The Tom Thumb store is still open, but you will not be able to pump gas for a little while."

<http://www.wear.tv.com/news/features/top-stories/stories/crestview-gas-station-accident-31435.shtml>

USA, N.Y, NEW YORK, MAY 2 2013. EPA FORCES NINE GAS STATIONS TO IMPROVE LEAK DETECTION

stephanie ostrowski

To improve the detection of gas leaks, the owners of nine gas stations will spend a minimum of \$112,000 as a result of an agreement with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Under the agreement announced April 23, Adirondack Energy Products Inc. and its affiliated companies will pay a \$46,000 fine to address their failure to comply with federal laws regarding the proper maintenance and operation of underground petroleum storage tank systems. If underground storage tanks are not properly maintained, they can pose a threat to the soil, surface water and ground water, according to the EPA. EPA inspections of tanks at nine gas stations revealed that important requirements of the federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act were not met. In addition to paying penalties, the agreement requires all facilities owned by Adirondack Energy Products, Inc. and affiliates to become compliant with the regulations. The companies own gas stations in Plattsburgh, Massena, Malone, Moira and Canton, N.Y. According to the agreement, the companies' and affiliates are to remove conventional leak detection devices from the nine gas stations and replace them with technologically-advanced leak detection equipment. The new equipment will collect all leak data then electronically transmit it to mobile devices carried by the companies' Environmental, Health and Safety Officer and Systems and Equipment Manager. The companies will hire a third-party contractor to conduct an environmental compliance audit at each of the nine gas stations, and also hire a contractor to conduct an education seminar for other owners and operators of underground storage tanks and federal regulations, according to the agreement. "Gas station owners have a responsibility to regularly monitor their underground storage tanks to protect against potential leaks of petroleum," said EPA Regional Administrator Judith A. Enck. "Leaking tanks can contaminate ground water, putting people and the environment at risk." In a separate action, according to the EPA an agreement was reached earlier this year with the United Refining Company to settle alleged violations relating to 17 underground storage tanks at six stations in Western New York. United Refining will pay a \$24,000 fine and has agreed to operate its underground tanks in full compliance with the law.

<http://legalnewsline.com/news/federal-government/241252-epa-forces-nine-gas-stations-to-improve-leak-detection>

USA, S.C, COLLETON CO, MAY 2 2013. MILITARY FUEL TANKER STOLEN

ansley sanders

Two people are facing charges after allegedly stealing a military fuel tanker from the National Guard Armory in Colleton County. The Sheriff's Office says the theft took place between Friday, April 26th and Monday, April 29th. At the time of the theft, the tanker was filled with 3,600 gallons of diesel fuel. The tanker was returned in the early morning hours of April 30th minus the fuel. After an extension investigation, officials say they were able to link two residences in the area to the fuel theft. Search warrants were executed at the homes located at 1165 and 1152 Risher Mountain Road. The Sheriff's Office says during that search, approximately 2,675 gallons of the stolen fuel was recovered. Clarence Edward Risher, Jr, 42, of Walterboro, and Melinda Montjoy Risher, 43, also of Walterboro, was both arrested in conjunction with the theft. The Sheriff's Office says more arrests are possible.

<http://www.wsav.com/story/22135116/military-fuel-tanker-stolen>

USA, GA, AUGUSTA, MAY 2 2013, AUGUSTA TO PAY FINES FOR UNDERGROUND TANK VIOLATIONS

rob pavey

[PDF Document EPA fact sheet on underground storage tank issues](#)

The city of Augusta will pay fines of \$8,850 and correct environmental violations involving three underground fuel storage tanks. Georgia Environmental Protection Division inspectors found deficiencies at tanks at the Augusta Riverfront Marina, the city landfill on Deans Bridge Road and the Augusta Public Transit office on Fenwick Street. According to consent orders signed by City Administrator Fred Russell, the violations included failure to install overflow prevention systems, monitor tanks



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at least every 30 days and conduct a required annual test of the automatic leak detectors. In addition to paying fines, city officials will correct all violations immediately, according to the orders, dated April 15 and posted on EPD's Web site last week. According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, there are about 584,000 underground tanks nationwide that store petroleum or hazardous substances, including 29,315 in Georgia. The greatest potential threat from a leaking underground tank is contamination of groundwater. Regulations require that underground tanks be installed properly, protected from spills and overflows, and closed properly.

<http://chronicle.augusta.com/news/metro/2013-04-30/augusta-pay-fines-underground-tank-violations?v=1367351219>

USA, N.C, GASTONIA, MAY 2 2013. DRIVER HITS GAS PUMP, TRIGGERS FIRE

 **Watch the Video** [Driver Hits Gas Pump, Triggers Fire](#)



Police are trying to determine what caused a driver to run into a gas pump, igniting a fire. The incident happened Monday afternoon at the Kingsway Citgo on Bessemer City Road. Officials said the car struck the gas pump, causing the fire. The fire heavily damaged one car and the gas pump, but there were no injuries. Damage was at least \$12,500, according to a police report. Fire officials said they were able to turnoff the gain line and prevent the fire from spreading.

<http://www.wcnc.com/news/local/Driver-accidently-strikes-gas-pump-igniting-a-fire-205316111.html>

USA, OH, BRISTOLVILLE, MAY 2 2013. OIL WELL SPILLS IN BRISTOLVILLE, HAZMAT CREWS ON SCENE

kacy standohar

A oil well spilled Wednesday afternoon in Bristoville on Mahan Denman Road. Hazmat crews are on scene and they believe an open valve was the cause of the spill. Crews are unsure how much crude oil spilled at this time. However, the oil spilled 3/4 of a mile downstream. Natural dams kept it from spreading too far and the Environmental Protection Agency put in booms to help clean it up. Stay connected with 21 News for more on this story as it

<http://www.wfmj.com/story/22131739/oil-tanker-spills-in-bristolville-hazmat-crews-on-scene>

USA, UT, WILLARD BAY, MAY 2 2013. PIPELINE AT WILLARD BAY FAILS PRESSURIZATION TEST

amy joi o'donoghue

 **Photo's [13]** [Pipeline at Willard Bay Fails Pressurization Test](#)



Chevron crews continue work on their petroleum pipeline clean up and testing at Willard Bay State Park Wednesday, May 1, 2013. Chevron's 8-inch pipeline is once again idled after it failed a pressurized test. The pipeline carrying diesel fuel suffered a split along its seam March 18 as it runs adjacent to I-15 in Box Elder County at Willard Bay. Cleanup continues.

"We are coming up on the busiest part of the season and this is the third most visited park in our system. It is a huge impact to us, our revenues, to have this park closed."

Chevron's pipeline that runs adjacent to I-15 at Willard Bay State Park has once again been idled, this time for failing a pressurization test. The failure happened between Bear River and Ogden in a stress test conducted Monday under the

supervision of the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Administration. Gareth Johnstone, a Chevron spokesman, said the standard operating pressure of the pipeline is 1,870 pounds per square inch and it failed at 2,606 pounds per square inch — or within 2.3 percent of the range where the pipeline would be expected to fail. "It is a process that you are expected to go through," he said. Still, the failure means more investigation for Chevron and more scrutiny for the 760-mile pipeline that runs from Salt Lake City and ultimately ends in Spokane, Wash. Federal investigators believe a failure of the seam in a section of



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the pipeline caused a March 18 spill of an estimated 600 barrels of diesel fuel. The diesel saturated some wetlands, contaminated nearby groundwater and some trickled into Willard Bay. Since then, the northern half of the bay and the state park's north marina and campground have been closed, creating frustration for the Utah State Division of Parks and Recreation. "We are coming up on the busiest part of the season and this is the third most visited park in our system," said spokeswoman Deena Loyal. "It is a huge impact to us, our revenues, to have this park closed." Loyal said the park will remain closed through the Memorial Day weekend and the division is just taking it day by day after that. "We're still in a holding pattern," she said. The park is accepting reservations for June, but that also remains a flexible situation as well. "The public has been understanding and good to work with us," she said. But she fears many of the anglers and campers are simply staying away altogether because the southern section hasn't been that busy. "We feel pretty much that people are finding other places to recreate." Loyal said Monday's test failure confirms their concerns that the park should remain closed until public health can be assured. "We definitely continue to have concerns over public health and public safety," she said. "We will rely on the science and the testing from the state Department of Environmental Quality to determine when we can open." The environmental agency in its latest update reports that trace concentrations of diesel-related contaminants continue to be detected in the treatment area. Chevron, it said, is routing clean water around the treatment area which will allow scientists to better determine the extent of soils contamination. The agency noted that removing the water from the treatment area has dried up the beaver ponds, where six beavers have been rescued. The animals continue to recover at the Wildlife Rehabilitation Center of Northern Utah.

<http://www.deseretnews.com/article/865579293/Pipeline-at-Willard-Bay-fails-pressurization-test.html>

USA, MN, ROCHESTER, MAY 2 2013. TANK LEAKS ANHYDROUS AMMONIA AFTER ACCIDENT



Byron firefighters work Wednesday morning at the scene of an accident on Olmsted County Road 3 involving a leaking anhydrous ammonia tank. The accident happened Tuesday afternoon on Olmsted County Road 3 near Valleyhigh Road. The crew stayed on the scene overnight.

Olmsted County Road 3 near Valleyhigh Road is open again following an accident Tuesday afternoon that resulted in an anhydrous ammonia leak. Traffic was allowed to flow again about 8:30 a.m. today. A tractor was pulling two tanks of anhydrous from Farmer's Co-Op in Pine Island to a location near the Rochester International Airport when the trailer apparently moved onto the

shoulder of the road, according to an official with the Olmsted County Sheriff's Office. One of the tanks rolled over in the ditch, causing an immediate leak. The second tank began leaking overnight, the official said. Byron firefighters weren't able to close the leaking valve on the tank that rolled, so the anhydrous was allowed to empty from the tank overnight. No one was injured, officials said.

http://www.postbulletin.com/news/local/tank-leaks-anhydrous-ammonia-after-accident/article_14bc8ba6-b266-11e2-a238-001a4bcf6878.html

ENGLAND, MANCHESTER, MAY 2 2013. FAILSWORTH FIREWORK BLAST BLAZE 'AN ACCIDENT'



The site was deemed safe at about 10:00 BST A fire caused by an exploding box of fireworks in Failsworth started by accident, Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service said. Six fire crews tackled the blaze on Morton Street which broke out at about 18:00 BST on Tuesday and spread to a building containing gas cylinders. Two men were taken to hospital with burns. One was discharged and the other is in a stable condition. The brigade said some wood being burned nearby "got slightly out of control". The fire spread to rubbish before reaching a nearby metal container which contained the fireworks, the fire service said. Firefighters spent the night cooling down the gas cylinders and the site was deemed safe at about 10:00. A multi-agency investigation is now under way to

establish the circumstances surrounding the storage of the fireworks.

 **Related Stories** [Two injured in firework blast blaze](#)

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-manchester-22367863>



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USA, OH, BRISTOL, MAY 2 2013. OIL SPILL TROUBLES NEIGHBORS >> FIRE CHIEF: LEAKING TANK REPORTED EARLY WEDNESDAY

joe gorman & raymond l. smith




Will Yonker of Bristol kneels next to an oil-absorbent boom placed across Snyder Creek, which runs through his property. Oil leaking from a storage tank spilled into the creek early Wednesday and traveled downstream, officials said. Will Yonker, 746 Mahan Denman Road, said he is worried that runoff from a Wednesday morning oil spill will cause significant damage to his 50-acre farm, the stream that runs through his property and perhaps to his drinking well. "I'm one property downstream from where the spill was located," Yonker said. "From what I've been told, someone left a valve open on a tank in which the oil was held." The spill was initially reported at about 9:45 a.m. at 655 Mahan Denman

Road, according to township fire Chief Roger French. It was crude oil that leaked into a nearby creek, where it traveled one mile downstream. French said crews from the state EPA and the Trumbull County Hazardous Materials Team were called to help contain the spill with booms and absorbent pads. "We found out about the spill because someone from the Hazmat team knocked on my door to ask my wife, Anita, if they could come on our property," Yonker said. "She called me at work." The Yonkers purchased their property about three years ago. "The creek runs through our property and is about 800 feet from our house," Yonker said. "When we're near it, the smell is pretty bad. We have four kids who love going to the creek. We're now going to have to keep them away." Yonker planned on planting a fruit orchard on the property. He now is worried they will not be able to do the planting. "We don't know the level of damage," Yonker said. "We're going to have to test our well water to make sure oil is not seeping into it. We will keep testing it. The well is our only source of water." In the meantime, the family will use bottled water for drinking and cooking. The Yonkers decided not to sell the mineral rights to the property because they wanted to preserve the land and were worried about a spill. "We're getting the downside of it," he said. EPA officials are looking for a firm to handle the cleanup, but French said he did not know how long that will take. EPA spokesman Mike Settles said it is estimated about 1,600 gallons of crude oil leaked out of the tank. He said a company called Chemtron to help with the cleanup. Settles said the cleanup is expected to last a couple of days. He said investigators on the scene said there was a sheen of oil on the water and other oil was clumped around rocks in the creek. French said it is not clear how the valve on the tank, which is located between two houses, was left open. He said Hazmat will be investigating to see how that happened. "I was frustrated because no one will tell us what company owns the tank," Yonker said. No roads were closed in the area and no one was evacuated, French said.

<http://www.tribtoday.com/page/content.detail/id/586919/Oil-spill-troubles-neighbors.html?nav=5021>

INDIA, MADHYA PRADESH, UJJAIN, NAGDA, MAY 2 2013. 50 ILL AFTER GAS LEAK FROM GERMAN CHEMICAL PLANT

Panic gripped the industrial town of Nagda in Ujjain, nearly 120 km from here, when a toxic gas leaked from a German plant on Tuesday affecting 50 villagers in the vicinity. While most of those affected were discharged after primary treatment, three plant officials were arrested and later released on bail. Victims complained of cough, burning in eyes and breathlessness and were admitted to Indubhai Parekh Memorial Hospital for treatment. All but three were discharged within hours of being admitted. Thionyl Chloride, used in the manufacture of special chemicals like plastics and rubber, started leaking from the German plant, Lanxess, around 9.15pm on Tuesday, affecting people in the surrounding villages. The leak took place after a glass tube in the plant developed a crack. Company officials said there was no damage due to the leak. "We arrested three officers of the plant: Rajesh Kamewad (plant manager), Devendra Dhami (senior manager, safety) and Arvind Yagnik (assistant manager, production). They were released on bail within a few hours," superintendent of police, Nagda, Deepak Shukla, told TOI. Although TC isn't toxic, it forms chemicals like sulphur dioxide and hydrochloric acid once it comes in contact with air. These chemicals have ill affects on human body. The leak took place due to a crack in a glass tube rotameter in the plant. Vice president, manufacturing, Lanxess, Bappa Bandyopadhyay, said, "As a responsible corporate, we have taken necessary actions and the situation is under control." An American plant, Gulbrandsen, is just a stone's throw away, and it uses chlorine gas to manufacture Aluminium Chloride, used as a catalyst in the pharma industry.

 **Related Stories** [Gas leak creates panic at Nagda](#)

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/indore/50-ill-after-gas-leak-from-German-chemical-plant/articleshow/19827905.cms>



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USA, MO, RIPLEY CO, DONIPHAN, MAY 2 2013. EXXON'S PEGASUS OIL PIPE SPILLS CRUDE INTO MISSOURI YARD

edward mcallister & robert gibbons



Exxon Mobil Corp's near 70-year-old Pegasus oil pipeline leaked a small amount of crude into a residential yard in Ripley County, Missouri on Tuesday, a month after the same pipe spewed thousands of barrels of crude in Arkansas. A resident notified the company of the spill after spotting a patch of oil and dead vegetation seven miles south of Doniphan in the southeast of the state, Exxon and state officials said on Wednesday. About one barrel of crude leaked and the cleanup is "close to completion", an Exxon spokeswoman said. Tuesday's spill occurred 200 miles north of Mayflower, Arkansas, where about 5,000 barrels of crude spilled from the Pegasus pipe into a residential area on March 29, prompting a giant clean-up operation that is still ongoing. The Mayflower spill stoked a fractious national debate about the effect of shipping increasing amounts of tarry Canadian crude across the United States, including through residential areas and in aging pipelines. The Pegasus line, which can carry more than 90,000 barrels a day of crude from Illinois to Texas, was built in the late 1940s. It was shut after the Arkansas spill and was not in operation when the Missouri spill occurred. "The release occurred from the installation of a guide wire for a power line pipe that was installed approximately 30 years ago," a spokeswoman for the Missouri Department of Natural Resources said on Wednesday. "The guide wire was located almost directly on top of the pipeline and has worn down over the years." The Exxon spokeswoman said the cause was under investigation. Exxon has not offered a timeline for when Pegasus will restart, which requires regulatory approval. The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, which is responsible for approving pipeline restarts, was not immediately available for comment on Wednesday and it was unclear if the second spill would slow the restart process.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/05/01/us-exxon-pipeline-spill-idUSBRE94012O20130501>

CANADA, ONT, CAMBRIDGE, MAY 2 2013. CLEANUP ORDER AT FORMER FACTORY A NEW TEST FOR BOARDROOM LIABILITY

jeff gray



A battle over who should pay to clean up the toxins that leaked out of a factory in Southwestern Ontario – and into the groundwater underneath nearby homes – is raising concerns on Bay Street. In a case that could have wide ramifications for Corporate Canada, 12 former board members of bankrupt helicopter-parts maker Northstar Aerospace Inc. and its Canadian unit are fighting an order from the Ontario Ministry of the Environment that would force them to personally pay for the estimated \$15-million cleanup of the site in Cambridge, Ont. The sweeping order against a group of former directors of a public company is a first, lawyers say, although the Ontario Ministry of the Environment has previously issued similar cleanup orders against either directors of small companies or sole owner-operators that had day-to-day responsibility for the pollution in question. Some lawyers on Bay Street warn that allowing the move means that anyone sitting, even briefly, on the board of a manufacturer or a resource company could face unlimited liability for a pollution problem discovered years later. Board seats, critics warn, would become impossible to fill, potentially paralyzing public companies or forcing them to flee to other jurisdictions. The Institute of Corporate Directors (ICD) is so alarmed by the potential precedent that it plans to intervene in the case, which may go before the province's Environmental Review Tribunal. Stan Magidson, the Institute's president and chief executive officer, said that going after directors "regardless of their culpability" would "be extremely injurious" to Ontario's capital markets and its economy as a whole: "Companies would locate operations elsewhere. ... It would be very difficult to find directors, if that was the regulatory regime." In a submission to the Environmental Review Tribunal, Paul Guy, a lawyer with WeirFoulds LLP acting for the former directors, says his clients made sure the company paid for the remediation until it ran out of money: "The [former directors and officers] did everything they could, for as long as they could." Kate Jordan, a spokeswoman for the Ministry of the Environment, said the order against the directors was necessary to ensure that air monitoring in more than 450 local homes could continue and more than 200 air-treatment systems at homes, businesses and a church, can keep operating. "The province stands behind the 'polluter pays' principle," Ms. Jordan said in an e-mail. "The persons responsible for contamination are responsible for cleaning it up." The



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dispute comes as courts wrestle with the broader question of whether environmental cleanup orders should be paid first, before other creditors get at the remains of bankrupt companies. It's an impossible dilemma that pits the environment not just against a company's bankers and suppliers, but against pensioners who have seen their benefits slashed when their employer goes belly-up. Environment Ministry officials had earlier tried to get their hands on the actual proceeds from the sale of Northstar's assets to pay for the cleanup. But the judge in the insolvency proceedings ruled against them, deeming them simply another creditor. Ministry officials have also tried unsuccessfully to extract \$18-million from the bankruptcy of Nortel Networks Corp. to clean up four of that company's polluted former facilities. Both of those cases go before the Ontario Court of Appeal next month. However, the Supreme Court of Canada ruled on a similar issue just last year, in the case of environmental orders issued by the province of Newfoundland and Labrador against AbitibiBowater Inc. The court said that, in most cases, regulators should have the same status as other creditors. Toronto environmental lawyer Dianne Saxe, who acts for one of Northstar's directors and has written about the issue on her blog, said the company, after discovering the contamination and reporting it to the ministry in 2005, voluntarily spent almost \$20-million on remediation measures before it ran out of money last year. "Really, what they are saying is, officers and directors, whether you have done anything wrong or not, retroactively, you have given a blank cheque for whatever we decide to order to you to do," Ms. Saxe said. The ministry's November, 2012, order, however, alleges the directors failed to ensure money was put aside to finish the remediation, and permitted the discharge of contaminants that could endanger "human health or safety." The directors deny the allegations. Both sides are now awaiting a decision from the judge in the insolvency case, Justice Geoffrey Morawetz, on whether the fight should be heard in his courtroom or before the province's Environmental Review Tribunal. Northstar Aerospace operated at the Cambridge site as far back as 1981, and used a chemical called trichloroethylene as a metal degreaser. Once widely used, it is now known to cause cancer. In tests in 2005, however, it was found in nearby groundwater at levels many times higher than the ministry standard, evaporating through the soil and into the air inside nearby homes. Public health officials told residents their drinking water was safe and that, in most cases, the risk of cancer from their exposure was "very low." But more than 200 homeowners have had to install "indoor air mitigation systems" to filter out the potentially harmful vapours.

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/report-on-business/industry-news/the-law-page/cleanup-order-at-former-factory-a-new-test-for-boardroom-liability/article11668252/>

CANADA, TORONTO, MAY 3 2013. CANADIAN JUDGE DISMISSES LAWSUIT AGAINST CHEVRON

An attempt by Ecuadorian villagers to have a Canadian court enforce a \$19 billion judgment against multinational oil giant Chevron Corp has been dismissed by the Ontario Superior Court. Justice David Brown ruled Wednesday that the Canadian courts have no jurisdiction to enforce the controversial award handed down by an Ecuadorian court against Chevron. The award to the villagers was made in Ecuador for black sludge contamination of a rainforest between 1972 and 1990 by Texaco, which Chevron Corp. bought in 2001. U.S.-based Chevron Corp. maintains it won't pay because it says Texaco dealt with the problem before it was bought. Brown concluded the judgment was levied against Chevron Corp., and not Chevron Canada, therefore the subsidiary's assets do not belong to the U.S. parent company. The villagers launched the court action in Canada last May, and started similar proceedings in Argentina and Brazil. Alan Lenczner, the Toronto lawyer for the Ecuadorians, said they would appeal. "It cannot be right that a multinational company that operates entirely through subsidiaries is immune from the enforcement of a judgment in Canada, particularly where the subsidiary is 100% owned," Lenczner said in a statement. Chevron said it was pleased with the court decision. "This is a significant setback to the Ecuadorian plaintiffs' worldwide enforcement strategy given that it is premised on seeking to enforce the judgment against assets of Chevron Corporation subsidiaries that were not even parties to the Ecuadorian litigation," said Chevron spokesman Justin Higgs in an email. "The plaintiffs should be seeking enforcement in the United States — where Chevron Corporation resides."

<http://fuelfix.com/blog/2013/05/01/canadian-judge-dismisses-lawsuit-against-chevron/>

PHILIPPINES, LAGUNA, SAN PEDRO, MAY 3 2013. GAS TANKER CATCHES FIRE IN LAGUNA; 1 HURT

At least one person was reported injured after a fuel tanker caught fire along the South Luzon Expressway in Laguna province Wednesday night. The incident occurred near a gas station at the northbound part of SLEX in San Pedro in Laguna, radio dzBB reported early Thursday. Witnesses quoted by the dzBB report said they saw at least one person sustaining burns and being brought to a nearby hospital. Also, witnesses said at least one vehicle in the area was damaged when the tanker caught fire. Police are still investigating the cause of the incident. Just a week ago, tension gripped a neighborhood in General Trias



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town in Cavite City, also in the Calabazon region, after a [liquefied petroleum gas tank exploded at an LPG refilling station](#) on April 27. General Trias police head Superintendent Alfredo Dagani said there was no initial report of injury in the incident.

<http://www.gmanetwork.com/news/story/306437/news/regions/gas-tanker-catches-fire-in-laguna-1-hurt>

USA, LA, NEW ORLEANS, MAY 3 2013. OIL TANKER'S CHIEF ENGINEER PLEADS GUILTY IN POLLUTION PROBE, FACES PRISON SENTENCE

An oil tanker's chief engineer has admitted telling other crew members to lie to Coast Guard investigators in a pollution probe. Fifty-seven-year-old Inigo Albina, of the Philippines, faces up to five years in prison and a \$250,000 fine following his guilty plea Wednesday in New Orleans to obstruction of justice. He was responsible for the engine room of a tanker that was boarded by the Coast Guard near New Orleans in January. Federal prosecutors say Albina told crew members to deny knowing that hoses and pumps were used to bypass the vessel's oil water separator. He also allegedly signed records that said the tanker's bilge water had passed through the equipment before being discharged overboard. Prosecutors said it was instead pumped into a sewage holding tank, then into the ocean.

<http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/5376393487d348089984a44af7e21c2f/LA--Pollution-Probe>

PHILIPPINES, MANILA, MAY 3 2013. OIL TRUCK CATCHES FIRE IN SLEX GAS STATION; 1 CRITICAL

A driver is in critical condition after an oil truck caught fire at a gas station along South Luzon Expressway (SLEX) in San Pedro, Laguna on Wednesday evening. Manila Toll Expressway Systems, Inc. officials said the oil truck was parked near the stockroom of the gas station in Barangay San Antonio when it caught fire at around 8 p.m. A Mitsubishi L300 van parked beside it also caught fire, leaving its driver, Orlando Callo, in critical condition. Callo is in critical condition at the Asian Hospital and Medical Center after sustaining second-degree burns in 90 percent of his body. The truck's driver, meanwhile, was able to run away from the truck before the fire could spread. Authorities suspect that faulty electrical wiring caused the oil truck to catch fire. Firefighters were able to put out the fire immediately and prevented the blaze from spreading throughout the gas station.

 **Related Stories** [Fuel Pilferage Seen in Gas Station Fire](#)

<http://www.abs-cbnnews.com/nation/regions/05/02/13/oil-truck-catches-fire-slex-gas-station-1-critical>

AUSTRALIA, QUEENSLAND, TOOWOOMBA, MAY 3 2013. SHELL PETROL STATION STAFF DOUSE FIRE IN CAR

Swift actions by fuel station staff avoided what could have been a catastrophe in Highfields this morning. Queensland Fire and Rescue crews were contacted with reports of a car on fire at the Shell Service Station. Staff members were quick to douse the flames using fire extinguishers. A QFRS spokeswoman said one unit was deployed from the Highfields station to assist with the situation, but arrived to find it under control. One crew remained at the scene to help staff secure the area.

<http://www.thechronicle.com.au/news/staff-douse-fire-in-car/1852105/>

USA, MI, YPSILANTI TWP, MAY 3 2013. SERVICE STATION OWNER DENIES DUMPING GAS

tara edwards

 **Watch the Video** [Service Station Owner Denies Dumping Gas](#)



The owner of an Ypsilanti Township auto repair and oil change shop wants to defend himself against recent accusations alleging his workers dumped gas down a storm sewer on purpose. "There are two sides to every story," said Mike Murillo. According to the Wayne County Sheriff's Department, a customer from a nearby business noticed the stench of gas and did some investigating. The customer called police. Murillo told 7 Action News workers were trying to repair a fuel tank on a car when gas started leaking from a bin which was used to store the fluid. According to Murillo, the substance drained into this storm sewer. Murillo believes it was three or four gallons of gas. "It was a small innocent spill and nobody is responsible for dumping any kind of fluids," said Murillo. Mike Radzik, director of the Office of Community Standards told 7 Action News, "Any time these kind of hazardous materials get into the storm water system and ultimately into the county drain system, it pollutes, contaminates water waste in



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Michigan which is clearly against the law." Inspectors took samples from the storm drain and are investigating the situation now. According to Radzik, the building has several violations and needs repair. The area is zoned in B3 commercial, which means the car shop is only supposed to do minor fixes. It is alleged Murillo, who rents the building, was selling cars at the shop and it is not zoned for those type of sales. "From my misunderstanding, from my landlord... I rented this building three and a half years ago. I was never told... from my ignorance I guess, that we could not sell cars here," said Murillo. "As you can see the cars are all gone." It is not clear if an criminal charges will be filed. The township is filing a civil lawsuit against the business. Both Radzik and Murillo hope to continue a working business relationship in the area.

<http://www.wxyz.com/dpp/news/service-station-owner-denies-dumping-gas>

USA, PA, MONTGOMERYVILLE, MAY 3 2013. NO INJURIES IN MONTGOMERY TOWNSHIP CHEMICAL SPILL



Emergency crews responded to a chemical spill in Montgomery Township.

Wednesday afternoon. No one was injured, but the chemical — which has yet to be publicly identified — is a danger to the respiratory system and skin, officials at the scene said. Bill Wiegman, chief of the Fire Department of Montgomery Township, said the chemical was utilized in the processing of an epoxy made by the company. Emergency responders — including Fire Department of Montgomery Township, Montgomery County HazMat Station 81 and Wissahickon Ladder 7 — were called to 130 Commerce Drive around 1:45 p.m. The spill was contained to the building and the hazmat team conducted air and temperature monitoring inside. Most of Commerce Drive was blocked to traffic

during the incident. FDMT personnel were on the scene until about 5:20 p.m.

<http://www.thereporteronline.com/article/20130502/NEWS01/130509966/no-injuries-in-montgomery-township-chemical-spill>

SOUTH KOREA, HWASEONG, MAY 3 2013. THREE INJURED IN SAMSUNG GAS LEAK, SECOND TIME THIS YEAR AT HWASEONG PLANT

rick burgess

South Korean news agencies are reporting that electronics giant Samsung experienced a toxic gas leak at a manufacturing facility in Hwaseong. Yet another dent in Samsung's increasingly blighted safety record, the resulting gaseous hydrofluoric acid leak injured at least three employees. The severity of those injuries is unknown. Of its many industrial uses, hydrofluoric acid is used to etch chip wafers and glass. It's also commonly utilized in the removal of oxidization (rust) and other contaminants from materials like steel. Although considered a relatively weak acid, the chemical is [highly toxic](#) (pdf) and even



low exposures are capable of inducing permanent impairment or death. Several months ago -- at the same Hwaseong plant -- a similar incident involving the same gas injured four workers, but also led to the death of one crew member. Reportedly, workers attempted to contain the gas leak with a plastic bag while it took Samsung nearly 14 hours to report the incident. Investigators believe that Samsung had aimed to cover up the event, but the worker's demise prompted plant officials to report the incident to authorities within one hour after his death. Earlier this year, Samsung promised to "overhaul" its system as a measure intended to prevent future gas leaks. The company claimed today's mishap

wasn't a systems failure though, but the result of work being performed on its gas conduits. Only a "small amount" of gas leaked, Samsung suggested. Interestingly, gadget-maker Samsung is still being investigated over its previous incident, making this dangerous occurrence of deja vu even more of an embarrassment to the company. At least seven employees, three of which were officials, were charged for negligence leading to the previous event. Circumstances leading up to the latest incident are still being investigated.

Related Stories

- [Toxic Acid Leak at Samsung's Chip Plant Injures 3](#)
- [2nd Acid Leak at Samsung Electronics Injures 3](#)
- [3 Samsung Workers Injured in Acid Leak at Chip Plant](#)

<http://www.techspot.com/news/52456-three-injured-in-samsung-gas-leak-second-time-this-year-at-hwaseong-plant.html>



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USA, MI, MACOMB CO, MAY 3 2013. POLICE AND FIRE OFFICIALS ON THE SCENE OF OIL SPILL IN MACOMB COUNTY

Police and fire officials are on the scene of what appears to be some kind of oil spill in Macomb County. Sterling Heights resident Mike Rogers says he and a friend went to go fishing in the Red Run River, when he noticed a black sheen on the water- something he's never seen before. "It's not a normal – change your car oil over the sewer drain – this is a serious amount of oil in this river," Rogers said. "As far as I can see – 50 feet wide – the whole top is covered in oil. There is oil slick across the whole thing." Police are confirming that there is some kind of oil spill in the area of 14 Mile and Hoover roads. "There's a lot of oil and it needs to be stopped before it hits our Great Lakes," said Rogers. "I'm very concerned, I own a boat, I fish, I love walleye and perch and I rely on them every summer and that's winter food." "Little by little as we are fishing ... I'm seeing more and more oil coming down and more and more oil. And there's a little spot by the pillar by the bridge that holds a reservoir – it is solid black – full of black oil like we seen in the BP accident down in the Gulf," he said. No word on where the oil is coming from but sources tell WWJ that it could be motor oil that has made its way into the river. The city water department will be out Friday morning to determine whether there has been any environmental impact by the oil spill.

<http://detroit.cbslocal.com/2013/05/02/fire-and-hazmat-officials-on-the-scene-of-oil-spill-in-macomb-county/>

ENGLAND, BRISTOL, MAY 3 2013. OIL LEAK INTENTIONAL >> SHERIFF: VALVE WAS LEFT OPEN; NO CHARGES YET

joe gorman



Police said someone tampered with this valve at the base of an oil storage tank along Mahan Road that spilled crude oil into Snyder Creek in Bristol.

A leak at a Mahan Denman Road oil storage tank that spilled into a nearby creek was caused on purpose, police said. Trumbull County Sheriff's Office Maj. Thomas Stewart said Thursday that investigators have determined a valve on the well was turned on and left on, which discharged more than 1,600 gallons of crude oil onto the ground and into a nearby creek. "Someone definitely turned the nozzle on," Stewart said. Stewart said family members have been arguing over royalties at the well, and that may have been why the valve was opened. No charges have been filed at this time. According to a sheriff's office report, deputies on Wednesday responded to a neighbor dispute at 655 Mahan Denman Road. Deputies said they identified the parties involved as Michael Tenney, 60, of 670 Mahan Denman Road, Bristolville, and William Tenney, 48, of 405 Greenville Road, Cortland. Deputies said the dispute was over the oil spill on the property at the 655 Mahan Denman Road. The property is owned by Percy Tenney, who was in the hospital recovering from surgery. The leak was reported about 9:40 a.m. Wednesday and crews from the Trumbull County Hazardous Materials Team, the state Department of Natural Resources and the Ohio EPA were on the scene investigating. The report states that William Tenney received a call from his father that something was happening at the farm and he wanted him to check it out. William Tenney told deputies that when he arrived at the well, a valve was opened and a cap on the cover was also removed, allowing oil to drain into the pit and overflow into the adjacent creek, the report states. HazMat crews at the scene found that someone had opened the valve again, letting more oil out. Michael Tenney then went to the property and started arguing with William Tenney that he wasn't getting free gas for his residence anymore, the report states. A subcontractor for Parrot Energy, which leases the well, reported

that there was approximately 400 gallons of oil in the tank, which is equal to 40 barrels, when he last checked the well in December. The estimated value of the oil is between \$3,800 and \$4,000, the report states. Percy Tenney would have received a percentage of the oil price based on his contract with Parrot. EPA spokesman Mike Settles said a company called Chemtron is trying to clean the soil and water, but the cleanup in the water will be very slow. He said workers will be walking in the creek with absorbent pads to remove oil and they may not be done until sometime next week. Settles said of the 1,680 gallons of



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crude oil spilled, about a third made it into the creek. Most of the oil that did not make it to the creek has already been cleaned up. Will Yonker, who lives next to the well and who also has the stream run through the property, said he is concerned that if it rains, the creek will overflow and the oil in the creek can then be flooded onto the ground. He said the creek floods a lot during heavy rains because the ground is flat. Yonker said he was told by workers at the scene that the cleanup effort in the creek will depend on a heavy rain which will wash the oil downstream and dilute it. Settles said if charges are filed officials can also file paperwork making whoever is responsible reimburse officials for the cleanup. Neighbors were advised to contact the Trumbull County Health Department for testing if they have any smell, color or taste in the water.

<http://www.tribtoday.com/page/content.detail/id/586982/Oil-leak-intentional.html?nav=5021>

SCOTLAND, GLASGOW, MAY 4 2013. CONTAMINATION COST BLOW FOR HOMEOWNERS

jody harrison



Then: The old printworks.

Residents of a village near Glasgow are facing bills of tens of thousands of pounds after it was discovered their homes were built on land contaminated with dangerous chemicals. Homeowners in Blanefield, Stirlingshire, have been told they will have to pay between £22,000 and £33,000 to have the land made safe. Problems surfaced when a soil analysis carried out by the local authority last year found traces of lead and arsenic which posed a "significant possibility of harm" to residents. A group of 13 homes situated around Blane Avenue, Blane Crescent and Blane Place are affected, and work will now have to be carried out to dig up their gardens and replace much of the ground with clean soil. The ground is the former site of the Blanefield Printworks, which closed more than a century ago, and it is thought the chemicals leaked into the ground from dye vats. A report by

Stirling Council said children are particularly at risk from the contaminants, and residents have been given guidance on how to minimise the danger. The clean-up bill is expected to run to more than £300,000, and people living in the area have called on Stirling Council to help them foot the bill. The homes were built in the 1960s long after the Victorian printing plant was demolished. The company that ran it has long gone out of business and there is no successor firm which can help pay for the decontamination work. Margaret Vass, chair of Strathblane Community Council, said many residents were in shock over the huge bills they face to make their homes safe. She said: "For the past 18 months residents have been worrying if their garden will be classed as contaminated. This has been a desperately difficult time for them. "Now the small number of residents who are affected through no fault of their own may be faced with paying for their gardens to be cleaned up. The residents and all our community are pressing Stirling Council to fully fund the remediation needed and not to register the properties on the contaminated land register. "This is so unfair and could never have been anticipated when residents bought their home. In some households there has been three generations of occupation and there have been no recorded ill-effects to date." Stirling MSP Bruce Crawford has been working with families affected and Stirling Council to try and find a solution. He said: "I have been working closely with the residents' group, the community council and Stirling Council since the issues concerning the former Blanefield Printworks site came to light. "All sides have engaged positively to find a solution to these issues, and I will continue to work on behalf of the residents to secure the most positive outcome possible." Work to make the land safe will involve digging more than 1ft of topsoil out of exposed ground and placing a protective cover in the trench. This will then be covered with fresh earth brought in from elsewhere. Stirling Council is due to discuss a rescue package for the residents at a meeting on June 6. A council spokesman said: "At their meeting on April 11, 2013, Stirling Council's Environment and Housing Committee considered a report by council officers detailing the findings of their investigation into a contaminated land issue affecting a number of properties on a housing estate in Blanefield. "The committee also agreed to instruct officers to consider the options for the provision of financial help to affected owners and to report back to their next meeting. "Affected owners have been advised as to the status of their property. This issue has caused considerable worry and distress to all of the owners in the area through no fault of their own."

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/contamination-cost-blow-for-homeowners.20976833>



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USA, PA, HONESDALE, MAY 4 2013. NEW FUEL TANKS INSTALLED AT HIGHHOUSE OIL >> IT WAS A SIGHT TO BEHOLD EARLY THURSDAY MORNING ON ERIE STREET IN HONESDALE.

greg little



It was a sight to behold early Thursday morning on Erie Street in Honesdale. The street was blocked off and a crane was sitting in the middle of the roadway. By 7:30 a.m., the smaller tank was installed. Around 8, operations began to install the larger tank. "State of the art," said Alan Highhouse, owner of Highhouse Oil Operations, Inc., of Honesdale. The operation on Thursday was replacing steel petroleum storage tanks with double-wall fiberglass tanks. Highhouse said the project "demonstrates" the company's "continuing commitment both to the country's petroleum needs and to the health of the environment." The project has been in the works for quite some time, he said. Preparations to install the new tanks have been going on for the past couple of months. Once those are in place and ready for operation, the old steel tanks will be removed from the ground. They are located just adjacent to the new tanks. This method allows for continuous

operation of the company. Highhouse said the old tanks will be drained and cleaned with any waste properly disposed of at a certified facility. The old tanks will be sent to a scrap yard. He expects that will take place in early June. In the meantime, the new tanks will be made operational. That includes all of the piping, electronics, pumps and much more. All of the tanks and piping will be continuously monitored around the clock to ensure there are no leaks. Computer technology allows constant monitoring of all the equipment. Additionally, there will be a large-volume vapor recovery system used with the tanks which will keep the air cleaner. Highhouse said it is a closed system and comes with the latest technology. Also included in these improvements is removal of several structures in the immediate area. A new block house has been constructed and will be the central hub of monitoring the new tanks. Highhouse also said they plan to do landscaping in the area to spruce it up, especially, he noted, since it is located next to a cemetery. Highhouse said the company wants to make sure there is respect shown for the church and cemetery. The new tanks, which were built in Pennsylvania, were brought up by truck overnight on Wednesday and early Thursday morning. Crews from Leeward Construction used equipment to hoist and install the new tanks. The smaller tank is 21,000 gallons. The large tank is 30,000 gallons and measures 10-feet, six-inches in diameter and is 55 feet long. Highhouse Oil Company began operations in 1946. It is currently moving into its third generation of family ownership "and strives everyday to be a supplier of choice in Wayne County."

<http://www.wayneindependent.com/article/20130502/NEWS/130509946>

USA, LA, DENHAM SPRINGS, MAY 4 2013. OIL TANK EXPLODES NEAR DENHAM SPRINGS, HOMES EVACUATED

diana samuels

 **Slideshow [11] Oil Tank Explodes**



An oil tank exploded near Denham Springs on Thursday, May 2, causing emergency officials to evacuate homes in the area. No injuries were reported. Photo courtesy of Livingston Parish Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness.

An oil tank exploded near Denham Springs Thursday evening at around 10:30 p.m., shooting flames 30 feet high and leading officials to evacuate 30 to 35 homes in the area. No injuries were reported from the blast as of about 12:45 a.m. Friday, and officials said no one had reported damage to their homes. The explosion was near Linder and Arnold roads. The fire was still burning about two hours after the explosion, as firefighters waited for Livingston Parish emergency personnel to arrive with firefighting foam. The foam began arriving at about 1 a.m. The Louisiana Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness was posting updates on its Facebook page. Evacuated residents would be let back in their homes once the fire was out, said Mark Harrell, director of the Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness in Livingston Parish, but he could not say how long that would take. The fire was contained in



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about a 200-square-foot area, Harrell said. Harrell said that there were two oil holding tanks at the scene that had a combined capacity of about 2,300 barrels of oil. One of them ruptured and caught on fire. The second tank had not exploded but was bulging slightly from the heat, Harrell said. He declined to release the name of the company that owns the tanks, and said it's not known why one of them ruptured and caught fire. As of 11:30 p.m. the roadway was closed at Linder and Arnold roads. A column of smoke was visible from the area where emergency workers blocked the road, but no flames could be seen as of about midnight. The area is fairly rural and has mostly mobile homes. Kim Bradley, who lives just outside of the area that was evacuated, said she and her neighbor thought a tree fell on their houses at first. "It just blew up," Bradley said. "I was in my house when all of the sudden you felt the boom of it. It shook the windows." Donald Davidson Jr., another nearby resident, said he was in his room playing video games when the explosion happened. "The whole house started shaking and knocking stuff off the wall," he said. "At first, I thought it sounded like thunder so I walked outside and I saw a big old fireball coming up."

http://www.nola.com/traffic/baton-rouge/index.ssf/2013/05/oil_tank_explodes_near_denham.html#incart_river

CHINA, BEIJING, MAY 4 2013. CHINA TIGHTENS ROAD RULES

A revised Dangerous Cargo Trucking Code will take effect in China on July 1. The new Code spells out detailed requirements in a number of areas, including parking, personnel, truck maintenance and third-party safety assessment. Dangerous Cargo Trucking Code will "ensure that dangerous cargo will be safer on the road". In addition to outlining detailed specifications for trucks allowed to transport dangerous cargo, the revised Code stipulates that parking for trucks carrying dangerous goods should be located in areas that pose no immediate threat to local residents and public safety. Trucks carrying extremely toxic material or explosives must display warning signs while parked. Parking spaces can be leased but only for a maximum period of three years, with individual parking slots clearly specified in the lease contract. The revised Code requires each trucking company to set up a safety management system. This involves creating a proper corporate structure with specially trained staff at different levels of the organisation with clearly defined responsibilities. The revised Code reaffirms the requirement that all dangerous goods truck drivers and other personnel involved in loading and unloading and guarding the goods must obtain training certificates before taking up employment. It also stipulates a new requirement for further training and certification for those who handle extremely toxic or explosive cargo. In order to help reduce maintenance costs for trucking companies, the revised Code splits vehicles into two categories. Those that carry extremely toxic chemicals or explosives, including tankers and tank trailers, must continue to be repaired and maintained by specially qualified garages. For tractors and other special-purpose vehicles, after disposing the dangerous cargo safely, owners can take their vehicles to garages licensed for repairing and maintaining general-purpose vehicles.

DG Trucking Exemptions

The revised Code promotes the establishment of an exemption system for dangerous goods trucking, under which certain dangerous goods can be treated and trucked as if they were general cargo. To obtain such exemptions, trade associations that represent carriers of particular types of dangerous cargo need to apply to the Ministry of Transport, which will be responsible for organising an expert assessment before a public announcement of an exemption list. These exemptions will only apply to trucking, not other modes of transport. On the issue of whether dangerous goods trucks can be used to transport general cargo, the revised Code identifies trucking companies as being responsible for eliminating any possible hazards before obtaining a suitable licence from transport departments at county levels. The revised Code adds that any special rules governing the trucking of explosives, fireworks, radioactive materials and other specific types of dangerous goods should prevail. In an effort to crack down on overloading and truck height violations, the revised Code will require more details than before when a trucking company applies for a business licence. If the company, for example, applies for a permit to use a road tanker, it needs to declare a raft of information such as permitted weight of the tanker, tank volume, the name of the product(s) to be trucked and its density. The new Code also requires the establishment of a reporting mechanism, whereby transport authorities are required to publish two designated telephone numbers for the public, one for reporting accidents and the other for making complaints. For the first time, the revised Code requires dangerous goods hauliers to undergo a third-party safety assessment at least once every three years. Independent assessment will help companies identify weaknesses in risk management, take actions in time and ultimately reduce the number of accidents. It will also form part of the basis for transport authorities to plan their tasks, draw conclusions and make decisions. The Ministry of Transport is planning to publish a series of industry standards this year governing dangerous goods trucking companies, including guidelines on safety responsibility, safety management, safety management filing and emergency response.

<http://www.hazardouscargo.com/content/china-tightens-road-rules>



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