



Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network

Release 2013 – 967 Newsy Stuff

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

June 06 2013



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JAPAN, HONSHU, IBARAKI PREFECTURE, TOKAIMURA, MAY 26 2013. RADIATION LEAK AT JAPAN LAB >> 6 RESEARCHERS EXPOSED, WITH TESTS SHOWING ANOTHER 24 POSSIBLE EXPOSURES.

An atomic research lab in northern Japan has reported a radiation leak that may have affected about 55 people, though none were hospitalised and no impact was expected outside the facility, the lab's operator said on Saturday. The Japan Atomic Energy Agency said the accident occurred on Thursday in its Hadron Experimental Facility at the Japan Proton Accelerator Research Complex in the town of Tokaimura, where at least two previous radiation accidents have occurred. Researchers were trying to generate particles by directing a proton beam at some gold when their equipment overheated, causing the evaporation and release of radioactive gold, the government-run JAEA said in a statement. The leak originally was thought to have been contained inside the lab, and when a ventilation fan was switched on the radiation spread, it said. The JAEA said it was studying the potential environmental impact from the radiation leak, but did not expect any effect on surrounding areas. On Saturday, officials from the JAEA and the research complex apologised for the accident. Education minister Hakubun Shimomura described it as regrettable. Six researchers were found to have been exposed, Kyodo News Agency reported. Initial tests showed that another 24 likely had been exposed. The JAEA reported that the highest radiation dose it found was 1.7 millisieverts, about the average annual background dose for someone living in Japan. Nuclear workers generally are limited to 100 millisieverts of exposure over five years. The belief that the leak had been contained led the research institute to delay reporting the incident until Friday, when it notified both the Nuclear Regulation Authority and the local government, the JAEA said.

Related Stories

- [Radiation leak at Japan lab](#)
An atomic research lab in northern Japan has reported a radiation leak that may have affected about 55 people, though none were hospitalised and no impact was expected outside the facility, the lab's operator said on Saturday.
- [Safety fears after radioactive leak](#)
Between four and 55 people were exposed to radiation when radioactive material leaked during a laboratory experiment in Japan, according to the facility's operators, although authorities were not told of the leak for two days.
- [Japanese Lab Workers Exposed to Low Levels of Radiation](#)
As many as 55 workers at a national laboratory may have been exposed to low levels of radiation after an experiment overheated, releasing radioactive particles into the air, the agency operating the lab said Saturday.
- [Radiation leak reported at Japan lab](#)
A nuclear research laboratory in northern Japan has reported a radiation leak that may have affected 55 people, though none were hospitalised and no impact was expected outside the facility.
- [More than 50 may be exposed to radiation in Japan leak: Kyodo](#)
Japan's Fuji Electric Co employees assemble radiation dose meters to be sold to electric companies that are nuclear power owners or operators.
- At least four people, and possibly up to 55, were exposed to radiation when radioactive material leaked during a laboratory experiment in Japan.
- [Radioactive Substances Released at Japanese N. Lab](#)
JAEA reports that 10 researchers working at the laboratory may have been exposed to radiation, though it did not believe radiation would affect the area beyond the accelerator laboratory.

<http://www.thenews.com.pk/Todays-News-1-179946-Radiation-leak-at-Japan-lab>

USA, N.Y, NEW YORK, MAY 26 2013. OIL GROUPS HIT BY US CLASS ACTION ON BENCHMARK MANIPULATION

caroline binham

 [Document Class Action Complaint – All 53 Pages](#) [Courtesy of [John Donovan](#)]

Watch the Video's:

- [Europe's Oil Market Gets Its Own Price Benchmarks Scandal](#)
- [Oil Probe Shines Light on Platts Pricing](#)
- [Did European Oil Companies Engage in Price Fixing?](#)
- [Did European Oil Companies Engage in Price Fixing?](#)
- [BP Finds Itself in the Firing Line Again](#)



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BP, Royal Dutch Shell and Statoil have been named in the first lawsuit to be filed after a [European Commission antitrust investigation](#) into alleged manipulation of oil prices and benchmarks. The oil majors were named as defendants in a class action filed in New York this week by Prime International Trading, a Chicago-based commodity trading house, which also claims damages against unknown defendants. Prime International alleges in the lawsuit that the defendants intentionally manipulated and conspired to fix the price of Brent Crude oil, the global benchmark, and the price of futures contracts. "As major producers and market participants in the Brent Crude oil market, including contributors of Brent Crude oil prices to Platts, defendants had and continue to have market power

and the ability to influence prices in the Brent Crude oil market," the claimant alleges in legal documents. "By purposefully reporting inaccurate, misleading and false Brent Crude oil trade information to Platts, defendants manipulated and restrained trade in both the physical (spot) Brent Crude oil market and the Brent Crude oil futures market." BP and Shell declined to comment on the lawsuit and Statoil did not immediately respond to a request to comment. Defences denying the allegations may be filed in due course. The class action was filed less than a week after the European Commission announced that it had conducted [dawn raids at several businesses](#) over concerns that "companies may have colluded in reporting distorted prices to a price-reporting agency to manipulate the published prices". The commission added that it had concerns that "companies may have prevented others from participating in the price assessment process, with a view to distorting published prices". The London offices of Platts, the world's leading oil price reporting agency, was raided, while Italy's [Eni](#) said it had received a request for information but had not been raided. The commission has also sent [requests for information](#) to Swiss-based commodities titans [Glencore Xstrata](#), Vitol, Gunvor and Mercuria, and possibly others, the Financial Times reported earlier this week. The investigation is only the latest into alleged fixing of global benchmarks. The commission is one of at least 10 authorities around the world probing alleged [manipulation of Libor](#), the interest rate benchmark used to price \$500tn of financial products. A plethora of class actions were also filed in the US after of the Libor investigation. Those that alleged [antitrust violations were largely thrown out](#) in late March following a ruling by a federal judge in New York. Other lawsuits that claim different types of damages, such as those stemming from fraud, still exist, however. A now-defunct hedge fund, Salix Capital, sued [Barclays](#), [UBS](#) and the [Royal Bank of Scotland](#) among other banks earlier this week in New York, alleging that it had lost out due to the banks' "exploiting their control" over the Libor-setting process.

Related Stories

- [BP, Shell, Statoil in US Lawsuit Over Alleged Oil Manipulation -FT](#)
BP PLC, Royal Dutch Shell PLC and Statoil ASA have been named in the first lawsuit to be filed following a European Commission antitrust investigation into alleged manipulation of oil prices and benchmarks.
- [EU oil pricing probe spurs lawsuit against BP, others](#)
A Chicago-based commodities trading firm has filed suit against three of the world's largest oil companies.
- [Oil groups hit by US class action on benchmark manipulation](#)
The oil majors were named as defendants in a class action filed in New York this week by Prime International Trading, a Chicago-based commodity trading house, which also claims damages against unknown defendants.
- [Trading firm sues BP, Shell and Statoil in oil pricing probe](#)
Chicago-based Prime International Trading Ltd. is suing BP Plc, Statoil ASA and Royal Dutch Shell based on an investigation by the European Union into alleged oil-price fixing.
- [BP, Shell, Statoil sued in US class-action suit over EU oil fixing probe](#)
A US commodity trading house has filed a class-action lawsuit in New York against BP, Shell and Statoil, the three European oil companies being investigated by the European Commission for suspected manipulation of oil prices.
- [First online publication of oil price fixing US lawsuit against Shell, BP & Statoil](#)
You may have seen reference on this website to the class action lawsuit launched in the USA by Prime International Trading, Ltd against Royal Dutch Shell, BP and Statoil, for alleged oil price-fixing. We are the first to provide free access to the relevant [Class Action Complaint – All 53 Pages](#).

<http://www.ft.com/intl/cms/s/0/97bc2f0e-c466-11e2-9ac0-00144feab7de.html#axzz2UNfbE6ry>



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USA, MA, WEST DENNIS, MAY 26 2013. BASS RIVER FUEL SPILL SHUTS DOWN SHELLFISHING

christine legere



A Coast Guard official surveys the area of Bass River on the West Dennis Beach side where a boom contains a diesel fuel spill found on Saturday morning.

Diesel fuel leaked from a boat into the old speed channel of Bass River and pushed by the wind to an area at the end of the West Dennis Beach parking lot, kept firefighters, conservation workers and harbor master staff busy mopping up for about four hours Saturday. While most of the fuel was believed to be cleaned up by mid-afternoon, using 50 pads, a 150-foot absorbent boom will remain in place for three or four days to catch any stray amounts. The U.S. Coast Guard came and checked for further fuel in the water, according to Dennis Fire Capt. Richard Farrenkopf. "They found nothing," Farrenkopf said. "We've probably contained 90 percent of the spill, and there's no evidence of any long-term damage." Officials from the state Department of Environmental Protection were also at the site. Farrenkopf said no swimming areas were affected, but shellfish beds in the old speed channel of Bass River have been closed. He did not know when they would reopen. The fuel spill was initially spotted by the harbor master boat at about 10:30 a.m. "Whether somebody pumped their bilges or had a leak we don't know," Farrenkopf said. The fire captain said less than 50 gallons was spilled.

<http://www.capecodonline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20130525/NEWS11/130529801>

INDIA, DELHI, MAY 26 2013. 5 KG STORAGE LIMIT ON AMMONIUM NITRATE: DELHI POLICE

Hospitals and educational institutions cannot store more than five kg ammonium nitrate at their premises and they will have to inform the local police about it, according to a directive from Delhi Police. The directive is part of instructions to dealers of ammonium nitrate, which has been widely used by terrorists to make explosives, asking them to seek licence from police, a senior police official said. "All laboratories, educational institutions, medical institutions, hospitals and clinics can possess less than five kg of ammonium nitrate for scientific and educational purposes. "However, the SHO of the local police station must be informed about the quantity of possession," the official said. The Home Ministry had in December 2008 declared ammonium nitrate as 'special category explosive substance' under Section 2 of the Explosive Substances Act, 1908 after it came to light that the chemical was widely being used by terrorists to make explosives. Delhi Police has issued directive to dealers, transporters and users of ammonium nitrate to obtain licence. The last date to apply for the licence in the capital is May 31, the official said. "If anyone sells ammonium nitrate after the deadline without a licence, he or she will be liable for prosecution," he said.

http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/5-kg-storage-limit-on-ammonium-nitrate-delhi-police-113052600069_1.html

AUSTRALIA, WESTERN AUSTRALIA, PERTH, MAY 27 2013. REPORT SIGNALS CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR IMPROVED SAFETY PERFORMANCE

 **Document** Access the [Annual Offshore Performance Report](#)

NOPSEMA's Annual Offshore Performance Report identifies inadequate design specification and procedures not being followed as prevalent causes of offshore petroleum incidents. Recalling the deaths of two offshore workers during drilling operations on the Stena Clyde mobile offshore drilling unit facility in August 2012, NOPSEMA CEO Jane Cutler reinforced the constant need for vigilance in all stages of operations offshore. "NOPSEMA shares the information in this report in the expectation that, with continued effort by all, the impact of high risk activities on the lives of offshore workers and the environment will be negligible," Ms Cutler said. The authoritative report includes data and information collected by NOPSEMA on injuries and fatalities, incidents, inspections, assessments, investigations and enforcements from offshore petroleum operations in the authority's jurisdiction to 31 December 2012. For the first time, the report covers environmental management,



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reflecting NOPSEMA's expanded functions from January 2012. In acknowledging that 2012 proved a costly year in terms of lives lost, Ms Cutler noted progress in some areas of the industry's safety performance, including:

- The rate of accidents reached the lowest level recorded since 2005
- The rate of uncontrolled hydrocarbon releases reached a seven year low, reflecting a 41% drop in the number of unplanned petroleum liquid and gas releases in 2012

"Lower injury rates should be commended as they represent actual harm avoided and demonstrate continuing endeavours by organisations to prevent further fatalities and harm to offshore workers," Ms Cutler said. The Annual Offshore Performance Report includes a 'spotlight' on hydrocarbon releases, which are a particular concern due to their potential for ignition. The rate of uncontrolled hydrocarbon releases per million hours decreased in 2012 to 1.08, the lowest level since 2005, while the number of uncontrolled hydrocarbon releases reported last year decreased from 29 to 17. The release of the report coincides with the passage of legislation providing NOPSEMA with strengthened enforcement tools to secure compliance by the offshore industry with their responsibilities to manage the risks they create through their petroleum activities. In welcoming the development, Ms Cutler emphasised that amendments to allow NOPSEMA to publish some enforcement notices would not influence the authority's decision-making processes. "In implementing the changes, NOPSEMA's focus will remain on administering the legislation independently, professionally and by following due process," she said.

<http://nopsema.gov.au>

MEXICO, MEXICO CITY, ECATEPEC, MAY 27 2013. TWENTY-FOUR DEAD IN MEXICAN LPG TRUCK EXPLOSION

 **Watch the Video's:**

- [Gas Tanker Explosion Kills At Least 20 near Mexico City](#)
- [19 Killed in Gas Truck Blast as Fireball Rips through Cars, Homes in Mexico](#)
- [Deadly Gas-Tanker Explosion in Mexico City](#)
- [Deadly Gas Tanker Explosion in Mexico City Suburb](#)
- [Burned Out Cars and Houses At the Scene of Tanker Crash](#)
- [Blast Survivor Tours Scorched Neighborhood](#)

 **Photo's [20]** [Mexico Gas Tanker Explosion](#)



Trucks burn at the site of Tuesday's gas-tanker explosion in Ecatepec.

In the early morning hours of May 7, a semi-truck pulling two tank trailers in tandem loaded with pressurized liquid petroleum gas (LP) crashed in Mexico in the community of San Pedro Xalostoc, a subdivision of the municipality of Ecatepec, north of Mexico City. Two violent explosions shook the ground and released shrapnel over a perimeter of more than 300 meters. Forty homes were damaged and 30 cars destroyed. The accident happened along the Mexico City-Pachuca highway. At last count, 24 had died and 36 were burned; 12 are still hospitalized, three with burns covering 90 percent of their bodies. All the blame is being placed on the trailer truck's operator, Juan Olivares. He is accused of reckless driving. Whatever Olivares' role, the underlying cause of this tragedy is the subordination of the health and safety of the citizenry to the profits of energy

and trucking companies. The accident occurred when both trailers became separated from the truck and careened into traffic, hitting other cars and homes and exploding. The first explosion resulted in 15 deaths. The second trailer also exploded, killing four. Together, both tankers carried 40,000 liters of the liquid gas. Adding fuel to the conflagration, at least two propane tanks installed in homes also exploded. The area where the accident occurred is surrounded by homes inhabited by workers and small entrepreneurs, which are perilously close to this highway as a result of a recent highway-widening project. When the accident took place at 5:30 a.m., most of the inhabitants were still inside their homes. On Wednesday, area residents organized a wake for 14 of the dead, including nine who never had a chance to make it out of their homes and burned to death. Among the dead are 10 children. By the time Mexico State firefighters and Red Cross personnel reached the scene, neighbors were attempting to put out fires with a bucket brigade. The explosion shook the whole area, witnesses likening it to an earthquake. It was also reminiscent of the industrial holocaust of the San Juanico explosion of November 19, 1984. In fact, the roots of the disaster of May 7 lie in that event of 29 years ago, when six massive spherical tanks exploded at the San



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Juanico LP gas depository and wiped out an entire community. Estimates are that at least 700 residents died and thousands more were injured. No official tally has ever been released. The working class subdivision of San Juan Ixhuatepec was obliterated, as well as parts of Ecatepec, a short distance south of San Pedro Xalostoc. As a result of the disaster, the government of President Miguel de la Madrid issued a decree in 1986 ordering the removal of the tank farm from the town and prohibited establishing LP facilities in urban areas. A planned gas pipeline project was canceled. The decree was never implemented. The San Juanico LP tank farm was never fully closed and continues to operate; LP tank farms continue to exist in urban areas. LP gas is transported on surface roads by a fleet of semi-trucks pulling double tank trailers. These trucks crisscross Ecatepec 24 hours a day, seven days a week to supply the entire region. The entire operation is in the hands of profit-driven corporations—Monterrey-based Termogas in this case—with no concern for basic work safety measures and the security of the people living along the truck routes. Termogas owns 22 depots with a storage capacity of 4 million liters of LP and 180 trucks to transport the fuel. The company claims to have followed all the safety measures that the law required and assured the public that it is properly insured. Recardeo Arias Jimenez, the manager of the Mexican Association of Insurance Companies (AMIS), backed up a statement by Termogas. Pointing out that there were 23,000 traffic accidents, with 18,000 to 19,000 deaths annually in Mexico, and that traffic accidents are frequent on federal highways, Arias emphasized that the purpose of insurance is not to prevent accidents but to protect trucking firms from civil liability. Termogas and other companies use part of their profits to pay insurance premiums in order to avoid the more costly safety measures that could prevent such fatal catastrophes. The Madrid daily El País reported that a proposal to prohibit trucks with two trailers on Mexican highways and those that weigh over 32 tons is languishing in the legislature and would not be approved until the end of this year, if at all. El País also recounts warnings by the Mexican Transportation Institute (Instituto Mexicano del Transporte, IMT) in a study of the high risks of the movement of hazardous materials by truck. That study revealed that in the period from 2006 to 2009, there were 1,199 collisions that involved trucks hauling hazardous materials, leaving 196 dead and 838 injured. IMT official Jesús Chavarría indicated that changing the law or tightening regulations is very difficult because it conflicts with profit motives, particularly when it comes to imposing weight limits on trucking companies. There have been other recent fatal gas explosions, not all of them related to trucking: Last September, a gas plant near the Mexico-US border exploded, killing 30 workers. On January 31, 37 were killed and 120 wounded at a gas explosion in the headquarters of PEMEX, the national oil company, in Mexico City. A year ago in April, another trailer became disconnected in Veracruz, killing 43 farm workers riding in a bus. Currently Mexican law allows trucks with double trailers—a tractor pulling two trailers—with a maximum length of 30 meters (100 feet) and a maximum weight of 80 tons (twice the US weight limit.) Mexican tanker trucks operating along the highway where the latest disaster took place have been observed exceeding legal weight and speed limits. The recent accident also exposes a common condition among Mexico's poor: precariously built homes in the vicinity of roads and other hazards. Many of the residents of Ecatepec and other Mexico City suburbs in this densely populated area are refugees of the September 1985 Mexico City earthquake who built unsafe homes from cinder blocks on whatever land was accessible to them at the time, once it became clear that government promises of adequate financial help would not materialize. At Ecatepec, they joined thousands who had been displaced by the San Juanico explosion. While it is not uncommon for poor people in Mexico and Latin America in need of places to live to set up precarious homes alongside roads and railroad tracks, in this case the highway itself was widened, removing any possible buffer between the neighborhood and the road. As is typical, government inspectors looked the other way and safety concerns were brushed aside, as municipal and federal authorities absolved themselves from the responsibility of providing decent housing for Mexican workers and the poor. Mexico State Governor Eruviel Ávila Villegas has promised federal and state government help, up to 120,000 pesos—about 10,000 US dollars—for families of the dead, smaller sums for injured families and for those whose homes were destroyed. This sum will hardly cover the cost of providing decent and safe housing for the victims. He has also promised to pay for funerals and burial costs. An AP report quoted Maribel Juárez, who lost her cousin and cousin in law, together with their two children, and two grandchildren, about the proximity of homes to the road. She denounced the recent highway widening. "That was an easy thing for them to do," she said. "They never considered these tragedies, or our families" She added, "The government now offers caskets and burial sites; that will not bring back our family."

Related Stories

- [Death toll in Mexico gas explosion rises to 24](#)

The death toll in a gas tanker-truck explosion on the outskirts of Mexico City has risen to 24 because another victim died of injuries suffered in the massive blast.

<http://www.wsws.org/en/articles/2013/05/14/mexi-m14.html>



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USA, TX, LUFKIN, MAY 27 2013. STATE FINES POLK OIL COMPANY FOR UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK VIOLATIONS

rhonda oaks

Polk Oil Company was fined more than \$19,000 for violations pertaining to underground storage tanks at three Polk Pick-It-Up locations last year, according to information released this past week from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. Three store locations, including Polk Pick It Up No. 6, 1902 W. Frank Ave.; Doc's Country Store No. 2, at 1279 East Loop 304 in Crockett; and Northridge Quick Stop, 2316 N. 4th St. in Crockett, were all cited for not conducting proper testing on high-pressure lines or inspections on protection systems at the tank locations.

http://lufkindailynews.com/news/local/article_5c6ed6c6-c593-11e2-bd70-0019bb2963f4.html

USA, ARK, GARFIELD, MAY 27 2013. MISSOURI WOMAN KILLED IN ARKANSAS BARGE EXPLOSION

A Missouri woman has been killed in an explosion on a barge on Beaver Lake. The Benton County coroner says 23-year-old [Kayla Woolsey](#) of Hollister, Mo., died Friday after being thrown from the barge she was standing on in the Lost Bridge area of the lake near Garfield. Sheriff's Deputy [Kesha Guyll](#) told reporters that another person was welding on the boat at the time of the blast shortly after 1 p.m. Friday. Guyll said investigators believe a spark from the welding ignited fumes — but that it wasn't immediately known what type of fumes.

<http://www.sfgate.com/news/article/Missouri-woman-killed-in-Arkansas-barge-explosion-4548622.php>

USA, CA, SAN DIEGO CO, EL CAJON, MAY 27 2013. CAR BURSTS INTO FLAMES AT EL CAJON GAS STATION

 Watch the Video [Car Bursts Into Flames](#)

Firefighters quickly jump on a car fire that erupted at a gas station in El Cajon. It happened shortly after 8 p.m. Monday at a Shell Station on [North Magnolia Avenue](#) near East Madison Avenue. Firefighters say the driver parked the BMW sedan and had gone into the store when the engine started smoking and burst into flames. They had the fire out within minutes. Gas pumps were turned off as a precaution.

<http://www.760kimb.com/story/22246774/car-bursts-into-flames-at-el-cajon-gas-station>

USA, KS, ANDOVER, MAY 27 2013. BUTLER COUNTY HOMEOWNERS SUE PIPELINE COMPANY OVER WATER CONTAMINATION, CO. DENIES ALLEGATIONS

Eighteen families in a south-central Kansas neighborhood have filed a lawsuit accusing a pipeline company of contaminating their water, but the company denies the allegations and says it has been working with the state to address their concerns. The lawsuit, filed in Sedgwick County District Court on behalf of homeowners in an area northeast of Andover, seeks \$2.3 million in damages from San Antonio-based NuStar Pipeline Operating Partnership L.P. The case is scheduled for a jury trial in the summer of 2014. NuStar has owned the pipeline since 2005, and denies the allegations. The company also maintains that residents have failed to show NuStar caused the contamination. Gary Koegeboehn, vice president and general manager of the NuStar Central East Region, said in an email to The Wichita Eagle (<http://bit.ly/Z8HZ2Z>) that NuStar has been working "cooperatively and proactively" with the Kansas Department of Health and Environment to address the concerns of the property owners, whose health and safety "is a top priority." The lawsuit accuses NuStar of refusing to clean up contamination from a 1990 pipeline rupture in the backyard of the James and Keelie McCrays' house. The former homeowner of the McCray's home in 1990 found what looked like gasoline in his yard and told the pipeline's then-owner, Kaneb Pipe Line Operating Partnership. Kaneb said it removed the contaminated soil and repaired the pipeline. But the lawsuit says that more than two years later, the homeowner began to smell gas in the drinking water. Neighbors said the contamination from the McCrays' backyard eventually spread to some of their yards. The KDHE says a resident contacted its Wichita office about the rupture and contamination on Dec. 22, 1992. Sampling found benzene, classified by the Environmental Protection Agency as a carcinogen, in the water and found that the pollution had spread to another home. Kaneb supplied bottled water to both homeowners and in 1993 installed a carbon filter at the home where the rupture occurred. KDHE said sampling of the wells in 1995 and 2001 found no contamination. But the lawsuit says monitoring showed contamination in the neighborhood in 2002, 2003, 2008, 2009 and 2010. KDHE and NuStar began a well-sampling program in the neighborhood in 2012 at the request of residents and found benzene and other petroleum hydrocarbon-related contaminants above allowable levels for drinking water at six homes. NuStar offered bottled water service to 12 homes and had carbon filtration systems installed on nine wells. Koegeboehn also said the testing in January 2012 showed that the contamination "was not consistent with the products our



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pipeline carries" and not connected to the 1990 rupture. "In addition," he said, "the contamination quickly disappeared. And recent sampling of these wells in 2013 has not detected contamination. In fact, there has been no detection of the contamination identified in early 2012 since May 2012." Information from: The Wichita (Kan.) Eagle, <http://www.kansas.com> <http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/1de42e7beeba4d08be7511029829270c/KS--Pipeline-Water-Lawsuit>

USA, N.Y, CHILI, MAY 27 2013. FOUR PEOPLE, INCLUDING ONE FIREFIGHTER, INJURED IN CHILI BLAZE >> FIREWORKS & AMMUNITION

 **Watch the Video** [4 People, including 1 Firefighter, Injured in Chili Blaze](#)

The Chili Fire Department tells News10NBC that three residents and one firefighter were hurt in a fire on Hubbard Road in Chili. Firefighters were called to that blaze around 3 a.m. Sunday morning. When they arrived, fire was visible from the house and crews say there were some small explosions in the basement. Firefighters believe those explosions were fireworks and ammunition that was being stored at the residence. Chili Deputy Chief Jason Elliotto tells News10NBC that the explosions forced crews to change tactics to battle the fire, but they are trained to deal with problems of this nature. "We're trained to handle these types of situations with fireworks and ammunition going off during the fire and the attempted suppression of the fire. With that kind of exposure inside the house, it does complicate the fire attack and it is a dangerous situation for our firefighters," said Deputy Chief Elliotto. Three residents were injured during the fire and one firefighters. All four were taken to Strong Memorial Hospital for treatment. News10NBC is told the firefighter only suffered a minor knee injury and has since been released. The cause of the fire is still under investigation.

<http://www.whec.com/news/stories/S3046075.shtml?cat=566>

USA, CO, DURANGO, FUEL SPILL TRIGGERS LAWSUIT BY RESIDENT >> CLEANUP PLAN IN PLACE, BUT OWNER BLOCKS ACCESS

jim mimiaga



Ray McCarty put up a sign to bring attention to a fuel spill that he says has destroyed the value of his land.

A prolonged dispute about land contaminated by fuel at a former gas station on U.S. Highway 160 has reached an impasse. Wild Wild Rest, between Mancos and Mesa Verde National Park, used to host motorcycle races and other entertainment events. The property also operated as a Sinclair Gas station and convenience store for many years. But all that is gone now, and what's left behind is a bitter feud between landowner Ray McCarty and an engineering firm hired by the former gas station operator Fraley & Co. Inc., about cleanup procedures of fuel contamination. The frustration of living on contaminated land that has yet to be restored caused McCarty to

recently install a large orange banner visible from the highway that reads: "Massive Petroleum Spill, Toxic Site." Skull-and-crossbones graphics bracket the message. Other signs warn of benzene, a toxic petrochemical ingredient in gasoline. "I put up the banner because nobody was paying attention, I was getting no action from anyone," McCarty said during an interview at the site. "I feel duped, and I feel that my land and all of its value has been destroyed."

Federal Lawsuit

The details of the case are complicated and accusatory, a saga that played out during a U.S. District Court case that ended in March 2012. The problem began seven years ago in 2006 with spillage of leftover fuel during tank removal, McCarty said. Under state laws regulated by the Colorado Division of Oil and Public Safety, or OPS, closed gas stations must remove fuel storage tanks and infrastructure, and clean up any contaminated land. The Sinclair station closed in 2004, and in 2006, OPS deemed Fraley & Co. the operator responsible for removing the tanks, officials said. But according to McCarty, when the three above-ground tanks were removed, residual fuels flowed back through gas lines and spilled out onto the land. "They didn't shut off the valves at the pumps, and thousands of gallons flowed onto the ground," he said. In attempt to remedy the situation, Fraley & Co. hired engineering firm Souder, Miller & Associates Inc., or SMA, which obtained a corrective action plan from OPS regulators, according to agency officials. McCarty says while he was away, SMA drilled test holes and installed 22 wells on the property to determine where clean up and mitigation should occur. McCarty and his lawyer in the case, James Preston, sued SMA in federal court, arguing that the drilling was trespass because a written access agreement with the landowner was not in place. They further sought \$1.7 million in damages, claiming negligent drilling techniques made the



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contamination worse by causing it to drain into the aquifer and spread throughout the property. "They drilled through the Mancos shale bedrock, and into the artesian aquifer," McCarty said. "The spilled fuel migrating below the bedrock is poisoning my land and the water table completely. "I can smell it in the water, on the land; the stress of it is going to give me a heart attack." The federal court jury had a mixed verdict. They ruled that SMA engineers did trespass because a signed access agreement was not in place, but awarded McCarty only \$1 in damages. The lawsuit was not filed against Fraley & Co. specifically. Engineering firm SMA is listed as the defendant.

Cleanup Stalled

SMA disputes claims that the contamination was more widespread, and asserts it had a verbal agreement to do the testing, according to court documents. The engineers said testing wells did not exceed 40 feet and were not 70 feet deep as claimed in the lawsuit. They also challenged the existence of an artesian aquifer under the property or that there was a massive spill from fuel tanks. Fraley referred questions to an attorney, Tim Gablehouse. Asked whether the test drilling had been done improperly, Gablehouse responded, "The jury's verdict speaks for itself, is all I can say," referring to the \$1 awarded in damages. Now the cleanup has stalled, and McCarty refuses to allow SMA back onto his property to continue further cleanup. He doesn't trust the company. It's a situation akin to a boyfriend who crashed your car asking to drive it again, he said. McCarty also wants to be compensated for the damage already caused to his property by SMA's drilling that he says has caused water to migrate up from the underground aquifer and permanently damage the foundation of his buildings. Distrust has prompted McCarty to close off access to his property for any further mitigation. "I just don't see any hope, so I put up the sign to raise awareness," he said. The stalemate puts a cleanup solution in limbo. "The ball is in his court now; there is nothing else Fraley can do until access is granted," Gablehouse said. "Or (McCarty) is free to submit his own corrective action plan and get someone else to do the work. It is a fairly straightforward cleanup procedure there; it's not extraordinary." That lack of access is a major obstacle for a prompt cleanup, said OPS Director Mahesh Albuquerque. "These fuel cleanups at old gas stations are 99 percent of the time completed very smoothly, and owners are happy to have it done and behind them," he said. "But this case has been problematic because the operator and the landowner are separate parties and they are having some differences." McCarty would not be responsible for the cleanup, he said, because it is covered by a state reimbursement program, and involves no costs for the landowner. "We will send him a letter explaining the program that allows cleanup to occur and defers costs, but there has to be access agreed to onto the property to break the logjam," Albuquerque said. Mitigation includes removal of contaminated soil, re-contouring the property and installing monitoring stations, he said. Cleanup costs were estimated to be around \$200,000 for the site, according to OPS officials. The company who does the work applies for the reimbursement, regulators said. But no application for cost recovery has been submitted as of yet.

Neighbors Concerned

McCarty said he is not satisfied with the corrective cleanup plan as it stands, and he believes the contamination level is much higher than is being reported. Mitigation would involve a large drainage ditch to be installed, he said, and would cause a health hazard by directing contaminated runoff into Mud Creek, a tributary of the Mancos River, and off the property. "The plume of contaminants has already migrated off of the property and under the highway," said Preston, McCarty's attorney in the case. "It has negatively impacted the water quality here as well. All of this property has been devalued, the test wells are in trespass violation, and there needs to be an agreement on damages before they could be let onto the property." Spilled fuel that has left the property could trigger more enforcement action from state regulators. A continued stalemate could also force the state to step in and conduct the cleanup, Albuquerque said, although a negotiated settlement with the affected parties is the primary goal. "We will continue to work with the landowner to allow access, because that is what will allow the cleanup process to go forward," Albuquerque said. Neighbors were startled by the "Toxic Site" banner, and the subject was raised at Monday's county commission meeting. "We were scratching our heads when we saw it, wondering why would someone do that?" said neighbor Ted Ullman. "It makes me worried about health risks. There are eight to 10 families around here. There needs to be some sort of monitoring installed so people know if it is coming their way."

<http://durangoherald.com/article/20130526/NEWS01/130529561/-1/s>

USA, PA, PITTSBURGH, MAY 27 2013. COURT RULES AGAINST CITGO IN OIL SPILL CASE

saranac hale spencer

A multimillion-dollar case stemming from the 2004 oil spill in the Delaware River is being sent back to the district court by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit. The owner of the tanker, Frescati Shipping Co., paid \$180 million to clean up the 263,000 gallons of oil that spilled after the hull of the ship was pierced by a 9-ton anchor that had been left on the riverbed, it



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told the court. Frescati was reimbursed for \$88 million by the U.S. government under the Oil Pollution Act of 1990 and sought to recoup the rest from Citgo, which had ordered the oil and owned the pier where the ship was docking when it was punctured. After a 41-day bench trial, the district court held that Citgo wasn't liable. However, the Third Circuit disagreed with several of the trial court's findings. "Although remand is appropriate because the district court failed to set out a separate findings of fact and conclusions of law, [our] legal conclusions also make it necessary to remand for factual findings," Third Circuit Judge Thomas Ambro wrote in "In re Petition of Frescati Shipping" on behalf of a three-judge panel. The case will go back to the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. U.S. District Judge John P. Fullam had rejected the argument that the accident had occurred in waters that qualified as an "approach" to Citgo's berth. "To accept Frescati's argument would have the effect of potentially expanding the definition of 'approach' to the entire anchorage or to the entire Delaware River," Judge Fullam wrote in his 2011 opinion. As the owner of a dock, Citgo had no responsibility to guarantee a safe transit through the anchorage or to scan or survey the anchorage for hazards within that area, the judge found. Rejecting Frescati's contract claim, Judge Fullam found that Citgo "fulfilled its duty of due diligence, and I also find that the port and berth were generally safe. Hundreds of vessels anchored in the anchorage during the time the anchor is known to have been in the river." Judge Fullam had concluded that "the fault for the casualty lies with the anchor's former owner, who abandoned it in the river without notifying anyone." The Third Circuit, though, held that Frescati was an implied beneficiary of Citgo's safe berth warranty that the company had made to an intermediary that was responsible for chartering the boat to port. According to The Philadelphia Inquirer, after the spill occurred, "tides and currents spread it quickly; in the end, more than 280 miles of shoreline" were damaged. "A slick covered the river and gobs of black oil washed ashore [and] nearly 12,000 birds, most of them swans and geese, were oiled and died."

<http://www.post-gazette.com/stories/business/legal/court-rules-against-citgo-in-oil-spill-case-689295/>

THAILAND, PHUKET, MAY 28 2013. GAS TANKER LEAKS 2.5KM TRAIL OF FUEL THROUGH PHUKET TOWN

A six-wheeled gasoline tanker truck leaked a trail of fuel 2.5 kilometers long through Phuket Town yesterday, causing motorbikes to skid and fall, resulting in at least one hospitalization. Police responded to a report at 11am that a gas tanker had leaked "gasoline" along Yaowarat Road, from the intersection with Mae Luan Road (map [here](#)) all the way to the entrance to Bangkok Hospital Phuket (map [here](#)). Phuket City Traffic Police and Disaster Prevention and Mitigation officials followed the trail and found 41-year-old Rattanon Kittitaraphon on the ground in front of Vachira Phuket Hospital with a leg injury. "I was riding with my two sons. I was totally unaware of the fuel spill and suddenly my bike slid out from under me," Ms Rattanon said. "I hurt my leg, but luckily neither of my sons was hurt. They went directly to Vachira Hospital and got help for me," she added. Before Vachira Hospital staff wheeled her into the hospital for treatment, an angry Ms Rattanon said, "I want the truck company that caused this to take responsibility. If you spill gas on the road, you have to take care of it. A lot of other motorcyclists crashed too." Phuket City Disaster Prevention and Mitigation officials said they believe the fuel spilled from the tanker truck's own gas tanks, not from the huge tank it was hauling. "A pump attendant must have forgotten to put the gas cap back on, allowing the fuel to spill onto the road while he was driving," one official said.

http://www.phuketgazette.net/phuket_news/2013/Gas-tanker-leaks-2-5km-trail-of-fuel-through-Phuket-Town-21164.html

IRELAND, CO LOUTH, DUNDALK, MAY 28 2013. FUEL TANKER IS STOLEN FROM ARMY BASE IN BRAZEN RAID

elaine keogh

 [Watch the Video Tanker Filled with Laundered Diesel Stolen from Aiken Army Barracks](#)



The gates of Aiken Barracks in Dundalk, Co Louth, which were damaged as the truck was rammed through.

A tanker that had been seized by Revenue officials was stolen back by thieves from an Army barracks yesterday. A garda and Army investigation is under way today after raiders broke into the base in Dundalk and stole the fuel tanker, which had been seized by customs officers just four days earlier. The gang rammed the locked gates of Aiken barracks just after 2am yesterday morning and escaped with the tanker, which was laden with €30,000 worth of washed diesel. The rigid tanker was one of six vehicles seized by customs last Wednesday in a search of two premises in Co Monaghan. Customs officers raided a diesel laundering plant at Drumacon capable of laundering 15 million litres of fuel a year; which equates to a loss to the exchequer of €8m a year. But



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the tanker that was stolen from Aiken barracks had been seized by customs officers at commercial premises at Longfield, co Monaghan, and contained 20,000 litres of fuel. After the raid on the diesel laundering plant the seized tanker was stored at Aiken barracks. However, at some stage in the early morning, somebody managed to get into the barracks yard without being detected. They then started the fuel tanker and drove to the entrance, where they smashed through the gate and drove off.

Clampdown

Soldiers who were on duty at the entrance had no advance warning before the tanker was driven at high speed through the gates at 2.10am. The Army press office confirmed that no military personnel were injured in the incident, which the defence forces are now investigating. A spokesperson confirmed that a vehicle, which had been seized by customs and parked in Aiken military barracks, was "allegedly stolen in the early hours of Sunday." A garda spokesman said they were also investigating the circumstances of the theft, while the Revenue Commissioners would only confirm they had reported it to the gardai. Louth deputy Peter Fitzpatrick said the daring theft of the seized truck was a sign that "somebody was getting hurt in the pocket" in the ongoing clampdown on diesel laundering along the border.

<http://www.herald.ie/news/fuel-tanker-is-stolen-from-army-base-in-brazen-raid-29299662.html>

CANADA, N.S., LOWER DEBERT, MAY 28 2013. STATUS OF FORMER GAS TANKS IN LOWER DEBERT SOURCE OF CONCERN FOR COLCHESTER COUNCIL

harry sullivan



Colchester County councillor Doug MacInnes at the site of former gas station in Lower Debert where underground storage tanks remain in place years after they should have been removed.

Underground petroleum storage tanks remain in place at a former service station years after they should have been removed and Colchester County council wants to know why. "It's not normal for tanks to be left in the ground. They are supposed to be removed," said Crawford Macpherson, director of community development in a presentation to council. The tanks are located on property at 3782 Highway 4 in Lower Debert that used to be the site of a Shell service station. A dangerous and unsightly inspection the municipality held in February resulted in correspondence to the Department of Environment (DoE) outlining the municipality's concerns over the tanks' presence, along with a request as to what

action should be taken. The department responded in writing that it is aware of the tanks and that a Ministerial Order had been issued for their removal. The current property owner is an elderly lady who lives in New Brunswick and the DoE said in its letter to council that "a legitimate defence" had been offered by her to the Crown as to why it was not her responsibility to remove the tanks. The next owner of the property, however, will be responsible for the removal of the tanks and cleanup of the property. "What I didn't understand is why the order wasn't given to Shell when they vacated the property or before they sold the property?" said councillor Doug MacInnes. "That's who this should fall back on, not Mrs. (Elizabeth) Coupar by rights," he said, of the current owner. "We're going to end up removing these tanks and it is going to be costly. Once again, we're back to the Department of Environment not doing their job properly, plain and simple. Every other tank that I know of in Lower Debert (at other vacated service station sites) has been removed," he said. "It is extremely strange, I've never seen this before in my life." Responding to questions from the Truro Daily News however, a DoE spokesperson disputed the oil company's responsibility in the case or a lack of due diligence by the department. "Shell Canada purchased that property in 1969 and John Coupar purchased it in 1984 as a working gas station," Lori Errington said. "Shell wouldn't have had to remove the tanks because it was sold as an operating gas station." Subsequent efforts to have Coupar remove the tanks were not successful and while that process was underway, he died, she said. The responsibility for clean up then fell to his widow and DoE began corresponding with her in 2005. She subsequently moved to New Brunswick and department officials lost track of her for a time. A Ministerial Order was then issued to the property owner on March 8, 2011, to remove the storage tanks but that was not complied with. The department subsequently learned that her home had been vacated. Another inspection was carried out on the property on Oct. 10, 2012, after a complaint was lodged of old equipment being on the property that was leaking fluids onto the grounds and that there were dangerous goods on site. But Errington said no leaks were found and a small amount of fluids (antifreeze) located on the site were deemed to be securely stored. On Nov. 7, 2012, the property owner was located but no charges were laid or further action because of the circumstances surrounding Mrs. Coupar's position, Errington said. "We



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recognize that this property is a source of concern for the community and for Colchester council," she said. "Staff followed the procedures outlined by the Environment Act to have the property cleaned up. Due to the financial circumstances and ill health of the elderly property owner, it's just not in the best interest of Nova Scotians to take the owner to court." Further, she said, staff has inspected the site to ensure it doesn't pose any threat to the health of residents or the environment. Council has directed that staff write a letter to the Minister of the Environment seeking clarification in the matter.

<http://www.truorodaily.com/News/Local/2013-05-26/article-3260813/Status-of-former-gas-tanks-in-Lower-Debert-source-of-concern-for-Colchester-council/1>

CANADA, N.F., MAY 28 2013. WORK EXPECTED TODAY TO SEAL SUNKEN SHIP'S OIL LEAK



Canadian Coast Guard's Environmental Response Team retrieves a Breco Buoy bird scaring device for servicing.

Weather and operational requirements over the past few days prevented the Canadian Coast Guard from carrying out work to seal an oil leak in the sunken ship Manolis L. off Newfoundland's coast in the Notre Dame Bay area. A Department of Fisheries and Oceans spokeswoman says these operations, however, are expected to take place today, conditions permitting.

(Earlier Story)

The Canadian Coast Guard is continuing to work on managing an oil leak from a sunken bulk carrier that ran aground and sank off Fogo Island and Change Island in Notre Dame Bay in 1985. A Department of Fisheries and Oceans spokeswoman says weighted neoprene gaskets will be used to seal the cracks and stop the oil from escaping the Manolis L. The neoprene gaskets will be held in place by Sub Sea Bulkbags which are industry standard and routinely used in drilling and pipeline operations in the offshore oil industry. The Canadian Coast Guard Ship Vladyslav left St. John's Wednesday, with the necessary equipment, and the operation is expected to be completed by early next week. "This approach stops the oil leak and the immediate danger to the environment, fishery and animals while providing the opportunity to consider appropriate next steps," the DFO spokeswoman said. The Canadian Coast Guard is the lead federal agency for all ship-source oil spills or pollution incidents in waters under Canadian jurisdiction. In cases where the polluter is unknown, unwilling or unable to respond, the Canadian Coast Guard assumes the overall management of the incident as On-Scene Commander (OSC). The Canadian Coast Guard is working with other departments and partners to manage the oil spill. Oiled eiders ducks were spotted in the area of Blow Hard Rock between Bacalhau Island and Change Island in Notre Dame Bay in late March and early April. After investigating, the coast guard determined the source was the Manolis L. remotely operated vehicle was sent down near the wreck site and leaks were identified. The coast guard has set up a voluntary exclusion zone for marine traffic consisting of three buoys in a triangular formation and booms were set to try to recover oil from the ocean surface. Robert Grant of the Canadian Coast Guard Environmental Response Team said the operation is both "complex and dangerous," considering the harsh winds and wave action off the province's northeast coast.

<http://www.thenorwester.ca/News/Local/2013-05-27/article-3257457/Work-expected-today-to-seal-sunken-ships-oil-leak/1>

INDIA, CHENNAI, MAY 28 2013. SIX FIREMEN IN HOSPITAL AFTER CHLORINE EXPOSURE

Six Fire and Rescue Services personnel were hospitalised after they suffered breathing discomfort while containing a chlorine leakage reported at Defence Quarters near Memorial Hall here on Monday morning. The Fire Control received a call around 6 am regarding a chlorine leak at the Water Pumping House in Military Engineering Services (MES) Employees' Quarters near Memorial Hall. A fire tender from the Esplanade Fire Station, with a six-member crew, responded to the distress call. The personnel entered the Water Pumping House and found that the leakage was from the chlorine pipeline coming from the cylinder running parallel to the water pipeline for drinking water purification purpose. The leak was mended and they took out the chlorine cylinder and decided to dissolve it in a water tank in the vicinity on the campus. They lowered the cylinder and released the chlorine into the water from the cylinder. While doing so, the personnel were exposed to the chlorine and reported breathing difficulties at 6.50 am. They were moved to the Rajiv Gandhi Government General Hospital where they were admitted in the intensive care unit. The affected fire personnel were Kamalakannan, Loganathan, Sashikumar, Saravanabhava, Suresh and Sasi. Esplanade Station Fire Officer Shivasankar told Express that the crew who attended to the



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leak inside the pumping station had their face masks on. "After fixing the leak, they brought the cylinder out and tried to dispose it when they were exposed to the chlorine. Doctors told us that they were alright, but wanted to keep them under observation for 24 hours. That is why they were being treated as in-patients," he said.

<http://newindianexpress.com/cities/chennai/Six-firemen-in-hospital-after-chlorine-exposure/2013/05/21/article1599008.ece>

TAIWAN, KAOHSIUNG, MAY 28 2013. FIRE BREAKS OUT AT CPC PLANT IN KAOHSIUNG

wang shwu-fen, chang che-fon & y.l. kao



A fire broke out Monday at a residue desulfurization unit operated by state-controlled oil refiner CPC Corp., Taiwan's (CPC's) factory in Kaohsiung, but there were no casualties, the city's Environmental Protection Bureau said. A preliminary report indicated that there were emissions of hydrogen gas from the plant after the fire broke out, the bureau said. It said the fire was caused by a fracture in a pipe in the factory's residue desulfurization unit II. Following the incident, the bureau discovered large amounts of gaseous air pollutants near the factory and fined the refinery NT\$1 million (US\$33,490) for polluting the air, the highest amount possible for a violation under the Air Pollution Control Act. Local residents reported that they heard explosions and smelled a pungent odor coming from the factory. The fire started around 12:33 p.m. and was extinguished at about 1:05 p.m. by a team of 52 firefighters and 22 fire trucks dispatched by the city's fire department. Operations at CPC's refinery in

Kaohsiung have been suspended pending an investigation by the city's fire department and labor affairs department. The Environmental Protection Bureau said it will continue to monitor the plant's manufacturing process and has collected gas emissions for odor detection. After the accident, an air-quality monitor at the site showed a concentration of 267 micrograms per cubic meter of particulate matter and 164.5 ppb (parts per billion) of sulfur dioxide, compared with averages of 30 micrograms per cubic meter and 5 ppb recorded in other parts of the city. Readings of particulate contamination above 250 over a 24-hour stretch are considered hazardous.

<http://focustaiwan.tw/news/aall/201305270026.aspx>

AUSTRALIA, QUEENSLAND, BRISBANE, MAY 28 2013. 30 CHECKED AFTER BRISBANE CHEMICAL SPILL

Paramedics have checked 30 people after a chemical spill at a Brisbane industrial estate. Two people had to be decontaminated as they were exposed to the fluid, but there were no reports of serious injuries. A spokeswoman for the Department of Community Safety was unable to tell AAP what the chemical was. Paramedics were called to Carole Park Industrial Estate, in south Brisbane, about 9am (AEST). Police closed two streets while paramedics treated several people who complained of light-headedness. Others at a nearby site were also checked by paramedics and the streets have been reopened.

<http://au.news.yahoo.com/a/-/latest/17355995/30-checked-after-brisbane-chemical-spill/>

SINGAPORE, SEMBAWANG, MAY 28 2013. LEAK FOUND IN FUEL TANK AT SHELL STATION IN SEMBAWANG

natalie kuan

A leak was discovered in one of the fuel tanks within the Shell retail petrol station in Sembawang. The leak appeared to be an isolated case which has now been contained. No one was injured during the incident. The station will be closed indefinitely until the area is cleaned up and the cause of the leak investigated. A Shell spokesperson said: "We apologise for any inconvenience caused. Safety remains a key priority in our operations."

<http://www.straitstimes.com/breaking-news/singapore/story/leak-found-fuel-tank-shell-station-semawang-20130528>

USA, FLA, ORANGE COUNTY, MAY 28 2013. SHERIFF'S OFFICE: THIEVES SIPHONED 650 GALLONS OF FUEL FROM ORANGE CO. GAS STATION

 [Watch the Video Surveillance video of van stealing gas](#)

A local [Orange County](#) gas station gave Eyewitness News clear surveillance video of some pretty bold thieves Monday. Gas station owners along Orange Avenue just south of Orlando said there is a sneaky group of bandits stealing thousands of



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dollars of diesel fuel in the dead of night. Owner Joe Sarkis said he captured the heist on camera as a white minivan and a pickup truck pulled into his Sunoco station. Sarkis said the pickup parked in his carwash as a lookout, while the white minivan pulled right over the fuel tank access. Sarkis said the minivan had a hole in the bottom and a huge tank inside. The man who parked over the tanks siphoned gas right into the van without getting out as the man parked in the carwash kept a lookout. The heist took 20 minutes as cars passed by. Sarkis said they pumped about 650 gallons of fuel. Surveillance video shows the lookout getting out of his car and milling around as if he is bored. The video is clear, and someone might recognize the man and his truck. Sarkis said the [Orange County](#) Sheriff's Office is investigating, and said other stations nearby have been hit too. The owners at a nearby Citgo said gasoline was also stolen from their station. Owners of both stations said they are beefing up security and securing their tanks. Both of the stations WFTV spoke to said the heists have always happened on Friday nights. They're hoping the team gets caught in the act soon.

<http://www.wftv.com/news/news/local/sheriffs-office-thieves-siphoned-650-gallons-fuel/-nX4gP/>

USA, N.C., PITTSBORO, MAY 28 2013. PIEDMONT FIRE CAUSED BY SPONTANEOUS COMBUSTION OF FILTER MEDIA

ron kotrba

A fire occurred at the Piedmont Biofuels biodiesel plant in Pittsboro, N.C., last week, after "biodiesel-ensconced filter media spontaneously combusted in the tray beneath our filter press," wrote Piedmont Biofuels founder Lyle Estill in a May 23 [blog entry](#) on the cooperative's website. Estill, who was traveling when he got the news, said the fire "must have raged in isolation most of the night, melting electrical conduit and PVC water lines, causing a 'sprinkler effect.'" The first employee in the next morning called 911 and the fire was extinguished. "Piedmont is left with a lot of smoke damage, partial electricity in our wash-dry facility, and what sounds like a massive cleanup effort," Estill stated. "The good news is that no one was hurt. And apparently none of our plumbing was affected. We have a terminal full of fuel, so we will be shipping product as usual." He said Piedmont is ordering tools for cleanup, repairing the overhead crane, bringing in extra help, pulling an electrical permit, essentially "beginning the process of restoring the building to its former glory," Estill said, adding that they may install new Plexiglas windows for day lighting "to make it a safer, more pleasant place to work."

<http://www.biodieselmagazine.com/articles/9128/piedmont-fire-caused-by-spontaneous-combustion-of-filter-media>

USA, CA, SAN FRANCISCO, MAY 29 2013. FINED \$81 MILLION - WAL-MART PLEADS GUILTY TO DUMPING HAZARDOUS WASTE

- Admits to negligently dumping pollutants across California
- Company will pay \$81 million, which also covers charges in Missouri
- Counts are misdemeanors

Wal-Mart Stores will pay \$81 million after pleading guilty to criminal charges the company dumped hazardous waste across California, a company spokeswoman said Tuesday. Wal-Mart entered the plea in San Francisco federal court to misdemeanor counts of negligently dumping pollutants from its stores into sanitation drains across the state, spokeswoman Brooke Buchanan said. As part of the plea, the company will pay the substantial fine that also will cover plea deal in Missouri and filed Tuesday in federal court in Kansas City. Wal-Mart admitted trucking more than 2 million pounds of regulated pesticides and other products from its return centers to Greenleaf, a recycling facility in Neosho, Mo., between July 2006 and February 2008. Prosecutors say the products were processed for reuse and resale, but lax oversight caused regulated pesticides to be mixed together and offered for sale in violation of FIFRA. The plea agreements announced Tuesday end a nearly decade-old investigation involving more than 20 prosecutors and 32 environmental groups. In 2010, the company agreed to pay \$27.6 million to settle similar allegations made by California authorities that led to the overhaul of its hazardous waste compliance program nationwide. The state investigation began eight years ago when a San Diego County health department employee saw a worker pouring bleach down a drain. In another instance, officials said a Solano County boy was found playing in a mound of fertilizer near a Wal-Mart garden section. The yellow-tinted powder contained ammonium sulfate, a chemical compound that causes irritation to people's skin, eyes and respiratory tract. "We have fixed the problem," Buchanan said. "We are obviously happy that this is the final resolution." Court documents show the illegal dumping occurred in 16 California counties between 2003 and 2005. Federal prosecutors said the company didn't train its employees on how to handle and dispose hazardous materials at its stores. The result, prosecutors say, was that waste was tossed into local trash bins or poured into the local sewer systems. The waste also was improperly taken to one of several product return centers throughout



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the United States without proper safety documentation. Buchanan said employees are better trained on how clean up, transport and dispose of dangerous products such as fertilizer that are spilled in the store or have their packages damaged. For instance, workers are armed with scanners that tell them whether a damaged package is considered to contain a hazardous material and are trained on how to handle it, she said.

http://www.usatoday.com/story/money/business/2013/05/28/wal-mart-waste/2366999/?utm_source=dlvr.it&utm_medium=twitter&dlvr=206567

USA, MD, ROSEDALE, MAY 28 2013. TRAIN DERAILS NEAR BALTIMORE, 1 HURT; BLAST RATTLES HOMES BUT FIRE OFFICIALS SAY NOTHING TOXIC

 **Watch the Video** [Train Derails, Explodes near Baltimore](#)



A CSX freight train crashed into a trash truck and derailed Tuesday in a Baltimore suburb and the explosion that followed rattled homes at least a half-mile away, sending a plume of smoke into the air that could be seen for miles, officials and witnesses said. The train went off the tracks at about 2 p.m. in Rosedale, a Baltimore eastern suburb. Hazmat teams were on the scene, but Baltimore County Fire Chief John J. Hohman said at a news conference that no toxic inhalants were burning and officials did not order an evacuation. The truck driver was taken to the hospital in serious condition and two CSX workers aboard weren't hurt, fire officials said. Dale Walston said he lives about a half-mile away from the blast site and that he thought he could smell chemicals. "It shook my house pretty violently and knocked things off the shelves," he said in an email to The Associated Press. The thick plume of black smoke drifted

across the Baltimore city line and covered the eastern part of the city. The face of one warehouse near the train tracks blew off. CSX spokesman Gary Sease said in an email that sodium chlorate is on one of the trains, which the Department of Transportation classifies as a hazardous material. However, Hohman said the chemical is not in one of the cars that was still burning into the evening. Earlier, fire officials had said building actually collapsed, but Hohman modified that later to say two warehouses were heavily damaged by the explosion and other buildings were damaged, but none collapsed. Overhead photos showed the front of one warehouse blown out. An Amtrak spokeswoman said its Northeast Corridor service is not being affected. More than one video posted to Facebook shows the fire, then minutes later, an explosion rattles the area. Hohman said firefighters had considered letting the the blazes burn out but later decided to hose them down. They had advised anyone within 20 blocks who can see the smoke to leave but said later people could stay. Overhead photos showed at least a dozen train cars off the tracks including at least one tanker car. Sease said four of the cars believed derailed carried terephthalic acid, which is used in the production of plastics, among other things. He said it is not listed as a hazardous material. One of the cars still burning was carrying terephthalic acid, and another was carrying fluoroacetic acid, Hohman said. A worker at a nearby Dunkin' Donuts, Tawan Rai, reached by The Associated Press by phone, said he saw a fire and flames by the railroad tracks at first, then felt a thundering blast that sent smoke pouring into the sky. "The whole building shook and there was just dust everywhere," said Rai, adding no windows broke but he was surprised by the intensity of the blast. John Kane, treasurer of Atlantic Tire on nearby Pulaski Highway, said the explosion blew out two large showcase windows and light fixtures in his shop. The highway, also called Route 40, is shut down to the Baltimore city line as well as some side streets in area.

http://www.washingtonpost.com/national/train-derails-in-white-marsh-md-explosion-reported-and-no-word-on-injuries/2013/05/28/94b5e08e-c7c7-11e2-9cd9-3b9a22a4000a_story.html

USA, N.J, TRENTON, MAY 29 2013. PITTSBORO FUEL TRANSPORT COMPANY SUED FOR ROLE IN SELLING AVIATION FUEL AS REGULAR GAS

michael williams

A [Pittsboro](#) based fuel transportation company was sued along with a handful of gas stations, their parent company, and a fuel distributor for their alleged roles in selling aviation fuel to consumers who thought they were filling their cars with ordinary motor fuel, the New Jersey Division of Consumer Affairs announced on Tuesday. Lee Transport, located on Garden Road, was named in a lawsuit filed on behalf of the DCA and the Office of Weights and Measures alleging that six gas stations sold the aviation fuel, which contains lead, to consumers who thought they were buying unleaded gas during a three-day period in



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December. Lee Transport is accused of transporting the aviation fuel to the gas stations, which are located in Mercer, Monmouth, Somerset and Union counties. According to state officials, the gas stations received a total of nearly 65,000 gallons of 100 octane aviation gasoline, or "avgas," from a fuel distributor between Dec. 6 and Dec. 7, 2012. Avgas is used to power piston-engined aircraft. Unlike motor fuel, it contains tetraethyl lead, a toxic substance that can damage cars' catalytic converters and oxygen sensors. "We allege that these gas stations clearly knew, or should have known, they were selling aviation fuel that contains toxic lead, while advertising it as unleaded gasoline for motorists," Attorney General Jeffrey S. Chiesa said. "We will pursue restitution for any consumer, if it is demonstrated that this aviation fuel damaged their vehicles. Just as importantly, we are holding these gas stations and the distributors responsible for their alleged, unlawful deception and potential harm to the public." Between Dec. 6 and Dec. 8, the gas stations allegedly advertised the avgas to consumers as unleaded regular, plus, or premium motor fuel. The state alleges that consumers unknowingly purchased the avgas, and faced a potential risk of significant problems with their vehicles. Such conduct allegedly constitutes multiple violations of New Jersey's Consumer Fraud Act, Motor Fuels Act, Weights and Measures Act, Motor Fuels Regulations, and Advertising Regulations, as well as the Federal Clean Air Act. Additionally, the state alleges that Zephyr Oil, a Brooklyn-based fuel distributor, and Lee Transport violated the Consumer Fraud Act by selling and/or distributing leaded aviation fuel that they knew, or should have known, would be advertised and sold to consumers as unleaded motor fuel. According to the state's lawsuit, Zephyr Oil on Dec. 4 purchased approximately 73,000 gallons of avgas from a California-based company, which has not been named as a defendant. At the time of that sale, the aviation fuel was stored at a fuel terminal in Bayonne, Hudson County. Zephyr Oil sold the fuel that same day to Pasmel Property Inc., owner of the six accused gas stations, at a significant discount compared to the price of premium motor fuel at the time. Zephyr contracted with Lee Transport to deliver the avgas from the Bayonne terminal to the Pasmel stations. The gas stations which then allegedly sold the aviation fuel to consumers were: Daninka, in North Plainfield; Express Fuel, in Trenton; Keyport Delta; Manasquan Lukoil; Lawrenceville Lukoil; and Scotch Plains Lukoil. The state alleges that Zephyr, Lee Transport, and Pasmel all knew or should have known that the fuel being delivered to the Pasmel stations was aviation fuel. The bills of lading clearly noted that the fuel was "AVGAS – Aviation," officials said. In addition, the loading forms signed by Lee Transport identified the fuel as "AVGAS," as did the weight tickets from the Bayonne fuel terminal. It was not until the afternoon of Dec. 7 that an employee of the fuel terminal learned from a Lee Transport driver that Lee Transport was delivering the aviation fuel to gas stations, according to the state's lawsuit. After learning this information, the fuel terminal halted the remaining deliveries. As a result, the remaining 8,000 gallons of avgas purchased by Pasmel was not delivered to any of the gas stations. According to the state, violations of the Consumer Fraud Act may result in civil penalties of up to \$10,000 for a first violation and up to \$20,000 for subsequent violations. Violations of the Motor Fuels Act may result in civil penalties of up to \$1,500 for a first violation and up to \$3,000 for subsequent violations. A first violation of the Motor Fuels Act may result in a suspension of up to 30 days of the retail dealer's license to sell motor fuels, and a subsequent offense can lead to a revocation of the license. Violations of the Weights and Measures Act may result in civil penalties of up to \$1,000 for the first violation, and up to \$5,000 for subsequent violations. The state urges any consumers who believe they purchased fuel from these six gas stations between Dec. 6 and Dec. 8 to call the Division of Consumer Affairs at 800-242-5846, especially those who believe their vehicles may have been damaged as a result.

http://www.nj.com/salem/index.ssf/2013/05/pittsgrove_fuel_transportation.html

FRANCE, PARIS, MAY 29 2013. CHINA BEGINS DUMPING MOVE AGAINST EU CHEMICALS

China has told the European Commission that it will open complaint procedures for dumping against some European chemical companies, notably Belgian group Solvay, the newspaper Les Echos reported. The Chinese move, made a few days ago, targeted products made from chlorine and in particular perchloroethylene and tetrachloroethylene, the report said. China was believed to be taking similar action against the United States, it said. This is the second such anti-dumping procedure by China against European industry in less than two weeks. China has also launched a complaint against companies making unwelded pipes. One company targeted, French group Vallourec, has said that unwelded pipes accounted for only a small part of its business. The term dumping refers to a strategy of selling products at below cost to win market share and eliminate competitors. It is considered to be an unfair trade practice. Les Echos noted that the Chinese complaints came after European Union authorities imposed a customs duty averaging 47% against solar panels imported from China. EU authorities have also said that they intend to investigate practices by the Chinese manufacturers of telephone exchanges, Huawei and ZTE, which it suspects are selling their products at a loss.

<http://biz.thestar.com.my/news/story.asp?file=/2013/5/28/business/13166240&sec=business>



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