



## Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network Release 2013 – 1,012 Newsy Stuff

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

**October 15 2013**



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### USA, W.VA, SOUTH CHARLESTON, OCTOBER 3 2013. CHLORINE >> SHELTER-IN-PLACE ALERT LIFTED FOR AREA RESIDENTS

ken ward jr.

 **Watch the Video** [Clearon Releases Statement about South Charleston Chemical Incident](#)



*Firefighters climb atop the Clearon plant in South Charleston after a dry chlorine bleach leak and fire were reported there on Wednesday morning. Residents in South Charleston and Dunbar were briefly told to shelter in place.*

Residents in parts of South Charleston, Spring Hill and Dunbar were forced to briefly take shelter in their homes Wednesday morning by what one local official called a "chlorine gas cloud" from the local Clearon Corp. facility. One Clearon employee was briefly monitored at a local hospital and two firefighters who responded to the incident were treated for heat exhaustion, officials said. The incident occurred shortly before 8:30 a.m. when an alarm alerted company officials "to the release of a small amount of chlorine," according to a prepared statement issued by Clearon. The Clearon plant on MacCorkle Avenue Southwest, across from the stamping plant, uses chlorine to make dry granular bleach that is pressed into tablets for use to keep swimming pools clean. Bleach at the plant is also used in industrial, laundry and sanitizer products. Plant manager Scott Johnson said that the facility had been down for maintenance for the last month, and that some of its granular bleach - mistakenly left inside part of the production process -- had begun to "decompose," in a reaction that was giving off heat and fumes. Johnson noted that, when mixed with water or heated, the product gives off a "heavy, dense, white smoke." The reaction releases

water, salts, various chlorine compounds, and some amount of chlorine gas, Johnson said. Kanawha County Commission President Kent Carper said there was a "fairly small fire" inside the Clearon plant, and a "chlorine gas cloud" over South Charleston. Chlorine is a toxic gas that irritates the respiratory system and can be fatal in large enough amounts. South Charleston Fire Chief John Taylor said that a precautionary shelter-in-place was issued at about 9:45 a.m., and lifted a few minutes after 10 a.m. He said the all-clear was sounded at the plant at 2:30 p.m.

<http://www.wvgazette.com/News/201310020018>

### AUSTRALIA, NSW, QUEANBEYAN, OCTOBER 3 2013. MULTIPLE-VEHICLE ACCIDENT INVOLVES PETROL TANKER.



*Five vehicles, including a fuel tanker, were damaged in a crash on the intersection of Canberra Avenue and Tharwa Road this afternoon.*

At lunchtime, Canberra Avenue in Queanbeyan was the scene of a multiple-vehicle accident involving a petrol tanker. A man is believed to have lost control of his sedan as he headed east towards Tharwa Road, resulting in a collision with two vehicles. The sedan then went on to crash into two other vehicles, and all three hit the fuel tanker. The tanker was not damaged but two vehicles had to be towed from the scene. The driver of the sedan was taken to Queanbeyan Hospital for medical checks, with NSW Police investigating the man's medical history as a part of their inquiries.

<http://www.canberratimes.com.au/act-news/teen-hit-by-truck-in-canberras-north-20131002-2usbl.html>

### USA, FLA, TALLAHASSEE, OCTOBER 3 2013. LOCAL COUNTY TO CLEAN PETROLEUM CONTAMINATION

bailey myers

 **Watch the Video** [Local County to Clean Petroleum Contamination](#)

Twenty one years later a Petroleum contamination is getting cleaned up. In 1991, a one thousand gallon fuel container at the tax collectors office in Wakulla County began to leak into the ground around it. Although the tank was closed and formally removed years ago, some of the petroleum began to leak. the county has been monitoring the chemical, and now says its time



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to take care of it. Wakulla County Intergovernmental Affairs Sheree Keeler explained, "The goal is to get it cleaned up and get the ground cleaned up contain the leeching into the rest of the property and get it done." The clean up is expected to start next week and although it will be around the tax collectors office and the County Commission chambers, it will not disrupt business.

<http://www.wctv.tv/news/headlines/Local-County-Works-To-Clean-Petroleum-Contamination--226060051.html>

### NEW ZEALAND, RAETIHI, OCTOBER 3 2013. TOWN TURNS OFF 'UNSAFE' WATER SUPPLY >> DIESEL SPILL

*lin ferguson, brendan manning*



*A tanker brings water from outside the town supply to Raetihi residents yesterday.*

A diesel spill from a Ruapehu Alpine Lift tank is leaching into the Makotuku stream - the primary tributary to the Raetihi town water supply. Horizons Regional Council, the Department of Conservation (DoC) and Ruapehu District Council are aware of the spill, which came from a tank at the Ruapehu Alpine Lifts Turoa ski field base in Tongariro National Park. Horizons Regional Council spokeswoman Ally Koehler said the extent of the spill was unknown, but it was linked to the closure of the Raetihi town water supply on Wednesday. DoC is working with iwi groups who have an affiliation with southern Ruapehu, she said. Ruapehu District Council is responsible for the water supply, and is testing to determine the cause of the contamination. Expert advice has been sought on

how to decontaminate the Raetihi reticulated water supply system. Initial estimates suggest it will take at least 10 days. One Raetihi resident said a strong "petrol/chemical smell" had been coming from taps on Monday and said he was initially fobbed off about the problem. John Chapman, who moved into the small town two weeks ago and is renting a house in Seddon St, said he noticed a strong petrol/chemical smell on Monday. Mr Chapman said the smell meant the water was obviously contaminated and would be dangerous to drink. He called the council but said he was told it was "probably just algae". He then called contractors Veolia Water and was told that the supply was sand filtered and that was as good as it gets and "to deal with it". Raetihi residents are now being provided fresh water from tankers situated at the Four Square store at Seddon St, and are advised to visit [www.ruapehudc.govt.nz](http://www.ruapehudc.govt.nz) for more information. Consent holders who take water from the Makotuku Stream have been notified by Horizons Regional Council. A response team has also been mobilised by Horizons, which will manage the immediate mitigation and clean-up. The impact on native flora and fauna is currently unknown. DoC has teams on the ground surveying for any impacts on Whio and other wildlife. The full impact will not be known for several days when more information about the scale of the spill is available.

#### Related Stories

- [Town turns off 'unsafe' water supply](#)
- [Diesel leak shuts down town's water](#)
- [Diesel leaches into Raetihi town water supply](#)

[http://www.nzherald.co.nz/nz/news/article.cfm?c\\_id=1&objectid=11133863](http://www.nzherald.co.nz/nz/news/article.cfm?c_id=1&objectid=11133863)

### SRI LANKA, COLOMBO, OCTOBER 3 2013. I LANKA RETURNS SUBSTANDARD STOCK OF GASOLINE FROM PETROCHINA

Sri Lanka's state-owned fuel supplier Ceylon Petroleum Corp (Ceypetco) said it has returned 30,000 tonnes of gasoline supplied by the Singapore subsidiary of PetroChina due to substandard quality. According to the Ceypetco's managing director Susantha Silva, the stock of 90-octane gasoline from PetroChina Singapore was rejected as it failed to meet specifications. The Ceypetco has accepted 5,000 tonnes of 95-octane gasoline and 5,000 tonnes of diesel from the Singapore subsidiary, Silva has said that the oil stock was rejected since it failed one of the 15 parameters of the octane specifications, Reuters reported. PetroChina's Singapore subsidiary has been asked to resupply the cargo. Ceypetco in January this year finalized a term contract to purchase nearly 3 million barrels of oil products for delivery over a six-month period from PetroChina. Sri Lanka is being forced to import refined oil from several sources since Sri Lanka's sole refinery can only purify Iranian crude and the crude supplies from Iran had to be reduced following the sanctions imposed on Iran by the United States.

[http://www.colombopage.com/archive\\_13B/Oct02\\_1380726402CH.php](http://www.colombopage.com/archive_13B/Oct02_1380726402CH.php)



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### THAILAND, NAKHON RATCHASIMA, OCTOBER 3 2013. TANKER DRIVER KILLED, FUEL STOLEN



*A tanker driver was found dead in this truck. It was suspected that he was killed after been forced to transfer gasoline to robbers.*

A tanker driver was found dead in his truck with his throat cut and some of his cargo of mixed fuels missing on a road in Pak Thong Chai district on Wednesday morning. Police called to the scene about 10.30am said the tanker, with a capacity of 32,000 litres, was parked on the side of Kabinburi-Nakhon Ratchasima Road. The body of Rakchai Hadkham, 48, was found in the passenger seat. His throat had been slit open. A doctor from Pak Thong Chai hospital estimated he had been dead for at least 10 hours before being found. Rakchai, a resident of Si Sa Ket province, worked as a tanker driver for Thongchai Petroleum Co in Si Sa Ket. He was delivering diesel, petrol and gasohol, with a combined cargo of 32,000 litres, from a tank farm in Saraburi to

customers in Si Sa Ket. Pol Col Wanat Atthakawin, deputy superintendent of Nakhon Ratchasima police station, said about 2,100 litres of fuel was missing from the tanker. However, it was not clear whether the motive was robbery, or a personal conflict. Police tended to believe robbery. He said it was possible a gang had followed the vehicle, then forced Rakchai to transfer some of the fuel to the robbers, who then killed him.

<http://www.bangkokpost.com/news/local/372661/fuel-tanker-driver-killed-cargo-stolen>

### USA, MD, BALTIMORE, OCTOBER 3 2013. GASOLINE CLEANUP AT I-95 TRAVEL PLAZAS TO COST \$2.2 MILLION MORE THAN PROJECTED >> OVERAGE WILL BE SUBTRACTED FROM OPERATOR'S RENT TO STATE

kevin rector



Map: [Aberdeen, MD, USA](#)



*Renovations are taking place at the Maryland House travel plaza on Interstate 95.*

The cleanup of soil contaminated by gasoline at two travel plazas on Interstate 95 likely will cost the state \$2.2 million more than estimated, according to the Maryland Transportation Authority. Remediation work at Maryland House in [Harford County](#) has cost \$2.6 million — far more than the \$800,000 planned budget for both sites, officials said. Work is getting underway to assess soil contamination at Chesapeake House in [Cecil County](#), officials said. The final remediation costs above the initial budget will be subtracted from the rent paid by Areas USA to the state. The Miami-based firm is investing \$56 million to renovate the plazas in exchange for leasing rights to operate the facilities through 2047, officials said. The plazas, which handle more than 2 million

visitors per year each, are among the nation's busiest. State officials say the public-private partnership with Areas USA will bring Maryland more than \$400 million in revenue over the life of the contract. They say remediation of gasoline-contaminated soil is a routine part of redeveloping service-station sites — especially older sites. Maryland House is 50 years old; Chesapeake House is 38. Each had two gas stations. The new centers will each have only one service station, but with quicker, more efficient pumps, officials say, they will sell a comparable amount of gas to travelers. The state's contract with Areas includes the \$800,000 budget to remediate the first 10,000 cubic yards of contaminated soil found at the sites, at \$80 a cubic yard. The state is responsible for the cost of any additional remediation, at the same rate. Cheryl Sparks, an MdTA spokeswoman, said 10,000 cubic yards was an estimate, and "the true site condition was unknown" at the time the contract was written. Under the supervision of the Maryland Department of the Environment and the MdTA's environmental engineering staff, about 32,500 cubic yards were determined to be contaminated at the Maryland House site, the MdTA said. At the rate of \$80 per cubic yard — the cheapest among the project proposals received by the state — remediating the additional 22,500 cubic yards of contaminated soil will cost about \$1.8 million, officials said. That work is complete, and Maryland House will reopen this winter, officials said. At Chesapeake House, crews have begun removing tanks from the ground. The cleanup there is expected to be completed by next fall. Tests indicate far less contaminated soil at Chesapeake House, state officials



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said. An estimated \$400,000 will have to be spent to remediate about 5,000 cubic yards of soil there, they said. The total \$2.2 million will be paid as a "rent credit" to Areas, Sparks said, and the company will not pay rent to the state until the credit is depleted. Under previous contracts, Sparks said, MdTA owned and was "ultimately responsible for" the fuel tanks at the station. Under the new contract, the state does not assume that responsibility. "Under the current lease agreement with Areas, the fuel vendor has ownership of the fuel tanks and would be responsible for any future soil contamination remediation," Sparks said.

<http://www.baltimoresun.com/business/bs-md-plaza-gas-remediation-20131002.0.2743376.story>

### **SOUTH AFRICA, GAUTENG, BOKSBURG, OCTOBER 4 2013. UGST TANK DEATH: VICTIM'S FIRST DAY AT WORK**



*Paramedics at the scene where one man died after he fell into a petrol tank in Boksburg.*

A man who died in a freak accident at a petrol station arrived in South Africa just two weeks ago and Thursday was his first day on the job. The Malawi national was servicing a petrol tank with a friend on Gauteng's East Rand when they fell in. The friend survived and was taken to Tambo Memorial Hospital in Boksburg. He remains in a critical condition. According to a family member of the deceased man, the Malawian came to South Africa looking for a better life. The victim's brother, Leonard Molawila, says he doesn't know how to break the news to the rest of the family back home. He said he was very happy when he heard his brother would be joining him in South Africa. Molawila also said he had nobody to turn to now. He said his brother left his house this morning

looking for work when a man approached him and his friend, offering them jobs as petrol tank cleaners. Questions are now being raised about whether the two men required training before being allowed to service the tank. According to an emergency worker, the men were "overcome by diesel fumes" and were not wearing protective gear. Police have opened an inquest docket.

#### **Related Stories**

- [Man dies after falling into petrol tank](#)
- [Man dies in petrol tank](#)
- [Worker dies in petrol tank incident](#)
- [Men fall into petrol tank, one dies](#)

<http://ewn.co.za/2013/10/03/Tank-death-Victims-first-day-of-work>

### **USA, CO, DENVER, OCTOBER 4 2013. COLORADO FUEL TANK LEAKS 5,000 GALLONS OF OIL INTO SOUTH PLATTE RIVER**

Colorado officials are responding to a damaged fuel tank owned by Anadarko Petroleum that has spilled more than 5,000 gallons of crude oil into the South Platte River. Anadarko, the second-largest operator in the operator in the Denver-Julesburg Basin, has shut down about 10 per cent of its operations, including 250 tank batteries and 670 wells. In a statement, Anadarko said: "To date, we are aware of two tank batteries that were damaged by flood waters, and have associated light-oil releases. The releases occurred in flood waters associated with the South Platte River and the St. Vrain River, and we have reported them to the Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission, the National Response Center, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. "We are actively working under the oversight of these agencies to contain and clean up the releases to the greatest extent possible. We will continue to provide additional information as appropriate," the company added.

<http://www.hazmatmag.com/news/colorado-fuel-tank-leaks-5-000-gallons-of-oil-into-south-platte-river/1002633988/>

### **IRELAND, CO DOWN, WARRENPOINT HARBOUR, OCTOBER 3 2013. CARGO LEAK CREW DECONTAMINATED**

Eight crew and a dockworker had to be decontaminated after being exposed to leaking gas while a cargo of grain was unloaded in Warrenpoint Harbour, Co. Down, a report into the incident has revealed. The workers were taken to hospital as the fire service cordoned off an area around the quayside when a fumigant retainer began to smoke. Others, also containing aluminium phosphide, spilled onto the ground as they were being removed from the ship. The emergency started after the



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Arklow Meadow docked last December following a 14 day voyage from the Ukraine. As the grain was unloaded, it became apparent that the fumigant, which had been placed on top of the cargo, was still active, according to a report by the Marine Accident Investigation branch. The ship's crew was evacuated ashore after retainers which had been collected and placed inside plastic bags, started to smoke. The eight crew and a stevedore, who had potentially been exposed to the gas, were taken to hospital for observation and decontamination. A total of 89 fumigant retainers were recovered from the ship and shore area - they were neutralised by immersing them in water - but 21 were unaccounted for. It took five days for the level of gas in the vessel's cargo holds to reduce to an acceptable level, according to the investigation report. It also claimed that although Warrenpoint Harbour Authority had reacted quickly, the port had not developed procedures or emergency plans to deal specifically with potential hazards associated with fumigants. The phosphide had probably remained active due to tight packaging and relatively low humidity in the cargo holds, and although the levels of gas in the atmosphere had been assessed as to have been safe, the fumigant retainers were now removed from the top of the grain cargo before cargo operations started. The report said: "Onboard procedures for the carriage of fumigated cargoes were scant, and the instructions provided by the fumigator in the Ukraine were not followed." It added: "A recommendation has been made to the Maritime and Coastguard Agency aimed at improving the guidance available regarding the carriage of fumigated cargoes. "A recommendation has been made to the British Ports Association and the UK Major Ports Group to help ensure that all UK ports have procedures and emergency plans in place when dealing with fumigated cargoes."

[http://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/breakingnews/breakingnews\\_ukandireland/cargo-leak-crew-decontaminated-29629846.html](http://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/breakingnews/breakingnews_ukandireland/cargo-leak-crew-decontaminated-29629846.html)

### AUSTRALIA, VICTORIA, MELBOURNE, OCTOBER 6 2013. TANKER CRASH FIRM'S VIC TRUCKS GROUNDED

#### Watch the Video's:

- [Police investigating Sydney tanker crash](#)
- [9RAW: Two killed in petrol tanker crash](#)
- [9RAW: Neighbour Films Aftermath of Truck Crash](#)



*Australia, Victoria, Melbourne, October 6 2013. Tanker crash firm's Vic trucks grounded.*

A trucking company linked to a horrific double-fatal crash in Sydney has been hit with 91 fresh defect notices with an audit of its fleet extended to Victoria. NSW officials launched an investigation after an out-of-control Cootes Transport fuel tanker ploughed into a power pole and four cars before erupting in a fireball on Mona Vale Road on Tuesday. Two men died in the inferno and six others were taken to hospital. By late Thursday, NSW Road and Maritime Services (RMS) inspectors auditing the Cootes fleet had issued 126 defect notices - at least 92 of which relate to brake faults. Now their counterparts across the border, VicRoads' Transport Safety Service officers, have found defects in 91 of the company's vehicles. Of these, 36 were grounded immediately and won't be allowed back on the roads until they undergo repairs and further checks. VicRoads said in a statement on Sunday intensive mechanical inspections of

more than 110 Cootes vehicles and trailers had uncovered faults including oil and air leaks, brake and suspension defects and structural integrity issues such as problems with the chassis. The Victorian authority will review the trucking company's heavy vehicle accreditation as part of its audit process, which is expected to continue on Monday. NSW investigators say it's still unclear what caused the truck involved in Tuesday's crash to go out of control, overturn, then explode into flames. Their probe is expected to take weeks.

#### Related Stories

- [Sydney tanker crash firm hit with 126 notices](#)
- [Truck company hit with 26 defects](#)
- [NSW man dies after being hit by truck](#)
- [Truck driver 'a hero' after tanker explodes](#)
- [Three cops in hospital after Sydney smash](#)

<http://news.ninemsn.com.au/national/2013/10/06/18/14/tanker-crash-firm-s-vic-trucks-grounded>



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### USA, CA, BERKELEY, OCTOBER 6 2013. TANKER LEAK SPRAYS CARS, CLOSES BUSY STREET NEXT TO UC BUILDING

Several vehicles were sprayed with diesel fuel and a block of busy Hearst Avenue in Berkeley was closed Wednesday afternoon after a tanker sprang a leak next to UC Berkeley's Energy Biosciences Building. A sudden leak of diesel fuel from a tanker truck sprayed several vehicles and forced the closure of a Berkeley thoroughfare, Hearst Avenue, next to [UC Berkeley's](#) relatively new [Energy Biosciences Building](#) on Wednesday afternoon, fire officials said. A tanker truck supplying fuel to a generator at the building sprang a leak around 3:30 p.m., said Berkeley Assistant Fire Chief Aaron Lee. The private tanker from Golden Gate Petroleum leaked about 65 gallons of diesel, Lee said. The fuel sprayed about 65 feet from the vehicle, he said. "It sprayed several autos as well," he said. The [fire department](#) received complaints from some of the vehicle owners. Spill responders, including private contractors working for Golden Gate Petroleum, cleaned up the spill and prevented any of it from getting into the storm drain, Lee said. Several UC campus buildings were switched to generator power this week following [Monday's black-out, explosion and fire](#) that damaged the campus power grid. Campus spokesman Dan Mogulof said he had no information that the generator at the Energy Biosciences Building, which sits across Oxford Street from the main campus, was affected by the power outage. Patch has requested information from Golden Gate Petroleum.

<http://berkeley.patch.com/groups/police-and-fire/p/tanker-leak-sprays-cars-closes-street-next-to-uc-building>

### JORDAN, ZARQA, OCTOBER 6 2013. FUEL TANKER CRASH KILLS 1, INJURES 3 IN ZARQA



A tanker filled with gasoline collided with a sedan car in Zarqa on Thursday, killing one person and injuring three others. The Zarqa governorate Civil Defense Department (CDD) Cadres rushed to the scene of the accident and administered first aid to the injured before transferring them, and the body of the victim, to the Zarqa state-run hospital. The injured are reported to be in stable condition. CDD reported that the tanker, filled with over 30 tons of fuel, overturned and led to large quantities of gasoline to leak onto the main street. The fuel tanker is reportedly rented by Total Jordan from a fuel-transportation company specialized in transporting fuel products from the Zarqa oil refinery to gas stations throughout the kingdom.

<http://en.ammonnews.net/article.aspx?articleno=23222>

### USA, MA, MANCHESTER, OCTOBER 11 2013. ANDREWS MAN DIES A MONTH AFTER FUEL TANK FIRE NEAR BOSTON

 [Watch the Video Flash Fire Severely Injures 2 in Manchester >> Officials say Falling Light might have Sparked Fire](#)



*The scene of the incident last month.*

A man from Andrews who was working on an underground fuel tank at a gas station near Boston has died after a fire and explosion in the tank about a month ago, WMUR-TV reported. Donald Scott, age 24, of Andrews died this week and was with another 33-year-old Andrews man when the explosion happened as they were inside a tank, WMUR-TV reported. Firefighters say the men were relining an underground storage tank with fiberglass at a Mobil station in Manchester when something went wrong, the CBS TV station in Boston reported. "There is a report that there was a light that had been dropped and broken inside of the tank," Manchester Fire Chief James Burkush told WBZ-TV.

"So we're going to try and verify that." Andy A. Snow, the other man in the tank, suffered severe burns from his waist down, reported the New Hampshire Union Leader. The two men were working for a company called Tank Tech, which is based in Missouri. A spokesman for Tank Tech Inc. told the Union Leader that the incident was the first for their company, which has been in business since 1985. However, the New Hampshire Union Leader reported that they discovered Kentucky fined Tank Tech \$125 for problems in an incident in Hickman, Ky., that resulted in an explosion that killed a man in the summer of 2001.

<http://www.wbtw.com/story/23651593/andrews-man-dies-a-month-after-fuel-tank-fire-near-boston>



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### THAILAND, M BANGKOK, OCTOBER 11 2013. MAN ARRESTED IN FAMILY FUEL TANKER HIJACK

Police have arrested a man for murdering his brother-in-law and stealing about 2,100 litres of mixed fuel from the tanker he was driving at the time. Sunton Wisetsao confessed to killing his wife's brother when he hijacked the fuel tanker he was driving in Nakhon Ratchasima.

Sunton Wisetsao, 47, was apprehended on Wednesday at a border checkpoint in Nong Khai province as he tried to escape to Laos, according to provincial police region 3 chief Pol Lt Gen Theerasak Glinpongsa. The man confessed to killing his wife's brother, Rakchai Hadkham, 48, who was found dead inside his truck parked on Kabinburi-Nakhon Ratchasima Road on Oct 2. About 2,100 litres of fuel was missing from the tanker. Mr Rakchai worked as driver for Thongchai Petroleum Co in Si Sa Ket. He was delivering diesel, petrol and gasohol, with a combined cargo of 32,000 litres, from a tank farm in Saraburi to customers in Si Sa Ket when Mr Sunton attacked him. Mr Sunton told police that he and his wife's brother were co-workers until he was fired from the company for stealing fuel. He said he waited in front of his old workplace to hitch a ride with a tanker and happened to be picked up by Mr Rakchai. While they were on the road, he attacked his brother-in-law with a knife, and then drove around selling fuel in the vehicle's cargo to petrol stations in Nakhon Ratchasima province. He said he committed the crime because he needed money to pay off illegal loans. Police charged Mr Sunton with theft resulting in death. He was taken to Nakhon Ratchasima police station for further questioning.

<http://www.bangkokpost.com/news/local/373840/man-hijacked-brother-in-law-fuel-truck-to-settle-debts>

### USA, N.H, HOPKINTON, OCTOBER 11 2013. 2 SUSPECTED BURGLARS KILLED WHEN BLOW TORCH IGNITES FIREWORKS IN SAFE

 **Watch the Video's:**

- [2 Killed Using Blowtorch to open Strongbox Filled with Fireworks](#)
- [2 Suspected Burglars Killed when Blow Torch Ignites Fireworks in Safe](#)
- [Explosion Kills 2 in Hopkinton](#)

Two men who allegedly broke into a Hopkinton, New Hampshire business on Tuesday morning were killed in a massive explosion, officials said. The State Fire Marshal says that the men, identified as Lucas Bourke, 21, of Allenstown and Ethan Keeler, 21, of Epsom, were using an oxy-acetylene blow torch to try and cut into a large safe inside a workshop at New Yard Landscaping on Farrington Corner Road. That safe contained a large amount of commercial-grade fireworks, which exploded. The two men were killed in the blast. Officials would only say that the men did not have permission to be on the property. However, Tom Komisarek, the owner of New Yard Landscaping, told WBZ-TV that the men had already loaded some items from the business into a nearby vehicle. Komisarek says Bourke may have been familiar with the property and the safe, but not the safe's contents. Komisarek added that he was saddened by the news. "I just want to put my feelings out toward the families of the individuals that are deceased," said Komisarek. "My thoughts are with them at this point." Kent Keeler, a cousin of Ethan Keeler struggled for answers on Wednesday. Keeler says family members are wondering why Ethan would have put himself in that situation. "I think he just didn't know who he was yet," said Kent Keeler. "I feel like he was trying to find out where he belongs." Keeler noted that his cousin was always put family first. "He stood up for me in high school when people would pick on me," said Keeler. "He put family over everything." The interior of the building also suffered heavy damage from the explosion. Neighbors near the business heard the explosion. "I heard the boom first and then immediately felt the tremor," said Janice Farenwald, who lives near the blast site. "There was definitely an odor that came through the window, I could tell something was burning, so I thought something must have exploded." The investigation into the explosion is still ongoing.

 **Related Stories**

- [Suspected Burglars Killed While Cracking Safe Containing Fireworks](#)
- [2 killed using blowtorch to open strongbox filled with fireworks](#)
- [2 NH Men Killed When Torch Set Off Fireworks Blast](#)
- [2 Dead In Explosion At Business](#)
- [Hopkinton Explosion Caused by Blow Torch Igniting Fireworks](#)
- [Fireworks Led to Blast that Killed 2 Men](#)
- [Explosion Kills 2 in Hopkinton](#)
- [Overnight explosion at Hopkinton landscaping business kills 2](#)

<http://boston.cbslocal.com/2013/10/09/two-suspected-burglars-killed-when-blow-torch-ignites-fireworks-in-safe/>



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### SRI LANKA, AVISSAWELLA, OCTOBER 11 2013. CHLORINE PIPE LINE BURST: OVER 100 HOSPITALIZED

athapattu bandara

 [Watch the Video 67 Still in Hospital as a Result of Chlorine Leak](#)



A water pipe which contained chlorine at the Avissawella water tank located in Frederick Estate, had blasted, resulting in two Water Board officials and over 100 residents in the area, being hospitalized at the Avissawella hospital last night. A spokesman for the Avissawella hospital confirmed that more than 100 people had been admitted with breathing difficulties, while no serious cases had been reported so far. Among the victims, the majority comprised of women and children, he said. At the time of going to press, Police and Security Forces personnel had been summoned to the area to control the situation and facilitate residents who had been affected due to the gas leak of the water pipe, Police sources said. The cause of blast was yet to be confirmed. The Water Board had summoned all technical officials, including the Chief Engineer to control the situation. Residents of eight line roomss had been affected in the incident. Avissawella Police is conducting investigations.

<http://www.dailynews.lk/local/pipe-line-burst-over-100-hospitalized>

### INDIA, MAHARASHTRA, MUMBAI, OCTOBER 11 2013. OIL SPILLS BECOMING FREQUENT HAZARD FOR FISHERMEN NEAR MUMBAI

mansi choksi



*Fisherman in Uran, Maharashtra, skimming oil off the water surface and dumping it in recovery kits on Monday.*

Naushad Qureshi, 26, who belongs to an indigenous fishing community in the Uran region of Maharashtra, felt his eyes burning and feet tingling when he settled into his dinghy Tuesday morning. He was looking for crabs, lobsters and prawns in the Arabian Sea to sell in Mumbai, which is almost 30 miles southwest from his village, Peerwadi. But Mr. Qureshi returned in an hour with only dead fish in his net. "They were black with oil and floating on the water," he told his family of six, whom he supports on his daily earnings of \$10 to \$30. "We can't sell these or eat these. How do I run this house now?" Men in orange overalls and hard hats have descended onto the Uran shoreline to contain an oil spill that resulted from a pipeline burst when power failed inside the state-run Oil and

Natural Gas Corporation's Uran plant early on Monday. The spill began at midnight and continued for approximately three hours. The Ministry of Environment and Forests ordered ONGC on Thursday to shut down the pipeline and explain how the accident occurred. "The Ministry of Environment and Forests has constituted a team headed by the member secretary of the Central Pollution Control Board Shri J. S. Kamyotra," said a letter signed by Jayanthi Natrajan, the union Minister for Environment and Forests. "The team will make an immediate site inspection and submit a report by October 14, 2013," the letter noted. "A show-cause notice is being issued to ONGC to show cause why action should not be taken against them under the Environment Protection Act, 1986." The fishermen are all too familiar with this situation. In August 2010, this shoreline was swamped with fish covered in a black slick when two ships, the M.S.C. Chitra and MV Khalijia, spilled more than 800 tons of oil into the Arabian Sea. In January 2011, another burst in the ONGC's Mumbai-Uran trunk oil pipeline led to a spill that spread over four square kilometers. Six months later, a ship carrying 60,000 metric tons of coal and 50 tons of oil sank off the Mumbai coast and washed up tar balls to this shore. "In 2010 and 2011, we couldn't go fishing for up to six to eight months," said Martand Nakhwa, the chairman of a local fishermen's union. "This time it will be even longer because the spill is right near the coastline." The Maharashtra Pollution Control Board estimated the latest spill to be a few thousand liters, but it would be enough to force the local fishing industry out of work again, Mr. Nakhwa said. "There will be no fish on this coast because of the oil spill for more than a year," he said. Deepak Apte, a marine ecologist and chief operator officer of the Bombay Natural



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History Society, said the traditional fisheries will be affected for five to six months at the least. "It takes that much time for the flora to come back," he said. "And since this is a mangrove region, wherever there is oil, regeneration will be slowed down." ONGC's spokesman, S. K. Pathak, described the spill as "very small." "It is only a few hundred liters and we have almost finished containing it," he said in a telephone interview on Tuesday. "Because the power in the plant failed, the pumping capacity decreased and caused a rupture in the supplement pipe. We have done everything to mitigate the damage." Y. B. Sontakke, regional officer of Maharashtra Pollution Control Board's Navi Mumbai unit, said water and soil samples from Uran had been sent for examination. The results are expected in a week. If the oil managed to seep into the sand, the ecological damage could be higher as soil regeneration would be slowed down. Mr. Sontakke, who supervised the cleanup in the 2010 and 2011 spills, said the latest spill could be more than the initial estimation of a few thousand liters. "That's only one-tenth of a water tanker. But the damage to marine life is phenomenal," he said. In the neighboring fishing village of Karanja, one of the several that dot the Uran coast, Mr. Nakhwa, whose union represents nine villages, has begun mobilizing fellow fishermen to demand compensation from the ONGC and the state fisheries department. On Tuesday, Mr. Nakhwa was grumbling that the surveyors from the fisheries department had come during high tide, when the damage wouldn't be as apparent. "They don't even know the A.B.C.D. of fishing," he said. He was preparing a list of claims from fishing households across the six-mile Uran coastline: oily and obsolete fishing nets, lost daily income of between \$10 and \$30 and damage to fishing boats. "But how can anyone compensate a lost livelihood?" Mr. Nakhwa asked, sitting at his office desk beside a giant fish tank. "Anyway, this is all talk. Let's see if they part with even a rupee." After Mr. Nakhwa visited the Uran beach, he came back with a migraine and burning eyes. "This is becoming a pattern. A spill happens, they say it has been contained. But ask us how long we pay the price," he said. On Tuesday, Mr. Nakhwa and other fishermen had gathered near the ONGC plant to chart a plan of action. As the workers in hard hats inspected rocks on the shoreline, the fishermen talked about making an appointment with the ONGC chairman, filing a petition to the Uran revenue administrative officer and sharing information about odd jobs. "Last time a spill happened, I worked as a laborer for one month and was out of work for more than four. We didn't have food to eat," Mr. Nakhwa said. During the previous oil spills, Mr. Nakhwa said, the fisherman did not lobby for compensation. "We didn't know who to go to and there was not too much unity back then. This time, we have got together and will demand our rights," he said. Manoj Gharat, a fisherman from Peerwadi, said he noticed the spill when he reached the beach on his morning jog and took photos on his cellphone to gather evidence. "I knew ONGC would try to play this down because they are worried about their reputation. They have money to build more plants but not fix a pipeline that keeps dumping oil in the sea," he said. "The only people who lose out in every situation are the poor." Mr. Pathak from ONGC said the company would consider compensation claims when they are made. "The oil spill was extremely minor, but we will consider giving compensation as and when we receive a claim," he said. In the meantime, Mr. Qureshi is now looking for work as a laborer, though he appears to be mostly legs and shoulder blades. After the 2010 spill, when he realized he couldn't afford to replace his dinghy with a motor trawler that would take him further into the sea, he started a tea stall from his house. It didn't do very well, but the local fish market was empty for weeks. "There is no help. This is our problem, as always," he said.

[http://india.blogs.nytimes.com/2013/10/10/oil-spills-becoming-frequent-hazard-for-fishermen-near-mumbai/?\\_r=0](http://india.blogs.nytimes.com/2013/10/10/oil-spills-becoming-frequent-hazard-for-fishermen-near-mumbai/?_r=0)

**USA, N.M, ALBUQUERQUE, OCTOBER 11 2013. CONTAMINATED GAS FOUND IN 3 STATES, REFINERY ADMITS MISTAKE**

 **Watch the Video's:**

- [Contaminated Gasoline Damages Cars Across Albuquerque](#)
- [Contaminated Gas Found in 3 States, Refinery Admits Mistake](#)

Roughly 100 people believe they pumped diluted gasoline into their vehicles earlier this week at a half dozen Giant convenience stores, according to the company tied to the problem. A spokesperson for Western Refining, which owns Giant, told 4 On Your Side that a gasket failed on a large petroleum storage tank near Gallup. "We have a number of safety processes and quality control processes in place, but one of the seals failed and allowed some water to leak into that tank, and it once it did, it got into a couple loads of our gasoline," spokesperson Gary Hanson said. Hanson said company workers did not realize the leak occurred until a customer called to complain on Tuesday. He said customers would not have been able to determine if the gas was contaminated. About a half dozen Giant convenience stores were affected -- including one in Rio Rancho on Route 528, and one in Albuquerque on Paradise and Universe Boulevards. The remaining stations are in: Show Low and Springerville, Arizona; Cortez and Durango, Colorado. Hanson said drivers who believe their vehicles have damage from the contaminated should call the company's claims line at 1-877-511-1012.. He said they should have a receipt as proof of purchase and a damage estimate from a mechanic. "The process will probably take a couple of days. Once they get the



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repairs, our intent is to collect the receipts and get them a check as soon as we possibly can," he said. Hanson said the claims line is operating smoothly, however a few callers say they're having trouble getting answers. "I haven't heard anything," driver Ramona Lopez said. She called the number after her 3-week-old Chevy Equinox failed to start on Tuesday after a fill-up at the Giant store in Rio Rancho. Lopez had the dealer tow the vehicle for repairs. Mechanics determined the gasoline contained water. "They said it will cost probably \$1,800 to fix," she said. Dealers across the Albuquerque metro said they're working with more and more customers who have the same type of damage. Meanwhile, workers at the refinery are still trying to figure out what failed. "I don't have all the answers just yet, but obviously you try to learn from your mistakes and this is something that we want to make sure that doesn't happen again," Hanson said.

<http://www.kob.com/article/stories/s3188541.shtml>

### USA, N.D, TIOGA, OCTOBER 11 2013. OVER 865,200 GALLONS OF FRACKED OIL SPILL IN ND, PUBLIC IN DARK FOR DAYS DUE TO GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN

 **Watch the Video** [A Fracking Miracle: North Dakota's Bakken Boom](#)

[Over 20,600 barrels of oil fracked](#) from the [Bakken Shale](#) has spilled from a [Tesoro Logistics](#) pipeline in Tioga, North Dakota in one of the biggest onshore oil spills in recent U.S. history. Though the spill occurred on September 29, the [U.S. National Response Center](#) - tasked with responding to chemical and oil spills - did not make the report available until October 8 due to the ongoing government shutdown. "The center generally makes such reports available on its website within 24 hours of their filing, but services were interrupted last week because of the U.S. government shutdown," [explained Reuters](#). The ["Incident Summaries" portion of the National Response Center's website is currently down](#), and the homepage notes, "Due to [the] government shutdown, some services may not be available." At more than 20,600 barrels - equivalent to 865,200 gallons the spill was bigger than the April 2013 ExxonMobil [Pegasus pipeline](#) spill, which spewed 5,000-7,000 barrels of tar sands into a residential neighborhood in [Mayflower, Arkansas](#). So far, [only 1,285 barrels have been cleaned](#), and the oil is [spread out over a 7.3 acre land mass](#). Kris Roberts, environmental geologist for the North Dakota Department of Health Division of Water Quality [told the Williston Herald](#), "the leak was caused by a hole that deteriorated in the side of the pipe." "No water, surface water or ground water was impacted," [he said](#). "They installed monitoring wells to ensure there is no impact now or that there is going to be one." Roberts also told the Herald he was impressed with Tesoro's handling of the cleanup. "They've responded aggressively and quickly," Roberts commented, also [noting that the cleanup will cost upward of \\$4 million](#). "Sometimes we've had to ask companies to do what they did right off the mark. They're going at this aggressively and they know they have a problem and they know what they need to do about it." Tesoro Logistics Chairman and CEO Greg Goff also weighed in on the spill. "Protection and care of the environment are fundamental to our core values, and we deeply regret any impact to the landowner," [said Goff in a press release](#). "We will continue to work tirelessly to fully remediate the release area."

#### Pipeline to Albany Refinery, Barging on the Hudson

Tesoro's six-inch pipeline was carrying oil obtained via the controversial [hydraulic fracturing \("fracking"\)](#) process to the Stampede, ND rail facility. From Stampede, Canadian Pacific's freight trains take the oil piped from Tesoro's pipeline and ship it to an [Albany, NY holding facility by Global Partners](#) located along the Hudson River. "Over five years, the equivalent of roughly 91 million barrels of oil will be transported via CP's rail network from a loading facility in Stampede, N.D., to a Global terminal in Albany," [explained a September story appearing in the Financial Post](#). Albany's holding facility received its first Canadian Pacific shipment from the Bakken Shale in December 2011, according to Bloomberg, with [1.4 million barrels of storage capacity](#). The facility [receives 149,000-157,000 barrels of Bakken crude per day](#) from Canadian Pacific. Once shipped to Global's Albany holding facility, much of the oil is barged to market on tankers along the Hudson from the Port of Albany. "As much as a quarter of the shale oil being produced in North Dakota could soon be headed by rail to the Port of Albany," [explained an April 2012 article appearing in the Albany Times-Union](#). "The crude oil...will be loaded onto barges to be shipped down the Hudson River to refineries along the East Coast."

#### North Dakota Petroleum Council Responds

North Dakota Petroleum Council's response to the largest fracked oil spill in U.S. history and one of the biggest onshore spills in U.S. history? Ho-hum. "You know, this is an industrial business and sometimes things happen and the companies are certainly responsible to take care of these things when they happen," Petroleum Council President Ron Ness [told KQCD](#). John Berger, [Manager of Tesoro's Mandan, ND, refinery](#), sits on the [Petroleum Council's Board of Directors](#). <http://www.desmogblog.com/2013/10/10/20600-barrels-fracked-oil-spill-north-dakota-publicity-halted-due-government-shutdown>



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### USA, N.C, HENDERSON CO, FLETCHER, OCTOBER 11 2013. CLEANUP COMPLETE AT CONTINENTAL TEVES >> PLANT REOPENS FOLLOWING SPILL OF HYDROCHLORIC ACID SOLUTION

joey millwood

 [Watch the Video Chemical Spill](#)



*A hazardous materials cleanup took place Thursday at Continental Teves on Highway 280 near Fletcher after a broken pipe released hydrochloric acid into a containment basin.*

The Continental Teves plant near Fletcher has reopened following a hazardous materials emergency early Thursday morning. The Mills River Fire Department responded to a call at the plant off Highway 280 at 3:50 a.m., Fire Chief Rick Livingston said Thursday afternoon. A pipe broke near a valve on a tank that contained 4,500 gallons of hydrochloric acid, Livingston said, and the chemical flowed into a basin designed to contain spills. "The containment system they had in place worked very effectively," Livingston said. "It did its job." Plant Manager Jeff Scott said no employees were injured and there were no environmental effects resulting from the spill. By late afternoon, responders and the cleanup team had done their jobs. "We have already cleaned up the spill are back in

operation," Scott said Thursday afternoon. When Henderson County emergency responders were notified early Thursday morning, they immediately called the North Carolina Regional Response Hazmat Team to the scene, Livingston said. "Our first priority was to make sure the plant was evacuated and that there were no injuries," Livingston said. About 80 employees were safely evacuated from the plant, according to a news release from the Henderson County Sheriff's Office. Emergency responders sent in a remote-controlled robot to survey the spill, Livingston said. The robot's camera footage showed that it was safe to begin cleanup operations. Stat Hazardous Material Cleanup Co. was hired to conduct the cleanup.

<http://www.blueridgenow.com/article/20131010/FREEARTICLES/131019994>

### SOUTH AFRICA, JOHANNESBURG, OCTOBER 11 2013. CABINET APPROVES DRAFT FRACKING RULES

The Cabinet has approved the gazetting of draft technical regulations on petroleum exploration and exploitation by means of hydraulic fracturing, or fracking. The proposed regulations will be published in the Government Gazette for public comment for 30 days before being resubmitted to the Cabinet for final approval. Announcing the Cabinet's decision in Pretoria on Thursday, Mineral Resources Minister Susan Shabangu said the potential of shale gas exploration and exploitation provided an opportunity for South Africa to begin exploring the production of its own fuel, and could provide huge impetus for the industrialisation of the economy. She added that the draft regulations prescribed international industry practices and standards to enhance safe exploration and production of shale gas, and would ensure that fracking was conducted "in a socially and environmentally balanced manner". Hydraulic fracturing involves the extraction of gas trapped underground by using pressurised liquid to fracture rock. Opponents of the process argue that the economic benefits of accessing previously unavailable energy sources are outweighed by the potential environmental impacts, including contamination of ground water. According to petroleum industry estimates, 2.5-million hydraulic fracturing jobs had been performed on oil and gas wells worldwide by 2012, more than one-million of them in the United States. South Africa, according to recent estimates by the US Department of Energy, has the eighth-largest shale gas reserves in the world at 390-trillion cubic feet. Shabangu told reporters on Thursday that the government was satisfied that the regulations had sufficiently addressed the recommendations contained in a report on an investigation into the social and environmental impacts of hydraulic fracturing that was conducted by a technical task team in 2012. The report had recommended measures to mitigate the environmental impact of fracking, the main recommendation being to ensure that the country's regulatory framework was robust enough to ensure that any negative impacts would be mitigated. An interdepartmental committee had been set up to strengthen the regulations, and a comprehensive international benchmarking exercise of well-developed jurisdictions that had begun shale gas exploitation had been undertaken. "We believe, as government, that we have acted in the best possible way, in the interests of the South African economy and its citizens, and we will continue to do so as we traverse this journey of hydraulic fracturing for the production of shale gas." Among other things, the draft regulations provide mechanisms for the assessment of the potential environmental impact of any proposed activities, for the protection of fresh water resources, and for the co-existence of shale gas exploitation and the Square Kilometer Array (SKA) project. "We have a responsibility as government to ensure security of



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energy supply for the country, and to explore energy sources that will improve the country's energy mix, grow the economy and contribute to job creation," Shabangu said.

<http://www.southafrica.info/news/fracking-101013.htm>

### **MALAYSIA, SABAH, SEMPORNA, OCTOBER 11 2013. MARINE POLICE SEIZE DIESEL, PETROL BEING SMUGGLED OUT OF SEMPORNA**

Semporna Marine Police have seized a quantity of petrol and diesel as the fuel was being smuggled out of the country. Sabah Marine Police commander ACP Mohammad Madun said the 1,920 litres of petrol and 2,700 litres of diesel were seized from four pump boats in Semporna waters under 'Operasi Landai' on Oct 8. "We also arrested a 45-year-old foreign man," he said in a statement today. He said the skippers of the three other boats jumped into the sea upon seeing the police. The seized fuel and boats were valued at RM25,558, he added

[http://www.bernama.com.my/bernama/state\\_news/news.php?id=984602&cat=sbe](http://www.bernama.com.my/bernama/state_news/news.php?id=984602&cat=sbe)

### **PHILIPPINES, CEBU, OCTOBER 11 2013. OIL SPILL VICTIMS GET ASSISTANCE >> CEBU CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MEMBERS DONATE CASH, GOODS FOR CORDOVA RELIEF OPERATION**

More than 1,500 families who were affected by the oil spill received relief goods from the Cebu Chamber of Commerce and Industry (CCCI). Each family received a pack of rice, noodles, bottled water and canned goods. The relief goods were collected from the CCCI member companies that gave cash and non-cash contributions for the relief operation held last Sept. 28 at the Cordova municipal grounds. Those who gave cash were Sacred Heart School-Ateneo de Cebu and its Alumni Association, RDAK Transport, GT Cosmetics, Cebu Landmasters, National Grid Corp., Cebu Oversea Hardware, Mactan Rock Industries, Cebu GTH Foundation, Teradyne Philippines, STK Seafood House, Sea World Ex-Im Traders and Greenworld Led Solutions. The proceeds were used to buy assorted relief goods. Contributions in-kind consisted of 54 sacks of rice from Juanito I. King Foundation, one sack of slippers for children from Canduman Manufacturing Corp., 157 sacks of rice, noodles and canned goods from Fluor Daniel Inc. Philippines-Cebu, 1,000 packs of tempura from Seamaster Food Products, five boxes of 500 ml bottled water from Philippine Spring Water Resources, four boxes of assorted canned goods from Virginia Food, a box of canned goods and one box of noodles from TRI-J Marketing, 120 packed meals from Lourdes Catering, five boxes of noodles from Colonnade Supermarket, 150 bottled water from RC Goldline, three sacks of rice from Choi City Seafood Restaurant, biscuits from Magic Melt and 40 packs of detergent powder and 30 t-shirts from Sheridan Marketing. The event was led by CCCI vice president for External Affairs and Relations Division Consul Antonio Chiu and Disaster Committee chairman Regan Rex King and assisted by the volunteers from the Central Command, Boy Scouts of the Philippines Cebu Council, PMAP Cebu, Junior People Management Association of the Philippines (JPMAP) and Crown Worldwide Group. Last Aug. 16, passenger vessel MV St. Thomas Aquinas and cargo vessel MV Sulpicio Express Siete collided near Luis Ledge, Talisay City, resulting to the sinking of the passenger vessel and the oil spill that affected the livelihood of fishermen and those living in the coastal areas of Cordova town.

<http://newsinfo.inquirer.net/504655/oil-spill-victims-get-assistance>

### **INDIA, TAMIL NADU, VELLORE, OCTOBER 11 2013. CHAOS OVER ETHANOL-LACED PETROL**

v narayana murthi



*Customers gather at the petrol bunk on the old bypass road, in Vellore on Wednesday.*

Sale of ethanol-laced petrol at a bunk on the old bypass road here created a flutter among vehicle users on Wednesday as some of them complained of their vehicles developing technical problems after using the petrol. A large number of vehicle users assembled in front of the bunk and demanded that officials check the quality of the petrol sold at the outlet. R Koteswaran of Poigai said he had been filling petrol from this particular bunk for many years and this was the first time that his two-wheeler had developed a problem. He said he had got the vehicle checked by a mechanic who attributed the problem to adulterated petrol. Koteswaran suspected that the petrol sold by the bunk must have been

adulterated with kerosene and water. Koteswaran also obtained signatures from other two-wheelers users, for a petition to be



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submitted to the police. Gopi, a car owner, who had filled petrol for `1,500, complained that his car engine had developed a snag. Local councillor Mohamed Hanif, who came to fill petrol for his two-wheeler, also complained that the petrol supplied at the bunk was colourless and smelt different. Annoyed by the complaints, the customers who had come to fill petrol, demanded that the bunk managers certify the quality of the petrol. The bunk managers, while trying to dispel the fears of vehicle users, pointed out that the petrol supplied by the Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited from Karur was mixed with ethanol and there was no other adulteration as claimed by the customers. They also tested the density of the petrol and the filter paper test proved that the petrol had no water content. They pointed out that they had received around 5,000 litres of petrol the previous night from BPCL, and showed the invoice which mentioned that the petrol had 5 per cent ethyl benzene (ethanol) content as per the government instruction. The density and the specific gravity of the petrol mixed with ethanol were also up to the norms fixed by the government. The bunk officials denied any adulteration in the petrol. Meanwhile, an official team led by the district revenue officer (DRO) V Balaraman arrived at the spot and tried to pacify the agitated customers. The officials cross-checked the quality and stock registers and conducted the quality test of several samples. The DRO also contacted the sales officers of BPCL and confirmed that the petrol supplied had only ethanol and nothing else. Balaraman told Express that the company had supplied the ethanol mixed petrol to Vellore for the very first time on Wednesday and only to the particular bunk on the old bypass road. There was no problem with the quality of the petrol. He also advised the bunk managers to display the information about the ethanol mixed petrol, for the convenience of customers. He said he had instructed the bunk to suspend the sale of the particular stock of petrol if customers were not satisfied with its quality.

[http://newindianexpress.com/states/tamil\\_nadu/Chaos-over-ethanol-laced-petrol/2013/10/10/article1828814.ece](http://newindianexpress.com/states/tamil_nadu/Chaos-over-ethanol-laced-petrol/2013/10/10/article1828814.ece)

### AUSTRALIA, NEW SOUTH WALES, MONA VALE, OCTOBER 11 2013. FAMILY THANKS TANKER HEROES FOR SAVING LIVES IN MONA VALE RD TRAGEDY

*kat adamski*

A North Turrumurra man who died after his car collided with an out-of-control fuel truck on Mona Vale Rd will be farewelled by family and friends tomorrow. Peter Wem, 73, died when his Subaru was hit by the Cootes Transport tanker last Tuesday after a trip to the northern beaches with interstate friends. His wife Margaret, 72, was pulled from the burning car's passenger seat by three bystanders, along with a woman who was sitting in the seat behind her. The friend's husband, who was sitting behind Mr Wem, also died in the crash. Mrs Wem was discharged from Royal North Shore Hospital the following day but has not returned to the couple's North Turrumurra home. She is believed to be staying with family. Family members have thanked "all the people and emergency services who helped at the accident scene, especially those who risked their own lives". "If it wasn't for the efforts of some very brave people we would certainly have lost our mother as well, so thank you from the bottom of our hearts," the family said. Mr Wem's private funeral service will be held at Macquarie Park Crematorium, North Ryde. Mr Wem is survived by his wife, three children and five grandchildren. The Wems had just returned from a three-month caravan holiday. Roads and Maritime Services heavy vehicle inspectors and police are continuing to audit Cootes Transport following the crash last Tuesday. As part of phase two of Operation Mona Vale, Cootes' LPG tanker fleet and all other vehicles owned by the company have been ordered off the road for inspection. As of Tuesday, 53 notices had been issued after 80 heavy vehicles had been inspected in NSW and Victoria. Notices have been issued with about a half for major defects such as brake failures, steering and suspension faults. Fifteen vehicles have been grounded.

<http://www.dailytelegraph.com.au/newslocal/northern-beaches/family-thanks-tanker-heroes-for-saving-lives-in-mona-vale-rd-tragedy/story-fngr8hax-1226736623616>

### USA. WASHINGTON DC, OCTOBER 12 2013. INDEPENDENT AUDITORS APPROVED FOR OFFSHORE SAFETY REVIEWS

*emily pickrell*

Three companies have received the green light to preform the [new federally required audits for offshore oil and gas operators](#), an industry oversight group said Thursday. The Center for Offshore Safety, [an industry group developed in response to the 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill](#) to foster best practices for the industry, has approved three initial auditing organizations for reviewing offshore companies' safety plans. ABS Quality Evaluations, Bureau Veritas Certification and DNV Business Assurance – all of which had been provisionally approved earlier this year — now can officially audit company safety plans mandated by the federal government. The government required companies to implement those safety and environmental management systems, or SEMS, by Nov. 15, 2011, and [they must subject them to third-party audits by June 4, 2015](#). "This is



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an important accomplishment for the Center for Offshore Safety and these companies as it demonstrates further commitment to protecting the environment and improving offshore safety," said Charlie Williams, executive director of the Center for Offshore Safety, in a written statement. The audits will focus on how the safety plans are implemented and their potential effectiveness, looking at how various risks are mitigated.

<http://fuelfix.com/blog/2013/10/11/independent-auditors-approved-for-offshore-safety-reviews/>

### CANADA, NL, LABRADOR, OCTOBER 11 2013. THE TRUCK STOPS HERE >> JET FUEL TANKERS SPOTTED PARKED AT LABRADOR MALL; RESIDENT CONCERNED

bonnie learning



*A concerned resident of Labrador West sent this picture to The Aurora on Wednesday, after spotting these jet fuel tankers parked near the Labrador Mall.*

A concerned Labrador West resident provided The Aurora with some pictures on Wednesday, of two jet fuel tankers parked near the Labrador Mall. The resident, who wishes to remain anonymous, took the pictures on Monday, Oct. 7. In an email to The Aurora, the resident said, "This past week we noticed a shipment of dangerous goods parked within Labrador City. Maybe the Town allows this or are not aware of the movement of these products. "These two vehicles were next to a Fuel Station, a Shopping Mall, and within a few thousand feet of a residential neighbourhood." Labrador City Mayor Karen Oldford said she was not aware of any fuel trucks parked at the mall, however stated it is the responsibility of the local Fire Department to assess and direct

hazardous goods coming through the community, and up to the mall management as to whether or not to allow industrial traffic on its property. "We have no truck stop — such as an Irving Big Stop — here in the area, so a lot of tractor trailers, for example, park in the mall parking lot. The drivers can get a rest and have a bite to eat at Tim Horton's. How long they are allowed to stay there would be up to the mall management. To my knowledge, it is not long-term parking." After checking with the Labrador City fire chief, Oldford said she was informed that the fire department did approach the two tanker drivers to inquire about their loads, and determined they were actually empty, brand-new tankers that were passing through town. With regards to other industrial traffic parking in the mall parking lot, calls to the malls owners, Westcliff Group, were not returned prior to press time. The Aurora will have more on the concerns of industrial vehicles parking at the mall in an upcoming issue.

<http://www.theaurora.ca/News/Local/2013-10-10/article-3423314/The-truck-stops-here%0D%0A1>

### USA, ILL, SPRINGFIELD, OCTOBER 12 2013. 5 FROM LOCAL FIRM CHARGED WITH DEFRAUDING ILLINOIS EPA FUND

Five people associated with Springfield firm Environmental Management Inc. were indicted this week for allegedly defrauding an Illinois Environmental Protection Agency fund that pays for cleaning up leaking underground storage tanks, the agency announced Friday. Eric M. Andrews, Joel C. Andrews, Michael R. Keebler, Duane T. Keebler and Joseph R. Keebler are facing federal charges for allegedly conspiring to commit mail and wire fraud in order to illegally obtain millions of taxpayer-funded dollars from the fund over the course of several years. Illinois EPA Director Lisa Bonnett also announced that the agency will pursue legal measures to prevent further distribution of funds to Environmental Management Inc., 1154 N. Bradfordton Road, until the criminal case is completed. The agency will be launching its own review of projects the company has done to ensure that taxpayer money was spent effectively and that environmental concerns were appropriately addressed, according to a news release. The Illinois EPA has been working with law enforcement to investigate the men since 2010, when a routine follow-up inspection of a cleanup site in McLean County found that the work, which had been paid for out of the fund, hadn't been performed. The agency referred the investigation to the Illinois State Police, which then brought in federal authorities, including the U.S. EPA, the FBI and the U.S. attorney's office. The indictments allege that the men padded subcontractor invoices by increasing the amount of work done and price charged, created invoices for work that was not done, and rigged bids by setting the amounts of supposedly competitive bids obtained from affiliated — and even fictitious — companies, according to the Illinois EPA.

<http://www.sj-r.com/breaking/x1868850172/5-from-local-firm-charged-with-defrauding-Illinois-EPA-fund>



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### USA, MA, BOSTON, OCTOBER 12 2013. CLAMMERS SUING OVER JET FUEL SPILL

john lynds



*Clammer John Denehy out clamming off the shores of Logan International Airport in East Boston before the massive 2010 clam die off he says was caused by an fuel spill at the airport. Denehy and 19 other clambers have filed a lawsuit in court against Swissport/BOS Fueling, one of two fueling companies contracted to refuel planes at Logan, and Massport.*

Local clammer John Denehy and more than a dozen other clambers affected by the massive clam die-off in 2010, which they say was caused by a significant oil spill at Logan are now seeking damages in Federal Court. Last week the clambers officially filed a lawsuit in United States District Court against Massport and Swissport/BOS Fueling, one of two fueling companies contracted to refuel airliners at Logan. The complaint filed in court states that the clambers, who were licensed by Massport to harvest shellfish within the security perimeter surrounding Logan Airport, had for years dug soft shell clams at the Logan beds with great success. Two beds in particular, "Airport" and "Wood Island," were more productive than the rest of the beds in Boston Harbor combined. Between 2005 and 2010, the clam beds produced an annual average harvest of 3,145 racks of clams, worth \$202,420. In August 2010, the clambers dug clams from the Wood Island beds with good results. Then in October of that year something went wrong. The clambers have since drawn a correlation between an October

2010 jet fuel spill and the death of thousands of clams in the flats. In his last 30 years of clamming on the clam flats that surround Logan, Denehy said he had never seen clams die off like they did in the final months of 2010. The dead clams that Denehy collected across from Constitution Beach, in the area the clambers call the Wood Island Flats, were sent off to be tested by the state's Marine Fisheries Department, the results came back that the clams died of neoplasia or clam cancer that killed off the majority of the clams. This cancer, in most cases, is caused by hydrocarbons found in jet fuel. While Swissport was also unsure how much fuel was spilled according to the records obtained by the East Boston Times the documents showed that 463 gallons of a fuel/water mixture, 18 cubic yards of oily absorbents and 4 cubic yards of oily sludge was quietly cleaned up by Clean Harbor and sent to its facility in Braintree. Usually when fuel is spilled the fueler reports the spill to his supervisor who reports it to the company in charge of fueling the plane. The company then reports the exact amount of fuel spilled to Massport who then reports it to the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Affairs. Logan has a series of outfalls that surround the airport and discharge rainwater from the runways but sometimes jet fuel and deicing agents that gets spilled at the airport are mixed in and discharged into the harbor. The state's Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) allows for a certain level of these discharges but Denehy is convinced a massive jet fuel spill was the cause of the clam's demise. Records obtained by the Times shows that in October 2010, a month before Denehy found the dead clams, the DEP was notified of a jet fuel spill by Massport and Clean Harbor—a private agency charged with cleaning up environmental spills at Logan. Sources at the airport have said that the spill was caused when a Swissport employee refueling an aircraft overrode the safety mechanism called the 'dead man' on the refueling hose, went back into the fueling truck and fell asleep. By the time he awoke hundreds, if not thousands of gallons of jet fuel had been spilled and later discharged into the harbor. This practice, known in the industry as 'Jamming the Dead Man' is all too common practice at Logan Airport according to former Globe Ground Fuel Supervisor George DiCicco. On the refueling pumps, DiCicco explained, is the 'dead man', which is a slang term used for the safety mechanism on the hose that forces fuel company workers at Logan to manually pump jet fuel into planes. If a worker becomes incapacitated for any reason and lets go of the hose the fuel will automatically stop pumping from the fueling truck because the worker has let go of the manual lever. "The term dead man comes from the thought that if someone was refueling a plane and died while doing it the hose would stop working and there would be no jet fuel spilled," said DiCicco. However, many workers jam the safety mechanism with pen caps, rocks and other materials in order to override the safety system. "I'd say about 90 percent of workers do it at least once," said DiCicco. "When I was at Globe Ground we had two major spills because one of the workers jammed the dead man...in one case jet fuel was shooting out of the wings of the plane." With the unpredictable weather that usually befalls Logan and the North East, DiCicco said many workers do it because they don't want to stand out in the rain, snow or cold for the 20-30 minutes it takes to refuel the plane. Other times it's



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just simple laziness. "Everyone knows about the practice," he said. "Fuel company management, Massport...the thing is if you get caught jamming the dead man it's suppose to be an automatic termination but most times it's swept under the rug unless there is a major accident or spill." Shortly after the fuel spill that allegedly killed off the clams, Swissport was fined \$90,000 by the state's Environmental Protection Agency for failing to take adequate precautions to contain oil spills at Logan. After the oil spill Logan bed clam landings plummeted. For example, 2011 landings from "Wood Island" numbered only about 49 racks, a 94% decrease from the 881 racks harvested in 2010. Similarly, 2011 landings from "Airport" were 499 racks, an 83% decrease from the 2,990 racks harvested in 2010. This trend continued and worsened in 2012 and 2013. In a 2013 internal email, one official from the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries stated, "there is virtually nothing of consequence left to dig in Boston Harbor." "The death of soft-shell clams around Logan Airport has caused and will continue to cause substantial loss of sustenance, loss of revenue, and loss of earning capacity to individuals who cannot dig clams to make a living," the complaint stated. Massport met with Denehy and other clamdiggers to discuss the effects of the spill in a meeting on March 2, 2011. "At that meeting and elsewhere the defendants have tried to downplay and conceal the severity of the spill and the effect it has had on local soft-shell clam populations," the complaint read. "The defendants have still not publicly reported the amount of fuel that was spilled during the event in question." The United States Coast Guard investigated the spill in October 2010 as the federal on scene coordinator. The Coast Guard pollution investigators, upon information and belief, did not designate any responsible party at that time. However, on August 13, 2013, in response to presentment of claims to the National Pollution Funds Center, the United States Coast Guard designated Massport and Swissport as responsible parties.

<http://www.easttimes.com/2013/10/11/clammers-suing-over-jet-fuel-spill/>

### VIETNAM, HANOI, OCTOBER 12 2013. STRANDED CARGO SHIP SPILLS OIL IN VIETNAM FISHING GROUNDS



*The cargo ship Bright Royal.*

Oil is spilling from a cargo vessel that ran aground on the reefs off Vietnam's Ly Son island, roughly 730 kilometers (450 miles) south of the Vietnamese capital, Hanoi. The Panama-flagged ship Bright Royal, ran aground early Friday in waters about six nautical miles northwest of the island in Quang Ngai province on Vietnam's south central coast. According to the Quang Ngai Port Authority, the ship smashed into the island's reefs, causing 387 tons of fuel oil to spill from two tanks. Provincial officials estimate the spill now spans an area of 20,000 square meters. The oil slick continues to spread out over the sea surface, provincial border guards told the Chinese newswire Xinhua. They say the ship is likely to sink. The accident occurred when the cargo ship, managed

by Vanguard Maritime Ltd. of Chittagong, Bangladesh, part of the BSA Group of companies, was traveling from Ha Tinh province's Vung Ang port in Vietnam to Bangladesh, Vietnam's state-run radio online reported Friday. The Quang Ngai Steering Committee for Flood and Storm Prevention and Control ordered the provincial People's Committee to work with relevant agencies to rescue the 24 crewmembers on board and deal with the oil spill. Ly Son, an island of 21,500 people, is a major offshore fishing center, accounting for about one-fourth of the entire seafood production of Quang Ngai province. Whale worship among Ly Son fishermen is common and temples house skeletons of giant whales that beached on the island more than 100 years ago. "Praying to the whale will help us if we encounter trouble at sea," a Ly Son fisherman told Agence France Press in November 2012 as he and his crew prepared to set sail. The practice of traditional rituals such as whale worship now is encouraged by communist authorities, which for years restricted all religious activities, before lifting restrictions in 2004. Since the turn of the 21st century Ly Son has been developing its tourist industry, based in part on the presence of the giant whales in its waters.

<http://ens-newswire.com/2013/10/08/stranded-cargo-ship-spills-oil-in-vietnam-fishing-grounds/>

### USA, ILL, JOLIET TWP, OCTOBER 12 2013. JOLIET TOWNSHIP GARAGE EXPLOSION VICTIM ID'D

*karen sorensen*

Gregory Travis had been using an electric handsaw to dismantle a steel drum when it blew apart, Will County Sheriff's Office spokeswoman Kathy Hoffmeyer said.

**Update/1 p.m, Friday:**



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The 52-year-old man killed in an explosion that occurred while he was cutting apart a 55-gallon drum with an electric handsaw has been identified as Gregory Travis of Joliet Township, according to the Will County Coroner's Office. Tests are being done to determine what was inside the drum that caused the top to come off with such force that it fatally injured Travis and then continued to travel another 40 feet, Will County Sheriff's Office spokeswoman Kathy Hoffmeyer said. Travis had been inside a garage that was attached to a house in the 300 block of Fairmont Street. Reports noted that the vent hole on the drum was not open, but it's not known if that was a contributing factor, Hoffmeyer said.

**Original Story/Posted 10:30 a.m, Friday:**

A Joliet Township man has died from injuries he received in an accident Thursday. The unidentified 52-year-old victim was cutting off the top of a 55-gallon drum when the substance inside exploded, sending the lid into the man's head, the Joliet Herald News is reporting. The accident occurred inside the garage of a home in the 300 block of Fairmont, the story said. The victim was taken to Silver Cross Hospital in New Lenox, where he was pronounced dead at 4:23 p.m. Joliet Patch will post more information as it becomes available.

<http://joliet.patch.com/groups/police-and-fire/p/man-killed-in-welding-accident-in-joliet-township>

### USA, ARK, MACEDONIA, OCTOBER 12 2013. OIL SPILL CLEANUP CONTINUES ALONG HORSEHEAD CREEK TRIBUTARY NEAR MACEDONIA

mike mcneill

 [Watch the Video Oil Spill](#)



*A pipeline break has caused oil to spill into a tributary of Horsehead Creek near Macedonia.*

Work continues to clean up an oil spill that poured an undetermined amount of petroleum into a tributary of Horsehead Creek. Larry Taylor, director of the Columbia County Office of Emergency Management, said he was notified about the spill on Monday afternoon. He was alerted after a Dorcheat Community Water System employee notified the Arkansas Department of Health that he saw oil in the creek. The creek runs north and south of County Road 10 East, southeast of the Macedonia community. Taylor said the immediate concern was the spill happened in a wellhead protection area for the water association. The water supply was not contaminated by the spill. The oil apparently leaked from a broken pipeline operated by Delek USA Holdings' Lion Oil Trading and Transportation, which operates a pipeline system in Columbia County that

supplies Delek's Lion Oil refinery in El Dorado. Taylor said he was told that LOTT had fixed another pipeline break close to the location of the new break a few weeks ago. It's not known when the leak happened, although Taylor speculates that given the spread of the oil, it must have been around Sept. 21. That's when the entire area received more than 6 inches of rain. The oil spill shows signs of having risen with the higher water, and coating dirt, rocks, trees and debris as the water level decreased. The creek does not flow year-round, Taylor said. Taylor estimates that the oil contamination stretches for about a quarter-mile in either direction from County Road 10. Workers from Code 3 Services in El Dorado were dispatched to the scene shortly after the oil was discovered in the creek. They pumped oil, installed booms to keep oil from spreading, and used absorbent material to soak up any free-standing petroleum. They were still on the job Friday. The Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality sent personnel to assess the leak on Tuesday. The leak happened in the middle of the Dorcheat-Macedonia Field, which has been producing oil and gas since 1941. The area is lightly populated. Most vehicle traffic consists of workers and trucks going to and from dozens of oil and gas wells in vicinity. This is the second major incident involving LOTT facilities in Columbia County since March. On March 9, oil leaked from LOTT's oil storage battery in the Calhoun community, sending a 3.5-mile ribbon of oil into a dry creek bed. The Environmental Protection Agency said 1,500 barrels of oil – approximately 4,400 gallons – were lost. However, a lawsuit filed by a Magnolia couple earlier this month claims the total amount of oil was 5,000 barrels. Brent and Devan Walker are suing LOTT and two of its employees for losses and damages related to the oil spill.

[http://www.magnoliareporter.com/news\\_and\\_business/local\\_news/article\\_af1148dc-32b2-11e3-b1ce-001a4bcf887a.html](http://www.magnoliareporter.com/news_and_business/local_news/article_af1148dc-32b2-11e3-b1ce-001a4bcf887a.html)



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### AUSTRALIA, NSW, MONA VALE, OCTOBER 12 2013. NOT AGAIN: TWO COOTES TRUCK TRAGEDIES IN FOUR YEARS

tim barlass



*David Bridge and his two daughters Jordan and Makeely were killed when a Cootes tanker collided with their car causing it to engulf in flames.*

Safety recommendations made by a coroner after a Cootes petrol tanker rolled over and exploded four years ago have still not been implemented. Two children and their father as well as the truck driver died in that accident. Bev Fricke was a passenger in the first of three cars hit in the crash near Batemans Bay in 2009. This month, she read of a devastatingly similar truck accident in Mona Vale. "Straight away I thought, 'not again'," she said. "My next thought was that it was preventable." In the Mona Vale crash, a Cootes tanker ran out of control on an incline and went off the road at a bend. It burst into flames after it rolled and collided with a Subaru, killing driver Peter Wem, 73, and a passenger aged 71. In the accident four years ago, the tanker rolled on the Princes Highway 25 kilometres north of Batemans Bay. It burst into flames, colliding with a Subaru Forester driven by David Bridge, travelling with his wife Deborah and daughters Jordan, 13, and Makeely, 11. The girls died as their car was engulfed in burning petrol and Mr Bridge died in hospital six days later after sustaining 80 per cent burns. Mrs Bridge, still suffering from severe burns, attended the inquest in November 2011, which was conducted by Deputy State Coroner Carmel Forbes.

In her summing up, the coroner said she was satisfied the tanker was travelling about 100km/h as it negotiated a bend "and that this caused it to roll". In her report under "What can be done to prevent a similar rollover in the future?" the coroner states: "It is imperative that measures are put in place for the transport of dangerous goods that minimises the risk of a repeat of this incident." She recommended to the federal and state ministers for transport that it should be mandatory that tankers carrying dangerous goods be fitted with stability control systems that apply the brakes automatically. She added: "I note that the general manager of Cootes Transport has given evidence that all of their fleet will be retro-fitted." Since then, no legislation to make them compulsory has been introduced and McAleese, the company that now owns the original Cootes company, declined to say whether or not the truck in the Mona Vale crash was fitted with a stabiliser. "The company will not be commenting on the incident or any aspect associated with the incident while it remains subject to investigation." It said, following the acquisition of the Cootes business from CHAMP in 2012, the company had committed \$33 million to upgrade the fleet, which "included a full provision for the installation of Roll Over Stability Technology in all Cootes Transport vehicles including the retro-fitting of existing equipment and the requirement for all new trucks to be fitted with this technology". Mrs Fricke and husband, Norbert, who now live in Goulburn, still suffer from anxiety attacks and flashbacks and are on medication. She told Fairfax Media: "I was sure all of that was all going to go through with the stabilisers and nothing has been done at all about it. Why do people have to lose their lives when their safety's at risk because stabilisers aren't fitted? "It was exactly the same, the truck was going down a hill round a bend and then the driver lost control and if he had had the stabilisers fitted that would have automatically applied the brakes before he realised what was going on. Guaranteed [stabilisers] would have stopped that accident. I am very annoyed that they are not willing to put people's lives first." Asked what she remembered of the crash, she said: "All of it. "We came over a rise and straight away we saw the truck come down the hill, round a bend and the back end started swaying. As it got closer it was tipping on to our car and we just said 'We are both dead. We know we are dead.' "It hit the back of the car, it missed my husband's head by about 40 centimetres. The back of the truck rolled on to our car. It put us into a spin and we went backwards into the bushes and then all I heard was just big loud explosions. We didn't realise that there was traffic behind us - and the truck rolled on to its side and slid across the road like a windscreen wiper and took out the next two cars. "All the cars were in flames and the truck was in flames. There were huge explosions." The Roads and Maritime Services said in a statement on Friday that an audit of the trucking company was continuing, with 298 vehicles inspected and 10 vehicles grounded in NSW. The RMS and NSW Police Joint Heavy Vehicle Task Force ordered the trucking company's LPG tanker fleet off the road for inspection as part of phase two of the operation that follows the initial fuel tanker inspections carried out last week. They have issued 244 defect notices, 85 of them severe and most relating to brakes. Mrs Bridge died last year. As she left the inquest she said: "I don't want any family to have to go through what my family has to



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deal with on a daily and regular basis. "We need to do something about this and if it means that someone has to get up here and do something about it, then I will." One friend posted on Facebook: "I hope she is at peace with her family now - nobody deserves the pain she lived with for the past two years."

<http://www.theage.com.au/national/not-again-two-cootes-truck-tragedies-in-four-years-20131012-2vfet.html>

### USA, CT, HARTFORD, OCTOBER 12 2013. JUDGE ADJUSTS SETTLEMENTS IN 2007 TANKER CRASH ON I-95 IN EAST LYME

karen florin



*Firefighters work the scene of a deadly, multi-vehicle crash on Interstate 95 involving two tractor trailers and four cars Nov. 2, 2007, in East Lyme. A judge this week ordered that attorney fees, interest and other costs be added to the \$15.7 million award to the crash victims.*

Hartford Judge Kevin G. Dubay this week ordered that attorney fees, interest and other costs be added to the \$15.7 million a Superior Court judge awarded this spring to the surviving family members and injured victims of a deadly crash on Interstate 95 in November 2007 that left three people dead. The judge also reduced two of the six verdicts. With the adjustments, the six awards now total \$21,992,286. A jury in April found that Northeast Carriers, the owner of the tanker truck that jumped the median near the Interstate 395 interchange in East Lyme, and the estate of tanker driver Peter Derry, were negligent and reckless. The tanker rammed into a southbound tractor-trailer,

causing a pileup. Derry, 51, of Webster, Mass., died along with two others. Attorney Matthew Shafner, who represented the estate of Lu-Ann Dugas of East Lyme, said that because some of the verdicts were in excess of compromise offers made by the defendant in April 2011, interest was added to the compromise amounts because the court system encourages people to settle their cases. Attorneys fees were awarded because there was a finding of reckless driving, he said. The jury had awarded \$3,763,100 to the Dugas estate. The amount, with enhancements, is now \$5,479,195. Dugas had been returning from a medical appointment and was crushed by the roof of her car, according to testimony. She died at the scene. The jury awarded \$5,575,000 to James Clark, the 27-year-old driver of the southbound tractor-trailer, who suffered extensive injuries, including foot, leg and rib fractures, a back injury and head trauma. The enhanced award totals \$8,955,824. Clark was represented by New London attorney Shelley L. Graves. The jury awarded \$1,069,500 to Lynn Mariani, a fellow teacher who was carpooling with Samira Clough of Mystic to a teachers' workshop. Judge Dubay reduced the amount to \$669,500, then added attorneys fees and costs, bringing the new total to \$906,974. Mariani was represented by Groton attorney Peter Bartnik Sr., who said that Mariani's physical injuries were not severe, but she suffered from post-traumatic stress disorder. Bartnik, who had elicited testimony at the trial from Charles Morgan, a renowned psychiatric and forensic expert, said Mariani has returned to teaching and is doing well but could have setbacks in the future. However, Bartnik said, a judge has the prerogative to reduce a verdict if he feels there is not sufficient evidence to support the jury's award of future economic damages, which in Mariani's case would entail medical expenses. "I'm not shocked by the reduction," Bartnik said Friday in a phone interview. "But I'm shocked it was considerable." The jury awarded \$2,218,000 to Clough, a teacher who suffered a cracked vertebrae and a foot injury and who was forced into early retirement. The judge reduced the award to \$1,718,000 but added attorney's fees and interest, bringing the new total to \$2,897,750. Clough was represented by attorney Dina Fisher of New Haven. The jury awarded \$3,210,000 to the estate of Fred Held of Milford, who was returning there from a local casinos and died in his Honda Accord. The enhanced award amount is \$3,654,458. The estate was represented by attorney Carl Secola of New Haven. The judge increased the \$50,000 awarded to South Bay Trucking, the owners of the tractor-trailer that Clark was driving, to \$98,000. The plaintiffs have not yet collected their awards. Since Northeast Carriers only had \$2.6 million in insurance coverage, the attorneys are attempting to recover some of the damages from Northeast's parent company, the Brooklyn, Conn.-based Saveway Petroleum, according to Shafner.

<http://www.theday.com/article/20131011/NWS02/131019919/1018>



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### PANAMA, SAN JOSE ISLAND, OCTOBER 12 2013. U.S. PRESSURED TO CLEAN UP WORLD WAR II CHEMICAL WEAPONS CACHE OFF PANAMANIAN COAST



*The nearly deserted San Jose Island was the site of U.S. chemical weapons testing during World War II.*

An almost seven decade old dispute between the United States and Panama over unexploded chemical munitions left by U.S. soldiers on a Panamanian island after World War II could soon come to a resolution – lending credence to U.S. pressure on Syria's regime and giving Panama a new tourist destination. Panamanian officials seem optimistic that the U.S. will finally make the expensive effort to clean up the leftover ordinances left on San José – an island that lies about 60 miles off Panama's Pacific Coast – but Washington seems less than enthusiastic about the move. "It might be an expensive clean-up that costs in the hundreds of millions of dollars," Larry Birns, the director of the

Washington D.C.-based think tank the Council on Hemispheric Affairs, told Fox News Latino. "But it could be a PR nightmare for Washington if they don't hurriedly take care of the problem." The problem has persisted since 1947 when U.S. soldiers in San José left behind at least eight unexploded 500- and 1,000-pound bombs after testing chemical weapons including phosgene and mustard gas. There are also reports that the U.S. tested both sarin and nerve gas on the island. In the past, Washington has skirted Panama's requests for clean-up or offered roundabout solutions, such as training Panamanians to clean-up the mess, which the Central American country refused. Now, with the crisis over Syrian chemical weapon use and the U.S. hoping to firm up its long-standing relationship with Panama in the wake of the fallout with Brazil over NSS spying allegation, it appears that the clean-up could happen. Following a Panamanian request in May to the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), the Pentagon said it would send a survey team to the island and then deploy a disposal team next year, [Panamanian Foreign Minister Fernando Nuñez Fabrega told McClatchy newspapers](#), "I have a firm commitment from the United States," Nuñez Fabrega added. The Obama administration did not comment on the matter, but a spokesperson for the Pentagon told McClatchy that "U.S. government is reviewing Panama's request concerning the munitions." The affair has drawn comparisons to practice-bombing missions on Vieques Island off Puerto Rico and the ensuing clean-up following the U.S. Navy's departure in 2003. Of the 23,000 acres (9,300 hectares) that the Navy began to use for target practice in the early 1940s, 4,000 acres (1,619 hectares) have been awarded to Vieques municipality; 3,100 acres (1,255 hectares) went to the U.S. Department of the Interior and about 800 acres (324 hectares) to the Puerto Rico Conservation Trust. The Navy has so far cleaned 2,540 acres (1,028 hectares), with the operation expected to run through at least 2025 in one of the Navy's most extensive rehabilitation efforts, budgeted at some \$350 million. "The Navy considers Vieques to be its highest priority in the munitions cleanup program," said Dan Waddill, who is managing the process. "Vieques gets by far the most effort and the highest amount of funding." There is no word on the cost of the clean-up in Panama, but analysts like Birns believe that the political benefits outweigh the price tag even as the U.S. government attempts to shore up its support in Panama after losing some clout in Latin America following the NSA scandal. "The U.S. seems prepared to swap their relationships with Brazil and Venezuela for Panama and Paraguay," Birns said. "Panama has had a most favorable relationship with the U.S. for decades even as the U.S. overlooks some of the corruption allegations leveled against [Panamanian President Ricardo] Martinelli."

**Related Stories** [Panama Hopeful that US will Remove Unexploded Chemical Weapon](#)  
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