



## Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network Release 2013 – 1,029 Newsy Stuff

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

**December 23 2013**



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### USA, NEV, MESQUITE, DECEMBER 14 2013. QUICK ACTION BY MESQUITE FIREFIGHTERS DOUSES FUEL TRUCK FIRE



At approximately 6:30 p.m. Thursday evening, Dec. 12 Mesquite Fire Rescue was notified of a possible fire across the street from Fire Station 1 at Hughes Oil Company, 111 E First South Street. The on-duty Captain was able to look out the bays of the Fire Station and could tell that there was an approximately 2,000 gallon gasoline tanker with the cab heavily involved with fire. A working fire was immediately declared and off duty personnel were quickly requested as the fire had tremendous potential to overwhelm the four available fire personnel who were able to respond on Engine 11. Using multiple hand lines, firefighters were able to get the fire knocked down in less than 10 minutes and were able to confine the fire to the cab of the truck and away from the attached tanks which did have an undetermined quantity of fuel in them. There was some initial worry that the fire could have spread into the building which the truck was parked in front of, but the crews were able to force entry into the structure and determine with thermal imaging equipment that the fire had not been able to extend into the building. After an investigation by Interim Fire Chief Rick Resnick, it is believed that the fire was caused by a failure of the fuel heater that was being used on the truck due to the recent cold temperatures. As it appears the fire was accidental in nature, no criminal charges are currently expected in connection with this incident. Responding Units: Engine 11, Truck 31, Chief 2

<http://mesquitecitizen.com/viewnews.php?newsid=6547&id=3>

### USA, MT, LAUREL, DECEMBER 15 2013. CHS REFINERY CREWS EXTINGUISH FIRE

clair johnson

**Watch the Video** [Fire Reported at Laurel Refinery](#)

**Watch the Video** [CHS Refinery Fire](#)

**Photo's [10]** [No Injuries, Fire Quickly Extinguished at CHS on Friday](#)

**Photo's [4]** [CHS Refinery Crews Extinguish Fire](#)



*Workers stand in a parking lot after a fire at the CHS refinery in Laurel on Friday morning.*

Emergency responders at the CHS refinery in Laurel quickly extinguished a fire in a diesel processing unit Friday morning. The fire broke out shortly before 8 a.m., sending up flames and an impressive black plume of smoke that was visible in all directions around the plant. By 9:15 a.m., the smoke had dissipated. Refinery responders extinguished the fire by 8:37 a.m., just as kindergartners at Laurel's South Elementary School, located north of Interstate 90 and northwest of the refinery, were about to start their holiday music program. As a precaution, school officials quickly switched gears and moved the kids to the high school, where the music program went off without a hitch. John Traeger, CHS vice president of pipelines and terminals, said the cause of the fire has not yet been determined but that it appeared there was a leak. The fire occurred in the diesel hydrotreating unit, which removes sulfur from diesel fuel. There were no major injuries, Traeger said, but one employee sprained an ankle on a fire hose. "We're glad to report the only injury was a minor one," he said. CHS called for mutual aid, which typically is the Laurel Volunteer Fire Department, and by the time the help arrived, the refinery had the fire extinguished and aid was not needed, Traeger said. The unit's operating personnel remained in place, while all nonessential personnel and contractors were cleared from the area, he said. All employees except those at the diesel unit were back to work later Friday morning. The Montana Highway Patrol and the Yellowstone County Sheriff's Department also responded but did not need to close Highway 212, which runs between the plant and CHS offices just south of the Laurel interchange, Traeger said. CHS notified local and state regulators of the fire as required and talked to Laurel city and school



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officials as part of its community response plan, Traeger said. The company asked school officials to have students "shelter in place" as a precaution, he said. Chuck Homer, a program manager with Montana Department of Environmental Quality's Air Resources Management Bureau, said Friday afternoon that CHS promptly reported the fire and will follow up with a report on what happened. Homer said he did not yet know whether the fire led to any air quality violations. Winds carried the plume in a southeasterly direction, away from the elementary school and the Laurel community. As he came to work Friday morning, Laurel School Superintendent Tim Bronk said he heard sirens and knew from refinery visits that something was happening. He called the refinery's hotline number, which is part of an emergency notification plan the school has with the company, and learned of the fire. The system "worked just as it should," Bronk said. "The refinery assured us we did not need to evacuate. The wind was not carrying the smoke in our direction. It looked bad, but it was in control," Bronk said. Lynette Huvaere, secretary at South Elementary School, which has all kindergartners, said the school was about to start its holiday music program in its gym when they got word to move everyone to the high school. "We had grandmas and grandpas. I think everybody was most concerned about the parents coming," Huvaere said. "We moved out of here in no time. Our kids did really well," she said. Having practiced evacuation drills, most of the 142 kindergartners boarded three or four buses and, trailed by parents and relatives, rode across town to the high school. Some of the children went with their parents, she said. The students performed their music program in the high school's auditorium, and by 10:30 a.m. were settling back into classrooms at their elementary school. "Today is going to be good from now on. I've paid my dues on Friday the 13th," Huvaere joked.

[http://billingsgazette.com/news/local/chs-refinery-crews-extinguish-fire/article\\_7e59e730-fa9a-5d3a-8b69-8c8e1f0b26bb.html](http://billingsgazette.com/news/local/chs-refinery-crews-extinguish-fire/article_7e59e730-fa9a-5d3a-8b69-8c8e1f0b26bb.html)

### **BRAZIL, RIO DE JANEIRO, DECEMBER 15 2013. PETROBRAS TO FACE TOUGHER REFINERY RULES**

*muhammad iqbal*



Brazilian state-run oil company Petroleo Brasileiro SA faces stricter environmental and safety rules at its 13 refineries starting in January, the country's oil regulator told Reuters on Friday, a move that could make stoppages more common. The rules will be modeled on those that now apply to Brazilian offshore oil platforms, said Waldyr Martins Barroso, the refining director of oil regulator ANP. Existing refineries will be given time to comply with the new rules. Those platform rules resulted in repair stoppages that contributed to two years of stagnation in Brazilian crude-oil output. As Petrobras' refineries cannot meet all domestic needs, stoppages could force the company to increase money-losing imports.

<http://www.brecorder.com/world/south-america/148604.html>

### **CANADA, B.C, VANCOUVER, DECEMBER 15 2013. TRANSPORT CANADA WARNED ABOUT DANGEROUS CARGOES IN 2006**

*mike de souza*

Transport Canada was warned in an internal audit seven years ago that Quebec, the Prairies and the North - the sites of some recent high-profile railway accidents - had the highest rates of non-compliance with federal rules surrounding the transportation of dangerous goods. The audit, released to Postmedia News through access to information legislation, reveals the department agreed in 2006 to fix flaws uncovered in its inspection process, poor management oversight and accountability gaps. The report also set deadlines, at that time, to address most of the problems within a year or two. The audit, which also flagged "incomplete" and "inconsistent" reports from inspections related to dangerous goods, estimated noncompliance rates from inspections in the Quebec region at 54 and 59 per cent from 2003 to 2005. It found the Prairies and northern region had the next highest rate of non-compliance at 43 and 44 per cent over the same two years. But the department and its latest minister, Lisa Raitt, continue to make the same pledges to improve oversight today, after the fatal Lac-Mégantic railway disaster that killed dozens of people last summer. Several high-profile accidents in Alberta and Saskatchewan have also prompted additional questions about safety and oversight. After being told the 2006 audit was released, Raitt's office declined an interview request Friday. Transport Canada said in a statement it "remained committed" to enhancing public safety during the transportation of dangerous goods. The department suggested it had "completed and implemented all its proposed



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actions" in response to the 2006 audit - a claim that was called into question by a 2011 audit on the same topic released by the federal environment commissioner.

<http://www.vancouversun.com/news/Transport+Canada+warned+about+dangerous+cargoes+2006/9287092/story.html>

### USA, ILL, ALSIP, DECEMBER 15 2013. 2 HURT IN EXPLOSIONS, FIRE AT SOUTH SUBURBAN CHEMICAL PLANT >> TWO PEOPLE WERE INJURED IN A CHEMICAL PLANT EXPLOSION IN BLUE ISLAND.

angie leventis lourgos

 **Watch the Video 2 Hurt in Explosions, Fire at Chemical Plant**

Two workers were injured in an explosion and fire at a south suburban chemical plant Friday. Smoke billowed from Blue Island Phenol in Alsip for several hours because of a chemical leak. The cause is still under investigation, fire officials said. "I could see some vapor," plant manager Bill Moffatt said. "I turned around to go to my office to get my coat and hard hat and other personal protective equipment. As I was walking back to my office there was a concussion. ... We have a suspended ceiling in the office building, and some of the tiles fell out." The chemicals involved in the fire — which demolished one building and damaged a second — were propane, propylene and benzene, Alsip fire Chief Tom Styczynski said. Two workers were burned in the explosions and taken to Advocate Christ Medical Center in Oak Lawn. Moffatt said they were later taken to Loyola University Medical Center in Maywood, where they were in stable condition. All other employees were accounted for. About 10 firefighters worked to put out the fire, but crews from as many as 40 area fire departments and law enforcement agencies responded to act as backup in case the fire spread. The plant's deluge system — a type of high-volume fire sprinkler that dumps a large amount of water in an area all at once — did much to extinguish the fire, Styczynski said. "We kept everybody outside of the plant because of the chemicals and the type of chemicals that were there," Styczynski said. Roads were closed, all manufacturing processes at the plant were shut down and the natural gas line to the area was shut off during the fire. Five neighboring businesses were temporarily evacuated. Blue Island Phenol was the site of a chemical release and fire in 2008. Illinois Attorney General Lisa Madigan ordered the plant to keep a phenol manufacturing unit shut down until the cause of that fire was determined; the company also was ordered to investigate whether soil and groundwater were contaminated.

<http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/local/breaking/chi-explosion-at-blue-island-chemical-plant-20131213.0.46779.story>

### AUSTRALIA, NEW SOUTH WALES, NEWCASTLE, DECEMBER 15 2013. NO CONVICTION FOR OIL SPILL MASTER >> FINED \$A1.2 MILLION DOLLARS



An Australian court dismissed charges against the master of the coal carrier that leaked around 64 tonnes of fuel oil into the Port of Newcastle in 2010 harming around 50 pelicans. The NSW Land and Environment Court heard that fuel oil passed through a rust hole between two adjoining tanks and was subsequently discharged from a ballast tank. No one on board noticed the leak which was detected by wharf operators over four hours later. Justice Terry Sheahan accepted that the master of MV Magdalene could not have done anything to avoid the spill, and although the charge was proved, he was dismissed with no conviction recorded. The German owners of the Liberian-registered vessel were fined A\$1.2 million after earlier paying A\$1.7 million in clean-up costs. Australia's Marine Pollution Act sets maximum fines of \$10 million for companies and \$500,000 for individuals. In this case, the fine of A\$1.8 million was cut as a

result of the company's guilty plea, co-operation, remorse and the amount already paid in clean-up costs. In 2012, PTTEP was fined A\$510,000 for the Montara oils spill, Australia's worst oil spill to date, which resulted in approximately 4,750 tonnes of oil leaking into waters off Western Australia. On this occasion, Magistrate John Lowndes aggregated some charges into a single penalty and set the final figure after giving a 25 per cent discount because the company pleaded guilty to the charges.

#### Related Stories

- [\\$1.2m Fine for Oil Spill that Polluted Port](#)
- [Big Fine for Oil Spill](#)
- [Oil Spill Clean-Up Continues around Newcastle Harbour](#)

<http://www.maritime-executive.com/article/No-Conviction-for-Oil-Spill-Master-2013-12-14/>



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### USA, TX, LUBBOCK, DECEMBER 15 2013. 1 DEAD IN FIERY COLLISION BETWEEN PICKUP, TANKER; SURVIVOR ESCAPED UNHARMED

Authorities said one person died when a pickup collided with a tanker truck and caught fire late Friday at the intersection of Indian Hill Road and West Amarillo Boulevard. A Department of Public Safety trooper at the scene said authorities were unable to immediately identify the driver of the Chevrolet S-10 pickup who died. The driver of the Love's tanker truck was uninjured in the wreck, the trooper said. The pickup was traveling southeast on Indian Hill Road about 11:30 p.m. when the driver disregarded the stop sign at West Amarillo Boulevard, the trooper said. The tanker was westbound on the Boulevard and collided with the pickup, he said, striking the driver's side. The trooper said the pickup caught fire after impact, likely because a fuel line on the vehicle ruptured. The tanker was hauling diesel, he said, but none of the tank's fuel leaked. Flames had engulfed the pickup by the time Potter County Fire and Rescue Department trucks arrived on the scene at about 11:35 p.m. Firefighters had the fire put out at about 11:50 p.m. No other people were in the pickup, the trooper said. The truck ended up about 50 yards west of the intersection straddling the inside lane and the median, while the tanker was able to stop about 20 yards east of the truck in the outside lane. Potter County Sheriff's deputies, Amarillo Emergency Service and Amarillo Medical Services personnel also responded to the scene.

<http://m.lubbockonline.com/filed-online/2013-12-14/dps-1-dead-fiery-collision-between-pickup-tanker-survivor-escaped>

### USA, NV, LAS VEGAS, DECEMBER 15 2013. TWO INJURED, I-15 TRAFFIC DELAYED IN TANKER-CAR ACCIDENT



*Two cars and a tanker truck sit on the northbound lanes of Interstate 15 shortly after noon Saturday as the accident is investigated by the Nevada Highway Patrol.*

Two people suffered unspecified injuries shortly after noon Saturday when a tanker truck and two sedans collided on northbound Interstate 15 near Charleston Boulevard. "Two were taken to UMC but we don't know the extend of their injuries," Nevada Highway Patrol Sgt. Kevin Honea told News 3. "The tanker had liquid latex and we're not sure yet of any spill." A Saturn sustained the most damage in the accident when it hit the tanker's midsection. A

Volkswagen also sustained minor damage. Traffic was blocked in at least three travel lanes during the investigation that lasted more than two hours. Honea said tow trucks arrived shortly before 3 p.m. to remove the vehicles. Nevada Department of Transportation crews were doing final cleanup as of 3 p.m.

<http://www.mynews3.com/content/news/story/Two-injured-I-15-traffic-delayed-in-tanker-car/ODJDUBHed0qRsth6NU1T5A.csp>

### SRI LANKA, KIMBULAPITIYA, DECEMBER 15 2013. MAN KILLED IN FIREWORKS FACTORY FIRE

A 29-year-old man died due to burns after a stock of explosives, exposed to the sun's heat, caught fire while he was making firecrackers ahead of the festive season, the Coroner's Court was told. B. Sumith Fernando from Negombo was working at his father's fireworks factory in Kimbulapitiya when the inflammables he had spread out in the sun to dry caught fire, his friend G.S. Nandana told Coroner Mohammad Ashraff. The victim died after he was admitted to the intensive care unit of the National Hospital. The coroner gave a verdict of accidental death, saying the death was due to extensive burns caused by the fire. Officers from the Negombo police led evidence.

<http://www.sundaytimes.lk/131215/news/man-killed-in-fireworks-factory-fire-76811.html>

### USA, N.C, APEX, DECEMBER 15 2013. FUEL TANKS ON THREE TRUCKS EXPLODE IN APEX

The fuel tanks on three pavement-marking trucks exploded on Saturday afternoon in a parking lot on the outskirts of downtown after one of them caught fire. No one was injured, but an indoor sports center packed with children and others, DreamSports, was evacuated because of drifting smoke. Three other nearby businesses were instructed to close and shelter in place. The cause has not yet been determined, according to Stacie Galloway, the town's communications director. The fire began about 1:30 p.m. at Clark Pavement Marking on Investment Boulevard. Three trucks exploded, releasing 100 to 150 gallons of diesel fuel onto the parking lot. The Apex Fire Department did a control release of the tank on a fourth truck. In all, five trucks were damaged. Emergency officials remained on the scene Saturday afternoon monitoring the cleanup, but said the scene was under control. As of 3:30 p.m., DreamSports had reopened.

<http://www.newsobserver.com/2013/12/14/3460008/fuel-tanks-on-three-trucks-explode.html>



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### USA, WA, OLYMPIA, DECEMBER 15 2013. WASH. FIREFIGHTERS MISTAKENLY PUMP JET FUEL ON FIRE INSTEAD OF WATER

 **Watch the Video** [Firefighters Mistakenly Pump Jet Fuel on Fire instead of Water](#)



The Washington State Patrol is investigating a serious mishap that occurred Oct. 25th at its fire training academy in North Bend. During a training exercise, firefighters mistakenly pumped jet fuel instead of water onto a flaming mock-up of an airplane crash. KING 5 obtained video that shows an enormous fireball erupted when the fuel hit the flames at the training site. "When the firefighters put water on a fire that had been deliberately developed for training the fire got bigger instead of smaller," said Bob Calkins of the State Patrol, which is investigating the incident. Calkins said investigators believe that the academy's oil/water separator – which recycles the water used for fire training exercises – did not correctly filter the jet fuel used for the exercise from the reclaimed water. So crews filled their tanks with water tainted with jet fuel – a combustible combination. Calkins said an expert hired by WSP is investigating whether the 1990's oil/water separator malfunctioned or whether academy employees did not operate it correctly. Two firefighters suffered minor burns.

#### Related Stories

- [Firefighters mistakenly pump jet fuel on fire instead of water](#)

<http://www.krem.com/news/northwest-news/Wash-firefighters-mistakenly-pump-jet-fuel-on-fire-instead-of-water-235823341.html>

### AUSTRALIA, SOUTH AUSTRALIA, ADELAIDE, DECEMBER 15 2013. INCITEC PIVOT TO RELOCATE FERTILISER PLANT FROM PORT ADELAIDE



*Incitec Pivot's fertiliser plant in Port Adelaide.*

Fertiliser plant Incitec Pivot will stop storing a potentially explosive chemical from next month and will move its operations out of Port Adelaide later next year. From the end of January calcium ammonium nitrate will no longer be stored at the company's Port Adelaide facility. Premier Jay Weatherill said the State Government would buy the site housing the facility and the company would move its operations elsewhere in Adelaide. Incitec Pivot chief operating officer James Whiteside said a new site would be chosen within six to 12 months. The relocation is intended to address safety concerns raised by Safework SA and the Environment Protection Authority about an explosion risk. Mr Weatherill said

today the perceived safety risk of storing calcium ammonium nitrate at the facility had been hampering development. He said the relocation would "send a strong positive message about the future renewal of Port Adelaide". The Dock One stage of the Newport Quays development has been on hold since 2011 after Safework and the EPA warned the 275-home estate should not go ahead because of the potential danger from an explosion at the plant. In May, Port Adelaide Enfield Council's Development Assessment Panel deferred a decision on the development at 7 Santos Parade because of its proximity to the fertiliser plant and insufficient vehicle access into the building. The Government has been in discussions with the company about the future of the Francis St site since 2010. A precinct plan for Port Adelaide is being finalised as the first step towards rezoning the area through a Development Plan Amendment. The plan will be released early in the new year and will take into account Incitec Pivot's relocation. Mr Weatherill also announced the government would fast track plans to lease office accommodation in Port Adelaide to relocate hundreds of public servants. Money will also be spent improving parking and walkways on key streets, refurbishing the Flour Shed in the Hart's Mill precinct to encourage new shops to open in empty buildings and establishing new events at the Port including live music, Mr Weatherill said.

<http://www.news.com.au/national/south-australia/incitec-pivot-to-relocate-fertiliser-plant-from-port-adelaide/story-fnii5yv4-1226783480478>

### BULGARIA, BURGAS, DECEMBER 16 2013. ACCIDENT AT BULGARIA'S LUKOIL REFINERY LEAVES 4 SERIOUSLY INJURED

An incident at the Lukoil Neftochim oil refinery in Bulgaria's Black Sea city of Burgas injured four. At 10.10 am on Friday, the Multiprofile Hospital for Active Treatment in Burgas received four employees of the refinery who had suffered burns, according



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to reports of Sega daily. The most seriously injured worker, a 51-year-old man, suffered 45% 2nd-3rd-degree burns. The 51-year-old man and a 52-year-old man with 15% 2nd degree burns were taken to the burns clinic in Varna. They were given treatment for their burn wounds and their condition was stabilized. Two other men, aged 46 and 20, suffered 20% burns 2nd degree. Most of burn wounds are on the face and limbs. The four employees of the Burgas-based refinery were also gassed. According to preliminary reports, the breakdown is believed to have been caused by an electric arc. The press office of Lukoil Neftochim Burgas confirmed in a statement to the Bulgarian Telegraph Agency (BTA) that the workers had been injured in an accident and vowed a media statement on the matter soon.

### Related Stories

- [Two Workers with Luoil Neftohim Injured in Incident Remain in Emergency Ward](#)
- [2 Men Remain Critical after Bulgaria Oil Refinery Accident](#)

[http://www.novinite.com/view\\_news.php?id=156403](http://www.novinite.com/view_news.php?id=156403)

### USA, IA, MASON CITY, DECEMBER 16 2013. IOWA ETHANOL PLANT FINED \$10,000 BY IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES FOR AUGUST FISH KILL

A northern Iowa ethanol plant has been fined \$10,000 by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources for an August fish kill. The Mason City Globe Gazette reports (<http://bit.ly/JrBTXp>) that the department found Golden Grain Energy, of Mason City, responsible for the fish kill on the Cheslea Creek after discharging iron-laden cooling water that made its way into the creek. The orange discharge was traced back to a tile outfall where the Golden Grain Energy facility releases cooling water. The department ordered the company to pay the \$10,000 penalty and \$650 in wildlife restitution. The company also agreed to implement a facility-wide environmental management system.

<http://www.dailyjournal.net/view/story/324d6fa086b24b9b801814f9d6102def/IA--Fish-Kill-Fine/>

### USA, AKA, KAKE, DECEMBER 16 2013. SEVERED FUEL PUMP CAUSES 5,500 GALLON GAS SPILL IN ALASKAN HARBOR >> "SEVERED FUEL PUMP CAUSES 5,500 GALLON GAS SPILL IN ALASKAN HARBOR"

*emily atkin*



Thousands of gallons of gasoline spilled into a harbor in southern Alaska on Saturday after a pump used to funnel fuel into boats was accidentally severed, representatives from Alaska's Department of Environmental Conservation confirmed Monday. [Initial reports](#) indicated that 7,000 gallons of gasoline had leaked, but Sarah Moore, the DEC coordinator for pollution incident response in Southern Alaska, told ThinkProgress on Monday that more recent estimates from the village of Kake are suggesting a spill of about 5,500 gallons. Workers at the small harbor in Kake, a town with a population of about 500, had discovered the incident Saturday morning, Moore said, after noticing a strong odor of gasoline. The spill is especially unwelcome for those in the rural village, whose residents rely on fish and subsistence to get by, according to a [report in the Alaska Dispatch](#). "It's certainly a significant volume," Moore said of the size of

the spill, adding that the DEC has not yet received any reports of oiled wildlife. "There have been some concerns raised about clam and geoduck beds near the area, so i'm working with the Environmental Heath division on that." The spill occurred after a hose running underneath the fuel dock — likened to a gas station for boats — was damaged, apparently due to changes in tide and wind overnight. The hose was connected to a 7,000-gallon gasoline tank onshore, causing gas to flow through the hose and into the water. Moore said the fact that the spill was of pure gasoline rather than oil would make cleanup a little more dangerous at first, but ultimately easier to accomplish. "Gasoline spills are really very different from petroleum spills because of the flammable nature of gasoline, so our primary concern on Saturday was that the people were safe and that there wasn't anything done to introduce a spark into the flammable environment," she said. Local firefighters used what Moore called a "vapor mist," essentially spraying water on top of the gasoline, to clean up and drive fumes away from Kake. Emergency responders did not collect the spilled gas. Moore said the biggest priority for the DEP, rather, is keeping the gas fumes out of the air so they don't blow into town with the wind, which would be an explosion hazard. Because gas is such a light product, 90 percent of it would evaporate within a 24 hour period so long as the spill was kept on the surface of the water, she said. "Our number one concern is always safety of people, and then safety of the environment," she said. "We want to make sure we don't put anyone in danger to clean up a fuel spill." The U.S. Coast Guard [released a statement](#) later on Saturday saying the



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area was "secured" and that they would continue to "monitor and coordinate response" to the situation. "The Coast Guard is providing oversight and coordination of the cleanup to ensure the mitigation of any potential environmental harm," Senior Chief Petty Officer Chad Mountcastle, a Coast Guard Sector Juneau command center supervisor, said. "The coordination between the Coast Guard, city of Kake and Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation resulted in faster dissipation of the spill for the safety of all residents." Moore said the DEC was working on putting together a comprehensive report of the situation which is scheduled to be released late Monday.

<http://thinkprogress.org/climate/2013/12/16/3069971/severed-fuel-pump-6000-gallon-gas-spill-alaskan-harbor/#>

### CHINA, XINJIANG REGION, CHANGJI PREFECTURE, DECEMBER 16 2013. XINJIANG COAL MINE EXPLOSION KILLS 21



**Photo's [3]** [Rescue Work Underway at Xinjiang Coal Mine Explosion Site](#)



2 coal mine workers take a break at the accident site where a gas explosion happened at the Yangjiagou coal mine in Hutubi County in northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, Dec. 13, 2013. The explosion occurred at 1:26 a.m. when 34 miners were working underground. Twelve workers managed to escape themselves. Among the trapped twenty two workers, twenty one were confirmed dead, said the region's emergency response office.

Twenty-one miners were killed after a gas explosion in a coal mine early on Friday in northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, regional emergency response office said. The office said earlier that 22 miners were trapped in the mine following the explosion. Only one survived. The blast happened at 1:26 a.m. at the Baiyanggou coal mine in Hutubi County in Hui Autonomous Prefecture of Changji, when 34 miners were working underground, the prefecture government said. Twelve workers managed to escape.

Professional coal mine rescue teams and firefighters had been sent to the site, according to the regional bureau of coal mine safety supervision.

<http://english.peopledaily.com.cn/90882/8484453.html>

### CANADA, B.C, SAANICH, DECEMBER 16 2013. HEATING OIL SPILL DAMAGE AT COLQUITZ CREEK MINIMIZED BY FAST RESPONSE

sandra mcculloch

An alert citizen and a quick response by Saanich public works' crews are being credited with minimizing the impact of a home-heating oil spill near Colquitz Creek. A pedestrian was in Colquitz Park Thursday and saw a sheen on the footpath and noted the air reeked with the smell of oil, said Mike Ippen, Saanich public works manager, on Sunday. Public works staff traced the leak to an above-ground home-heating oil tank on a home on Rolston Crescent. The homeowner had some work done and the tank had been moved to get drainage work done, Ippen said. The homeowner didn't realize there was a leak until Saanich workers notified him, Ippen said. The leak originated from a supply line close to the house foundation, Ippen said. It's estimated that two thirds of the tank, or about 500 litres, spilled into the ground.

<http://www.timescolonist.com/news/local/heating-oil-spill-damage-at-colquitz-creek-minimized-by-fast-response-1.760186>

### AUSTRALIA, QUEENSLAND, ROCKHAMPTON, DECEMBER 16 2013. TANKER CARRYING AVIATION FUEL AND DIESEL ROLLS ON DAWSON HWY

Update 8.45am A fuel tanker overturned on the Dawson Highway, about 50km east of Rolleston, at 5am today. It is leaking a small amount of fuel. It was carrying 3000 litres of aviation fuel and 1000 litres of diesel. The driver, who has non-life threatening injuries, is being airlifted to the Rockhampton Hospital. The highway remains closed.

8.40am: The Dawson Highway expected to be closed most of today after a fuel tanker rollover this morning. The Department of Main Roads has issued an advisement saying the highway between Bauhinia and Rolleston is closed to all vehicles due to a truck rollover. "An exclusion zone is in place," the department's advisement stated. The Queensland Police Service expect this road to be closed all day. Earlier, the CQ Regional Road Report Facebook page stated the road would likely be closed for most of the day. The status said the accident was at Expedition Range about a 100Ks west of Moura. "Rescue 300 will be



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landing on Dawson Highway to airlift truck driver . Highway will remain closed most of the day Exclusion zone is in place." Please avoid the area.

<http://www.news-mail.com.au/news/tanker-carrying-aviation-fuel-and-diesel-rolls-clo/2115726/>

### USA, ILL, CHICAGO, DECEMBER 16 2013. I-65 CLOSED BY ACCIDENTS INVOLVING TANKERS

matt mikus



*This is the second of two wrecks that closed northbound Interstate 65.*

Winter weather caused two traffic incidents that closed northbound Interstate 65 near the Interstate 94 interchange for a large part of the day Saturday. At about 4:35 a.m., a 2013 Volvo semi pulling a tanker full of the chemical hexanes, driven by Dennis Rheiner, 61 of Jonesborough, Tenn., was heading north in the right lane when a car cut him off to exit the Interstate 80 eastbound ramp. Rheiner lost control on the snow-covered highway, and the semi flipped on its passenger side. Hexanes is a colorless, flammable liquid used as a solvent and considered hazardous, made from the distillation of petroleum. The tanker was carrying 6,935 gallons of the liquid, according to Indiana State Police reports, and the crash caused a small leak in the tanker. A second empty tanker pulled by a 2005 International semi from Transport Service Co., the company that

owns the tipped semi, arrived on the scene at 10:46 a.m. to recover the material in the leaking tanker, when a 2009 Ford minivan in the left lane driven by Tyrone Lashaun Hardin, 35, of Gary came around the curved part of the road, slid and hit the rear of the empty tanker. The driver of the second tanker, Anthony C. Smith, 51 of Chicago, had turned on his hazards lights and gotten out of his semi to talk to those at the accident scene. Rheiner and Smith were not injured, and Hardin was treated and released at the scene. The second tanker, which sustained minimal damage, was used to off-load the hazardous material from the first crash. All traffic was diverted off I-65 to go westbound on I-80 until the highway was reopened about 4:07 p.m. State Trooper Brandon Henderson responded to the first accident, and Sgt. Wanda Clay responded to the second. The Indiana State Police Commercial Vehicle Division, the INDOT Hoosier Helpers, Gary and Lake Station fire departments, Waffco Towing and Service Environmental all assisted.

<http://posttrib.suntimes.com/news/lake/24380151-418/i-65-closed-by-accidents-involving-tankers.html>

### AUSTRALIA, NEW SOUTH WALES, SYDNEY, DECEMBER 16 2013. IN THE LINE OF DUTY

robert crawford



*Volatile: Firefighters spray water on the crashed tanker at Jaspers Brush last December. Paramedics honoured for their bravery*

Two Ulladulla-based ambulance paramedics, who ignored their own safety to treat a seriously injured truck driver at a fatal motor vehicle accident north of Bomaderry last year, have been honoured with bravery awards. As ethanol from the crashed tanker leaked, with the risk of explosion, husband and wife paramedics James and Natalie Moore were among the first on scene of the crash between a tanker and a Hilux ute on the Princes Highway at Jaspers Brush in December last year. The pair was presented with Royal Lifesaving Society certificates for bravery by the NSW Governor Marie Bashir at

Government House. The couple were on night shift at the Bomaderry ambulance station on December 15, 2012 when they received the call about the accident shortly after 1.15am. Mr Moore said it was "a pretty hairy operation". "We only received bits and pieces of information about the crash as we were en route," he said. "When we arrived on the scene I was about to give a report via radio but we were advised that radios couldn't be used due to the risk of explosion." The tanker, loaded with 52,000 litres of ethanol, had veered into an embankment, tipping over and leaking fuel. Due to the volatile situation, a one-kilometre exclusion zone was established and portable radios and mobile phones were not allowed to be used, making communication more difficult. The Hilux was damaged beyond recognition and the driver killed instantly. When more ambulance paramedics arrived, Mr and Mrs Moore proceeded straight to the truck to treat the injured driver without regard for their own personal safety. They were aware of the risks but realised the driver needed urgent medical attention. The driver of the tanker was seriously injured and trapped in the wreckage, suffering an open head injury, spinal concussion, fractured rib,



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forearm and shoulder, with lacerations to his face, arms and legs. As ethanol continued to gush out, local Rural Fire Service crews sprayed water over the tanker. "It was a difficult operation but our first thought was about the patient and trying to get him out as quickly and as safely as possible," he said. "He was trapped and we just had to do what we could to help him." Mr Moore said his first thought, when he learned how dangerous the situation was, was how he could get his wife out of there. "It was only a fleeting thought, we could blow up here, our kids [the couple have four] could be left as orphans," he said. "But there was no way I could do it on my own and Natalie wouldn't have left anyway, so we just got on with the job. "With the patient's condition the way it was I needed her alongside me." The officers stayed with the patient, providing reassurance and medical treatment. After being trapped for 45 minutes he was released from the wreckage and taken to Shoalhaven Hospital. He was later airlifted to a Sydney hospital but died as a result of his injuries. Mr Moore played down their actions, saying ambulance paramedics and other emergency personnel undertake similar risks every day and, because people often aren't there to see it, they don't receive the recognition they often deserve. "Honestly, ambulance, police and firefighters in the majority of time get into hairy situations but don't get any recognition," he said. "Their efforts often slip under the radar. "A lot of other people who were at this emergency deserve credit as well. "It was a real team effort." The commendation read: "Their actions showed great courage and composure in this very hazardous situation. They remained calm and professional at all times while having to carry out their duties in an extremely dangerous environment with potentially disastrous consequences." Mr Moore has been a paramedic since 1988, while Mrs Moore has been on the job 12 years and also works part-time as a nurse unit manager at a local doctor's surgery. "We just go to a job trying to do our best and trying to get the best outcome for our patient," he said. "And it hurts when it fails."

<http://www.southcoastregister.com.au/story/1973524/in-the-line-of-duty/?cs=203>

### USA, N.Y, BELLMORE, DECEMBER 17 2013. TANKER BURSTS INTO FLAMES ON SUNRISE HIGHWAY IN BELLMORE

julie mansmann

 **Watch the Video**

- [2 Hurt after Overturned Tanker Catches Fire on Long Island](#)
- [Fuel Tanker Crashes, Explodes on Sunrise Highway](#)



*Firefighters needed 90 minutes to extinguish a fire that started when a tanker truck overturned on Sunrise Highway in Bellmore late on Dec. 17.*

A tanker truck overturned on Sunrise Highway in Bellmore late Tuesday night, causing a fuel spill that erupted in flames. Officials estimate that 3,000 to 7,000 gallons of fuel escaped from the tanker, which flipped on its side just before midnight. Nassau County Police Department public information officers said that a fuel truck traveling east on Sunrise Highway struck the back of a car that was stopped at a red light at Newbridge Road at 11:52 p.m. on Dec. 17. The truck turned on its side and careened east on Sunrise, spilling fuel along the way before stopping at Brevoort Place. The fuel caught fire, officials said, damaging surrounding cars and homes on Brevoort Place. Vincent Scaduto, the Bellmore Fire Department's public information officer, said firefighters extinguished the blaze in about 90 minutes. The drivers of both cars escaped their vehicles before the fire ignited, Scaduto said. They were taken to Nassau University Medical Center in East Meadow, where they were treated for non-life threatening injuries. No one else was injured, Scaduto said, as the homes on Brevoort Place did not catch fire. The siding on four of the five houses on the short block, between Sunrise and Clinton Street, melted from the heat of the blaze, along with a PVC fence. There was no other damage to the homes, and residents were evacuated. Surrounding cars sustained much of the damage from the fire. A car parked in an AutoZone lot on Sunrise was damaged, Scaduto said, and two cars on Brevoort were engulfed in flames. "They were basically metal shells of cars," he said. "They were completely destroyed." Lawrence Altholtz, owner of Harley-Davidson of Nassau County, said one of the cars involved in the accident crashed and bumped off the doors of a garage on Brevoort owned by the shop. Altholtz is now investigating the extent of the damage to decide whether the garage needs to come down. The Harley-Davidson stor, 2428 Sunrise Highway, was untouched. Town of Hempstead Supervisor Kate Murray, who was at the scene throughout the morning, said town Building Department representatives were on hand to inspect the garage and make a determination about its future. The majority of bikes from the garage appeared undamaged, Murray said, because they were stored toward the back of the facility. They were moved this morning. Beside Bellmore, 10 departments, including nearby units from North Bellmore, Merrick, North Merrick and East Meadow, helped extinguish the blaze. Officials



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poured water on the fire to put it out, in addition to spraying foam across it to ensure that the fuel would not reignite. The collision and fire came on a frigid December evening, so Nassau Inter County Express buses were used as warming stations for the crews of firefighters who worked into the night. Scaduto could not comment whether ice on local roads caused the accident, as the police and fire investigations are ongoing. Sunrise Highway and Newbridge Road in both directions remained closed early Wednesday for the investigation and cleanup, as well as several other residential streets. Sunrise Highway reopened at 11 a.m., according to Murray. The supervisor explained that dikes were built across the road to prevent fuel from flooding into the local neighborhood and storm drains, which lead to the Great South Bay. Town Highway Department workers trucked in 40 cubic yards of sand from the town's highway depot in Roosevelt shortly after the crash to build the dikes. "We wanted to make sure fuel didn't get into the neighborhood," Murray said. "The really, really rapid response saved homes." The supervisor said U.S. Environmental Protection, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, and town Department of Conservation and Waterways inspectors were at the crash site and in the bays to the south, looking for signs of fuel contamination. At press time, Murray said, it appeared that no fuel had escaped into the environment. "The good news is that the sand dam that we created did an effective job of mitigating the environmental damage," Murray said, adding that inspectors have found no fuel slicks in the bays. Murray also said that the Long Island Power Authority was working to restore electricity to homes where the power had to be shut off after the crash.

[http://www.liherald.com/stories/Tanker-bursts-into-flames-on-Sunrise-Highway-in-Bellmore,51773?content\\_source=&category\\_id=5&search\\_filter=&event\\_mode=&event\\_ts\\_from=&list\\_type=&order\\_by=&order\\_sort=&content\\_class=&sub\\_type=&town\\_id=](http://www.liherald.com/stories/Tanker-bursts-into-flames-on-Sunrise-Highway-in-Bellmore,51773?content_source=&category_id=5&search_filter=&event_mode=&event_ts_from=&list_type=&order_by=&order_sort=&content_class=&sub_type=&town_id=)

### CANADA, ONT, ATIKOKAN, DECEMBER 17 2013. ATIKOKAN MAN DIES IN HWY 11 COLLISION WITH FUEL TANKER

A 76 year old man is dead and a woman is in hospital after a collision on Hwy 11 near Atikokan that happened on Tuesday. The collision involved a car and a fuel tanker, around 12:30 p.m., just east of the junction with Hwy 633, provincial police said. The man in the car was confirmed dead at the scene and a woman was sent to hospital with serious injuries. Both hail from Atikokan. The deceased is Fredrick James Munro. The 71 year old woman, who was in the same vehicle, was taken to Atikokan hospital and later transferred to the Thunder Bay Regional Health Sciences Centre. The 49 year old driver of the fuel tanker, from Thunder Bay, wasn't injured. The highway was closed for a number of hours and didn't re-open fully until just before 5 a.m. Wednesday.

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/thunder-bay/atikokan-man-dies-in-hwy-11-collision-with-fuel-tanker-1.2468641>

### KENYA, MARIAKANI, DECEMBER 17 2013. 10 DEAD IN MARIAKANI ROAD ACCIDENT

may jesaro

 [Watch the Video 10 Dead in Mariakani Accident](#)



Ten people have died following an accident in Mariakani along the Nairobi-Mombasa highway early this morning. The accident happened after a bus and a trailer collided. 4 people died on the spot while six others succumbed to their injuries while in hospital. Many others were injured during the Saturday morning accident. The accident involved a crude oil fuel tanker and a bus that was ferrying PCEA youths who had attended a workshop in Mombasa and were heading back to Nairobi. Coast Traffic Police Chief Martin Kariuki earlier said 36 people had sustained injuries from the accident, with eight among them in critically condition.

<http://citizennews.co.ke/news/2012/local/item/15728>

### USA, TX, AMARILLO, DECEMBER 17 2013. AUTHORITIES IDENTIFY MOTORIST KILLED FRIDAY

lowell vickers

The Texas Department of Public Safety on Sunday released the name of a motorist killed Friday night in a collision with a tanker truck west of Amarillo. According to a DPS news release, James Oral Selby, 27, of Amarillo, was pronounced dead at



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the scene. Selby's truck pulled into the path of a Love's fuel tanker truck, the DPS release states. Investigators said Selby was driving a 2002 Chevrolet S-10 pickup truck southeast on Indian Hill Road and failed to stop at the stop sign at the intersection with West Amarillo Boulevard. The tanker truck was westbound on the boulevard and collided with the pickup, striking the driver's side of the vehicle. A Texas Department of Public Safety trooper at the scene said the pickup caught fire after impact, likely because a fuel line on the vehicle ruptured. The tanker was hauling diesel, he said, but none of the tank's fuel leaked. Flames had engulfed the pickup by the time Potter County Fire and Rescue Department trucks arrived on the scene about 11:35 p.m. Firefighters extinguished the fire by 11:50 p.m. No other people were in the pickup, the trooper said. The truck ended up about 50 yards west of the intersection straddling the inside lane and the median, while the tanker was able to stop about 20 yards east of the truck in the outside lane. Potter County Sheriff's deputies, Amarillo Emergency Service and Amarillo Medical Services personnel also responded to the scene.

<http://amarillo.com/news/local-news/2013-12-15/authorities-identify-motorist-killed-friday>

### PAKISTAN, GUJRANAWALA, DECEMBER 17 2013. 7 KILLED IN OIL TANKER, CAR COLLISION



At least seven people including women and children were killed and three sustained injuries in a traffic accident on Monday morning near here, Geo News reported. Police said a head-on collision between an oil tanker and a car left seven persons killed and three sustained injuries near village Khan Bagh here. Police said the incident occurred due to thick blanket of fog causing poor visibility.

<http://www.thenews.com.pk/article-130507-7-killed-in-oil-tanker.-car-collision>

### CANADA, B.C, SLOCUM CREEK, DECEMBER 17 2013. SLOCAN'S LEMON CREEK FUEL SPILL BLAMED ON BAD DIRECTIONS



#### *Lemon Creek fuel spill suit filed.*

Aviation fuel distributor Executive Flight Centre says province's directions caused tanker rollover. The company that [spilled more than 30,000 litres of fuel into Lemon Creek](#) in southeastern B.C. is claiming it should not be liable because its truck drivers got bad directions from the province. This summer, a tanker truck transporting fuel for helicopters fighting a nearby forest fire rolled into the creek in the Slocan Valley. The resulting fuel spill led to a massive evacuation and a \$4-million cleanup. In August [one resident of the valley launched legal action to certify a class action lawsuit](#) against the province, the helicopter company and the company contracted to deliver helicopter fuel to a

staging area. A tanker truck carrying more than 30,000 litres of helicopter fuel rolled off a Slocan Valley forest service road and spilled the tank's contents into Lemon Creek. But in its response to the lawsuit, Executive Flight Centre Fuel Services has filed papers saying its drivers were given the wrong directions by the province to the helicopter staging area. As a result, first one driver, and then a second driver, turned up the unmaintained Lemon Creek forestry road. Then, as the second driver was making his way back down, the road's shoulder sloughed away in a spot that had been undermined by the creek and the tanker rolled into the creek. Executive Flight Centre says the province and helicopter company, not their drivers, are at fault. It argues it should not have to pay neither the \$4-million cleanup costs incurred so far, nor any lawsuit payouts. The company's vice president Wayne Smook would not comment on issues before the court, but said his company lived up to its promise to clean up the spill.

#### **Province Says Polluter Should Pay**

In response B.C.'s Ministry of Environment issued a written statement that implied the company should still be held responsible for the cost of any cleanup. "British Columbia subscribes to the polluter-pay principle for spills, which is designed to keep the cost of response off taxpayers," said the statement. Ernst-Ulrich Maas, owner of Transwest Helicopters Ltd., which was to accept the fuel shipment, says the issue is between Executive Flight Centre and the province. "We're just the helicopter



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company. It's like you calling for a taxi, it has an accident on the way and you're blamed. It's nonsense," Maas said. "I've got 16,000 hours of flying time. We risk our lives putting fires out, saving homes. For us to be drawn into something like this makes me sick."

### Related Stories

- [Read the company's response](#)
- [Executive Flight Centre Fuel Services notice](#)
- [Lawsuit filed over Lemon Creek jet fuel spill](#)
- [Slocan Valley residents demand water test results](#)
- [Read more about the fuel spill](#)
- [Read more about the lawsuit](#)

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/slocan-s-lemon-creek-fuel-spill-blamed-on-bad-directions-1.2466227>

### USA, CA, RICHMOND, DECEMBER 17 2013. CSB DRAFT REPORT PROPOSES OVERHAUL OF REFINERY REFINERY INDUSTRY REGULATORY SYSTEM IN CALIFORNIA



chemical accidents. [In a draft report released to the public today](#), the U.S. Chemical Safety Board (CSB) proposes recommendations for substantial changes to the way refineries are regulated in California. Entitled "Regulatory Report: Chevron Richmond Refinery Pipe Rupture and Fire," the CSB draft calls on California to replace the current patchwork of largely reactive and activity-based regulations with a more rigorous, performance-based regulatory regime – similar to those successfully adopted overseas in regions such as the United Kingdom, Norway, and Australia – known as the "safety case" system. The draft report is the second part of three in the CSB's investigation of the August 2012 process fire in the crude unit at the Chevron refinery in Richmond, California. That fire endangered 19 workers and sent more than 15,000 residents to the hospital for medical attention. CSB Chairperson Dr. Rafael Moure-Eraso said, "After exhaustively analyzing the facts, the CSB investigation team found many ways that major refinery accidents like the Chevron fire could be made less likely by improving regulations. Refinery safety rules need to focus on driving down risk to the lowest practicable level, rather than completing required paperwork. Companies, workers, and communities will all benefit from a rigorous system like the safety case. I believe California could serve as a model for the nation by adopting this system. We applaud the work of the Governor's Interagency Task Force for their proactive approach and highly positive recommendations to protect worker and public safety in California. I have great confidence that California will embrace the recommendations in our draft report and carry them forward to implement policy change." The draft report is available at [www.csb.gov](http://www.csb.gov) for public comment until Friday, January 3, 2014. Comments should be sent to [chevroncomments@csb.gov](mailto:chevroncomments@csb.gov). All comments received will be reviewed and published on the CSB website.

[www.csb.gov](http://www.csb.gov)

### USA, CA, SAN FRANCISCO, DECEMBER 17 2013,. SUNKEN TUG'S OIL SPILL LEADS TO \$970K BILL FOR SF

*chris roberts*

The 2009 sinking of a decrepit World War II-era Navy tugboat — and subsequent oil spill — will cost The City almost \$1 million under a proposed settlement with the Coast Guard, which cleaned up the mess. The 100-foot Wenonah was one of two tugboats owned by the Historical Tugboat Education and Restoration Society tied up to Pier 1 on Treasure Island. After springing a leak on the morning of Aug. 17, 2009, the Wenonah later sank completely into the Bay, where it began leaking about 100 gallons of fuel. The oil sheen reached as far as the Berkeley Marina. Though the restoration society was responsible for the cleanup, pollution concerns led the Coast Guard to take over. The giant crane used to put together the new Bay Bridge, the Left Coast Lifter, had to be hired in order to get the tug out of the water. Following the Wenonah's recovery, the Coast Guard spent another \$23,000 clearing the Nokomis — the sunken tug's pier-mate at Treasure Island — of its fuel oil before it also could sink and spill. The Nokomis is an identical vintage tugboat that also fell into disrepair. Though Pier 1 is Coast Guard property, The City is liable for damages because the pier is leased to the Treasure Island Development Authority, a city agency. Last year, the Coast Guard sent The City a \$973,000 bill to cover the costs of the crane and the cleanup. The settlement over the incident was reviewed and approved by TIDA officials and awaits final approval from the Board of



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Supervisors. Representatives from the Coast Guard declined to comment. "We think it's a prudent agreement that resolves the dispute amicably," said Matt Dorsey, a spokesman for City Attorney Dennis Herrera, "and avoids the costs and risks of litigation." The federal government is not done collecting to cover the costs for the spill: litigation against the tugboat society and its president, Melissa Parker, is still pending. The Wenonah and the Nokomis, one of the last surviving ships present during the 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor still in existence, were broken up and sold for scrap in Alameda in 2010.

<http://www.sfexaminer.com/sanfrancisco/sunken-tugs-oil-spill-leads-to-970k-bill-for-sf/Content?oid=2650753>

### AUSTRALIA, SOUTH AUSTRALIA, SALISBURY, DECEMBER 18 2013. FIRE CAUSES \$200K DAMAGE TO SALISBURY SOUTH BUSINESS

 **Watch the Video** [Fire Causes \\$200k Damage to Salisbury South Business](#)

- Witnesses said workers were draining a fuel tank



*Fire crews working to extinguish the blaze at the Salisbury South business.*

A man has been taken to hospital with burns after a fire at a spare parts distributor business in Adelaide's northern suburbs. The blaze started at Just Commodore Spares on Acrylon Rd at Salisbury South at 7am. Witnesses said workers were draining a fuel tank at the time, and police said the fire is not considered suspicious. A man received burns to his hands and arms and has been taken to the Royal Adelaide Hospital. Fire crews were able to extinguish the blaze within an hour, with damage estimated at more than \$200,000. There were fears part of the building could collapse during the blaze, while firefighters were forced to use foam to battle the flames because of the oils and fuels inside

the business.

<http://au.news.yahoo.com/a/20365570/fire-causes-200k-damage-to-salisbury-south-business/>

### USA, TX, CORPUS CHRISTI, DECEMBER 18 2013. WORK HALTED ON TRAFIGURA OIL STORAGE TANKS FOLLOWING DEATHS OF TWO MEN

 **Watch the Video** [Work Halted on Oil Storage Tanks Following Deaths of 2 Men](#)



*Work Halted on Oil Storage Tanks Following Deaths of Two Men*

The two workers that were killed while constructing an oil storage tank have been identified as Colton Huff, 19, of Georgia, and Andres Olivarez, 57, of Mathis. The accident happened around 3:00 p.m. Sunday at the facility at 1501 Southern Minerals Road, off I-37. The two men were employees of California-based Tarsco, Inc. They were working on some I-beams near the roof of a storage tank when part of it collapsed, crushing both of them. The Occupational Safety and Health administration has launched an investigation to determine exactly what went wrong. The worksite is shutdown to allow investigators full

access. Tarsco issued a statement this afternoon regarding the death of Huff and Olivarez. "...Our thoughts are with their families and loved ones. At this time the incident is under investigation by OSHA and other authorities; additional details will be forthcoming at the appropriate time." Tarsco Inc., which is contracted to build above-ground storage tanks, was fined nearly \$3,000 dollars by OSHA in November of 2011 for not having enough protection to keep workers from falling at another facility in Texas. The company claims that earlier OSHA violation was by another company of the same name. But so far we have been unable to find records of any other company named Tarsco operating in Texas.

**Update 12/17:** Representatives from Tarsco insist that their company was not the one cited by OSHA in 2011, despite the fact that the name of both companies are the same. Tarsco claims that another business with the same name was operating in Texas and was cited for the aforementioned safety violation. A representative from the company sent 6 News screen captures from the Texas Secretary of State website that show two companies; one under the name "TARSCO" and the other named "Tank and Refinery Service Company." Both companies are listed with different tax identification numbers. We have not been able to independently verify that these are separate entities.

#### Related Stories

- [Storage tank collapse kills two](#)
- [Two Workers Killed In South Texas Tank Collapse](#)



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

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- [2 workers killed in South Texas tank collapse](#)
- [Men Identified Following Workplace Accident on Interstate 37](#)
- [Storage Tank Collapse Kills 2 Texas Workers](#)

[http://www.kristv.com/news/work-halted-on-oil-storage-tanks-following-deaths-of-two-men/#!prettyPhoto\[gallery\]/1/](http://www.kristv.com/news/work-halted-on-oil-storage-tanks-following-deaths-of-two-men/#!prettyPhoto[gallery]/1/)

### USA, TX, AMARILLO, DECEMBER 18 2013. ETHANOL VS. ENGINES

chris clackum

 [Watch the Video Ethanol Vs. Engines](#)



Before you fire up the snow-blower or anything else with a small engine, you'd better be careful what you put in the gas tank. The Environmental Protection Agency will soon announce whether to allow even more ethanol to be mixed in with the gas used to run your car's engine. Makers of other engines are paying close attention. Small engine manufacturers including giants like Briggs-Stratton have complained loudly about the effects of ethanol in their gas engines. The trade group representing the largely gas-powered outdoor equipment industry wants more clearly marked gas pumps. "We don't want them choosing a fuel that could kill or damage their equipment," says Kris Kiser of the Outdoor Power Equipment Institute. Kiser says gas pumps are confusing enough for average drivers, but the wrong choice can be disastrous for users of equipment with small engines. The group has launched a campaign called "look before you pump".

"Whatever gas you could put in the car or pickup truck, you could put in the can. Whatever went in the can could go into your mower, your chainsaw, your generator and your bass boat. For the first time ever, that's not the case," Kiser warns. In fact, it's illegal to run small engines on anything higher than E-10, even if the EPA says it's okay for the engines of cars and trucks.

<http://www.myhighplains.com/story/ethanol-vs-engines/d/story/A11DS1EC5ESOalfEJmh8dw>

### USA, CT, WATERBURY, DECEMBER 18 2013. OIL TRUCK ROLLS OVER, CLOSES WATERBURY ROAD

joseph wenzel iv



An oil truck flipped on its side at Hamilton Avenue and Lake Pearl Road in Waterbury this afternoon and between 50 and 100 gallons of fuel have spilled, according to the fire department and the state Department of Energy and Environmental Protection.

An oil truck rollover forced emergency officials to close Hamilton Avenue in Waterbury Tuesday afternoon. The rollover crash involving a 3,000-gallon oil delivery truck occurred near the intersection of Pearl Lake Road at about 2 p.m. About 150 to 200 gallons of oil leaked out of the truck, so officials from the

Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection were called to the scene. An environmental contractor was hired to evaluate the vehicle and determine how it can be uprighted. The truck was uprighted and towed away just before 6:30 p.m. After the truck was uprighted, DEEP officials started to clean the contaminated soil and cleanup was expected to take 1 1/2 to two hours. Hamilton Avenue near the intersection of Pearl Lake Road will remain closed until the cleanup is complete. It is unclear if anyone was injured. The cause of the crash remains under investigation and emergency officials did not say if it is weather-related.

<http://www.wfsb.com/story/24243257/oil-truck-rolls-over-closes-waterbury-road>

### USA, AZ, FOUNTAIN HILLS, DECEMBER 18 2013. CLEANUP CONTINUING AFTER FUEL-TRUCK SPILL IN FOUNTAIN HILLS

edward gately

Some 1,400 cubic yards of contaminated soil have been removed in the aftermath of a Nov. 17 fuel-truck spill near Saguaro and Shea boulevards in Fountain Hills. The cost for remediation topped \$500,000 this month and how much it has risen since is unknown. A ruptured United Petroleum Transports tanker spilled 2,300 gallons of gasoline at the drive-through between a McDonald's and Señor Taco restaurant. The fuel flowed onto Trevino Drive and continued north on Saguaro, affecting a drainage structure and Nicholas Wash. According to United Petroleum Transports, the tanker collided with a dumpster



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enclosure, causing the rupture and spill. Most of the soil removed at this point has been from the wash, while about 200 cubic yards of soil were removed along Saguaro and Trevino, Town Manager Ken Buchanan said. The removed soil will be incinerated before it is disposed of in a landfill. "No further contamination has been detected outside the original area," he said. "No other area has been detected in need of cleanup work." United Petroleum Transports' insurance carrier has hired a forensic engineering firm, Rimkus Consulting Group, to review and discuss with the town the remediation of the contaminated areas of Saguaro, Buchanan said. The contamination will require removing the curbing and asphalt that run the width of the bike lane along a stretch of Saguaro, Raymond Rees, the town's facilities/environmental supervisor, has said. The town hired Kleinfelder West Inc. to test the extent of the gasoline spill and determine the amount of the environmental contamination, Buchanan said. United Petroleum Transports plans to reimburse the town for that cost and has hired Clean Harbors to handle remediation, he said. "Thanks in part to the cooperation we have received from the (town) including Town Manager Ken Buchanan and his staff, we have made great progress toward remediating all affected areas," said Robert Moore, United Petroleum Transports' vice president of risk management. "According to our consultants, we should be complete with most of the excavation within the next few days and will quickly be moving into the testing phase of the project." As for the work along Saguaro and Trevino, the transport firm's consulting engineers have "reached out to (town) staff to determine the best option moving forward to complete the remediation," he said. "Additionally, our consultants continue to monitor the situation to ensure that there is no danger posed to any member of the public," Moore said. Independent lab results confirmed the fuel did not travel onto Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation land, Buchanan said. Remediation work has been taking place continuously except for on holidays, he said. Moore has said remediation efforts will continue until United Petroleum Transports personnel, and officials from the town and Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation, are "satisfied that the area is completely clean and restored to its original condition." Last month, residents overwhelmingly approved an \$8.2 million bond to rebuild the more than 3 miles of Saguaro, the town's busiest street. The work is anticipated to begin in either late 2014 or early 2015 with completion in August 2015. Councilman Tait Elkie has said he expects the Town Council will be kept informed of the progress of the cleanup and wants to make sure that United Petroleum Transports covers all costs associated with the spill, including remediation of any potential contamination that could be discovered during the Saguaro reconstruction.

### Related Stories

- [Cleanup cost tops \\$500,000 for fuel-truck spill](#)
- [Fountain Hills looking into damage from fuel spill](#)

<http://www.azcentral.com/community/scottsdale/articles/20131217fountain-hills-cleanup-continuing-after-fueltruck-spill.html>

**USA, UT, WILLARD BAY, DECEMBER 18 2013. UTAH, CHEVRON DRAFT \$5.35M SETTLEMENT FOR WILLARD BAY SPILL, WILLARD BAY » IF DEAL GOES THROUGH, OIL GIANT WOULD PAY FOR MARCH RUPTURE OF DIESEL PIPELINE NOW RUN BY TESORO.**

brett prettyman

 **Photo's [5]** [Settlement for Willard Bay Spill.](#)



Workers with booms and absorbent material contain a leak from a Chevron pipeline in a wetland area between Willard Bay North Marina and I-15 Tuesday March 19. A proposed settlement between the company and the state of Utah would require Chevron to pay \$5.35 million.

Chevron Pipe Line Company would pay \$5.35 million for spilling up to 27,500 gallons of diesel fuel in March at Willard Bay State Park if a draft settlement with the Utah Division of Water Quality and Utah State Parks and Recreation is approved. "It has been a difficult road. We are satisfied with this settlement," Walt Baker, director of the Utah Division of Water Quality (DWQ), said Tuesday. "We think this is fair and we think it serves as a deterrent to other releases that may occur." The draft agreement is broken into three parts. The largest total, \$4.45 million, would be used for mitigation projects and includes a \$719,000 credit Chevron was given for projects already completed. Baker said Chevron "went beyond the scope of the remediation effort" by enhancing habitat, re-

sodding parts of the park and installing new trail fencing and sidewalk. Ongoing and future projects at Willard Bay would be funded with \$600,000 from the \$4.5 million. Baker said the remaining money will be used for mitigation projects selected by his agency and could include areas not directly impacted by the spill. A civil penalty of \$350,000 would be paid to DWQ and



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\$550,000 would go to the Department of Natural Resources and Utah State Parks for the lost use of the marina and campgrounds during the spill and the cleanup. "We appreciate the work done by DWQ and Chevron in negotiating the settlement," Fred Hayes, director of Utah State Parks, said in prepared release. "We feel the settlement adequately addresses the problems caused by the spill." The settlement would affirm that Chevron responded appropriately to the Notice of Violation and Compliance Order it received on April 13 for the rupture of a 6-foot section of pipe in the state park. Chevron no longer owns the pipeline that runs from Salt Lake City to Spokane, Wash. The line running through Willard Bay State Park, and not far from Interstate 15, is now owned by Tesoro Corporation. It is operating at 80 percent capacity, as allowed by the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, an arm of the U.S. Department of Transportation. Chevron had previously been fined \$426,600 for spills equaling 54,600 gallons on Red Butte Creek in Salt Lake City. The company also spent about \$43 million in cleanup and mitigation in neighborhoods and at Liberty Park. The Willard Bay spill could have been much worse if it were not for a series of beaver dams that slowed the diesel fuel from reaching the nearby reservoir, causing some officials to proclaim the animals the "Hero Beavers" of Willard Bay. "They absolutely impeded the pollutant from getting to Willard Bay and they truly are heroes in this episode," Baker said. "We would have had a much bigger problem if it reached the surface water." Water at Willard Bay is designated for culinary use and irrigation, but it is not currently being used for human consumption. Six beavers soaked in diesel fuel were pulled from the ponds and taken to the Wildlife Rehabilitation Center of Northern Utah in Ogden. Five were released in the Uinta Mountains in August. Another beaver had to have a toe amputated and is still at the facility. Caring for the animals was time consuming and the non-profit center had to cancel its annual fundraiser as a result. Chevron contributed \$35,000 to the rehabilitation center to compensate for the cancellation. Baker will review public comments, which are being accepted until Jan. 16, and accept, modify or abandon the settlement. A new procedure requires that the Water Quality Board also approve of any settlement. "We are glad the Willard Bay spill is in the rearview mirror and we can get on with our day-to-day duties," Baker said.

### On The Web Comment on Proposed Deal

A 30-day public comment period on the proposed Willard Bay settlement from Chevron will be open until Jan. 16. See the settlement online. [bit.ly/willardbay](http://bit.ly/willardbay) Written comments can be emailed to Emily Bartusek at [ebartusek@utah.gov](mailto:ebartusek@utah.gov) or mailed to Bartusek at P.O. Box 144870, Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-4870.

<http://www.sltrib.com/sltrib/news/57275295-78/utah-spill-bay-willard.html.csp>

### USA, WA, SEATTLE, DECEMBER 18 2013. OREGON COMPANIES SETTLE WITH EPA FOR ILLEGAL DISPOSAL OF MILLIONS OF POUNDS OF REACTIVE HAZARDOUS WASTE

Oregon Metallurgical of Albany, Ore. and TDY Industries of Millersburg, Ore. have agreed to pay a combined total of \$825,000 in civil penalties to resolve alleged violations related to improper storage, transportation, and disposal of anhydrous magnesium chloride, a reactive hazardous waste that can pose serious fire and explosion threats. In addition to the penalty, the companies must improve hazardous waste management practices and upgrade recordkeeping on the hazardous wastes generated at each facility to ensure proper management and avoid potential accidents and injuries. The government complaint alleges that both companies improperly stored, transported and disposed of anhydrous magnesium chloride waste over a period of several years, in violation of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act ("RCRA") which governs the storage, disposal, and transportation of hazardous waste. EPA estimates that the companies illegally shipped approximately 160,000,000 pounds of this hazardous waste to Oregon landfills that were not equipped or permitted to dispose of untreated reactive wastes. The facilities produce and process titanium and zirconium, which generates large quantities of anhydrous magnesium chloride as a byproduct. Anhydrous magnesium chloride is a reactive hazardous waste regulated under RCRA. Anhydrous magnesium chloride can react violently when it comes into contact with water, producing large amounts of heat as well as hydrogen and hydrogen sulfide gas in potentially toxic and flammable quantities. Mining and mineral processing facilities such as these two facilities generate more toxic and hazardous waste than any other industrial sector. If not properly managed, these wastes pose a high risk to human health and the environment. EPA's enforcement program will continue to focus on reducing risks associated with hazardous waste operations at mineral processing facilities. Oregon Metallurgical and TDY Industries are wholly owned subsidiaries of Allegheny Technologies Inc., headquartered in Pittsburgh, Pa. The proposed consent decree filed on Friday, December 13, 2013 in Federal District Court for the District of Oregon is subject to a 30-day public comment period and final court approval.

<http://www.epa.gov>



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### USA, WASHINGTON, DECEMBER 18 2013. EPA RELEASES CHEMICAL SCREENING DATA ON 1,800 CHEMICALS >> AGENCY IMPROVES ACCESS TO CHEMICAL DATA AND ANNOUNCES TOXCAST DATA CHALLENGES

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) today announced the release of chemical screening data accessible through the new interactive Chemical Safety for Sustainability or iCSS Dashboard. The iCSS Dashboard provides access to data from innovative screening technologies for chemicals that are found in industrial and consumer products, food additives and drugs. "EPA's use of cost effective advanced chemical screening techniques has transformed this country's knowledge of the safety of almost 2,000 chemicals currently in use," said Lek Kadeli, acting assistant administrator for EPA's Office of Research and Development. "Today's release marks an important milestone in communicating and improving our understanding of the impact chemicals have on human health and the environment." As part of this data release, EPA is announcing the ToxCast Data Challenges, a series of challenges inviting the science and technology community to work with the data and provide solutions for how the new chemical screening data can be used to predict potential health effects. Challenge winners will receive awards for their innovative research ideas. The data were gathered through advanced techniques, including robotics and high-throughput screening, as part of an ongoing federal collaboration to improve chemical screening. The collaboration, Toxicity Testing in the 21st Century (Tox21), is comprised of EPA, the National Institutes of Environmental Health Sciences/National Toxicology Program, National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences and the Food and Drug Administration. "Making these data publicly available will help researchers across disciplines to better identify hazardous chemicals," said Raymond Tice, Ph.D., who heads the Biomolecular Screening Branch at the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS), part of NIH. "We are pleased to be a partner in these collaborative efforts and look forward to further enhancing the amount of Tox21 data available to the public." "Our robotics screening system is an integral part of the Tox21 effort as it provides unparalleled speed, reliability and high-quality reproducible data," said Anton Simeonov, Ph.D., who is the Tox21 lead at the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences. "The public release of Tox21 data is sure to accelerate chemical assessment." Only a fraction of chemicals in use in the United States have been adequately assessed for potential risk. This information is useful for prioritizing chemicals for potential risk as well as predicting if chemical exposures could lead to adverse health effects.

- iCSS dashboard <http://actor.epa.gov/dashboard/>
- Tox21 <http://epa.gov/ncct/Tox21/>
- EPA Chemical Safety Research <http://www.epa.gov/research/chemicalscience/>
- ToxCast Data Challenges <http://epa.gov/ncct/challenges.html>

<http://www.epa.gov>

### USA, UT, SALT LAKE CITY, DECEMBER 18 2013. 2-TANKER SEMI RIG ROLLS ON I-80 TO I-15 INTERCHANGE, CLOSES ON-RAMP

*bob mims*

An early Tuesday morning semi-trailer rollover closed down a ramp and three lanes near the northbound Interstate 15 and westbound I-80 interchange in South Salt Lake. Utah Highway Patrol Sgt. Todd Royce said the big rig, hauling two tanker trailers of light crude oil, crashed about 1:45 a.m. near 2200 South, as it made the transition from I-80 to I-15. "The driver apparently was distracted by [changing the channels on] his radio and hit the barrier wall. The rear trailer was detached by the collision," Royce said. The semi and remaining trailer tipped and rolled onto their sides, but the driver escaped injury. UHP said no oil leaked but the contents of both tankers had to be off-loaded to other tankers, a time-consuming process that kept the I-80 to I-15 northbound ramp and affected lanes closed until late Tuesday morning. No citations were issued, but Royce said it was likely the semi driver would be ticketed for improper lane travel and failure to maintain a proper lookout.

<http://www.sltrib.com/sltrib/news/57274266-78/semi-driver-royce-trailer.html.csp>

### AUSTRALIA, NORTHERN TERRITORY, KAKADU, DECEMBER 18 2013. TANK FAILURE INVESTIGATIONS CONTINUE

An independent expert is looking into the cause of a leaching tank rupture at the Ranger uranium mine in Australia. The incident followed a similar failure at Rössing in Namibia, which is also under investigation. One of several leaching tanks at Ranger - ruptured on 7 December releasing a mixture of slurry containing mud, water, ore and acid. The plant's containment systems - including barriers and channelling - kept all the slurry mixture within the mine's processing area, Energy Resources of Australia (ERA) reported. The company has now appointed an independent expert to examine the root cause of the failure. That person will also review processing infrastructure at the site. ERA's investigation will run in parallel with a joint investigation being carried out by a government-appointed taskforce. The processing of uranium ore involves it being ground



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and put through a sulfuric acid leach to recover the uranium. During this process, ore slurry is pumped into several leaching tanks into where sulfuric acid and pyrolusite (a manganese-based oxidant) are added to dissolve the uranium in the ore. Processing operations have been suspended at Ranger. ERA - majority owned by Rio Tinto - is assessing the full impact of the incident on operations, including how long processing operations will be offline and what repairs are required. A structural engineer has informed the company that the support structure surrounding the remaining leach tanks, and the tanks themselves, are structurally sound. ERA chief executive Andrea Sutton commented, "It's important that we identify the root cause of the incident so that we can prevent anything similar happening in the future."

### Rössing Rupture

The tank failure at Ranger came four days after a similar tank ruptured at the Rössing mine in Namibia, in which Rio Tinto also holds a majority stake. On 3 December, one of twelve leach tanks at Rössing failed, but again the spilled slurry was channelled by existing engineered trenches into an overflow sump in the plant's containment system. Milling operations at the plant were suspended and will restart once restoration work is completed. Production in other areas of the mine continues. The cost of repairs and restart schedule are being assessed. The mine said that it is working with the relevant regulatory authorities in Namibia in the management of the incident. Neither the Ranger or Rössing incident resulted in any injuries nor was there any environmental impact to the surrounding areas.

<http://www.world-nuclear-news.org/RS-Tank-failure-investigations-continue-1712135.html>

### USA, N.Y, NORTH COLLINS, DECEMBER 18 2013. PROPANE TANK EXPLOSION INJURES MAN

A 54-year-old man conducting routine maintenance on a propane delivery truck in North Collins Tuesday afternoon sustained burns to his face, hands and arms after the tank exploded, reported Collins State Police. Lawrence P. Szal of Eden, an employee of Renaldo Sales and Service, was transported to Lake Shore Hospital for treatment of his injuries, which were not believed to be life threatening. The explosion occurred at the company's North Collins location on Milestrip Road, police reports indicated. Szal was working near the rear of the tanker truck when residual fumes inside the tank ignited causing the explosion, police reported. Police said co-workers were able to extinguish the fire while removing Szal and providing initial treatment. Fire companies from the Town of Brant and Farnham responded to the scene along with Town of Brant police and the Erie County Sheriff's Office.

<http://www.buffalonews.com/city-region/southern-erie-county/propane-tank-explosion-injures-man-20131217>

### USA, W.V, HENDERSON, DECEMBER 18 2013. U.S. 35 REOPENS AFTER CHEMICAL SPILL >> STRUCTURAL FAILURE OF TANK BLAMED

*beth sergent*

Structural failure of a tank hauling a chemical used in the fracking process is what caused a chemical spill and the closure of all four lanes of U.S. 35 late Monday afternoon. Those four lanes have since reopened since the spill of hexamine - a chemical used in the fracking process. The southbound lanes of U.S. 35 began opening up Monday night, followed by the northbound lanes as cleanup progressed. Tom Aluise, spokesperson with the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection (WVDEP), said the tank being hauled by the tractor trailer had a leak near the rear valve of the tanker. He added the spill was cleaned up by 10:30 p.m. Monday night and the owner of the tractor trailer, TBM Trucking of Monroe, N.C., hired a contractor to do that cleanup. The disabled tanker has also been hauled away. Also playing a part in the clean up were local firefighters whom Aluise said created a roadside dam when some of the hexamine made its way into a roadside ditch. This prevented the chemical from traveling into any local drains or streams. The WVDEP has not issued a citation to the trucking company. According to the West Virginia Department of Transportation (WVDOT) and Mason County Sheriff's Department, despite early reports saying otherwise, no traffic accident caused the leak. In fact, passing motorists and truckers alerted the driver to the leak as he was driving in the northbound lane near Three Mile Rd. Erring on the side of caution, the roadway was closed and traffic rerouted on to W.Va. 817 (Old U.S. 35) while first responders determined what the chemical was and if it was hazardous. Hexamine is flammable but not in the state in which it was discovered after the spill. It was in a diluted solution when spilled and is only a threat if ingested or directly inhaled, Carrie Bly, spokesperson for the WVDOT said. As stated earlier, hexamine is used in the fracking process which is a way of extracting natural gas from shale rock layers. There were no injuries reported. It was unknown if the Public Service Commission of West Virginia, which regulates trucking, had issued any citations in the incident. PSC personnel, along with staff from WVDEP, WVDOT, local law enforcement and first responders were all on the scene.

[http://www.mysdailytribune.com/news/home\\_top/2876687/U.S.-35-reopens-after-chemical-spill](http://www.mysdailytribune.com/news/home_top/2876687/U.S.-35-reopens-after-chemical-spill)



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### USA, WA, SEATTLE, DECEMBER 18 2013. OREGON COMPANIES SETTLE WITH EPA FOR ILLEGAL DISPOSAL OF MILLIONS OF POUNDS OF REACTIVE HAZARDOUS WASTE

Oregon Metallurgical of Albany, Ore. and TDY Industries of Millersburg, Ore. have agreed to pay a combined total of \$825,000 in civil penalties to resolve alleged violations related to improper storage, transportation, and disposal of anhydrous magnesium chloride, a reactive hazardous waste that can pose serious fire and explosion threats. In addition to the penalty, the companies must improve hazardous waste management practices and upgrade recordkeeping on the hazardous wastes generated at each facility to ensure proper management and avoid potential accidents and injuries. The government complaint alleges that both companies improperly stored, transported and disposed of anhydrous magnesium chloride waste over a period of several years, in violation of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act ("RCRA") which governs the storage, disposal, and transportation of hazardous waste. EPA estimates that the companies illegally shipped approximately 160,000,000 pounds of this hazardous waste to Oregon landfills that were not equipped or permitted to dispose of untreated reactive wastes. The facilities produce and process titanium and zirconium, which generates large quantities of anhydrous magnesium chloride as a byproduct. Anhydrous magnesium chloride is a reactive hazardous waste regulated under RCRA. Anhydrous magnesium chloride can react violently when it comes into contact with water, producing large amounts of heat as well as hydrogen and hydrogen sulfide gas in potentially toxic and flammable quantities. Mining and mineral processing facilities such as these two facilities generate more toxic and hazardous waste than any other industrial sector. If not properly managed, these wastes pose a high risk to human health and the environment. EPA's enforcement program will continue to focus on reducing risks associated with hazardous waste operations at mineral processing facilities. Oregon Metallurgical and TDY Industries are wholly owned subsidiaries of Allegheny Technologies Inc., headquartered in Pittsburgh, Pa. The proposed consent decree filed on Friday, December 13, 2013 in Federal District Court for the District of Oregon is subject to a 30-day public comment period and final court approval.

<http://www.epa.gov>

### USA, CA, HESPERIA, DECEMBER 18 2013. TRUCK STOP EVACUATED DUE TO 600-GALLON ACID SPILL >> PILOT TRUCK STOP CLEARED AFTER ACID TANK BEGINS LEAKING



A San Bernardino County Fire Department hazardous materials team team begins cleanup of a spill at the Pilot Truck Stop on Highway 395 Monday evening. About 600 gallons leaked from a 50,000-gallon tanker trailer carrying hydrochloric acid.

A 600-gallon acid spill forced the evacuation of a Hesperia truck stop on Monday evening, San Bernardino County Fire officials reported. County Fire reported the incident at about 5 p.m. on Monday at the Pilot Truck Stop on Highway 395 near Interstate 15 at the top of the Cajon Pass. A 5,000-gallon tanker trailer leaked hydrochloric acid for at least two and a half hours while crews worked to offload the remaining acid from the tanker, according to reports from County Fire. County Fire announced shortly after 8 p.m. that the leak had been contained but the truck stop would remain evacuated as hazardous materials crews cleaned up the spill. An estimate of how long the cleanup would take was not available Monday night.

No injuries had been reported as of Monday night.

<http://www.vvdailynews.com/articles/hesperia-44117-spill-stop.html>

### PHILIPPINES, MANILA, DECEMBER 18 2013. HAS ILOILO OIL SPILL BEEN CLEANED UP? >> TUPAS CLAIMS NOT YET; COMPANY SAYS IT'S FINISHED

A lawmaker on Tuesday said the oil spill caused by a power barge in Iloilo has not been cleaned up. Iloilo Rep. Niel Tupas Jr. made the assertion during a House energy committee investigation on the Iloilo oil spill. The oil spill was caused by the National Power Corporation-operated Power Barge 103, which crashed into Estancia's rocky shoreline at the height of super typhoon Yolanda on November 8. "The 1.5-kilometer coastline of Estancia has not been cleaned up yet. The latest target date for that per the private contractor is January 9," Tupas said. "What has been removed is the remaining bunker oil stored at the barge and transferred to the M/T Obama, another barge. The capability and qualification of the private contractor had been questioned in the hearing," he added. ACT Teachers party-list Rep. Antonio Tinio echoed Tupas' statement. "The oil spill has not yet been cleaned up. At this point, it has disposed of the remaining oil in the barge, which is the source of the leak." Tinio



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and Tupas have doubts on the capability of the company undertaking the clean-up. "That company has no previous experience in oil spill clean-up. Its paid-up capital is only P72,500 and its asset is only P75,000. And yet the agency estimate for the clean-up contract is P100 million and the winning bid is around P87 million after the failure of bidding in the 1st bid," Tinio said. Tupas said Congress will probe further into the clean-up. "We required PSALM (Power Sector Assets and Liabilities Management Corp.) to submit all documents relating to the bidding for the next hearing of the committee." "There are serious questions surrounding the awarding by PSALM of the P87-million clean-up contract to a company that previously sold bottled water as its main concern and had no track record whatsoever in cleaning up oil spills," Tinio said. "Why have the health, safety, and livelihood of thousands of affected residents of Estancia placed in the hands of a contractor with dubious qualifications and capabilities?" In a press release issued after the House energy committee investigation on the oil spill Monday, KY-Kuan Yu Global Technologies Inc. claimed it successfully completed the extraction of all the bunker oil from Power Barge 103. "We've removed all the bunker oil from PB 103. There is no longer any danger of more oil seeping out. All the fuel inside the vessel has already been safely taken out," said Kuan Yu Global President Karl Ignatius Young. "We retrieved 175,782 liters of clean bunker oil from the barge's two tanks. We also pulled out another 426,200 liters of contaminated bunker oil," Young said. The recovered oil has been securely transferred to the MT Obama, which is now en route to La Paz, Iloilo. MT Obama will then bring the oil to another vessel, Power Barge 101, according to Young. "We accelerated the fuel transfer operation in order to prevent unwanted additional discharges into the environment," Young said. Power Barge 103 spilled oil after it got detached from its moorings and was stranded. Kuan Yu Global was assigned by the state-run PSALM, owner of Power Barge 103, to clean up the leak and salvage the vessel. The clean up has so far collected nearly 169 tons of oil debris, Young said. "Following the successful fuel transfer operation, preparations are underway to refloat and salvage the stricken barge," he said. Young confirmed to ABS-CBN News in a phone interview that his company was engaged in the mineral water business. However, he only used the company as a vehicle for the oil spill clean-up business when he discontinued the mineral water business. He claimed that he has the expertise for the oil clean-up. Young said he and his staff at Kuan Yu Global, via First Response Marine Services Inc., contributed to the clean-up of the Semirara oil spill in December 2005, as well as the Guimaras slick in August 2006. Young said he trained extensively from as far as Norway in oil spill prevention, management, and contingency responses, and previously served as chief of the Philippine Coast Guard's Central and Eastern Visayas Marine Environmental Protection Unit.

<http://www.abs-cbnnews.com/nation/regions/12/17/13/has-iloilo-oil-spill-been-cleaned>

### MEXICO, ACOLMAN, DECEMBER 18 2013. ILLEGALLY TAPPING OF PEMEX PIPELINE LEADS TO EXPLOSION AND MASS EVACUATION



Several people were injured and hundreds of others had to be evacuated Monday when a pipeline belonging to state-owned oil giant [Petróleos Mexicanos](#), or Pemex, exploded as it was being tapped illegally in Acolman, a city in Mexico state, officials said. The incident occurred around 1:30 a.m. and "was caused by an illicit tap" on a pipeline, Pemex said. "Specialized personnel from Pemex Gas y Petroquímica Básica put a fire caused by a clandestine tap under control on the 24-inch Cactus-Guadalajara pipeline in the city of Acolman," the state-owned company said in a statement. The flow of fuel through the pipeline was shut off after the explosion and residents are not in

danger, Pemex said. Mexico state emergency management officials did not provide figures on the number of people injured in the blast or evacuation numbers because the situation is being handled by federal officials. Mexico state surrounds the Federal District and forms part of the Mexico City metropolitan area. The explosion injured four to seven people and forced the evacuation of between 150 and 800 people from the Radio Faro neighborhood, media reports said, citing officials in Acolman and Tezoyucan. Firefighters from the cities of Acolman, Tezoyuca and Ecatepec, as well as from the Mexico state Public Safety Secretariat, and emergency management office personnel are in the blast zone, which was cordoned off. "The legal department of this state-owned company has been notified of the incident and will file a complaint with federal prosecutors to initiate an investigation and determine who is responsible," Pemex said. Pemex expects 2013 to be a record year in terms of stolen fuel, with losses totaling some 7.06 billion pesos (\$585 million). Theft of fuel from Pemex pipelines, known in Mexico as "milking," is common, with both individuals and gangs involved in the illegal activity.

<http://www.hispanicallyspeakingnews.com/latino-daily-news/details/illegally-tapping-of-pemex-pipeline-lead-to-explosion-and-mass-evacuation/28422/>



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