



## Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network

### Release 2013 – 1,026 Newsy Stuff

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

**December 13 2013**



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#### ITALY, PALERMO, DECEMBER 4 2013. OIL SPILL IN SICILY CHANNEL WOULD RUIN ALMOST ENTIRE MALTESE COAST

*neil camilleri*

An oil spill simulation presented by WWF Italia at a seminar in Palermo a few weeks ago predict catastrophic consequences for the Maltese Islands, should a Deepwater Horizon-type accident occur in the Strait of Sicily. The simulation, that was independently carried out by the National Oceanography and Experimental Geophysics Institute of Trieste, shows what would happen if there was an accident at one of a number of oil wells in the sea between Malta and Sicily. The projections show that a large-scale spill in the area would destroy the entire northern coasts of Malta and Gozo, as well as much of the Southern coast – from Birzebbuga to Dingli Cliffs. Such an oil slick, which would hit the Maltese coastline some 20 days after the initial spill, would spell disaster for Malta's tourism industry and biodiversity. During the Palermo conference, WWF Italia said that the simulation was based on specific mathematic models. It shows where the sea currents would take the oil slicks and what impact they would have on the coast. The simulation even takes weather conditions, such as wind factor, into consideration. "It is based on real oceanographic studies. The dates are based on studies of actual incidents." WWF statistics show that, at the moment, there are three active petroleum platforms in the Strait of Sicily, with an annual output of 280,000 barrels of oil. The oil is extracted from 35 oil wells in three concession areas. But another 16 wells are awaiting a production licence. Furthermore, the amount of oil found in the Strait would only fuel Italy for about seven weeks. WWF said that the results are alarming. "An oil spill on any one of these oil rigs would seriously pollute the coastlines of Pantelleria, all of Sicily's southern coast, Egadi, Lampedusa and Malta. The area, which is very rich in biodiversity, would be ruined once and for all. Is it worth sacrificing these areas for oil drilling?" WWF Italia is currently campaigning against oil drilling in the Strait of Sicily and is calling for the maritime area around Pantelleria to be declared a national park. So far, it has collected 39,000 signatures. When Italian Prime Minister Enrico Letta visited Malta last month, Malta and Italy announced that a major oil exploration deal will be finalised in the coming weeks. Joint drilling would be carried out in "disputed areas". There are two such territories that are claimed by both Malta and Italy: one is in the Ionian Sea, southeast of Sicily, and the other is in the west, close to Pantelleria and Lampedusa.

#### Nature Trust Concerned about Simulation

Nature Trust Malta president Vince Attard said that he has seen the simulation and the environmental organisation is "very concerned" about the risks from oil drilling in the Strait of Sicily. Speaking to The Malta Independent on Sunday, Mr Attard said that drilling for oil could be beneficial to the Maltese economy, but an accident would have disastrous consequences. "We hope that more rules are introduced to reduce the risks." This paper also pointed out that a WWF map shows that, apart from the four zones where production drilling is allowed, there are another 12 zones for which an exploration licence has been granted and a further 15 with drilling applications pending. Mr Attard pointed out that having 7,000 oil tankers passing between Malta and Sicily already presents a huge risk. Opening up more oil wells off the Maltese coast would increase the risk considerably. "Experts always told us that we are very lucky that we had never had an accident, but now we are pushing our luck. "An oil spill would destroy the tourism and fisheries sectors. It would do irreversible harm to the biodiversity, affecting dolphins, turtles, fish and coast-dwelling animals. Natural habitats such as sand dunes would also be destroyed and Malta would also end up without any water after three days as all the reverse osmosis plants would have to be closed down."

#### Malta Would Not be able to Cope with Large-Scale Spill

Malta hosts the Regional Marine Pollution Emergency Response Centre (REMPEC) for the Mediterranean Sea which helps Mediterranean coastal states to ratify, transpose, implement and enforce international maritime conventions related to the prevention of, and response to, maritime pollution from ships. Nature Trust has recently worked with REMPEC on a three-day training course regarding the country's preparedness in the event of an oil spill. The course, under the name of POSOW, is co-funded by the European Commission and was organised by REMPEC, the Civil Protection Department and Nature Trust Malta. However, despite the training given to various bodies, including NGOs, Malta does not possess the equipment and manpower required to cope with a scenario as serious as that depicted by WWF. Mr Attard said that Malta lacks the necessary resources. "That would be considered a tier-three [most severe] scenario, and we would definitely need international assistance." He insists, however, that clean-up operations never restore coastal areas to their original state and the damage caused would be irreparable. In reply to questions from this paper, REMPEC director Frédéric Hébert said that the centre is not in a position to comment on WWF's specific simulation. However, it "would have to look at the scenarios and run its own systems with its partners to check if it concurs with the outcome." In the event of an oil spill, REMPEC could request an emergency response office to run a forecasting model and deliver the result within an hour. There are other ways of obtaining



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accurate oil spill simulations through REMPEC's partners. When asked if Malta is equipped to handle such a scenario, Mr Hébert said that up until now the Maltese authorities have been focused on potential oil spills from ships, as is the case for most Mediterranean countries. "The EEA Financial Mechanism Project, aimed at enhancing protection of the sea and the Maltese shoreline against possible oil and chemical pollution, which has been implemented by Malta over the last few years included the procurement of oil response equipment and the preparation of a National Marine Pollution Contingency Plan, which still has to be formally approved by the government. This notwithstanding, a very large oil spill requires a complex and extensive response that is beyond the capability of a single country, as was evidenced in the case of the Deepwater Horizon incident in the Gulf of Mexico in April 2010." "The recent development of offshore activities in the region, the Deepwater Horizon incident, the coming into force of the Offshore Protocol and the EU Directive of 12 June 2013 are catalysts of change in the entire Mediterranean region, including Malta," Mr Hébert concluded.

<http://www.independent.com.mt/articles/2013-12-03/news/oil-spill-in-sicily-channel-would-ruin-almost-entire-maltese-coast-3347349505/>

### AUSTRALIA, NEW SOUTH WALES, GUNNEDAH, DECEMBER 4 2013. REMEDIATION WORK AT BP SERVICE STATION



*The former BP service station on the corner of Conadilly and Henry streets.*

Two former service station sites at the intersection of Conadilly and Henry streets, Gunnedah are subject to a joint voluntary remediation program between the BP and Mobil petroleum companies. Gunnedah Shire Council's Director for Planning and Environmental Services, Michael Silver, said the remediation program is being regulated by the Environment Protection Authority under the Contaminated Land Management Act 1997. "The remediation method employed at the sites is a multiphase extraction of fuel contaminated groundwater," Mr Silver said. "This is a vacuum process where contaminants are removed and contained, with treated liquid expelled as water vapour. "The fuel plume impacting on groundwater extends under the Conadilly and Henry streets

intersection and monitoring and remediation works have been occurring on the sites since 2007 to ensure the groundwater poses no adverse health risk to the local community." Mr Silver said a recent environmental site assessment and human health risk assessment report indicated that all soil vapour concentrations were below human health screening levels. "Nevertheless the EPA has determined that the groundwater treatment program should continue for some time to further reduce the concentration of contaminants," he said. "Consequently it is unclear as to when the sites will finally be validated as being free from contamination." Council has also been involved in a pilot program co-ordinated by the EPA to ascertain the condition of derelict underground petroleum tanks on public road reserves at six sites in Gunnedah. "As a result the EPA has indicated an interest in initiating a multi-site remediation program based on the pilot program findings," Mr Silver said. "Submission of an application to the NSW Environmental Trust for grant funding to undertake remediation work on these sites will be considered by council at its December meeting. "At this stage only the six sites in the pilot program will be considered for remediation funding, however, it is hoped that the success of this pilot program will allow more disused underground petroleum tanks to be assessed and ultimately remediated."

<http://www.nvi.com.au/story/1947618/remediation-work-at-former-service-stations/?cs=12>

### USA, TX, BROWNSVILLE, DECEMBER 4 2013. DIESEL SPILLED IN SHIP CHANNEL

*paul chouy*

After a tugboat spilled 500-gallons of diesel Sunday morning, the United States Coast Guard is overseeing cleanup operations in the Brownsville Ship Channel, authorities said. At about 3 a.m. Sunday, a Coast Guard pollution investigator determined that the tug Vickie Gates spilled an estimated 500 gallons of Red-Dye Diesel while conducting an internal transfer, according to a Coast Guard press release, which indicated the spill happened in the turning basin. The tug Vickie Gates took responsibility and has contracted an oil spill response team to clean up the diesel. "The Coast Guard is on scene providing oversight of the cleanup to ensure we mitigate any harm to the environment," said Lt. Patrick Marshall, a Coast Guard incident management division chief. "The fast response of the Coast Guard and the contracted oil spill response team will minimize impact on commerce and vessels transiting the channel." At this time, the Coast Guard reports there are no waterway



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closures, but mariners in the area should monitor VHF marine channel 16 for updates. The Coast Guard recommends mariners use caution and transit the area slowly.

[http://www.brownsvilleherald.com/news/local/article\\_f4ad251a-5bd3-11e3-b216-001a4bcf6878.html](http://www.brownsvilleherald.com/news/local/article_f4ad251a-5bd3-11e3-b216-001a4bcf6878.html)

### USA, FLA, ORANGE CO, DECEMBER 4 2013. TRUCK FIRE AT OBT GAS STATION

*Keith Landry*

A pickup truck fire during the Monday evening rush hour had witnesses snapping photos and taking video of a truck and gas pump fully involved. It happened at the Shell gas station at Orange Blossom Trail and Landstreet Road. Security camera video shows the pickup truck engulfed in flames. The fire caused two explosions as propane tanks in the truck bed blew up. The gas pump next to the truck is also destroyed. The surveillance video shows the truck parked in front of the store. The driver puts up the hood but then moves the truck next to a gas pump. Store manager Chris Taddei wonders what the driver was thinking. He says, "That's the last place you want to park a car that is almost on fire is a gas station." The pickup driver runs into the store and gets some water to try to put out the fire but he cannot do it. The truck burns for several minutes until fire fighters arrive and drown the flames with foam. Taddei says the car is destroyed. "As you can see inside, it is totaled, you know, completely done. You can't do anything about that." Store managers do not know who the driver of this truck was. They say he left right after the fire and had not been seen as of late Monday night. A man claiming to be the driver's friend spoke to our news crew in Spanish but there was a language barrier. Store managers will file a police report Tuesday and they'll figure out how to replace the pump.

<http://www.myfoxorlando.com/story/24117646/truck-fire-at-obt-gas-station>

### MYANMAR, TAUNGDWINGYI, DECEMBER 4 2013. MAGWE RESIDENTS FUMING OVER PETROL RISKS

*ko san*

 **Watch the Video** [Residents Fuming over Petrol Risks](#)

Local residents in Magwe division's Taungdwingyi staged a protest on Monday to demand the removal of a petrol station in the town centre which they claim endangers public safety. Kyaw Tun Oo, one of the protest leaders, said, "Almost the entire town of Taungdwingyi was destroyed by a fire in 1981 which was sparked by the explosion of two barrels of diesel at that petrol station. Back then, the town didn't have so many people but it was still devastating. Now we have a dense population. Some restaurants and the town market are located close by, and only 1,000 yards west is a public hospital, which is only protected by a wooden fence. There is also a high school standing next to the petrol station. "This area has a rather dry climate," he said. "We are calling for the gas station to be relocated outside the town simply due to our concerns that it is a fire hazard." He said the New Day gas station has over 10,000 gallons of petrol in its stockpile, which are kept in brick tanks. He said he believed that no adequate safety measures have been taken and octane fumes have been leaking from the storage tanks. More than 150 residents and 40 school representatives in Taungdwingyi have signed a petition calling to move the station out of the town. In March, the station came under inspection by a district-level government inquiry team which pledged to release the findings afterwards, but this has yet to happen. One resident in the town, Pyi Moe, was charged by local police for staging a solo demonstration on 7 November calling for the gas station to be moved. No one at the New Day petrol station in Taungdwingyi was available for comment when contacted by DVB.

<http://www.dvb.no/dvb-video/magwe-residents-fuming-over-petrol-risks-burma-myanmar/34885>

### PAKISTAN, RAWALPINDI, ISLAMABAD, DECEMBER 4 2013. ILLEGAL SALE OF PETROL, LPG GOES ON UNCHECKED

*Obaid Abrar Khan*

Illegal sale of petrol in residential areas of the city is going on unchecked, as authorities concerned have given free hand to the violators to run their businesses. Number of illegal petrol and LPG agencies are open in different areas including Kalma Chowk, Dheri Hassanabad, Harley Street, Tariqabad, Adiala Road, Dhoke Syedan, Girja road, Tench Bazaar, Dhoke Khabba, Khayaban-e-Sir Syed, Chah Sultan and Rata Amral, which has put life of thousands of people of these areas at stake. According to the law, opening of petrol agencies in residential areas is totally illegal and city district government don't give permission for this business in such populated areas however, a sizeable number of people have opened petrol agencies illegally in many parts of Rawalpindi and doing business without any check. According to survey, 5 illegal petrol agencies are working in Dheri Hassanabad, more than 7 in Girja Road, 4 in Adiala Road, 1 in Harley Street, 3 in Kamla Chowk and 6 in



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Khayaban-e-Sir Syed. Residents of Dheri Hussanabad while talking to 'The News' said that petrol and LPG agencies in residential areas are open thereat and could lead to an untoward incident. They said these violators are also earning handsome amount by selling petrol on high prices and are charging Rs5 to 10 extra from customers. They said sale of illegal petrol in residential areas is showing how much the city district government is active and taking action against the violators in Rawalpindi city. Aslam Khan, a shopkeeper said that not a single petrol agency has license or NOC from district government, but they are selling petrol and LPG openly because they all know there is no one to take action against them. He said sale of petrol in residential areas is very dangerous and any fire incident could happen because these violators are selling petrol in small shops without security measures. Few months back Rawalpindi City District Government DCO Captain (r) Saqib Zafar ensured strict action against the sale of illegal petrol in residential areas but despite this assurance the number of illegal petrol agencies is going up in the city. Despite repeated attempts, DCO Rawalpindi Saqib Zafar was unavailable to comment over the issue when 'The News' tried to contact him. Sub-Inspector Muhammad Shabir incharge Girja Road police Choki while talking to 'The News' said there are more than 7 petrol agencies in this area. "Soon we are going to launch operation against these violators and would lodge FIRs against them," he said.

<http://www.thenews.com.pk/Todays-News-6-217783-Illegal-sale-of-petrol,-LPG-goes-on-unchecked>

### USA, MD, FREDERICK, DECEMBER 4 2013. SHELL REVEALS UNLEADED AVGAS >> NEW FORMULA 10 YEARS IN THE MAKING

jim moore



*Shell's new unleaded aviation fuel has been tested successfully in Piper aircraft.* Shell Aviation, a subsidiary of the multinational oil giant Royal Dutch Shell, announced Dec. 3 that a 10-year effort in the laboratory has produced a fuel that may put a long-sought goal—once thought to be unattainable—within reach: a lead-free "performance drop-in" replacement for 100LL that could power any aircraft in the piston fleet. "That's our definite goal," said Michael Sargeant, avgas commercial aviation manager for Shell Aviation, in a phone interview, when asked specifically about the ambition to produce a "performance drop-in" avgas replacement. "We've tested it and had some exciting and successful tests." The lead-free formulation has a motor octane number (MON) over 100, a critical factor in formulating a fleetwide fuel that could power high-compression engines. (Octane prevents premature ignition

known as detonation, and is measured by more than one scale.) Shell's new lead-free formula has passed preliminary tests in Lycoming engines on the ground, and a Piper Saratoga recently flew for about an hour on the fuel, according to a news release from Shell—the first of many tests that will be required for certification. "It's an exciting milestone," Sargeant said, adding that the company looks forward to working with manufacturers across the general aviation industry, and various regulatory agencies. The company will pursue fleetwide certification rather than a model-by-model approach. Sargeant said tests done on the new formula to date "indicate that it's a great candidate for fleetwide approval." The exact path that Shell must navigate to gain such approval remains to be established. The FAA has a goal of deploying a lead-free piston aviation fuel by 2018, though Sargeant said the company may be able to achieve required approvals and start distribution sooner than that. "We believe two to three years might be possible," Sargeant said. "That's the timeframe that we would love to work towards. The details need to be developed." Sargeant said another design goal is to keep the retail price similar to avgas, though it is too early to know exactly what the new fuel would sell for. Shell has only just begun conversations with the various regulatory agencies involved. The fuel will be submitted for approval from the FAA, ASTM, and the European Aviation Safety Agency. "AOPA welcomes Shell's announcement of their development of a lead-free potential replacement for avgas and their engagement of the aviation industry," said AOPA Vice President of Regulatory Affairs Rob Hackman. "We look forward to learning more about Shell's fuel and efforts as they work with ASTM, FAA, and EASA to achieve the approvals needed to ensure the safe operations of the general aviation fleet." Lycoming Engines Senior Vice President and General Manager Michael Kraft praised Shell's effort in a news release: "They engaged Lycoming to test their fuel on our highest octane demand engine and we can confirm that it's remarkably close to Avgas 100LL from a performance perspective," Kraft said. "This initiative is a major step in the right direction for general aviation." Shell is now [among three companies](#) that have announced unleaded formulations that could replace avgas in piston aircraft in a matter of just a few years, pending additional testing and



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regulatory approval. Shell is by far the largest of the companies known to be developing unleaded aviation gasoline. Sargeant said that Shell's research team has been focused on finding a single fuel that can work for all, rather than a multi-fuel approach with different formulations to meet varying engine requirements. "The industry doesn't need bifurcation," Sargeant said, noting that the company envisions making it possible by licensing or other means for other petroleum producers to manufacture and distribute the formula, which is made from existing components and will not require major changes to the production and distribution infrastructure. "We think the secret going forward is really working with as many experts as possible," Sargeant said.

<http://www.aopa.org/News-and-Video/All-News/2013/December/3/shell-unleaded.aspx?CMP=ADV:1>

#### **GIBRALTER, GIBRALTER TOWN, DECEMBER 4 2013. ESG ALARMED AT NEW FUEL TANK PROJECTS IN THE BAY**

Plans to expand fuel storage capacity in Algeciras and Los Barrios have been described by the Environmental Safety Group as "a blow to the Bay environment". The ESG said the development in Algeciras will bring fuel storage operations "practically to the centre of the Bay". It fears that the scheme could impact on water quality and will increase the risk of a shipping accident as navigational channels narrow against the background of increased maritime activity. The ESG said a smaller "but still sizeable" project planned in Los Barrios will lead to further industrialisation and increased pressure on land and marine ecosystems that are already under threat. "Given the Spanish Government's complaints to the EU over the environmental impact of the relatively small reclamations being carried out in Gibraltar it is inconceivable that it continues to industrialise, pollute and reclaim land for massive projects as currently planned," the ESG said in a statement. The ESG said that it had called for the environmental impact assessment of the first phase of the Algeciras fuel farm to be published and for an adequate response plan to be put in place by the ports of Algeciras and Gibraltar to protect people in the event of a major accident. But it added that "this never happened", despite the ESG raising its concerns in Brussels and with the UK Government. "With two farms going up the environmental impacts and risk will rise exponentially," the ESG said. "A cross border assessment to determine precisely what these will be is of fundamental importance." "It is industrial development at its worst, capitalising on economic hardship and basic health and safety standards, while at the same time destroying the natural environment." "It will, without question, add to the existing air and water pollution in an area that has long suffered decades of illegal industrial toxic discharges." The ESG said it hoped the Gibraltar and UK Governments, as well as the Rock's MEPs would "urgently" raise this in Brussels and ensure full oversight of the safety aspects of both projects "if they cannot be stopped, which would be preferable." "It is clear that this responsibility cannot be left up to the Spanish authorities that have also cut back on the essential independent monitoring of the toxic industries and their impact in the Campo area," the ESG said. It also called on the Gibraltar Government to examine the information available about the projects to examine the impact that they could have on the marine environment and Gibraltar as a whole.

[http://www.chronicle.gi/headlines\\_details.php?id=31919](http://www.chronicle.gi/headlines_details.php?id=31919)

#### **CHINA, SHANGHAI, DECEMBER 4 2013. BUREAU VERITAS CLASSES WORLD'S LARGEST BILOBE LNG TANKS**



*9,686 cu m bilobe Type C LNG tanks building at Sinopacific for Denmark's Evergas and classed by BV.*

International classification society Bureau Veritas is classing the world's largest bilobe gas tanks. They are nearing completion at China's Sinopacific yard and will be installed in a series of four 27,500 cu m semi-refrigerated LNG/Ethylene carriers building for Denmark's Evergas. Each of the IMO Type C bilobe tanks has a capacity of 9,686 cu m. Two of the tanks in each vessel will be supplemented by a third conical Type C cargo tank and a smaller LNG fuel tank on the deck of the vessels. Carlos Guerrero, manager gas carriers, Bureau Veritas, said, "These tanks are pushing at the frontier of small scale LNG transportation. They build on experience with ethylene transportation and can carry LPG or LNG at 5 bar pressure. That allows for the development of flexible ships which will meet the demands of the new LNG trades which are constantly emerging." Ralph Juhl, Vice President, Evergas, says, "We are

really pleased with the way Sinopacific has built these world-beating tanks. Our new ships have to work in the roughest seas in the world so we wanted to build them tough and without a lot of deck clutter and exposed systems. These bilobe tanks enable



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us to have a flat main deck and they give us much better carrying capacity compared to cylindrical tanks in the same size ship. We are pleased to work with Sinopacific and Bureau Veritas to break new ground in gas transportation. Building bigger than ever before is always a challenge and the strength of the tanks must be calculated correctly, especially to allow for the increased liquid sloshing. The vessels' stability and damage stability was also a matter of additional efforts on the drawing board." Evergas is building the ships at Sinopacific to BV class for 2015 delivery to service the trade between Marcus Hook, Philadelphia and Rafnes in Norway.

<http://www.marinelink.com/news/veritas-classes-largest361627.aspx>

### **FIJI, SUVA, DECEMBER 4 2013. MSAF STAFF TRAINED ON DANGEROUS GOODS**

*shireen lata*

Twenty-eight Maritime Safety Authority of Fiji staff have been trained on how to handle dangerous goods. The training was conducted by the South Pacific Waterfront Services Training Director – Ron Bird in Suva today. Bird says as the hub of the Pacific, seafarers, ship owners and maritime officers in Fiji should have a good knowledge of the International Maritime Dangerous Goods (IMDG) Code. Dangerous Goods include explosives, flammable and non-flammable gases, flammable liquids, flammable solids and other corrosive substances. He says if not handled properly, these goods can even cause fires. "We are trying to aim the training for these people being the enforcers, on behalf of the UN, particularly mentioning the International Maritime Organization in London which is a bigger organization and which we are signatories in the Pacific region to what they say we going to do on dangerous goods." The next training will be held in Lautoka on Friday.

<http://www.fbc.com.fj/fiji/15933/msaf-staff-trained-on-dangerous-goods->

### **USA, KY, PULASKI CO, DECEMBER 5 2013. FUEL SPILL CAUSES MESS AT SOMERSET GAS STATION**

Crews had a big mess to clean up at a Pulaski County gas station Tuesday night. The Somerset Fire Department tells us a fuel truck spilled around 100 gallons of fuel at the Kroger gas station on Highway 27 Tuesday night. Hazmat crews, police, and firefighters were called in to clean up the mess. Firefighters tell us no one was injured, and only the gas station was closed during the cleanup.

<http://www.wkyt.com/wymt/home/headlines/Fuel-spill-at-Somerset-gas-station-234340871.html>

### **USA, IL, CHICAGO, DECEMBER 5 2013. OIL REFINERY WASTE PILING UP IN CHICAGO**



Residents on the southeast side of this city are complaining about smoke, but it's actually dust from an oil refinery, and it's drifting into many nearby neighborhoods. That's because KCBX Terminals and Beemsterboer Slag Company are operating facilities along the Calumet River, just south of the Chicago Skyway bridge. Those facilities are storing [big piles](#) of coal and petroleum coke (petcoke) - both forms of waste dumped from a nearby BP oil refinery. The pile by Chicago is full of carbon, sulfur, and toxic heavy metals. It first drew major attention on Aug. 30 when a sweeping wind [brought some of the dust into the middle of a baseball field](#), effectively ending a little league game that was taking place at the time. "Kids that were playing ball were sent

scurrying away because the stuff was getting into their eyes, and their face, and their mouths and everything," said Tom Shepherd, a volunteer with the [Southeast Environmental Task Force](#). "They had to just get the heck out of there." Initially, he added, no one knew where it was coming from: "People were calling 9-1-1 and saying, 'There's a fire. We don't know where the fire is, but the neighborhood's full of smoke.'" Whiting Refinery, the place from which the waste first came is actually located in Indiana, but it can be seen from the Chicago neighborhoods being affected. That refinery is now tripling the amount of petcoke it processes (BP calls it an "upgrade") and will soon be handling tarsands oil from Canada as well. The fact that BP owns the facility isn't terribly surprising, given their atrocious environmental (many would say "criminal") record. More interesting is the fact that KCBX Terminals, which operates some of the yards where the piles are dumped, is a division of Koch Industries, the greed-based company owned by the billionaire Koch brothers. The Kochs were also implicated in an environmental disaster earlier this year, when a pipeline owned by one of their subsidiaries [leaked thousands of gallons of crude on Oct. 30](#). On Nov. 18, Windy City mayor, Rahm Emanuel, [promised a crackdown](#) on the pollution. His office announced in an email that Emanuel is ordering the Department of Public Health to adopt "strict regulations on the



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

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maintenance and storage" of piles containing petcoke. Though it did not get into specifics, the email guaranteed that at least three storage terminals would be provided to start containing the black dust. Susanna Gomez, a 37 year-old mother and grandmother who lives near the noxious stockpiles, [remarked](#), "We could barely open the windows this summer because the black dust was so bad." She doesn't have the money to move, and her son is asthmatic. Regulators with the EPA have now ordered that pollution monitors be posted around those enormous mounds, but citizens are doubtful such a measure will change anything. The agency made its announcement at a community meeting in the East Side United Methodist Church on Nov. 14, amidst cries of "Move the piles! Move the piles!" If not that, others suggested, then the next best thing would be to do what the law already requires in states like California, which is to cover the piles. The EPA also declared it would investigate whether the piles are in violation of the Clean Air Act, something the pollution monitors will supposedly help determine. But residents like Sue Garza don't need monitors to tell them something's wrong. [Said Garza](#), "We are breathing this stuff every day. No one asked us if we wanted to have these piles dumped here in the first place. We don't want this anymore."

<http://peoplesworld.org/oil-refinery-waste-piling-up-in-chicago/>

### USA, AZ, FOUNTAIN HILLS, DECEMBER 5 2013. FOUNTAIN HILLS LOOKING INTO DAMAGE FROM FUEL SPILL

A Nov. 17 fuel-truck spill in Fountain Hills has prompted ongoing cleanup efforts and discussion regarding the scope of contamination and remediation. At its meeting Thursday, Dec. 5, the Town Council will receive an update and give possible direction regarding the incident, in which a ruptured United Petroleum Transports tanker spilled 2,300 gallons of gasoline at the drive-through between a McDonald's and Señor Taco, near Shea and Saguaro boulevards. The fuel flowed onto Trevino Drive and continued north on Saguaro, affecting a drainage structure and Nicholas Wash. "Staff immediately procured a testing laboratory, Kleinfelder West Inc., to conduct testing of the extent of the gasoline spill to determine the amount of the environmental contamination," said Town Manager Ken Buchanan in his report to the council. "Remediation began immediately with addressing the contaminated areas with soil removal from portions of Trevino Drive as well as Nicholas Wash." Buchanan added, "There is no apparent damage to the asphalt or curbing, but the town is awaiting test results to see if the fuel has contaminated the subgrade of the roads underneath the asphalt." According to United Petroleum Transports, the tanker collided with a dumpster enclosure, causing the rupture and spill. Clean Harbors has been retained by United Petroleum Transports to handle remediation, Buchanan said. The firm began initial cleanup in the wash as well as behind the curb on Trevino. However, no remediation has begun for the affected subgrade, he said. "Cleanup has been ongoing since the event occurred," Buchanan said. "The remediation company, Clean Harbors, has removed 490 cubic yards of contaminated soil from along Trevino Drive, Saguaro Boulevard and in a drainage channel which runs perpendicular to Saguaro." 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," said Robert Moore of United Petroleum Transports.

"One of the tenets of our company's mission statement expresses our commitment to respecting and protecting the environment," he said. "This is especially true of the pristine environment of Arizona and we intend to do everything necessary and appropriate to quickly minimize the impact of this accident. Additionally, our consultants are carefully monitoring the situation to ensure no danger is posed to any member of the public." Independent lab results confirm the fuel has not traveled onto Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation land, Buchanan said. Kleinfelder West couldn't be reached for comment. The town has not yet received a bill from Kleinfelder West for its testing services, Buchanan said. The firm recommended excavation of the affected soil as soon as possible and that "the longer the time frame to excavate, the greater the possibility exists that the vertical and lateral extent of the contamination expands." "In a meeting with representatives of United Petroleum Transports, it was stated that they will pay the costs associated with the town's testing," Buchanan said. "Clean Harbors was hired by United Petroleum Transports to remediate the contaminated areas." On Dec. 2, the town was awaiting test results from soil samples taken from underneath the asphalt along Trevino and Saguaro. The results will be made available to the council and public before the council's Thursday, Dec. 5, meeting, Buchanan said. Last month, residents overwhelmingly approved an \$8.2 million bond to rebuild the more than three 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. The fuel spill will not affect the reconstruction project, Buchanan said.

[http://www.azcentral.com/community/scottsdale/articles/20131204fountain-hills-looking-into-damage-from-fuel-spill.html?nclink\\_check=1](http://www.azcentral.com/community/scottsdale/articles/20131204fountain-hills-looking-into-damage-from-fuel-spill.html?nclink_check=1)



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#### USA, IA, PLYMOUTH CO, DECEMBER 5 2013. NO INJURIES OR LEAK IN TANKER ROLLOVER



*This 2008 Peterbilt tractor and fuel tanker received \$175,000 damage in a rollover accident Tuesday morning. The driver of the truck was not injured and no diesel spilled from the tanker, according to authorities.*

The driver of a tractor-trailer was not hurt when it veered off the road, rolling into a ditch on C-44 Tuesday. Dwayne Hansman, 39, of Boyden, was driving the tanker at the time of the about 8:48 a.m. accident. The tanker was hauling 7,300 gallons of No.1 and No. 2 diesel, according to a Plymouth County Sheriff's Office press release. The Le Mars Fire-Rescue Department was called to the accident scene at about 9:01 a.m. to assist with the haz-mat situation. At the scene, firefighters assessed the truck and transport, determining the integrity of the tanker was intact and nothing was leaking, according to Le Mars Fire-Rescue Chief David Schipper. The accident occurred as Hansman was driving east on C-44, one-half mile east of K-49 and became distracted while trying to place a

phone call, the press release stated. The truck, a 2008 Peterbilt tractor and fuel tanker trailer, traveled onto the south shoulder of C-44 and entered the south ditch. It rolled over three-fourths of a time, coming to rest on the driver's side, the sheriff's press release stated. A large wrecker was brought in and tipped the tanker truck back on its wheels, Schipper said. Firefighters then rendered the truck power supply safe and the fuel was transferred to another tanker transport truck, Schipper said. Firefighters were on scene about 3 1/2 hours, he said. The accident caused about \$175,000 damage to the tractor-trailer, owned by Hull Co-op Association, the sheriff's press release stated. Hansman was issued a citation for failure to maintain control following Tuesday's accident. The sheriff's office and Le Mars Fire-Rescue Department were assisted at the scene by Morgan Towing, Hull Co-op and Iowa Motor Vehicle Enforcement.

<http://www.lemarssentinel.com/story/2029972.html>

#### USA, N.J, LONG HILL, DECEMBER 5 2013. OSHA CITES LONG HILL FIREWORKS COMPANY FOR SAFETY VIOLATIONS

Garden State Fireworks has been cited for safety violations at the company's township facility. The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration cited the pyrotechnics manufacturer and fireworks display firm for infractions that included not keeping records of employee training and not developing an emergency plan for the plant. "Ensuring that proper safety precautions are in place is crucial for workers who handle pyrotechnics," said Kris Hoffman, director of OSHA's Parsippany Area Office. "Employers are responsible for keeping everyone safe on the job and taking appropriate measures to protect workers from serious injuries or death." August Santore, a co-owner of the business that has been in operation since 1890, said his plant is safe and he would fight the violations. "I haven't been found guilty of anything. I have been issued violations and we will sit down and hopefully hash it out," Santore said. "It's all about money, its not about safety. My family works in the plant, my sons, my wife, my cousins, nephews. We all want it safe." Santore said the business, which he owns with his brother, is regularly inspected by the state and by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and is considered by them to be a model company. OSHA began safety inspections at the company's 383 Carlton Road facility in May under its Process Safety Management Covered Chemical Facilities National Emphasis Program, according to a press release from OSHA, which has proposed a fine of \$48,300 after finding "11 serious violations," which included the employer's failure to:

- Compile process safety information on the dangers of highly hazardous chemicals, technology and equipment.
- Keep records showing employee training.
- Provide effective training to employees required to use respirators and chemicals.
- Establish and implement written procedures to maintain the integrity of process equipment.
- Provide a written respiratory program.
- Provide a medical evaluation for workers required to use respirators.
- Develop and implement a written hazard communication program, plan of action regarding the implementation of employee participation, and operating procedures for conducting activities safely in each covered process.
- Perform an initial process hazard analysis and perform inspections and tests on process equipment to maintain mechanical integrity.



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- Properly guard a radialsaw.
- Develop an emergency plan for the plant and ensure exits discharged directly outside or to a street.
- Fit test workers required to use a tight-fitting facepiece respirator.

A serious violation occurs when there is substantial probability that death or serious physical harm could result from a hazard about which the employer knew or should have known, the release said. Garden State Fireworks has 15 business days from receipt of the citations to comply, request an informal conference with the OSHA area director in Parsippany, or contest the citations and proposed penalties before the independent Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission.

<http://www.dailyrecord.com/article/20131204/NJNEWS/312040035/OSHA-cites-Long-Hill-fireworks-company-safety-violations>

### PORTUGAL, LISBON, DECEMBER 5 2013. EXPLOSION AT PORTUGUESE FACTORY CAUSES 1 DEATH, 2 INJURIES.

One person died and two were seriously injured due to an explosion today at a factory of ammunition for hunting and sporting in the Portuguese city of Leiria, 159 kilometers from the capital. Local authorities do not know the causes of the incident and announced the possible increase in the number of victims given the fire that followed the blast, whose extinction took almost an hour. Police officers reported that the investigation to determine the origin of the explosion will continue.

#### Related Stories

- [Explosion Dans une Usine de Munitions](#)
- [Explosion in Munitionsfabrik in Portugal](#)

[http://www.plenglish.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=2145851&Itemid=1](http://www.plenglish.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=2145851&Itemid=1)

### USA, CA, RANCHO CORDOVA, DECEMBER 5 2013. PUNCTURED CHEMICAL CONTAINER AT AEROJET SENDS 7 TO HOSPITAL



*The Aerojet Rocketdyne campus in Rancho Cordova.*

Seven people went to the hospital as a precaution after a chemical container was punctured on the Aerojet Rocketdyne campus in Rancho Cordova. Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District spokesman Bryan Thomson said dispatchers received a call about 8:30 a.m. Wednesday concerning the incident. Thomson said a release of "waste chemical" occurred during the movement of a container by a worker. "Seven people were exposed, one directly, and six indirectly," said Thomson. "There were no real symptoms, but they were all transported to area hospitals to be evaluated." The chemical has been cleaned up. He said the exposure occurred at Ampac Fine Chemicals (AFC) on the Aerojet property. AFC's website said the company makes bulk pharmaceutical chemicals at state-of-the-art facilities on a security-controlled site in Rancho

Cordova. The site said that AFC was formerly known as Aerojet Fine Chemicals, a division of GenCorp, Inc. In November, state labor safety officials investigated an explosion that rocked the Aerojet Rocketdyne campus, injuring two workers.

<http://www.modbee.com/2013/12/04/3068867/punctured-chemical-container-at.html>

### INDIA, KARNATAKA, BANGALORE, DECEMBER 5 2013. TANKER RUNS OVER 3-YEAR-OLD IN BANGALORE, ANGRY RESIDENTS GO ON RAMPAGE

Tension prevailed for sometime when irate residents tried to torch a gas tanker which knocked down a three year old girl, killing her on the spot at busy Hoody junction, leading to Whitefield on the outskirts of Bangalore on Wednesday. The victim has been identified as Dhanushri, who was riding pillion with her relative. A gas tanker, reportedly driven in a rash and negligent manner, knocked down the motorcycle. Dhanushri slipped from the vehicle and came under the wheels of the tanker. She sustained severe head injuries and died on the spot. The motorcycle rider escaped with minor injuries. Angry residents soon blocked the road and went on rampage, damaging the truck. They tried to set fire to the vehicle. However, KR Puram Traffic police rushed to the spot and brought the situation under control. The police have taken up a case of rash and negligent driving against the truck driver and are investigating. Traffic was disrupted on the busy Hoody junction for sometime in view of the mishap.

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/bangalore/tanker-runs-over-3yearold-in-bangalore-angry-residents-go-on-rampage/article5421213.ece>



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### USA, IA, SERGEANT BLUFF, DECEMBER 5 2013. TANKER TRUCK TIPS OVER WITH DANGEROUS CHEMICALS, SHUTDOWN OF I-29

beairshelle edmé

 **Watch the Video** [Tanker Truck Tips Over with Dangerous Chemicals](#)



A dangerous situation shut down part of Interstate 29 South of Sioux City Tuesday afternoon. A tanker truck hauling argon gas and carbon dioxide tipped over just south of the Sergeant Bluff exit, forcing a shutdown of the southbound lanes for at least 2 hours. The driver was treated at the scene, after refusing to go to the hospital. First responders discovered 24 pressurized vessels and the Hazmat team later vented 2 liquid containers before trying to move the truck. "They're upside down and some could be damaged we don't know if they would all vent properly and as that gas-if it would vent in a downward direction back to Sir Isaac Newton's law... for a reaction there's and opposite and equal reaction we're afraid they could rise and turn into missiles that would be our worse case

scenario," said Sergeant Bluff Fire Chief Anthony Gaul. Fortunately, crews were able to get the semi upright and all dangerous chemicals were contained.

<http://www.siouxlandnews.com/story/24129210/truck-tips-over-south-i-29-sergeant-bluff-exit>

### USA, N.Y, FORT EDWARD, DECEMBER 5 2013. VILLAGE ATTORNEY HOPEFUL FOR REPAIR AGREEMENT NEARLY TWO YEARS AFTER FUEL EXPLOSIONS

derek pruit

 **Watch the Video** [Attorney Hopeful for Repair Agreement nearly 2 Years after Fuel Explosions](#)

 **Photo's [10]** [Attorney Hopeful for Repair Agreement nearly 2 Years after Fuel Explosions](#)



*In this file photo, debris from a sewer explosion lies in the middle of Satterlee Lane in Fort Edward on Wednesday, Dec. 28, 2011. As many as 25 explosions rocked the area as accumulated gasoline fumes filled the sewers after a fuel spill at the Cumberland Farms in Hudson Falls.*

Nearly two years after hundreds of gallons of gasoline leaking into the storm drain system [caused underground explosions](#) in the village of Fort Edward, the lawyer who represents the village said he is optimistic a [dispute](#) over who should pay for repairs will be settled, but it remains unclear whether the company whose gas station [was responsible](#) for the leak will be charged. The Dec. 27, 2011, leak from a pump at the Cumberland Farms store on Main Street in Hudson Falls resulted in an estimated 1,200 gallons of gasoline flowing from a pump downhill to Fort Edward. Numerous explosions occurred in storm drains as fumes were ignited and/or pressurized. Lawyer Matt Fuller,

who represents the village of Fort Edward and the Washington County Sewer District, said he met with Cumberland Farms' counsel and Washington County District Attorney Kevin Kortright in recent weeks to discuss the progress in negotiating restitution for the damage that occurred from the leak. Fuller said the meeting was productive as the municipalities seek [repairs or replacement](#) of underground pipes and repairs to streets that were believed to have been damaged by the explosions. "Cumberland Farms has said they are going to make right on the damages that were caused. I'm confident they're going to follow through on it," Fuller said. Fuller said the municipalities shared with Cumberland Farms an engineering report on what work needs to be done. He said the village and county believe \$600,000 to \$700,000 in repairs are needed. "There has been a difference of opinion on the engineering. Their engineers had a different opinion from ours," Fuller said. [Cumberland Farms paid \\$330,000](#) early last year for some work that was done. Kortright, whose two-term tenure as district attorney ends Dec. 31, has not returned repeated phone calls and emails about the case in recent days. [He said in July](#) his office was getting "close" to a decision on the potential charges for what he termed "numerous" environmental violations that apparently occurred. He also said how cooperative Cumberland Farms was in compensating the municipalities for damage would be a factor in the decision on whether to file charges. DEC spokeswoman Lisa King said the agency had no comment on the case as of Wednesday. "The case is currently with the Washington County district attorney's office," she wrote in an



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email. She refused to elaborate or say whether the DEC had sought charges. However, investigating agencies typically don't forward a "case" to a prosecutor's office if there were no violations or crimes found to prosecute. Fuller said Kortright did not indicate during the recent meeting whether there was a plan for a prosecution. "I have purposefully stayed out of the criminal side of it," Fuller said. The pump began leaking after a vehicle hit it. The [vehicle that hit it](#) was identified, but Hudson Falls Police have not been [able to determine who was driving it](#). The store was found to be lacking an emergency shutoff switch for the gas pumps, and [employees hadn't been trained](#) what to do in the event that the shutoff wasn't working, officials said. The pump only shut off when electricity was shut off to the station. A phone call to Cumberland Farms public relations staff was not returned Wednesday. In fact, the company has not returned repeated calls about the situation since January 2012.

[http://poststar.com/news/local/village-attorney-hopeful-for-repair-agreement-nearly-two-years-after/article\\_033bacc0-5d30-11e3-b24c-0019bb2963f4.html](http://poststar.com/news/local/village-attorney-hopeful-for-repair-agreement-nearly-two-years-after/article_033bacc0-5d30-11e3-b24c-0019bb2963f4.html)

### USA, N.D, NORTHWOOD, DECEMBER 5 2013. FUEL-OIL DELIVERED TO WRONG NORTHWOOD HOME RESULTING IN BASEMENT FULL OF OIL

On Monday afternoon, with winter looming, 191 gallons of fuel oil were delivered to 307 Adam St. S. in Northwood, N.D. A problem was that the oil was supposed to be delivered to 308 Adam St. S. A bigger problem was that the home at 307 Adam had a pipe on the outside, but not a fuel tank on the inside. The result was 191 gallons of fuel oil being pumped into the finished basement of the 1939-built home of Chad and Ryndee Veer and their three children. "The outside pipe is imbedded in the concrete and you can't remove it," Chad Veer said. "I never thought an incident like this could happen because someone doesn't fill your fuel tank unless you order it." Roger Korsmo, manager of fuel-oil supplier Northwood Oil Co-op, declined comment.

#### No Fines

Veer, a farmer, said the cooperative has been helpful, such as setting up his family with meals at a local restaurant and providing fuel for a heater for their home. The Veers are living in an apartment usually occupied by Ryndee's relatives who live in Texas during the winter. The fuel oil would have been several feet high in a tightly sealed basement, but Veer said most of it seeped into the ground through a sump hole, a no-longer-used well and cracks in the foundation. And, he added, the fuel oil soaked 6 to 12 inches high on the sheet-rocked walls. Dave Cameron, an environmental scientist with the North Dakota Health Department, said he remembers at least one similar incident during his 30 years on the job. There will not be a fine. "There's a big difference between making a mistake and willfully spilling oil on the ground," Cameron said. "They're doing due diligence as far as helping remedy the error."

#### Ruined House?

Citing the recovery in Grand Forks and East Grand Forks homes after the 1997 flood, Cameron said homes with oil spills are not automatically condemned. Workers have been tearing out the soaked carpet, stripping contaminated walls and other cleanup chores, Cameron said. Veer is not sure of the dollar amount of the damage. And, he is skeptical of his family being able to return to their home of four years. "I honestly don't think they can get rid of that much fuel smell," he said. "Without ventilation, you can't go into the house for more than 20, 30 minutes without getting a headache." In addition to the infrastructure, also damaged were furniture, a gun cabinet, shelving, toys, power tools, clothing and the hockey equipment of sons Landyn, 6, and Alec, 4. "The hockey equipment is something we need to get replaced soon because we have games Saturday and Sunday," said Veer, who coaches his sons. "Hopefully, my kids don't miss hockey because that's the highlight of their day," he said.

#### Related Stories

- [A basement full of oil: Fuel oil delivered to wrong home in Northwood](#)
- [Fuel-oil delivered to wrong home with disastrous consequences](#)

<http://www.parkrapidsenterprise.com/content/fuel-oil-delivered-wrong-northwood-home-resulting-basement-full-oil>

### USA, KY, PULASKI CO, DECEMBER 5 2013. PULASKI COUNTY STORE EVACUATED AFTER FUEL SPILL

A fuel spill forced the evacuation of a Pulaski County grocery store Tuesday evening. The incident started around 6 p.m. Firefighters say a mechanical issue with a fuel tanker resulted in about 500 gallons of gasoline spilling at the Kroger fuel center off US-27 in Somerset. Officials say firefighters remained on the scene for about five hours, and a special response unit came to clean up the spill. Everything was back to normal in the area Wednesday morning. There were no reported injuries.

<http://www.lex18.com/news/pulaski-county-store-evacuated-after-fuel-spill>



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#### **KASHAGAN, DECEMBER 5 2013. TINY PIPELINE CRACKS JEOPARDIZE GIANT KASHAGAN OIL FIELD**

Operators of the giant Kashagan oil field in Kazakhstan are scrutinizing microscopic cracks in a steel pipeline as they race to understand the cause of dangerous gas leaks that have forced them to halt output indefinitely and could result in hefty repair costs. A prolonged stoppage could be a drag on the finances of consortium members, including Royal Dutch Shell and Eni, and could jeopardize Kazakhstan hopes of using the expected Kashagan windfall - the field is projected to yield 1.5M boe/day when it reaches full capacity - to turn it into a major oil exporter. If an investigation of the leaks shows cracks are affecting all the welds because the wrong alloy was selected during construction, the consortium may need to replace the entire pipeline and perhaps other equipment.

<http://seekingalpha.com/currents/post/1446811>

#### **INDIA, MANIPUR, KANGPOKPI, DECEMBER 5 2013. OIL TANKER TURNS TURTLE ALONG NH 2, LOCALS SCAVENGE LEAKED OIL**

An oil tanker met with an accident and fell into the river side due to a huge pothole in the middle of the road along National Highway 2 between Changoubung and Kangpokpi at around 8.30 this morning. The ill-fated oil tanker bearing regd No MN01-7900 was heading towards Imphal when it met with the self-accident, according to police source. What is interesting is that during the course of today's accident, locals instead of lending a helping hand to the vehicle operators took advantage of the situation and were busy collecting the leaked fuel from the ill-fated tanker. Some vehicle owners were also seen waiting along the road for the fuel collectors to sell them the fuel at a low price. On learning the about unwanted incident Kangpokpi police led by its OC, L Vaiphei turn both the parties away from the spot. The driver and handyman of the tanker who escaped with minor injuries were provided medical aid at CHC, Kangpokpi with the help of the Kangpokpi police. The oil tanker while trying to avoid a huge pothole in the middle of the road fell down into the river side, said an eyewitness. It may be mentioned that at this particular place on October 25 an Alto Maruti Suzuki Car met with a similar accident causing serious injuries to an employee of DRDA, Senapati. In the meantime, even while the National Highway 2 becomes a threat to many innocent lives the state Govt. as well as the concern authority and the civil bodies of the district continues to remain mute spectators.

It will wise on the part of the state govt and the concerned authority to take notice of the dilapidated condition of the National Highway 2 since such unfortunate incident is likely to occur frequently along the highway due to the bad condition of the road.

<http://kanglaonline.com/2013/12/oil-tanker-turns-turtle-along-nh-2-locals-scavenge-leaked-oil/>

#### **USA, AZ, FOUNTAIN HILLS, DECEMBER 5 2013. FOUNTAIN HILLS LOOKING INTO DAMAGE FROM FUEL SPILL**

*edward gately*

A Nov. 17 fuel-truck spill in Fountain Hills has prompted ongoing cleanup efforts and discussion regarding the scope of contamination and remediation. At its meeting Thursday, Dec. 5, the Town Council will receive an update and give possible direction regarding the incident, in which a ruptured United Petroleum Transports tanker spilled 2,300 gallons of gasoline at the drive-through between a McDonald's and Señor Taco, near Shea and Saguaro boulevards. The fuel flowed onto Trevino Drive and continued north on Saguaro, affecting a drainage structure and Nicholas Wash. "Staff immediately procured a testing laboratory, Kleinfelder West Inc., to conduct testing of the extent of the gasoline spill to determine the amount of the environmental contamination," said Town Manager Ken Buchanan in his report to the council. "Remediation began immediately with addressing the contaminated areas with soil removal from portions of Trevino Drive as well as Nicholas Wash." Buchanan added, "There is no apparent damage to the asphalt or curbing, but the town is awaiting test results to see if the fuel has contaminated the subgrade of the roads underneath the asphalt." According to United Petroleum Transports, the tanker collided with a dumpster enclosure, causing the rupture and spill. Clean Harbors has been retained by United Petroleum Transports to handle remediation, Buchanan said. The firm began initial cleanup in the wash as well as behind the curb on Trevino. However, no remediation has begun for the affected subgrade, he said. "Cleanup has been ongoing since the event occurred," Buchanan said. "The remediation company, Clean Harbors, has removed 490 cubic yards of contaminated soil from along Trevino Drive, Saguaro Boulevard and in a drainage channel which runs perpendicular to Saguaro." 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," said Robert Moore of United Petroleum Transports. "One of the tenets of our company's mission statement expresses our commitment to respecting and protecting the environment," he said. "This is especially true of the pristine environment of Arizona and we intend to do everything necessary and appropriate to quickly minimize the impact of this accident. Additionally, our consultants are carefully



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monitoring the situation to ensure no danger is posed to any member of the public." Independent lab results confirm the fuel has not traveled onto Fort McDowell Yavapai Nation land, Buchanan said. Kleinfelder West couldn't be reached for comment. The town has not yet received a bill from Kleinfelder West for its testing services, Buchanan said. The firm recommended excavation of the affected soil as soon as possible and that "the longer the time frame to excavate, the greater the possibility exists that the vertical and lateral extent of the contamination expands." "In a meeting with representatives of United Petroleum Transports, it was stated that they will pay the costs associated with the town's testing," Buchanan said. "Clean Harbors was hired by United Petroleum Transports to remediate the contaminated areas." On Dec. 2, the town was awaiting test results from soil samples taken from underneath the asphalt along Trevino and Saguaro. The results will be made available to the council and public before the council's Thursday, Dec. 5, meeting, Buchanan said. Last month, residents overwhelmingly approved an \$8.2 million bond to rebuild the more than three 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. The fuel spill will not affect the reconstruction project, Buchanan said.

<http://www.azcentral.com/community/scottsdale/articles/20131204fountain-hills-looking-into-damage-from-fuel-spill.html>

### USA, MA, ABINGTON, DECEMBER 6 2013. FUEL DELIVERIES SHOULD NOT BE CAUSE FOR CONCERN, FIRE CHIEF SAID

*benjamin paulin*



*Local fire departments responded to a three alarm fire on Shaw Avenue in Abington, on Wednesday, Dec. 04, 2013.*

Abington Fire Chief John Nuttall said the 3-alarm fire on Shaw Ave. Wednesday, which is believed to have originated near a propane tank, appeared to have been accidental. Asked whether residential propane and gas deliveries are frequently the cause of fires, Nuttall said, "It's certainly not a common occurrence." A man delivering propane to the house was sent to the hospital with minor injuries as a result of the fire. State Fire Marshal Stephen Cohen was brought to the scene to investigate the cause of the fire "because of the seriousness of the fire as well as the fact that it involved a propane delivery truck," Nuttall said. He said propane is delivered to houses year-round and that people generally have nothing to worry about. "These residential fuel delivery trucks operate every day usually without incidence," he said.

<http://www.wickedlocal.com/upton/news/regionalnews/x1372984927/Fuel-deliveries-should-not-be-cause-for-concern-fire-chief-said>

### USA, N.H, CONCORD, DECEMBER 6 2013. EXECUTIVE COUNCIL APPROVES \$22.3 MILLION FOR MTBE CLEANUP PROJECT

*ben leubsdorf*

New Hampshire is kicking off a \$22.3 million program to locate and clean up wells contaminated with the gasoline additive MTBE. The project, which was approved, 4-0, yesterday by the Executive Council, uses some of the \$81.6 million available to the state from court-approved settlements with companies that made or marketed gasoline containing MTBE – methyl tertiary butyl ether, a gasoline additive the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency now considers a "potential human carcinogen at high doses." MTBE was banned by New Hampshire in 2007, four years after the state went to court seeking damages to help defray the cost of cleaning up associated groundwater contamination. The \$81.6 million – what's left from legal settlements after administrative and legal costs were deducted – is restricted and can only be used for cleanup efforts, said Deputy Attorney General Ann Rice. That figure doesn't include the \$236 million in damages from Exxon Mobil Corp. that a jury awarded in April after the longest state trial in New Hampshire history. That case is under appeal, Rice said, and whether the money should be restricted to MTBE cleanup is one of the issues being disputed in court. The Department of Environmental Services plans to hire five full-time temporary employees and reassign eight positions to create a new 13-person MTBE Remediation Bureau, which will begin testing wells and cleaning up contaminated sites. The plan approved yesterday appropriates \$22.3 million to fund the project over the next year and a half. Michael Wimsatt, director of the Waste Management Division at DES, said there are about 250,000 private wells in the state and DES can't test them all with the



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money available, much less clean up every contaminated site. "Those funds we don't believe are adequate to address the whole problem," he told the council yesterday. "That's why the plan we're developing . . . is really designed to address the priority areas we're really concerned about, high-priority sites where we already know we have remedial work that needs to be done and to identify and sample private wells that we think are most at risk of potentially being impacted by MTBE." The Legislature's Fiscal Committee approved the plan at its Nov. 22 meeting, and the Executive Council approved it yesterday after a brief discussion. Councilor Colin Van Ostern, a Concord Democrat, said the cleanup plan "makes a lot of sense." And Rice assured the council that it will be able to monitor the program because related contracts must come back for approval, as will spending beyond the current budget biennium, which ends June 30, 2015. "We will be coming back with additional plans as we progress through this process," Rice said.

<http://www.concordmonitor.com/home/9617739-95/executive-council-approves-223-million-for-mtbe-cleanup-project>

### USA, N.J, POMPTON LAKES, DECEMBER 6 2013. EPA TO TEST POMPTON LAKES SCHOOL FOR TOXIC VAPORS

*scott fallon*

Lakeside Middle School will be tested over the holiday break to see if toxic vapors are seeping into the building from contaminated groundwater that has spread under a nearby neighborhood from a defunct DuPont munitions plant, federal officials said Wednesday. There is no indication that vapors have made their way into Lakeside, which has about 400 students. The indoor tests are being done as a precaution at the request of a community group that advises the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency on the investigation and cleanup of one of North Jersey's largest toxic sites. But a community leader said the EPA's tests don't go far enough. Lisa Riggola, a member of the [Pompton Lakes](#) Community Advisory Group, said the agency should also test the school's field because heavy metals such as lead, mercury and copper from the nearby contaminated Acid Brook and Pompton Lake may have spilled over its banks and onto school property through the years. EPA officials said they are still examining soil tests done years ago at nearby properties and haven't made a decision about whether to take any samples from the school's field. "There is a real concern over that field and all the children who play there every day," said Riggola, who has long called for a complete investigation and cleanup of the neighborhood. "We've been pushing it for a while, but it never seems to get done." The groundwater beneath about 500 homes in [Pompton Lakes](#) is laced with the cancer-causing solvents trichloroethylene and tetrachloroethylene, which spread from DuPont's plant on Cannonball Road. Explosives were manufactured at the factory from 1902 to 1994. The pollutants were first discovered in the 1980s. Nothing was done because officials thought they posed no immediate danger. But in 2008, tests showed the solvents had spread and that vapors were rising up through the soil into basements of homes just north of the lake. DuPont has been installing vapor mitigation systems on homes to suck dangerous fumes out of the basements and from beneath concrete foundation slabs. Lakeside does not sit above the toxic plume, EPA officials said. But because it is the closest school to the contaminated area, it has been a concern for many in the community. "This is something we routinely do at a lot of sites, especially when you're dealing with schools or day-care centers," said Pat Seppi, the EPA's liaison to the community. The vapor testing at Lakeside will be done during the school's winter recess to avoid any disruption of classes. EPA workers will conduct the tests, and the agency will pay for them. Results will be available by early March, schools Superintendent Paul Amoroso said. Similar tests conducted in the school's boiler room in 2009 by the state Department of Environmental Protection found no trace of toxic vapors. Tests at the nearby Board of Education offices also found no vapors. While the community group pushed for the new indoor air tests, it also requested that soil be sampled. In a June 10 resolution, the group asked that samples be taken to see if any of 11 heavy metals are present in the field's dirt. Perry Katz, an EPA project manager for the site, said his team is looking at the results of soil tests done on properties near the school to determine if soil testing needs to be done on the school field. "We have a lot of historical information to go through," he said.

[http://www.northjersey.com/news/234549981\\_EPA\\_to\\_test\\_Pompton\\_Lakes\\_school\\_for\\_toxic\\_vapors.html?page=all](http://www.northjersey.com/news/234549981_EPA_to_test_Pompton_Lakes_school_for_toxic_vapors.html?page=all)

### CHINA, GUANGDONG, MEIZHOU, DECEMBER 6 2013. CHINESE FIREWORKS TRUCK EXPLODES

 **Watch the Video** [Footage Showing the Truck Engulfed by Flames](#)

There was nothing to celebrate for one driver in China whose truck exploded when it was carrying eight tonnes of fireworks. Fire crews in Meizhou City in Guangdong province battle the massive flames as crackers continue go off in the fire. No one was reported injured in the crash and subsequent explosion, but this truck flare-up is not a novel incident for the nation that invented the fireworks. In February this year a truck carrying massive load of fireworks for Chinese New Year celebrations



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exploded, killing 26 people. The explosion occurred on a highway overpass and sent cars 30 metres to the ground while shattering windows 50 metres away.

 **Related Stories** [Truck loaded with fireworks burns spectacularly for more than 5 hours](http://news.ninemsn.com.au/world/2013/12/05/13/08/fireworks-truck-explodes-in-china)

<http://news.ninemsn.com.au/world/2013/12/05/13/08/fireworks-truck-explodes-in-china>

### USA, TX, FORT WORTH, DECEMBER 6 2013. TEXAS GAS CAN EXPLOSIONS

shezad malik MD JD



According to a recent NBC News investigation, the ubiquitous red plastic portable gasoline container cans sold throughout the U.S. are susceptible to a real explosion hazard many Americans may not know about. "It was 'boom.' That was it," said William Melvin, who suffered severe burns on one-third of his body when a gas can he was using allegedly exploded. "It was a miracle that I was still alive."

#### Millions of Gas Cans in Use

According to industry experts, American consumers buy approximately 20 million gas cans each year, and there are more than 100 million plastic gas cans currently in circulation in the U.S.

#### Gas Can Explosion Risks

Laboratory tests indicate that gas vapor mixtures can explode inside those cans and cause significant injury. The Consumer Product Safety Commission has analyzed incident and injury databases and counted at least 11 reported deaths and 1,200 emergency room visits involving gas can explosions during the pouring of gasoline since 1998. The tests show that a flashback explosion

can occur inside a plastic gas can, when gas vapor escaping the can contacts a source of ignition such as a flame or a spark. The vapor outside the container can ignite and "flash back" inside the can. If it does, and if the gas/air vapor mixture inside the can is a certain concentration, that mixture can ignite and cause an explosion of flame.

#### Gas Can Flashback Lawsuits

Plaintiffs have filed at least 80 lawsuits the past 20 years, individuals injured in gas can explosions. They have argued that portable plastic gas cans are "dangerous" and "unsafe" because they are "susceptible" to flashback explosions. Most of the lawsuits have named as defendants Blitz USA, until recently the largest manufacturer of plastic gas cans, and Wal-Mart, the largest seller. Robert Jacoby, now 27, sued after a Blitz can he said he bought at Walmart allegedly exploded in his hand in 2010 while he was reaching down to put it on the ground in his front yard. "It was just a big gas bomb right in my face," Jacoby told NBC News. "It blew up, covered my whole body just head to toe." Jacoby said he had poured gasoline from the can onto a brush pile he planned to ignite, but had walked the can 20 feet from the pile when it exploded. He said he had not yet lit a match or any other fire, but claimed a spark from static electricity created by the friction between the plastic can and his denim jeans was the source of ignition. A fire investigator hired by Jacoby's attorney examined Jacoby's property and says he found no evidence inconsistent with Jacoby's claim, and no evidence that Jacoby had lit the brush pile or that the brush pile had burned. Jacoby suffered severe burns over 75 percent of his body. He spent four months in a hospital burn unit, and had multiple surgeries and skin grafts, incurring \$1.5 million in medical bills. Scar tissue covers most of his torso and arms.

#### Gas Can Industry "Gas Cans are very safe"

The plastic gas can industry disagrees. "Today's gas cans are very safe," said William Moschella, an attorney for the Portable Fuel Container Manufacturers Association, a trade group of plastic gas can manufacturers. Some fire experts say that while pouring gas on a fire may cause the fire to flare up and burn someone, it's the explosion involving the gas can itself that covers the victim in flames and causes catastrophic injuries.

#### Gas Cans Alleged 'Defect': No Flame Arresters

The lawsuits allege that the gas cans are "susceptible" to such internal combustion explosions and are therefore "dangerous," "unsafe" and "defective" for a specific reason: because their design does not include a flame arrester, a part the lawsuits allege could prevent flashback explosions. Flame arresters — pieces of mesh or disks with holes that are intended to disrupt flame — are in use in metal "safety" gas cans, in fuel tanks, and in storage containers of other flammable liquids such as charcoal lighter fluid and rum.



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### Blitz USA Bankruptcy

The suits generally make the claim that the cans were susceptible to "flashback" explosions caused when gasoline vapors outside the cans ignited and followed the vapor trail back into the container. The lawyers argue that the company should have installed "flame arrester" shields at the mouth of the containers to prevent explosions. Blitz has been sued 62 times since 1994, according to the company and only two cases have made it to court; the others were settled or dismissed, or were unresolved at the time of the bankruptcy. The company says defending the cases drove it into bankruptcy. In the one case Blitz lost, in 2010, a Utah jury awarded more than \$4 million to the father of a 2-year-old girl killed when a Blitz can exploded after the father, David Calder, tried to start a fire in a wood-burning stove in his trailer home by pouring gasoline on the flame. Blitz won the other case that went to trial, in 2008, involving a Texas man named Brody Green, who died in an explosion when he poured gasoline from a can onto a fire. In 2012, a Texas court forced the company to pay Mr. Green's mother \$250,000 for failing to provide all the documents it had on flame arresters before the trial. The court also said its order must be provided to every other plaintiff who sued Blitz over the last two years. Among the documents Blitz had neglected to disclose was a 2005 internal memo from Rocky Flick, the company's chief executive, titled "My Wish List" and "Expectations for Gas Cans." In it, Mr. Flick appears to request that in two years the company "develop and introduce device to eliminate flashback from a flame source." United States District Judge T. John Ward ruled that, had the memo been disclosed in the original case, it "would have hurt, if not potentially eliminated, Blitz's defense that they did not add a flame arrester because it would not have been useful." Ten years ago, the company would face one or two lawsuits a year. The number grew to six or seven a year, and finally to 25 or so last year when Blitz filed for bankruptcy. The Blitz factory, in Miami, Okla., may be reopening soon. Scepter, a Canadian plastics manufacturer, bought the operation for \$9.5 million. The company, which also does not use a flame arrester, settled a gas can lawsuit against it in the United States last year.

#### Related Stories

- [CPSC Calls for New Controls on Portable Gas Cans](#)
- [Consumer Panel Calls for Flame Arresters on Gas Cans after NBC Report](#)

<http://fortworth.legalexaminer.com/defective-dangerous-products/texas-gas-can-explosions/>

### ENGLAND, LONDON, DEC3EMBER 6 2013. DIESEL FUEL FILTER PROBLEMS TARGETED IN PROBE

*kevin core*

No single car has been associated with the filter problems. The fuel and motor industry is investigating a spike in the number of problems affecting diesel fuel filters. Failure of the part, which screens out dust and dirt, can lead to power loss and cost hundreds to replace. BBC Radio 4's You and Yours found that groups representing fuel companies and motor manufacturers had been compiling details of the problems. In a joint statement, they said the issues had not been limited to one area and no conclusions had been drawn. Oxfordshire-based Jon Harvey suffered a problem with the fuel filter in his Citroen C3 VTR while overtaking on a dual carriageway. Following a loss of power, he was initially told the problem was due to "waxing", caused by diesel more suitable for summer being used in winter, but then discovered temperatures had most likely not been cold enough to be the cause. He said: "I put my foot on the accelerator and it suddenly cut out. "The mechanic said it looks like your fuel filter has got clogged and we're going to have to replace it - it cost me £160 to fix." The reports that the industry is looking at are distinct from the Diesel Particulate Filter or DPF, which cuts emissions from engines, but needs to be "cleaned out" by regularly travelling at higher speeds for longer periods. The Downstream Fuel Association, which represents organisations throughout the supply chain, from storage to the forecourt, said it was also involved. It added the investigation was open to all lines of inquiry and it was premature to draw any firm conclusions at this stage. The UK Petroleum Industry Association and the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders said: "We are aware that motorists in some parts of the UK have experienced incidences of diesel fuel filter blocking problems. "There is no pattern in fuel retail outlet, age, type or brand of vehicle, or the age of the filter affected. "We are actively investigating the situation, through British Standards Institution, to achieve a swift resolution and limit any inconvenience to affected customers."

#### Related Stories

- [Diesel Particulate Filters to be Tested in MoT from February](#)
- [Tighter MOT testing for diesel exhaust filters announced](#)
- [MoT test to now include a DPF check](#)
- [New MOT rules for diesel particulate filter testing](#)
- [MOT test fail for DPF removal](#)



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- [MOT changes to clamp down on illegal removal of diesel car DPFs](http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-25234840)

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-25234840>

### USA, ILL, PEORIA CO, EDELSTEIN, DECEMBER 6 2013. ANHYDROUS AMMONIA TANK EXPLODES IN PEORIA COUNTY

donnie tillman

 [Watch the Video Anhydrous Ammonia Tank Explodes in Peoria County](#)



*Firefighters pour water on an anhydrous ammonia tank that exploded near the intersection of illinois Route 40 and Route 90 Thursday morning. One person was transported to the hospital.*

Authorities continue to investigate the cause of an explosion involving a pair of gas containers near the intersections of Route 40 and Route 90 in rural Edelstein, Illinois. A truck was traveling northbound on Illinois Route 40 pulling a trailer, carrying two containers of anhydrous ammonia. A state trooper saw one container fall off the trailer, causing an explosion. The blast sent the tank several hundred feet into the air, leaving behind a cloud of gas, before falling into a farm field. A second tank fell over and began leaking gas. Residents in

nearby homes were evacuated. The driver of the truck was injured in the accident. The trooper and another witness were able to pull the motorist to safety. "The trooper did risk a lot to himself. It was a very dangerous situation, and he went over there and was able to get the driver out of it. Even exposure to a small amount of it can pose some very serious injuries very quickly," said Illinois State Trooper Dustin Pierce. The driver of the truck sustained serious injuries. While the trooper was exposed to the ammonia gas. Both were taken to OSF Saint Francis Medical Center.

 [Related Stories State Trooper and another Rescue Farmer who attempted to Crawl through Gas Cloud](#)

[http://www.centralillinoisproud.com/story/anhydrous-ammonia-tank-explodes-in-peoria-county/d/story/tejo4L2Jd06Jc\\_VNwC8nJA](http://www.centralillinoisproud.com/story/anhydrous-ammonia-tank-explodes-in-peoria-county/d/story/tejo4L2Jd06Jc_VNwC8nJA)

### USA, MI, CHEBOYGAN CO, DECEMBER 6 2013. TANKER HAULING 10,000 POUNDS OF PROPANE CRASHES ON M-68

anne cook



*A portion of M-68 near East Tower Road in Forest Township is closed after a propane truck and a car collided.*

A portion of M-68 near East Tower Road in Forest Township is back open after crews spent most of Wednesday cleaning up after a propane truck and a car collided. According to the Cheboygan County Sheriff's Office, the crash happened around 9 a.m. Wednesday morning when a 2003 Chevrolet Impala, driven by an Onaway woman, crossed the center line into the path of the truck. The truck hit the car just behind the driver's side front seat which split the car in two. The truck rolled onto its ride side, sliding down M-68 for 200 feet before stopping. The jaws of life had to be used to get the driver out of the truck. The drivers of both cars were taken to the hospital where they are both expected to recover, officials say. The tanker was hauling about 10,000 pounds of liquid propane, officials say. That propane remained contained, but will need to be

transferred to another tanker. Crews said the road will be shutdown for several hours while crews make that transfer. The Sheriff's Office said alcohol may have played a factor in the crash. Driver's name are not being released at this time. The crash remains under investigation. Onaway High School typically allows students to leave campus for lunch, but due to the crash and traffic concerns, they closed campus over the lunch period as a precaution. Other schools in the district were not affected. We want to clarify an emergency notification related to this crash. Around 5-30 -- the cheboygan county emergency manager sent information to the national weather service.. advising an evacuation of homes within a half mile radius of the crash. The national weather service experienced technical difficulties which caused a vague evacuation message for \*all of cheboygan



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county with key details left out. As this was an emergency message... it was broadcast over our air without our control. we apologize for any confusion this may have caused.

<http://www.upnorthlive.com/news/story.aspx?id=979360>

#### USA, CA, PITTSBURG, DECEMBER 6 2013. INVESTIGATORS LOOKING INTO CHLORINE GAS RELEASE AT PITTSBURG PLANT

An investigation is underway at the K2 Pure Solutions chemical plant in Pittsburg to determine what caused two releases of chlorine gas. Paul Andrews, a spokesman for the Contra Costa Hazardous Materials Program told KCBS, the first release was Tuesday afternoon with a second occurring early Wednesday morning. Andrews said no one on site was hurt. "There was some small onsite releases of gaseous chlorine. No large quantity of chlorine was released to the public," Andrews said. Chemical engineers from the county are going to conduct a chemical analysis to determine how the failures occurred in the heat exchange units that turn the chlorine into liquid. The K2 plant is located inside the Dow Chemical Facility on Loveridge Road.

<http://sanfrancisco.cbslocal.com/2013/12/04/investigators-looking-into-chlorine-gas-release-at-pittsburg-plant/>

#### USA, KY, GRAYSON, DECEMBER 7 2013. EXPLOSION LEVELS GAS STATION IN GRAYSON, KY.

 **Watch the Video's:**

- [Explosion Levels Gas Station in Grayson, KY.](#)
- [Natural Gas Blamed for Explosion at Grayson Gas Station](#)



A pile of rubble now stands where a gas station stood just hours before. The Grayson Fire Chief tells WSAZ.com the explosion appears to have resulted from workers removing gas tanks from the Somerset Oil station on East Main Street in Grayson. He said they may have hit a natural gas line that caused a leak. Before emergency crews could get there to assist with the leak, there was an explosion just before 6 p.m. "They was standing about right in here when it blew up, so they was very lucky," Chief Greg Felty said, gesturing to the piles of debris. "The building blew from the inside out." Randy McGuire, the owner of Somerset Oil, told WSAZ.com he decided to close the gas station for good yesterday because went out with a bang," McGuire said. None of the five or six workers there was

hurt, according to emergency services workers. William Robinson manages the Cannonsburg location of Tres Hermanos Nunez, a Mexican restaurant which also has a location across the street from Somerset Oil. "[Workers] called me and told me the building across the street had exploded and was on fire, and so we didn't know if we'd have to close or not so I just came out to check on it," Robinson said. He said he also lives nearby and was worried the explosion would be much worse. The Kentucky State Fire Marshal is expected to investigate the explosion to find out exactly what happened.

#### Update 12/5/13 @ 6:21 p.m.

Crews are on the scene of a gas tank explosion in Grayson, Kentucky. The fire was reported shortly before 6 p.m. at Somerset Oil Inc. on East Main Street. 911 dispatchers say crews were removing gas tanks when the tanks exploded. Dispatchers tell WSAZ.com there are several crews on the scene including the Grayson Fire Department, Hitchins Fire Department and Grayson Police Department. They say the fire is contained, but not out. No injuries have been reported. We have a crew headed to the scene.

#### Original Story 12/5/13 @ 5:57 p.m.

Crews are on the scene of an explosion in Grayson. 911 dispatchers tell WSAZ.com gas tanks exploded at Somerset Oil Inc. on East Main Street in Grayson. It was reported just before 6 p.m. Dispatchers say several crews are on the scene and they are working to put out the fire. At this time, it is not under control. We have a crew headed to the scene.

 **Related Stories**

- [Fire And Blast Rock Closed Kentucky Gas Station](#)
- [Natural Gas Blamed For Explosion At Grayson Gas Station](#)

<http://www.wsaz.com/home/headlines/Gas-Tank-Explosion-Reported-in-Grayson-Ky-234664331.html>



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## Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network

### Release 2013 – 1,026 Newsy Stuff

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

**December 13 2013**



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#### **NIGERIA, F.C.T, ABUJA, DECEMBER 7 2013. FUEL TANKER EXPLOSION ROCKS NIGERIAN CAPITAL**

 **Photo's [2]** [Loud Explosion in Abuja](#)

*"A source at the filling station said the hose through which petrol was being discharged into the underground tank in the station caught fire few minutes after the discharge began. Though he said the development was a regular occurrence, he added that efforts to put out the fire this time around were frustrated by the unexpected fast spread of the inferno.*

*The Conoil filling station opposite NNPC towers, Abuja on fire today"*



An explosion which could be heard many kilometers away resulted in uncontrolled panic in Nigeria's Federal Capital Territory on Thursday as residents thought the blast was from a bomb detonated by members of Boko Haram insurgent group. However, the blast was from a tanker which caught fire as it was discharging petrol at the Conoil fuel station opposite the headquarters of Nigeria National Petrol Corporation in the Central Business Area of Abuja. The explosion shook buildings several kilometers away and resulted in huge fire ball that can be seen around Abuja. NNPC immediately asked its workers to evacuate their offices. The explosion shattered glasses at nearby Millennium Builders' Plaza. It was learnt that one person was injured by the splinter from the glasses at the Plaza. Workers in other offices around the petrol station also

ran out of their premises while others immediately moved their vehicles away. However men from the federal fire service deployed several trucks to put out the fire and control it from spreading to nearby Total Filling Station. Firemen were still battling to control the fire as at the time of filing in this story. Though the main building of the filling station has not been affected by the fire, the raging inferno has however consumed some of the dispensing pumps and cars probably left behind by fleeing customers. Police officers and well armed soldiers as well as officials of National Emergency Agency were also deployed to prevent rowdiness at the scene of the incident. A source at the filling station told PM News that the hose through which petrol was being discharged into the underground tank in the station caught fire few minutes after the discharge began. Though he said the development was a regular occurrence, he added that efforts to put out the fire this time around, he said, were frustrated by the unexpected fast spread of the inferno. The source said there have been at least four of such incidents in the petrol station in the past few years, but the workers of the filling station were able to control the fire. One of the incidents was recorded this year. According to him, on noticing the fire, the men supervising the discharge of the tank had immediately went to bring the fire extinguisher to put it out, but before they could get back, the inferno has already snowballed to where the flow of the fuel is supposed to be turned off in the tanker and everybody in the station ran away as the fire grew. This aside, he said if the driver of the tanker had immediately enter to drive the vehicle away the spread of the fire would have been controlled. He also said though NNPC has been assisting the petrol station to put out such fires in the past, this time around, the company deployed a small fire truck which was ineffective in putting out the raging inferno. Though he said there was no casualty, PM News however gathered one person was injured and has been taken for treatment.

#### **Related Stories**

- [Fire Engulfs Conoil Fuel Station in Abuja](#)
- [Abuja Conoil Fire: NNPC Allay Fears About Safety of Its Building](#)
- [Loud Explosion In Abuja](#)
- [10 Injured As Fire Razes Petrol Station in Abuja](#)
- [Commotion in Abuja. As Fire Guts Conoil Filling Station](#)
- [Conoil filling station opposite NNPC headquarters in Abuja on fire](#)
- [NNPC Not Affected by Conoil Fire- Management](#)

<http://www.thetimesofnigeria.com/TON/Article.aspx?id=14103>

#### **AUSTRALIA, N.S.W, DECEMBER 7 2013. MCALEESE TO PROBE COOTES GAS TANKER REPAIR**

McAleese Transport has secured an independent investigator to look at a pump seal leak on a Cootes LPG tanker as the already difficult relationship with New South Wales Roads Minister Duncan Gay deteriorates and gets personal. Without naming names but already annoyed at supposedly fixed trucks belonging to McAleese subsidiary Cootes amongst others turning up with defects or underlying issues not addressed, Gay focused on the chain of responsibility risk faced by "the head



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of the company" and its board of directors. McAleese sought to clarify the situation today in a stock exchange statement. "There have been two specific incidents referred to in the press," it says of reports late yesterday. "One incident related to a suspected gas leak detected on a Cootes Transport LPG tanker at the Marulan heavy vehicle checking station in NSW on 4 December 2013 which was attended by NSW Police and Hazmat emergency personnel. McAleese Group confirms that the LPG tanker was in fact empty. "The second incident related to a pump seal leak that was detected on a Cootes Transport LPG tanker at the Mount White heavy vehicle checking station in NSW on 29 November 2013. "Cootes Transport has commissioned an independent third party investigation into the circumstances around this incident. "Following the identification of the pump seal leak Cootes Transport has proactively initiated an inspection of its fleet upon loading." The announcement came as Gay says that he is "quickly losing patience" with the "serious defects" that continue to surface in the Cootes fleet, despite company assurances of action. He raises the possibility of grounding the whole NSW fleet again if the situation remains unchanged. Regarding the two Cootes trucks, his office reports that last week an LPG tanker was detected at Mount White Heavy Vehicle safety station with a leaking gas valve.

**NSW Hazmat provided a temporary fix for the leak and ordered the driver to go directly to Taree where it was to have been permanently repaired before resuming service. The same truck was detected at Mount White travelling in the opposite direction early Saturday morning. The repair work had not been completed.**

On Wednesday, RMS inspectors, NSW Police and Hazmat emergency personnel evacuated the Heavy Vehicle Safety Station at Marulan after a second Cootes LPG tanker was found with a leak. "The short story is if they don't shape up, we will have no choice but to ground the Cootes fuel tanker fleet in NSW," Gay states. "We have a clear duty of care to other road users. "The head of the company has been put on notice under national Chain of Responsibility legislation that the Board of Directors and management are responsible for the safety and roadworthiness of its fleet. "In addition, RMS has directed parent company McAleese Group to provide a full account of the measures being taken to resolve the systemic safety issues within the company. "There are hundreds of drivers and trucks ready to take on the business if they continue to operate with defective vehicles."

<http://www.fullyloaded.com.au/industry-news/articleid/86303.aspx>

## AUSTRALIA, QUEENSLAND, GLADSTONE, DECEMBER 7 2013. AUSTRALIA'S BIGGEST OIL REFINERY BEING BUILT IN GLADSTONE



*Green Coup: Modules being lifted onto the ship in New Zealand for the new Northern Oil Refinery being built by Southern Oil.*

Queensland's first - and Australia's biggest - oil re-refinery is being pieced together like a jigsaw puzzle in Yarwun on Friday, following the arrival of 16 pre-fabricated modules from New Zealand this week. It will take five days to complete the structure for the new \$55 million Northern Oil Refinery, a joint venture between Southern Oil and JJ Richards, scheduled to open towards the end of February. The plant will generate 40 operational jobs, with two-thirds from Gladstone, and the possibility of seeing some recently redundant workers from shale oil operation QER move across as that venture winds down. It could also be an environmental coup for the state, as the plant has the potential to process 100% of Queensland's used lube oil. Southern Oil managing director Tim Rose said it was a great relief to see to such an important milestone.

"Many of the staff have been down in Wagga for the last year training, and they're now back to watch it all come together," he said. "We had the choice to expand Wagga or build elsewhere, and most of Australia's oil is generated and used in Queensland." Flynn MP Ken O'Dowd convinced Mr Rose that Gladstone ticked all the boxes. "Gladstone just felt like the place to be," Mr Rose said. He said the modules were outsourced to New Zealand during Australia's boom. "They also understood the standards and quality of workmanship we were after," he said. The plant will begin re-refining 50 million litres of waste oil, with the potential to double that. Key players for the NOR will include many Gladstone businesses and western mines. "They say they're sustainable and we hope they're as good as their word because you can't get more sustainable than this," he said. "We want people to know there is an alternative. Too much oil is getting burned here (in Australia)."

<http://www.dailymercury.com.au/news/oil-refinery-to-be-put-together-in-five-days/2106790/>



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