



Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network Release 2013 – 1,027 Newsy Stuff

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

December 16 2013



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AUSTRALIA, N.S.W, DECEMBER 7 2013. COOTES MONA VALE TRUCK DEATHS: HEAD OF FIRM IN SPOTLIGHT

jacob saulwick



McAleese Group chairman, Mark Rowsthorn.

One of Australia's richest men could find himself prosecuted by the new national trucking regulator after two deaths in a Mona Vale truck accident and multiple problems identified with the fleet since the accident. Transport industry observers believe the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator, established this year, is likely to pursue a high-profile prosecution that could drag in the directors of Cootes Transport, whose tanker ran out of control in Mona Vale, on the northern beaches, in October. Mark Rowsthorn, whose wealth has been valued at more than \$500 million, is the chairman of McAleese Group, the owner of Cootes. Since the accident, NSW Roads Minister Duncan Gay has been incensed by repeated problems identified in the Cootes fleet, the biggest fuel fleet in the country. Late on Thursday, and after leaks found in two Cootes tankers in the past week, Mr Gay said he was losing patience with the assurances of the company's directors that they were on top of their compliance issues. "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," Mr Gay said. Chain-of-responsibility laws, introduced in 2005, allow for the directors of a company to be prosecuted for the safety failings of their fleet. In NSW, 45 directors have been charged under these laws since 2005. But this year responsibility for prosecuting chain of responsibility cases passed to the National Heavy Vehicle Regulator, which, according to several people in the transport industry, would be keen to make its mark on the safety issues in the trucking business. "The regulator has been very clear to us that they are looking for a number of very high profile cases to make people understand they are serious about what they are doing," said Steven Asnicar, a director with Chain of Responsibility Australia, an industry compliance group. Mr Asnicar said the implications for Mr Rowsthorn and other directors would depend on what it could be shown they knew. Since the Mona Vale crash, more than 420 defect notices have been issued to the Cootes fleet, including 224 major-defect notices. "If it is found that the company was aware of those issues and did nothing about them, they've got real issues that will go right up to the directors of the company," Mr Asnicar said. "I would think they are going to make a landmark case very soon to make it dead serious they are serious about trying to save people's lives." In response to Mr Gay's comments, McAleese, whose shares fell 4 per cent on Friday, said it had appointed an external adviser to review its maintenance systems, leased an extra service workshop in Sydney, and approved extra spending on new brake testing equipment. The company has previously said that it was already increasing its investment in fleet maintenance.

<http://www.smh.com.au/nsw/mona-vale-truck-deaths-head-of-firm-in-spotlight-20131206-2ywxr.html>

USA, WI, MANITOWOC, DECEMBER 7 2013. MANITOWOC CO. WELLS CONTAMINATED >> SIX PRIVATE WELLS AFFECTED

 **Watch the Video** [Manitowoc Wells Contaminated](#)

"A DNR news release states a city of Manitowoc-owned gravel pit, 3130 Hecker Road, accepted in the late 1960s and 1970s "dumping of liquid hazardous wastes including petroleum products and chlorinated solvents."

Town of Newton - There's a scary, perhaps even dangerous, situation with well water for residents near Manitowoc. DNR officials are just now releasing details about a problem that they've known about for a month. Half a dozen private wells in the town of Newton are contaminated with hazardous run-off. Karen Vogel says she knew the DNR was testing her well this fall. But she says she found out rather abruptly that something was very wrong with it. "About 7 o'clock at night there was a knock at our door. There was the city attorney and the chief engineer bringing us bottled water," said Vogel. Kathleen McDaniell is the assistant city attorney from Manitowoc who brought that water out. She says the contaminants in the water come from a gravel pit owned by the city. "During the 1960s and 1970s we had allowed liquid industrial waste dumping to occur at this site," said McDaniell. McDaniell says the DNR tested 13 wells in the area. Six had traces of chemicals, similar to those found in paint thinners. But three of those six had dangerous levels of chemicals. This family says it drank mostly bottled water for years because it didn't like the taste of well water. But, it still used the tap well water for cooking, brushing their teeth, and taking a shower. And now they're afraid of what kind of chemicals they may have ingested. "We just don't get any answers.



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That's what I'm getting angry about. Scientists with the DNR say they will hold a public meeting Saturday to answer those questions, but they also have some of their own. "Most importantly, what we're looking for is for the residents or anyone who may have additional information regarding dumping historically or sources of contamination to let us know," said Roxanne Chronert. Vogel says in the meantime she has to wait until January for a new well. The City of Manitowoc has been paying for bottled or tanked water for those homes with contaminated wells. It will also foot the \$15,000 bill for each new well. The water in the City of Manitowoc is not affected. The meeting will be held to discuss the well situation on Saturday, Dec. 7 from 10 a.m. to noon at the Town of Newton Hall.

<http://www.fox11online.com/news/local/lakeshore/manitowoc-co-wells-contaminated>

USA, KS, KANSAS CITY, DECEMBER 7 2013. EXPLOSION AT BAKING MANUFACTURING PLANT INJURES 3 WORKERS

deann smith,

 **Watch the Video** [Explosion at Baking Manufacturing Plant injures 3 Workers](#)

"What we are looking at here is probably like a dust explosion that you would have inside a silo," KCK Fire Department Deputy Chief Craig Duke said. "Basically these baking products like flour and sodium carbonates have static electricity that must have caused the explosion that did set the equipment on fire initially."

An explosion at a baking manufacturing plant injured three workers with one employee suffering serious burns. The explosion at Caravan Ingredients occurred about 1:20 a.m. The plant is at 550 S. 18th St. and 19 employees were inside at the time. An employee was mixing bulk baking products when the explosion occurred. "What we are looking at here is probably like a dust explosion that you would have inside a silo," KCK Fire Department Deputy Chief Craig Duke said. "Basically these baking products like flour and sodium carbonates have static electricity that must have caused the explosion that did set the equipment on fire initially." Firefighters put the fire out in the mixing equipment quickly. One employee suffered third-degree burns to that employee's arms and second-degree burns to that person's face. Two other employees were treated at an area hospital for smoke inhalation. Firefighters at the scene initially said just one suffered smoke inhalation. The fire didn't spread, and employees returned to the plant later Friday morning.

<http://www.kctv5.com/story/24155636/explosion-at-baking-manufacturing-plant-injures-3-workers>

USA, WASHINGTON DC, DECEMBER 7 2013. U.S. OFFICIALS PREPARE TO DESTROY SYRIAN CHEMICAL WEAPONS AT SEA

joby warrick

If all goes according to plan, the bulk of [Syria's chemical weapons stocks](#) could be destroyed early next year inside the specially modified hold of a U.S. ship somewhere at sea, Pentagon officials said Thursday. In recent weeks, the roughly 1,000 metric tons of toxins may be eliminated miles away from any port, under the supervision of trained U.S. technicians in protective suits — assuming that the plan is accepted by the international chemical weapons watchdog overseeing the project, the officials said. Pentagon officials are making modifications to a leased cargo ship called the MV Cape Ray — part of the U.S. maritime reserve fleet — fitting it with machines that convert toxic chemicals into relatively harmless liquids. The vessel and its equipment are expected to be ready for sea trials later this month and could begin processing Syrian nerve-agent precursors and mustard gas in January. A senior Defense Department official called the destruction process safe and "environmentally sound." "Absolutely nothing will be dumped at sea," said the official, who spoke on the condition of anonymity to brief reporters about the sensitive mission. The plan could restore momentum to the international effort to rid Syria of all its chemical weapons, preventing them from being used in attacks inside the country or as terrorist weapons outside the country. After weeks of rapid progress, the effort appeared at risk of falling behind schedule after Albania and Norway publicly rejected requests to host decontamination activity. Negotiations with other countries also failed to bear fruit. But even while seeking a host country willing to dispose of the chemicals on land, U.S. officials had been quietly preparing for the possibility of performing the mission at sea, designing a mobile system similar to the ones that safely destroyed thousands of tons of [U.S. chemical weapons manufactured during the Cold War](#), the defense official said. The mobile units, designed to fit inside two standard shipping containers, would operate in an enclosed space inside the Cape Ray's hold, under the supervision of trained Defense Department employees. The end product — a highly diluted but still mildly toxic liquid — would be transported to a commercial waste-disposal facility that has not been identified. "This is a proven technology," the defense official said. "The chemicals and the reactions are very well understood." Independent experts agreed that operating the disposal machines



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on water should not entail any special risks. "The rig won't know that it's on a ship instead of dry land," said Michael Kuhlman, a chemist and chief scientist in the national security division at Battelle, a company that has assisted in the destruction of the U.S. chemical weapons stockpile. "The more potentially challenging parts of this operation will be the transport of such high-hazard materials through an active conflict zone [and] loading at a port facility not likely well equipped for any accident." U.N. Secretary General Ban Ki-moon recently [expressed grave concern](#) about the safety of inspectors overseeing the transfer of the chemical weapons stocks. Defense officials said another country — whose identity has not been disclosed — had agreed to pick up the toxic cargo at Syria's Latakia port and transfer the chemicals to the Cape Ray outside Syrian territorial waters. No U.S. personnel would be dispatched to Syria for the operation, they said. The U.S. plan must be formally blessed by the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, the Hague-based group that is overseeing the destruction of Syria's chemical stockpile. Syria, which agreed to give up its toxic arsenal under the threat of a U.S. military strike, [has been largely cooperative](#), granting access to its chemical weapons sites and facilitating the destruction inside the country of machines used to mix deadly chemicals and load them into artillery shells and rockets. Once the bulk liquids are destroyed, OPCW officials still face a formidable task in destroying Syria's small number of rockets and artillery shells already loaded with sarin.

http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/national-security/us-officials-prepare-to-destroy-syrian-chemical-weapons-at-sea/2013/12/05/81dc2b36-5df8-11e3-bc56-c6ca94801fac_story.html

CANADA, N.S., HALIFAX, DECEMBER 7 2013. THE HALIFAX EXPLOSION: COULD IT HAPPEN AGAIN?

michael gorman

 [Watch the Video Haligonians Mark 96th Anniversary of the Halifax Explosion](#)

 [Photo's \[6\] The Halifax Explosion](#)



Headline on the The Halifax Herald's front page the day after the Halifax Explosion.

Downtown Halifax may look very different now than it did in 1917, but the general consensus from experts is it wouldn't fare much better if the Halifax Explosion happened today. John Newhook, a civil engineering professor at Dalhousie University and director of the school's Centre for Innovation in Infrastructure, said his gut feeling is nothing downtown is designed to a particular blast standard. Whether a building remained standing would depend on its proximity to the blast wave, Newhook said. If only the top is impacted, it might hold up, whereas damage to the lower levels may take down the entire building. Partial failure could also bring down the lower stories and there's also the possibility of twisting, which would also likely take out the building, he said. "Most of the buildings downtown, I'm pretty sure, the facade, cladding, whatever you want to call it, would be gone; it's on the ground," Newhook said. "How far it goes in addition to that depends on the nature of the wave. The impact on the structural skeleton itself could be varied." The harbour bridges would also be susceptible to the explosion, he said. "Damage that compromised one of the towers would lead to collapse as would damage that compromised one of the main cables. Given the magnitude of the explosion both scenarios are highly probable." MacKaye, a long-time harbour watcher, said there are many safety improvements today, such as radar, VHF radio, satellite navigation and other technologies, that would help prevent another explosion. MacKaye also said the probability of having such a large quantity of explosives in one place, especially during peace time, is unlikely as are the chances of having two ships the size of the Imo and Mont-Blanc in the Narrows at the same time. Furthermore, MacKaye said the explosives wouldn't be carelessly packed. "That was part of the problem (in 1917)," he said. "It wasn't properly stowed on the ship." But that doesn't mean there wouldn't be problems. People aren't aware of the nature of what might be coming into the harbour because everything is in uniform-looking boxes, MacKaye said. "We tend to think they're more or less inert, but in fact they aren't." Sometimes things can be mislabelled or mishandled, he said. However, MacKaye said his big concern these days is hazardous chemicals and the time required to respond to a spill. Andy Fillmore, vice-president of planning and development for the waterfront, said disasters factor into planning more and more. Building codes attempt to address a certain amount of major force, he said. Terrible results happen in places with lax building codes, he added. Fillmore agreed with MacKaye's view that two ships, like the Imo and Mont-Blanc, would never be in such close proximity today. For Newhook, the two key questions about another explosion would be the ability to evacuate the city and what happens to building parts following an explosion. Chunks of concrete hurling through the air at blast velocities are as dangerous as anything else, he



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said. "It's almost as if you packed them into a cannon and shot them that way," he said. "One of the biggest concerns in a blast of that kind...is the structures that are closest to it, that get the biggest force from the blast, what part of them, all of a sudden, become projectiles and do damage further down the blast wave chain." As for the ability to evacuate, Newhook said many people were saved in 1917 because they were able to get out of the area in a timely fashion. It could be a different situation in today's downtown, he said, pointing to normal rush hour, which at best could be classified as controlled panic. "You think about when you leave during a 4-5:30 p.m. window trying to get out of downtown, and that's just routine people leaving versus a massive evacuation alert," he said. "I don't think we would actually be very effective at evacuating people at all."

 **Related Stories** [Stories of Halifax Explosion shared on Twitter](#)

http://thechronicleherald.ca/novascotia/1172057-the-halifax-explosion-could-it-happen-again?from=most_read&most_read=1172057

AUSTRALIA, NORTHERN TERRITORY, KAKADU NATIONAL PARK, DECEMBER 7 2013. RADIOACTIVE ACID SPILL AT ERA RANGER MINE IN KAKADU

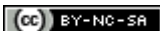
amos aikman

 **Watch the Video** [Contamination Leak at NT Uranium Mine](#)



There has been a major radioactive incident at a mine site inside Kakadu National Park overnight, with about a million litres of acid believed spilled, workers evacuated and production shut down. A leaching tank containing the contaminated slurry burst at about 1am this morning, apparently with such force that it bent a crane and other infrastructure nearby at the Ranger mine. Justin O'Brien, CEO of Gundjehmi Aboriginal Corporation representing the site's traditional owners, said the acid had contaminated a large area of the work site, overtopped a low bund and entered a storm drain. "A million litres of radioactive acid burst out of a tank at such a velocity that it damaged all the infrastructure nearby," he said. "We are advised that the spill will make that part of the mine, which is the heart of the operation, inoperable for at least a month or two." The

Ranger mine's operator, Energy Resources of Australia, confirmed the tank failure. "Upon discovery of a hole in the side of the tank, personnel were removed from the nearby area before the tank failed and a mixture of slurry escaped," ERA said in a statement. "The slurry moved outside the bunded containment area, but has been captured and contained on site. As the material was contained within the processing area there is no impact on the environment surrounding the Ranger Project Area." A spokeswoman said workers had been evacuated and production shut down, but was unable to confirm how much material had spilled or what damage had been done. There had been no injuries. Mr O'Brien said a jet of fluid had been discovered spraying from the side of the leaching tank at around 12.30am this morning. He said workers were trying to use a crane to lower a piece of steel to stop the flow when the initial hole expanded and another developed. "The 10 to 20 people who were working on it were asked to evacuate," he said. "Thank god they did, because the whole thing burst apart with such velocity that it bent all the metal walkways around about, damaged the bund, bent the crane and smashed the windscreen of the crane." The incident could not have come at worse time for ERA, which recently ceased open-cut mining and is now seeking approval to develop its newly discovered Ranger 3 Deeps deposit underground. The Ranger 3 Deeps resource is believed to be one of the world's best underdeveloped uranium deposits, containing around 10 million tonnes of ore that is expected to yield 34,000 tonnes of uranium oxide. The federal government is presently considering whether to grant ERA approval for a new underground mine. Traditional owners have so far maintained an "open mind" on the proposal, but Mr O'Brien said two breaches of the company's radiation plan and now a major radioactive spill in under a year was undermining that goodwill. "That openness is diminished day by day, incident by incident," he said. The ERA site is separate from but entirely within World Heritage-listed Kakadu National Park. Mr O'Brien said that with the heaviest rains of the wet season approaching, traditional owners feared the radioactive acid could be washed downstream. The site is close to the Magita Creek, which is now flowing, and about 7km upstream from the Aboriginal community of Mudgunberri where about 60 people live. "We understand the spill entered a stormwater drain. We have been advised that it went no further, and has been contained within that part of the stormwater drain. Well, let's see," he said. He described the mine as a "hillbilly operation", and demanded the federal government seek advice outside Australia before making a decision on whether to approve the Ranger



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3 Deeps underground development. A spokeswoman for ERA, which is majority owned by mining giant Rio Tinto, promised further updates later in the day.

Related Stories

- [Major acid leak at Kakadu uranium mine](#)
A burst tank at the Ranger uranium mine in Kakadu National Park has released what traditional owners say is up to a million litres of acidic radioactive slurry, in what they describe as one of the biggest nuclear accidents in Australian history.
- [Uranium mine spill near Jabiru, Northern Territory, locals fear for Kakadu ...](#)
There has been a serious spill of contaminated slurry at a uranium mine near Jabiru in the Northern Territory.
- [Acid spill at uranium mine in Northern Territory](#)
Contaminated slurry has leaked at a uranium mine in the Northern Territory, raising environmental concerns for Kakadu National Park.
- [Spill at Australian uranium mine](#)
A tank in the processing area of the Ranger mine near Jabiru failed at about 1am on Saturday, operator Energy Resources of Australia (ERA) said. Workers discovered a hole in the side of the tank and were evacuated before the tank burst.

<http://www.theaustralian.com.au/business/mining-energy/radioactive-acid-spill-at-era-ranger-mine-in-kakadu/story-e6frg9df-1226777706547#mm-premium>

USA, LA, NEW ORLEANS, DECEMBER 7 2013. BOATERS AND OTHER GROUPS PUSH FOR END TO ETHANOL MANDATE AT EPA HEARING

todd masson



This little label on a gas pump is the only thing standing between a boater and a dangerous misfueling of his gas tanks.

The Environmental Protection Agency got an earful Thursday from an assortment of interest groups, including those representing boaters, about the nation's ethanol mandate. Nicole Payla Wood, government affairs program manager for BoatUS, told the EPA at a hearing held in Washington, D.C., that the ethanol mandate is a real danger to the entire marine industry, and the problem has been exacerbated by the agency's approval of the sale of E15 in 11 states. [The risks of running E10 in outboard motors have been well-documented](#), and no marine engine is warrantied to run on E15, according to BoatUS. "As the Renewable Fuel Standard policy pushes higher blends of ethanol gasoline into the market, there is an increased potential for misfueling and engine failure that needs to be made clear," Wood told the agency. "Not all Americans can afford to drive tow vehicles made after 2001, and for boaters, these higher blends are poison to our marine engines." That puts boaters' lives at risk, Wood said. "What may result in a roadside breakdown for a car can

quickly lead to a search-and-rescue mission or search-and-recovery in a boat," she said. The entire ethanol mandate has come under fire in recent months from a diverse range of groups. At Thursday's hearing, representatives from fuel and manufacturing associations as well as food, restaurant, poultry and meat producers argued against the mandate. Many [environmental groups](#) have also begun to oppose the mandate. The EPA last month [lowered the proposed ethanol standards for 2014](#) because the country is approaching what's called the "ethanol wall." If the ethanol requirement were to stay at the mandated level for 2014, refiners would have to mix more than 10-percent ethanol with their fuel to meet that level. That's because fuel consumption hasn't grown as much as expected when the mandate was implemented through the Renewable Fuel Standard in 2007. While Wood applauded the EPA's proposal to lower the standards for 2014, she said her association would like Congress to remove the mandate altogether. "We think it's important to point out that EPA's role in the Renewable Fuel Standard is to implement the policy, not reform the law," she said. "It is our hope that Congress will now accept the baton, and continue their work on a permanent fix for the Renewable Fuel Standard."

http://www.nola.com/outdoors/index.ssf/2013/12/boaters_and_other_groups_push.html



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USA, N.C, RALEIGH, DECEMBER 7 2013. SENATOR HAGAN SAYS STUDY PROVES CONTAMINATED WATER AT CAMP LEJEUNE CAUSED BIRTH DEFECTS



Senator Kay Hagan (D-NC) said a new study released by the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) shows that water contamination has indeed been identified at Camp Lejeune, the Marine Corps base in North Carolina, and that it has been affecting the health of families at the base. "The results of the ATSDR study suggest associations between contamination in Camp Lejeune drinking water and neural tube defects (NTDs) like spina bifida as well as childhood hematopoietic cancers such as leukemia," said Senator Hagan's office today in a statement to the media. The Senator further commented that the study will hopefully provide further confirmation that the water at the base did indeed cause problems for those on base. "This study, which provides some answers to veterans from Camp Lejeune whose children have suffered from neural tube birth defects and childhood cancers, is further

evidence that those who were exposed to contaminated water at Camp Lejeune should receive the health care they need and deserve," said Hagan. Those Marines who lived on base and think they may have been affected or might later be affected are encouraged to call Hagan's office. "I have been committed to helping the veterans who lived or worked on the Marine Corps base and their families since I joined the Senate, and any veteran or family member who needs assistance in filing a claim or obtaining the benefits they need should contact my office," she said. Hagan said that she hopes to continue to keep the study and its findings in the news to help those who were exposed to the water to get medical help if needed. "As a Senator from the most military friendly state in the nation, serving North Carolina's veterans, service members and military families has always been and will continue to be one of my top priorities."

Related Stories

- [More Information on the ATSDR Study](http://raleightelegram.com/201312065925)

<http://raleightelegram.com/201312065925>

USA, MD, HAGERSTOWN, DECEMBER 7 2013. MD. SEEKS \$100,000 FINE FOR PILOT FUEL TANK LEAKS



The Maryland Department of the Environment is seeking a \$100,000 fine from truck stop operator Pilot [Flying J](#) for alleged water pollution from leaky underground fuel tanks near Hagerstown. The Knoxville, Tenn.-based company said Friday it disagrees with the allegations and hopes to reach a settlement. The state agency says the problems at a Pilot travel center on Greencastle Pike stem from leaky storage tanks that were improperly installed in 1999. The complaint lists 12 leaks and spills from 2008 to 2011 that allegedly resulted in potential or actual water pollution. The agency says Pilot failed to report 11 spills, including one involving about 30 gallons of diesel fuel. The recommended fine is the highest allowed by state law for a single administrative action.

<http://www.chron.com/news/science/article/Md-seeks-100-000-fine-for-Pilot-fuel-tank-leaks-5042058.php>

USA, N,D, BISMARCK, DECEMBER 7 2013. OIL SPILL WEBSITE GOES LIVE

jerry burnes

A website publishing environmental and oilfield spills is now live through the North Dakota Department of Health. The site launched Wednesday and provides public access to spill information including the type of spill, amount released, date of incident, location and incident summaries, which can include potential environmental impact and actions and remediation plans. A release from the DOH stated information data will be updated weekly and is further separated into incidents that have happened within the last 12 months and those that are older. "We're going to try and update twice a week," said David Glatt, chief of the environmental health section. "It will be new spills and any updates we would have." Glatt said spills not related to



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the oilfield can also happen in the agriculture section involving fertilizer and other chemicals. He said if municipalities have any spills occur, those would be posted as well. The site took about a month to complete although the DOH has been collecting electronic data on spills already. So far the site is working well and Glatt said he's getting positive feedback on the user-friendliness of the page. "People have constructive criticism," Glatt said. "We'll let it run for a couple months and see what we can improve on it." The state established the site after a September spill near Tioga that leaked more than 20,000 barrels onto farm land. Public knowledge of the spill was almost two weeks later and sharp criticism was drawn to the DOH and state officials.

http://www.willistonherald.com/news/oil-spill-website-goes-live/article_14720544-5eab-11e3-92e8-001a4bcf887a.html

MEXICO, PACHUCA, DECEMBER 7 2013. POLICE BLOCK HOSPITAL AS RADIOACTIVE LOAD HIJACKERS ARE ADMITTED

 [Watch the Video Stolen Radioactive Material](#)



The container reportedly containing cobalt-60.

Mexican police have blocked a hospital in the city of Pachuca where two people have been admitted for radiation poisoning, which could've come from the stolen shipment of cobalt-60. Two young men, a 16-year-old and a 25-year-old are under police custody in Hidalgo state hospital, authorities announced, AFP reports. Both are suffering from symptoms that include nausea and dizziness and vomiting. "The two have serious health problems," said Hidalgo's under secretary of health Jose Antonio Copca Garcia. The official did not specify if the two are the suspected thieves. Earlier an unnamed official told local media that reportedly six people were admitted to the hospital and that only one of the six had clear symptoms of radiation poisoning, AP reported. State-run Notimex news agency also reported that five adults and one teenager were hospitalized in Pachuca, Mexico. A cargo truck with a radioactive cargo of cobalt-60 was [stolen by gunmen](#) on Monday from a gas station in the central state of Hidalgo, where Pachuca is located. The material had been removed from obsolete radiation therapy equipment at a hospital in the northern city of Tijuana and was being transported to a nuclear waste facility. The missing shipment was discovered on Wednesday about 40 kilometers from the site where it was taken by the perpetrators. The [atomic energy agency](#) said the cobalt has an activity of 3,000 curies, or Category 1, meaning "it would probably be fatal to be close to this amount of unshielded radioactive material for a period in the range of a few minutes to an hour." Previously, Mexico's national nuclear safety commission CNSNS said that the thieves must've received a lethal dose of radiation as they were unaware of the contents in the containers and had removed material from them. The United Nation has warned that the stolen cobalt-60 could be used to make a so-called "dirty bomb," a weapon that combines radioactive material with conventional explosives.

Related Stories

- [Thieves who Stole Radioactive Material Likely to Die](#)
- ['Dirty Bomb' Material Found After Mexican Truck Hijacked](#)

<http://rt.com/news/mexico-radioactive-load-hospital-858/>

USA, TX, FORT WORTH, DECEMBER 8 2013. SECOND LEAK REPORTED AT EAST FORT WORTH GAS WELL SITE

caty hirst & jim fuquay

Councilwoman Gyna Bivens said she will seek a review of the city's procedures for responding to gas well incidents after the second leak in barely a month at a site in east Fort Worth. "We are always concerned about the close proximity of the activity and the effect it is having on our entire urban area," Bivens said Friday. She said she has a number of concerns with the wells being so close to residents, including the abnormal number of earthquakes recorded in the Barnett Shale, the vast natural gas field that underlies more than 20 North Texas counties. More than 20 small earthquakes were measured in North Texas, mostly in Parker County, last month. "I'm not going to wait for the science, because too often science follows behind," Bivens said. "All I know is until we had this level of urban drilling, we never heard of earthquakes in our area. I have a number of concerns." A leak early Friday at the Chesapeake Energy site at 6900 Ederville Road, at the southeast corner of Interstate 30 and East Loop 820, was ended within 20 minutes, said Tom Edwards, senior gas well development inspector. Edwards said the leak was resolved before he arrived. City crews on Nov. 2 responded to a similar incident at the Ederville Road site. Like



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the previous incident, Friday's leak was caused by sand erosion, Edwards said. The leaking gas was captured by a secondary containment system and Chesapeake will not receive a citation, he said. A communication snafu with Chesapeake during the first leak delayed the company's response. A Chesapeake spokesman in Oklahoma City said Friday that the company had no comment on the incident. Dan Hill, head of the petroleum engineering department at Texas A&M University, told the Star-Telegram that sand used in hydraulic fracturing can wear away steel pipes as it rushes from the well along with natural gas. He said new wells are the most susceptible to sand erosion because the amount of sand and gas rushing through valves and flow lines is at its greatest when a well first goes into production. Production began at Chesapeake's Ederville Road site in the spring. The city previously said it had responded to 28 reports of gas well leaks since 2007. Janice Colston, who lives near the site, reported both incidents. She first thought the sound that woke her at 5:30 a.m. Friday could be a burst water pipe, but she looked out her window and saw something rising from the gas well site. "I don't see how we can live in this neighborhood if we can't even go to bed without worrying about this happening," Colston said. Bivens, who represents the affected council district, has requested a briefing at the City Council to discuss the procedures for dealing with emergency situations and the expectations for well operators. Colston said she also plans to speak at the next council meeting about her concerns.

<http://www.star-telegram.com/2013/12/07/5399740/second-leak-reported-at-east-fort.html?rh=1>

USA, AZ, FOUNTAIN HILLS, DECEMBER 8 2013. COUNCIL GETS FUEL SPILL UPDATE

Town officials will be meeting Monday, Dec. 9, with representatives of the transport company involved in a 2,300 gallon gasoline spill in Fountain Hills on Nov. 17. Town Manager Ken Buchanan told the council on Thursday evening the meeting Monday will be to discuss soil test results and how the clean-up of the contaminated areas will proceed. The town wants asphalt removed from the shoulder along Saguaro Boulevard and soil underneath removed. Staff has said test results indicate there is fuel contamination underneath the pavement. A remediation crew has been working since the spill, primarily in a wash area adjacent to the First Baptist Church on Saguaro where the gasoline seems to have concentrated. Saguaro Boulevard has been lined for a couple of weeks with containers where the contaminated soil was placed. Buchanan said the the clean-up contractor just received the permits to transport and dispose of the soil earlier this week.

http://www.fhtimes.com/news/article_c295f044-5ea2-11e3-bf19-001a4bcf6878.html

USA, MD, LAUREL, DECEMBER 8 2013. NO INJURIES REPORTED IN MASSIVE HAZMAT FIRE AT LAUREL ASPHALT PLANT

Fire crews were busy on Thursday night battling an asphalt plant fire in the Laurel area. At around 10:40 p.m. ET on Thursday, firefighters from the Laurel area were alerted to a building fire. The fire broke out at the Laurel Asphalt Plant, located at 5401 Van Dusen Road. Upon arriving at the scene, crews found that 2 large hazardous materials containers were engulfed in flames. A hazardous materials crew was immediately requested. One of the hazmat tanks was soon identified as containing diesel fuel. Because the fire was located in a known non-hydrant area, Public Safety Communications dispatched water tankers to the scene. One of the units initially dispatched was a tanker/foam unit from Scaggsville, Howard County Station 11. Officials say that unit played a integral role in providing multiple extinguishing agents to extinguish the bulk of all visible fire. At 12:15 a.m. Friday, the fire was completely extinguished. The exact extent of fire damage is still being evaluated. There were no injuries in the blaze.

<http://www.baltimorenewsjournal.com/2013/12/06/no-injuries-reported-in-massive-hazmat-fire-at-laurel-asphalt-plant/>

USA, MI, ISHPeming, DECEMBER 8 2013. TILDEN MINE WORKER'S DEATH INVESTIGATED >> FELL FROM A RAILROAD TANKER

John Pepin

A joint investigation is being conducted by Cliffs Natural Resources and the United Steelworkers Union into the death of a worker who apparently fell from a railroad tanker car Friday afternoon at the Tilden Mine. The name of the Cliffs' employee was being withheld Friday while family members were being notified. Cliffs officials declined to release any further information about the man, including his age or the town where he lived. The incident occurred at about 1:45 p.m. Friday near the concentrator at the mine. Cliffs officials said the man apparently fell from the railroad car to the ground. He was taken to Bell Hospital in Ishpeming by EMS personnel from the mine and the hospital, where he was pronounced dead. "This is a tragic accident," James Kochevar, Cliffs Michigan Operations general manager said in a news release. "We offer our sincere



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condolences to family and friends of our employee." The U.S. Department of Labor's Mine Safety and Health Administration and the Marquette County mine inspector were notified.

<http://www.ironmountaindailynews.com/page/content.detail/id/543589/Tilden-Mine-worker-s-death-investigated.html?nav=5002>

PAKISTAN, CHITRAL, DECEMBER 8 2013. **MAN KILLED AS OIL TANKER PLUNGES INTO GORGE**

The cleaner of an oil tanker was killed while his two helpers were injured when the vehicle skidded and plunge into a 400-feet gorge while returning to Dir from Chitral via Lowari Top on Saturday. The oil tanker was supplying oil to Frontier Works Organisation in Chitral and was on its way back when the driver lost control of the vehicle due to slippery roads near Matti Nalla. As a result, Malik Javaid, a resident of Haripur, was killed and two others were injured. Sultanuddin, an official of Ashrait police, said they rushed to the site as soon as they were informed about the accident, but could not start rescue work as the gorge was too deep and they did not have the necessary equipment to lift the tanker. "It (the body) will be pulled out from under the tanker on Sunday (today)," the official added. He said they closed Lowari Top for traffic to avoid further accidents, but traffic was allowed to pass after drivers started protesting against the closure.

<http://tribune.com.pk/story/642580/slippery-roads-man-killed-as-oil-tanker-plunges-into-gorge/>

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES, DUBAI, DECEMBER 8 2013. **FILL YOUR CAR YOURSELF DURING NIGHT AT 15 MORE EPPCO STATIONS >> SERVICE EFFECTIVE FROM MIDNIGHT TO 6AM BEGINNING DECEMBER 12**

An additional 15 service stations in the Emirates Petroleum Product Company (Eppco) network will introduce fuel self-service from midnight to 6am from December 12, 2013. This follows the introduction of self-service during late hours at 10 Eppco sites earlier this year. The 15 service stations, where the self-service system is being introduced, have also been identified for their relatively low footfall during night hours. Announcements to inform motorists about the new service have been made at all sites. These sites are located along Sheikh Zayed Road; Nadd Al Hamar; Lahbab Road in Jebel Ali Industrial Area; Dubai-AI Ain Road; Port Rashid Road; Al Mankhool Road; Al Ghusais; Hatta-Dubai Road; Al Aweer Road; Mirdif; and Jumeirah Beach Road. The fuel self-service initiative is part of Eppco's strategy to introduce advanced and automated refuelling facilities across its network. With the concept now familiar with a segment of the motorists, Eppco is looking to expand the service across other stations too. A spokesperson of Eppco said: "The response to our fuel self-service initiative introduced in July at 10 of our service stations has been encouraging. With our service staff offering support, where needed, motorists are more confident of using the system on their own. By adding the number of service stations offering the facility, and introducing it during night hours, we are ensuring there is minimal inconvenience to motorists." "Customers can now fill their required fuel themselves at 25 Eppco service stations and pay inside the Zoom store. Advanced and fully secure fuel dispenser systems have also been introduced at the sites that are easier to use for the motorists." New advanced technologies for payment that will add to the convenience of motorists will be introduced shortly, and will be announced when finalised. The introduction of self-service will result in no staff redundancies as affected staff members will be deployed in other service stations within the network.

<http://www.emirates247.com/news/emirates/fill-your-car-yourself-during-night-at-15-more-eppco-stations-2013-12-08-1.530470>

INDIA, ANDHRA PRADESH, HYDERABAD, DECEMBER 9 2013. **FIVE INJURED IN OIL TANKER EXPLOSION >> TANKER'S TANK BEING REPAIRED AT A WELDING SHOP**



At least five persons were injured, one of them critically, in an oil tanker explosion at Hatri Bypass here on Saturday. According to the area police, the incident occurred when the tanker's tank was getting repaired at a welding shop. The injured include 60- year- old Muhammad Ali Bhayo, 30- year old Mohammed Usman, 21- year- old Mohammad Hussein Gujar, 20- year- old Ikram Ali and 20- year- old Tanveer Iqbal. Usman, who was critically injured, was shifted to Karachi while the other four injured persons are under treatment at the Civil Hospital Hyderabad. The elderly man Bhayo who received serious wounds to his abdomen is undergoing surgery at the hospital. Police said they were investigating the cause of the incident but according to them apparently



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negligence of both the welding shop and tanker driver was the cause.

<http://www.brecorder.com/top-news/1-front-top-news/147695-five-injured-in-oil-tanker-explosion.html>

AUSTRALIA, VICTORIA, MELBOURNE, DECEMBER 9 2013. UNITED PETROLEUM MAY SPLIT TO ASSIST SALE

To assist in the sale of United Petroleum, advisors are looking at restructuring the business by splitting off properties to ignite buying interest. News on the topic of the sale of United Petroleum has gone quiet since the end of October as the result of waning interest. Advisers on the sale of United Petroleum, KPMG Corporate Finance, are said to be considering ways to separate the company's properties from its operating assets to rekindle interest and expand the field of contenders. It is believed that a restructure would open up the field to more bidders by lowering the amount of capital required. Caltex is said to have made two bids for the asset, but at a price short of expectations.

http://retailmedia.com.au/resources/CW_eNews/CW_eNews_061213.html#story7?utm_source=CW+eNews+-+Plain+packaging+proven+to+be+nothing+but+a+burden.+Coles+and+Woolies+&utm_campaign=cw-061213&utm_medium=email

USA, KY, LOUISVILLE, DECEMBER 9 2013. FUEL LEAK REPORTED ON OHIO RIVER, CREWS ON SCENE

 **Watch the Video** [Fuel Leak Reported on Ohio River](#)

Metro Safe reports there is a report of a fuel leak in the Ohio River near the 15,000 block of Dixie Highway. A barge is reportedly leaking fuel. There is no word on how much has actually leaked out at this point, but there is about 950 gallons of fuel onboard. No injuries have been reported at this time. PRP Fire Department and a private cleaning company are on the scene. We have a crew on the way and will bring you updates as they become available.

<http://www.whas11.com/news/Fuel-leak-reported-on-Ohio-River-crews-on-scene-234950241.html>

NIGERIA, BAYELSA, SOUTHERN IJAW, DECEMBER 9 2013. ONE SUSPECTED OIL THIEF ROASTED BY FIRE IN BAYELSA



One person was reportedly burnt to death weekend in the deep mangrove creek of Southern Ijaw Local Government Area of Bayelsa State when suspected oil thieves set ablaze an oil facility belonging to the Nigerian Agip Oil Company NAOC. The incident, it was learnt, occurred along the creek of Igbomatoru community of the council area, known for its high concentration of illegal refinery camps tucked away in the dense mangrove swamp. Though the identity of the deceased could not be ascertained, he is believed to be a member of an illegal bunkering and oil theft syndicate in the area. It was reliably learnt that scores of other oil thieves suffered various degree of burns added that the company had deployed two swamp buggies to the area to contain the raging inferno. The facility is a delivery trunk line from Ogboinbiri flow station to the company facility

in Brass on the Atlantic shore. Contacted the Media Coordinator of the JTF, Col. Onyenma Nwachukwu, confirmed that there was an explosion in the area, "information reaching us confirmed that there was actually a blast on the NAOC Agip riser. "The cause has so far been attributed to possible sabotage by some disgruntled elements who have grievances with the operations of oil companies in the area." Meanwhile, the elders and youth leaders of the Brass Communities of Twon Brass, Okpoama and Odioma in Bayelsa State has commended the Nigeria Agip Oil Company over the quick response of the company and the immediate to clean up of oil spillage from its pipeline in the area. A socio-economic group, the Brass League of Friends, weekend confirmed that the oil company, Nigeria Agip Oil Company(NOAC), have commenced the clean- up exercise of affected communities. The group, in a statement issued by its patron, Hon Israel Sunny- Igoli, stated that a tour of the affected area showed that the officials of Agip have swiftly responded to the report of the spillage along the coastline of Brass. According to him, "the swift response to the spillage along Brass coastline is an indication that the oil company takes issues of the environment serious." Sunny-Igoli who disclosed that youth leaders in the affected communities, officials of Agip, Department of Petroleum Resources and National Oil Spill Detection and Response Agency(NOSDRA) have also been to the impacted sites expressed optimism that relief materials would be sent to people. He said, "We want to commend Agip for its swift response to the oil spill. Agip is working on compensation for all impacted communities after the Joint Investigation Visit (JIV) report is made public. "The company has also concluded plans to send relief materials to affected people. There is no



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need for the people to panic because Agip has been able to contain the spill from causing serious damage to the environment."

<http://www.osundefender.org/?p=135995>

BELARUS, DECEMBER 9 2013. RUSSIAN MOTORISTS SHOCKED BY APOCALYPTIC MAD MAX FUEL TANKER

 **Watch the Video** [Motorists Shocked by Apocalyptic Mad Max Fuel Tanker](#)



An apocalyptic lorry has been prowling the motorways of Belarus - but it would look more at home on the set of Mad Max. An apocalyptic fuel tanker, which looks like it's rolled off the set of Mad Max has been startling motorists in Belarus. The black rig, a custom lorry covered in sharp spikes, rusty rivets and battle armour has been spotted on motorways in Mogilev. The crazy truck was custom built by members of the Night Wolves, Russia's most famous motorcycle club. Founded in 1989, the Night Wolves are Russian president Vladimir Putin's favourite biker group. He has met with them on at least three occasions and appeared at a biker festival with them in April. Putin arrived at the festival on a huge black trike to the sound of the group's anthem.

<http://www.mirror.co.uk/news/weird-news/mad-max-fuel-tanker-lorry-2905536>

USA, NEV, FALLON, DECEMBER 10 2013. UPDATE: MAN CRITICALLY INJURED AFTER OIL TANK EXPLOSION AT FALLON AREA REFINERY

marcella corona & anjeanette damon

 **Watch the Video's:**

- [Bango Refining Oil Recycling Issued Multiple Violations](#)
- [Man Critically Injured after Explosion at Bango Oil Refinery in Fallon](#)
- [Explosion at Bango Oil Critically Burns Worker](#)
- [4pm: 1 person injured in oil refinery explosion near Fallon](#)
- [Noon: 1 person injured in oil refinery explosion near Fallon](#)
- [Bango Plant Explosion 10:28 Update](#)

 **Photo's [7]** [Fallon-Area Refinery Blast Critically Injures Worker](#)

 **Photo's [7]** [1 Critically Burned in Explosion & Fire at Oil Refinery in Fallon](#)

 **Slideshow [12]** [1 Person Injured in Oil Refinery Explosion near Fallon](#)

 **Key Points:**

- He was covered from head to toe in hot oil and asphalt with second and third degree burns."
- Deputies said the explosion happened when workers tried to thaw a frozen pipe using a weed burner.



6:44 p.m. update

Fallon -- An oil refinery in Churchill County where an explosion critically injured a worker on Monday has long been a source of resident complaints and briefly closed down in 2007 following a government inspection. The explosion happened at the Bango Refining plant near Fallon at about 9:15 a.m., sending one employee via Care Flight to the University of California, Davis burn center. The man, who is 24, was not identified Monday. While the official cause of the explosion remains under investigation, a torch that had been used to warm up pipes at the site could have started the fire that led to the explosion, Churchill County Sheriff Ben Trotter said. "You could see the black smoke from out of town as soon as I walked out the door from my office," Trotter said. The explosion is being investigated by the Fallon/Churchill Volunteer Fire



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Department. Bango officials on Monday said no material escaped the facility that would be considered dangerous to the surrounding environs or nearby residents. All operations at the plant have been suspended pending a full investigation of the matter. Fourteen employees were at the refinery when the explosion happened and all are accounted for. "We are grateful for the first responders who airlifted the injured employee to the hospital and to those whose efforts put out the fire," Dave Peel, Bango's chief operating officer, said in a news release from the company. "Our thoughts and prayers go out to our employee's family and every effort will be made to assure them that he receives the care he deserves." Company and fire department officials had conflicting reports about the explosion. Fred Rogne, chief of the Fallon/Churchill Volunteer Fire Department, said three oil-filled storage tanks caught fire, causing the tops of the tanks to blow off and the explosion. In a statement sent Monday, Bango Refining said "the facility experienced a rupture in one of its product tanks." Rogne said fire was contained by 11:30 a.m., but firefighters continued to look for hot spots Monday afternoon. "It could have been much worse," Rogne said. The refinery was cited for a total of 13 Occupational Safety and Health Administration violations between 2007 and 2012. Five were categorized as serious, according to OSHA information on a federal website. OSHA supervisors were sent to the refinery plant Monday and were not available for comment. Since 2007, residents near the plant about 15 miles west of Fallon have complained of noxious odors coming from the refinery. As recently as October, hand-painted signs urging passersby to report odors dotted the highway near the plant. In 2007, the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection issued a stop work order at the plant after an inspection revealed the source of the odor may have been the plant's water treatment system. The plant's owners ultimately installed special equipment to reduce emissions. Residents, however, continued to complain and objected to a proposed expansion of the plant in 2009. Repeated studies of the smell failed to find a conclusive source, a company spokesman told the Reno Gazette-Journal four years ago. "We're trying to do good things for our environment. Why would we stink up our neighborhood?" Bango spokesman Tom Clark said in the 2009 story. According to the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection website, Bango has a special use permit to produce up to 22,000 gallons per day of finished oil product from the refining of used motor oil and other lubricants.

Related Stories

- [Bango blast critically burns one worker](#)
- [Bango Refining Oil Recycling Plant issued multiple OSHA violations](#)
- [One person injured in oil refinery explosion near Fallon](#)
- [Explosion at Bango Oil critically burns worker](#)
- [At least 1 injured in oil plant fire near Fallon](#)
- [Man Critically Injured After Explosion at Bango Oil Refinery](#)
- [Oil refinery blast critically injures worker](#)
- [Man critically injured after oil tank explosion at Fallon area refinery](#)
- [1 injured in oil plant fire near Fallon](#)
- [Update: Fire still burning after motor oil tank explodes at Fallon refinery, injuring 1](#)
- [Fire at Fallon oil plant: What you need to know](#)
- [Report: Fire burning after possible explosion at oil refining plant near Fallon](#)

<http://www.rgj.com/viewart/20131209/NEWS/131209006/Update-Man-critically-injured-after-oil-tank-explosion-Fallon-area-refinery-video->

NIGERIA, LAGOS, ALAUSA, DECEMBER 10 2013. BRIDE ESCAPES DEATH INVOLVING A NNPC TANKER, AFTER WEDDING



Bride escapes death after wedding.

A bride narrowly escaped death in an auto crash while on her way from her wedding. The accident involving a NNPC tanker with number plate XG 321 MKA, a cargo truck and two saloon cars happened at about 4: 45pm on Saturday, close to the Otedola bridge, Alausa, on Lagos/Ibadan Expressway. Our reporter who witnessed the accident said the NNPC truck, while descending the slope from Alausa at top speed, could not hold its break. It then ran into the first car and squashed the second one against the cargo truck. The bride and her husband were said to have jumped out of their car. When our reporter got to the



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scene of the accident, the groom was nowhere in sight. The groom's elder sister who spoke to our reporter while cuddling her baby explained that they were just coming from the wedding reception of the couple. She was seen kneeling down and thanking God for their escape but refused to give the name of the couple. The fire coming out of the truck was put out by sympathisers as the tanker was carrying petroleum product. The accident also resulted in gridlock which was controlled by men of the Federal Road Safety Corps.

<https://www.codewit.com/nigeria-news/14624-bride-escapes-death-after-wedding>

AUSTRALIA, SOUTH AUSTRALIA, MILLICENT, DECEMBER 10 2013. MAN ACCIDENTALLY SETS CARS ON FIRE WHILE HAVING A SMOKE WHILE ALLEGEDLY STEALING PETROL, CAUSING \$100,000 DAMAGE

lia harris

Watch the Video's"

- [Man Sets Cars on Fire while Having a Smoke whilst Stealing Petrol, Causing \\$100,000 Damage](#)
- [An Alleged Petrol Thief Has Set Himself - and a Car Yard - On Fire While Smoking.](#)



A man has accidentally set several cars on fire by lighting a smoke while allegedly trying to steal fuel in Millicent overnight, police say. Police were called to Mount Gambier Rd about 11.10pm after reports of a fire in a car yard. Police searched the area and found a man with burns on his legs. He had allegedly been trying to siphon fuel from one of the cars when he lit a cigarette, causing the fuel to ignite. CFS crews were also called to the scene to battle the blaze and managed to stop it from spreading to nearby buildings. The damage bill is estimated at \$100,000. Car yard owner Angus McDonald said things could have been much worse. "We were just so lucky," he told Channel Ten Eyewitness News. "He was trying to get the fuel out of the car by punching a hole in the tank - that's when the explosion happened." "There's

be about \$110,000 worth of cars that have been lost and there's a bit of damage to the walls. We were very lucky the workshop didn't catch on fire because there's cars just over the other side of the wall." The 26-year-old Millicent man was arrested and charged with arson and illegal interference with a motor vehicle.

 **Related Story:** [Adelaide Now reports that police arrested the 26-year-old suspect on charges of arson and illegal interference with a motor vehicle.](#)

<http://www.adelaidenow.com.au/news/south-australia/man-accidentally-sets-cars-on-fire-while-having-a-smoke-while-allegedly-stealing-petrol-causing-100000-damage/story-fni6uo1m-1226778477394>

INDONESIA, JAKARTA, BINTARO, DECEMBER 10 2013. UP TO 30 DEAD IN INDONESIAN TRAIN CRASH

Key Points:

- The Pertamina tanker accelerated and drove onto the tracks as the safety boom gate was coming down

Watch the Video's:

- [4 Dead - Indonesia Train Collides with Fuel Truck](#)
- [Local TV News Shows Destruction after Commuter Train Collides with Fuel Tanker in Indonesia.](#)

Photo's [6] [Commuter Train Crashes into Gas Truck in Jakarta](#)



Children walk near a burning commuter train after it collided at Bintaro district in Jakarta, December 9, 2013

A passenger train has crashed and exploded into flames killing an estimated 30 people, mostly women, after crashing into a gas truck in south Jakarta. The Serpong to Tanah Abang train was passing through the southern suburb of Bintaro at about 11.30am local time (5.30pm NZT) when it hit the liquefied gas truck and burst into flames. Witnesses said the truck had failed to stop at the level crossing, despite warning bells. The front carriage of the passenger train, which is reserved for women only to protect them from sexual harassment, bore the brunt of the crash. A fireball immediately engulfed the carriage as flames burst 20m into the air. It was still in flames 90 minutes later. Seven people have



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been confirmed dead, two of them women. A male passenger, who managed to escape the wreck, said the automatic doors on the train could not be opened and that panicked passengers had run to the rear of the carriages, away from the fire. Some had escaped by breaking the glass of the windows.

<http://www.stuff.co.nz/world/asia/9495737/Up-to-30-dead-in-Indonesian-train-crash>

NEW ZEALAND, AUCKLAND, ONEHUNGA, DECEMBER 10 2013. COMPANY GUILTY OF FATAL BLAST FAILINGS

Key Points:

- Canadian Pacific [the Piping contractor] convicted of health and safety charges relating to a fatal gas explosion in Auckland.
- the company failed to identify the hazard of explosive gas
- failed to carry out sufficient atmosphere testing or monitoring
- failed to and instruct its employees to follow correct procedures.
- Watercare, a company owned by the Auckland Council, was fined \$81,000 for failing to protect its employees and ordered to pay \$315,000 in reparation on 13 September 2013.



Watercare employee Philomen Gulland, 48, was killed when an explosion ripped through an underground pipe in Onehunga. Ian Winson, an engineer, also suffered horrific injuries in the incident and later had both his legs amputated above the knee.

A piping contractor failed to ensure the safety of its worker and others over an Onehunga pipeline blast that left one dead and six injured, a judge rules. A piping contracting company has been found guilty of two health and safety act charges over an Auckland pipeline explosion that killed a worker and injured six others. Watercare employee Philomen Gulland, 48, was killed in the June 2011 Onehunga water main explosion and Judge Rob Ronayne said contractor Canadian Pacific Limited did not do enough to safeguard workers. CPL had pleaded not guilty to two charges of failing to take all practicable steps to protect

employees and practicable steps to protect others after the blast at a water main that was being inspected. Judge Ronayne said the company should have, but failed to, identify the hazard of explosive gas, instruct its employees to follow a restricted area procedure and carry out atmosphere testing or monitoring. "Because the monitoring was never carried out it is impossible to come to any conclusion as to causation [of the explosion] and in any event I am not required to. Thus the charges are established but there is no sufficient proof that the failures identified were causative of the explosion," he said. A sentencing date has yet to be set. Auckland Council-owned water company Watercare was fined \$81,000 and ordered to pay more than \$300,000 to the victims in September after pleading guilty to the same charges that CPL faced.

Related Stories

- [Charges proven over Onehunga pipeline explosion](#)
- [Contracting firm found guilty over fatal gas explosion](#)
- [Contractor convicted of safety breaches over blast](#)
- [Canadian Pacific Ltd guilty over death](#)
- [Contractor convicted of safety breaches after fatal explosion](#)
- [Company guilty of fatal blast failings](#)

<http://home.nzcity.co.nz/news/article.aspx?id=178679&fm=newsmain%2Cnrhl>

USA, N.D, WATFORD CITY, DECEMBER 10 2013. FIRE DAMAGES SALTWATER DISPOSAL WELL

A fire at a saltwater disposal well 14 miles east of here damaged equipment but did not result in a spill, the North Dakota Department of Mineral Resources, Oil and Gas Division said Monday. The fire, reported by company Landtech Enterprises, occurred on Sunday, officials said. Smoke and fire damaged equipment, but the company reported that no fluids were lost. The fire has been extinguished and the Oil and Gas Division sent a state inspector to the site.

<http://www.wdaz.com/event/article/id/21204/group/News/>



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USA, CA, MONROVIA, DECEMBER 10 2013. 200 PEOPLE EXPOSED TO CHEMICAL GASES IN MONROVIA



Ten people transported to hospital.

At 11:05am today smoke was reported coming out of vents in a roof at 146 Railroad Avenue. An unknown resin was off gassing. At this time, Monrovia Fire, Health HazMat and AQMD (Air Quality Mgmt District) are on scene to identify the chemical and treat patients. Approximately 200 people were exposed to the chemical gases, 45 became symptomatic, reporting dizziness and other symptoms. 9 have been taken to local area hospitals, 2 with immediate needs and IV support. The fire dept. and city officials are encouraging all those experiencing symptoms to be transported to area hospitals, but it is not mandatory. No firefighters have been exposed. One of

the main thoroughfares in Monrovia, Myrtle Avenue, has been temporarily closed from Duarte Rd to the freeway to allow for ambulances to come in and out of the area. Officials ask residents near the immediate area to shelter in place until the hazardous material can be identified and contained. The material has not yet been identified. Railroad Avenue is mostly manufacturing. The company at 146 is AirLogistics.

Related Stories:

- [Monrovia, CA: Shelter-in-Place Ordered After Chemical Spill](#)
- [Chemical Odor Exposes 200 People in Southern California to Mystery Gas, Hospitalizes 9](#)

<http://www.pasadenaindependent.com/featured/200-people-exposed-to-chemical-gases-in-monrovia/>

CANADA, B.C, WONOWON, DECEMBER 10 2013. TANKER TRUCK CARRYING 60,000 LITRES OF GASOLINE ROLLS OVER ON ALASKA HIGHWAY



A hazardous materials team is out on the Alaska Highway in northeastern B.C. after a tanker truck carrying over 60,000 litres of gasoline rolled into a ditch. RCMP Cpl. Jodi Shelkie said Monday that a cap at the top of the tank was opened, causing an unknown amount of gasoline to spill near the community of Wonowon on Sunday night. An area within a 300-metre radius of the spill — including a 200-worker camp, a gas station and a few residences — had been evacuated for safety. Shelkie said the area has now been deemed safe, and residents have been allowed back into their homes. She said the truck driver was uninjured and was not impaired. No other injuries were reported.

<http://www.theprovince.com/Tanker+truck+rollover+causes+spill+Alaska/9265218/story.html>

AUSTRALIA, QUEENSLAND, CAPELLA, DECEMBER 10 2013. FUEL TANKER FLIPS ON SIDE CARTING FUEL TO RURAL PROPERTY

A fuel tanker has flipped onto its side in Corry Road, near Capella, causing a few traffic problems. The tanker is believed to have been hauling fuel to a rural property at Capella. The incident happened shortly after midday. It's believed the driver sustained minor injuries and has been transported to Moranbah Hospital. Police, ambulance and fire personnel are at the scene. Part of Corry Rd is believed to be closed until the road is cleared.

<http://www.themorningbulletin.com.au/news/fuel-tanker-flips-side-carting-fuel-rural-property/2109075/>

USA, N.D, BISMARCK, DECEMBER 10 2013. SPILL, FIRE REPORTED AT WELL SITES

The North Dakota Department of Health said Monday that it is monitoring a spill of saltwater and oil in Billings County, of which some reached a small tributary of the Little Missouri River. According to a Health Department statement, the amount of material spilled is estimated at 650 barrels of saltwater and 20 barrels of crude oil. The well site is owned by Midland, Texas-based BTA Oil Producers LLC. The spill was reported to the Health Department on Sunday afternoon. Dennis Fewless, water quality director for the Health Department, said the spill is located about 4½ miles west of the Little Missouri River and about 15 miles northwest of Medora. Fewless said the materials seeped from the well site "about a half-mile down the drainage"



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where the company has set up temporary dams in order to collect the material. The well site also borders U.S. Forest Service land, which is where the spill leaked. Fewless said the Health Department is monitoring the spill and cleanup. The spill was one of two reports involving well sites over the weekend. State agencies also received a report of a fire at a saltwater disposal well site. The Department of Mineral Resources Oil and Gas Division was alerted to a saltwater disposal well fire on Sunday in McKenzie County. According to a Department of Mineral Resources statement, the fire was at a site about 14 miles east of Watford City. The fire was reported by Landtech Enterprises, LLC, of Sidney, Mont. The company reported an unspecified amount of equipment damage due to fire and smoke. No fluids were released. The Oil and Gas Division has dispatched an inspector to the site.

http://bismarcktribune.com/bakken/spill-fire-reported-at-well-sites/article_909868c0-6126-11e3-85b5-001a4bcf887a.html

USA, TX, SAN ANTONIO, DECEMBER 10 2013. I-10 REOPENS AFTER WRECK INVOLVING RADIOACTIVE HAUL

drew joseph

 **Watch the Video** [I-10 Reopens after 'Chemical Spill'](#)

All lanes of eastbound Interstate 10 at Medical Drive were shut down for hours Monday evening as crews responded to a hazmat incident. The freeway reopened at about 10:30 p.m. An 18-wheeler carrying scandium — a radioactive material used in trace amounts in petroleum products — was hit by a car on the interstate around 6 p.m. There was no damage to the truck, which was transporting 12 20-gallon buckets of scandium, but officials said they opted to shut down the highway as a precaution. Readings at the scene are not showing elevated radiation levels, fire officials said, and no breaches to the trailer or the buckets holding the material were apparent. Crews entered the trailer to confirm that all the buckets were secure. Fire officials said there was no radiation risk to the drivers who were diverted around the accident. The other car left the scene after the accident, officials said.

<http://www.mysanantonio.com/news/local/article/I-10-reopens-after-wreck-involving-radioactive-5049570.php>

USA, IN, FORT WAYNE, DECEMBER 10 2013. BLOWER, ETHANOL DON'T MIX >> BE WARY WHEN FILLING UP, SMALL ENGINES NOT WORKING AT BEST WITH GAS BLEND



Manager Brian Rorick, of Connolly's Do it Best, 5221 S. Calhoun St., displays a snowblower, which requires gasoline. Many gas-powered items cannot run with ethanol.

Soon enough, you won't just be eyeing that snowblower – you'll need to fill it up and use it. But there's a wrinkle users of equipment powered by small gasoline engines need to keep in mind, according to the Outdoor Power Equipment Institute. More gas stations are carrying ethanol blends, and more people are putting the fuels into their cars. But many don't know those fuels should not be used in the equipment they turn to in winter weather. "Don't assume that the same 'gas' you put in your car can still go in your mower, snowblower, chain saw or generator," says Kris Kiser, institute president and chief executive officer. "It will destroy your engine." That's because most power equipment was not designed for fuel containing any percentage of ethanol, Kiser says. But gas

containing up to 10 percent ethanol is considered safe, he says, although it may decrease performance. Michael Bates, chief operating officer for Fort Wayne-based Lassus Bros., says regular gasoline at that company's stations has included 10 percent ethanol for several years. The company also offers E85 ethanol at some outlets and a pump with both E30 and E85 as an option, he says. But ethanol fuels are only for flex vehicles, Bates says – more than 10 million from 2001 on are designed to operate on gasoline, E85 or a mix. Since 2006, vehicles have been identified with a yellow gas cap with a message. "The (ethanol) pumps have a significantly different nozzle, and a sign that tells you that this is not gasoline," Bates says. "You should not put it in your lawn mower or snowblower." John Connolly, president of Connolly Do it Best hardware stores in Fort Wayne, says he's not aware of fuel mix-ups. While people might be used to filling a gas can for gas-powered tools at home when they fill up, he says, not that many use ethanol. "It's probably a good thing to tell people (not to use ethanol) because they might think it's OK," Connolly says. Meanwhile, OPEI is starting a national "Look Before You Pump" public awareness campaign, including "Use E10 or Less Fuel" on hang tags for new equipment. But Kiser says an estimated 250 million pieces of older equipment – boat motors, ATVs, utility vehicles, snowmobiles, leaf blowers and weed whackers among them – have



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no visible warning. "This stuff is expensive," he says about gas-powered equipment, adding there's little recourse for damage from the wrong fuel. "By using it, you'd have voided the warranty." Consumers concerned about ethanol content can find no-ethanol 91-octane gas at CountryMark, 1105 Production Road, says Eric Adair, energy department manager for Ag Plus in New Haven, a farmers co-op among CountryMark's owners. "The reason we do carry it is that it's a niche market," he says, adding small-engine mechanics find ethanol blends hard on equipment. "We've not really been advertising," Adair says. "But we have people call us (for no-ethanol gas) every day."

<http://www.journalgazette.net/article/20131209/FEAT/312099968/1011/feat>

USA, CT, HARTFORD, DECEMBER 10 2013. CT LACKS UPDATED POLLUTION PAPERWORK



Leaks from underground tanks are a frequent reason properties end up on the significant hazards list. Underground storage tanks typically hold vehicle fuels but can contain almost anything.

If Gov. Dannel P. Malloy wants to streamline government regulations, he might want to start with the paperwork. At the state Department of Energy & Environmental Protection — the agency Malloy uses as an example of progressive regulatory reform — documents meant to warn the public of serious pollution show DEEP has been slow to act on significant environmental threats. In mid-October, Malloy signed an executive order asking for the public's help in identifying Connecticut regulations that are obsolete, burdensome, or unnecessary. In addition, he ordered all state agencies to apply a lean workflow to their regulatory processes, a philosophy that DEEP already implemented to improve permit processing 74 percent. While the Department of Energy &

Environmental Protection has been successful in shortening the inspection times for issues like underground storage tanks from six weeks to a few hours, the agency's regularly published "List of Significant Environmental Hazards" shows a problem with DEEP's follow-through on site-specific pollution. DEEP has not resolved 69 incidents where pollution threatened groundwater, with some cases more than seven years old, according to the list published on DEEP's website. That's more than 10 percent of the 500-plus properties listed in the publication. DEEP claims this isn't a regulatory problem but a paperwork issue. Agency spokesman Dennis Schain said nearly all of the 69 cases have been addressed and DEEP just hasn't had the time to update the files for the "List of Significant Environmental Hazards" publication. "It is really a data-entry issue," Schain said. "They just haven't been able to keep pace." Even if the hazards have been taken care of, DEEP still is regularly publishing a list saying otherwise, indicating dozens of properties around Connecticut have major unsettled environmental issues. "If I am living near a property that is on this list, I want to know that the significant environmental hazard has been dealt with," said Lee Hoffman, attorney for Hartford law firm Pullman & Comley, who notified DEEP of the paperwork issue more than six months ago. Hoffman said even though the list doesn't garner much attention from the public, the fact that it isn't updated with accurate information creates all types of issues ranging from unknown health risks to concerns during property transfers to general perceptions about Connecticut's environment. "The risks ought to be addressed, they need to be addressed quickly, and the public needs to know it has been addressed," Hoffman said. "If (a property) has been fixed up, that's great, but the list needs to be updated so the people in the surrounding area know they don't have to adjust their lives because the environmental hazard." The lack of an updated list also creates issues for the properties and businesses where the environmental hazards took place, even though the problem may have been resolved for years. The lists include numerous incidents at gasoline stations and dry cleaners, where an underground tank may have leaked or a chemical spilled. "It can interfere with your financing until the case is closed," said Chris Herb, president of the Connecticut Energy Marketers Association, a trade group representing gasoline stations. "You don't want to be on the list, because it ... can impact your ability to get new financing or sell your property." The environmental hazards list is frustrating, too, because most underground tank leaks at gasoline stations are addressed immediately, Herb said. Those underground tanks contain the station's most valued commodity, and the businesses don't want to lose money by having their product seep into the environment. Once a hazard has been identified, DEEP requires the property owner to monitor the site for years to make sure there is no threat to groundwater, even if the spill was addressed immediately and all contaminants removed. "Ongoing monitoring is a big issue," Herb said. "It seems like hundreds of thousands of dollars in expense can be spent on this ongoing monitoring." As part of Malloy's regulatory overhaul, DEEP is looking to change its cleanup and monitoring requirements for environmental hazards in



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order to get contaminants removed quicker and to lower the burden on business and property owners, said Graham Stevens, DEEP office director of constituent affairs and land management. Currently, unless there is an immediate threat to public health such as pollution near an aquifer, an environmental hazard doesn't have to be cleaned up, just contained. Only when the land is sold does the state's Property Transfer Program require the pollution be investigated and removed. "We have been hearing feedback for many years that the Transfer Act is very complex," Stevens said. "It can bog down the deal." The new system being proposed gives property owners more flexibility to work within the law and get the pollution removed as quickly as possible, Stevens said. The standard being sought follows a Massachusetts law that gives two separate timetables for cleaning pollution: a quicker one for newer hazards and a more deliberate timetable for older hazards. Businesses and property owners who move fast might be able to avoid the long-term monitoring that the law now requires. "We want to take people who take quick action out of the system as quickly as possible," Stevens said. The ongoing monitoring isn't a small issue either. Berlin electric utility Connecticut Light & Power is on the "List of Significant Environmental Hazards" for an April 2012 spill from an underground storage tank at its East Hampton service center. Even though the contamination was removed immediately, CL&P still must provide weekly data on the quality of the water in the area to the state Department of Public Health, along with more extensive quarterly reports. Since the spill was cleaned, none of the testing has shown any threats to the public health or the environment, said CL&P spokesman Mitch Gross. The utility is even expanding its use of the East Hampton center, relocating employees from their offices in South Windsor, Willimantic, Lebanon, and Middletown. "The issue was removed a long time ago," Gross said. DEEP already made some modifications to its regulatory process in June to give property owners more flexibility but started a more thorough risk assessment evaluation in November for what else needs to be updated, which will include changes to the law that only the state legislature can make. DEEP expects to have recommendations in October for the legislature to take up in its 2015 session.

<http://www.hartfordbusiness.com/article/20131209/PRINTEDITION/312059941>

USA, MN, MINNEAPOLIS, COMO, DECEMBER 10 2013. COMO RESIDENTS CONCERNED WITH TOXIC VAPORS TALK WITH BROCKOVICH ASSOCIATES

Watch the Video's:

- [Trichloroethylene Contamination not Isolated to Mpls](#)
- [Como Residents Concerned with Toxic Vapors Talk with Brockovich Associates](#)
- [General Mills Facing Lawsuit over Vapors from Mpls Residents](#)

There's frustration over a dangerous chemical under a Minneapolis neighborhood and what to do next. General Mills faces two class-action lawsuits, filed this week, regarding the dumping of that chemical. On Saturday those homeowners were told a class action suit may not be the way to go. The area being tested is Minneapolis' Como neighborhood. Letters went out to homeowners and businesses in November. The chemical, known as TCE, was used as a cleaning solvent at a former General Mills facility. It was dumped decades ago into the ground. While the groundwater was cleaned up, TCE vapors are now coming up through the ground, and into those homes and businesses. A team of associates of [Erin Brockovich](#) visited the Como neighborhood Saturday. They think the vapors are a problem so serious, they're now offering legal representation. More than 75 people packed a room at Van Cleve Park to listen to Bob Bowcock, a colleague of Brockovich. He discussed with them things they should consider now that the state is testing their Como homes for TCE contamination. Bowcock said, "Sadly nobody really knows the extent of the soil vapor intrusion." There are many unknowns. So Bowcock, with [Integrated Resource Management](#), told them a class action lawsuit may not be in their best interest and asked them to consider individual representation with his firm's partner litigation team, [Girardi Keese](#), instead. He explained, "Class actions represent each of you as equals. You're called similarly affected or similarly impacted and the problem that I have with those is your house is different than his house. Your impacts are all different and you're all unique individuals." Bowcock says TCE can break down into other chemicals including what he called a more toxic chemical, vinyl chloride. He said, "The test results I'm seeing, while they're very high for TCE, don't show those break down chemicals." Resident Steve Sworski, who lives just across the tracks from the former General Mills site, said numerous people on his block have had cancer, including his wife. Sworski said, "We've got all kinds of cancer. I don't know where they're coming from." Maggie Dwyer lived in the neighborhood 40 years and had cancer twice. "We can just go house by house and you can see who's passed away from cancer," Dwyer said. But it's important to emphasize it's not known if some or any of the cancers were caused by the contamination. Many residents are worried about the unknowns. Many are still deciding what to do. Bowcock's team said it will bring lawyers to town at a future date to talk to residents on an individual basis. [General Mills issued a statement](#) Friday talking about the testing they are doing



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with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency and the vapor ventilation systems they will install in homes. The statement said they want to quote, "make this right for any impacted homeowner."

Related Stories

- [VAPOR INTRUSION: Como residents file class-action lawsuit](#)
- [Tests Confirm Cancer-Causing Vapors in Several SE Mpls. Homes](#)
- [Erin Brockovich's chief investigator questions TCE vapor test quality](#)

<http://www.kare11.com/news/article/1048020/391/Como-residents-concerned-with-toxic-vapors-talk-with-Brockovich-associates>

USA, W.VA, WHEELING, DECEMBER 10 2013. HEALTH DEPT. CONCERNED ABOUT BENZENE EMISSIONS NEAR LOCAL GAS DRILLING SITES



Wheeling-Ohio County Health Department Administrator Howard Gamble says benzene emissions at some natural gas drilling sites throughout the county are "at levels of concern."

A substance believed to cause cancer in those exposed to it over an extended period of time is in the air near Marcellus Shale fracking sites, according to Wheeling-Ohio County Health Department Administrator Howard Gamble. "The levels of benzene really pop out. The amounts they were seeing were at levels of concern," said Gamble in describing the results of testing his department recently performed at well sites throughout Ohio County. "The concerns of the public are validated," he added. Gamble said he could not identify the specific wells his employees tested in Ohio County because the information is being sent to Michael McCawley, chairman of the Department of Occupational & Environmental Health Sciences in the School of Public Health at West Virginia

University as part of his ongoing study on the matter. However, Gamble said there are well sites throughout Ohio County, from Valley Grove to West Liberty to Oglebay Park. McCawley previously found high levels of benzene in the air near one Wetzel County well site, which he said were so bad he would recommend "respiratory protection" for those in the area. According to the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, some short-term symptoms of benzene exposure include dizziness, rapid heartbeat, headaches and tremors. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services maintains that high levels of benzene in the air can cause leukemia. West Virginia law requires wells be drilled at least 625 feet away from an "occupied dwelling," but Gamble said this distance may not make much difference because the benzene is probably not coming from under ground. "It is not necessarily what is coming out of the earth. They have a huge amount of equipment that runs - and they have huge numbers of diesel trucks that are going in and out the whole time," he said. In addition to benzene, multiple legal advertisements over the past few years by natural gas producers confirm the "potential to discharge" various amounts of these materials into the air on an annual basis from the operations at the natural gas wells and compressor stations: carbon dioxide, nitrogen oxides, carbon monoxide, sulfur dioxide, methane, carbon dioxide equivalent, xylenes, toluene and formaldehyde. "This is something that we need to keep track of because we are not sure how it will impact us over the long-term," Gamble said. Though some remain concerned over how fracking will impact public water supplies, Gamble said his department does not receive many complaints about this. He said other than the air pollution, one of the major factors for those living near well sites involves the noise. "It is not much of an issue when they are drilling out in rural areas where they could be miles away from residents. However, there are problems with the noise here," Gamble said. To evaluate the health impacts of fracking on local residents, Gamble said his department is developing a website that should be up and running by early 2014. The tool will allow individuals to report non-identifiable data on specific health concerns and problems they may have occurring due to drilling activity in their area. To establish this website and continue researching the impacts of shale gas drilling, Gamble's department will make use of a financial donation from the Elysian Fields Farm and Penny Miller of Wheeling. "I own a farm close to a gas well on a neighbor's property, and I worry about the air quality. I would like to encourage land owners near a well, or those with a well, to financially support the health department in monitoring the health effects of the wells," said Miller.

<http://www.theintelligencer.net/page/content.detail/id/593209/Health-Dept--Concerned-About-Benzene-Emissions-Near-Local-Gas-Drilling-Sites.html?nav=510>



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EGYPT, KAFR AL ZAYAT, DECEMBER 10 2013. EGYPT MINI-BUS & PETROL TRUCK CRASH KILLS AT LEAST 13

Officials say a truck hit the vehicle and exploded in a ball of fire in the town of Kafr El-Zayat, south of Alexandria. A truck carrying petrol in northern Egypt has crashed into a mini-bus and exploded into a ball of fire, killing at least 13 people, authorities said. Officials told the AFP news agency that Monday's crash, which also injured several mini-bus passengers, occurred on a bridge in the town of Kafr El-Zayat, south of the Mediterranean city of Alexandria. It was caused when a tyre on the truck burst and the vehicle rolled over before hitting the mini-bus and exploding, according to the officials. The accident was the worst since [a train ploughed into a mini-bus and a truck](#) at a railway crossing on November 18, killing 27 people. Egyptians have long complained that the authorities have failed to deal with chronic transport problems, with roads and train lines poorly maintained. In January, 17 people died when a train transporting conscripts derailed, and in November 2012, 47 school children were killed when a train crashed into their bus. The transport minister and the railway authority head were forced to resign as a result of that accident, which was blamed on a train signal operator who fell asleep on the job. The government formed a panel to investigate, but as with similar tragedies in the past, it did little to shed light on the details and less still to bring about accountability. In Egypt's deadliest railway tragedy, the bodies of more than 360 passengers were recovered from a train after a fire in 2002.

Related Stories

- [Fuel tanker road accident in Egypt kills 14](#)
- [15 killed in a gasoline truck explosion in Egypt's Nile delta](#)

<http://www.aljazeera.com/news/middleeast/2013/12/egypt-mini-bus-crash-kills-at-least-13-2013129194641226928.html>

BANGLADESH, CHITTAGONG, DECEMBER 11 2013. FIRE CRITICALLY INJURES THREE ON AN OIL TANKER



A fire fighting ship tries to extinguish a blaze which broke out in an oil tanker, OT Kingfisher-1, at a jetty at Chittagong Port yesterday morning.

The vessel named OT Kingfisher-1, was laden with 8,650 tonnes of fuel of Jamuna Oil Limited. Three members of a crew on an oil tanker sustained severe burn injuries as a fire broke out on the vessel on Karnaphuli river in Chittagong yesterday. The vessel named OT Kingfisher-1, was laden with 8,650 tonnes of fuel of Jamuna Oil Limited, a state-owned petroleum marketing company. The injured are Kamal Uddin, 32, Azmir Hossain, 35, and Mohammed Imon, 25. They were admitted to Chittagong Medical College and Hospital and later shifted to Dhaka as their condition deteriorated. Jashim Uddin, deputy assistant director of the Fire Service and Civil Defence, said the fire originated from a gas cylinder leakage in the kitchen of the vessel around 9:10am. The three sustained burn injuries as the fire rapidly engulfed the kitchen and a cabin adjacent. The three were present in the kitchen when the fire broke out, he added. He said six of their fire-extinguishing units managed to douse the fire by 10:10am with the help of a vessel from the Chittagong Port and equipments of the Jamuna Oil Ltd. However, the fuel reserved on the tanker remained intact, said Jashim. Mrinal Kanti Das, chief at the burn unit of CMCH, said Kamal sustained 100% burn injuries while Azmir and Imon sustained 80% and 54% injuries respectively. Three of them were in a critical state, he said. Jahirul Islam, in-charge of a police outpost at CMCH, said the injured were shifted to Dhaka around 3pm. Sources at the Jamuna Oil Ltd said OT Kingfisher-1 was scheduled to sail for Bagabari Depot in the morning today.

<http://www.dhakatribune.com/bangladesh/2013/dec/11/fire-critically-injures-three-oil-tanker>

USA, WYO, SINCLAIR, DECEMBER 11 2013. FIRE BURNS FOR HOURS AT REFINERY

A fire burned for more than six hours at the Sinclair Oil refinery in south-central Wyoming. Officials with Salt Lake City-based Sinclair say nobody was hurt. The fire started around 3:30 a.m. Friday in the plant's alkylation unit. The refinery's fire department extinguished the flames around 10 a.m. The company said in a release it had notified Wyoming workplace safety regulators and begun an investigation. The refinery continued to operate at normal rates. In 2012, three fires injured seven workers at the refinery in the town of Sinclair. In October, the Wyoming state workplace safety office announced more than \$700,000 in fines against Sinclair for 22 alleged workplace safety violations. Problems that led to the fines included a toxic gas release that sickened 22 workers in May.

http://dailyranger.com/story.php?story_id=10322&headline=Digest



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