

# Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network

## Release 2010 – 634 Newsy Stuff

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

**August 22 2010**

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### USA, MS, SEMINARY, AUGUST 15 2010. JET FUEL TANKER FLIPS ON HWY 49 NEAR SEMINARY

jeff daley



A military tanker carrying jet fuel overturned on the southbound lane of Highway 49 near Seminary Saturday around 1:00pm. A witness at the scene said the tanker was traveling southbound on 49 when it suddenly went airborne, flipped over, landed upside down and caught fire. The driver and at least one passenger were pulled to safety from the burning wreckage. They apparently escaped serious injury. Firefighters from Covington County, Seminary, and Sanford were able to get the fire under control and then worked well into the late afternoon hours hosing the tanker down with foam as National Guard Soldiers worked to upright the wreckage and clear the highway. Because of the dangerous nature of the cargo traffic continues to

be diverted around the scene causing several miles of backups in both the North and South bounds lanes. Highway Patrol officials anticipate it will take another 4 to five hours to get the wreckage cleared and traffic back to normal

<http://www.wdam.com/Global/story.asp?S=12980310>

### USA, FLA, TALLEVAST, AUGUST 15 2010. TINY TOXIC TOWN TAKES ON A CORPORATE GOLIATH >> A FLORIDA HAMLET WHERE PARTS FOR NUCLEAR WEAPONS WERE MADE IS FIGHTING BOTH AN ENVIRONMENTAL CALAMITY AND A MAJOR DEFENSE CONTRACTOR.

ronnie greene

 **Watch the Video** [http://www.miamiherald.com/2010/08/14/1776659\\_p2/tiny-toxic-town-takes-on-a-corporate.html](http://www.miamiherald.com/2010/08/14/1776659_p2/tiny-toxic-town-takes-on-a-corporate.html)

Tallevast -- An environmental divide pits residents against industry, state Environmental contamination threatens to destroy Tallevast, Florida, a century old hamlet at the edge of the Everglades in Southwest Florida's Manatee County. In one of the nation's most emotional environmental divides, the residents find themselves pitted against giant defense contractor Lockheed Martin, Manatee County and the state of Florida.

The main drag in this tiny blue collar hamlet is nearly hidden west of U.S. 301, a world away from the bustle of nearby Carrabba's, The Fresh Market and Starbucks. Tallevast Road lacks sidewalks, so if you're walking through town, tread gingerly to avoid the work trucks rumbling through. A long-closed plant anchors one end of town, hovering like the ghost of dead industry. Yet Tallevast retains a small town richness, where news spreads word of mouth, neighbors are often kin, and many, though not all, of the 80 homes maintain the well-kept look of the working class. Environmental contamination threatens to destroy this historic black town and its heritage. In one of the nation's most emotional environmental divides, the residents find themselves pitted against giant defense contractor Lockheed Martin, Manatee County, and the state of Florida. The divide takes root at the former American Beryllium Company plant, anchoring five acres at 1600 Tallevast Road across from a community church. Opened in 1961 and shuttered in 1996, the plant manufactured machine parts for nuclear weapons using beryllium-containing metals. Workers inhaled hazardous dust and handled a toxic degreaser that cleaned machine parts.

#### Underground Plume

In January 2000, as it prepared to sell the plant it had recently purchased, Lockheed Martin discovered a leak of solvents used in those degreasers. The leaching, state officials say, could have begun 38 years earlier and, stunningly, gone undetected until then. The company told the state and county, and industry and government began excising tainted soil and following the trail of contamination. They discovered an underground plume seeping 200 acres in a town of 1.5 square miles, where a number of residents still drank and showered from well water. The main hazard in that toxic cesspool was TCE, a cancer-causing chemical used in the degreaser that, five years earlier, had drawn attention in the book A Civil Action over contamination in a small Massachusetts town. The people of Tallevast, told nothing, discovered the news by chance more than three years later, in September 2003. "The first thing that went through my mind was, How could this happen? And also, Why didn't anyone tell us?" asked Cassandra "Casey" Brice, whose grandfather, Thomas Bryant, and his brother, Eli, founded the Bryant Chapel Christian Methodist Episcopal Church a few blocks from her home. Both of Brice's parents died after bouts with cancer, her mother Bernice Bryant Byers in 1997 and her father Clarence Byers in 2008; her mother also suffered from diabetes. She worries her mother's death was linked to the pollution. "All these years we were drinking the water and not knowing it was contaminated. She was a water drinker. She drank water all the time. And ice, she loved to eat ice."

#### Stick Pins on a Board

The discovery spread fear like the foul plume, killing property values and sparking worries that any deaths, cancers, and cases of the deadly lung disease berylliosis infecting Tallevast are linked to the plant. Affixing stick pins on a board, residents count more than 80 cancer cases over the past three decades. One, on average, for every home in town. Today, the defense

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contractor estimates it will take 50 years to clean the mess. "They're just waiting on us to drop off, one by one," said Charlie Ziegler, a former plant janitor afflicted with berylliosis. Ziegler, 75, sometimes requires an oxygen tank to breathe. His wife, Beatrice, and brother-in-law never worked at the plant, but both lived with him, and both are afflicted with the disease. "You just find sickness everywhere," said his wife of 50 years, who complains of seizures. "We cough all the time. It's miserable. It's miserable living in Tallevast. . . . You have to just stay here and take it." The future is so bleak, deeply rooted homeowners are desperate to get out, pressing Lockheed Martin to pay to move them to a community uncluttered by fear, pollution, and dying property values. Lockheed Martin refuses to relocate them, and those who would leave on their own can't. No one's buying in a town swimming in pollution. "You just feel like you've been robbed of your heritage and your legacy," said lifelong resident Beverly Bradley, whose hands and feet were attacked by a fungus she fears came from the plant's soil. She is Casey Brice's sister and second cousins with the Zieglers. "Tallevast is us. It's like they are taking our whole lives away from us." Lockheed Martin said the contamination has been capped and Tallevast is a safe place to live. The company gave "really careful consideration" to the community's relocation request, said spokesman Gary Cambre, but concluded the move was unnecessary because the pollution is no longer able to reach residents through drinking and well water. Lockheed Martin cites a 2005 opinion from a Florida Department of Health doctor that there is no "imminent" health threat.

### **Lockheed's Position**

"Had we been shown that there was a pathway between those groundwater contaminants and the community, that decision may have been different," Cambre said. Lockheed Martin has a "corporate commitment to restore the conditions in the Tallevast community," he said. "Relocation would be inconsistent with that commitment." Some residents suspect the firm is fearful of setting a precedent in other communities by paying to relocate the people of Tallevast. "It's not like Lockheed can't afford to relocate us," said Bradley, an automation clerk for the U.S. Postal Service. "The money they spent over the years to fight us, they could have relocated us and we would be over this." In 2009, Lockheed Martin ranked No. 54 on the Fortune 500 list of America's largest corporations, with \$42 billion in revenue and \$3.2 billion in profits. "I say at least give us some kind of explanation. It's just 'No.' They expect us to live here all the rest of our lives on this toxic plume," said Brice, a government contract employee for the federal General Services Administration more than an hour away in Tampa. "I dread coming home to this community and it shouldn't be, because I love this place. It was such a vibrant, close-knit community before this happened."

### **Fighting in the Courts**

Wilma Subra, an environmental chemist, has witnessed other corporations meet community relocation demands. In her native Louisiana, Shell Oil operated a chemical plant and refinery around a four-street all-black neighborhood in the small town of Norco. There, residents of the Diamond neighborhood, standing 25 feet from the chemical plant's fenceline, witnessed an explosion kill two neighbors and complained of environmental ailments. For more than a decade Shell refused relocation requests, even beating back a grass-roots lawsuit. Finally, in 2002, it cemented a historic pact with Diamond residents. The people of Tallevast are still waiting. "They definitely should be relocated," Subra said recently. "This is a community that has suffered greatly as a result of the operation of that one facility, so there's no question about what is the source of the impacts to their health." Residents have launched four lawsuits, engaging their fight from an undistinguished one-story white building with a pitch black door and no sign. It's across the street from the former plant. "We're just exhausted. It's a terrible mess we're in -- and it's not our fault," said Wanda Washington, vice president of the grass-roots nonprofit, FOCUS. "You feel like there's nobody out there who can help us." The first case is scheduled for trial in October in Manatee County Circuit Court, a property contamination lawsuit with some 300 plaintiffs against companies that owned or operated the plant. It says each homeowner's health and property were imperiled by the failure to tell them of contamination from beryllium and the toxins. Lockheed Martin is fighting the cases. The community is getting help from the nonprofit environmental law firm WildLaw and the School of Law at Barry University in Orlando, which devote most of their legal legwork to examining Lockheed Martin's massive cleanup plan, awaiting state approval. "This is arguably the most complicated contamination site, or one of the most . . . that the state of Florida has undertaken authority to clean up" in years, said Jeanne Marie Zokovitch Paben, director of Barry University's Earth Advocacy Clinic.

### **Turpentine Days**

Tallevast was once blanketed with longleaf slash pine trees that sprouted like forests and lured laborers from Georgia and the Carolinas with their fragrant aroma and promise of steady work. The thousands who found their way near this hamlet at the turn of the 19th century built small homes, prayed on Sunday, and worked the rest of the week turpentinizing for J.H. Tallevast, the village founder. The son of a prominent South Carolina family, Tallevast made his riches from the town's pine but never lived among his workers in the village that bore his name. Each day those men slashed the 100 foot pines to extract the resin, then boiled the sticky, brownish-yellow fluid and loaded the turpentine into barrels. Some of the former slaves sang as they

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worked, and others took to tossing potatoes into the hot turpentine resin, creating a "resin-baked potato" that became a delicacy. The railroad line was extended here, between Sarasota and Bradenton, so the tons of turpentine could be shipped north to Jacksonville and, from there, to docks and harbors along the Eastern Seaboard. The town's product thinned paint that helped camouflage U.S. war ships. By 1942, according to a feature in The Sarasota Herald-Tribune, 15,000 were employed in turpentine across Florida, making it the second largest trade in the state. Many of those workers were based in and near Tallevast. Soon, "Turpentine Town" eased from memory as the tall pines were largely harvested and new technology took root. The industry left an imprint in Tallevast, where businesses remain closed on Sunday, the small houses the pioneers built passed through the generations, and descendants fill the town working as municipal laborers, teachers, nurses, and domestics. In 1948, with turpentine becoming a memory, the Visioneering Company opened an engineering plant on Tallevast Road. In 1960, the company became American Beryllium, a subsidiary of defense contractor Loral Corporation. American Beryllium shifted its headquarters just up the road, with the initial building left to wither as a skeletal shell.

### Dirty Work

At 1600 Tallevast Road, the ABC plant opened in the early 1960s to manufacture nuclear reactors and weapons. Morris Robinson, a janitor in the early 1980s, said part of his job was to clean out tanks holding a colorless solution used to cleanse metal parts. The solution was so pungent, dust masks offered no help. "I had to hold my breath," said Robinson, a third-generation homeowner, whose grandparents were lured to Tallevast by turpentine and agricultural work. "I would actually hold my breath to clean them out. And I would have to step out of the room, get fresh air, hold it, and go back in and finish up." In 1996, after the plant closed, Lockheed Martin bought the property as part of a \$9.1 billion purchase of many of the assets of owner Loral Corp. At purchase, it did not conduct an environmental review. A year later, as Lockheed Martin began the process of selling the site, it did. By January 2000, the company discovered a leak of trichloroethylene, TCE, a cancer risk in drinking water that can remain in groundwater for long periods. Other hazards found include 1,4-dioxane, an industrial chemical that can affect the central nervous system and forms contamination plumes in groundwater, and tetrachloroethylene, a cancer-causing agent that can seriously irritate the skin. Some ex-janitors like Ziegler would be diagnosed with the lung disease caused by breathing beryllium dust. Now, the TCE posed potential cancer risks in a town where municipal water lines had only been extended in 1984, and where some 20 residences along three streets still used their own wells to drink and shower. More than a dozen homes and churches had received fill material from the plant to even out low areas over the years. Bradley, attacked by a fungus, was one. As owner when the leak was discovered, Lockheed Martin was liable for its cleanup. It shared its findings with Florida and Manatee County officials and, in September 2001, 538 tons of tainted soil were excavated.

### What They Weren't Told

Evidence soon surfaced that the contamination had leaked into the community. A 2001 state review said organic compounds "may be migrating off-site of the former ABC facility." In 2002, Florida officials "raised concerns about potential impacts to off-site private wells." Still, residents were told nothing. Why didn't the state inform the community? "I don't believe we had a regulation," a spokeswoman with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection told The Miami Herald in 2008. For its part, Lockheed Martin said it notified the state as required by law. "We followed Lockheed Martin's standard practice of conforming to applicable regulations and associated requirements for notification," said Cambre. As state officials said, those rules did not require Florida or industry to tell the residents a single thing.

[http://www.miamiherald.com/2010/08/14/1776659/tiny-toxic-town-takes-on-a-corporate.html?asset\\_id=Tallevast%20--%20An%20environmental%20divide%20pits%20residents%20against%20industry,%20state&asset\\_type=html\\_module](http://www.miamiherald.com/2010/08/14/1776659/tiny-toxic-town-takes-on-a-corporate.html?asset_id=Tallevast%20--%20An%20environmental%20divide%20pits%20residents%20against%20industry,%20state&asset_type=html_module)

### BAHRAIN, SITRA, AUGUST 15 2010. SPILL CLEAN-UP UNDER CONTROL

*rebecca torr*

Clean-up operations continued yesterday following an oil spill at the Bapco port in Sitra. It is being conducted by the company in co-operation with the Public Commission for the Protection of Marine Resources, Environment and Wildlife. A commission spokesman told the GDN that experts were still in the process of cleaning up the spill. However, he said further details would only be released once the operation had been completed. Reports have suggested the spill could have been as large as 150 square metres and may spread to parts of Saudi Arabia, but Bapco officials could not be reached for comment. Chief executive officer Faisal Al Mahroos earlier said that the spill did not pose any threat to the environment or marine life. He said it was very limited and had been brought under control by a specialised team, acting according to world standards. A report by Saudi Arabia's Arabic language Alyoum newspaper claimed the spill was spread over nearly 150 square metres, where Bapco has oil storage tanks and several industrial firms operate. "Experts expect the slick, which has emerged off Sitra, to reach the eastern coast of Saudi Arabia and other areas in the Gulf," it said. It quoted village residents as saying experts from industrial

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companies arrived on Tuesday to inspect the slick. The paper said it was told by officials from Bahrain's fisheries officials that the slick was around 150 square metres. "However, Bapco said it is only 70 square metres and that it has managed to control the spill... the company affirmed that it will succeed in removing the slick because it was still on the surface of the water," said the report. The paper quoted a Bapco source as saying the spill could have been caused by oil sludge and waste dumping by a tanker which passed near Sitra on Tuesday. "The tide has pushed part of this slick towards the (Sitra) island's shores and turned into scattered tar spots on the beaches... we will conduct a clean-up operation there and it could take three days to remove them," said the source.

<http://www.gulf-daily-news.com/NewsDetails.aspx?storyid=284723>

### CHINA, ZHEJIANG PROVINCE, HANGZHOU, AUGUST 15 2010. TOXIC GAS [[THIOCARBAMIDE](#)] LEAK IN CHINA, 2000 EVACUATED

A toxic gas leak from a chemical plant in east China has left five firemen ill and forced the evacuation of more than 2,000 residents. One of the five firemen was still in intensive care in a hospital after the incident in Hangzhou, the provincial capital of Zhejiang, a city government spokesman said on Saturday. At around 7 pm yesterday, thick fumes were detected at a warehouse for toxic materials at a chemical plant of the Hangzhou Hexiang Fine Chemical Co Ltd in Xiangfu town. Residents nearby began to smell a pungent odour, and their eyes watered and they complained of sore throats, he said. Soon, the fire brigade arrived and rescued 20 people from the factory area and evacuated 2,000 people, the official Xinhua news agency reported. Fire fighters used powder to stabilise the gas, and sprayed water to dilute it. In the early hours on Saturday, the situation was under control. The five firemen developed symptoms of vomiting and dizziness and they were taken to hospital immediately. The spokesperson said the toxic material was thiocarbamide. It emitted pungent gas in high temperatures. Environment tests and monitoring are underway, and the cause of the accident is being investigated

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/Toxic-gas-leak-in-in-China-2000-evacuated/H1-Article1-586653.aspx>

### USA, N.Y, BINGHAMTON, AUGUST 15 2010. BINGHAMTON ORDINANCE UNENFORCEABLE

julia hunter



Despite a Binghamton ordinance that requires railroads to notify emergency officials within 15 minutes of a derailment, Norfolk Southern failed to comply with the law after this June 2 accident. When Norfolk Southern [Railroad](#) failed to alert local officials after a June 2 derailment, they didn't just upset emergency workers -- they violated a city ordinance. The law, enacted in 1989, requires railroad companies to notify local emergency officials within 15 minutes of any derailment. The law passed after a derailment on the east side of the city went unreported. That accident involved seven train cars -- one of which leaked butane, Broome County Historian Gerald Smith said. "They had to evacuate much of the area and shut down businesses ... from Chenango Street, through most of the east side," Smith said. "They were having a hard time trying to figure out what the cars contained. "It was a great threat that the city just couldn't get straight answers for." According to the ordinance, the violation, a misdemeanor, is punishable by up to six months in jail, up to a \$1,000 fine, or both. But some local officials have doubts about how successful

enforcement can be. [Norfolk Southern](#) spokesman Rudy Husband said railroads are governed federally, and doubted the ordinance could even be enforced. But Andrew Block, executive assistant to the mayor, says that's not necessarily the case. "While railroads are subject to [federal law](#), they also are subject to municipal laws that pertain to issues specific to a particular locality," Block said. "Corporation counsel is now researching the extent to which the railroad company is subject to the city's law on railroad derailments. The findings will determine what action the city can take against the company." Norfolk Southern could still face federal penalties, depending on what the Federal Railroad Administration finds in its investigation, FRA spokesman Rob Kulat said, adding investigations can take up to a year and can result in heavy fines. "We were very concerned about the incident," Block said. "Fortunately, nobody was hurt. And our fire department and partners responded after learning about it. We will be following up with other officials as to how we can prevent something like this from happening in the future. And that includes not only our public safety officials, but county emergency services and federal representatives, not to mention the railroad itself."

**Related Link** [Railroads' guarded secret: Not even HAZMAT teams are told what's on train](#)

<http://www.pressconnects.com/article/20100814/NEWS01/8140341/1112/Binghamton-ordinance-unenforceable>

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#### USA, CA, SAN DIEGO, RANCHO PENASQUITOS, AUGUST 15 2010. LETHAL FUMES IN CAR: APPARENT SUICIDE

*pauline repard & tanya sierra*

Police evacuated a Black Mountain Park parking lot Saturday after a man was found dead in his car with a sign alerting the public that his vehicle contained a hazardous gas, San Diego Police officials said. Police said that the man intended to kill himself. The man's vehicle was spotted in the back parking lot of the 30-acre park off Carmel Valley and Black Mountain roads, about 12:30 p.m., San Diego officer Frank Cali said. The sign, visible on the dashboard, said "Don't open. Call hazmat or 911," Cali said. The San Diego Fire-Rescue Department and a hazardous materials crew handled the vehicle while officers moved people away from the parking lot. The haz-mat team, wearing protective safety suits, opened the vehicle, which was full of lethal hydrogen sulfide gas, said fire department spokesman Maurice Luque. Luque said the chemicals used to create the flammable, poisonous gas are commonly available. The haz-mat team neutralized the chemicals and the Medical Examiner's Office was called to take charge of the body.

<http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/2010/aug/14/apparent-suicide-found-gas-filled-car/>

#### AUSTRALIA, SYDNEY, AUGUST 15 2010. OIL PRODUCERS IN AUSTRALIA TO AGREE TO SPILL PLAN, REVIEW SAYS

*rebecca keenan*

BHP Billiton Ltd. and Woodside Petroleum Ltd. are among oil producers in Australia that are set to sign a pact to provide aid if there was an oil spill in the nation's waters, the Australian Financial Review reported. The agreement, planned after recent major oil spills including the Deepwater Horizon disaster in the Gulf of Mexico, will be the first formal procedure for dealing with a spill, the newspaper reported. The pact will allow equipment and personnel to be gathered if there was a spill, without having to organize costs, it said.

<http://www.businessweek.com/news/2010-08-08/oil-producers-in-australia-to-agree-to-spill-plan-review-says.html>

#### USA, LA, PAINCOURTVILLE, AUGUST 15 2010. OIL WELL EXPLOSION AND SPILL CLOSES HIGHWAY FOR DAYS

 **Watch the Video** <http://www.wafb.com/Global/story.asp?S=12960639>

Officials said a newly drilled well exploded early Wednesday morning, causing a Louisiana highway to shut down for a few days. According to the Assumption Parish Sheriff's Office, the well explosion happened in the Grand Bayou area around 3:30 a.m. Sheriff Mike Waguespack said it could take five to 10 days to cap the well. No one was injured. Authorities said the well is blowing out light oil and natural gas. A Louisiana State Police Hazmat team is on the scene. According to the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development, the incident happened on LA 70 between LA 996 and LA 1 near Painscourtville. Officials said traffic is being detoured at LA 996 to LA 1000.

<http://www.wafb.com/Global/story.asp?S=12960639>

#### USA, AL, MONTGOMERY, AUGUST 16 2010. CAR CRASH CAUSES BLOW UP

 **Watch the Video** <http://www.wsfa.com/Global/story.asp?S=12981091>



Troopers say the driver of a car leaving a local gas station strike another car on Highway 80 leading to some explosive events. Authorities say that the driver was leaving the Waugh road BP gas station and failed to yield, striking another car on Highway 80. After the collision, the car hit, crashed into another vehicle as well as a gas pump. The impact caused an explosion. No names have been released from the event, but authorities are working on the cleanup of the blow up. Police say no one was injured in the explosion.

<http://www.wsfa.com/Global/story.asp?S=12981091>

#### INDIA, MUMBAI, AUGUST 16 2010. POLLUTERS MUST PAY UP: RAMESH ON OIL SPILL

Taking a tough posture against the owners of the two cargo ships which had collided off the Mumbai coast resulting in oil slick, Environment and Forest Minister Jairam Ramesh on Saturday said the law demands that the "polluter must pay up". "There is no conspiracy in it. It is a freak accident. But we should see what the law says...the law says that the polluter must pay up,"

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Ramesh said here after visiting the affected coast. He said government is in the process of assessing the environmental losses due to the August 7 disaster. "The Ministry and the Central Pollution Control Board are talking to law firms to file a case against these shipping companies," Ramesh said, adding the government is also planning to compensate the fishermen who lost their livelihood due to the mishap. "We have asked the Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS) along with the National Institute of Oceanography (NIO) to study the impact of the oil spill on the mangroves in Navi Mumbai and Raigad areas. We are expecting a preliminary report within 2-3 weeks and a detailed report in the next 2-3 months," the Minister said. The Ministry has also asked the Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute, Kochi, to prepare a detailed report on the loss of marine livestock and an action plan will be put in place to compensate the affected fishermen, he said. So far, almost 100km of area has been impacted by the oil spill, of which almost 70 km area are mangroves.

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/Polluters-must-pay-up-Ramesh-on-oil-spill/Article1-587000.aspx>

### USA, AL, ATHENS, AUGUST 16 2010. PIPES REPLACED FOLLOWING 2008 XYLENE SPILL

*karen middleton*

Motorists and neighbors in the vicinity of the BP pipeline break of nearly two years ago along Alabama 99 might have thought more of the caustic chemical xylene had spilled. However, Limestone County Water and Sewer Authority General Manager Byron Cook said the work crew near the spill site Thursday are employed by the water authority. "There is no continuing leak, at least that is what BP has told us," said Cook. "But we had a couple of leaks where the spill occurred originally." Cook said on two separate occasions portions of the Limestone County water line had been "weakened, for want of a better word," by contact with some of 2,000 gallons of xylene that was estimated to have spilled from the ruptured BP pipeline. The pipeline, built in 1977, runs from the Whiting Refinery in northern Indiana, 20 miles southeast of downtown Chicago, to the Amoco BP plant in Decatur. BP uses xylene to produce terephthalic acid, which is used in making polyester fibers and plastic containers. Lightning was identified as the likely cause of the pipeline break in December 2008. BP's Ron Rybarczyk, government and public affairs spokesman, said late last year that water samplings have never revealed traces of xylene in drinking wells. Rybarczyk could not be reached for comment because a recorded message said he was involved in cleanup efforts on the gulf resulting from the April 20 explosion of a BP oilrig. "We contacted BP after the first (water) leak and they worked with us," said Cook. "And they have worked with us on this leak." Cook said the water authority replaced some 500 feet of xylene-weakened PVC water pipe Thursday. He said BP paid for the waterline replacements.

<http://enewscourier.com/local/x369039980/Pipes-replaced-following-2008-xylene-spill>

### CANADA, ONT, HAMILTON, AUGUST 16 2010. HESS STREET TOXIC CLEANUP CLOCK TICKING

The owner of two city properties where barrels containing possibly toxic substances were uncovered last month has until Aug. 25 to reply to Ministry of Environment orders before he could face charges. Provincial, city and public health orders have piled up against Dave Maden, who owns 249 Hess St. N. and 245 Catharine St. N. since local blogger and activist Matt Jelly complained about hundreds of barrels at the Hess site last month. Maden has not replied officially to any agency, as deadlines have come and gone. He had until last week to hire an environmental consultant to catalogue the toxins and come up with a cleanup plan. District supervisor John Beals said the MOE is now going through the 11-step order and continually trying to reach Maden. Only after going through all the steps and reaching the Aug. 25 deadline can they refer the case to the enforcement branch for possible Environmental Protection Act charges. Maden has also ignored a city order to hire an engineer for the Hess site to stabilize decrepit buildings housing some barrels. So the city hired its own engineer, whose fee will be billed back to Maden. The plan is to move 20 barrels to another location onsite so part of the building can come down

<http://www.thespec.com/news/local/article/249231--hess-street-toxic-cleanup-clock-ticking>

### CHINA, BEIJING, AUGUST 16 2010. FACTBOX-CHINA'S SITES FOR COMMERCIAL OIL STORAGE

China has completed a crude storage farm of about 26 million barrels in Qinzhou in the southern Guangxi region, near a new refinery that PetroChina has just built, official media reported last week. China will increase its refined fuel storage space by nearly half to some 490 million barrels by 2015 from 2009, a senior researcher of CNPC said in late May, or roughly enough for 54 days of current consumption. By the end of 2009, the world's second-largest fuel market operated 53 million cubic metres of fuel tank storage, said Gong Manying, head of marketing studies of state energy group CNPC. On crude storage, the country's top two oil firms PetroChina and Sinopec Corp have been the leading builders, to both service their expanding refining systems and establish commercial space under Beijing's call to boost supply security. Beijing has recently started enlisting the private sector to be part of the national reserve system. From blanket makers to auto parts manufacturers, scores of private entrepreneurs have since 2008 been erecting depots along the coast from Dalian in the north to Shenzhen in the

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south, inspired by Beijing's plan to build oil reserves. Following is a glimpse of commercial storage facilities, both crude and fuel, in use and those being built or planned, according to Chinese media reports and industry officials. Some of the figures below include part of the state refiners' operational storage as these are difficult to totally separate. The data does not cover China's strategic crude reserve. For a fact-box of China's strategic reserve by location, capacity, builder & product stock-pile go to:

<http://af.reuters.com/article/energyOilNews/idAFTOE67C06H20100816>

### NIGERIA, LAGOS, AUGUST 16 2010. BONNY ISLAND RAISES ALARM OVER OIL SPILL



*Shell workers next to an oil spill in Nigeria's Port Harcourt region.*

Massive portions of the Opobo River in Opobo/Nkoro LGA of Rivers State heavily polluted by oil spillage is said to be steadily moving towards the Bonny sea to cause further pollution and damage to the sea in that area. This is coming after a recent spill allegedly caused by multinational oil giant Shell was said to have crippled the source of livelihood for fishermen, polluted vast area of the sea and fish ponds and left the entire Bonny coast riddled with spilled crude last week. In a determined effort to address the issue, Bonny Local Government Chairman, Hon. Edward Pepple has called on multinational oil giant, Shell, stakeholders and other relevant agencies to come to the aid of fishermen and the people of the island to save it from the impending catastrophe. "There is looming danger; massive portion of the sea,

ravaged by severe crude pollution is flowing towards Bonny waters through the Opobo axis and this could be a major blow to fishermen whose source of livelihood depend on the sea, including passengers who also ferry across the sea" he averred. According to him the pollution allegedly caused by Shell earlier last week is still posing a serious challenge and to think of coping with another one looming from the Opobo area would be a one environmental catastrophe too many and may have dire consequences hence, the call for oil companies, government and relevant agencies to come to aid of the people of the Island. Hon. Pepple who made this call while speaking to newsmen lamented the lack of urgency by Shell to address the August 8th spill. He said Shell is not showing enough effort as everyone had expected however, he assured that meetings are still on to ensure that Shell commence the mop up exercise while the issue of curtailing the Opobo pollution is fashioned out. Shell is said to have erroneous pumped crude oil into one of her damaged pipelines alleged to have been perforated by angry youths protesting the non payment of their monthly amnesty allowance, consequently, sparking off a massive spillage that has caused one of the biggest pollution ever observed in the area. Shell in a recent statement had acknowledged that the spillage was as a result of the oil they pumped into one of their pipelines but maintained they were unaware it has been sabotaged. They denied any knowledge of leakage before the release of crude to the affected pipeline, insisting that the said pipeline was sabotaged by suspected pipeline vandals. Bonny people are not left out in the call to come to the aid of the Island as they state that virtually every activity of reaping resources from the sea has been stalled by the polluted water. Others are suspecting a sabotage against the Nigerian state, wherever they got that from is yet to be substantiated.

#### Related Links

- [Nigeria oil pipeline 'attacked'](#)
- [Nigeria: Shell says pipeline sabotage increasing](#)
- [Shell says Nigerian oil leak caused by sabotage](#)

<http://www.thisdayonline.com/nview.php?id=180691>

### USA, WASHINGTON D.C, AUGUST 16 2010. PENTAGON SLOW TO CLEAN UP BASES, REPORT SAYS

After more than 20 years of disagreements the [Defense Department](#) is still resisting orders from the [Environmental Protection Agency](#) to clean up Fort Meade and two other military bases. Pollution cleanup at Fort Meade in Maryland, New Jersey's McGuire Air Force Base and Tyndall Air Force base in Florida remain in the early stages with little long term progress, according to a [Government Accountability Office](#) report set for release this week. The Pentagon is the nation's biggest polluter, owning 141 of the 1,620 Superfund sites on the EPA's list. The Defense Department spent about \$29.8 billion on environmental cleanup at military installations from 1986 to 2008, GAO said. By law EPA is supposed to sign interagency agreements with federal agencies that own Superfund sites, but as of June the Defense Department hadn't signed agreements for four of its sites, GAO said. [The Post reported more than two years ago](#) that the Pentagon didn't want to sign such agreements with EPA, since it would put the environmental agency in charge of cleanup at the sites and allow it to assess penalties. The GAO report, requested by Sen. Robert Menendez (D-N.J.), found that much of the disagreement

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centers on how the Pentagon and EPA measure the level of cleanup. The environmental folks use metrics established by the Superfund program, but the military uses a different system based on its own environmental restoration program. Auditors also faulted the Defense Department for failing to disclose some contamination to EPA and the public in a timely fashion, including lead shot found on a playground at Tyndall in June 2009 that potentially put young children at risk. A Pentagon spokeswoman said officials are reviewing the report and would not comment. Menendez thanked the Defense Department for choosing "to end a number of the ongoing bureaucratic turf battles," but said "the Pentagon has been the main obstacle -- it has to cooperate more if we are to fully protect public health at these installations."

[http://voices.washingtonpost.com/federal-eye/2010/08/pentagon\\_slow\\_to\\_clean\\_up\\_base.html](http://voices.washingtonpost.com/federal-eye/2010/08/pentagon_slow_to_clean_up_base.html)

### CANADA, ONT, THORNCLIFFE PARK, AUGUST 16 2010. DIESEL SPILL CONTAINED IN DON RIVER



Crews have been out since Sunday night cleaning up the diesel spill caused by a ruptured underground tank. A construction crew at Vanderhoof and Brentcliffe, near Eglinton, apparently pierced a 10,000-litre underground tank, allowing diesel to seep into the sewage system. The diesel entered the river through a sewer at Leslie and Eglinton. Cyclist Kevin Kelly was reportedly the first one to spot the problem in the water. "I noticed just a toxic odour in the air. It was like very overwhelming, like diesel fuel or something like that and I observed the river and it was just orange," he said. The mess has since been contained by sand at the spill site. Crews are sucking the diesel out of the water. It still isn't known why the tank was there. Authorities said the spill is considered low-grade and doesn't pose a danger.

<http://www.citytv.com/toronto/citynews/news/local/article/90569--spill-contained-in-don-river>

### USA, FLA, MARCO ISLAND, AUGUST 16 2010. OIL SPILL FROM HALF-SUNKEN MARCO ISLAND BARGE BEING INVESTIGATED

**Watch the Video** <http://www.naplesnews.com/news/2010/aug/15/oil-spill-half-sunken-marco-island-barge-being-inv/>

**Watch the Video** <http://www.winknews.com/Local-Florida/2010-08-15/Crane-collapse-leads-to-oil-spill-on-Marco-Island->

**Watch the Video** <http://www.abc-7.com/Global/story.asp?S=12982493>

**Photo Gallery** <http://www.naplesnews.com/news/2010/aug/15/oil-spill-half-sunken-marco-island-barge-being-inv/>



*A Marco Marine Construction employee wades through the water for hours working to correct a sinking construction barge and toppled-over 17-ton capacity crane that came crashing down into the canal along Sea Court on Marco Island at about 4 a.m. on Sunday.*

An early morning crashing sound led several Marco Island residents to discover that a 17-ton capacity crane had fallen from a sinking barge, tearing through a residential boat dock on Sunday morning. Several agencies, including the U.S. Coast Guard and Marco Island Code Enforcement, are investigating the amount of oil and fuel that spilled into the canal along Sea Court, said Marco Island police Capt. Dave Baer. Gary Riss, neighbor to the destroyed dock, said he heard a crash, but it wasn't alarmingly loud. "We heard what we didn't know, at 4 o'clock in the morning... I thought it was just a palm frond," Riss said. However, when he woke up a few hours later, at about 8 a.m., he could smell diesel fuel, he said. Riss went outside and saw the crane had crashed into the water and through his neighbor's dock, so he called 911, he said. The barge, owned and operated by Marco Marine Construction, was

being used to construct a seawall across the canal along Amazon Court. "Barges sink a lot, but a crane flip, that's unusual," said Donald Ricci, owner of Marco Marine. The barge was likely taking on water on Saturday, but it wasn't immediately clear that it was listing, Ricci said, because it looked like the crane was just making the vessel lean to the side without enough weight to counter balance it. Marco Marine contractors were using a 70-ton capacity crane for several hours attempting to correct the sunken dock and crane. However, the one crane wasn't able to get the fallen crane upright, so workers were awaiting the arrival of another 70-ton capacity crane early Sunday evening, Ricci said. The owner of the wrecked boat dock, located at 798 Sea Ct., is away in Europe, said Fredy Gsell, of Paradise Realty, the listing agency overseeing the property that is for sale. The vacation rental's owners, Gerhard Groh and Heidemarie, of Wiesbaden, Germany, couldn't immediately be reached for comment on Sunday. "I was just happy nobody was hurt," said their Realtor. "That's what's important to me," Gsell said. Marco Island Fire Rescue and Marco Island Police departments were among the first on-scene, followed by the U.S. Coast Guard shortly after 8 a.m. Marco Island police and fire officials immediately contained the fuel spill by spreading boom

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across the canal, officials said. While the amount of fuel spill remained to be determined by officials, Ricci said it was likely less than 20 gallons because the engine wasn't fully submerged. The canal remained blocked by the fallen crane as of early evening Sunday. The cause of the barge's problems are not known, said Baer, the police captain who also acts as director of code enforcement. The barge may have started taking on water at some point, causing the barge and crane to lean to the side until the crane finally fell, Ricci said. When the crane fell, it brought half the barge into the water with it, he hypothesized. "We'll know more when we get it out of the water," Ricci said.

<http://www.naplesnews.com/news/2010/aug/15/oil-spill-half-sunken-marco-island-barge-being-inv/>

### INDIA, MUMBAI, AUGUST 16 2010. SATELLITE EXPOSES OIL SLICK HORROR

A week after the two ships collided off the Mumbai coast - triggering an environmental disaster, Times Now has accessed never before seen satellite images which reveal the extent of disaster. The images tell a disturbing story - how 900 tonnes of oil spill have damaged Mumbai's coastline. The exclusive Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) satellite images showing the extent of the oil slick has been revealed. The first image shows the damaged ship located by the satellite in the RISAT image. In the southern tip of Colaba, the toniest district of the city, just 10 nautical miles of its coast, the image shows the ship and it is also very close to Prong's rock lighthouse. It was here that the ship was impacted and tilted dumping its cargo of oil into the sea. The oil slick that is marked out in red has clearly spread and Colaba clearly impacted as images shows. As we continue up the coast the images shows the oil slick once again marked in red. Sewree, and the ecologically sensitive mangroves in Thane creek extending all the way up to Navi Mumbai and Elephanta Islands, on the opposite coast to the East, Uran, Mandve coastline also lapped by the oil. In Colaba, the oil has cloaked the coast almost completely. Mangroves near Elephanta Island are the worst hit. Now let's move further up the coast to Sewree, Elephanta Islands and Navi Mumbai. Here too the slick has clocked the sensitive mangroves. The satellite pictures have alarmed ecologists. The damage not just restricted to the West coast. On the Eastern shore, Uran, Alibaug Mandve has seems to be worst hit. The extent of damage revealed beyond Mumbai. Little wonder the Union Environment minister was upset. The Satellite pictures the first proof of the extent and spread of the pollution, the enormity of the clean up operation.

<http://www.timesnow.tv/Satellite-exposes-oil-slick-horror/articleshow/4351732.cms>

### CANADA, ONT, TORONTO, AUGUST 16 2010. PREVIOUSLY BURIED FUEL TANK LEAKS INTO DON RIVER



*Crews remove the diesel tank Sunday.*

A piece of Toronto's past was unearthed Sunday, courtesy of a summer rain storm. That's when construction workers excavating the back lot of a Staples office supply store in Leaside ruptured an underground fuel tank — a remnant of a First World War airfield used to train pilots, mechanics and maintenance crews for the Royal Flying Corps. The punctured tank didn't raise any eyebrows at first. The construction company made arrangements to have the contents pumped out yesterday. But then the rain came, kicking off a chain of events that led to the decades-old chemicals, including aviation fuel and kerosene, seeping into the sewer system and eventually into the waters of the Don River. By yesterday, the fuel spill had been contained by a series of booms and the tank taken away, but Toronto Fire Capt. Mike Strapko said his hazardous materials team was still a little shocked over what had been

uncovered. "It's routine for us to control these kind of spills that get into the waterways and sewer system ... but this one has been a little unusual," he said. "It could have been much worse." The airport's biggest claim to fame came in 1918 when Brian Peck safely landed the country's first airmail flight there. What authorities didn't realize at the time was that Peck had used the delivery as a guise to transport several cases of liquor from "wet" Montreal to "dry" Toronto at the height of prohibition.

<http://www.metronews.ca/toronto/local/article/604860--previously-buried-fuel-tank-leaks-into-don-river>

### USA, PA, PITTSBURGH, AUGUST 16 2010. FIRE MARSHAL: OIL VAPORS IN STORAGE TANK EXPLODED FROM WELDER'S SPARK IN DEADLY PA. WELL BLAST

A fire marshal says an explosion that killed two welders and caught a western Pennsylvania natural gas well on fire last month was triggered by flammable fumes from oil in a storage tank. Allegheny County Fire Marshal Robert Full says he's confident a welder's spark ignited the vapor and caused the July 23 explosion at a well near Pittsburgh owned by Monroeville-based Huntley & Huntley Inc. The welders worked for Indiana, Pa.-based Northeast Energy Management Inc., which was hired to fix leaks in the tank. The well produced methane gas but also drew oil from the ground. The leaky tank was used to store that oil

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and had been emptied of all but a couple hundred gallons before the welders arrived. The two companies haven't responded to requests for comment left Monday.

<http://abcnews.go.com/Business/wireStory?id=11414519>

### CHINA, HEILONGJIANG PROVINCE, YICHUN, AUGUST 16 2010. FIREWORKS FACTORY EXPLOSION KILLS AT LEAST 13, INJURES 148 IN NE CHINA

 **Photo's** [http://www.china.org.cn/china/2010-08/16/content\\_20719141\\_3.htm](http://www.china.org.cn/china/2010-08/16/content_20719141_3.htm)

 **Photo's** [http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/china/2010-08/16/c\\_13447098.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/china/2010-08/16/c_13447098.htm)

An explosion at a fireworks factory killed at least thirteen people and injured 22 others in northeast China's Heilongjiang Province Monday, local authorities said. The explosion occurred at 9:45 a.m. in a factory in the Wumahe District of Yichun City. As of 3 p.m., three bodies had been recovered and 22 others had been hospitalized. The explosion shattered the windows of buildings one kilometer away and damaged iron fences standing 100 meters away. The shockwave of the explosion was felt up to five kilometers away. The fire has been extinguished after a helicopter dumped water on the blaze from above but some fireworks are still exploding. Thick smoke blankets the scene. There are usually 40 to 50 people at work in the factory on workdays. The exact number of workers who were in the factory when the explosion occurred is unknown. More than 550 fire fighters and soldiers in 20 fire trucks were dispatched to the scene. Some 300 rescuers are on their way to the scene to search for survivors. "Fire trucks are hosing water onto nearby storehouses to prevent another explosion," said Xu Zhaojun, Party chief of Yinchun City. More than 2,000 residents were evacuated after the initial explosion. No other information was immediately available.



*Photo taken on Aug. 16, 2010 shows smoke and fire remaining after an explosion happened in Yichun, a city in northeast China's Heilongjiang Province. An explosion occurred in a firecrackers factory around 9:40 in Yichun on Monday.*



*Rescuers work at the explosion site in Yichun, a city in northeast China's Heilongjiang Province, Aug. 16, 2010. An explosion occurred in a firecrackers factory around 9:40 in Yichun on Monday, causing 13 deaths and injured 148.*

### Related Links

- [Fireworks explosion leaves 13 dead, 148 hurt](#)
- [Fireworks factory explosion kills at least 3 in NE China](#)
- [Massive blast rips through China fireworks plant](#)

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/china/2010-08/16/c\\_13447098.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/china/2010-08/16/c_13447098.htm)

### CANADA, N.B, SAINT JOHN, AUGUST 17 2010. NEW BRUNSWICKERS HAVE BEEN FILLING UP ON INFERIOR GAS FOR MONTHS

*kevin bissett*

If you've ever wondered whether it's worth paying a few cents extra to pump supreme-grade gasoline into the family car, a recent mix-up at a New Brunswick refinery may provide fuel for thought. Some drivers in the province who thought they filled up with the top-grade gas have been getting an inferior product for the last few months because of a malfunctioning valve at the Irving Oil refinery in Saint John. Mark Sherman, general manager of the refinery, said the problematic valve at one of their loading bays allowed regular gas to mix with their supreme grade — lowering the required octane levels for the high-grade

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fuels. Sherman said preliminary tests suggest the resulting blend was still better than mid-grade gas. He said the problem was detected at some gas stations in the province, and had been corrected as of last Friday. "On behalf of everyone at our company, I sincerely apologize," Sherman said Monday during a conference call with the media. "We're taking all the necessary steps to correct this situation to prevent it from reoccurring and we recognize this is not the standard of excellence that our customers have come to expect from Irving Oil." Sherman said there were no customer complaints prior to the discovery of the error. He said company officials are still trying to determine the quantity of inferior gas that was shipped and the number of stations that received it. In addition to Irving stations, those would include rival stations that buy gas from Irving. He added that Irving doesn't know precisely how long the problem went undetected. The company has ordered an independent audit of its quality control systems and has informed government regulators of the problem, Sherman said. He said supreme gas represents about 10 per cent of overall gas sales and the affected gas would have only been a fraction of that. A hotline 1-877-686-0792 will begin accepting calls Tuesday from customers who use supreme gas to determine how they can be reimbursed. Sherman said the exact details of the reimbursements hadn't been worked out yet. "If our customers are telling us they have been loyal supreme gas buyers for the last several months, then we will honour that and work out a fair compensation based on that," Sherman said. "At this point, we don't anticipate looking for some kind of purchase verification." As of Monday, the maximum price for self-serve supreme gas in New Brunswick was 6.7 cents per litre more than regular gas.

<http://www.winnipegfreepress.com/canada/breakingnews/new-brunswickers-have-been-filling-up-on-inferior-gas-for-months-irving-admits-100792854.html>

### USA, S.C, YORK CO, AUGUST 17 2010. 1 DEAD, 2 INJURED AS TANKER EXPLODES ON I-77

 **Watch the Video** <http://www.wmbfnews.com/Global/story.asp?S=12987199>

 **Watch the Video** <http://www.wsocv.com/news/24649111/detail.html>

 **Photo Gallery** <http://www.wmbfnews.com/Global/story.asp?S=12987199>

 **Photo Gallery** <http://www.wsocv.com/news/24649111/detail.html>



One person died and two other people were injured in a wreck on I-77 in York County involving a tanker truck which burst into flames Monday afternoon. According to authorities, the tanker caught fire around 2:47 p.m. in the southbound lanes at mile marker 87 which is near the Gold Hill Road exit. The tanker was hauling a flammable liquid and rolled onto its side striking a small sedan. Both vehicles were in the far left southbound lane near the concrete median wall. Dozens of firefighters from York County and Charlotte responded to the scene. Fire crews sprayed foam on the burning truck and they had the fire extinguished by 3:35 p.m. The driver of the tanker truck was killed in the crash, according to the SC Highway Patrol. Two females in the sedan suffered serious injuries and were transported to Piedmont Medical Center in Rock Hill. The cause of the wreck remains under investigation by the SCHP. Officials hope to have all lanes of I-77 back to normal by

7 p.m. The Charlotte Knights have a game at Knights Stadium in Fort Mill at 7:15 p.m. which will most likely affect people who are trying to get to the game. A detour has been set up for southbound traffic heading to York County from Charlotte.

<http://www.wmbfnews.com/Global/story.asp?S=12987199>

### NEW ZEALAND, WELLINGTON, AUGUST 17 2010. SHELL IN THE DOCK OVER FUEL ADDITIVE CLAIMS

Shell advertisements saying its petrol was "designed to take you further" may have taken consumers for a ride. The Commerce Commission says Shell's own testing gave an average fuel efficiency benefit of less than 1 per cent compared with a "base" fuel that few people buy. The commission said the advertising campaign the company ran in 2006 and 2007 about its "fuel economy formula" petrol additive was literally true in that it was designed to take drivers further, but falsely represented that it would make an appreciable difference to fuel economy. It has laid Fair Trading Act charges over the advertisements. Shell said the advertisements did not mislead and the petrol additive it was promoting was designed to take cars further. Testing supported the fuel efficiency claim, Shell's lawyer, Les Taylor, said in Wellington District Court yesterday. In 2006 the Advertising Standards Authority dismissed a complaint about the adverts from Shell competitor BP. Shell's test of the fuel overseas averaged an improved fuel economy of 0.98 per cent, but a statistician yesterday told Judge Mike Behrens, QC, that it was more correct to say the tests gave 90 per cent confidence that the true value lay between 0.1 and 1.9 per cent. "Statistics mean never having to say you're certain," Auckland University senior tutor Michael Forster said. The test reported

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results compared with "base" fuel which accounted for about 5 per cent of New Zealand petrol sales, the commission's lawyer, John Dixon, said. Opening the commission's case at what is expected to be a four-day hearing yesterday, Mr Dixon said the published test results did not compare Shell's petrol with that of the other three petrol giants, which all used additives. Shell is defending 22 charges alleging misleading advertising or engaging in conduct liable to mislead. The advertisements ran on radio, television, newspapers, a billboard and a brochure in 2006, and on a billboard and a poster in 2007.

<http://www.stuff.co.nz/business/4029976/Shell-in-the-dock-over-fuel-additive-claims>

### USA, OH, WALTON HILLS, AUGUST 17 2010. POLICE: I-271 NORTHBOUND WAS CLOSED IN WALTON HILLS

*kim wendel*



Police closed all the northbound lanes on Interstate 271 in Walton Hills near I-480 Monday afternoon, following two accidents, one involving a fire truck and a tanker truck, but I-480 westbound traffic from state Route 91 in Twinsburg to I-271 is being rerouted, with traffic exiting at Twinsburg. I-271 remains closed from state Route 82 to the Broadway Avenue-Forbes Road exit. Earlier Monday, a Walton Hills fire engine had stopped on the highway to check out an accident and the driver of the tanker truck behind it could not stop fast enough and slammed into the fire engine, reports said. The tanker then began to leak gasoline and HAZMAT was called. Other departments assisting in the accident are Bedford, Bedford Heights, Chagrin Falls, Oakwood and Twinsburg.

<http://www.wkyc.com/news/local/story.aspx?storyid=144117&catid=3>

### INDIA, MUMBAI, AUGUST 17 2010. SHIP COLLISION: ANOTHER BIG SCARE OFF MUMBAI COAST

 **Photo Gallery** <http://bit.ly/MumbaiToxicContainers>



Just when things seemed to have settled after the Mumbai ship collision, there is a new crisis. A hundred of the 250 odd containers that had drifted from the vessel MSC Chitra, have gone missing. Two of these containers are carrying hazardous chemical substances. The Navy is trying to track down these containers with the help of a salvage team called in from Singapore. The MSC Chitra had collided with another ship MV Khalijia on August 7 and has been grounded in the Arabian Sea since then off the Mumbai coast. The ship tilted precariously from the impact of the collision. While oil poured out into the sea through a leak, some containers too detached from the ship. The oil leak was only plugged after hundreds of tonnes of crude oil were already spilt. As a result of this, both Mumbai Port and Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust (JNPT) were shut for many days. NDTV reported on the environmental damage due to the spill. The state government confirmed that marine life had been contaminated. When the MSC

Chitra collided with the Khalijia, it had a cargo of 1219 containers. The cargo contained 2662 tonnes of fuel, 283 tonnes of diesel and 88040 litres of lubricant oil. Thirty-one containers held chemical substances.

 **Related Links** [Two cargo vessels collide off the coast of Mumbai](http://www.ndtv.com/article/india/ship-collision-another-big-scare-off-mumbai-coast-44972)

<http://www.ndtv.com/article/india/ship-collision-another-big-scare-off-mumbai-coast-44972>

### USA, N.Y, SARANAC LAKE, AUGUST 17 2010. EPA FINES HYDE FUEL COMPANY

*chris knight*

A company that owns several gas stations in the area has been fined \$16,000 and will spend \$60,000 to upgrade the leak-detection equipment on its underground fuel tanks, according to the terms of a settlement with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. P.J. Hyde & Son Inc., which does business as Hyde Fuel Company, failed to properly test the leak detection equipment on underground petroleum storage tank systems at five of its current and former gas stations and at an inn in Lake Clear, according to an EPA news release. EPA officials told the Enterprise that no actual leaks occurred at the company's facilities and said that Hyde Fuel is now in compliance with the requirements. John Senn, an EPA spokesman, said in an e-mail that the violations occurred at the following locations: the Wawbeek Quick Stop, also known as Jarvis' Quick Stop, on Wawbeek Avenue in Tupper Lake; the Tupper Lake Quick Stop, also known as the Nice n' Easy Grocery Shoppe, on Main

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### Release 2010 – 634 Newsy Stuff

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

**August 22 2010**

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Street in Tupper Lake; the Lake Flower Mobil Mart, also known as the Nice n' Easy Grocery Shoppe, on Lake Flower Avenue in Saranac Lake; the River Street Nice n' Easy on River Street in Saranac Lake, which the company closed last year; the Adirondack One Stop on state Route 30 in Indian Lake; and Charlie's Inn on Junction Road in Lake Clear, where Hyde Fuel provided fuel-dispensing equipment. The EPA said routine inspections of the gas stations and the fuel tank at Charlie's Inn found that from 2007 to 2009, Hyde Fuel violated the federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act's annual requirements for testing automatic line leak detectors. The company also failed to install an automatic line leak detector and an overflow device at Charlie's Inn, the EPA said. "Out of sight does not mean out of mind when it comes to underground storage tanks, which is why it is critical that facilities monitor their tanks and make sure they are not leaking," EPA Regional Administrator Judith Enck said in the release. "The Adirondack Park is an environmentally sensitive area of the state that is teeming with clean water, which could easily be impacted by leaking tanks." As part of the settlement, the company will spend \$60,000 to replace conventional leak detection devices with more technologically advanced electronic leak-detection devices at its four gas stations in the area, Charlie's Inn and another station not owned by Hyde Fuel, the Kickerville Station on state Route 30 in Long Lake. Hyde Fuel Company owner Tom Hyde provided a prepared statement Friday in response to a request for comment from the Enterprise. "An inspection and audit of our records by the U.S. EPA brought to light the absence of a piece of equipment, as well as testing requirements that were not performed that are required by EPA regulations," he wrote. "The tanks and piping are double walled and they were not leaking. New York state recognizes and requires inventory reconciliation as a method of leak detection, used at all our locations. In addition, a series of weekly, monthly and annual inspections are performed at all locations. "Inspections of this type are very important to make sure marketers are in compliance of all regulations. Although we have routinely had state inspections since 1985, this was our first EPA inspection for underground storage facilities. EPA and NYS regulations have different requirements. "In an effort to enhance our existing systems, we have installed electronic leak detection systems that monitor and test continuously. These newly installed systems can now be centrally-monitored and managed from our office in Saranac Lake. "Hyde Fuel Co. has a long history of protecting the environment and is very proud of their record in doing so." It couldn't immediately be determined when or if the EPA has conducted similar inspections of other gas stations in the area. According to the EPA release, petroleum from leaking underground storage tanks can contaminate water, making it unsafe to drink; pose fire and explosion hazards; and can have short and long-term effects on people's health. "More than 600,000 underground storage tank systems exist nationwide, and more than 375,000 leaking tanks have been cleaned up over the last decade because of strict environmental oversight," the release stated.

<http://adirondackdailyenterprise.com/page/content.detail/id/514852.html?nav=5017>

#### CHINA, HEILONGJIANG PROVINCE, YICHUN CITY, WUMAHE, AUGUST 17 201. DEATH TOLL FROM FIREWORKS FACTORY EXPLOSION RISES TO 19 IN NE CHINA



*Firemen and rescuers work on the debris after an explosion at a fireworks factory in Yichun City, northeast China's Heilongjiang Province, Aug. 16, 2010.*

The death toll from Monday's explosion at a fireworks factory in northeast China's Heilongjiang Province has climbed to 19, with five missing and another 153 injured, local authorities said Tuesday. The explosion occurred at 9:45 Monday morning at the factory in the Wumahe District of Yichun City. It killed nine of the factory's 51 workers and injured 35, while five are still unaccounted for. Another eight were killed and 35 injured when the explosion hit the neighboring Taiye Wood Factory. The blast also killed two pedestrians and injured 83 residents near the factory. The ensuing fire was largely brought under control Monday after a helicopter dumped water on the blaze. As of 2 a.m. Tuesday, the fire had been largely extinguished but smoke still surrounds the area and 23 small fires are still burning within a 309-meter radius of the factory. The situation is still severe and new accidents might occur, as there are three timber mills near the fireworks factory, a local government official said. Fire trucks Monday hosed water onto other warehouses of the fireworks factory to prevent more explosions. But some think that could be risky. "It might be dangerous to hose water at the scene as some explosives might detonate when hit by water," said Sun Huashan, the deputy director of the State Administration of Work Safety who arrived in Yichun late Monday to lead the rescue work. Sun urged other methods be used to prevent further explosions and fires. Traffic near the scene has been restricted since Monday. No one apart from rescuers and fire fighters have been allowed near the scene since early Tuesday. The fire spread to a chopstick factory Monday but it was brought under control. More than 2,000 residents were evacuated after the explosion shattered windows within one kilometer radius of the factory. Iron fences 100

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meters from the factory were also damaged in the blast. Witnesses said the shockwave of the explosion was felt up to five kilometers away. More than 1,700 people and 62 fire trucks were dispatched to fight the blaze and search for survivors Monday. Forty medical experts arrived in Yichun at around 10 p.m. Monday to help treat the injured. The cause of the accident is under investigation. Heilongjiang provincial work safety bureau said Tuesday they ordered an immediate carpet inspection over all businesses for producing and wholesaling of fireworks and for trading and using dangerous chemicals. Any factories failing to meet safety standards will be suspended from operating for improvement or will face closure. Production at six fireworks plants of the province has already been halted, said an official from Heilongjiang provincial work safety bureau.

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/china/2010-08/17/c\\_13448127.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english2010/china/2010-08/17/c_13448127.htm)

### USA, CT, MIDDLETON, AUGUST 17 2010. MIDDLETON CT PLANT EXPLOSION: OSHA ISSUES \$16.6M IN FINES FOR FATAL EXPLOSION

Proposed fines totaling \$16.6 million have been assessed by federal safety officials following the fatal Feb. 7 explosion that killed six workers in Middleton, Conn. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) issued the third largest fine ever assessed for a single incident, as reported by the New York Times. OSHA determined that the construction companies had "blatantly disregarded industry procedures designed to safeguard workers." OSHA assessed the general contractor, O&G Industries, for 371 violations, which included 225 violations that are considered "willful." The fatal explosion, which also injured 50 others at the power plant, occurred as flammable natural gas shot through a supply pipe to release debris that was stuck inside. Secretary of Labor Hilda L. Solis stated, "The companies had 'blatantly disregarded' accepted industry procedures, their own safety guidelines and 'common sense'... the deaths and injuries could have been prevented." "These fines and penalties reflect the gravity and severity of the deadly conditions created by the companies managing the work at the site," Solis continued. "No operation and deadline is worth cutting corners and costing a single human life." State and local law enforcement officials are still trying to determine whether to press criminal charges. The assistant secretary of labor for occupational safety and health David Michaels stated that OSHA believes that if O&G Industries got the power plant up and running by May 31, they would collect a \$19 million bonus.

[http://www.justiceneWSflash.com/2010/08/16/middleton-ct-plant-explosion-osa-issues\\_201008165224.html](http://www.justiceneWSflash.com/2010/08/16/middleton-ct-plant-explosion-osa-issues_201008165224.html)

### USA, PA, PITTSBURG, AUGUST 17 2010. FIRE MARSHAL SAYS FLAMMABLE OIL VAPORS CAUSED WELL BLAST

An explosion that killed two welders and caught a natural gas well on fire last month was triggered by flammable fumes from a relatively small amount of oil remaining in an aboveground storage tank, a fire marshal said. Allegheny County Fire Marshal Robert Full said Monday he's "confident" that's what caused the July 23 explosion at a well near Pittsburgh owned by Huntley & Huntley Inc., of Monroeville. The men killed worked for Northeast Energy Management Inc., of Indiana, Pa., which Huntley & Huntley had hired to weld leaks in the tank. The well produced methane gas but also drew oil out of the ground as part of that process, Full said. The leaky tank was used to store that oil and had been almost emptied before the welders arrived. The explosion damaged the gas well and caused it to catch fire, Full said. The metal tank could hold about 200 barrels of oil, or roughly 8,400 gallons, and all but about 200 gallons had been removed. The valve used to empty the tank was about a foot off the ground, so the only oil in it was that below the valve, Full said. Because it was hot that day, with temperatures in the 90s and a heat index near 100, the metal tank heated up, causing oil vapor to fill the tank, Full said. The welders, who were there to repair pinhole leaks in the tank, were killed when a spark ignited that vapor, causing the five-ton tank to rocket over 100-foot-tall trees and land in the woods about 220 feet away, chief deputy fire marshal Donald Brucker said. Brucker said findings that the tank still had some oil in it might result in updated safety procedures for maintaining such tanks. The federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration routinely investigates workplace fatalities. Spokeswoman Lenore Uddyback-Fortson said the agency doesn't comment on preliminary findings and won't have anything to say until its investigation is finished. Regulations require OSHA to finish its investigation within six months of an incident, she said. A specially trained crew was brought in from Texas to extinguish the blaze hours later, and the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection is assessing the environmental impact. DEP spokeswoman Helen Humphreys said her agency isn't commenting on Full's findings because it doesn't deal with workplace safety issues. Officials with Huntley & Huntley and Northeast Energy did not immediately respond to requests for comment Monday. Northeast Energy employees Andy Yosurak Jr., 56, of Creekside, and Kevin Henry, 46, of New Florence, were killed in the blast. Full said two employees for another firm, Pennsylvania Production Services Inc., also of Indiana, Pa., were at the well moments before the explosion. Those workers were well-tenders, whose job was to take pressure readings at the well, but they weren't involved in the tank maintenance, Full said. A Pennsylvania Production official declined to comment. Huntley & Huntley has a clean OSHA record, but Northeast Management paid \$5,965 to settle seven serious violations after a September 2007 explosion and fire at a well near Sligo, in

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Clarion County, OSHA records show. Workers at that natural gas well "were exposed to an unsafe air mixture environment resulting in an explosion and fire causing injuries," OSHA said. In November 2008, the company was fined \$4,000 for a drilling rig fire in Charleroi, in Washington County. Nobody was hurt, but OSHA found workers used electrical wiring and equipment not approved for hazardous locations.

[http://www.phillyburbs.com/news/news\\_details/article/206/2010/august/16/2-killed-in-gas-well-explosion-in-western-pa-1.html](http://www.phillyburbs.com/news/news_details/article/206/2010/august/16/2-killed-in-gas-well-explosion-in-western-pa-1.html)

### INDIA, MUMBAI, AUGUST 17 2010. Tanker overturns, traffic on Eastern Express Highway diverted

Traffic on the Eastern Express Highway in the metropolis was disrupted Tuesday after a chemical tanker overturned in suburban Ghatkopar, police said. The tanker, which was on its way to south Mumbai, turned turtle on the highway near the Ghatkopar flyover after the driver lost control over the vehicle, they said. "The tanker was carrying the chemical Xylene Hydrochloride, which started leaking out due to the accident. Fire brigade officials were rushed to the spot to treat the chemical following which all the south-bound traffic has been diverted," Deputy Commissioner of Police (traffic) S S Solunkhe said. Officials from the National Disaster Response Force team have also reached the spot, traffic police said.

<http://www.zeenews.com/news648822.html>

### USA, TN, NASHVILLE, AUGUST 18 2010. TENNESSEE DEC UNVEIL NEW ONLINE COMPLIANCE TRAINING FOR UST OWNERS AND OPERATORS AT TN.GOV

The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation, Division of Underground Storage Tanks, and TN.gov today announce the launch of Tennessee Tank Helper, a new training and compliance tool for owners and operators of Tennessee's fueling facilities. The free service is available at TN.gov, the state's official Web site. Tennessee Tank Helper generates customized training modules for owners and operators that translate complex underground storage tank rules into simple, easy-to-follow lessons. The service presents tank owners and operators with a training series specific to their facility and/or operator category. The training modules are followed by quizzes for each lesson that test the owner's knowledge of their tank systems. After the operator completes the training, Tennessee Tank Helper generates a training certificate as well as a customized, printable compliance plan. This plan guides facility operators through the actions required to stay environmentally safe and in regulatory compliance, based on their individual storage tank system. Facility owners are able to log-on and designate operators for each of their facilities. They can also view the training status for each of their designated operators to determine their level of compliance. "This application is a great example of our Division's capacity to take the guidelines set forth by the Environmental Protection Agency and develop an online tool that is easy to use, conforms to those guidelines, and is available for use 24/7 at no cost to our customers," said Stan Boyd, director, Underground Storage Division. Tennessee Tank Helper was built to meet the requirements of the Energy Policy Act of 2005, which dictates that owners and operators of underground storage tank facilities must be fully trained by August 8, 2012. The Energy Policy Act of 2005 also provides the necessary training elements required in each state by the EPA, and this content is reflected in the Tennessee Tank Helper curriculum.

#### About TN.gov

TN.gov is the state of Tennessee's official website and is a collaborative effort between the state of Tennessee and NICUSA Tennessee, part of the eGovernment firm NIC's family of companies.

[http://www.marketwatch.com/story/tennessee-department-of-environment-and-conservation-unveils-new-online-compliance-training-for-underground-tank-owners-and-operators-at-tngov-2010-08-17?reflink=MW\\_news\\_stmp](http://www.marketwatch.com/story/tennessee-department-of-environment-and-conservation-unveils-new-online-compliance-training-for-underground-tank-owners-and-operators-at-tngov-2010-08-17?reflink=MW_news_stmp)

### USA, ILL, CHICAGO, AUGUST 18 2010. TURN BLUE ISLAND REFINERY INTO FISH FARM?

The site of a former gasoline refinery near Blue Island that spewed contaminants into the air and soil might one day be converted into a tilapia farm or maybe a "green" industrial site. Those are among ideas Blue Island Mayor Don Peloquin has for the former Clark Refining and Premcor property at 131st and Kedzie, which he hopes to annex to his city. "It has a lot of potential," Peloquin says. "It's certainly been a black cloud that's been hanging over Blue Island for a long time." The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency and current owner Valero Energy Corp. are working out how to go about cleaning up underground contamination. Last month, Valero agreed to pay \$60 million to settle a class-action suit over toxic emissions, with payouts to people who lived in the area between October 1993 and January 2001.

<http://www.suntimes.com/news/metro/2605672.CST-NWS-tilapia17.article>

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