

Dangerous Goods & Hazardous Materials Group and Network

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"RELEASE 2010 – 572 NEWSY STUFF"

February 18 2010



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NIGERIA, LAGOS, FEBRUARY 10 2010. PETROL PIPELINES POLLUTE WATER BOREHOLES IN LAGOS COMMUNITY

nasir imam

An environmental group, Environmental Rights Action and Friends of the Earth, Nigeria ERA/FoEN fact-finding team visited an estate in Lagos on two occasions, was reliably informed by affected residents of the discovery of petrol gushing from the taps powered by water pumping machines since October 2008. A statement from ERA/FoEN said monitors visited Diamond Estate, a prototype housing property with about 550 houses located along Iyana Iba-Igando Expressway in Idimu-Isheri Olofin Local Council Development Area (LCDA) of Lagos on February 4 and 5, 2010 in response to a Save Our Soul (SOS) received on ERA's dedicated green lines. The occupants had initially thought the petrol which was in small quantity but very visible in the water would finally stop. But alas, it did not. Rather, the quantity increased significantly and posed a grave danger to the owners of the plots as they feared any careless spark may ignite an explosion. It was learnt that several complaints to the PPMC on the dangers posed by the incidences of petrol coming from the taps were not acknowledged by the agency. When the complaints continued to pour in, what had seemed like a response from the agency by way of sending its officials to sample the polluted boreholes from their individual boreholes and tanks which they were subsequently told to stop using. Jemima Ayangba, wife of one of the affected homeowners told ERA/FoEN that before the Petroleum Products Marketing Company (PPMC) asked affected plots to stop using their boreholes in January this year, anytime the household pumped water, the smell of petrol hung so thick that a young man that visited the family and struck a match to light his cigarette actually triggered a minor incident.

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201002090357.html>

USA, WI, SCHOFIELD, FEBRUARY 10 2010. CHEMICAL EXPLOSION OCCURRED DURING PAINT STRIPPING AT QSP

kelsi schindler

Watch the Video <http://www.waow.com/Global/story.asp?S=11956991>

31-year-old Eric Simpson was taken to St. Clare's Hospital with severe injuries after a chemical accident at Quality Surface Processing Tuesday morning. Two other workers were treated for smoke inhalation on site. Just before 9:30, Everest Metro Police and Schofield Fire Department received a call of an industrial accident at QSP in Schofield. Sgt. Mark R Klemm says, "This company processes metal for different businesses throughout the community and they were stripping some paint off a piece of metal in a hot salt bath and somehow that reacted and caused a chemical explosion." Sgt. Klemm says the owner of the company is not sure how it happened. The owner says they've processed this type of material for approximately six years and have not had a problem. Sgt. Klemm says, "It was a reaction when the piece of metal they were processing. Basically, it strips paint off the metal and they were immersing it in this hot salt bath which is approximately 800-900 degrees and somehow when the piece of metal being treated was immersed into the hot salt bath it reacted." Klemm says there doesn't appear to be any damage inside the building. Simpson has been transferred to another hospital but officials won't say where.

According to an official from the Everest Metro Police Department, a 31-year-old man has severe injuries after a chemical explosion at a Schofield business. Officials say the man was transported to St. Clare's Hospital. Two other workers were treated for smoke inhalation on site. Officials tell Newsline 9's Colby Robertson that workers were in the process of stripping paint when excess heat was generated and the explosion occurred. Everest Metro police and the Schofield Fire Department responded. Crews say there was minimal damage to the QSP building. Wisconsin Public Service was also on scene to assess the damage.

Emergency crews are currently responding to an industrial explosion in Schofield, according to the Marathon County Sheriff's Department. Lt. Dale Wisniewski says a caustic bath explosion has injured one person, who was transferred to an area hospital. Newsline 9's Colby Robertson is on scene and says she saw one person being taken into an ambulance on a stretcher. The incident is near Quality Surface Processing, a manufacturing service company on Pine Street. The company was formerly Chem-Chrome, according to the Lt. Wisniewski.

<http://www.waow.com/Global/story.asp?S=11956991>

USA, MA, FREETOWN, FEBRUARY 10 2010. FREETOWN MOVES TO CLEAN UP TOXIC SITE

kim ledoux

Twenty years after it closed, Freetown Screw Manufacturing Co. presents a growing environmental problem, posing a threat to the health of residents and draining town finances. Town officials say five decades worth of oil and hazardous materials once dumped there need to be removed, but cleanup of the 2½-acre site at 2 County Road could cost the town thousands of dollars. "This property is known as a derelict property and is falling in on itself," Town Administrator John F. Healey said at Monday's Board of Selectmen meeting. "It is a hazard to the neighborhood," Healey said. "It is costing us more for insurance. As a result, we are losing money every year we don't do something about moving toward a resolution of what we are going to do with this property." Healey said liability insurance for the site costs \$2,990 annually. "It would be nice if this property could be put to reuse, but that is not going to happen until we take some steps to clean it up," said Healey, who raised the issue after a review of town insurance spending. Healey says Freetown has two options:

- It can spend \$3,500 to hire a consulting firm to assist in preparing an Environmental Protection Agency brownfield grant application.
- It can take on the total cost of preliminary work, estimated at \$18,850.

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Selectmen decided to hire the consulting firm of Weston & Sampson of Peabody, saying they would find the money by pulling from Town Hall and other accounts. Weston & Sampson previously created a proposal that summarizes the condition of the property. "The wastes generated during the manufacturing process included cutting oil, soap, caustic soda and metal shavings. The process wastes were collected in a holding tank (cesspool) and the effluent was subsequently drained to a leaching field (also known as the disposal lagoon)," wrote Michael J. Scipione, president of Weston & Sampson. "According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, several documents on file at the Freetown Board of Health and (Department of Environmental Protection) indicated that oil and hazardous materials were disposed of on-site, and that some of the waste may have been discharged to a wooded area of the Acushnet Conservation Land adjacent to the property. There have also been fires reported in the disposal lagoon as a result of spontaneous combustion." Pollutants found by an EPA contractor on the property, as listed in the Weston & Sampson proposal, include: cadmium, chromium, copper, lead, nickel, zinc, benzene, di-n-octylphthalate and di-n-butylphthalate. Benzene is considered by the Department of Health and Human Services to be a carcinogen. According to Healey, the town could be fined by the state if it does not bring the property up to safe standards. As for a total cost of cleanup, Healey said the town will not know until more detailed investigation is completed. "We do need to move this forward. ... This has been too long. It should be cleaned up," said Jean C. Fox, chairwoman of the Board of Selectmen. The Freetown Screw Manufacturing Company Inc. opened in 1937. Freetown became responsible for the site in 1989 when it foreclosed on the property for non-payment of taxes.

<http://www.southcoasttoday.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20100210/NEWS/2100325/-1/news>

INDIA, MUMBAI, FEBRUARY 10 2010. ESSAR OIL FUEL RETAILING TO DOUBLE TO 2,500 OUTLETS BY MARCH 2011

Essar Oil Limited, India's largest private fuel retailer, is reportedly drawing up plans to double its petrol pumps to 2,500 by March 2011. The move comes close on heels of the Indian government firming up plans to deregulate petrol and diesel prices. The Ruia-owned company is selling petrol and diesel produced at its 280,000 barrels per day refinery at Vadinar in Jamnagar district of Gujarat through 1,293 petrol pumps. "We are expanding our petroleum retail business... we are going to increase (the number of petrol pumps) to 2,500 by next fiscal," Ruia informed. Essar Oil Ltd is a fully integrated oil company and its assets include developmental rights in proven exploration blocks, a 10.5 MTPA refinery in the west coast of India and close to 1300 oil retail stations across India. Plans are under way to increase its exploration acreage in various parts of the globe, expand its refinery capacity to 36 MTPA and open 5,000 retail outlets. Essar Oil's 10.5 MTPA refinery at Vadinar in Gujarat started commercial production on May 1, 2008. It has been built with state-of-the-art technology and has the capability to produce petrol and diesel suitable for use in India as well as advanced international markets. It produces LPG, naphtha, light diesel oil, aviation turbine fuel (ATF), kerosene, furnace oil and bitumen. The refinery has been designed to handle a diverse range of crude—from sweet to sour and light to heavy.

<http://www.petroplaza.com/news/industry/MiZibiY5MTk3JiYyJjMwJjE%3D>

USA, PA, PHILIPSBURG, FEBRUARY 10 2010. PHILIPSBURG MAN BURNED [GASOLINE] WHILE LIGHTING FIREPLACE

Rodney Curtis, 49, of 1012 Locust St., Philipsburg, was flown by Geisinger Helicopter to a burn center in Pittsburgh last night following a fire at his home. According to Cpl. Jeff Wharran, state police fire marshal from Rockview, Curtis was trying to light a fireplace at about 5:30 p.m. with gasoline when the gas ignited and engulfed him and set his clothes on fire. Family members extinguished the fire that engulfed the victim. Justin Butterworth, chief, Hope Fire Co. of Philipsburg, was the first person on scene within one minute of the call and reported the fire was out, but there was a patient. Members of Moshannon Valley Emergency Medical Services of Philipsburg treated Curtis then transported him to Peebles Plaza where he was transferred to a helicopter and flown to Pittsburgh. Wharran said Curtis suffered burns to the upper part of his body and face. The family was not displaced during the fire and damage was minimal to the home. Approximately 20 firefighters from Hope and Reliance fire companies were on scene for a half hour while Morris Township Fire Co. established a landing zone at Peebles Plaza. Morris Township Fire Police and Hope Fire Police also responded to the scene. Wharran said never use an ignitable or flammable liquid to start a fire.

<http://www.theprogressnews.com/default.asp?read=21172>

USA, KS, BROOK CREEK, FEBRUARY 10 2010. KDHE ORDERS SALVAGE YARD TO CHANGE PRACTICES

Watch the Video <http://www2.ijworld.com/news/2010/feb/09/kdhe-orders-salvage-yard-change-practices/>

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment has issued an emergency order, forcing the 12th and Haskell Bargain Center to make immediate changes, after seven fires at the salvage yard since 2004. The KDHE order states that owner Bo Killough must immediately "cease and desist activities that create a hazard and immediate danger to surrounding property and to public health and safety." Last week, residents in the Brook Creek Neighborhood, which is across the street from the recycling center and salvage yard, spoke out following a Jan. 27 fire that ignited six cars. They also complained to KDHE. The agency then sent investigators to the site. KDHE found the operators of the salvage yard were not properly removing gasoline and other flammable liquids from vehicles before they were being crushed. According to the emergency order, investigators found more than 200 salvage vehicles on the property at 1146 Haskell Ave. All of the 25 vehicles KDHE inspected still had intact fuel tanks. Sixty-five of 75 vehicles contained flammable automotive fluids. Killough told KDHE inspectors that he was unaware that fluids needed to be removed from salvage vehicles prior to crushing. The order states: "By failing to remove the gasoline and other automotive fluids prior to crushing, respondents have created an immediate danger and hazard to the surrounding properties and property owners from fires started at the facility." Investigators also found a pile of air conditioning units dumped at the salvage yard that still contained refrigerants. According to KDHE, refrigerants can create toxic gasses when exposed to fire. KDHE ordered the operators

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of the recycling center to immediately begin inspecting all vehicles for fluids, remove all automotive fluids prior to crushing the cars and store the fluids in proper containers. The salvage yard also must keep a detailed log book of vehicles crushed at the facility, including disposal receipts for fluids removed from those vehicles. Neighbors of the facility had been asking for changes to be made, citing complaints about noise, trash and repeated fires at the facility. The area is zoned residential, but the Lawrence Douglas County Planning Department has deemed the salvage yard to be a legal non-conforming use, since a business has been operating on that plot of land dating back to the early 1950s.

<http://www2.lijworld.com/news/2010/feb/09/kdhe-orders-salvage-yard-change-practices/>

FRANCE PARIS, FEBRUARY 10 2010. BP RECEIVES OFFER FOR ITS RETAIL FUELS AND CONVENIENCE BUSINESS IN FRANCE

BP has received an offer from Delek Europe B.V., one of the largest fuel retailers in Europe and a subsidiary of the Delek Group Ltd, to buy its French retail fuels and convenience business including selected fuels terminals. The proposed purchase price is €180million (approximately US\$251 million), in cash, subject to working capital adjustments. On receipt of the offer to purchase BP's approximately 416 petrol stations in France, BP has entered into a period of exclusivity with Delek Europe and has started discussions with the relevant works councils. The sale would also include interests or ownership in three fuel distribution depots and it is expected to include a long term agreement for acceptance of fuel cards. The proposed transaction is currently expected to be completed in the second half of this year. Any final transaction will be subject to works councils and regulatory approvals. As well as an agreement for BP branding to remain on the forecourts for a number of years under a licensing agreement, BP would also continue to supply fuel including premium BP Ultimate fuels under a supply agreement. If the offer is accepted and the deal is approved then BP would still continue to retain a significant presence in France through its business to business fuels, bitumen, lubricants and aviation businesses. Staff currently working for the retail business would transfer to the new owner. Jean-Baptiste Renard, BP's Head of Region for Europe and South Africa, said: "We believe the decision to sell is right for the business as it means the BP brand will stay on the forecourts, it is right for staff as their jobs would be retained, and it would give the new owners an opportunity to keep investing in the business." Zion Ginat, CEO Delek Benelux, commented: "Delek is excited to expand and develop its retail business in Europe through the proposed acquisition of BP's marketing business in France. Delek is committed to drive value and to continue to strengthen the BP brand name in France for its customers and employees."

<http://www.petrolplaza.com/news/industry/MiZlbiY5MTg3JiYyJjMwJjE%3D>

USA, CA, LONG BEACH, FEBRUARY 11 2010. MURCHISON SAYS IT WASN'T AN OIL SPILL, BUT EPA SAYS IT WAS

dave wielenga

Mike Murchison didn't like reading The District Weekly's reports today about the haz-mat crews that have spent the past few days cleaning up another mess on the Los Cerritos Wetlands that Tom Dean is trying to trade to the City of Long Beach ... in this case, the standing water—habitat for coastal plants, creatures and migrating birds—that had been contaminated by petroleum from nearby oil extraction operations. Actually, nobody liked reading about it. But Murchison disliked it for different reasons than the rest of us. Murchison is Dean's lobbyist, his mouthpiece, a man well paid to grease Dean's way through the labyrinth of Long Beach government and to put the best possible public shine on whatever his wealthy and well-connected client does. That's why Murchison e-mailed reporters around town today to "correct" with The District Weekly's account. "This was not an oil spill," Murchison asserted, "but a VERY small amount of grease." That's not the way the Environmental Protection Agency puts it in the incident report on its Web site. It specifically describes what happened as an "oil spill"—as in "On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) Robert Wise discovered an oil spill in a wetlands cell in the southern property of the Bixby A Lease operated by LCW." [LCW stands for Los Cerritos Wetlands Partners, the name of the Limited Liability Corporation under which Dean owns the Los Cerritos Wetlands.] But this isn't the only semantic difference between Murchison's version of events and the report filed by the EPA.

Here's how Murchison describes what went down:

"This past week EPA officials, who were on site, noticed a sheen in the water and along with contractors of LCW Partners traced that sheen to a pole nearby. The grease area on the pole was 2 inches by 3 inches. A plan was put in place immediately to clean up the impacted area and keep it contained. All appropriate agencies were notified: O.E.S., Cal EMA, Department of Fish and Game, EPA along with local agencies—Long Beach Health and Fire Departments. Everything has been cleaned to date; in addition there will be continued monitoring of the site. The boom devices that were mentioned were only put out as a precautionary measure. This was not an oil spill, but a VERY small amount of grease."

And here's the report on the EPA Web site:

"On the morning of February 4, 2010, while conducting oversight of the PCB cleanup at the LCW Oil Operators PCB Site (www.epaosc.org/lcw), On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) Robert Wise discovered an oil spill in a wetlands cell in the southern property of the Bixby A Lease operated by LCW. There was visual globs of oil on several pipelines and throughout the the pickleweed and in the water. The site is located within the boundaries of the Los Cerritos Wetlands in Long Beach, CA. The site is bounded by the San Gabriel River which drains to the Pacific Ocean approximately 500 meters downstream. There is a drain connecting the wetland property to the River. The wet cell that contains the oil is hydraulically connected to other wetland areas inside the southern area of the lease and to the northern area of the lease through varies pipe corridors. The northern section of the lease is contiguous with the Los Cerritos Channel through an tidal gate. The Los Cerritos Channel dumps into the Alamitos Marina, which is connected to the Pacific Ocean. The contains freshwater and brackish wetlands that are the home to a number of Federal and State endangered species. OSC Wise notified the the facility personnel of the spill. The cleanup company conducting the PCB cleanup

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immediately stopped soil removal operations at the direction of their client and began oil cleanup operations. The cleanup contractor, Advanced Cleanup Technologies, Inc. (ACTI) working with facility personnel deployed boom and sorbent diapers in the spill area. In the afternoon, after cleanup operations had boomed the area with both hard boom and sorbent boom, OSC Wise observed heavy sheening and black oil floating on the water. The sheen was also outside the perimeter of the hard boom in the northwest end of the wetland cell. Although sorbent boom had been placed over the piping in the southeastern end of the spill, gaps would have allowed for the migration of oil contamination outside the boom area. Based on this observation and weather reports of rain, OSC Wise issued a NOFI to LCW Oil Operators, LLC directing them to isolate the spill area and conduct additional cleanup operations. LCW directed ACTI to implement the directions in the NOFI. Cleanup operations are on-going."

<http://thedistrictweekly.com/2010/daily/writing-shotgun/murchison-says-it-wasnt-an-oil-spill-but-thats-what-epa-calls-it/>

USA, ORE, SALEM, FEBRUARY 11 2010. CONTRACTOR FINED FOR BELLEVUE CHEMICAL SPILL; WARNING ISSUED TO TRANSPORTATION AGENCY

The Department of Ecology (Ecology) has fined Michel's Pipe Services (Michel's) of Salem, Ore., \$9,000 for two chemical spills in July, 2009, during work under I-405 near Southeast Eighth Street in Bellevue. Ecology also has issued a formal warning letter to the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) concerning the incident. The spills occurred during a project to install a plastic lining in a 24-inch culvert that carries Trail Creek under the freeway. Michel's – a sub-contractor for WSDOT's prime contractor, Atkinson Construction – used a process known as "cure in place." On each of two nights, workers snaked a 200-foot sheath coated with softened plastic resin into the existing pipe, using air pressure and steam to press the sheath against the culvert and harden the plastic. During this process, Atkinson diverted incoming creek flow to provide dry conditions needed for the re-lining operation. The work occurred at night when cool conditions protected the plastic from hardening prematurely. On the night of July 15, 2009, an unexpected flow of groundwater interfered with the process. Michel's blocked the flow with an inflatable plug that later failed, allowing water to flow along the re-lining project and wash out some of the resin, which entered Trail Creek. The chemical release was not reported. The next morning, citizens using city park trails along the creek reported chemical odors to the City of Bellevue, which alerted Ecology. Ecology investigators found resin in the creek and observed a rainbow sheen on the water surface in some areas, white milky water in others, and putty-like chunks in the water. They also noted dead crayfish and other organisms in the creek. Trail Creek flows to Mercer Slough, which empties into Lake Washington. Ecology determined that the resin contained a mixture of substances including mineral oil and styrene, which is toxic to crayfish and other aquatic crustaceans. Michel's and Atkinson hired environmental firms to perform cleanup work along the creek. That evening – July 16 – Michel's inserted a second 200-foot lining. The sheath became snagged during installation, and the company used water to free it. The water forced open plugs meant to contain it, thus discharging into the creek. The release occurred at 7:30 a.m. July 17, and was reported to Ecology by WSDOT at 8:06 a.m. The City of Bellevue Parks Department closed trails around the spill as a precaution to prevent citizen exposure to toxic compounds. Styrene odor remained in the area until at least July 24. An Ecology water sample, taken that day, detected styrene in creek water. "WSDOT and the contractors cooperated fully with Ecology after becoming aware of the human health and environmental threat posed by these spills," said David Byers, who supervises Ecology's spill response team. "However, the damage to the creek could have been minimized if workers had taken precautions to intercept any releases that might occur. Given the toxicity of substances involved, this should have been standard practice." Ecology's penalty issued to Michel's addresses the two releases and the failure to report the first incident. In a separate warning, Ecology has informed WSDOT that it failed to ensure that Atkinson and Michel's provide safeguards to keep possible releases from entering the creek, as required in WSDOT's construction stormwater general permit. "Michel's takes environmental stewardship very seriously on every job and has a solid environmental record," said David Stegeman, Vice President of Michel's Corporation. "We have completed projects of this type for over 20 years in Washington and across North America, and have never had a similar release. Some unusual circumstances appear to have come together to cause this incident. Regardless, we have put in place new procedures to insure that this type of incident will be prevented in the future." "We take these environmental violations very seriously," said Denise Cieri, I-405 Deputy Project Director. "We've implemented new best management practices to ensure this won't happen again" Michel's may file an application for relief with Ecology or appeal the fine directly to the Washington State Pollution Control Hearings Board within 30 days. The company has indicated it plans to pursue one of these options. Ecology's spill response and water quality programs investigated these incidents as part of the department's ongoing commitment to protect the public and the environment from toxic threats.

<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/news/2010news/2010-020.html>

AUSTRALIA, NSW, WYONG, FEBRUARY 11 2010. 500L DIESEL SPILL AT MARDI DAM

vanessa.ceely

Wyong Shire Council has advised the Central Coast water supply has not been affected following a diesel spill at Mardi Dam this morning. A NSW Fire Brigade and a Hazmat crew were called to the Mardi Dam site this morning after a truck delivering equipment for Council's contractor Baulderstone ruptured its fuel tank on a rock whilst turning. About 500 litres of diesel was spilled and Baulderstone – who are currently completing the Mardi Dam upgrade works – contacted the relevant authorities and managed the spill ensuring the safety of the water supply. As a result of Baulderstone's actions and the quick response from the NSW Fire Brigade and Hazmat, the spill was contained and did not enter the water supply or any natural water courses, meaning drinking water has not been affected.

<http://www.thecoastnews.com.au/wyong-district/548-500l-diesel-spill-at-mardi-dam.html>

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USA, MA, CAMBRIDGE, FEBRUARY 11 2010. CREWS CLEANING DIESEL FUEL SPILL IN CHARLES RIVER

Watch the Video <http://www1.whdh.com/news/articles/local/BO135230/>

Officials are trying to contain a diesel fuel spill that leaked into the Charles River on Wednesday morning. About 2,500 gallons spilled into the water, and Clean Harbors has begun their cleanup. Officials said the fuel began to back up inside a Massachusetts Water Resources Authority facility on Memorial Drive, and eventually leaked onto the roof, and into a drain pipe leading into the Charles River.

<http://www1.whdh.com/news/articles/local/BO135230/>

USA, FLA, TAMPA BAY, FEBRUARY 11 2010. TANKER OVERTURNS ON 50TH STREET AT ADAMO DRIVE

A tanker overturned on 50th Street and Adamo Drive this morning, Tampa police say. No one was injured, and one lane is open in each direction. The crash occurred about 8:30 a.m., when the driver tried turning south onto Adamo, police spokeswoman Andrea Davis said.

<http://www2.tbo.com/content/2010/feb/10/tanker-overtURNS-adamo/news-breaking/>

USA, NY, NEW YORK, FEBRUARY 11 2010. CHEVRON SAYS CONFLICT TAINTS AMAZON POLLUTION REPORT

karen gullo

[Chevron Corp.](#) said a report proposing that the company pay \$27 billion for alleged environmental damage in Ecuador should be thrown out because the court-appointed author owns a cleanup company and didn't disclose his conflict of interest. The company said today Richard Cabrera is the majority owner of an oilfield remediation company registered to perform work for Ecuador's state-owned oil company, PetroEcuador. Cabrera failed to disclose the business ties and the company stands to gain financially if an Ecuadorian court finds Chevron liable in a lawsuit over pollution from oil drilling in the Amazon, Chevron said today in a statement on its Web site. "For three years, Mr. Cabrera has concealed clear financial conflicts of interest that disqualify him from acting as an independent and objective evaluator of the evidence in the case," Chevron Vice President and General Counsel [Hewitt Pate](#) said in the statement. "While Mr. Cabrera's financial interests alone are sufficient grounds for his report to be rejected, his intentional concealment of those interests further demonstrates that the entirety of his work lacks honesty, integrity, or credibility." Cabrera, a geological engineer in Quito, Ecuador, was appointed in 2007 by an Ecuadorian judge presiding over the case to evaluate the pollution data, assess the effects of alleged contamination on people and the environment and recommend a cleanup plan.

Court Rules

[Steven Donziger](#), a New York lawyer representing Ecuadorians suing Chevron in the case, said Cabrera has disclosed to the court that he worked with a remediation company. He said there's no proof that the company ever received a contract from PetroEcuador. He also said Cabrera's firm would be barred from cleanup work under court rules. "This is the latest attempt by Chevron to try to discredit a competent report that they know will put them at risk of finally paying damages," Donziger said in a phone interview today. In a related case concerning Amazon pollution claims, the government of Ecuador asked a U.S. judge in Manhattan today to temporarily halt arbitration started by Chevron under the United Nations Commission of International Trade Law to decide who should pay damages in the pending environmental lawsuit in Lago Agrio, Ecuador, according to a court filing today.

Seeking Injunction

Ecuador is seeking a preliminary injunction to stop information gathering in the arbitration case. It said in a filing that the judge should first decide the merits of its lawsuit alleging that the damage claims should be decided in Ecuador rather than by an arbitration panel of the UN commission. [Kent Robertson](#), a Chevron spokesman, said in a phone interview that Ecuador is seeking to avoid independent scrutiny of its conduct under contracts it signed that released Texaco Inc., which Chevron acquired in 2001, from liability for alleged environmental damage. Chevron, based in San Ramon, California, is the second-biggest U.S. energy company behind Exxon Mobil Corp.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601103&sid=ajc69RxyHbEs>

USA, MN, COTTAGE GROVE, FEBRUARY 11 2010. TRUCK ROLLS OVER IN COTTAGE GROVE; GAS LEAKING, INJURIES REPORTED

joy powell & paul walsh

A propane tanker truck collided with a car and rolled over shortly after rush hour Wednesday morning in Cottage Grove, spilling diesel fuel in a crash that led to lengthy road closures, authorities said. The crash occurred shortly after 9:30 a.m. on Hwy. 61 at Manning Avenue, and the State Patrol reported minor injuries suffered by people in both vehicles. State pollution officials and hazardous materials personnel were called to the scene, but there was no leak involving the liquid propane. The roads in the area reopened in stages starting at 1:50 p.m. About 20 minutes later, all roads were reopened, the patrol said.

http://www.startribune.com/local/84021797.html?elr=KArksLckD8EQDUoaEvyqP4O:DW3ckUiD3aPc:_Yyc:aUUF

UK, LONDON [HSE], FEBRUARY 11 2010. MANAGEMENT OF BULK STORAGE TANKS

Following the Buncefield incident the importance of preventing loss of containment from bulk storage tanks has come to the fore. A significant factor in ensuring contained fluids are not accidentally released is the continuing mechanical integrity of the tank structure. With this in mind, the joint industry/Competent Authority Process Safety Leadership Group has set up a working group to establish agreed industry standards for bulk storage tank integrity management. The Health and Safety Laboratory on behalf of the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) was commissioned to produce a review of relevant published standards pertaining to the

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management of the mechanical integrity of bulk storage tanks. The findings from this review are reported in the full report below. This report and the work it describes were funded by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE). Its contents, including any opinions and/or conclusions expressed, are those of the author alone and do not necessarily reflect HSE policy.

Contact Details:

Tony Holmes BSc PhD MRSC, Health and Safety Laboratory, Harpur Hill, Buxton, Derbyshire SK17 9JN

Related Resources:

The full report is available for free downloading from the HSE web site: <http://www.hse.gov.uk/research/rrpdf/rr760.pdf>
<http://www.sro.hse.gov.uk/PublicPages/ShowArticle.aspx?id=143>

UK, ESSEX, FEBRUARY 11 2010. ARSON SUSPECT CAPTURED ON CCTV CAMERA AT TANKER YARD

CCTV footage of a suspected arsonist has been released by Essex Police after fire destroyed four diesel tankers. Officers believe that one person deliberately started a fire on an industrial estate in Maldon. He was captured on camera running away from the scene in West Station Yard on 6 February. The storage tanks contained more than 190,000 litres (41,795 gallons) of fuel and the damage caused is estimated to be in the region of £500,000. A police spokesman said: "We are releasing the CCTV images in the hope that someone living locally in Maldon will be able to help us identify the person we are looking for."

http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/uk_news/england/essex/8508223.stm

USA, VA, WILLIAMSBURG, FEBRUARY 11 2010. NAVY OFFICIALS TO SHARE STUDY OF CONTAMINANTS IN WILLIAMSBURG RESERVOIR

dan parsons

Navy officials have concluded their investigation of whether pollutants from Camp Peary leaked into Waller Mill Reservoir and are set to share the findings with residents whose water comes from the lake. The Naval Facilities Engineer Command announced Tuesday that it will host a public meeting from 6-8 p.m. Feb. 17 at the Williamsburg Community Building, 401 N. Boundary St. Navy officials will share results of the environmental investigation associated with Site 49F, at a former swimming pool turned dump site at Camp Peary, near the base's border with Waller Mill Reservoir. Some investigation results should be made available by Friday, said city spokeswoman Kate Hoving, who spoke to Navy officials Tuesday. Navy and Camp Peary officials announced last spring that traces of chemicals from an abandoned disposal site at Camp Peary might have leaked into the reservoir, the city of Williamsburg's primary source of drinking water. Since then, the Navy has completed an environmental investigation of the possible contamination. The study involved collecting samples of soil, sediment, surface water, fish tissue and invertebrate tissue from various locations, according to a Navy statement released Tuesday. Those samples were analyzed for the presence of polychlorinated biphenyls, or PCBs. The study also included ecological and human health risk assessments. The source of the contamination is a [World War II](#)-era swimming pool originally used to train Navy Seabees for engineering activities in the Pacific Theater. Some time in the 1970s, the concrete pool was used as a general dumping site for construction materials, including some that contained PCBs. Investigators found PCBs at the site and on a drainage pathway under Interstate 64 that directs stormwater runoff from Camp Peary into the reservoir. Camp Peary and the engineering command, based in [Norfolk](#), have overseen a cleanup effort to remove the chemicals and will soon help with monitoring efforts at the reservoir. The Navy and Camp Peary officials hosted a similar community meeting in April. They then announced that water from the lake was safe to drink, especially when it is filtered through the city's purification systems, but that the chemicals might have accumulated in larger species of fish and birds. People exposed to PCBs for extended periods have suffered nose, lung and skin irritation, according to the state Department of Health. The chemicals do not readily dissolve in water, but are known to accumulate in fish as they eat smaller animals that feed in contaminated soils, which in turn could pose a threat to people who consume fish from contaminated waters.

http://www.dailypress.com/news/dp-local_wallermill_0210feb10_0.3003236.story

CHINA, BEIJING, FEBRUARY 11 2010. CHINA HOLDS 71 RESPONSIBLE FOR STATE TV STATION FIREWORK TRAGEDY

China Wednesday blamed 71 people for a huge blaze at its new state television headquarters that engulfed a hotel, killed a fireman and left a 24-million-dollar clean-up bill, state media reported. One firefighter died after inhaling toxic fumes while battling the fire at the Mandarin Oriental's nearly finished flagship hotel inside the CCTV complex in February last year, while a further six were injured. Zhao Huayong, who stepped down as head of the station in May, will receive an "administrative demotion along with a severe warning" from the ruling Communist Party of China, the Xinhua news agency said, citing a government statement. The release said a further 44 suspects will be prosecuted while 27 will be disciplined, according to Xinhua. The 159-metre (524-foot) tall hotel was just 200 metres from the futuristic CCTV tower that had quickly won fame as one of Beijing's most stunning buildings and a striking symbol of China's new-found global power. Both buildings were designed by renowned Dutch architect Rem Koolhaas' Office of Metropolitan Architecture and due to open this year. In a public relations disaster for CCTV, which is one of the Communist Party's chief propaganda arms, authorities said the station defied police warnings and set off powerful fireworks in the complex. Fireworks had erupted right across Beijing to celebrate the Lantern Festival that marks the official end of the Lunar New Year celebrations. Letting off fireworks on Lunar New Year's Eve, which fell on January 25 last year, and throughout the festive period is a long-held Chinese tradition based on the belief that the noise will ward off evil spirits and ghosts. But it is also a notoriously dangerous practice and was banned in Beijing between 1994 and 2005. The ban was lifted due to popular demand, following similar moves in 200 Chinese cities a year earlier. The CCTV complex, built at a cost of five billion yuan (710 million dollars), was among many ambitious developments to rise ahead of last year's Beijing Olympics. The cabinet -- known as the State

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Council -- also announced the prosecutions of people implicated in two other major work safety accidents last year, the agency reported. Six people are to be charged following a fatal gas blast, also last February, that killed 78 miners and injured 114 in Shanxi province. A further 35 have received party and administrative disciplinary measures. A colliery gas explosion at Tonghua Coal Mine in Chongqing, southwest China, last May left 30 people dead and 79 injured. Of the 39 held responsible, eight have been arrested and 31 have been disciplined, Xinhua said.

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5g4BM0PdtmpkUEhwgAfdSGwpXgqvA>

LITHUANIA, VILNIUS, FEBRUARY 11 2010. LITHUANIA SAYS RUSSIA IN TALKS TO BUY REFINERY

Lithuanian President Dalia Grybauskaitė said on Wednesday Russia and Poland were negotiating the sale of PKN Orlen's PKNA.WA Lithuanian refiner, although the Polish company denied this. "Mr. Putin had confirmed this," she told Reuters by telephone after meeting Putin. She added it would depend on the success of these negotiations whether Russia would restore crude oil supplies to the Lithuanian refiner. Linas Balsys, Lithuania president's spokesman, confirmed Putin was talking about Russian-Polish negotiations over the refiner's sale, but provided no more details. "It's the business of a private company," Balsys said, when asked how Lithuania would react if the sale were to happen. However, PKN Orlen immediately denied any talks. "We are not in talks on the sale of Mazeikiu Nafta (Orlen Lietuva) with Russians or anybody else," Dawid Piekarz, a spokesman for PKN, told Reuters. Last week Polish officials said they would not object if PKN decided to sell the refiner. PKN bought the Mazeikiu Nafta refinery in 2006, but it has suffered from low profitability due to problems with oil supply, as it had to switch to seaborne deliveries after Russia cut off pipeline supplies the same year. Russia said it cut supplies due to leaks, but Lithuania said it was being punished by Moscow for not selling the refiner to Russian oil companies, which were outbid by PKN Orlen.

<http://uk.reuters.com/article/idUKLDE6192WF20100210>

USA, WASHINGTON DC, FEBRUARY 11 2010. [USA-DOL-OSHA - RESPIRATORY PROTECTION

Watch the Video's [New Respirator Training Videos](#)

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An estimated 5 million workers are required to wear respirators in 1.3 million workplaces throughout the United States. Respirators protect workers against insufficient oxygen environments, harmful dusts, fogs, smokes, mists, gases, vapors, and sprays. These hazards may cause cancer, lung impairment, other diseases, or death. Compliance with the OSHA Respiratory Protection Standard could avert hundreds of deaths and thousands of illnesses annually. The following questions link to information relevant to respiratory protection in the workplace.

- [What OSHA standards apply?](#)

Standards | Regulatory Agenda | Preambles to Final Rules | More;

- [How are respiratory hazards recognized?](#)
- [What are some examples of possible solutions for workplace hazards?](#)
- [What additional information is available?](#)

Related Safety and Health Topics Pages | Training | Other Resources

<http://www.osha.gov/SLTC/respiratoryprotection/index.html>

USA, KY, SOMERSET, FEBRUARY 11 2010. Refinery To Close This Week

bill estep

A Somerset refinery that has turned out gasoline for generations will shut down this week, putting more than 30 people out of work, company officials said. A New York real estate magnate bought the refinery out of bankruptcy in 2008 with plans to build it back into a significant producer of petroleum products. The plan didn't work out because the company could not get a sufficient supply of crude oil from suppliers, said Eddie Phelps, a spokesman for Somerset Energy Refining, the current name of the refinery. The company bought crude oil from Kentucky and Tennessee, but a key supplier pulled out Jan. 1, Phelps said. "That was a fatal blow," he said. There is a bit of refining work to finish to idle the facility. That will be done this week, Phelps said. The refinery is one of only two in the state. The other is the giant Marathon Oil facility at Catlettsburg. The Somerset refinery can produce up to 5,500 barrels a day under its permit. The capacity at the Marathon refinery is 226,000 barrels a day, according to the company Web site. Phelps and owner Michael Grunberg said they think the inability to get a supply of crude to process at the Somerset refinery stemmed from financial problems and a bitter fight over control of the company that happened before Grunberg bought it in September 2008 for \$2.2 million. Some crude suppliers didn't get paid under previous owners, which made them reluctant to deal with the refinery, Phelps said. It probably would have been better to change the name of the company to remove "Somerset" as a signal to suppliers they were dealing with a new group, Phelps said. Instead, many crude-oil suppliers hauled their product to the Marathon facility. The Somerset refinery was shut down for more than two years before the new owners got it back into production last May. Companies had to find somewhere else to take their crude oil during that time. That probably also affected the Somerset refinery's ability to rebuild its supply, said John Gabbard, executive director of the Kentucky Oil & Gas Association, which represents crude-oil producers. "There was a question in getting your base" back after suppliers began going elsewhere, Gabbard said. The Somerset refinery opened in the 1930s. It employed more than 150 people at one time and provided an important market for small crude producers in the region for decades, a longtime executive told the Herald-Leader in 2008. Grunberg said he invested \$20 million in buying and upgrading the refinery. It had 66 employees in November, but the workforce has dwindled to 36. A skeleton crew will stay on to keep the refinery in shape while Grunberg tries to sell it, Phelps said. Grunberg said he is trying to

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sell it for \$12 million to \$14 million. The company includes the refinery, a transport company, some gas stations and an environmental-services branch. Sales are pending on some of the gas stations, Phelps said. Grunberg said he has high hopes that someone will buy the refinery and power it up. Sales were not the problem before the shutdown, he said. "We were selling like gangbusters," he said.

http://www.downstreamtoday.com/news/article.aspx?a_id=21038&AspxAutoDetectCookieSupport=1

USA, IN, RANDOLPH CO, FEBRUARY 11 2010. ETHANOL TANKER ROLLS OVER IN IND.

steve baker

A tanker rig, loaded with ethanol, overturned Wednesday evening on Indiana Highway 227 in Randolph County near Union City, Ind. A hazmat team and firefighters from several fire departments in Ohio and Indiana were called to the scene for precaution because the tanker was hauling ethanol. Carrol Goode, a witness to the crash, said big gust of snow hit the tanker's windshield and that is when the driver lost control. Goode said, "I called 911." Fire crews said none of the ethanol spilled on the road, but the intersection of State Route 227 and 100 South was closed down for a couple hours. A few houses were also evacuated for precaution. Fire crews said they had to empty the ethanol into another truck before flipping the tanker back upright. There are no reports of injuries.

<http://www.firehouse.com/topics/top-headlines/ethanol-tanker-rolls-over-ind>

USA, PA, SCRANTON, FEBRUARY 12 2010. ONGOING TESTING REVEALS NEW CONCERN OF AN UNDERGROUND OIL TANK AT A FORMER BUSINESS IN CLARKS GREEN

erin l. nissley

Crews discovered an underground tank used to hold heating oil at a former gas station in the heart of Clarks Green, though no decision has been made about whether to remove it. The discovery was made during ongoing testing done at the former Hawk Oil Co. site at 101 N. Abington Road to locate contaminants, state Department of Environmental Protection spokesman Mark Carmon said. Crews drilled beneath the pavement to take samples of soil and groundwater to identify what contaminants are present and map their location. The testing cost about \$89,000, according to the DEP. Mr. Carmon was not in his office Wednesday and did not have access to information on what contaminants were found, but he did confirm the discovery of an underground tank. The removal of several gasoline storage tanks in 2002 and 2004 initially led to the discovery of soil and groundwater contamination on the property. The discovery of a heating oil tank on the property is not as alarming as the presence of a gasoline tank, Mr. Carmon said, in part because the tank is smaller. "There hasn't been a decision as to what to do with it," he said. Clarks Green Councilman Pat Conaboy said the borough received a letter from the DEP that indicated the DEP would begin injecting a solution into the ground to mitigate the contamination. "After doing their study, they found that (the contamination) wasn't as bad as everyone thought," Mr. Conaboy said. No one knows yet how much the work will cost, and who will be held responsible for paying. Property owners Margaret Braz and Annette Orzel have said they do not have the money to pay for the testing or remediation. Mr. Conaboy said DEP may end up filing a lien against the property so the department can recoup its money when and if the property is sold.

<http://thetimes-tribune.com/news/ongoing-testing-reveals-new-concern-of-an-underground-oil-tank-at-a-former-business-in-clarks-green-1.610657>

USA, WA, BELLEVUE, FEBRUARY 12 2010. PORT OF SEATTLE TO PLAN CLEANUP AT FORMER TERMINAL 91 TANK FARM

The Port of Seattle (Port) will develop a cleanup plan for soil and groundwater contamination from a now-demolished tank farm at Terminal 91 in Seattle, under a legal agreement with the Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology). Ecology seeks public comment on the agreement, known as an Agreed Order, through March 29, 2010. The cleanup plan developed under the order will itself be subject to public review and comment in the future. The Agreed Order and related documents – including a fact sheet – are available at:

- http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/tcp/sites/portTerm91/portTerm91_hp.html
- Seattle Public Library, Central and Magnolia branches
- Port of Seattle offices, Pier 69, 2711 Alaskan Way, Seattle, by appointment: 206-787-3837
- Dept. of Ecology regional office, 3190 160th Ave. SE, Bellevue, by appointment: 425-649-7190

Comments should be addressed to Galen Tritt, Site Manager, Dept. of Ecology, 1440 10th St., Ste. 102, Bellingham WA, 98225; 360-715-5232; galen.tritt@ecy.wa.gov. The cleanup plan will focus on a four-acre former tank farm, part of a larger property that includes Piers 90 and 91 and approximately 120 upland acres between Seattle's Queen Anne and Magnolia neighborhoods. The above-ground tank terminal operated from 1926 to 1995. A series of companies and the U.S. Navy owned the tank farm before the Port acquired it in the 1970s. The Port leased it to various companies until the facility was closed. Previous investigations show that contamination from oil products and other chemicals exists primarily at the tank farm site. The toxic substances "float" on the water table, but have not been found to have migrated to nearby Elliott Bay at concentrations that exceed any health factors established under the state cleanup standards. Earlier studies by the Port into cleanup alternatives led to a recommended tank farm cleanup that would include:

- Demolition of underground foundations and piping that remain in place.
- Construction of an underground containment barrier.
- Selection of a technology to remove contamination from the water table.

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The cleanup plan also will propose methods to protect the area between the tank farm site just north of Garfield St. and Elliott Bay to the south. In addition to the Agreed Order, Ecology invites the public to review and comment on evaluations recently completed by the Port, called a Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study, and on a Public Participation Plan. To be placed on an Ecology contact list for the site, please notify the site manager, listed above. Cleanup of contamination at Terminal 91 supports Ecology's priorities to protect people and the environment from toxic threats and to meet the state's goal to restore and protect Puget Sound by 2020.

<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/news/2010news/2010-022.html>

USA, FLA, CRESTVIEW, FEBRUARY 12 2010. CRESTVIEW MAN FALLS, FLOWN TO TRAUMA CENTER

michael stewart

A 61-year-old man was flown from Crestview to Pensacola for medical treatment Thursday morning after he fell off the top of a gasoline tanker truck. "He was loading the tanker with fuel when he fell," North Okaloosa Fire District Deputy Chief Danny Worrells said. "It was a long fall. The accident happened about 7:15 a.m. at Patel Petroleum on West James Lee Boulevard, which is located behind Fill-Ups Food Stores across the street from Emerald Coast Book Haven. Paramedics transported the man, whose identity was not released, from Patel Petroleum to a nearby field where a LifeFlight helicopter landed. He was flown to the trauma center at Sacred Heart Hospital with unknown injuries. "Anytime you have a long fall and you are 61 years old, you are subject to trauma," Worrells said.

<http://www.crestviewbulletin.com/news/crestview-8756-flown-pensacola.html>

MEXICO, MEXICO CITY, FEBRUARY 12 2010. 1-PEMEX SHUTS UNIT AT MINATITLAN REFINERY AFTER FIRE

Mexico's state oil company Pemex said on Thursday it shut down a unit at its Minatitlan, Veracruz refinery on the coast of the Gulf of Mexico after a fire Thursday morning. The fire was quickly controlled by the refinery's own fire fighters, Pemex said. The unit that was shut down as a precaution, which Pemex described as a "Charge Preparation Unit," is to be restarted once inspections are completed, Pemex said.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSN110177720100211>

USA, FLA, CAPE CORAL, FEBRUARY 12 2010. COMMERCIAL FIRE DAMAGE ESTIMATED AT \$550,000 >> SPARK NEAR FUEL TANK

Watch the Video <http://www.winknews.com/news/local/84169177.html>

A fire gutted an automotive repair shop Thursday morning in southeast Cape Coral, causing more than \$550,000 in damages, officials said. No one was injured, according to officials. Cape fire units responded to a call of a commercial structure fire at 10:17 a.m. at Stan's Auto Repair, located at 1024 S.E. 12th Ave. When firefighters arrived on scene the building was "fully engulfed in flames," said Division Chief Jim Heikkila of the Cape Coral Fire Department. At least 22 firefighters, plus some off-duty personnel who responded to the scene, went into defensive mode, he said. Crews were placed at the front and back of the building to battle the fire, but no one went inside it. "It wasn't safe to send anyone into the structure," Heikkila said. An employee from the shop reported that the building was empty, he said. Four vehicles inside the structure were "fully engulfed," along with office storage materials. It took about 30 minutes to put out the fire, and seven units from five fire stations responded to the call. Heikkila estimated that the damage was a "total loss." "When you get something burning for that big for that long, it's gone for sure," he said at the scene. City spokeswoman Connie Barron said the fire caused about \$550,000 in damage and was caused by a spark near a fuel tank under a lift inside the building. The fire was ruled accidental following an investigation by the fire department. "The building was a complete loss," she said. No injuries were reported. Responders were able to contain the fire to the initial structure, though firefighters had to secure a large propane tank located next to the shop's property to protect it from the fire and prevent it from possibly exploding. Heikkila estimated that the tank was at least 1,000 gallons. "But it never got to that," he said, adding that the propane tank may not have been full. Kathy Gagne, an employee of MAC Custom Pools and Aluminum, was working alone in the office when she heard the sirens Thursday morning. MAC Custom Pools and Aluminum is located at 1020 S.E. 12th Ave., next door to Stan's Auto Repair. "I just looked out the front of the store and saw all the trucks," she said of the responding fire units. Gagne said she was told to stay put but be prepared to evacuate. "There were flames coming through the roof," she said. "And the smoke ... I could tell it was fully involved." Gagne later spoke with Stan, the owner of the shop, who said he was not at the store when the fire broke out. Only one person was present working on a vehicle, Gagne said she was told. According to Barron, staff from the city's Economic Development Office planned to contact the owner of the shop to determine if he needs any help. Staff could help with inspections or permitting associated with relocating. "Our economic development people may have contacts for other property owners who have space available," Barron said, adding that the city wants to make the process of relocating run as "smoothly and quickly" as possible for the shop owner. "It's just a change in philosophy that is now in place," she said. "We did that with a recent fire that occurred on Del Prado (Boulevard) with a bakery over there." According to Barron, the city's Economic Development Office now contacts business owners immediately after a fire to offer help rather than waiting on the owners to contact the office to see what aid and services are available. "We want to take care of the businesses that are in the Cape," she said. "If we can help businesses that are in the Cape stay in the Cape, then we're going to do that." The State Fire Marshal responded to the fire and Cape police provided support and security, Barron said. The Lee County Electric Cooperative disconnected the electricity to the building and the city's building inspector red-tagged the structure.

<http://www.cape-coral-daily-breeze.com/page/content.detail/id/514704.html?nav=5011>

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RUSSIA, DAGESTAN, MAKHACHKALA, FEBRUARY 12 2010. BLAST HITS BAKU-ROSTOV RAILWAY >> NEAR TANKER WAGONS CARRYING FUEL

At least one person has been killed by a blast on the Baku - Rostov-on-Don railway near Makhachkala in Russia's Dagestan. The Dagestani police said the blast occurred as the bomb was being laid. One body may well be that of the person trying to lay the mine, the police said. Russia media report a second death in connection with the explosion, but it is not clear whether this was a passer-by or another bomber. The blast occurred at about 22.30 local time on 10 February near Makhachkala beach. The blast could have caused a major fire, as it occurred near tanker wagons carrying fuel. "The aim may have been to mine the freight train with 20 tanker wagons carrying jet fuel. The bomb just exploded ahead of time," a source in the Makhachkala transport police said. A criminal case has been instituted under articles No 223 (illegal production of explosives) and 111 (deliberate severe damage to health) of the Russian Criminal Code. Documents in the name of a Kaspiysk resident have been found at the scene.

<http://www.news.az/articles/8838>

AUSTRALIA, NEW SOUTH WALES, MORUYA, FEBRUARY 12 2010. FIRIES FORCED TO CLEAN UP

pamela frost

An oil spill at the Hanging Rock boat ramp had local firies on their toes for three hours last week. NSW Fire Brigades deputy captain Alan Fitches said about 10 litres of diesel leaked into the water last Sunday. While the cause is still under investigation, Mr Fitches said it appeared someone had siphoned fuel from a tank and disposed of the unwanted diesel down a drain that is usually used to help empty water from boats. "Once the liquid escapes from a vehicle, it runs down the drain and straight into the water," he said. "They must have siphoned it and let it run down there. "They should have put it in a container." A boat owner notified the authorities and, when the brigade arrived, Mr Fitches said they blocked off the exit into the bay so the tide couldn't take the oil out to sea. "The tide assisted us and it didn't run up the river," he said. The main worry was that the oil could have seeped into the Clyde, destroying oyster farms. NSW Fire Brigades vehicles involved in the clean up included a pumper, a tanker, a HAZMAT vehicle and a boat. Mr Fitches said they used inflatable booms to completely rid the area of diesel. While they managed to fix the problem, Mr Fitches was still disappointed that the brigade had to spend so much time on something that could have been prevented in the first place. "It was three hours' work cleaning it up, because someone was irresponsible," he said. The Environment Protection Authority also attended the scene, and a spokesman for the Department of Climate Change and Water said they were still investigating the matter. He said they suspected the quantity was 10 litres and they were "taking it seriously even though it's such a small amount". "It does go a long way and it shouldn't have happened like that," he said. The offender could face fines of up to \$1500.

<http://www.batemansbaypost.com.au/news/local/news/general/firies-forced-to-clean-up/1748788.aspx>

CANADA, BC, VICTORIA, FEBRUARY 12 2010. B.C. REPORT SAYS OIL, GAS INDUSTRY NEEDS BETTER MONITORING FOR CONTAMINATION

B.C. auditor general John Doyle says provincial regulators have to do a better job of monitoring contamination from oil and gas sites. In an audit of the B.C. Oil and Gas Commission, Doyle says the industry has grown significantly in the last decade, but so has the risk of pollution. He's calling on the commission to ramp up its oversight of the industry to prevent and contain contamination from drill sites and pipelines. Doyle says that beyond the environmental and human health risks involved, it's also possible some well operators might not meet their legal responsibilities to restore sites because of their financial situation. His report says the commission could do a better job of providing information on environmental and financial risks, and be more open about reporting them issues to the public. Doyle says he raised the same concerns in a 2003 report and expected more progress by now, but that he's encouraged by the efforts the commission is making now to address the issues.

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/canadianpress/article/ALeqM5h13kg85VrhMJGsEwsYaK6MNryBJq>

USA, WA, WILLOW GROVE, FEBRUARY 12 2010. STATE FINES TUG BOAT COMPANY FOR COLUMBIA RIVER SPILL

erik olson

A Tacoma-based tug boat company must pay a \$21,000 state fine for releasing 150 gallons of oil into the Columbia River near Willow Grove a year ago, according to the state Department of Ecology. Ecology investigators matched samples from the spill of diesel and lubricating oils Jan. 29, 2009, to the tug Black Hawk, which is owned by Tacoma-based Sound Freight Lines, agency officials said. However, Sound Freight's attorney said the company does not believe the Black Hawk was the source of the oil spill. "We do not see how it came from our vessel, and we do not see it coming from our vessel," Brien Flanagan of Portland-based Schwabe, Williamson and Wyatt said Thursday. The morning spill was not reported until the middle of the day, when river observers saw a sheen on the water and called the state and the Coast Guard, according to Ecology. By then, the spill had dissipated too much for spill investigators to do much more than collect samples, according to Ecology. The 150 gallons of oil was mixed in with a larger volume of bilge water released from the tug, according to Ecology. Bilge water is water that seeps into the bottom of a ship's hull and gets fouled by fuel, grease and other contaminants. In addition to the fine, Ecology also ordered Sound Freight Lines to reimburse the state \$12,600 for the cost of the response. Ecology investigators said they collected samples from every ship on the Columbia that day and determined the oil came from the Black Hawk. State law forbids the unauthorized discharge of oil in rivers and streams. Also, Sound Freight did not respond to the spill, a violation of the law, Ecology officials said. "In general, the shipping industry is very careful in handling fuel, lube oil and bilge slops on the Columbia River and Puget Sound. This incident involving the Black Hawk was avoidable and should not have happened," Jim Sachet, Ecology's spill response

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manager for the Southwest Region, said in a written statement. Sound Freight Lines has 30 days to appeal the penalty with the state Pollution Control Hearings Board or file an application for relief before the full amount is due. Flanagan said the company is working with Ecology and is evaluating whether to contest the fine.

http://www.tdn.com/news/local/article_7d0b0680-1799-11df-98d9-001cc4c002e0.html

USA, AKA, FAIRBANKS, FEBRUARY 12 2010. SOME N POLE WELLS EXCEED CONTAMINATION STANDARDS

Some North Pole private wells have sulfolane levels higher than new standards recommended by the federal government, but state officials say the guidelines were set low as a precaution. Sulfolane is used in fuel refining. The Flint Hills Resources refinery in North Pole announced the contamination last fall, and an estimated 60 private wells are tainted as well as the city's water system. The guidelines set this week call for no more than 87.5 parts per billion of sulfolane for adults and less than half that for children. The Fairbanks Daily News-Miner says about a third of the tainted private wells were found with levels higher than that. State toxicologist Lori Verbrugge says experts think that is still far lower than would cause health effects, but the state is recommending people drink water from other sources to be safe. Flint Hills has offered bottled water to the affected households.

<http://www.ktuu.com/Global/story.asp?S=11971339>

USA, NY, ALBANY, FEBRUARY 12 2010. NY TO USE \$9.2 MILLION FOR LEAKY TANK CLEANUP

New York State officials say \$9.2 million in federal stimulus money will be used to clean up about 60 sites with leaking underground fuel tanks to make the sites suitable for redevelopment. The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 provided \$200 million nationwide for cleanups of abandoned underground storage sites where a responsible party has not been identified. Most are former gas stations. The state [Department of Environmental Conservation](#) says about 15,000 petroleum spills are reported in New York each year involving various industries. The DEC says cleanup work has begun or soon will begin at 14 sites, and one site in Chenango County has already been completed. All projects being supported by the federal funding must be completed by September 2011.

<http://www.newstimes.com/news/article/NY-to-use-9-2-million-for-leaky-tank-cleanup-362112.php>

USA, TX, WILLIAMSON CO, FEBRUARY 12 2010. MAY CONTAIN 10 PERCENT ETHANOL

suzanne haberman

Drivers who fill up at some Williamson County gas stations may have noticed the fuel they are buying contains up to 10 percent ethanol. As ethanol becomes more widely used, drivers may wonder why it is so prevalent and what effect the blend will have on pocketbooks and mileage. Blended fuel may seem as though it appeared overnight, but ethanol's journey to local pumps has taken more than 20 years, first showing up after federal legislation in 2007. When amendments to the Clean Air Act passed in the 1990s, Congress required gasoline be reformulated with an oxygenate to help reduce emissions produced by burning fossil fuels. Oil refineries originally combined fuel with a petroleum byproduct called methyl tertiary butyl ether, or MTBE. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency put a stop to its use after the chemical leaked into the ground and contaminated drinking water supplies. "The agency eliminated the requirement for the use of MTBE as an oxygenate fuel and settled on the use of ethanol, which is a renewable fuel," EPA regional spokesman Dave Bary said. It was not until April 2009, however, that Texas law required signs on fuel pumps to clearly state the fuel contains ethanol. Ethanol is an alcohol made from the simple sugars found in crops such as grain and sugar cane. More than 80 percent of ethanol produced comes from corn, much of which is grown in the Midwest, according to a report by the American Petroleum Institute. The price of ethanol is largely driven by the price of corn, much like the price of gasoline is driven by the price of crude oil. In addition to being a renewable resource, ethanol burns cleaner than petroleum fuel, so its use decreases the amount of nitrous oxide vehicles emit into the air. However, ethanol has 20 to 30 percent lower energy content than fossil fuel, a small difference drivers might notice at the wheel. "That means you get a 25 to 30 percent reduction in fuel economy, so at the 10 percent level, that's 2 or 3 percent," API Fuels Issues Manager Al Mannato said. The Energy Policy Act of 2005 only mandated that areas with poor air quality offer ethanol-blended fuel. Dallas and Houston fell into the EPA's nonattainment category for regions with high pollution. Further amendments under the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007 called for the use of ethanol everywhere, even in areas with lower air pollution. "Therefore, you're beginning to see the use of ethanol gasoline not only in nonattainment areas, but also all across the country," Bary said. The goal of the program is to burn 36 billion gallons of ethanol a year by 2020. In 2009, consumers burned 11.1 billion gallons in the United States. "We estimate about 80 percent of the gasoline nationwide has ethanol in it," Mannato said. The percentage of ethanol mixed in fuel could increase to 15 percent if the EPA raises the standard, as proposed last year. Called E85, the blend is already available at some gas stations, but is for flexible fuel vehicles designed to burn alternative fuels. API spokeswoman Cathy Landry said the institute is opposed to the increase until adequate testing can show that all vehicles can run effectively on the increased ratio.

<http://impactnews.com/georgetown-hutto-taylor/136-inside-information/6977-may-contain-10-percent-ethanol>

EU, BRUSSELS, FEBRUARY 12 2010. STUDY: BACTERIA CAN HELP CLEAN UP FUEL-CONTAMINATED SITES

Fuel spillages and leaks from petroleum storage facilities can lead to serious pollution of soils and underground water. In a recent study, two strains of Rhodococcus bacteria were found to be effective at degrading a number of petroleum hydrocarbons and thus helping clean up contaminated sites. Fuels can be significant pollutants of soils and groundwater, especially around fuel storage facilities where spills and leaks from faulty pipelines and underground storage tanks can lead to contamination by a mixture of petroleum compounds. These pollutants have different solubilities in water and different rates of breakdown in the environment.

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Furthermore, the different compounds found in diesel oil, petrol (gasoline) and fuel additives can interact with each other to create new effects. For instance, the solubility of some compounds can be enhanced, or the mobility of others can be increased. In this study, the researchers investigated the capacities of Rhodococcus bacteria to break down a wide range of petroleum hydrocarbons and fuel additives, such as MTBE (methyl tert-butyl ether) and ETBE (ethyl tert-butyl ether). These additives, used to raise the octane number, have a large contamination potential. A mixture of bacteria was cultured from samples taken from different environments, including soil from a petrol station polluted by leaking tanks. From this mixture of bacteria were isolated and tested for their capacity, individually or together, to biodegrade a mixture of 16 hydrocarbons and additives. The selection and the study of certain bacteria is of great interest because it could facilitate the study of the effects of selective pressure in terms of gene acquisition. R. wratislaviensis showed remarkable potential and was able to completely break down 11 of the 16 compounds tested, including o-xylene, cyclohexane and cyclohexanol, and partially degrade four others, but sometimes needed another solvent to achieve this. R. aetherivorans was less effective in degrading the tested petroleum products. However, it was able to significantly break down MTBE and ETBE. When both strains were used together, they completely degraded 13 of the 16 compounds, and partially degraded two others: only tert-butyl alcohol (TBA, a break down product of MTBE) was not degraded. The interaction between the different petroleum compounds and additives on the action of both bacterial strains was characterised. For instance, R. wratislaviensis degraded 72 per cent of MTBE in the presence of octane compared with 15 per cent without octane. While the presence of MTBE did not have an impact on the degradation of ETBE, no MTBE was degraded in the presence of ETBE. For bioremediation technologies for polluted sites, the authors emphasise the advantage of working with pure strains rather than undefined enrichment cultures and the possible positive role of co-metabolism, which could help overcome inhibitory effects of some compounds on the degradation of other compounds. Original Source: Auffret, M., Labbé, D., Thouand, G. et al. (2009). Degradation of a Mixture of Hydrocarbons, Gasoline and Diesel Oil Additives by Rhodococcus wratislaviensis and Rhodococcus aetherivorans. Applied and Environmental Microbiology. 75(24): 7774-7782.

<http://www.recyclingportal.eu/artikel/23639.shtml>

USA, WEBSITE FOR THE DEFENCE INDUSTRIES – ARMY, FEBRUARY 12 2010. TSS - PROTECTED FUEL TANK

Watch the Video <http://www.army-technology.com/contractors/protection/tss/64313256001.html>

A video demonstration of TSS' protected fuel tanks for vehicles, shipping and aviation.

<http://www.army-technology.com/contractors/protection/tss/64313256001.html>

USA, WI, WAUSAU, FEBRUARY 12 2010. SCHOFIELD CHEMICAL EXPLOSION VICTIM DIED

The severely burned victim of the chemical explosion has passed away. Wisconsin employment lawyers and OSHA alert- The employee injured in chemical explosion, who was also in the Army National Guard, was pronounced dead. On Wednesday, February 10, 2010, the Quality Surface Processing employee who was severely burned in a chemical explosion tragically passed away. As reported by the Des Moines Register and Justice News Flash, the explosion took place on Tuesday February 9, 2010, while the workers were stripping paint from pieces of metal. Eric Simpson, 31, was rushed to Saint Clare's Hospital in Weston after sustaining serious burns in the explosion. Simpson was then transferred to the burn unit at U-W Madison Hospital, where his severe injuries proved fatal and doctors pronounced him dead. A new report indicated that some equipment fell into a vat with a hot salt bath, which may have ignited the blast. A full investigation into the chemical explosion is underway by police officials, and officials from the federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) <http://www.osha.gov>. OSHA reported that they would conduct an inspection for any safety violations at the plant. The company reportedly hasn't had any OSHA citations over the last ten years. Simpson was reportedly a military chaplain with the Iowa Army National Guard, where held the rank of captain and was assigned to the 334th Brigade Support Battalion at Camp Dodge in Johnston.

http://www.justicenewsflash.com/2010/02/12/update-schofield-chemical-explosion-victim-died_201002123323.html

USA, WI, WOOD CO, FEBRUARY 12 2010. MORE THAN 100 HAZARDOUS MATERIAL SPILLS ANNUALLY HIT WOOD COUNTY

karen madden

There are 100 to 150 reported hazardous material spills in Wood County each year, and authorities have to follow proper procedures after each one. In the last five months of 2009, reported incidents included a 20-gallon diesel fuel spill at the intersection of Highway 54 and Highway W in Wisconsin Rapids, 200 gallons of asphalt in the town of Cary and 75 gallons of fuel oil at the intersection of Highway 10 and Highway E in Auburndale. "It happens a lot: Semi-trucks get in an accident; saddle tanks get punctured, and 75 gallons of diesel spill out," said Steve Kreuser, Wood County emergency management director. Municipal, county, state and federal authorities have specific guidelines for reporting, handling and monitoring when substances leak that could be a risk to people or the environment. State statutes spell out which spills have to be reported, said Tom Kendzierski, state Department of Natural Resources spill coordinator. Whether or not the incident requires reporting, the person or entity responsible must clean up the materials. Generally, when potentially hazardous materials are released on private property belonging to companies, they're cleaned up without anyone contacting emergency services, Kreuser said. Still, companies are required to report incidents that meet state-established guidelines. When spills occur on roads or other public lands, generally fire departments are among the first to respond, Kreuser said. If the ground absorbs substances, the spiller is responsible for removing the contaminated soil and usually must hire a private contractor to clean up any hazardous chemicals or contaminated materials. DNR wardens also are among the first to be notified. "Basically, we serve as the first responders and, in doing that, we

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are informing the spiller that he is responsible for cleanup," said Randy Falstad, DNR warden supervisor. Reports go to the DNR and to the Environmental Protection Agency. If a large amount of potentially hazardous material is released and there's danger to the public, municipal, county and state authorities work together, Falstad said. Local health department officials also are contacted if there is danger to people in the area. Kendzierski follows up to make sure the spill is properly taken care of and there isn't any long-term effect to the environment.

<http://www.wisconsinrapidtribune.com/article/20100212/WRT0101/2120642/1982/WRT04/More-than-100-hazardous-material-spills-annually-hit-Wood-County>

USA, VA, APPOMATTOX, FEBRUARY 13 2010. APPOMATTOX GAS STATION CANOPY COLLAPSES

The wind, snow, and ice proved too much for a gas station canopy in Appomattox to handle. The awning fell at the Shell station at the Triangle Plaza shopping center Thursday morning. Ice had built up on top of the awning, causing the cave-in. Amanda Mayberry was working in a kiosk where the awning fell. "I fell to the ground until it finished falling," said Mayberry, the manager of the gas station. "We saw it swaying but we never thought it would fall." There were no customers currently pumping gas and no one was injured in the accident.

http://www2.wsls.com/sls/news/local/lynchburg/article/appomattox_gas_station_canopy_collapses/80725/

USA, MD, OWINGS MILLS, FEBRUARY 13 2010. OFFICIALS IDENTIFY MAN KILLED BY LOADER AT GAS STATION

amy holzer

Update

Baltimore county fire officials have identified a man killed trying to repair a front-end loader he was trying to repair to free his snowbound car. forty-six-year-old marbin garcia of owings mills was pronounced dead at the scene thursday at a sunoco gas station on reisterstown road in owings mills. fire officials say garcia sought help in freeing his car. he asked if he could use the loader and offered to fix it after he was told it was not working. fire officials say a support arm fell on him while he was trying to repair the loader.

Update

Authorities say the victim was a motorist whose car became stuck in the snow. he stopped at the sunoco looking for assistance and asked if he could use the bulldozer on the gas station lot. When told that it was not working, he offered to repair it. he was then crushed when the support arm of the machine fell on him. The victim died at the scene.

Original Story

A man was killed thursday after a bobcat fell from a lift and crushed him, in reisterstown. baltimore county fire officials say that the accident happened at a sunoco gas station on the 10800 block of reisterstown road. the victim was working on the bulldozer when it fell and killed him. the worker's name has not been released. this happened just after noon on thursday.

<http://www.abc2news.com/mostpopular/story/Worker-Crushed-in-Bobcat-Accident/baM34cq1gEydkcSdaGNbRw.csp>

USA, IN, WINCHESTER, FEBRUARY 13 2010. ETHANOL TANKER OVERTURNS ON ST. RT. 227

cynthia aukerman

An tanker carrying 8,300 gross pounds of pure ethanol overturned on State Route 227 just north of 100 South at 4:48 p.m. Wednesday resulting in minor leakage. The driver, Ronald Boyd, Hamilton, Ohio, was not injured. Chris Shaneyfelt, Randolph County's emergency management director, said the accident was weather related. The driver told Shaneyfelt that snow was blowing across the window and then obscured his windshield. Shaneyfelt said the driver probably hit a snow drift that then pulled him to the west side of embankment, where the tanker went over on the passenger side. "He made a half-way decent landing," Shaneyfelt said. The truck was driven away, but the tanker wasn't so fortunate. In order to upright the tanker and remove it, holes were drilled into the tanker by air drills and the ethanol was off-loaded to another tanker. The holes had to be drilled in the tanker because the load was too heavy to lift. A company from Englewood, Ohio, which is certified for such operations, removed the ethanol from the tanker. Shaneyfelt said the tanker was probably ruined from that operation, regardless of any damage caused by the tip-over. An environmental spill team from Daleville was also on the scene, as well as fire departments from both sides of Union City, a hazmat unit from Darke County, and the Randolph County Sheriff's Department. The minor leakage was taken care of by the use of absorbent pads. The last of the emergency personnel left the scene by 1 a.m., some eight hours after the accident happened. State Route 227 was also the scene of two accidents involving a total of six cars in the same vicinity on Thursday morning. Sheriff Deputy Steve Acree said no injuries were involved in those two accidents, but a woman was injured in an accident on State Route 32 and was taken to St. Vincent Randolph Hospital. Because of the heavy load of abandoned vehicles and accidents, no further details were available.

<http://www.winchesternews gazette.com/articles/2010/02/12/news/doc4b757692dd559331515297.txt>

USA, NY, ROCHESTER, FEBRUARY 13 2010. TWO LOCAL GASOLINE SPILL SITES TO BE CLEANED UP WITH FEDERAL FUNDS

Two petroleum spill sites in Rochester are among 60 statewide where \$9.2 million in federal stimulus money will pay for environmental cleanups. Contaminants at the 60 sites do not pose a direct health threat, but are harming the environment and impeding economic development, state Department of Environmental Conservation officials said in a statement this morning. The grant to New York came from \$200 million in stimulus funds made available to the states for cleanup work at "shovel-ready"

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contamination sites. Locally, work is to be done at the former Mike's Shamrock service station at 425 Thurston Road, and at the area around Ridge Seneca Plaza at 277-345 East Ridge Road, DEC officials said. Gasoline contamination of soil under the former gas station on Thurston Road was discovered years ago, but the property owner lacked the money to do a full cleanup. Federal funds should pay for an investigation and cleanup of contaminants, the DEC said. On East Ridge, the plaza's owners found gasoline in soil on their property and traced it to a closed gasoline station nearby. The DEC paid for removal of a 20,000-gallon underground tank at the former gas station in December. The federal money will allow for removal of tainted soil and other work.

<http://rocnow.com/article/local-news/2010100212009>

USA, FLA, MIAMI, FEBRUARY 13 2010. UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK FIRE SLOWS TRAFFIC ON EXPRESSWAY

tim chapman

Watch the Video <http://www.miamiherald.com/news/breaking-news/story/1476416.html>

Watch the Video <http://www.wsvn.com/news/articles/local/MI143526/>

Watch the Video <http://www.nbcmiami.com/news/local-beat/Tanker-Explosion-84229367.html>

Miami-Dade firefighters extinguished a fire in a fiberglass tank Friday morning in an industrial area of Hialeah Gardens. The dark smoke from the fire at 9101 W. Okeechobee Rd. was distracting drivers and slowing traffic on the Palmetto Expressway. The explosion happened at 8 a.m. Firefighters waited minutes before using a white foam, and containing the flames 25 minutes later. Two men at the U.S.A. Truck Service Plaza had removed three old, underground fuel storage tanks and were trying to cut them up, a firefighter said. The explosion blew the two men a few feet from the tank, but the men were conscious when rescuers airlifted them to Jackson Memorial's Ryder Trauma Center. Firefighters think the fumes may have caused the fire, but they are still investigating.

<http://www.miamiherald.com/news/breaking-news/story/1476416.html>

UK, SUFFOLK, FEBRUARY 13 2010. PETROL ATTENDANT PREVENTED EXPLOSION

A petrol station attendant, who stopped a man from blowing up a petrol station with women and children inside, has been praised for his bravery. Rzgar Kareem grabbed the gushing petrol pump and a lighter out of the hands of Andrew Willoughby, before pinning him to the floor until police arrived. "It was very scary," said Rzgar, 29, who works at the Murco petrol station in Newmarket Road, Bury St Edmunds. "I was worried for the people inside as well as myself. There could have been a big explosion. I saw him try to flick the lighter twice. Fortunately he was drunk and not able to light it. I remember one little girl was crying after I grabbed him. I told her 'Don't worry'. 'What he was doing was very dangerous,' added Rzgar, who has lived in Bury for nine years and is originally from Iraq. "I've never seen anything like it in my life." He was speaking after Willoughby, 25, was jailed for two years by Ipswich Crown Court. Trouble started after Willoughby had gone to the petrol station at about 12.30pm on October 3 and tried to buy wine. Staff refused to serve him because he already appeared to be drunk, said prosecutor Robert Sadd. He then tried to buy a can of beer but when he was again refused, he walked out onto the forecourt took a hose and pulled out a cigarette lighter, Mr Sadd said. When interviewed by police, Willoughby, of Tayfen Road, Bury, denied that he intended to start a fire. Willoughby, who has previous convictions for violence, public disorder and robbery, pleaded guilty to threatening to commit criminal damage or arson. "What he did wasn't anything other than deeply stupid. He realises that," said Matthew McNiff, in mitigation, at Thursday's hearing. He said Willoughby had a number of issues troubling him at the time and drank alcohol to cope. The judge, Mr Recorder Nigel Peters, praised the bravery of Mr Kareem. He said the incident was 'very alarming', and while he accepted that he did not intend to start a fire, it could have had 'disastrous consequences'. Bury Insp Chris Galley said: "This incident had the potential to harm not only those present at the petrol station, but people living locally and passers-by on a busy route through Bury St Edmunds. The quick thinking and fast actions of those staff members at the petrol station diffused the situation and prevented a major incident from occurring and should be commended."

<http://www.buryfreepress.co.uk/news/Petrol-attendant-prevented-explosion.6064121.jp>

USA, CT, PORTLAND, FEBRUARY 13 2010. ASPHALT COMPANY PAYS FOR CONNECTICUT RIVER OIL SPILL

A Portland, Conn.-based asphalt company has agreed to pay \$68,400 in penalties for failing to comply with federal regulations designed to prevent oil spills from reaching waterways. According to EPA, Triram Connecticut LLC illegally discharged approximately 1,000 gallons of oil from its facility to the Connecticut River in January 2009. The oil spill occurred when piping connecting a 13,000 gallon oil tank to a boiler failed and released 8,000 gallons of oil into the facility's secondary containment area. The oil discharged into the river prompted an emergency response from the local fire department and the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection. Triram also hired an oil spill response company to contain the spilled oil and spent more than half-a-million dollars on the clean up. EPA's New England office determined that the company had failed to fully maintain and implement its Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasure (SPCC) plan, as required by the Clean Water Act. These oil spill prevention regulations require that specific preventative measures be taken at facilities that store greater than 1,320 gallons of oil, and could reasonably be anticipated to release oil products into a waterway of the United States or adjoining shoreline areas. EPA said these regulations help ensure that tank failures or accidental spills do not lead to oil contamination of surface waters, such as rivers or streams, which could harm human and ecological health. "Because oil spills can do significant damage to the environment, EPA makes it a priority to ensure that facilities handling oils must follow established procedures to minimize risks of oil spills," said Curt Spalding, regional administrator of the agency's New England office. "We hope this enforcement action will encourage all

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companies that store significant quantities of oil to follow the established procedures to prevent and minimize the impacts of oil spills."

<http://ohsonline.com/articles/2010/02/13/asphalt-co-pays.aspx?admgarea=news>

USA, ORE, LONGVIEW, FEBRUARY 13 2010. INVESTIGATORS SAY CHINOOK VENTURES FACILITY WAS SOURCE OF COLUMBIA RIVER SPILL

State investigators confirmed today that a private port facility near Longview was the source of a mile-long [spill of petroleum coke](#) in the Columbia River earlier this month. The port, operated by Chinook Ventures, has a long history of environmental problems, as The Oregonian [reported last week](#). Investigators with the [Washington Department of Ecology](#) sampled the black, powdery material seen floating on the Columbia on February 2nd and determined it was petroleum coke, a byproduct of oil refining used as fuel, from Chinook Ventures. The Longview-based company stores the material, often called pet coke, on site after it's brought in by rail. The company then loads it onto ships for export using a conveyor belt system that spans a portion of the river. "The day of the spill, Chinook Ventures was loading a ship with petroleum coke," the agency said. "The company has not acknowledged any role in the spill." The department estimates that between 25 and 50 cubic yards of pet coke was released into the river. While ecology doesn't think that amount would cause immediate harm to fish or wildlife, the agency said accumulations of pet coke could clog fish gills and otherwise harm the fresh water environment. "The Columbia River plays such an important role for our local communities, shoreline owners, the economy and our recreational enjoyment, so we all have a responsibility to protect it from further pollution," said Sally Toteff, ecology's regional director for southwest Washington. The environmental group Columbia Riverkeeper, which is suing Chinook Ventures over violations to clean water and air laws, has criticized Washington state regulators for not taking a stricter stance with Chinook Ventures. The department said its investigation into the spill is continuing.

http://www.oregonlive.com/environment/index.ssf/2010/02/investigators_say_chinook_vent.html

USA, WA, OLYMPIA, FEBRUARY 13 2010. DISCHARGE FROM TUG TO COLUMBIA RIVER RESULTS IN \$21,000 PENALTY

The owner of a tug that released oily bilge water into the Columbia River last year is being penalized \$21,000 by the Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology). Sound Freight Lines' tug Black Hawk discharged an estimated 150 gallons of lubricating and diesel oils while transiting near Willow Grove on the Columbia River during the morning hours of Jan. 29, 2009. The sheen went unreported until mid-day when observers on the river called the U.S. Coast Guard and Ecology. By then, it was too late for responders to do more than collect samples for further investigation. Ecology spills investigators collected samples from all the commercial vessels that had been in the area at the time of the spill and were able to match the oily discharge to the Black Hawk's bilge contents. "In general, the shipping industry is very careful in handling fuel, lube oil and bilge slops on the Columbia River and Puget Sound. This incident involving the Black Hawk was avoidable and should not have happened," said Jim Sachet, Ecology's spill response manager for the Southwest Region. Washington's natural resources are at risk whenever oil is spilled. Even small amounts of oil increase the level of toxics already burdening the Columbia River. Unauthorized discharges of oil to state waters are illegal in Washington, and spillers must report any discharges as well as take steps to collect and remove the pollution. Ecology determined the tug and its corporate owner were unresponsive to the discharge, resulting in a \$21,000 penalty. Ecology is also ordering the company to reimburse the state \$12,600 for the costs of the response efforts. Sound Freight Lines has 30 days to appeal Ecology's penalty with the state Pollution Control Hearings Board or file an application for relief before the full amount is due.

<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/news/2010news/2010-026.html>

USA, PA, MONTGOMERYVILLE TWP, FEBRUARY 13 2010. HAZMAT SPILL SENDS 12 TO THE HOSPITAL

Montgomery Township Department of Fire Services and the FDMT responded to a hazardous materials incident Friday morning at ITW Philadelphia Resins Company at 130 Commerce Drive. According to township officials, while off loading product from a tanker delivery truck at the rear of the facility, a malfunction occurred causing a chemical to spill on the ground, exposing an employee and the truck driver. Township officials did not identify the type of chemical. FDMT Fire Chief Chris Mann determined that company employees had made an emergency shutdown of the chemical and placed diking material around the affected area to contain the spill. According to the township, Chief Mann had company supervisors initiate decontamination procedures and had Volunteer Medical Service Corps personnel perform a medical evaluation of the employees involved in the incident. According to township officials, 12 people were transported to a local hospital for observation. Montgomery County Hazard Material Chief Steve LoPresti provided assistance and technical support. Clean Harbor Environmental Services provided site remediation.

<http://www.thereporteronline.com/articles/2010/02/13/news/doc4b7693b27427a248879669.txt>

CANADA, PORT OF MONTREAL, FEBRUARY 14 2010. FIRE ON COMMERCIAL VESSEL AT PORT OF MONTREAL

One crew member was rushed to hospital with second-degree burns to his hands and face after a commercial vessel caught fire at the Port of Montreal Saturday afternoon. Firefighters responded to the call just after 3 p.m. Michel Gareau of the Montreal Fire Department said the fire started inside a reservoir on the vessel that contained hydraulic oil. The crew member had been welding near the reservoir when a spark triggered the blaze. A second man was treated at the scene for shock. The tanker-- called the Thalassa Desgagnes-- was carrying liquid asphalt. Thick plumes of smoke could be seen rising above the water, but Gareau said it is not toxic. The fire was under control within 30 minutes.

http://montreal.ctv.ca/servlet/an/local/CTVNews/20100213/mtl_fire_port_of_montreal_100213/20100213/?hub=MontrealHome

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