



Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network Release 2011 – 739 Newsy Stuff

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

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USA, TN, SUMMITVILLE, AUGUST 1 2011. CREWS BATTLE LARGE BIO DIESEL FIRE IN COFFEE COUNTY >> 60K GALLONS

 **Watch the Video** <http://www.newschannel5.com/story/15179847/crews-battling-large-ethanol-fire-in-coffee-county>



Emergency crews from across Coffee County responded to a fire at the Tennessee Bio Energy plant in Summitville. For more than eight hours, flames engulfed the building. The two employees inside made it out alive along with two dogs. A cat is believed to have died in the fire. Since thousands of gallons of chemicals were inside, nearby residents were forced to evacuate. A small spark is said to have morphed into uncontrollable flames at the bio diesel plant. Firefighters feared the unknown after an initial explosion. The plant makes the fuel from used vegetable oil. Thousands of gallons of agents like methanol and glycerin were inside. "That's the fuel inside burning the diesel itself," Assistant Chief James Maxwell with the Summitville Volunteer Fire Department explained. "That's going to be hard to put out because you can't put it out with water." Water was in short supply. With no hydrants in the area, firefighters had to take turns refilling their trucks. After burning for more than three hours, crews retreated,

fearing another explosion. By 9:00pm residents were allowed back in their home after firefighters got the flames under control. Environmental crews are on the scene to assess the damage.

<http://www.newschannel5.com/story/15179847/crews-battling-large-ethanol-fire-in-coffee-county>

CHINA, BEIJING, AUGUST 1 2011. DEADLINE FOR OIL LEAK CLEAN UP



A man moves a stack of dead scallops on July 26 in Laoting county, Hebei province. The province's fisheries have suffered as a result of the oil leaks in Bohai Bay.

Oil leaks continue at two platforms operated by ConocoPhillips in Bohai Bay, more than two weeks after authorities ordered them to shut down, China's ocean watchdog said on Friday. The State Oceanic Administration has ordered the company to stop the leaks, contain the oil spills, clean up polluted areas and conduct a thorough investigation to eliminate the possibility of further oil spills before Aug 31. Several oil belts were detected by the administration on July 27 in a 4.6-square-kilometer area to the east of the Penglai 19-3 oilfield, and the administration's surveillance has determined that Platform C is still leaking about 2.52 liters of oil a day and that there are more oil slicks near Platform B. ConocoPhillips reportedly admitted that "small and intermittent spills" are still being detected at Platform B and said it will make efforts to clean up the spills before the deadline, Xinhua News Agency reported on Sunday. The administration also ordered ConocoPhillips to provide a report by an independent evaluation authority once the leaks have been stopped and the spills contained. Pollutants from the oil spill have been found on beaches in North China's Hebei province, and fisheries there are complaining that the disaster has caused the death of a large number of scallops. "According to our statistics, about 70 percent of the scallops have died due to the oil leak, with economic losses reaching at least 200 million yuan (\$30 million)," Yang Jizhen, chairman of the Laoting Fisheries Association, told China Daily. About 30 boxes of dead scallops have been collected and stored as evidence since July 17, Yang said. Around 160 households in

Laoting county in the province rely on fisheries and related work for their livelihoods and they are planning to file a lawsuit against ConocoPhillips, the operator of the Penglai oilfield and its partner, China National Offshore Oil Corp, he added. Qi Yuxiang, deputy director of the Laoting aquatic product bureau said they are checking every household to calculate the losses, but he is more worried about the potential long-term effects on exports. Aquatic products in Laoting are exported to Japan and the Republic of Korea. According to statistics released by the administration on July 12, 4,240 sq km of coastal waters have been contaminated by the leak. The administration ordered Houston-based ConocoPhillips to shut down production at the two platforms on July 13 because of the company's inability to contain the oil leaks at platforms B and C. The company has estimated that about 1,500 to 2,000 barrels of oil and oil-based drilling fluids have been released into the sea.

http://www.china.org.cn/environment/2011-08/01/content_23112338.htm

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USA, FLA, ORLANDO, AUGUST 1 2011. SHUTTLE, ROCKET LIFTOFFS LEAVE LEGACY OF COSTLY CLEANUPS AT KSC >>NASA WILL SPEND MILLIONS REMOVING CHEMICALS FROM DEEP BENEATH LAUNCH PADS

jim waymer

 **Watch the Video:**

<http://www.floridatoday.com/article/20110731/NEWS02/107310321/Shuttle-rocket-liftoffs-leave-legacy-costly-cleanups-KSC>



KSC cleaning up old pollution: KSC is cleaning up pollution in the ground from a cleaning solvent that was used during the Apollo missions to clean rocket parts. NASA spent decades to send men to the moon, launch the space shuttles and build a laboratory in space, and now it will take a century to clean up the chemical messes left behind. Plumes of carcinogenic chemicals used in the launching of the space shuttles, Apollo moon shots and other rockets seeped deep into sandy soils beneath launch pads and other structures at Kennedy Space Center and Cape Canaveral Air Force Station. They form viscous toxic goo that will take \$1 billion in cleanup costs agencywide over many decades, and could bog down funding for next-generation spacecraft. NASA estimates it will spend \$96 million in the next 30 years at KSC, including \$6 million this year. The Air Force says it will take another \$50 million to get the rest of its cleanups at Cape Canaveral under way by 2017. "In the past, back in Apollo, the normal

disposal of the solvent cleaning was down the drain . . . out the back door," said Rosaly Santos-Ebaugh, KSC's remediation program manager, the person responsible for leading the cleanup. A Florida Today analysis of hundreds of pages of KSC and Cape Canaveral Air Force Station cleanup records and extensive databases of toxic spills obtained under the Freedom of Information Act found:

- At least two square miles of chemically-contaminated soil and groundwater, some of the "plumes" reaching as deep as 90 feet, at KSC and the air station, where the earliest rockets blasted off. That includes 600 acres of chemical plumes at KSC or nearby sites under former NASA control and 1,030 acres at Canaveral.
- Of 267 known contamination sites at KSC or under former NASA control, 141 are cleaned up. The other half are either under investigation, undergoing treatment or left for contaminants to break down naturally.
- By far, the most common contaminant is a chlorinated solvent called trichloroethylene, or "trike," and its breakdown products -- substances known to cause birth defects and cancer and reaching concentrations thousands of times higher than federal drinking water standards allow.

No one drinks water drawn at the space center, nor the air station, but federal law still mandates the cleanup, at taxpayer expense. Other potential harm to humans and wildlife is uncertain. Most of the contamination occurred before federal standards and science caught up with the potential dangers, and today's launches contribute little to the environmental pollution. Spaceflight was a dirty business. And astronauts walked the moon in 1969, a year before Richard Nixon established the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. "So we can put a man on the moon, but we don't have all the regulations in place so we can understand the effect of some of the chemicals that were disposed of," NASA scientist Jackie Quinn said in describing how the contamination was allowed to occur.

Toxic Solvent

From 1959 to 1968, during Apollo, when NASA launched Saturn rockets from Launch Complex 34 at Canaveral, trike went straight into the ground. An estimated 88,000 pounds of the solvent soaked into the soil and groundwater. KSC's sandy, alkaline soils are thought to neutralize most metals and other contaminants before they become a problem up the food chain. But trike dies hard. And workers kept pouring it into the ground in the early years of the shuttle program, thinking it would evaporate. Industry chemists knew as far back as the 1940s that trike could contaminate groundwater, according to research by Steven Amter, an environmental consultant in Washington, who has written a book on the history of industrial pollution. Safety guidelines for trike were among the first Chemical Safety Datasheets published by manufacturers in 1947, Amter said. They advised users to pour the solvent on "dry sand, earth, or ashes at a safe distance from occupied areas" to promote evaporation. That practice since has proven ineffective, given all the trike that seeped into groundwater at KSC and elsewhere. Few but chemical industry insiders and scientists who studied groundwater understood the full implications of the early guidelines. "It doesn't say, 'Just pour it on the ground and forget it,'" Amter said. "It was intended to promote evaporation, not infiltration into the ground." NASA officials couldn't cite the year KSC workers stopped pouring trike on the ground, but said they did so when the Materials Data Safety Sheets first warned against the practice. Dow Chemical's safety sheet in 1974 and

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General Electric's in 1978 recommended used solvents be sent to a licensed disposal company. After Congress passed extensive hazardous waste regulations in 1980, Amter said, trike users should have been aware of the risks to groundwater. "Anything you didn't want to drink, you shouldn't be putting in the ground."

How Much, Where?

Historically, NASA has spent an average of \$8 million to \$10 million a year treating trike and on other cleanups at KSC, at least through 2009. Last year, funding for cleanups dropped to \$4 million, then increased to \$6 million this year. Since 1989, NASA has spent \$128 million on KSC environmental cleanups. At Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, where spills aren't just space-related, the military has spent \$175 million since 1985 investigating and cleaning up 94 of 127 contamination sites. They've also paid out \$15 million on several ongoing cleanups at Patrick. KSC's cleanup program traces its origins to two legal orders issued by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection in the late 1980s for the space center's two earliest contaminated sites: Wilson Corners and Ransom Road Landfill. Ransom is a 24-acre closed dump operated during early construction at KSC, from 1964 to 1970. Groundwater contaminants include volatile organic compounds and ammonia. A 33-acre plume surrounds Wilson Corners, originally a general store, acquired by NASA in 1963. KSC converted it to a rocket-engine cleaning lab, operated by a private contractor. Trike was the predominant solvent used there until the early 1970s.

Main Contaminant

Florida environmental regulators enforce cleanup standards at Kennedy, but it was federal law that first forced NASA in the 1980s to begin assessing hazards to humans and the environment. Ultimately, they unearthed the 267 sites, most with trike as the main contaminant. The largest: a 352-acre plume at Canaveral air station's Launch Complex 34 -- site of the 1967 Apollo 1 fire that killed three astronauts. NASA, in most cases, can't tell if spills are from the shuttle or other programs such as Apollo. Solvents foul surface waters around the main shuttle pad, 39B -- a National Historic Site, and the more polluted of the two shuttle launch pads. Flame retardants, arsenic and nickel also penetrate the soils there. The pad launched 52 shuttle flights, all three Skylab missions and the Apollo-Soyuz test flight. NASA began dismantling the pad earlier this year to clear the way for future, larger rockets. Most of the trike at KSC and the Air Force station launch pads is stopped from reaching deeper aquifers -- where drinking water could be drawn -- by a natural clay layer about 40 feet underground. But in some spots, the solvents reach depths of 90 feet. Left alone, all the trike at Launch Complex 34 would take 300 years to naturally break down, NASA officials say. With human intervention, it might still take a century.

Corn Oil Solution

Traditionally, solvent cleanups involved pumping up contaminated groundwater and treating it -- a lengthy, expensive and not-always-successful process. The dense liquid solvents are tough to pump. But scientist Quinn's homestyle blender churns up promising and cheaper solutions, using tabletop ingredients such as corn oil and more-exotic substances such as nanoparticles. In a small lab in KSC's Operations and Checkout Building, the same place astronauts suit up before launch, it sloshes iron powder and corn oil into a gray goop. The method, called Emulsified Zero-Valent Iron (EZVI), requires injecting the salad-dressing-like mix into plume hot spots, where it finds and binds to the similarly dense solvents, rendering them harmless. It does the same to heavy metals such as chromium, arsenic and lead. "The technique works well and it works fast," said Quinn, an environmental engineer with NASA's Surface Systems Office, who developed EZVI along with University of Central Florida scientists.

Long Road Ahead

The iron particles float in oily bubble blobs that enclose the solvents and break them down into natural, nontoxic salts and gases. Naturally occurring bacteria consume the leftover vegetable oil. "It's totally nonhazardous byproducts," Quinn said. The idea, which began on the back of a napkin, won its inventors a place in NASA's Space Technology Hall of Fame in 2007. NASA licensed the technology to several companies, and now, 16 states and several countries, including France and Japan, use it. But KSC has a long way to go in solving its trike troubles. "It's not just a problem that's affiliated with us, it's a global problem," Quinn said. "Environmental cleanup science is a very young science."

Related Links

- [Turns out, Kennedy Space Center critters are pretty healthy](#)
- [MAP: Locations of largest contamination plumes at KSC and CCAFS](#)
- [Cleaning up KSC](#)
- [Space Blog: The Flame Trench](#)
- [Chemical plumes at KSC and Cape Canaveral AFS](#)

<http://www.floridatoday.com/article/20110731/NEWS02/107310321/Shuttle-rocket-liftoffs-leave-legacy-costly-cleanups-KSC>

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USA, WASHINGTON DC, AUGUST 1 2011. STUDY: SEVEN US REFINERIES COULD CLOSE WITH UPCOMING EPA REGS

 **Document** http://www.api.org/Newsroom/upload/110715_LowerSulfur_LowerRVP_Final.pdf

A new [study](#) says that upcoming EPA requirements could raise the cost of manufacturing gasoline, lead to the closing of domestic refineries, and force the U.S. to double its gasoline imports — while causing increased carbon dioxide emissions. "The new EPA requirements could be devastating to consumers and communities across the nation," said Bob Greco, API's group director of downstream operations. "Consumers would be hurt by the increased cost of fuel projected by the study, and the closing of refineries could put local economies at risk, meaning there would be fewer jobs. In addition, we would be forced to rely even more on foreign fuel supplies, and that can only weaken our nation's economy and national security." The new study, which was conducted by energy consulting firm Baker & O'Brien for API, examines the potential costs of EPA's "Tier 3" fuel standard for gasoline blends which could be proposed at the end of the year. The study determined that the new requirements could boost the cost of making gasoline by up to 25 cents per gallon and could shutter up to seven U.S. refineries but predicted that it could drive up carbon dioxide emissions by up to 7.4 million tons a year because of the increased energy needed to manufacture the new fuel blend. "These regulations don't make sense environmentally or economically," said National Petrochemical & Refiners Association President Charles T. Drevna. "The proposal would increase greenhouse gas emissions, hurt American consumers by adding billions of dollars to the cost of manufacturing gasoline, hurt communities and workers by threatening to put some fuel manufacturing plants out of business, and weaken America's economic and national security." EPA cites new ozone NAAQS requirements as one of the reasons for the new gasoline requirements, but Greco pointed out that new, out-of-cycle ozone requirements "would clearly harm job creation and economic growth, all at a time when air quality continues to improve under the existing standards." API represents more than 470 oil and natural gas companies, leaders of a technology-driven industry that supplies most of America's energy, supports more than 9.2 million U.S. jobs and 7.7 percent of the U.S. economy, delivers \$86 million in revenue to our government every day, and, since 2000, has invested nearly \$2 trillion in U.S. capital projects to advance all forms of energy, including alternatives.

http://www.downstreamtoday.com/news/article.aspx?a_id=27403

PHILIPPINES, ILOILO, AJUY, AUGUST 1 2011. PHILIPPINE COAST GUARD ON LOOKOUT FOR POSSIBLE OIL SPILL

tara yap



The Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) is preparing for a possible oil spill from the ill-fated M/V Asia Malaysia. According to Commodore Athelo Ybañez, PCG commander in Western Visayas, the passenger ship that sank off the coast of Ajuy town in northern Iloilo Sunday morning was carrying 21,000 liters of fuel. While all 178 passengers and crew were safely rescued, maritime officials are turning their attention into the possibility that bunker fuel might have leaked into the Visayan Sea, which is considered one of the country's richest fishing grounds. "We cannot discount the possibility of a rupture," Ybañez said even after initial aerial inspection did not yield any oil slick on the sea's surface. PCG and ship-owner Trans-Asia Shipping Lines Inc. have deployed oil spill response teams to Ajuy. "We are prepared to contain it," Ybañez added. The PCG is taking precautionary measures particularly after the worst oil spill disaster in Philippine history hit Western Visayas five years ago. On August 11, 2006, over two million liters of Petron bunker fuel was spilled into Guimaras Strait after oil tanker M/T Solar 1 sank off the southern coast of the island province. The oil spill caused massive destruction in the marine life and fishing grounds in the provinces of Guimaras, Iloilo, and Negros Occidental.

<http://www.mb.com.ph/articles/329140/philippine-coast-guard-lookout-possible-oil-spill>

JORDAN, AMMAN, AUGUST 2 2011. TWO BURNED TO DEATH IN TANKER ACCIDENT

Two citizens were burned to death on Monday in a fuel tanker accident in the southern port city of Aqaba, Civil Defense Department (CDD) said. CDD spokesman Colonel Farid Shara said the deaths resulted from third grade body burning. He added that rescue teams rushed to the scene and evacuated the bodies to Princess Haya Military Hospital in Aqaba.

http://www.petra.gov.jo/Public_News/Nws_NewsDetails.aspx?Site_Id=1&lang=2&NewsID=39580&CatID=13&Type=Home&G_Type=1

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USA, WA, SEATTLE, COVINGTON, AUGUST 2 2011. VAN CATCHES FIRE IN GAS STATION PARKING LOT

travis Mayfield

 **Photo's** <http://kent.komonews.com/news/911/van-catches-fire-gas-station-parking-lot/656901>



A van caught fire in the parking lot of a Kent gas station earlier today sparking serious fears of an explosion. Thankfully Kent Fire Department's Captain Kyle Ohashi tells KOMO News the fire is out and the nearby propane tank is no longer threatened. Capt Ohashi says 2 people were injured in the fire. The occupant of the van and an employee who was helping fill a propane tank both have non life-threatening injuries, but are going to the hospital to be checked out. The fire was reported around 4:15 at the Covington Pit Stop Express at SE 272nd St and Highway 18. The nearby streets were briefly closed, but they have now been reopened. So far Ohashi says they have not determined what caused the fire.

<http://kent.komonews.com/news/911/van-catches-fire-gas-station-parking-lot/656901>

OMAN, WILAYAT LIWA, AUGUST 2 2011. FOUR OF AN EGYPTIAN FAMILY KILLED IN OMAN TANKER ACCIDENT

Four Egyptians killed in Liwa road accident.



Four members of an Egyptian family were killed in a road tragedy in Oman's wilayat of Liwa, police said. The accident occurred when the driver of the car they were travelling in lost control of the vehicle, hit the road divider and crashed into a truck parked on the other side of the road. The family was going to Liwa from sohar.

http://www.khaleejtimes.com/displayarticle.asp?file=data/middleeast/2011/August/middleeast_August23.xml§ion=middleeast&col=

USA, NV, LAS VEGAS, AUGUST 2 2011. TWO MEN BURNED IN GASOLINE FLASH FIRE

Dave Toplikar

Two men were burned — one seriously — in a gasoline flash fire late Sunday afternoon while they were trying to refuel some power equipment near a water heater, according to Las Vegas Fire & Rescue. One of the men received first- and second-degree burns on 30 percent of his body, with burns on both arms and one leg, and was transported to University Medical Center's burn unit, firefighters said. The other man, who had a minor burn on his arm, was treated on the scene and released, firefighters said. Firefighters did not release the names of either man. Firefighters said they were called at 5:41 p.m. to a one-story house at 1520 San Pedro Ave., near the intersection of Sahara Avenue and Maryland Parkway, after someone drove by the residence and thought the porch was on fire. Firefighters said the blaze actually started under the carport. The two men were refueling "a piece of power equipment" in front of a natural gas water heater, which sits in a closet about four feet from where they were working, firefighters said. The fumes from the gasoline were ignited by the pilot light from the water heater, causing "a fast and intense flash fire," firefighters said. Besides burning the men, the fire caused about \$5,000 in property damage around the water heater, firefighters said. Fire investigators said they thought the fire was accidental. Because the house is much older than many of the homes in the valley, the water heater sat directly on the floor, within reach of gasoline fume, firefighters said. Newer homes have the water heater on a stand mounted to the wall, which is off the floor, making it unlikely for gasoline fumes to reach the pilot light, firefighter said. "When using gasoline, which is extremely flammable, the utmost safety precautions need to be taken," firefighters said. "Gasoline should not be dispensed within 50 feet of any type of an ignition source. Static electricity has also caused gasoline fumes to ignite."

<http://www.lasvegassun.com/news/2011/jul/31/two-men-injured-gasoline-fumes-flash-fire/>

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NIGERIA, LAGOS, AUGUST 2 2011. POLICE, PCRC SEEK SOLUTION TO KEROSENE EXPLOSIONS

joe ezuma

The Commissioner of Police, Rivers State, Mr. Suleiman Abba, has called for greater attention by the government to the problem of kerosene adulteration in the country. Abba said the problem had resulted in explosions that had claimed many innocent lives. The police commissioner was speaking at a public enlightenment forum organised by the Police Community Relations Committee (PCRC), Port Harcourt Area Command, over the weekend. In a keynote address at the occasion, with the theme: 'Kerosene adulteration and its social impacts on the environment', Abba said the menace of kerosene adulteration had not engaged the full attention of the relevant agencies in such a way other crimes had. He said Nigerians could detect adulterated kerosene from its colour and the fast rate of evaporation when dropped on the skin or on the floor. The Rivers police boss advised that one of the easiest ways of avoiding kerosene explosions was for consumers to buy from the Nigeria National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) mega stations or accredited petrol stations. Chairman of the PCRC, Mr. G.A Agorom, said the objective of the public enlightenment lecture, was to sensitize the public on the dangers of kerosene adulteration /explosions and its negative impacts on families, property and the environment. He added that the programme was also meant to appeal to perpetrators to realise that their practices are anti-social and unpatriotic, and to wake up both the security agencies and the general public on the need for concerted effort to fight kerosene adulteration.

<http://www.momentng.com/en/news/3368/police-pcrc-look-for-solution-to-kerosene-explosions.html>

USA, N.Y, SCARSDALE, AUGUST 2 2011. DON'T LET A BURIED OIL TANK BURY YOU >> BURIED OIL TANKS ARE A CONCERN TO MANY BUYERS AND SELLERS. TODAY, MANY MORTGAGE COMPANIES WON'T LEND ON PROPERTIES WITH THEM, AND INSURANCE CARRIERS MIGHT EVEN PULL YOUR COVERAGE.



Do you have an oil tank buried in your yard? It's a question which every home seller must answer and every home buyer wants to know — even if the tank has been abandoned and is no longer in use. At a recent inspection for a buyer, an inspector indicated that there may be an oil tank buried on the premises. He pointed out to the buyer certain capped pipes in the basement were an indicator that the home was previously heated with oil. We shared this with the seller's agent, and they were quite surprised to hear that there may be a buried tank. The seller had lived in the home for over forty years and was not aware of the buried tank. I explained that we would have a specialist come out to further investigate. Although it is not a requirement to remove an oil tank, my buyer did not want to inherit the house with the buried tank and requested for it to be removed. The seller did so, and the closing took place. As it turns out, the buyer's mortgage company requested official paperwork on the removal of the oil

tank. When I spoke with the broker, he stated that the company would have never approved of a mortgage on a home with a buried oil tank. As a broker, I've seen too many deals go bad over buried oil tanks and the arguments over who is responsible, indemnifications and possible long term effects. Over the last year, I have heard that more and more insurance companies are unwilling to issue homeowner's insurance policies for properties that have an underground oil tank. Oil tanks, usually made of steel, are prone to rusting. Rusting leads to leakage which can lead to pollution of soil and groundwater. The life of most oil tanks is somewhere between 10-15 years when they are buried. Some can even last as long as 20 years. Any longer than that, and you are taking a big risk. The cost to remove the tank varies anywhere between \$2,400-\$3,600. If remediating an actual leak, the cost will be much more. Due to the potential problems with the tanks, many home buyers are putting a contingency in their purchase and sales contract requiring the seller to have any underground oil tanks removed before closing. Certain governmental programs actually provide grants to help homeowners remove their oil tanks and install new ones. Funds do run out quickly, but check with your oil tank replacement company, as most will help you obtain the funding. Each town and village has its own rules and regulations when it comes to oil tanks. Some communities no longer allow a homeowner to decommission an oil tank — instead, they must be removed. Others allow you to abandon the oil tank. Some mortgage companies, however, will not approve a loan on homes with buried oil tanks.

So What to Do?

Before you put your house on the market, check your home insurance policy and make sure you have added a rider to cover for oil tank spills of a decommissioned tank. This is different from insurance coverage of pulling an active tank. If you want to be completely proactive, pull the tank before you list your house. This will wipe away any unforeseen delays if something is found because it can take a few weeks to a few months to rectify and you don't want to lose a buyer or be left in limbo in the

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meantime. Also, get estimates. Be prepared to pull the tank if any issues are found. If the oil tank is pulled and oil is found in the tank or somewhere around the tank, the soil may be contaminated. If an oil tank fails, the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation will be notified, and there will be a record. If it's more than just a little leak, a homeowner can face a cost of tens of thousands of dollars and is looking at months to resolve the issue. Please don't believe it's not possible to find oil in a decommissioned tank. Many homeowners are amazed this is even possible, but it is. Unfortunately, the oil tank may not have been cleaned or inspected properly. Cover yourself and remember a decommissioned oil tank doesn't mean a safe one and can cost you dearly later in more ways than one. Really ask yourself whether is it worth waiting for that buyer who will accept an underground decommissioned tank, especially if it isn't insured. While there is no law against the transfer of property with an underground oil tank, it is increasingly difficult to do so. Even properly decommissioned tanks run the risk of having leaked at some point in time. The cleanup of contaminated soil is the responsibility of the homeowner — regardless of when the leak occurred. Bottom line: if you have a tank, take it out or make sure you are properly insured! The cleanup process can be long, costly and complicated, even with a small fuel leak. Your insurance policy and community regulations will dictate how the cleanup must proceed, and the combination of these rules can uniquely affect individual properties.

<http://scarsdale.patch.com/articles/dont-let-a-buried-oil-tank-bury-you>

USA, TX, JEFFERSON CO, AUGUST 2 2011. MAY 2012 TRIAL SLATED FOR BENZENE CASE

david yates

What started as a petition to perpetuate testimony is now a full-blown lawsuit slated to go to trial in May 2012. As [previously reported](#), Jefferson County resident Ruth Landry on March 29 filed a petition to perpetuate the testimony of Garfield Landry, a former Chevron employee who suffers from cancer. Court records show that on July 18 a discovery control plan order was entered, cementing the case as an official lawsuit. The order calls for the case to be mediated before April 2, 2012. If the parties fail to reach a settlement, the case has been slated for a May 2012 trial setting. Plaintiff Garfield Landry was diagnosed with kidney cancer, which "is expected to progress" and prove fatal, the suit states. The plaintiffs are suing for exemplary damages, medical expenses and mental anguish. Beaumont attorney Keith Hyde of Provost Umphrey represents them. Judge Bob Wortham, 58th District Court, is assigned to the case. Case No. A189-666

<http://www.setexasrecord.com/news/237326-may-2012-trial-slated-for-benzene-case>

USA, IN, GREENFIELD, AUGUST 2 2011. OFFICIALS TAKE NO CHANCES WITH LEAK

noelle m. steele



Small Leak: Members of the hazardous materials team with the Indianapolis fire department inspect the area from which the sulfuric acid was draining. A bucket had been placed under the leak, which was caused by a small puncture in a pipe.

Two businesses near the Interstate 70 interchange in Greenfield had to evacuate their customers late Monday afternoon after a tanker on the interstate began to leak sulfuric acid. The spill was small, but public safety officials took no chances. Hazardous-materials handlers donned full protective gear to deal with the leak.

http://www.greenfieldreporter.com/view/local_story/37_evacuated_after_tanker_leak_1312234136/

INDIA, GUWAHATI, AUGUST 1 2011. GOVT BLAMES IOC, TO FILE CRIMINAL CASE

dutta choudhury

The Assam Government has blamed the Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) for the kerosene explosions in different parts of the State, particularly in the districts of Dhubri and Bongaigaon. Meanwhile, the volume of kerosene allotted to the State is only around half the requirement, which resulted in black marketing of the item. Talking to The Assam Tribune, the Food and Civil Supplies Minister, Dr Nazrul Islam, said that the IOC is to be blamed for the recent incidents of explosions of kerosene and the State Government has decided to file a criminal case against the oil company. He said that according to information available with the Government, seven persons have lost their lives and more than 40 others received injuries in kerosene explosions. The Minister said that the Forensic Test Laboratory reports clearly proved that the IOC is totally responsible for the unfortunate incidents. He said that the Food and Civil Supplies Department collected kerosene samples from different parts of the State for a thorough test in the Forensic Science Laboratory. He said that from the reports of the tests, it was found that one

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consignment of kerosene supplied to the districts of Dhubri and Bongaigaon on June 19 was of inferior quality and exploded when brought near heat. The IOC supplied kerosene to the depots from where the item was lifted by the agents and hawkers. Immediately after receiving the report from the laboratory, the Government decided to register a criminal case against the IOC. On the other hand, the concerned Deputy Commissioners have already registered 35 cases and the Food and Civil Supplies Department has asked the Home Department to ensure that the cases are properly dealt with. The Government has also ordered a probe by the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) of the Assam Police into the incidents of kerosene explosions. Dr Islam said that the Government has given exgratia payment of Rs 1 lakh each to the next of kin of those killed in kerosene explosions, while those hospitalized have been given Rs 25,000 each. Those suffering major burn injuries have been given Rs 10,000 and those with minor injuries were given Rs 2,500. However, he admitted that only compensations are not adequate and those responsible for the incidents must be brought to book. The Minister said that the Deputy Commissioners of all the districts have been directed to go for test check of the quality of kerosene before supplying the same to the consumers. Meanwhile, the Minister admitted that the availability of kerosene is much lower than the demand. The Centre is allotting only around 21,500 MT of kerosene to Assam against the demand of around 42,000 MT and the shortage led to black marketing. He pointed out that though an all-party delegation of the State Assembly went to New Delhi to request the Centre to increase the allotment, nothing has so far been done in this regard. Because of the fact that PDS kerosene is a highly subsidized item, the Centre informed Assam that it would not be possible to increase the allotment. The cost of production of per liter of kerosene is Rs 40 and the item is supplied through the PDS at the rate of Rs 13 per liter.

<http://www.assamtribune.com/scripts/detailsnew.asp?id=aug0211/at06>

USA, CA, SAN FRANCISCO, AUGUST 2 2011. CREWS CLEAN DIESEL SPILL NEAR FISHERMAN'S WHARF

San Francisco firefighters are just now cleaning up a diesel near Fisherman's Wharf. About 200 gallons of diesel fuel leaked out from the back of a storage facility located on Jefferson Street. The fire department laid down booms to protect the Bay from contamination, but the fuel never made it into the water, or into nearby storm drains. Investigators are still trying to determine how the leak started.

http://abclocal.go.com/kgo/story?section=news/local/san_francisco&id=8282434

JAPAN, CHIBA, AUGUST 2 2011. COSMO OIL : OVERVIEW OF THE FIRE AND EXPLOSION AT CHIBA REFINERY, THE CAUSE OF THE ACCIDENT AND THE ACTION PLAN TO PREVENT RECURRENCE

(1) Many braces supporting the legs holding the LPG tank broke, which caused the legs to bend, leading to the collapse of the tank.

Damaged LPG Tank No. 364 met all the earthquake-proof structural requirements. However, since at the time of the earthquake, Tank No. 364 was filled with water, instead of lighter LPG, for a regular inspection, the initial earthquake off the coast of the Tohoku region put such a heavy load on the braces that some of them collapsed. This coincided with the second earthquake off the coast of the Ibaraki Prefecture, which led to the tank falling down. It was a temporary measure to fill the tank with water for regular inspection and we recognize that we were insufficiently prepared to deal with an earthquake of this magnitude at that time. For future regular inspections, we will minimize the period of time for filling up the tank with water. When we build new LPG tanks, we will incorporate safety measures into the tank installation design to withstand even during the period when it is filled with water. We will also assess the durability of the existing LPG tanks and provide enhancements, if necessary. Furthermore, when we fill up a tank with water for inspection in the future, we will protect, isolate, or separate the pipelines and other facilities adjacent to the tank preventing any harms should there be any major damages to the tanks. It is conceivable that the earthquake jolted the LPG tank and pipes and that the collapse of the tank damaged the pipes, causing the LPG to leak. This led us to infer that LPG might have continued to leak through three cracks in the pipes, and one of these damaged parts was found on the pipe connected to an emergency shut-off valve*5 that was set as open in a fixed position. Before the earthquake, we had confirmed a tiny amount of air leaking from the pipe to which air was supplied in order to activate the emergency shut-off valve, which was fixed open until we fix the pipe. This was a temporary measure taken to keep the emergency shut-off valve from closing if air pressure was reduced in the pipe. The operation procedure was to manually close the valve at the time of emergency, but on March 11 we could not gain access to close the valve due to LPG leaks. When we have an opportunity to design a new pipe around the LPG tanks, we will ensure that an appropriate level of flexuosity*6 will be incorporated into the structure of the new pipes. We will not set the emergency shut-off valve to open in any situation in the future.

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Notes:

*5. The emergency shut-off valve refers to the valve installed in the pipe to ensure that it will be closed, and safely and quickly shut off the LPG flow, if LPG should leak from the pipe.

*6. A structure with flexuosity refers to a structure in which pipes are made flexible and bendable enough to absorb any displacements caused by deflection, etc.

(3) Source of Fire, Explosion and Spreading

We carefully investigated the ignition cause but was unable to identify this.

Upon the breakout of the fire, we continued to spray water over the LPG tanks around Tank No. LPG364 to cool them down but we judge that the fire, which broke out near Tank No. LPG364, gathered momentum to increase the surface temperatures of the adjacent LPG tank units, which reduced their strengths, rising their internal pressure to an unsustainable amount, leading to explosions, spreading the fire from one tank to another.

<http://www.4-traders.com/COSMO-OIL-CO-6491429/news/COSMO-OIL-Overview-of-the-Fire-and-Explosion-at-Chiba-Refinery-the-Cause-of-the-Accident-and-the-Act-13735680/>

UK, LONDON, AUGUST 2 2011. PETROBRAS 'WILL SOON OVERTAKE EXXON' AS WORLD'S BIGGEST LISTED OIL COMPANY

rowena mason



Petrobras is targeting 6m barrels per day of oil production by 2020, up from its 2011 production of 2m barrels.

Petrobras could be the world's biggest listed company within five years, according to the chief executive of the Brazilian state-run oil giant. José Sergio Gabrielli de Azevedo said he firmly believes Petrobras, with a market value of \$217bn, will overtake ExxonMobil, worth \$389bn, as the largest company, saying this could be as early as 2016. "It depends on the speed of the others, but we are growing faster than Exxon, than Total, than Gazprom, than Shell, than Chevron, than ConocoPhillips," he said. "If you look at the numbers, by 2016 or 2017." Petrobras is in control of Brazil's vast new oil wealth and has promised to invest \$225bn on developing its reserves before the end of 2015, in

partnership with companies like Britain's BG Group. It is targeting 6m barrels per day of oil production by 2020, up from its 2011 production of 2m barrels. Speaking in London, Mr Gabrielli de Azevedo boasted of Petrobras's unrivalled access to new oil in comparison to the traditional oil majors, as by law it has to be the operator of all Brazil's fields. "It's a matter of discovering resources. If you don't have resources you can't grow. If you have to buy them that's not the best thing in the world," Mr Gabrielli de Azevedo said. "We have discoveries now and between 10bn and 16bn barrels of recoverable resources." Petrobras completed the biggest ever public offering of stock totalling \$70bn last October. However its shares have not risen since then, despite the soaring price of crude, partly because of worries about the Brazilian government's influence on the taxation and profitability of the sector. Petrobras is also under pressure from the state to rein in costs, as the Brazilian government tries to get inflation under control. Analysts have worried that Petrobras is taking on too much by trying to develop too many of its pre-salt, deepwater oil fields all at once. These discoveries lie off the south-east coast under two kilometres of salt in deepwater. However, Mr Gabrielli dismissed these concerns about the ambitiousness of Petrobras's programme, saying it had been managed before on such a large scale. "We have the same scope for production as the first ten years of the North Sea," he said. Exxonmobil is currently the world's largest listed company, but it is expected to be overtaken by Apple. Four private companies - Saudi Aramco, Pemex, Petróleos de Venezuela and Kuwait Petrol Corporation - are thought to have bigger valuations.

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/finance/newsbysector/energy/oilandgas/8675640/Petrobras-will-soon-overtake-Exxon-as-worlds-biggest-listed-oil-company.html>

UK, LANCASHIRE, AUGUST 3 2011. EURO GARAGES' AGGRESSIVE ACQUISITION PLAN WITH £110M FUNDING



Forecourt retailer Euro Garages says it plans to ramp up its acquisition strategy after securing a £110m war chest to take advantage of oil companies selling off their estates. Total sales for the Blackburn-based group were up five per cent to £300m in the year to July 31, while pre-tax profits for the period were on track to reach £12m, 26 per cent more than 12 months ago. Euro Garages, which owns and operates petrol stations with convenience stores and food franchises, said retail turnover –

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which excludes petrol - climbed 28 per cent to top £50m for the first time. The group also said it has secured a new £110m funding agreement arranged by Lloyds Bank and supported by Handelsbanken to help fund its consolidation strategy in the sector. Managing director Mohsin Issa said: "The new funding agreement provides significantly increased financial muscle at a time of unprecedented opportunity in the market, with several oil majors divesting their forecourt estates and convenience retailing experiencing strong growth. "This places the group in a prime position to capitalise on opportunities to further build our size and scale and take the business to the next stage in its development." Paul Foster, director of large corporate at Lloyds Bank Corporate Markets in Manchester, said: "The Euro Garages team have an outstanding track record of delivering growth in the forecourt market through a commitment to innovation and operational strength." Euro Garages, which has over 1,000 staff at more than 70 sites across the north and Midlands, was founded by Mr Issa and his brother Zuber in 2001. The group is BP's largest independent fuel distributor and has partnerships with retailers including Spar, Starbucks, Subway and Burger King. Last month, it completed its biggest single investment to date with the £12.3m redevelopment of Rivington Services on the M61. Chairman Andy Bond, formerly chief executive of Asda, said: "Our continued investment in the estate, innovative model and commitment to service is helping us secure the loyalty of new and existing customers, who buy into the value and quality of our offering. "This is translating directly into strong sales growth across fuel and retail despite a challenging landscape. "As well as targeting larger acquisitions to expand our estate, this focus remains a key pillar of our growth strategy as we seek to become the UK's leading forecourt retailer."

http://menmedia.co.uk/manchestereveningnews/news/business/commercial_property/s/1454294_euro-garages-aggressive-acquisition-plan-with-110m-funding

NIGERIA, ENUGU, AUGUST 3 2011. GOD, WE'VE LOST EVERYTHING >> ...FUEL TANKER EXPLOSION VICTIMS LAMENT

petrus obi

Imoke Jeremiah Igwe, a prison official, was taking his bath in readiness for the day's work when he heard a thunderous sound outside. He rushed out and beheld a strange sight: a fuel tanker had fallen on the road. "Fuel was rushing like water," he recalled. "I ordered my children to come out of the house. I also reasoned that there would be problem if the people who used wood as fuel to cook inside the barracks were already at it. Within a short time, we heard another sound. The fire started inside the barracks till it joined the tanker on the road. At the end of the day, about 10 persons, houses and household property worth billions of naira were lost to the fire. Livestock, including goats, chicken and others were also roasted." The fully loaded 33000-litre fuel tanker fell and exploded at the Enugu State Prison Service roundabout at about 7:00 am last Thursday morning, rendering thousands of families homeless. For Imoke Jeremiah and his household, they were lucky to have survived the incident. But they lost virtually all they had ever laboured for. "All I have as I talk to you now is the clothes that I am wearing. My wife, my children and I lost all our property in the fire. Nothing was removed from the house. Our car, motorcycle, everything was burnt to ashes. But I won't say I am hopeless because I am with God. If government can come to our aid, it will be wonderful. Most of us lost all our household property including foodstuff, money, uniforms, credentials, name it. I didn't come out with anything. Even what I am wearing was bought for me now by someone that saw me barefooted. Somebody died, but not in my family. A young boy who is in his final year in the university died when he was trying to carry his aunt, a sick woman, to safety. He was cut off and both of them were consumed by the fire." Another prison official who identified himself as Okechukwu also narrated how he has been devastated by the inferno. "My house was razed and all my property is gone. When I heard people screaming, I rushed out with my top uniform and boxers, because I was preparing for work. When I came out, I saw fuel everywhere and we started to order people to put out fire from stove or firewood. So in that process I went into the barracks. On coming back, I thought of removing my credentials but decided to go to the office and get the fire service phone number. As I just moved back, the next thing I heard was a heavy sound and the fire started. My house was razed. Only me and my family members were saved. Every other thing in the house was destroyed." A police officer who simply identified himself as Emmanuel, from the Central Police Station, Enugu also said he lost everything to the early morning fire. He called on government to come to the aid of the victims. "You can see that we are stranded. We have no place to lay down our heads and this is the rainy season. We would appreciate it if the government can come to our rescue." A prison official whose house was also torched in the disaster but who would not want his name in print said the disaster could have been averted if precautionary measures had been taken. Said he: "My brother, there is no security in these quarters. If there were to be adequate security as it should be, if we have emergency management services, within 30 minutes that the tanker fell there should have been an intervention. But there was no immediate response and you can see what our lives have turned into. I don't know how those of us affected can begin again, but I pray God to grant eternal rest to those who died and grant us the fortitude to bear this loss." The state government ordered the immediate demolition of illegal structures in the state capital

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soon after the incident. The government has also promised to assist the federal government in the speedy relocation of the Enugu Prisons currently located at the heart of the city.

<http://www.sunnewsonline.com/webpages/news/national/2011/aug/02/national-02-08-2011-016.html>

USA, WA, BELLEVUE, AUGUST 3 2011. ECOLOGY & U.S. EPA RESPOND TO BOAT FIRE AND GASOLINE LEAK AT BELLEVUE MARINA

Watch the Video <http://www.king5.com/news/local/Two-injured-as-fire-explodes-on-boat-in-Newport-marina--126563793.html>

The state Department of Ecology (Ecology) is responding to a gasoline spill at the site of a boat fire at the Newport Shores Marina on Lake Washington in Bellevue. The Bellevue and Mercer Island fire departments responded to extinguish the fire and the Mercer Island Police were on scene as well. Ecology responders and investigators are at the site to manage a cleanup. The incident was reported to Ecology at about 11 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 1, 2011. Two explosions were reported before the vessel caught fire. The owner of the 42-foot long boat reportedly pushed the boat away from the marina and it burned to the water line. Responders in a Mercer Island fire boat could see small drops of gasoline coming up from the boat. The owner told investigators that 50 gallons of gasoline was on board. The owner of the boat was injured at the scene and was taken to a local hospital for treatment. The owner has hired Global Diving, a private spill cleanup contractor, to plug, patch and secure the vessel until a salvage plan can be established.

<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/news/2011/216.html>

USA, MA, BOSTON, AUGUST 3 2011. ITY OFFICIALS RAIL AGAINST LEAKING GAS TRUCK

richard wei



A gas tanker truck, with a small leak, is seen as it is being examined by officials from Boston police and fire departments today. Here, the driver, at left, is spoken to by an official.

A leaking Quincy-bound tanker hauling 12,000 gallons of automobile fuel that drove past the Freedom Trail, Quincy Market and other tourist spots before being stopped by [Boston Police](#) today is a prime example of why fuel trucks should be banned from using Hub streets as a shortcut, city officials said today. "The slightest spark could ignite the gasoline and cause a catastrophe here in the city," Boston Transportation Commissioner Thomas J. Tinlin said of the Cape Cod gasoline tanker, which had picked up its load in Revere and was dripping fuel from a valve under the rig when inspected. The tanker company could not immediately be reached for a comment. "This truck is bringing no value to the people who live, work or visit this city. It's not delivering to a local gas station," said Tinlin. "It's purely cutting through to get to Quincy to drop off their load." The Herald reported Sunday that Mayor [Thomas M. Menino](#) is leading the charge to

pass legislation banning fuel and gas trucks that are not making local deliveries from using city streets, forcing them to skirt the city by diverting them to Route 128. But a Route 128 business group, fearful that such a ban would only export the problem to the suburbs and add even more congestion to the corridor, vowed to pack public hearings on the proposal. Both sides cite the recent tanker crash and fiery explosion on Route 1 in Saugus that killed a truck driver, burned a passerby, destroyed two greenhouses and forced the evacuation of nearby homes about the hazards that could impact their communities. Tinlin said the tanker that entered downtown Boston this morning used the Charlestown Bridge, which includes part of the Freedom Trail, and drove along North Washington Street Bridge through the North End before turning onto Surface Road and heading past Haymarket Square and Quincy Market. Boston police pulled over the truck on Surface Road, near India Row, as part of a routine inspection and discovered the leak, prompting the Fire Department to dispatch a HazMat team until mechanics could fix the leak, Tinlin said. "It's a very small leak. The tanker is full of gas, but if it's not fixed, it can create a problem," Fire Department spokesman Steve MacDonald said. Still, Tinlin called the problem "Exhibit AA," after the Saugus tanker disaster, in providing the city evidence in its argument to ban the trucks from its surface roads. The fuel trucks are already prohibited from using tunnels in the city. "You don't want to ever expose your population to an unneeded risk," Tinlin said. "This type of risk is not called for. It's not acceptable."

http://www.bostonherald.com/news/regional/view/2011_0802city_officials_rail_against_leaking_gas_truck/srvc=home&position=3

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PHILIPPINES, ILOILO, AUGUST 3 2011. **SUNKEN SHIP IN ILOILO LEAKS OIL INTO THE VISAYAN SEA**

tara yap



The ill-fated M/V Asia Malaysia has leaked oil into the Visayan Sea. According to Commodore Athelo Ybañez, Philippine Coast Guard commander in Western Visayas, an aerial inspection Tuesday morning showed that at least 200 meters of bunker fuel was visible off the coast of Manapla town in the province of Negros Occidental. The passenger ship, which originally sank off the coast of Ajuy town in Iloilo province last Sunday morning, was washed away by the sea's strong current towards the coastal waters of Manapla town. Ybañez said the ship's fuel tank, containing 21,000 liters of fuel, has ruptured. The PCG has rushed the deployment of teams to install oil spill booms along the vicinity of the incident area to minimize the spread of the oil leakage. Maritime officials are also urging shipowner Trans-Asia Shipping Lines Inc. to deploy its privately-hired oil spill combating firm to Manapla as soon as possible. Meanwhile, Ybañez made

assurances that the PCG will be able to contain the oil spill before it spreads out to other parts of the Visayan Sea, which is considered to be a rich fishing ground. On August 2006, Western Visayas was hit by the worst oil spill disaster in Philippine history when over two million liters of Petron bunker fuel from the sunken oil tanker M/T Solar 1 destroyed marine life in the provinces of Guimaras, Iloilo, and Negros Occidental.

<http://www.mb.com.ph/articles/329257/sunken-ship-iloilo-leaks-oil-visayan-sea>

PHILIPPINES, ILOILO, AUGUST 3 2011. **An Aerial Shot Shows The Sunken M/V Asia Malaysia**

Leo Solinap



An aerial shot shows the sunken M/V Asia Malaysia at the seas of Panay and Negros islands, central Philippines, August 2, 2011. M/V Asia Malaysia, a passenger cargo ship, sank near Iloilo in central Philippines on Sunday and all 147 passengers and crew were rescued after the vessel tilted to its right side due to strong winds and choppy waters, a Philippine coast guard official reported.

<http://planetark.org/wen/62824>

USA, WASHINGTON DC, AUGUST 3 2011. **YEARS AFTER NEW LAW, US TO PROPOSE RULES OVER EXPLOSIVE CHEMICAL USED IN FERTILIZER BOMBS**

 **Document** http://www.ofr.gov/OFRUpload/OFRData/2011-19313_PL.pdf



In this May 5, 1995, file photo, a worker at the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City, places flowers and memorial items at the scene of the April 19 deadly car-bombing. More than 15 years after a fertilizer bomb was used to blow up the building, killing 168 people, the federal government is proposing to regulate the sale and transfer of the chemical ammonium nitrate. The proposal comes nearly four years after Congress gave the Homeland Security Department the authority to develop a program to regulate the compound.

More than 15 years after a fertilizer bomb was used to blow up a government building in Oklahoma City, killing 168 people, the federal government is proposing to regulate the sale and transfer of the chemical ammonium nitrate.

The proposal comes nearly four years after Congress gave the Homeland

Security Department the authority to develop a program to regulate the compound. Ammonium nitrate is one of the most common farm fertilizers in the world, and instructions for turning it into a bomb are available on the Internet. Its deadly potential

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was once again realized on July 22, when a Norwegian man allegedly blew up a government building in his country, killing eight people with a bomb that investigators believe was made with ammonium nitrate. On Tuesday, the Homeland Security Department's proposal was posted on the Federal Register website, and the public will have 120 days to comment. As it's proposed, the "Ammonium Nitrate Security Program" would require those who purchase, sell or transfer at least 25 pounds of the chemical in the U.S. to register with the government so that they may be screened against U.S. terror watch lists, according to a homeland security official who spoke on condition of anonymity because the proposal had not formally been published. Oklahoma City bomber Timothy McVeigh used 4,000 pounds of ammonium nitrate to blow up the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in 1995. "In today's ever-evolving threat environment, we must continually reinforce the security of substances, such as ammonium nitrate, which can be used for legitimate purposes or exploited by terrorists," Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano said Tuesday. The Homeland Security Department would give registration numbers to those who are approved to buy, sell or transfer ammonium nitrate. The registrants would also be required to keep records and report the theft or loss of the chemical within 24 hours of discovering it missing. A number of countries, including Germany, Colombia, Ireland, the Philippines and China, have banned ammonium nitrate fertilizer. And some U.S. states started to regulate its use after the chemical was used in the Oklahoma City bombing. Last year, the Afghan government banned ammonium nitrate, as the chemical most often used in bombs targeting American soldiers in Afghanistan. Such "fertilizer bombs" have also been used in Iraq in attacks against government security forces. In late 2007, Congress passed a law requiring the department to develop a regulation program. The department missed its 2008 deadline to publish a final rule, and instead that year, it posted an advance notice in the Federal Register that it would eventually post a proposal for regulating ammonium nitrate. The public had 120 days to comment then, as well. Among the concerns was that farmers who use fertilizer with ammonium nitrate don't have the computers or computer skills to adhere to the federal government's reporting requirements. In a September 2010 letter to the top Republican on the House Homeland Security committee, Napolitano said the department held "listening sessions" with stakeholders and created a government task force for input into the regulation. The department already requires that businesses storing certain dangerous or combustible chemicals, including ammonium nitrate, provide regular reports on the security of those materials. But those regulations are centered on the security of the facility and not the sale and transfers of the chemical. The bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives already regulates explosive mixtures that include ammonium nitrate. The homeland security proposal is designed not to duplicate other federal efforts, the homeland security official said. After the 1995 Oklahoma City bombing, ATF partnered with the industry group, The Fertilizer Institute, and other members of the agriculture industry to launch a voluntary reporting program for people to report suspicious activities, including thefts of ammonium nitrate. Studies were done to see whether the explosive properties of ammonium nitrate could be made inert, said Kathy Mathers, spokeswoman for the Fertilizer Institute. That was not possible, she said, and over the years it became clear that there needed to be a formal regulating program. "At this point, it's necessary," Mathers said of the proposed regulation. "We're lined up with Congress and DHS on this one."

http://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/federal-government/years-after-new-law-us-to-propose-rules-over-explosive-chemical-used-in-fertilizer-bombs/2011/08/02/gIQAAdHez0l_story.html

USA, CA, LA, AUGUST 3 2011. WORKER DIES IN OXYGEN-DEFICIENT TANK, PHARMACEUTICAL FIRM FINED \$371,250

"The hazards of working in confined spaces are well-documented and this is a classic example of the kind of injury that occurs when employers fail to adequately protect their employees," said Cal/OSHA Chief Ellen Widess. Cal/OSHA has issued 11 citations totaling \$371,250 to Baxter Healthcare Corporation dba Baxter Bioscience for deliberate and willful workplace safety violations which resulted in the death of one technician and serious injuries of two other workers. "We will not tolerate employers who intentionally sacrifice the safety of their workers," said DIR Acting Director Christine Baker. "Our goal is to prevent these needless tragedies and ensure employers live up to their responsibility of protecting their workers." On Jan. 21, Baxter technician, Henry Astilla, collapsed when he entered a 7-foot deep, 6,000-liter tank in which nitrogen gas was being bubbled through plasma as part of a protein extraction process. Air in the tank had been displaced by the nitrogen gas resulting in an oxygen-deficient atmosphere in the tank. Cal/OSHA regulations require employers to have special protective procedures in place prior to the entrance by employees into these types of confined spaces. In this case, the employer had not tested the atmosphere prior to entrance to ensure there was sufficient oxygen, which led to Astilla's death. Cal/OSHA's investigation further revealed that when Astilla was discovered, a supervisor ordered two other employees to enter the tank and retrieve him, without testing the atmosphere of the tank or providing proper equipment and other safeguards necessary for a safe rescue. As a result, Astilla died and the two employees sent to retrieve him were seriously injured. One remains hospitalized since January. "The hazards of working in confined spaces are well-documented and this is a classic example of

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

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the kind of injury that occurs when employers fail to adequately protect their employees," said Cal/OSHA Chief Ellen Widdess. "When confined space operations are not properly planned, it is unfortunately common for other employees to be injured or killed while attempting impromptu rescue of the initial victim." Cal/OSHA determined that Baxter's confined space program failed to comply with all requirements, including appropriate atmospheric testing, protective equipment, and rescue equipment and procedures. Baxter Bioscience is a multinational pharmaceutical company with a Los Angeles plant located in Atwater Village. The facility uses advanced technology to produce plasma proteins. The citations issued by Cal/OSHA include one general and 10 serious, four of which were classified as willful.

<http://ohsonline.com/articles/2011/07/27/worker-dies-in-oxygen-deficient-tank-pharmaceutical-firm-fined-371250.aspx?admgarea=news>

USA, ILL, WINNEBAGO CO, AUGUST 3 2011. WATER IN WINNEBAGO CO. TESTS POSITIVE FOR VOC CONTAMINATION

elizabeth fay

 **Watch the Video** <http://www.wrex.com/story/15198493/water-in-winnebago-co-tests-positive-for-contamination>

Tests turn up positive for gasoline-like material in Winnebago County drinking water. Health leaders trace the trouble to two private wells. A mother of four who lives on Soper Avenue in Rockford says she and her husband thought something was wrong last week. They were giving their one-year-old child a bath and say the water smelled funny. "It smells like a mechanic shop. It smells like machinery. It smells like oil. It's very prominent," says Nicole Clark. Turns out Clark isn't alone. One of her neighbors noticed the same thing. "A resident called the Illinois Department of Public Health and apparently smelled a solvent type odor. They took samples, got them back last Thursday," says Winnebago County Health Department Director of The Environmental Health Improvement Center, Larry Swacina. The tests detected what are called "volatile organic chemicals," VOCs, in two private wells on Soper Avenue. Each well serves one home. Still the news alarms others in the area. "I think it's pretty unhealthy for us because we take showers in it, wash the dishes, cook with it," says Manuel Lopez who lives in the area. No water-related illnesses have been reported. Swacina says representatives knocked on doors to alert people potentially at risk. "Short term, there can be respiratory and eye irritation. There could be nausea, dizziness, memory loss. Longer term, there could be damage to the kidney or liver," he says. People living North of Auburn Street to Searls Park and East of Carbaugh Avenue to Alliance Avenue came to Northwest Community Center for an informational meeting. Public health administrators told the crowd they plan to take more samples to find out the extent of the problem. Swacina says the Illinois EPA is part of the investigation to find a source. Health department workers encourage people in the area to drink bottled water, use a carbon filter and consider switching to city water.

<http://www.wrex.com/story/15198493/water-in-winnebago-co-tests-positive-for-contamination>

USA, S.C, BLUFFTON, AUGUST 3 2011. GAS TRUCK HIT ON S.C. 170; TANKER DRAINED, BUT NO PETRO SPILLS

A wreck between a car and tanker truck hauling gasoline tied up traffic on S.C. 170 for about five hours Monday on S.C. 170 in Bluffton. The driver of a PT Cruiser leaving the Mill Creek subdivision onto S.C. 170 at Gibbet Road hit the rear driver-side axle of a Kenan Transport LLC tanker truck at about 3:40 p.m., according to Sgt. Joseph Babkiewicz of the Bluffton Police Department. The driver, Jonathon Werner, and a passenger in his vehicle were transported to Memorial University Medical Center in Savannah with minor injuries, Babkiewicz said. The tanker truck was carrying gasoline and because of the damage had to be drained. Additional tankers were called to the scene, and no gasoline leaked from the tanker, Babkiewicz said. Traffic was rerouted for about five hours while the tanker was drained. The driver of the PT Cruiser was cited.

<http://www.islandpacket.com/2011/08/01/1744993/gas-truck-hit-on-sc-170-tanker.html>

AUSTRALIA, QUEENSLAND, BRISBANE, AUGUST 3 2011. UNITED PETROLEUM NEW OWNER FOR DALBY BIO-REFINERY

fidelis rego

The new owner of Dalby's bio-refinery says it is looking to expand ethanol production as soon as possible. The refinery went into administration in June last year and United Petroleum expects to assume ownership later this month. United Petroleum is an Australian owned oil company, with franchise service stations in all states and territories. Ethanol and Supply Manager David Szymczak says the refinery is a long-term asset that has great potential. "Look at this stage it's producing around 80 million litres of ethanol per year," he says. "We've commissioned a study at the moment with a view to doubling that output.

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"We are very active in selling bio-fuels in Australia and in particular e-10 blended petrol all across our network so in buying the refinery what it does for us gives us secure supply and really sets us up in that new industry for the future."

<http://www.abc.net.au/rural/qld/content/2011/08/s3284203.htm?site=southqld>

USA, CO, PUEBLO, AUGUST 3 2011. ARMY FINDS MUSTARD AGENT VAPOR IN PUEBLO CHEMICAL DEPOT STORAGE UNIT, WILL SEARCH FOR SOURCE

Army officials say mustard agent vapor has been detected in a storage igloo at the Pueblo Chemical Depot, indicating one or more artillery shells is leaking. The vapor was discovered Tuesday during routine monitoring. Officials say a second filtering system has been placed on the igloo, and workers will begin searching for the source on Wednesday. Such searches can take weeks or months because each bunker can contain thousands of shells. The depot contains 2,600 tons of mustard agent awaiting destruction under an international treaty. A plant to neutralize the agent is under construction on the depot grounds. It's expected to begin work in 2015.

<http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/7ce1eb46bb8c4c1f9f4e7fcf252d0308/CO--Chemical-Weapons-Leak/>

USA, KS, BUTLER CO, ROSE HILL, AUGUST 3 2011. PROPANE EXPLOSION KILLS ONE, FORCES EVACUATIONS NORTH OF ROSE HILL

 **Watch the Video** [Propane explosion kills one, forces evacuations north of Rose Hill](#)

 **Watch the Video** [Some Residents Allowed To Return Home After Propane Explosion](#)

 **Watch the Video** [Multiple homes burn as firefighters work to contain propane explosions and fire](#)

 **Watch the Video** [Propane explosion kills one, forces evacuations north of Rose Hill](#)

 **Photo Gallery** [Three hurt in Butler County propane explosions; most evacuees allowed home](#)

 **Photo Gallery** [Multiple homes burn as firefighters work to contain propane explosions and fire](#)



Emergency crews converged on the scene of a propane explosion in Butler County Tuesday afternoon. Hospital workers confirm a 40-year-old Rose Hill man who was critically burned, died from injuries sustained in the initial explosion. Two others were treated for less severe injuries. Hundreds were forced to evacuate. "I just know they said if that 23-thousand tank goes, nobody is safe back there," explained Bill Stuhlfatz who owns a business near the explosion. "My shop is three quarters of a mile from there." Stuhlfatz says he was told to stay put after the original explosion. Then residents in the area say multiple explosions continued to rock Global Propane Energy in the 13,000 block of SW Butler Rd just after 2 p.m. As of Tuesday night a 16-thousand gallon propane tank continued to burn. So what caused the massive explosion? One worker originally told emergency crews he heard a loud "whoosh" sound and

then there was an explosion. And while the exact cause is not yet known, the fire continued to burn hours later. Fire crews still on scene Tuesday night began to allow residents to go back home. Emergency workers say they plan to let the tank on fire at the propane company continue to burn so it does not explode. "This thing has to vent," explains Emergency Manager Jim Schmidt of Butler County. "If it does not vent then it will heat and heat and heat until it expands and explodes." Schmidt confirms several smaller propane tanks exploded in the initial fire, but the one "main" propane tank at the facility did not burn. Residents and business owners were evacuated in the area that is bordered by SW Prairie Creek on the east, 159th on the west, SW 140th on the south and SW 130th on the north. Officials blocked traffic. All roads east of 31st St., Pawnee and MacArthur were also blocked at the Butler County line. As of Tuesday night, all but a few residents near 130th and Butler road were being allowed back to their homes. For those not in their homes, an emergency shelter was put together in Andover at the Andover Methodist Church at 1429 N. Andover Road. The American Red Cross was on the scene to help. At one point the fire burned several power poles to the ground along Butler Road. Power crews were busy into Tuesday night trying to restore power to pockets of homes left with no electricity. The fire remains under investigation but it could be some time before the exact cause is known. "It will take some time to get it all sorted out," explains Schmidt. "But it looks like the worst is behind us."

 **Related Links** [Updated: Explosion rocks Global Propane between Rose Hill and Andover](#)

 **Related Links** [Some Residents Allowed To Return Home After Propane Explosion](#)

<http://www.ksn.com/news/local/story/Propane-explosion-kills-one-forces-evacuations/zX8u1bqmNEWn8mRywHwzAg.csp>

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