



## Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network Release 2011 – 676 Newsy Stuff

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

**January 11 2011**



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### **USA, ILL, JOLIET, JANUARY 6 2011. PROSECUTORS TARGET OIL-SPILL COMPANIES**

The Will County Circuit Court on Wednesday approved a preliminary injunction requiring two pipeline companies to mediate damage from a recent oil spill. The action had been sought by Illinois Attorney General Lisa Madigan and Will County State's Attorney James Glasgow. The two companies, which are allegedly responsible for a Lockport oil spill last month, must identify and inspect water supply mains, sanitary sewers and storm sewers, private wells and groundwater within a half mile of the leak, to assess the impact of the oil leak and ensure cleanup. On Dec. 23, Madigan and Glasgow filed a seven-count complaint alleging state environmental violations by Buckeye Pipe Line Co. and West Shore Pipe Line Co. after a section of oil pipeline was found leaking crude oil Dec. 14 in Lockport. Their lawsuit alleges that as a result of the oil spill, the pipeline companies endangered the public health and welfare, violated water and air pollution laws and created a public nuisance. In addition, the suit asks the court to require West Shore Pipe Line, the owner of the 12-inch pipeline, and operator Buckeye Pipe Line, to pay all costs related to the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency's and Will County's response to the leak. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency issued a compliance order Dec. 16 after Buckeye was authorized to restart the pipeline under greatly reduced pressure. "Oil spilling from a ruptured pipeline jeopardizes public health and can cause significant harm to sensitive wetlands," Glasgow said. Crude oil was found leaking from the pipeline near 13803 S. New Ave. after resident complaints about petroleum odors in the area. Oil seeped from the pipeline into wetlands that flow into the Illinois and Michigan Canal, which ultimately flows into the Des Plaines River. A status hearing on the case is scheduled for 11 a.m. Feb. 10 in Will County Circuit Court.

<http://heraldnews.suntimes.com/news/3174038-418/oil-pipeline-spill-companies-county.html>

### **US, WASHINGTON, JANUARY 6 2011. HALLIBURTON, ANADARKO FALL AFTER SPILL REPORT SPREADS BLAME**

*David Wethe & Edward Klump*



Halliburton Co. and Anadarko Petroleum Corp. fell today after a U.S. panel investigating the Gulf of Mexico oil spill dimmed expectations that the companies would be able to escape liability for a BP Plc well that exploded and killed 11 workers in April.

[Halliburton Co.](#) and [Anadarko Petroleum Corp.](#) fell today after a U.S. panel investigating the Gulf of Mexico oil spill dimmed expectations that the companies would be able to escape liability for a [BP](#) well that exploded and killed 11 workers in April. Houston-based Halliburton fell \$1.54, or 3.9 percent, to \$37.88 at 12:53 p.m. on New York Stock Exchange composite trading. The shares fell as low as \$37.68.

Anadarko, based in The Woodlands, [Texas](#), fell 2.9 percent to \$74.08. Since the spill, the companies have outperformed BP as well as [Transocean Ltd.](#), which owned the rig at the Macondo well. Bad decisions by London-based BP and its main contractors, Halliburton and Transocean, coupled with lax government oversight, caused the largest U.S. offshore oil spill, the National Commission on the BP Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill said yesterday. Anadarko has a 25 percent stake in the Macondo well. Investor opinion of Halliburton's liability has fluctuated in recent weeks, Brian Youngberg, an analyst at [Edward Jones](#) in St. Louis, said in a telephone interview. "The sentiment today, after investors read this report in a little more detail, is just a little bit more pessimistic than it was just a couple days ago," said Youngberg, who rates the Halliburton shares a "hold" and owns none. Before today, Halliburton gained 18 percent since April 20 and Anadarko increased 3.2 percent. BP dropped 24 percent and Transocean fell 20 percent in the same period. Anadarko said on June 18 that the spill was the result of reckless actions by BP, possibly stemming from willful misconduct.

#### **Gross Negligence**

The argument of gross negligence on the part of BP looks as though it may not protect Anadarko from all spill costs, said [Jim Byrne](#), an analyst at BMO Capital Markets in Calgary, who has a "market perform" rating on Anadarko shares and owns none. "I think people have started to recognize that Anadarko will probably have to pay up at some point," Byrne said. The company has withheld reimbursement to BP for costs related to the spill. "We fully cooperated with the commission during its investigation, and stand behind our statement of June 18th that continues to be supported by this latest chapter in the commission's report, previous public testimonies and preliminary investigations," John Christiansen, a spokesman for Anadarko, said today in an e-mail.

#### **'Selective Omission'**

The commission "selectively omitted information we provided to them in response to their numerous inquiries," [Teresa Wong](#), a Halliburton spokeswoman, said late yesterday in an e-mail. "Halliburton acted at the direction of BP."

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-01-06/halliburton-anadarko-fall-after-spill-report-spreads-blame.html>

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#### USA, TN, OAKLAND, JANUARY 6 2011. 1 DEAD IN EXPLOSION AT TENNESSEE AMMUNITION PLANT

 **Watch the Video** [http://www.myfoxmemphis.com/dpp/news/local/010511\\_emotional-scene-at-oakland-plant-explosion](http://www.myfoxmemphis.com/dpp/news/local/010511_emotional-scene-at-oakland-plant-explosion)



*Smoke from a fire rises from a building at the Kinematics Research plant in Oakland, Tenn., Wednesday, Jan. 5, 2011. The plant makes ammunition for firearms. Witnesses also reported hearing a series of explosions.*

A series of explosions ripped through an ammunition plant Wednesday afternoon, killing one worker and injuring a firefighter while shells fired off for about an hour afterward. Ed Gaugh, emergency management director for [Fayette County](#), said a 34-year-old male employee died in the blast and subsequent fire at the Kinematics Research plant, which makes shells for pistols and rifles. The worker's name was not immediately released. Oakland Police Chief Rick Jewell said at one point a large front door of the building blew off and a white fireball came out. "It was scary; we just got out of the way," he said. "It was a pretty horrific explosion. Rounds were going off for one solid hour. It sounded like continuous machine gun fire." The building was left standing but was gutted and riddled with holes. Jewell said the plant housed several

thousand rounds and gunpowder. Witnesses said debris shot into the air during several explosions spanning a half-hour. Fire crews could not get close to the building because of the danger. One firefighter was slightly injured, apparently hit by a bullet or fragment of some kind. Cliff Davidson, owner of AAA Collision next door, said he heard a boom and went outside. "Not long after that, there was a rat-a-tat-tat and a pop pop pop pop," he said. The fire was brought under control about 90 minutes after the first blast was reported around 1:45 p.m. The cause is not yet known. The company, which has been in business since 1992, makes new and remanufactured ammunition for pistols and rifles. The company's phone line was busy Wednesday afternoon. WMC-TV in Memphis reported authorities asked its news helicopter to fly away from directly above the scene. The plant is located in a collection of industrial buildings, including a car body shop and a concrete company. They were evacuated after the explosion. No homes are located nearby. A company official did not respond to an Associated Press e-mail for comment. Oakland, a town of 3,200, is about 30 miles northeast of Memphis.

#### Related Links

- [Blast kills 1 at Tennessee ammunition plant](#) The Voice of Russia
- [Emotional Scene at Oakland Plant Explosion](#) MyFox Memphis
- [Explosions rip munitions plant in west Tennessee](#) The Associated Press

<http://www.ajc.com/news/nation-world/11-dead-in-explosion-795954.html>

#### NETHERLANDS, MOERDIJK, JANUARY 6 2011. FIREFIGHTERS GAIN CONTROL OF NETHERLANDS CHEMICAL FACTORY BLAZE

 **Watch the Video** <http://edition.cnn.com/2011/WORLD/europe/01/05/netherlands.fire/>



*Firemen try to extinguish a fire on the chemical plant Chemie-Pack of Moerdijk, near Rotterdam, on Jan. 5, 2011.*

#### Story Highlights

- A chemical factory has burned to the ground
- Authorities had asked nearby residents to stay indoors
- About 150 firefighters were battling the blaze; no injuries were reported

About 150 firefighters worked overnight before gaining control Thursday morning of a fire that had erupted Wednesday in a chemical factory in the Netherlands, spreading plumes of thick, black smoke and widespread concern about the health of nearby residents. The blaze, which destroyed a chemical production facility in an

industrial area of Moerdijk, a town about 27 kilometers south of Rotterdam., was brought under control at 12:30 a.m. with the use of chemical foam, said town hall spokeswoman Sonia van Ginneken. "There is no danger to other buildings." No one was hurt in the fire, but the Chemie-Pack chemical plant burned to the ground, van Ginneken said. "All the buildings of the company -- three buildings -- are lost, and the company next door to it was on fire," she said. After the final embers are extinguished, authorities will start an investigation into the fire's cause, van Ginneken said. During the height of the blaze, authorities asked nearby residents to remain indoors and to close their doors and windows to limit exposure to potentially toxic fumes. The website for the plant says that it worked within the "chemical industry, the rubber industry, agriculture and

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horticulture, offshore supplies, the paint industry, logistical services, shipping and many others." During the day and into the evening, television images from RTL Holland showed fireballs reaching into the sky over the plant.

<http://edition.cnn.com/2011/WORLD/europe/01/05/netherlands.fire/>

### USA, CA, HALF MOON BAY, JANUARY 6 2011. COAST GUARD CREWS SAFELY REMOVE 2,000 GALLONS OF FUEL FROM BEACHED BOAT

 <http://www.foxreno.com/news/26384199/detail.html>



Coast Guard divers on Tuesday evening removed nearly 2,000 gallons of fuel from a fishing boat that had become stranded on the beach near Half Moon Bay earlier in the day, a spokeswoman said. The dive team worked for more than three hours in the surf zone off of Francis State Beach to stabilize the 65-foot "Phyllis J" and remove a tank-load of diesel and hydraulic fuel without any spills, Coast Guard Lt. j. g. Laura Williams said. "They were able to successfully remove any environmental hazards," she said. Salvage crews returned to the site of the beached vessel today to determine if it was structurally sound enough to be towed by sea to its home port of Pillar Point Harbor, or to be towed over land, Williams said. Officials from the state Department of Fish and Game, state parks, and Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary were monitoring the operation. The Coast Guard was alerted to

the beached boat at about 1 a.m. when a San Mateo County emergency dispatcher received a 911 call reporting the stranding. Three people on board were able to safely disembark, and no injuries were reported.

<http://www.foxreno.com/news/26384199/detail.html>

### USA, MI, DETROIT, JANUARY 6 2011. HAZEL PARK: TANKER CRASH CLOSES STRETCH OF I-75

*matt helms*



*A traffic camera shows the area of southbound I-75 near 9 Mile and John R roads in Hazel Park where a fuel spill from a tanker crash left traffic getting by on the shoulder around 12:15 p.m. today. No one was hurt, police said.*

I-75 reopened this afternoon after crews cleared up the expressway where a semi hit a retaining wall and leaked fuel just south of the area near 9 Mile and John R roads in Hazel Park late this morning. It wasn't clear what caused the truck to hit the wall, but it leaked diesel across the lanes of the freeway. Traffic at one point was getting by on the left shoulder around sand put down to clear the fuel. Michigan State Police said there were no reported injuries in the crash. That section of I-75 is a high-crash segment of freeway, owing to its notoriously sharp curve, heavy traffic and other factors. In 2009, a tanker crash and explosion toppled half of the 9 Mile Road overpass above the freeway.

<http://www.freep.com/article/20110105/NEWS03/110105040/1001/NEWS/Hazel-Park-Tanker-crash-closes-stretch-of-I-75>

### CANADA, B.C, VANCOUVER, JANUARY 6 2011. JUDGE SPLITS OIL SPILL BLAME >> 2006 REFUELLING ERROR SAW 40-METRE SLICK WASH UP ON N. SHORE

*jane seyed*

A fuel barge operator working for West Coast Fuel Transport Ltd. has to share the blame for an oil spill in Vancouver Harbour that sent between 8,000 and 14,000 litres of heavy fuel oil into Burrard Inlet on July 4, 2006, a B.C. Supreme Court justice has ruled. The oil spill happened as the Hong Kong-registered grain ship MV Andre was receiving bunkering oil pumped from the fuel barge as it was anchored in Burrard Inlet. Following the spill, a 40-metre-long oil slick washed onto the North Vancouver shoreline within days of the accident, depositing blobs of sticky black tar on rocks and beaches near the Ironworkers Memorial Second Narrows Crossing. Owners of the freighter paid more than \$1 million to clean up the spill and rescue oiled Canada geese. A year after the accident, a judge ordered the ship's owners to pay an \$80,000 fine -- most of that to the Canadian Wildlife Service -- after the company pleaded guilty to discharging oil into the inlet in violation of the Canada Shipping Act. The company paid the fine and acknowledged negligence on the part of its crew, but later sued the fuel barge owner, arguing the barge crew's actions also contributed to the accident and that company should bear some of the blame. Following a trial this fall in B.C. Supreme Court, Justice Catherine Wedge agreed, concluding the crews of both vessels owed an "equal duty to

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ensure that the operation was conducted safely." In court, the freighter's owners admitted the accident was caused after one of its crew members accidentally left a valve open to a second oil tank on board the Andre and failed to take soundings, that would have shown them oil was flowing into two tanks instead of just one. But Wedge found the barge operator, Brad Randell, was also negligent in performing his duties that day and that his actions also contributed to the spill. While Randell and the chief engineer of the Andre had agreed to pump oil at a rate of 150 tonnes per hour and signed a mandatory document setting out that number, the judge found the barge operator was actually pumping fuel at a much higher rate to the tanker. Had the bunkering gone according to the plan, the judge found, the correct tank would have been filled to about 85 per cent of its capacity just after 11 a.m. that day. Instead, right around that time, oil began spilling from the ship's number 2 oil tank, over the ship's deck and into the inlet. A gauge on the fuel barge showed the barge had pumped about 474 tonnes of oil by that time, instead of the 315 tonnes expected by the freighter's crew. Marine experts called to testify during the trial said while the freighter's crew should have checked their valves and monitored their fuel tanks, the barge operator should also have been aware that the rate the fuel was pumped at was very important. They said he should also have been aware of the capacity of the fuel tanks on the ship. "I conclude that a reasonably competent bargeman would not deviate from the agreed flow rate without clear and explicit instructions from the receiving vessel to go to a different and specified transfer rate," wrote the judge. The judge described the barge operator's testimony that the ship's chief engineer had signalled him to pump at a higher rate as implausible. Wedge found the barge operator cranked up the rate that fuel was being pumped "either in careless disregard for the agreed flow rate or on the basis of a fundamental misunderstanding of the importance of the agreed rates." She concluded the fuel barge operator and the crew of the freighter were equally responsible for the spill.

<http://www.nsnews.com/news/Judge+splits+spill+blame/4064523/story.html>

### **USA, ID, KETCHUM, JANUARY 6 2011. KEEP IDLING FINE HIGH AT FILLING STATIONS**

*jim banholzer*

Kudos to the Ketchum Police Department for its diplomatic approach in asking the City Council to reduce the stiff \$100 to \$300 vehicle idling fines. I was wondering why I hadn't heard about any motorists being actually penalized yet, and was impressed when I heard this appeal. While the City Council may compromise on this, I would like to suggest that there is at least one sector where it should keep the fine as high as it is, or perhaps even increase it: That area is right at our local gas pumps. Since the wintry weather has set in, I have witnessed several motorists filling their gas tanks without turning off their engines! Curious about this, I asked some local station attendants about how frequently they see this, and was told that it is occurring on a daily basis. I'm wondering if the motorists who fill their gas tanks with engines running realize how dangerous this is, because the results could be quite terrifying. Unlike the idling ordinance, which I find posted nowhere in town, clear warnings are highlighted on the front of every gas pump to shut off the engine before filling your tank. However, with dozens of motorists in the valley apparently ignoring this basic safety tenet every week, the odds have increased for a simple bit of static electricity to cause a tragic event. If people are not fined for this, I believe that it is at least a concern, and the City Council should ask our Police and Fire Department leaders to refocus vigorous educational warnings on dangerous idling engines.

<http://www.mtexpress.com/index2.php?ID=2005134786>

### **USA, ILL, CALHOUN COUNTY, HARDIN, JANUARY 6 2011. GAS FUMES CLOSE HARDIN POST OFFICE**

*maggie borman*

The Hardin Post Office was closed Tuesday due to gas fumes from a suspected overfill at the Hardin Ayerco Gas Station located at 10 East Main Street. Gene Breden, Calhoun County Emergency Services and Disaster Agency coordinator confirmed Tuesday afternoon that U.S. Postal Service, Gateway District's Safety Officer was on site Tuesday at the Hardin Post Office located at 103 E. Main St. "I was at the Post Office with the USPS safety officer while he was testing and while the fumes are not at an explosive level, the health of the postal workers was a concern, and they decided to move the Hardin Post Office to the Kampsville Post Office temporarily," Breden said. Breden issued a press release Monday night stating that gasoline odors had been noticed by several village residents and that the odors appeared to be emanating from the local service station. The reason for the press release was to advise village residents of the situation. Breden, Illinois Emergency Management Agency coordinator for Region 8, the State of Illinois Fire Marshal's Office, the state of Illinois' Environmental Protection Agency, Ayerco gas station owner, and village officials had investigated the odors, he said in the press release, and found that the vapors are not explosive in nature at the current levels. On Tuesday, Breden confirmed the intended move of the Hardin Post Office to Kampsville, and said the evaluation of the fuel spill is ongoing. "The Illinois Fire Marshal's Office has a representative on site and contractors hired by the owner of the gas station are on site and are cooperating fully with the Fire Marshal's representative," Breden said Tuesday. Breden said there is no leakage of fuel from the tanks or lines, which were

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pressure tested Monday, but the fumes remain in some areas. Hardin Village Mayor Phil Gress said Tuesday that fumes were detected by several village residents in their homes, his funeral home located 207 South County Road, at Main Street Tavern, which he said had closed for a few days after New Year's Eve due to the fumes, and the Hardin Post Office. Gress said the odors were first detected sometime between Christmas and New Year's Eve at the Post Office. He states that while the fumes are not at explosive levels, they can make one nauseated. "It is still the worst at the Post Office," Gress said. "I know the Fire Marshal Office representative was still there today, along with others, and a lot of heads have been put together on this. The decision was made to evacuate the Post Office temporarily." Loretta Tolliver, United States Post Office Gateway District director of marketing, said Tuesday afternoon that until they are certain the postal facility is safe for their employees and customer mail, all Hardin mail will be diverted to the Kampsville Post Office where Hardin postal customers may pick up their mail starting Wednesday (Jan. 5). "The fact that they don't have a solid reason yet for the problem, the safety of our employees and customer mail is our main concern," Tolliver said.

<http://www.thetelegraph.com/news/office-49023-post-hardin.html>

#### **USA, ID, CURRY CROSSING, JANUARY 6 2011. FUEL CLEANUP WAITS AFTER MONDAY CRASH, BUT COLD HELPED**

*laura lundquist*

Initial cleanup of a fuel spill on U.S. Highway 30 was completed Tuesday morning, a day after a two-truck collision completely closed the road near Filer. Eric Palmer on Monday failed to stop his sugar beet truck, running into the back of Cory Slippey's fuel tanker as Slippey was stopped at the Curry Crossing railroad crossing near the intersection of U.S. Highway 30 and U.S. Highway 93, according to an Idaho State Police report. ISPCapt. Rob Storm said Tuesday that Palmer, 26, was taken to the hospital with minor injuries and released after being interviewed by ISP. Storm said the investigation was ongoing. The road was opened to traffic at midnight Monday. Clyde Dwight, Region 5 Response Team operations chairman, said about 3,000 gallons of gasoline and diesel fuel spilled from the tanks after the collision. Dwight said fuel company trucks came in and sucked up as much of the spilled fuel as they could. The fuel remaining in the tanks was offloaded and taken to a refinery. ISP is inspecting the tanks as part of its investigation. Sand was spread on the road along with Floor-Dry, an absorbent material, Dwight said. The cold weather helped the cleanup. Some of the fuel spilled into a nearby canal but sat atop the ice. With the ground frozen, Dwight said, the fuel probably didn't sink in as much. "We've cleaned up as much as we can now," Dwight said Tuesday. "We've spoken with the (Idaho Department of Environmental Quality) and they will look at the situation tomorrow, but this will be ongoing." Dwight said the agencies will wait for warmer weather to allow them to dig into nearby soil, so cleanup efforts may take a few weeks to complete. At that point, they'll have a better idea how much fuel contaminated the ground.

[http://www.magicvalley.com/news/local/twin-falls/article\\_e97781cf-e665-50e1-b56a-a67ecef4b440.html](http://www.magicvalley.com/news/local/twin-falls/article_e97781cf-e665-50e1-b56a-a67ecef4b440.html)

#### **USA, CO, ALAMOSA, JANUARY 6 2011. DIESEL TANKER SPILLS IN FARM DRIVEWAY**

*keith r. cerny*

A fuel tanker truck loaded with 7,800 gallons of red diesel rolled onto its side about 2:30 p.m. Tuesday, spilling an untold amount of fuel onto the ground and possibly into an adjacent irrigation ditch before the load could be trans-loaded into another truck. Mo Jones of Jones Oil Company, Center, was the driver of the truck, according to Captain George Dingfelder of the Colorado State Patrol. Neither the driver nor his young passenger was injured. Jones was apparently attempting to turn into a farm driveway on the Alamosa-Rio Grande County line between and 7 South and 8 South when he went off the south side of the drive, spilling the truck onto its passenger side. "I've never had an accident before," said the veteran truck driver at the scene. Crews from the Alamosa Volunteer Fire Department were on scene with mutual aid from the Monte Vista department. A CSP hazardous materials team was also on scene to assess the potential spill and clean-up efforts. Small amounts of diesel could be seen leaking from the fill ports on top of the trailer, but larger amounts of fuel was reportedly leaking from the bottom of the tanker. To off load the fuel, holes were cut into the side of each compartment and the diesel pumped into a truck on the county line.

[http://www.alamosanews.com/v2\\_news\\_articles.php?heading=0&page=72&story\\_id=19138](http://www.alamosanews.com/v2_news_articles.php?heading=0&page=72&story_id=19138)

#### **USA, S.C, GREER, JANUARY 6 2011. OFFICIALS: DIESEL SPILL DID NOT INJURE BEAVERS**

[A Greer spokesman](#) said 1,000-1,500 gallons of diesel was spilled in the city just before [Christmas](#). The spill – which originated from the basement of the former [Allen Bennett Memorial Hospital](#) -- was mostly confined to a nearby creek and beaver dam, but officials say the animals were not injured and no drinking water is known to have been contaminated.

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Cleanup efforts were completed shortly after the spill was discovered on Dec. 20. The spill originated from an emergency power generator.

<http://www2.wspa.com/news/2011/jan/04/officials-diesel-spill-did-not-injure-beavers-ar-1300001/>

#### USA, PA, STEELTON, JANUARY 6 2011. OFFICIALS: OIL LEAK IN RIVER APPEARS DELIBERATE

 **Watch the Video** <http://www.abc27.com/Global/story.asp?S=13776002>



Investigators say it appears very likely that someone deliberately spilled 200 to 500 gallons of oil in the Susquehanna River over the weekend. The spill was found Saturday about 30 feet from the shoreline at Steelton's boat dock. "We found a catch basin on Adams Street that we detected an odor of oil," Public Works Director Joe Conjar said. "It appeared that somebody dumped some motor oil into the catch basin." The state Department of Environmental Protection is testing samples of the substance, which is believed to be motor oil. Officials said anyone found responsible will be forced to pay for the cleanup. This is third oil spill in the Susquehanna River in the last six months. A tanker truck flipped near the Clarks Ferry Bridge in July, spilling 7,000 gallons of oil that went downstream to Steelton. Then in October, oil surfaced near Maclay Street in Harrisburg, again floating south to Steelton. "It is alarming for people to hear about the number of times," said Susan Obleski, a spokeswoman for

the Susquehanna River Basin Commission. Officials stressed that the latest spill did not affect Steelton's water supply, as water intakes are a good distance away. But for those who work with water, it is troubling. "Unfortunately, spills in the river of various volumes throughout the year are not that uncommon in smaller tributaries and also the main stem," Obleski said. "We never want to hear about spills and it is unfortunate."

<http://www.abc27.com/Global/story.asp?S=13776002>

#### CHINA, SHANGHAI, JANUARY 6 2011. CHINA'S CNPC "TO INVEST IN CITY HIT BY OIL SPILL"

China National Petroleum Corp will invest in a northeastern port city hit by an oil spill last year at facilities it owned, averting paying direct compensation to local fishermen, state media said. The state-owned oil giant has agreed to build plants in Dalian with annual refining capacity of 20 million tonnes and ethylene production of one million tonnes, the Economic and National Weekly said on its website Monday. In return, the city government will pay compensation to the fishing industry for damage and losses caused by the July slick, the report said, citing unnamed sources involved in the negotiations between authorities and CNPC. Dalian, a coastal city in Liaoning province, hit headlines last year after two pipelines exploded at an oil storage depot belonging to CNPC, triggering a spectacular blaze that burned for days. The government estimated that about 1,500 tonnes of oil poured into the Yellow Sea but Greenpeace said 60,000-90,000 tonnes of crude, or up to 60 times more than official estimates, may have escaped into the area. The environmental group said the economic impact on the local tourism and fishing industry would be "significant", estimating the fishing industry would lose 50-100 million US dollars this year alone. The report did not disclose financial details of the investment or compensation, but said the new plants would boost CNPC's refining capacity in the city to 50.5 million tonnes from 30.5 million tonnes. An investigation by the government found that a desulphurising chemical was mistakenly pumped into pipelines after a tanker had stopped unloading crude, triggering the explosion. Liao Yongyuan, a deputy general manager of CNPC, blamed contractors for the accident, according to a company statement in August.

[http://www.channelnewsasia.com/stories/afp\\_asiapacific\\_business/view/1102672/1.html](http://www.channelnewsasia.com/stories/afp_asiapacific_business/view/1102672/1.html)

#### INDIA, NEW DELHI, JANUARY 6 2011. CHEVRON IN TALKS WITH INDIAN FIRMS TO SELL AFRICAN ASSETS

*madhav chanchani*

US-based Chevron Corp, one of the largest integrated oil & gas producer in the world, has initiated talks with a couple of Indian companies to sell some of its downstream African assets. The discussions are at a very nascent stage, sources close to the development said. "Chevron is interested in selling some of its downstream assets in Africa to Indian companies and the discussions are in the initial stage," the source told VCCircle. But he declined to divulge the names of the Indian companies or the details of the assets. Downstream oil assets typically cover refineries, petrochemical plants, petroleum product distribution, retail outlets and natural gas distribution companies. An e-mail query sent to Chevron Corporation seeking comments remained unanswered at the time of posting this story. In India, the oil and gas sector is dominated by PSUs while Reliance Industries and Essar are the two major private players. And, cross-border M&A activity has been robust particularly in the oil

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and gas and natural resources space as companies eye energy security. Indian companies, led by Public Sector majors, have been actively looking for oil & gas assets abroad, mainly in the upstream asset class, though it is far behind than that of Chinese companies which spent a record USD 32 bn in 2009-10 versus India's single USD 2.1 bn investment by ONGC for the same period for Russia's Imperial Energy. Companies like ONGC, IOC, BPCL and HPCL are bidding for oil blocks worldwide, especially in the African, Latin American regions. India's largest conglomerate Reliance Industries (RIL), in a time frame of four months in the beginning of 2010, bought three shale gas assets in the US. In April, it acquired a 40% stake in Atlas Energy Inc.'s core shale acreage in Marcellus for USD 1.7 bn. In June, it paid USD 1.35 bn for a 45% stake in Pioneer Natural Resources Co., and paid USD 392 mn, or around Rs 1,810 crore to buy 60% stake in the Marcellus shale acreage in the US. Reliance acquired many shale gas assets in the US while Essar, in 2009, acquired 50% stake in Kenya Petroleum Refineries Ltd (KPRL) with a 4 MMTPA capacity from Shell, BP and Chevron. In April 2009, Reliance Industries Limited bought back Chevron Corporation's 5% stake in Reliance Petroleum Limited. Chevron Corporation owns refineries in the United States, the United Kingdom, Canada, South Africa and Australia and markets petroleum products under the brands of Chevron, Texaco and Caltex worldwide. In the Asia-Pacific region, southern Africa, Egypt and Pakistan, it uses the Caltex brand. As a part of restructuring of its global refining business, Chevron Corporation, in March 2010, announced plans to sell some of its global operations. Chevron, which had been hit by an overcapacity in crude-refining bought on by recession and the high price of crude last year, had cut production spending on refineries and other operations by 15%, to USD 2.9 bn for 2011. The company, which is focussing more on upstream businesses, has been on a sell-off mode of its downstream business since the last two years which saw many transactions across Africa and Latin American regions.

### **Recent Sell-Off's by Chevron**

Last month, South African downstream petroleum marketer Engen announced that it had concluded three deals to acquire some of the sub-Saharan Africa and the Indian Ocean Islands assets previously owned by Chevron.

In November last year, Chevron sold its fuels marketing and aviation businesses in parts of the Caribbean and Central America to a subsidiary of France-based petroleum company Rubis.

In June 2009, Chevron Africa Holdings, a unit of Chevron, completed the sale of Chevron Nigeria Holdings to Corlay Global, a Panamanian holding company, owned by an African-based consortium composed of MRS Holding and Petroci Holding. During the same period, TOTAL S.A. of France completed its takeover of Chevron's operations in Kenya.

[http://www.moneycontrol.com/news/business/chevrontalksindian-firms-to-sell-african-assets\\_510244.html](http://www.moneycontrol.com/news/business/chevrontalksindian-firms-to-sell-african-assets_510244.html)

### **USA, JANUARY 7 2011. PEI UPDATES TANK INSTALLATION DOCUMENT**

The Petroleum Equipment Institute has announced that the 2011 edition of Recommended Practices for Installation of Underground Liquid Storage Systems (PEI/RP100-11) is now available for purchase. PEI says the revised document provides the most current information on sound engineering and construction practices with regard to the proper installation of underground liquid storage systems. The 2011 publication represents the eighth revision of the original 1986 document and replaces and supersedes the 2005 edition, as changes have been made to text, figures and tables. The all-new RP100 contains sections on excavating, backfilling, anchoring, piping, release detection, cathodic protection, secondary containment and other aspects of tank system installation. The three appendices contain formulas for calculating weight required to prevent tank floatout; procedures for calculating sacrificial anode requirements; and a current publication reference of other tank installation documents. The manual, which contains 31 line drawings, is indexed. "More than 50 percent of the wide-ranging comments were accepted in some manner," says Robert Renkes, executive vice president of PEI. "In addition to new sections on shear valves and manhole identification, as well as extensive editorial revisions, all of the drawings were updated." Among the many revisions to the 42-page document are changes in the following areas: water management; flow shut-off devices; vent restriction devices; secondary containment; transition sumps; groundwater monitoring; automatic line-lead detectors; piping layout and trenches; piping slope; and fuel compatibility. The single-copy price for RP1100 is \$40 for PEI members or \$95 for nonmembers. The Recommended Practices can be purchased at [www.pei.org/RP100](http://www.pei.org/RP100)

<http://www.ccjdigital.com/pei-updated-tank-installation-document/>

### **USA, NJ, TRENTON, JANUARY 7 2011. 'CONTAMINATED' SITES MOSTLY COMMERCIAL**

*maria karidis*

"For 2011, I resolve to clean up my environmentally unsound property." That may be the resolution that some [Belleville](#) businesses and residents. There are 40 locations across [Belleville](#) listed as "active sites with confirmed contamination" by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection. The DEP created its most recent list of Belleville properties on July 1. As such, there may be more or less than 40 contaminated sites as of this writing. Of the 40 properties currently listed, five are

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residential: two on Little Street, one on Bremond Street, one on Carmer Avenue, and the Anthony C Apartments of Joralemon Street. The other 35 properties listed are non-residential, including the [Belleville](#) Department of Public Works at Cortlandt Street, Domestic Linen Supply on Cortlandt Street, two Shell service stations on Belleville Avenue, St. Anthony of Padua Church on Franklin Street, and Valley National Bank on [Bloomfield](#) Avenue. Although the DEP does not provide extensive detail of each site's contamination, many of the [Belleville](#) sites appear to involve an underground storage tank with fuel that had leaked into the ground at some point in time, therefore contaminating the soil and/or area ground water. Many industrial sites on the list, such as Research Organic/Inorganic Chemicals at 507 Main St., had some sort of chemical "discharge to soil." In addition to the 40 "confirmed" [Belleville](#) properties with contamination, four properties are listed as "pending" investigation, and 109 properties were formerly contaminated, but have since been remediated. There is no set across-the-board timeframe in which contaminated properties need to be remediated, DEP spokesman Larry Hagna said. "It depends on how long the case has been in the system, who the responsible party is, and what the contamination is," he said. "We can set up timeframes or benchmarks that show the responsible party or property owner is making progress towards clean-up, but I can't make a blanket statement about timeframe for all [Belleville](#) sites." Previously, Hagna said, there was a lot of "back and forth" paperwork that was required to be exchanged between the DEP and property owners. He cited those requirements as a pre-investigation work plan, paperwork that included "various components," a pre-clean-up plan, and so on. Recently passed New Jersey legislation — the Site Remediation Reform Act — seeks to "reduce that amount of back and forth review process that's going on," Hagna said. As a result, contaminated properties may be remediated quicker, and more efficiently. Newark tops the [Essex County](#) list of DEP-confirmed sites of contamination, with 604. Other local towns' incidences on the DEP list included [Montclair](#) with 67 active sites, [Bloomfield](#) with 59 and [Nutley](#) with 42.

[http://www.northjersey.com/news/112989579\\_DEP\\_contaminated\\_properties\\_mostly\\_commercial\\_in\\_town.html](http://www.northjersey.com/news/112989579_DEP_contaminated_properties_mostly_commercial_in_town.html)

### USA, FLA, KEY LARGO, JANUARY 7 2011. SMALL SPILL OF DIESEL FUEL REPORTED IN OCEAN

A few gallons of diesel fuel spilled into Key Largo waters Tuesday, according to the U.S. Coast Guard, but local firefighters said it could have been much worse. Assistant Key Largo Volunteer Fire Rescue Department Chief Jay Ogden told The Reporter only three gallons or less of fuel spilled into the water at 73 Coral Ave., near mile marker 98, oceanside. The hose was from a 500-gallon diesel fuel tank that was fueling a moored vessel, according to a Coast Guard statement. "The fuel hose was left hanging down, so what was in the hose leaked out. It was a very small amount," he said. "The Coast Guard called us, but there really wasn't much to do. We checked the bilge of the boat to make sure there wasn't any fuel there. We always do that to be sure a bilge pump kicking on won't cause a fire or explosion and to prevent any more fuel from leaking into the water." Ogden said all Key Largo firefighters are trained to deal with hazardous materials and four responded to this incident. The small amount of diesel was quickly contained, Ogden said. The Coast Guard originally released a statement Tuesday that up to 500 gallons of fuel was in the water. The press release said a diesel sheen was reported and a Coast Guard Auxiliary pollution investigator said he saw a "quantity of diesel fuel in the water large enough to warrant further Coast Guard investigation."

<http://www.keysnet.com/2011/01/06/296029/small-spill-of-diesel-fuel-reported.html>

### USA, TX, AZLE, JANUARY 7 2011. FUEL LEAK PROMPTS CLEANUP



Azle Fire Dept. Lt. Steve Lemming, left, and Fire Marshal Kenny Wilson begin the cleanup of a fuel spill at a gas station on Northwest Parkway at Jacksboro Highway Tuesday afternoon. A customer left the station with his diesel tank leaking, according to witnesses. City environmental officers are reviewing the station's videotape to determine if any legal action will be taken. Lemming is spraying a microbial enzyme that will "eat" petroleum products in the spill, Fire Chief Will Scott said.

#### City May Seek Criminal Charge

Azle firefighters scrambled to a local gas station late Tuesday afternoon after a customer left the station with about \$60 worth of newly purchased diesel fuel spilling from his vehicle's tank. The thing about purchasing gas with a credit card — the station has a lot of information after the customer leaves. In this case, with diesel fuel spilled on the station's pavement, plus city streets, a nearby business's parking

lot and State Highway 199 as far as Denver Trail, the person responsible for the spill may face several felony environmental charges, Jimmy Duvall said Wednesday. "I'm not going to speculate about the charges until I see (the station's) videotape,"

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Duvall said. "I don't know what to tell you (right now) about charges." Fire department personnel spent more than an hour and a half at the gas station, Dairy Queen, and along the highway, cleaning up spilled diesel fuel from the vehicle, Fire Chief Will Scott said Wednesday. Firefighters spread large square absorbent pads on puddles of diesel, as well as scattering "kitty litter" type material on large areas slick with the sheen of diesel fuel. Microbial enzymes were also sprayed on the larger puddles, Scott said. The enzymes "eat" petroleum products. Fire department personnel were at the scene, which officially stretched several miles, from 5 until nearly 7 p.m. Fire Marshal Kenny Wilson collected a charge receipt plus videotapes from the gas station, and he and Jimmy Duvall, the city's environmental enforcement officer, were reviewing information Wednesday afternoon to determine if any criminal charges will be pursued against the driver of the truck, described as "an older black Ford truck," Wilson said. The fire department had not calculated costs for the cleanup but routinely bills individuals and companies responsible for similar spills, Scott said Wednesday. Azle FD spent about \$10,000 total for hazardous materials cleanup supplies in the most recent fiscal year, he said. Costs billed to responsible parties include personnel costs, including \$42 per hour for firefighters both on the scene and extra personnel called in for overtime to respond to other emergencies while on-duty personnel handle the spill, Scott said.

<http://www.azle-news.com/news.asp?Story=18591>

### SWEDEN, GOTHENBURG, JANUARY 7 2011. SMALL FIRE ON OIL TANKER IN SWEDISH PORT

A small fire broke out Thursday in the engine room of a Bahamas-flagged oil tanker docked at the southwestern Swedish port of Gothenburg, but was put out shortly after, a spokeswoman for the port said. "The fire started in the engine room and was put out by the ship's own fire control system," Cecilia Carlsson told AFP. The 31 people on board the Aberdeen tanker were evacuated, she said. Rescue services in Gothenburg had sent a team to the dock after they were alerted to the fire shortly after 1100 GMT. The operation was declared over at around 1300 GMT. Carlsson said an investigation had started to determine the cause of the fire.

<http://news.ph.msn.com/business/article.aspx?cp-documentid=4562367>

### USA, ORE, DEER ISLAND, JANUARY 7 2011. BOVINE BLAMED FOR TANKER CRASH



*Gas Spill — Crews work to clean up the gasoline mess caused by an overturned tanker that collided with four cows on Highway 30 near Deer Island on New Year's Eve.*

Four days after a gasoline tanker truck collided with four cows on Highway 30 near Deer Island, crews are still working to clean up the hazardous mess. The New Year's Eve crash, at 64001 Columbia River Highway, happened at 9:15 p.m. The cows that had presumably wandered into the highway from a nearby farm were killed and the tanker driver, Scott Hamar from Kelso, Wash., was hospitalized with minor injuries. After the crash, gasoline began to spill onto the ground at an estimated 20 gallons per minute, according to Sgt. Larry Lucas of the Oregon State Police St. Helens work site. Specialists were brought in to stop the leaking and

clean up the mess. The highway was closed for hours. Clean up is being handled by a private company hired by Wilcox & Flegel, the company that owns the tanker that crashed. The contaminated soil is being removed. Accidents involving animals in the road, especially at night, are more common than some would expect, Lucas said. "Sometimes there is just nothing you can do about it."

[http://www.spotlightnews.net/news/story.php?story\\_id=129426983553840800](http://www.spotlightnews.net/news/story.php?story_id=129426983553840800)

### USA, VT, JPUTNEY, JANUARY 7 2011. FUEL OIL LEAK, NOT CARBON MONOXIDE, AT PUTNEY SCHOOL, SAY OFFICIALS >> 14 TAKEN TO HOSPITAL FOR TREATMENT

A fire official in Putney believes a break in the boiler room at the school leaked fuel oil fumes, not carbon monoxide, into the building Thursday afternoon. Putney Fire Chief Tom Goddard said they did not detect any signs of carbon monoxide in the building, noting that people reported smelling gasoline and felt nauseous. He does not believe the hospital will be able to detect carbon monoxide in people. Rescue Inc., an EMT service that responded to the call, said no one seemed to be exposed to carbon monoxide. At 11:30 a.m., students were moved to the gymnasium after the problem was reported and taken outside after fire and rescue crews arrived. Superintendent Ron Stahley said the fuel oil leak was caused by a furnace problem. Fans placed throughout the school had cleared the fumes by 1 p.m. and students were allowed to return. Stahley said the school day would end normally. Fourteen people were taken to the hospital for treatment. He said parents of the children taken to the

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hospital would be notified. Earlier this week, 25 grade-school children were hospitalized in Waterbury, Conn., after a carbon monoxide leak. On Dec. 31, a Massachusetts man died of carbon monoxide poisoning in Killington.

<http://www.wptz.com/mostpopular/26391502/detail.html>

### USA, MN, ST. PAUL, JANUARY 7 2011. MINN. CITES AIR VIOLATIONS AT SUGAR BEET PLANT >> UST VIOLATIONS

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency has assessed a sugar beet plant a \$50,400 civil penalty for air quality and storage tank violations. The agency says from 2007 to 2009, the Southern Minnesota Beet Sugar Cooperative processing plant near Renville recorded 32 violations of air-quality standards for hydrogen sulfide — and at times exceeded the limit on nitrous oxide emissions. Inspectors also found violations of storage tank requirements. Those included late and missing tank inspections, corrosion on steel tanks and piping, and unreported leaks and spills of beet juice. In an agreement with the MPCA, the plant's operators have corrected violations and are working on improvements.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-01-06/minn-cites-air-violations-at-sugar-beet-plant.html>

### USA, WI, MADISON, JANUARY 7 2011. FIREWORKS BLAMED FOR ARK. BLACKBIRD DEATHS

 **Watch the Video:**

[http://www.upi.com/Top\\_News/US/2011/01/06/Fireworks-blamed-for-Ark-blackbird-deaths/UPI-36031294342397/](http://www.upi.com/Top_News/US/2011/01/06/Fireworks-blamed-for-Ark-blackbird-deaths/UPI-36031294342397/)

Researchers say 3,000 blackbirds found dead in Arkansas were likely startled by New Year's Eve fireworks and flew into buildings and cars. Investigators at the National Wildlife Health Center in Madison, Wis., who examined a sample of the dead birds discovered they were killed by blunt force trauma, the Milwaukee Journal Sentinel reported. Scott Wright, head of disease investigations, said the birds' bodies were bruised and they had been bleeding. Wright said it is probably no coincidence the mass die-off occurred on New Year's Eve. He said they were most likely startled while roosting by fireworks. "It's believed that the noise startled them -- they are poor night fliers -- and they were in close proximity to neighborhoods, and they flew into homes and cars," Wright said. The center is also examining samples of 450 blackbirds found dead near Baton Rouge, La. Wright said mass die-offs of birds happen more frequently than most people realize, and the two events, although they occurred in neighboring states a few days apart are likely unrelated. In the past five years, there have been 16 die-offs of 1,000 birds or more just for blackbirds, Wright said.

#### Related Stories

- [Expert: Blackbird deaths spare Canada](#)
- [Swedish bird deaths linked to fireworks](#)
- [Louisiana investigates new mass bird kill](#)
- [Arkansas bird-kill likely due to noise](#)
- [No sign dead birds were poisoned](#)
- [Arkansas blackbird flock knocked from sky](#)

[http://www.upi.com/Top\\_News/US/2011/01/06/Fireworks-blamed-for-Ark-blackbird-deaths/UPI-36031294342397/](http://www.upi.com/Top_News/US/2011/01/06/Fireworks-blamed-for-Ark-blackbird-deaths/UPI-36031294342397/)

### NETHERLANDS, MOERDIJK, JANUARY 7 2011. CHEMICAL BLAZE SMOKE CONTAINED A 'COCKTAIL' OF DANGEROUS COMPOUNDS



The thick black smoke released in the fire at a chemical packaging plant in Moerdijk earlier this week did contain dangerous substances, the Telegraaf and Nederlands Dagblad report on Friday. The Telegraaf quotes petrochemical industry experts as saying an 'entire cocktail' of chemicals was released in the fire. And in the Nederlands Dagblad, risk management professor Ira Helsloot points out it takes three days to show if dioxines were released in a fire. 'And in a fire like this, we know that has happened,' the paper quoted him as saying.

#### Low Levels

According to public health body RIVM, the smoke did contain benzene, a known carcinogen, the solvent toluene which is dangerous when inhaled and other hydrocarbons. But the organisation said the chemicals were not released in quantities which should give cause for concern. Nevertheless, dozens of people have reported burning sensations in their eyes and throat, the paper says.

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#### Vegetables

On Thursday, [officials warned people](#) not to let children play outside or eat vegetables from their gardens /where soot particles have fallen. /Soot has been found in Dordrecht, Alblasserwaard, Ridderkerk, Spijkenisse, Rotterdam and Barendrecht, the paper says.

#### Equipment

The Telegraaf quotes a former fire chief as saying the fire service in Moerdijk was not properly equipped to deal with a chemical fire. It also took too long to get enough fire fighters to the scene, Sjoerd de Jonge is quoted as saying. The AD quotes safety experts who criticise the level of fire detection equipment at the plant. An investigation into the cause of the blaze is now under way. Civil engineer Jan te Riele told the Financieele Dagblad: 'Disasters usually occur because of mistakes in the production process or the handling of substances.'

[http://www.dutchnews.nl/news/archives/2011/01/chemical\\_blaze\\_smoke\\_contained.php](http://www.dutchnews.nl/news/archives/2011/01/chemical_blaze_smoke_contained.php)

#### NETHERLANDS, AMSTERDAM, JANUARY 7 2011. SHELL TO FACE HEARINGS ON NIGERIA WORK

Officials with Royal Dutch Shell said they were invited before the Dutch Parliament to discuss ongoing concerns about activity in the oil-rich Niger Delta. Royal Dutch Shell is under fire for its operations in Nigeria as oil rebels ramp up activity following the collapse of a November cease-fire. The Dutch Parliament invited Shell in for what was described as a "fact-finding session" to address Shell's work in Nigeria, London's Telegraph newspaper reports. Some activists say Shell is responsible for chronic oil spills in Nigeria, which some environmental groups estimate could have spilled as much as 9 million barrels of crude oil since the 1950s. The company blames rebels for the spills, though advocacy groups counter their claims. Shell officials in an e-mail message to United Press International said they were invited to the Netherlands for a round-table conference on West African development Jan. 26 in part to address Nigeria. A Shell spokesman told UPI that the Dutch session was planned before lawmakers visited Nigeria. Meanwhile, Ann Pickard, now chairwoman of Shell's operations in Australia, was quoted as saying in leaked U.S. diplomatic documents given by WikiLeaks to London's Guardian newspaper that her company had access "to everything" inside the Nigeria government. Shell described the leaked diplomatic cables as "untrue" and a spokesman from the state-owned Nigerian National Petroleum Corp. downplayed the cable as the "interpretation" of a U.S. envoy. The Nigerian army launched a major offensive against rebel groups operating in the Niger Delta about six weeks ago.

[http://www.upi.com/Science\\_News/Resource-Wars/2011/01/06/Shell-to-face-hearings-on-Nigeria-work/UPI-17621294231772/](http://www.upi.com/Science_News/Resource-Wars/2011/01/06/Shell-to-face-hearings-on-Nigeria-work/UPI-17621294231772/)

#### USA, MAINE, ELLSWORTH, JANUARY 7 2011. DEP INVESTIGATES OIL SPILL AT ELLSWORTH TIRE BUSINESS

chris facchini

 **Watch the Video:** <http://www.wcsh6.com/news/local/story.aspx?storyid=143477&catid=2>

 **Watch the Video:** <http://www.wabi.tv/news/16924/fuel-spill-in-ellsworth>



Two hundred gallons of #2 heating oil spilled onto the ground at Complete Tire Service in Ellsworth Thursday morning. The Ellsworth Fire Department got the call at about 9:20am. Firefighters used absorbent pads to contain the spill. Andrea Lasselle, an Oil and Hazardous Material Specialist for Maine DEP says a Webber Oil truck driver was filling an oil tank at the business when the tank suddenly ruptured spilling the heating oil onto the floor. "Webber was in the process of filling the tank when it overpressurized breaking a seal on the side of the tank which leaked," Lasselle said, adding that the heating oil was contained before it got into nearby storm drains.

<http://www.wcsh6.com/news/local/story.aspx?storyid=143477&catid=2>

#### USA, GUAM, MARIANA ISLANDS, JANUARY 7 2011. COAST GUARD ASSISTS SALVAGE OPERATION FOR SUNKEN DRY DOCK

Coast Guard Pacific Strike Team members assisted with salvage operations for a sunken dry dock in Apra Harbor by helping with a fuel transfer yesterday, according to a Coast Guard press release. The dry dock "Machinist," also known as "Big Blue," is undergoing repair, after it partially sank Monday night in Apra Harbor. Rough seas and high surfs caused the dry dock to take on too much water in its tanks, according to the Pacific Daily News files. Approximately 13,000 gallons of diesel oil and

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2,000 gallons of waste oil will be transferred from the dry dock. During yesterday's salvage operations, Strike Team members reviewed the fuel transfer plan and testing of fuel transfer lines. Guam Shipyard personnel transferred diesel fuel from Big Blue to a fuel tank aboard the tugboat Marianas Voyager, according to the Coast Guard. The transfer process was conducted at a rate of 480 gallons per hour, the Coast Guard said. The fuel was transferred from the generator fuel tank located in a machinery space on Big Blue. This tank is the largest source of fuel on the dry dock. The fuel transfer was discontinued at sunset and will resume tomorrow morning at first light. Once the fuel tank is empty, the next step in the process of dewatering the remaining compartments will take place. A member from the 14th Coast Guard District Response Advisory Team from Honolulu and three members of the Coast Guard Pacific Strike Team are on scene to assist Guam Shipyard with establishing recovery goals and provide expertise to ensure Big Blue is safely raised out of the water. "All agencies are working well together to reach a solution and mitigate any potential environmental impacts," said Pacific Strike Team member Chief Boatswain's Mate Benjamin Gamad. U. S. Coast Guard Sector Guam urges all commercial and recreational boating traffic to remain vigilant while transiting near Big Blue. To report any debris or signs of oil in the water call the Sector Guam Command Center at 564-USCG.

<http://www.guampdn.com/article/20110107/NEWS01/110107006/1002/NEWS01/%3Cb%3ENEWS+UPDATE+%3C/b%3E+Coast+Guard+assists+salvage+operation+for+sunken+dry+dock>

**USA, MI, VERNON TWP, JANUARY 7 2010. TRAIN WITH HYDROCHLORIC ACID TIPS, LEAKS IN MICH.**

 **Watch the Video** <http://www.wxyz.com/dpp/news/train-derailment-prompts-evacuations>

Authorities have evacuated several dozen residents within a mile of a derailed Canadian National Railway freight train where a tank car carrying hydrochloric acid overturned and started leaking. No injuries were reported from the spill or derailment Thursday night in Shiawassee County. The site is in a lightly populated area about 20 miles from Flint. Durand fire Chief Richard Rinker says about 25 to 40 people were evacuated and some residents chose not to leave their homes. He said the evacuation was mainly precautionary. Railroad spokesman Patrick Waldron says 11 cars on the eastbound train derailed about 5:30 p.m. He it's not yet clear what caused the cars to leave the track.

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2011/01/06/AR2011010607282.html>

USA, PA, BRADFORD CO, ARMENIA TWP, JANUARY 8 2011. DEP FINES TALISMAN ENERGY \$24,608 FOR 2010 DIESEL FUEL SPILL IN ARMENIA TOWNSHIP

The Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) office in Williamsport announced Thursday that it has fined Talisman Energy USA Inc., of Horseheads, N.Y., \$24,608 for a diesel fuel spill in March 2010 at its Putnam 77 Marcellus natural gas well pad in Armenia Township, Bradford County. "This spill went off the well pad and into a neighboring farm field," states DEP North-central Regional Director Nels Taber in a press release issued by DEP. "Talisman is extremely fortunate it did not impact surface water or wetlands," the statement added. The release states that Talisman has been unable to explain the cause of the spill, and that cleanup required 3,800 tons of contaminated soil to be excavated and that 132,000 gallons of contaminated water was collected, from which about 450 gallons of diesel fuel was recovered. Talisman issued a statement declaring it "deeply regrets the diesel spill on the Putnam wellsite," adding "Protecting the environment is a core company value we take very seriously." The company statement continues: "Talisman Energy USA Inc. has entered into a settlement agreement with the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) fully meeting the regulatory directives of the department. Talisman is committed to continued safe and environmentally respectful operations."

<http://thedailyreview.com/news/dep-fines-talisman-energy-24-608-for-2010-diesel-fuel-spill-in-armenia-township-1.1087203>

USA, NV, LAS VEGAS, DECEMBER 7 2011. LAS VEGAS CHEMICAL SPILL BRINGS TECH SHOW, TRAFFIC TO GRIDLOCK



Cleanup crews work in front of the Wynn in Las Vegas.

The largest technology show in the country was disrupted on its official opening day Thursday after a chemical spill on the Las Vegas Strip brought traffic to a grinding halt and sent one man to the hospital. About 200 gallons of sulfuric acid leaked from a pipe that broke outside the entrance of the Wynn Las Vegas on the Strip. Clark County, Nev. spokeswoman Stacey Welling told the Las Vegas Sun the accidental spill was caused by a contractor filling the pipe with the chemical right outside the resort. The fire department responded at about 8 a.m. PT, and the spill was contained within about an hour. Movement along the Strip, jammed with traffic on normal days, was gridlocked in the area

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near the Las Vegas Convention Center and other venues, including the Venetian Hotel, where the Consumer Electronics Show is being held. More than 120,000 are attending the show, and many were trying to make their way via buses, taxis and cars to the convention center. Both directions of traffic along the Strip in the already-congested area were closed as hazardous material crews worked to neutralize the acid. The acid is not flammable and there is "minimal risk" of the liquid and fumes spreading because of Las Vegas' chilly temperatures, in the 40s as of Thursday morning, a police spokesman officer told The Las Vegas Review-Journal. One man who slipped and fell in the liquid was taken to a local hospital and is reported to be in stable condition. Updated: Roads near the entrance of the hotel and on the Strip all re-opened around noon. Meanwhile, "massive crowds" arriving at McCarran International Airport in Las Vegas for CES "helped set a record Wednesday for the number of taxis loaded" at the airport, [The Las Vegas Sun reports](#). "Airport officials said 14,495 taxis were loaded at the airport's two terminals Wednesday ... The new record is 4 percent more cabs loaded than the previous 24-hour record of 13,927, which was set on Jan. 4, 2006, also a day that coincided with CES."

[http://technolog.msnbc.msn.com/\\_news/2011/01/06/5778248-las-vegas-chemical-spill-brings-tech-show-traffic-to-gridlock](http://technolog.msnbc.msn.com/_news/2011/01/06/5778248-las-vegas-chemical-spill-brings-tech-show-traffic-to-gridlock)

### CANADA, ALTA, FORT MCMURRAY, JANUARY 8 2011. 4 INJURED IN FIRE AT OILSANDS PLANT

 **Watch the Video:** <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/globe-investor/canadian-natural-stock-falls-after-fire/article1861278/>

 **Watch the Video:**

<http://www.ctvbc.ctv.ca/servlet/an/local/CTVNews/20110107/oilsands-fire-probe-110107/20110107?hub=BritishColumbiaHome>



*The fire followed an explosion at the CNRL Horizon site around 3:30 p.m. MT Thursday.*

A fire at a major oilsands plant in Northern Alberta has injured four workers and caused the shutdown of the facility that produces about 90,000 barrels of synthetic crude oil a day. Canadian Natural Resources Ltd. said Friday that the fire broke out in an upgrader at its Horizon plant Thursday afternoon and was contained to the coker area. An upgrader converts thick, tarry bitumen into crude oil. The company said three people have been transported to hospital. Two of them for serious burns and

a third person has a neck injury, but all in stable condition. The fourth person was treated at the location. Jeff Winsor, chief operating officer of the Fort McKay First Nation, said although there had been some concern from residents about an evacuation, it's not necessary to remove residents from the area. "It's our understanding that the fire is pretty well under control, or getting there," he said. "There was an explosion and a (smoke) cloud evident there for some time after it, but that cloud has since dissipated and moved on." Canadian Natural Resources is one of the largest independent crude oil and natural gas producers in the world and the largest heavy oil producer in Canada. Oil production at the facility has been suspended and it is not yet known when production will resume. The plant's site is about six miles to nine miles (10 to 15 kilometers) south of the community of Fort MacKay, Alberta, where an Aboriginal reserve is based. The company said investigators from the Energy Resources Conservation Board and the Environment Department were headed to the site. However, the company said monitoring stations were showing that air quality in the region was classified as good. Briar Crutchfield, a spokeswoman with Alberta Occupational Health and Safety, said the department will also investigate once the fire is out. Canadian Natural Resources is already facing charges from an earlier incident in April 2007 when two foreign workers from China died when a tank they were working on collapsed. Those charges are scheduled to be heard in court later this year.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-01-07/4-injured-in-fire-at-oilsands-plant.html>

### USA, GUAM, JANUARY 8 2011. USCG: NO LEAKS AS "BIG BLUE" FUEL RECOVERY CONTINUES

Kevin Kerrigan

The U.S. Coast Guard reports that as of Friday afternoon, the largest diesel fuel tank aboard the half sunk dry dock known as "Big Blue" had been emptied of all diesel fuel, without any leakage. In a release the USCG reports that Guam Shipyard workers successfully transferred approximately 11,000 gallons of diesel fuel onto the tug "Marianas Voyager" and the work was completed ahead of schedule. The diesel fuel tank held the largest quantity of known fuel aboard Big Blue. The Coast Guard says that Guam Shipyard is now moving forward with plans to remove the oily waste water from the machinery area

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which is still submerged. The release states that Guam Shipyard Friday bought 5 new pumps in order to increase their ability to remove more water from the dry dock. The USCG release is printed in its entirety below:

*As of Friday afternoon Guam Shipyard successfully transferred approximately 11,000 gallons of diesel fuel onto the tug Marianas Voyager, emptying the diesel fuel tank aboard Big Blue ahead of schedule. To date this tank is the largest known quantity of fuel aboard Big Blue. With the diesel fuel removed from Big Blue, Guam Shipyard is now moving forward with plans to remove oily waste water from the machinery space that is still submerged. Guam Shipyard has purchased five new pumps today in a determined effort to increase their ability to remove more water from the drydock. The Coast Guard and Guam Shipyard continue to work closely on recovery efforts ensuring safety for all involved remains the number one priority. The Pacific Strike Team, a Coast Guard group of highly trained members who specialize in incident management and rapid response to these types of events, continues to assist Coast Guard Sector Guam and Guam Shipyard with the safe removal of the remaining oily water and waste products. Navy Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron 25 (HSC-25) was also on scene today to take aerial photos of Big Blue and the surrounding area. No signs of oil in the water or hazards to navigation have been reported at this time. U. S. Coast Guard Sector Guam continues to urge all commercial and recreational boating traffic to remain vigilant while transiting near "Big Blue." To report any debris or signs of oil in the water call the Sector Guam Command Center at 671-564-USCG.*

[http://www.pacificnewscenter.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=10521:uscg-no-leaks-as-qbig-blue-fuel-recovery-continues&catid=45:guam-news&Itemid=156](http://www.pacificnewscenter.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=10521:uscg-no-leaks-as-qbig-blue-fuel-recovery-continues&catid=45:guam-news&Itemid=156)

### USA, TX, DALAS, JANUARY 8 2011. EASTBOUND LANES ON I-30 REOPEN AFTER FIERY CRASH WEST OF DOWNTOWN DALLAS

*matt peterson*

 **Watch the Video:**

<http://www.dallasnews.com/sharedcontent/dws/news/city/downtowndallas/stories/010811dnmeti30crash.8e78ba07.html>

 **Watch the Video:** <http://jalopnik.com/5727958/burning-tanker-truck-sends-flames-100-feet-into-air>

 **Slideshow** [http://www.dallasnews.com/sharedcontent/dws/pt/slideshows/2011/01/pho\\_010711\\_tanker/](http://www.dallasnews.com/sharedcontent/dws/pt/slideshows/2011/01/pho_010711_tanker/)



A fuel tanker crashed and burned on Interstate 30 early this morning, shutting down both sides of the freeway west of downtown Dallas. By 6:30 a.m., the highway's westbound lanes had reopened between Hampton Road and Sylvan Avenue, and by 9:30 all but one eastbound lane had reopened. Hours after the 1:30 a.m. crash, cleanup crews were sopping up 7,800 gallons of gasoline and about 950 gallons of diesel, some of which spilled into nearby Coombs Creek. "We don't know exactly how much got into the creek," Dallas-Fire Rescue spokesman Jason Evans said. The crash was apparently caused when an eastbound white sedan changing lanes struck a second semi, causing it to veer into the tanker. The tanker then crashed into the concrete wall dividing the main lanes from the HOV lane. The resulting fire spread into the westbound lanes and burned the tanker down to its frame. Three people were taken to Methodist Dallas Medical Center: the 35-year-old man driving the truck and two women in the car. None of their injuries were thought to be life-threatening.

The traffic backup stretched for miles during the morning rush hour.

<http://www.dallasnews.com/sharedcontent/dws/news/city/downtowndallas/stories/010811dnmeti30crash.8e78ba07.html>

### NIGERIA, LAGOS, JANUARY 8 2011. DUTCH MP SHOCKED BY DEVASTATION IN NIGER DELTA

*hélène michaud*



"I'm shocked at what I've seen in the Delta. The devastation caused by the oil spills is enormous. I've read about it and viewed some footage, but being there and standing in the crude oil myself made a huge impression on me. I've travelled a lot throughout Africa but I've never seen this amount of devastation." Dutch (opposition) Labour Party MP Sjoera Dijkers has just spent four days in Nigeria's oil-rich Delta, in preparation for a parliamentary hearing on Royal Dutch Shell's activities there.

#### **Complex Situation**

Ms. Dijkers, a former activist with non-governmental organisations, told Radio Netherlands Worldwide that her visit made her realise the complexity of the situation,

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adding "shades of gray" to her picture of the Delta region. She said she almost longed for her activist days, "when companies were bad and NGO's were good." On January 26, environmental, human rights, and scientific research organisations, along with representatives of Royal Dutch Shell plc, the main petroleum company in the Niger Delta, will be heard and questioned by Dutch parliamentarians. They will try to find out who should be held responsible for the extensive environmental degradation in that region.

### **"Open Mind"**

Ms Dijkers intends to take part in the discussions with an "open mind". "I'm not biased at all. But I've seen that Shell is by far not doing enough, and I've seen myself that the government, to say the least, is not helping. They are only making things worse. Most people who bunker(tap) oil illegally get military protection, which is a sign that government officials are very much involved and making huge amounts of money out of it." "There's no very reliable data available and everybody's telling you a different part of their story. So I have to digest all of this to get the whole picture and draw my own conclusions," she adds. Ms Dijkers, who mentioned that she had paid herself for her trip, was preceded in the Niger Delta by another member of the opposition, Sharon Gesthuizen (Socialist Party). Both lawmakers say they were shocked after flying above polluted parts of the Ogoni region and speaking with farmers who can no longer cultivate their land because of oil spills.

### **Can the Dutch Parliament Make a Difference?**

"I wish I could say yes, but I can only be a tiny, tiny part of the solution. If we could help get rid of the devastation in the Niger Delta by putting pressure on Shell and the local government, that would be great," she says. What kind of pressure? "I don't know right now. It would be fantastic if the outcome of the hearing would be that our parliament would end up investigating the activities of Shell in Nigeria, if a commission could come up with an independent view of the situation," says Ms. Dijkers. During her brief visit, Ms. Dijkers says she became aware that Nigerians in the Delta were more concerned about their livelihoods than environmental degradation. "And that's something that we have to bear in mind as well when we come up with solutions for the people here. It's not up to me to dictate what should be happening on the ground. If cleaning up is not their primary concern and they have other concerns, then it would be good to look into that instead of pushing my own western agenda."

### **Anger**

Ms. Dijkers is grabbed with emotion when she answers our last question: Why should the Dutch parliament care about the Niger Delta? "Shell is a Dutch company. If I didn't care I wouldn't have gone into politics... The oil that they get from there is put in my car. And I want to see that what I put in my car is not destroying somebody's livelihood. That's something I don't want to accept. I'm very, very upset about that, I'm very angry." "The world is watching," a Nigerian newspaper wrote about what actions Ms. Dijkers and her fellow MP's will take.

### **Related Stories**

- [Niger Delta Conference: no clout](#)
- [Dutch court to try Shell for Nigerian pollution](#)
- [Shareholders bombard Shell with questions about Nigeria](#)
- [Flaming protest at Shell headquarters](#)
- [Nigerian militants attack Shell pipelines](#)

<http://www.rnw.nl/africa/article/dutch-mp-shocked-devastation-niger-delta>

### **UK, SUSSEX, MARKWELLS WOOD, JANUARY 8 2011. OIL FOUND IN SMALL ENGLISH VILLAGE'S ANCIENT WOODLAND**

A small British village has been dubbed the "Texas of England" after a European oil company announced it has discovered a £345 million (\$532 million) oil reserve in nearby woodland. Northern Petroleum said Thursday that drilling in Markwells Wood in West Sussex, southern England, had yielded oil and the company would now drill 4528 feet (1380 metres) in the hope of producing between 35 million and 61 million barrels of oil. The company's managing director, Derek Musgrove, described the discovery as "encouraging" and said the find should enhance the value of Northern Petroleum's "other undeveloped discoveries and exploration prospects" in the UK.

<http://www.heraldsun.com.au/news/breaking-news/oil-found-in-small-english-villages-ancient-woodland/story-e6frf7jx-1225984108856>

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