



Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network Release 2011 – 732 Newsy Stuff

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

July 19 2011



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FRANCE, AIX-EN-PROVENCE, JULY 10 2011. TOTAL NO LONGER IN EXCLUSIVE TALKS ON LINDSEY SALE, CEO SAYS



Total SA, Europe's largest oil refiner, is no longer in exclusive discussions to sell its Lindsey refinery in the U.K. and there are several bidders involved in the process, Total said today. The sale process for the facility will be slightly delayed, Chief Executive Officer Christophe de Margerie said at an event in Aix-en-Provence. De Margerie previously indicated he wanted to complete the transaction by the end of last year, and Chief Financial Officer Patrick de la Chevardiere said in April that the disposal would be "a matter of one or two months." With the sale of Lindsey, Total would complete a plan to cut capacity by about one-fifth, or 500,000 barrels a day. The French oil company this year sold its 49 percent stake in Cia. Espanola de Petroleos SA for 3.97 billion euros (\$5.66 billion). Last year it shut its Dunkirk plant in France and entered a refining and marketing venture with ERG SpA in Italy. De Margerie also said that Total intends to pursue asset sale plans for 2011. These were previously expected to be worth about \$10 billion this year, although de Margerie declined to reiterate that target today.

<http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/g/a/2011/07/08/bloomberg1376-LO2LDV6JTSE801-71VAR8L209U25PGQ7O4GJ9FVPP.DTL>

USA, W.VA, STEALEY, JULY 10 2011. STATE, FEDERAL INVESTIGATORS LOOK INTO STEALEY FIREWORKS ACCIDENT >> CLARKSBURG POLICE SAY THE PYROTECHNICIAN HAD NO LICENSES FOR THE DISPLAY.

 **Watch the Video** <http://www.wboy.com/story.cfm?func=viewstory&storyid=102943>

 **Watch the Video** [YouTube.com](http://www.youtube.com) - [Stealey Fireworks Explosion](#)

Spectators are supposed to be at least 350 feet away when professional fireworks are set off. But on July 4 at Stealey Pool, residents were only 70 feet away when all the fireworks ignited at once. It's kind of a tradition in Stealey for the community to get together and have their own little fireworks display at the pool. But this year, something went terribly wrong - and now state and federal investigators want to know who's responsible. Video from a Clarksburg resident, linked below, shows the panic as a mixture of consumer and professional grade fireworks ignites at once, showering those near with colorful - and dangerous - sparks. A 78-year-old woman fell while everyone was trying to get away - and she sustained a broken hip and severe bruising from being trampled. Residents on our website are all asking - where was the regulation, and why didn't pool board members ensure the safety of those in attendance? Investigator Jason Webber of the Clarksburg Police Department say State Police and Federal investigators want to know, too. Webber and State Police visited the pyrotechnician Thursday. He wasn't home, but they found enough info to get a search warrant - and found both commercial AND professional fireworks in an outbuilding. Professional fireworks are regulated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, and require licenses, none of which the man had acquired. In addition, you have to also check with the state fire marshal, local fire inspector and the city police. Webber said these steps weren't taken either. Webber says the man is looking at multiple misdemeanors through the state, but he says it's unclear whether or not the U.S. Attorney's office would pursue it in a criminal matter. He's facing a \$100 fine and up to 30 days in jail. Webber says he did go visit the elderly woman who was injured on July 4. She's out of surgery and it did go well - she should recover quickly. We'll keep you updated on the investigation.

Related Links

- [WBOY.com - Original Story - Stealey Fireworks Explosion Under Investigation](http://www.wboy.com/story.cfm?func=viewstory&storyid=102943)

<http://www.wboy.com/story.cfm?func=viewstory&storyid=102943>

NIGERIA, RIVERS STATE, AHOADA WEST, ODIEKHE, JULY 10 2011. NIGERIAN TROOPS RAID ILLEGAL 'REFINERIES'



More than 1,000 of the sites were destroyed during the operation.

Nigerian special military forces in Niger Delta on Saturday arrested four suspects after troops raided sites where stolen oil was illegally being "refined", a spokesman for the forces said. Troops of the Joint Military Task Force (JTF), supported by MI-35 helicopter, stormed the large field where the sites were located in Odiekhe community in southern Rivers State, Lieutenant Colonel Timothy Antigha said. JTF arrested the suspects and seized three large wooden boats filled with stolen crude during the raid, Antigha said. More than 1,000 of the sites were destroyed during the operation which lasted for more than six hours, he said. The petroleum products illegally "refined" from such sites are

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sold at cheaper rates than the official pump price. Stealing oil or illegally refining it is called "bunkering" in local parlance. One of the suspects said the crude oil being refined at the illegal sites was procured from the state-run Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation pipeline route along the Oluasiri creeks of the state. "After we load, we bring it to camp and cook (refine) it. We have many customers," he was quoted as saying. Antigha said that after preliminary investigations by the JTF the suspects would be handed over to either the police or the anti-graft agency EFCC. "These suspects are believed to have committed criminal offences, including economic crime by stealing oil," he told AFP. He said that the raid would be sustained to rid the region of oil stealing and other related crimes. "The operation is part of our mandate in the Niger Delta and we are out to end the proliferation of illegal refineries," he said. The JTF took a similar action last March.

Related Links

- [JTF uncovers, destroys 1000 illegal refinery sites in the N-Delta](#)
- [Nigerian troops raid illegal 'refineries'](#)

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5iAlfAo8T-h6Q4KNq4yQ4Nb10DGAw?docId=CNG.6c4645ce2c3aff875cec6a3515475b82.af1>

GHANA, ACCRA, JULY 10 2011. ENGINEER DROWNS IN CRUDE OIL STORAGE TANK

Mr John K. Asemaku, Third Engineer on MT Bonsu-Q, a crude oil storage vessel, got drowned in one of the tanks when he attempted to fix a decoupled hose to a pumping machine on Thursday. A statement from Saltpond Offshore Producing Company Limited (SOPCL), owners of MT Bonsu-Q, said: "As is usual during the rainy season, the seas have been very rough lately and as a result the roll of the MT Bonsu-Q has been significantly higher." It said due to the roll, some quantity of crude oil flowed into the forward peak tanks of MT Bonsu-Q and in order to pump this crude oil back to the main cargo holds the forward peak tanks covers were opened on the 4th of July 2011 so as to vent the tank and evacuate the gas present. The statement said: "This tank is designed in two chambers; an upper, and a lower chamber where the crude oil was lodged. It said at an operational meeting held in the morning of 7th July 2011, Mr Asemaku, who was also the Crew Technical Head, decided to commence pumping the crude oil back to the main tanks with a diaphragm pump. Two out of the three members of the team objected to the operation due to the intensity of the gas present in the area and asked for more time to allow the tank to vent properly. Mr Asemaku over ruled his colleagues and went ahead with Mr James Duncan, the Pump Man, to commence discharging the crude oil from the tank in question. The statement said Mr Asemaku initially succeeded in installing the discharge hose to the pump before coming back up to surface. The hose disconnected after some time and he went back into the tank a second time to fix the hose. When the hose failed again he asked Mr Duncan to enter the tank to continue to try and rectify the problem with the hose as he was tired but he refused and told him that it was still not safe to enter the tank. Mr Asemaku then went in the third time and on sensing the strong presence of gas started scrambling up to the surface but "unfortunately, he was overwhelmed by the gas and fell off the ladder into the tank of crude oil". "The crew mobilized another diaphragm pump and pumping is in progress to recover the body, the statement said. Superintendent Emmanuel O. Narh Odonkor, Mfantseman Municipal Police Commander, confirmed to the GNA that Mr Prince Osei Baffour, a Security Officer of SOPCL, came to report the incident to the Police. He said the Company was in the process of pumping out the crude oil to retrieve the body after which the Police would take possession of it and send it to the morgue for autopsy. Supt. Odonkor said Police investigations have started and early indications point to an industrial accident. The body has since been retrieved.

<http://www.ghananewsagency.org/details/Economics/Engineer-drowns-in-crude-oil-storage-tank/?ci=3&ai=30890>

USA, CA, SACRAMENTO, JULY 10 2011. CREWS FINISHING HAZMAT CLEANUP

sabrina rodriguez

[Watch the Video http://www.fox40.com/news/headlines/ktxl-crews-finishing-hazmat-cleanup-20110709.0.7295264.story](http://www.fox40.com/news/headlines/ktxl-crews-finishing-hazmat-cleanup-20110709.0.7295264.story)

It's been more than two days since a trailer containing around 40 hazardous materials erupted into flames at an Elder Creek Dr. storage yard Wednesday afternoon. Sacramento Fire Department was called out around 8:00am that morning because the trailer was smoking. Since fire crews couldn't determine the material that was smoking it was declared a Level 3 Hazmat situation, which is the highest level. Sac Fire said the company Clean Harbors was in charge of disposing the trailer's contents. The fire department was waiting for Clean Harbors to remove the materials from the trailer so they could determine what was smoking, but then at about 5:15pm Wednesday the trailer went up in flames. Turns out this isn't the first incident Clean Harbors has had. A search into the company's safety history shows Clean Harbor has had multiple environmental violations dating back to 1999. The violations include improperly storing and handling hazardous materials as well as air emissions violations. However, some serious incidents happened more recently. In February 2007 an explosion happened at

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the company's waste facility in Ontario, Canada. In February 2006 a fuel pipe burst at Clean Harbors' waste site in Aragonite, [Utah](#); a worker suffered third-degree burns on 80% of his body. Fortunately, no one was seriously injured in Wednesday's incident, though three people went to the hospital as a precaution after being exposed to the fumes. Two days after the fire, Clean Harbors is on scene to remove the last of the hazardous materials from the trailer that burned. Fire Capt. Robert Marshall said none of the remaining materials are liquids, and are solids. "There are some containers on there, barrels and such," said Marshall. Clean Harbors will repack the containers and move them to a disposal site, according to Marshall. Even though it seems the danger is over fire crews are still on site, standing by. "Just in case this was to ignite again," explained Marshall, "Or somebody got injured and we could go in with emergency (decontamination)." FOX40 tried to get a comment from a Clean Harbors foreman about this incident, the clean up, and their safety history, but were referred to the corporate headquarters in [Massachusetts](#). The company was already closed at that time.

http://www.fox40.com/news/headlines/ktxl-crews-finishing-hazmat-cleanup-20110709_0_7295264_story

NIGERIA, LAGOS, JULY 10 2011. RESIDENTS TO JONATHAN: 'SAVE OUR SOULS FROM NNPC RUPTURED PIPELINES'

ibrahim apekhade yusuf



Mrs Oguntayo's borehole overflowing with fuel.

We don't want to become reference point like the victims of Jesse oil spillage in the Niger Delta, neither do we want to be like the unfortunate victims of Abule Egba and Ejigbo petrol explosions. Mr. President, please, you must do something fast to save us from this clear and present danger of petrol explosion." These were the words of Mr. Patrick Zegar, one of the representatives of the over 4, 000 residents of FHA-Diamond Estate, along LASU Road, Isheri-Olofin, an uptown district of Lagos, as they expressed anguish over their personal safety and security as a result of the threat of fire outbreak from ruptured petroleum pipelines belonging to the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC). Zegar, the Vice President of the Isheri-Olofin Diamond Estate Resident Association (IDERA), who addressed newsmen at the estate premises recently, spoke the minds of the other residents who have constantly lived in perpetual fear of death by petrol-induced explosion

after the last fire outbreaks of December 16th and 17th, which almost engulfed the whole estate as a result of fire from ruptured petroleum pipelines. Speaking earlier, Mr. Samson Adebayo, President of the residents association, who fell short of accusing the NNPC and other quasi-governmental agencies of criminal negligence of their responsibility, described as scandalous the lukewarm attitude of the concerned authorities to the plight of the community whose lives have remained endangered as a result of threat of pipeline explosion. According to him, but for divine intervention and public outcry through the media, the tragic fire outbreak of December 16th and 17th, 2010, would have led to human catastrophe. Adebayo who recalled that the NNPC had promised temporary relief measures like the provision of an industrial water-treatment plant to supply portable drinkable water, stationed fire fighter and security patrol teams and the services of NNPC medical teams/experts to help in healthcare control of the residents, among others, however regretted that none of these measures were provided, a development, he said, has raised concerns among the distraught community members that the authorities may have abandoned them to their fate. Mindful of the dire consequences of maintaining a mute indifference over the clear and present danger that confronts their lives, the residents, Adebayo stressed, decided to publicly cry out to President Goodluck Jonathan. "We are constrained and gripped with fear and deep concern for our lives hence our SOS to Mr. President to save us immediately, for we strongly believe that with the urgent intervention and presidential directives of the presidency, our lives and properties shall be saved", he said, adding that President Jonathan should consider it as a matter of urgency "to pass a presidential order on the newly reappointed Minister of Petroleum, Mrs. Diezeani Allison-Madukwe, to direct NNPC to be proactive to petrol leakages - more so, as it affects lives and properties in Diamond Estate, Lagos." The residents, he further said: "also resolved that because of NNPC's negligence in the Estate, we are demanding compensation of the sum of N20 billion from the NNPC, and the FHA and the Federal Government of Nigeria." At separate interviews with other concerned residents, including Major. Yusuf Abdulkadir (rtd.) the Chief Security Officer of the estate, Olayinka Olorunlogbon, Secretary-General of the estate, Elder Segun Spencer, Mrs. Ronke Abdul and Mrs. Anne Ibeabuchi, they expressed worry that their lives were literally hanging on the precipice as nobody was sure of his or her personal safety and security. Responding to some of these queries, in an email to The Nation, the General Manager, Public Affairs, NNPC, Dr. Livi Ajuonoma said: "As a socially responsible organisation, the NNPC has been able to show that we care. The problem basically has been resolved. The

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sabotaged pipe has been fixed. What remains is the remediation of the environment. We have put everything in place for the remediation exercise which will be carried out soon. We sympathise with them and assure them of our commitment.” In a related development, Mrs. Tolani Odutayo, a resident in the estate, who lives at Road 20, Plot 2, is one of those families badly affected by the adverse effects of the aftermath of the petrol-leakage. Mrs. Odutayo was in the company of her little boy, David, who betraying the innocence of his age was completely oblivious of the goings-on around him, as he gazed listlessly into space listening to her distraught mother share their family's harrowing experiences these past months. According to Mrs. Odutayo, “When we moved into the estate, we were relying on pure water at first, but we decided to sink our borehole the month that he (David) was born. As part of the requirement, we took the sample to the Lagos State Environmental Protection Agency (LASEPA) officials, which certified it (water) drinkable. But in the month of March, 2010, we began to perceive fuel fumes everywhere. But it was unthinkable that there could be fuel in our water. “But in the month of June last year, my house help cried out and said it was only fuel coming out of the tap and when I got there it was fuel but we thought it was just a little. We tried to pump it out but it became obvious that it was not going to stop. So, we disconnected the pipe that went into the overhead tank supplying water into the house. “We have been buying water since then...After the explosion, NNPC has been evacuating almost everyday. Most times, when we go to work we get information that they were here. There are times they came in like three times in a day and they always bring 20, 000 litres tanker. But my argument is that if evacuation is the solution, it would have been done with, but it is still there... “At a point when we were using water from our neighbour's house, to have our bathe we had skin lesions, and we had to visit the General Hospital, at Igando to receive treatment. Life has become very horrible for us. I must confess.” On how it has affected her child, who is just 19 months old, Mrs. Odutayo said: “The fumes makes him cough in the night and there was a time he kept throwing up when the fumes were so much. Since June last year we've been buying water, such that when you get to my house, you'll think I'm selling water. I have about 10 giant bottles of CWay Water just to drink and to cook and all that. “Most times, we have to relocate to friends place when it becomes too unbearable for us as a family. It is that bad because we are living like refugees in our own house”, she lamented. Also sharing his experience, Hon. Avoseh Hodewu-Suru, a lawmaker representing Badagry Constituency (II), at the Lagos State House of Assembly, said the residents in the estate live in constant fear of threat to their personal safety and security. But he regretted that the Federal Government agencies like the NNPC, saddled with the responsibility of addressing the environmental crisis besetting the community are paying a lukewarm attitude to it. Said Hodewu-Suru: “We learnt and have seen that most of our residents here their taps are flowing with petroleum and when I first heard about it, I duly informed the Lagos State Environmental Protection Agency. But there is little they could do, because as you know, petroleum is a federal matter. NNPC and some powerbrokers are behind this vandalisation, if not, the real action should have been taken to forestall re-occurrence. We have been inhaling these gaseous fumes, and God forbid that we die suddenly from a heart disease as a result of this crisis.” Corroborating Hodewu-Suru, Mrs. Modupe Spencer, a resident in the estate and senior medical personnel, said inhaling the gaseous component is as good as smoking, which in itself, is a dangerous scourge on the health and mental wellbeing. “One can attack cancer or any ailment that has to do with the internal organs since it is poisonous to health. We only appeal to the authorities concerned to do, and quickly too”, she warned. When The Nation visited the epicenter of the fire outbreak last December, few meters away from the perimeter fence of the estate, along Isheri-Olofin, the smell of petrol fumes pervaded the air, just there was still vestige of the smoke noticeable on the cracked wall fence and smoldered leaves in the surroundings. The place was scanty but for the presence of a staff of the Nigeria Civil Defence, an immobile fire-fighting truck, over 10 outboard engines for powering generators, a 504 station wagon ambulance, several hose pipes for siphoning fuel and other nondescript objects. However, all efforts to speak with Mr. Olaniyan Olutoyin, Security officer attached to Ejigbo NNPC, proved abortive, as he claimed to be acting on the orders of his bosses at the NNPC, saying nobody was allowed admittance to the site. Gulf of Mexico oil spillage in the USA saw the British Petroleum paying several billions dollars in compensation to the victims of the oil spill. But whether the residents of the FHA-Diamond Estate will ever get that lucky is a matter of conjecture.

<http://www.thenationonline.net/2011/index.php/news/11940-residents-to-jonathan%E2%80%99save-our-souls-from-annpc-ruptured-pipelines%E2%80%99.html>

USA, LA, PLAQUEMINE, JULY 10 2011. JUDGE RULES AGAINST DOW >> COMPANY HELD LIABLE IN VINYL CHLORIDE CONTAMINATION

koran addo

The Dow Chemical Co. is now on the hook to clean up a groundwater supply in the Plaquemine area after a state judge found that the company has contaminated the aquifer through its negligence. At issue is the Upper Plaquemine Aquifer, a groundwater supply that has tested positive for the vinyl chloride carcinogen several times dating back to 1997, court records

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show. In the class-action lawsuit filed on the behalf of several thousand landowners between Bayou Plaquemine and Dow's Plaquemine facility, attorneys including Rob Marionneaux argued that Dow contaminated the area's ground water through a series of chemical spills and leaks dating back 20 years. "It's one of the worst environmental disasters in Louisiana's history," Marionneaux said Friday. At the conclusion of the 25 days of testimony in 18th Judicial District Court, state ad hoc Judge Jerome M. Winsberg ruled that Dow is responsible for cleaning up the "threat to public health." Dow has denied being the source of the contamination since it first became public in 2001. On Friday, Dow spokeswoman Stacey Chiasson responded further in a statement saying the company "strongly disagrees" with the allegations. "Dow will evaluate the court's ruling further and will continue to vigorously defend the case," Chiasson said. Near the end of the two-page ruling issued late last month, the judge writes that the most feasible way to deal with the contamination is through a process called Monitored Natural Attenuation, or MNA. MNA is a process where naturally occurring bacteria breaks down the vinyl chloride eventually mitigating the contaminant's threat to public safety, court records show. While still denying culpability in the contamination, Chiasson said Dow is committed to being a good neighbor, and has worked with both state and federal agencies since 2004 in implementing the MNA process in the Plaquemine area. Dow also has voluntarily installed 19 test wells in the area and has worked with the state to monitor vinyl chloride levels in the groundwater on a quarterly basis, she said. "We've told this community from the beginning that we would be part of the solution no matter the source of contamination," added Sharon Cole, Dow's Louisiana operations site director. "We understand that because of our technical expertise and long history of engagement, our community expects us to be part of the solution," Cole said. Cole further said that tests have shown that vinyl chloride levels have decreased and the area of contamination hasn't expanded. But Marionneaux disputed that claim Friday, saying other tests taken as recently as last year have shown the contamination is expanding south toward wells owned by the city of Plaquemine. When the two sides meet in front of the judge next month to discuss how to proceed with the cleanup, Marionneaux said he plans to argue for a more aggressive monitoring approach suggested by the state. Marionneaux said additional monitoring wells need to be installed and water samples should be tested on a monthly, and not quarterly, basis. All parties involved need to focus on the long term, he said, because it could be several years before the contamination's health effects are understood.

<http://theadvocate.com/news/westside/328574-64/judge-rules-against-dow.html>

USA, N.C, HALIFAC CO, ENFIELD, JULY 10 2011. FIRE NO END FOR ENFIELD FERTILIZER PLANT

geoffrey cooper

 **Watch the Video** <http://www.wral.com/news/local/story/9840562/>

 **Photo's** <http://www.firefightingnews.com/article-us.cfm?articleID=98135>



An Enfield fertilizer plant is in ruins after a Friday night blaze engulfed the wooden facility, setting off several explosions throughout the night. Close to 60 firefighters from five departments spent more than 10 hours trying to contain the towering flames at the Halifax Fertilizer Co., located at 1107 S. Dennis St. in Enfield. Authorities said it took local firefighters until 7 a.m. Saturday to stop the flames completely. By that time, the 18,000-square-foot building – which was nearly 40 years old – was completely destroyed. Plant employees were not present when the fire started, and authorities reported no injuries. Enfield Fire Chief Ronnie Locke said in a telephone interview that a call was received about the blaze at 9:09 p.m. Friday. Firefighters from Enfield, Whitakers, Halifax, Scotland Neck and Darlington started arriving at the scene by 9:14 p.m. Upon arrival, Locke said the

crews had to briefly retreat and regroup because of two to four explosions caused by flames reaching acetylene and oxygen tanks, oil drums and diesel fuel on the plant property. He said there's a possibility the fire started at the rear of the building near the plant's shop area. No one worked in the shop area Friday, Locke said. Locke said the fire was more challenging because tankers were low on water and hydrants were located 900 feet off the road from the fire. He said the smoke could be seen from miles away, and firefighters had to evacuate residents from 7 to 10 homes until midnight. Authorities said that the fire and any runoff posed no immediate threat to the plant's neighbors. Despite the fire's intensity, Locke said crews were able to keep flames away from ammonia tanks located on the plant site, as well as three to four industries in the vicinity, including a nearby chemical plant – Helena Chemical Co. "When those things exploded, that's when the fire really took off," Locke said. "We're waiting now for (the plant) to cool off to find out what really happened. You still have electrical stuff that was in that area. We'll just have to get in and see if it was an electrical fire or what." Locke said the plant's owner, Kip Everette, plans to

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rebuild the facility. Everette declined to comment on Friday night's fire. Officials from the Environmental Protection Agency also will assess the plant site for any possible environmental hazards, Locke said. "Kip said he wants to build it back, just as it was," Locke said. "He's just waiting for the insurance company to clean things up. He said he wants to start it back, because he knows we don't need to lose anymore jobs."

<http://www.rockymounttelegram.com/news/official-fire-no-end-enfield-fertilizer-plant-568303>

USA, MT, BILLINGS, JULY 10 2011. EPA UPDATE ON YELLOWSTONE RIVER OIL SPILL (Silvertip Pipeline), Week 1

allen matthew

On July 6th EPA issued ExxonMobil an administrative order instructing them to provide information on the circumstances of the spill, conduct appropriate recovery and remediation actions, and perform ongoing environmental sampling. The order also requires ExxonMobil to provide a work plan which is currently being reviewed by the state of Montana, EPA, and other agency partners. Once approved, the work plan will be publicly available. Preliminary testing results of water samples indicate there are no detections above drinking water standards; we will be providing data over the weekend. There are 3 water systems in the affected area: Billings, Lakewood, and Laurel. Additionally, EPA will be conducting indoor air sampling at residences impacted by the spill and will continue to coordinate domestic well water testing. "The biggest challenge right now is the river itself, we have boats in shallow and slack waters but the water is too high and moving too fast to safely place boats in the main river channel," said Steve Merritt, EPA On Scene Coordinator in charge of the cleanup. "There are more than 550 personnel on scene, and approximately 350 personnel are in the field right now working on this cleanup." Crews are actively working on 30 areas of recoverable oil along the river and in backwaters. We clean each pocket as it becomes accessible. Those that aren't accessible are being monitored via air every day. Reconnaissance has gone 150 miles downstream and the furthest identified oil staining on the banks was about 70 miles, while the furthest spotting of possible foam was about 80 miles. EPA is holding another public meeting in Laurel, MT on Tuesday, July 12. The location and time of the meeting will be announced within the next 24 hours. There will be a second media availability session tomorrow at 11 a.m. The session will be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, located at 27 North 27th Street in Billings, Conference Room 5 (3rd floor). EPA staff and other Unified Command representatives will offer updates and field questions from media representatives.

<http://www.epa.gov/yellowstoneriverspill>

USA, TX, CELINA, JULY 13 2011. FIREWORKS TEAM PREPARES SHOW VERY CAREFULLY



Glenn Kszyminski, left, and Larry Jergins of Western Enterprises put the finishing touches on firework shells for Celina's annual firework show last Saturday night. The fireworks were detonated at least one-half mile behind Old Celina Park on land owned by Rex Glendenning.

The sparkles and star bursts dancing in the sky over Celina last Saturday night were the results of a team of men from Western Enterprises in Carrier, Oklahoma. The crew spent a day in the summer heat in the middle of a field behind Old Celina Park preparing the explosives for the show that followed the water slide event on July 2. Larry Jergins, Doug and Bradley Bryant and Glenn Kszyminski spent hours wiring explosives and carefully placing them in rubber tubes in preparation for the show. Team leader Jergins was ever mindful of safety during the preparation process. He waved away the city manager's truck when he drove too close to the work area. He repeatedly warned the Celina Record reporter and others not to lean over to look into the rubber tubes containing the shells. "If that one-in-a-million chance happened and the thing went off as you were leaning over it it would decapitate you," he said. A dramatic statement like that tends to inspire obedience. It's also a true statement. Jergins has been putting together firework displays for 36 years. Bradley Bryant lowered shells into their rubber cannons slowly and gingerly. He said he was always glad when that part of the task was over with. Their efforts resulted in a spectacular fireworks

display that lasted nearly 30 minutes on Saturday night. Multi-colored lights burst into thousands of points of lights and fluttered out over and over, repeating themselves in the reflection of the fishing pond in Old Celina Park. Among the firework displays performed all over North Texas on Saturday and Monday nights, Celina enjoyed one of the best ones.

http://www.celinarecord.com/articles/2011/07/12/celina_record/news/035.txt

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CHINA, BEIJING, JULY 13 2011. CHINA'S CNOOC CLEANING UP SECOND OIL SPILL

China National Offshore Oil Corporation, which was recently accused of covering up a huge spill, is cleaning up another slick after a breakdown at a rig off the northeast coast, officials said Tuesday. The oil giant is trying to contain the spill covering an area measuring one square kilometre (0.4 square miles) in Bohai Bay, the State Oceanic Administration said -- the third accident to hit CNOOC in recent weeks. A small amount of oil leaked into the water after the Suizhong 36-1 field central control system broke down on Tuesday, it added. In a statement, CNOOC said the leak was "minor", adding the remaining scattered oil sheen was expected to be cleaned up within the day. CNOOC has been slammed by state media and green groups over a massive spill in the same area which was detected on June 4 but was only made public nearly a month later. CNOOC said last week the 840-square-kilometre slick was "basically under control" while ConocoPhillips told reporters the leaks had been plugged. But the oceanic administration said oil was still seeping into the sea at the weekend and ConocoPhillips China has been ordered to find and seal the leaking sources "as soon as possible". Chinese media reported Tuesday. The June spill has caused alarm in neighbouring South Korea, which called on Beijing to swiftly provide information on the leaking rig. "I think it would be conscientious of China to provide immediate information on the matter and possible outcomes to neighbouring nations," Foreign Ministry spokesman Cho Byung-jae told reporters. In a separate incident, a CNOOC refinery in the southern province of Guangdong caught fire early Monday but there were no casualties, the company said, adding the cause of the blaze was still under investigation. The refinery is located about 40 kilometres (25 miles) from the Daya Bay nuclear power plant, the official Xinhua news agency said.

Related Links

[CNOOC's new oil spill in Bohai Bay](#)

[New oil spill reported off northern China coast](#)

http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5hUyk9ixMSBijz_UWfxtit-lwXNIQ?docId=CNG.429f3d622aec14b4c07ec0f2d75f5ddb.301

AUSTRALIA, WESTERN AUSTRALIA, FITZROY CROSSING, JULY 13 2011. FUEL SPILL CLOSES GREAT NORTHERN HIGHWAY

daniel mercer

Traffic has been brought to a standstill on a section of the Kimberley's major highway after a tanker rolled, spilling fuel over the road. Sgt Julie Hanson said the Great Northern Highway was closed in both directions between Derby and Fitzroy Crossing. It comes after a fuel tanker crashed about 90km west of Fitzroy Crossing near the Ellendale roadhouse. Sgt Hanson said the incident had forced the closure of the road and the absence of any diversion routes meant it would remain closed for up to four hours. Motorists travelling through the area, in what is traditionally one of the busiest times of the year, have been advised

<http://au.news.yahoo.com/thewest/a/-/breaking/9826954/fuel-spill-closes-great-northern-highway/>

USA, MT, BILLINGS, JULY 13 2011. SOIL SAMPLES BEING TAKEN FOR OIL CONTAMINATION

nicole grigg

 Watch the Video <http://www.kulr8.com/news/local/Soil-Samples-being-Taken-for-Oil-Contamination--125465903.html>



Crews responding to the oil spill made good progress Tuesday, cleaning up more oil than all the previous days combined. That gave scientists a chance to get out and collect soil and sediment samples, something landowners have been waiting for. Four different teams from the URS Operating Services came in to help collect dozens of samples. For the first time since the spill, tests are being done on landowners properties. A two-member team of environmental scientists out of Denver, Colorado showed up to Sue McBurney's property to take soil samples Tuesday evening. McBurney and her husband own 20 acres of land that was soaked in crude oil when the ExxonMobil pipeline burst July 1, 2011. She said the oil destroyed most of her hay crop, "some of they hay we weren't able to cut because of the flooding, and then the oil came and so we won't be able to cut it at all this year." She said she still has dozens of questions. "We're concerned about

water quality, with our well water and just the long term impact on the ground and the hay," said McBurney. ExxonMobil said they've visited more than 100 homes to start answering some of those questions. "Our goal is to continue face to face dialogue with as many people as we can in the areas primarily affected," said ExxonMobil spokesman, George Pietrogallo. Scientists

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will examine the soil to determine what types of chemicals could be there from the spill. McBurney said although the EPA has hired people to take soil samples, she still plans to get her own. "We'll probably hire someone independently to check that and probably not just now, but repeatedly over a course of years," said MacBurney. After each sample is taken, they are put on ice to help preserve the chemicals inside the soil and then taken to a lab to be examined. Results are expected 24 hours later. After each sample, crews clean the equipment to make sure it won't contaminate other samples. McBurney said she's hopeful that ExxonMobil will keep its word and help fully restore her property. The EPA will continue to take air and water samples as well. The governor is still urging homeowners to take their own soil samples.

<http://www.kulr8.com/news/local/Soil-Samples-being-Taken-for-Oil-Contamination--125465903.html>

USA, IA, BLAKESBURG, JULY 13 2011. FIRE CHIEF: FIRE WAS A NIGHTMARE

james buechele

 **Watch the Video** <http://www.heartlandconnection.com/news/story.aspx?id=638388>



Details of the Blakesburg fire continue to come days after the blaze. KTVO spoke with special agent Jeff Shatzer of the Iowa state fire marshall. Shatzer says the investigation is still ongoing but the fire is deemed not suspicious. A tanker truck carrying gasoline and diesel fuel exploded while Brent Hutzell, 53, of Grimes, Iowa, was unloading fuel. Blakesburg Fire Chief Steve West, who was one of the first responders to the scene, says despite the amount of firefighters in the town, communication was excellent. "We actually had pretty fairly good communication with most of the departments," said West. West said that many firefighters, himself included, had never battled a fire like the one Friday. Despite training, the real thing was a different monster. "You wake up to a nightmare that's what it is." The Blakesburg fire department now has a copy of the footage from Friday. West believes the video will be a great training tool for firefighters in the area. "We're hoping that people will be able to see the amount

of the shock wave, understand how big the fireballs can be from the explosion. We had four or five different explosions out of that. I think a lot of potential would be people knowing what can't happen and what can happen."

 **Related Links** [Tanker truck explodes](http://www.heartlandconnection.com/news/story.aspx?id=639737)

<http://www.heartlandconnection.com/news/story.aspx?id=639737>

USA, KY, FLEMING CO, FLEMINGSBURG, JULY 13 2011. TANKER ROLLS OVER, LEAKS FLAMMABLE MATERIAL

 **Watch the Video** http://www.maysville-online.com/news/local/article_8bc6f38c-acda-11e0-a341-001cc4c002e0.html



Hank Saylor Jr. of Georgetown, driving a tanker truck, lost control of the vehicle on Hillsboro Road, Kentucky 111, in Fleming County Tuesday. Hazmat personnel from Maysville and EPA from Ashland were called in to help contain and clean up the resulting diesel and gas spill. Saylor was transported to Fleming County Hospital by ambulance.

A Fleming County road was closed Tuesday after a tanker, carrying flammable materials, drove off the road and overturned. A portion of Kentucky 111, also known as Hillsboro Road in Fleming County was shut down on Tuesday afternoon when a large tanker, hauling diesel and gasoline, wrecked, spilling the contents of its load onto the ground. According to officials, the tanker, driven by 38-year-old Hank Saylor Jr. of Georgetown failed to negotiate a curve on the highway. The tanker then drove off the right shoulder of the road and rolled multiple times, destroying the cab and damaging the trailer to the point that its contents began to leak. The fuel run-off impacted the ground of a nearby residence. A fence was also destroyed by the accident, said Kentucky State Police officials. According to local authorities, Saylor, an independent truck driver, was hauling a load for Lewis Transport of Columbia. Due to his injuries, he was taken by emergency medical services to Fleming County Hospital; his condition was unknown at press time. Besides local officials, a hazardous materials squad from Maysville was called to the scene to control the fuel leak. The Environmental Protection Agency division located in Ashland was also notified and arrived on scene to assess damage to the land surrounding the area. A trench was dug around the area to monitor the flow of the fuel as it leaked from an opening in the tanker. Due to the presence of potentially flammable fumes and the risk of fire, those on scene were asked by officials to stay 1,000 feet from the site of the accident. By late

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afternoon, the roadway was still closed and officials with the Kentucky Transportation Cabinet District 9 office in Flemingsburg, said they expected it to remain closed into the evening hours.

http://www.maysville-online.com/news/local/article_8bc6f38c-acda-11e0-a341-001cc4c002e0.html

USA, WI, DE PERE, JULY 13 2011. DE PERE GAS STATION CRASH >> 20 GALLONS OF GAS LEAKED ONTO THE GROUND >> POLICE LOOKING FOR MAN IN A DARK COLORED SUV

De Pere police are looking for a suspect connected to a hit and run at a gas station early Tuesday morning. Officials say a man in a SUV backed up into a pump and knocked out a gas line at the Riverside Shell gas station on South Broadway. Twenty gallons of gas leaked onto the ground. Gas station employees and fire crews were able to control the oil and the fumes. Officials say there was never any danger to the public. Authorities say two men, ages 18-20 years old, were involved. They were traveling in a dark colored SUV. If you have any information you're asked to call the police at (920) 339-4078.

<http://www.fox11online.com/dpp/news/de-pere-gas-station-crash>

USA, CT, OXFORD, JULY 13 2011. OXFORD STILL MONITORING SCHOOL'S GROUNDWATER FOLLOWING OIL SPILL



An oil spill that occurred back in 2006 at Quaker Farms School, which has since been reduced to trace amounts of oil in bedrock, must still be monitored, until the DEEP says otherwise. Oxford officials must continue to have the water monitored at and around [Quaker Farms School](#), due to an oil spill that occurred there in 2006, until further notice from the state Department of Energy & Environmental Protection. That was the word Monday from the Quaker Farms Oil Spill Remediation Committee, which, through a letter from the newly named DEEP (it was formerly known as the Department of Environmental Protection), learned they will have to continue quarterly monitoring of the wells at the school, rather than semi-annually, which the committee had asked for. Russell Dirienzo, a consultant for the monitoring company Arcadis, which the committee has been

working with for the last few years, said there is only "trace amounts" of oil that remains in some bedrock on the property, which he said poses no public health or safety risks. Dirienzo has been working in conjunction with the DEEP in the remediation efforts. "We're continuing to do everything we need to do, as required by the (DEEP)," Dirienzo said. "The oil in the rock is extremely minimal. The kids and the public are not at risk." Dirienzo said the DEEP will likely allow less frequent monitoring and sampling of the well water beginning next year, doing it on a "semi-annual" basis, as opposed to quarterly. Arcadis, based in Sandy Hook and previously known as LFR, has been monitoring the site since the spill occurred in November 2006. According to a published report in the [Valley Independent Sentinel](#), some 2,950 gallons of oil spilled into the ground, which was nearly half the oil contained in the 6,000 gallon underground tank. Officials said the spill was caused by a 10-inch crack in the fiberglass tank, likely caused by the tank's placement on top of crushed stone. The town is currently in litigation with the company, whose name was not immediately available, that installed the tank, hoping to recoup some of the \$500,000-plus price tag associated with remediation efforts. The DEEP also fined the town \$13,000 for the spill, citing the school district's failure to comply with regulations regarding underground oil tanks. In 2009, the town was reimbursed about \$217,000 from a state education grant for some of the clean-up costs. Oil remediation committee member Ed Roman said the group continues to try and recoup more of the overall cost, and had hoped the DEEP would approve its request to reduce the scope of the monitoring. The committee, also at its meeting Monday, unanimously approved the annual contract for Arcadis, at a cost of \$24,250, to continue stringent monitoring of the area. First Selectman Mary Ann Drayton-Rogers said Monday that the Board of Selectmen had approved Arcadis' contract, contingent on the committee giving its stamp of approval. "Monitoring is required until DEP says it is no longer necessary," she said. "The oil is minuscule in rock, if there is any left." Since the spill occurred, the old underground fiberglass tank was replaced by an above ground metal tank, pumps were installed to filter out and treat any remaining oil in the water, and monitoring and testing of the water and air has regularly occurred, with the results reported on a regular basis to the DEEP. In a letter to the committee dated back to March, DEEP officials said the town will need to continue to monitor the site where the spill occurred until it is in total compliance under the DEEP's Remediation Standard Regulations. "The conditions that caused the reporting of significant hazard appear to have been mitigated, or under control, at this point," stated Camille Fontanella, an environmental analyst with the DEEP's Remediation Division, in the letter, adding that monitoring must continue until absolutely no more traces of oil are found.

<http://oxford-ct.patch.com/articles/oxford-stil-monitoring-schools-groundwater-following-oil-spill>

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AUSTRALIA, NEW SOUTH WALES, POLKOBIN, JULY 13 2011. VAPOURS LED TO WELDER'S DEATH AT WINERY

▶ **Watch the Video** ['Systemic safety failures' blamed for winery explosion](#)



A skilled welder who died with a winemaker in an explosion was not told the tank he was working on contained highly-flammable liquid, a coroner has found. NSW Deputy State Coroner Hugh Dillon said the winery's operators did not tell Edgar Orgo about the liquid, no warning signs were on the tank and he did not conduct his own checks. He found Mr Orgo, 59, and winemaker Trevor Drayton, 52, died during an explosion caused by ethanol vapours igniting when heated during welding operations. Assistant winemaker, William Rikard-Bell, was severely burned in the blast on January 17, 2008, at Drayton's Winery at Pokolbin in the Hunter Valley. The coroner said Mr Orgo, a highly skilled and experienced tradesman employed by Perfab Engineering Pty Ltd, began installing dimple

plates to some winery tanks on January 7. On January 9, the winery received a consignment of 9000 litres of a grape spirit known as SVR - spirits vinous rectificatus - a form of ethanol. This was pumped into Tank 104 in the general production area, but the coroner found that no safety placard identifying the hazardous contents was placed on the tank. A note was made on a whiteboard in the winery laboratory but "no other special measures appear to have been taken by anyone at the winery to safely store the SVR" or to warn of its presence. The coroner said Mr Drayton and Mr Rikard-Bell probably "simply forgot to speak to Mr Orgo" about the SVR, being "very busy planning and organising for the new vintage". They may have been so preoccupied with other issues "that they did not pay much attention to what he was doing". The winery had not adopted any specific procedures designed to prevent ignition of SVR and had no special tanks for SVR nor a designated secure area, Mr Dillon said. "There was also no OH&S manual in use at the winery at the time of the explosion," he added. A site risk assessment conducted by Mr Orgo and his offsider at the start of the job seems to have been done "in a manner which spoke of self-confidence developed through many years of incident-free work". They did not appear to have interrogated winery staff or made other checks about the state of the tanks or their contents, the coroner said. He noted that since the explosion, both the winery and Perfab had addressed safety issues. He recommended that the WorkCover Authority of NSW consider conducting a one-off publicity campaign, reminding wineries of the risks associated with the storage and use of ethanol. "Consideration of a similar campaign in the metal fabrication industry is also recommended." The coroner further recommended that the authority consider developing a simple and practical method of bringing the Notification of Dangerous Goods requirements to the attention of purchasers of such items.

▶ **Related Links**

- [Winery deaths caused by vapours igniting](#)
- [Family moving on after winery blast inquest](#)
- [No warning before deadly winery blast](#)
- [Vapours led to welder's death at winery](#)
- [Winery deaths of Trevor Drayton and Edgar Orgo caused by vapours igniting](#)

<http://news.smh.com.au/breaking-news-national/vapours-led-to-welders-death-at-winery-20110713-1hd6h.html>

CYPRUS, EVANGELOS FLOAKIS NAVAL BASE. JULY 13 2011. ANGER GROWS IN CYPRUS OVER 'CRIMINAL ERRORS' BEHIND EXPLOSION

▶ **Watch the Video** <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-europe-14115103>

▶ **Watch the Video** [12 dead in Cyprus arms blast](#)



The damaged power station, which produces 60 per cent of the country's electricity. Protests were growing in Cyprus over "criminal errors" said to have caused an explosion at its main naval base and the destruction of the island's biggest power plant. Twelve people died, including the commanders both of the [Cypriot](#) navy, Andreas Ioannides, and of the Evangelos Florakis naval base, Lambros Lambrou, when 98 barrels containing confiscated Iranian explosives and other munitions caught fire on Monday. Residents of the island called for a street protest in the capital Nicosia after it became clear that the government had repeatedly been warned that the arms depot was unsafe. Police in riot gear fired several rounds of teargas outside the palace, a sprawling compound in central Nicosia, the capital,

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after crowds burst through an outer gate of the compound. Chanting slogans demanding the resignation of the president, some demonstrators, including right-wing nationalists, threw stones at police guarding one compound exit. Police responded with teargas and stun grenades. Two witnesses put the number of protesters at about 2,000. Protesters claimed that the barrels had been kept in the open, in temperatures which reach up to 100 degrees Fahrenheit in the summer, for more than two years since being seized from the MV Mochengorsk, a Cypriot-flagged vessel taking them from Iran to Syria. The Cyprus Mail, the main English language newspaper, said the accident appeared to be the result of "criminal negligence". It said the destruction of the island's main power plant, just 300 yards away, threatened to deal a blow to the island's ailing economy. Other newspapers also deemed the accident a crime, while Nikos Anastasiades, head of the opposition Democratic Rally party, blamed "unprecedented criminal errors". A government spokesman said it had asked the United Nations to take the explosives off its hands, sending them to Germany, Malta or UN peace-keepers in Lebanon, but had been rebuffed. However, cables revealed by WikiLeaks showed that the island's political leaders rejected offers for help in disposing of the explosives from western powers, including the United States, Germany and Britain. The defence minister, Costas Papacostas, said at the time that the material was "completely safe" and could be placed in residential areas without any risk. He has now resigned, along with the head of the National Guard, which failed to act despite a number of smaller explosions at the base. The National Guard had also disclaimed responsibility for disposing of the munitions. The blast sent debris into the air and blew out the windows of tourist restaurants and bars in nearby coastal villages. As well as the two naval commanders, it killed six firemen and four servicemen, including twin brothers, and injured 62 others. The island is popular with holiday-makers, and a spokeswoman for the Association of British Travel Agents said members were monitoring the situation. Larger hotels were using their own generators but smaller hotels were suffering power cuts, she said.

Related Links

- [12 dead in Cyprus arms cache blast](#)
- [Iran explosives caused blasts](#)
- [12 dead in Cyprus explosion](#)

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/europe/cyprus/8632718/Anger-grows-in-Cyprus-over-criminal-errors-behind-explosion.html>

CANADA, ALBA, BOWNESS, JULY 13 2011. GAS PLUS STATION CUTS DEAL ON LEAK TO CURB CONTAMINATION >> CONTAINMENT WALL TO BE BUILT AT BOWNESS SITE

kelly cryderman



The Alberta government issued an environmental protection order last year against this gas station in Bowness for failing to clean up a fuel leak of up to 9,000 litres of gasoline.

The owner of a Bowness station that leaked large amounts of gas into the soil has negotiated a deal with the Alberta government to build an underground containment wall around the site instead of removing all the contaminated earth. The move has concerned several area homeowners, who say they want to make sure the Gas Plus site on Bowness Road is cleaned up. "We're not very pleased. We still keep thinking this is a quick fix," said Maureen Whitlock, who with her husband John has been forced out of their nearby Bow Crescent home since January. The couple are living in rental accommodations paid for by Gas Plus.

Alberta Environment spokeswoman Cara Tobin said the new plan achieves the same objectives as the original scheme. The barrier wall will be built around the perimeter of the entire Gas Plus site, down to bedrock, Tobin said. Cleanup of the water and soil within the barrier wall will follow, likely through pumping out groundwater and injecting agents to break up the hydrocarbons. In an e-mail to local residents, Darren Bourget, Alberta Environment's district compliance manager, said he would "expect to see significant progress made on this item soon, with actual remediation occurring by mid-August at the latest." Originally, the cleanup deadline was July 21. The residents including the Whitlocks are losing patience with the amount of time the whole process is taking. "I'll be thrilled if something actually happens, but I'm not holding my breath," said resident Dr. Monica Skrukwa, who also lives nearby the gas station with her husband and three daughters. Skrukwa said she would have preferred to see the soil excavated and trucked away, but at this point she is doubtful about any action going ahead. "Nothing has happened since last April," she said. "I don't know why they keep coming up with plans and doing nothing." In May 2010, Alberta Environment learned of a gas leak at the Gas Plus station at 6336 Bowness Rd. N.W. Then that summer,

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the department was notified that gasoline vapours were detected in the basement of a home just north of the Gas Plus. Air tests on that house and two others including the Whitlocks' registered high levels of benzene and other hydrocarbon chemicals. In December, the department issued an environmental protection order against the company for failing to properly clean up the leak of as much as 9,000 litres of gasoline. Now the Calgary Fire Department is also involved in the case. The department has taken the rare step of laying a charge — with three counts against Gas Plus for failing to properly notify the department of unexplained gas losses, which suggest spillages or leaks. "Anybody who is in the business is supposed to know this," said fire inspections co-ordinator Ed Kujat. The three months in question are November 2010, January 2011 and February 2011. The fire department began an audit on the gas bar's records after news of the leak was reported in the media. Kujat said he has been with the fire prevention bureau for six years, and has never before seen this charge used. "This is an environmental tragedy," he said. The first court appearance on the fire department charge is scheduled for July 20. Neither the owner of Gas Plus, Sal Handel, or the company's lawyer was available for comment on Monday. However, they have previously characterized Alberta Environment's protection orders as heavy-handed.

<http://www.calgaryherald.com/Plus+station+cuts+deal+leak+curb+contamination/5086455/story.html>

USA, OH, ARCADIA, JULY 13 2011. ETHANOL FOUND SEEPING INTO GROUND NEAR TRAIN DERAILMENT SITE



Ethanol was found seeping into the ground at the site of a February train derailment that occurred near Arcadia. The Ohio EPA conducted tests this morning and determined the ethanol-gasoline mixture was found in a drainage tile that runs through a farm field and a fertilizer plant near the Norfolk and Southern tracks. The spill from the fiery crash last February threatens to reach the Portage River but nothing has been detected in drinking water wells or anything that would harm wildlife. The EPA has sent Norfolk Southern a violation notice to take care of the problem. Officials from the Ohio EPA will continue to work with Norfolk Southern to get the problem stopped.

Related Links

- [Loose rail to blame for train derailment](#)
- [Arcadia train derailment, fire forces evacuations](#)
- [Train cars continue to burn after derailment](#)

<http://www.wfin.com/localnews201.asp?id=7684&storyno=8>

ZAMBIA, LUSAKA. JULY 13 2011. TIGER IN ZAMBIA'S TANK

arthur simuchoba



Puma Energy is the new name in oil marketing in Zambia. The company has just formally joined the petroleum products market as Puma Energy Zambia Plc and immediately announced a \$3-million rebranding exercise. Puma Energy is the subsidiary of the Trafigura Group, one of the world's largest commodity traders. Trafigura has long wanted to establish a toe-hold in the Zambian petroleum market and has been a bidder for the supply of commingled feedstock for Zambia's only and state-owned petroleum refinery - Indeni - at Ndola. Puma Energy acquired the BP shares in a number of African countries, including Zambia. The agreement for Puma to acquire BP shares in Botswana, Malawi, Namibia, Tanzania and Zambia was signed in November last year. Transactions to take over operations have since been completed in all except Tanzania where the acquisition is expected to be completed at the end of the month. The fuel and lubricants market is expanding, aided by an increasing availability of second-hand Japanese cars. There is

business with the mines as well especially in specialised petroleum products - and this should expand as more mines open and demand rises. Shell, BP, Mobil, Caltex, Total and Agip are among the big names that have had long-standing operations in Zambia. The bulk of the business revolves around Indeni, Zambia's only refinery at Ndola. Marketing companies buy supplies from there and distribute to their network of service stations. Most of the lubricants are imported and once in a while when the ageing refinery is shut-down for routine maintenance, oil-marketing firms are permitted to import finished fuel. Low sulphur diesel that is continuously required by the mines is regularly imported by the marketing companies. But when imported, stocks lead to low demand for locally refined fuels when the refinery resumes operations. Zambia recently introduced a uniform pump price for petrol and diesel, mainly to ease the price for outlying areas and make them more

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attractive to business. There is also an initiative to examine whether maintaining and running the ageing refinery along the present lines is the best of the alternatives. The review of the supply chain arises from complaints about Zambia having the highest fuel prices in the region. But there have been a number of new entrants - among the early ones was Engen, which is now established. Kobil of Kenya followed and Brazilian company Petroda is surging on. Petroda is aggressively establishing a network from scratch, and has already opened a string of new service stations around Lusaka and the rest of Zambia. BP was long a mainstay of the Zambian fuel and lubricants trade and had the most extensive network of service stations of all the oil marketing firms. It was spread throughout the country, with 38% of the market across all products. Puma Energy has now acquired that network and plans to grow the business further. Puma Energy Zambia chairman Jacob Sikazwe has said Puma has a 10-year plan to grow and invest in new retail outlets and lubricants. Puma considers BP outlets to be a perfect strategic fit to its existing businesses. With this acquisition, the company will now have full coverage of the African region. In Zambia, Puma's rebranding exercise - effective from July 1 - should give it the visibility it needs with the extensive network of service stations that it is taking over. Fumu Mondoloka, Puma's Zambia managing director, said since inception in 1997, Puma had invested about \$600-million in Africa - and it was undergoing a large expansion through new acquisitions. In 2005, the company launched an aggressive investment programme that enabled it to drive its portfolio in America to maturity and successfully develop a strong performing business in sub-Saharan Africa. The company has significant market share within each of the countries where it operates and provides a platform for independent entrepreneurs to develop their businesses. Mondoloka said prospects for further capital investments in retail were being considered. "We are looking at investment in storage facilities as well as enhancing our supply into the market," he said. Jobs would be safe-guarded, Mondoloka said, and he pointed out that by the end of the year, Puma Energy would operate in 29 countries globally - and would directly employ more than 2350 people.

<http://www.timeslive.co.za/africa/2011/07/10/tiger-in-zambia-s-tank>

USA, N.Y, NEW YORK, JULY 13 2011. NEW YORK CITY'S NEWTOWN CREEK TO GET EXXON CLEANUP, EPA SAYS

kim chipman

 **Watch the Video** http://brooklyn.ny1.com/content/top_stories/142738/deal-reached-on-clean-up-of-polluted-newtown-creek



The Obama administration reached an agreement with oil and gas companies including Exxon Mobil Corp. to begin a Superfund cleanup of Newtown Creek, a waterway separating Brooklyn and Queens.

The six parties responsible for cleaning up the contaminated area -- Exxon; Chevron Corp.; BP Plc; Freeport-McMoRan Copper & Gold Inc; National Grid Plc; and the City of New York will conduct a study determining the best options for detoxifying the area, the Environmental Protection Agency said in a statement today. The parties must pay EPA \$750,000 for the agency's prior work at Newtown Creek and reimburse it for oversight costs. EPA added the waterway to its list of the most hazardous Superfund sites in September 2010. The water and sediment is contaminated with pesticides, heavy metals and PCBs, or polychlorinated biphenyls, a banned carcinogen, according to the EPA. "Newtown Creek is one of the most polluted urban water bodies in the country,

and EPA is committed to making sure this waterway receives a thorough cleanup," EPA Regional Administrator Judith Enck said in a statement. The agreement announced today ensures that "the parties responsible for the pollution, not the taxpayer, will foot the bill," she said. The EPA said it expects to identify more parties responsible for contaminating the 3.5 miles (5.6 kilometers) of Newtown Creek.

Sediment, Water, Air

The investigation will begin within a few months, starting with an analysis of contamination in the creek's sediment, surface water and surrounding air, according to the EPA. The federal Superfund law seeks to make polluters pay for eliminating environmental hazards. In 2007, New York Attorney General Andrew Cuomo, now the state's governor, sued Irving, Texas-based Exxon Mobil, the world's largest oil company, over a Newtown Creek oil spill first discovered in 1978. The company settled the case last year for \$25 million. In addition to Exxon and London-based BP, companies involved in the EPA agreement include Texaco, now owned by San Ramon, California-based Chevron Corp, the second-largest U.S. oil company after Exxon; Keyspan Corp., based in Brooklyn and now a unit of London-based National Grid Plc, owner of natural- gas and

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power networks in Britain and the U.S.; and Phelps Dodge Corp., which was acquired by Phoenix-based Freeport-McMoRan Copper & Gold Inc, the largest publicly traded copper producer, in 2007.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-07-11/new-york-city-s-newtown-creek-to-get-exxon-cleanup-u-s-epa-says.html>

USA, MI, JULY 14 2011. FIREFIGHTERS TRAIN TO PUT OUT PROPANE FIRES IN PAW PAW

jonathon gruenke

 **Photo Gallery** http://photos.mlive.com/4472/gallery/propane_fire/index.html



The Michigan Propane Gas Association Emergency Response Team conducted propane emergencies training to Van Buren County firefighters Tuesday evening in Paw Paw.

You might think twice next time you handle a propane tank. On Tuesday, firefighters practice putting out a propane gas fire at the Paw Paw Fire Department. The Michigan Propane Gas Association sponsored the training on propane emergencies for firefighters from Van Buren County communities including Mattawan, Lawton, Paw Paw and Gobles. It included classroom sessions and live-burn exercises using more than 500 gallons of propane provided by the association.

http://www.mlive.com/news/kalamazoo/index.ssf/2011/07/great_balls_of_fire_paw_paw_fi.html

USA, ME, HAMPDEN, JULY 14 2011. CHEVRON TO PAY SIX-FIGURE SETTLEMENT FOR DECADES-LONG OIL LEAK IN HAMPDEN

nok-noi ricker



On Wednesday afternoon, July 13, 2011, a Dumpster filled with absorbent booms was seen in front of the former Chevron tank farm in Hampden — now owned by Gulf Oil. A press conference will be held Friday, just downriver from the site, announcing the state's obtaining a settlement for the state's second largest environmental penalty for oil discharges at this site which spanned several decades. Chevron is paying the fines.

For several decades last century, thousands of gallons of oil leaked into the [Penobscot](#) River from storage tanks at the former Chevron facility near the [Bangor](#) city line. On Friday, state officials will release details of a six-figure settlement with the oil company, the second-largest environmental penalty in Maine history. "It was a chronic, ongoing kind of thing," Barbara Parker, the [Maine Department of Environmental Protection's](#) director of response services,

said of the oil seepage, which released more than 140,000 gallons of oil into the river from the 1940s to the 1980s. "A lot of oil had spilled over there." The inactive oil terminal contains four above-ground storage tanks that were operated for decades by Chevron, which last owned the property in 1986. The site is now owned by Gulf Oil Corp. "Site assessment and remediation activities were initiated at the site in 1984 because of occasional petroleum sheens observed on the Penobscot River," a Maine DEP document states. Hampden Town Manager Sue Lessard said Wednesday that since the oil leak was discovered about 27 years ago, Chevron and the state have conducted a number of remediation efforts. A compliance order by consent was signed among Gulf, Chevron and the DEP on Aug. 30, 2007, that required specific cleanup actions on the part of Chevron, she said. The oil company had to come up with a plan that "included the cleanup or treatment of petroleum contamination located in the intertidal mudflat adjacent to the terminal," Lessard said, adding that Chevron also paid for a steel sheet pile barrier and rip-rap that was installed in 2007 to contain the seepage, on-site water filtering pumps and the removal of contaminated soils. Those cleanup efforts have cost the company millions of dollars. Andrew Flint, an environmental services specialist with the DEP's Bureau of Remediation and Waste Management, issued a report in April 2010 stating that 9,000 gallons of old oil and 2,800 tons of contaminated sediments had been removed from the site. State officials will gather at Hamlin's Marina at noon Friday to announce the settlement with Chevron. "Gov. Paul LePage will join Maine Attorney General William Schneider and Maine [Department of Environmental Protection](#) Acting Commissioner Pattie Aho at a press conference

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Friday to announce the state's securing of a settlement for the second largest environmental penalty in Maine's history," a press release from the governor's office states. The largest environmental settlement in Maine, which totaled just under \$1 million, was paid in 1991 by International Paper for air and water violations, said DEP spokeswoman Samantha DePoy-Warren. The settlement with Chevron that will be announced Friday addresses the oil that spilled or seeped into the river before 1984, she stressed. "This discharge of the 140,000 gallons of oil occurred over the course of several decades," she said. "We're looking at a time frame from the '40s to the '80s. Public health was never threatened and the appropriate steps have been taken at the site to remediate the contamination and mitigate its environmental impacts." Settlement negotiations, which took months to complete, are "tough but fair" and will help restore the river and its ecosystems, DePoy-Warren said. Sean Comey, a spokesman for Chevron Corp., said Wednesday evening that he was not able to comment on the amount of the pending settlement or the ongoing cleanup effort. Some of the settlement money will fund a project at Hampden's Turtle Head Marina, Lessard said. "The town will be creating an 8.5-acre park with trails, boat slips, a kayak launch, parking lot, and that's part of a supplemental environmental project funded by Chevron," she said. "The point is it'll provide a waterfront point of access and park space for Hampden residents." The oil tank farm, located at 799 Main Road North, includes tanks in addition to those formerly owned by Chevron. The site is no stranger to oil leaks and seepage, which are handled immediately when they occur, Lessard said. "In the past 20 years, there have been very large releases at this site," a July 2006 report by the DEP's hazardous and oil spill reporting system says of the tank farm. "The spills were cleaned to the best technology at that time, but not all of the contamination was removed. Therefore, occasionally in the spring or after large rain events, there is some sheening that migrates to the river." A bundle of containment boom is kept at the site.

<http://bangordailynews.com/2011/07/13/news/bangor/chevron-to-pay-six-figure-settlement-for-decades-long-oil-leak-in-hampden/?ref=latest>

BULGARIA, SOFIA, JULY 14 2011. BULGARIAN CUSTOMS STAGE CAMPAIGN TO CRACK DOWN ON FUEL BLACK MARKET

Bulgaria's Customs Agency is starting an all-out inspection campaign on fuel excise facilities after it has detected violations at the Lukoil Neftohim refinery in Burgas. The move, which also features inspections on gasoline trucks by mobile groups, is supposed to crack down on a black market of fuel. The campaign will last 3 months, Customs Agency head Vanyo Tanov told BNT. Customs inspectors have found that Lukoil Neftohim, Bulgaria's major oil refinery, which is also the largest in the Balkans, has not installed measuring devices that are supposed to provide the authorities with real-time information about the amounts of gas that the plant launches on the market. While the company has declared that the number of such devices that they need to install is enormous, and it will make it by the end of 2011, the requirement stated that they do so by June 26, 2011. "For the first time in Bulgaria, there will be information the same day about the consumption of gasoline, just like in America. Every single moment we will what amounts of gasoline are on the market, or in storage. Every government needs such information because, for example, where there was a natural gas crisis in 2009 nobody knew what our oil reserves were," Tanov has commented. "If it is possible to deceive the state about the amounts of fuel, this can only happen at Lukoil Neftohim because they don't meet the requirements," he said. The largest number of customs' mobile groups is stationed in the Black Sea Port of Burgas. The Lukoil Neftohim refinery has in turn declared that customs inspections are welcomed at the plant. On Tuesday, the head of the Bulgarian National Revenue Agency Krasimir Stefanov announced that the tax authority will be connected with the storage facilities controlled by the customs through new software. That will allow the authorities to compare the quantities that leave the storage with the sales on the market. At the beginning of 2011, tapes of phone conversations of Tanov with other senior official, including Prime Minister Boyko Borisov, caused a scandal known as "Tapegate" in Bulgaria. The tapes were leaked by the Galeria weekly, which is believed to be the mouthpiece of former secret agent Aleksei Petrov, arrested in the Octopus special operation in February 2010, and by the conservative Law, Order and Justice party, also believed to be connected to Petrov. The tapped conversations, whose authenticity was never truly confirmed or denied, indicated evidence of political cover-ups on part of the Borisov government for certain companies in Bulgaria, including Lukoil, over alleged excise evasion.

http://www.novinite.com/view_news.php?id=130183

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