



Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network Release 2011 – 692 Newsy Stuff

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USA, PA, HARRISBURG, MARCH 3 2011. PA. COMMITTEE PASSES BILL TO IMPROVE GAS STATION SAFETY

A state House committee has approved legislation that would improve safety at Pennsylvania's new self-service gas stations. House Bill 728 would continue to mandate that the main shut-off switch still be within 15 feet of the attendant, but would also require a shut-off switch within 100 feet of the nearest pump. Additional shut-off switches would be placed within 100 feet of the gas pump they serve. The legislation would not apply to existing gas stations, but would be mandatory for newly constructed, modified or expanded stations. The measure was approved by the House Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness Committee on Tuesday and will now go to the full House for consideration.

<http://www.abc27.com/Global/story.asp?S=14168581>

USA, WA, BREMERTON, MARCH 3 2011. DISASTER AVERTED AS MOBILE HOME CATCHES FIRE IN GAS STATION

chris henry



Bremerton firefighters battle a blaze in a mobile home at a gas station in West Bremerton on Tuesday.

Quick action by a gas station manager extinguished a mobile home fire that could have become disastrous. As it was, a 65-year-old Bremerton man lost his only home and two cats in the fire that broke out shortly before 6 p.m. Tuesday at the AM/PM Arco station at Sixth Street and Naval Avenue. Robert Lee Pearson had been working on the vehicle, since he had to move from the mobile home park where he had been living. As he pulled into the station, flames broke out under the engine compartment, witnesses told [Bremerton Fire Department](#) officials. "I started to get out and the thing was on fire," Pearson said. Station owner Bhupinder P. Kushal called 911 while manager Ahmad M. Dlain shut off two gas lines, one at the

pumps, one from the main holding tank. Dlain grabbed a fire extinguisher and emptied it onto the fire, temporarily dousing the flames. But the fire broke out again. In all, Dlain used four fire extinguishers battling the blaze until firefighters arrived to finish the job. "They did a phenomenal job," said Mike Six, fire marshal for the Bremerton Fire Department. "We would have had a much bigger fire had these guys not responded with the fire extinguisher." The 1989 24-foot motor home was a total loss. Pearson had a small burn on his hand. His two cats died apparently of smoke inhalation, fire officials said. The cause of the fire is under investigation. Pearson will receive help from the American Red Cross.

<http://www.kitsapsun.com/news/2011/mar/01/disaster-averted-as-mobile-home-catches-fire-in/>

USA, AKA, ANCHORAGE, MARCH 3 2011. \$100 MILLION MORE SOUGHT FOR EXXON VALDEZ CLEANUP



In this file photo taken March 26, 1989, the Exxon [Baton Rouge](#), smaller ship, attempts to off load crude oil from the Exxon Valdez. A federal judge in [Alaska](#) will hear arguments Friday, March 4, 2011, on whether the [Exxon Mobil](#) Corp. owes another \$100 million to remove oil remaining on the Prince William Sound shoreline from the 1989 Exxon Valdez tanker spill.

A federal judge will hear arguments Friday on whether [Exxon Mobil](#) Corp. owes another \$100 million to remove oil remaining on the Prince William Sound shoreline from the 1989 Exxon Valdez tanker spill. U.S. District Judge [Russel Holland](#) scheduled the arguments in Anchorage in response to a motion filed by retired University of [Alaska](#) professor Rick Steiner, who is trying to force action on a claim filed in 2006 by the state and federal governments, the Anchorage Daily News reported Wednesday. "It's gone on way too long," Steiner said. The claim says the oil is degrading too slowly and continues to harm wildlife. [Irving, Texas](#)-based Exxon argues it doesn't owe any more money. It paid \$900 million in restitution in a 1991 settlement. But the settlement also had a clause allowing the state and federal governments to later claim up to \$100 million more from Exxon if there were unforeseen damages from the spill. "It is clear that populations and habitat within the oil spill area have suffered substantial and unanticipated injuries that are attributable to the Exxon Valdez oil spill," Alaska Attorney General David Marquez said in the 2006 claim. Exxon lawyers said just a tiny amount of oil residues remain in isolated

pockets of the Prince William Sound shoreline. The presence of such oil is "hardly unexpected," Exxon argues, and there's no

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justification for claiming damages from the spill that weren't foreseen at the time of the 1991 civil settlement. Exxon also maintains that state and federal authorities missed the deadline to get the money. The company's lawyers argue the governments failed to include a proper plan for restoration projects in their 2006 claim. "Thus, Exxon Mobil has no further obligations," said the company's court filing last week. [Frank Murkowski](#), who was governor when the state filed the 2006 claim for the money, submitted a letter to the court this week saying it's time to resolve the matter. "It is in the public interest that the governments move from continuing study to resolution as soon as possible. Alaska deserves closure on this issue after 22 years," Murkowski wrote. Steiner is asking the judge to order Exxon to pay the state and federal \$92 million claim with interest, for a total of \$115 million, with the money going to the government natural resource agencies to use for restoration.

<http://www.newsday.com/business/100-million-more-sought-for-exxon-valdez-cleanup-1.2725027>

USA, TN KNOXVILLE, MARCH 3 2011. GAS SUPPLY SHOULD BE OKAY

sara shookman

[Watch the Video](#) http://www.volunteertv.com/home/headlines/Gas_supply_should_be_okay_117201213.html

Oil and water just don't mix. Monday's flood waters brought worries to the surface, whether water could be tainting your gas underground. "Gasoline and water are just not a good combination. Whether the gasoline is leaking out or water is leaking into the tank, either one is a bad thing either for consumers, [the environment](#) or frankly, both," said Don Lindsey, director of public affairs for AAA East Tennessee. "The place where the gasoline is pumped into the tank, the hatches, there, and the valves and that sort of thing, that would be overlain by water, so at that point, something, it's conceivable could happen," said Lindsey. Broadway in Fountain City was one of the worst hit areas, but gas stations like Phillips 66 told Volunteer TV News they didn't have any issues. Weigels and Pilot also reported no problems, and said there was no impact on the region's terminals. Don Lindsey with AAA East Tennessee says a change in the technology prevents these problems that were once common. "Used be they were cast iron or steel something like that. They would rust, they would leak, it was bad for the environment, and that forced a change from EPA regulations, and they went to a different type of tank," he said. Now made of plastic and fiberglass underground tanks seal better than before. "The technology's pretty good. They've got it set up where the water really can't intrude into gasoline," he said. "Chances are greater than not that things are going to be okay." Meanwhile, the price of fuel continues to rise, jumping 3 cents to average \$3.22 per gallon of unleaded. AAA says that makes an increase of nearly a quarter in the last week. If you suspect a problem with gasoline you've purchased, you can call the state's hot-line at 1-800-OCTANE1.

http://www.volunteertv.com/home/headlines/Gas_supply_should_be_okay_117201213.html

USA, ILL, CARTHAGE, MARCH 3 2011. CARTHAGE BEGINS 90S FUEL TANK CLEAN-UP

sarah self

The board members unanimously voted to hire American Environmental Co. from Springfield to aid the city of Carthage with a project that will keep the city in compliance with the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency. The vote took place at their regular meeting, held Tuesday, Feb. 22. The project involves a gas tank removed from behind City Hall in the early 1990s using the firm Randolph and Associates to oversee the project. The work was done in 1992, and the firm followed up with a report to the Illinois EPA in 1995. The City paid \$16,000 for the work done at that time. We've always known that we didn't test the soil, and we've always known that we were going to have to get that done at some point, said Mayor Jim Nightingale. When we weren't being pressured, we decided to wait because we thought time could do nothing but help the soil levels. The city is out of time to wait, however, and has received notice from the Illinois EPA that soil testing must be completed in order to avoid being turned over to the Attorney General. Nightingale got in touch with American Environmental Co., to discuss charges and the complexity of this project. American Environmental will break the project up into two stages, the first stage including preparing a work plan and budget. The cost for Stage 1 will be \$8,750. The second stage prepares the application for reimbursement of previously completed activities, and will cost the city \$6,000. The total cost for the entire program is estimated to be around \$25,000. That number could be higher or lower, depending on the level of soil contamination, Nightingale said. "If none of the soil is contaminated and needs to be removed, that number could be significantly lower. The biggest reason the city chose not to address this issue earlier was a lack of money in the states underground storage fund. Typically, a project like this would be paid mostly through state funding once the city has met a \$10,000 deductible. Since the city has already paid \$16,000 toward the project, Nightingale believes the state will cover the remaining cost. Investigation into the reimbursement times showed a waiting period of two to three years, and the city council members thought it would be best to hold off until there was more funding available in that state account. Unfortunately, the account

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balance has just gotten lower over the years. That reimbursement fund is basically empty now, Nightingale said. The State has robbed money from every fund that had any money in it, so now its a matter of waiting the two or three years or finding another way to get reimbursed. Nightingale researched a company that deals with such programs that will pay the city 88 percent of the costs within a few months. That company would keep 12 percent for its own profits, but the city would get the money much sooner than if they choose to go through the state. I've done some research on the company, and I've handed over what I found to the City Attorney, Nightingale said. I think we are going to hold off on making that decision for right now, though. In other business, Nightingale informed the board that paperwork has been submitted to Jack Curfman, Hancock County ESDA representative, for potential reimbursement of costs associated with the recent snowfall from FEMA. The county needed to have at least \$66,000 in total costs over a 48-hour period to qualify for reimbursement from FEMA. The city of Carthage had more than \$10,000 in costs associated with the record-breaking snowfall. City Attorney Stan Tucker informed the board that he sent a letter to FEMA regarding the flood insurance issue for a property on Wabash Ave. Tucker said he has examined the title, the building permit, the flood map and the ordinance that was in effect at the time. He reported that there was no elevation taken at the time, but a 2006 report from LSI Flood Services indicated that the property was not in the flood hazard area.

<http://www.journalpilot.com/articles/2011/03/02/news/news4.txt>

USA, TX, TEXAS CITY, MARCH 3 2011. RUPTURED GASOLINE PIPELINE IS BACK IN SERVICE

t.j. aulds

A gasoline pipeline that last week ruptured and spilled about 5,000 gallons of gasoline into a bayou was repaired and expected to be back in service Monday night, the pipeline's owner said. The 18-inch line that transports refined fuel products from Texas City refineries to terminals in Houston ruptured Thursday and spilled gasoline into a drainage canal that fed into Bayou Pierre in north Texas City. The spill forced the evacuation of about 30 homes, a couple of businesses and the 12-hour closure of state Highway 146 between Texas City and San Leon. About 5:15 p.m. Monday, Bruce Heine, spokesman for pipeline owner Magellan Midstream Partners, said repairs were done and the state had given the company the go ahead to put the line back in service. Heine said the line was expected to return to operation Monday night. Meanwhile, the cleanup around where the rupture happened continues. "Remediation work at the leak site is continuing, which includes some locally impacted surface water, which has been contained," Heine said. A boom between the drainage canal and the bayou remains in place, but only as a precaution, Heine said.

<http://galvestondailynews.com/story/215086/>

USA, CO, HOLYOKE, MARCH 3 2011. EPA OIL SPILL INFO PROGRAM MARCH 7

Peetz Farmers Co-op, Farmers Union chapters in Logan County, Phillips/Sedgwick counties and Washington County, Colorado Corn Growers and Colorado Wheat Growers are hosting a public information meeting to let farmers and ranchers know their obligations under the Oil Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasure (SPCC) program. The meeting and lunch will be Monday, March 7 at the Peetz Community Center. Speakers will include Harold Printz, energy sales/fuel contracts/propane contracts and marketing coordinator for Peetz Farmers Co-op, and Melissa Payan, oil program coordinator for the Region Eight EPA office. They will review the SPCC program, update producers on emissions requirements for Tier III and IV diesel engines and describe the diesel engine fluid additive required for new diesel engines in 2011. They will also outline the steps farmers and ranchers will need to take to comply with the program. The meeting is open to the public. Peetz Farmers Co-op will provide a free lunch at noon. Attendees should RSVP for the lunch by calling Peetz Farmers Co-op at 970-334-2204 or Don Fehringer at 970-334-2332. The program will begin at 1:12 p.m. and run for about two hours. Operators and owners of farms and ranches should attend this informational meeting if they store more than 1,320 U.S. gallons of diesel fuel, gasoline, lube oil, hydraulic oil and other oils or oil products. For operations that already have an SPCC plan in place, the meeting will provide information necessary to update and maintain existing plans. This is an informational meeting; the names of attendees will remain confidential.

http://www.holyokeenterprise.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=3009:epa-oil-spill-info-program-march-7&catid=35:agbusiness&Itemid=54

USA, MO, NEW MADRID, MARCH 3 2011. KOSTER FILES SUIT OVER UNDERGROUND TANKS

keith loria

Missouri Attorney General Chris Koster announced on Monday that he has filed a lawsuit against a man who allegedly violated the state's Underground Storage Tank law. Glen Helmes of New Madrid allegedly endangered the health of Missourians and the environment by using underground storage tanks for storing and dispensing gasoline at the Helmes Deli in New Madrid,

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Mo. Under state law, all owners and operators of petroleum underground storage tanks are required to have a financial responsibility mechanism in place so that money is available to pay for any petroleum product contamination that might result. UST insurance is available for such a purpose. Helmes allegedly has operated without having the financial needs at the ready since June 2009. Helmes also allegedly has not installed or maintained spill catchment basins since November 2009 to prevent petroleum products from being released into the environment. According to an agreement that was signed in January, Helmes was required to stop selling, dispensing or receiving deliveries of petroleum until he purchased UST insurance. He also would be assessed a \$2,640 fine if he violated the UST law within three years of the settlement, which he allegedly did. "Underground storage tanks that are not in compliance with the law can pose a serious health threat to Missourians," Koster said. "This legal action is necessary because the defendant failed to comply with the law through the settlement agreement, even though given ample opportunity to do so." Koster is seeking a court order that would place a permanent injunction against the defendant requiring him to comply with the UST law. Koster also seeks a civil penalty of up to \$10,000 per day for each violation of the law. Furthermore, Koster wants Helmes to fully comply with the terms of the original settlement, pay the \$2,640 fine that was agreed to, and to pay all costs associated with the litigation.

<http://www.legalnewsline.com/news/231443-koster-files-suit-over-underground-tanks>

USA, VA, MANTUA, MARCH 4 2011. RELEASE OF FUEL DETECTED AT TANK FARM >> MANTUA RESIDENTS WANT TANK FARM SHUT DOWN AFTER 800 GALLONS OF UNIDENTIFIED FUEL RECOVERED FROM DRAIN.

victoria ross

More than 800 gallons of an unidentified petroleum product have been recovered in the past week from a drain at the Pickett Road Tank Farm. It's the latest incident in a series of recent spills, leaks and accidents that have local residents and political leaders again demanding the permanent closing of the industrial site, which stores nearly 1 million gallons of petroleum on a 90-acre farm located on the eastern border of the City of Fairfax. "Evidence of yet another spill highlights the need for tougher accountability at the tank farm," said U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11), who lives in the nearby Mantua subdivision. Connolly has written to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Lisa Jackson, urging a full investigation. "The tank farm has an abysmal record when it comes to oil spills and without some strong remedial action, we must continue to be concerned about a future incident that could pollute surrounding neighborhoods and the Accotink Creek watershed," said Connolly. The recent incident came to light on Feb. 16, when personnel from TransMontaigne Operating Company, owners of most of the industrial property, observed a small area of sheen on the surface of a detention pond. "Additional checks of the area were made throughout the evening and the product was seen to be accumulating at an increasing rate," said a Feb. 17 report by City of Fairfax Fire Chief David Rohr. By 10 p.m. on Feb. 16, 20-30 gallons of residue had been recovered. "Preliminary testing shows that the specific gravity of the material is similar to jet fuel or kerosene," said Rohr's report. But Rohr noted that jet fuel has not been stored at the TransMontaigne facility for several years. "While TransMontaigne have taken the lead on remediation, it is entirely possible that (their) terminal is not the source of the product Based on the characteristics of the product found yesterday, there is no indication of a current leak." On Feb. 25, City of Fairfax Assistant Fire Chief Andrew Wilson sent out an e-mail updating Mantua community leaders and city officials on the product found at the tank farm. What caught the attention of some Mantua residents was this statement: "The contractor removing the product and water from the site reports that, after separation from the water, approximately 800 gallons of the material have been recovered over the last two weeks." "Eight hundred gallons is a lot of product. For that to migrate to a well, there may have been a spill in the thousands," said John Jennison, a former president of the Mantua Citizens' Association. Mantua, a neighborhood of 1,500 homes, is located about a mile downstream from the tank farm in Fairfax County. "The product found in this incident remains unidentified, and has physical characteristics that are not consistent with any currently stored at any of the terminals," Wilson said in the e-mail. He noted that additional testing would be done to determine the source of the product. Mantua residents, along with local political and government leaders, have been lobbying EPA officials since an epic oil spill 20 years ago that continues to impact the groundwater in the area. "The latest discovery of yet another petroleum product accident further evidences that the oil tank farm needs to be relocated to a more appropriate location," said Jennison. "The continuous series of accidents show that it is way past time to shut it down, clean it up and move it out." In the past year, there have been several accidents involving the 18-wheeler tanker trucks that transport fuel in and out of the tank farm. In August 2010, a tanker truck overturned at the corner of Pickett Road and Main Street/Route 236, leaking more than 4,000 gallons of oil into a local sewer drain. Earlier in 2010, an underground leak dispersed 14,000 gallons of diesel fuel into the ground. "When the tanker overturned last August, the creeks were black with fuel, and you could smell it from our neighborhood," said Scott Stephens, who has lived in Mantua for 14 years. "What concerns the neighborhood is the amount of tankers going in and out

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of there. We have schools, like Frost Elementary, that are just a mile from here. This is just a big accident waiting to happen. In this day and age, we have to think about the facility being a target for terrorist attacks."

<http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/article.asp?article=348704&paper=63&cat=104>

AUSTRALIA, VICTORIA, FOOTSCRAY, MARCH 4 2011. METAL FOUNDRY FINED \$90K OVER CHEMICAL EXPLOSION

sarah falson

A metal foundry in Victoria has been ordered to pay \$90,000 after a chemical explosion in 2007 left one worker badly burnt and another worker traumatised. The incident happened at Graham Campbell Ferrum (GCF) in Geelong Road, West Footscray in March 2007. The [Maribyrnong Weekly](#) reported that two workers were attempting to decant chemicals left over in a 1000-litre container into another container they thought contained the same chemical. The two chemicals were a resin and catalyst which, when mixed in a controlled environment with sand, hardened to form moulds for molten metal in a casting process at the foundry, the report said. One of the workers reportedly drove a forklift carrying one container while the other connected a hose to begin draining the chemical. However, the second container contained a different chemical, which caused an explosion. One of the men suffered severe burns to more than three-quarters of his body, and was hospitalised for three months. The other man spent a month in rehabilitation. WorkSafe ruled that the explosion was 'risk driven' and ordered the company to pay \$90,000. The fine comes after WorkSafe launched an emotional ad campaign in January to shock Victorian workers and plant owners into adhering to safety rules. http://www.safetowork.com.au/news/metal-foundry-fined-90k-over-chemical-explosion?utm_source=20110303&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=newsletters

CANADA, NORTHERN ONTARIO, MARCH 4 2011. FUEL HAZARD ALARMS SACHIGO

 http://www.wawataynews.ca/archive/all/2011/3/3/fuel-hazard-alarms-sachigo_21166

Abandoned gold mine doesn't pose 'emergency situation' assures Ontario government. Removal of almost a million litres of fuel from an abandoned gold mine west of Sachigo Lake First Nation will wait at least one more year, despite long-standing environmental and safety concerns. Since 2004, Sachigo Lake has unsuccessfully pressed mining companies with claims on the mine site and the province to remove the fuel, 48 kilometres away at Lingman Lake. At least ten years earlier, when it commissioned an assessment of the site, the province had been aware of the fuel stored in steel tanks at a mine camp on the northwest shore of the lake and on a bog near the mine site 1.7 kilometres inland. In the 1980s, Twin Lake Gold Mines conducted underground exploration at the Lingman Lake property, noted that report, and fuel was transported about 58 kilometres to the site by winter road from Red Sucker Lake First Nation in Manitoba to support that activity. It also warned: "One of the fuel tanks at the mine site has a leaking valve." Now the Ministry of Northern Development, Mines and Forestry (MNDMF, formerly MNDM) plans to have a contractor deal with hazards at the site, including the fuel, next winter. First, a contract will be awarded to assess how Aboriginal and treaty rights may be affected by a future winter road for hauling the fuel and by overall rehabilitation of the site. Once that impact study is complete, inventory of all mine hazards and scrap material at the site will be taken, and the most appropriate rehabilitation plan determined. "At least after close to 20 years, something is moving right now," Chief Titus Tait of Sachigo Lake said of MNDMF's current plan. "We've been fighting for someone to look after (the fuel)." In the meantime, it will be another anxious year for the people of Sachigo Lake, Tait said, as they fret about the possibility of a major spill of fuel and contamination of a watershed that includes lakes and rivers of Opasquia Provincial Park. They'll worry too, as they do every summer, about what might happen if a forest fire ignites that much fuel so close to home, Tait said. "You can imagine the anxiety every year that this might happen. There's always been talk things are going to blow up." Contributing to their concern is evidence fuel has leaked from at least four of 18 steel storage tanks at the site. A consulting firm, Water and Earth Science Associates (WESA), inspected the tanks several times since 2006 for MNDMF. "As indicated in previous reports for the site prepared by WESA, there are visual indications of leakage" from valves or flanges on four tanks, the consultant reported in 2009. One of those tanks showed a "relatively consistent decline" in liquid levels between 2006 and '09. A valve for another tank could not be inspected because it was flooded. "... (H)owever there did appear to be petroleum film on the water of the valve area." The same report concluded: "Although our most recent observations indicate relatively stable conditions between 2006 and 2009 for most of the tanks, it remains our opinion that action should be taken as soon as possible to prevent continued minor leakage and to avoid a potentially major spill should one or more of the tanks become compromised." In 2006, WESA noted there had been no tree growth between horizontal and vertical storage tanks at the mine site. "There is poor vegetative cover in this area as well and an odour of petroleum. It is speculated that this could be an indication that petroleum impacts have occurred in this area." WESA found that five horizontal storage tanks, at least some of them designed for underground burial but instead holding diesel fuel above ground, sat directly on the ground rather than on bases. As a result, the tanks showed signs of "differential settling" – one end settling more than the other. "This creates a

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problem if the end that is settling is also the end which contains a valve or flange connection, because the connections are potential weak points." WESA described this as the main risk for future spills at the site. "None of the tanks is considered to be in a state of potential catastrophic failure," WESA stated. "However, the tanks should be emptied as soon as possible because of potential valve failure. Settling of the horizontal tanks is still occurring and leakage has occurred." Five years later, the fuel remains. WESA previously measured about 813,000 litres of diesel fuel in tanks at the mine site, along with about 30,000 litres of water containing some diesel fuel and gasoline. It found close to another 30,000 litres of diesel at the campsite, intended for use in nearby generators. Asked last month for MNDMF's assessment of the environmental risks to Lingman Lake and its watershed from the fuel and the potential impact of a major spill, ministry spokesperson Joanne Ghiz instead responded that rehabilitating the site as quickly as possible is the first priority. "We will continue to monitor the site until rehabilitation is complete," she added from Minister Michael Gravelle's office, citing past WESA inspections of the fuel tanks. It's MNDMF's position, said Ghiz, that WESA's inspection tests to date determined "the site is not yet in an emergency situation."

Road Clearing Starts, Stops

To Sachigo Lake First Nation, however, removal of the fuel is long overdue. Even prior to WESA's involvement, in 2002, Dennison Environmental Services conducted a detailed assessment of the site and reported to MNDM "the mining assets are in decay and some, such as the bulk diesel, present a current environmental risk." But most of the Lingman site is privately held, including all of the largest fuel storage tanks and more than 95 per cent of the fuel, Ghiz said this February. "MNDMF could not conduct any rehabilitation measures on the privately-held portion of the site without first meeting all of the legislative requirements of the Mining Act." In late 2005, after another site inspection, MNDM ordered Cool Minerals, as owner of mining claims at Lingman Lake, to clean up the site. "The Mining Act requires progressive rehabilitation of a site to prescribed standards," the ministry wrote. It advised that the Timmins-based company's top priorities should be addressing the fuel storage, and closing an uncapped mine shaft estimated to be 500 feet deep and a smaller vent opening. Cool Minerals did not comply with requirements for rehabilitation and a mine closure plan, and it's ability to do so "does not look promising," an MNDMF official later wrote to Sachigo Lake. It is MNDMF's understanding the company still owns the claims at Lingman Lake even though the ministry apparently took over responsibility for rehabilitation in 2006. In December that year, Alvin Beardy, then Sachigo chief, met in the Windigo First Nations Council boardroom in Sioux Lookout with Christine Kaszycki, the MNDMF assistant deputy minister now co-ordinating mining development in the Ring of Fire area northeast of Thunder Bay. He presented Kaszycki with a three-year plan for cleanup of the Lingman Lake site, starting with construction of a winter road between his community and the mine to remove the fuel for transport south on an existing winter road route "to an outside receiver." Waste materials and a tanker truck would also be taken out. Soon after, MNDM and Sachigo Lake reached an agreement for the First Nation to clear and prepare a right-of-way for the proposed winter road to Lingman Lake, for use during the following winter road season. In April 2007, however, when the right-of-way had been cleared to within six kilometres of the mine, MNDMF ordered the work to stop. During consultation required for an MNR work permit for that roadwork, Red Sucker Lake First Nation raised concerns about potential impact on the Aboriginal rights of its members. The community noted one of its families holds an Ontario trapline licence for the Lingman Lake area, and the First Nation considers it part of its traditional land use area. It also expressed concern "they had not been adequately consulted regarding the project," said Ghiz, and "they do not want a winter road to the site from anywhere other than Red Sucker Lake. "At the start of the road construction, MNDMF was not fully aware of Red Sucker Lake's asserted interests in the area," Ghiz added. "Ultimately construction of the winter road stopped short of entering the area in which Red Sucker Lake has asserted its members' rights." The ministry paid Sachigo \$440,250 for the road clearing work it did. Now, Ghiz said, "MNDMF must meet its duty to consult with potentially affected First Nations." As another MNDMF official put it in a letter to Chief Tait: "Ontario is required to balance the need to remediate the environmental concerns" at Lingman Lake "with the interests of ... First Nations." Tait's take? "Somewhere along the way politics came into play and that stopped the whole thing. And right now there's still close to a million litres of fuel sitting there that's going to potentially have an impact on the health and safety of our communities, and to the environment."

Shared Traditional Territory

Moses Monias and his ancestors hunted and trapped in the Lingman Lake area long before Moses secured a trapline licence for the territory in 1947, said Chief Larry Knott of Red Sucker Lake. The family's understanding of the terms of the licence is expressed in a written document, based on information from Job Monias, son of Moses. "There will be no encroachment on the territory by others," it states. "The Monias family must give their consent to any development in their traditional territory before that development begins." An accompanying map pinpoints the locations of trapper cabins on Lingman Lake from the late 1940s to the 1990s. The Monias family states it should be compensated for the use of its traditional territory for "mining exploration done in 1988-91, the fishing that has been going on since the 1960s, and for the proposed winter road development." At the same time, the family calls on Ontario to "ensure the cleanup of fuel and hazardous materials be done as

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soon as possible" at Lingman Lake. Sachigo Lake First Nation, meanwhile, continues to hold commercial fishing rights to several lakes around Lingman, including Seeber Lake, said Tait. Members of his community commercial fished the lakes in the late 1960s and '70s until it was no longer economically viable, he said. They sent their catches by float plane to a packing plant in Garden Hill, Manitoba. "That's been our traditional territory too over the years," Tait said of the area around Lingman Lake. "In the '30s and the '20s, the local community dealt with the Hudson Bay post in Island Lake (Manitoba), and people kind of settled along the way. "We share the land; everybody used that land. That was the practice years ago." Today, four years after MNDM first said it needed to consult with Red Sucker Lake, "Talks have not progressed as far as we would like," Ghiz said. "However, it is expected that consultation will be completed through the (upcoming) impact study." Tait said his community has not met with Red Sucker Lake since the road clearing to Lingman Lake stopped. "We tried talking to the chief and council there (but) they've always said, 'Well we've got nothing to do with it; it's the trapper who holds the trapline licence.' And you try and talk to that guy. We flew into there one time to check on some stuff there and a guy met the plane with a shotgun." A Sachigo Lake advisor referred to this alleged incident in emails to the MNR and MNDM staff. Chief Knott of Red Sucker said he is not aware of any such incident. The Monias family could not be reached for comment. In 2009, the Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs "strongly recommended" to MNDMF that it hire an independent facilitator to assist both First Nations in working toward remediation of the Lingman Lake site. MNDMF proposed this several times, said Ghiz, and Tait confirms the offer of mediated talks was made. "We were open to that," he said. "I guess from the other end it didn't work out." Asked why Red Sucker Lake hasn't had talks with Sachigo Lake given their shared interest in cleaning up the mine site, Chief Knott replied: "No comment there." Last May, Minister Gravelle discussed the Lingman Lake site with Eric Robinson, deputy premier of Manitoba and the province's minister of Aboriginal and Northern Affairs. Gravelle later expressed support of Robinson's suggestion that the ministers meet with the chiefs of the two First Nations at the end of summer in Thunder Bay. The meeting failed to materialize. Ghiz said the impact study ahead "requires the successful consultant to provide a facilitator to work with all potentially affected First Nations." Tait considered the prospect of the mine site finally being rehabilitated next winter, and the fuel hauled away. "The government is known to drop the ball on issues when it's most important and that's what's been happening here," he said. "I hope to hell we can get 'er done and stop all this crap. "You can only imagine what impact it will have on the environment if this million litres of fuel starts leaking into the environment, the river system."

http://www.wawataynews.ca/archive/all/2011/3/3/fuel-hazard-alarms-sachigo_21166

INDONESIA, JAKARTA, MARCH 4 2022. TIMOR SEA OIL SPILL INVESTIGATION STILL IN LIMBO AS COASTAL IMPACT DEBATED

fidelis e. satriastan

Negotiations on damages between the government and the Australian-based oil company responsible for the 2009 Timor Sea oil spill have stalled once again, a senior official said on Tuesday. In their previous meeting last December, the government and PTTEP Australasia, a subsidiary of Thailand's PTT Exploration and Production, agreed to carry out a joint survey to assess the impact of the disaster on Indonesian fisheries. Both also agreed to verify the results by the end of February. The spill was the result of a blowout at the Montara platform off the northwest coast of Australia on Aug. 21, 2009. Masnellyarti Hilman, head of the Indonesian government team negotiating with the company, said the latest falling out had been over whether coastal areas had been affected by the slick. "We agreed on the fact that fisheries were affected [by the spill] and it was also their basis to check on our claims," she said. "However, in our claims we also included seaweed, mangroves, coral reefs and seagrasses in the coastal areas as affected areas. This is where the company objected [to Indonesia's claims] because they said our data and their data were different. Their modeling didn't include coastal areas, while ours did. Masnellyarti said the government was now waiting for the company to verify Indonesia's results on impacts to fisheries before talking about any compensation. "They're still looking for the methodology to verify the fisheries results," she said. "They were supposed to do the field research in mid-February, but we haven't heard anything yet. They suggested a meeting on March 4, but we can't go, so we proposed March 8." She added the team's report found that the oil slick from Montara had reached fishing grounds at least 56 miles from coastal areas. Luechai Wongsirasawad, a spokesman for PTTEP, said the company was still in the process of setting up the field survey team that would comprise Indonesian, Thai and Australian representatives. "The scope of the survey is being discussed with the [Indonesian government's] advocacy team," he said. "A few meetings already took place between scientists of the advocacy team and PTTEP to verify the data. There are still some areas of disagreement that will require further data gathering and verification." Luechai also said both sides would have their next meeting very soon to discuss the areas of disagreement. He added the Indonesian government had requested and already received the oil-spill modeling input data from the Australian government to be used to verify the results of its initial model. Masnellyarti said that at the next meeting, both sides would discuss the company's two options to resolve the deadlock

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in negotiations. "The first option is that they will pay the government's expenses and develop corporate social responsibility programs in the affected areas," she said. "The second option is that they will pay the claims based on [the first model]. We said we want to think about it because we don't want CSR to replace the claims. The other thing that will probably be discussed at the next meeting is the need for a third party to serve as a referee because this is taking too long and there are too many disagreements."

<http://www.thejakartaglobe.com/news/timor-sea-oil-spill-investigation-still-in-limbo-as-coastal-impact-debated/426023>

SOUTH AFRICA, JOHANNESBURG, MARCH 4 2011. SHELL TAKES GUNG-HO STANCE ON KAROO FRACKING OUTRAGE

sipho hlongwane



Royal Dutch Shell, a global corporation the size of a small nation, is facing a growing outcry against its plans to conduct hydraulic fracturing in the Karoo. Still, it took on a "frack now, deal with any fallout as it happens" stance at a press conference on Thursday. And although compensation promises were made, it is nothing you can take to the bank.

Royal Dutch Shell went to some effort to make the [process of hydraulic fracturing](#) seem rather harmless to a roomful of journalists, with a friendly PowerPoint presentation, full of bullet points and video that explained the process. The process of fracking has received an avalanche of bad press in the US, leading to precautionary banning in some states, and now Shell wants to take the controversial process of mining unconventional gas to the Karoo. Bonang Mohale, chairman of Shell Oil Product Africa, and Graham Tiley, general manager of New Venture Executions at Shell are hosting press conferences in Cape Town, Port Elizabeth and Johannesburg in an effort to allay fears about the process. At the Johannesburg presentation on Thursday, they did not allay the biggest of the concerns. Could Shell categorically state that the chemicals pumped into the ground as part of the fracking process would not make it into the groundwater aquifers? Mohale said the shale levels they intended to frack were typically 2,500m to 4,000m underground. Groundwater aquifers are typically no less than 500m deep. The massive amount of rock between the two levels would act as a natural barrier, Mohale said. "But 'categorically' is a difficult word", he said "Never say never," Tiley added. Shell promised to "commit to disclosing the fracturing fluids at each drilling station". But they would not say at the press conference what the chemicals pumped into the ground were, with Tiley saying that the exact cocktail was different at each location. According to their presentation, some of the chemicals were reducers, biocides, corrosion inhibitors, scale inhibitors, surfactants and breakers, which certainly made you, and all the Karoo farmers, feel good by now. The community shouldn't worry about water either, Mohale assured us. Shell would "engage" with the community to determine which water sources they would use. Water is the biggest waste product in the process, he said, but more than 50% of it is recycled and maybe could even be purified for human and animal use. "We promise not to compete with the people of the Karoo for their water needs," Mogale said, a statement of painful ambiguity; it would remain to be seen who would define already thirsty Karoo's people's water needs. Mohale was at pains to stress that the entire process was still in its relative infancy. Shell's application for a licence was accepted by the Petroleum Agency South Africa on 14 December last year. As part of the licence application, an environmental management plan (now available on the website of Shell's partner [Golder Associates](#), according to Tiley) has to be submitted, and a draft was ready as of 2 March. Pasa will study the EMP, and will make a decision on granting Shell exploration rights on 12 August. "If everything goes according to plan, [exploration] drilling should start in the latter part of 2012, with fracturing starting in 2013," Tiley said. Shell intends to sink 24 wells in an exploration area which stretches from Sutherland to Somerset East, at a typical cost of \$15 million each. Of course, we should not worry about what impact the fracking process would have on the [Square Kilometre Array](#) project, especially after Mogale assured us the drilling process, where presumably the greatest amount of disruption would occur, would only take weeks. But Shell would keep up a dialogue with "all affected and interested parties", including the SKA project. Shell would commit to "full compensation to any landowner with documented direct negative impact or loss on their land as a result of our activities". It is a canny wording from Shell, because in America, the country where fracking has come under the greatest controversy, the main negative impact has been contaminated water. Even if the chemicals found in tap water were identical to the fracking cocktail, how can anyone prove causation between the two without looking underground? And documenting it? It would be like trying to find someone who farted in a crowd, and spending millions of dollars on it. To hear Shell tell it, South Africa desperately needs fracking. Not only are we in danger of rolling blackouts, the situation in the Middle East makes the immediate future of oil very uncertain. Besides, the process could make us competitive in the foreign direct investment market. Furthermore, the process could

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create local jobs, according to Mohale, who, predictably, wouldn't commit to any figures, vaguely stating that Shell wants to hire locals for the periphery functions, like hydrology and road-building. Mogale did stop short of promising unicorns and eternal rainbows, rather disappointingly. And if you, as a Karoo landowner, are still unhappy, then go ahead, sue Shell. The exact quote by Mohale, in an answer to a question about why a member of the Dutch royal family (and a Royal Dutch Shell shareholder) was complaining about the fracking process, was, "The sister to the princess of the Netherlands has a democratic right to say 'no drilling in my back yard'." We expected Shell to take on a patronisingly bullish tone on the issue of fracking, and they did not disappoint. We would not have put it past a vastly rich oil company to confidently welcome lawsuits, and they did not disappoint in this area either. Despite their "trust us" tone (maybe even because of it), Shell have only served to heighten the worries of just how little there is in this for locals, and just how shatteringly expensive the fracking will turn out to be for the Karoo and South Africa.

<http://www.thedailymaverick.co.za/article/2011-03-04-shell-takes-gung-ho-stance-on-karoo-fracking-outrage>

USA, GA, SAVANNAH, MARCH 4 2011. SAVANNAH TO BE FBI'S EAST COAST UNDERWATER EXPLOSION TRAINING CENTER >> TRAINING EXERCISE TEACHES DIVERS TO LOCATE, DESTROY EXPLOSIVE MATERIALS

corey dickstein

 **Watch the Video:**

<http://www2.wsav.com/news/2011/mar/03/bomb-squads-gather-savannah-underwater-explosives--ar-1534828/>



A student from the Georgia State Patrol and the Norfolk (Va.) Police Department help guided two law enforcement divers Thursday during a counter-terrorism diving course.

With about 120 pounds of gear on their backs, the wetsuit-clad divers knew they must react quickly. Only moments after learning an explosion in the Savannah harbor had sunk a boat, law enforcement divers submerged and began their search. The teams were tasked with locating additional explosives, scrap materials from the blast, a gun and the suspect's body. Within minutes the first team located a backpack in the water. They brought it to land and destroyed it. The gun was recovered next. After searching for nearly five minutes, the final team surfaced, towing the 150-pound body toward the shore. Though this Thursday morning disaster was only practice, its goal was to prepare law enforcement for a very real threat. The Federal Bureau of Investigation this week is conducting its Underwater Post Blast Investigations Course in Savannah. It's the first time the week-long counter-terrorism diving training has been hosted outside of Los Angeles, said Greg Rabinovitz, an FBI special agent bomb technician based in the California city. The training is especially useful in cities with major ports like Los Angeles and Savannah, said Rabinovitz, who teaches the program. Those ports could be susceptible to a

situation like the scenario posed Thursday - a terrorist aboard an incoming boat armed with a firearm and an explosive-laden backpack. "We find as much as anything that it's not the threat from a major terrorism incident - we've trained well and prepared for that - but from a small, everyday-kind of incident," Rabinovitz said. "Our goal is to be able to get through the everyday stuff quickly." After attending the course in Los Angeles about five years ago, Sgt. Robert Von Loewenfeldt, of Savannah-Chatham police's bomb squad, hoped to bring the training to Savannah. Because the FBI had been looking for an East Coast training center, metro police and the federal agency teamed up to bring it here. "This is huge," Von Loewenfeldt said. "For three years I've been working to get Savannah as the East Coast training center for the FBI. I'm more excited than I can say." This week, 24 public safety divers and bomb squad technicians from across the East Coast were trained in the program that prepares them to respond to underwater explosions, collect the pieces of the device and put it back together. That allows authorities to use the blast as evidence. "After this training, these guys can testify in court that this is what happened," Von Loewenfeldt said. "It's invaluable for this job." The scenario was carried out at a pond - portraying the harbor - in a local training area, with real explosives, though the suspect's body was only a mannequin. After pulling the backpack-bomb from the water, officials destroyed it with their own explosives. "Using explosives to get rid of explosives is the safest way to get rid of them - what we call rendering them safe," Von Loewenfeldt said. Eventually, Rabinovitz said, the Savannah-Chatham police along with Kevin Harrison, an FBI special agent bomb technician based in Atlanta, will teach the course. Von Loewenfeldt is hopeful the course will be ready by late summer, though he admitted that may be too optimistic of a goal. "It requires a lot of legwork," Rabinovitz said. "There is a lot of equipment and coordinating that is involved to hold this training." Eventually though, it will be held twice a year in Savannah. "The Savannah-Chatham (police) stepped up," Rabinovitz said. "We're hoping that the FBI-Atlanta and Savannah-Chatham can run this course by themselves very soon."

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<http://savannahnow.com/crime/2011-03-04/savannah-be-fbis-east-coast-underwater-explosion-training-center>

USA, N.Y, ALBANY, MARCH 4 2011. WELLINGTON ROW SITE WILL BE MONITORED FOR CONTAMINANTS

michael demasi

About 450 tons of contaminated soil have been removed from the [Wellington Row redevelopment site](#) in downtown Albany, New York, but the area must be monitored to ensure vapors are not being released. Testing of the soil vapor will take about two months. The testing will be part of a consent order that the developer, Columbia Eagle LLC, agrees to soon with the state Department of Environmental Conservation under the Superfund program, officials said. Columbia Eagle, an arm of Columbia Development Cos. in Albany, has been working with the DEC since a large underground storage tank and contaminated soil were discovered in July 2007. The contaminants include tetrachloroethene (PCE), trichloroethene (TCE), other chlorinated volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and benzene/toluene/ethyl benzene/xylene (BTEX). The contamination is a remnant from the days in the early 1900s when Albany Chemical Laboratories was located at 67 Howard Street, according to the DEC. Another contaminant, mercury, was likely caused by "urban fill" previously used at the site. Howard Street is in the rear of a block-long area on State Street near the Capitol known as Wellington Row, named for the former Hotel Wellington. Columbia Development bought the dilapidated, 19th-century era buildings in 2006. In fall 2009, the company knocked down the hotel and most of the four other buildings on the block — except for the facades — to prepare the site for a proposed 11-story, \$65 million office/retail/residential project. The redevelopment has been stalled, however. Michael Arcangel, project executive at Columbia Development, said the delay was due to the economy, not to the environmental clean-up. He said the impacted area measured 30 feet by 110 feet, a small portion of the site. Testing the soil vapor and getting a final sign-off from the DEC is important to obtaining bank financing for the project. Still, Arcangel said the contamination "doesn't encumber the whole property." "It's not a deal-stopper," he said.

http://www.bizjournals.com/albany/morning_call/2011/03/wellington-row-site-will-be-monitored.html

USA, LA, BATON ROUGE, MARCH 4 2011. LEGISLATURE CREATES OIL SPILL OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE

State legislative leaders have formed a special committee to oversee the BP claims process led by Kenneth Feinberg. The committee will be chaired by New Orleans Rep. Walt Leger, a Democrat. It is expected to hold its first meeting this month. Senate President Joel Chaisson told The Times-Picayune the committee was formed because of complaints about the way Feinberg is handling the nearly 200,000 spill claims filed by Louisiana individuals and businesses with the Gulf Coast Claims Facility. Feinberg has been criticized by BP for being overly generous in his disbursement methodology and by oil spill victims who say they have been treated unfairly. The panel will be similar to a special committee created after the 2005 hurricanes. It will have the power to subpoena witnesses, but will not be able to force changes to the claims process.

<http://www.miamiherald.com/2011/03/04/2097004/legislature-creates-oil-spill.html>

NAMIBIA, WINDHOEK, MARCH 5 2011. SHELL REACH AGREEMENTS ON AFRICAN BUSINESSES

david adetona

Shell, a global group of energy and petrochemicals companies, recently announced that it has agreed to divest the majority of its shareholding in most of its downstream businesses in Africa to Vitol and Helios Investment Partners for a total consideration of about US\$1 billion. Under the agreements, Shell will retain equity in two new joint venture companies, which will assure continued availability of Shell fuels and lubricants in 14 African countries under the Shell brand. "This is a good deal for our customers as well as for Shell. We will significantly reduce our capital exposure in line with our strategy to concentrate our global downstream footprint, and continue to provide high quality Shell products that our African customers have come to trust and rely on over many decades," said Mark Williams, director of downstream at Royal Dutch Shell. Ian Taylor, CEO of the Vitol Group, said his company is delighted to have concluded this agreement with Shell and Helios. "Africa is a continent we know well. These two new ventures allow us to invest in Africa and its fast-growing economies, and grow all the businesses under the umbrella of the world-class Shell brand for the benefit of our customers," Taylor said. On his part, Tope Lawani, managing partner of Helios Investment Partners, said the company is pleased to enter into this "landmark agreement" with Shell and Vitol. Lawani added that Helios Investment believes that combining Vitol's world class supply expertise and Helios' understanding of the African operating environment with the Shell brand and a highly professional workforce will create significant new growth opportunities for the business and will ensure the continued supply of high quality products and services for African consumers. According to a media statement issued by Shell recently, one joint venture will own and operate Shell's existing oil products, distribution and retailing businesses in 14 African countries, with the potential to add five more in the future. Vitol and Helios will hold 80% of the venture and Shell will hold the remaining 20%. "A separate company,

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which will be 50% owned by Shell and 50% by Vitol and Helios, will own Shell's existing lubricants blending plants in seven countries and will manage macro-distributor relationships in each of the countries where the main venture operates, plus a number of others. "Shell, Vitol and Helios will now concentrate on securing necessary regulatory approvals and integration planning, ahead of a phased completion of the proposed deal during 2011 and the first half of 2012," Shell said. The deal covers existing Shell downstream businesses (Retail, Commercial Fuels, Liquefied Petroleum Gas, Lubricants, Bitumen, Aviation and Marine) in Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt (excluding lubricants), Cote d'Ivoire, Burkina Faso, Ghana, Senegal, Mali, Guinea, Cape Verde, Kenya, Uganda, Madagascar and Mauritius. Shell's downstream businesses in Namibia, Botswana, Togo, Tanzania and La Reunion are under review for potential inclusion in the deal at a later date. Shell's fuels, lubricants and refining activities in South Africa, the company's lubricants business in Egypt and its exploration and production businesses, liquefied natural gas interests and most international trading activities in Africa are not part the proposed deal. Royal Dutch Shell is incorporated in England and Wales, has its headquarters in The Hague and is listed on the London, Amsterdam, and New York stock exchanges. Shell companies have operations in more than 90 countries and territories with businesses including oil and gas exploration and production; production and marketing of liquefied natural gas and gas to liquids; manufacturing, marketing and shipping of oil products and chemicals and renewable energy projects.

http://www.economist.com.na/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=23290:shell-reach-agreements-on-african-businesses&catid=593:general-news

AUSTRALIA, QUEENSLAND, GYMPIE, MARCH 5 2011. TANKER CRASH BLOCKS HIGHWAY

A fuel tanker crash forced the closure of the Bruce Highway's southbound lanes at Gungalda late yesterday afternoon, Gympie police said. It is understood the tanker may have hit a pole or become out of control on wet bitumen, causing it to slide sideways. Police said early reports indicated the rear of the tanker was hanging partly off the elevated highway section. Ambulances were dispatched to the scene as a precaution.

<http://www.gympietimes.com.au/story/2011/03/05/a-fuel-tanker-crash-forced-the-closure-of-the-bruc/>

INDIA, BELGAUM, MARCH 5 2011. FUEL ADULTERATION RACKET BUSTED

A team of police officials, under the guidance of [IGP P S Sandhu](#) (Belgaum North) on Friday, busted a racket of fuel adulteration by arresting 23 persons. They seized nine furnace oil tankers, cash and other materials worth Rs 1.28 crore. According to an official release, the drivers of the furnace oil tankers from Kalaghatagi taluk in Dharwad district were allegedly selling furnace oil to the industrialists in Dharwad industrial area for many years now. The tanker drivers purchased furnace oil at Goa, Karwar and Mangalore from Hindustan Petroleum, [Indian Oil Corporation](#) and Mangalore Refinery Company to sell the same to industrialists, as per their demands, illegally. The industrialists utilized the same oil after adulterating it. Following a tip-off, officials raided the tankers at Devikoppa and Junagarahalli sheds on Yallapur road. The raid team comprised of Dy SP K B Kudachi, CPI D C Lakkannavar and S A Sanadi, inspector of district crime investigation branch. Two complaints have been registered with Kalaghatagi police station. Another five persons are absconding.

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/hubli/Fuel-adulteration-racket-busted/articleshow/7629457.cms>

INDIA, UTTAR PRADESH, TUNDLA, MARCH 5 2011. 6 INJURED AS GAS TANKER EXPLODES ON HIGHWAY IN UTTAR PRADESH

At least six people were injured when a gas tanker exploded after a leakage in Tundla area today, police said. The gas tanker was on way to Agra from Firozabad but it stopped alongside a national highway after it was found that the gas was leaking, police said. By the time fire officials came to fix the problem, the tanker exploded leading to collapse of nearby Dhaba's wall. About six people were injured in the incident, police said.

http://www.dnaindia.com/india/report_6-injured-as-gas-tanker-explodes-on-highway-in-uttar-pradesh_1515336

PAKISTAN, PESHAWAR, MARCH 5 2011. THREE INJURED, SHOPS GUTTED IN TANKER BLAST

javed aziz khan

At least three persons were injured and more than 30 shops gutted as another Nato oil-tanker was blown up near the Karkhano Market in Hayatabad on Thursday. The oil-tankers carrying fuel for Nato forces were on way to Afghanistan when a magnet bomb planted with one of the vehicles went off early in the morning at 8:45 am. Heavy police contingents cordoned off the area soon after the blast. The fire that erupted due to the explosion engulfed the oil tankers and nearby cabins and shops. The main Jamrud Road remained blocked for quite some time due to the incident. The Rescue 1122 teams reached the spot to extinguish the fire. The three injured persons were shifted to Hayatabad Medical Complex. They were identified as 50-year

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old Mohammad Qasim of Board Bazaar, Shamsuddin, 20, and Shams-ur-Rehman, 25, of Karkhano Market. Rescue 1122 fire fighters, the Peshawar Development Authority (PDA) and City fire brigade saved the nearby markets. However, 37 wooden cabin shops, some vehicles and two electricity transformers were affected by the raging flames. The attack is second of its kind during the last few days after a huge attack on three container terminals on Ring Road near Garhi Qmardin. At least four people were killed and over a dozen wounded in that attack which also reduced to ashes 15 vehicles, thousands of litres fuel and other property.

<http://www.thenews.com.pk/TodaysPrintDetail.aspx?ID=34235&Cat=7&dt=3/4/2011>

USA, AZ, PINAL COUNTY, MARCH 5 2011. TANKER CRASH CLOSES SR 87

layla tang

A rollover crash involving a tractor-trailer is blocking both directions of SR 87, east of Interstate 10, near the Sacaton area. The crash was reported at 6:51 a.m. DPS officials tell KGUN9 the tanker truck was carrying milk and spilled at least some of its payload. The road is expected to be closed for several hours as crews work to contain that spill.

<http://www.kgun9.com/Global/story.asp?S=14187214>

NIGERIA, LAGOS, MARCH 5 2011. 1 DEAD, 4 INJURED IN LAGOS FUEL DEPOT FIRE

philip nwasu & tessy igomu

One person was killed and four others severely injured in a mid afternoon fire at an illegal petroleum depot at the Coconut area of Lagos yesterday. The fire which destroyed three vehicles and unquantifiable amount of property, was blamed on the carelessness of the operators of the illegal petroleum depot near a major independent marketer. The actual cause of the fire could not be ascertained as most operators of the illegal depot maintained sealed lips. However, a witness who spoke with Daily Sun on condition of anonymity, said the fire started when a customer came to purchase petroleum product. He disclosed that in the process of starting the engine to dispense the product, fire was ignited and both operator and customer scampered to safety. Other illegal operators were also said to have taken to their heels as the inferno grew out of control in seconds. Daily Sun learnt that but for the quick intervention of the fire department of some independent marketers in the area, the fire would have spread to a nearby tank farm. Prompt arrival of firemen from the Federal Fire Service, Festac Division, also helped to save the day. It was reliably gathered that the only victim of the incident, who could not be identified, as he was burnt beyond recognition, was sleeping under a tree near where the fire started, and was unable to escape from the huge flame that engulfed the area. The operator and customer, who allegedly started the fire, Daily Sun learnt, escaped but not without burns. Nwako Desmond, an officer with the Federal Fire Service, who also confirmed the number of casualties, said they were yet to ascertain the actual cause of fire. But he noted that it actually started from the illegal petroleum product depot. He noted that immediately the fire outfit received the distress call, six fire trucks were immediately deployed in the scene. Reacting to the fire incident, NUPENG Chairman, Coconut, Ismaila Oshoku, said he was aware of the fire but was expecting to be briefed adequately, as he was out on an official assignment. He, however, said the union would look into the matter to ascertain the real cause as well as to unravel the identity of the dead victim. As at the time Daily Sun left the fire scene, the burnt remain of the victim was yet to be evacuated while men of the Nigeria Police were on ground to forestall breakdown of law and order.

<http://www.sunnewsonline.com/webpages/news/national/2011/mar/04/national-04-03-2011-024.htm>

USA, UT, UTAH CO, ALPINE, MARCH 5 2011. ALPINE WORKING ON PROPANE TANK RULES

A new ordinance has been drafted for Alpine that will restrict installation and legal amounts of propane that can be owned and stored in a home or building. Until that ordinance is finalized, Alpine could institute a moratorium on installing propane tanks. Brad Freeman, Lone Peak fire chief, attended a planning commission meeting to voice his concern. "Propane is one of the most dangerous gases," Freeman said. "A 500-gallon tank will level a whole block. It will destroy 12 homes if it goes up in the neighborhood. In my opinion, there is really no reason to have them in the ground and in a home where we have natural gas service." He explained that most residents own propane tanks for use in cabin areas where natural gas service isn't available. "The reason we are putting them in Alpine is, I don't want to call it 'doomsday' but people feel like at the end of the world, or whatever is going to happen, they are going to have heat in their furnaces, which is OK," Freeman said. "It's a good school of thought; however, the thing that would hit our community, probably the more likely thing of any disaster is an earthquake." In the event of an earthquake, there would be major problems with underground propane tanks and their piping, Freeman said. "I just don't like the hazard of having those," Freeman said. "Some of them are only 10 feet from the neighbor's house and they don't even know it. I just don't think it's fair to the neighbors." The Alpine planning commission decided Tuesday that it would recommend to the city council that a suspension of propane installations be placed until a city ordinance is finalized. Alpine

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receives numerous applications for propane tanks, including requests to bury them underground. "There is one person that had three 1,000 gallon tanks buried on his property," said April Naidu, Alpine city planner. "We had one recent application from someone who wanted to install it himself. Well, I'm sorry but that is a big concern to me. We put it in as a proposed regulation that it would have to be installed by someone who is licensed or certified by the state fire marshal's office." The ordinance would also allow the fire department to have a list of all propane tanks in the city. In the event of an emergency, the firefighters who are called to the area need to be aware of a tank that is on site or close by to avoid potential hazards. The committee also discussed a possible addition to the ordinance that would require residents who have tanks to be responsible for a yearly inspection. "Once a tank is buried, nobody can inspect it," said Freeman. "You can only inspect the piping they can see." The draft released in the meeting limited tanks to 500 gallons unless approved by the fire chief. The draft also requires annual inspections at the cost of the resident, and a required building permit for all installations that exceed 125 gallons. "I think 500 gallons is being very reasonable," said Freeman about the proposed amount. "That will run a home for a year. If services aren't restored after a year of disaster, we've got bigger problems than just a propane tank."

http://www.heraldextra.com/news/local/north/alpine/article_bda6d20a-10ca-5e67-a3a4-6654fb698e75.html

USA, WASHINGTON, MARCH 5 2011. COAST GUARD: BEWARE OF E15 FUELS IN BOATS

Boaters who fuel their boats from the same pumps as their vehicle may be at risk of unknowingly or mistakenly putting 15% ethanol and 85% gasoline into an engine for which E15 has not been approved. Only one small label is required on the pump to warn boaters of the 50 percent increase in ethanol. The Coast Guard Auxiliary recommends only fueling boats from tanks at marinas. On January 21, 2011 the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) granted a waiver that allows the percentage of ethanol in the nation's gasoline supply to jump from 10% (E10) to 15% (E15) to be sold only for cars, SUVs and light-duty trucks made in 2001 through 2006. This decision comes on the heels of an October 13th decision to waive the limitations for so-called E15 for model-year 2007 and newer cars and light-duty trucks. This EPA waiver does not permit use of the higher alcohol content fuel in lawnmowers, chainsaws, snowmobiles, motorcycles or boats. NEWS from BoatUS, February 7, 2011 issue states that many components on a boat come in contact with ethanol-laden gasoline, including fuel lines, fuel tanks, fuel pumps, fuel injectors, carburetors, pressure regulators, valves, o-rings, and gaskets. The compatibility of these components with any blend greater than E10 is currently unknown. The failure of only one of these components in your engine could lead to failure or, worse, a fire or explosion.

<http://www.sportfishingmag.com/news/news/coast-guard-beware-of-e15-fuels-in-boats-1000087380.html>

PERU, MARCH 5 2011. 90 OIL SPILLS IN PERUVIAN AMAZON OVER 3 YEARS

jeremy hance



The impacts of an oil spill in Block 1-AB near the community of Nueva Jerusalem.

A new report has uncovered 90 oil spills by Pluspetrol in northern Peru's Amazon rainforest over the past 3 years. Covering two oil blocs—1-AB and 8—the report, compiled by the Federation of Indigenous Communities of the Corrientes River (FECONACO), recorded 18 major oil spills in just the last year. "A week after the landmark ruling against Chevron in Ecuador for \$9 billion of damage from operations in the 1970's and 80's, this new report highlights the ongoing devastation caused by the oil industry on the fragile Amazon ecosystem and the people that live there," said Atossa Soltani, Executive Director at Amazon Watch, in a press release. In June of last year a tanker spilled 400 barrels of oil into the Marañon River, which led to a blockade where indigenous people protested called for Pluspetrol to pay them compensation for the pollution in the form of reforestation, food, medicine, and cash payments. Using community monitoring of oil operations

along the Corrientes River, the report also documents over 90 contamination sites left from over previous oil operator Occidental Petroleum that were not made apart of a clean-up agreement taken on by Pluspetrol. For its part Occidental Petroleum is currently embroiled in a lawsuit brought to court by members of the indigenous tribe Achuar for contaminating the region. Peruvian health studies have found that 98% of Achuar children have high levels of cadmium in their blood, and two-thirds suffer from lead poisoning. "[The report] raises serious concerns about Peru's aggressive development strategy to open the Amazon to oil drilling," said Gregor MacLennan, Amazon Watch Peru Program Coordinator, also in a press release. The government of Peru, led by President Alan Garcia, is currently pushing an oil boom. Around 70% of the Peruvian Amazon has been opened for oil and gas exploration and drilling, and a number of foreign companies have heard the call, including

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Talisman Energy, Petrolifera, ConocoPhilips, and Hunt Oil. The conflict between indigenous people living the region and big oil turned violent in 2009. A standoff between indigenous protestors and government police ended with 23 police officers and at least 10 protesters dead, though indigenous people say that bodies of protesters were dumped in rivers to hide the numbers killed.

http://news.mongabay.com/2011/0303-hance_oilspills_peru.html

USA, N.C, RALEIGH, MARCH 5 2011. Fire erupts at Raleigh gas station after car hits pump

thomasi mcdonald

• **Watch the Video** <http://www.wral.com/news/local/story/9217276/>

• **Watch the Video** <http://abclocal.go.com/wtvd/story?section=news/local&id=7994982>

• **Watch the Video:**

<http://www2.nbc17.com/news/2011/mar/04/15/fire-reported-gas-station-near-broughton-high-scho-ar-834091/>

• **Photo Gallery [26]** <http://abclocal.go.com/wtvd/gallery?section=news/local&id=7995045&photo=1&pid=7994982>

• **Photo Gallery [4]:**

<http://www2.nbc17.com/news/2011/mar/04/15/fire-reported-gas-station-near-broughton-high-scho-ar-834091/>



A Lexus, driven by Laura Avery Gillespie, 18, of Raleigh, turned into the parking lot and hit the gas pump. The pump toppled over, igniting both the Lexus and the Mercedes SUV. Lara Spagnola was looking down at her cell phone Friday when she felt something hit the parked SUV she was sitting in. Quickly turning around, all she saw was flames. "Everything was on fire," Spagnola said. "I heard a young girl screaming." A car had crashed into a gas pump in the parking lot of the Exxon convenience store at Peace and St. Mary's streets near downtown Raleigh. The gas pump and two vehicles erupted in flames, prompting the evacuation of nearby Broughton High School and snarling traffic in the area. Fortunately, no one was hurt. Spagnola, 24, was waiting in a Mercedes SUV for her friend, Susan Oakley, 26, of Raleigh, who had gone into the store to grab a bottle of water. That's when a Lexus driven by Laura Avery Gillespie, 18, of Raleigh, turned into the parking lot and hit

the gas pump. The pump toppled over, igniting both the Lexus and the Mercedes. "I thought it was Susan I heard screaming," Spagnola said. "I got out, but I couldn't see anything but flames." Gillespie told police that she was turning onto Peace Street from St. Mary's when an object dangling from her car's rearview mirror got tangled in the steering wheel. She was unable to turn the wheel, causing her car to crash into the gas pump, according to a preliminary accident report. By late Friday afternoon, police had not decided whether to file charges. The fire was reported at 2:21 p.m., according to a 911 dispatcher. It was declared out about a half hour later, said Garry Spain, a division chief with the Raleigh Fire Department. But for the next two hours, firefighters continued to spray water on the smoldering vehicles, while officials with Wake County's storm water management department monitored storm drains to prevent gas from seeping into nearby streams. Broughton High students were evacuated to a football field on the far side of the building, away from the fire. Oakley and a tearful Spagnola sat on a bench consoling one another. Spagnola thinks she might have endured severe injuries if she had been sitting in the driver's seat of the Mercedes. "I was looking at my cell phone, just sitting in the car," Spagnola said. "I got out in like, five seconds."

<http://www.newsobserver.com/2011/03/05/1030775/fire-erupts-at-gas-station.html>

USA, CA, SAN DIEGO, MARCH 5 2011. TARGET TO PAY \$22.5 MILLION IN WASTE CASE, OFFICIAL SAYS

Target Corp., the second-largest U.S. discount retailer, will pay \$22.5 million to settle claims it illegally dumped hazardous waste in California, said San Diego County District Attorney Bonnie M. Dumanis. The settlement, announced today in an e-mailed statement from Dumanis, resolves a civil lawsuit brought by former California Attorney General Jerry Brown and as many as 20 of the state's county district attorneys. Target must pay the \$22.5 million for penalties and costs of the litigation, and to fund environmental projects, according to Dumanis. A court order "will hold Target accountable for any failures to follow the letter of the law down the road, even after the civil penalties and costs are paid," Dumanis said in the statement. The suit, filed in state court in Oakland in 2009, claimed that 290 Target stores throughout California had been served since 2001 with more than 300 notices for disposing of hazardous materials, such as flammable liquids and toxic chemicals, at landfills not designated to receive them. Under California law, Target must properly dispose of products such as bleach, paints and pesticides that are returned, or damaged during shipping or stocking, according to the complaint. "Target has a comprehensive

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program to ensure our handling, storage, disposal and documentation of hazardous materials complies with California law, and we train our store teams regularly as part of this program," the company said in an e-mailed statement. "We will continue to devote substantial resources in order to remain a responsible corporate steward of the environment."

Brown's Investigation

The lawsuit against Minneapolis-based Target stems from an investigation started in 2006 by Brown, a Democrat who was elected governor of California last year, and the district attorneys. The suit claimed Target illegally dumped the products at sites in Sacramento, Alameda and Los Angeles counties, among others. Target said when the case was filed that it was disappointed because it had negotiated with the state for almost three years in an attempt to resolve the claims. Hazardous waste generated by California Target stores through damaged products, spills and customer returns must be collected by state-registered haulers, taken to proper disposal facilities and properly documented and accounted for, according to Dumanis. While Target stores have begun shipments of hazardous waste every 30 days, before the investigation those wastes were largely unaccounted for and, according to employees, were routinely unlawfully disposed, Dumanis said. The case is California v. Target, RG-09457686, Superior Court of California, Alameda County (Oakland).

<http://www.businessweek.com/news/2011-03-03/target-to-pay-22-5-million-in-waste-case-official-says.html>

AUSTRALIA, QUEENSLAND, GATTON, MARCH 6 2011. GAS SMELL CAUSES SERVO EVACUATION



Fire and Rescue crews attended the BP and McDonald's service station near Gatton when a gas leak was discovered.

A BUSY petrol station and McDonald's restaurant near Gatton were forced to close for hours yesterday after a gas smell emanated from one of the bowzers. BP and McDonald's employees had to evacuate as the building was placed in lockdown. The service station's pumps were shut down. Forest Hill rural firefighter Captain Rob Marsh said emergency services were called to the scene on the Warrego Highway about 1.20pm yesterday. A QFRS spokesman said three specialist Ipswich fire crews were also sent to the scene. Initial reports suggested the leak was coming from the bowzers. The spokesman said the area was cordoned off as firefighters worked to detect the source of the possible leak using gas monitors. By 2.20pm he said crews had left the scene after finding no gas leaks. The complex returned to normal trading shortly after.

<http://www.qt.com.au/story/2011/03/05/gas-smell-causes-servo-evacuation-ipswich/>

USA, ORE, HOOD RIVER, MARCH 6 2011. VANCOUVER TRUCKER ESCAPES INJURY IN FUEL TANKER CRASH >> TRUCK WITH 9,000 GALLONS OF DIESEL GOES OFF I-84 NEAR HOOD RIVER



Officials examine the wreckage of a truck which crashed through the guardrail near Exit 63 on I-84 Thursday afternoon. The truck, carrying nearly 10,000 gallons of diesel fuel, came to rest on a Hood River sewer pipe. The pipe did not crack, no diesel spilled from the truck and the driver suffered only a minor cut on a finger as he exited the truck before it tumbled down the embankment.

Oregon Department of Transportation personnel were to remain on scene monitoring two tanker trailers loaded with approximately 9,000 gallons of diesel after they traveled down an embankment on the south side of Interstate 84 in the Hood River area Friday afternoon. The company was arranging to off load the diesel before removing the tanker trailers possibly on Saturday. According to Oregon State Police Sgt. Pat Shortt, on March 4, 2011 at approximately 3:25 p.m. a

commercial truck pulling the two tanker trailers was eastbound on Interstate 84 near milepost 63. The truck's driver, Eric D. Christiansen, 58, from Vancouver lost control possibly due to an equipment problem on one of the trailers. The vehicles came to an initial rest teetering over the right shoulder guardrail. Uninjured, Christiansen got out of the truck before it continued down an embankment and stopped against several trees. The front trailer was ruptured but it appears a small amount of diesel leaked because the hole was above the diesel level in the tank. OSP troopers from The Dalles Area Command office, Hood River Fire Department, and ODOT responded to the scene. OSP's investigation is continuing. The right eastbound lane is expected to remain closed until the load off-loading is completed.

<http://www.columbian.com/news/2011/mar/05/vancouver-trucker-escapes-injury-fuel-tanker-crash/>

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