



Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network Release 2011 – 795 Newsy Stuff

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January 8 2012



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USA, AKA, FAIRBANKS, DECEMBER 29 2011. ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANUP AVERTED AT CANTWELL STORE FIRE *sam friedman*

There's some silver lining in the aftermath of the gas station explosion and fire that injured five in Cantwell earlier this month. Not only was the fire contained before it reached the gas pumps, the fuel that did burn will not require major environmental cleanup, according to state environmental regulators. "For the size of fire and destruction, there is very little cleanup that needs to be done," said state on-scene coordinator Tom DeRuyter with the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation. Two separate fuel containers burned in and around the convenience store, he said. One was a drum of cooking grease outside the store. Another, originally thought to be a bigger factor in the fire was a 300 gallon fuel oil tank below the store. The fire burned the vent off this tank, but it must not have touched most of the fuel because there was 250 gallons of fuel in the tank after the fire, he said. Besides these two tanks there will be some cleanup needed for a burned inventory of motor oil and batteries in the store's basement, he said. The state fire marshal has not determined the cause of an explosion, which occurred on the evening of Dec. 4. Although the gas station is a Chevron, the convenience store was operated by Philadelphia-based Aramark Corporation. The land is owned by Nenena Heating Service Inc.

http://newsminer.com/view/full_story/16916324/article-Environmental-cleanup-averted-at-Cantwell-store-fire?instance=home_news_window_left_bullets

NIGERIA, WARRI, DECEMBER 29 2011. SHELL OIL SPILLS SPREAD TO DELTA COMMUNITIES

sopuruchi onwuka & napoleon ehiremen



An oil spill in Ogoniland.

The crude oil volumes that spilled from Bonga deepwater field has started arriving the coastal communities in Niger Delta, sparking off a spate of public outcry over the dreaded impact on the fragile environment. Consequently, people of Delta state communities have called on the federal government and Shell to take immediate steps to halt the spill to avoid further damage to their land and sources of water. The development came as officials of Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency (NIMASA) arrived at the area yesterday to verify the claims and take samples of the sludgy surge to the coasts. Shell had reported spill of 40, 000 barrels or 6.5 million liters of crude oil from operated Bonga oilfield located 120 kilometers offshore Port Harcourt, Rivers State. While government and all the operators in the petroleum industry battle the spill to minimize its impact on the environment,

National Oil spill Detection and Response Agency (NOSDRA) said the crude oil would hit the Niger Delta coasts as from last weekend. Some inhabitants of some communities in Burutu local government area of delta state had complained of a heavy flow of substance suspected to be crude oil into their territory. A team from the Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency, who arrived at Warri from Lagos yesterday, went straight to the creeks of Delta State to ascertain the impact of the Bonga oil spill had taken samples of the substance for laboratory analysis. Deputy Director of NMASA, Captain Warri Enisuh, who led the delegation to Beniboye, one of the alleged affected communities in Burutu local government area of Delta State, urged Shell to rush to the area to contain the spill. He said: "At this particular point in time, we definitely know that there is a spill in the area, but however, Shell did do what they can to contain that particular spill, we do have some more spills offshore area around the Beniboye community of Burutu Local Government Area of Delta State and we have taken samples of that oil, but we cannot at this particular point in time confirm whether it is from the Bonga Oil Spill or not, only a scientific analysis will determine this case. "But from what our team has just seen, it is appalling, it is not very good to see and as you can see, we are here and the Director General of Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency, Mr. Patrick Akpobolokemi was very concerned hence he sent this particular team to go out there and see things for ourselves and probably at some points, bring pressure on the people responsible and possibly we all join our efforts to do something so that the communities in the area do not suffer beyond what they are likely to face at the moment," he stated. Responding to a question, Captain Enisuh who was also accompanied by Marine Environment Team said: "My report is that, we have to do something as soon and as quick as possible before it goes beyond what we have found because the oil in the area we are not going to under estimate the ecological and economic damage it will cause and so we will use this medium to appeal that something is done immediately. "Shell knows the situation on ground at the moment. I was with the Managing Director of Shell



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few days ago and he was quick to instruct his officials to clean up any oil in the area irrespective of whether it was from Shell or not which was a very good move and I must commend him for that. "Like I have said, this one that we have found which is currently threatening the Coast at the moment has to be dealt with immediately and it will not be right to go for or blame somebody. I think the effort should concentrate on fixing the situation as soon as possible."

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201112280407.html>

SRI LANKA, COLOMBO, DECEMBER 29 2011. SRI LANKA PREPARES PLANS AND GUIDELINES FOR SETTING UP FUEL STATIONS

Sri Lanka's Ministry of Petroleum and Petroleum Resources has taken measures to conduct a survey to prepare proper plans and criteria in setting up of fuel stations in the country. Accordingly, the research is now being carried out by the Civil Engineering Department of the Moratuwa University in this regard. The first stage of the research has already been completed and the entire project is to be completed before the end of January next year. The factors such as the density of vehicles, the distance between the fuel stations and population are to be considered when compiling this report.

http://www.colombopage.com/archive_11B/Dec20_1324357797KA.php

SRI LANKA, COLOMBO, DECEMBER 29 2011. 17 FUEL STORAGE FACILITIES IN SRI LANKA TO BE UPGRADED TO FUEL STATIONS

Petroleum Minister of Sri Lanka Susil Premajayantha has directed Ceylon Petroleum Corporation (CPC) officials to convert 17 fuel storage facilities into fuel stations. The decision to upgrade the storage facilities into fuel stations had been made following requests made by 30 owners of storage facilities. The CPC has chosen 17 facilities out of them to be upgraded to fuel stations. The storage facilities could store diesel and kerosene. The CPC Marketing Division is currently engaged in introducing the facility of storing petrol and other necessities required to convert the 17 facilities into a fuel station. The new fuel stations would be set up in the Eastern, North Central, North Western, Central and Southern Provinces.

http://www.colombopage.com/archive_11B/Dec23_1324631969JR.php

INDONESIA, JAKARTA, DECEMBER 29 2011. PERTAMINA TO BUILD FUEL TERMINAL IN RIAU ISLANDS

rangga d. fadillah

State oil and gas firm PT Pertamina announced on Tuesday that it would set up a new fuel terminal on Sambu island, Riau Islands, with a total capacity of 300,000 kiloliters (kl) in a bid to strengthen the national fuel stock. The terminal, worth US\$50 million, would consist of storage with a capacity of 300,000 kl and three docks for vessels with a maximum capacity of 100,000 dead weight tons (DWT), the company's spokesperson, Mochamad Harun, reported. The terminal would also have offices and safety facilities, he added. "The construction of the facilities is expected to be completed in 2013. The presence of the terminal will really help us in strengthening the security of national fuel stock," he said in a press statement. The construction of the terminal followed up on an agreement between Pertamina and Pertamina Energy Services (PES), Pertamina's subsidiary, which was signed by Pertamina president director Karen Agustiawan and PES managing director Nawazir on Dec. 22. Harun explained that the terminal would serve several activities, including receiving fuel material, storing fuels, blending and distributing the fuel. In addition to strengthening the national fuel stock, the Sambu terminal was also expected to optimize the potential of Sambu Island as a fuel business hub in Southeast Asia. The terminal can supply fuels to neighboring countries requiring fuel. According to the company's data, Pertamina distributes 60 million kl annually. It has six refineries, more than 130 tankers, 160 fuel terminals, 2,688 tank trucks, over 4,800 fuel stations and 15,000 employees. Pertamina's marketing and business director said earlier that distributing fuels in Indonesia was a very challenging job. The company had to face many constraints, such as traversing Indonesia's widespread archipelago, the insufficient depth of rivers and estuaries, bad weather and highlands. The six refineries have a total capacity to process 1.03 million barrels of oil per day, but produce only 676,000 barrels of fuel. The refineries are located in Dumai, Riau, with a capacity of 170,000 bpd, Plaju in South Sumatra (118,000 bpd), Cilacap in Central Java (348,000 bpd), Balikpapan in East Kalimantan (260,000 bpd), Balongan in West Java (125,000 bpd) and Kasim in West Papua (10,000 bpd). On Dec. 24, Pertamina announced that the country's fuel stock was 3.67 million kl, comprising 1.3 million kl of premium, 1.6 million kl of diesel fuel, 312,000 kl of kerosene, 90,000 kl of Pertamina, 29,000 kl of Pertamina Plus and 324,000 kl of aviation fuel. For liquefied petroleum gas (LPG), the stock was 179,000 metric tons. The Energy and Mineral Resources Ministry said earlier that Indonesia needed to build at least three more oil refineries with the capacity of 250,000 barrels each to stop fuel imports and strengthen the security of fuel supply.



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Related Links [AKR to operate biggest private fuel terminal](http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2011/12/28/pertamina-build-fuel-terminal-riau-islands.html)

<http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2011/12/28/pertamina-build-fuel-terminal-riau-islands.html>

NIGERIA, BAYELSA STATE, ODIOMA, DECEMBER 29 2011. 'BONGA SPILL HAS TURNED US INTO DEBTORS'

olukorede yishau



A boat with fishermen and dead fishes...yesterday. Residents of villages around Shell's Bonga oil field, which recorded a major oil spill on December 21, lament the effect of the spill on their health and livelihood.

Lucky Tema and Ayeomane Ayela live around the Bonga field, where a major spill occurred on December 21. Both men are fishermen. The spill, they said, has made them unable to fish. The thick slick of crude oil, which has taken over the river, sent the fishes packing. Tema said: "I have been in this fishing camp in Odioma for about 12 years. I am an Ijaje man and fishing is my main occupation; that's what I do here. As you can see I am just returning from the ocean. If you go into the ocean you will find the thick slick of crude oil floating, tossed here and there by the waves.

It is spreading according to the direction of the current. That is what we are seeing even right here at the waterside on St. Nicholas. "As a fisherman, one of the things I know about this crude oil is that, apart from killing aquatic life, it chases away the fishes that used to be around. If our nets get in contact with the crude oil it will stain the nets and, because of the smell and colour, fish will notice and avoid such nets in the water. You can see the little catch that I returned with. This is not how it used to be. Our efforts are yielding far below expectation these days." Ayela said: "Actually we started noticing this crude oil on the Atlantic a week ago. But it came ashore about two days ago. Oil spills affect our fishing and, this one is not an exception. We used to catch enough fish before but it is difficult now. I go into the ocean almost every day and, since we began experiencing this spill we have been unhappy. If you had come when we had full tide, you would have noticed the crude oil slick all around the waterside. Now the water has ebbed, though you can still see signs of crude oil at the waterfront. We are not happy because it takes extra effort to avoid the slick from contaminating our fishing nets. Once your net has stains of crude oil fishes will run away from the net because they will see it. As you can see we are powerless; we cannot order the government on what to do." He added: "But I think a responsible government should be able to appreciate our plight and assist us. Because of this kind of situation we are becoming debtors as we hardly even meet up the payment of the fuel we use for our ocean-going boats. We want Shell to clean up the spill and compensate us for loss of livelihood. Our business has been impacted. Bonga fish that used to come to the surface are no more. The company should not deny us of our Bonga with their Bonga Facility." The Environmental Rights Action (ERA), in a report issued after monitoring the spill site, said the spill affected 923 square kilometres. Its report reads: "Following an alert from fisherfolk in Odioma community on the discovery of oil slick suspected to be from Shell's Bonga Field, ERA/FoEN monitors visited the Atlantic shoreline in the company of some of the fishermen where spreading spill was sighted. "Odioma, a Nembe-speaking Ijaw community is on the fringes of the Atlantic Ocean in Brass Local Government Area of Bayelsa State and its people have a large number of fisherfolk who derive their livelihood from Atlantic Ocean. "Areas visited by ERA/FoEN monitors in the company of three community folk - Elder James Sampson aka Ovie Kokori, Danyo Ogoniba and Ayeomane Ayela, included Fish Camp 2 opposite the Varnish Island and St. Nicholas. In the course of the visit, spreading slick was observed close to the coastline of Odioma and along St. Nicholas. More quantity was observed spread out at the Varnish Island. "Shell had, on Wednesday, December 21 announced that some 40,000 barrels of crude had leaked into the Atlantic Ocean from the 200,000 barrels per day Bonga Deep Offshore Oil Fields which it operates on behalf of the Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) under a production sharing contract. The field, 120 kilometres southwest of the Niger Delta, was discovered in 1996, with government's approval for its development given in 2002 and first production in November 2005. The field is run in partnership with Esso (20 per cent), Nigeria Agip (12.5 per cent) and Elf Petroleum Nigeria Limited (12.5 per cent) and was built at a cost of \$3.6 billion. "The December 21 spill at the Bonga facility is said to have occurred while a vessel was being loaded with crude oil. The River Ramos near Warri is reported to have also been affected by the Bonga spill, while local fishermen in Forcados on Monday (December 26) also raised the alarm about an unreported oil spill that has been on for about two weeks at Otumara in Escravos, Ugborodo area of Delta State. "On Wednesday, December 21, SkyTruth obtained a radar satellite image showing a major oil spill on the waters off the coast of Nigeria. The image, taken at approximately 9:30am local time on December 21, 2011 by the ASAR instrument aboard



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the Envisat satellite operated by the European Space Agency, reveals a slick covering 923 square kilometres (356 square miles). The image may be viewed and downloaded from the SkyTruth blog. "In the course of the field visit, ERA/FoEN noticed that the spread of the spill continued into Fish Camp 2, behind the community and by the entrance of St. Nicholas. St. Nicholas joins the Atlantic ocean from this point. However, even before visiting Fish Camp 2, the surface of the river showed signs of the slick sheen everywhere. Apart from what was observed in the Ocean, crude oil slick was noticed coming into St. Nicholas." The group said the Federal Government should make the oil giant properly account for the spill. It said: "The Nigerian government should compel Shell to state the actual amount of oil spewed from its facility. "We demand that Shell also reveal the names and types of chemical dispersants used in fighting the spill. "More importantly, the Nigerian government, in addition to carrying out an independent investigation of Shell's claims that only 40,000 barrels of crude was spewed, should make the company pay adequately for the damage done to Odioma Community folk and other affected communities along the Atlantic coast of the Niger Delta. "An independent verification and cleaning up of existing mess (all over the Niger Delta) onshore and offshore should be the focus of NOSDRA and other regulatory agencies. "The international community, especially environmental and rights related groups should join in this just cause to defend the environment and livelihood of the people.

<http://www.thenationonline.net/2011/index.php/news/31339-%E2%80%98bonga-spill-has-turned-us-into-debtors%E2%80%99.html>

AUSTRALIA, NORTHERN TERRITORY, DECEMBER 29 2011. CHEMICAL SPILL FROM TOP END DERAILED TRAIN INVESTIGATED

[Watch the Video Chemical Spill Investigated](#)



A freight company says it is assessing the damage caused by a train derailment in the Northern Territory.

The company that operates a train that derailed in Northern Territory floodwaters is investigating the damage as environmental authorities focus on a possible chemical spill. The freight train came off the rails near the Edith River bridge about 40km north of Katherine early on Tuesday morning, when floods caused by Cyclone Grant washed away part of the bridge. The accident has raised concerns that hazardous chemicals carried by the train have leaked into the rain-swollen river. Genesee and Wyoming Australia (GWA) confirmed in a statement on Wednesday that two of the 33 wagons contained copper concentrate. A spokeswoman for GWA said it was too early to comment on any possible spill. "Yesterday they were only able to do an aerial assessment ... so they don't know the full extent of the damage to the train," she told

AAP. A spokeswoman for the Department of Natural Resources and Environment (NRETAS) said staff were currently investigating the spill and prosecutions could follow if any negligence was found. "We're taking it pretty seriously," she said. "There will be a thorough environmental investigation." Both NRETAS and GWA said they expected to have more information later on Wednesday. Meanwhile, one of two crew members injured in the crash continues to recover in hospital. GWA said in a statement the stretch of rail between Katherine and Darwin remained out of service. "Crews are inspecting the bridge and making plans for restoring service over the approximately 350-metre affected segment. "It is not yet known how long repairs will take." GWA operates the 2200km rail line between Tarcoola and Darwin, which links the Port of Darwin with the Australian interstate rail network in South Australia.

<http://www.theaustralian.com.au/news/chemical-spill-from-top-end-derailed-train-investigated/story-fn7x79y7-1226231973739>

REPUBLIC OF KYRGYZSTAN, CHUI PROVINCE, PANFILOV, DECEMBER 29 2011. 5 PEOPLE DIE IN FIRE AT THE TANK FARM IN CHUI PROVINCE OF KYRGYZSTAN

makhinur niyazova

In Kyrgyzstan, 4 people died in fire at the tank farm in Panfilov district of Chui province. The firefighting service of Chui province informs. Reportedly, at 12.00 they received call on fire in the inactive tank farm in Kaindy. The fire destroyed four vehicles, including two fuel tankers. As noted, several people died in incident. According to preliminary data, they are drivers. "At the moment data on deaths are being specified. We know about 4 fire victims," said in the firefighting service. Now the fire has been extinguished. An inquiry is being prosecuted, ignition cause is being established.



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Related Links [Ministry of Interior: explosion caused fire at Kainda-Oil bulk plant petroleum depot](#)
<http://eng.24.kg/incidents/2011/12/28/22266.html>

ARGENTINA, SANTA FE PROVINCE, DECEMBER 29 2011. GUNPOWDER PLANT EXPLOSION -

Thanks Diego N. Gotelli, for the "Heads Up" www.ciquime.org.ar



The worker died this morning of the explosives factory Foti Powder Manufacturing Argentina SA (Fomapsa), seriously wounded yesterday by exploiting a section of the plant located in the northern sector of the city of Rafaela, by the side of the route 34 opposite the Economic Activities Park in Rafaela (SREP), 100 km west of the capital. Batellini Sebastian, 25, was hospitalized yesterday in the British Hospital of Rosario, with burns over 80% of their body. With this death, there are two workers who were killed in the explosion that occurred on the day on Tuesday, past the 9.30. The other victim was Ricardo Perriard, 49, who died on the spot. In 2007, another explosion in the same factory killed four workers and seriously

injured two others. At that time, the outbreak occurred when four employees working with damp gunpowder in a hydraulic press. The Judge of Criminal Courts in Rafaela, Alejandro Mognaschi, is waiting the final report of the forensic experts and experts from the National Gendarmerie, to determine responsibility in the fact

Related Links

[Argentina Christmas fireworks injures 100](#)

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<http://www.lanacion.com.ar/1436129-murio-otra-persona-por-la-exposion-en-una-fabrica-de-polvora>

<http://tn.com.ar/sociedad/00077435/santa-fe-murio-el-operario-herido-en-la-fabrica-de-explosivos>

http://www.clarin.com/sociedad/Exploto-fabrica-polvora-Santa-Fe_0_616738481.html

<http://www.lacapital.com.ar/la-region/Un-muerto-y-un-herido-dejo-una-exposion-en-una-fabrica-de-polvora--20111228-0017.html>

USA, N.C, GREENVILLE, DECEMBER 29 2011. FUEL DUMPED IN TAR RIVER

ginger livingston



Officials with the City of Greenville and Pitt County were coping with fuel illegally dumped at two locations around the city this afternoon. The Pitt County Sheriff's Office was conducting a criminal investigation into one of the incidents, several Greenville officials said. One location was a storm drain along West Third Street near the railroad tracks, said Wes Anderson, public works director for Greenville. From that location the fuel made its way into the Tar River. It had drifted to the Town Common boat ramp by 5:30 p.m. The other location was a drainage ditch along Allen Road, Anderson said. He didn't know the exact location but it was in an area outside Greenville's city limits. "The problem we have with the river is we don't have any way (to contain it) so we are trying to contact the state and see how they want to handle it," he said. Public works department personnel is trained to investigate fuel spills but not to clean up or contain them, he said. A citizen called Greenville Fire-Rescue sometime between 2:30-3 p.m. and reported a strong smell of fuel along the Town Common boat ramp, said Battalion Chief Tony Smart. He went to the ramp with several firefighters. "We saw a sheen of what looked like a petroleum product in the water," he said. They began tracing the sheen's path and discovered the fuel was flowing through a stormwater drain in the parking lot of apartments at First and Washington streets. Greenville Public Works was called and its employees traced it to the Third Street location. Anderson and Smart did not know how the fuel dump along Allen Road was discovered. Neither man knew how much fuel had been poured in the city's storm drains or at the Allen Road location. The Town Common remained open Wednesday afternoon. "Diesel fuel in this environment is not flammable," Smart said. Diesel



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fuel's flash point is about 125 degrees Fahrenheit. "With our temperatures outside hovering around 40-50 degrees and the fact that it was in water, we weren't concerned about that at all," he said. Sheriff's officials were unavailable for comment Wednesday evening.

<http://www.reflector.com/news/fuel-dumped-tar-river-817401>

USA, ILL, CHICAGO, DECEMBER 29 2011. DIESEL FUEL LEAKS INTO FOX RIVER



Workers continue cleaning up a diesel spill under the Sullivan road bridge in Aurora on Wednesday, December 27, 2011.

Approximately 1,500 gallons of diesel fuel leaked from the Federal Aviation Administration facility at 619 W. Indian Trail, Aurora Wednesday morning. The city of Aurora said the spill presents no danger to the public water supply. Several departments from the city, along with the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, were working with a hazardous materials firm Wednesday evening to clean up the spill. At approximately 1 a.m., FAA officials informed the Aurora Fire Department that a small amount of fuel, between 20 and 100 gallons, had overflowed through the top of a malfunctioning underground fuel storage tank onto the pavement and into a Fox Metro Water District sanitary sewer. Since a spill of that size would be

categorized as small and did not necessitate an immediate cleanup, fire personnel informed Fox Metro and plans were made to address it later in the morning, the city said. At around 10 a.m., FAA officials informed the city that the spill was actually between 1,000 and 1,500 gallons, and that it did flow into a city storm sewer, which discharges into the nearby Fox River. FAA officials later put the spill at 1,459 gallons. Upon receiving the revised information from the FAA, the city dispatched crews from the Fire, Water and Sewer, and Water Production departments and notified the IEPA. The FAA contracted with a private, IEPA-approved environmental mitigation firm, which soon arrived. Absorbent booms were placed at the entrances and exits of the affected storm sewer lines in order to absorb the fuel. However, an unknown quantity of fuel entered the Fox River at Sullivan Road, resulting in an approximate 8-foot-wide sheen on the river's west bank that extended for approximately 1.5 miles. The city said the natural flow of the river confined the spill to the opposite side of the river from the water treatment plant, and there was no danger to the city's water supply. Cleanup efforts will continue throughout the night, the city said.

<http://www.suntimes.com/9692969-417/diesel-fuel-leaks-into-fox-river.html>

BURMA, RANGOON, DECEMBER 29 2011. MYANMAR BLAST KILLS MORE THAN 20, INJURES 80, EXPLOSION AT A CHEMICAL STORAGE WAREHOUSE

bs unnikrishnan

 [Photo Gallery Blast Kills More Than 20, Injures 80](#)



More than 20 people were killed and at least 80 injured in a massive blast in the early hours of Thursday in the suburbs of Yangon (Rangoon), largest city and former capital of Myanmar (Burma). Though unconfirmed reports have claimed that more than 50 people were killed in the blast that occurred around 2 a.m. local time, officials insist that the toll is much less. A total of 12 men and five women were confirmed dead, Reuters has reported, quoting a local police official. The death toll is likely to go up, the report has added. According to witnesses, a fire which broke out at a chemical storage warehouse led to a huge explosion and several smaller ones. Three members of the fire rescue service were also killed. "There are many casualties. We are not in a position to give you further information. We are still looking into it," another police officer told Reuters.

<http://uk.ibtimes.com/articles/273815/20111229/myanmar-explosion-kills-more-20-photos.htm>

USA, CA, ANAHEIM, DECEMBER 29 2011. OFFICIALS EVALUATING DISNEYLAND FIREWORKS' SAFETY

[Disney](#) officials and experts are evaluating the safety of the Disneyland fireworks on a daily basis after an employee was injured last week, officials said. Disneyland is canceling its nightly fireworks again Wednesday — the sixth time in the past



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seven days — because of technical issues [Read a previous story about the canceled Disneyland fireworks](#). The fireworks show, "Believe in Holiday Magic," is a major attraction during the holiday season, which runs until Jan. 8. This week — the week after Christmas — is among the busiest of the year. On Thursday, an employee had possible ear damage after fireworks detonated prematurely, according to a fire report that was forwarded Tuesday to the state Division of Occupational Safety and Health, said Dean Fryer, the division's spokesman. A shell exploded close to the ground during the afternoon while employees were preparing for that night's display, said Jeff Lutz, Anaheim Fire marshal. Paramedics responded to the scene and the employee was transported to the hospital. Since then, Disney, engineers, pyrotechnic experts and others have examined the system daily to jointly decide whether the fireworks show should continue, Lutz said. "They are looking at it every day to see if it's safe or not," Lutz said. The fireworks show was held Sunday, which was Christmas Day. State safety and health investigators originally were scheduled to make an inspection Wednesday, but the Disney visit was postponed because of scheduling issues, Fryer said. Investigators had planned to look into the fireworks issue while they were at Disney for an unrelated complaint. The inspection has yet to be rescheduled. Fryer said division inspectors need to decide whether an investigation is warranted. Disney is required to report work-related injuries to the state if the employee is hospitalized for more than 24 hours. Disneyland is adding other nightly shows while the fireworks are canceled.

<http://www.ocregister.com/news/safety-333374-disneyland-fireworks.html>

USA, PA, JAMISON, DECEMBER 29 2011. FUEL SPILL CLEANUP CONTINUES IN WARWICK

matt coughlin

Cleanup continues at a Jamison gas station where less than 500 gallons of fuel were spilled when a driver ran over a filling hose Dec. 23. Department of Environmental Protection officials examined the site that night and informed the owner that a tank had been damaged and needed to be repaired before it could be used again. DEP spokeswoman Lynda Rebarchack said the spilled fuel wouldn't impact the waterway of a nearby Neshaminy Creek tributary but could impact the soil. Rebarchack said DEP employees were at the site Wednesday checking on the progress of the cleanup. The spill occurred about 7:48 p.m. at the Jamison Auto Service Quality Gas station at 2140 York Road near Almshouse Road. Initial reports were 500 gallons of fuel had spilled, however, experts believe the actual amount was significantly less. A driver burst the hoses, but the tanker operator was able to shut down the filling operation. Rebarchack said once cleanup of the tank is complete the DEP will likely have a better final number. A nearby restaurant was closed that night due to fumes from the spill. Firefighters from Warwick, surrounding companies and the Bucks County Hazardous Incident Response Team used dikes to block the spilled fuel from flowing further and absorbent materials to soak up the spill until a commercial cleanup crew arrived. The DEP and township officials told the owner that the tank cannot be used until the repairs are made.

http://www.phillyburbs.com/news/local/the_intelligencer_news/fuel-spill-cleanup-continues-in-warwick/article_134903a8-bed9-5392-8fb8-f2c7ca030a31.html

USA, ME, NORTH BERWICK, DECEMBER 29 2011. WIND BLAMED FOR FUEL SPILL IN NORTH BERWICK >> ABOUT 200 GALLONS OF KEROSENE SPILL ON PRIVATE PROPERTY AFTER AN EXTERNAL TANK IS TIPPED OVER.

david hench

High winds late Tuesday and early Wednesday are being blamed for a large fuel spill in North Berwick. Winds that gusted to between 45 and 54 miles per hour toppled a private shed on Governor Goodwin Road overnight, which caused an external fuel tank with kerosene to tip over, according to a spokeswoman for the Maine [Department of Environmental Protection](#). The tank spilled about 200 gallons of kerosene, she said. The DEP was notified this morning, and crews are working to excavate the contaminated soil. The property uses a public water supply, but drinking water was not threatened. There are other private wells in the area, however, and the DEP is investigating the threat of contamination to those wells, the spokeswoman said. There was no threat to surface water or wetlands, she said. The fiercest winds were between 11 p.m. and 3 a.m. from the southwest, according to the National Weather Service in Gray. Another bout of heavy wind, this time from the northwest, will descend on the area tonight, the service said. The weather service has issued a wind-chill advisory for western Maine and northern New Hampshire. Those areas will see temperatures drop to between 5 and 10 degrees below zero, with wind chills as low as 25 below zero, said Mike Kistner, a meteorologist. Portland and other coastal area will come close to single digits, Kistner said.

<http://www.pressherald.com/news/North-Berwick-fuel-spill-blamed-on-high-winds.html>



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AUSTRALIA, NORTHERN TERRITORY, DECEMBER 29 2011. UNKNOWN CONTAMINANTS LEAKED INTO RIVER

The Mount Todd mine has released acidic water possibly contaminated with heavy metals into the Edith River - used for water supply and irrigation. Yesterday the Territory Government stonewalled requests to find out how much contamination was in the retention pond before water was released. Mine owners Vista Gold said the water is acidic with a PH of about 3 to 3.5 and may contain dissolved heavy metals. The water is regularly tested by Vista Gold, the Department of Resources and Department of Natural Resources, Environment, The Arts and Sport (NRETAS). But all three failed to provide the last known test results prior to the flood when asked by the NT News. Vista Gold's environmental officer Andrew Sawicki said the company needed NRETAS' permission to release the information. But NRETAS said the department had received no request to release the information and that it was a Department of Resources issue. Matt Henger, spokesman for the Department of Resources, said he could not speak for NRETAS, despite issuing a joint response from the two departments. Mount Todd gold mine was closed in 1997 after being mined for four years and was so polluted the Territory government had to spend more than \$5 million on environmental work. The mine site suffers acid-rock drainage problems. When rain falls on exposed rock, it converts to sulphuric acid, causing heavy metals to leach into the Edith River, causing fish kills. Mr Henger said the last known fish kill was in 2004. He said cyanide has not been used there since 2000, and that the last of 700,000 litres of the poison had been neutralised on site in 2005. Mr Iacono said the company had only discharged water within the limits of its water discharge licence arrangements. When the river reaches 0.81m, Vista Gold is allowed to discharge water though copper levels are not to be increased by more than 10 micro-grams above background level at the Edith River Bridge. The Department of Resources Environmental Monitoring Unit took samples from all major water storages on site last week. NRETAS has taken water samples and the results will be known next week.

http://www.ntnews.com.au/article/2011/12/29/280551_ntnews.html

USA, WASHINGTON DC, DECEMBER 29 2011. CRIMINAL CHARGES FOR BP EMPLOYEES OVER GULF SPILL



The 2010 oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico killed 11 workers and was the worst offshore oil spill in US history.

US prosecutors are preparing what would be the first criminal charges against BP employees stemming from the 2010 Deepwater Horizon accident. The incident killed 11 workers and caused the worst offshore oil spill in US history, people familiar with the matter told The Wall Street Journal. Prosecutors are focused on several Houston-based engineers and at least one of their supervisors at the British oil company, though the breadth of the investigation is not known. The prosecutors assert the employees may have provided false information to regulators about the risks associated with the Gulf of Mexico well while its drilling was in progress, these

people said. The felony charges - which might be disclosed early in 2012, if they are brought - could involve providing false information in federal documents, these people said. A conviction on such a charge carries a penalty of up to five years in prison as well as a fine. The Department of Justice still could decide not to bring charges against the individuals, people familiar with the situation said. It is not unusual for prosecutors to use the threat of charges to pressure people to cooperate in investigations.

<http://www.heraldsun.com.au/news/world/criminal-charges-for-bp-employees-over-gulf-spill/story-e6frf7lf-1226232764574>

USA, CA, LONG BEACH, DECEMBER 30 2011. LONG BEACH PIPELINE COMPANY CHARGED IN OIL SPILL

A Long Beach pipeline company has been charged with causing a massive oil spill that polluted the Dominguez Channel and Port of Los Angeles in Wilmington, prosecutors announced Thursday. Crimson Pipeline Management Inc. faces a 61 misdemeanor count complaint that alleges the company and its operators "unlawfully caused, allowed, permitted, and contributed to the discharge of large quantities of oil into the city's storm drain system," Los Angeles City Attorney's Office spokesman Frank Mateljan said. The complaint alleges the company, including its president Larry Alexander and other officials, failed to report the spill in a timely manner. Alexander was not immediately available for comment. The pipeline breach was discovered Dec. 21, 2010 when significant amounts of oil seeped into the Dominguez Channel during a storm. Investigators gathered oil samples and identified a hydrocarbon "fingerprint" that determined it was consistent with the product shipped through the "Youngstown Lateral" crude oil pipeline located along the Alameda Corridor right-of-way between Leeds Avenue and Alameda Street in Wilmington, prosecutors said. Port of Long Beach documents online indicate the



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Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Department of Fish and Game and U.S. Coast Guard contained the oil, investigated and did the immediate cleanup. The California Department of Fish and Game and the Los Angeles Watershed Protection Division discovered a gash in the pipeline casing, a protective piping that surrounds the oil pipeline, Mateljan said. The gash was wrapped and the pipe was pulled out of the ground in October, Mateljan said. The agencies have recovered more than 1,000 gallons of pure crude oil and more than 290,000 gallons of contaminated wastewater during the cleanup. The EPA has since installed a system designed to capture oil that reaches the storm drain system during future storms, Mateljan said. Port of Long Beach documents indicate that in the initial months following the spill, the Alameda Corridor Transportation Authority allocated up to \$1.7 million to fund the initial cleanup and other expenses. The criminal complaint lists the defendants as Crimson Pipeline Management, Inc.; Crimson Resource Management; Crimson Pipeline Loop; Crimson Energy, LLC.; Crimson Midstream, LLC.; Crimson Property Management, LLC.; Alexander; Mike Romley, Crimson Pipeline operations manager Pipeline; and Tracy Wilkinson, a field supervisor. If convicted, the company officials could be sent to jail for up to 36 years, prosecutors said.

http://www.prsstelegram.com/breakingnews/ci_19640101

USA, AKA, ANCHORAGE, DECEMBER 30 2011. RUSSIAN TANKER ENCOUNTERS DIFFICULTIES BUT HEADS TOWARD ALASKA TO DELIVER FUEL TO NOME



The Russian Tanker Renda is steaming towards Dutch Harbor to pick up 400,000 gallons of gasoline bound for Nome. But it must first receive a waiver of the [Jones Act](#), or it will turn north and deliver diesel fuel only.

A Russian tanker slowed by ocean currents kept to its mission Tuesday of delivering petroleum products to an iced-in Alaska city, even as international red tape thwarted the journey. The 370-foot tanker Renda was in the Pacific Ocean on Tuesday morning was about 740 nautical miles west-southwest of Attu in Alaska's Aleutian Islands. It was encountering currents that had slowed its speed to about 10 mph, the Coast Guard said. If everything goes as planned, the tanker could arrive in Nome by the second week in January. If recent history means anything, that is unlikely. So far, the laws of four nations have had to be considered — Russia, South Korea, Japan and the United States. Before the tanker can dock at the Dutch Harbor fishing

port in the Aleutians to load gasoline, it will need to pass an inspection to operate in U.S. waters. Then it will need a waiver of federal law to load the gasoline and bring it to Nome — that is if it can go through 300 miles of sea ice around the city of about 3,500 people. "It is challenging," said Coast Guard spokesman Chief Petty Officer Kip Wadlow. Nome normally gets fuel by barge, but a huge storm this fall prevented the last delivery before winter. Now the plan is to have the Russian tanker deliver 1.5 million gallons of petroleum products. The tanker left Russia in mid-December and headed to South Korea where it took on over 1 million gallons of diesel fuel. From there, it was to go to Japan and load 400,000 gallons of gasoline, but international shipping regulations and fierce weather scuttled that plan. The tanker was in the Sea of Japan when the ship was informed it was too small to pull up to the refinery dock. The idea was to have another ship transfer the fuel to the tanker when a storm blew that plan away. A decision was made to head to Alaska and load gasoline at Dutch Harbor. It then will take another 4 to 5 days to reach Nome in what officials say would be the first winter delivery of fuel products by sea to a western Alaska community. The tanker, however, must first get through hundreds of miles of sea ice. That is where the Healy comes in, the Coast Guard's only functioning ice breaker. The Healy is going to break ice for the Russian tanker. "We understand the Healy is a profoundly capable ice breaker," said Mark Smith, CEO of Vitus Marine, the fuel supplier. "There is absolutely no question it is absolutely suitable for the mission." The Healy was due back to its homeport in Seattle just before Christmas, but the Coast Guard extended its mission by a month to assist the fuel effort. Smith said the Renda is an ice class vessel that has spent its career following Russian ice breakers that go across the northern route. It often makes deliveries resupplying vessels and communities without assistance, he said. The depth of the water will prevent the Healy from getting any closer than about one mile from the port of Nome, Wadlow said. The tanker is equipped with a long hose for off-shore delivery, but that plan comes with a host of safety concerns, he said. "It would be extremely unfortunate if there was an accident — a spill on the ice," Wadlow said.

http://www.washingtonpost.com/business/russian-fuel-tanker-encounters-difficulties-but-heads-toward-alaska-to-deliver-fuel-to-nome/2011/12/27/gIQAHY24KP_story.html



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VENEZUELA, CARACAS, DECEMBER 30 2011. VENEZUELA PETROL TANKER BLAZE KILLS 14 IN CARACAS

 **Photo's** [Bus wrapped in flames as it passed near a fuel truck.](#)



Twelve of those killed were aboard a bus that caught fire, said Bolivarian National Police Director Luis Fernandez. He said that the bodies were charred and could not immediately be identified. Fernandez warned that the number of injured could increase. The bus was carrying 32 passengers, and "it is supposed (that) 20 people survived the accident," he said. Firefighters took more than an hour to put out the river of flames, which spread for more than a kilometer (0.6 miles) along the busy road.

A petrol tanker has crashed in Venezuela, bursting into flames and engulfing seven cars and a bus in burning fuel. At least 13 people were killed in the accident in the capital Caracas, and another 13 were injured. Rescue workers have been pulling charred bodies from the scorched vehicles. The tanker is reported to have flipped

over after the driver lost control, spilling petrol that then caught fire. Caracas fire department coordinator William Martinez said the crash sent a river of burning fuel down the Pan-American Highway west of Caracas, engulfing other vehicles. The flames were so intense that vegetation beside the road also caught fire and nearby houses were threatened before the blaze was brought under control, he told Venezuelan National Radio. Survivor Mariana Salas said the bus caught fire in a matter of seconds. "People started to get out of cars, the traffic was paralysed, nothing was moving in either direction," she said. "Around 15 or 20 of us opened a route through the vegetation and managed to save ourselves." President Hugo Chavez expressed dismay at the "lamentable tragedy". "I send my prayers to the victims of the accident on the Pan-American Highway. To their families my feelings of sadness and all necessary support," he wrote on Twitter.

Related Links

- [13 killed in fiery Venezuela tanker crash](#)
- [14 killed in tanker-bus collision in Venezuela](#)
- [At least 13 killed in Venezuela tanker truck fire](#)

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-latin-america-16361121>

USA, NY, FORT EDWARD, DECEMBER 30 2011. PROBE INTO LEAK CONTINUES

don lehman

Watch the Video's

- [Man charged with hitting gas pump causing fuel leak](#)
- [12/28/2011 Cleanup underway after fuel spill in Hudson Falls](#)
- [12/28/2011 Residents return home after fuel leak](#)
- [12/27/2011 Crews responding to gasoline leak in Hudson Falls](#)
- [Leaking gas pump should have "shut off" on its own](#)



Environmental cleanup crews work at the wastewater treatment plant in Fort Edward on Thursday, Dec. 29, 2011. Plant chief operator Joe McDowell said the plant is designed to capture floating material and as gasoline floats they were able to catch most of it.

The state Department of Environmental Conservation is investigating why employees of the Cumberland Farms store at the center of Tuesday's gas leak were not able to shut off the malfunctioning gas pump that leaked hundreds of gallons of gasoline. Hudson Falls firefighters stopped the leak by shutting off the power at the Main Street store, officials said. The fire department received a 911 call about the leak at 7:26 p.m., and its first crew - which included fire Chief Mike Fitzgerald - was

at the store about 90 seconds after being dispatched. At that point, the leak was unabated, with emergency shutoff mechanisms in the pump apparently malfunctioning, officials said. Fitzgerald said three employees were working at the time, and one "had gone through the procedures to shut the pump off but was unable to shut it off." He said the employee told him



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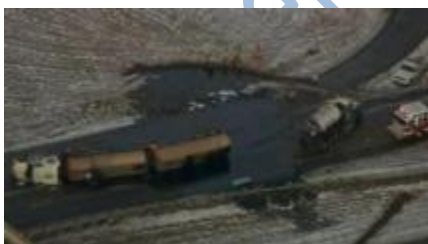
she had also called the Cumberland Farms "help desk" for guidance but hadn't heard back. "At this point, what's going through my mind is this is a major situation, and we've got to stop the leak, so I opened the (electrical) breaker box and cut the power" to the store, Fitzgerald said. The employee went to Glens Falls Hospital after becoming ill, either from stress, gasoline fumes or a combination of both, the chief said. The state Department of Environmental Conservation estimated 1,200 gallons of gasoline escaped, running into the storm drains near the store and making its way south to Fort Edward. Fitzgerald said it may have been spewing gas for a half-hour before firefighters arrived. He said it may have taken 10 minutes or longer for the store staff to realize there was a leak after the pump was hit by a car, and another 10 to 15 minutes before fire officials were called. "I'm just amazed that there wasn't some sort of sensor in the pump that would shut it down in a situation like that," he said. Washington County Public Safety Director William Cook said it was not known why the store's staff was unable to shut off the pumps before firefighters arrived and why the pump's safety features failed. "Those are good questions," he said. DEC spokeswoman Lisa King said the investigation was ongoing Thursday, and no charges had been filed against the company or store staff. She said the DEC was still looking into what happened with the pump and what the environmental ramifications of the spill will be. Calls to two Cumberland Farms spokeswomen were not returned Thursday. Gasoline vapors from the fuel in the storm drain system caused 20 to 25 explosions underground late Tuesday, either as the pressure from the fumes built up or because something ignited the vapors. Numerous manhole covers and storm drain covers were blown free, and homes were damaged. Details of how residents can make claims for reimbursement of repair costs were being finalized Thursday and were to be announced by the village of Fort Edward or Washington County in the coming days. The cleanup of gasoline that remained in the storm drain and sewer system in Hudson Falls and Fort Edward continued for a second day Thursday, as Route 4 was limited to one-way traffic for part of the day as contractors deployed equipment in the storm drain system below the highway. Remnants of the spill continued to cause problems at the Washington County Sewer District No. 2 wastewater treatment plant, where the odor of gasoline was still evident Thursday morning. The gasoline was still hindering the treatment process early Thursday, said the sewer district's lawyer, Matthew Fuller. The gasoline killed the bacteria that are used to break down sewage. Contractors had been brought in by Cumberland Farms to remove contaminated material, but it was unclear how long the problems would persist. There were also concerns about gasoline's effects on a compost operation at the plant. The sewer district's director, Joseph Brilling, did not return phone calls for comment Wednesday or Thursday. Contractors hired by the company also used machines to inspect and clear out underground stormwater and sewer lines, Fuller said. "I haven't heard of any damage in Hudson Falls, but we know there is damage in Fort Edward," Fuller said. "We're worried about the water lines, too." The Washington County Sewer District's board of directors met twice Thursday to discuss the situation. A reporter was barred from the first meeting because the board was seeking legal opinions from Fuller. Robert Freeman, executive director of the state Committee on Open Government, said the board could legally meet with its lawyer in closed session for that purpose. The board held a public meeting later, and it was pointed out the DEC is monitoring toxicity at the plant.

Related Links

- [Gansevoort man charged in gas pump leak](#)
- [Chief: Leaking gas pump should have "shut off" on its own](#)

http://poststar.com/news/local/probe-into-leak-continues/article_dc077c74-32a2-11e1-97a4-001871e3ce6c.html

CANADA, ALBA, ARDROSSAN, DECEMBER 30 2011. TANKER ROLLOVER CLOSES HWY 16 NEAR ARDROSSAN



The tanker rollover and resulting spill, as seen from the Global One chopper Thursday afternoon.

Highway 16 westbound at Range Road 222 is currently closed after a rollover involving a tractor tanker unit. RCMP Cst. Wally Henry says the driver lost control of the vehicle on the entrance ramp near Ardrossan just after 2:30 p.m. Thursday, causing the contents of his tanker - believed to be used motor oil - to spill onto the highway and into the ditch. At this time, the quantity of oil is unknown. Clean-up crews and Alberta Environment representatives are currently on scene, but the rollover isn't believed to have caused any risk or danger to the public. The highway is expected to be closed until about 10:00 p.m., though, so motorists are advised to



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find alternative routes and avoid this area. Neither the driver nor his 2 passengers - a woman and their 9 year-old daughter - were injured in the incident.

<http://www.globaltvedmonton.com/tanker+rollover+closes+hwy+16+near+ardrossan/6442550403/story.html>

USA, N.Y, ROTTERDAM JUNCTION, DECEMBER 30 2011. POLLUTION DRAWS \$73,000 PENALTY. SI GROUP'S ROTTERDAM JUNCTION PLANT TAINTED MOHAWK RIVER IN ITS SECOND FINE THIS YEAR >> EXCESS LEVELS OF ZINC, XYLENE, TERT-BUTYLPHENOL AND TETRAMETHYL BUTYL PHENOL.

brian nearing



The Capital Region owners of a prominent chemical factory fined by the state earlier this year for failing to keep accurate air pollution records has been hit with another state fine, this time for polluting the Mohawk River. SI Group, which operates its plant at Main Street in Rotterdam Junction, agreed to pay a \$73,000 fine under the federal Clean Waters Act, according to a consent order signed with the state [Department of Environmental Conservation](#) this month. The company also agreed to hire an outside engineer to isolate the cause of the ongoing problems and recommend solutions. In the order, the company admitted the plant exceeded pollution standards 18 times between March 2009 and August 2011 for wastewater entering the Mohawk. Violations included excess levels zinc, xylene, tert-butylphenol and tetramethyl butyl phenol. Other violations were for excess levels of

organic material in the wastewater that consume oxygen in river water. Reduced oxygen levels can kill fish and other aquatic life. The company has until March to submit a review of pollution spills from 2010 and 2011 by an outside engineer, along with a recommendations on how to resolve such issues. Upgrades must be in place by December 2012. "In preparing monthly reports to be submitted to DEC, SI Group noticed a problem," said DEC spokeswoman [Emily Desantis](#). "SI Group alerted DEC to the violations. DEC monitored SI Group's efforts to try to identify the cause of the problem. When these proved unsuccessful, DEC entered into the order requiring SI Group to perform a comprehensive evaluation to ensure compliance with the permit." SI spokeswoman [Juliana Lam](#) said the company had a "good track record" and would "stack up our record against any other chemical company." She noted the fines have been paid, and the company was working to "make sure the site in full compliance." In March, SI Group paid a \$25,000 fine for failing to keep accurate records of its air pollution emissions. A DEC inspection of the facility found that a pollution scrubber indicated on the pollution permit did not exist. Because of the incomplete records, it could not be determined whether the violations had any impact on the amount of pollution that was reported as emitted, or actually emitted, by the plant. The company has until March to submit a renewal of its air pollution permit that "shall update and correct all changes in equipment, controls and processes at the facility to reflect current facility conditions." SI Group, formerly Schenectady International, employs about 200 people at its Rotterdam factory and another 200 at its headquarters and laboratory in Niskayuna. It has 20 factories around the world. SI factories make resins used in 80 percent of the automobile tires made throughout the world, and many of its chemicals are used as raw materials to make products ranging from inks to fuel additives and plastics.

The company, which is still family-owned, had more than \$1 billion in annual sales in recent years.

<http://www.timesunion.com/local/article/Pollution-draws-73-000-penalty-2429747.php>

USA, NEB, NEHAHA, DECEMBER 30 2011. FUEL CLEANUP NEAR NEMAHA SCALED BACK



Containment booms are used to clean the stream south of the oil spill near Nemaha, Neb., in this Dec. 12 photo.

Cleanup operations continue at the site of the 2,800-barrel petroleum spill near Nemaha, Neb., although they have been scaled back. In the days after the Dec. 10 rupture of an underground pipeline, up to 65 workers from surrounding states were at the site, recovering spilled gasoline, diesel and jet fuel. As of this week, about a half-dozen workers remain, said Bruce Heine, a spokesman for pipeline owner Magellan Midstream Partners of Tulsa, Okla. The spill occurred in a rural area about 90 miles south of Omaha when the pipeline was ruptured by a farmer working with a bulldozer. The company has said the farmer did not first call the



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digger's hot line, which would have had the pipeline marked. The pipeline has been repaired and is again operational. The spill added up to just over 119,000 gallons, making it the largest since 210,000 gallons spilled in 1996 from the Platte Pipeline near Lawrence, Neb. Much of the spilled fuel soaked into the surrounding soil, although some of it reached a nearby creek, a tributary of the Little Nemaha River. The cleanup work remains largely focused on removing contaminants from the creek, said Jim Bunstock, a spokesman for the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality. Several temporary containment dams have been installed on the creek to slow the water flow so the fuel can be removed. The department also continues to monitor downstream from the cleanup operation. As of last week, some dissolved contaminants were discovered farther down the creek. "The concentrations they are finding are below acute levels," Bunstock said. "We're seeing a decrease in concentration." The department also continues to monitor for groundwater contamination, which includes testing several residential wells in the area. "They haven't seen anything yet," Bunstock said. "They don't expect to see any problems there." The spill has killed some fish, but apparently not in massive numbers, Bunstock said. Crews also dug trenches between the spill site and the creek, and those trenches continue to intercept the flow of fuel. Workers also had to put gravel on a dirt road leading to the site so work could continue when it rains. The cost of the recovery and cleanup are being paid by the pipeline owner, Bunstock said. The cleanup of the creek are expected to last at least another month, and plans are still being made on how best to deal with contaminated soil. The company has not yet determined the cost of the cleanup, Heine said. "The overall cleanup process for the entire area affected by the bulldozer incident will be a long-term operation," Heine said.

<http://www.omaha.com/article/20111229/NEWS01/712299929>

CANADA, ALTA, LAMONT, DECEMBER 30 2011. CRASH NORTH EAST OF EDMONTON LEAVES ONE DEAD, AND A TODDLER IN HOSPITAL

 **Watch the Video** <http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/edmonton/story/2011/12/29/edmonton-lamont-fatal-tanker-truck.html>

julia parrish



Emergency crews on the scene of a fatal crash north of Lamont on Hwy 831 and Twp 562A late Wednesday, December 29.

One man is dead, and a young child is being treated in hospital, after a serious highway crash near Lamont Wednesday night. The crash happened just before 8 p.m. Wednesday on Highway 831 and Township Road 562A, north of Lamont. First responders said a pick-up truck collided into the side of a tanker truck, which caused an explosion. "There was a large plume of gas when it hit and the truck spun, and the driver was ejected," First responder Shane Neill said on the scene. "Obviously [the driver was] not wearing a seatbelt." The driver of the truck was pronounced dead at the scene, and the toddler was airlifted by STARS air

ambulance to the Stollery Children's Hospital. Officials said the child is less than two-years-old and was in a car seat at the time of the crash, he is listed in stable condition.

http://edmonton.ctv.ca/servlet/an/local/CTVNews/20111229/EDM_lamontcrash_111229/20111229/?hub=EdmontonHome

CHINA, BEIJING/TIANJIN, DECEMBER 30 2011. CHINESE COURT ACCEPTS OIL SPILL-RELATED COMPENSATION CLAIMS

A maritime court in the northern coastal city of Tianjin on Friday accepted a case of compensation claims from aquaculture farmers who believe the oil leaked from the ConocoPhillips-operated oil field platforms in Bohai Sea resulted in their businesses losses. The Tianjin Maritime Court took up the lawsuit filed by a group of 29 aqua-farmers against ConocoPhillips China and the China National Offshore Oil Corporation (CNOOC). The Penglai 19-3 oil field, where the leak had first been reported in June from platforms B and C, is being operated by ConocoPhillips China, a subsidiary of the U.S. energy giant ConocoPhillips under a development agreement with CNOOC, the oil field's owner. The court Friday also said there was another lawsuit regarding compensation claims against ConocoPhillips China lodged Thursday by a group of 107 aqua-farmers, over which the court is conducting a routine check over the plaintiffs' identities before accepting the case. The 107 aqua-farmers renewed their lawsuit after a previous lawsuit filed on Dec. 13 failed to be taken up by the court. The court had asked them to modify documents and produce more evidence in accordance with laws. The court gave no details on the amount of compensation being sought by the aqua-farmers in both lawsuits. In their previous lawsuit, the 107 aqua-farmers



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said the oil spill killed many of their clams and sea cucumbers, and they were seeking 490 million yuan (around 77.78 million U.S. dollars) in damages. ConocoPhillips, who is responsible for the oil spill, last week promised to issue compensation for damage caused by the oil spill but offered no details. The oil spill has polluted over 6,200 square km of water in the bay since June, an area about nine times the size of Singapore, according to an investigation unveiled in November. The State Oceanic Administration said last month that operations in the Penglai 19-3 oil field were in violation of the region's development plan, and there were shortcomings in ConocoPhillips China's management system.

Related Links

- [Chinese fishermen sue ConocoPhillips China for oil spill compensation](#)
- [Bohai oil spills ConocoPhillips' fault: authorities](#)
- [CNOOC says all oil spill sources blocked off at Bohai oil platforms](#)
- [Chinese government urges deep investigation of ConocoPhillips oil spills](#)
- [ConocoPhillips to set up special fund for handling China oil spills](#)
- http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/china/2011-12/30/c_131335758.htm

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2080213/Theyre-Crew-blazing-Russian-nuclear-submarine-remain--officials-claim-radiation-leak.html>

INDIA, BELAGAVI, ATHANI, DECEMBER 30 2011. BLAST AT FIREWORKS UNIT



Fire and rescue service personnel trying to put out fire at a fireworks unit at Athani yesterday.

At least six people were killed and six others injured in a huge blast at a fireworks unit at Anapperuvazhy Chettiparakunnathu in Athani yesterday afternoon. Nearly 15 workers were there in the unit on the hilltop at the time of the accident. The fireworks unit was completely destroyed in the explosion. More casualties are feared as the injured are in serious condition at Thrissur Government Medical College Hospital, Mulankunnathukavu. The medical college sources said one of the killed was not identified as his body was thrown into pieces in the impact. The deceased are owner of the fireworks unit Eluvathinkal Joffy (30), Vasu (45) from Punnayoorukulam, Bablu (45) from Bihar, Radhakrishnan (55) from Vadakkethara Colony, Anil (23) from

Pazhayannur and Sajeesh from Chelakkara. The injured are Prasad from Nenmara, Devassy from Athani, father of Joffy, Madhavan and Pazhanimala from Kannambra, Vijayan from Vennur, and Jayan from Chelakkara. Conditions of Vijayan and Devassy are critical. Autopsy of the dead bodies were conducted yesterday at the medical college hospital. The reason for the explosion is yet to be ascertained by the officials. However, one of the injured at the hospital said the blast occurred while using potassium chlorate. The unit had licence issued by the Petroleum and Explosives Services Organisation (PESO). Assistant Commissioner of Police TK Thomas said that the forensic department will conduct an inquiry. Police sources said that three workers escaped accident. But, details about them are yet to be confirmed. Emergency financial aid of Rs 10,000 each has been declared for the dead, said District Collector PM Francis. He said that the state government would bear the treatment expenses of the injured. A few houses adjacent to the unit have been damaged. Roof and windowpanes of the houses were broken. Glass panels and windows of the administration block, the rest house and the auditorium of Kerala Institute of Local Administration (KILA) at Mulankunnathukavu were damaged. A loss of Rs 50,000 has been reported at KILA. The building of All India Radio (AIR) station at Ramavarmapuram also suffered minor damage. The blast was heard 15km away. Rescue operations were delayed as the unit was on the hilltop. Fire and rescue service personnel from Thrissur and Vadakkenchery conducted rescue operations after extinguishing fire. Small explosions occurred during the rescue operations. People from nearby areas thronged the site. Cooperation Minister CN Balakrishnan visited the injured at the hospital last night. Inspector General of Police B Sandhya, City Police Commissioner P Vijayan, MLAs Babu M Pallissery, Therambil Ramakrishnan, MP Vincent and PA Madhavan, district panchayat president KV Dasan, Mayor IP Paul, BJP district president B Gopalakrishnan and former MLA AC Moideen visited the spot. They also visited the injured at the hospital.

http://www.cityjournal.in/Newspaper/20111229/Home/Home_1.html



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RUSSIA, MURMANSK, DECEMBER 30 2011. THEY'RE STILL IN THERE! CREW OF BLAZING RUSSIAN NUCLEAR SUBMARINE REMAIN INSIDE

lee moran

Watch the Video

- [They're still in there! Crew of blazing Russian nuclear submarine remain inside](#)
- [Raw Video: Russia Submarine Fire](#)

Photo's

- [They're still in there! Crew of blazing Russian nuclear submarine remain inside](#)
- Not clear whether remaining crew members have been ordered to stay
- Seven others taken to hospital after inhaling toxic fumes
- Russian President Medvedev demands punishment of 'any culprits'
- Damage could mean the submarine has to be scrapped



Firefighters work to extinguish fire at the Roslyakovo shipyard in the northern Russian region of Murmansk, in this still image taken from video.

Several crew members remain inside a Russian nuclear submarine engulfed in fire at an Arctic shipyard, officials have revealed. Seven others who inhaled toxic fumes while onboard the Yekaterinburg sub as it was in the repair dock at Roslyakovo shipyard in the Murmansk region have been evacuated to hospital. It is not clear whether the onboard crew are trapped or have been ordered to stay inside. Russia's Defence Ministry said there has been no radiation leak from the fire, which began last night on wooden scaffolding. Fire brigades are still struggling to put out the fire which quickly engulfed the submarine's rubber-coated outer hull. The sub's nuclear reactor had been shut down and its nuclear-tipped missiles and other weapons had been unloaded before the repairs. An unspecified number of crew

have remained inside the submarine, Defense Ministry spokesman Colonel Igor Konashenkov said in a statement. He added that they have reported the condition on board has remained normal and insisted there was no danger of fire spreading inside the submarine. Toxic fumes from the blaze had spread to the town of Roslyakovo where the shipyard is located. But officials said there was no need to evacuate local residents. And it would take a few more hours to fully extinguish the smoldering outer hull, Emergency Situations Minister Sergei Shoigu said. Chief of the General Staff of the Russian armed forces, General Nikolai Makarov, led a team of senior military officials to Roslyakovo to oversee the rescue efforts. Military prosecutors have launched an investigation into a possible breach of safety regulations that led to the fire. President Dmitry Medvedev summoned top Cabinet officials to report on the situation and demand a punishment for any culprits. The Interfax news agency said today that the damage from the fire could be so massive that the submarine would need to be scrapped. But Deputy Prime Minister Dmitry Rogozin, who is in charge of the nation's military industries, said after the meeting that the submarine will rejoin the navy after repairs. The Norwegian Radiation Protection Authority said it had received information from both civil and military authorities in Russia that there was no radioactive leak. The Norwegian agency said it has not measured any increased radioactivity, adding that it was following the situation closely. However, the governor in Finnmark, Norway's northeastern province that borders Russia's Murmansk Oblast, told broadcaster NRK he was disappointed with Russia's response. Gunnar Kjoennoey said: 'There have been problems to get clear information from the Russian side. We have an agreement to exchange information in such cases, but there has been no information from the Russian side so far.' The Yekaterinburg is a Delta-IV-class nuclear-powered submarine that normally carries 16 nuclear-tipped intercontinental ballistic missiles. It was built in 1984. Most modern submarines' outer hulls are covered with rubber to make them less noisy and more difficult for an enemy to detect. Deaths on submarines are relatively rare but the worst disaster of recent years was the deaths of 118 sailors aboard the Russian nuclear submarine Kursk in August 2000. The Kursk crashed to the bottom of the Barents Sea during military exercises. Russia refused offers of help from Britain and the United States and a Russian rescue attempt failed. The Kursk became known as the floating tomb as it spent 14 months at the bottom of the sea.

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2080213/Theyre-Crew-blazing-Russian-nuclear-submarine-remain-inside--officials-claim-radiation-leak.html>



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