



## Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network Release 2011 – 790 Newsy Stuff

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

**December 24 2011**



Alliance Partner  
JOIFF

[www.joiff.com](http://www.joiff.com)

Every effort has been undertaken to ensure information accuracy however it is not intended to be comprehensive nor to render advice, referred URL's are current at time of the edition release.

An Industry Partner of  
ISCO

[www.spillcontrol.org](http://www.spillcontrol.org)

### USA, CA, MONTEBELLO, DECEMBER 16 2011. FREEWAY EXPLOSION CAUSED CONCRETE TO BOIL OVER, BLOW OUT IN CHUNKS

 [Photo's Fiery crash on the 60 Freeway](#)



A tanker truck explosion that closed the 60 Freeway Thursday was fueled by 8,800 gallons of gasoline and caused moisture inside the concrete overpass to boil over and blow out chunks of rubble, fire officials said. "The explosion most witnesses heard was the concrete exploding from the extreme heat," said Montebello Fire Chief Tim Wessel. Firefighters reported seeing pieces of metal and concrete dropping from the overpass as they arrived on the scene, officials said. Massive billows of black smoke rose from underneath the bridge as fire crews tried to beat back flames. They battled the blaze for about two hours before it was extinguished. Late Wednesday, crews were offloading the remaining fuel on the truck. The cause of the fire had not been determined and was under investigation by the CHP. Witnesses described hearing two explosions shortly after noon, the second of which

caused floors to vibrate in nearby buildings. Officials said it was unclear whether the truck had hit another vehicle, run over debris or had a mechanical problem. CHP investigators were planning to inspect the tanker to determine if brake or other mechanical failure was involved. "It gave me a good scare," said Miguel Osorio, 25, who was helping customers inside a [Chevron](#) gas station when he heard the blasts. He called a gas station closer to the freeway, fearing that it had exploded into flames. "The fire looked like it was coming from that general area," Osorio said.

<http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/lanow/2011/12/freeway-explosion-caused-concrete-to-boil-over-blow-out-in-chunks.html>

### USA, NE, OMAHA, DECEMBER 16 2011. DEQ: FUEL SPILL CONTAINED; CLEANUP ONGOING

*algis j. laukaitis*



*Heavy machinery continued to work in a field contaminated by a fuel pipeline spill near Nemaha on Monday, Dec. 12, 2011.*

The Nebraska Department of Environmental Control said a massive spill from two ruptured pipelines in Nemaha County has been mostly contained, and five temporary dams have been built to capture any residual fuel flowing downstream. DEQ released a status update report on efforts Thursday, saying contractors are transitioning into the cleanup phase. "They are still continuing to monitor and sample and they are fairly comfortable that they have it (the spill) stabilized at this point," DEQ spokesman Jim Bunstock said. The two-page report did not include details on whether farmer

Luke Andrew of Brownville called the Nebraska One-Call Center at 811 before excavating near the pipelines, but an official with the center said Wednesday it did not receive a call. Andrew was using a bulldozer to pull out brush roots in a hedge row Saturday when he hit the 8- and 12-inch pipelines, spilling 2,834 barrels of petroleum products including gasoline, diesel fuel and jet fuel. The spill was significantly less than the 6,000 barrels originally estimated by Tulsa, Okla.-based Magellan Midstream Partners, which owns the pipelines that run through the field 2 1/2 miles from Nemaha. Magellan lowered its estimate after it calculated pressure loss data, volumetric metering and free product cleanup at the spill site. The ruptured pipeline was repaired Monday and the flow of product resumed to terminals in Omaha, Bellevue, Sioux City, Lincoln and Doniphan and others farther north in the Magellan network. Andrew declined comment when contacted by phone Wednesday, saying he anticipates a lawsuit being filed over the incident. The State Fire Marshal's office, which is in charge of pipeline safety, is investigating the spill, but Regina Shields, the agency's legal counsel, declined to comment. Magellan employees and contractors have been flushing the unnamed creek near the spill with clear water to clear any contamination from the surface of the creek and vegetation. The water is being pumped from upstream. Workers are using backhoes to dig trenches in the creek to test soil samples for contamination, Bunstock said, and a drill rig is collecting soil samples to provide a vertical profile of the contamination. A collection point also has been created on the south end of the creek to intercept any petroleum products from the spill site about three-tenths of a mile away. DEQ officials were concerned about rain in the area Tuesday



This work is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-Non-Commercial-Share-Alike 3.0 Unported License.

**The DG-Hazmat Group is proudly supported by:**



Australian Petroleum Industry Contractors & Suppliers Association

[www.tanknology.com.au](http://www.tanknology.com.au)

[www.pica.net.au/](http://www.pica.net.au/)

[www.upp.co.uk](http://www.upp.co.uk)



## Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network Release 2011 – 790 Newsy Stuff

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

**December 24 2011**



Alliance Partner  
JOIFF

[www.joiff.com](http://www.joiff.com)

Every effort has been undertaken to ensure information accuracy however it is not intended to be comprehensive nor to render advice, referred URL's are current at time of the edition release.

An Industry Partner of  
ISCO

[www.spillcontrol.org](http://www.spillcontrol.org)

and Wednesday, but rainfall was less than predicted, Bunstock said. Additional earthen berms and dams were put in to help contain runoff. The rain did turn some low-maintenance county roads into muddy quagmires. A quarter-mile road is being built on the south end to allow access to the collection point, Bunstock said. A few small fish were killed in the immediate area of the ruptured pipelines, but Bunstock said no other effect on wildlife has been observed. Contractors flushing the creek found and relocated a turtle from a downstream area of the creek, he said. Long-term cleanup efforts will begin after a thorough investigation is done, DEQ said. No estimate was given of how long the cleanup will take.

### Related Links

- [Magellan: Nemaha oil spill smaller than first thought](#)
- [Pipeline fixed near Nemaha; fuel pumping resumes](#)

[http://journalstar.com/news/local/deq-fuel-spill-contained-cleanup-ongoing/article\\_28766b6b-3936-55ea-8747-781797614b85.html](http://journalstar.com/news/local/deq-fuel-spill-contained-cleanup-ongoing/article_28766b6b-3936-55ea-8747-781797614b85.html)

### CANADA, N.L, POND COVE, DECEMBER 16 2011. UPDATE: OVERHEATED BRAKES SUSPECTED CAUSE OF TRACTOR/TANKER TRAILER FIRE



*An RST fuel tanker that caught on fire this afternoon on the Northern Peninsula.*

RCMP at the scene of a tractor-trailer fire on the Northern Peninsula say the RST Transport truck heading north on Route 430, possibly experienced a brake fire, causing the tires to ignite. The Flowers Cove Fire Department also responded to the fire, near Pond Cove and police say it appears to be under control. There are no public safety issues, according to the RCMP. Another tractor-trailer is enroute from Corner Brook to transfer the fuel from the disabled truck. Police say at least half the highway will be reopened in about an hour for traffic. Department of Highways' personnel are also assisting in the effort by ensuring the road is adequately salted, considering the icy conditions in the area. RCMP members on the Northern Peninsula are currently at the scene of a tractor-trailer fire on route 430 between Plum Point and St Barbe. Police say the vehicle is carrying flammable material. Local fire department members are also at the scene, attempting to extinguish the

fire before it spreads. The highway has been closed to ensure public safety. More information will be available from the RCMP later today.

<http://www.thetelegram.com/News/Local/2011-12-15/article-2838547/Tractor-trailer-fire-on-Northern-Peninsula/1>

### AUSTRALIA, NEW SOUTH WALES, NEWCASTLE, DECEMBER 17 2011. PATCHES OF CARCINOGEN SEEN AFTER ORICA LEAK

josephine tovey



*"They were evasive in wanting to answer" ... OEH officer, Hamish Rutherford.*

A government officer saw splotches of a carcinogenic chemical on cars, a letterbox and next to a table used to clean fish in the Newcastle suburb of Stockton a day after hexavalent chromium had "rained" down from a vent at the Orica chemical plant, documents show. Documents, including a detailed report describing the visible fallout of the chemical from the incident, were released yesterday at the same time as a mechanical fault further delayed the start-up of part of the Kooragang Island plant. The report from an employee from the Office of Environment and Heritage, who visited the plant and surrounding area between midday and 3.45pm on Tuesday, August 9, the day after the leak, has been made public as part of an upper house inquiry into the incident. Hamish Rutherford wrote

that he questioned Orica employees about the extent of the fallout when he arrived at the plant. "They were evasive in wanting to answer and said words to the effect 'I'd rather not say, we are still assessing it,' " he said. Mr Rutherford discovered the substance pooled on the ground and coating walls. "The surface of the plant, sections of the ground and parts of buildings such as the control building/room in the immediate downwind path were coated in a yellow substance," he wrote. He then



This work is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-Non-Commercial-Share-Alike 3.0 Unported License.

**The DG-Hazmat Group is proudly supported by:**



Australian Petroleum Industry Contractors & Suppliers Association

[www.tanknology.com.au](http://www.tanknology.com.au)

[www.pica.net.au/](http://www.pica.net.au/)

[www.upp.co.uk](http://www.upp.co.uk)



## Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network

### Release 2011 – 790 Newsy Stuff

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

**December 24 2011**



Alliance Partner

JOIFF

[www.joiff.com](http://www.joiff.com)

Every effort has been undertaken to ensure information accuracy however it is not intended to be comprehensive nor to render advice, referred URL's are current at time of the edition release.

An Industry Partner of

ISCO

[www.spillcontrol.org](http://www.spillcontrol.org)

drove to Stockton, where he encountered more evidence near a table used by fishers: "I observed some brown spotting on a ... sign adjacent to the fish-cleaning tables ... it appeared that the fish-cleaning tables had been used by the public today." Spots were also discovered on a letterbox and a resident's car. Mr Rutherford also wrote he encountered a contractor from the Orica plant who said he had been told to "get inside as it's been raining yellow shit" when the incident occurred. Yesterday, two days after the chemical company announced it was ready to restart the section of the plant responsible for the August leak, it confirmed there would be a delay due to a mechanical fault. "Our focus is entirely on starting this plant safely," a company spokeswoman said. The new documents also reveal one resident had concerns about four budgies that died in the days after the leak and were reported to have been bleeding from their feet. Notes from an OEH officer who investigated the incident say a resident, who described hearing a sound "like a gas bottle was pierced loud" on the Monday, had four birds in a cage. The resident's son noticed by Thursday, three days later, the birds were dead: "Provided two dead budgies ... son said birds were haemorrhaging from toes/feet." Greg Sullivan, in charge of the NSW Environment Protection Authority, told the inquiry the birds were subsequently tested but no traces of hexavalent chromium were found. Sample results collected from the plant and Stockton detected hexavalent chromium in several instances but NSW Health determined it was at levels that posed "no risk to human health".

<http://www.smh.com.au/environment/patches-of-carcinogen-seen-after-origa-leak-20111216-1oy05.html>

#### CANADA, ONT, MARIE, DECEMBER 17 2011. SOURCE OF FUEL LEAK AT CROWN'S OFFICE IDENTIFIED

*A crew excavates the lawn in front of the District of Algoma Crown attorney's office on Monday, Dec. 12, 2011, in Sault Ste. Marie, Ont. Workers are trying to determine the source of an apparent fuel leak.*

Home heating oil from an underground storage tank, removed years ago from the site of the Crown attorneys' office building, seems to be the source of a fuel leak, says a Ministry of Environment official. It appears oil from the tank "leaked through a recent crack or degradation in the sump wall into the basement," Tym Garside said. Garside, area supervisor for the Sault Ste. Marie MOE office, said it's not known when the tank was removed but "it's quite historical." The contracting company, which is doing the cleanup work, feels it was an installation from the 1950s, he said. Lajoie Brothers Contracting Ltd., which specializes in this type of work, is currently excavating the contaminated soils at the Albert Street East building. "The ministry is overseeing the cleanup to ensure it is completed properly and all impacted soil is removed and managed properly," Garside said. MOE, the fire department and the local health unit have visited the site and have determined there are no health concerns, he said. The problem was first detected at the building, located adjacent to Sault Ste. Marie's courthouse, about three weeks ago. Crown attorney Bill Johnson said staff noticed a gas/oil smell that was traced to a sump pump hole in the building's boiler room. The fuel seepage was on the surface of water in the hole. From 1957 to 1970, the building housed city police headquarters. The Ministry of the Environment was located there until the early 1990s when the building became offices for the District of Algoma's Crown attorneys. Garside said that during the ministry's time in the building it didn't experience any such incidents.

<http://www.saultstar.com/ArticleDisplay.aspx?e=3406397>

#### USA, CO, WELD CO, DECEMBER 17 2011. TANKER DRIVER RESCUED WHEN TRUCK ROLLS OFF BRIDGE



*Rescuers responded to a late Tuesday tanker crash in Weld County. One person was transported to the hospital.*

Rescue crews extricated a truck driver late Tuesday night from his tanker after it rolled over on Weld County Road 52 near Johnstown and Milliken. The crash was reported at 11:18 p.m. Tuesday, and Johnstown and Milliken fire departments, Milliken Police Department, the Colorado State Patrol and the Weld County Sheriff's office responded to the scene, just east of Colorado 257. The tanker was angled off a small bridge, and the driver was trapped inside. Crews rescued the driver from the wreckage, and paramedics transported him to the hospital.

[http://www.reporterherald.com/news/colorado/ci\\_19546199?source=most\\_viewed](http://www.reporterherald.com/news/colorado/ci_19546199?source=most_viewed)



This work is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-Non-Commercial-Share-Alike 3.0 Unported License.

**The DG-Hazmat Group is proudly supported by:**



Australian Petroleum Industry Contractors & Suppliers Association

[www.tanknology.com.au](http://www.tanknology.com.au)

[www.pica.net.au/](http://www.pica.net.au/)

[www.upp.co.uk](http://www.upp.co.uk)



## Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network

### Release 2011 – 790 Newsy Stuff

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

**December 24 2011**



Alliance Partner

JOIFF

[www.joiff.com](http://www.joiff.com)

Every effort has been undertaken to ensure information accuracy however it is not intended to be comprehensive nor to render advice, referred URL's are current at time of the edition release.

An Industry Partner of

ISCO

[www.spillcontrol.org](http://www.spillcontrol.org)

#### AUSTRALIA, NEW SOUTH WALES, NEWCASTLE, DECEMBER 17 2011. ANOTHER LEAK AT AN ORICA PLANT >> 3000 TO 4000 LITRES OF SULPHURIC

Embattled chemical giant Orica says there has been another leak at one of its plants, this time of a corrosive acid. The company said there was "contained leakage" of about 3000 to 4000 litres of sulphuric acid at its Port Kembla facility, on the NSW south coast on Friday. The leak had been reported to the NSW Environment Protection Authority, Orica said. "The sulphuric acid leaked from the ship to shore pipeline into the culvert, where it was fully contained," the company said in a statement on Friday night. "The safety containment system functioned as designed. The cause of the leakage is suspected at this time to be from a small hole in the pipeline and is being investigated." The latest leak comes on the same day that the company decided to postpone the re-start of its ammonia plant in the NSW Hunter Valley. Orica's Kooragang Island ammonia plant was scheduled to reopen on Thursday, but the company has since confirmed the restart has been put on hold indefinitely because of safety concerns. The plant was shut down in August after fumes of hexavalent chromium leaked near more than 70 homes in the beachside suburb of Stockton, near Newcastle. NSW Environment Minister Robyn Parker had welcomed the decision. "I would rather they took a cautious approach rather than press ahead while they had some concerns," Ms Parker told AAP in Sydney. Just last week about 20,000 litres of weak ammonium nitrate solution overflowed from a tank during pumping operations at Kooragang Island. The NSW Environment Protection Authority confirmed that Orica had reported the leak late on Friday afternoon. "The spill, which was captured within a concrete culvert and then contained within a purpose-built bund, did not cause any harm to the environment," the EPA said in a statement on Friday night. "The EPA has had officers on site this evening and has requested a full report from Orica." An Orica spokeswoman told AAP that the leak was of concentrated sulphuric acid. NSW Environment Minister Robyn Parker said she was shocked and disappointed about the latest Orica leak. I am advised that Orica self-reported the incident to the Environment Protection Authority late this afternoon and that Orica advised the spill was contained on site," Ms Parker said in a statement. "EPA investigators are conducting a thorough investigation of the incident and I am awaiting an updated report. "This is very disappointing and I am shocked that yet another incident has occurred at one of Orica's plants. "The EPA will be making a full report to me on the incident."

#### Related Links

- [Orica gets nod for full operations](#)
- [Another leak halts Orica operation](#)
- [Another chemical incident for Orica](#)
- [Reopened Orica leaks again](#)
- [Another emergency at Orica](#)

<http://www.heraldsun.com.au/news/more-news/another-leak-at-an-origa-plant/story-fn7x8me2-1226224448415>

#### USA, N.Y, NEW YORK, DECEMBER 17 2011. COURT OF APPEALS RULES THAT STATE CAN SEEK FULL CLEANUP OF SUPERFUND SITES

In a decision affecting some of New York's most toxic sites, the Court of Appeals ruled Thursday that state environmental regulators could seek to require companies responsible for the pollution to restore the areas to the condition they were in before the contamination occurred. At the heart of the case was the question of how clean is clean enough under [the state's Superfund program](#), which oversees the cleanup of landfills, rivers and former industrial places where toxic chemicals were disposed of or stored. A coalition of companies that own some of the properties sued the state in 2007, arguing that the [Department of Environmental Conservation](#) had the authority only to require the removal of "significant" environmental threats, not to mandate a cleanup that restored a site to its pre-industrial condition. But in its 5-to-2 decision, the Court of Appeals said that the conservation department "did not exceed its authority or act contrary to law" in enforcing a regulation meant to remove existing or potential hazards that pose a significant threat or imminent danger of irreversible damage to the environment. Under the regulation, department officials can call for restoration of contaminated sites to "pre-disposal conditions to the extent feasible." The court said the regulation allows for an array of cleanup options. "Ultimately these administrative directives can be constrained by technological feasibility, cost-effectiveness and procedural due process, among other things," the majority on the court said. The department issued a statement calling the decision "a substantial victory for the state's citizens, land and water." Officials said it applied to 950 sites. Yet Thomas Walsh, the lawyer for the companies, grouped under the name New York State Superfund Coalition, claimed a partial victory, saying the court left no doubt that "cost-effectiveness" should be a factor in deciding the thoroughness of cleanups. Mr. Walsh said that cleanups could range from \$500,000 to many millions of



This work is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-Non-Commercial-Share-Alike 3.0 Unported License.

**The DG-Hazmat Group is proudly supported by:**



APICSA



Franklin Fueling Systems

[www.tanknology.com.au](http://www.tanknology.com.au)

Australian Petroleum Industry Contractors & Suppliers Association

[www.pica.net.au/](http://www.pica.net.au/)

[www.upp.co.uk](http://www.upp.co.uk)



## Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network

### Release 2011 – 790 Newsy Stuff

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

**December 24 2011**



Alliance Partner

JOIFF

[www.joiff.com](http://www.joiff.com)

Every effort has been undertaken to ensure information accuracy however it is not intended to be comprehensive nor to render advice, referred URL's are current at time of the edition release.

An Industry Partner of

ISCO

[www.spillcontrol.org](http://www.spillcontrol.org)

dollars. He said the companies were fighting over the incremental costs of a cleanup once a site is deemed safe. "The argument was about how much more," he said. "When the incremental cost outweighs the incremental environmental benefit, it's not cost-effective." But environmental groups said that the state needed the flexibility to demand the most stringent cleanup possible so it could broaden the future uses that a site could have, and that the court decision affirmed that right. "In a perfect world, it'd be great to have these sites cleaned up for a wide range of future uses, everything from a nursery school playground to an industrial warehouse," said Mark A. Izeman, a senior lawyer and the urban program director for the [Natural Resources Defense Council](http://www.nytimes.com/2011/12/16/nyregion/ruling-lets-state-seek-full-cleanup-of-superfund-sites.html?_r=1) in New York. "In the real world, not every site will be cleaned up to the highest level," he said. "But by upholding that objective, the court gives the state the flexibility to determine what's the most appropriate cleanup."

[http://www.nytimes.com/2011/12/16/nyregion/ruling-lets-state-seek-full-cleanup-of-superfund-sites.html?\\_r=1](http://www.nytimes.com/2011/12/16/nyregion/ruling-lets-state-seek-full-cleanup-of-superfund-sites.html?_r=1)

#### USA, W.VA, KANAWHA CO', DECEMBER 17 2011. GAS WELL EXPLOSION INJURES ONE

Three Cabot Gas workers were attending to a traditional natural gas well on the Samples Creek Mine property in eastern Kanawha County Thursday afternoon when a valve exploded. Kanawha County Assistant Emergency Services Director C.W. Sigman says one worker was injured by shrapnel from the valve. He says the other two workers were uninjured but complaining of ringing ears. Sigman says the initial explosion, which happened at around 3:15, was heard on Cabin Creek Road several miles away. He says there was no fireball or significant fire in connection with the incident. He says the gas well was quickly shut off. Sigman says the crew was working on a water separator that separates the salt brine from the gas. They were working on a leaking valve when it exploded. "A valve came apart and the shrapnel from that explosion hit a salt brine tank," Sigman said. "We lost some salt brine." There were no burn injuries reported. The injured worker was taken by ambulance to CAMC General. He sustained minor injuries, officials said. The Cabot Gas well is located on the backside of the Samples Mine property, which is owned by Patriot Coal.

<http://www.wvmetronews.com/news.cfm?func=displayfullstory&storyid=49785>

#### FRANCE, ERDEVEN, DECEMBER 17 2011. FUEL LEAK OFF FRENCH COAST FROM BEACHED CARGO SHIP

 **Photo's [6]** [Wildlife and beach threatened by leaked fuel](#)



*The cargo ship TK Bremen seen is stranded on the beach at Kerminihy near Erdeven, France, Friday, Dec. 16, 2011.*

High winds beached a cargo ship on France's jagged Atlantic coast and some of the 220 tons of fuel on board leaked out, threatening a local beach. The 19-member crew of the "TK Bremen" was evacuated by helicopter early Friday as the vessel ran aground off Erdeven beach in southern Brittany, on the northwest coast of France. The prefecture of the Morbihan region said in a statement that a kilometer-long (0.6 mile) strip of fuel was headed toward the beach. A giant nature preserve of dunes and wildlife runs through Erdevan, one of many small coastal towns that attracts tourists for its natural beauty. The local government warned people to stay indoors as rescuers pumped fuel from the hold of the Maltese flagged ship in a bid to empty

it. "The high winds, gusting to hurricane-force in spots, are being fueled by an intense low-pressure system that slammed into northwest France Thursday night (U.S. time)," weather.com Meteorologist Chris Dolce said of the storm being called "Joachim" by the French. The French electric company said Friday some 320,000 homes were without electricity as winds of up to 130 kilometers per hour (81 mph) blew across France, triggering alerts in numerous regions. Most of the outages were in the country's west, but some areas in the east and southeast were hit as the storm moved across France. Heavy rains in low-lying areas and hurricane-force winds of up to 150 kilometers per hour (93 mph) lashed neighboring Switzerland, and train connections and boat services on some lakes in the Alpine country were disrupted. Swiss airports canceled or diverted dozens of flights - with more than 100 called off at Zurich's hub alone.

#### Related Links

- [Massive outage as storm batters France](#)
- [Fuel leaks off cargo ship beached off French coast](#)
- [Grounded tanker leaks oil off Brittany coast](#)

[http://www.weather.com/outlook/weather-news/news/articles/france-fuel-leak\\_2011-12-16](http://www.weather.com/outlook/weather-news/news/articles/france-fuel-leak_2011-12-16)



This work is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-Non-Commercial-Share-Alike 3.0 Unported License.

**The DG-Hazmat Group is proudly supported by:**



Australian Petroleum Industry Contractors & Suppliers Association

[www.tanknology.com.au](http://www.tanknology.com.au)

[www.pica.net.au/](http://www.pica.net.au/)

[www.upp.co.uk](http://www.upp.co.uk)



## Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network Release 2011 – 790 Newsy Stuff

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

**December 24 2011**



Alliance Partner

JOIFF

[www.joiff.com](http://www.joiff.com)

Every effort has been undertaken to ensure information accuracy however it is not intended to be comprehensive nor to render advice, referred URL's are current at time of the edition release.

An Industry Partner of

ISCO

[www.spillcontrol.org](http://www.spillcontrol.org)

### NORTHERN IRELAND, BELFAST, DECEMBER 17 2011. TANKER RE-ROUTED AMID CRACKS FEARS



*The LE Niamh has been sent out to monitor developments after a tanker was re-routed to Belfast*

A tanker carrying more than 55,000 tonnes of gas oil off the north west of Ireland has been re-routed to Belfast amid fears over cracks to its body. The vessel, Genmar Companion, en route from Rotterdam to New York, was anchored 25 miles off Tory Island after calling for assistance. The 228m tanker, with its cargo of Vacuum Gas Oil, is expected in Belfast port for inspections of the hull and where repairs are to be carried out. The Irish Coast Guard said a crack had been spotted running along the deck during inspections in Rotterdam but it was deemed safe to put to sea. Concerns were raised over potential weather conditions and the vessel, with a crew of 23 on board, is about 40 nautical miles north-west of Malin Head. "Weather in the area is fine with force four winds and a 2m swell. Visibility is also reported to be good," the Irish Coast Guard said. An Air Corps plane was sent to the scene to monitor developments and the naval vessel, the LE Niamh, is en route.

<http://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/local-national/republic-of-ireland/tanker-rerouted-amid-cracks-fears-16092056.html>

### AUSTRALIA, VICTORIA, BLACKBURN, DECEMBER 17 2011. 'DIRTY' PETROL STATION SITES FUEL COMMUNITY ANGER WITH PUSH ON FOR CLEAN-UP

jason dowling



*Blackburn: Toxic time bomb?*

Up to one in five petrol station sites may have leaked fuel and contaminated surrounding groundwater and soil. Cleaning up the sites once the business has closed can cost millions and take years. There are fears dozens of former petrol stations abandoned or left derelict across Victoria pose a threat to human health. As Australia's petrol station industry shifted in the past decade to fewer but larger petrol stations, owners of small sites have locked up and walked away, leaving derelict and often contaminated sites across the state. Some sites have been left abandoned for more than a decade, creating an eyesore, impacting on local amenity and posing long-term health threats with fuel contamination of the site and groundwater. One former Caltex station site on Blackburn Road has been a contaminated local eyesore for more than a decade. Work will begin next year on

decontaminating the site, expected to cost more than \$1 million and take up to three years. Fay La Galle from the Blackburn Chamber of Commerce and Industry said the community had been lobbying for years to have the site cleaned up. "The major concern was the site is on Blackburn Road, at the entrance to our shopping centre," she said. Ms La Galle said it was a terrible eyesore - "a Beirut bombsite". Caltex monitors the ground water at all its sites in New South Wales and said 15-20 per cent of sites "have visible contamination, usually related to past practices at the site". It said cleaning up can be costly. "Remediation typically costs anywhere from \$500,000 to more than \$1 million for each site," the company said. The Environment Protection Authority's "priority sites register", details contaminated sites that "present a potential risk to human health" and have been issued a clean-up notice or notice to stop polluting. The list includes dozens of current and former petrol station sites across Victoria. There are former petrol station sites requiring clean up in Brighton, Preston, Chelsea, Croydon, Ascot Vale, Moonee Ponds, Coburg, Corio and Bairnsdale. Other sites still operating where leakage has been detected include in Greensborough, Bendigo, Creswick, Oakleigh and Elwood. Sites usually come to the attention of the authority when an attempt is made to redevelop the site and soil tests are conducted, meaning sites abandoned and left dormant usually do not make the "priority list". An Auditor-General's report this month estimated there were 10,000 contaminated sites across Victoria, including former petrol station sites. The Auditor-General has recommended the state government introduce a system of "mandatory reporting" of contaminated sites and said there was "no clear requirement" in Victoria for sites that presented a longer-term risk to human health or the environment to be cleaned up. The Auditor-General also highlighted the problem of contaminated orphan sites, "where the party responsible for the contamination is unknown, insolvent, or cannot or will not cover the clean-up costs". Multinational oil companies such as Shell, Exxon Mobil, BP and Caltex, will only take responsibility for sites they operated at the time petrol is believed to have leaked from below-ground fuel



This work is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-Non-Commercial-Share-Alike 3.0 Unported License.

**The DG-Hazmat Group is proudly supported by:**



APICSA



Franklin Fueling Systems

Australian Petroleum Industry Contractors & Suppliers Association

[www.tanknology.com.au](http://www.tanknology.com.au)

[www.pica.net.au/](http://www.pica.net.au/)

[www.upp.co.uk](http://www.upp.co.uk)



## Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network

### Release 2011 – 790 Newsy Stuff

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

**December 24 2011**



Alliance Partner

JOIFF

[www.joiff.com](http://www.joiff.com)

Every effort has been undertaken to ensure information accuracy however it is not intended to be comprehensive nor to render advice, referred URL's are current at time of the edition release.

An Industry Partner of

ISCO

[www.spillcontrol.org](http://www.spillcontrol.org)

tanks, not sites independently owned but selling fuel from the major companies. When contacted by The Saturday Age all four companies rejected the idea of contributing to an industry-wide fund to clean up contaminated former petrol station sites. Caltex said it would "investigate contamination of land that has been caused by our operations". It said it had a "team of environmental experts whose sole focus is to manage the assessment and remediation of contaminated sites under our control, particularly before a lease closes or a site is sold". BP said its goal was to "decommission sites as soon as practical following closure, and to then remediate sites". Mobil said it has "45 sites where we have some form of ongoing remediation or monitoring works". Shell said it had "stock loss systems" at operating sites to "detect loss of product and help prevent contamination". Shell declined to say how many operating sites had been detected leaking fuel or how many former Shell sites in Victoria had not been remediated.

<http://www.smh.com.au/victoria/dirty-petrol-station-sites-fuel-community-anger-with-push-on-for-cleanup-20111216-1oysl.html>

#### PHILIPPINES, MANILA, DECEMBER 17 2011. 17 INJURED AS FIREWORKS AT UP LANTERN PARADE GO AWRY

*julie m. aurelio*

A decades-old Yuletide tradition of the University of the Philippines went awry Friday night when fireworks at the yearly Lantern Parade flew into an excited crowd instead of the night sky. The Quezon City Police District said 17 onlookers were injured by the faulty pyrotechnics during the festivities at the U.P. Diliman campus in Quezon City. Superintendent Michael Macapagal, Anonas police station commander, said they had taken in for questioning the two technicians—Mark Vallejo and Julieta Labete of Solar Harvest Company—who were in charge of the fireworks display for the Lantern Parade. Depending on the outcome of the investigation and whether the victims decide to sue, Macapagal said, the two may face charges of reckless imprudence resulting in multiple injuries. Vice chancellor for community affairs Melania Abad said university officials will meet with the fireworks contractor to investigate the accident, which happened at around 8:30 p.m. Friday in front of Quezon Hall, the UP administration building, where floats and lanterns of participating colleges were showcased for a final round. Two of the 17 injured onlookers, Lucia Dimaguila, 67, and Jomerson Salazar, 18, were treated at the Capitol Medical Center on Quezon Avenue. The rest were brought to the U.P. Infirmary to be treated. Macapagal identified them as: Danice Daluyan, 4; Jene Jonel, 13; Jovy de Venecia, 12; Princess Cruz, 15; Floralyn Bonabine, 24; Jerome Esguerra, 11; Camille Ruiz, 24; Dennis Jayme, 18; Zhenon Corpus, 15; Tennie Maulina, 34; Xavier Malilay, 26; Marie Rivera; Danica Uy, 14; Canon Esguerra, 41; and Danilo Tadong Jr. Macapagal, citing the technicians' scant statements to the police, said the accident was the first of its kind in the Lantern Parade's history since it was begun in 1922. The technicians declined to go into detail as to what happened although their company has been reportedly hired for the fireworks show for some years now. The Lantern Parade, done in December, marks the end of classes and the beginning of the Christmas break for U.P. students. Colleges and other U.P. units compete with gigantic floats and lanterns in a parade around the Academic Oval culminating at the Quezon Hall.

<http://newsinfo.inquirer.net/112907/17-injured-as-fireworks-at-up-lantern-parade-go-awry>

#### AUSTRALIA, N.S.W, SYDNEY, DECEMBER 17 2011. FUTURE OF CALTEX REFINING IN DOUBT

*rebecca le may*



Another profit downgrade by Caltex has fuelled speculation the company may exit the oil refining business in Australia, leaving it solely a convenience goods' retailer. On Friday Caltex forecast an after-tax operating profit for calendar 2011 - on a replacement cost of sales' basis and including significant items - of between \$180 million and \$200 million. The equivalent result for 2010 was \$302 million. Replacement cost of sales excludes the impact of fluctuations in oil prices and presents a clearer picture of the company's underlying business performance, Caltex said. Caltex said the fall was largely attributable to external factors, including a strong Australian dollar, and operational disruptions. A resources analyst with MineLife concurred. "It's not just a temporary phenomena," Gavin Wendt said. "There are structural issues that have made it a tough business to be

in for companies like Caltex for some time." Margins in the global refining business were generally quite low, he said, but even more so for companies like Caltex that had to buy all of its oil, exposing it fully to the commodity's present high price. Caltex is one of the biggest refiners in Australia but it is competing with Shell and BP, which have the benefit of producing their own oil, he said. Caltex also has to compete with petrol imported from Singapore, a huge market with low per-unit operating costs that



This work is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-Share-Alike 3.0 Unported License.

The DG-Hazmat Group is proudly supported by:



APICSA



Franklin Fueling Systems

Australian Petroleum Industry Contractors & Suppliers Association

[www.tanknology.com.au](http://www.tanknology.com.au)

[www.pica.net.au/](http://www.pica.net.au/)

[www.upp.co.uk](http://www.upp.co.uk)



## Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network Release 2011 – 790 Newsy Stuff

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

**December 24 2011**



Alliance Partner

JOIFF

[www.joiff.com](http://www.joiff.com)

Every effort has been undertaken to ensure information accuracy however it is not intended to be comprehensive nor to render advice, referred URL's are current at time of the edition release.

An Industry Partner of

ISCO

[www.spillcontrol.org](http://www.spillcontrol.org)

made it highly competitive irrespective of currency movements. Mr Wendt said the writing was on the wall for Caltex, which seemed likely to pull the plug on refining, handing Shell a bigger market share, particularly on the east coast. "Caltex will soldier on but they're more of a retailer; running service stations and selling products," Mr Wendt said. "They'll still operate here as a listed company but domestic refining won't be part of their picture, I would imagine, in a few years' time." <http://www.smh.com.au/business/future-of-caltex-refining-in-doubt-20111216-1oym3.html>

### ENGLAND, WINTERBOURNE STOKE. DECEMBER 17 2011. FUEL TANKER IN A303 CRASH

*hannah white »*

A serious accident in which a woman has died has closed the A303 eastbound at Winterbourne Stoke. Emergency services were called to a crash involving a fuel tanker and two cars near Scotland Lodge Farm at about 1.45pm. Two air ambulances and two ambulances attended and the woman was pronounced dead at the scene. A male passenger has been taken to Salisbury District Hospital but his injuries are not thought to be life threatening. Another ambulance, which had been on its way to the crash, was in collision with a car in Winterbourne Stoke but it is not believed that anyone was injured. Long delays are reported and drivers are being advised to avoid the area.

[http://www.salisburyjournal.co.uk/news/salisbury/salisburynews/9425464.Accident\\_involving\\_lorry\\_on\\_A303/](http://www.salisburyjournal.co.uk/news/salisbury/salisburynews/9425464.Accident_involving_lorry_on_A303/)

### BRAZIL, RIO DE JANEIRO, DECEMBER 17 2011. BP BUYS AVIATION ASSETS AT BRAZILIAN AIRPORTS FROM SHELL, COSAN FOR \$100 MILLION

BP Plc, the U.K.'s biggest oil company, bought aviation-fuel assets in Brazil from Royal Dutch Shell Plc and Cosan SA Industria & Comercio for \$100 million. The deal includes storage tanks, vehicles and pipelines for plane refueling at seven airports in the South American country, BP said today in a statement. Upon completion, expected in the first quarter, Air BP will be present at 18 Brazilian airports and account for about 66 percent of aviation-fuel demand there. "Demand growth for aviation fuel in Brazil is well above the average global rates at around 16 percent," Ricardo Paganini, Air BP's manager for Brazil, said in the statement. "The purchase of these new assets will allow Air BP to accelerate its ambitious plans to grow its share of supply." Brazil's antitrust regulator ordered the sale after Shell and Cosan combined some assets in the country.

<http://www.businessweek.com/news/2011-12-16/bp-buys-aviation-assets-at-brazilian-airports-from-shell-cosan.html>

### RUSSIA, USINSK, DECEMBER 18 2011. IN FOCUS: DRIP BY DRIP, A TORRENT OF OIL POLLUTION >> RUSSIA'S VAST TUNDRA HAS BEEN RAVAGED BY OIL COMPANIES UNWILLING TO CLEAN UP THEIR ACTS.

*nataliya vasilyeva*



*This Saturday, Sept. 10, 2011 photo shows dying trees next to an oil spill near the town of Usinsk, 1500 kilometers (930 miles) northeast of Moscow. Komi is one of Russia's largest and oldest oil provinces but ruptures in aging pipelines and leaks from decommissioned oil wells make oil spills in the region routine. Environmentalists estimate at least 1 percent of Russia's annual oil production, or 5 million tons (35 million barrels), is spilled every year. That's equivalent to one Deepwater Horizon-scale leak about every two months. Crumbling infrastructure and a harsh climate combine to spell disaster in the world's largest oil producer, responsible for 13 percent of global output. On the tundra outside this oil town near the Arctic Circle, a pitch-black pool of crude stretches toward the horizon. The source: a decommissioned well whose rusty valves ooze with oil, viscous like jam.*

*This is the face of Russia's oil country, a sprawling, inhospitable zone that experts say represents the world's worst ecological oil catastrophe. Environmentalists estimate at least 1 percent of Russia's annual oil production, or 5 million tons, is spilled every year. That is equivalent to one Deepwater Horizon-scale leak about every two months. Crumbling infrastructure and a harsh climate combine to spell disaster in the world's largest oil producer, responsible for 13 percent of global output.*

Oil, stubbornly seeping through rusty pipelines and old wells, contaminates soil, kills all plants that grow on it and destroys habitats for mammals and birds. Half a million tons every year get into rivers that flow into the Arctic Ocean, the government says, upsetting the delicate environmental balance in those waters. It's part of a legacy of environmental tragedy that has plagued Russia and the countries of its former Soviet empire for decades, from the nuclear horrors of Chernobyl in Ukraine to lethal chemical waste in the Russian city of Dzerzhinsk and paper mill pollution seeping into Siberia's Lake Baikal, which holds



This work is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-Non-Commercial-Share-Alike 3.0 Unported License.

**The DG-Hazmat Group is proudly supported by:**



Australian Petroleum Industry Contractors & Suppliers Association

[www.tanknology.com.au](http://www.tanknology.com.au)

[www.pica.net.au/](http://www.pica.net.au/)

[www.upp.co.uk](http://www.upp.co.uk)



## Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network

### Release 2011 – 790 Newsy Stuff

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

**December 24 2011**



Alliance Partner

JOIFF

[www.joiff.com](http://www.joiff.com)

Every effort has been undertaken to ensure information accuracy however it is not intended to be comprehensive nor to render advice, referred URL's are current at time of the edition release.

An Industry Partner of

ISCO

[www.spillcontrol.org](http://www.spillcontrol.org)

one-fifth of the world's supply of fresh water. Oil spills in Russia are less dramatic than disasters in the Gulf of Mexico or the North Sea, more the result of a drip-drip of leaked crude than a sudden explosion. But they're more numerous than in any other oil-producing nation, including insurgency-hit Nigeria, and combined they spill far more than anywhere else in the world, scientists say. "Oil and oil products get spilled literally every day," said Grigory Barenboim, senior researcher at the Russian Academy of Sciences' Institute of Water Problems. No hard figures on the scope of oil spills in Russia are available, but Greenpeace estimates that at least 5 million tons leak every year in a country producing about 500 million tons a year. Irina Ivshina, of the government-financed Institute of the Environment and Genetics of Microorganisms, supports the 5 million ton estimate, as does the World Wildlife Fund. The figure is derived from two sources: Russian state-funded research that shows 10 to 15 percent of Russian oil leakage enters rivers; and a 2010 report commissioned by the Natural Resources Ministry that shows nearly 500,000 tons slips into northern Russian rivers every year and flow into the Arctic. The estimate is considered conservative: The Russian Economic Development Ministry in a 2010 report estimated spills at up to 20 million tons per year. That astonishing number, for which the ministry offered no elaboration, appears to be based partly on the fact most small leaks in Russia go unreported. Under Russian law, leaks of less than 8 tons are classified only as "incidents" and carry no penalties. Russian oil spills also elude detection because most happen in the vast swaths of unpopulated tundra and conifer forest in the north, caused either by ruptured pipes or leakage from decommissioned wells. Weather conditions in most oil provinces are brutal, with temperatures routinely dropping below minus 40 degrees in winter. That makes pipelines brittle and prone to rupture unless they are regularly replaced and their condition monitored. Asked by The Associated Press to comment, the Natural Resources Ministry and the Energy Ministry said they have no data on oil spills and referred to the other ministry for further inquiries. Now that Russian companies are moving to the Arctic to tap vast but hard-to-reach oil and gas riches, scientists voice concerns that Russia's outdated technologies and shoddy safety record make for a potential environmental calamity there. In 1994, the republic of Komi, where Usinsk lies 40 miles south of the Arctic Circle, became the scene of Russia's largest oil spill when an estimated 100,000 tons splashed from an aging pipeline. It killed plants and animals, and polluted up to 25 miles of two local rivers, killing thousands of fish. In villages most affected, respiratory diseases rose by some 28 percent in the year following the leak. Seen from a helicopter, the oil production area is dotted with pitch-black ponds. Fresh leaks are easy to find once you step into the tundra north of Usinsk. To spot a leak, find a dying tree. Fir trees with drooping gray, dry branches look as though scorched by a wildfire. Usinsk spokeswoman Tatyana Khimichuk said the city administration had no powers to influence oil company operations. "Everything that happens at the oil fields is Lukoil's responsibility," she said, referring to Russia's second-largest oil company, which owns a network of pipelines in the region. Ivan Blokov, campaign director at Greenpeace Russia, who studies oil spills, said the situation in Komi is replicated across Russia's oil-producing regions, which stretch from the Black Sea in the southwest to the Chinese border in Russia's Far East. "It is happening everywhere," he said. "It's typical of any oil field in Russia. The system is old, and it is not being replaced in time by any oil company in the country."

#### For Spills, Russia is Easily the World's Worst

Many environmentalists estimate that Russia is the largest polluter in the world when it comes to oil spills. Even counting only the 500,000 tons officially reported to be leaking into northern rivers every year, Russia is by far the worst:

- Nigeria, which produces one-fifth as much oil as Russia, logged 110,000 tons spilled in 2009, much of that due to rebel attacks on pipelines.
- The U.S., the world's third-largest oil producer, logged 341 pipeline ruptures in 2010 -- compared to Russia's 18,000 - with 17,600 tons of oil leaking as a result, according to the U.S. Department of Transportation. Spills have averaged 14,900 tons a year between 2001 and 2010.
- Canada, which produces oil in weather conditions as harsh as Russia's, sees nothing near Russia's scale of disaster. Eleven pipeline accidents were reported to Canada's Transport Safety Board last year, while media reports of leaks, ranging from sizable spills to a tiny leak, come to a total of 7,700 tons a year.

-- The Associated Press

[http://www.pressherald.com/news/nationworld/in-focus-russias-oil-industry\\_2011-12-18.html](http://www.pressherald.com/news/nationworld/in-focus-russias-oil-industry_2011-12-18.html)

#### CHINA, HUNAN PROVINCE, BINZHOU, DECEMBER 18 2011. 9 KILLED IN GAS EXPLOSION AT CHINESE COAL MINE

A gas explosion at a mine in central China has killed nine workers. The accident happened Saturday afternoon at a mine in Hunan province's Sandu township. A Hunan work safety official, surnamed Zhang, said all nine workers underground at the



This work is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-Share-Alike 3.0 Unported License.

**The DG-Hazmat Group is proudly supported by:**



Australian Petroleum Industry Contractors & Suppliers Association

[www.tanknology.com.au](http://www.tanknology.com.au)

[www.pica.net.au/](http://www.pica.net.au/)

[www.upp.co.uk](http://www.upp.co.uk)



## Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network Release 2011 – 790 Newsy Stuff

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

**December 24 2011**



Alliance Partner

JOIFF

[www.joiff.com](http://www.joiff.com)

Every effort has been undertaken to ensure information accuracy however it is not intended to be comprehensive nor to render advice, referred URL's are current at time of the edition release.

An Industry Partner of

ISCO

[www.spillcontrol.org](http://www.spillcontrol.org)

time were confirmed dead. The cause of the explosion, he said, is being investigated. He said the mine is privately run. China's coal mines are the deadliest in the world. Their safety record has improved in recent years as smaller, illegal mines have been closed.

<http://newsinfo.inquirer.net/113457/9-killed-in-gas-explosion-at-chinese-coal-mine>

### **SOUTH AFRICA, DURBAN, DECEMBER 18 2011. MAN KILLED BY PETROL TANKER**

A man crossing a Durban highway was killed after being hit by a petrol tanker, paramedics said on Saturday. "The man had been crossing the bustling freeway when he misjudged the speed of the truck and ran into its path," said Netcare 911's Jeffrey Wicks. He said the tanker struck the man and then rode over his body.

<http://www.iol.co.za/news/south-africa/man-killed-by-petrol-tanker-1.1200307>

### **USA, N.J., TRENTON, DECEMBER 18 2011. 1,700 HOMEOWNERS AWAITING AID FOR UNDERGROUND TANK REMOVAL**

*james m. o'neill*



*The removal of an oil tank at Eliot Zigmund's home in Teaneck could cost him \$60,000 because a state grant program ran out of money.*

When Eliot Zigmund's heating oil contractor suggested he have the underground oil tank removed from his yard, Zigmund thought it would be good for the environment — and eliminate a potential stumbling block if he ever sold his [Teaneck](#) home. The removal of an oil tank at Eliot Zigmund's home in Teaneck could cost him \$60,000 because a state grant program ran out of money. But as soon as workers began digging to remove the 550-gallon tank, complications began to pile up. The soil had the distinct odor of oil that had seeped out of holes in the tank. Cleaning up Zigmund's side yard became a boondoggle. Workers dug down 17 feet, removed 250 tons of contaminated soil, carted away dirt from a neighbor's yard, replaced the

neighbor's steps, and tore away and rebuilt a foundation wall of Zigmund's house. The work cost more than \$300,000, Zigmund said. Zigmund's insurance will cover the bulk of cleanup cost, but he is on the hook for nearly 20 percent — about \$60,000. He thought the state's underground storage tank grant program would cover it, but the program ran out of money in May. "It's like being plucked off the street and stuck into a Kafka novel," said Zigmund, 66. He's not alone. The program has a backlog of more than 1,700 applications — some \$52 million worth of storage tank removal and cleanup projects. "It will take a few years to get through the backlog," said Frank Pinto, assistant director for contracting and financial services with the state Department of Environmental Protection. The DEP administers the program with the state's Economic Development Authority. Many homeowners who already had sent in applications are waiting for their money. Others who might have proceeded with tank removals have held off. "The state didn't have the funds and many homeowners don't have the money to do these projects themselves, so they're in a holding pattern," said Ken Lombardo, co-owner of Lombardo Environmental, an [Elmwood Park](#) company that handles tank removals. Leaking residential underground storage tanks represent a significant portion of the contaminated sites in North Jersey. Of the 1,964 active or pending contaminated sites in [Bergen County](#), 524 — or 27 percent — involve residential underground storage tanks, according to a DEP database. In [Passaic County](#), 103 of 775 contaminated sites, or 13 percent, involve residential underground tanks. Many tank projects, such as the removal of non-leaking tanks, are not included in those numbers. Testing underground storage tanks for leaks and removing them has become the real estate industry standard when a home is up for sale. "Most lenders and buyers now require testing or ask the sellers to remove the tank," said Pinto. That has increased the popularity of the tank removal grant and loan program. In addition, many homeowner insurance policies stopped providing standard coverage of tank removals and cleanup six years ago. Since the state grant program began under former Gov. Christie Whitman in 1997, it has paid for more than 15,000 tank removals, said the EDA's Erin Gold. The program provides grants and loans to those who qualify based on income and other factors. The fund has been financed through a state constitutional amendment, which dedicates a portion of the state corporate business tax to the DEP for both the fund and for cleanup of hazardous sites or "brownfields." But over the years, far more money came in than the \$11 million to \$14 million disbursed for tank removal projects each year. By 2006, there was a \$90 million surplus, so the Legislature decided, with voter approval, to divert the corporate business tax money to the brownfields program. Lawmakers also started to divert money to cover other expenses, including DEP administration. At the same time, lawmakers expanded



This work is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-Share-Alike 3.0 Unported License.

**The DG-Hazmat Group is proudly supported by:**



APICSA



Franklin Fueling Systems

Australian Petroleum Industry Contractors & Suppliers Association

[www.tanknology.com.au](http://www.tanknology.com.au)

[www.pica.net.au/](http://www.pica.net.au/)

[www.upp.co.uk](http://www.upp.co.uk)



## Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network

### Release 2011 – 790 Newsy Stuff

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

**December 24 2011**



Alliance Partner

JOIFF

[www.joiff.com](http://www.joiff.com)

Every effort has been undertaken to ensure information accuracy however it is not intended to be comprehensive nor to render advice, referred URL's are current at time of the edition release.

An Industry Partner of

ISCO

[www.spillcontrol.org](http://www.spillcontrol.org)

the tank grant program eligibility to cover tanks that weren't leaking. Since 2006, more than 10,000 non-leaking tanks have been removed through the program. The program in some cases also covers installation of new above-ground tanks. The program received 30 to 50 applications a month before 2007, but jumped to 200 a month after the changes that made more projects eligible for funds. "It became a very popular program, and in effect was a victim of its own success," Pinto said. In 2008 and 2009, the fund paid out \$20 million each year, and in 2010, it paid out more than \$40 million. The program's sudden popularity, combined with the Legislature's decision to siphon off the \$90 million surplus, caused the fund to dry up in May. The fund was replenished in July with about \$14 million for the current fiscal year through the corporate business tax. In addition, the EDA looked back over previously approved projects that didn't use all the allotted money and reclaimed about \$4.5 million. Applications that had already been approved by the DEP and sent on to the EDA were addressed first with this money. Since May, the EDA has approved 1,261 applications totaling \$18 million, Gold said. That leaves 59 applications totaling \$5 million left in the EDA backlog still being reviewed, with \$5.7 million left in the fund to disburse, she said. Another 1,670 applications totaling \$47 million are in the review process with the DEP and have not yet been passed along to the EDA, Pinto said. Those applications likely won't start seeing any payouts until after July 2012. "Any cases we see that have some particular environmental concerns, we put to the top of the list, such as any threat to the drinking water supply or to human health. We don't want to see anyone in an unsafe situation," Pinto said. Only a handful have met that criteria and been put on a fast track for approval, he added. DEP Deputy Commissioner Irene Kropp said the agency is considering ways to reduce the burden on the fund, possibly by restricting eligibility for the program, or making it more of a loan program so that money is eventually recouped by the state, or even by lowering the cleanup standards for residential properties. The scenarios will be presented to DEP Commissioner Bob Martin for review in the next few weeks, Kropp said. "If nothing changes, people applying now into the program won't see any payout until three to four years into the future," Pinto said. Not what Teaneck's Zigmund wants to hear. The subcontractor that had been hired to write his grant application failed to get the application in before the fund went dry in May, and he just hired another company to do the work. He might get a payout in several years, but in the meantime, he has to find another way to pay his contractor. "Everything related to this project has ended up being the worst-case scenario," he said.

[http://www.northjersey.com/news/135814598\\_local\\_issue\\_UNDERGROUND\\_tank\\_removal\\_1\\_700\\_homeowners\\_awaiting\\_aid.html?page=all](http://www.northjersey.com/news/135814598_local_issue_UNDERGROUND_tank_removal_1_700_homeowners_awaiting_aid.html?page=all)

### USA, IN, EVANSVILLE, DECEMBER 18 2011. STATE KEEPS LANDOWNERS ON THE HOOK FOR LEAKING UNDERGROUND FUEL TANKS | DATABASE

The state is keeping landowners on the hook to clean up leakage from nearly 100 area underground petroleum storage tanks including a 21-year-old case at Evansville Regional Airport. The sites are part of a statewide registry of more than 2,100 locations where gasoline, diesel fuel or used oil leaked from storage tanks or piping, posing contamination danger to soil, groundwater and utility lines. In many cases, the storage tanks themselves were removed years earlier. Thousands of leakage sites statewide have been cleaned up to regulators' satisfaction or deemed acceptable if not under residential use. Others have been OK'd as long as they are accompanied by periodic well or soil testing. But the 2,100-plus cases are deemed "active" by the Indiana Department of Environmental Management, which assigns them low, medium or high priority. That means the state agency isn't satisfied the danger has been eliminated. It doesn't always mean danger exists, said Bruce Palin, IDEM's assistant commissioner for the office of land quality. "An active case can be in various stages, maybe being investigated or having a remedy put in place. It could be a site that they're actively treating and dealing with contamination of groundwater, but it's still not closed yet because (owners) haven't reduced the contamination to an acceptable level," Palin said. IDEM's registry includes 84 locations in Vanderburgh, Warrick, Posey and Gibson counties that have past or present storage tank leaks the state agency puts in its "active" category. With IDEM data yielding an average fix and cleanup cost of \$200,000 per case, it is an expensive problem.

#### Solutions Can Take Years, Even Decades.

"It does take a lot of time to go out and do explorations, new testing, get results back and evaluate them. It's not unusual for some of these sites to extend over several years before they get to a conclusion," Palin said. Like, for example, the former car rental building site on the west side of the Evansville Regional Airport's property. Bearing a 1990 origination date, it is one of the oldest cases in IDEM's registry, although it is by no means the only one that dates to the 1990s. IDEM tags the case a high priority, and its registry indicates utility lines, soil and groundwater were all affected. "IDEM requested additional investigation in February 2009, but, to date, no report has been submitted," states an email from the state agency. Doug Joest, the airport's



This work is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-Non-Commercial-Share-Alike 3.0 Unported License.

**The DG-Hazmat Group is proudly supported by:**



Australian Petroleum Industry Contractors & Suppliers Association

[www.tanknology.com.au](http://www.tanknology.com.au)

[www.pica.net.au/](http://www.pica.net.au/)

[www.upp.co.uk](http://www.upp.co.uk)



## Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network Release 2011 – 790 Newsy Stuff

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

**December 24 2011**



**Alliance Partner  
JOIFF**

[www.joiff.com](http://www.joiff.com)

Every effort has been undertaken to ensure information accuracy however it is not intended to be comprehensive nor to render advice, referred URL's are current at time of the edition release.

**An Industry Partner of  
ISCO**

[www.spillcontrol.org](http://www.spillcontrol.org)

manager, said Evansville-Vanderburgh Airport Authority District officials had no idea IDEM still considered their cleanup project a high priority. Joest said the Airport Authority has been waiting for more guidance from IDEM since 2009 but has heard nothing. The Airport Authority took action on its own initiative two decades ago, Joest said, when the rental car companies left to move into the then-new terminal on the airport property's north side. The airport's website pegs Jan. 16, 1989 as the date operations began at the new terminal building. In January 1992, the Airport Authority "approved initial steps to demolish the old terminal building and other structures on the airport's west side." "The airport knew there were underground storage tanks (at the former rental car company building), and was proactive about dealing with the environmental issue that they knew they had there," Joest said. Joest said the Airport Authority spent at least \$50,000 cleaning up the area, with about half the money spent taking storage tanks out of the ground. "The airport did everything they thought they needed to do to comply with the rules. There were test wells put in. A lot of money was spent hauling away contaminated dirt because over the years, there were some leaks around those tanks that weren't discovered until they pulled the tanks out of the ground," he said. The Airport Authority engaged an environmental consultant to do soil testing in 2009, and that testing yielded recommendations to do some test wells, Joest said. "But I don't know that those were done because it wasn't clear that was going to satisfy IDEM," he said. "It wasn't clear what IDEM wanted us to do, and we didn't want to spend any more money unless we were sure it was going to satisfy them." Since then IDEM hasn't made an issue of the ongoing cleanup, Joest said, and neither has the Airport Authority. "Certainly if there's something that IDEM's concerned about, we can address it," he said.

### **Responsibilities**

IDEM's registry of sites includes the names of property owners, but that is no guarantee that those businesses — the list includes numerous gas stations and convenience stores — are still operating at those addresses. "Those are the names of whoever registered those tanks with the state," Palin said, noting that many "active" cases stemmed from leaks that occurred more than a decade ago. Barring an extensive property-by-property records check, there is no way of knowing whether the sites on IDEM's list are abandoned or are owned and operated by parties taking responsibility for cleaning up leakage. IDEM does not track that data. Even in the cases of abandoned properties that were purchased by a brownfields program or other new owners, the current owners are responsible for tank repairs and cleanup of the surrounding environment. In fact, the owners of former and current sites of underground storage tanks bear all the responsibility for them under laws passed in the late 1980s and 90s. That includes registering the tanks with the state fire marshal and meeting regulations designed to prevent leaks. Property owners in Indiana, for example, may not install new tanks unless those tanks have double walls and double wall piping from tank to dispenser. Owners of working underground storage tanks must monitor the tanks for leakage with daily depth measurements and sales record checks, investigate suspected leakage, assess the extent of any soil or groundwater contamination and report it to IDEM. The state agency's inspectors and the property owners, who are often represented by environmental consultants, then identify and launch strategies to clean up the contamination. The greater responsibilities, and the costs associated with them, inspired some property owners to remove and replace their tanks with improved models. Some also abandoned properties. Palin said his agency receives roughly 200 new leak reports every year, or about one every work day. Specific fixes depend on the nature of the leak and contamination. They range from digging up and hauling large amounts of soil to a landfill and using suction to remove contaminants to monitoring leaked fuel that is confined to the soil. The cases can also involve removing sludge from abandoned tanks. In some cases, a restrictive covenant is necessary to guarantee that a property cannot be used for residential purposes. "Every cleanup is unique. There probably is no typical one," Palin said.

### **Who Pays?**

Doing the math — multiplying IDEM's \$200,000 average leaking tank fix and cleanup estimate by the state's 2,100-plus sites yields a big number: \$400 million. The actual year-to-year costs are much lower. According to state data, in fiscal year 2010-11 the state's Underground Storage Tank Excess Liability Trust Fund (ELTF) received \$58.6 million in cleanup claims and reimbursed \$35.9 million. Who pays for the cleanups? To a large extent the burden is on taxpayers. Owners and operators of regulated underground storage tanks who pay their required tank fees — about \$90 annually per tank — to the state are eligible to be reimbursed for investigation and cleanup costs from ELTF. There is a \$30,000 deductible. IDEM used ELTF claims data to arrive at its \$200,000-per-fix and cleanup estimate. The fund receives about \$300,000 annually from tank fees, but its primary source of income is the penny-per-gallon tax that distributors pay the state for gasoline, diesel fuel and kerosene they sell. That cost, Palin said, is almost certainly passed on to customers at the pump. IDEM states most cleanup costs — it estimates 98 percent — are borne by ELTF, gas stations' private insurance and by storage tank owner/operators themselves. In 2009 Indiana received \$4 million in federal stimulus money to fix leaking storage tanks. IDEM and local



This work is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-Non-Commercial-Share-Alike 3.0 Unported License.

**The DG-Hazmat Group is proudly supported by:**



**Australian Petroleum Industry Contractors & Suppliers Association**

[www.tanknology.com.au](http://www.tanknology.com.au)

[www.pica.net.au/](http://www.pica.net.au/)

[www.upp.co.uk](http://www.upp.co.uk)



## Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network Release 2011 – 790 Newsy Stuff

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

**December 24 2011**



Alliance Partner

JOIFF

[www.joiff.com](http://www.joiff.com)

Every effort has been undertaken to ensure information accuracy however it is not intended to be comprehensive nor to render advice, referred URL's are current at time of the edition release.

An Industry Partner of

ISCO

[www.spillcontrol.org](http://www.spillcontrol.org)

brownfields redevelopment program officials around the state quickly identified 29 sites for cleanup or repair, including two in Evansville. IDEM records indicate about \$74,000 of the money was spent at the former Greyhound depot at 100 NW Third St., and \$110,000 was spent at the former Mac's Auto Body property at 502 E. Powell Ave. But IDEM believes federal government funding is too sporadic to be a big part of the equation for cleaning up the state's leaking storage tanks. It says state government funding is not available for cleanups in amounts large enough to move the needle. "There are funds that become available from time to time through the federal government that the money is used for cleanups, but it's not consistent enough that we could say that (remaining) 2 percent is covered by the federal government," said Barry Sneed, an IDEM spokesman.

### Sharp End of the Stick

Among IDEM's 84 "active" area locations is the former Busler Enterprises convenience store at 2001 W. Pennsylvania St., where cleanup of a high priority 2009 leak appears near a successful conclusion. "No additional cleanup is anticipated. Groundwater monitoring is currently being conducted to determine if the site can be closed," the agency's email message stated. Charles Wolfinger, president of Busler Enterprises, said the company found ground contamination when it removed its underground storage tanks at the property, which it still owns. Busler began working with an environmental contractor and IDEM to clean it up. IDEM's registry indicates the leakage affected utility lines, soil and groundwater. "They have recommendations and give you guidelines, and there's correspondence, and we work with them to make sure it's done according to their recommendation and requirements," Wolfinger said. "We just want to be a good neighbor to everyone in the community." According to IDEM, Busler Enterprises has received about \$65,000 in ELTF reimbursement to date beyond the \$30,000 deductible. While Busler Enterprises apparently has been cooperative with IDEM, the agency has a stick with a sharp end to deal with tank owners it believes are not properly addressing problems. Statewide, the agency has collected nearly \$228,000 in fines since Jan. 1, 2009. Depending on the seriousness of a problem, IDEM conceivably could levy fines of up to \$25,000 a day per violation or seek court orders — solutions Palin says are rarely needed. Tank owners don't have the option of deciding that paying fines is cheaper than complying with cleanup requirements. "If you didn't do something that would have detected a leak and we find out you didn't do that, you may get a penalty for that but you still also have to do that test — and then if that test discovers there's a leak, then you've still got to deal with remediating and cleaning up that leak," Palin said. "It's not like, 'Oh, we found a violation, and you paid us for it, so we don't care if you don't correct the violation. You actually have to resolve it as well.'"

[http://www.courierpress.com/news/2011/dec/10/no-headline---ev\\_leakingtanks/](http://www.courierpress.com/news/2011/dec/10/no-headline---ev_leakingtanks/)

### INDIA, HARYANA REWARI, DECEMBER 18 2011. FOUR OF FAMILY KILLED IN ROAD MISHAP

Four members of a family were killed and two others seriously injured when an oil tanker rammed into their car on the Rewari-Delhi road near Masani village, police said today. Mohan Lal (90), his younger son Sharwan Kumar (52), daughter Shweta and her three-month-old son Mudit were killed on the spot in yesterday's accident. Mohan Lal's elder son Jaswant and his wife Veena, who sustained serious injuries, were rushed to a private hospital in Gurgaon, they said. The family, hailing from Narnaul in Haryana was returning home after attending a marriage function in Delhi, police said. The driver of the tanker fled after abandoning the vehicle, police said, adding that efforts were on to nab him.

<http://ibnlive.in.com/generalnewsfeed/news/four-of-family-killed-in-road-mishap/934845.html>

### NIGERIA, KADUNA, DECEMBER 18 2011. FIRE GUTS FUEL TANKER IN KADUNA

Traders at the Abubakar Gummi Central Market, Kaduna, were yesterday thrown into pandemonium as a 33,000-litre Oando oil tanker caught fire while trying to discharge its content at a filling station in the heart of the market. Sunday Sun correspondent, who was at the market at the time of the incident, gathered that the inferno lasted for hours, forcing traders to close shops, just as the ever busy Ahmadu Bello Way was quickly deserted. Angry youths, who were watching the burning tanker helplessly for almost an hour before the arrival of the Fire Service, stoned and smashed the windscreen of the fire-fighters' van. It, however, took the prompt intervention of a combined police and army team to control the situation before the fire fighters could be allowed to do their job. However, men of the fire service could not put off the fire with their mini water tanker. Many traders were seen struggling to move out their valuables for fear of possible spread of the fire to their shops. While trying to ascertain the cause of the fire, Sunday Sun gathered from an eyewitness that it was caused by electric spark from the tanker. According to the eyewitness, who identified himself as Nura Abubakar, a recharge card vendor in front of the filling station, "the tanker just came to offload fuel, suddenly I saw small fire from the battery of the tanker and before we could call the attention of the filling station people the fire got to the tank of the vehicle loaded with petrol."



This work is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-Non-Commercial-Share-Alike 3.0 Unported License.

**The DG-Hazmat Group is proudly supported by:**



Australian Petroleum Industry Contractors & Suppliers Association

[www.tanknology.com.au](http://www.tanknology.com.au)

[www.pica.net.au/](http://www.pica.net.au/)

[www.upp.co.uk](http://www.upp.co.uk)



## Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network

### Release 2011 – 790 Newsy Stuff

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

**December 24 2011**



Alliance Partner

JOIFF

[www.joiff.com](http://www.joiff.com)

Every effort has been undertaken to ensure information accuracy however it is not intended to be comprehensive nor to render advice, referred URL's are current at time of the edition release.

An Industry Partner of

ISCO

[www.spillcontrol.org](http://www.spillcontrol.org)

Meanwhile, after spending an hour and half, our reporter noted there was no sign of agents from either the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) or State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) on ground.

<http://www.sunnewsonline.com/webpages/news/national/2011/dec/18/national-18-12-2011-009.html>

#### AUSTRALIA, A.C.T, BELCONNEN, DECEMBER 18 2011. BLAST ROCKS BELCONNEN SHOPPING CENTRE >> CARRY BAG FULL OF CAP GUN AMMUNITION



*A bomb squad detective inspects the scene of the blast.*

An explosion in the Westfield Belconnen Mall injured two men and left Christmas shoppers in shock yesterday. A 30-year-old man suffered burns and injuries to his legs after the shopping bag he was carrying, which was full of cap gun ammunition, detonated in the crowded food court just after 1pm. The force of the explosion shattered the front of a Donut King outlet and left the scene scattered with confetti and cash. Intensive care paramedics treated a second man for injuries to his face and another four people were assessed at the scene. Giralang woman Amanda Gillespie was standing at a nearby cafe when she heard the explosion. The trained first aid officer ran to help after spotting a man crouching with torn jeans, covered in explosive residue and suffering shock. "The loudness of the explosion was just shocking," she said. "It was definitely an explosion, with the impact of noise and smoke. It broke the glass nearby." Another witness, Simon, said the explosion happened within 2m of the Donut King store. "I just wanted to get my kids out of there," Simon said. "We were sitting down about 5m away when the explosion happened - it sounded like a chandelier dropping." ACT Policing could not confirm

the reason for the detonation, but Sergeant Steve Booth said police investigations would continue to ensure it was not "untoward or malicious". "It's certainly unusual," he said. "We will be conducting a full investigation into the matter to determine exactly why this has happened and if there is any reasonable cause for it." Sergeant Booth commended the response of centre management and said it was fortunate that no one else was injured considering the high level of shopper traffic. "This has occurred during the lunch time period inside a very busy shopping centre during Christmas time, so there were quite a number of people in the area," he said.

<http://www.canberratimes.com.au/news/local/news/general/blast-rocks-belconnen-shopping-centre/2396562.aspx>

#### USA, ORE, PORTLAND, DECEMBER 18 2011. PORTLAND MAN FOUND WITH CHEMICAL BURNS COVERING 70 PERCENT OF HIS BODY

On Friday at 3:15 pm Steven Bornhorst a 59-year-old man arrived home at 4924 NE 47th Ave. from a week-long, out-of-town job working on a crane. He reportedly called his wife and let her know he was going to try to get some grease stains out of his coat when he got home. When his wife arrived home at 6:20 pm she was immediately overwhelmed by the odor of what smelled like paint thinner in the house. She went to look for her husband and found him in a bathtub soaked with what appeared to be a solvent-based chemical. She immediately called 9-1-1. AMR paramedics arrived first on scene and found that the man was semi-conscious. Holding their breath, the paramedics took Steven out to the front yard to administer first aid. A crew from PF&R's Station 28 (Hollywood) arrived at the scene, removed all the patient's clothes and placed him in a HazMat suit. Bornhorst had severe chemical burns on over 70% of his body. Portland Firefighter/Paramedic, David Paul, reported that he was so overwhelmed by fumes that he and the other paramedics wore gas masks in the ambulance while riding with the patient to the Oregon Burn Center. After Bornhorst was transported, Station 28 firefighters investigated the bathroom and found a three gallon bucket with about two cups of solvent left inside. Engine 28 used gas fans to clear the house of fumes for the next 30 minutes. PF&R Station 7 (Mill Park) HazMat Firefighters were consulted and are working to identify the chemical used to clean the coat. Reports indicate that the bathroom was very small and not ventilated. "Chemical burns are extremely dangerous, and in some cases can be deadly. People should always wear protective gear while working with hazardous chemicals and use them only in well ventilated areas."

[http://www.koinlocal6.com/news/local/story/Portland-man-found-with-chemical-burns-covering/2DcyjzIWLEOzsgg\\_I6VS2g.csp](http://www.koinlocal6.com/news/local/story/Portland-man-found-with-chemical-burns-covering/2DcyjzIWLEOzsgg_I6VS2g.csp)



This work is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-Non-Commercial-Share-Alike 3.0 Unported License.

**The DG-Hazmat Group is proudly supported by:**



Australian Petroleum Industry Contractors & Suppliers Association

[www.tanknology.com.au](http://www.tanknology.com.au)

[www.pica.net.au/](http://www.pica.net.au/)

[www.upp.co.uk](http://www.upp.co.uk)



## Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network

### Release 2011 – 790 Newsy Stuff

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

**December 24 2011**



Alliance Partner

JOIFF

[www.joiff.com](http://www.joiff.com)

Every effort has been undertaken to ensure information accuracy however it is not intended to be comprehensive nor to render advice, referred URL's are current at time of the edition release.

An Industry Partner of

ISCO

[www.spillcontrol.org](http://www.spillcontrol.org)

#### USA, N.C, FAYETTEVILLE, FAYETTEVILLE, DECEMBER 18 2011. CONTAMINATED WELL WATER OFF OWEN DRIVE HAS DEEP ROOTS



*Lloyd Matthews lives on East Jenkins Street near the Crown Coliseum. His father died of cancer in 2006, and Matthews says he wonders if the contaminated water from his well could have caused his father to become ill.*

About 2 1/2 years ago, state environmental officials began supplying Lloyd Matthews with bottled water after discovering that unsafe levels of a suspected carcinogen had seeped into his primary well. State officials had known about the contamination from Smitty's Cleaners on Owen Drive since 1992, but they didn't start notifying neighbors until 1999. They finally contacted Matthews in the summer of 2009, when a sample revealed his well to have 3.2 times the level of tetrachloroethylene, or PCE, that the federal government considers safe. PCE is an odorless dry-cleaning solvent that could cause health problems if ingested over

a long time. It has been shown to cause cancer in laboratory mice. Matthews, who is 44, said he was taken aback when the state told him his well was contaminated. He had drunk iced tea made from the well water all of his life. His father, David, also had lived in the home, which is along a dirt section of East Jenkins Street in the shadow of the Crown Coliseum. David "Pops" Matthews died in 2006, from a rare form of cancer, at age 65. Now, his son wonders whether there is a connection between his father's death and the water contamination. "I'm pretty damn disappointed that they knew about this for so long and ain't done nothing about it," said Matthews, who has gone by the nickname "Fatback" since he was boy. Matthews is not alone. The state has found 16 contaminated wells in his neighborhood, which is just outside the city limits near U.S. 301 and Wilkes Road.

#### Solvent Cleanup Act

Officials with the state Division of Waste Management, which is monitoring the contamination, said the state had fewer options and limited dollars to test wells until the General Assembly enacted the Dry-Cleaning Solvent Cleanup Act in 1997. The legislation was designed to address the estimated 1,500 dry-cleaning sites around the state, including about a dozen in Cumberland County, that are believed to have caused soil and groundwater contamination. It took a few years to establish the program after the legislation was passed, and it wasn't until about 2004 that there was enough money to undertake substantial environmental assessments and remediation projects around the state, said Cathy Akroyd, a spokeswoman for the N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources. She said the program doesn't pay for health screenings, and she couldn't speculate on whether the contaminated well had anything to do with David Matthews' death. Akroyd said that from 1999 to 2005, the state sampled nearby wells off Wilkes Road where property owners had granted access. Those efforts were ramped up, she said, after the owners of Smitty's Cleaners voluntarily enrolled in the Dry-Cleaning Solvent Cleanup Act in 2005.

#### PCE Test Results

Of the 16 private wells in the Wilkes Road area that have tested positive for PCE, four have been connected to a public water supply and seven don't contain contamination levels that the state considers unsafe. The seven property owners have been notified of the results, Akroyd said. The state has installed a filtration system at two of the five remaining wells. Each system costs the state \$10,000 a year to operate. The state is supplying bottled water for families at three other sites, all on East Jenkins Street. Al Chapman, project manager of the Dry-Cleaning Solvent Cleanup Act, said families get bottled water if their well water is safe to use except for drinking. The filtration system is used if the well water is unfit for any use. James McLeod, who is 55, uses one of the filtered wells at his home on East Hudson Street. He said he grew up drinking the mineral-rich well water, which tastes and smells bad and stains porcelain. He said he began drinking bottled water four or five years ago for the taste. But in 2009, the state sampled his well and found it contained PCE levels at 120 times the allowable limit. "They say it's safe, but I don't drink it," McLeod said. McLeod became indignant when a reporter told him last month that state officials have known of the Smitty's Cleaners contamination since the early 1990s. "They've known about it all this time?" McLeod asked. No one knows for sure how long the contamination has been in the ground. Many of the affected wells are about 1,000 feet east of Smitty's Cleaners.

#### County Involvement

According to interviews and records reviewed by The Fayetteville Observer, Cumberland County officials first learned of the contaminated wells in 2009 - a decade after the state's involvement began. Marshall Faircloth, chairman of the Cumberland County Board of Commissioners, said the state should have given notice sooner, because county officials have an obligation



This work is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-Non-Commercial-Share-Alike 3.0 Unported License.

**The DG-Hazmat Group is proudly supported by:**



APICSA



Franklin Fueling Systems

Australian Petroleum Industry Contractors & Suppliers Association

[www.tanknology.com.au](http://www.tanknology.com.au)

[www.pica.net.au/](http://www.pica.net.au/)

[www.upp.co.uk](http://www.upp.co.uk)



## Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network Release 2011 – 790 Newsy Stuff

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

**December 24 2011**



Alliance Partner

JOIFF

[www.joiff.com](http://www.joiff.com)

Every effort has been undertaken to ensure information accuracy however it is not intended to be comprehensive nor to render advice, referred URL's are current at time of the edition release.

An Industry Partner of

ISCO

[www.spillcontrol.org](http://www.spillcontrol.org)

to protect public health. "If we at the local level had taken that kind of timetable, I think a lot of people would be on our case," Faircloth said. In January, the Cumberland County Health Department told affected homeowners that they would need to abandon their contaminated wells to avoid "the consumption of harmful water" after their properties are connected to public water. Daniel Ortiz, the county's environmental health supervisor and chairman of the county's Safe Water Task Force, declined to talk about the state's handling of the contamination. But he spoke positively of the state's relationship with the task force. The task force was formed in February 2008, following an Observer investigation into groundwater contamination elsewhere in the county. Task force members first became aware of the Smitty's contamination on Aug. 5, 2009, when they were told a state consultant was working with Fayetteville's Public Works Commission on extending public water to the area. According to a July 2010 email by Joe Glass, PWC's engineering manager for water resources, the first time PWC became involved with the water main project that is under design was in August 2009 when he was contacted by a state consultant. According to Glass' email, the state was still testing wells and wanted to "discuss options for providing potable water to the area." State officials dispute that timeframe. Akroyd provided the Observer late Friday a copy of a March 2006 letter by PWC that went to more than 30 property owners in the Wilkes Road area, including those that had elevated PCE levels in their wells. The purpose of the letter was to gauge the landowners' interest in receiving public water through the Dry-Cleaning Solvent Cleanup Act. It's unclear whether Glass overlooked that 2006 letter in his 2010 email summarizing the utility's involvement, or whether Glass was referring to more detailed plans by the state for the water main. Akroyd said the state first contacted PWC about Smitty's contamination in 1999. That's when the state sampled a well at a home on East Hudson Street, close to Owen Drive. The well had PCE levels at 4.6 times the federal limit. The well pump was removed in 2007, after the home was connected to public water, state records show. Akroyd provided the Observer a document showing the state had sent a fax to a PWC official in June 1999 regarding that well. PWC spokeswoman Carolyn Hinson said the 1999 fax was referring to that initial home, which was later connected to public water. Glass' 2010 email was referring to the current, broader project of connecting more homes with bad wells to a new water main extension. Glass wrote in 2010 that "there seemed to be further migration of the plume of contamination and additional wells affected." The extent of the problem was thought to have reached eight wells by September 2009, according to Glass' email. By July 2010, officials with the Dry-Cleaning Solvent Cleanup Act had signed a contract to design the water main, and that "the first order of business would be to send out public notices informing the residents of what to expect." More than two years later, a waterline has yet to be laid. Akroyd said Friday that the project's total cost will be \$250,000 and \$300,000, and the state will pay for all of it. The PWC says 15 families, including Matthews and McLeod, have agreed to connect to the water system. Akroyd attributed the delays largely on evaluating the extent of the contamination, accessing private property and working out design details. She said construction should be completed in early 2012. A dispute over the design added to delays this year. According to public emails, PWC balked at the state's insistence on using standard PVC material. PWC officials worried that it might not be resistant to the pollution and could contaminate the city's public water supply. PWC was planning to pay the additional \$75,000 cost for an upgrade. In July, Withers & Ravenel, a state consultant designing the line, issued a memorandum assuring PWC officials that deviating from the standard PVC design "is not warranted." Hinson said PWC officials have accepted the consultant's conclusion and won't be contributing to the project's cost. PCE is the same pollutant that for more than 15 years has plagued groundwater at the former Texfi Industries site and the PWC's adjoining Hoffer Water Treatment Plant off Ramsey Street.

### State Delays Common

A nonprofit environmental watchdog group said the state's delays in sampling wells and providing potable water aren't uncommon. "It's a very long process, and it puts people at risk over that period of time and allows the contamination to continue," said Louis Zeller, science director for the Blue Ridge Environmental Defense League. Zeller said one shortcoming is that the Dry-Cleaning Solvent Cleanup Act was formed not to help residents, but to provide insurance coverage for the dry-cleaning industry to address contamination issues. The state program doesn't seek to clean up the contamination beyond the source, and it offers no compensation to property owners with health problems or contaminated homes. Zeller said PCE vapors have been known to seep into homes from the ground. "They are doing their absolute minimum that they can get away with," he said, referring to the state cleanup program. Akroyd said the program's activities are based on reducing overall risk to public health. Sometimes that goal means cleaning up tainted soil and groundwater, she said, and other times the focus is connecting people to public water. Zeller said the state should offer dry cleaners incentives to switch from PCE-based solvents to safer alternatives. More money and state staffing would help expedient remediation efforts, he said. Revenue from sales taxes on the dry-cleaning industry supports the state's cleanup program. The program's fund now has \$13 million, but \$9



This work is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-Non-Commercial-Share-Alike 3.0 Unported License.

**The DG-Hazmat Group is proudly supported by:**



Australian Petroleum Industry Contractors & Suppliers Association

[www.tanknology.com.au](http://www.tanknology.com.au)

[www.pica.net.au](http://www.pica.net.au)

[www.upp.co.uk](http://www.upp.co.uk)



## Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network

### Release 2011 – 790 Newsy Stuff

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

**December 24 2011**



Alliance Partner

JOIFF

[www.joiff.com](http://www.joiff.com)

Every effort has been undertaken to ensure information accuracy however it is not intended to be comprehensive nor to render advice, referred URL's are current at time of the edition release.

An Industry Partner of

ISCO

[www.spillcontrol.org](http://www.spillcontrol.org)

million of that has been dedicated for contracts to clean up sites and help families with contaminated wells, including by extending waterlines.

#### Smitty's History

Smitty's has been at the same address, 3060 Owen Drive, since the late 1960s, said Ikey Smith, who as general manager enrolled in the Dry-Cleaning Solvent Cleanup Act in 2005. Smith said the contamination predated him. He inherited the business from his late father, who owned it from 1980 to 1983. "I was handed a live grenade," said Smith, who is 64. A previous owner had improperly disposed of filters drenched with dry-cleaning solvent, Smith said. The filters were emptied outside into metal trash bins, which leaked in the rain and spilled onto the ground. Smith said he discontinued the sloppy disposal practice when he took over. Today, the Owen Drive location serves only as a pickup and drop-off for clothes, which are cleaned at another site. Smith said he sold his interest in the company to his former wife, Joyce, a few years ago. Smitty's has six locations. The site of a former Smitty's in downtown Raeford is being evaluated by the state program for PCE groundwater contamination. The store was demolished to make way for a public parking lot, and Smitty's Cleaners has moved to a nearby location on North Main Street. According to state records, PCE was detected in the groundwater at Smitty's Owen Drive site in a 1991 report for Exxon, which has a gas station next door. By 1992, state health officials reported Smitty's as the source. But, according to the Smitty's application for the Dry-Cleaning Solvent Cleanup Act, the Owen Drive business was the subject of an environmental assessment or remediation activities on Aug. 2, 1990, with PCE "migrating in groundwater." According to minutes of a 2009 Safe Water Task Force meeting, the owners of Smitty's Cleaners about 10 to 15 years ago "stepped up and did some things for the first residences impacted." What was done is unclear. According to Chapman, Smith spent more than \$15,000 on cleanup and remediation. Under the state's cleanup program, the business has no more financial obligations for the contamination. Smitty's is not the only business that has experienced pollution problems, according to the state. About 10 other dry-cleaning sites in Cumberland County are certified in the state program. Three sites, including Smitty's, have affected nearby wells, state officials said last week. The other two sites, both in Fayetteville, are One Hour Koretizing at 4924 Raeford Road, which is closed, and Verne's Cleaners at 6341 Bragg Blvd. Akroyd said pollution from One Hour Koretizing has been found in two drinking wells on Karr Drive and in a well on Catalpa Drive used for watering the lawn. The Karr Drive wells have been tested, and concentrations are below federal drinking water standards. She said contamination from Verne's has gotten into a well used by the N.C. Department of Transportation for a road construction project. The department plans to abandon the well, she said. Another nearby well is on Keithville Drive, but "attempts to get permission from the owner to sample the well have been denied," Akroyd said in an email Thursday. Matthews, who lives on East Jenkins Street, has access to two wells on his family property. The state said both have unsafe contamination levels. A state contractor delivers six five-gallon jugs of water to his house each month. He can request more. Matthews, a construction worker and handyman, said he'll miss the use of his wells after he gets public water. He uses them to wash his trucks and for the six dogs he keeps in a kennel on the property. "But I'll be happy to have clean, safe water," he said.

<http://www.fayobserver.com/articles/2011/12/17/1132975?sac=Local>



This work is licensed under the Creative Commons Attribution-Non-Commercial-Share-Alike 3.0 Unported License.

**The DG-Hazmat Group is proudly supported by:**



Australian Petroleum Industry Contractors & Suppliers Association

[www.tanknology.com.au](http://www.tanknology.com.au)

[www.pica.net.au/](http://www.pica.net.au/)

[www.upp.co.uk](http://www.upp.co.uk)