



## Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network

### Release 2012 – 824 Newsy Stuff

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

**March 26 2012**



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#### USA, UT, SPANISH CANYON, MARCH 30 2012. TANKER TRUCK COLLISION CLOSES DOWN U.S. 6



An accident involving two semitrailers, one hauling fuel, forced the closure of U.S. 6 in Spanish Fork Canyon late Thursday. Fuel was leaking from one of the two 2,300 gallon tanks on the fuel truck, according to the Utah Highway Patrol. Train traffic through the canyon has also been halted for fear that a passing train could spark an explosion. The closure from Thistle Junction to Price was anticipated to last until sometime early Friday morning, UHP troopers said. The semitrailers crashed near mile marker 190, in the Red Narrows area of the canyon, and the fuel truck rolled off the road near the railroad tracks. Both drivers were injured and have been transported to an area hospital. Their condition was unknown before press deadlines. A hazmat team was assisting with the cleanup. The other semitrailer's load of mounted

semi-truck tires was scattered across all lanes of the highway that runs from I-15 near in Spanish Fork to I-70 west of Green River.

<http://www.deseretnews.com/article/865552291/Truck-collision-closes-down-US-6.html>

#### USA, CA, SAN FRANCISCO, MARCH 17 2012. UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK POLICY PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD ALMOST OVER

*melanie turner*

A public comment period ends Monday for a controversial policy that would establish statewide criteria for closing "low-threat" petroleum underground storage tank sites. The policy aims to make the cleanup of such sites more efficient, according to the state Water Resources Control Board. Proponents say the policy will lower costs for environmental cleanup, streamline the process and save the Underground Storage Tank Fund millions of dollars. The fund, created by the California Legislature, helps owners of underground petroleum tanks pay for the cleanup associated with petroleum leaking from an underground tank, or for other damages arising from tank operations, as required by the state and federal government. Opponents, on the other hand, say the policy is not based on sound science and will leave in place migrating petroleum plumes. The California Independent Oil Marketers Association, which represents independent wholesale and retail marketers of petroleum products, is urging its members to provide written support to the water board. The association says it's an important policy that provides "much-needed guidance for local and regional agencies who perform oversight of UST cleanups." "Many members have been frustrated by agencies' refusals to close their sites and get them out of remediation limbo," a member alert said. On the other hand, the Groundwater Resources Association of California, in comments dated Nov. 8, 2011, says the related environmental document "seems to mistakenly conclude that there will be no significant effect of adopting the closure policy." While the GRA applauds the state water board's effort to "guide the path toward site closure" for staff and parties responsible for the cleanup of underground storage tank sites, the GRA also raises concerns. Supporting technical documents, according to the GRA "do not fully address the potential threat posed by MTBE. ..." The GRA recommends the policy be revised "to emphasize the continued need for site-specific interpretation and evaluation of all data and information to support rational UST site closure decisions." The draft policy was developed for consideration by the state water board by a stakeholder group, which included representatives of a water district, CIOMA and others. The draft Low-Threat UST Case Closure Policy and a related draft environmental document are available for public review and comment through Monday. A public hearing on the matter is set for 9 a.m. April 17 in the [California Environmental Protection Agency](http://www.bizjournals.com/losangeles/news/2012/03/16/underground-storage-tank-policy-public.html?page=all) building, 1001 I St., Sacramento.

<http://www.bizjournals.com/losangeles/news/2012/03/16/underground-storage-tank-policy-public.html?page=all>

#### INDIA, MUMBAI, MARCH 18 2012. MUMBAI PORT: 3 INJURED IN CHEMICAL TANKER FIRE

Three crew members were on Saturday injured when a Marshall Islands-flagged chemical tanker parked at the Mumbai Port Trust here caught fire, an official said. The chemical tanker 'Royal Diamond 7' was berthed at the New Pir Pau berth (chemical jetty) at the port to discharge a consignment of 2000 tons of Toluene imported by Aegis Chemicals Limited. The vessel had completed the cargo discharge operations by 11:30 AM and was carrying out stripping move for sailing out. However, before the ship could set out of the pier, an explosion occurred at its fore. "It appears that the blaze started from one of the holes at the fore below the deck of the tanker," the official said. The Port fire service personnel sprung into action to douse the blaze which was immediately brought under control with the help of fire tenders of Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC), Tata



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Power and Aegis. "Four fire fighting tugs have also been pressed into service", said an official. The Chairman of the port trust had deputed the deputy conservator and the chief mechanical engineer to the chemical jetty to personally supervise the fire-fighting operations, he said. According to officials, the vessel will be removed from jetty to a safer location in the harbour [http://zeenews.india.com/news/maharashtra/mumbai-port-3-injured-in-chemical-tanker-fire\\_764432.html](http://zeenews.india.com/news/maharashtra/mumbai-port-3-injured-in-chemical-tanker-fire_764432.html)

#### USA, ORE, OAKRIDGE, MARCH 18 2012. CREWS CONTINUING CLEANUP AFTER TANKER TIPS, SPILLS 5,000 GALLONS OF FUEL ALONG OREGON 58 NEAR OAKRIDGE



*Oakridge Fire Department*The truck was heading east near milepost 31 when it traveled off the shoulder and overturned about 9 a.m. Monday, said Lt. Gregg Hastings, an Oregon State Police spokesman.

The truck was heading east near milepost 31 when it traveled off the shoulder and overturned about 9 a.m. Monday, said Lt. Gregg Hastings, an Oregon State Police spokesman. Environmental officials are continuing to clean up and monitor the impact of more than 5,000 gallons of fuel that spilled along Oregon 58 Monday after a tanker truck tipped near Oakridge. The truck was heading east near milepost 31 when it traveled off the shoulder and overturned about 9 a.m., said Lt. Gregg Hastings, an Oregon State Police spokesman. Emergency crews from multiple agencies shut down the highway in both directions as cleanup efforts began and temporarily evacuated 24 nearby homes as a precaution. Today, officials with the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, which is leading cleanup efforts, said about 1,000 gallons of fuel were recovered from a roadside

ditch. An unknown amount was absorbed by about 775 tons of soil, which was dug out and taken to a Corvallis-area landfill for proper disposal. Officials are continuing to monitor "minute detections" of petroleum compounds in the nearby Willamette River, and notified public water systems downstream. However, both the DEQ and Oregon Health Authority said levels were decreasing and there was no public threat. They're also keeping an eye on well water, but said initial sampling showed no contamination. The U.S. Forest Service and OSP Fish and Wildlife Division said only a salamander and small coho salmon were killed in the immediate spill area. Officials expect cleanup work to continue into next week and said Oregon 58 will be reduced to one lane near the spill site. The Portland-based truck company, Cascade Petroleum Transportation Inc., will cover all cleanup costs. The driver of the truck, Gary Griffith, 60, of Medford, was cited for failure to drive within a lane.

[http://www.oregonlive.com/roadreport/index.ssf/2012/03/crews\\_continuing\\_cleanup\\_after.html](http://www.oregonlive.com/roadreport/index.ssf/2012/03/crews_continuing_cleanup_after.html)

#### USA, CA, SAN LUIS OBISPO, MARCH 18 2012. CAL POLY STUDENT FOUND DEAD IN CAR FILLED WITH TOXIC GAS

david middlecamp



*A hazardous materials team evaluates a car in which a body was found Friday afternoon at Cal Poly.*

A 19-year-old Cal Poly freshman was found dead in a car filled with poisonous gas on campus Friday, the last day of winter quarter exams. Cal Poly officials identified the individual as Osvaldo Julian Ponce, a physics major. A construction worker saw someone inside a parked Lexus about 3 p.m. with closed windows and two homemade signs warning people of the poisonous gas, Cal Poly police Chief Bill Watton said. "We don't know how long he was inside the vehicle," Watton said. "We don't suspect any foul play at this point." Watton couldn't confirm that the death was a suicide. He said police are investigating. The chemical inside the car was identified as hydrogen sulfide, a compound that is relatively easy to make and potentially

lethal in high concentrations, said Dave Ragsdale, Cal Poly's director of environmental health and safety. The gas, also known as "swamp gas" and "sewer gas," smells like rotten eggs and can be made from a mixture of items purchased at stores. According to the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, hydrogen sulfide in high concentrations can cause "shock, convulsions, inability to breathe, extremely rapid unconsciousness, coma and death. Effects can occur within a few breaths, and possibly a single breath." According to his Facebook page, Ponce graduated from Wilson Classical High School in Long



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Beach in 2011 and was scheduled to graduate from Cal Poly in the class of 2015. "This is so terribly sad," Cal Poly President Jeffrey Armstrong said. "My heart goes out to his family and to his friends. To all of our students, I urge you to please, please ask for help if you ever feel signs of such hopelessness. We want to do all that we can for you to be healthy and safe." San Luis Obispo police and fire officials, along with a hazardous materials safety team, spent hours at the parking lot removing gas from the vehicle. After doing so, they conducted a forensic investigation before removing the body. The investigation and safety concerns led authorities to shut down Slack Street in San Luis Obispo between Grand Avenue and Longview Lane.

#### Suicide Trend

Japan reported a trend of poisonous gas suicides when, during a three-month period in 2008, a total of 208 people took their lives by mixing household chemicals, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said. Chemical suicides similar to those in Japan have been reported increasingly in the United States, with the majority occurring inside automobiles, the CDC reported on its website.

<http://www.sanluisobispo.com/2012/03/16/1992868/dead-student-cal-poly-car.html>

#### AUSTRALIA, NEW SOUTH WALES, ROSEHILL, MARCH 18 2012. CAR CRASHES INTO PETROL STATION AFTER BEING HIT BY TRUCK

[Watch the Video Car Crashes into Petrol Station](#)



*Damage: The footage then shows the Mazda crashing into the service station and damaging a petrol bowser.*

Police have released video footage after a collision between a truck and a car caused the car to crash into a service station in Merrylands last week. Shortly after 11am on March 12 police were called to a service station on the corner of Woodville and Merrylands Roads after a Mazda sedan had driven through the station and crashed into a petrol bowser. Rosehill Police were told the car had been in a collision with a truck on Woodville Road, causing the Mazda to cross a number of lanes and enter the service station. Officers were told that the driver of the truck, described only as a white semi-trailer, had failed to stop after the

incident. Police are investigating the circumstances surrounding the alleged collision and are appealing for public assistance to help identify the truck. The 27-year-old female Mazda driver was not injured, however, substantial damage was caused to the car and service station. Investigating officers would like to speak to the driver of the truck and have released closed circuit camera footage of the incident in a bid to identify the vehicle involved. Anyone who witnessed the incident is urged to contact Rosehill Police or Crime Stoppers, 1800 333 000.

<http://www.parramattasun.com.au/news/local/news/general/car-crashes-into-petrol-station-after-being-hit-by-truck/2491073.aspx>

#### ENGLAND, OLDHAM, MARCH 18 2012. THIEVES STEAL FAMILY-RUN PETROL STATION'S ENTIRE SUPPLY OF FUEL IN AUDACIOUS RAID



*Family Firm: The thieves tampered with a CCTV camera at the site before carrying out the raid.*

Fuel thieves have drained a family-run village petrol station, siphoning off 2,000 litres of diesel. Owner Sue Collinge, 49, and her father Frank Pullen, 72, did not realise they had been raided overnight on Sunday until they got their morning delivery and checked the underground storage tanks. About £3,000 worth of diesel had been stolen. Record prices at the pumps have been blamed on an increase in fuel thefts across the country, as well as soaring numbers of motorists filling up and driving off without paying. Mrs Collinge said: 'This is a massive blow. It's hard enough in the current climate to make ends meet, then something like this happens. We just cannot believe thieves would be cheeky enough to steal such a large amount of fuel.'

'We want to warn other garages that this is happening.' The family, who opened the Lees Village Service Station in Oldham 20



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years ago, have CCTV, but when they viewed the footage saw only a white Ford Transit pull up before the camera lens was suddenly pushed away. Mrs Collinge said: 'It was sickening. I wish some people would just keep their hands to themselves. We're absolutely gutted. I felt so sorry for my dad. He's worked so hard and is still working hard. We're a small, independent garage and we're trying to keep it going.' It is the latest in a series of audacious raids in recent months which have seen tens of thousands of pounds of fuel stolen. With both petrol and diesel already at record levels even before next week's Budget, security experts fear forecourts are becoming ever more tempting to criminal gangs. The family-run Lees Village garage has been run by 72-year-old Frank Pullen for two decades. Unable to match fuel prices charged by supermarkets, he competes on service, filling customers' cars up for them. But on Monday morning, staff opening up for the day noticed the CCTV camera had been repositioned. Checks found 2,000 litres of diesel worth around £3,000 had been drained away overnight. The thieves are believed to have spent around 40 minutes using a generator to siphon the diesel into a white Ford Transit van which can be seen on the CCTV footage being driven off. 'It's a huge blow for us,' she added. 'My dad has had the garage for more than 20 years and my mum does all the admin. 'We were all gutted. My dad built this business from scratch and we've all worked so hard. 'We have insurance but we still have to claim and pay the excess. We want to warn other garages that this happening.' The family are now increasing their security. Greater Manchester Police are investigating the theft. Last year three men were jailed for almost nine years after a series of raids on forecourts across the Midlands in which more than 70,000 litres of fuel were stolen. And in 2010 a gang used pneumatic drills to drain £45,000 worth of petrol and diesel from Morrisons petrol station in Burton-upon-Trent, Staffordshire. Yesterday a spokeswoman for the Retail Motor Industry, which represents fuel retailers, said: 'We are concerned that rising fuel prices mean these sort of crimes will become more prevalent. 'We're working with our members to install anti-theft devices and measures to monitor fuel levels in order to boost security.' In the run-up to next week's Budget, David Cameron told an audience in the U.S. that petrol prices here would make them 'faint'. With the average price of unleaded petrol now at 138.5p and diesel 145.45p - both record highs - the AA has called on Chancellor George Osborne to abandon another planned rise in fuel taxes.

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2116060/Thieves-steal-family-run-petrol-stations-entire-supply-fuel-audacious-raid.html>

#### **NIGERIA, RIVERS STATE, PORT HARCOURT, MARCH 18 2012. EXPLOSION IN PORT HARCOURT KILLS SIX, INJURES 13**



Six burnt bodies have so far been recovered in the first phase of the search for victims in the early morning fire explosion involving a petrol tanker at Igwuruta roundabout, leading to the Port Harcourt international airport. The explosion, which also razed cars and houses, occurred after the petrol tanker skidded off the roundabout. In a telephone conversation, the Rivers state Commissioner of police, Mohammed Indabwa, said about 13 persons were badly wounded and are receiving treatment in different hospitals. He expressed satisfaction over the collaboration of all security agencies and the social workers in the emergency rescue mission. Meanwhile, the state Commissioner for Special Duties, Emeka Nwogu said he was not happy with the youth of the area who vandalised two fire service vehicles on rescue mission. Mr Nwogu said if the firemen, who arrived at the scene 30 minutes

after the fire started were not attacked, the casualty figure would have been less. The governor of the state, Chibuike Amaechi who also visited the scene of the incident said that the government would assist the victims of the fire explosion and directed that houses and shops around the roundabout should be demolished immediately. A family of four lost their lives in the fire. A similar fire incident occurred in 2007 around the Eleme axis of Port Harcourt.

<http://www.channelstv.com/home/2012/03/17/explosion-in-port-harcourt-kills-six-injures-13/>

#### **AUSTRALIA, TASMANIA, HOBART, MARCH 18 2012. CARAVAN DEATH TRAGEDY >> 3 HUNTERS GASSED TO DEATH**

*michelle paine*

Three deer-hunters who died in a caravan at a remote spot in the Central Highlands probably succumbed to carbon monoxide poisoning from a gas-powered refrigerator, Tasmania Police said today. A Launceston man in his 50s and his son, a 21-year-old from Hobart, plus a Launceston man in his 30s, were found by friends at 8.10am yesterday. The friend and his nine-year-



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old son were staying with the men, but staying in a tent nearby. He was forced to drive for an hour to the Marlborough Highway to reach mobile reception so he could report the deaths to emergency services. Inspector Lee Renshaw in Hobart said he had never encountered a case like this. Insp Renshaw said old-style caravans could become effectively airtight. He said there were instructions on the fridge warning against its use in confined spaces and said the tragedy was greater because it appeared preventable. The carbon monoxide levels yesterday afternoon were still high enough so that firefighters if encountering them would use breathing apparatus, he said. The men's bodies were taken to the Royal Hobart Hospital. Their families have been notified. A coronial inquest will begin today.

[http://www.themercury.com.au/article/2012/03/18/310621\\_most-popular-stories.html](http://www.themercury.com.au/article/2012/03/18/310621_most-popular-stories.html)

#### USA, DE, DELAWARE CITY, MARCH `18 2012. REFINERY FIRE SPEWS SMOKE AROUND DELAWARE CITY

terri sanginiti & esteban parra

 **Watch the Video** [Refinery Fire Spews Smoke](#)



No one was injured when a fire broke out in a processing unit furnace at Delaware City Refinery on Friday afternoon, but the blaze spewed thick, black smoke that was visible from miles away. The cause of the fire, which started at about 4:45 p.m., is under investigation, PBF Energy spokesman Mike Karlovich said Friday evening. Emergency crews at the refinery near Delaware City extinguished the blaze, which Karlovich said was in a furnace used to produce ultra-low-sulfur diesel. William Dorman, a carpenter who worked at the site for about eight years, said he was driving near the refinery on Del. 72 when he saw smoke. He said he saw flames shooting from the ground to about 30 feet in the air. Neighbors of the refinery expressed their continued worries about the environmental impact of such incidents. "That's

the thing that really concerns me -- what is being thrown into the air," said Jerome Lewis of nearby Bay View Manor. "And they're not telling us anything, then we read in the newspaper two weeks later everything is fine. Then we find out this area has a cluster of cancer because of the toxins that are in the air," Lewis said he saw fire blowing out of one of the refinery's smokestacks and that thick smoke. "The smoke that was coming out of that stack was blacker than your car," he said. "And it was coming out for a long period of time." Officials with the state Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control said the fire was reported by the refinery at 5:11 p.m. DNREC officials had no other details Friday night.

[http://www.delawareonline.com/article/20120317/news/203170354/refinery-fire-spews-smoke-around-delaware-city?odyssey=tab%7Ctopnews%7Ctext%7Cchrome&nolink\\_check=1](http://www.delawareonline.com/article/20120317/news/203170354/refinery-fire-spews-smoke-around-delaware-city?odyssey=tab%7Ctopnews%7Ctext%7Cchrome&nolink_check=1)

#### USA, N.Y, ERIE, MARCH 18 2012. 2 MECHANICS BURNED WHEN GAS TANK EXPLODES

Two mechanics at Monro Muffler, 2187 W. 12th St., suffered burns Saturday afternoon when a gas tank they were removing from a vehicle in a car bay exploded. Heat from a torch in an adjacent car bay in the garage ignited the explosion, Erie Deputy Fire Chief Marty Heid said. Firefighters and rescue personnel were sent to the shop at about 3:30 p.m. One man suffered serious burns to his hands and arms, and another man suffered cuts to his head and arms, Heid said. Employees extinguished the blaze before firefighters arrived, Heid said.

<http://www.goerie.com/article/20120318/NEWS02/303189884/News-from-around-the-region-and-state>

#### USA, FLA, INDIANTOWN, MARCH 18 2012. : MAJOR SPILL AT FPL SOLAR PLANT GETS GLOSSED OVER

eve samples

Last June, three months after Gov. Rick Scott stood in a field of mirrors and praised Florida Power & Light's new solar plant near Indiantown, an accident occurred that sent a hazardous chemical airborne. Too much pressure had built up in the system at the Martin Next Generation Solar Energy Center the world's first hybrid solar thermal plant and the largest solar plant in Florida. For about two hours on June 1, a safety valve released steam, water and 46,000 gallons of "heat transfer fluid" into the air. That fluid, Dowtherm A considered a hazardous chemical prompted a round-the-clock cleanup that took most of June and continued into July. About 25 acres of the plant were affected, including live electrical equipment linked to the existing natural gas plant. The cleanup was dangerous and difficult, a report from [FPL](#) contractor Arcadis reveals. "The extent of this



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work was almost unprecedented for an operating power plant," according to Arcadis' report filed last July with the Florida Department of Environmental Protection. So why are we just now learning about it? In my column last week about the Martin solar plant, I reported that it had generated only a fraction of the power FPL anticipated during its first year in operation about 30,000 megawatt hours, compared with the 155,000 megawatt hours projected. When I asked FPL officials what had caused the lagging production, company officials pointed to challenges in synchronizing the solar and natural gas plants. They mentioned cloud cover in Florida. They did not reveal that a major spill had occurred a glaring omission. After the Orlando Sentinel broke news of the spill last weekend, it became clear that FPL was not being completely forthcoming. FPL spokesman Mark Bubrski said via email Friday that "all appropriate notifications were made, and they are public record." Records show the state's largest utility did notify the Bureau of Emergency Response and DEP. Local emergency managers were informed of the spill but were not involved in the response. "There were not off-site concerns for the public that we had to respond to," Dan Wouters, division chief of operations for Martin County Fire Rescue, told me Friday. Dowtherm A is a mixture of two organic compounds biphenyl and diphenyl oxide that is stable at high temperatures. That stability is important since about 190,000 curved mirrors at the Martin solar plant are used to heat the liquid to more than 700 degrees. The fluid is then converted to steam to help power the natural gas plant. Dow Chemical Co., which manufactures Dowtherm A, warns it may cause skin and respiratory tract irritation and is "highly toxic to fish and/or other aquatic organisms." But it has a low toxicity level if inhaled or ingested by humans. While it can cause pain to the eyes, it won't injure the cornea, according to the manufacturer. Dow also warns users not to "dump into any sewers, on the ground or into any body of water." Luckily, most of the cleanup at the Martin solar plant was completed before summer rains began last year, according to the Arcadis report. Cleanup crews excavated soil, asphalt, gravel and vegetation and took it to the Okeechobee landfill for disposal. More than 1,000 truckloads of soil alone were hauled out. Liquid waste was taken to the World Petroleum facility in Davie. After the June 1 accident, FPL took the 75 megawatt solar plant offline for four months to make improvements and run tests which explains the low output reported at the plant last year. The natural gas plant continued running at that time, so there was no threat to South Florida's power supply. "FPL made system design adjustments and equipment performance enhancements to avoid this from happening again," company spokesman Richard Gibbs said Friday. Within the past week, the solar plant hit a peak production level of 80 megawatts, exceeding estimates. Reports filed with DEP show the June spill did not have lasting effects on ground water or surface water in the rural area west of Indiantown and east of Lake Okeechobee. FPL is filing quarterly reports with DEP to ensure that remains the case. "As things look today, the entire site is up and running," Gibbs said. FPL customers, who are footing the bill for the \$398 million solar plant, still have reason to feel good about its potential so long as we know FPL is being honest with us about its challenges. That means being up-front about major setbacks like last summer's spill, not just with state bureaucrats but with the public at large.

<http://www.tcpalm.com/news/2012/mar/17/eve-samples-major-spill-at-fpl-solar-plant-gets/>

#### USA, OH, WELLINGTON, MARCH 18 2012. PIPELINE HAS BEEN REPLACED AT SITE OF THE WELLINGTON GAS LEAK

*kelly petryszyn*

A ruptured pipeline that leaked 116,760 gallons of gasoline in Wellington has been removed and replaced with a new pipeline under the guidance of the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, Sunoco spokesperson Joe McGinn said. The 8-inch pipeline, owned by Sunoco, runs from Toledo to Allegheny, Pa., and is now back in service. Three months after the Jan. 12 spill, clean up at the site near Maple Street has steadied. The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency stopped taking daily air samples on site at the end of February. They were monitoring benzene and other carcinogens in gasoline that pose a threat to health. No injuries or sickness were reported. Containment booms and aerators have been taken out of the White Ditch, where the gas leaked. Since the ruptured pipeline was discovered in the Wellington Township garage parking lot, workers used those tools to collect gasoline from the ditch. They removed all gasoline-soaked soil on the surrounding land. Residents of the nearby Brookside Mobile Home park were evacuated from Jan. 12 to 20 as a precaution. Sunoco will pay costs that residents incurred, as well as costs of workers from all the agencies that pitched in. "We're passed initial emergency response phase and are now looking at long-term concerns," Ohio EPA spokesperson Mike Settles said. EPA officials are still on site regularly evaluating ground water and looking at soil to determine if any gasoline has seeped down passed what was removed. "The initial results look good," Settles said of groundwater samples. The restoration of the creek bank and dam, which the White Ditch flows into, at Peck-Wadsworth Road has been complete. Ohio EPA and Sunoco are creating a remediation plan together. The main focus of this plan is to make sure that all traces of gasoline have been removed from the



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soil and White Ditch. The ruptured pipeline has been sent to an outside agency, Kiesner, Sunoco hired for the inspection. A Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration investigator observed a 30-inch split on the ruptured pipeline. The pipeline was constructed in 1952 and was last examined in 2007. Kiesner will inspect the pipeline and issue a report to Sunoco and PHMSA. They will determine corrective action to take. Sunoco representatives are still at their headquarters at 750 Industrial Ave., working regular hours Monday through Friday, McGinn said. The hotline created to address concerns, 855-430-4491, is still manned 24 hours a day by a Sunoco representative. Settles it not sure how long remediation will take, but emphasized the "long-term" is in the title of the plan for a reason. He estimated that there is at least "weeks of work ahead of us."

<http://morningjournal.com/articles/2012/03/17/news/mj5912998.txt>

#### USA, AZ, SUPERIOR, MARCH 21 2012. TANKER STOLEN FROM SUPERIOR AIRPORT; REWARD OFFERED



##### *Stolen fuel tanker.*

Police investigators are looking for help finding a stolen jet fuel tank. The thieves used bolt cutters to break into a locked gate at the Superior Municipal Airport some time between March 5th and March 6th, authorities say. Pinal County Sheriff's spokesman Elias Johnson said the suspects cut a second lock in order to snatch the 600-gallon tanker, which was attached to a 16-foot trailer. The tank, which belongs to a local helicopter service, was filled with nearly 400 gallons of fuel, when it was taken from the airport. Investigators said the tanker and the fuel may be worth approximately \$10,000. The company, Southwest Heliservices, LLC, is offering a \$1,000 reward for information leading to an arrest of the suspect or suspects. Pinal County Sheriff's deputies are asking you to keep your eyes peeled for the missing tanker and the following details:

- Trailer VIN: 4ZESH142671031191

- Trailer Plate No.: S-68940, Arizona
- Tank Serial No.: 2000-779

Superior Police are investigating the crime. If you have any information, call the Superior Police Department at 520-689-5254 or George at Southwest Heliservices, LLC 520-294-4500

[http://www.abc15.com/dpp/news/region\\_central\\_southern\\_az/other/tanker-stolen-from-superior-airport-reward-offered](http://www.abc15.com/dpp/news/region_central_southern_az/other/tanker-stolen-from-superior-airport-reward-offered)

#### AUSTRALIA, VICTORIA, BLACKBURN, MARCH 21 2012. FORMER PETROL STATIONS TOLD TO CLEAN UP THEIR ACT

*rhiana whitson*

The Environment Protection Authority has threatened to impose a \$300,000 fine if the owners of Blackburn's so-called "Beirut bombsite" fail to reach an agreement to clean up the site. Caltex and J & J Dynamotive which own the two former petrol station sites on Blackburn Road met at the end of last month to negotiate a coordinated clean up plan. They intend to meet again in May. The companies have been unable to agree on a solution to clean up the sites over 10 years of negotiations. Caltex spokesman Sam Collyer said his company was committed to cleaning up its site from July 2012. But he said any efforts could be wasted if J & J Dynamotive did not commit to a coordinated clean up plan. "We're pushing forward: even if it risks recontamination," he said. He was confident this new round of negotiations would be successful. The EPA has threatened to "escalate to enforcement" if the parties do not comply with orders to clean up the site. Lawyer for J & J Dynamotive Tony Caillard said his client would conduct "further tests" and the results would be considered during further talks in May. J & J Dynamotive breached an order to submit a clean up plan to the authority in December. Greens MP Colleen Hartland said in State Parliament last month that the case demonstrated a lack of accountability and responsibility, and subsequent inaction of the authority and land owners in managing contaminated sites. The EPA said it was "seeking [J&J Dynamotive] to comply with the clean up notice, not withstanding their negotiations with Caltex. Continued non-compliance will be escalated to enforcement."



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<http://www.melbourneweeklyeastern.com.au/news/local/news/general/former-petrol-stations-told-to-clean-up-their-act/2494427.aspx>

#### **KINGDOM OF THE NETHERLANDS, ARUBA, ORANJESTAD, MARCH 21 2012. VALERO TO SHUT ARUBA REFINERY >>HIGH COST OF CRUDE HAS HIT PROFITS**

Valero Energy Corp. said Monday it will halt operations at its 235,000 barrel-per-day Aruba refinery by the end of March, the second time since 2009 that the plant has been forced to shut due to low margins that have battered Atlantic Basin refiners. The move will further tighten fuel markets in the region, which has seen a string of shutdowns that have already threatened 1.9 million bpd of refining capacity in Europe, the United States and the Caribbean due to the high cost of crude oil that has hit profits. Valero, which had already cut processing rates at the refinery, may continue to operate the site as a terminal and storage operation. The refinery, which was restarted in early 2011 after a 17-month shutdown due to poor margins, processed heavy sour crude oil into gasoline, heating oil and feedstock components to make finished fuel to the U.S. Gulf Coast, the New York Harbor, the Caribbean, South America and Europe. Valero CEO Bill Klesse said last week that the refinery - which uses fuel oil to fire boilers, make steam and power other operations - was at a disadvantage to refineries in the U. S. that have access to the cheap, plentiful supplies of natural gas for operations. The difference can add up to \$2 a barrel to operating costs, he added. The company will maintain the plant in a state which would allow it to restart should the refining environment improve, after announcing in November that it was looking at options for the Aruba plant including finding a strategic partner. Valero said that discussions with interested parties will continue..

<http://www.edmontonjournal.com/Valero+shut+Aruba+refinery/6328372/story.html>

#### **USA, ILL, ASLIP, MARCH 21 2012. SOUTHBOUND I-294 OPEN AFTER HYDROCHLORIC ACID TANKER ROLLOVER**

casey toner

[Watch the Video Tanker Crash, Acid Leak](#)



*A tanker that turned over on the Tri-State Tollway this morning, causing a small acid leak and requiring the road to be closed.*

The patience of hundreds of drivers taking Interstate 294 through the Southland was put to the test over several hours Tuesday as an overturned tanker led to the closure of the southbound lanes between 95th and 127th streets. The lanes were closed from before noon until about 8 p.m., turning rush-hour traffic into a nightmare even on area streets as drivers tried to find alternate routes. The tanker, which was carrying hydrochloric acid, turned over and blocked all three lanes of traffic after a vehicle made an illegal U-turn in its path at about 11:43 a.m. at 127th Street, Illinois State Police Trooper Michelle Kistulinec said. Authorities had to empty the tanker before it could be removed, and hazardous materials crews still were busy cleaning chemicals, including gasoline, well into rush hour. Kistulinec said the driver of

the truck suffered minor injuries in the crash, which is still under investigation. Tami Overall, of Oak Forest, drove past the accident about 12:30 p.m. as she was heading to a meeting at a corporate office in Oak Brook. The cleanup was still in progress for her return trip, and while her normal drive time is 35 to 40 minutes, after two hours she had only made it to the 95th Street exit, where the McDonald's at 7620 W. 95th St. in Hickory Hills was packed with cars forced to exit there. "I wasn't in the accident, so I'm happy about that," Overall said. "Patience is the key. There's nothing you can do about it." Streets in towns from Hickory Hills to Crestwood also were affected after drivers for forced to exit at 95th Street. Robin Bruska had no idea how she was going to navigate those alternate routes. The Detroit-area resident had taken her son Sam Carter, a student at Michigan State University, to look at a medical school in Downers Grove. They got on I-294 near I-88 about 2:15 p.m. and arrived at the 95th Street exit about 6 p.m. At some points, traffic wasn't even creeping along. "We actually would stand for 10 minutes at a time," Carter said. So he napped, and Bruska said she listened to National Public Radio because it was "soothing." "We are grace under pressure," she said. But they still had to find a way home: Carter has class Wednesday. "I don't know the roads around here. That's the problem," Bruska said.

<http://southtownstar.suntimes.com/11421635-522/southbound-i-294-open-after-tanker-rollover.html>



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#### AUSTRALIA, NEW SOUTH WALES, NEWCASTLE, MARCH 21 2012. ORICA: HOW NOT TO DEAL WITH A TOXIC LEAK

Thanks to [Jeff Simpson](#), Moderator of the Chem-Haz-Classification Group on Yahoo.

The web link to the ABC Radio Background Briefing which discussed the Orica incidents of 2011 and the community concern - ORICA: How Not to Deal with a Toxic Leak

<http://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/backgroundbriefing/orica/3817916>

#### USA, ILL, EDWARDSVILLE, ROXANA, MARCH 21 2012. ROXANA, ILLINOIS SUES WOOD RIVER REFINERY

 **Watch the Video** [Roxana, Sues Wood River Refinery](#)

 **Document To View the Lawsuit**



An employee of URS Corp. checks a monitoring well Tuesday, one of dozens on the east side of Roxana, in the alley between East Fourth and East Third streets in the village. The wells monitor the amount of benzene reported to be floating on the water table under the community's east side. The Simmons Firm filed suit Tuesday on behalf of the Village of Roxana, against ConocoPhillips, Shell Oil Company and WRB Refining LP. The suit claims that carcinogenic chemicals have contaminated the groundwater, air and land of the village. The suit also claims that benzene levels on some village property is as high as 2.6 million percent of the allowable limits set by the Illinois Pollution Control Board.

A company town is suing the company that's been at its center for almost a century. The Illinois Village of Roxana claims the Wood River Refinery has been contaminating the community for decades with toxins including benzene. A lawsuit alleges more than 18 million pounds of cancer-causing pollutants contaminated Roxana's air, soil and water. Trisha and Roland Ford have been desperately trying to get a nearly new home close to the refineries sold. "I would have thought that it was cleaned up correctly and evidently it wasn't and benzene's nothing to mess with," said Roland Ford. In a statement a representative from WRB Refining and Conoco Phillips, the current owner, says, "We are disappointed that the suit attacks the operations of our refinery on our watch." Attorneys for the village say this is a case about accountability for a serious wrong. The companies getting the blame are WRB Refining, Shell Oil Company, and Conoco Phillips.

<http://www.ksdk.com/news/article/311615/3/Roxana-Illinois-sues-Wood-River-Refinery>

#### ENGLAND, LONDON, MARCH 22 2012. SHELL SUED IN U.K. OVER 'MASSIVE' 2008 NIGERIAN OIL SPILLS

erik larson



A man scoops spilled crude oil allegedly caused by Shell equipment failure floating at the bank of B-Dere waterways in Ogoniland, Rivers State, on Aug. 11, 2011. The Bodo community in the oil-producing Niger Delta region sued Shell oil company in the United Kingdom, alleging that spills in 2008 and 2009 had destroyed the environment and ruined their livelihoods.

A unit of [Royal Dutch Shell Plc \(RDSA\)](#), Europe's largest oil company, was sued in Britain by 11,000 Nigerians who say their land, rivers and wetlands were spoiled by two "massive" spills in the Niger River delta in 2008.

The lawsuit against Shell's Nigerian subsidiary was filed in [London](#) today by residents of the coastal Bodo community after talks failed to produce a deal, the group's [law firm](#) Leigh Day & Co. said in a [statement](#). While Shell admits liability for the leaks, it claims local people spilled most of the oil. "The spills have caused extensive and long-lasting devastation to the claimant's lands

and fishing waters and have a profoundly detrimental impact on the life of the community," the lawyer for the Nigerians, Martyn Day, said in court papers. The lawsuit, claiming a leak of 500,000 barrels, comes two months after Nigerian President Goodluck Jonathan said he would seek compensation from Shell, based in [The Hague](#), for the country's worst offshore spill in



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more than a decade -- a leak in December of nearly 40,000 barrels of oil at the company's Bonga field off Nigeria's coast. Before and after the Bodo leaks, local people spilled oil during theft from the pipeline and sabotaged it to exaggerate the environmental damage, Shell spokesman Jonathan French said in a phone interview. The people have the "misguided belief that more oil spilled equals more compensation," he said.

#### 'Lies and Deceit'

Patrick Naagbantou, who is from Bodo and runs a non- governmental organization dedicated to protection of the environment and human rights, said Shell makes the same claims of theft and sabotage whenever there's a spill or explosion. "I'm used to their lies and deceit," Naagbantou, who now lives in nearby [Port Harcourt](#), Nigeria, said in a phone call today. "This is what they say about a lot of communities in the Niger delta and beyond, wherever their facility has destroyed the environment of the local people." A joint team of Shell investigators and the Nigerian oil- spill regulator [Nosdra](#) visited the site and determined the total volume of oil spilled was about 4,000 barrels, French said. Lawyers for the townspeople said that amount was spilling from the pipeline nearly every day during one of the leaks that lasted two months. "We clearly disagree with that assessment," French said. The two Bodo spills leaked oil onto 90 square kilometers of land, mangroves, creeks and streams and affected a coastline similar in size to that of [BP Plc's](#) Deepwater Horizon spill in the [Gulf of Mexico](#) in 2010, the law firm said. The human-rights group [Amnesty International](#) said in November that Shell should pay \$1 billion to start cleaning the environment around Bodo.

#### 35 Villages

The Bodo community has about 49,000 people in 35 villages and most of its people are subsistence fishermen and farmers, the law firm said. While Shell stopped oil extraction in the area in 1994, the company's pipelines still traverse it, according to the complaint. Shell continued pumping oil for weeks after learning of the spill, "causing increasing devastation to Bodo's environment," Day said in the statement. The pipeline should have been shut immediately, he said. Shell was unable to shut the pipeline quickly because its workers were physically blocked by local people from entering the area, French said. Shell admitted liability in late 2008 and early 2009 -- as soon as the company confirmed the two spills were caused by operational failings, he said. The Bodo waterway at the center of the U.K. case recovered from a "minor" leak in 2003 and a larger spill in 1986, according to the complaint. The creek was "rich in fauna" and "essentially free of hydrocarbons" before the latest incidents, it said. [Nigeria](#), with daily production of 2.39 million barrels, was Africa's largest oil producer last year, according to the country's Petroleum Ministry. The west African nation is the fifth-biggest source of U.S. crude imports. In a separate case, Shell asked the U.S. Supreme Court last month to rule the company can't be sued by Nigerians seeking damages for torture and murders committed by the national government in the early 1990s.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2012-03-23/shell-sued-in-u-k-over-massive-oil-spills-in-nigeria-in-2008.html>

#### USA, MN, FARMINGTON, MARCH 22 2012. AUTO SALVAGE LOT DETERMINED SOURCE OF FUEL LEAK

*laura adelmann*



*A Minnesota Pollution Control Agency worker skimmed oil off the surface of the Vermillion River in Farmington after a diesel oil spill Wednesday.*

A "significant" diesel fuel spill into the Vermillion River closed down roads as Farmington emergency responders and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency workers joined to contain the spill on Wednesday. Officials concluded the spill came from a storm sewer line located on a lot near Fourth Street and Willow Street. The lot, owned by Farmington business owner Collin Garvey, was being rented as an auto salvage site that was not zoned in the location, said City Planner Lee Smick. Farmington Mayor Todd Larson said the renter was Cole Empey, who used to operate a recycling business in Castle Rock Township. Smick said city officials first noticed a few old, apparently broken down, trucks on the lot last week, but just days later, the number of them had grown so significant the lot could be defined in city ordinances as a junk yard.

"Two weeks ago, I don't believe it was a junk yard," Smick said, adding that city zoning doesn't allow that type of operation in the area. Farmington Fire Marshal John Powers estimated that over 100 gallons of fuel was directly leaked into the river, portions of which are an environmentally sensitive trout stream. "The big thing is environmental," Powers said. "We want to mitigate any downstream impact of the wildlife." Firefighters worked to contain the spill with several floaters and MPCA



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workers ran a vacuum device to skim oil from the water's surface. Despite the efforts, an oil sheen was visible on the river's surface near Highway 3. Larson he is very concerned about the situation. "It concerns me when petroleum products get flushed into the Vermillion River trout stream," he said. "I'm confident it's going to get cleaned out but the fact that it happened concerns me."

<http://www.thisweeklive.com/2012/03/21/auto-salvage-lot-determined-source-of-fuel-leak/>

#### USA, AZ, PHOENIX, MARCH 22 2012. TRUCKER DOESN'T DISCONNECT AT PUMP, SPILLS DIESEL IN PHOENIX

Nearly 60 gallons of diesel fuel spilled after a driver of a semitruck didn't disconnect the ground pump before pulling away, according to the Phoenix Fire Department. The driver was fueling up at a Valero gas station near 51st Avenue and Buckeye Road Monday morning when he forgot to disconnect the ground pump and drove away, according to fire officials. Diesel fuel is not highly flammable, so the focus is to just clean up spill, according to the fire department. There were no reported injuries from the spill.

<http://tucsoncitizen.com/arizona-news/2012/03/21/trucker-doesnt-disconnect-at-pump-spills-diesel-in-phoenix/>

#### CANADA, B.C, YARROW, CHILLIWACK, MARCH 22 2012. GAS STATION FIRE TRIGGERS EVACUATION IN CHILLIWACK, B.C.

 Watch the Video

- [Raw Video: Vancouver Gas Station Goes Up in Flames](#)
- [Gas Station Fire Triggers Evacuation](#)



*An Esso gas station in Chilliwack caught fire on Wednesday morning, triggering an evacuation of the area.*

A major fire engulfed an Esso gas station in the Chilliwack community of Yarrow, east of Vancouver, triggering an emergency evacuation of the area. Fire officials say workers inside an autobody shop were cutting a metal tank when a fire started, engulfing the building and the Esso gas station next door. One worker suffered burns, but managed to drive himself to hospital. Police evacuated homes and businesses within a one-kilometre radius of the station at 42170 Yarrow Road while several fire crews put out the blaze. Witnesses reported the fire was out 12:30 p.m. PT, but the building was destroyed. BC Hydro reported 1,800 customers in the area lost power because of the fire.

Yarrow is a small rural community that is part of the City of Chilliwack

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/story/2012/03/21/bc-chilliwack-gas-station.html>

#### USA, OH, ATHENS, MARCH 22 2012. ATTORNEYS SPAR IN SUIT OVER OIL/GAS WELLS

jim phillips



*Oil wells on Paul Kilzer's property allegedly leak, spilling oil onto his land.*

The attorneys in a bitter lawsuit over oil-and-gas wells on the land of an Amesville couple argued ferociously in court Monday over issues including who should get the money from sales of the wells' output, and whom to blame for an oil spill on the site last month. Attorney Michael Nolan represents Jamie Metcalf, the Glouster woman who operates the nine wells. At a hearing, Nolan suggested to Athens County Common Pleas Judge Michael Ward that the two parties should enter mediation, because communication between them seems to have broken down. Attorney Don Wirtshafter, however, who represents defendants Paul and Kerensa Kilzer, suggested the dispute between the parties is not just bad blood, but stems from legal issues that a judge or jury will have to decide. "Right now I don't understand what could be mediated," Wirtshafter told the judge. "One side or the other wins here." Nolan fired back that he's baffled as to how, exactly, Wirtshafter views the



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case. "I just don't understand what Mr. Wirtshafter's position is going to be (if this case goes to trial)," he said. If Wirtshafter is claiming that Metcalf's lease has completely lapsed and that the Kilzers now have a right to all the well equipment and all the oil and gas coming out of their property, Nolan added, "I need to tell him a little bit about the Ohio law." Addressing Wirtshafter, Nolan questioned whether he actually believes that after a trial, a jury will find that the Kilzers have sole right to the wells and their output – a claim Nolan indicated he considers absurd. "If that's what your hope is, tell me now," he urged. Wirtshafter cheerfully complied, informing Nolan and the judge, "That exactly is our hope." If he's right in his reading of the legal issues, Wirtshafter added, "we win hands down" in a trial. The lawsuit, [filed in July of last year](#), is complicated. Essentially, however, the Kilzers claim that because the wells on their land were not producing for several years, the 10-year lease they had with Metcalf's former husband lapsed by its own terms. (Many drilling leases require the land to be kept in ongoing production to permit renewal of the lease.) They also claim that they have owned the well equipment since they won it in a default judgment against another operator in Athens County Common Pleas Court in 2000. Though they promptly turned around and leased the equipment to Metcalf's husband, they claim, it has belonged to them since their 2000 court victory. Therefore, they say, with the termination of their former lease, they now own the wells and everything that comes out of them. This claim triggered a heated exchange between the attorneys, with Nolan suggesting it flouts Ohio law to suggest that the Kilzers own the well rigs. "To say that that equipment is your clients' is wrong!" he told Wirtshafter. "That's outrageous, your honor," Wirtshafter told the judge. The terms of the old lease gave the Kilzers a one-eighth share in the revenue from sale of the wells' output – an arrangement that Ward has continued in force while the suit is pending. Jamie Metcalf took over the wells from her former husband. After the dispute arose, the Kilzers have alleged that Metcalf has on more than one occasion shut off the free natural gas to their home that they're supposed to receive. They also claim she has not operated or maintained the wells properly, leading to oil spillage and other problems. (The wells apparently produce both oil and natural gas.) Metcalf, in turn, alleges the Kilzers have been tampering with the wells and causing the problems. In one case gas was shut off to meter a line, she claims, but all that the Kilzers needed to do was re-light the pilot lights in their home after it was turned back on. The Kilzers "vehemently deny any sabotage of their wells," Wirtshafter said. He alleged that an oil spill that occurred in February was caused by Metcalf's adult son improperly operating the wells. "That oil spill is exactly what my clients were worried about," he added. "(Metcalf) is operating (the wells) in a substandard way... She doesn't know what she's doing; it's obvious." Nolan responded that he has a state regulatory official ready to testify that Metcalf is doing a fine job of operating the wells, and that it's Paul Kilzer who has been making adjustments on them that are improper and even dangerous. He alleged that Kilzer has been making adjustments on a flow valve controlling natural gas, but doing it incorrectly. "Mr. Kilzer's turning it the wrong way," he claimed, creating a risk of fire or explosion at his home. Judge Ward questioned why either party was handling the well equipment, rather than a professional service company. "Why does Ms. Metcalf need to be out there?" he asked. "Don't we have professionals that do this?" Nolan responded that Metcalf is in fact the operator of the wells, and is trained to run and maintain them. Earlier in the case, Ward ordered some money from the sale of oil to be escrowed. Wirtshafter has demanded in a motion that over \$17,000 since brought in by the wells be added to the escrow fund, or that Metcalf at least have to account for how she spent it to upgrade and maintain the wells. Nolan called it "completely unfair" to require Metcalf to come up with \$17,000 that she has earned by putting the wells back into production, and has already spent. If the judge were to order her to pony up the money, he added, "I can tell you right now that she can't afford to do that." Ward made some rulings in the case regarding discovery issues. There is a trial scheduled for July, though both sides have indicated they will seek summary judgment.

[http://www.athensnews.com/ohio/article-36449-attorneys-spar-in-suit-over-oil\\_gas-wells.html](http://www.athensnews.com/ohio/article-36449-attorneys-spar-in-suit-over-oil_gas-wells.html)

#### **CANADA, N.W.T., DELINE, MARCH 22 2012. FUEL TANK OVERFLOWS IN DELINE, N.W.T. >> PUBLIC WORKS TRUCK OVERFILLS TANK AT COMMUNITY'S FUEL DEPOT, SPILLING 20,000 LITRES OF GASOLINE**

Territorial government officials say a fuel spill in Deline, N.W.T., earlier this month caused no environmental damage. The spill happened March 11, when a Public Works fuel truck overfilled a tank at the community's fuel depot. About 20,000 litres of gasoline overflowed out onto the snow. "There may have been human error involved, there may have been mechanical failure, ... I'd be speculating if I jumped to any sort of conclusion," said John Vandenberg, director of the petroleum products division of the N.W.T. Department of Public Works. "We will take a look at this and determine what actions we'll take to prevent it from happening in the future." Vandenberg said all of the gas was contained by a berm around the tank and that a plastic liner prevented it from seeping into the ground. Shovels and two vacuum trucks were used to collect the contaminated snow. It was



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## Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network

### Release 2012 – 824 Newsy Stuff

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**March 26 2012**



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packed into drums to be shipped out to a disposal site in Alberta Officials hope to complete the cleanup before the winter road season ends.

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/north/story/2012/03/22/north-deline-fuel-spill.html>

#### INDIA, TAMIL NADU, METTUR, MARCH 22 2012, 15 TONNES OF AMMONIUM NITRATE SEIZED

Police seized 15 tonnes of ammonium nitrate, used for making crackers and explosives from a godown in Kunchantiyur village near Mettur on Tuesday.

##### Owners Absconding

The owners of the godown from where the material was seized are absconding. Senior police officials said that a special team of top police and revenue officials, led by District Revenue Officer N. Prasanna Venkatesan and Salem SP Ashwin M. Kotnis, raided the go-down of Arjunan and found 334 bags of 50 kg chemical substance, which contained more than the permissible level of 45 per cent concentration of the chemical substance that requires special licence. Besides, the place contained a few barrels of diesel, earthen pots stuffed with explosive material to be used during festivals. Mr. Venkatesan told The Hindu that on instructions from Collector K Maharabushanam, special squads from both revenue and police had been carrying out combing operations in the district for the past few days to nab clandestine fireworks manufacturers and hoarders of explosive materials. "We came across this godown in the villager during one such raid near Mettur," he said. One person was killed when he was manufacturing clandestine crackers near Omalur last week.

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/states/tamil-nadu/article3017580.ece>

#### USA, CO, WOLCOTT, MARCH 22 2012. DIESEL DIRT SAFE IN LOCAL LANDFILL >> DIRT CONTAMINATED IN DIESEL SPILL BEING DISPOSED OF LOCALLY

*randy wyrick*

It's safe for contaminated dirt from a diesel fuel spill to be dumped in the Eagle County landfill, local and state environmental officials said. A tanker truck spilled 7,200 gallons of diesel fuel just east of Eagle on March 8 when a motorist collided with the truck and caused the wreck, the Colorado State Patrol said. Most of the fuel spilled into the median. Crews from the Arvada firm Custom Environmental Services Inc. are handling the cleanup, which began the morning of the spill. The contaminated dirt is being dug out and hauled in covered trucks to the Eagle County landfill. "Given the integrity of this system, this is probably the best place on the planet for it," said Ken Whitehead, Eagle County's solid waste manager. The local landfill has received about 1,000 tons of contaminated dirt so far, a significant chunk of the 65,000-70,000 tons they get annually, Whitehead said. The landfill is lined with clay and shale for about 1,000 feet under it, Whitehead said. There's no such thing as a perfect landfill; they all leak, Whitehead said, but ours is close. "It would take 300 years to get to the property line, if there is a leak, and by that time it hopefully would have cleaned itself up," Whitehead said.

##### Cleanup Cost

The landfill gets \$37.68 per ton to accept the contaminated soil. So, the local landfill will see almost \$40,000 in revenue when it's over. But that's not the entire cleanup cost. The contaminated dirt has to be excavated and trucked to the landfill. Then the hole in the I-70 median has to be backfilled with clean dirt. Eyeballing it, Whitehead estimated it could cost someone's insurance company more than \$100,000. CDOT does highway maintenance, but someone else will pick up the tab for the cleanup, either the trucking company's insurance company or the driver who caused the accident, Mohr said.

##### Could be Worse

The material is put through a battery of tests before the landfill can accept it, Whitehead said. And yes, a diesel spill is bad, but diesel is not as bad as many other chemicals. "It's diesel fuel. As far as fuel goes, it's about as good as we could hope for. If it had been unleaded gasoline it would have been much, much worse," said Ashley Mohr, CDOT spokesperson. "Diesel fuel is as biodegradable as fuel can be." There's some chemistry involved, but basically the molecules that compose Diesel fuel will break down. Different materials go into different categories, and diesel fuel is considered safe, Mohr said. She called the 7,200 gallons of diesel a "significant" spill. The tanker truck holds more than 8,000 gallons. "It could have been worse. The dirt where it spilled was dry and soaked it up quickly. All things being relative, we were lucky," Mohr said.

##### County's Largest Spill

The spill is the largest anyone can remember in Eagle County, according to the Eagle County Environmental Health department. The next largest was 4,900 gallons of methanol spilled last October when a tanker truck hit the East Vail truck ramp. Much of the diesel fuel spilled earlier this month soaked down into the median, where it's being dug out and the holes



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backfilled with clean dirt, Mohr said. A little spilled on the north side where the truck rolled onto its right side and skidded to a stop. Custom Environmental Services dug a trench on the south side to learn whether the fuel seeped under the highway and toward the Eagle River. So far it has not, and they keep testing it, Mohr said. If the Eagle County landfill had not been able to take the contaminated dirt, CDOT would have had to truck it all the way to Eads, on the Eastern Plains near the Kansas border. While the cleanup is going on, the right lane of Interstate 70 will be closed in both directions from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. this week. Both lanes will open at night when CES crews are not working. Custom Environmental Service has been handling spills of this type for a decade and a half, the company said.

<http://www.vaildaily.com/article/20120320/NEWS/120329977/1078&ParentProfile=1062>

### USA, FLA, MIAMI BEACH, MARCH 22 2012. DRIVER SLAMS INTO GAS PUMP AT MIAMI STATION

*katie kindelan*

 **Watch the Video's**

- [SUV Causes Gas Station Explosion](#)
- [Driver Speaks Out After Gas Station Crash](#)
- [Miami Beach Driver Causes Gas Pump Explosion](#)



A woman in Miami Beach who may have been trying to beat another driver to the gas pump lost control of her car, setting off a ball of fire. Surveillance video from the Chevron gas station shows the moment around noon Tuesday when the female driver of a gold Jeep swerved in front of a yellow Hummer waiting in line for gas, according to local affiliate WPLG. As the woman appeared to accelerate to beat the Hummer to the pump, she lost control of the car and instead slammed into the gas pump itself, sending it into a ball of flames. Two women can be seen on the video running out of the SUV immediately after the explosion as other drivers waiting for gas and filling their tanks also moved quickly out of the way to escape the flames. "When I looked outside, I saw the fire and I ran over to the pump stop button,

and we escorted everyone out of the store," said store cashier Carol Smith. Gas station employees and bystanders described the driver as being impatient in trying to reach the pump first, but the driver herself said it was all an accident. "He started honking at me and I got nervous," the woman, identified as Gloria Ramos, told Miami Fox affiliate WSVN, referring to the driver of the yellow Hummer. "Instead of hitting the brakes, I hit the accelerator. That is when the accident occurred." Ramos said she and her passenger feared for their lives. "I tried to get out of the car but the door wouldn't open. I kicked the door and I was able to get out of the car," she said. Firefighters who responded to the scene within minutes after the explosion were able to extinguish the fire before it spread. No one was injured in the incident. Authorities have not said whether or not they plan to charge Ramos.

<http://abcnews.go.com/blogs/headlines/2012/03/driver-slams-into-gas-pump-at-miami-station/>

### USA, AZ, SCOTTSDALE, MARCH 22 2012. CAUGHT ON CAMERA: VALLEY MAN CATCHES GAS PUMP RUNNING WITHOUT GAS FLOWING

*maryellen resendez*

 **Watch the Video** [Valley Man Catches Gas Pump Running Without Gas Flowing](#)

An ABC15 viewer posted home video on our [Facebook](#) this week showing what he says he couldn't believe at a Valley gas station. Brooke, who asked us not to show his face or use his last name, told us he had just stopped pumping gas at the Chevron near the Loop 101 and Chaparral Road when the meter at the pump didn't stop. "The price is still going up, no gas is being pumped," said Brooke as he narrated on his home video. "I couldn't believe it, was I really seeing this?" said his wife Heidi. After Brooke finished videotaping the pump, he said he went into the convenience store to show the supervisor, but Brooke told us the supervisor seemed more concerned that it was caught on camera. "I was trying to be nice and say hey dude you have a problem here, fix it. I didn't ask for my money back, I didn't want anything from the store. We shop there..... he said well I want the video and I want to delete it," said Brooke. We decided to check out this story. When our ABC15 crew walked into the Chevron, the store's manager Steve asked us to shut off our camera. Off camera, Steve told us he wanted



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Brooke arrested for tampering with his pump. Steve claimed that Brooke possibly tampered with what's called the break away valve and let air into the pumps hose which would cause the meter to keep going. He also told us they had the pump checked out, but when asked if they found tampering, he replied, "No, the tampering was gone by then." We called Shawn Marquez with Arizona's Weights and Measures to run both stories by him. Marquez told us what Brooke caught on tape sounds like meter creeping. When we told him about the possible tampering story, he said it's not true and that he's never heard or seen that happen, claiming Brooke would've needed a key. Steve sent this statement after we left the Chevron Station: I will get you a copy of the work order and technical data gathered by the technician that responded to this service call. If this person genuinely had an issue with our equipment, it is still our position that, we would absolutely like an opportunity to fix the issue directly with the customer. However, if we find that this individual is intentionally tampering or manipulating the equipment for another agenda... we intend to pursue ending this type of vandalism and slander. ABC15 has not received that paperwork.

[http://www.abc15.com/dpp/news/region\\_northeast\\_valley/scottsdale/what-one-viewer-says-he-caught-on-tape-at-a-local-gas-station-will-have-you-watching-the-pump](http://www.abc15.com/dpp/news/region_northeast_valley/scottsdale/what-one-viewer-says-he-caught-on-tape-at-a-local-gas-station-will-have-you-watching-the-pump)

### USA, VA, COLONIAL HEIGHTS, MARCH 22 2012. APPARENT EXPLOSION CAUSES EVACUATION AT COLONIAL HEIGHTS WALMART

#### Photo's Explosion Causes Evacuation

Hundreds of people were evacuated from the Walmart store in Colonial Heights after a propane tank apparently exploded behind the store's lawn and garden area. Police and fire trucks blocked entrances to the Walmart Supercenter Store at 671 Southpark Blvd. only allowing cars to leave the parking lot while patrons poured out of the store and to their cars. There were



no injuries in the incident. Colonial Heights Fire Chief A.G. Moore said that while firefighters were on the scene, several hundred people, including store employees and patrons, were evacuated from the store. The evacuation was lifted around 2:20 p.m. "I don't recall anything like this ever happening that I've been to," Moore said. Moore said that fire units were first dispatched around 1:55 p.m. for a call of a propane tank explosion. When units arrived they found a damaged cage that contained several propane tanks, and with little breeze, there was a thick odor of propane in the air. Moore said that the fire department then used a "water curtain" to help the gas dissipate in absence of a breeze. While waiting for the gas to dissipate, cars parked near the lawn and garden department weren't allowed to leave. "I was already at the door getting ready to leave when they told us to evacuate," said Mandy Stevenson. Like others who had been told to leave the store, Stevenson was

waiting outside to see what happened. "I asked them if this was part of a tornado drill," Stevenson said. Tuesday was a statewide tornado drill, an annual event sponsored by the Virginia Department of Emergency Management. "But they told me no, that a propane tank had exploded." Stevenson had already made her purchases, but others waiting outside the store had either just arrived when they were prevented from entering or were told to leave with carts full of merchandise left behind in the store. "I had just pulled up and when I got inside they told us we had to evacuate," said another Walmart customer who didn't wish to be named. "Now I'm out here in the sun with my 2-year-old and they won't even let me go back to my truck or leave." The man's truck was parked near the lawn and garden department where the air was heavy with the smell of propane. "The store didn't tell us anything, but the fire department told us a propane tank exploded," said Cecile Santini. Santini and Christina Jeffords were parked near the automotive and lawn and garden departments. "They told us we couldn't start our car or leave, so we're waiting," Santini said. Nearby firefighters were deploying the water curtain to dissipate the gas. Moore said that apparently a relief valve on one of the tanks had failed. When all the gas evacuated from the propane tank, it caused damage to the cage the tanks are stored in for safety reasons. One corner of the cage was bent upwards as firefighters continued to douse the cage area with the water curtain. "The propane company is investigating to determine exactly how that may have happened or what caused it to happen," Moore said. Approximately 15 Colonial Heights firefighters responded and a Chesterfield engine company responded as an automatic mutual aid, according to Moore.

<http://progress-index.com/news/apparent-explosion-causes-evacuation-at-colonial-heights-walmart-1.1288595#axzz1q1pZoorE>



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