



Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network

Release 2012 – 828 Newsy Stuff

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April 13 2012



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PHILIPPINES, QUEZON PROVINCE, POLILIO, APRIL 6 2012. DIESEL LEAK POSES NO SERIOUS THREAT TO QUEZON MANGROVE—OFFICIAL

delfin t. mallari jr.

A concerned official on Thursday allayed fears that at least 10,000 liters of diesel that had accidentally leaked at the National Power Corp. plant in the island town of Polilio in Quezon province Tuesday seriously damaged a mangrove. The spill reached the mangrove area near the plant located in the village of Tamulaya, according to Henry Buzar, coordinator of Quezon Provincial Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council. "But the spilled fuels did not cause serious damage to the mangrove. The situation is now under control," Buzar said over the phone. He said most of the spilled fuels were trapped in several deep holes around the perimeters of the plant. Senior Police Officer 2 Sherwin Ricarte Ruiz, Polilio police investigator, an opened drain gate valve of the fuel tank caused the spillage. Ruiz said the spillage at the Polilio power plant that lasted for five hours started 1:30 a.m. Tuesday and lasted until 6:40 a.m. Police said the three plant technicians and one security guard on duty denied responsibility for the accidental spill but could not point to anyone who could have left the valve open. Police was still conducting investigation to identify who is responsible for the negligence.

<http://newsinfo.inquirer.net/172647/diesel-leak-poses-no-serious-threat-to-quezon-mangrove-official>

CANADA, B.C, SIDNEY, APRIL 6 2012. SIDNEY FUEL LEAK CLEANUP STARTED QUICKLY



Friends of Shoal Harbour ecologist Kerry Finley sifts through the remnants of a fuel spill draining through the pipe at Roberts Bay.

The smell of diesel caught him off guard. Walking along the beach at Roberts Bay, Kerry Finley was overwhelmed by the odour of fuel emanating from the pipe draining storm water into the the ocean - and his concern immediately turned to the safety of the wildlife sanctuary behind him. "[Oil] is seeping into, and probably has toxic effects on, the invertebrates that are in the gravel," the ecologist for the Friends of Shoal Harbour said. "[But] they have boomed it so most of the floating crud is on the surfaces and is being skimmed off." Fortunately, the absorbent booms were already strewn in front of the pipe, catching some but not all of the fuel seeping through. While damage had been done, he was satisfied with the prompt action from the town. "The town did a

very good job reacting quickly and preventing as much as they could," Finley said. "The spill is relatively minor compared to what it could have been, [however] it undoubtedly impacts the area." The culprit was identified as a residential home-heating fuel tank that holds less than 1,000 litres and likely succumbed to corrosion. How much fuel seeped into the earth is unknown and depends on where the leak sprang. Despite prompt identification and action, fuel continues to leak into the sanctuary. "It is currently still leaking oil," said Sidney's manager of engineering and environmental services Mike Van der Linden. "The oil got into the drains and saturated the soil so it will continue to leak for quite a while." For how much longer is uncertain, how much damage has been done is also difficult to ascertain. Van der Linden cautions residents that all fuel containers have a finite shelf life and eventually need to be replaced. "It comes down to the homeowners, they have a certain responsibility of due diligence. Tanks need to be inspected," he said. "When you go to fill a propane tank after a certain time they won't fill them anymore. Home owners have a certain responsibility." Finley agrees and hopes residents take heed. "I don't think the people in Sidney [understand] the watershed into this sanctuary drains pretty much all of Sidney," he said. "I just hope it serves as an awareness to the public. Their actions can influence what is a national asset and very much a local asset ... You are responsible for the contaminant loads that go into the storm sewer."

<http://www.peninsulanewsreview.com/news/146179125.html>

USA, OH, NORTHFIELD VILLAGE, APRIL 6 2012. GAS SPILL AT STATION QUICKLY CLEANED UP

jeff saunders

More than 300 gallons of gasoline spilled at the Route 8 Sunoco service station around 4 p.m. March 30, but little harm resulted, said Mike Settles, spokesperson for the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency. Settles said gasoline was being delivered into an underground tank when it overflowed. Most of the gas flowed back into the tank, but some went into a nearby storm sewer and to an unnamed stream about a quarter-mile away. "We figure about 50 to 100 gallons flowed to the stream, but it was contained and vacuumed up," said Settles. Settles said Sunoco responded quickly, reporting the matter to village



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authorities and the OEPA, and hiring a private contractor to clean up the damage, and there are no citations. He did not have an estimate of the cleanup cost. Station owner Moe Ahmad said the station has two underground tanks. Although they are connected with a pipe, they need to be filled separately. The delivery truck driver, not realizing this, tried to fill only one, believing that the gas would flow through the pipe to the other tank. "I'm just grateful nobody was hurt. That's all that matters," Ahmad said.

<http://www.the-news-leader.com/news/article/5174754>

PHILIPPINES, MISAMIS ORIENTAL, TAGOLOAN, APRIL 6 2012. NDRRMC: PETRON OIL SPILL AFFECTS MISAMIS ORIENTAL MANGROVE

An oil spill occurred at the depot of Petron in Tagoloan in Misamis Oriental early Tuesday, the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council said Wednesday. In its 8 a.m. report, the NDRRMC said the incident at 3 a.m. at Bgy. Casinglot spilled five drums of gasoline in the nearby mangrove area. "Petron personnel, while conducting product transfer operations, did not notice that the valve going to the canal was slightly opened, consequently spilling gasoline to the nearby mangrove area. The valve was immediately closed upon discovery," [it said](#). Coast Guard personnel rushed to the area and conducted cleanup operations until 2:45 p.m. Tuesday. They also warned residents not to use open flame for the moment. Petron was issued an Inspection-Apprehension Report (IAR) for failing to notify the Coast Guard of the incident. "The depot superintendent is ordered to appear before the IAR officer within 10 days from receipt of the IAR," the NDRRMC said

<http://www.gmanetwork.com/news/story/253807/news/regions/ndrrmc-oil-spill-affects-misamis-oriental-mangrove>

USA, AZ, LAKESIDE, APRIL 6 2012. FUEL SPILL FORCES CLOSURE OF GAS STATION IN LAKESIDE

mike leiby

Pinetop and Lakeside Fire Departments responded Wednesday April 4 to a diesel fuel spill at the Lakeside Conoco gas station, 1653 White Mountain Blvd. Firefighters laid down foam to break up the spill and absorbent to soak it up. A Sassy Trucking diesel tanker was filling the storage tanks at the Conoco station and caused the spill. The diesel fuel made it into the barren ground in the field adjacent to the gas station which will require a backhoe to come in, dig up the contaminated earth and replace it with clean dirt, but it is not a hazardous material situation, according to Lakeside Fire Marshall Kirk Webb. Captain Kerry Ross said if at all possible people should stay clear of the area until crews can finish cleaning up the spill and replacing the contaminated earth.

http://www.wmicentral.com/news/latest_news/fuel-spill-forces-closure-of-gas-station-in-lakeside/article_91c72ec6-7e9b-11e1-8961-0019bb2963f4.html

NEW ZEALAND, TAURANGA, APRIL 6 2012. WRECKED RENA'S STERN SINKS

jeff tollan & paloma migone

 **Photo's** [See more pictures of the Rena disaster on PhotoBlog](#)

 **Watch the Video** [Wrecked Rena's Stern Sinks](#)

 **Watch the Video** [Rena Stern Photos](#)



Waves wash over the stern section of the wrecked container ship Rena as it sinks near Tauranga.

Six months after the Rena ran aground near Tauranga, the stern section of the wrecked container ship has sunk. Maritime New Zealand (MNZ) confirmed the sinking after flying over the wreck this afternoon. "The Bay of Plenty and Coromandel communities are advised that the sinking of the stern section will likely result in the loss of more debris and small amounts of oil into the sea," Ross Henderson of MNZ said. A light sheen of oil stretches for about a kilometre north-west of the wreck, but the volume of oil released was "only a tiny percentage" of what was spewed into the ocean in October. The forward section of the ship was still holding on the reef, but the back portion of it had suffered further damage. "A wave of over 12 metres was recorded at the reef

overnight, with winds of 27 knots (50kmh) and seas of 8-9m experienced today," Henderson said. Rena hit the reef in the early



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hours of October 5, after cutting a corner to try to make up time to meet a deadline at Port of Tauranga. Fears the oil would wash ashore today have so far been unrealised, with Waikato Regional Council staff checking Coromandel beaches between Whiritoa and Whitianga, reporting no sign of oil or debris. They will continue to monitor the beaches for a few days and have equipment and people on standby to help with clean up operations should they be required. National On Scene Commander Rob Service said rough sea conditions and strong winds could still see oil and debris being washed ashore. "It is unlikely to have a significant impact - however, it is important people are aware there could be some oil on their beaches over the next few days," he said. Rena has been in a fragile state for some time. Much of the stern was sitting beneath the water after the Rena snapped in half on January 8. There have been no reports of wildlife being affected, but the National Oiled Wildlife Response Team based at Massey University has been alerted as has the Department of Conservation. Swells caused the rear section of Rena's wreck to move and an estimated 11 containers were lost into the sea. Very rough sea conditions made it hard to accurately assess numbers.

Related Links

- [More containers fall from Rena](#)
- [More oil, containers spilling from Rena](#)

<http://www.stuff.co.nz/national/6690100/Rena-takes-a-battering/>

USA, TX, SAN ANTONIO, APRIL 6 2012. FINALLY FLOWING: I-10 WEST REOPENS AFTER HYDROCHLORIC ACID LEAK

 **Watch the Video** [Hydrochloric Acid Leak](#)

Crews worked hard overnight and all morning to clean up more than an estimated 100 gallons of hydrochloric acid that leaked onto I-10 west and made a mess of rush hour traffic. The westbound lanes of I-10 were shutdown around 6:30 p.m. Tuesday after the driver of an 18-wheeler noticed he was leaking the acid and pulled over. The roadway was still closed Wednesday morning although it was originally suspected to reopen around 2 a.m. Morning commuters were held up as work crew redirected traffic to the access road. Fire Chief Charles Hood said the tanker was loaded into another vehicle and hauled away. A spokesperson for TxDOT said the roadway was not damaged, which had been a major concern. Hood said on Tuesday night that if the leak is not contained in time, about 3,000 gallons of the acid could eat the highway. That could be a costly consequence and a threat to public health. He estimated about 100 gallons had leaked onto the roadway. Hydrochloric acid is a corrosive solution that can cause an unpleasant odor, nausea or dizziness, although Hood said there was never a serious threat to public health.

<http://www.kens5.com/home/Hazmats-units-called-to-hydrochloric-acid-leak-at-Interstate-10--146022455.html>

USA, N.H, HAMPTON FALLS APRIL 7 2012. 16 YEARS AFTER GAS LEAK, WELLS STILL CONTAMINATED

liz premo

Nearly 16 years after a underground storage tank leak at a Route 1 gas station, residents and businesses in the area are still receiving bottled drinking water and were recently advised to limit the length of their showers. The 1996 incident resulted in the release of petroleum hydrocarbons into the environment. The wells still affected today are located at nearby residences, area businesses and a facility housing the Head Start program for young children. Since then, the N.H. Department of Environmental Services (DES) has been monitoring the levels of a number of volatile organic compounds in the wells of properties abutting the Hampton Falls Citgo and Deli Barn. The site was home to a different store and gas station at the time of the 1996 leakage. Water testing overseen by DES is conducted on a regular basis and abutters are notified of the results. The volatile organic compounds detected in abutters' wells over time have included ethylene chloride, methyl tertiary-butyl ether (MtBE), toluene and benzene. For Marsh Lane resident Bob Wooles, it's a matter of "just waiting for the state" to let him know what steps will have to be taken toward improving water conditions at his home. Wooles, who receives state-provided bottled water, was one of seven abutters who were recently notified by DES of the latest test results and one of three who were told specific volatile organic compounds levels had risen. "I knew about the MtBE, and the level is within that boundary," he said. "But the new one is way above what it's supposed to be." Wooles' water tests indicated the levels had risen 30 times the 5.0 parts per billion standard for methylene chloride, which is used as a paint thinner. "Yeah, it's got me kind of worried when they say don't take a shower for (more than) 10 minutes," said Wooles, referring to one of a number of recommendations from DES regarding the ongoing water woes at his home. "I'd kind of like the state to do something about it."



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The situation has been in the state's scope since the leakage in May 1996, according to Hampton Falls Health Officer Kevin Kelley, who also serves as the town's building inspector and code enforcement officer. The site has never been classified as a "Brownfields" area, which requires extensive mitigation measures, and DES project manager Maureen Estabrook confirmed that "Citgo's well has not been impaired." A person speaking on behalf of the Citgo station claimed they did not know anything about the recent tests. Water testing results have varied over the years. Some VOC levels have risen or exceeded safety standards at times; others have remained below those standards. A new set of tests for the Hampton Falls abutters will be conducted this month. While affected abutters and DES report they are doing what is necessary to monitor and stay on top of this situation, residents and businesses in the area aren't expressing outrage. "It's not an alarming situation," said Jeanne Agri, a child development director representing Southern NH Services, under which the Head Start program operates in Rockingham County. Head Start has a center on Lafayette Road in Hampton Falls, in the same building as Casket Royale. The wholesale coffin company was notified in mid-February by DES that concentrations of MtBE in its well water had risen slightly above standard guidelines. Agri and Jo Ann Boddy, the center director of Head Start's location in Hampton Falls, confirmed the state is providing bottled drinking water for those who participate in the preschool program. Use of well water is limited to the center's rest rooms and dish washing, they said. "The state has been extremely helpful and supportive, walking (us) through the process of what we need to do and making sure our tests are appropriate," she said. "Even though there is a problem, they are aware of it and they are taking steps to eradicate it," said Larry Goodwin of Casket Royale. "(Casket Royale's owners) service the well, they test the water (and) they have filters to make sure the water is pure." Well owners in the area typically enlist the assistance of companies such as Capital Well in Dunbarton, which collects water samples and sends them to certified laboratories. The labs analyze the samples and generate reports on their findings, which are furnished to the state at the owners' request. Capital Well's Chris Borst explained that typically a plan of action is drawn up based on specific findings. Remedies can include drilling a new well, while existing wells can be deepened or modified. Consideration is made as to whether it's a "point of use" or "point of entry" water supply that's contaminated, with the former often treated with carbon filtration devices. "The main element is carbon or charcoal," he said. "It's a great product in that it absorbs just about everything under the sun." According to Estabrook, consistent testing determines whether a point-of-entry treatment system is needed. "There are a few of the wells where we had detections that we're monitoring on a monthly basis," she said. "If they have sustained levels above the water quality standard, then we will direct the owner to put in point-of-entry treatment systems." Estabrook said the state is committed to staying on top of the situation and will assist with ongoing monitoring and implementing remedies, which has appeased Agri. "They're hoping to rectify the problem in a reasonable amount of time," she said. "There is a solution to the problem; it's just in the process of achieving that solution."

<http://www.seacoastonline.com/articles/20120406-NEWS-204060359>

USA, CA, ORION PARK, APRIL 7 2012. ARMY: TOXIC CLEANUP IS NOT OUR PROBLEM >> DESPITE INVESTIGATION, SOURCE OF ORION PARK'S TOXICS STILL MYSTERIOUS

daniel debolt

Activists and regulators are at odds with the U.S. Army over toxics contaminating Orion Park, a former housing complex site just outside Moffett Field. While toxics have been found in groundwater samples and even in the indoor air of homes once on the site, the Army's draft "site investigation" report for Orion Park recommends the toxics not be cleaned up by the Army and "recommends no further action for the TCE plume underlying the Site." The Army's position hinges on the claim that there was no on-site source of the toxics, which could put the cleanup responsibility on someone else. "Because no sources of TCE were found on site, the Army plans to seek site closure," the report concludes. The Army's claims are disputed by the EPA and Mountain View resident and toxic cleanup expert Lenny Siegel, director of the Center for Public Environmental Oversight. They say the Army has not proven its claims of no on-site source, and Siegel said the Army is shirking its legal obligations for site cleanup. The Army has also been ordered to take responsibility for Orion Park's environmental condition by the Department of Defense. TCE is Trichloroethylene, the carcinogenic solvent once used by nearby defense department and computer industry operations, which dumped it and leaked it into the ground. In October the EPA confirmed that TCE is "carcinogenic to humans by all routes of exposure" and says that inhalation can cause "hepatic, renal, neurological, immunological, reproductive, and developmental effects." It's most dangerous when the vapors rising from the ground are trapped in buildings.

A Dilemma?

Laurie J. Decker, Chief of Public Affairs for the U.S. Army Environmental Command, initially called the Army "an innocent land owner" that did not know about the contamination when it took over the site from the Air Force in 2000 (The Navy owned the



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site previously), but later confirmed in an email that the Army did know. While it's acknowledged that at least part of Orion Park's toxics came from nearby plumes being cleaned up by the Navy and several tech companies, the Army's claim that there was no on-site source is under dispute by the EPA, who says testing was inadequate in its official comments on the report. Decker says the off-site sources "create somewhat of a dilemma." "Who's to say it would not get contaminated again?" she said. Orion Park is now home to a new Army reserve training and command post, and Decker noted that new buildings have vapor barriers and ventilation systems installed to help prevent a soldier's exposure to TCE vapors.

Army's Positions Challenged

Siegel said there is one caveat to the Army's legal responsibility to pay for cleanup: if another party is found to have at least contributed to the site's contamination, and has enough money to pay for cleanup, the Army could be reimbursed. But Siegel and the EPA say that the Army has not proved a connection to nearby superfund sites, which would probably be easier than trying to disprove the existence of an on-site source. Despite the Army's conclusions, Siegel says Orion Park's groundwater data seems to indicate that there was an on-site source. In its official comments on the Army's report, superfund remedial project manager Alana Lee and Water Board project manager Elizabeth Wells say that the Army's investigation has "insufficient data" to explain certain "hot spots" or "locations of concern" as areas where there may have been a source of contamination. "Therefore, the Army's recommendation for 'no further action' is premature," writes Lee and Wells. "Even if you rule out everything else, there's always the possibility of midnight dumping," Siegel said. Siegel said that he recently traveled to a toxics site in Long Island where there was no known source of toxics, but the ground was contaminated badly, probably by people from nearby industries who "got rid of their barrels of stuff" by dumping it on the site. In such a scenario the Army would be legally obligated to clean up the mess.

Cheaper to Clean?

In the long run, Siegel says it is cheaper to clean up the toxics than to maintain vapor intrusion barriers and special ventilation systems on buildings. And while the homes are gone, the quality of the area's groundwater is still a major concern, not to mention the fact that the southeastern end of the plume has already migrated into NASA Ames, which is trying to clean up a plume already on its property. He recalled the EPA's testing of some of the apartments once located at Orion Park that found indoor air levels of TCE above acceptable limits. A chaplain who served the military families at Orion Park said the TCE was a major concern, though many were hesitant to talk publicly about it, Siegel recalled. He also believes the TCE was why housing developer Clark Pinnacle pulled out of plans to build housing at Orion Park a few years ago. "You are required by law to protect people even if they are your own people," Siegel said of the Army and its staff and soldiers who now use the property. EPA officials say they are in ongoing negotiations with the Army over the site's cleanup. They noted that the Army is responsible for Orion Park under an order issued in 2008 by Wayne Army, deputy undersecretary of the department of defense, that the Department of the Army "will be responsible for (Orion Park's) environmental condition." EPA officials said they did not want to discuss the situation on the record. "Cleaning up Superfund sites and ensuring the protection of public health as we re-use these properties are important priorities," EPA project manager Lee said in an email. While the Army investigation recommends "no further action," Decker said in an email Wednesday, "The Army is not claiming that cleanup of the groundwater contamination on and near (Orion Park) is not needed." She repeatedly made the claim that the Army did not cause the problem and notes that previous investigations also could not find an on-site source of toxics. The Army's report can be found on the EPA's Region 9 website: tinyurl.com/7ow3m6s. Comments on the report should be sent to Amanda.R.Michels.civ@mail.mil.

http://mv-voice.com/news/show_story.php?id=5456

USA, M WI, JEFFERSON, APRIL 7 2012. ETHANOL PLANT'S NEW OWNERS REACH SETTLEMENT WITH STATE OVER AIR POLLUTION COMPLAINT

george hesselberg

The new owners of a large ethanol production plant outside of Jefferson have settled a state-filed complaint over alleged violation of air pollution laws, the state Department of Justice reported Friday. Valero Renewable Fuels Company, which bought the plant from its bankrupt owners in February 2010, will pay \$17,000 in fines and surcharges in the settlement, approved this week by Jefferson County Circuit Court Judge William Hue. The Department of Natural Resources issued violation notices against the plant owners in February and November 2010. The DOJ noted in a statement that when Valero acquired it, "the plant already had significant compliance issues and was operating in violation of its permit." The DNR citations, however, were for violations after Valero took ownership, and included complaints about improper exhausts and



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particle-release treatment. A DOJ spokeswoman said Friday the plant is now in compliance. According to Valero, the Jefferson plant, located about halfway between Madison and Milwaukee off of Interstate 94, started ethanol production in January 2008. It annually processes nearly 40 million bushels of corn into 110 million gallons of un-denatured ethanol and nearly 400,000 tons of high-value related products.

http://host.madison.com/wsj/news/local/environment/ethanol-plant-s-new-owners-reach-settlement-with-state-over/article_4eaa9d3a-8012-11e1-b69e-001a4bcf887a.html

USA, FLA, PALM BEACH, APRIL 7 2012. CREWS FIGHT GAS STATION FIRE IN PALM BEACH GARDENS LATE THURSDAY

bill dipaolo & julius whigham ii

 [Watch the Video Quick Thinking Prevents Possible Disaster](#)

 [Watch the Video Fire Rescue Crews Fighting Flames](#)



Fire Rescue crews late Thursday battled a fire at a gas station at Northlake Boulevard and Military Trail. Crews were summoned around 8:15 p.m. to the Shell Oil gas station at the southwest corner of the intersection. Flames were showing from the property when crews arrived. No injuries were reported. As of late Thursday, fire Rescue officials had not determined the cause of the fire. Division Chief Dave DeRita of Palm Beach Gardens Fire Rescue credited a lone male employee with preventing any possibility of the station's gasoline pumps catching fire. "The young man saw flames and smelled smoke. He immediately shut off the gasoline pumps. He then called 911. He walked outside the building and waited on the sidewalk. He did exactly what he was supposed to do," DeRita said. The employee's name was unavailable late Thursday. Gary Hardcastle, 21, was driving south on Military approaching Northlake when he saw thick black smoke and flames coming from the front of

the Shell station. "Flames were shooting out about eight feet high from the roof. They blew out the front window. They caught a van on fire. I heard several loud bangs," said Hardcastle, a diesel mechanic who works on boat engines. Fire Rescue crews planned to work into the night to clear the area in time for Friday morning's rush-hour traffic.

<http://www.palmbeachpost.com/news/crews-fight-gas-station-fire-in-palm-beach-2285978.html>

AFGHANISTAN, KANDAHAR, APRIL 7 2012. AT LEAST SEVEN DEAD IN AFGHANISTAN TANKER BLAZE



Officials say that the tanker was travelling at high speed at the time of the explosion.

At least seven people have been killed in Afghanistan when an oil tanker carrying fuel for Nato exploded and set another vehicle on fire, officials say. The incident took place in the Panjwai district of Kandahar province. It is not clear what caused the explosion - the Taliban said they fired a rocket at it but police said there was no insurgent activity at the time. The incident happened in the same area where a US soldier allegedly killed 17 Afghans in an attack on their homes. Staff Sgt Robert Bales, 38, is accused of killing nine Afghan children and eight adults in Kandahar province on 11 March. Security officials say that the fuel

tanker was travelling from the city of Kandahar to Panjwai district at high speed when it overturned and caught fire, simultaneously setting a nearby civilian minivan ablaze. They say that three injured people have been taken to hospital.

Related Links

- [Seven Reported Killed In Afghan Fuel Tanker Fire](#)
- [Fuel tanker fire kills seven in Afghanistan](#)
- [Fuel Tanker Crashes In Afghanistan](#)

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-asia-17637348>



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FRANCE, PARIS, APRIL 7 2012. 1999 ERIKA DISASTER: FRENCH COURT MAY THROW OUT TOTAL SPILL RULING FRENCH NEWSPAPER LIBERATION SAYS MALTA, UNDER WHOSE FLAG OIL TANKER WAS SAILING, COULD HAVE JURISDICTION ON CRIMINAL CASE.

matthew vella



The oil spill, occurring some 400km off the Brittany coast, affected about 150,000 birds, of which 72,000 were killed.

France's top appeals court will probably rule that Total SA isn't criminally responsible for a 1999 oil spill because the Erika sank in international waters and wasn't a French-flagged tanker, French newspaper Liberation reported, citing legal advice to the court from the advocate general. France's highest court may annul the verdict against oil giant Total, when the public prosecutor will recommend the annulment to the Cour de Cassation on the grounds that the tanker at the origin of the spill did not sink in French waters, Total was condemned to pay clean-up costs, civil damages, and criminal fines in a 2008 judgment, a decision upheld by a lower appeals court in 2010. But if the court follows the advocate general's advice, only Malta, under whose flag the Erika

was sailing, would have jurisdiction in the case, Liberation said. The ruling by the Cour de Cassation is due May 24. A Parisian court found French Oil Company Total and Italian shipping classification society RINA guilty of the 20,000-tonne oil spill that resulted from the wreck of Malta-registered tanker Erika in 1999. In 2008, Total SA, ship-owner Giuseppe Savarese, handler Antonio Pollara and Rina were sentenced to pay €375,000 for maritime pollution and a compensation of almost €200 million, paid to the various parties affected by the oil disaster. The judgement, while recognising the risks inherent to oceangoing vessels, reckons Total SA was "guilty of imprudence" from the fact that Total SA did not take into account "the age of the ship", nearly 25 years, and "the discontinuity of its technical handling and maintenance". On March 30, 2010, Total SA lost their appeal to overturn the court's decision. The incident, occurring some 400km off the Brittany coast, affected about 150,000 birds, of which 72,000 were killed. In fact LPO, the French partner of BirdLife Malta, received the largest share of the compensation. A group of experts who looked into the affair reported in 2005 that Erika had areas of corrosion at the base of its tanks, which should have prevented the ship from being certified seaworthy. They also said that certain repairs to the ship had not been carried out, although its papers claimed that they had been. The experts called the storm a contributing factor to the ship sinking, but not the only cause.

<http://www.maltatoday.com.mt/en/newsdetails/news/world/1999-Erika-disaster-French-court-may-throw-out-Total-spill-ruling-20120406>

USA, WA, BELLINGHAM, MARCH 7 2012. DIVERS RECOVER TWO BODIES, TANK, IN WRECKAGE OF SQUALICUM HARBOR FIRE

[Watch the Video](#) [Watch YouTube tribute to Squalicum Harbor fire victims](#)



Investigators examine a tank recovered from the water Thursday, April 5, 2012, at the site of the March 30 Squalicum Harbor boathouse fire that killed two people in Bellingham, Wa. Divers recovered two bodies Thursday morning, April 5.

Divers pulled two bodies from the water at Squalicum Harbor Thursday morning, April 5, as part of the recovery and salvage process following a massive marina fire last week, according to Bellingham police. The identity of the bodies could not be confirmed Thursday, and both have been turned over to Whatcom County Medical Examiner Gary Goldfogel, who will try to establish the cause of death as well as their identities. Husband and wife Jim Langei, 43, and Sterling Taylor, 33, have been missing since a fire tore through the boathouse where they lived aboard their boat Friday, March 30. Their families have been notified of the discovery of the bodies. It took nearly a week to recover the bodies because the roof of the boathouse had collapsed on the boats. High



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winds early in the week also delayed a barge with a crane needed to remove debris. The salvage crew also recovered what appeared to be a ruptured fuel tank from the site Thursday afternoon. When the boathouse fire was fully involved last Friday, witnesses reported hearing fuel tank explosions as a black cloud drifted over downtown Bellingham. Goldfogel expected both autopsies to be done by midday Friday. The autopsies should provide information on smoke inhalation, pre-death burns, possible drowning or other contributing elements to the deaths, Goldfogel said in an email. Though the bodies match the physical description of Langei and Taylor, a dental match will be required to confirm their identities. Divers found the first body about 8 a.m. and discovered the second body about 10:45 a.m., authorities said. There was no information about exactly where in the water the bodies were found. Recovery of the bodies had been the first priority of the salvage mission that began Wednesday, and Goldfogel said the recovery took place with great care and cooperation among agencies involved. To reach the bodies, crews with Global Diving and Salvage Inc. cut away and removed the collapsed metal roof and other material from the boathouse on Wednesday, a project manager said. The sunken boats contained an unknown amount of gasoline, diesel fuel, engine oil and other contaminants. Containment booms have been in place since March 30, and work continues to clean up the oil from the surface. Contractors plan to pump fuel out of the tanks as the boats are brought to the surface. Access to dock D off gate 5 and dock E off gate 3 will be temporarily limited to boat owners during the recovery operation, due to concerns about increased foot traffic, officials said. The recovery and investigation is a unified effort of the police, Bellingham Fire Department, Coast Guard, Port of Bellingham, the state Department of Ecology and Global Diving. Items taken out of the fire zone will be taken to a secure location where police and fire workers can study them. Police spokesman Mark Young described the recovery process as a meticulous one, with police evidence and identification specialists on hand to look at what's coming out of the water. He described the scene as an onion, with layers of material to be peeled away and carefully inspected. "Each of these layers is actually an opportunity for information," he said. "The goal of the recovering all that information is to piece together the chain of events that lead to this fire."

Related Links

- [2 bodies recovered at marina in Washington state](#)
- [Crane in place to begin Squalicum Harbor recovery](#)
- [2 bodies recovered at Washington marina](#)
- [2 bodies recovered at Bellingham marina](#)

<http://www.thenewstribune.com/2012/04/05/2096500/salvage-crews-hope-to-recover.html>

GHANA, ACCRA, APRIL 7 2012. GHANA MOVES TO BECOME HUB FOR RAPID OIL SPILL RESPONSE

ato kobbie

Even as Ghanaians wonder about the level of the country's preparedness in responding to oil and oil-related spillage, environmental experts are already looking at Ghana becoming the hub for rapidly responding to such incidents in the West African sub-region. Disclosing this to participants on the second day of the three-day Ghana Summit on oil and gas held at the Accra International Conference Centre (AICC) last week, Mr. Kojo Agbenor-Efunam, Principal Programme Officer (Oil and Gas) of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), said recent industry activities and discoveries in other West African countries such as Liberia and Sierra Leone, have increased risk levels and therefore stakeholders have been discussing the need to pool resources together to effectively respond to any spillages. In a presentation that focused on Ghana's capacity building and preparedness to dealing with oil spillage, Mr. Agbenor-Efunam said following initial studies undertaken as far back as 1986, with the assistance of the International Maritime Organization (IMO), to assess the country's risk level, the country started building capacity for dealing with any eventual oil spillage. According to him, the study, which covered the country's 550 kilometres of coastline, helped in determining the ecological diversity, the brisk economic activities along the coast, which is densely populated with important cities, revealed the country was at risk and risk zones were determined. He said these findings led to national contingency plans being mapped out among stakeholder institutions, such as the Ghana Maritime Authority (GMA), Ghana Ports and Harbours Authority (GPHA), Ghana National Petroleum Corporation (GNPC) and the EPA among others. He said it was recognized that in times of a spill, it was not the magnitude of the spill that was problematic but the management aspect of it. "For example if you did not know the resources that are much vulnerable to the oil spill, and then you go in to respond, you may end up damaging the environment, more than leaving the crude, which by nature could evaporate by itself over time," he revealed. He said Ghana's identification of its resource risk areas, is crucial for determining how spillage at any particular point would impact on the environment and therefore how it ought to be contained or dealt with.



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Responding to suggestions that since there had not been any practical experience in dealing with oil spillage, Mr. Agbenor-Efunam said response comes when there is a disaster and as no one wished for a disaster, it was important to engage in exercises or learn from occurrences elsewhere. Stressing on the importance of regular exercises, he said knowing what to do and who to call in the event of a disaster are very critical. "It does not matter what kind of experience you have had in oil spill; every single spill is quite different; even if you had a spill in the past and you managed it the next one could be different and would require different responses," he asserted. The private sector is also involved in the combat readiness, possibility of two private companies with logistics ready for deployment are being looked at, while a bill currently before Parliament would also strengthen the country's readiness. He said local capacity building was ongoing, currently focusing on Western, Central, Greater Accra and Volta regions, especially under a five-year assistance from the Norwegians, which has emergency preparedness as a key component, together with support from the World Bank, under its Oil and Gas Capacity Building Project. It was revealed also that there are complexities as far as the determination of maritime boundaries in the Gulf of Guinea are concerned and ECOWAS states have made representation to the United Nations to work together in overcoming them in a harmonious manner. On his part, Phil Wahwerit, EHS Manager of Tullow Ghana Limited said the company has an elaborate oil spill solutions, with onshore and offshore components. He highlighted oil spill response capabilities that included 100% onshore redundancy of offshore equipment and continuous offshore deployment exercises as well as both onshore and near-shore exercises. He indicated that even though it is an offence to enter the exclusion zone around rigs, which is 500 metres from FPSO Kwame Nkrumah, some fishermen still flouted the law, cautioning that it exposed themselves and the rig to danger. He said the Jubilee Operators have equipment and trained staff with the capacity to deploy them in the event of an oil spillage and that 76 sensitivity areas have been identified. The session on environment, which was chaired by Jonathan Allotey, Director of the Centre for Sustainability, Environment and Planning, focused on areas such as positioning Ghana as an oil spill response hub for the sub region, the importance of establishing local partnerships between oil industries and national authorities in charge of oil spill preparedness. Other areas covered were, regional agreements, promoting exchange and mutual assistance for oil spill response; the protection, management and development of marine and coastal environment of Ghana. Other speakers were Lawrence Apaalse, lead Petroleum Geologist at GNPC and also Co-ordinator, Ghana National Continental Shelf Delineation Project, and Capt. Inusah, who represented the Director-General of the GMA, Issaka Peter Azuma.

<http://business.myjoyonline.com/pages/news/201204/84480.php>

UK, WALES, LLANDDULAS, APRIL 7 2012. FUEL TO BE REMOVED FROM CARGO SHIP

▶ **Watch the Video** [MV Carrier: Salvage operation begins at Llanddulas](#)

▶ **Watch the Video** [Llanddulas ship aground: Tributes to helicopter rescue crews](#)

▶ **Watch the Video** [MV Carrier: Firms bid to remove stricken ship's fuel](#)



Environmental officers are working to safely remove 40,000 litres of fuel from a stricken cargo ship which ran aground in rough seas, sparking the rescue of seven crew members.

The ship has leaked a "small quantity" of oil into surrounding waters, the Environment Agency said. But the main fuel supply for the boat, which hit rocks near Colwyn Bay in North Wales on Tuesday night, is still thought to be intact, the Marine and Coastguard Agency (MCA) said. Oil which was in use at the time has seeped out of the 82-metre long vessel but the impact of the oil leak is expected to be "minimal", Environment Agency Wales said. A spokeswoman said: "A small quantity of gas oil has already leaked from the vessel, and officers are advising the MCA on how best to remove the remainder of the fuel without damaging the environment. "If more fuel were to leak from the vessel, current predictions are that it would be confined to a small area between Colwyn Bay and Rhyl. As much of the escaping gas oil is likely to evaporate and be dispersed by the sea, its environmental impact is expected to be minimal at this stage. "Officers have also been patrolling the beaches on either side of the incident checking for signs of pollution. So far, no traces of pollution on the



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beaches have been found." An MCA spokeswoman added that the ship sustained damage to its starboard side. She said: "The 'Carrier' has been holed in three places on the starboard side. It's reported that the port side, where the fuel tank is located, is intact." On Tuesday two lifeboats and Royal Navy and RAF helicopters were involved in the dramatic rescue of the seven Polish crew members after the vessel got into difficulties as the Welsh coast was battered by Gale Force Nine winds and five metre swells. Five of the seamen were rescued by a Royal Navy Sea King rescue helicopter scrambled from RNAS Prestwick. But the aircraft developed a problem with its winch wire, forcing rescue co-ordinators to send out a second helicopter from RAF Leconfield in Yorkshire to collect the remaining two crew members.

<http://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/local-national/uk/fuel-to-be-removed-from-cargo-ship-16140619.html>

TANZANIA, MOSHI, APRIL 7 2012. ELECTRIC EXPLOSION KILLS ONE, SIX INJURED AS FEAR SPREADS

daniel mjema

A huge explosion caused by a faulty electric bulb at a fuel station in Same yesterday killed an employee of the outlet and injured six others. The explosion that occurred at 9am yesterday hurled the deceased some 20 metres away where he died on the spot. The six injured persons were rushed to Same District Hospital for treatment. The injured have been named as Paschal Thomas, Fikeni Justine, Ramadhani Mbagi, Dyness Alias and Kitilya Shogholo. The name of the sixth person could not be obtained immediately. Eyewitnesses said the deceased with his six colleagues were cleaning a fuel tank using a loose electricity bulb when it exploded. Eyewitnesses said while cleaning the fuel tank, the bulb heated up before it exploded, producing a powerful blast that was heard across Same town. Many mistook the blast for a bomb, saying the explosion wreaked havoc to residents in the area, including travellers along the Dar es Salaam-Moshi highway. Reports said following the incident the fuel station was closed temporarily pending investigations by relevant organs. The Kilimanjaro regional police commander, Mr Absalom Mwakyoma, was not readily available for comment on the incident because he was attending a regional defence and security committee meeting. The Same District commissioner, Mr Ibrahim Marwa, confirmed the incident and said police officers have already launched investigations. He added that he had contacted officials from the Energy and Water Utilities Regulatory Authority (Ewura) to carry out an inspection on the fuel station.

<http://thecitizen.co.tz/news/4-national-news/21256-electric-explosion-kills-one-six-injured-as-fear-spreads.html>

USA, UT, WOODS CROSS, APRIL 7 2012. WOODS CROSS FAMILY AWARDED \$325,000 AFTER REFINERY BLAST >> LAWSUIT » JURY FINDS SILVER EAGLE REFINERY AT FAULT IN 2009 BLAST.

janelle stecklein



The 2009 explosion at the refinery caused damage to many homes and the shock wave was felt as far away as Farmington.

A jury has awarded a Woods Cross family \$325,000 after finding the Silver Eagle Refinery at fault after a 2009 explosion that damaged their home. Davis County jurors on Wednesday ruled in favor of Brian and Kristi Horne, determining a Nov. 4, 2009, explosion at the refinery caused the value of the couple's home to drop \$25,000, court records show. The jury also awarded the couple \$300,000 in damages for noneconomic claims. Attorney Roger Bullock, who represented Silver Eagle Refining, said Thursday the company was deciding if it would appeal. "Starting the day of the accident, Silver Eagle tried to help the homeowners whose houses were damaged," he said in a statement.

No one was injured in the explosion at 2355 S. 1100 West when a hydrogen and diesel fuel line leaked and the pool ignited at the refinery, but the shockwave was felt as far away as Farmington. The explosion knocked some nearby homes off their foundations, and many homes sustained broken windows and light structural damage. Bullock said there were 300 claims as a result of the explosion, and of those 299 were settled in full. He said Silver Eagle made some payments to the Hornes, and the lawsuit involved their claims that were unable to be settled. "The evidence showed that this accident happened despite Silver Eagle's safety inspections," he said. "Now Silver Eagle has put in place even stricter safety inspections and procedures." In their lawsuit against Silver Eagle Refining, the Hornes claimed the explosion caused substantial damage to their home. According to the complaint, their home had been customized for Brian Horne, a quadriplegic who needs to use a wheelchair and special accommodations so he can successfully function in his daily life. The lawsuit claimed the Hornes were forced to relocate to a rental property, which was not constructed to meet Brian Horne's needs, as a result of the explosion. The couple



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sought damages including compensation for ongoing emotional distress. The attorney who represented the Hornes was unavailable for comment Thursday.

<http://www.sltrib.com/sltrib/news/53861924-78/eagle-silver-explosion-refinery.html.csp>

CANADA, B.C, FERNIE, APRIL 7 2012. DIESEL SPILL IN FERNIE'S ANNEX POND

angela trehame

A truck delivering diesel in Fernie has leaked at least 100 litres of diesel into the Annex pond in Fernie. Shawn Ivany, Fernie Fire Chief, said the Ministry of Environment and Environment Canada are currently at the scene attempting to clean up the spill, and prevent it from reaching the river. He said the spill happened at around 2 p.m. yesterday, and it is thought a tanker was delivering diesel to the Fernie Cardlock when the leak happened. A woman walking her dog in the area noticed the diesel on the pond and called Fernie Fire Rescue. "There was a diesel spill that got into the storm drains and rain flushed it into the Annex pond," said Ivany. "We believe it came from a tanker making a delivery to the Cardlock. "We put down booms on the water to prevent it spreading into the water, and we put down sand to try to stop it getting into the river but we don't know if any would have got in. "We contacted the Ministry of Environment in Cranbrook and Environment Canada and they determined that a clean up was necessary so a clean up contractor is on site right now." The contractor is attempting to flush the storm drains and skim the diesel off the surface of the water. Ivany said they do not know how much diesel was spilt but they know it was at least 110 litres. "The Ministry of Environment will be handling an investigation into what happened," he said. "The company delivering the diesel did not report any spill."

<http://www.thefreepress.ca/news/146347025.html>

USA, KY. MCCracken COUNTY, APRIL 7 2012. TROUBLED WATERS: DOE TO CLEAN UP CONTAMINATED GROUNDWATER

mason watkins

 **Watch the Video** [DOE To Clean Up Contaminated Groundwater](#)



People can't see it, taste it or even smell it but they know it's underground, and it can be deadly. That's why neighbors of the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant are relieved to hear the Department of Energy, the Environmental Protection Agency and the Kentucky Department of Environmental protection are set to start a major decontamination project to remove that contamination from the soil. It's a cancer-causing chemical known as trichloroethene. It's used in products like automotive brake cleaner, printer toner enhancer and film cleaner. But from 1950 to 1993, TCE was used as a degreaser at the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant. Now the hazardous substance is in the aquifer. It will take 18 million dollars to start cleaning it up. "My family's owned the property since something like 1950 and just had a well," Fay Buckingham said. Fay and Ray Buckingham drank the well water until someone from the DOE told them to stop. The

government installed city water and has paid the Buckinghams water bill ever since, but the two doubt the DOE even cares. "They got more dad-gumb degrees than a thermometer but that don't make them good people," Fay said. But Ralph Young, a retired environmental engineer and now chair of the Citizens Advisory Board to the DOE, said the \$18 million cleanup project is a responsible move, not just environmentally but economically, because someday, the plant will close. "For future re-industrialization of site and future use of the land, it's really important to clean it up," Young said. Right now, just beneath the plant, sits a highly-concentrated area of TCE and downstream in the aquifer are less concentrated amounts of the same substance in what the Energy Department calls plumes. Young said the department started clean up at the northwest and northeast plumes because they didn't want the T.C.E. to spread out here, even toward the Ohio River. Now that cleanup here is under way, they'll go to the source, with the highest concentration of T.C.E. below the plant. The decontamination process at the northwest plume started in the early 90s and since then, according to the environmental company in charge of the cleanup, more than three billion gallons of contaminated water have been filtered. "It was high concentrations back then but we're gradually working it down and getting it out of the groundwater and disposing of it safely," Young said. Young believes the underground cleanup will be a success. Sitting just above ground, the Buckinghams tell me they hope he's right. To be



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specific, a spokesperson with LATA, the company in charge of the decontamination, said there are actually seven sources of T.C.E. all within the same area. This \$18 million project pays for the decontamination of the three most significant sources, so that still leaves four remaining sources that need to be decontaminated. The project is set to start no later than June 2013. LATA said this project will probably require anywhere from 25 to 50 people. The cleanup is set to be complete by summer 2016. The Department of Energy is funding the decontamination project. The department said areas of contamination do not extend beyond the plant boundaries and pose no threat to residents in the area.

<http://www.wpsdlocal6.com/home/ticker/146381865.html>

USA, LA, JEFFERSON PARISH, APRIL 7 2012. 'SMALL SHEEN' REPORTED NEAR SUNKEN VESSEL IN MISSISSIPPI RIVER

 **Watch the Video** [Tow vessel sinks in Mississippi River, no reports of oil spilled](#)

 **Watch the Video** [Vessel carrying 12,000 gallons of oil sinks, leaks fuel into Miss. River](#)



Coast Guard officials report a small oil of fuel sheen near a sunken vessel that has been submerged in the Mississippi River since midnight. The [Coast Guard](#) said that an oil spill response team has arrived at the vessel near mile marker 100 in the river and noticed small pockets of oil or fuel near the vessel. However, that fluid may be a result of materials that were already present on the deck of the vessel when it sank, and not a result of a leakage from the roughly 11,500 gallons of diesel fuel the Atro Donna was carrying, said Petty Officer Steve Lehmann. Atro Donna, a towing vessel, became submerged after colliding with a piling in the river. No injuries were reported in the incident and all crew members on the vessel were able to escape safely. An atlas of the river put out by the Army [Corps of Engineers](#) shows [mile marker 100](#) about between Jefferson and Napoleon avenues [Uptown](#). Lehmann said that the vessel is

about 98 percent submerged at this time. The vessel was pushing eight barges that have all been accounted for at the time of the crash. The Coast Guard is managing maritime traffic near the vessel, and the area will be cordoned off if a cleanup is necessary. No information was immediately available on how the vessel collided with the piling.

http://www.nola.com/military/index.ssf/2012/04/sunken_vessel_in_mississippi_r.html

USA, LA, BULL BAY, APRIL 7 2012. CREWS CLEAN UP SPILL NEAR HEAD OF PASSES

The Coast Guard says crews are cleaning up a spill of about 630 gallons of oil that came from a production facility in Bull Bay near the Head of Passes of the Mississippi River. The Coast Guard says the spill was from a Gulf Production Co. facility on Monday. The agency says the discharge reportedly was due to the failure of a high-pressure separator from an Exxon well to the facility. The agency says crews are working to contain the spill with 3,000 feet of hard boom and 9,000 feet of absorbent boom. The Coast Guard reports that the well has been shut in. Several response boats and two drum skimmers were on the scene.

<http://www2.wjtv.com/news/2012/apr/04/crews-clean-up-spill-near-head-of-passes-ar-3540523/>

AUSTRALIA, VICTORIA, GEELONG, APRIL 8 2012. REFINERY CHEMICAL LEAK: SUBURBS WARNED OF EXPOSURE

michael lallo

Residents of three Geelong suburbs were last night warned of possible health risks following a chemical leak at the Shell refinery. The warning, issued at 10pm, applied to the suburbs of Corio, Norlane and North Shore. A Shell spokesman this morning said the all-clear was sounded at 2am today, with praise given the Country Fire Authority and Shell employees who reacted quickly to the warning. Shell is now preparing equipment for maintenance. Neither the CFA nor Shell specified what chemicals leaked but the spokesman confirmed the material was flammable. The Department of Health has advised anyone experiencing possible chemical exposure symptoms to phone the 'Nurse on Call' service on 1300 606 024. Authorities have also advised residents to listen ABC Local Radio and commercial and designated community radio stations for updates, or to visit www.cfa.vic.gov.au. For information on road closures, check www.vicroads.vic.gov.au.

<http://www.theage.com.au/victoria/refinery-chemical-leak-suburbs-warned-of-exposure-20120407-1wirn.html>



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TAIWAN, TAIPEI, APRIL 8 2012. TAIWAN'S CPC SHUTS KAOHSIUNG CRACKER AFTER EXPLOSION, FIRE

helen lee, helen yan, mahua chakravarty, bohan loh & quintella koh



A firefighter extinguishes the remnants of a fire that broke out at a petrochemical factory operated by state-run oil refiner CPC Corp in Greater Kaohsiung yesterday.

Taiwan's state-owned refining firm CPC was forced to shut its 500,000 tonne/year No 5 cracker at its Kaohsiung complex on Friday morning following a pipeline leak that led to an explosion at the site, a company official said. "We are still attending to the accident site and we have no other details," the official said. The explosion, believed to be at a crude butadiene tank at the site, occurred at about 03.00 hours Taiwan time (19:00 GMT), according to sources. The subsequent fire was extinguished in about two hours and there were no casualties, they said. An aromatics facility at the site which has a 140,000 tonnes/year benzene unit may have been shut following the outage at the cracker, said a source close to the company. However, the likely impact of a shutdown at the No 5 aromatics unit would be limited, the source said, adding that the operating situation at the facility is still uncertain. CPC's No 3, No 4 and No 6 aromatics units were not directly affected as they are located away from the Kaohsiung complex, the source added. The CPC official said the No 5 cracker was operating at 90% capacity prior to the outage. CPC facilities include a 230,000 tonne/year No 3 cracker and a 385,000 tonne/year No 4 cracker in Linyuan in southern Taiwan. The company runs three paraxylene (PX) units at the site with a total production capacity of 660,000 tonnes/year. CPC also produces 170,000 tonnes/year of OX at the site. A CPC customer based in

Kaohsiung said that it was unclear as to when the company will be able to restart the cracker and the immediate impact to the company's aromatics production. "There is a gathering at the Kaohsiung [site] protesting," the source added, referring to [environmental concerns](#) of local residents. The incident at the Kaohsiung complex is unlikely to have a big impact on the regional butadiene (BD) market as the firm's business is largely confined domestically, industry sources said. [The BD extraction unit at the No 5 cracker – capacity is 95,000 tonnes/year. "And with most of the synthetic rubber plants now either shut or operating at reduced rates, the impact on BD pricing will be limited," they said. Major Taiwanese synthetic rubber producer TSRC Corp's 100,00 tonne/year [styrene](#) butadiene rubber (SBR) plant at Kaohsiung, Taiwan, is currently shut for maintenance for 20 days until 23 April. Its other 60,000 tonne/year butadiene rubber (BR) plant is operating at a reduced rate of 70-80% because of poor margins. "Even if the BD price was to go up, we will not accept the higher BD price increase, as the demand for synthetic rubber is very weak and we cannot pass on the costs to our customers," a company source at TSRC said. BD is the feedstock for synthetic rubber.

<http://www.icis.com/Articles/2012/04/06/9548361/taiwans-cpc-shuts-kaohsiung-cracker-after-explosion.html>

USA, IA, MASON CITY, APRIL 8 2012. CLEAR LAKE GAS STATION LAWSUIT CLAIMS BAD FUEL DELIVERED

The owner of a Clear Lake gas station has filed a lawsuit against a fuel broker and a transportation company over fuel that allegedly caused problems in customers' motor vehicles. Duale Star Inc., which owns and operates the Clear Lake Shell Store gas station, filed the lawsuit in Cerro Gordo County District Court, naming Consolidated Energy Company, Hartland Fuel Products and Solar Transport as defendants. The lawsuit states Duale Star contacted Consolidated Energy and purchased fuel for the gas station in November 2010, and Solar delivered the fuel. Shortly after Solar deposited the fuel into the underground storage tank, Duale Star discovered the fuel contained unacceptable amounts of water, according to the lawsuit. It was also discovered that customers who purchased fuel from the pump associated with the recently-filled underground storage tank were experiencing motor vehicle problems, the lawsuit stated. Hartland is named as a defendant because Consolidated sold the majority of its assets to Hartland in September 2011 and Hartland assumed Consolidated's assets and liabilities. Duale Star is seeking an unspecified amount in damages from the defendants. A spokesman for Hartland told the Globe Gazette he had no comment on the lawsuit. A spokesman for Solar Transport said he was not familiar with the lawsuit.



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http://globegazette.com/news/local/clear-lake-gas-station-lawsuit-claims-bad-fuel-delivered/article_cb1fb56c-800d-11e1-90f9-001a4bcf887a.html

USA, MT, GREAT FALLS, APRIL 8 2012. TANKER TRUCK ACCIDENT NEAR GREAT FALLS



The Montana Department of Transportation has released the following information; we have a reporter on the scene and will update you as we learn more. The Vaughn Frontage Road will be closed from the Manchester Exit Northbound to Sun Prairie Exit. There will also be a closure at Cleveland Road. A tanker hauling 12,000 gallons of fuel has rolled. It is hauling diesel fuel, and has not dumped all of its content completely. It is leaking though, and emergency crews will be pumping the fuel out of it. The DOT is in the process of getting barricades and signs to implement this closure.

<http://www.krtv.com/full-coverage/tanker-truck-accident-near-great-falls/#fcanchor>

USA, N.Y, NEW YORK, APRIL 8 2012. 12,000-GALLON GASOLINE TANKER OVERTURNS IN THE BRONX

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[Watch the Video Overturned Tanker in the Bronx Causes Gridlock](#)

[Watch the Video Fuel Truck OvertURNS in the Bronx](#)



A gasoline tanker overturned in the Bronx Saturday morning, leaking fuel and snarling traffic, authorities said. The 12,000-gallon tanker toppled on the west-bound Bruckner Expressway near the Cross Bronx Expressway around 11:30 a.m. There was no fire, but FDNY pumped foam on the truck and spillage to prevent explosion a spokesman said. The company that owns the tanker was sending a second tanker to the scene Saturday afternoon to offload the gasoline.

<http://www.dnainfo.com/20120407/throgs-neck-country-club/12000-gallon-gas-tanker-overtURNS-bronx>

INDIA, ASSAM, GOLAGHAT, APRIL 8 2012. MAJOR FIRE AT OIL REFINERY IN ASSAM



A major fire broke out at Numaligarh Refinery Limited (NRL) in Assam's Golaghat district on Saturday, but it was controlled within two and a half hours, official sources said. There was a loud explosion in the hydrogen cracker plant of the refinery at 6:35 pm and a fire broke out which could be seen from a distance of 15 to 20 km. Company fire tenders brought the blaze under control around 9 pm, sources said but could not give the number.

The plant was shut down immediately as part of the disaster management drill of the company. A senior NRL official told PTI that there was no casualty or injury as the plant was automated and there was minimum deployment of human resources in the area. ULFA's anti-talk faction claimed responsibility for the fire which was dismissed as 'unlikely' by senior police officials. In an email to PTI, ULFA's central publicity committee member Joy Asom claimed that the outfit had carried out the blast with a 'Magnetic Time Device' on the occasion of its Raising Day. Senior police officials, however, said "it is highly unlikely that it is



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an act of sabotage as the fire broke out in the middle of the plant area probably due to a technical fault. The ULFA claimed that it had used the same device earlier in the Duliajan and Guwahati refineries last year but these too had been debunked by both police and refinery authorities since both were caused by technical problems. The cause of the fire and the extent of the damage is yet to be ascertained. Senior police and civil officials were at the scene.

<http://www.ndtv.com/article/india/major-fire-at-oil-refinery-in-assam-195025>

USA, TX, BASTROP CO, APRIL 8 2012. TANKER ACCIDENT LEAKS 8000 GALLONS OF JET FUEL IN BASTROP COUNTY

 **Watch the Video** [8000 Gallon Fuel Spill Shut Down Westbound Highway 71](#)

A jet fuel spill shut down westbound Highway 71 in Bastrop County Saturday morning. The Texas Department of Public Safety is calling it a hazardous material spill. More than 8,000 gallons of jet fuel spilled after a tanker truck was involved in an accident on Highway 71 around 3:30 a.m. Saturday. The truck was carrying jet fuel to Austin-Bergstrom International Airport. There are no reported injuries, and the cause of the accident is still under investigation. Crews are on scene working to clean up the fuel. Westbound Highway 71 was shut down to all traffic. It remained that way for several hours. The eastbound lanes are still open.

<http://www.kvue.com/news/Tanker-accident-leaks-8000-gallons-of-jet-fuel-in-Bastrop-County-146523165.html>

AUSTRALIA, VICTORIA, GEELONG, APRIL 8 2012. SHELL REFINERY CHEMICAL SCARE



A section of Shell's southern Victorian oil refinery has been shut down following a chemical leak. About 20 firefighters were called to the plant at Corio, southwest of Melbourne, about 11pm (AEST) on Saturday when super-heated flammable sand, used in fuel production, began leaking from a pipe. Part of the plant was shut down and roads in the vicinity closed as a precaution while authorities responded to the leak, Country Fire Authority (CFA) spokesman Ian Beswicke said. The area was declared safe about 2am and air monitoring equipment was used to confirm that no dangerous substances had escaped from the refinery.

<http://www.skynews.com.au/businessnews/article.aspx?id=737507&vld=>

UAE, FUJAIRAH, APRIL 8 2012. FUJAIRAH HIT AGAIN BY OIL POLLUTION >> TAR COVERS SIX KM BEACH STRIP NEAR FUJAIRAH POWER PLANT



Oil tankers and other foreign ships shuttling the Gulf appear to be still violating local laws and dumping sludge into the water as a large beach strip in Fujairah has been hit by pollution for the second time in two weeks. Fishermen going to the sea on Friday were surprised to see the yellow sandy area was blackened by tar balls, just two weeks after it was hit by pollution, the Sharjah-based Arabic language daily Alkhaleej said. The paper quoted officials as saying an oil slick had apparently washed ashore and polluted nearly six km of beach strip between Marbah and Kadfaa in the eastern emirate. The paper said pollution reached an area close to the emirate's electricity and water plant but that its operations were not affected. "We have received a report about the pollution and sent our teams to start a clean up operation...the operation is still under

way and we believe it will take some time," the paper said, quoting Asila Abdullah Al Muallah, director of public services and environment at Fujairah Municipality. She did not mention how the pollution was caused by UAE officials have blamed waste dumping by oil tankers and other vessels for incidents involving pollution at beaches and other areas in the northern emirates. Fujairah is located just outside the strategic Hormuz Strait, the Gulf's only gateway through which more than 20 per cent of the world's oil exports pass. The UAE and other Gulf hydrocarbon producers have enacted laws banning throwing waste and oil sludge into the water by the hundreds of tankers playing the region. But many vessels have been reported to be still violating that ban. Sludge-dumping, oil pipeline and terminal leakages, and tanker accidents have turned the Gulf into the most polluted area in the world.

<http://www.emirates247.com/news/emirates/fujairah-hit-again-by-oil-pollution-2012-04-08-1.452745>



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