



Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network

Release 2012 – 829 Newsy Stuff

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

April 15 2012



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UAE, DUBAI, APRIL 9 2012. SALVAGERS WILL RENEW BID TO RETRIEVE TANKER >>CALMER SEA CONDITIONS WILL HELP OPERATION

derek baldwin

The Ministry of Environment and Water will resume efforts this month to refloat the fuel-oil tanker White Whale which foundered in heavy seas off UAE shores in late October. A ministry spokesman said salvagers will visit the site 35 km off the Sharjah coast in the coming days to begin the operation of raising the ship and its 1,000 tonnes of diesel from the seafloor. The four- or five-day operation could be in full swing by April 16. While the ship's sinking during inclement weather did not result in a major oil spill, there have been reports by anglers of a small amount of rainbow-coloured film on the water. Senior Environment Ministry officials say that the renewed interest in remedying the situation lies in a return to calmer seas in the wake of several months of bad weather. Repeated conditions of up to 66.7 km/h winds and 3.65-metre waves hampered efforts in mid-February to lift White Whale to the surface. Bad weather forced the 400-tonne crane barge Al Emlaq to abandon salvage efforts. Minister of Environment and Water Dr Rashid Ahmad Bin Fahd told Gulf News in a recent interview that an inspection team surveyed the scene and Dubai Ship Building and Engineering was contracted to raise the ship as soon as possible.

<http://gulfnews.com/news/gulf/uae/environment/salvagers-will-renew-bid-to-retrieve-tanker-1.1005984>

USA, CA, GLENDALE, APRIL 9 2012. 134 FREEWAY TANKER CRASH MAY HAVE BEEN TRIGGERED BY DRUNK DRIVER, SAYS CHP

darsha philips

 **Watch the Video** [Tanker Truck Inferno Creates River of Fire on 134 Freeway](#)

 **Watch the Video** [Alleged DUI Driver Believed to Have Caused Fiery Tanker Crash ID'd](#)

 **Watch the Video** [Driver Arrested For DUI Following Collision With Gas Tanker In Glendale](#)

 **Photo's** [Tanker Crash and Explosion Closes 5 and 134 Freeway Interchange](#)

 **Photo's** [86,000 Gallon Oil Tanker Bursts Into Flames](#)

 **Photo Gallery** [Massive Gas-Tanker Fire Closes 134 Freeway, Glendale Man Arrested](#)



Explosion: Firefighters use foam to extinguish a gasoline tanker fire - it took 150 firefighters more than an hour to control the blaze.

The fiery crash on the 134 Freeway that shut down lanes overnight in Glendale may have been caused by a drunken driver, California Highway Patrol officials said. Authorities say the driver of a 2010 Honda Accord was traveling on the westbound 134 Freeway at about 11:00 p.m. Saturday when it collided with the double trailer, which was hauling about 9,000 gallons of gasoline. The Accord then lost control and came to a stop on the right shoulder of the freeway. The Peterbilt truck's trailer crashed into a guardrail, overturned and erupted in flames. The tractor came to a stop on the right shoulder, underneath the westbound 134 Freeway transition onto southbound I-5. It took more than 100 firefighters over an hour to get the massive flames under control. The truck briefly caught fire again as a tow truck tried to move it. Both directions of the 134 Freeway were closed near the I-5 junction, but CHP opened the eastbound lanes shortly before 7 a.m. Sunday. At around 11 a.m., Caltrans reopened one ramp on the westbound 134 Freeway at the L.A. River bridges, but all other westbound 134 traffic was diverted onto northbound I-5. No traffic was allowed to proceed west on the 134 past the I-5 or transition onto southbound I-5. Zoo Drive exits from the I-5 and the 134 also remain closed. Officials say the westbound 134 will remain closed until further notice. Caltrans engineers initially said they were cautiously optimistic about reopening the roads around noon but later pushed it back to at least 6 p.m. because the guardrail near the crash site needs to be replaced. Drivers heading from the Pasadena area west on the 134 through Burbank were advised to detour via the Glendale (2) Freeway south to the northbound I-5 to rejoin the westbound 134 Freeway. About 6,000 gallons of fuel burned following the collision, and structural engineers are checking the integrity of the elevated transition road above the site of the crash. Cleanup crews worked to off load the roughly 3,000 gallons of gasoline from the tanker.



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Hazardous materials and marine safety crews were on scene due to concern that the fuel spilled into the drains, possibly reaching the L.A. River. So far, no injuries have been reported. The driver of the Accord, identified by CHP as 25-year-old Hakop Maghakyan of Glendale, was arrested by LAPD, suspected of driving under the influence.

http://abclocal.go.com/kabc/story?section=news/local/los_angeles&id=8612858

INDIA, SHEIKHPURA, APRIL 9 2012. 16.5 TON OF EXPLOSIVE SEIZED

About 16.5 ton of ammonium nitrate was seized by mining department officials from Pachna village in Bihar's Sheikhpura district today. On a tip off, the officials raided a house and seized 330 bags of the material, Deputy development commissioner cum district mining officer G K Paramhans said. It is suspected to have been used for mining purposes, he said, adding that the value of the explosive was estimated to be Rs 11 lakh. The owner of the house is absconding, he said.

<http://ibnlive.in.com/generalnewsfeed/news/165-ton-of-explosive-seized/983744.html>

ZIMBABWE, HARARE, APRIL 9 2012. PETROLEUM COMPANIES DUPING MOTORISTS

patrice makova

Thousands of unsuspecting motorists in the country are coughing up more for a product which costs less on the market as some petroleum companies and service stations in the country are clandestinely importing blended fuel, but selling it as unleaded petrol. Tests done by the University of Zimbabwe's Chemistry department recently show that some of the fuel which has found itself at the country's service stations was already blended, yet motorists are made to believe it is unleaded petrol which costs more. "From the respective peak retention times and chromatographic profiles (laboratory technique to separate mixtures), it was evident that the samples provided were a petrol blend, whose constituents were typical of that material," reads findings of the analysis. The tests show that some of the so-called unleaded petrol carries between 3 to 10% ethanol. Zimbabwe Energy Regulatory Authority (Zera) chief executive officer, Gloria Magombo said if there were companies purporting to be selling unleaded petrol, this would be in contravention of the fuel specifications as stipulated in the Government Gazette, General Notice 430 of 2011 published on October 14 last year. Although oil companies contacted by The Standard were not eager to comment on the issue referring questions to the National Oil Company of Zimbabwe (Noczim), sources in the industry said the trend has been going on for many years. A Noczim official who spoke on condition of anonymity said some of the companies were buying cheap and sometimes poor quality blended fuel from "pirate" ships docked at Beira port in Mozambique and transporting the product by road instead of using the pipeline which is subjected to tests by authorities. He said the country could be losing millions of dollars in customs duty every month as some of the fuel tankers coming into the country were falsely declaring that they were bringing in paraffin or diesel which attracts less duty, yet they would be carrying petrol. "This is why some fuel importers are resisting using the oil pipeline preferring to use the road because they connive with corrupt customs officials in order to beat the system and maximise their profits," said the official. "At the end of the day, it is the country which suffers because millions of dollars in potential revenue which should otherwise be used to buy food or medicine end up being pocketed by a few individuals who are politically-connected." Minister of Energy and Power Development, Elton Mangoma said although he was not yet aware of the tests done by the UZ, Zera was now handling all the issues to do with the quality of fuel coming into the country. He said regular tests were being carried out on fuel coming through the pipeline, but it was difficult to monitor tankers bringing the product by road. "That is why we have put a levy to penalise importers bringing fuel using tankers. It becomes difficult to know what they are up to and determine whether their product is good or sub-standard," said Mangoma. He said it was much cheaper to use the pipeline than tankers which damage the country's roads.

Nothing Wrong With Green Fuel

An industry source said some fuel companies were not eager to promote E10, the locally blended ethanol produced by the US\$600 million Green Fuel's Chisumbanje plant because they knew that their fuel was already blended. E10 currently costs about US\$1.39 while unleaded costs around US\$1.44. An engineer with one oil company said the current resistance to E10 stemmed from lack of knowledge by motorists who believe that the product would damage their vehicles. "In reality the market has been awash with ethanol blended fuel which motorists have been unknowingly using for the past 20 years," he said. "Fuel marketers do not want to tell motorists that E10 is safe and a good alternative because they want people to continue paying more." But the Zera boss said the fuel body was working closely with National Oil Infrastructure Company (Noic), a subsidiary of Noczim, which carries out quality checks on fuel which is largely being imported through the pipeline from Beira. "The fuel is tested before injection into the pipeline and Nioc approves or rejects any fuel that does not meet the minimum



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specifications," Magombo said, adding that random tests were also taken at service stations. She said the proposed mandatory blending of petrol with ethanol was a policy issue which was currently being addressed by the government, with Zera's role being to ensure that all stakeholder interests and concerns are addressed.

<http://www.thestandard.co.zw/local/34613-petroleum-companies-duping-motorists.html>

INDIA, NUMALIGARH, APRIL 9 2012. FIRE DOUSED AT NUMALIGARH REFINERY, INCURS LOSS

A major fire broke out in the hydro-cracker unit of Numaligarh Refinery Ltd (NRL) yesterday evening, with the loss estimated to be in crores. Soon after the fire broke out, NRL declared 'onsite disaster' at around 6:40 pm. However, though United Liberation Front of Asom (Ulfa) had claimed responsibility of having its hand behind yesterday's incident, NRL has ruled out any such involvement. A company representative, posted at the refinery, rubbished Ulfa's claim of using a 'Magnetic Time Device' to trigger the fire. "Had Ulfa used a Magnetic Time Device, the whole refinery would have been engulfed by fire," he added. He said the fire was due to a "technical fault" and more precisely, might have had occurred due to "leakage of hydrogen". He also denied any explosion preceding the fire. "There were sounds of explosion, but those were of fire balls of gas and not of any explosive device," he said. He said prima facie the loss due to the fire appeared to be in crores, though a final assessment would be done shortly. Fire service from NRL immediately rushed to the incident site and started fighting fire with water and foam. Cooling with water was done for the nearby reactors, other equipment and structures. Representatives from district administration too arrived at the site and provided necessary assistance. Though the fire was brought under control by 9 pm, fire fighting continued till early hours of Sunday. Support from other oil industries of the region including Indian Oil Corporation (IOC), Guwahati Refinery, Digboi Refinery, ONGC, Oil India Ltd (OIL) was sought under mutual aid scheme by NRL to fight the fire. The company representative said due to prompt fire fighting there was no spread of fire to the nearby units and fire could be contained within the hydro-cracker unit. There had been no injury to persons engaged in refinery operation during the fire as well as during the fire fighting exercise. A high level committee has been constituted to enquire into the incident, the report of which will be out shortly. NRL, which is located in Golaghat district of Assam, is a subsidiary of Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd (BPCL) and had been an award winning refinery in past for adhering to high safety standards.

<http://www.business-standard.com/india/news/fire-doused-at-numaligarh-refinery-incurs-loss/470559/>

SCOTLAND, GLASGOW, APRIL 9 2012. FIGURES REPORT 69 CHEMICAL SPILLS IN NORTH SEA IN LAST THREE MONTHS



Up to 69 incidents were reported in the North Sea oilfields.

There have been 69 reports of oil and chemical spills in the North Sea over the last three months, figures say. The most recent one reported was the Total gas leak at the Elgin platform on 25 March, with its status described as "under review". The table was published by the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC). Oil & Gas UK, which represents offshore companies, said the leaks were "relatively small" and many of the chemicals "benign". BP and Shell were among the companies listed, with BP reporting the highest number of incidents at 23. Other companies included EnQuest, British Gas and Nexen. The DECC published the details of all oil and chemical releases since January 1 on its website. Around half of the spills were chemicals and the other half were different types of oil, including crude oil and diesel. The source of the spills included equipment failure, defects and leaks. The list shows "leaking hydraulic

fitting", "subsea hose failure" and "drain overflow" as some of the reasons. Dr Richard Dixon, the director of WWF Scotland, said: "People will be shocked to learn that there have been so many spills in such a short time. "Operating in the North Sea is tough but the companies involved should be ashamed of this catalogue of faulty valves, operator mistakes and broken hoses. The industry is always telling us that they are among the most tightly regulated anywhere in the world. You shudder to think what's happening in less regulated places. "Getting oil and gas from the North Sea is a dirty and polluting business that produces fuels which go on to change the climate. We urgently need a plan to move from offshore fossil fuels to offshore renewables, transferring jobs and creating new technologies here in Scotland." Mick Borwell, Oil & Gas UK's environmental issues director, said: "After we recently made hydrocarbon release data more widely available, Oil & Gas UK welcomes the



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publication of this data by DECC. "While the oil and gas industry makes a concerted effort to avoid oil and chemical spills, it should be noted that the quantities in question here are relatively small and unlikely to impact on the marine environment. "It should also be stressed that many of the chemicals accidentally spilled are benign, and not harmful to marine life at the concentrations that would be found in the environment. "Indeed, all chemicals used offshore are rigorously tested before use to ensure that harmful products are not used." He added: "The industry takes its obligations to the environment very seriously and is committed to continuing to work with the Government and environmental agencies to minimise the environmental footprint of operations."

Related Links

- [North Sea spills on the rise](#)
- [69 spills reported in North Sea](#)

<http://www.scotsman.com/the-scotsman/scotland/figures-report-69-chemical-spills-in-north-sea-in-last-three-months-1-2223707>

USA, OH, AKRON, APRIL 9 2012. AIR QUALITY CONCERNS OIL INDUSTRY CRITICS

doug livingston



Renee Bogue holds a stop fracking sign while standing near a portion of The Legends of Massillon housing development and golf course. Bogue is an outspoken opponent of fracking and is concerned about the health and welfare of city residents.

Calvin Tillman plays a message on his cell phone from Stark County resident Renee Bogue. She's concerned about possible drilling for natural gas under the Legends golf course in Massillon, where the mayor and council are proposing legislation to lease city-owned mineral rights. "Who will monitor the air quality?" Bogue asks. After the message stops playing, Tillman answers: "No one. Nobody's just gonna go out there and do it. The industry's certainly not. The city's probably not. And your state's probably not, unless there's a complaint," Tillman drops a stack of collated documents onto his kitchen table and pulls three air-quality tests from the pile. "It's gonna be in Ohio," he cautions. "How much benzene do you want your kids exposed to?"

Tillmann, a former mayor, gets similar phone calls from concerned citizens across the nation. He is not a geologist, a petroleum engineer or an environmentalist. The 39-year-old Tillman, who travels the United States advocating increased oil and gas accountability, tells audiences the story of Dish, a rural town of 200 in Denton County, and its air pollution concerns from drilling. Air quality is an issue that has not gone away in this part of North Texas, where more than 15,000 wells have been drilled into the Barnett shale. State officials say they don't see a problem. Dish is 30 miles north of Fort Worth. It is home to more than 30 gas and oil wells, extensive natural gas pipelines, five natural-gas compressor stations, seven gas and oil operators and the first air-quality study for the Barnett shale drilling region near Dallas-Fort Worth. The test conducted in 2009 indicated high levels of chemicals known as volatile organic compounds (VOCs), including cancer-causing benzene, in the air from leaks and accidental releases from natural gas and oil operations. Other chemicals found included methane, ethylene, propane, chloromethane, dichlorofluoromethane, ethylbenzene, toluene, trimethylbenzenes, xylenes, isobutene, carbon disulfide and numerous other hydrocarbons. Tillman said he commissioned the Dish air test. The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality that permits and oversees drilling did its own tests that showed only low levels of benzene. The conflicting evidence muddled the issue. Emissions from drilling have been a growing concern. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is expected to approve rules cutting toxic and smog-forming emissions from gas wells, compressors, oil storage tanks and other oil-gas equipment. The rules are expected to cut smog-forming VOCs by 25 percent, plus reduce emissions of health-threatening benzene and methane, a potent global warming gas. VOC emissions from hydraulic fractured or fracked wells are expected to be cut 95 percent. Texas environmental commission officials say their tests show low-level benzene readings that are not a major problem or concern to human health. A map of the Barnett shale region from the commission, which regulates the state's air quality, shows little orange dots representing gas wells. The dots around Dish resemble a spilled paint bucket. Residents say they started noticing problems in 2005, the same year the town changed its name from Clark in a publicity stunt, agreeing to be called Dish in exchange for a decade of free satellite television for everyone in town. The compressor stations opened that year, and odor complaints and health problems started. Benzene



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levels became an issue in Texas in 2009, after Dish and commission air testing found high levels at some Denton County well sites.

Benzene's Uses

Benzene is a colorless liquid with a sweet odor that evaporates into the air very quickly. It is widely produced in the United States and used in plastics, resins, nylon and synthetic fibers. It is also used to make rubber, lubricants, dyes, detergents, drugs and pesticides. Naturally, benzene may be found in emissions from fires and volcanoes. It is found in crude oil and gasoline. Exposure can come from vehicle exhaust, cigarette smoke and drilling. Breathing very high levels of benzene can be fatal, says the U.S. Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry, part of the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. High levels can cause drowsiness, dizziness, rapid heart rate, headaches, tremors, confusion and unconsciousness, the agency says. Long-term exposure can cause leukemia, particularly acute myelogenous leukemia or AML. But officials at the environmental commission say benzene is everywhere and will be found in nearly any air test. "We're able to detect that there is a slight level of the chemicals from the oil and gas wells, but they're acceptable levels," said Michael Honey-cutt, director of toxicology for the environmental commission. "They're acceptable to our criteria and to the [federal] EPA's criteria." The commission said increased traffic in Fort Worth-Dallas, the fourth-largest urban area in the nation, produces more benzene and ozone pollution than natural-gas drilling. After the Dish air quality test, a 2010 commission study examined 94 oil and gas sites. The study found that benzene levels at two sites could be hazardous after short-term exposure. Long-term exposure to another 19 sites could also be hazardous. Most sites had undetectable levels of benzene. In the past two years, five automated air monitors have been added to the Barnett shale region with five more expected in the next year to better monitor air quality.

Neighbors Confused

Dish has five compressor sites that push natural gas through pipelines. The row of stations, operated by Crosstex, Chesapeake, Atmos, Energy Transfer and Enbridge, are behind Chisum Road, a dead-end street of two-story homes. The residents on that road are as confounded as the conflicting reports. "You don't know what to believe because you hear both sides," said Kim Harris, whose brick home sits at the end of the street. The compressors sit directly behind Johnny Reames' small horse pasture. He said they're an eyesore, and he worries that the site will affect property values. While he has "never experienced any health problems," Reames said, "there were problems with smells every now and then, but in the last five or six months, they've cleaned it up." Tillman left one year ago, after his two children — ages 7 and 9 — began suffering nosebleeds. He lives in Aubrey now, about 25 miles northwest of Dish, just outside the Barnett shale area. The NewsOutlet is a collaboration of the Youngstown State University journalism program, Kent State University and the University of Akron in conjunction with professional media, including WYSU-FM radio and the Vindicator (Youngstown), the Beacon Journal and Rubber City Radio (Akron)

<http://www.ohio.com/news/local-news/air-quality-concerns-oil-industry-critics-1.292887>

NIGERIA, LAGOS, APRIL 9 2012. OIL SPILL: IMPACTED COMMUNITIES ASSURED OF COMPENSATION

President, Marine Board of Inquiry into J. S. Amazing vessel oil spill, Magistrate Nureni Kuranga, has assured the 248 communities comprising Itsekiri, Ijaw, Urhobo and Ilaje, impacted by oil pollution, that adequate compensation would be paid from International Oil Pollution, IOPC, fund and lasting solutions proffered to forestall a repeat of such pollution in Nigeria's territorial waters. Magistrate Kuranga gave the assurance, weekend, in Warri, Delta State, when members of Marine Board of Inquiry visited the site, where the vessel, J. S. Amazing spilled its content while loading diesel at the PPMC jetty in Ijala, Delta State. He said: "From the facts available before us, it is clear that a spill occurred and indigenes of the affected communities have been adversely affected and due for adequate compensation." It will be recalled that J. S. Amazing, a vessel contracted by Dangote Group to lift diesel from Warri on June 6, 2009, spilled its content into Warri river from Ijala, an Itsekiri community where PPMC loading jetty was located. The spilled oil flowed downstream impacting about 248 communities comprising Itsekiri, Ijaw, Urhobo, and Ilaje before emptying into the Atlantic. There had been controversies over the mode and manner communities impacted were to be compensated and who should bear the cost hence the Marine Board of Inquiry was set up to, amongst others, investigate the circumstances that led to the incident; authenticate the veracity of the incident as reported; ascertain the legal status of the ship, J. S. Amazing, and its tonnage capacity; find out if the ship was covered by relevant insurance policy as provided by IOPC funds convention; find out any action if and when taken by any relevant/appropriate agency in Nigeria and determine the extent of oil spill and cost estimate.

<http://www.vanguardngr.com/2012/04/oil-spill-impacted-communities-assured-of-compensation/>



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AUSTRALIA, NEW SOUTH WALES, NEWCASTLE, APRIL 9 2012. INVESTIGATIONS INTO GRAINCORP CHEMICAL LEAK

[Map: Carrington](#)

NSW Fire and Rescue HAZMAT called to deal with chemical spill at Graincorp Carrington Terminal. Residents at about 30 homes in the Newcastle suburb of Carrington were forced to stay indoors on Saturday night (AEST) after a gas leak at Graincorp. The New South Wales Fire and Rescue Hazardous Materials (HAZMAT) unit was called to the Graincorp Carrington terminal just before 7pm (AEST). About 100 kilograms of the gas methyl bromide leaked from a canister, while staff were fumigating at the site. A Graincorp spokesman says while the gas is commonly used to kill pests and bugs, a leak of this kind is uncommon. A 200 metre exclusion zone was set up and the leak was contained on site. As a precaution police spoke directly to residents at 30 houses and told them to stay indoors and keep windows shut. Part of the site was shutdown for the night with atmospheric testing deeming it unsafe. A HAZMAT crew carried out further test on Sunday morning and it was cleared to reopen. The Environment Protection Authority is investigating the incident. The EPA says the gas leak caused no risk to the environment.

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2012-04-09/carrington-incident/3939690/?site=newcastle>

USA, CA, LOS ANGELES, APRIL 10 2012. DAMAGE FROM S. CALIF. TANKER FIRE PUT AT \$250K



Explosion: Firefighters use foam to extinguish a gasoline tanker fire - it took 150 firefighters more than an hour to control the blaze.

Highway and bridge damage from a fiery gasoline tanker crash over the weekend was estimated at \$250,000, officials said Monday. The crash caused damage to asphalt, guard and bridge rails at the junction of Interstate 5 and State Highway 134 near Griffith Park, said Lauren Wonder, a spokeswoman for the California Department of Transportation. Concrete core samples show no damage to blackened overhead freeway ramps, she said. Investigators said a car driven by Hakop Maghakyan, 25, of Glendale struck the double-tanker rig from behind on Saturday night, splitting open the rear tank containing 6,000 gallons of gas. Flaming rivers of gas flooded freeway gutters. About 150 firefighters aided by two water-dropping helicopters put out the fire. No one was hurt, but portions of the roadway were shut down for nearly 24 hours. Cleanup crews unloaded about 3,000 gallons of gasoline left in the front tank of the big-rig. Maghakyan was arrested and booked for investigation of misdemeanor drunken driving. County jail records show he was released on \$5,000 bail Sunday with a Tuesday court date. A phone listing for Maghakyan wasn't found. Pressure washing and replacement of about 1,000 feet of scorched shoulder asphalt and charred timber and metal guard rail will be done at night, forcing closure of one or two lanes. The repairs were expected to be completed Saturday. A similar tanker crash at the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge interchange in 2007 forced closure of several transition road bridges for 10 days because of structural damage. In December, a tanker truck fire severely

damaged an overpass along State Route 60 in Montebello, east of Los Angeles. . Most of that overpass had to be demolished.

http://www.mercurynews.com/breaking-news/ci_20354818/tanker-fire-shuts-down-parts-la-freeways

USA, MA, BOSTON, APRIL 10 2012. SUNOCO TO PAY \$2.2M IN HAZ WASTE DISPUTE

ira kantor



Sunoco, Inc. will pay \$2.2 million to resolve allegations it sought payment from a state fund for hazardous waste cleanup at the same time it sought reimbursement from its insurers, the state attorney general's office said today. The Massachusetts Underground Storage Tank Petroleum Product Cleanup Fund was established to speed up the cleanup of environmentally dangerous leaks from underground storage tanks, such as those commonly found at gas stations, by reimbursing owners and operators for eligible expenses incurred in their response. To fund the program, the Commonwealth charges tank registration and delivery fees. According to the UST Fund's regulations, claimants must disclose if



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they sought reimbursement from another source including insurance for expenses they submit to the fund. If claimants do recover money from both insurance and the fund for the same expenses, they must pay back the fund. "This program continues to be a resource to help keep our environment clean but its effectiveness and integrity depends on the honesty of those making the claims," Attorney General Martha Coakley said. "We will continue our efforts to determine whether some oil companies may have sought or recovered money from their insurers without proper disclosure and in violation of the law." Sunoco allegedly failed to disclose its insurance coverage litigation and settlements reached between 1997 and 2001 as it sought and obtained reimbursements from the UST Fund program, the attorney general's office said. Under the settlement agreement, Sunoco will pay \$970,000 to the fund and \$1.23 million to the Commonwealth's General Fund. Sunoco cooperated fully with the Attorney General's investigation, Coakley said, adding the false claims allegedly involved service stations across the Commonwealth. Spokesmen for Sunoco could not be immediately reached for comment.

<http://www.bostonherald.com/business/general/view.bg?articleid=1061123359&srvc=rss>

USA, WI, LA CROSSE, APRIL 10 2012. VAN EXPLODES AT FRENCH ISLAND GAS STATION >> 2 men injured

 **Watch the Video**

- [2 Men Injured as Van Explodes at French Island Gas Station](#)
- [Vehicle Explodes in Town of Campbell](#)

 **Photo Gallery** [2 Men Injured as Van Explodes at French Island Gas Station](#)



A man was seriously burned after an explosion and fire in a gas station parking lot Sunday night. It happened shortly after 10 p.m. at the Kwik Trip on Clinton Street, in the Town of Campbell. Campbell Fire Chief Nate Melby says John Bubbers and Edward Lord were returning an empty propane gas tank to the store. Lord had exited the vehicle with the LP tank when Bubbers lit a cigarette. Authorities believe that ignited gas fumes that had accumulated inside the van. In dashboard cam video released Monday, a witness tells police she heard a loud boom and then saw one of the men running from the vehicle. Bubbers was taken to Gundersen Lutheran Medical Center and later taken to the UW Health System's burn center in Madison for third degree burns. He was listed in serious condition Monday. Lord was treated for non-life threatening injuries.

The van was a total loss, while the building had minor structural damage to the siding after the fire spread to the building's west wall. It was a sticky situation for the firefighters because of the nature of a car fire and all of the gasoline in the area. "A gas station fire or any vehicle fire is a hazardous material situation. It's a combustible liquid situation. Firefighters are trained to handle that situation as safely as possible, but they certainly take on risks when they are in those circumstances," said Chief Nate Melby, with the Town of Campbell Fire Department. Melby says the incident is a reminder about the dangers of driving around with a propane tank in your car. "It's important to transport them so they're not laying on their side, the top is up just like they're designed to be, and the valves are closed completely," he said.

<http://www.news8000.com/news/Van-explodes-at-French-Island-gas-station/-/326/10365856/-/131efbiz/-/index.html>

CANADA, TORONTO, APRIL 10 2012. TRUCK ROLLOVERS KEEP POLICE BUSY ON GTA HIGHWAYS

 **Watch the Video** [Truck Rollovers Keep Police Busy](#)



Police were forced to deal with two separate truck rollovers on Greater Toronto Area highways Monday. The first occurred when a tractor trailer overturned Monday morning on a ramp at Highway 401 and Warden Avenue in Toronto's east end. The truck was headed eastbound on Highway 401 when it tipped onto its side while exiting the highway around 11 a.m. The Ontario Provincial Police said that speed may have been a factor. The driver suffered minor injuries. CBC's Jeff Semple reported that the truck was hauling a trailer with 20,000 litres of ferric sulfate, a highly corrosive and acidic liquid that is often used to treat wastewater. A hazardous materials team was called in to deal with the cleanup. An unknown amount of the liquid was feared to have spilled out and leaked in



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the ground. In another incident, a truck carrying a load of apples rolled over on Monday afternoon on Erin Mills Parkway, near the QEW in Mississauga. Police said it appeared that high winds caused that crash. [More than a dozen trucks](#) have rolled over on area highways in recent weeks.

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/toronto/story/2012/04/09/toronto-tractor-trailer-rollover.html>


USA, GA, GWINNETT CO, DRACULA, APRIL 10 2012. GAS TANKER OVERTURNS ON WINDER HIGHWAY NEAR HWY. 316

kristi reed

 **Watch the Video**

- [Gas Tanker Overturns Spilling Fuel into Creek](#)
- [Winder Highway Reopens After Tanker Accident](#)
- [Tanker Accident Shuts Down Hwy. 29](#)

 **Photo's [5]** [Gas Tanker Overturns Spilling Fuel into Creek](#)

 **Photo Gallery [12]** [Tanker overturns on Winder Highway](#)



A tanker truck carrying gasoline overturned after a wreck with another vehicle, shutting down Winder Highway.

Officials say approximately 8,500 gallons of fuel were in the tanker at the time of the accident. Two thousand gallons of spilled fuel have been recovered from a nearby creek. Crews from the Environmental Protection Agency and SWS Environmental Services are working to clean up fuel that spilled from an overturned gas tanker on Winder Highway near Highway 316 in Dacula. The gas tanker was involved in an accident with a white Jeep Cherokee shortly after noon on Monday. "The white Jeep Cherokee crossed the center line and hit the tractor trailer basically head on," said Gwinnett County Police public information

officer Cpl. Jake Smith. As a result of the collision, the driver of the tanker lost control of the vehicle and the tanker overturned. The tanker was carrying 8,500 gallons of fuel at the time of the accident. Both drivers were transported to Gwinnett Medical Center in Lawrenceville with non-life threatening injuries, Smith said. According to Smith, a witness stopped and pulled the tanker driver out of the vehicle to safety. "Of course things could've gone much worse than they did," Smith said. "It was a pretty heroic action on his part." Fire crews worked throughout the afternoon to keep ignition sources to a minimum as fuel seeped out of the tanker. "If any kind of ignition lights the fuel that's on the ground, it could potentially explode the fuel that's inside the tanker," said Gwinnett County Fire and Emergency Services public information officer Lt. Eric Eberly. Crews initially estimated 100 to 250 gallons of fuel had leaked to the ground. However, shortly after 4 p.m., Eberly issued an email update indicating several thousand gallons of fuel had spilled into a nearby creek. Crews built several dams in the creek to help recover the fuel. According to Eberly, crews from the EPA and SWS will be at the scene throughout the evening mitigating the spill. As of 9 p.m., a total of 2,000 gallons had been recovered from the creek and another 1,000 gallons recovered from the tanker. Winder Highway was closed as a result of the accident, but is expected to reopen by midnight. The Georgia Department of Transportation will return Tuesday morning to repair a section of damaged roadway, Eberly added.

<http://loganville.patch.com/articles/gas-tanker-overturns-at-winder-highway-and-hwy-316>

VIETNAM, BINH DUONG, APRIL 10 2012. LETHAL GAS EXPLOSION LEADS TO SAFETY CALLS

Authorities have been urged to apply stricter punishment for people who illegally tamper with gas canisters, following a gas canister explosion that killed one woman and injured 10 others in southern Binh Duong Province on Saturday. The explosion occurred when Le Minh Viet, 31, a fried fish seller from southern Dong Thap Province renting a room in the boarding house, allegedly opened a gas cylinder in an attempt to transfer gas into another container on Saturday evening. Gas leaking from the canister exposed to heat caused an explosion that ripped through nine out of 43 rooms in the boarding house. Viet, his wife and eight other injured people suffered serious burns and are being treated at the HCM City-based Cho Ray Hospital. Head of the hospital's Burn and Plastic Reconstructive Department Tran Doan Dao said the patients were hospitalised with large and deep burns, covering 21 per cent to 87 per cent of their bodies. He said that gas-related burns were more serious than other



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types of burns as victims suffered a extreme heat in a high pressure blast. Illegal gas transfer posed a high fire and explosion risks but violators so far were mostly fined and not prosecuted as criminals, said vice head of southern Binh Duong Province's Market Watch Department Nguyen Thanh Danh. As the punishment was not strict enough, the number of gas transfer violations had not fallen, said Danh. Police in the province's Thuan An District are now considering launching a criminal investigation into Saturday's incident at the boarding house. Danh said the case has raised the alarm over management and control of gas transfer in localities. He said the province's authorities detected dozens of gas transfer-related violations each year. Last week, 12 gas cylinders, each weighing 45 kilos, were discovered being transferred into smaller containers at Hue Minh Gas Store in Thuan An Town's Thuan Giao Ward. Authorities also found more than 500 mini gas cylinders which were re-used many times and sold at retail stores. At the same time, local authorities also found another store that had over 80 gas cylinders containing less gas than was indicated to customers. The shop's owner also failed to show certificates of origin for the gas canisters. Le Thi Anh Man, vice chairwoman of the Viet Nam Gas Association, said illegal tampering with gas containers had increased significantly across the nation following a rise in gas prices at the beginning of the year. Almost all recent gas explosions have been related to illegal gas extraction or low quality gas containers. The Southern Gas Association reported that last year, authorities seized more than 1,500 gas cylinders of unknown origin in southern provinces.

<http://vietnamnews.vnagency.com.vn/politics-laws/Talking%20Law/223224/stricter-punishment-urged-for-illegal-gas-transfer.html>

USA, AZ, YUMA, APRIL 11 2012. FARM TANK ROLLS, SPILLS FUEL

mara knaub

 [Watch the Video Oil Spill on Highway 95 in Somerton](#)



Somerton/Cocopah firefighters keep diesel fuel spill from spreading.

A farm nurse tank rolled over and leaked diesel fuel after an accident Monday afternoon. The cargo tank reportedly tipped over as the tractor pulling it turned west onto Highway 95 from Avenue G. The Somerton/Cocopah Fire Department responded to the intersection of Avenue G and Highway 95 at 3:30 p.m. Firefighters found the tank on its side, leaking fuel. About 35 gallons of diesel spilled onto the roadway. Firefighters built a dike around the tank to keep it from spreading further. The intersection was closed while firefighters worked. Firefighters used MicroBlast foam on the fuel spill. It is a microorganism that attacks hydrocarbons, stops flammability and controls the vapors, according to SCFD spokesman Robby Rodriguez. Somerton and Cocopah police departments, Border Patrol and Yuma County Sheriff's Office all responded and assisted with traffic control. Marine Corps Air Station Fire Department backfilled

the Somerton station in case additional calls came in.

<http://www.yumasun.com/news/tank-78156-firefighters-fuel.html>

AUSTRALIA, QUEENSLAND, GLADSTONE, APRIL 11 2012. LEGAL ACTION LAUNCHED AGAINST ORICA AFTER CYANIDE DISCHARGE

rosanne barrett

The Queensland Department of Environment has launched legal action against Orica, seeking orders for an independent audit of the chemical manufacturer's processes after cyanide was discharged into Gladstone harbour "on a number of occasions". The department has applied in the Planning and Environment Court to force Orica to engage Synergetic Environmental Engineering to audit and report on its chlorine, sodium, cyanide and ammonium nitrate processing and disposal at its central Queensland Yarwun facility. Multinational Orica, a major industrial chemicals producer, has been under fire in NSW over multiple environmental incidents at its Kooragang Island and Port Kembla facilities. In Queensland court documents, the government regulator said that on March 1 it became aware Orica had "discharged effluent water containing a contaminant at a level that exceeded that permitted" this year and last. "Specifically, effluent containing levels of total cyanide in excess of the limits specified." If the application were successful the audit would review and report on Orica's protocols for testing, monitoring and managing effluent, its capacity to abide by its permits and its ability to identify actual and potential contaminant



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sources. A report into the operations, training and environmental risks would be due within three months. An Orica spokeswoman said the company was co-operating with the department and was in discussions about the terms and scope of the audit. She declined to comment further, as it was subject to legal proceedings. The original application was filed last week and is to be heard in Brisbane on April 13. Capricorn Conservation Council project officer Chantelle James welcomed the court application. "CCC looks forward to hearing the court's decision . . . and hopes that an enforcement order will follow," she said. She cited recent issues concerning the health of Gladstone harbour, with sick and diseased fish and marine life as well as major dredging projects. Last August, Orica's NSW Kooragang Island ammonia plant leaked sodium chromate, containing carcinogen hexavalent chromium, into the air over western areas of the suburb of Stockton, near Newcastle. Two weeks later the company notified environmental authorities it had released discharge containing arsenic into the Hunter River. In December, Orica reported a leak of ammonium nitrate fertiliser from the Kooragang Island site. The company restarted ammonia production at Kooragang Island on February 29, but told shareholders it had lost an estimated \$90 million from the loss of production.

<http://www.theaustralian.com.au/national-affairs/state-politics/legal-action-launched-against-origa-after-cyanide-discharge/story-e6fgrczx-1226322332073>

AUSTRALIA, NEW SOUTH WALES, KOORAGANG ISLAND, APRIL 11 2012. ORICA PLEADS GUILTY TO POLLUTION INCIDENT AT KOORAGANG ISLAND PLANT

 **Document** [ORICA Pleads Guilty TO Pollution Incident at Kooragang Island Plant](#)

On 8th August 2011, a leak of the chemical chromium VI occurred at Orica's ammonia plant on Kooragang Island. The chemical leak was mainly on site, however there was some off-site migration to the nearby town of Stockton. After being notified of the incident and conducting its initial investigations, the OEH, the responsible authority under the Protection of the Environment Operations Act 1997 (NSW) (POEO Act), commenced a number of formal regulatory actions against Orica. On 25 August 2011, Parliament established the Select Committee on the Kooragang Island Orica Chemical Leak to examine the response to the leak by both the Government and Orica. Its findings were published in a report on 23 February 2012.

<http://www.corrs.com.au/publications/corrs-in-brief/orica-pleads-guilty-to-pollution-incident-at-kooragang-island-plant/>

USA, ME, MANCHESTER, APRIL 11 2012. MAN INJURED AT MANCHESTER FIRE

betty adams



One Injured: Firefighters extinguish flames from a chemical storage tank Tuesday in Manchester that erupted when a man cut into the tank, burning him seriously, according to firefighters. Firefighters from several departments responded to the blaze and the injured worker was transported to a hospital.

A man suffered second- and third-degree burns in an explosion that occurred about 1:15 p.m. today while he was attempting to saw an old fuel tank in half. The man, identified as Edward Bishop, 33, of Oakland, was using a gas-powered saw to make the cut, according to a neighbor. "It ignited the fumes or fuel inside it," said Manchester Fire Chief Clarence "Bug" Cram. Cram said Bishop, who had burns on his face and arms, was taken by ambulance and then transferred to a LifeFlight helicopter to finish the trip to Central Maine Medical Center in Lewiston. Cram also said an investigator with the State Fire Marshal's

Office was expected at the scene about 3:30 p.m. Jason Vanderveld, who lives on Foye Road, said he ran over to the site after hearing the first of two explosions. "He was about 30 feet back on the ground on the phone with 911," Vanderveld said. "I grabbed the phone from him." Vanderveld said he prevented others from coming near the site in case more explosions occurred. He said about 8 or 9 inches had melted along the sleeve of the windbreaker Bishop was wearing. "I think he was more in shock than anything else," Vanderveld said. Another neighbor, Phillip Thamert, said the man had been cleaning up a junkyard on property formerly owned by Leonard "Blackie" Hilliard. A contract on file at the Manchester Town Office shows that Edward Bishop of Oakland was retained as an independent contractor to do the cleanup. Bishop was to remove "all tires, gas tanks, miscellaneous metals, oil barrels, propane tanks and other hazardous materials that may be found on property." The cleanup agreement was signed Jan. 7 and the work was to be completed by May. Another contract, also filed at the town



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office and signed Feb. 1, is an agreement between Bishop and MaineGeneral Retirement Community, to clean up the debris on the property and to have the cleanup supervised by the town's code enforcement officer. The fire call — which was originally reported as a structure fire — drew a response from more than a half-dozen surrounding communities. Cram said the fire could have spread very quickly on the dry grass surrounding the rusted oil tank. "They had quite a battle of it for a few minutes," Cram said. Cram said he was unsure what was in the tank. "It smells like old gas," he said. The fire was extinguished with chemicals, which left a white residue on the tank.

<http://www.kjonline.com/news/One-Injured-at-Manchester-Fire.html>

USA, LA, NEW ORLEANS, APRIL 11 2012. OSG TANKER SPILLS FUEL OIL INTO LOWER MISSISSIPPI

OSG's Overseas Beryl



The Coast Guard, along with the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality and Plaquemines Parish, said it responded to a fuel oil spill late Monday and into Tuesday on the lower Mississippi River near mile marker 84, approximately 10 miles downriver from New Orleans. The Coast Guard received notification at approximately 10:08 p.m. Monday night that the 803-foot tanker Overseas Beryl was discharging No. 6 heavy fuel oil into the Mississippi River following vessel refuelling operations at Nine Mile Anchorage. A pollution response team from CG Sector New Orleans arrived at the vessel and discovered fuel oil discharging from a ballast water overboard discharge pipe and into the water. The Coast Guard says the pipe was plugged at approximately 4 a.m., which stopped the flow of oil. Overseas Shipholding Group, Inc., who owns and operates the 94,799 dwt Overseas Beryl, is responsible for the cleanup and has reportedly contracted the Marine Spill

Response Corporation to head the spill response and O'Brien's Response Managements as the spill management team. According to the Coast Guard statement released earlier today, two skimming vessels, response boats and personnel from U.S. Environmental Services, Clean Gulf Associates and MSRC were on scene as of this morning and crews have deploying boom to protect sensitive areas. The USCG also says that responders have installed protective boom at Plaquemines Parish water intakes, and the parish has secured the intakes as a precautionary measure. The Coast Guard issued a safety marine information broadcast to mariners however the portion of the Mississippi remains open. "We're still assessing the amount of oil spilled and potential impacts, but we're responding aggressively in an effort to minimize impacts along the Mississippi River," said Capt. Pete Gautier, the Coast Guard Federal On-Scene Coordinator. There are currently no injuries or impacts to wildlife reported and the Coast Guard is investigating the cause of the incident.

<http://gcaptain.com/tanker-spills-fuel-mississippi/?44226>

ENGLAND, WARWICKSHIRE, APRIL 11 2012. FIRST PICTURE OF ARMY TRAINING TO BEAT THREATENED FUEL STRIKE



Strike beater ... soldiers are shown how to operate a tanker in case of industrial action.

Soldiers get to grips with a petrol tanker in the first picture to emerge of the Army preparing to beat a fuel strike. The troops in camouflage gear were caught by a motorist "discreetly" training near a service station near Leamington Spa. It is the first Brits will have seen of precautions being taken to keep the country moving in the event of a fuel strike. Musician Jaz Hayer, 33, said: "It was only 7am and there were quite a few soldiers being shown how to use a tanker. "It seemed like they were in full preparation for a strike. "They were trying to do it discreetly but it is quite hard when there are so many people in uniform. "It seemed like they

didn't want us to know that they were preparing."

Thirsty

Alarmed at the sight, Jay, from Coventry, filled his thirsty BMW 7-Series with £120 of fuel rather than the £20 worth he originally intended. He added: "I'm sure I wouldn't have been the only person either. "People coming in to the petrol station



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seemed to be shocked and concerned at what was happening." Jaz spotted the training underway at a BP petrol garage on the A46 between Leamington Spa and Warwick yesterday morning. A threatened petrol strike over Easter was called off as Unite decided to hold talks with distribution companies. Despite needing to give seven days' notice, forecourts ran dry as panic spread. Then bungling cabinet minister Francis Maude fanned the flames by encouraging motorists to fill up jerry cans just in case before Yorkshire mum Diane Hill suffered 40 per cent burns while decanting fuel in her kitchen. A spokesperson for BP said: "No date has been set for industrial action but as part of contingency measures MoD staff are being trained to operate tankers. "All hauliers involved in the dispute are doing the same."

<http://www.thesun.co.uk/sol/homepage/news/4248773/First-pictures-of-Army-training-to-beat-threatened-fuel-strike-by-tanker-drivers.html>

USA, PA, SOUTHAMPTON, APRIL 11 2012. DRIVER HITS GAS PUMP, THEN BUILDING >> A SMALL FUEL FIRE RESULTED FROM THE ACCIDENT.

tom sofield

 **Photo's [28] Driver Hits Gas Pump**



At around 7 p.m. Monday evening, right as the members of the [Southampton Fire Company](#) were gathering for their weekly training session, they were dispatched to a call at the Sunoco service station on the corner of Second Street Pike and County Line Road - a car had taken out a gas pump, and then hit the building; the pump was on fire. The gas pump, which disconnected from the main tank when it was struck, burst into flames and was deposited about 20 feet away from its normal location. The fire, fueled by a small amount of gas left in the unit, was quickly extinguished by gas station staff and arriving firefighters, Southampton Fire Company Chief Glenn McKenney said. The elderly female driver was not seriously hurt but was taken to Abington Memorial Hospital by an ambulance from the Bryn Athyn Fire Company, according to police. In order to get to the woman out of the car, firefighters had to use rescue equipment to

remove a portion of a fence that wedged her car between it and the service station wall, McKenney said. The station owner, who also operated the tow-truck used to remove the car, was not at the station at the time of the accident but quickly returned when he heard what happened. He said he was relieved the pump's shutoff valve functioned properly. Firefighters also used booms and other methods to control a small amount of gas that leaked from the station and trickled down County Line Road. Police at the scene said they were not permitted to release more information on what caused the accident. Fire crews from the Feasterville Fire Co. assisted Upper Southampton crews.

<http://uppersouthampton.patch.com/articles/woman-hits-gas-pump-then-building>

USA, N.Y, NEW YORK, APRIL 11 2012. EPA FINES U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS HEALTH DEPARTMENT FOR LONG TERM MISMANAGEMENT OF CHEMICALS AND PESTICIDES >> DECAYING AND MISLABELED CONTAINERS FOUND AT TWO FACILITIES

john martin

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has found that the U.S. Virgin Islands Department of Health violated federal law governing the handling and storage of hazardous waste at two of its facilities and has fined the agency \$68,000 for the violations. EPA inspections at the facilities, the Old Municipal Facility in Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas and 3500 Estate Richmond, Christiansted in St. Croix, found unlabeled and decaying containers of chemicals and pesticides on the properties. Many of the containers spilled and the USVI Department of Health failed to properly identify what types of waste were being stored. In some instances, the hazardous chemicals had been kept on-site for over ten years in a state of neglect and decay. Among the hundreds of hazardous chemicals on-site were pyrethrin (a neurotoxin), chlorpyrifos (an insecticide) and calcium hypochlorite (a bleach) – all of which are toxic. Federal environmental law requires hazardous chemicals to be stored, handled and disposed of properly to safeguard public health and the environment. Pesticides and insecticides are intended to harm or kill pests and are toxic by design. They can be very harmful to people's health depending on the toxicity of the pesticide and the level of exposure. Pesticides have been linked to various forms of illnesses in humans, ranging from skin and eye irritation



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to cancer. Some pesticides may also affect the hormone or endocrine systems. All chemicals should be handled properly to protect people's health. "Pesticides are chemicals that must be handled and stored carefully and properly to protect the health of workers and the people who live near the facilities," said Judith A. Enck, EPA Regional Administrator. "In this case, the U.S. Virgin Islands Department of Health repeatedly violated federal hazardous waste laws. Government, especially a health agency, should lead by example and ensure that pesticides and chemicals are properly handled." The Department of Health stores pesticide products to be used in the event of an outbreak of infectious disease. Among the violations, the Department of Health failed to determine which substances should be considered hazardous waste, as required by law, to ensure that they are managed properly. Correctly determining whether a waste meets the definition of hazardous waste is essential to determining how the waste must be managed. The Department of Health also failed to maintain and operate its facilities in a manner that minimized the possibility of a fire, explosion or accidental release of chemicals. In 1998, the Department of Health asked the EPA for help in removing and properly disposing of outdated chemical products stored in one of its chemical storage buildings at the Old Municipal Facility in Charlotte Amalie, St. Thomas. The EPA responded, removed and properly disposed of the outdated chemicals and pesticides. Over 850 gallons of liquid pesticides and over 1,700 pounds of solid pesticides were removed by the EPA. Subsequently, the EPA strongly recommended that the Department of Health develop and follow pesticide storage and handling regulations to avoid a repeat of the environmental hazard. In 2008, the EPA conducted an inspection of the St. Thomas facility and also visited 3500 Estate Richmond in St. Croix. Once again, the EPA observed conditions of neglect and sloppy practices. Pesticide products were abandoned and had spilled throughout the facilities. The EPA reiterated the need for the development of and adherence to a pesticide storage and handling program. On September 30, 2010, the EPA ordered the Department of Health to institute a program to properly manage and dispose of pesticide products. Since the initial order, the department has properly removed all outdated chemicals, conducted an inventory of the remaining chemicals, properly stored them and created a pesticide storage and handling program. The EPA conducted follow-up inspections in 2011 and confirmed that the remaining chemicals were properly stored. In March 2012, the EPA issued its final order in this case, requiring the Department of Health to pay a \$68,000 penalty.

<http://www.epa.gov/pesticides>.

USA, MINN, RED LAKE CO, PLUMMER, APRIL 11 2012. HIGHWAY 59 AT PLUMMER REMAINS CLOSED >> BENZENE SPILL

Highway 59 at Plummer in Red Lake County could remain closed through April, according to the Minnesota Department of Transportation and the Minnesota State Patrol. Crews continue cleaning up a hazardous spill that occurred on Saturday, March 31, when a semi-truck collided with a train crossing the highway. The hazardous material contains a high percentage of benzene, which is flammable. Motorists should not drive around the barricades, and any unauthorized people will be stopped from entering the site. Southbound traffic detours east on Red Lake County Road 1 for seven miles, then south on Red Lake County Road 5 and Highway 222, then west on Highway 92 for six miles and then back to Highway 59. Northbound traffic follows the same detour in reverse. For updated information, call 511 or visit www.511mn.org.

<http://www.crookstontimes.com/news/x1047086917/Highway-59-at-Plummer-remains-closed>

PAKISTAN, KARACHI, APRIL 12 2012. OVER 2,000 KILLED IN CNG CYLINDER BLASTS IN 2011: REPORT



More than 2,000 people died in CNG cylinders' explosions in 2011 and the figures are likely to be doubled this year as the government and concerned authorities have yet not taken any concrete steps in this regard, stated a report released by the Civil Society Front (CSF) Pakistan, a non-government organisation (NGO) during a press conference at a local hotel on Monday. CSF Director Ayub Munir said that the number of people killed in CNG cylinder explosions is four times greater than the number of people who died in US drone strikes in 2011, but the issue of low-quality CNG cylinders was never given the necessary importance at the government level or the media. The CSF also presented 14 of its demands to the government, along with solutions and precautionary measures to save the lives of innocent people being killed in CNG cylinder blasts. They have demanded that the government immediately cancel the route permits of all public transports which are installed with low-quality CNG



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Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network

Release 2012 – 829 Newsy Stuff

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

April 15 2012



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cylinders. It was suggested that the government set up high-tech workshops across the country that are authorised to issue fitness certificates that the vehicle is fitted with authorised and quality CNG cylinder, under rules and regulations of 1992. These workshops should paste RFID (Remote Frequency Identification Tag) on the examined vehicles and the tag should be tamper-proof. The CSF further said OGRA's Hydrocarbon Institute of Pakistan should certify the CNG workshops that they possess qualified staff and the required equipment. They also called on the government to abandon unauthorised CNG-kit installing and checking shops, where fake fitness certificates are being issued to the CNG vehicles. "These shops even don't have the required CNG kit and cylinder checking equipment," the report said. The CSF report also demands that the traffic police should be authorised to check CNG fitness certificates and RFID (Remote Frequency Identification Tag) issued by a certified testing laboratory to private and commercial vehicles. "Without traffic police support, implementation of any safety measures against CNG cylinder explosions is impossible," Munir said. The report also suggested that the concerned authorities while issuing route permit to any public transport should also ensure that the vehicle possess certified CNG cylinder certificate. It also demands complete ban of use of CNG cylinders in HTV vehicles including buses, mini-buses and coaches. CSF in its report also laid stress on the government that a mass-level awareness campaign should be initiated across Pakistan about the significance of quality CNG cylinders and risk associated with the low quality ones. The most pressed demand of the CSF report was that the licences of the gas station, which are not abiding by the safety rules and filling gas in vehicles that does not bear safety certificate, should be cancelled. Munir said that if these precautionary measures suggestions were adopted by the government, the lives of thousands could be saved and CNG could be used as a safe fuel. He said that the government should also initiate a crackdown on dealers selling low quality cylinders. He said that these cylinders were live bombs which people got installed to save money.

<http://www.thenews.com.pk/Todays-News-4-102120-Over-2000-killed-in-CNG-cylinder-blasts-in-2011-report>

CANADA, ONT, TIMMINS, APRIL 12 2012. TIMMINS FIREFIGHTERS RESPOND TO LARGE GASOLINE SPILL AT ESSO GAS BAR ON ALGONQUIN EAST >> SPILL CLEANED UP. NO INJURIES REPORTED. MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT TO BE NOTIFIED.

len gillis



Timmins firefighters responded to the Esso C-Store gas bar on Algonquin Boulevard East Tuesday evening after a large gasoline spill threatened to seep into local storm sewers. The 9-1-1 dispatch centre reported that a tanker truck was re-filling tanks at the service centre when a faulty hose inadvertently began spilling fuel onto the concrete deck surrounding the re-fill ports and the nearby gasoline pumps. Firefighters quickly spread absorbent granular material all around the area to scoop up the spilled fuel. Firefighters reported to their dispatch station that none of the gasoline reached any sewer or manhole outlets. The tanker truck had door logos indicating it belonged to Marnan Bulk Carriers of Timmins. There was no indication of how much fuel was dumped on the ground. Firefighters responded to the scene at about 9:00 p.m. and cleared the scene at about 9:35 p.m. Firefighters handed the scene over to a representative of Marnan who said that company would be notifying the Ministry of Environment spill centre

of the incident

<http://www.timminstimes.com/ArticleDisplay.aspx?e=3529555>

PAKISTAN, KEAMARI, APRIL 12 2012. CHEMICAL TANK'S CEILING BLOWS OFF CAUSING PANIC IN KARACHI



Rangers' officials stand outside a chemical factory in Keamari where a boiler was exploded on Tuesday.

Ceiling of a chemical tank of a private company was blown off near oil installations in Keamari area on Tuesday evening, causing panic in nearby areas, KPT Fire Station sources said. A fire extinguishing officer said excessive gas in the chemical tank of Home Protect International Company (HPI) located on Plot No 45 near PSO terminal-C, generated the huge blast. The resultant spill of chemical caused an inferno and spread chaos in the nearby areas, he said and



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added that fire tenders controlled the fire by using foam. He said no one was injured in the incident.

<http://dawn.com/2012/04/10/chemical-tanks-ceiling-blows-off-causing-panic-in-karachi/>

IRELAND, DUBLIN, APRIL 12 2012. IRISH PETROLEUM INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION >> IRISH FUEL INDUSTRY WANTS CHANGE TO TACKLE ILLEGAL DIESEL WASHING.

 **Document** [Criminal Washing of Gas Oil](#)

The sale of illegal fuel (washed gas oil sold as road diesel) is costing the State revenue, is damaging the vehicles of unsuspecting consumers and is making it increasingly difficult for the legitimate oil industry in Ireland to compete. Furthermore damages from this crime extend to the environment where the public water supply has been affected. The links on page three of this paper indicate the growing level of concern. IPIA members assisted the Irish Petrol Retailers Association in 2011 in the preparation of a detailed report on the matter. The key facts are staggering with 12% of the road diesel market now estimated to be serviced by illegal washed gas oil and with 120 illegal sites in operation. This illegal practice is costing the Republic of Ireland Exchequer an estimated €155 million per annum loss in fuel duty. Anecdotal evidence suggests that the practice is rapidly rising and that the true figure is higher. All of this is not just a cost to the Irish Exchequer: it is directly assisting the subversive elements who direct this illegal activity. While other jurisdictions have to tackle this sort of fraud, the sheer scale of criminal washing of diesel is a particularly Irish disease. While leading car manufacturers are unwilling to go on the record, the oil industry is aware that the statistics for replacement of parts such as fuel injectors on quite new vehicles show vastly higher numbers here than in other countries. Customs officials, the Garda Síochána and the legitimate oil industry have sought to eradicate this blight on Ireland and there have been some recent notable successes. Despite very considerable efforts, these raids barely touch what is a vast problem to the State, to unsuspecting vehicle owners to the environment (waste products) and to the legitimate oil industry. The industry has assembled data, has looked at other jurisdictions and has carefully thought through possible responses to determine what could work in practice. There is no single 'silver bullet' that will rid Ireland of this problem. Instead, we propose a suite of practical measures. The Government should consider the introduction of a strong regulatory regime to control the sale of rebated fuels. The UK Registered Dealers in Controlled Oils Scheme met with objections from many legitimate quarters when first mooted as it does add another layer of compliance. Nevertheless, this relatively straightforward system of making monthly returns of sales to dealers, distributors and end users has been running since 2003 and is now seen to be a worthwhile means of combating illegal activity. All distributors of petroleum products in the UK must be registered to obtain a unique RDCO operating number if they wish to wholesale rebated fuels. Customs & Excise then vet the information and carry out spot visits to both wholesalers and customers.

- It would be most helpful if the State introduced a new marker for off road diesel which could not be so easily disguised or removed.
- County councils should permanently close illegal fueling stations which are operating without planning permission or a retail license.
- It should also be possible to give legitimate commercial off road users an electronic card with their details which, when used, would automatically register at the discounted price.
- There should be a radical overhaul of the imposition of penalties. The profits are now so great and the fines so low that there is no effective deterrent. Just one 38,000 litre load of washed diesel making a profit of 52.80 cents a litre will generate €20,000 to the criminal. The fines imposed are absurd.
- Licences should be suspended for offending retailers.
- Those hauling illegal product should have their equipment confiscated.

Some of these recommendations such as a Registered Dealers in Controlled Oils Scheme could be brought in quickly. Others may have a longer lead time. The members of the Irish Petroleum Industry Association are very concerned that an illegal activity which evades taxation, which damages property, is anti-environmental and which undermines legitimate business should continue unimpeded. This criminal activity is undermining the fabric of the legitimate petroleum industry and the State, at a time when economic challenges have never been so great.

<http://www.ipia.ie>



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