



Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network

Release 2012 – 875 Newsy Stuff

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August 31 2012



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USA, LA, BELLE CHASSE, AUGUST 19 2012. EVACUATION ORDER LIFTED NEAR BELLE CHASSE CHEMICAL PLANT

[Watch the Video](#) [Evacuation Order Lifted](#)



A mandatory evacuation order was lifted Saturday morning for residents near the Sun Drilling Chemical plant in Belle Chasse. The all-clear was given shortly before 10 a.m. As of 8:00 a.m. the situation had been stabilized and the immediate danger over, according to State Police, which had become the lead investigating agency. Trooper Nick Manale, a State Police spokesman, said Saturday that the situation was a chemical release and not a fire caused by a lightning strike, as was originally believed. People were evacuated, Manale said, because of the possibility that a tank involved might explode and cause a more serious leak. The chemical reaction at the plant near Main and G Streets near the Belle Chasse ferry caused the evacuation of some nearby residents and some government buildings, including the district attorney's office, the sheriff's office and the council building. Initially, officials said a lightning strike sparked a fire in a chemical tank, releasing chemicals and prompting road closures and voluntary evacuations. Then officials called mandatory evacuations, saying the tank began to swell and they feared an explosion. But by 10 p.m. officials said the tank wasn't swelling, and there may not have been a lightning strike or a fire. Instead they said the tank, which contains about 2000 gallons of a hazardous material called divinylbenzene, was having a chemical reaction. And the smoke seen earlier Friday may have been the result of nitrogen firefighters used to try to cool the tank. But that hasn't worked and the tank remained volatile, with the possibility of an explosion. Officials continue to test air quality and have found no dangers. The biggest threat now remains the volatile tank. A crew from Baton Rouge brought a chemical stabilizer, but that neutralizer could take hours to work. "There is no catastrophic failure right now as was said earlier, but we're going to do it as a precaution, it's for public safety to keep this evacuation area clear, until we have the tank stabilized and the chemical reaction is stopped," said Sgt. Joe Piglia of Louisiana State Police. "Whenever you talk about the possibility of an explosion, you talk in two terms, plumes which is the air and fragments which is when it explodes, the fragments run out. Whenever you set up a safe zone, you take those things into consideration," said Guy Laigast, Plaquemines Parish Emergency Management director.

<http://www.wwltv.com/news/Chemical-release-fire-in-Belle-Chasse--166568096.html>

USA, N.D, WILLISTON, AUGUST 19 2012. CLEAN UP CONTINUES: EFFORTS BEING MADE TO CLEAR OIL RIG BLOW-OUT

jenna ebersole



Oil Boom - Absorbent booms are placed Friday along the ground near the blow-out site to prevent contamination of water.

Workers moved methodically along the contamination site southeast of Williston Friday, determining how far the mist of oil and salt water sprayed and placing absorbent booms to prevent groundwater contamination. Environmental geologist Kris Roberts, who helped coordinate the efforts, drove along the roughly 100-acre contamination zone explaining progress so far and how the booms will absorb oil from the top of water in the area. The booms put down Friday represented a stop-gap measure as workers moved quickly to protect the nearby drainage area that leads to Long Creek and eventually Lake Sakakawea. The biggest fear, Roberts

said, was the possibility of rain that could wash the crude and contaminated water from the top of the vegetation into the soil – and eventually into the drainage area. "If it rained hard on us, all of the contamination would be on the soil," he said. The skies shone blue Friday afternoon and Roberts said he hoped to have the necessary booms placed by Saturday. But the geography



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made that process trickier as most areas had too much vegetation, blocking boom placement. To be effective, the booms must be placed close to the ground, Roberts said. One issue with this particular blow-out situation is the close proximity of the drainage, but Roberts said that is not too unusual. "It happens a lot more than we would like," he said. Part of the reason for that, in some cases, is farmers who would rather have a drill site put in a swampier area less usable for crops, he explained. Motioning to a worker rubbing cloth along metal fence posts, Roberts said that delineation of the zone was the first step in the process. Before real clean-up could start, workers needed to know the range of the mist. "If it transfers to paper, we're still in the plume," he said. "Now you've delineated the area of the plume." Shifting wind patterns during the nearly 20-hour spraying of crude and salt water expanded the area of contamination in different directions, Roberts explained. After the delineation and placement of booms, the next step would be to cut all the affected vegetation, Roberts said. "They're looking for the equipment to cut the grass," he said. Afterwards, soil sampling will determine whether the contamination has reached a deeper level, he said. But the common misconception is that oil makes the most impact. In fact, the effects of the salt water could continue much longer, he said. "The effects of oil will probably be gone in the next growing season," he said. "The effects of salt, if we don't get that dealt with, could be seen for years." The early estimate of about 100 acres of contaminated land covers several farms, he said. All landowners have been consulted on the progress and Roberts said they are working with the North Dakota Department of Agriculture to determine if any of the crops in the zone are safe to use. "If they err, they're going to err on the side of safety," he said.

http://www.willistonherald.com/news/clean-up-continues-efforts-being-made-to-clear-oil-rig/article_ef0d6452-e9a2-11e1-ad2b-0019bb2963f4.html

SRI LANKA, COLOMBO, AUGUST 19 2012. BAD FUEL BROUGHT BUSES TO SCREECHING HALT, LOSSES TO MORE THAN RS. 6M

sonja candappa



Karunarathna Sunil stands beside the contaminated fuel he had to empty from his bus.

Bus operators have been hit hard by the substandard diesel that was released to the market, with the Sri Lanka Transport Board (SLTB) suffering losses running into more than Rs.6.6 million. SLTB Vice Chairman L.A. Wikramaratna said 251 normal buses and 10 semi luxury buses were made immobile while about Rs. 600,000 was spent to replace the filters of the vehicles. Losses were also incurred due to the inability of the buses to operate for several days. SLTB Deputy General Manager (Technical) G.K. Ariyaratna, said bus depots islandwide had made complaints to regional offices of the Ceylon Petroleum Corporation (CPC) while the SLTB would be making an official complaint by the end of this month. The Sunday Times also spoke to several bus owners, who complained that they incurred financial losses due to damage caused to their vehicles. D.W. Karunarathna Sunil, a bus owner from Nugegoda said he suffered a loss of more than Rs. 40,000. He said as a routine practice, Rs 18,000 worth of diesel was pumped into the bus. "First we had to change the diesel filters, but that did not work. As a result we had to empty the tank and replace the contaminated fuel with super diesel." He said he could not operate the bus for two days. He added although he has got back to using normal diesel again, he doesn't fill the tank as he is still wary about the quality of the fuel. Thilak Udesiri who operates a bus on the Kottawa-Pettah route said he had to replace the diesel filters while the fuel tank had to be serviced. He added that buses with turbo engines were affected the

most as they use special filters which get blocked when inferior diesel is used. Nimal Jayalath from the Mathugama branch of the Private Bus Owners' Association (PBOA), said around 18 buses had been damaged due to the contaminated diesel, with losses amounting to around Rs. 60,000 in some cases. Meanwhile, PBOA president Gemunu Wijeratne who submitted a report to the Ministry of Petroleum on Friday detailing the damage caused by the contaminated diesel and the losses caused to bus owners said he hoped that the government would pay some sort of compensation to those who had incurred losses.

<http://www.sundaytimes.lk/120819/news/bad-fuel-brought-buses-to-screaming-halt-losses-to-more-than-rs-6m-9222.html>



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USA, TX, HOUSTON, AUGUST 19 2012. ACID LEAKS PROMPT EVACUATION OF LOCAL HIGH SCHOOL

Workers were evacuated from a Houston high school Saturday after acid leaks were discovered. Emergency responders were called to Stephen F. Austin High School of Dumble Street around 11am. We spoke to a man who was delivering a cabinet to the school. He said he was moving the cabinet inside when he first noticed the leak. Ten minutes later, there was some kind of cloud, he told us. Hazmat cleared the building. According to officials, they found three different kinds of acid leaking from containers that were being moved into the school for chemistry labs. No one was injured, the building was not damaged and there was no danger to the public, authorities said. Fire crews ventilated the school and said it will re-open at its regular time.

<http://abclocal.go.com/ktrk/story?section=news/local&id=8778551>

USA, MI, PORT HURON, AUGUST 19 2012. CHEMICAL SPILL IN ST. CLAIR RIVER

A chemical spill advisory has been issued by the Chatham-Kent Public Health Unit after a boat began leaking a chemical into the St. Clair River early Saturday morning. The boat was docked in Sarnia and was being loaded with ethylbenzene, a chemical used in the production of plastic, by a company called Styrolution. After the boat began leaking the chemical, Sarnia-Lambton Environmental Association was notified and it was discovered that the presence of the chemical was detected at its water test station in the St. Clair River. Styrolution said in a release that area residents are being asked to limit their water consumption while the spill is dealt with. Several Chatham-Kent communities receive water intake from the St. Clair River. The Chatham-Kent Public Utilities Commission closed the Walpole Island water intake at noon Saturday and the Wallaceburg water intake at 2 p.m., on recommendation from the Ministry of the Environment and the Spills Action Centre. Residents are asked to limit water usage to personal use and avoid activities such as watering the lawn until after the water intakes reopen. Chatham-Kent public health inspector Lorrie Hornick said there is no risk to health or drinking water. "What happens is our water comes from the intake but it goes into towers. Our water is at capacity for usage, so we're fine for usage, we just don't want people using it for things other than personal use while this advisory is in place because we can't draw more water while the intake is closed," said Hornick. "But we have enough water for our residents to use for personal use." Hornick said the Chatham-Kent Health Unit is doing water samples and when there is no longer a risk, the water intake lines will be re-opened. Hornick said it is unknown how much of the ethylbenzene spilled into the river but that efforts are currently underway to contain the spill.

<http://blogs.windsorstar.com/2012/08/18/chemical-spill-in-st-clair-river/>

RUSSIA, VLADIVOSTOK, NAKHODKA BAY, AUGUST 19 2012. OIL SPILL IN FAR EAST

Rescue teams in Nakhodka Bay in the Russian Far East are dealing with the aftermath of an oil spill that happened when a tanker was being loaded with fuel oil at the port of Vostochny. Of the 3 tons of fuel oil that was spilled, about 300 kilograms found their way into the water, while the rest flooded the ship's deck. A rescue ship that rushed to the site secured the area to prevent any further spread of the 1,500 sq. m. oil slick.

http://english.ruvr.ru/2012_08_19/Oil-spill-in-Far-East/

USA, TN, MORRISTOWN, AUGUST 20 2012. MORRISTOWN MAN INJURED IN VAN EXPLOSION DIES

mary scott

[Watch the Video Morristown Man Injured in Van Explosion Dies](#)



Officials at the Vanderbilt Medical Center Burn Unit have confirmed to 10News that Eric Dietz, 77, passed away overnight. He received severe burns on Thursday afternoon when Morristown firefighters said an explosion engulfed his van in flames. Officials said he had third degree burns on more than 50 percent of his body. Fire investigators believe the explosion happened when a spark from a leaf blower ignited a can of gas. An investigation is on-going.

Previous Story

Most days you can find DJ and Sons Seamless Guttering team working up on the rooftops of Morristown. "I can see everything from here [the roof]," said employee Lynn Haun. Haun, Wayne Swartz, and Derrick Johnson say it's that view that gave them the advantage to offer critical help Thursday afternoon. "It started out a



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normal day. Everything was going great and an hour into it, it all happened. Chaos happened," Johnson. "All the sudden we heard something that sounded like dynamite and I ran up to the top of the roof to look and I saw a van with flames shooting out the window and a guy... trying to get out the window," said Haun. All three jumped off the roof to help. Haun pulled Eric Dietz, 77, out of the burning van. While Johnson called 911, Swartz wasn't far behind. "We just grabbed him pulled him out of the way to side of the building," said Swartz. The explosion inside the van left permanent impressions outside the condo and on the three men. "I didn't know it was my best friend's dad. I couldn't tell it was so bad. It was awful. It was just awful," said Johnson. The Morristown Fire Department says after the initial explosion, they would not have advised the men to reach into the van. But for these men, it was a gut reaction. "I would do it again. You don't have time to think about it when you see somebody hurt like that," said Haun. Dietz's family said he was flown to the Vanderbilt Medical Center Burn Unit where he's being treated for third degree burns on more than 50% of his body. They were extremely appreciative of the men who came to the rescue. The fire department believes the explosion happened when a spark from a leaf blower ignited a container of gas.

<http://www.wbir.com/news/article/230739/2/Update-Morristown-man-injured-in-van-explosion-dies>

USA, FLA, JACKSONVILLE, AUGUST 20 2012. FIRE AT CHEMICAL PLANT SHUTS DOWN LANE AVENUE FOR HOURS >> 250,000 GALLON TURPENTINE TANK BEING WELDED.

Lane Avenue is now back open after being closed due to a chemical plant fire Saturday. The Jacksonville Sheriff's Office says the 1000 to 3000 block of Lane Avenue N. was closed due to the fire at a chemical plant. The 1000 block of Lane Avenue begins near the intersection of Lane Avenue and Commonwealth Avenue and the 3000 block is near the intersection of Lane Avenue and Maude Road. The Jacksonville Fire Rescue Department responded to the fire located at 2051 Lane Ave. N. after they received a call about the fire at 10:20 a.m. Firefighters at the scene say a 250,000 gallon tank of turpentine was being worked on by welders when sparks and vapor caused an explosion and fire. No one was injured by the fire, and no evacuations were necessary, according to JFRD. Firefighters say they had the fire under control in 30 minutes.

<http://www.actionnewsjax.com/content/topstories/story/Fire-at-chemical-plant-shuts-down-Lane-Avenue-for-hmP1n4wNL0iRcRzS-ly5cq.csp>

ENGLAND, CAMBRIDSHIRE, FENGATE, AUGUST 20 2012. FIREFIGHTERS CALLED TO PETERBOROUGH FIREWORKS FACTORY

david seymour



Firefighters from Dogsthorpe, Stanground and the Peterborough Volunteer Fire Station attend the Le Maitre fireworks factory in Fengate.

Sunday: 5.55pm: Firefighters were called to an explosion at a fireworks factory in Peterborough this afternoon (Sunday, August 19). Crews from Stanground, Dogsthorpe and the Peterborough Volunteer Fire Station attended the incident at La Maitre, in Fourth Drove, Fengate, having been called to the scene at about 4.15pm. A spokeswoman for the fire service said a fireworks container had exploded and caught fire. Crew members are still on scene, damping down the container. A witness, who asked not to be named, reported hearing a small explosion, before seeing a plume of white and then black smoke. The cause of the explosion is as yet unknown. A spokesman for the East of England Ambulance Service said it had not been called to the incident.

<http://www.peterboroughtoday.co.uk/news/local/firefighters-called-to-peterborough-fireworks-factory-1-4180738>

USA, MI, ST. CLAIR TWP, AUGUST 20 2012. BONFIRE EXPLOSION KILLS TWO, INJURES OTHERS AT GRADUATION PARTY

christy arboscello

A bonfire explosion killed two siblings and injured others Saturday night during a graduation party in St. Clair Township, police said. According to St. Clair County Sheriff Tim Donnellon, a call was received shortly before 9:30 p.m., reporting the explosion at the 6500 block of Gratiot Road. "The caller, who is a neighbor, said there was a graduation party going on at the house next door and there was an explosion at the bonfire. Deputies from the Sheriff's Office, along with officers from the Marysville Police Department, and Fire Departments from Kimball Township, Marysville and Memphis all responded to the scene," the



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Sheriff's Office said in a news release. Witnesses reported "a huge, two-story bonfire had been built," the Sheriff's Office said. A 27-year-old man who lived at the home poured a large amount of gasoline on the wood. He then invited his 18-year-old sister, who was celebrating her graduation, to light the fire, police said. "When she did, an explosion occurred, with wood being scattered up to 100 yards away and blowing out the windows in the back of the residence, which was over 100 feet away from the bonfire," the Sheriff's Office stated. The siblings, who have not yet been identified by police, were killed in the blast. Three others were transported by Tri-Hospital EMS to local hospitals with undisclosed injuries. Another person was treated at the scene and will seek later treatment. Deputies remained at the scene, as of midnight, and the incident remains under investigation. Alcohol was being served at the party, but there was no indication minors were drinking, police said.

<http://newbaltimore.patch.com/articles/bonfire-explosion-kills-two-injures-others-at-graduation-party>

USA, PA, YORK, AUGUST 20 2012. THREE MARYLAND MEN ARRESTED FOR STEALING THOUSANDS IN DIESEL FUEL

amanda smith

Three Maryland men were arrested in York Saturday afternoon for stealing large amounts of diesel fuel from a local Rutters. On Thursday, the manager of the Rutters contacted Pennsylvania State Police in York for suspected fraudulent purchases beginning July 23rd. After investigating, State Police discovered multiple vehicles and individuals had been involved in the purchases, using illegally obtained credit card information to steal the diesel fuel. Between July 21st and August 18th, over 50 illegally obtained credit cards were used to purchase fuel. The suspects took gift cards and altered the magnetic bar codes to send charges to the credit cards. The two vehicles used, a Ford truck and a Chevrolet van, contained extra tanks on board to store additional fuel. The van had a 325 gallon plastic tank and a large steel fuel tank and the pickup truck had four large steel fuel tanks in the bed, under a topper. Just before 2 p.m. on Saturday, Pennsylvania State Police in York reported to the Rutters on North Main Street in Loganville Borough and took three suspects into custody. Kenneth Reed, 50 of Baltimore, Ricky Evans, 32 of Gwynn Oak, and Glenn Keller, 50 of [Parkville](#), were all taken into custody. Both the van and pickup truck were being filled up when troopers arrived at the gas station. The suspects have been charged with access device fraud and retail theft and were taken to [York](#) County Booking for arraignment. State Police estimate the amount of fuel taken from the Rutters exceeded \$35,000. Troopers are continuing to investigate the theft.

<http://www.fox43.com/news/wpmf-fraudulent-fuel-purchases-at-york-rutters.0.844501.story>

USA, CT, WASHINGTON, AUGUST 20 2012. PROPANE EXPLOSION DAMAGES WASHINGTON TOWN HALL

john pirro

 **Watch the Video** [Car Slams Gas Tank, Causes Explosion](#)



Firefighters use water from a fire house to disperse propane gas leaking from a filler pipe at Bryan Memorial Town Hall in Washington that was ruptured when a caterer drove a car across the lawn while cleaning up after a wedding Sunday Aug. 19, 2012. About 1 p.m., the state Department of Energy and Environmental Protection dispatched a contractor with expertise in controlling propane leaks. He formulated a plan by which firefighters, working under a heavy spray of water, would use a bucket loader to lift the car off the pipe while he installed a valve that would allow the tank to be emptied by a controlled burn-off, Showalter said. Officials said the hope to reopen Bryan Memorial Town Hall In Washington Depot on Monday after an explosion caused by a gas leaking from a propane tank that was damaged when a car drove over it early Sunday. Washington Fire Chief [Mark Showalter](#) said several firefighters escaped

serious injury when the vapor cloud that infiltrated the building ignited just before they entered the basement to turn off an emergency generator prior to cutting power to the town hall. The explosion blew out at least a half-dozen of the large, original, arched windows and caused an undetermined amount of internal damage to the stately, Depression-era structure, officials said. Showalter said a fire did not erupt. [First Selectman Mark Lyon](#) said the leak was triggered about 1 a.m. Sunday when a catering company worker drove over a filler pipe for the 1,000-gallon tank buried in the lawn while cleaning up after a wedding. The tank, which supplies an emergency generator, immediately began leaking and gas quickly entered the building through open doors and windows, Lyon said. Lyon said the driver, whose name wasn't available Sunday evening, had the "presence of



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mind" to set off a fire alarm outside the building and get other catering employees out of the building before firefighters arrived. A heavy cloud of gas settled over the low-lying area off Route 109 and firefighters wanted Connecticut Light & Power to cut the electricity supply to reduce chances for a blast, Showalter said. But first, it was necessary to enter the building and switch off the generator, which is designed to start automatically when the power goes off, he said. Firefighters were about to go in when "something in the boiler room" apparently sparked the explosion, he said. Firefighters from several area departments, including Sharon, Cornwall and Northville, responded to the mutual-aid call, but because the car remained stuck on the pipe, they were unable to move it and cap the tank, Lyon said. For hours, all they could do was cordon off the building at the intersection of Route 109 and Bryan Memorial Plaza, and direct a heavy mist of water from a fire hose to disperse the gas, Showalter said. About 1 p.m., the state [Department of Energy and Environmental Protection](http://www.state.ct.us/energy) dispatched a contractor with expertise in controlling propane leaks. He formulated a plan by which firefighters, working under a heavy spray of water, would use a bucket loader to lift the car off the pipe while he installed a valve that would allow the tank to be emptied by a controlled burn-off, Showalter said. By 4 p.m., the last of the gas was gone. Firefighters cleared the scene some 30 minutes later. Lyon said state and local fire marshals were still at town hall early Sunday evening trying to determine what caused the explosion. The town's building official has inspected the building and pronounced it "structurally sound," he said. Power to the area around town hall has been restored, although the building itself remains without electricity. "Hopefully, we'll be able to get in there Monday morning and get it open sometime during the day," Lyon said.

<http://www.newstimes.com/news/article/Propane-explosion-damages-Washington-Town-Hall-3799397.php>

PHILIPPINES, CEBU CITY, AUGUST 20 2012. 4 COAL MINERS SUFFER SECOND-DEGREE BURNS IN ACCIDENT

A coal mine blast in the mountain village of Lawaan, Danao City, Cebu on Saturday has left four men injured. The incident raised concerns anew over the safety procedures of the small-scale mining site, after it was suspended two years ago. SPO1 Lolito Oliverio of Danao City Police Station identified the victims as Arnel Bacang, 28, Rolito Capote, 36, Joseph Manzo, 18, and Cereno Lugas, 56. The incident happened past 1 p.m. after one of the victims "accidentally" lit a lighter while an electrical short circuit occurred below. The lighter flame ignited concentrated methane gas, which is highly explosive, causing an explosion. The miners, who were trapped in the 50-foot-deep hole, were immediately rescued and sent to Danao Provincial Hospital. Three of the miners were seriously injured after sustaining second degree burns and had to be transferred to a hospital in Cebu City, Oliverio said. The other miner, who was declared out of harm's way, stayed in the hospital and told police it was their first time to meet an accident. The victims, all residents in the area, had been working for some time in the mining site, situated 27 kilometers from the town proper. "They didn't expect it," Oliverio said, adding he still has to contact the owner, Adelina Hermita, if the victims were insured. Police will investigate if the suspension order on the mining site issued two years ago was lifted. The Department of Energy (DOE) in Central Visayas suspended the mine after three miners died after falling 100 meters into the coal mine on June 25, 2010. The three were going down the hole using a drum, but the cable that held the drum snapped. DOE in Central Visayas issued the indefinite suspension order on the mine for being "lenient in implementing safety regulations

<http://www.sunstar.com.ph/cebu/local-news/2012/08/20/4-coal-miners-suffer-second-degree-burns-accident-238361>

USA, KS, KANSAS CITY, AUGUST 20 2012. 'HOT FUEL' HEATS UP AGAIN >> JUDGE DENIES REQUEST TO RECONSIDER MOTION TO DISMISS TEMPERATURE COMPENSATION CASE

A Kansas federal judge on Wednesday kept alive class-action claims against gasoline retailers in litigation alleging that they sold gasoline without revealing or accounting for temperature expansion, refusing to reconsider a denial of the retailers' motion to dismiss, said a Law360 report. "Defendants' motion for reconsideration of motion to dismiss for lack of subject matter jurisdiction, or, alternatively, for judgment on the pleadings ... is overruled," the court documents said. The plaintiffs claim that because the defendants sold motor fuel for a specified price per gallon without disclosing or adjusting for gasoline's expansion in warmer temperatures, they are liable under state law theories including breach of contract, breach of warranty, fraud and consumer protection, the report said. The class-action lawsuit, filed six years ago, represents consumers in 28 states. The plaintiffs sued 120 refiners and retailers for failing to install automated temperature compensation (ATC) devices at retail. They claim that marketers overcharge consumers for fuel in hot weather, when fuel expands in volume at the station, only to shrink later in the car's tank. The trial lawyers said refiners and retailers were pocketing \$3.5 billion a year in extra profits from "hot fuel" sales to consumers but abandoned the unjust enrichment claim in March. Shell, BP, ConocoPhillips, Casey's General Stores, Valero Energy, Wal-Mart and Sam's Club have reached settlements on the matter. Costco settled in 2009. Seven



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major oil companies and three large retail chains will spend several millions of dollars to install automated temperature compensation (ATC) at their branded stations. In June, refiners and retailers said that they would pay \$21.6 million into a specially created fund--BP, ConocoPhillips, ExxonMobil and Shell agreed to pay \$5 million each, while CITGO and Sinclair agreed to contribute \$800,000. Valero agreed to pay \$200,000 to contribute to the costs of carrying out the public notice plan and administering the settlement. It also agreed to pay \$4.5 million in attorneys' fees and litigation costs as approved by the court. QuikTrip, Circle K, Kum & Go and 7-Eleven argued that the court lacked subject matter jurisdiction under the political question doctrine, contending that the definition of a gallon of gasoline could only be determined by Congress. The companies said the 2010 ruling was "clearly erroneous and manifestly unjust." "Defendants assert that implementation of ATC devices would alter the definition of a 'gallon' and thereby interfere with a 'weights and measures' determination which the Constitution has explicitly committed to Congress," the court documents said. "Defendants argue that through its partnership with state regulators and the National Conference on Weights & Measures (NCWM), Congress has defined a 'gallon' solely in terms of volume." U.S. District Judge Kathryn H. Vratil was not convinced, said the report. She said that "only by the most strained reasoning--that anything having to do with 'weights and measures' is off limits to federal courts--could this court find that the issues in these suits are exclusively committed to [Congress]." By allowing the claims in this case to move forward, the district court is moving into legal territory that should be reserved for the National Institute of Standards & Technology (NIST), which Congress designated to define uniform weights and measurement standards, the companies argued. "By conferring authority on the [NIST] ... Congress chose regulatory expertise, not case-by-case adjudication, as the appropriate policymaking vehicle," they said. Vratil said, however, "The question here is whether defendants willfully omitted material facts, or engaged in unconscionable acts or practices, in connection with a consumer transaction in violation of the Kansas Consumer Protection Act," the judge said. "This will require determining whether temperature is a material term to a retail motor fuel transaction." The companies also argued that under a pretrial order, the plaintiffs' claims depended on proof that "the unit of measurement governing fuel sales--the gallon--is inherently misleading." Any remedy would require a judgment about the wisdom of the metric itself, the companies argued. However, Judge Vratil said that general theory had been in the case from the beginning and was not a new development that could be reconsidered, the report said. Tristan L. Duncan of Shook Hardy & Bacon LLP, who represents the defendants, told Law360 that the ruling merely "kicks the issues down the road." The challenges will be raised again at the close of the plaintiffs' case and then on appeal if necessary, Duncan said. "We believe that this is a frivolous lawsuit and we do intend to defend it to the full extent," Duncan said.

PDF Document: Read the Full Court Document. hotfuels.pdf (PDF)

[http://www.cspnet.com/news/fuels/articles/hot-fuel-heats-again?utm_source=SilverpopMailing&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Daily%20News%2008-20-2012%20\(1\)&utm_content=&spMailingID=39614221&spUserID=MjY3NTM2OTUxMDES1&spJobID=155474405&spReportId=MTU1NDc0NDA1S0](http://www.cspnet.com/news/fuels/articles/hot-fuel-heats-again?utm_source=SilverpopMailing&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Daily%20News%2008-20-2012%20(1)&utm_content=&spMailingID=39614221&spUserID=MjY3NTM2OTUxMDES1&spJobID=155474405&spReportId=MTU1NDc0NDA1S0)

USA, WA, BELLINGHAM, AUGUST 20 2012. PHOTO OF B.C. MAN FILLING UP BAGS OF CHEAP AMERICAN GAS CAUSES STIR

Watch the Video's:

- [Photo of B.C. Man Filling Up Bags of Cheap American Gas Causes Stir](#)
- [B.C. Man Caught Filling Garbage Bags Full of Gas in Bellingham](#)



This image, taken at a gas station in Bellingham, Wash., purports to show a man from British Columbia filling garbage bags with gasoline.

Canadians are once again causing drama south of the border due to their love of cheaper American prices. A photo of a man with a British Columbia licence plate stirred up controversy in Bellingham, Wash., because it appeared to show him filling up what looked like large duffel bags inside plastic garbage bags with gasoline. The woman who took the photo told local media that the man filled three plastic-lined duffel bags at the Fred Meyer gas station in Bellingham, which is located about 50 kilometres south of the U.S.-Canada border crossing in Abbotsford B.C. After a Seattle television station broadcast the story, online comments began pouring in. One person wrote, "A hockey puck to the head would be the only reason for this



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behavior," while another commenter posted, "Stay in Canada – please." According to WashingtonGasPrices.com, the cost of regular gas in Bellingham ranges from US\$3.92 to US\$4.29 per gallon, which is the equivalent to about US\$1.03 to US\$1.13 per litre in Canada. While the photographs don't show the man pumping gas directly into the bags, the woman who took the photos said she saw him pump gas into the bags, seal them and put them in the back of his car, which had B.C. plates. Police called such a move "dangerous." "You run the risk of all sorts of potential, if there was an impact or anything like that," said Sgt. Mark Dennis of the Washington State Patrol. "And you simply wouldn't want to have loose gasoline inside of a car." It's the second time this week that Canadians have been accused of behaving badly in Bellingham. A video of frantic customers ransacking a pallet of milk in a Bellingham Costco quickly became a YouTube sensation. It also sparked the creation of a Facebook page asking for separate shopping hours for Canadians and Americans. The page was started by an apparently disgruntled resident of Bellingham, complaining that it had become nearly impossible to shop at a local Costco due to the high volume of Canuck bargain hunters. An early post reads: "You all been there. its hard to find a parking spot. Them Canadians can be rude. The lines are crazy. We aren't on a vacation and have an RV to hang out in like those Canadians. We just want to go shopping, not go on an adventure (sic)." As of Saturday the page had more than 4,770 likes.

<http://www.ctvnews.ca/canada/photo-of-b-c-man-filling-up-bags-of-cheap-american-gas-causes-stir-1.920422>

ENGLAND, LEEDS, AUGUST 20 2012. WARNING OVER RIVER AIRE DIESEL SPILL >> LOCAL BUSINESSES ARE BEING ASKED TO CHECK EQUIPMENT AFTER GALLONS OF OIL LEAKED INTO THE RIVER AIRE



Thousands of gallons of diesel has leaked into a seven-mile (12km) stretch of the River Aire in Leeds. A number of contractors are on the scene attempting to absorb the oil. n Environment Agency spokesman appealed to businesses to check their equipment after fears it may have leaked from an engine. Members of the public have also been asked to be vigilant and to ensure their dogs do not enter the water. The spokesman added that although no fish had been found, it was concerned about the affect on wildlife in the local area, including salmon.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-leeds-19317730>

NIGERIA, LAGOS, AUGUST 20 2012. SHELL SPENDING MILLIONS OF DOLLARS ON SECURITY IN NIGERIA, LEAKED DATA SHOWS



Internal documents reveal oil company spent \$383m over three years protecting staff and installations in Niger delta region. it were a country Shell would have the third highest security budget in Africa.

Shell is paying Nigerian security forces tens of millions of dollars a year to guard their installations and staff in the Niger delta, according to leaked internal financial data seen by the Guardian. The oil giant also maintains a 1,200-strong internal police force in Nigeria, plus a network of plainclothes informants. According to the data, the world's largest company by revenue spent nearly \$1bn on worldwide security between 2007-09: if it were a country Shell would have the third highest security budget in Africa, after South Africa and Nigeria itself. The documents

show that nearly 40% of Shell's total security expenditure over the three year period – \$383m (£244m) – was spent on protecting its staff and installations in Nigeria's volatile Niger delta region. In 2009, \$65m was spent on Nigerian government forces and \$75m on "other" security costs – believed to be a mixture of private security firms and payments to individuals. Activists expressed concern that the escalating cost of Shell's security operation in the delta was further destabilising the oil rich region and helping to fuel rampant corruption and criminality. "The scale of Shell's global security expenditure is colossal," said Ben Amunwa of London-based oil watchdog Platform. "It is staggering that Shell transferred \$65m of company funds and resources into the hands of soldiers and police known for routine human rights abuses." The financial documents, [passed to Platform](#), suggest Shell's worldwide security costs almost doubled between 2007-2009, coinciding with the rise of [armed insurgency in the Niger delta](#). In 2008, 62 Shell employees or contractors were kidnapped and three killed, many Shell-



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operated pipelines, well heads and offshore oil platforms were attacked and the company was forced to halt oil exports for several weeks after attacks by groups including the Movement for the emancipation of the Niger delta. Nearly a third of Shell's global security budget in 2008, or \$99m, was spent on "third parties". This was double what the company spent on its own security staff and is believed to include the services of 600 Nigerian government police and 700 members of the controversial state "joint task force" (JTF) comprised of army, navy and police. Shell denies having any direct control over JTF forces, amid [numerous accusations of human rights abuses](#), including a large-scale military attack in 2009 which the US state department said led to the displacement and loss of livelihood of tens of thousands of residents. But in the past Shell has supplied government forces with gunboats, helicopters, vehicles and satellite phones to better patrol the myriad creeks and waterways of the delta. "This proves what we in the Niger delta have known for years – that the air force, the army, the police, they are paid for with Shell money and they are all at the disposal of the company for it to use it any how it likes," said Celestine Nkabari at the Niger delta campaign group Social Action. According to Platform, a significant amount of Shell funding is channelled via senior military officials which provides "ample opportunities for corruption". US cables, released by WikiLeaks in 2010, alleged that the company paid hundreds of thousands of pounds towards the deployment of 350 soldiers in the delta in 2003. But Shell International said that any allegations of corruption should be addressed to the Nigerian authorities, and that its spending is necessary to protect its staff and operations. Although armed insurgency in the oil producing regions of the delta has declined since a 2009 amnesty, the company says it faces widespread criminality, organised crime and massive oil theft. It has stated that 15-20% of its output is stolen by international gangs. "Protecting our people and our assets is Shell's highest priority," it said. "Our spending on security is carefully judged to meet this objective, wherever we operate in the world. We have always acknowledged the difficulties of working in countries like Nigeria. In the period that this report refers to, the armed militancy in the Niger delta was at its height, requiring a relatively high level of security spending there. "All our staff and contractors are expected to adhere to the highest levels of personal and corporate ethics, as set out in our code of conduct. We support the Voluntary principles on security and human rights (VPSHR), and we recognise that these principles help maintain the safety and security of our operations in a manner consistent with upholding human rights. We also investigate grievances under the VPSHR." The company declined to comment on whether worldwide costs for security were increasing because of the Arab spring. The company has recently left Syria and has interests throughout the Middle East. But the scale of Shell's spending, revealed by the data for the first time, raises questions about the effectiveness of its security policies. "What is striking about the amount being spent in Nigeria is its ineffectiveness," said Amunwa. "Shell spent many millions of dollars each year on government forces who failed to provide the company with adequate security." Nkabari said: "Shell cannot call this spending 'security'. If it was really providing security, then why do we continue to have vandalism, why do we have bunkering [theft of oil], why do we have the security mess that we have in the Niger delta? They give protection to the oil workers but they are not providing the region with 'security'." "These figures are alarming – it is a scandal that so much money is spent on security instead of on the local communities whose livelihoods are destroyed as a result of the oil exploitation," said Jaff Napoleon Bamenjo of Relufa, which campaigns for environmental justice in west Africa. "Across Africa oil, mining and agro-industry companies regularly pay for the services of local security forces that have deplorable human rights records; sometimes as a contractual obligation," said Bamenjo. "This is an extremely unethical practice held over from the colonial era which must end immediately. Not only is it bad for local communities who are the primary victims of police and military predation, but as Shell well knows, it exposes foreign companies to lawsuits in multiple jurisdictions."

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/business/2012/aug/19/shell-spending-security-nigeria-leak>

AUSTRALIA, QUEENSLAND, WARWICK, AUGUST 20 2012. METHANE LEAK SPARKS DARLING DOWNS FIRE

fidelis rego

Map: [Warwick 4370](#)

The State Government says the former owner of a mine could be liable for any damages caused by a fire at the western Darling Downs site. Leaking methane gas caught fire at the former coal exploration site near Dalby on Saturday. Government officials and the mine's new owner - Arrow Energy - are investigating what caused the leak. Natural Resources and Mines Minister Andrew Cripps says the mine may not have been capped and contained properly. "This particular case is concerning because it's a very, very old site, and we're certainly investigating that as well," Mr Cripps said. "That is something we're endeavouring to determine and make sure we follow up on - who's responsible for that failure to proceed under that legislation." Arrow Energy says the fire has nothing to do with its coal seam gas (CSG) development. The Queensland Fire and Rescue Service (QFRS) says crews were called after receiving reports methane escaping from a hole in the ground had



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ignited and sparked a grass fire. A spokeswoman says the grass fire was eventually put out and Arrow was left to bring the gas blaze under control. An Arrow spokesman says the fire is still burning but has been made secure and is no threat to property or surrounding bushland. He says investigations are continuing into how the fire started.

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2012-08-20/methane-leak-sparks-darling-downs-fire/4209268?section=qld>

AUSTRALIA, NEW SOUTH WALES, SYDNEY, AUGUST 20 2012. STORES EVACUATED AS SYDNEY SERVICE STATION CATCHES ALIGHT

nick Ralston

 [Watch the Video Stores Evacuated after Fire at Sydney Service Station](#)



Firefighters tackle the blaze at the service station in Liverpool.

NSW Fire and Rescue were called to the fire at the BP service station on Hoxton Park Road near Flowerdale Road, Liverpool, at 1.30pm today. 200-metre exclusion zone was set up, with crowds at KFC and the Aldi grocery store evacuated. A NSW Fire and Rescue spokesman said the fire was under control and crews were now waiting for the gas to burn off. This could take some time, he said. The exclusion zone will remain in place until this is done. No one has been injured in the fire although one car was destroyed by fire. Neighbouring premises, including a pizza shop and a set of apartments above a row of shops have sustained minor damage from the flames. "It could have been a whole lot worse," the spokesman said. "The crews got there quickly enough to stop the fire spreading and to keep the cylinders cool enough to stop them exploding. If they had gone, it would have been a mighty bang." Hoxton Park Road remains closed at Flowerdale Road. Motorists are advised to avoid the area and can use the Hume Highway, Camden Valley Way and Cowpasture Road as an alternative route.

<http://www.smh.com.au/nsw/stores-evacuated-as-sydney-service-station-catches-alight-20120820-24hq6.html>

USA, MI, VEVAY TWP, , AUGUST 21 2012. US-127 CLOSED IN BOTH DIRECTIONS TODAY FOLLOWING TANKER CRASH

laura misjak

 [Photo's \[15\] About 8,500 Gallons of 10,300 Gallons of Emulsified Complex Petroleum Hydrocarbon & Water Spilt](#)



Workers deal with the sticky aftermath of an asphalt product tanker truck rollover that closed US 127 between Kipp and Barnes roads in Vevay Twp. (Mason) Monday morning 8/20/2012.

U.S. 127 north and southbound lanes near Mason will be closed for the day due to a crash. The highway was first closed shortly after 5 a.m. Monday morning after a northbound semi crashed, according to a message from Ingham County dispatch. The accident occurred on U.S. 127 south of Kipp Road. About 8,500 gallons of 10,300 gallons of emulsified complex petroleum hydrocarbon and water in the vehicle were released after the crash. The driver, Dennis L. Ebert, 60, of Macomb, was transported to Sparrow Hospital with

minor injuries. He has since been released. No other injuries have been reported. Alcohol is not believed to be a factor in the crash. An environmental impact team, Ingham County Hazmat and the Mason Fire Department are working to reduce the impact the contaminants will have on the soil. The truck company, Michigan Chloride Sales LLC, has contracted Clean Harbors to clean up the area, said Kim Sakowski, a Department of Environmental Quality project manager for the Lansing region. The Michigan Department of Transportation is overseeing removal of the substance from the roadway, and Clean Harbors is working to remove the materials, a form of liquid asphalt, from the median, Sakowski said. The process includes using a power washing system to remove the material on the roadway. Workers will wait for the substance to cool and harden in the median before digging it out of the soil, she said. The process could take all day, she said, with northbound lanes most likely opening first.

<http://www.lansingstatejournal.com/viewart/20120820/NEWS01/308200028/US-127-closed-both-directions-today-following-tanker-crash>



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USA, MS, VICKSBURG, AUGUST 21 2012. TANKER CARRYING LIQUID ASPHALT OVERTURNS IN VICKSBURG



A tanker truck carrying liquid asphalt overturned on North Washington Street in Vicksburg. Police say the truck, carrying liquid asphalt, was headed north on Washington Street, near the Ergon Plant. Sources tell WLBT the 46-year-old driver of the truck was airlifted to UMC with a fractured skull. Authorities say the accident happened when the driver made a turn that was too narrow. WLBT does not know at this time if the contents of the tanker have been unloaded. The road could be closed once a crane is on scene to get the truck upright again. The driver is from Shreveport, La.

<http://www.wlbt.com/story/19315725/tanker-carrying-liquid-asphalt-overturns-in-vicksburg>

USA, WA, OLYMPIA, AUGUST 21 2012. NEW UNDERGROUND FUEL RULE REQUIRES OPERATOR TRAINING

matthew weaver

Washington growers who have underground fuel tanks will have to get training now that the state has changed its underground storage rules. The state Department of Ecology adopted changes to its rule for preventing leaks in underground storage tanks, effective Oct. 1. Seth Preston, communications manager for the toxics cleanup program, said a shift from voluntary to mandatory training is the biggest change for agricultural producers. People who operate and maintain underground storage tank systems must be trained by Dec. 31. Preston said the training is not time-consuming or expensive. Costs range from \$75 to \$350. The department held a series of public meetings in April, which a total of 26 people attended. The Washington State Farm Bureau told the Capital Press in April that there was no problem with the rule, since it was a change to meet federal requirements. Preston said there are no additional steps unless rules change on the federal level. The department currently regulates more than 9,500 underground fuel tank systems at more than 3,600 facilities throughout the state, the majority of which are at gas stations. The department tracks the tanks by the substance in the tank, not by occupation, so it's not certain how many farmers are affected by the rule change, Preston said. Preston said the department conducts inspections on a regular basis, notifying owners of a deadline to correct any problems. Fines for failure to make a correction can range from \$300 to a maximum of \$5,000. If operators are not trained by Dec. 31, the person would receive notice that he needs to receive training, and the department would follow up. The rule changes also authorize the department to stop regulated substances from being delivered to systems that don't comply with regulatory requirements and require secondary containment of new tanks and pipes.

<http://www.capitalpress.com/washington/mw-Underground-storage-update-082012>

USA, N.Y, NEW YORK, AUGUST 21 2012. GETTY PETROLEUM GETS OK TO ABANDON STORAGE TANKS >> TWENTY-TWO USTS TO BE EMPTIED AND CAPPED WITH COURT'S APPROVAL



A New York bankruptcy judge on Wednesday gave Getty Petroleum Marketing Inc. the go-ahead to abandon a series of fuel storage tanks at former operations in the Northeast, provided the company follows certain conditions intended to protect both people and the environment, according to a Law360 report. Getty's official committee of unsecured creditors sought the court's permission to abandon the tanks--located at sites in New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania--when it became clear that the Chapter 11 proceedings would result in liquidation rather than reorganization. "The debtors have ceased ordinary course operations, have no use for the tanks and are now in the process of liquidating all of their assets," the committee said in its motion, according to the report. Since the debtors have rejected substantially all of their leases, "including the majority of leases relating to the properties housing the tanks," the committee said, the tanks have no value and are now a burden on the various estates. U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Shelley C. Chapman signed off on the order, which lays out abandonment procedures for the tanks and details how the court will be kept informed of the process. For 18 of the 22 tanks, those procedures require that they be emptied, capped and have any fuel lines or connections removed. The four tanks located at a former Getty operation in Staten



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Island, N.Y., must be treated with greater care. Getty and its subsidiaries filed for Chapter 11 in December hoping to strengthen their operations and improve their ability to undertake environmental cleanup following an arbitration ruling against them in a dispute with an ethanol fuel company. The creditors committee filed an amended Chapter 11 plan and disclosure statement in May calling for the liquidation of the company. Getty, along with Gasway Inc., Getty Terminals Corp. and PT Petro Corp., listed between \$50 million and \$100 million in both assets and liabilities in its original petition.

[http://www.cspnet.com/news/fuels/articles/getty-petroleum-gets-ok-abandon-storage-tanks?utm_source=SilverpopMailing&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Daily%20News%2008-21-2012%20\(1\)&utm_content=&spMailingID=39619646&spUserID=MjY3NTM2OTUxMDES1&spJobID=155616663&spReportId=MTU1NjE2NjYzSO](http://www.cspnet.com/news/fuels/articles/getty-petroleum-gets-ok-abandon-storage-tanks?utm_source=SilverpopMailing&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Daily%20News%2008-21-2012%20(1)&utm_content=&spMailingID=39619646&spUserID=MjY3NTM2OTUxMDES1&spJobID=155616663&spReportId=MTU1NjE2NjYzSO)

AUSTRALIA, NEW SOUTH WALES, WILTON, AUGUST 21 2012. WORKCOVER NSW SEIZE 1.5 TONNES OF FIREWORKS

zoe dunbar



WorkCover inspectors, along with the NSW police, confiscated over 1.5 tonnes of illegal fireworks when they searched a property in Wilton NSW last week. The property was subjected to the search after a tip off from a member of the public. What they found when they arrived included fireworks, explosives and detonator cord, large mortars, sky rockets and bungers that have been illegal in NSW for a number of years. The General manager for WorkCover John Watson said that over 4 tonnes of illegal fireworks have been confiscated over the last few years, which has reduced the associated injuries such as burns and amputations. He went on to say that fireworks are illegal in NSW and a WorkCover licence must be sourced to sell or use them. Without a licence people who buy, sell or discharge fireworks can face hefty fines or even imprisonment.

http://www.safetyculture.com.au/news/index.php/08/workcover-nsw-seize-1-5-tonnes-of-fireworks/?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+safetyculture+%28Safety+Culture+OHS+News%29

USA, N.Y, UTICA, AUGUST 21 2012. OFFICIALS MONITORING WATER SYSTEM AFTER UNDERGROUND GAS LEAK AT CULVER AVENUE SUNOCO

gary liberatore

Watch the Video:

- [Utica Officials Monitoring Water System after Underground Gas Leak at Culver Avenue Sunoco](#)
- [Crews Investigate Gas Spill in Utica](#)



If you passed by the Sunoco gas station at the corner of Culver Avenue and Albany Street in Utica late Monday morning, you couldn't help but notice a strong odor of gasoline coming from behind a wall of yellow tape which is keeping cars from driving in to fill up. Utica Assistant Fire Chief George Clark tells NEWSChannel 2 that workers at the Sunoco station called the D.E.C. around 10 a.m. on Monday morning after smelling the odor themselves and noticing that the gas levels in their underground system had dropped considerably. The D.E.C. then called the Utica Fire Department, and both were on scene within minutes. The Sunoco station is the only gas station right along that particular section of East Utica and it is where many fill up, but Clark says they won't be filling up there

Monday, or in the days ahead. Officials say the re-opening all depends on how long it takes crews to clean up the gas. Clark says that some gasoline did get into the city's sewer lines, but not into a nearby creek, but that creek will be continually monitored. Mohawk Valley Water Authority Executive Director Patrick Becher confirms the situation is being monitored, but he wants to remind city residents that the drinking water lines are pressurized and sealed, so there is no threat of gasoline getting into their drinking water. The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Spill response team is overseeing the cleanup process. No word on how long the cleanup will take and ultimately when the Sunoco station will reopen. Some



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East Utica residents actually started smelling the gas leak as early as Sunday morning, a full day before the cause of the smell was determined to be the Sunoco gas leak. Annemarie Spina, who lives on Culver Avenue near Poe Street, says she first smelled the gas around 3:45 A.M. on Sunday. Spina says she thought it might have been paint fumes, but the odor was so strong, she called the Utica Fire Department. Firefighters had her, her husband and four children evacuate. "They had all of us leave the house until they discovered where the smell was coming from," she said. "We sat in our truck with the heat on and about 15 minutes later they discovered it was coming from the sewer." Firefighters brought in large fans and vented the Spina home. Annemarie says her family was just the first to call the fire department but she was told by firefighters her family probably wouldn't be the last. "They had said that I was the first call and that it was going to be a very busy day," she said. "And then when I woke up the next morning, the fire department responded to several other homes, in fact one of them was my neighbor." Assistant Fire Chief Clark confirms firefighters did respond to several homes throughout the day on Sunday for venting, but again the cause of the smell wasn't known until the Sunoco call to the D.E.C. Monday morning.

<http://www.wktv.com/news/local/Utica-officials-monitoring-water-system-after-underground-gas-leak-at-Culver-Avenue-Sunoco-166766966.html>

USA, IL, MT CARMEL, AUGUST 21 2012. DRIVER CITED AFTER FUEL TRUCK OVERTURNS

phil gower



Carefully monitoring: Mt. Carmel Fire Department and Hinderliter Environmental Service of Evansville monitored the overturned semi-tanker truck carrying 6,000 gallons of diesel fuel until the contents of the tanker could be off-loaded to another tanker before the wrecked semi could be uprighted by heavy duty wreckers. The mishap occurred in front of MCFD at 9th and Walnut streets about 9:15 a.m. Saturday and the 800 block of Walnut Street was closed about 6 hours by the wreck. The driver, Randy Dawkins of Xenia, Ill., was treated and released from Wabash General Hospital Emergency Room.

The driver of a semi-tanker truck which over-turned on its side at 9th and Walnut streets Saturday about 9:15 a.m. Mt. Carmel, was "shaken up" and taken by Wabash General Ambulance Service to nearby Wabash General Hospital, Emergency Room for treatment and was released a short time later. According to the police report filed by Mt. Carmel Police Officer Jared Price, a 2000

International Semi-Tractor tanker owned by Knapp Oil Company out of Xenia, Ill. and being driven by Randy W. Dawkins, age 51 of Xenia, was westbound in the 200 block of W. 9th Street when he was negotiating a left hand turn onto Walnut Street at the 9th and Walnut streets intersection. It is suspected that the load shifted during the turn causing the tractor tanker to overturn coming to a rest on its side in front of the Mt. Carmel Fire Department. The tractor tanker was hauling approximately 6,000 gallons of diesel fuel which remained in the tanker as no rupture was reported. Hinderliter Environmental Services of Evansville, Ind., responded to assist in the off-loading of the diesel fuel into another tanker as well as assist the Mt. Carmel Fire Department with any possible HAZMAT issues. Police said a heavy duty wrecker service (R & H Towing) from Vincennes, Ind., was called to upright the tractor-tanker unit. Dawkins was issued a traffic citation for Failure to Reduce Speed to Avoid an Accident. The 800 block of Walnut Street was closed for approximately 6 hours during this incident and was re-opened for traffic about 3:15 p.m. The Illinois Department of Transportation officials detoured large vehicle traffic down 3rd Street until the accident scene could be cleared. Assisting in this incident were MCPD Officer Brandt Parsley and Sgt. John Lockhart, Mt. Carmel Fire Department, Wabash General Ambulance Service and Illinois Department of Transportation. The mishap occurred directly in front of Mt. Carmel Fire Department, located at Walnut and 9th streets, and Assistant Chief Francis Speth said several firefighters were at MCFD testing truck hoses when the sound of the truck crash drew their immediate response to help the driver. Likewise, WGH is only moments driving time from the scene so other paramedics quickly arrived to assist firefighters in the emergency and transport the driver to the hospital. Mt. Carmel City Commissioner Rod Rodriguez was at the scene and said emergency responders were doing everything possible to protect the public safety. Rodriguez said all MCFD trucks were moved to the rear of the station so they could respond to calls should any come in while the wreckage and emergency equipment were in front of the fire station.

http://www.tristate-media.com/drr/news/local_news/article_1eb32b94-eac8-11e1-84e8-001a4bcf887a.html



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USA, WYO, CHEYENNE, AUGUST 21 2012. SINCLAIR OIL TO PAY \$3.8M PENALTY AND INSTALL POLLUTION CONTROLS AT WYOMING REFINERIES TO RESOLVE VIOLATIONS OF 2008 CONSENT DECREE



Sinclair's Casper refinery.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Department of Justice announced a settlement with two subsidiaries of Sinclair Oil Corporation to resolve alleged violations of air pollution limits established in a 2008 consent decree at refineries in Casper and Sinclair, Wyo. Sinclair Casper Refining Co. and Sinclair Wyoming Refining Co. will pay stipulated penalties totaling \$3,844,000 and spend approximately \$10.5M on additional pollution control equipment and other projects to resolve the allegations. The settlement will require the Sinclair companies to reduce emissions of nitrogen oxides (NOx) by approximately 24 tons per year, sulfur dioxide (SO₂) by approximately 385 tons per year, and particulate matter by approximately 59 tons per year. "EPA is

committed to ensuring that companies comply with environmental requirements that protect people's health," said Cynthia Giles, assistant administrator for EPA's Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance. "This settlement holds Sinclair accountable for exceeding the emissions limits agreed to in a previous settlement for Clean Air Act violations and ensures that the people of Wyoming have cleaner, healthier air." "Parties who enter into consent decrees with the United States must adhere to their obligations, and failure to comply will result in further penalties," said Ignacia S. Moreno, assistant attorney general for the Environment and Natural Resources Division of the Department of Justice. "This settlement requires Sinclair to pay a significant \$3,844,000 penalty and provide additional emission reductions beyond those required in the original settlement." The alleged violations stem from Sinclair's failure to meet the terms of the 2008 consent decree, including exceeding NOx emissions limits at the Casper and Sinclair, Wyoming refineries and failing to comply with requirements to operate and maintain a flare gas recovery system at the Sinclair Refinery, resulting in excess emissions of SO₂. The problems will be addressed by installing and operating a selective catalytic reduction system to control NOx emissions and by upgrading the flare gas recovery system to meet SO₂ emissions limits. Sinclair will also complete a project to provide road paving at its Casper refinery that will reduce particulate matter emissions by an additional 59 tons per year and reduce fuel oil burning at the Casper refinery from the existing 188 tons per year limit to no more than 95 tons per year. The settlement is subject to a 30-day public comment period and final court approval.

- More about the settlement: <http://www.epa.gov/compliance/resources/cases/civil/caa/sinclair.html>
- More about EPA's civil enforcement of the Clean Air Act: <http://www.epa.gov/compliance/civil/caa/index.html>
- More about EPA's refinery initiative: <http://www.epa.gov/compliance/resources/cases/civil/caa/oil/>

<http://www.oilandgasonline.com/doc.mvc/sinclair-oil-penalty-install-pollution-controls-wyoming-refineries-0001>

USA, WASHINGTON D.C, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, AUGUST 21 2012. FUEL INDUSTRY PUSHES TO KEEP HIGH-ETHANOL BLENDS OFF THE MARKET

The head of a top fuel industry group wants Congress to take action that he says would protect consumers by keeping a more corrosive blend of gasoline off the market. American Fuel and Petrochemical Manufacturers (AFPM) President Charles Drevna told The Hill on Monday that a U.S. Court of Appeals of the District of Columbia decision last week will put consumers at risk. The court upheld an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) policy that let gas stations offer fuel with a higher ethanol content. Auto companies say the higher-blend ethanol fuel is more destructive to engines and is not covered by many consumers' battery warranties. In ruling that the EPA could let retailers offer E15 fuel — a mix of 15 percent ethanol to 85 percent gasoline — if they take proper measures to inform drivers of the risks to their cars, Drevna says the court failed to acknowledge that the blend is not suitable for most vehicles on the road. "Decisions have to be made now. EPA was totally off base certifying a fuel that is incompatible with engines today," Drevna said. "We don't believe that putting a 4-square inch sticker on a gasoline pump that will warn consumers about misfueling is going to be effective. Misfueling is going to be inevitable." The court decision lets drivers fill cars made in the model year 2001 or later with E15 fuel, which covers two-thirds of the cars on the road today. Gas retailers, such as convenience stores, will need to properly label the pumps to inform customers about the gasoline. Fuel marketers and refiners will need to register their blends with EPA. Biofuels proponents say auto industry criticism of the E15 fuel is overblown. They label the opposition as petroleum producers straining to shield the



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marketplace from outsiders. Biofuels industry groups also say E15 will help bolster research in other advanced fuels, a step supported by many lawmakers. Drevna on Monday criticized the court decision as well as the renewable fuel standard (RFS), which he said is the main driver for E15. The RFS requires refiners to blend 15 billion gallons of corn ethanol and 21 billion gallons of advanced biofuels — those made from non-food products — into traditional fuel by 2022. Drevna took aim at Congress for expanding the RFS in a 2007 energy law, the Energy Independence and Security Act (EISA), saying that it created artificial demand for biofuels. He said refiners will now be obligated through the court ruling to churn out E15 blends even though there is no commercial market for advanced biofuels. "What does the refiner do? Do they comply with EISA '07 and risk customer outrage, or do we say, 'You know what, Congress, we can't comply with this without putting the consumer at risk. What are you going to do about this?' " Drevna said. The market for E15 appears limited. Just one filling station in the country offers it, and many gasoline retailers fear they would be held liable for engine damage. Drevna said AFPM will start contacting lawmakers when they return from recess. He added that they will "talk to the consumers," but would not specify what that might entail. He also said there are a range of legal options to consider. "There's a lot of avenues that we have out there to let people know that we're on their side," said Drevna. He said he hoped that the issue would help spotlight "this whole ethanol fallacy that's been foisted on the American consumer over the last years." "The proponents try to paint this picture of Grant Wood's 'American Gothic' out there when we all know it's far from that," said Drevna.

<http://thehill.com/blogs/e2-wire/e2-wire/244429-fuel-group-to-press-lawmakers-on-higher-ethanol-gasoline>

USA, NORTHWEST INDIANA, AUGUST 21 2012. BP RECALLS GASOLINE SENT TO REGION FUEL DISTRIBUTORS

BP America issued a recall Monday for unleaded regular gasoline from Northwest Indiana fuel distributors that was shipped from the company's Whiting fuel storage terminal between Aug. 13 and Friday. A statement issued by the company indicates officials believe fuel stored in a tank at the storage depot could cause hard starting, stalling and other vehicle problems. Consumers may have bought the fuel at BP-brand or other fuel retail outlets in the past seven days, according to the company. BP said customers experiencing the problems described should call its customer service hotline at (800) 333-3991. Several people contacted The Times on Monday about problems their cars and trucks have experienced. Among the stations those consumers named were BP, Costco, Luke Oil, Meijer and Thorntons and in municipalities including Hammond, Highland, Lansing, Merrillville and Valparaiso. "It's frustrating because gas is already expensive, and not being able to fill up around here, you don't know if the gas you're gonna get is safe or not now," said Nick West, of Crown Point. Walter Kucharski, a structural engineer from St. John, said he filled up his 2003 GMC Envoy on Thursday at a station in Highland. Vehicle problems began to surface Friday, but Saturday was worse with the vehicle shaking uncontrollably for a few minutes and his check engine light coming on, he said. When Kucharski contacted a service technician at Circle Buick GMC in Highland, he was told he was one of several people who reported the problem. "It underscores just how fragile our transportation system is," Kucharski said. Eric Mayro, of Crown Point, said he may be facing a \$1,200 bill from a Merrillville automobile dealership to have his gas tank cleaned, fuel line purged and spark plugs replaced as a result of the gasoline issues. Representatives from more than a half-dozen local automobile dealerships and independent automobile repair shops said they have received a deluge of service calls since last week related to the gasoline problem. Bob Van Ramshorst, owner of Ridgeway Chevrolet in Lansing, said his dealership handled more than 60 calls Monday from customers dealing with vehicle problems from the gasoline used. Lee Stahr, a shop foreman at Mike Anderson Chevrolet in Merrillville, said technicians have worked to dilute or drain the bad gas from tanks depending on the severity of the situation with each vehicle. Jennifer Whitson, an employee of Shaffer Hyundai in Merrillville, said service representatives have done additional cleaning within vehicle fuel systems and added premium fuel in vehicles to help remedy problems. In its statement, BP said it "is committed to fuel quality and guarantees every gallon of gasoline we sell." "The company is going through its shipping records and contacting Northwest Indiana customers who may have loaded tanker trucks at the storage terminal during this period -- and is replacing the contaminated fuel with fresh product," the statement said. "We would like to apologize for the inconvenience this has caused some of our customers."

Having Issues?

- BP Customer Service Hotline (800) 333-3991
- Details about BP's fuel guarantee can be found at www.mypstation.com/fuels/bp-fuels-guarantee

http://www.nwtimes.com/business/local/bp-recalls-gasoline-sent-to-region-fuel-distributors/article_d5cce1dc-05c9-5907-8528-8e602f01504c.html



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