



## Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network Release 2013 – 960 Newsy Stuff

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

May 15 2013



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### USA, ARK, MAYFLOWER, MAY 4 2013. ARKANSAS OIL SPILL SHATTERS AMERICAN DREAM OF FAMILIES STILL DISPLACED FROM NEW HOMES

maria gallucci

 [Slideshow \[20\] Arkansas Oil Spill Shatters American Dream](#)



*Uprooted and anxious, Arkansans find themselves thrust into the debate about the Canadian oil that filled their streets and the safety of such pipelines. Clean-up workers at the site of Exxon's pipeline spill in the North Woods neighborhood of Mayflower, Ark.*

It has been more than a month now, and Amber Bartlett has had enough of hotels and apartments and trailer homes. Of crowded rooms whose thin walls amplify the bickering of her four children. Of piles of toys and clothes overflowing from drawers and suitcases. Of not knowing, day to day, where her life is headed. She wants to be back in her five-bedroom, three-bathroom home at 16 Starlite Road North in Mayflower, Ark. Ryan Senia, the Bartletts' next-door neighbor, is plenty ready to go home, too. For the past month the 29-year-old electrical engineer has been sleeping on a friend's couch instead of in his bed at 20 Starlite Road North. His power tools and equipment are gathering dust in his garage. His grill sits in his backyard, unused. The Bartletts and Senia are among

21 families who were evacuated from their homes on March 29, after [an ExxonMobil pipeline spilled at least 210,000 gallons of heavy Canadian crude oil into their neighborhood](#). For many of them, buying a home in the six-year-old North Woods subdivision was not only the biggest financial investment of their lives, but an emotional investment as well. North Woods would be a good place to live, they believed, with respected schools, sprawling yards and the convenience of being just a short drive from Little Rock, the state capital. It was a beautiful place, too—about 60 spacious brick houses surrounded by a thick forest of trees and creeks where children could play. "A lot of people were ecstatic" about moving into North Woods, Senia said. "Now, people feel like that dream is shattered due to the uncertainty." The North Woods families have been thrust into the national debate about [the type of crude oil that spilled](#) into their neighborhood—a heavy Canadian oil called diluted bitumen or dilbit—and about [the safety of the pipelines](#) that carry the oil. A [2010 pipeline spill that dumped dilbit into Michigan's Kalamazoo River](#) is still being cleaned up today, almost three years later. Meanwhile, the Obama administration is deciding [whether to approve the Keystone XL pipeline](#), which would carry millions of gallons of dilbit from Alberta, Canada, to the Texas Gulf Coast. Until March 29, Good Friday, the North Woods residents hadn't been touched by this debate. Neither the Bartletts nor Senia had heard of dilbit or paid much attention to the controversy over the Keystone project. They didn't even know that an Exxon pipeline lay buried nearby until oil began flowing down their street.

#### She Was Reading a Book When the Phone Rang

Mayflower [police got the first 911 call at 2:44 p.m.](#) It came from Jennifer Dement of 50 Starlite Road North. "Caller adv that a pipe busted and oil is spilling throughout the neighborhood!!" the 911 entry says. A [22-foot-long section of ExxonMobil's Pegasus pipeline](#) had split open in front of two houses on Starlite Road North and in the forest behind the street. The 858-mile line carries Canadian dilbit from Illinois to Texas, and some of that oil was now blanketing backyards and spilling into the street, up driveways and around a cul-de-sac. Oil was flowing in the other direction, too—away from the neighborhood and into the tiny streams that feed into [a swampy cove of Lake Conway](#), a popular recreation site about a mile away. [Dilbit is composed of a heavy oil known as bitumen](#) that has been diluted with liquid chemicals—which can include benzene—so it can move through pipelines. Once dilbit is released from a pipeline, the chemicals gradually evaporate into the environment. Amber Bartlett had just settled down to read "Crossroads," a Christian novel about a businessman and his near-death experience. She had driven the 20 miles to Little Rock that morning to speak about her IT job at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences with students in the school's medical records degree program. Her husband, Ches, a real estate appraiser for the state highway department, was still at work, and she was looking forward to a few minutes of peace before the kids got home from school. The phone rang just after 3 p.m. It was Raegen, her 16-year-old daughter, calling from her car. Police had closed off the subdivision and wouldn't let her through the gated entrance. "There's an oil spill," Raegen said. "In our neighborhood." Bartlett ran to the front door. She saw oil rolling down the street in waves, lapping at the front yard and pouring into a storm drain near her driveway. An acrid stench filled the air. By the time the police let Raegen through the barricade a few minutes later, the oil had formed a virtual moat between the Bartletts' home and the rest of the street. Bartlett threw her



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daughter a pair of boots, and Raegen waded through the oil to the house. They were grabbing clothes and toiletries when the phone rang again. This time it was the principal at the elementary school that 11-year-old Kalob and 5-year-old Kaden attend. Their school bus couldn't get into the subdivision, so the boys were back at school, waiting to be picked up. "If this [spill] would've happened 30 minutes later, our kids would've been outside playing," Bartlett said. Ryan Senia was also stopped at the police barricade. He had been at work in Little Rock when a friend texted him about the spill. He immediately got in his Volkswagen Passat and headed home. A "sulfur smell" hung in the air, Senia said. Breathing it gave him the sensation you get "if you tried to spray paint in an enclosed room. You get a headache. That's how I kind of felt." Senia couldn't persuade the police to let him through the blockade. So he went to a friend's house near the town of Sherwood, about 40 miles away. The next afternoon, Exxon held a meeting in the Mayflower High School cafeteria, which residents learned about through word of mouth. Company representatives gathered phone numbers and email addresses from the displaced families and promised to pay their hotel bills and other living expenses. Senia didn't want to stay in a hotel. So he went back to his friend's place in Sherwood.

#### Life Became More Hectic by the Day

At first, the Bartlett children were excited about staying in a hotel and eating at their favorite restaurants every night. They splashed in the indoor pool and loaded up their plates at the breakfast buffet. It was almost like being on vacation, with ExxonMobil footing the bill. "They saw it as an adventure," Bartlett said. But with six people crowded into two hotel rooms, life became "more hectic by the day." The baby of the family, three-year-old Aluren, needed to go to bed earlier than the older children. And being away from the bus route meant that Kalob and Kaden had to be driven back and forth to school. The adventure quickly deteriorated into "I want my own room," Bartlett said. "They're arguing and bickering worse than they normally do." To get the kids out of the cramped quarters, the family began spending weekends at Ches's mother's house, 60 miles away. Or at Amber's mother's home, 90 miles away. On April 14, Exxon notified the Bartletts by email that it would pay each evacuated family \$10,000 (in addition to their hotel bills and other expenses) for the inconvenience they had suffered, a check they've since received. The email also said the company would buy homes damaged by the oil at their pre-spill value. The Bartletts immediately decided to accept the offer. Amber Bartlett said she and Ches just wouldn't feel comfortable letting their kids play in the yard or in the woods where toxins and chemicals had spilled. Exxon and local health authorities have assured the people of Mayflower that air quality tests show the air is safe to breathe. Still, Bartlett worries about the long-term effects of the oil. In the first weeks after the spill Kalob and Kaden had diarrhea and vomiting. She wasn't sure if it was something they picked up at school or a reaction to the oil. Raegen and Aluren have been okay. But when Amber returned to the house the week after the spill she quickly became nauseated and vomited. In mid-April, she visited the house again, so consultants from the Arkansas Attorney General's office could get inside to test the air. By the time she left, an hour later, she had a bad headache and itchy, burning eyes. Last week when she and Ches stopped by again, she was fine. The smell was all but gone. The family member whose health has been most affected by the spill is Charlie, their four-year-old dog, who is staying in Mayflower with Amber's sister. A few weeks after the spill, Charlie's back legs were temporarily paralyzed after he got loose and ran through an oily patch. Exxon paid for the three days Charlie spent with a veterinarian neurologist. "I'm just fortunate that it wasn't one my kids," Bartlett said.

#### From Hotel to Apartment to Trailer

In late April, representatives from [Crawford & Company](#), an Atlanta-based claims management firm Exxon hired to help compensate families, told the Bartletts it would be "quite a bit longer" before they could move back home and offered to help them find an apartment. On April 26, the Bartletts moved into a three-bedroom, two-bathroom apartment in the town of Maumelle, about 10 miles away. It was unfurnished, so Exxon paid for furniture, cookware and other necessities. In an interview on her first day in the new apartment, Bartlett said it was "doable," even though it was much smaller than their house on Starlite Road North. But just five days later, the Bartletts had to move again, after other tenants in the apartment complex complained that their kids were too loud. Exxon quickly offered to pay for the family to return to their hotel, and to let them to keep the lease on the apartment. Instead, the Bartletts accepted a friend's offer of a fully furnished trailer home in Mayflower, about two miles from their house in North Woods. They moved in on Tuesday. "We feel like gypsies, like vagabonds," Bartlett said Wednesday morning, her voice tinged with fatigue. "My children are beginning to have a real difficult time with it. Nothing is routine or familiar to them. I just want it to be over." For Ryan Senia, the hardest part of this experience has been his feeling of displacement. Every other day or so he goes back to pick up the mail or gather more belongings or, sometimes, just to sit on his own couch in the comfort of his own home. He had been planning to sell the house before the spill, so he could move to a younger, hipper neighborhood in Little Rock. But he didn't want the move to happen like this, with the stigma of spilled oil



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tarring the neighborhood's reputation—a place he called a "high-quality neighborhood for middle class people." Now, his once-quiet neighborhood is groaning with the sounds of the heavy trucks that are sucking up oil and tearing up and replacing streets and concrete curbs. [Oil-soaked trees and grass have been torn from their roots.](#) "Even though I had it up for sale, it's still where I was hanging my hat," Senia said. "I think about home a lot."

### Living in Limbo

Today, almost five weeks after the spill, the 21 families evacuated from the North Woods subdivision in Mayflower, Ark. [are still living in limbo.](#) On April 29 ExxonMobil announced that it would begin a "reentry plan" for them to return home in the next few weeks, a process that includes air sampling by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Exxon's offer to buy the 11 homes closest to the spill, including the Bartlett's and Senia's, still stands. The company has a slightly different plan for the 10 other homeowners who were evacuated but whose property wasn't touched by the oil. If they put their houses up for sale and can't find buyers—or if the best offer comes in lower than it would have before the spill—Exxon will either buy the house or make up the difference in the sales price. Exactly how and when these plans will be executed still isn't clear. Senia said a Crawford & Company representative told him the homeowners should "expect to receive a 130-page document in the near future" that the firm will deliver in person. Exxon spokesman Russ Roberts told InsideClimate News that "specific details of the plan will be shared with [homeowners] in the coming days." The objective of the compensation program is to make residents "whole as a result of the pipeline incident," Roberts said. That's the same promise Amber Bartlett remembers another Exxon employee making the day after the spill occurred. She said the man seemed very sincere when he said the company would "make our family whole again." And I believed him, because I take people at face value." But Bartlett is no longer sure Exxon can actually fulfill that promise. Even if the company pays them enough to build a new house as big as their old one, in a neighborhood with schools as good as those her children now attend, where will her family live for the many months it will take for it to be built? In their friend's trailer? Money alone "does not compensate us for what we've had to go through," she said. Bartlett said her Christian faith and the [members of her First Baptist Church have helped keep her grounded](#) during this difficult period. She said she's come to put the pipeline spill into perspective, and is grateful that her family, while displaced, is still together and healthy. "Yes, we're out of our home," she said. "But we're all okay. And we're all going to be okay." Senia's experience has led him down a slightly different path. He's thinking more about pipelines these days, and about the research he'll do before he buys his next house. And he wants to know [what can be done to keep another spill from happening](#) in some other neighborhood. "What would need to be different in the future?" he asks. On Wednesday a friend called Senia to tell him that [the next leak has already happened.](#) It was a small one—only 40 gallons—on a section of ExxonMobil's Pegasus line that cuts through a neighborhood in Ripley County, Mo. "It's just upsetting," Senia said. "Now it's leaking somewhere else."

<http://insideclimatenews.org/news/20130502/arkansas-oil-spill-shatters-american-dream-families-still-displaced-new-homes>

### USA, N.H, KEENE, MAY 4 2013. CRASH KILLS TWO IN KEENE; EFFECTS FELT IN CITY

 **Photo's [32] 2 Dead in Fiery Tanker Crash**



*Emergency personnel work the scene of a deadly crash on Route 12 North in Keene Friday. A Hinsdale man and woman were killed when their car collided with a tractor trailer carrying thousands of gallons of fuel.*

Two people were killed Friday morning on Route 12 North in Keene when their car collided with a tractor trailer carrying thousands of gallons of fuel. A third person was taken to the hospital. The victims were identified as Douglas Farr Jr., 32, and Erin Breault, 35, both of Hinsdale, who were in the 2011 Hyundai. The truck driver, Jeffrey J. Cloran, 54, of Becket, Mass., was treated and released from Cheshire Medical Center/Dartmouth-Hitchcock Keene. The truck belongs to J.P. Noonan Transportation, based in West Bridgewater, Mass. A company representative declined comment, but said a safety official was sent to the scene.

Cloran was able to get out of the cab and walked north on Route 12 away from the crash, Keene Deputy Fire Chief Mark F. Howard said Friday night. R.J. DiLuzio Ambulance personnel met Cloran on Maple Avenue near the Route 12 overpass, he said. Police say the Hyundai, driven by Farr, was traveling south on Route 12 when it crossed the center line into the path of the northbound tractor trailer. The truck caught fire, rupturing one of the trailer fuel cells, police said. It took about an hour for the Keene Fire Department, along with other agencies, to make the scene safe. The truck was carrying about 5,000 gallons of fuel, police said — 3,998 gallons was gasoline and 1,002 gallons was diesel. The truck, which had five fuel storage



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compartments, had fuel unloaded from the first compartment at a stop in Keene before getting on Route 12, Howard said. The car and truck came to rest 300 to 500 feet apart, he said. Last year, Farr was involved in a fatal shooting in a remote area of Chesterfield. Farr suffered a single gunshot wound and Mark McAuley, 39, of Hinsdale was killed by multiple gunshot wounds, authorities said in April 2012. One year later, the case remains unsolved, and the N.H. Attorney General's Office has not released further details. Farr has three young sons with his ex-wife. Breault was an licensed nursing assistant at Maplewood Nursing Home in Westmoreland. She studied at River Valley Community College and was a 1996 graduate of Hinsdale High School, according to her Facebook page. She has a teenage daughter. On her Facebook page, she said, "i'm a pretty easy going person, love to laugh and have fun life is too short not to have fun." David P. Therrien of Alstead was driving north on Route 12 shortly before the 10:30 a.m. crash and was one of the first people on the scene. "It appeared as though a vehicle in the southbound lane crossed into the northbound lane and struck the tanker," he said. "I both saw and heard it, and you felt it." Therrien and other witnesses got out of their vehicles and ran to the car, he said. "There was a four-door sedan, and I was closest to that vehicle. I ran up to that vehicle along with another woman and man, and it was clear to me that the occupants were deceased. There was a man in the driver seat and a woman in the passenger seat." The two appeared to be young, which is what prompted Therrien to check the car for any children. "I opened up the back door to see if there was another occupant, a baby or anything, but I didn't find anyone in there." Therrien said he could see other witnesses attempting to help the driver of the tanker, he said. "I heard two, maybe three explosions, not extremely loud explosions. I don't think it was the contents of the tanker, but heard three decent pops; it could have been the battery of something," he said. It was about that time that Therrien told the other witnesses near him that they should probably back away from the area as soon as possible. Howard said the explosions likely came from the truck's tires, as the compartments of the trailer were aluminum, which melted and failed. He doesn't believe the truck's saddle tanks exploded, he said. Maegan E. Williams was on her way home to Gilsum, about 200 yards in front of the tanker, when the crash happened, she said. "I didn't see anything until the crash, but I did see the crash," she said, describing the Hyundai crossing the center line. "The passenger car was obliterated, it didn't even look like a car." Williams said emergency dispatchers were trying to get license plate information from witnesses at the scene, but they couldn't even make out the plates because the car was so badly damaged. Williams also saw people assisting the truck driver. "It was in flames," she said. "It looked like its own fuel was on fire, underneath the cab, and you could feel the heat from it on your face. It started making explosions, and there was black smoke everywhere. I was standing there waiting to see if I should give a statement to someone, but obviously it wasn't safe to be there." Black, acrid smoke could be seen from around the area rising from the crash site. Howard said toxicity wasn't a concern because the fire was burning so hot, and firefighters were able to knock down most of the blaze within a half hour. There also wasn't a residential neighborhood near the scene, he said. Initially, fire trucks were kept at least 300 feet away, but firefighters were sent in closer to quell the flames, he said. "There was major risk initially in trying to extinguish the fire. Once the fire was out, we were able to do a very good job of controlling the scene," he said. No injuries were reported among the 100 emergency responders and representatives from local and state agencies at the scene. With no fire hydrants along that stretch of Route 12, establishing a water supply was a major issue, Howard said. Firefighters ended up running about 3,000 feet of hose from a hydrant on West Street up the Route 12 ramp and to the scene. Tankers supplied water to fight the fire from the north end, making trips back and forth to a hydrant about a mile away on Maple Avenue by the Keene Middle School, he said. Another challenge was attacking a fire with flammable liquids involved, and foam had to be used, he said. Howard said between 100 and 150 gallons of fuel leaked from the truck's two saddle tanks, which were compromised in the crash. Some of that diesel fuel ran onto the road, while the rest drained into a tributary of the Ashuelot River on the east side of Route 12. That spill was contained within 20 feet of where it entered the tributary, and didn't get into the river, he said. State officials said the diesel fuel spilled during the crash was being handled onsite by a cleaning company hired by J.P. Noonan. The spill response team used a "containment boom" device to prevent more fuel from making it into or through the storm drain, and any fuel that did make it through was limited to the retention pond, where it will be cleaned up by members of a private cleanup company hired by J.P. Noonan, said James P. Martin, spokesman for the N.H. Department of Environmental Services. The fuel and dry conditions also sparked a brush fire nearby. And the fire damaged power lines running over the highway, which complicated removing the truck. Route 12 between West Street and Maple Avenue was shut down for nearly 10 hours, creating snarls of traffic in the city. There were never any serious concerns at Keene schools, school officials said. Children at Symonds School were kept inside for late morning recess, and all windows in the school were closed. Children did go out for noontime recess. All other Keene public schools operated normally. Superintendent Wayne E. Woolridge used an automated phone alert system at 12:30 p.m. to notify parents of the accident, and that buses might be late picking up and dropping off students because of the traffic problems. The Keene



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Fire Department was assisted at the scene by the Westmoreland, Brattleboro, Harrisville, Marlborough, Chesterfield, Sullivan, Winchester, Swanzey, Dublin and Spofford fire departments. Marlborough, Peterborough, Putney, Vt., Westminster, Vt., and Brattleboro fire departments covered the city, as did Walpole. Other agencies that responded included, the Keene and Swanzey police departments, Keene Department of Public Works, DiLiuzio ambulance, N.H. Department of Environmental Services, N.H. Department of Transportation and N.H. State Police. In the cleanup process, a truck was brought in to take on the fuel remaining in the tanker before it was righted and removed. Therrien, one of the witnesses, said he was about three seconds behind the tanker, and afterward, couldn't help but think about his own three children. "What occurred to me, more than feeling lucky, was that I have three teenagers that are about to start driving, and how fast and powerful something like that can happen," he said. "I thought of them, not me."

[http://www.sentinel-source.com/news/local/crash-kills-two-in-keene-effects-felt-in-city/article\\_35da80b2-ad0e-5672-8429-1011b1961fd2.html](http://www.sentinel-source.com/news/local/crash-kills-two-in-keene-effects-felt-in-city/article_35da80b2-ad0e-5672-8429-1011b1961fd2.html)

### INDIA, KHANDALA, MAY 4 2013. E-WAY BLOCKED FOR FIVE HOURS AS LPG TANKER TURNS TURTLE



*Major disaster averted as experts manage to fix leakage before gas could spread.*

Vehicular traffic on the Pune-Mumbai Expressway was thrown out of gear for nearly five hours after a tanker carrying Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) turned turtle in Bor Ghat section near Khandala causing leakage of LPG on Friday morning. A major disaster was averted as the experts managed to fix the leakage before the gas could spread in the locality. Inspector Rajendra Mokashi, incharge of Khopoli police station said, "The Pune-bound tanker belonging to Bharat Petroleum Company Limited (BPCL) was carrying nearly 17 tonnes of LPG. According to the driver, the steering of the tanker got jammed due to which he lost control at the wheel and it turned turtle. As the tanker toppled, its valve got damaged and LPG started leaking out in large quantity." He said that the police blocked entire traffic movement on the expressway from both the sides, as a small spark could have ignited fire in the area. Mokashi said, "Initially the fire fighters tried releasing LPG from the tanker. However, the tanker contained a huge amount of LPG which could have spread in the entire area. Later, a team of BPCL experts was called from Pune." According to Mokashi, the BPCL experts wanted to transfer the LPG into another tanker but the entire procedure would have taken a lot of time. Therefore, the team first fixed the leakage of the valve. "After fixing the leakage, the team checked whether LPG has spread in the air in big quantity. The expressway was thrown open to traffic only after the experts gave a green signal. It remained closed for traffic for almost five hours," Mokashi added.

 **Related Stories** [They didn't know how to fix the leak](http://www.dnaindia.com/pune/1830505/report-e-way-blocked-for-five-hours-as-lpg-tanker-turns-turtle)

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### CYPRUS, LARNACA, MAY 4 2013. MAN INJURED BY FIREWORKS

A 21-year old from Larnaca was taken to hospital yesterday after injuring himself with fireworks, one of which backfired, burning his face, his left hand, and bruising his left eye, police said. The young man was trying to set-off the fireworks opposite the Faneromeni Church in Larnaca where the traditional 'Lambradja' bonfire was being prepared for tomorrow night. Larnaca Police spokesman Christos Andreou told reporters that around 1am yesterday, officers were informed that the 21-year-old had been taken to the emergency department at Larnaca hospital. "On-duty doctors examined him and ascertained he had suffered burns to his face and left hand as well as bruising to his left eye," Andreou said. The young man was kept in hospital during the day for observation. "From initial investigations it is believed that he was burnt on the face and on his hand after his attempts to set-off fireworks, which backfired," Andreou added. The spokesman explained that although the firecracker had been made from permitted materials, it had not been used in accordance with the instructions. "The wrong use of these devices can result in the loss of fingers, severe injuries and in some circumstances death," he said. "We call on everyone to be careful and refrain from using these sorts of dangerous items which can endanger people's lives." In a statement released yesterday, police spokesman Andreas Angelides, called on the public to celebrate Easter for the real reasons and not in an attempt to show off which could place their lives in danger. "Our goal is to protect young people but also not to mourn any loss of life," Angelides said. As far as traditional 'Lambradja' bonfires are concerned, Angelides said the police had met with the fire



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service and local and church authorities in all districts to check that none were being illegally gathered. Every year a number of injuries are reported on the island, in the run-up to Easter, as youngsters attempt to out-do their peers by building big bonfires and setting-off extravagant firecrackers.

<http://www.cyprus-mail.com/andreas-angelides/man-injured-fireworks/20130503>

### **SUDAN, DARFUR, MAY 4 2013. 100 DEAD, RESCUERS TRAPPED IN DARFUR DISASTER**

Around 100 miners are estimated to have died inside a collapsed gold mine in Sudan's Darfur region and nine rescuers trying to free them are now trapped, a miner said on Friday. "Nine of the rescue team disappeared when the land collapsed around them yesterday (Thursday)," said the miner, who had visited the scene and asked to remain anonymous. On Monday the unlicensed desert gold mine began to collapse in Jebel Amir district, more than 200 kilometres (125 miles) northwest of the North Darfur state capital El Fasher. The stench of death is now seeping out of the baked earth, the miner said. "Yesterday eight bodies have been found and still they are looking for the others," he said. "According to a count by people working in the mine, the number of people inside is more than 100." On Thursday the Jebel Amir district chief, Haroun al-Hassan, said "the number of people who died is more than 60", but it was unclear whether anyone might still be alive. Hassan could not be reached on Friday. Earlier he said rescuers were using hand tools out of fear that machinery would cause a further collapse. But the ground fell around some of the rescuers anyway. Production from unofficial gold mines has become a key revenue source for the cash-strapped government in Khartoum.

<http://www.globalpost.com/dispatch/news/afp/130503/100-dead-rescuers-trapped-darfur-disaster-1>

### **ENGLAND, ESSEX, CORRINGHAM, MAY 4 2013. WOMAN INJURED IN TANKER CRASH**

Two women were injured, one seriously, after a crash in Corringham. Police are appealing for witnesses following the collision in Giffords Cross Road this morning. It happened at around 9.30am and involved a silver Mini and a Shell fuel tanker. The mini was being driven by a 68-year-old woman from Fobbing who is currently in Basildon Hospital suffering from severe internal injuries. Her 82-year-old passenger, who lives in Stanford-le-hope, suffered a serious leg injury and is also being treated at Basildon Hospital. The 50-year-old driver of the tanker who lives in Pitsea was not injured. The carriageway was closed from the time of the incident until 4pm. Any witnesses should contact Pc Tim Hardy-Wallace at Laindon Road Policing Unit on Essex Police 101.

[http://www.thurrockgazette.co.uk/news/10399058.Updated\\_Woman\\_injured\\_in\\_tanker\\_crash\\_in\\_Corringham/](http://www.thurrockgazette.co.uk/news/10399058.Updated_Woman_injured_in_tanker_crash_in_Corringham/)

### **USA, PA, BEAVER CO, HOPEWELL TWP, MAY 4 2013. TANKER ACCIDENT CLOSSES PART OF I-376**

jenny wagner

 [Watch the Video Tanker Accident](#)



*A portion of Interstate 376 in Hopewell Township was shut down after a tanker truck overturned and began to leak fuel.*

A portion of Interstate 376 in Hopewell Township was shut down after a tanker truck overturned and began to leak fuel. The accident happened shortly after 1 p.m. Friday in the westbound lanes just before the Hopewell exit. State police said the tanker from Glassmere Fuel Services, based in Curtisville, Pa., was hauling an unspecified amount of diesel fuel when it went through a guard rail and over an embankment along I-376. Initial reports stated that the tanker was leaking fuel at a rate of two gallons per minute. Police said a driver of another truck, who saw the tanker go over the guard rail and down the hill, stopped to help the Glassmere driver out of the vehicle. Police said the Glassmere driver suffered facial injuries and was taken to a local hospital. A telephone message

left for the owner of Glassmere was not returned Friday afternoon. Aliquippa and Hopewell fire departments, as well as Beaver County Emergency Services and Hazmat crews responded to the scene. PennDOT spokesman Steve Cowan said police were re-routing traffic from westbound I-376 and Business 376 onto Flaugherly Run Road and then onto Brodhead Road, which has several access points back to I-376. The road was still closed and crews were still at the scene as of 5 p.m. Friday.

[http://www.timesonline.com/news/police\\_fire\\_courts/tanker-accident-closes-part-of-i/article\\_ae59c403-9fd5-51d8-a39c-7f2bf4a88190.html](http://www.timesonline.com/news/police_fire_courts/tanker-accident-closes-part-of-i/article_ae59c403-9fd5-51d8-a39c-7f2bf4a88190.html)



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

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### USA, MI, MACOMB CO, MAY 4 2013. OIL SPILL FOUND IN RED RUN RIVER IN MACOMB COUNTY

An oil spill was discovered in the Red Run River in Macomb County, Michigan, CBS Detroit's website reported on Friday. Police confirmed the spill in the area of 14 Mile and Hoover roads in Sterling Heights, the report said, citing witnesses who saw a black sheen on the water. The source of the spill was not immediately known. "It's not a normal, change your car oil over the sewer drain. This is a serious amount of oil in this river," resident Mike Rogers told CBS Detroit.

<http://www.theoaklandpress.com/articles/2013/05/03/news/doc5183ce6cbe468830172183.txt>

### USA, MN, VIKING, MAY 4 2013. ENBRIDGE INVESTIGATES SMALL OIL SPILL IN NORTHWESTERN MINNESOTA

Enbridge Energy Partners says it's investigating the cause of a crude oil leak at its pumping station in the northwestern Minnesota town of Viking. The leak was discovered Tuesday afternoon. Enbridge spokesman Larry Springer says a little less than 600 gallons spilled on the ground, or 14 barrels. He says it was completely contained within a protective barrier inside the pumping station perimeter. Springer says the leak involved a 2-inch pipe that's part of the pressure measurement system, not the main pipeline itself. However, he says, the main pipeline was shut down for a little over five hours as a precaution while the source was confirmed and repairs began. He says crews will have to dig up about 50 cubic yards of soil and take it to a disposal facility.

<http://www.startribune.com/local/204787201.html?refer=y>

### USA, TX, HOUSTON, MAY 4 2013. JUDGE IN HOUSTON DECLINES TO DISMISS ENVIRONMENTAL LAWSUIT AGAINST EXXONMOBIL OVER REFINERY

A federal judge has declined to throw out a 2010 environmental lawsuit against ExxonMobil Corp. over emissions from its Baytown oil refinery. U.S. District Judge David Hittner in Houston on Thursday adopted a magistrate's April 3 recommendation that the Sierra Club and Environment Texas lawsuit be allowed to proceed. Hittner in 2011 also declined to dismiss the lawsuit that alleges the nation's largest refinery violated air pollution laws thousands of times since 2005. Irving-based ExxonMobil didn't immediately comment Friday. The company previously denied the allegations and said emissions from its Baytown refinery were lower than limits set by the Environmental Protection Agency. Luke Metzger with Environment Texas says the ruling vindicates the rights of citizens to bring polluters to justice when state and federal agencies aren't getting the job done.

<http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/e5baf40e1f374bb596a3e085f95947e6/TX--ExxonMobil-Lawsuit>

### USA, KS, MCLOUTH, MAY 4 2013. MCLOUTH FUEL SPILL FORCES EVACUATIONS

*laura mccallister & justin schmidt,*

 **Watch the Video**

- [Gas Spill in McLouth at Gas Station](#)
- [McLouth Fuel Spill Forces Evacuations](#)



An overnight fuel spill forced several McLouth, KS, residents out of their homes. People could still smell the fuel Saturday morning after the spill the night before. Crews spent the morning working to clean up the possibly hundreds of gallons of diesel. It happened just before 11 p.m. Friday. A truck off-loaded more than 1,800 gallons of fuel to the BP gas station in McLouth. Jefferson County emergency management is still trying to determine how much fuel was spilled. The diesel ran downhill into a neighborhood. Two families were evacuated, mostly because of the odor from the fuel vapor. McLouth fire and hazmat teams were working all night to clean up the spill. They used backhoes to dig a trench and dam in hopes of containing the fuel, then used a vacuum truck to remove what they could. Officials are still investigating exactly how the spill happened. The Kansas Department of Health and Environment will be assisting with the investigation. "The smell was really bad. Sometimes you can smell the gas from BP anyways so

we didn't think much of it until they showed up last night," said Amber Lentz, a member of one of the families evacuated. Emergency management officials said the recent rain and drizzle helped the cleanup because the ground is saturated and the fuel wasn't absorbing into the soil as much as it could be.

<http://www.kctv5.com/story/22161483/mclouth-fuel-spill-forces-evacuations>



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#### USA, MO, ST. LOUIS, MAY 4 2013. MISSISSIPPI RIVER OIL SPILL: FOURTEEN BARGES BREAK AWAY, 300 GALLONS UNLOADED

sam levin

 [Watch the Video 300 Gallons of Oil Spill into Mississippi River after Barge Breakaway](#)



*A barge on the loose after last week's accident.*

Last week, [114 barges in St. Louis broke free into the Mississippi River](#) -- 11 of which sank. At about the same time, local officials were also dealing with a treatment plant failure that resulted in [untreated sewage flowing into the river at a high rate](#). Now, there has been an oil spill. Late last night, the Coast Guard says, approximately 300 gallons of crude oil were unloaded into the river after a vessel struck a fleeting area near Alton, Illinois -- causing fourteen barges to break away. "We have found no environmental impact, but we will continue to monitor the situation and conduct harbor patrols," Lt. Colin Fogarty of the U.S. Coast Guard tells Daily RFT. The official news alert on the spill says that at 12:57 a.m. a vessel hit a fleeting area, which prompted the barge breakaway as well as the

escape of two dry docks -- and more. The barges then hit numerous other facilities, dry docks and another barge, ultimately leading to the 300-gallon spill. "We haven't had any proof of the environment being affected in any way," Fogarty tells us, later adding, "The Mississippi River just has so much water flowing through it now." Initially, officials closed the river "to allow for safe and effective clean up and salvage operations," the Coast Guard news release says. Currently, the breakaway barges, flats and dry docks have been accounted for and secured, officials say and Coast Guard forces are on the scene doing inspections of the facilities and barges. They are also conducting a shoreline assessment to evaluate any environmental damage. The closed section of the river was reopened at 2:13 a.m. There were no injuries or deaths reported in the incident. "The Coast Guard is assessing the situation," Captain Byron Black, commander of Coast Guard Sector Upper Mississippi River says in a statement. "Our primary concern is to ensure the safety of people, the environment, and the waterway, to that end, we have personnel on scene actively inspecting affected facilities and vessels and evaluating the River."

[http://blogs.riverfronttimes.com/dailyrft/2013/05/mississippi\\_river\\_oil\\_spill\\_coast\\_guard\\_st\\_louis.php](http://blogs.riverfronttimes.com/dailyrft/2013/05/mississippi_river_oil_spill_coast_guard_st_louis.php)

#### USA, ARK, MAYFLOWER, MAY 4 2013. EXXON SPILLS TAR SANDS OIL AGAIN, CAN'T FIND 126,000 GALLONS SPILLED IN ARKANSAS



*Exxon, cleaning up another oil spill from the Pegasus tar sands oil pipeline.*

ExxonMobil has now confirmed that on Tuesday, the Pegasus pipeline that has been out of service since it spilled thousands of barrels of oil into Mayflower, Arkansas in March [spilled some more](#) into a yard in [Missouri](#). In the town of Doniphan about 190 miles north of Mayflower, a resident reported seeing some oil and dead vegetation in the yard. Though small in scope, perhaps as little as 42 gallons, the spill is a reminder that oil is messy, tar sands oil particularly so, and transporting it across the country is extremely risky. More pressing is the missing oil in Mayflower from the spill last month. The [Sierra Club](#) requested the accident incident report, which said that 3,000 barrels of oil (some 126,000 gallons) have not been recovered no matter how energetic Exxon's response was: Despite a massive cleanup effort in the Mayflower, Arkansas, neighborhood, the federal pipeline safety agency reports that ExxonMobil has recovered only 2,000 of the total 5,000 barrels of spilled tar sands crude. The

[accident incident report](#), which the agency shared with the Sierra Club after a Freedom of Information Act request, gives new insight into the size of the spill and the ineffectiveness of the cleanup effort. The report reveals that in total 83 people were evacuated from their homes, emergency response took 40 minutes, the pipeline was operating at 708 pounds of pressure when it burst, and 2,000 barrels reached local waterways. The Pegasus pipeline was built to carry diesel fuel in 1947, Exxon converted the pipeline to carry tar sands crude and reversed its flow in 2006. In 2011, the federal pipeline safety agency fined Exxon \$26,500 for failure to properly inspect a section of the line. The report also states that even though there are at least 3,000 unrecovered barrels of oil, the current "estimated cost of public and non-Operator private property damage" is \$0. At the



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same time, when [ClimateProgress](#) reported on the tax loophole that allows oil companies like Exxon to avoid paying into the federal Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund because tar sands oil is not classified as oil, Exxon's [response](#) was that it was "paying all valid claims relating to the spill." They even doubled down and [tweeted](#) as much. But Exxon's opinion of what a constitutes a "valid" claim is key here. The oil in this pipeline is not paying a cent per barrel into the [cleanup fund](#) created to be the backstop for corporate intransigence: "When the responsible party is unknown or refuses to pay, funds from the Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund can be used to cover removal costs or damages resulting from discharges of oil." Last month, local residents [filed a lawsuit](#) against Exxon seeking \$5 million in damages. The cleanup is still ongoing, and many residents have [still not been allowed back into their homes](#) a month after the spill. In fact, Exxon has offered to [buy](#) some of the affected homes. Those 3,000 barrels, or 126,000 gallons of heavy tar sands crude oil, went somewhere. Exxon acknowledges that it did spill into a cove near Lake Conway. Arkansas Attorney General Dustin McDaniel confirmed that the cove does connect to Lake Conway. Third-party observers have [noted](#) that this means there is oil flowing into the Arkansas River. Exxon points to testing from the Arkansas DEP that find no oil in Lake Conway, but those tests only sample the top and bottom of the Lake. Other tests sampling [the whole water column](#) have found oil in Lake Conway. If the spill has spread beyond Mayflower, an apologetic ["community newsletter"](#) featuring the release of selected ducks and turtles into marshland will not be enough. While Exxon's Valdez spill more than 20 years ago was much larger than the Mayflower spill, the company was [rebuffing](#) claims of liability for future losses as recently as 2011. Exxon pulled in [\\$9.5 billion](#) in pure profits in the first quarter of this year.

<http://theenergycollective.com/josephromm/220366/exxon-spills-tar-sands-oil-126000-gallons-spilled-arkansas>

### ENGLAND, DEVON, MAY 4 2013. PIB CHEMICAL POLLUTION KILLS MORE BIRDS THAN MSC NAPOLI

[Watch the Video](#) [MP raises fears over bird pollutant](#) [Watch](#)



*More birds have been killed by PIB this year off Devon, Cornwall and Dorset, than died as a result of the MSC Napoli beaching in 2007.*

Nearly 3,000 birds have been killed or injured by the chemical polyisobutene (PIB) off the south and south-west coast this year. The RSPB, RSPCA and local wildlife charities described it as "one of the worst UK marine pollution incidents". About 20 species have washed up covered in the substance on beaches in Devon, Cornwall and Dorset since February. The RSPB said the death toll has exceeded the number affected by the [MSC Napoli](#) beaching off Devon in 2007.

#### **'Inexcusable & Unacceptable'**

PIB, a lubricant used to improve engine performance, can be legally discharged when ships wash out their tanks. Wildlife charities want international action to stop the chemical, which does not break up easily, being discharged into the sea. Last month transport minister Stephen Hammond said discharges by chemical tankers were being investigated by the UK and other European countries and the results would be passed to the International Maritime Organisation (IMO). A statement issued by the RSPCA, RSPB, Devon, Cornwall and Dorset Wildlife Trusts and the British Trust for Ornithology (BTO), said 2,400 birds had died and more than 500 live but "disabled" birds had been rescued and taken for treatment. It said PIB becomes strongly adhesive in the sea, coating the birds and restricting their movements and their ability to feed. The RSPB's Tony Whitehead said: "This is one of the worst marine pollution incidents in decades, bringing to mind other disasters going right back to the Torrey Canyon in 1967." He said it was a wake-up call "to give proper protection to our precious sea life". Adam Grogan, from the RSPCA, said the first incident in February was heartbreaking, but for it to happen twice was "inexcusable and unacceptable". Post-mortem tests have been carried out on hundreds of the dead birds by the BTO and the results are due to be published within the next few weeks. "The timing of this incident will have contributed to the large number of casualties...but where this impact will be most noticeable isn't yet known," BTO spokesman Mark Grantham said. The charities have urged members of the public to sign petitions by Avaaz and 38 Degrees to support their call for a ban of dumping chemicals at sea.

#### **Related Stories**

- [Tanker probe over bird oil deaths](#)
- [Up to 200 'sticky' birds feared dead](#)
- [Bird pollutant release 'madness'](#)

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-22394680>



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#### USA, VA, NEWPORT NEWS, MAY 4 2013. WOMAN FALLS INTO EMPTY SHIP FUEL TANK IN NEWPORT NEWS

*andrea castillo*

Fire Department's Special Operations teams rescued a 52-year-old woman who fell into an empty fuel tank on a bulk cargo ship Friday. The woman, who worked on the LTC John U.D. Page in the city's industrial waterfront area, fell 20 feet in the tank in the ship's engine room just after 2:30 p.m., according to a news release from the Newport News Fire Department. The woman was taken to the [Riverside Regional Medical Center](http://www.dailypress.com/news/breaking/dp-fire-crews-rescue-workers-20130503_0_365763.story) with non-life threatening injuries, and the fire department didn't have any more information about her condition. Newport News' Technical Rescue Team, Hazardous Materials Team and Marine Incident Response Team rescue the woman with specialized vertical rescue tools and techniques.

[http://www.dailypress.com/news/breaking/dp-fire-crews-rescue-workers-20130503\\_0\\_365763.story](http://www.dailypress.com/news/breaking/dp-fire-crews-rescue-workers-20130503_0_365763.story)

#### CANADA, B.C, VANCOUVER, MAY 4 2013. CHEMICAL SOUP USED IN FRACKING INCLUDES HYDROCHLORIC ACID, ANTIFREEZE

*kevin griffin*



*A worker checks water and temperature levels in a series of tanks at an Encana hydraulic fracturing operation at a gas drilling site in Colorado on March 29, 2013.*

Toxic chemicals such as hydrochloric acid and ethylene glycol (antifreeze) are among those pumped underground to help release natural gas through hydraulic fracturing, according to a database operated by the B.C. Oil and Gas Commission. Environment Canada wants gas companies to fully disclose what fluids they inject deep underground during fracking, a process that fractures shale rock with tonnes of sand, water and chemicals injected at high pressure to get the gas out. Disclosure is voluntary and the database FracFocus.ca reveals some of the fluids used. However, it doesn't list quantities, and types of chemicals vary from site to site. In correspondence obtained by the Vancouver

Sun, Environment Canada's top official told the Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers -- the main Canadian oil and gas lobby group -- that the government needs more information about the fracking process. While both industry and government regulators claim that the depths at which fracking occurs -- up to two kilometres -- prevent pollution of surface water, there is growing evidence in the U.S. that fracking does affect groundwater supplies, according to Ben Parfitt, a resource policy analyst with the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives. "We are seeing contamination of groundwater that is used by people," he said in a phone interview. "There is evidence in Colorado and Wyoming where tests have been done of signatures of gas showing up in drinking water supply. The troubling thing about these findings is that the gas originates in very deep zones. There is an unquestionable link with water contamination in some states in the United States as a result of fracking activities." The non-profit ProPublica newsroom has reported water contamination in almost 1,000 rural water wells in regions where drilling is taking place. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is investigating the link between hydraulic fracturing and water contamination and expects to release its report next year. On FracFocus.ca, oil and gas companies drilling in B.C. list some of the fluids injected deep into the ground at high pressure. Suncor Energy well #27583 in Peace River North, for example, is listed as using more than 30 ingredients, including hydrochloric acid, xylene, light aromatic naphtha, polyethylene glycol and kerosene. The B.C. Oil and Gas Commission said there are no documented cases of groundwater in B.C. being contaminated by either the fluid used in hydraulic fracking or by natural gas released through fracking. "In B.C., any produced fluids must be either recycled, meaning they are used again in the production of natural gas, or disposed of at an approved disposal facility or deep underground in a licensed disposal well, approved by the B.C. Oil and Gas Commission," Hardy Friedrich, communications manager for the commission, said by email. Geoff Morrison, manager of B.C. operations for the Canadian Association of Petroleum Producers, said fracking doesn't contaminate groundwater either through the release of natural gas or through the use of fracking fluids. Fracking fluid is isolated from surrounding surface and groundwater by layers of steel and concrete, he noted. As well, fracking in B.C. takes place far below where groundwater is found. In B.C., he said, groundwater is 80 to 300 metres below the surface while fracking drills down 2,500 to 3,000 metres. "Anything that goes in the pipe, stays in the pipe," Morrison said by phone. "When it gets down to its destination, two or three kilometres down -- that's when it enters the formation where it would be isolated from any drinking water." He said the industry has been successfully fracking in Canada for 50 years. "We have had 175,000 wells hydraulically fracked without an impact on drinking



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water." Parfitt said there's no easy answer on the extent of the health hazard from the chemicals used in fracking. Last year, more than 800 deficiencies were found during 4,223 inspections conducted in the oil and gas industry by the B.C. Oil and Gas Commission. Of those, 80 resulted in charges, mainly under the provincial Water Act for the non-reporting of water volumes. Other charges included violations under the provincial Environmental Management Act. Neither details of the violations nor the names of the companies responsible are available because the commission wouldn't release that information. Chemicals are added for numerous reasons, including reducing friction to lower resistance as the fracking fluid moves down the well and to prevent bacterial growth so the flow of gas isn't inhibited. "Some of those chemicals are clearly carcinogenic," Parfitt said. "It depends on the chemicals being used. It depends on the combination. It depends on the concentrations of those chemicals as to what kind of public health threat they could pose." In 2010, Parfitt wrote a report on the effects of fracking on water called Fracture Lines: Will Canada's Water be Protected in the Rush to Develop Shale Gas? He quoted the B.C. Oil and Gas Commission, which said about 40 per cent of injected water remains in the ground. The other 60 per cent flows back within the first four months following fracturing. "The water is contaminated with chemicals and, more importantly, anything that water has come in contact with," Parfitt said, citing heavy metals and minerals. Depending on the geological formations it comes in contact with, the water can also come back five times saltier than ocean water. Some of the 60 per cent of water that flows back can be used again as fracking fluid. Eventually, he said, the fracking fluid becomes too contaminated even to be used for fracking any longer. "At that point, the only 'treatment' in quotation marks in B.C. is to inject that highly toxic water deep underground for what they call permanent disposal," he said. But Parfitt said that in the U.S., evidence is showing that deep-well injecting is being linked to the occurrence of earthquakes. The amount of water used in fracking operations is staggering. Parfitt's report cites what has been called the world's biggest frack northwest of Fort Nelson at Two Island Lake. That frack used an estimated 445,000 cubic metres of contaminated flow-back water — enough to bury a soccer field under 15.6 metres of water. Parfitt suggests that what is needed are industrial-sized waste water treatment plants near fracking operations. He estimates that treating waste water would cost between \$10 and \$15 a cubic metre. "But the cost must be weighed against what is gained," he said. "For starters, with waste water treatment the industry will be able to recover half of the water it uses, meaning it will save the cost of accessing that much new water. "Second, the cost of disposing of the water by trucking or piping it to disposal well sites and then pumping it back underground is saved as well."

<http://www.vancouversun.com/business/Chemical+soup+used+fracking+includes+hydrochloric+acid+antifreeze/8335218/story.html>

### CHINA, BEIJING, MAY 4 2013. PROTESTS IN CHINESE CITY OVER PLANNED CHEMICAL PLANT



Hundreds of people took to the streets of the Chinese city of Kunming on Saturday to protest against the planned production of a chemical at a refinery, in the latest show of concern over the effects of rapid growth on the environment. China's increasingly affluent urban population has begun to object to the model of growth at all costs that has fuelled the economy for three decades, with the environment emerging as a focus of protests. Photographs on Weibo, China's version of Twitter, showed a crowd of protesters in the center of the southwestern city, carrying banners protesting against production at the planned plant of paraxylene (PX), a chemical used in making fabrics and plastic bottles. Some estimated the crowd was up to 2,000-strong but the official Xinhua news agency said in a report more than 200 people had gathered to protest, many wearing masks printed with slogans including "no PX in Kunming". They attracted

nearly 1,000 onlookers, Xinhua said. "Give me back a beautiful Kunming. We want to survive, we want health, get PX out of Kunming", read one of the banners, seen in a photo posted on Weibo. A man at the Kunming Public Security Bureau, who described himself as a member of staff on duty, said he was not aware of the incident. The city government's emergency department referred a phone call to another number, which was not answered. There were no reports of any violence at the protest. Last November, the eastern city of Ningbo suspended a petrochemical project after days of street protests. The year before, big protests against a PX plant in the northeastern city of Dalian forced the city government to suspend it. More recently, heavy pollution that has blanketed the capital Beijing and other cities, as well as scandals over food, have added to the sense of unease. [China](#) National Petroleum Corp, the country's largest oil and gas producer and supplier, announced in February that the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) had approved the refinery project at Anning, just



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**May 15 2013**



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outside Kunming. The refinery would produce gasoline, diesel, other various chemicals and fertilisers as well as PX, the company said in its submission to the NDRC.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/05/04/us-china-environment-protest-idUSBRE94304120130504>

### USA, CA, MIRAMAR, MAY 5 2013. DANGEROUS CHEMICALS LEFT AT MIRAMAR LANDFILL

*richard allyn*

 **Watch the Video** [Dangerous Chemicals Left at Miramar Landfill](#)



Hazmat officials and the San Diego Bomb Squad were called to the [Miramar Landfill](#) Saturday after a man dropped off dangerous chemicals. The San Diego resident dropped off about a liters worth of tetrahydrofuran in a clearly marked steel container, and it immediately raised a red flag when it was brought in. "It was a small quantity of tetrahydrofuran. Which is basically a flammable liquid," said SDFD Hazmat Specialist Gerad Rodriguez. "And the concern with it is that as it sits, it ages and develops organic peroxides that can be explosive." Hazmat and the Bomb Squad were called in, along with other local agencies. The Bomb Squad used a robot to handle the chemical. It was taken a safe distance away

and detonated. Right before the detonation, the westbound 52 was temporarily shut down as a precaution to make sure drivers were caught off guard by the sound of the explosion. The same San Diego man also brought in other potentially hazardous chemicals, along with the tetrahydrofuran -- those chemicals were also detonated as a precaution.

<http://www.cbs8.com/story/22163208/dangerous-chemicals-left-at-miramar-landfill>

### UNITED ARAB EMIRATES, DUBAI, MAY 6 2013. DRIVERS' FEARS OVER SELF-SERVICE FUEL IN DUBAI

*nadeem hanif*



Drivers will have to fill up their own cars from July as Enoc launches its midnight to 6am self-service system at 10 stations. Most customers at the Enoc on Hessa Street wanted more information about what the company was doing to make sure safety was a priority. "They would need to make sure staff were on duty and show some people how to use the pumps properly," said Vikram Rana, an Indian. "I personally don't have a problem with self-service but I think if you have grown up where people fill up your car for you, then it might take a little getting used to." Another concern was the potential misuse of the system, he said. "What will Enoc do to make sure no one just fills up their car and drives off without paying?" Mr Rana asked. "I'm assuming they will have CCTV but I don't think that will be enough. They might have to have police on duty at the station as well." He said many people had become so used to having someone else fill

up their vehicle they did not know whether their vehicles ran on petrol or diesel. Another issue was how the new payment method would work. "The main thing for me is will I have to pay with cash, credit card or will I have to get a special Enoc card and put credit on that," said Laurent de Braquilanges, from France. "We have self-service in France like most European countries so it's not a big deal for me, although as a customer having someone else fill up is more convenient. "In France you just use your credit card directly at the pump and pay for it there and then. That would be the best system to have here." For Virginie, from Belgium, the main issue was potential job losses among staff. "We have self-service in Belgium so I'm not too concerned about having to do it myself," she said. "But if they end up introducing it in all of their stations, will that mean they need less staff to work there?" Many said the self-service timings meant they would not be affected. "I always fill up my car during the day," said Juliane Pogoba, from Germany. "I've been here about a year and a half so I've got used to having a petrol pump attendant fill up my car, and I also saw a similar system in Spain. "I don't mind having to fill up the car myself but I don't fill up at night so it won't affect me." Staff at the Hessa Street station said they did not expect it to be among the 10 stations to introduce self-service in July. They have not received any information from the company regarding the effect it would have on jobs. But Enoc, a company run by the Dubai government, said jobs were safe and staff would be relocated to other stations. Announcing the switch to self-service last Monday, the company said the selected stations were quieter and staff would be on hand to help customers. The company said it had been in the process of modernising and updating facilities



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at pumps to allow for self-service. Enoc conducted a similar trial in 2008 in 10 filling stations in Dubai and the Northern Emirates but had to scrap it after two-thirds of its customers said they disliked the system.

<http://www.thenational.ae/news/uae-news/drivers-fears-over-self-service-fuel-in-dubai>

#### ENGLAND, LANCASHIRE, MAY 6 2013. WASTE OIL DUMPED IN SAVICK BROOK, FULWOOD



The oil was found in a tributary of Savick Brook

More than 15,000 litres of waste oil has been dumped in two waterways in Preston, the Environment Agency has said. The oil was found in a tributary of Savick Brook in Mason's Wood Park and at a second location near Eastway in Fulwood. A spokesman said he believed the oil was dumped on either Thursday or Friday in "a deliberate criminal act". A major clean-up operation is now under way. The spokesman said: "We've taken away as much as we can and will monitor the situation over the bank holiday. "The fact that our rivers are in the best condition for 20 years makes this particularly galling."

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-lancashire-22413219>

#### INDIA, MUMBAI, MAY 6 2013. THEY DIDN'T KNOW HOW TO FIX THE LEAK



Police, highway staff, fire fighters were on the wrong track. The mishap on the Pune-Mumbai expressway where a tanker carrying 17 tonnes of Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) toppled, leading to leakage of the gas on Friday, exposed some major chinks in the armour of the officials tackling the situation. Going by their actions, the police, expressway staff and the fire brigade personnel had no idea of how to stop the leakage of the LPG from the tanker. It took a team of experts from the Bharat Petroleum Company Limited to find a solution. The tanker toppled near Khandala when on its way to Pune from Mumbai at 9 am on Friday. After the mishap, the local police rushed to the spot and halted the traffic

from both sides as a precaution as the LPG was leaking from the broken valve of the tanker. However, neither the police nor the expressway staff had any idea about how to stop the LPG leakage. The police summoned the fire brigade to fix it. When the fire brigade personnel reached the spot, they tried to release the entire LPG from the tanker into the air. Inspector Rajendra Mokashi, incharge of Khopoli police station said, "The fire fighters tried to release the gas, but it was in a large quantity and was spreading in the air. There was a danger of fire as the gas was spreading in the air." Meanwhile, an expert team of Bharat Petroleum Company Limited reached the spot. The team had plans to transfer the LPG from the damaged tanker to another tanker, but the process was time-consuming and the queue of vehicles on either side of the expressway was increasing. Therefore, the authorities decided to fix the leakage first. Mokashi said, "The experts decided to fix the leakage of the broken valve so that the road can be cleared for traffic. Therefore, they fixed the leakage temporarily. They will be transferring the remaining LPG from the damaged tanker to another tanker."

<http://www.dnaindia.com/pune/1830503/report-they-didn-t-know-how-to-fix-the-leak>

#### USA, MT, FLATHEAD LAKE, MAY 9 2013. TRUCKING COMPANY FINED \$83K FOR GAS SPILL AT FLATHEAD LAKE

*vince devlin missoulian*

Five years after one of its tanker trucks overturned on Montana Highway 35 and spilled more than 6,000 gallons of gasoline near Flathead Lake, Keller Transport of Billings has agreed to pay penalties totaling \$83,500 to settle Clean Water Act claims. The April 2, 2008, incident forced five families from their lakeside homes, some for more than a year. Cleanup efforts continue to this day and costs associated with the spill reportedly topped \$5 million some time ago. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency announced the penalty Tuesday from its regional offices in Denver. It was a negotiated settlement, according to Darcy O'Connor, Region 8 director of the EPA's technical enforcement program, wherein the agency and Keller Transport entered into a complaint and consent agreement. "Truck accidents can have a significant impact on the environment and in this case caused a threat to public health," Mike Gaydosch, the EPA's enforcement director in Denver, said in a statement announcing the settlement. "This penalty serves as a strong reminder that every effort must be taken to avoid accidents and spills when hauling hazardous materials." The EPA said it was determined that excessive speed around a corner of the narrow two-lane



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highway on Flathead Lake's east shore caused the accident. The driver of the double tanker truck reportedly told a volunteer fireman who responded to the scene that he noticed in a rearview mirror the right rear wheels of his second tanker, sometimes called the "pup," drifting off the pavement. While the tractor of the rig and the first tanker remained upright and on the highway, the pup appeared to get sucked down into the barrow ditch where it overturned. The top of the tanker was torn off like a tin can during the accident, releasing 6,380 gallons of gasoline. Keller Transport has complied with all cleanup requests required by the EPA, the agency said. The cleanup effort has been extensive. The five homes in the path of the seepage of the thousands of gallons of gasoline were evacuated because of fumes, and required the installation of air abatement systems. A permanent water treatment system to treat contaminated groundwater was built and still operates. A groundwater collection trench was constructed and contaminated soil was removed and disposed of appropriately. Test wells show there are still high levels of contamination in the main spill pathway, according to the EPA, but groundwater sampling indicates that the area that was contaminated is decreasing. Annual air monitoring indicates that air abatement systems installed in the homes are working properly. The accident was the most visible of several involving trucks that sparked an effort by some residents of the east shore to try to get some or all commercial truck traffic banned from the area and re-routed to U.S. Highway 93, a wider, more modern highway with higher speed limits on the lake's west shore. Truckers opposed the effort. The flatter east shore route saves them both time and money, they said, and their highway tax dollars give them the right to use the route just like any other driver. After months of studies and public meetings, the Montana Department of Transportation ruled that Highway 35 can be safely negotiated by commercial truck traffic. Some new guardrails were installed, as well as larger speed limit signs.

[http://mtstandard.com/news/state-and-regional/trucking-company-fined-k-for-gas-spill-at-flathead-lake/article\\_b9805364-b8f1-526a-b1bb-1e855d02c1c6.html](http://mtstandard.com/news/state-and-regional/trucking-company-fined-k-for-gas-spill-at-flathead-lake/article_b9805364-b8f1-526a-b1bb-1e855d02c1c6.html)

### **RUSSIA, AMUR OBLAST, BLAGOVESHCHENSK, MAY 9 2013. COUPLE IN RUSSIA STRIPPED OFF PARENTAL RIGHTS >> LIVING IN A BARREL-SHAPED FUEL TANK**

A couple, living in a barrel-shaped fuel tank in a Russian city, have been stripped of the parental rights to their 10-month-old child. The family lives in an industrial facility in the city of Blagoveshchensk, in a metal tank of about 12 square metres. "This so-called living space has no utilities; (the parents) have laid electricity lines themselves and installed an improvised stove," local prosecutor's office said. "Such living conditions were recognised as dangerous for a child." Late last year, regional child welfare authorities had reportedly removed the baby girl, born in July 2012, from the custody of her parents. The authorities had requested a local court to deprive the couple of their parental rights, saying the conditions they lived in were unfit to raise a child. The court ruled in favour of the welfare authorities Jan 31, 2013, and the regional court's judicial collegium for civil cases overturned the parents' appeal against the ruling this Wednesday. It was established in court that both parents were registered with the local psychiatric services and suffer from personality disorders. "The girl's parents were invited to move to a family shelter with their child, but they firmly rejected the proposal. "The girl's father said instead that he was set to buy two more fuel tanks so that there would be more space for them to live in," prosecutors said.

[http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ians/couple-in-russia-stripped-off-parental-rights-113050900161\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ians/couple-in-russia-stripped-off-parental-rights-113050900161_1.html)

### **USA, NB, NEMAHA, MAY 9 2013. MONITORING WELLS TO BE DRILLED AT NEMAHA PIPELINE SPILL SITE**

*algis j. laukaitis*



A network of more than 30 groundwater monitoring wells will be drilled as part of a remediation plan to clean up a large fuel spill in Nemaha County. The permanent wells are the latest efforts by Magellan Midstream Partners to rid the area of contaminants from the Dec. 10, 2011, pipeline spill. Nearly 3,000 barrels of gasoline, diesel and jet fuel spilled after a bulldozer operator clearing roots from a hedgerow hit the 8- and 12-inch pipelines. The fuel polluted soil and water in a nearby unnamed stream 2 1/2 miles south of Nemaha. The Tulsa, Okla.-based company and its contractors have removed tons of contaminated soil and used small containment dams and other equipment to

recover fuel from the stream. The Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality has been monitoring the company's progress and approved its proposed remediation plan last week, spokesman Jim Bunstock said. He said he didn't know how much the wells will cost or how deep they'll be, adding that it depends on the geology. The wells will provide the company and DEQ with information on what, if any, contamination has seeped into the groundwater. "They should be drilling this month,"



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Bunstock said. "Essentially, what they are doing is putting holes down there to see what's there." Groundwater data will be collected through the summer and used by the company to fine tune its remediation plan, which has not received final approval from the DEQ, he said. Magellan spokesman Bruce Heine declined an interview request. "We are continuing to work with state regulators on our clean-up and groundwater monitoring operations related to a petroleum pipeline release," he said in an email. Bunstock said clean-up could take two more years. Workers still are recovering some fuel from trenches dug to intercept the spill, he said, and still are seeing "a little bit of (petroleum) sheen on the creek." The stream flows into Jarvis Creek and eventually into the Nemaha River. Samples taken in both waterways show no contamination from the spill.

[http://journalstar.com/news/local/monitoring-wells-to-be-drilled-at-nemaha-pipeline-spill-site/article\\_fcb3146c-4f5a-535a-919a-812e666f0f1e.html](http://journalstar.com/news/local/monitoring-wells-to-be-drilled-at-nemaha-pipeline-spill-site/article_fcb3146c-4f5a-535a-919a-812e666f0f1e.html)

### USA, MI, MACOMB COUNTY, MAY 9 2013. AUTHORITIES CONTAIN, INVESTIGATE OIL SLICK AT RED RUN DRAIN

sean delaney



*Sterling Heights Assistant Fire Chief Dennis Adieb, left, views the booms set to contain a petroleum spill in the Red Run Drain.*

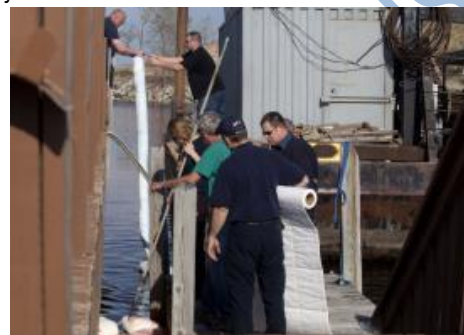
Authorities are trying to determine what caused between 20 to 50 gallons of a petroleum-based product to enter the Red Run River as it flowed through the city of Warren into the city Sterling Heights. According to police, a Sterling Heights resident initially noticed the spill around 7:20 p.m. May 2 in the area of 14 Mile and Hoover roads, and immediately contacted the Sterling Heights Water Department. Sterling Heights Fire Chief Chris Martin said Water Department employees put three absorbent booms near the Red Run Drain to prevent the contaminant from spreading into the nearby Clinton River. "For the most part we saw very little oil coming out (May 2)," Martin said. While an investigation is ongoing, authorities believe the contamination was most likely the result of motor oil being dumped into the water. "The source could be a resident dumping some

oil down the drain to easily dispose of it in the area of Masonic (Boulevard in Warren)," Martin said. "The oil spreads out when it hits water. It looks worse than it is." Martin said officials still don't know if the spill was deliberate or accidental, but every effort will be made to find the person or persons responsible. Anyone with information about the cause of the spill is urged to contact the Sterling Heights Fire Department at 446-2950.

<http://www.sourcenewspapers.com/articles/2013/05/08/news/doc518a8dc5ee13e867221529.txt>

### USA, MI, MUSKEGON, MAY 9 2013. COAST GUARD, HAZMAT CREWS CLEAN UP DIESEL FUEL SPILL AT HARBOUR TOWNE MARINA ON MUSKEGON LAKE

jonathan stoner



*Emergency workers gather materials to contain a diesel fuel spill in Harbour Towne Marina on Wednesday, May 8, 2013.*

A significant amount of diesel fuel spilled into Harbour Towne Marina on Wednesday, some of it entering Muskegon Lake. The Muskegon County Hazardous Materials Team and Muskegon firefighters contained the spill to the marina area around 6:30 p.m. May 8, about an hour and a half after an oily sheen was reported in the water. Firefighters and hazardous materials technicians used absorbent pads and booms to clean up the fuel around the marina. The U.S. Coast Guard was planning to send a boat crew from Grand Haven with floating booms to soak up the fuel on the water. Muskegon Acting Assistant Fire Chief Ken Chudy could not estimate how much fuel may have spilled because some may have entered Muskegon Lake and dissipated before firefighters arrived. Crews could not identify the source of the spill, but could have

come from a boat leaving the marina. "We don't know if it's a leak or a spill," Chudy said.

[http://www.mlive.com/news/muskegon/index.ssf/2013/05/coast\\_guard\\_hazmat\\_crews\\_clean.html](http://www.mlive.com/news/muskegon/index.ssf/2013/05/coast_guard_hazmat_crews_clean.html)



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