



## Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network

### Release 2013 – 980 Newsy Stuff

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

**July 15 2013**



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#### INDIA, HANUMAN CHOWK, BADDI TWP, JULY 3 2013. BLAST IN BADDI FACTORY LEAVES THREE DEAD, TWO INJURED

At least three factory workers were killed and two others were injured in a blast at a paper mill in Baddi on Tuesday afternoon. The blast occurred in a parked truck on the premises of Bhandari Deepak Paper Mill near Hanuman Chowk in industrial township of Baddi. The deceased were identified as mechanical foremen Harbhajan Singh (40), resident of Punjab, electronic foreman Ravinder Pal (45), resident of Utter Pradesh and Kundan (19), a resident of Bihar. The injured persons namely Anil and Sonu were admitted to a private hospital. Preliminary investigations revealed that the incident took place in the noon when factory workers were loading the paper bundles in the truck number (HP 12 E-7363). The investigations revealed that the blast took place shortly after Harbhajan, Ravinder and Kundan switched on the welding set to carry out some routine operations. This police suspect that this might have led to heating up of fuel tank of the truck that suddenly blasted; leaving all three dead on the spot. Soon after receipt of the information a police team along with fire tenders reached the spot. The impact of the blast was so strong that it broke the window panes of the factory office. Later, the bodies of the victims were sent for post mortem examination to Nalagarh hospital. A case has been registered.

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/India-news/HimachalPradesh/Blast-in-Baddi-factory-leaves-three-dead-two-injured/Article1-1085894.aspx>

#### KAZAKHSTAN, ALMATY, JULY 3 2013. HELIOS CALCULATES DAMAGE AND OFFERS RENTED HOUSING TO VICTIMS OF PETROL TRUCK ACCIDENT

assemgul kassenova

 **Watch the Video's:**

- [Raw: Gas Tanker Causes Kazakhstan Building Fire](#)
- [Fierce Fire Caused by Petrol Tanker Explosion in Almaty](#)
- [Footage of the Massive Fire that was caused by a Large Petrol Tanker Explosion](#)
- [Gas Tanker Explodes Wreaking Huge Damage in Kazakhstan](#)
- [Massive Fire Video: Gas Tanker Explodes Wreaking Huge Damage](#)

 **Photo's [21] Helios Calculates Damage & Offers Rented Housing**



*Burnt apartments.*

Damages to owners of the cars that burnt in the petrol truck accident in Almaty have been evaluated, [Tengrinews.kz](http://Tengrinews.kz) reports. According to Marketing and Sales Director of Helios company Denis Trandafilov, the decision on restoration of cars or payment of compensations to the car owners will be made by the evaluating commission. The total of 10 cars were damaged in the fire and 4 more were grazed by the tank track in the traffic accident, he said. If the owners of the burnt apartments agree to have their apartments restored the repairs will be made within 1.5 months, he said. According to him, the property and the housing have already been checked. The company is now waiting for the evaluation results

and the residents will then be able to receive monetary compensation or have the company's contractors repair their housing. "Two apartments that burnt to ashes have already been evaluated and the owners gave their consent for the repairs; the works have already started. The contractors will work in three shifts. The noisiest works will, of course, be made during daytime," Trandafilov said. Rented apartments have been provided to 15 families by the company, he added. "The scaffolds were installed on Thursday. We will have to agree with the city administration on the building's face, as it has to blend into the surroundings well. The asphalt has been laid on the damaged roads and sideways, new trees will be planted. We will also restore the building's entrance, as soon as we are done with the property evaluation," the company's representative said. According to the company's lawyer Serikbol Zhunussov, the company hired a real estate firm for selection and provision of the rented housing to 15 families that suffered from fire. "The remaining victims moved over to their relatives. And some are away on business trips. 15 families are those whose apartments were damaged significantly and they literally have nowhere to live," he said and adding that apartments were initially rented for one month. The company is ready to prolong the rent if their is a need. Zhunussov stressed that all the victims of the petrol truck fire who need temporary housing may apply to Helios. "We are trying to create good conditions for them, so that they don't live in tents and schools," he said adding that size of families and



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their requests were considered during choice of the rented apartments. The evaluation process will last until the end of the week. "As soon as the reports are ready, we will know the amounts of damages per each apartment separately and we will pay these amounts to the owners of the apartments, if they prefer to the monetary compensation to the repairs. The decision will be made once the results are ready. There are people who prefer monetary compensations as they want to make the repairs themselves," the lawyer said. The life of the driver who died in the flaring was insured, he said. "Right now the insurance company is calculating the payment that has to be made to his family. To make the calculations they need results of the check on the driver's body and the truck from us. All that will affect the insurance payment," the lawyer said. He added that the company was ready to provide a job to the driver's wife, if she wished to take it. The petrol tank lorry [flared up near Rixos hotel in Almaty](#) at the crossing of Seifullin and Kabanbay Batyr streets after crashing into an offroad on June 27. The truck's driver died at the accident site because his door got jammed and he could not get out of the truck before the petrol inflamed. The fire moved on to the RealSport sports shop, and #138 Kabanbay Batyr residential building. According to the rescuers, 40 people were evacuated from the building. No casualties were reported.

<http://en.tengrinews.kz/emergencies/Helios-calculates-damage-and-offers-rented-housing-to-victims-of-petrol-truck-20708/>

### CANADA, QUEBEC, COTEAU-DU-LAC, JULY 3 2013. EXPLOSION AT FIREWORKS FACTORY LEAVES TWO DEAD

brian moskowitz

#### Watch the Video's:

- [Massive Explosion at Fireworks Factory in Montreal](#)
- [Explosion Firework Warehouse](#)

Workplace health and safety officials in Quebec are investigating an explosion at a fireworks factory that left two workers dead. The blast happened a day before the weekend leading up to the province's annual St-Jean-Baptiste Day celebrations. "We have to find out what was going on in the minutes just prior to the accident and what ignited the explosion," said Jacques Nadeau spokesperson for the province's workplace health and safety commission. "Interviewing the witnesses is going to be one of the things that are most important for us, because that's possibly when we're going to be able to find out what happened," he said. Shortly before 9 a.m. on June 20, the first of several explosions began to rip through the B.E.M. Fireworks Coteau-du-Lac plant located off Highway 20 about 50 kilometres southwest of Montreal. Nadeau said investigators did not find any evidence of wrongdoing after the initial inspection and does not expect a criminal investigation but said officials "are in for a long and thorough" probe which could take six months to complete. The bodies of Francine Lacroix, a 47-year-old resident of Riviere-Beaudette, and Nicole Brisson, 58, of Les Coteaux were pulled from the debris about four hours after the initial explosion. Nadeau said the powerful blast had hurled the workers out of the building. Firefighters exercised caution when they first approached the almost one-kilometre wide explosion site as fireworks continued going off while the production plant and storage facility were engulfed in flames, said Nadeau. The Coteau-du-Lac fire department said an additional 13 fire departments responded to the blaze and were forced to drive about a kilometre from the factory site to fill up at hydrants in a newer part of the town. Area residents felt the impact of the series of blasts while thick plumes of black smoke could be seen as far as Ste-Anne-de-Belleuve, a distance of more than 20 kilometres from the factory which also included a retail outlet. "It is a sad day for Coteau-du-Lac," said Mayor Robert Sauvé in a statement. "This is a business that has been here since 1970, and there were about 20 to 25 employees. So it was a business that was very respectable. We'll figure out exactly what happened as the investigation progresses." In a statement released by B.E.M., the company said they are "working in collaboration with police to understand what happened." The blast is "beyond our comprehension," said the company. A five kilometre stretch of an adjacent highway was shut down for several hours shortly after the first explosions went off while Montreal authorities issued an immediate evacuation for Coteau-du-Lac residents who gathered at a local community centre as a safety precaution. Via Rail announced on Twitter that one train travelling between Quebec City and Ottawa had been delayed because of the explosion but that it had reopened the tracks shortly after the delay. YouTube videos posted by passersby show fireworks exploding as a smoldering inferno destroyed the production plant and storage facility which contained fireworks — many of them destined for St-Jean-Baptiste Day celebrations around Quebec and for upcoming Canada Day fireworks displays sold around the country. There have been three workplace explosions in Quebec over the last 12 months which have killed five people and injured more than two dozen. In November, an explosion at the Neptune Technologies and Bioresources Inc. factory killed three chemical plant workers at Sherbrooke Industrial Park. Almost two dozen people were hospitalized for burns.

<http://www.ohscanada.com/news/explosion-at-fireworks-factory-leaves-two-dead/1002445268/>



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### UNITED ARAB EMIRATES, DUBAI, JULY 3 2013. PILOT SELF-SERVICE TO BEGIN DURING LATE-NIGHT HOURS FROM JULY 4



*Fill your own fuel at ten Dubai petrol stations >> Eppco will trial self-service at 10 of their petrol stations from midnight on July 4.*

Ten fuel stations in the Emirates Petroleum Product Company (Eppco) network will introduce fuel self-service from midnight to 6am from July 4, 2013. The self-service fuel dispensing system is being introduced at the Eppco stations located along Al Wasl Road, Oud Metha Road, Sheikh Zayed Road coming from Abu Dhabi, Mankhool Road, Al Nahda Road, Nadd Al Hammar and Al Qusais, which have relatively low footfall during night hours, Eppco said in a media statement today. The initiative is part of Eppco's strategy to introduce advanced and automated refuelling facilities and to familiarise the public with the self-service concept, which is being planned to be introduced across other Eppco stations in the network in due course. "The new system will make fuel

dispensing facilities in our stations on par with globally accepted practices," an Eppco spokesperson said in the statement. "We will continue to assist customers, where needed, in using the facility until they are confident of refuelling themselves. By introducing the facility during night hours, there will be minimal inconvenience for our customers," the spokesperson added. Customers can fill their required fuel themselves at the 10 Eppco sites and pay inside the Zoom store. Advanced and fully secure fuel dispenser systems have been introduced at the sites that are easier to use for the motorists. New technologies for payment that will add to the convenience of motorists are also being planned, which will be announced as and when finalised. All the systems are being developed in line with international standards and after extensive market research, the company said. The introduction of self-service will result in no staff redundancies as affected staff members will be deployed in other stations within the network.

<http://www.emirates247.com/business/corporate/fill-your-own-fuel-at-ten-dubai-petrol-stations-2013-07-02-1.512854>

### UGANDA, KAMPALA, JULY 3 2013. POLICE RELEASE PRELIMINARY REPORT ON FUEL TANKER FIRE

*andrew bagala*

Police say the fire could have been started by sparks caused by friction of motorcycle tyres.

On Saturday, at about 9:30pm at Namungoona-Kasubi along the northern bypass, a Toyota Noah, UAS 374C, knocked a fuel tanker, KBL 361D, from the rear side causing the rear valve of the trailer's third compartment carrying 11,000 litres of petrol to open. When the valve broke, all the 11,000 litres spilled, forming a pond on the left and right side of the road, which attracted the public to collect the fuel for their boda boda cycles and containers.

#### Careless Riders

It was found out that the sparks that led to the fire were as a result of boda boda riders riding their bikes at the same time stepping on their stands hard on the tarmac, whose friction caused sparks. Some boda boda riders parked in areas wetted by the fuel and later kick started their bikes near the fire, which is highly suspected to have caused the fire. After the Noah car knocked, the trailer was damaged in the front and smoke was seen near the engine. Mr Musa Isaac, the driver of the knocked trailer and Mr Victor Onyango of the damaged trailer, KBC 433F, have been interrogated and later released since they were not linked to the fire. However, the whereabouts of the driver of the Noah are not yet known.

**Related Stories** [Death Toll in Central Ugandan Fuel Tanker Accident Rises to 35](#)

<http://www.monitor.co.ug/News/National/Police-release-preliminary-report-on-fuel-tanker-fire/-/688334/1902552/-/v1mauxz/-/index.html>

### USA, MA, BOSTON, JULY 3 2013. GLOBAL PETROLEUM WITHDRAWS PLAN TO TRANSPORT ETHANOL BY RAIL THROUGH NORTHERN SUBURBS

*jeremy c. fox*

Global Petroleum has withdrawn a plan to transport ethanol by train through densely populated communities north of Boston after the state Legislature passed a budget with an amendment that would outlaw the storage of large quantities of ethanol near densely populated areas. Global announced the withdrawal of its request for a license that would allow it to [transport ethanol over Commuter Rail lines](#) to its facility in Revere on Tuesday, one day after lawmakers in the House and Senate



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submitted their reconciled \$34 billion spending plan to Governor Deval Patrick. The governor still must approve the budget before it will go into effect. In a statement, Edward Faneuil — Global Petroleum's executive vice president, general counsel, and secretary — thanked state Senators Anthony Petrucci, Sal DiDomenico, and Patricia Jehlen, who introduced the Senate amendment blocking the plan, as well as other state officials who had opposed it. "We further want to thank the communities of the Commonwealth for their input during the permit process," Faneuil said. "We look forward to continuing to work with the Commonwealth to serve the energy needs of Massachusetts and the Northeast region." In a joint statement, Petrucci, DiDomenico, and Jehlen credited Global's abrupt about-face to the budget amendment and thanked Global and community advocates, who had spoken out about their concerns that ethanol transportation would endanger local residents. The plan was described in [earlier Boston Globe reports](#) as having been proposed by [Global Partners LP](#), a publicly traded company that shares some leaders and ownership with the privately owned Global Petroleum but is a separate legal entity. Global Petroleum is wholly owned by the Slifka family, descendants of Abraham Slifka, who founded a heating oil business in Dorchester in 1933 that his sons would expand into the business that became Global Partners. Both firms employ Faneuil as executive vice president, general counsel, and secretary. Activists celebrated the victory after first hearing of Global's decision on Monday. "We were more than excited to learn the news. We feel like our community organizing efforts were hugely successful in helping Global reach this decision," said Roseann Bongiovanni, associate executive director of the Chelsea Collaborative and a member of the Chelsea Creek Action Group, an association of activists that opposed the plan. "We feel really relieved that we can now enjoy our homes and our communities without the fear of a massive incident or an explosion from an ethanol train," she said. Activists warned of devastating possible outcomes of transporting ethanol by rail through urban areas, pointing to the 2007 overturn of a gasoline tanker truck in Everett that shot flames down Main Street and a 2011 tanker truck crash on Route 1 in Saugus that sparked an eight-alarm blaze. They said the rail lines Global would use to transport the ethanol from the Midwest through Western Massachusetts and on to Revere pass through more than 90 cities and towns in the Commonwealth, areas where they say about 200,000 residents live within a half-mile of the tracks. North of Boston, the train would pass through densely populated areas near important commercial sites and public facilities, opponents said, including the Chelsea Produce Market, one of the largest fruit and vegetable distribution centers in the country. [http://www.boston.com/yourtown/news/east\\_boston/2013/07/global\\_petroleum\\_withdraws\\_plan\\_to\\_transport\\_ethanol\\_by\\_rail.html](http://www.boston.com/yourtown/news/east_boston/2013/07/global_petroleum_withdraws_plan_to_transport_ethanol_by_rail.html)

### USA, CT, HARTFORD, JULY 3 2013. GAS STATIONS MUST REMOVE BELLOWS, DISKS FROM PUMP HANDLES

sameea kamal,

In the next two years, virtually every gas station in Connecticut will have to change the nozzles on its pumps to disconnect the vapor-recovery systems required by the Clean Air Act of 1991. Those Stage II vapor recovery systems — a bellows or a disk near the handle — are no longer needed because of advances in car gas valves. In fact, the older nozzles actually work against the new technology, causing leakage of the same volatile organic compounds and toxins they were once meant to prevent, a state report says. The change, mandated by a measure signed into law June 18, is good news for gas station owners, who each pay thousands of dollars yearly to maintain the equipment. The total cost savings will be \$6.6 million annually, the state Department of Energy and Environmental Protection estimates. The measure, signed into law on June 18, applies to any owner of a gas station that dispenses more than 10,000 gallons per month. Decommissioning — or disconnecting the system — of any vapor recovery equipment is required by July 1, 2015. "Since 1998, cars have been required to have control devices in place that control the vapors, and those systems work much better and are much more reliable than the stations' control systems that have been put in place," said Robert Girard, assistant director of air enforcement with the state's energy department. But while regulation on the gas pump is easing up, the new measure tightened the requirement on Stage I equipment, which applies to the tankers that deliver gasoline to the pumps. Gas station owners will now be required to perform a pressure decay test annually instead of every three years to ensure there are no leaks in the underground system. In Connecticut, the majority of vehicles have onboard refueling vapor recovery technology to prevent emissions, according to an independent report commissioned by the state's energy department in December 2011. The report, which sent surveys to the 2,033 active gas stations and received back 908 responses, found that 70 percent of gas stations failed inspection since December 2010, primarily due to tank decays and air or liquid tests. "With fewer older vehicles in the fleet, Stage II programs have reached a point where the emissions benefit no longer justifies the cost of installing new Stage II systems or maintaining existing ones," said Daniel Esty, commissioner of the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection in his testimony to the state's Energy and Technology Committee. For owners, that means no longer



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having to undergo an annual \$5,000 maintenance per station, among other repair costs. "Over the long run it'll be a huge savings [for gas station owners]," said Michael Fox, executive director of the Gasoline and Automotive Services Dealers of America, adding that the association has been pushing for the repeal for about five years. "This was basically getting the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection off their butt to recognize that." Maintenance and repairs for the compliant nozzle-and-hose set typically cost an owner about \$300 per pump, compared with \$80 to \$100 per pump for non-compliant equipment, Fox said. And while there may be a slight decrease on gas prices over the long term as a result, he expects no major impacts on the consumer. Chris Herb, president of the Connecticut Energy Marketers Association, praised the change in the law, adding that it was a boost to an industry that, in Connecticut, is made up primarily of small business owners. "This is not a big oil issue," he said. "This is really about local business owners who are being burdened by those additional costs to the detriment of the environment."

[http://www.courant.com/business/autos/hc-gas-station-vapor-recovery-0702-20130701.0.3572137\\_story](http://www.courant.com/business/autos/hc-gas-station-vapor-recovery-0702-20130701.0.3572137_story)

### KAZAKHSTAN, BAIKONUR COSMODROME, JULY 3 2013. RUSSIAN ROCKET RELEASES TOXIC FUEL AFTER BLAST IN KAZAKHSTAN


#### Key Points:

- Falls 2.5 kilometers (1.6 miles) from the Baikonur launch site
- 3 navigation satellites worth around \$200 million lost
- 600 tonnes of highly toxic fuel explodes into a fireball
- Cloud of unburned fuel is moving near Baikonur
- Baikonur City [Pop' 70,000] asks residents to take shelter in their homes

#### On The Web [Baikonur Cosmodrome \[Wikipedia\]](#)

#### Watch the Video's:

- [Unmanned Russian Proton-M rocket explodes and crashes just after launch in Kazakhstan](#)
- [Russian rocket crashes and explodes on lift-off](#)
- [Explosion of rocket Proton-M. Cosmodrome](#)
- [Unmanned Russian rocket explodes on takeoff](#)
- [Russian Proton-M Launch Failure Explosion on takeoff July 2, 2013](#)
- [Rocket crash blankets town with toxic cloud](#)

 [Maps Satellite View of Baikonur Cosmodrome](#)



An unmanned Russian carrier rocket exploded Tuesday on takeoff at the Baikonur cosmodrome in Kazakhstan, releasing tonnes of highly toxic fuel into the air in the space programme's latest disaster caught on live television, [AFP](#) reports. Spectacular footage showed the Proton-M rocket veering off its trajectory just seconds after its 6:38 am (0238 GMT) launch, before falling apart in mid-air, erupting into a ball of flames and unleashing clouds of noxious black smoke. "It seems something is going wrong," said a Russian television commentator during the live coverage of the launch at the Baikonur cosmodrome in the Central Asian state of Kazakhstan. "Something is wrong. It seems it will be a catastrophe," said the presenter, his voice trembling, shortly before the rocket exploded. President

Vladimir Putin had been informed of the accident, the Kremlin said in a statement. The rocket, which fell back into the area of the Baikonur cosmodrome which Russia leases from ex-Soviet Kazakhstan, was supposed to take three Russian Glonass-M navigation satellites into space. The rocket carried 600 tonnes of kerosene, heptyl and amyl which are highly poisonous components of rocket fuel, said the head of the Kazakh space agency, Talgat Musabayev. The Russian space agency Roskosmos, citing preliminary information, said the accident caused no damage or casualties but the crash site was immediately cordoned off and residents of nearby towns including Baikonur were told to stay indoors and keep their windows shut. Heptyl is a highly poisonous component of rocket fuel and is known to be more toxic than the chemical weapon sarin. Some experts suggested the fumes may find their way into drinking water. Locals said the explosion sounded like thunder and that they were not unduly concerned about their safety. "They asked us to stay indoors and not to open windows," said



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Mukhtar Umurzakov, a 46-year-old driver, who lives in the town of Kyzyl-Orda some 300 kilometres (185 miles) from Baikonur. "They also said you cannot release cattle out to pasture but no one paid attention," he told [AFP](#). Officials in Kazakhstan said earlier Tuesday that a cloud of fumes that had formed over the cosmodrome could move beyond the area. Head of the emergencies ministry in Kazakhstan, Vladimir Bozhko, was quoted as saying that early indications showed the accident was caused by a malfunction of a first-stage engine. Experts say the disaster is a major blow to the reputation of the reliable Proton-M rocket. "Proton is our main workhorse for commercial use," space analyst Vadim Lukashevich told [AFP](#). "Businessmen will now start thinking whether they should look for another carrier." He added that Russia would likely come under more pressure from Kazakhstan to increase rental payments for the cosmodrome. Prominent Kazakh environmental activist Mels Yeleusizov blamed the Russians for the disaster. "This is real slovenliness indeed. Accidents happen all the time," he said. "It's high time to ban this Proton." Though key accomplishments like sending the first man into space in 1961 have brought Russia's space programme acclaim, it has recently suffered several major setbacks, notably losing expensive satellites and an unmanned supply ship to the International Space Station. The most recent disaster brought to memory a horrific rocket explosion at the same Baikonur cosmodrome in 1960 when a prototype rocket exploded on the launch pad and released the highly poisonous rocket fuel in the air dubbed the "devil's venom". During the accident, which the Russian space agency has called a veritable "inferno", 126 people were burned alive or vaporised altogether, while others died of noxious fumes or succumbed to burns later. The Soviet Union, which was locked in an arms race with the United States, imposed total secrecy over the disaster, and the files were only declassified in the 1990s.

#### Related Stories

- [Rain chases toxic cloud after rocket crash in kazakhstan](#)
- [Russian rocket explodes on live TV, sends toxic fuel into air over Kazakhstan](#)
- [Moment Russian rocket carrying three satellites and 600 tonnes of highly toxic](#)

<http://en.tengrinews.kz/emergencies/Russian-rocket-releases-toxic-fuel-after-blast-in-Kazakhstan-20741/>

#### USA, IA, DES MOINES, JULY 3 2013. OFFICIALS CLEAN UP DIESEL FUEL SPILL AT DRAKE U.

Officials are cleaning up a diesel fuel spill at [Drake University](#) that drained into a nearby creek. The state [Department of Natural Resources](#) says 35 gallons of diesel fuel spilled Tuesday morning from a portable fuel tank onto the university's ground. The fuel entered a storm drain that goes into Closes Creek. Officials say they utilized absorbent material on the affected area and applied booms across the creek. Clean Harbors, an environmental contractor onsite for other work, assisted the university. DNR spokesman [Dave Perry](#) says residual material from the spill is not expected to affect the water.

<http://www.sfgate.com/news/science/article/Officials-clean-up-diesel-fuel-spill-at-Drake-U-4642791.php>

#### USA, MA, SPRINGFIELD, JULY 4 2013. FIREWORKS SUSPECTED IN SPRINGFIELD INFERNO

*colneth smiley jr.*

 [Watch the Video Crews Work to Clear Rubble from Massive Chase Avenue Fire](#)



*Raging Fire: Flames engulf two homes on Chase Avenue in Springfield early yesterday morning. Six other homes and five vehicles were also damaged.*

An early morning Springfield inferno possibly caused by fireworks burned two homes to the ground yesterday, displaced 15 residents and numerous pets, destroyed one vehicle and brought thousands of dollars in damages to neighboring homes and other vehicles, according to officials. "Neighbors are talking about fireworks, and there were complaints of kids running around with fireworks, but we're still investigating. There is a good possibility that it's fireworks, but it has not been determined," Dennis Leger, aide to Springfield's Fire Commissioner, told the Herald. He added the "fire is suspicious" at the least. The blaze, which started around 5 a.m. on Chase Avenue, was brought under control around 6:30 a.m., Leger said. "It appears at this time that the fire started on the front porch exterior, but the actual cause is still being investigated," Leger said. The fire spread from one home to a second, and as both homes "burned to the ground," scorching heat caused "subsequent damage" by melting the siding of at least six other homes, causing an estimated \$5,000 to \$250,000 in damage for all the homes involved.



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

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Kim Bess said her neighbor's home caught fire, then the burning structure fell onto her home, causing it to catch fire and burn. "I was not there," Bess said. "I don't know what's next for us. It's still very fresh." Leger said five vehicles were also damaged, including a pickup truck that was destroyed. "Part of the problem was there was a water main break on the street, so the pressure went to nothing," forcing firefighters to seek "alternate water sources," said Leger. No injuries to firefighters or residents were reported. The cause of the fire remains under investigation.

[http://bostonherald.com/news\\_opinion/local\\_coverage/2013/07/fireworks\\_suspected\\_in\\_springfield\\_inferno](http://bostonherald.com/news_opinion/local_coverage/2013/07/fireworks_suspected_in_springfield_inferno)

### USA, CA, RICHMOND, JULY 4 2013. CHEVRON REFINERY BLAZE COSTS RICHMOND MILLIONS

*emma mcaleavey.*

Last summer's Chevron Richmond refinery blaze is expected to cost the city and West Contra Costa school district millions of dollars in property tax revenues because lost business income has resulted in a huge decline in the facility's assessed value. There has been a 14.61% decline in the assessed value of properties in Richmond. Richmond City Manager, Bill Lindsay, has estimated that the lowered assessment will cost the city US\$ 6.1 million in tax revenues this fiscal year. Richmond's decline has been driven largely by the change in the refinery's valuation; County Assessor, Gus Kramer, said that his office valued the Richmond refinery at approximately US\$ 2.75 billion in 2013 – 2014, compared with approximately US\$ 3.75 billion the previous year. The city as a whole was given a net assessed value of US\$ 10.89 billion, a decline of more than US\$ 1.86 billion. In contrast, every other city in the county saw an increased in assessed value. Indeed, the total assessed property value in the county as a whole rose 3.45%, approximately US\$ 5 billion. Richmond council members have been discussing in closed session whether to sue Chevron for damages to the city from the blaze. More than 15 000 people sought medical treatment after the 6th August fire. Chevron spokeswoman, Melissa Ritchie, has indicated that the company believes Kramer's valuation to be 'a much more reasonable assessment of the values of [the] facility'; the company has been in disagreement with Kramer in the past. A county assessment appeals board rules that the refinery's taxable value as set by Kramer in 2004 – 2006 was too high. Chevron received a US\$ 17.8 million refund, but sued anyway, arguing that it wasn't enough.

Chevron additionally sought a US\$ 73 million property tax refund for 2007 – 2009. However, on this occasion, the appeals board ruled that the company has paid too little, a ruling that cost the company US\$ 27 million.

[http://www.energyglobal.com/news/processing/articles/Chevron%20refinery%20blaze%20to%20cost%20Richmond%20million%20in%20lost%20property%20tax%20revenues\\_457.aspx#.UdUjg\\_kwdZ4](http://www.energyglobal.com/news/processing/articles/Chevron%20refinery%20blaze%20to%20cost%20Richmond%20million%20in%20lost%20property%20tax%20revenues_457.aspx#.UdUjg_kwdZ4)

### VENEZUELA, PARAGUANA, JULY 4 2013. SMALL EXPLOSION HITS VENEZUELA'S AMUAY OIL REFINERY

*sailu urribarri*



*PDVSA CRP fire on Wednesday, July 3, 2013.*

A small explosion and fire hit the flexicoker unit of Venezuela's 645,000 barrel per day Amuay refinery on Wednesday, but no one was hurt and firemen brought the blaze under control. The oil workers union at the huge facility said the flexicoker unit had been stopped a day earlier due to a fault. "A pipeline broke and caused an explosion and fire, which is now under control. The (flexicoker) plant was stopped yesterday because of a fault in its compressor," said Ivan Freites, president of the workers union at the refinery. State oil company PDVSA confirmed the small explosion and said the fire had been extinguished. It said no one had been hurt. Last week an internal report by PDVSA showed that Amuay, Venezuela's biggest refinery, had returned to operating at its normal level, 10 months after an explosion that killed more than 40 people. The facility has had problems at various units since the blast, including at its flexicoker plant. The internal report said 10 of Amuay's 51 plants were out of action, including its lubricants plant. The refinery's biggest distillation unit,

no. 5, restarted in April after being badly damaged in August's deadly explosion.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/07/03/refinery-operations-pdvsa-amuay-idUSL2N0F923H20130703>

### USA, CA, SAN FRANCISCO, JULY 4 2013. HESS PICKS GOLDMAN SACHS TO SELL ITS GAS STATIONS

Hess Corp has tapped Goldman Sachs to sell its gas stations for a price in the low single-digit billions, according to The Wall Street Journal. Hess had 1,361 stations in several eastern states at the end of last year, with most of the stations also operating convenience stores. The oil company, fresh from a battle with activist investor Elliott Management, has aimed at



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reshaping itself into a pure exploration and production firm. It said in February it would "divest" its gas station business, without giving specifics, and announced plans to exit other business units such as transporting and storing oil and gas, and oil trading <http://www.marketwatch.com/story/hess-picks-goldman-sachs-to-sell-its-gas-stations-2013-07-02>

#### **SRI LANKA, HAMBANTOTA, JULY 4 2013. SUB-STANDARD JET FUEL NOT FOR USE ON AIRCRAFT: BANDUWICKREMA**

Refuting claims to the effect that the substandard jet fuel that was imported was to be used on aircraft, Chairman of the Ports Authority Dr. Priyath Banduwickrema said that the fuel that was rejected was imported in order to test the tanks that were constructed at the Hambantota Port and was not for aviation purposes. A Chinese contractor who was designated contractually to look into the tanks and its maintenance brought down two thousand liters of jet fuel. This jet fuel was to be used to test the tanks for efficiency and to clean out particles in them. The fuel was not brought to be used commercially," he said. He further said that they had sent samples for initial testing to the Ceylon Petroleum Corporation and after they were informed of its inferior quality, the Chinese Contractor had sent it back and called for a new stock. This is not a big setback, the fuel which was brought from a Singaporean firm was returned and we have called for a new stock in order to begin the clean up process in the tanks" he said.

<http://www.dailymirror.lk/news/31840-sub-standard-jet-fuel-not-for-use-on-aircraft-banduwickrema.html>

#### **USA, N.J, NEWARK, JULY 4 2013. NJIT OFFERS ONE DAY NEW JERSEY UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK REGULATIONS REVIEW COURSE**

Calling all Environmental Professionals, Underground Storage Tank Contractors, Licensed Site Remediation Professionals (LSRPs), and UST owners and operators. NJIT's Division of Continuing Professional Education announces the upcoming July 24, 2013 Underground Storage Tank (UST) Regulations [review class](#). This one day, six hour class will take place on the NJIT Newark, Campus. New Jersey (NCAC 7:14B Subchapter 13) requires that all personnel who install, close, test and design corrosion protection systems or perform subsurface evaluations for USTs need to be certified. Subsurface Evaluation (SSE) certification is also needed to evaluate impacts caused by unregulated USTs and UST sites that have discharges associated with them occurring prior to November 4, 2009. All owners/operators of USTs that are removed or closed in-place after November 4th, need to retain the services of a Licensed Site Remediation Professional (LSRP) to conduct subsurface evaluations and remediation. This UST certification [class](#) will summarize existing UST requirements as well as NJDEP's new LSRP program and the implementing statutes and regulations.

When: Wednesday, July 24, 2013, Where: NJIT, Newark Campus

##### **Topics of Study:**

- Overview of Federal and New Jersey UST Statutes and Regulations
- Permitting
- Upgrade, Installation and Closure Requirements
- Financial Responsibility
- Technical Requirements for Site Remediation
- Site Remediation Reform Act (SRRA)
- Administrative Requirements for the Remediation of Contaminated Sites (ARRCS)
- Licensing of Environmental Professionals
- LSRP Program Update

<http://www.newsday.com/business/njit-offers-one-day-new-jersey-underground-storage-tank-regulations-review-course-1.5616890>

#### **USA, N.J, LEONIA, JULY 4 2013. TANKER TRUCK OVERTURNS ON TURNPIKE IN LEONIA**

*jim norman*

 [Watch the Video Overturned Tanker Stalls Traffic on Jersey Turnpike](#)

A tanker truck overturned on the on the southbound New Jersey Turnpike in [Leonia](#) on Monday afternoon, authorities said. The driver suffered minor injuries and was taken to [Hackensack](#) University Medical Center, said Sgt. Adam Grossman of the New Jersey State Police. Grossman said a passenger also suffered minor injuries and was taken to [Englewood](#) Hospital and



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Medical Center. The accident occurred around 4:40 p.m., Grossman said. The wreckage blocked the southbound left and center local lanes and caused a two-mile delay in the northbound local and express northbound lanes as a result of rubbernecking, according to the Department of Transportation traffic information service. Traffic returned to normal shortly before 7 p.m., according to the Transportation Department

[http://www.northjersey.com/leonia/Tanker\\_truck\\_overturns\\_on\\_Turnpike\\_in\\_Leonia.html](http://www.northjersey.com/leonia/Tanker_truck_overturns_on_Turnpike_in_Leonia.html)

### USA, PA, MANHEIM, JULY 4 2013. PROPANE RAIL-TERMINAL FIRE NEAR MOUNT JOY CONTAINED

 **Watch the Video's:**

- [Chemical-filled rail car burns](#)
- [Woman says husband told her rail car exploded](#)
- [Watch the latest coverage on the tanker fire](#)

 **Photo's [24]** [23 Hours Later, Rapho Township Fire is Out](#)



As many as 150 firefighters and hazardous materials crews from three counties responded to a fire involving a rail terminal in Rapho Township, Lancaster County. The two-alarm fire, which Lancaster County EMA now calls "minimal," has died down drastically from its initial volatility. Lancaster Propane Gas CEO Paul Wheaton believes the blaze at the Maibach Propane Rail Terminal, initially thought to involve a propane tanker, was caused by a faulty ball valve on a compressor used to unload fuel. Ten tanker cars had been connected to the terminal near the intersection of Maibach Lane and Route 230, about two miles east of Mount Joy, and each of the tanker cars were believed to be carrying between 40,000 and 60,000 gallons of butane. By 2:30 p.m., officials said the tanker cars had been disconnected from the terminal, but an estimated 30,000 gallons of butane in the lines continued to burn. They expected the fire

to burn itself out in about three hours. Authorities said the incident remained a "very severe" situation for a number of hours. Firefighters were using water to cool the tankers because butane at its boiling point would cause a tanker to explode and take off "like a rocket," officials said. They initially believed that the fire could have burned for days. One injury was reported before crews responded to the fire at around 10:30 a.m. The man, later identified as employee John Wolgemuth, was taken to Lehigh Valley Burn Center in Allentown for treatment of burns. Wheaton says he's doing "much better" than initially expected, but no official condition has been released. Fourteen people were evacuated from a hospice on Esbenshade Road and taken to Lancaster General Hospital as a precaution. Eight other businesses in an immediate three-block area were also evacuated. That evacuation order has since been lifted. Amtrak temporarily suspended all service between Lancaster and Harrisburg, but has since resumed. According to Mount Joy's borough's website, no boil water advisory has been issued. Crews will stay at the scene overnight to monitor the situation. OSHA and the Department of Labor will investigate, accompanied by an internal investigation by the company.

 **Related Stories** [Propane rail-terminal fire near Mount Joy contained](#)

<http://www.abc27.com/story/22742912/propane-tanker-rail-car-burning-near-mount-joy>

### USA, IN, UNION MILLS, JULY 4 2013. EXPLOSION CAUSED BY MECHANICAL FAILURE

An explosion that claimed the life of a Union Mills man at the La Porte County Co-Op last week was determined to have been caused by the mechanical failure of a shaft and pulley. The management of Co-Alliance LLP on Monday confirmed a report released by Fire Chief John Homan of the Noble Township Fire Department regarding the cause of the grain elevator explosion that occurred on June 24. The explosion killed 67-year-old James M. Swank of Union Mills. According to a press release from Co-Alliance LLP, a farmer-owned supply and marketing cooperative in Indiana, the likely cause of the accident has been determined to have been due to mechanical failure of a shaft and pulley in the basement of the facility, which ignited grain dust. The press release states that Homan's report takes into consideration investigation findings from the State Fire Marshall, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, as well as other experts on the scene. "We want to thank the local investigators and responders again, on behalf of our employees, and the farmers who own the Co-op," said Co-Alliance CEO Kevin A. Still. "We are grateful for their tireless efforts, not only in helping our team to secure the location last Monday



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immediately after the tragedy, but also for the expertise and professionalism each department has demonstrated all week in helping us resolve the cause of this accident."

<http://heraldargus.com/articles/2013/07/02/news/local/doc51d1ffa2ade11567596312.txt>

#### USA, ME, VEAZIE, JULY 4 2013. TRAIN DERAILS IN CENTRAL MAINE >> CARS CARRYING LIQUID CARBON DIOXIDE

Pan Am Railways says four tanker cars have gone off the tracks near the Penobscot River in central Maine, but nobody's hurt and nothing has spilled. Executive Vice President [Cynthia Scarano](#) says three cars carrying liquid carbon dioxide and an empty tanker derailed at about 5:30 a.m. Wednesday near the Veazie-Bangor town line. Scarano says the 92-car train was traveling from Mattawamkeag to Waterville, carrying wallboard, wood products, sand, scrap metal and other products. The company has called for a crane, and the derailed cars are expected to back on the rails within 24 hours. Scarano says the carbon dioxide doesn't pose safety or environmental risks. Scarano says the locomotive and the cars that were in front of the derailed cars are continuing to Waterville.

<http://www.sfgate.com/news/article/Train-derails-in-central-Maine-4644995.php>

#### JAPAN, KYUSHU, OKINAWA, JULY 5 2013. OKINAWAN AUTHORITIES UNEARTH BARRELS AT ONETIME U.S. MILITARY FACILITY >> FINDS RAISE TOXIC CHEMICAL SUSPICIONS AT EX-KADENA SITE

mizuho aoki



Uneasy unearthing: Workers dig out decayed barrels that may have contained toxic agents used during the Vietnam War from a soccer ground that was once part of the U.S. military's Kadena Air Base in the city of Okinawa on Tuesday.

The Okinawa Defense Bureau and the city of Okinawa uncovered seven more barrels Tuesday at a former U.S. military installation in the prefecture that may have been used to hold toxic chemicals during the Vietnam War, stoking concern among residents. Prior to Tuesday's findings, the city had dug up 19 barrels from the same site in mid-June. The barrels found Tuesday had been buried about 1 meter deep in a soccer ground adjacent to the Kadena Air Base that had been part of the installation until 1987, the Defense Ministry said. The barrels had white stripes around their rims and bore "Dow Chemical" markings, a city official said. The Dow Chemical Co. was one of the main developers of Agent White and other herbicides. Some decayed barrels were also marked "30 gallons," the official added. The ministry and the city plan by month's end to

complete a study of soil samples and the barrels, checking for any trace of toxic chemicals, a ministry official said. The ministry said it is also considering digging across a wider area to determine if more barrels are buried in the area. Jon Mitchell, a contributor to The Japan Times who has been investigating the Agent Orange issue in Okinawa, said that although the position of the white stripes on the barrels seems to suggest they're not Agent White, there is a strong possibility they could be other toxic chemicals. "Usually, these herbicides' stripes were around the middle of barrels. But, from the photographs, it seems to be at the top. So that does seem to suggest it's not Agent White," Mitchell said. Agent White is commonly known to be contained in larger barrels than the 30-gallon (114-liter) drums found at the soccer ground, he said, adding, however, there is also evidence suggesting Dow may have used smaller barrels to send defoliant to Vietnam. "Even if this is not Agent White, then there is a strong chance that it is another type of dangerous chemical," Mitchell said. "So it's important that the barrels are checked and also a wider area is checked. There might be more, much deeper around the area." The Defense Ministry has asked the U.S. military to confirm what the site was used for when it was part of the Kadena base, but had not received an answer as of Wednesday. "(The U.S. military) said it doesn't have detailed documents about it. So we haven't received an answer. But we will continue to seek an answer," the official said. Mitchell urged the U.S. military to be forthright. "This is an example of American military pollution," Mitchell said. "This is a soccer ground. This is where children play. It's time the American government took Okinawa residents' worries seriously. They need to cooperate fully with the investigation and come clean about the issue." In January, a story by Mitchell in The Japan Times shed light on a September 1971 report produced by the U.S. Army's Fort Detrick in Maryland, the Pentagon's main center for biochemical weapons research. It summarized the



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military's usage of chemicals during the Vietnam War, and among the locations cited is a reference to "Herbicide stockpiles elsewhere in PACOM-U.S. (Pacific Command) government restricted materials Thailand and Okinawa (Kadena)."

[http://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2013/07/03/national/finds-raise-toxic-chemical-suspicions-at-ex-kadena-site/#.UdXwk\\_kwdZ6](http://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2013/07/03/national/finds-raise-toxic-chemical-suspicions-at-ex-kadena-site/#.UdXwk_kwdZ6)

### USA, N.Y, FINGER LAKES, JULY 5 2013. GAS STORAGE ADDS TO FRACKING CONTROVERSY IN UPSTATE

*david chanatry*

It's something few people think about, but all that natural gas and other fossil fuels being produced by hydrofracking has to be stored somewhere before it gets to the consumer. Often used for the job: underground salt caverns like the ones near Watkins Glen in the Finger Lakes. Now an out of state company wants to expand storage there, a plan some local residents call risky. It almost sounds like the civil rights movement. About 100 environmental activists welcoming three of their own last April after they spent a week in jail. Ithaca College biologist Sandra Steingraber was recorded as she walked free by Shaleshock Media, an anti-fracking group. "That was really miserable but, I'd do it again in a minute." The activists landed behind bars after they blocked the entrance to a natural gas facility on the shore of Seneca Lake. It was an act of civil disobedience against plans to store natural gas as well as liquid propane and butane in salt caverns deep under biggest of the Finger Lakes. "What's at stake for the energy facility on Seneca Lake is how we use the land and for what purpose." Though some gas is already stored in the caverns, Steingraber says the new plan poses dangerous risks. She has spent her career studying the effect of environmental pollutants on child development. "We're drawing a line in the sand. This is our home, this is where our children live, and this water and this food becomes the blood and bodies of our kids. And we as parents and residents, it's our job. It's our obligation to protect this; what we love, we must protect." The reason this fight's taking place along these shores is a matter of geology. An ancient sea once covered this area, and it left behind shale packed with natural gas, and a thin band of salt. The salt's been mined since the late 1800's and the emptied out caverns make good places to store the gas and other fossil fuels. A Kansas City company called Inergy bought the mining operation and has applied to the state and federal governments to expand some caverns for storage. It wants to turn this site into a fuel distribution hub for the Northeast. Opponents like Joseph Campbell of Gas Free Seneca say that will industrialize the region. "It's inconceivable to us that anyone would even think of doing something like this on Seneca Lake, or any of the Finger Lakes." "This isn't just a hole in the ground they're going to pump gas into. There's a whole lot that comes with it." Things like a six track rail siding that can load 24 cars every 12 hours, a depot to handle 45 trucks a day, two large brine pits, compressors and a 60 foot flare stack. Campbell and others say these will wreck a growing tourism economy. "These are red. This is a cabinet franc, which is a Bordeaux style of grape." Lou Damiani runs one of the 34 wineries now clustered around Seneca Lake. He says the climate and soils here can make the Finger Lakes a world class wine region. "We have to understand what our priorities are. We're really on the verge of breaking into something absolutely beautiful that's sustainable, renewable, that we can hand to future generations." More than 150 local business owners have signed a petition opposing the storage plans. But Jim Franzese is not one of them. "If anybody should be concerned, it would be me." He owns a bed and breakfast and a small motel right next to the salt plant and existing storage site, but he's confident state regulations will keep the proposed facilities safe. "They've been storing gas right up the street from me for years and years and years, since I was a kid. And we've never had any troubles, so I just don't think it's a major deal." The project is expected to create 50 short-term construction jobs and 8 to 10 full time positions. But, the biggest economic impact will come from a substantial increase in Inergy's tax payments, says Dennis Fagan, the chairman of the legislature in Schuyler County, where the plant is located. A retired environmental engineer, Fagan says a vocal opposition has silenced the majority. "I consider the people at Gas Free Seneca to be environmental bullies. I don't believe they are basing their opposition on fact or science." Fagan says most of the truck traffic generated by the plant will come during the winter heating season. "I think the Gas Free Seneca claims that say this would have a devastating impact on the tourism industry are full of baloney." The state geologist in New York supports the plan. But Professor John Halfman of the Finger Lakes Institute at Hobart and William Smith College worries that using the caverns for storage could threaten the drinking supply of almost 100 thousand people. He says the lake is unusually salty, possibly because of salt mining. "I think if they re-utilize the caverns that are down there it's going to put pressure on the formation that's down there and put more salt into the lake. And if we get more salt into the lake, it's potentially possible to have salt concentrations above what we could use for drinking water." No one from Inergy was available to be interviewed for this story, despite repeated requests. But, in an email, the company said its facilities are proven to achieve the highest level of safety, environmental stewardship and



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regulatory compliance. Both the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) and the New York DEC are studying public comments before issuing their decisions.

<http://www.wamc.org/post/gas-storage-adds-fracking-controversy-upstate>

#### **USA, MD, PRINCE GEORGE'S CO, JULY 5 2013. PRINCE GEORGE'S NEW SAFETY RULES COULD PUMP UP COSTS FOR GAS STATIONS >> MEASURES WOULD REQUIRE THREE HIGH-DEFINITION CAMERAS, MANDATORY SAFETY TRAINING**

*alan j. mcombs*

For the past 13 years, Riaz Ahmad, co-owner of NSR Petrol in Greenbelt, has endured rising gas taxes and a recession to build a chain of 24 gas stations across Prince George's, but legislation aimed at making his stations safer is making him question if he wants to continue doing business in the county. The County Council was scheduled to hold a second reading on Tuesday of legislation adding safety requirements for all county gas stations and any convenience stores that operate between the hours of 11 p.m. and 6 a.m. such as mandatory employee safety training and installation of a drop safe near a merchant's cash register. The measure, sponsored by council members Eric Olson (D-Dist. 3) of College Park and Mel Franklin (D-Dist. 9) of Upper Marlboro, aims to increase safety at overnight locations that can be a target for criminals, Olson said. "There are things that should help prevent robberies and should help catch people who commit them," Olson said. "If people feel they might get caught it might serve as a deterrent." The legislation would impact about 300 businesses spread across the county, according to Craig Howard, deputy chief of the county police. County police are backing the bill as an analysis by the police department found that about 414 robberies, or about 20 percent, of all the 2,078 commercial robberies that occurred between 2007 and 2012 occurred during the overnight period between 11 p.m. and 6 a.m., according to county police documents. As of July 2, 16 or about 17 percent of the 91 reported commercial robberies in the county this year occurred during the overnight period, according to police documents. "This would help them to be good partners to us," Howard said. "We feel this is solid legislation." While station owners support the idea of increasing safety for stations, some of the bill's requirements come at a heavy cost for the station operators, said Kirk McCauley, a spokesman for the Washington Maryland Delaware of Service Station and Automotive Repair Association, which is opposing the bill. In particular, the bill's requirement that businesses have at least three high-resolution cameras as well as recording equipment to aid police in identifying criminals after a crime could cost between \$3,000 to \$5,000 a store, McCauley said. "I can't say any store would close, but some of these stations are making very little money. There's a lot of competition," McCauley said. "A small business owner is going to take a lot of that out of their pocket." Ahmad said the upgrades would cost as much \$100,000 for all 24 of his stations. "Doing business or bringing new businesses to the county will be difficult. Why would we make [a business] or expand in this county, which is making life difficult for us?" he said. "The people who work for us, they're on the frontline. We care about them, but at the same time it has to be friendly legislation." County statistics for robberies and crimes at area gas stations and convenience stores were not immediately available as of press time. Ahmad's stores have been the victim of robberies in the past. However none of them have been solved and he wasn't sure how having high-definition photos of the culprits or their vehicles would aid officers much if the crimes seem to be low priority, he said. Government leaders recognized the cost of the legislation, which is why the bill gives business owners a year to three years to complete the upgrades, Olson said. Should businesses not be in compliance with the regulations they face escalating fines up to \$1,000 and the potential of losing their occupancy permit, according to the legislation. "I understand there are businesses that want minimum regulation, but government's role is to make sure appropriate regulations are in place for the public's health, safety and welfare," Olson said.

<http://www.gazette.net/article/20130703/NEWS/130709863/1124/prince-george-x2019-s-new-safety-rules-could-pump-up-costs-for-gas&template=gazette>

#### **USA, CT, EAST LYME, JULY 5 2013. EAST LYME WATER RESTRICTIONS RESULT FROM DIESEL FUEL SPILL AT YORK**

*greg smith*

Town officials are implementing mandatory water conservation measures for all town utility customers effective 9 a.m. today in the aftermath of a recently discovered diesel fuel leak at Niantic's York Correctional Institution, according to a Department of Correction news release. The department has said a broken underground pipe led to a diesel fuel leak that was contained on the grounds of the prison. The leak was discovered about three weeks ago in the area that supplies about half of the town's water supply for the 6,500 town utility customers, said East Lyme First Selectman Paul Formica. Formica said the



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conservation measures will help to slow water flow and aid ongoing testing at the on-site monitoring wells. Kropp Environmental, a state-licensed contractor, is managing the remediation plan and continues to test the soil and 40 monitoring wells for contamination each day. Kropp representatives will continue to monitor the situation through and after the holiday weekend. The Department of Correction said in the release that no contaminated soil has been found outside the correctional facility's grounds and the exact amount of fuel spillage has not been discovered. The following restrictions will apply to all customers of the East Lyme Water System: Prohibiting the sprinkling, watering or irrigation of lawns; prohibiting washing of motor vehicles and the outdoor surfaces of all buildings and structures, sidewalks and driveway; prohibiting the filling or cleaning of swimming and wading pools; and prohibiting the service of water to customers of public restaurants except at the specific request of customers. The measures will remain in place through Monday.

<http://www.theday.com/article/20130703/NWS01/130709875/1019&town=>

### USA, TX, BEAUMONT, JULY 5 2013. THOUSANDS JOIN OIL SPILL LAWSUIT

sarah moore



*Sea gulls sit on containment boom at Catfish Pass in Breton Sound Monday, May 3, 2010 as efforts continue to protect the fragile Louisiana marshes from the Deepwater Horizon oil spill.*

Lawsuits representing thousands of plaintiffs claiming damages from the 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill are stacking up in the Eastern District as filing deadlines in many cases loom. The petitions, naming BP Oil, Halliburton and its subsidiary [Sperry Drilling Services](#), and Transocean as defendants, represent a range of plaintiffs from shrimpers and fishermen to hotels and restaurants as well as those claiming medical damage from the catastrophic explosion and subsequent spill lasting about five months in 2010. They come from the southern tip of Texas to Florida. According to one petition representing more than 900 hotel owners, the BP oil spill created "a

widespread array of negative consequences" damaging individuals and businesses. "Whether or not oil was literally on the beaches of tourist and vacation destinations throughout the Gulf and regardless of whether certain sea food and marine life was or was not actually contaminated, tourists, would-be vacationers and other travelers reasonably perceived (Gulf Coast vacation destinations) to be an unwise choice - a risk." Another petition, representing [JBS Packing Co.](#) in Port Arthur and more than 1,000 other plaintiffs, complained the spill "crippled, and may entirely destroy, one of only two breeding grounds in the world for Atlantic Bluefin tuna, greatly increasing the likelihood that this species will go extinct in the near future."

<http://www.beaumontenterprise.com/news/article/Thousands-join-oil-spill-lawsuit-4644712.php>

### USA, MT, BILLINGS, JULY 5 2013. CLEANUP, INVESTIGATION UNDERWAY AFTER PHILLIPS 66 PIPELINE LEAKS GAS ON CROW LAND

cindy uken

A pipeline that may have leaked as many as 1,000 barrels of gasoline near Lodge Grass this week has a history of problems. Representatives of the U.S. Department of Transportation Pipeline Safety Administration, Phillips 66, the Environmental Protection Administration and the Crow Tribe responded to the scene of the Seminole Pipeline leak on reservation land. Though Dennis Nuss, a spokesman for Phillips 66, said the amount of gasoline has not been determined, Crow Chairman Darrin Old Coyote said company representatives told him that early estimates were about 1,000 barrels, or 4,200 gallons. Phillips 66 personnel detected a leak at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday in its 8-inch, below-ground Seminole Pipeline 15 miles southwest of Lodge Grass and immediately shut it down, Nuss said. Phillips 66's pipeline control center in Bartlesville, Okla., which monitors the company's pipeline systems, detected the leak. Crews were sent to assess the leak, which is in the Soap Creek area, Nuss said. State, local, federal and tribal organizations were notified. "We are concerned," Old Coyote said. "The leak happend on allottees' land. We're trying to resolve the leak and work out the details later." There were no injuries related to the leak and no threat to the community or water sources, he said. "We continue to monitor the area to ensure the safety of our workers and the community," Nuss said, adding that Phillips 66 is cooperating with other interests to clean up the impacted area, repair the pipeline and restart the pipeline system. The cause of the leak has not been determined. "At this time, there is no anticipated health impact to the community," Nuss said. "The safety of the community and the environment are of the



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utmost importance to our company, and these priorities will guide our efforts as we work with local and state officials on the response." A Phillips 66 remediation team that works with the appropriate agencies on cleanup were at the leak site Thursday, Nuss said. Leaks like the one that occurred Tuesday are "very uncommon," Nuss said, adding that Phillips is committed to managing its pipelines to a "very high standard." It's not the first incident on the Seminole Pipeline. In 2004, the Conoco Pipe Line Co. agreed to pay \$465,000 for environmental violations after the line broke twice in a week in 1997, spilling more than 2,300 barrels of gasoline near Lodge Grass and Banner, Wyo. The oil company changed its corporate and pipeline company name after merging with Phillips Petroleum in 2002. Underground earth movements caused the fractures in the Seminole Pipeline at that time, according to court documents. After cleaning up the Lodge Grass spill and making temporary repairs to the pipeline, the company laid about 3,400 feet of steel-coated replacement pipeline at a lower-than-normal depth of 6 to 8 feet below grade to avoid future ruptures from unstable soils. The company also installed strain gauges on portions of the pipeline in the area of the spill to monitor future ground movements. This week's leak occurred in "unusual terrain," said Patricia Klinger of the Pipeline Safety Administration of the U.S. Department of Transportation. The investigation could take several days to several months, she said. Representatives of the Pipeline Safety Administration, Phillips 66, the Environmental Protection Administration and the Crow Tribe, including historic preservation monitors, are all at the site. U.S. Sen. Jon Tester, D-Mont., said he will make sure that the spill gets cleaned up. "Tapping into our natural resources creates jobs, but it must be done safely and responsibly," Tester said. "This incident shows why Sen. Baucus and I passed our pipeline safety bill, and why we must continue to do everything we can to protect our treasured lands and waters." U.S. Sen. Max Baucus, D-Mont., said cleanup and safety are the No. 1 priority. "My team and I are talking with the tribal, state and federal officials to gather the facts so we can make sure the Crow Tribe and Montana have the resources to restore any damaged lands and protect landowners." The office of U.S. Rep. Steve Daines, R-Mont., issued a statement: "I am concerned and will work with the Crow Tribe and local, state, and federal officials to closely monitor this situation and ensure that the community is equipped to respond to this issue." The Seminole Pipeline transports finished petroleum products such as unleaded gasoline, diesel fuel and jet fuel from the Billings refinery to Wyoming, Utah and Colorado.

[http://billingsgazette.com/news/state-and-regional/montana/cleanup-investigation-underway-after-phillips-pipeline-leaks-gas-on-crow/article\\_8873edf5-f94e-5f16-a684-257996cddc55.html](http://billingsgazette.com/news/state-and-regional/montana/cleanup-investigation-underway-after-phillips-pipeline-leaks-gas-on-crow/article_8873edf5-f94e-5f16-a684-257996cddc55.html)

#### USA, FLA, HIALEAH GARDENS, JULY 5 2013. 4 HOSPITALIZED AFTER PROPANE TANK EXPLODES DURING FAMILY GATHERING

 **Watch the Video** [4 Hospitalized after Propane Tank Explodes During Family Gathering](#)

Several people were hospitalized after a propane tank exploded during a family get-together at a South Florida home, Thursday. The incident occurred at 9884 Northwest 135th Street in Hialeah Gardens. The Chirino family was hosting a 4th of July party to celebrate their son's homecoming at their home and were getting ready to turn on the grill, which is in the poolside gazebo with a built in grill oven, when it exploded. It injured four adult males, including homeowner Luis. "We were just starting the party and I just heard the explosion and then everyone was screaming," said Chirino's godson Steven Villar. "Four individuals were injured. Two of them had injuries, facial and body injury burns. And the other two were burnt from the lower extremities," said a fire rescue official. Chirino's son Fabian, who plays college baseball in New York, was back in town to celebrate with his family. "They had an event at the house because his son is a baseball player," said a relative. Villar said someone smelled something and turned off the gas to the oven while the grill was still in use. He believes another guest mistakenly turned the gas back on. "And when they opened the oven door, the gas lifted and then it got in contact with the fire and that's why it made the explosion," said Villar. Partygoer Aldo said, "They were working on the barbecue and they didn't know it was full of gas, and they ignited and it exploded." Fire rescue airlifted the four men to Jackson Memorial Hospital. Police said they suffered non-life threatening injuries. According to police, Chirino is listed in critical condition but is expected to recover. Miami-Dade Fire rescue is investigating what caused the explosion.

<http://www.wsvn.com/news/articles/local/21011066940754/4-hospitalized-after-propane-tank-explodes-during-family-gathering/>

#### USA, W.VA, TEAYS VALLEY, JULY 5 2013. TANKER TRUCK CRASHES INTO HOME IN TEAYS VALLEY

 **Watch the Video** [Neighbors Alarmed after Truck Reverses into Living Room](#)

A tanker truck backed into a house in Teays Valley and spilled a cleaning solvent over W.Va. 34 on Wednesday. The accident, which happened at about 4 p.m. on the 3700 block of W.Va. 34, resulted in the truck leaking more than 40 gallons of a



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cleaning solvent, Teays Valley Volunteer Fire Chief John Smoot said. The driver was nearby at the Tractor Supply Company when the truck's brake released and it backed into the house. No one was injured. Smoot said the liquid has a mild combustibility, but none of it leaked into the house. Crews closed W.Va. 34 for more than an hour to clean up the liquid. Putnam County Sheriff's deputies are investigating.

<http://www.wvgazette.com/News/201307030089>

#### FINLAND, HOGLAND ISLAND, JULY 5 2013. GREEK TANKER WAS MINUTES AWAY FROM GULF OF FINLAND DISASTER - FINNISH DAILY



Last October, Finnish authorities diverted a Greek tanker minutes away from shallow waters near Hogland (Suursaar) island 50 kilometers of the coast of Estonia. [Helsingin Sanomat](#) reported today that had the Finnish authorities not intervened, the tanker would have caused the region's biggest ever environmental catastrophe. The Greek vessel was carrying 100,000 tons or 32 million gallons of crude oil, a similar volume to the Exxon Valdez spill in 1989. According to the daily, experts calculated that the tanker was seven minutes away from reaching the shallow waters before Finnish authorities called the bridge, and disaster was averted only due to the speed of the tanker, as older ships would have not been able to react as quickly. In 2007, another Greek

tanker, also carrying 100,000 tons of crude oil, received minor hull damage in the same area. A new ship routing system for the Gulf of Finland is now in operation, guiding ships around the shallow waters.

<http://news.err.ee/environment/7ac953e3-d320-4a47-b37d-21b8f2ab744a>

#### CANADA, MONTREAL, JULY 5 2013. ONE DEAD AFTER TOXIC SPILL CLOSES STREET, FORCES EVACUATION OF MONTREAL APARTMENT BUILDING

 [Watch the Video One Dead After Toxic Spill Closes Street](#)

One man is dead after the leak of a so-far unknown toxic substance in a Montreal apartment. A building was evacuated, a street was closed and nine people were temporarily quarantined after a toxic spill in downtown Montreal. The event happened at 10 a.m. when someone inside a four-storey greystone apartment building on De Maisonneuve Blvd. and Towers called 9-1-1 for help and Montreal firefighters rushed to the scene. They found a 28-year-old man in cardiac arrest and they were not able to save his life. "The body was evacuated to the outside of the building. The death was witnessed and stated on scene by Urgences Sante paramedics," said Marc-Andre Gagnon. Those paramedics also smelled something very strange in the building and so brought in the Hazardous Materials team, prompting emergency officials to close De Maisonneuve between St. Marc Ave. and Fort St. for two and a half hours. Firefighters evacuated the building while the HazMat team cordoned off the area and put nine people in isolation. Two people were taken to hospital because they were having difficulty breathing and were vomiting. So far nobody is certain exactly what type of hazardous material is involved. At noon "it has yet to be determined by the fire department of Montreal" what the substance is, said Gagnon. One of the firefighters collapsed from heat stroke and authorities say it was not due to exposure to the dangerous substance. Tenant Lindsey Shapansky had just returned home from a doctor's appointment for respiratory issues when she suddenly found herself under quarantine. "I came back and I was like, 'ok hold on. Is it possible that the reason I was having trouble breathing is because there's some sort of chemical in my building?'" said Lindsey Shapansky. She was soon reassured that there was no connection. "I feel fine, I'm confident that's not the issue." The nine tenants of the building at 1947 de Maisonneuve W. were soon after all cleared and told that they were not in danger and would not be required to go to hospital. The individual who died appears to have intentionally ingested the toxic concoction but investigators are continuing to investigate.

Share this story:

<http://montreal.ctvnews.ca/one-dead-after-toxic-spill-closes-street-forces-evacuation-of-montreal-apartment-building-1.1353232>



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