



Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network

Release 2013 – 993 Newsy Stuff

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

August 19 2013



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MALTA, MARSA, AUGUST 7 2013. PETROL STATIONS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR FUEL MIX THEY SELL – GRTU

Notices put up at fuel stations around the country, indicating that the diesel available is a mix with seven per cent bio diesel, are the responsibility of the Malta Resources Authority, the small and medium sized enterprises chamber, the GRTU said. Fuel station owners are not in any way responsible for the fuels mix they sell and are not responsible for any impact the fuel could have on vehicles, the GRTU added.

MRA Accuses GRTU of Irresponsibility

The Malta Resources Authority accused the small and medium enterprises chamber, the GRTU, of irresponsibility in its attitude about labelling being displayed at fuel stations. It said a GRTU statement was intended only to create uncertainties. The authority said that the diesel being sold has not been changed, and conforms to standard MSA EN 590. The labelling being displayed at fuel stations is according to international and local standards and the notices being displayed at fuel stations are not anything new. Displaying the notice is one of the conditions of the licence to operate a petrol station, the MRA added. And in a statement meant for consumers, the authority said that after talks with the Consumers Association, importers and representatives of fuel station owners, it has started displaying notices at stations giving information about fuels being used, and the importers, so that consumers would be able to exercise their right of choice. The notices give the name of the importers and refer to the fuel quality. Each fuel has a particular colour assigned to it on the notices – black for diesel, green for petrol and orange for bio diesel. All stations should be displaying the notices within a few days. The fuel quality has not changed, the marks reflect the fuel that was available on the market. The diesel market is competitive, there are a number of importers supplying the fuel stations. The petrol market is not competitive, only Enemalta imports it.

<http://www.independent.com.mt/articles/2013-08-06/news/petrol-stations-not-responsible-for-fuel-mix-they-sell-grtu-2266169345/>

AUSTRALIA, NEW SOUTH WALES, PORT MACQUARIE, AUGUST 7 2013. FINAL TOXIC CLEAN-UP TO START SOON ON A STRETCH OF PACIFIC HIGHWAY NEAR PORT MACQUARIE

Map: [Port Macquarie 2444](#)



Pacific Highway construction site where toxic waste was uncovered.

A stretch of the Pacific Highway upgrade at the centre of a toxic chemical scare near Port Macquarie will be the focus of a clean-up operation next week. In 1980 a truck loaded with canisters of radioactive waste, pesticides other chemicals crashed at Herons Creek. Its load was buried on site except for the radioactive waste which was taken away. In early 2012 workers on the highway upgrade became dizzy and started vomiting after soil covering the accident site was moved. The roadwork was put on hold pending an investigation and fears radioactive waste might have been uncovered. An investigation found the toxic fumes came from acid sulphate soil. The final clean up of the crash site will remove four thousand metres of contaminated soil from near the Hastings Valley Motorcycle Club site. An exclusion zone will remain in place until the

contaminated material is completely removed. Independent specialists will then test the affected area to verify all of the contaminated materials have been removed. The NSW government said safety on site, for workers and the general public its top priority during the removal of the contaminated material. The most recent reports show a mild chemical, commonly used as a food additive, was buried at the worksite after a 1980 crash. It was removed during the planning phase of the project but the residual breakdown has caused fatty acids to evolve below the original burial site. The government said there is no long term health effect associated with exposure to these fatty acids.

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2013-08-07/final-toxic-clean-up-to-start-soon-on-a-stretch-of-pacific-high/4869888>

AUSTRALIA, NEW SOUTH WALES, BOTANY BAY, AUGUST 7 2013. ORICA ORDERED TO CLEAN UP BOTANY SITE

Remediation work includes excavation of contaminated soils, and construction of a vapour cap and barrier walls.

Chemical company Orica will spend nearly \$50 million cleaning up its contaminated Botany site after it was handed an order by the state's environment regulator. The EPA has issued a variation to Orica's Environment Protection Licence to allow the remediation work to take place. It follows a series of toxic mercury leaks from Orica plants and concerns from local residents about contamination at Botany. The EPA has given Orica until October 2013 to remove the most highly contaminated soils



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from its former ChlorAlkali Plant inside the Botany Industrial Park. It will also be required to cap and contain any remaining contaminated soils by January 2015, and provide regular reports to an EPA-accredited auditor. Orica will begin on the work this month, which is expected to take two years to complete, a spokesman for Orica told AAP. It will cost the company in the order of \$47 million. The company's general manager of environmental remediation, Bill Crowe, said although there were no "unacceptable" human health or environmental risks posed by mercury contamination, the company was pleased to start addressing it. "Orica is committed to ensuring its approach is scientifically rigorous, transparent and adheres to the highest standards of environmental control," Mr Crowe said. EPA's Craig Lamberton said it was good news for the Botany community, which wanted assurance that environmental and health risks from past industrial practices will be minimised. "The primary objective of the Management Order is to set out an appropriate framework to achieve the required environmental and human health outcomes," Mr Lamberton said. Orica's Botany site was contaminated during the operation of a mercury-cell chlor-alkali plant by Orica and its predecessors between 1944 and 2002.

 **Related Stories** [Explosives and mining chemicals supplier Orica will start this month cleaning up a former manufacturing site that is contaminated with mercury](http://news.theage.com.au/breaking-news-business/orica-ordered-to-clean-up-botany-site-20130807-2rgjx.html)

<http://news.theage.com.au/breaking-news-business/orica-ordered-to-clean-up-botany-site-20130807-2rgjx.html>

USA, AZ, SIERRA VISTA, AUGUST 7 2013. TRAIN DERAILMENT SPILLS SULFURIC ACID NEAR NACO

derek jordan

A train derailment about seven miles south of the U.S./Mexico border has spilled sulfuric acid after a wooden bridge over a wash collapsed on Tuesday. Mario Novoa, the Douglas Fire Chief, reported to Cochise County Supervisor Pat Call that firefighters from Cananea, Agua Prieta, and Naco, Mexico are on the scene at the derailment. Twelve cars, each carrying approximately 90,000 liters of sulfuric acid, were involved when the bridge collapsed. Four of the cars ruptured in the crash, two of which have spilled all of their contents while two others continue to leak. "The actual derailment occurred sometime between 7:30 and 8 o'clock this morning," Novoa said Tuesday evening. The fire chief said he was first notified of the accident by the Environmental Protection Agency's San Francisco office. "At this time we have reports that the acid has traveled approximately 800 meters close to the communities of Cauthemoc and Zaragoza townships," Chief Novoa said. At 7:30 p.m. Tuesday night, it was being reported that firefighters were "... waiting for heavy equipment to help dike the acid and they are also waiting for lime to neutralize the acid." Call said it did not appear the spill would have an impact on the San Pedro River. "At this point the spill is not thought to be a danger to the waters of the San Pedro river and there are no reports of casualties," Call said in his newsletter. No injuries or deaths due to the accident have been reported, Novoa said.

<http://www.svherald.com/content/local-news/2013/08/06/357553>

USA, UT, NORTH SALT LAKE, AUGUST 7 2013. TRAIN DERAILMENT STALLS FRONTRUNNER SERVICE >> TANKERS WERE EMPTY, USUALLY CARRIED ETHANOL AND OTHER ALCOHOLS.

A train derailment at about 3 a.m. Tuesday has stopped some trains on the Utah Transit Authority Frontrunner line from running, and officials don't expect it to be back to normal until about 2 p.m. today. The derailment near 1100 North and 1100 West was nothing too serious, said UTA spokesman Remi Barron. All the cars remained upright, despite being off the track. It happened on a side route just off the main track, said Union Pacific spokesman Aaron Hunt. The three rear cars of a five-car train slipped off the tracks. The cars were tankers and were being delivered to a customer and were empty, Hunt said. They usually carry ethanol and other alcohols. After the derailment, Union Pacific brought in crews and specially fitted cranes to right the cars. By late morning, the train had been righted and taken to the station for an investigation. The work to get the train back on its way affected the UTA rails, which run adjacent to the Union Pacific line. By about 11 a.m., one Frontrunner train was running northbound and one ran southbound. Until all trains can run again, UTA passengers are being bussed between Clearfield and North Temple, and drivers are stopping at each train station to pick up stranded riders. "It happened early enough that we were able to get the bus bridge up and running so most people were able to get to work," Barron said. Union Pacific does not yet know what caused the derailment, but is investigating. It will look at various components of the track such as ties and the rocky ballasts underneath as well as the wheels on the rail cars and more. Since 2002, derailments on all Union Pacific lines have dropped by 26 percent, Hunt said. This year alone, the rail line invested \$3.6 billion in infrastructure improvement and repair, and it has spent similar amounts in recent years. "Our railroad travels through 23 states, over 32,000 miles of track and so it's a very substantial network, and that's why it's so capital-intensive," Hunt said. "All of that is driven by an effort to enhance our track and to operate safely and efficiently. We really work hard to avoid this." No derailments have



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occurred in Davis County since at least 1975, according to statistics compiled by the Federal Railroad Administration Office of Safety and Analysis.

http://www.davisclipper.com/view/full_story/23296594/article-Train-derailment-stalls-Frontrunner-service?instance=home_news_1st_left

HURRICANE ISAAC OIL AND CHEMICAL RELEASES EXAMINED BY ENVIRONMENTAL GROUPS

benjamin alexander-bloch

 Documents:

- [Hurricane Isaac Gulf Monitoring Consortium Report](#)
- [Oil and Gas Industry Hurricane Fact Sheet](#)



Workers at the Stolthaven chemical holding and transfer facility in Plaquemines Parish on Sept. 13, 2012. The company admitted to releasing an undetermined amount of chemicals during Hurricane Isaac.

In the wake of [Hurricane Isaac](#) last August, at least 341,000 gallons of oil, chemicals and untreated waste-water were released by area [oil, coal, gas and petrochemical facilities](#), according to a report released Tuesday. The report by the [Gulf Monitoring Consortium](#), which examined [National Response Center](#) and [Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality](#) data, stated that facilities also released about 192 tons of gasses and other materials – or about 355,000 pounds. The report also notes that oil from the [2010 BP Deepwater Horizon](#) continued to wash ashore as a result of the hurricane. With the peak of the 2013

[hurricane season](#) upon us, the consortium is asking government regulatory agencies and emergency responders to monitor these facilities more closely and that the facilities address their vulnerabilities before potential storm events. It also calls on regulatory agencies to require more reporting during and after storms and for the facilities themselves to provide more accurate estimates of the amount of materials released. Richard Metcalf, director of environmental affairs for [Louisiana Mid-Continent Oil and Gas Association](#), said that the association has contacted its members about the report and currently is reviewing its findings. "If there are any inaccuracies or areas that need to be clarified then we will probably release a summary of those," Metcalf said. He, along with representatives from [Energize LA](#) and the [Louisiana Chemical Association](#), also stressed that the Gulf Monitoring Consortium report downplayed the severity of Isaac. They contend Isaac was not only an unusual storm because of its slow-moving nature and storm surge but also a very difficult storm for the industry to handle. Representatives from each of the associations stressed that they have learned lessons from Isaac that will help with future storm events. Metcalf also said the importance of the oil and gas industry before, during and after hurricanes. "We are committed as an industry to supplying the fuels for the hospitals, nursing care centers, parish governments, first responders and to the public, especially if an evacuation is called and we work closely with the state to make sure that fuel is available," Metcalf said. "Do we shut down and not have enough fuel when an evacuation occurs or do we keep trying to continue in order to have fuel? "That is the fine line that we work with. ... We don't ever want to put in the situation where someone says, 'Hey I wanted to evacuate, but I couldn't find gasoline.'" Shortly after Hurricane Isaac, Stolthaven in [Plaquemines Parish](#) initially reported to the National Response Center a potential release of as much as 191,331 gallons of chemicals, including a wide range of carcinogens and toxicants. But later Stolthaven verbally reported spill estimates to the state [DEQ](#) indicating a potential release of as much as 227,608 gallons, according to the report. Then on Oct. 4, 2012 – 37 days after the storm – Stolthaven submitted its final report to DEQ, reporting that 169,810 gallons of oil and petrochemicals had spilled, according to the Gulf Monitoring Consortium report, released during news conferences in New Orleans and [Baton Rouge](#). The report states that, in addition to the changing amount of the release, Stolthaven also changed the type of the chemicals reported over that 37-day period. "While bulk quantities of benzene and toluene were not actually released as initially reported, no early reports even suggested a release of Octene, Ultra S-4 lubricating oil, or Vivatex, substances which were in fact released in quantities of 80,467 gallons, 6,168 gallons, and 2,906 gallons respectively," the report states. "The discrepancy means that emergency responders, residents returning to their homes, and possibly even workers were not accurately informed of potential health and environmental risks of these and other chemicals contaminating the floodwaters." And the report states that while fossil fuel and petrochemical facilities often cite weather as the cause of the releases, "hurricanes and tropical storms are generally predictable and are an annual occurrence in the Gulf Region" and therefore that "poor planning and/or inadequate protections"



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are more to blame. The report includes the Marathon Refinery in Garyville, which dumped roughly 12.6 million gallons of untreated stormwater runoff into Lake Maurepas after the storm, having reached "on-site storage capacity," the report states. Additionally, Marathon, which did not shut down during the storm, experienced flaring and power outages that resulted in the release of roughly 1.5 tons of carbon monoxide, 3 tons of volatile organic compounds and 2.5 tons of propane. Because the numbers are self-reported, the report suggests that these estimates are conservative. A spokesperson for Marathon declined to comment on the emissions malfunctioning during Isaac, saying only that the refinery "does a lot to prevent these kinds of effects." The report also uses two facilities in [St. Charles Parish](#) as an example, stating that while the Valero refinery shut down in advance of the hurricane and reported no incidents, the Motiva [Norco](#) Refinery next door "encountered major problems and had to send workers out in the middle of the storm to tie down equipment." That [Motiva](#) refinery released 135 tons of pollution in the wake of Isaac, including 27 tons of volatile organic compounds, 16.5 tons of sulfur dioxide, and nearly a ton of benzene, the report states. But while the Motiva refinery did not shut down before the storm, the strength of Isaac forced shut downs, according to the report. "Interviews with workers (at Motiva) revealed a terrifying situation inside the plant during landfall," the report states. "All of the compressors malfunctioned because they were flooded. "Workers had to go out in the hurricane to tie machinery down while units were malfunctioning." And while [ExxonMobil's](#) Chalmette Refinery did shut down in advance of the storm, it still had significant issues with pollution controls resulting in a 58-ton sulfur dioxide release, according to the report. The Valero Refinery in [Meraux](#) also shut down but spilled 47 gallons of slop oil including 7.8 pounds of benzene, according to the report. Valero reported "the root cause of this spill to be inadequate containment for the heavy rains and high winds experienced during hurricane Isaac" and that pollutants entered the 20 Arpent Canal, according to the report. Also, despite a shutdown at the Phillips 66 Alliance Refinery in [Belle Chasse](#), storm surge overtopped their western levee, flooding the facility and operators reported that oily wastewater overflowed the collection system and that oil came out of their sewers and into the floodwater, according to the report. The report states that 2,300 pounds of sulfur dioxide – a respiratory and lung irritant – was released as a result of Alliance's shut-down and start-up processes. Also, more than 42 gallons of oil from that facility were dumped into the [Mississippi River](#) and the nearby swamp, according to the report. "It's about preparedness in general, and about the fact that hurricanes are absolutely known events: we know they're coming and we have some idea of where they're coming," said Anne Rolfes, founding director of the Louisiana Bucket Brigade, a member of the consortium. "You can't prepare for everything – but there's a lot they don't do to get ready, and we're advocating for better preparedness, meaning more controlled shutdowns, and in plenty of time."

Related Hurricane Isaac Stories

- [Disaster management firm backs out of \\$13 million contract with St. John Schools](#)
- [Hurricane Isaac oil and chemical releases examined by environmental groups](#)
- [\\$15 million of ice meant for Hurricane Isaac victims went elsewhere or was allowed to melt, report says](#)
- [Metairie and Kenner fishing piers set to re-open on Lake Pontchartrain](#)
- [Hurricane Isaac pushed Harahan deficit to one-third of revenue](#)

http://www.nola.com/environment/index.ssf/2013/08/hurricane_isaac_oil_and_chemic.html

USA, N.J, SURF CITY, AUGUST 8 2013. TWO INJURED IN HOT TUB CHLORINE EXPLOSION IN SURF CITY

A chlorine explosion occurring from mixing chemicals meant for a hot tub injured two in Surf City on Aug. 3. At around 6 p.m. homeowner Russell Rocca was diluting chlorine with water when the mixture suddenly became unstable and exploded, leaving Rocca with minor burns to his face. Neighbor John Herrmann responded to the sound and attempted to enter the house to help when he realized the chemical odor was too intense. Surf City police units responded to 15 North Third Street to find Rocca burned and having difficulties breathing, while Herrmann remained light-headed. Both were transported to Southern Ocean Medical Center. The Ship Bottom Volunteer Fire Co. and Berkeley Hazmat assisted Surf City police, fire and EMS in the effort. The scenario at first puzzled Joe Hutchison, who during his 15 years as owner of Hutchison's Pool and Spas in Surf City had never heard of anything like it occurring. Hutchison went to Rocca's address to gain more detail on the incident though Rocca was not present. Hutchison had heard of explosions around pools before, including one story where a man died after acid washing a drained pool. A huge explosion occurred when a spark from a wet and dry vacuum ignited the acid, blowing the pool cage clear off and killing the man. Not every explosion takes a spark, however. "It's more common than you would think," said Hutchison of chemical explosions. "Chlorine's very corrosive, very dangerous. A lot of people underestimate chlorine; it's much more dangerous than you know." Hutchison surmises the explosion may have occurred after volatile chemicals (possibly a chlorine-based hot tub shock treatment that also contains calcium) were placed in a bucket and



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water was then added, rather than vice versa, which he said should always be practiced. "You never put a dry chemical in a pool or hot tub. You always dilute it, and if you start with a chemical in a bucket, you're wrong. Always put the water in first, then chemicals in it." Otherwise a mix of different types of chlorine shocks may have been used to cause the explosive reaction. "You shouldn't mix different brands together. Even with a liquid shock. Calcium is a very difficult, hot chemical. When you introduce it into to a bucket with a little bit of water in it, it's going to react and melt the bucket. You need to be carefully handling it with, say, a broom handle, even when it's dry." Hutchison requires his employees to take a spa convention class in advanced water chemistry each year and classes involving any new technologies that develop in the industry.

<http://thesandpaper.villagesoup.com/p/two-injured-in-hot-tub-chlorine-explosion-in-surf-city/1040444>

UKRAINE, DONETSK REGION, HORLIVKA, AUGUST 8 2013. 5 PEOPLE KILLED, SOME 20 INJURED IN AMMONIA EXPLOSION AT STIROL CONCERN, SAYS HORLIVKA PROSECUTOR



Twenty-three people have been hospitalized as a result of Tuesday's ammonia blowout at Stirol Concern's plant in Horlivka, according to the Health Department of Donetsk Regional State Administration.

Five people were killed and around 20 people were injured in an accident at the No. 1 Plant of PJSC Stirol Concern (Horlivka, Donetsk region), Horlivka Prosecutor Oleh Kolesnyk has said. "Around 20 people were injured, and some of them are in a grave condition at the local hospital. The majority of them are in a moderately grave condition," the prosecutor said at a press briefing on Tuesday. According to him, all of those injured were suffering from ammonia poisoning and inhalation burns. At the same time, the healthcare department of Donetsk Regional State Administration reported that 20 people that were injured in the accident at the Stirol Concern were hospitalized at Horlivka hospitals.

Nineteen people were hospitalized at Horlivka Town Hospital No. 2, and another person at Horlivka Town Hospital No. 3, the healthcare department said. A team of anesthesiologists from the Regional Center for Emergency Medical Aid and Disaster Medicine have arrived at the hospitals to provide consultations for the treatment of those injured. Meanwhile, Channel 5 has reported that five of those injured are in intensive care.

<http://en.interfax.com.ua/news/general/163354.html>

USA, CA, RIPON, AUGUST 8 2013. RIPON CITIZEN HELPS CUFF GAS THIEF

James Burns

 **Watch the Video's:**

- [Man Caught Siphoning Fuel Had an Advanced Setup](#)
- [Suspect Arrested for Stealing Nearly 500 Gallons of Fuel from Ripon High School](#)



Field Training Officer Stephen Meece examining evidence located in the suspect's trailer.

The wheels on the bus will go 'round and 'round next week thanks to a concerned citizen. Joe Henry Leonardo Sr. was booked into San Joaquin County jail on a felony count of grand theft Wednesday. Leonardo was caught siphoning gas from a Ripon Unified School District fuel tank located at Ripon High School, near the Highway 99 catwalk. The 44-year-old Ceres resident used industrial hoses and a pumping system to transfer approximately 500 gallons of diesel fuel from the school district's tanks to those in a trailer attached to his flat-bed Dodge. The fuel, which is used to power the district's fleet of buses, was valued at \$2,250. Ripon Unified returns to the classroom next Wednesday. "I've spoken to the district and they're in the process of getting all their buses ready to go," Sgt. Steve Merchant of the Ripon Police

Department. "So this would have had quite an impact on the district, because they would have needed to get an emergency shipment of fuel. And with budget cuts, any additional costs, especially in transportation, would have had a major impact on our schools." Leonardo's midnight heist was foiled by a concerned citizen – on National Night Out, no less. Hours after the



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department's community outreach program, a citizen alerted Ripon police to a suspicious person siphoning gas from the district tank. Scott King was the arresting officer; he was assisted by field training officers Stephen Meece and Brett Delgado. Merchant praised the instincts of the citizen, and he encouraged others to report any suspicious activity. "We cannot be everywhere. Without the citizens help we wouldn't be as successful as we are," Merchant said. "Any case a citizen helps us with, we'll give them as much credit as we can give them. Without that person calling us, we probably wouldn't have found (Leonardo)." The hoses and pumping equipment allowed Leonardo, 44, to transfer the gas quickly into two tanks located in a trailer. Merchant estimates the suspect loaded 500 gallons into those tanks and was likely capable of taking more than 100 more. "Based on what we saw, it would pump as fast as a regular gas pump, if not quicker," Merchant said. Leonardo was arrested without incident shortly after midnight. Officers reported that he appeared to be hiding in the cab of the truck.

<http://www.mantecabulletin.com/section/1/article/81892/>

NIGERIA, LAGOOS, AUGUST 7 2013. TANK FARMS: THE TICKING LAGOS TIME BOMB



Many Nigerians who have never visited Kirikiri Town will not readily enlist interest in visiting the community. The name itself evokes discomforting feelings in the psyche of not quite a few. The phobia may have been accentuated by the location of notorious prisons in the area. But while the residents of the town will readily allude to the fact that the correction centres – Kirikiri Maximum, Medium and Women Prisons – are about the most serene environment in the area, they will, however give testimonies of severe hardships which the pangs of tank farms' location in the place have been unleashing on the populace in recent years. Kirikiri Town is however just one of the settlements in the axis sharing the ordeal of phenomenal traffic logjams and environmental abuse by the oil companies operating tank farms there. The Beachland Estate and Ijegan Town have over the years been hoping against hope that Lagos State government would fulfill its pledge to relocate these hazard harbingers from their communities. Last year, the state government, acknowledging an imminent disaster in the communities,

pledged to ensure the relocation of tank farms, that have attracted a huge traffic of fuel tankers into the axis. But with more fuel storage facilities being erected around the communities, the days of relief for the residents may have been postponed. Already, some of the residents have started relocating from the settlements there, after unsuccessfully fighting against the encroachment of their environment, by environmentally life – threatening fuel storage and distribution facilities in the area. The Kirikiri, Ijegan and Apapa area of Lagos are already swarming with petroleum tankers and the attendant traffic logjam as a result of the petroleum tank farms sited there. Besides, the Lagos State Government has concluded plans to relocate these tank farms to avoid future disaster, saying that the Federal Government contravenes the Health Safety and Environment (HSE) law. About 15 years ago, the first settlers at the Creek View estate in Kirikiri Town began to develop their parcels of land, which was for residential purpose under the Lagos State Government and free from government acquisition. In 2005, Techno Oil Nigeria Limited arrived to set up the first of what would later become a chain of oil depots. Other tank farm owners at the estate are Index Oil, Swift Oil, Bovas Oil and Fatgbems Petroleum Limited. Also, in Apapa area of Lagos, the presence of tank farms has also been sending fears to other business owners around the area, who believed that any explosion from the any of the tank farms could raze down the residential buildings with high prospects of fatalities, with the residents believing logically that the presence of the fuel depots is a ticking time bomb, waiting to explode. The Guardian gathered that Techno Oil, Fatgbems Oil, Bovas Oil, Index Petroleum and Swift Oil, were sealed up by the Lagos State Environmental Protection Agency (LASEPA), for siting tank farms less than 200 metres away from residential area and operating the facilities without submission of Environmental Impact Assessment reports to the agency. But the companies were reopened shortly after they paid the necessary fines to the Lagos State Government. Residents of Apapa and businesses operating around the seaports have on several occasions appealed to the Federal Government to prevail on the oil marketers to relocate their tank farms, which they said, were less than the 200 metres away from their houses. The fear of having tankers being overturned due to the terrible state of the roads in the axis and having its contents spilled and igniting fire that can spread to a military installations like the Naval Base, is a fear which the residents could not wish away. Already, The Guardian learnt that some of the executive and trustees of Landlord Association in these areas, who speak against oil tanks farms presence and the nuisance presented by their operations, received threats of being put to silence either by diabolical means or otherwise. The



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residents said that only recently, the estates were thrown into pandemonium, confusion and bitter frustration following a major fire outbreak in one of the oil tank farms - the second time within a very short period of time. The residents believed that regulatory bodies and agencies have compromised the stringent standards for the setting up of these petroleum tank farms. They are concerned that Nigeria and the nation's vital installations may be at the risk of environmental time bomb as a result of the indiscriminate citing of petroleum tank farms by oil companies. A petition written by the Kirikiri Creek-View Estate Resident Association and signed by Chairman of the association, I.C. P Umeh, Secretary, Ad Hoc Committee, David Oleka to the Minister of Petroleum Resources and obtained by The Guardian stated: "If Nigeria accepts that all the residents in our estate and their families are citizens of this country and that Nigeria is obligated to protecting our lives, properties as well as guarantee of fairness to freedom of living and association, then, we are urging the Department of Petroleum Resources to step into the frustrations that we and our entire families now face with these oil tank farms. "As residents in the estate neighbourhoods closer to the oil tank farms, we are badly affected by the chemical emissions and associated chemical odours emanating from the oil tank farms facility, which have remained a terrible nuisance and a source of many adverse effects to our health, safety, and quality of life. We also experience the effects from the tank farm storage excessive noise and vibration, which could impair hearing and monumental environmental damages to our dwelling places. "We have this conviction that unless there is an urgent intervention from DPR, there exist more and more of petrol/kerosene explosions, critical hideouts for criminals due to perpetual parking of petrol tankers and trailers by transporters to the oil tank farms, severe environmental and oil pollutions resulting from petrochemical hydrants, among others. Adding to their apprehension is the terrible state of roads within the Kirikiri Town. "Roads within Kirikiri are death traps. Most days, they are rendered impassable by oil tankers, container-bearing trucks and trailers who pay scant attention to environmental regulations. Daily road users groan in the intractable traffic they face due to the nuisance posed by these tankers and truck drivers. They said that the estate was currently under siege and serious security risk due to uncontrollable influx of miscreants and undesirable elements who accompany these drivers or sneak into the estate from the tank farms under the guise of working for the oil companies. The residents in the letter, noted that for the houses badly affected by the activities of the oil tanks farms, part of the mitigating measures suggested by the DPR team that visited the estate was that the facilities operators must buy up residential houses close to their petrol storage depots as quickly as possible at prices that guarantee owners' comfort, together with adequate financial compensation to cover all inconveniences. They said that the houses which took members of the association years to build from a deep swampy land that gulped lots of filling sands were now been viewed and priced by some of the oil tank farms like a piece of bread, claiming that they are doing the residents favour. They claimed their efforts to ensure that LASEPA stepped into the matter proved abortive. "When the matter got to LASEPA, the agency believed that the oil tank farms were operating against known laws in Lagos State on environment and immediately sealed up the tank farms. But less than two days later, the farms were unsealed, after collecting necessary fines from the tank farms owners. Specifically, a former resident of the area who was forced to relocate due to the fear of explosion, Dr. Chris Onalo, in an interview with The Guardian, appealed to the Federal Government to ensure that the residents are compensated for being forced out of their houses. He said: "It took me several years to build my house, which I later sold to a tank farm owner at a price lesser than the present value of the property. I want the government to compensate me." Speaking with The Guardian, the General Manager of LASEPA, Adebola Shabi stated: "We settled this issue two years ago. The Federal Government did not do the right thing for giving approval to tank farm owners to construct their tanks in residential areas. You know that granting of licences for the establishment of tank farms is the sole responsibility of the federal government. If the right things were done, this problem would not have arisen. "In 2010, when we clamped down on the them, we decided to bring peace by mandating the tank farm owners to construct water drainages to ease flooding around the residential estate, which is not up to 200 metres from the oil depots in the area. "They agreed to construct water hydrant in front of their depots and purchase fire engines to fight any outbreak of fire in the area. We are taking these measures because the oil tank farms are very close to residential buildings. "We signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the tank farm owners. It is just that the proper thing was not done right from the beginning, because we would have been able to advise the company on rules guiding the establishment of tank farms. All the things we asked them to do, they complied. The Federal Government did not do the right thing from the beginning. If the right things were done from the beginning, all these issues that are coming up now would have been addressed. "We are only trying to correct the issue and it's going to be a gradual process. The government has already given them approval. He said that the Lagos State government has concluded plans to ensure that the tank farms around Kirikiri and Apapa area of the state are relocated. "Lagos State government is looking for a way to relocate some of the tank farms in Lagos State. There is no way you can have tank farms compacted in one place like the whole of Apapa in Lagos. There is



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possibility that explosion from any of the tank farms could result to serious disaster in the state. We are looking at the safety aspect and we felt that there is need for these people to be relocated. We have already recommended that the tank farm be relocated to avoid disaster. "The state government is working seriously on that. Most of the tank farms are not even ready to give back to the environment. They are degrading the environment and getting them to engage in corporate social responsibility is a problem. "Energy Tank Farm in Apapa is not environmental friendly. Some of their filling stations are not complying to environmental and safety law. I have said that the Federal Government has done wrong by allowing them to operate". A legal professional, Gbolahan Gbadamosi told The Guardian that the permission given to the tank farm owners to set up their businesses around residential areas, contravenes Health Safety and Environment (HSE) law. Gbadamosi stated: "The legally accepted standards for locating tank farms is anchored on HSE. This is where companies that engage in business activities in both the upstream and downstream sectors of the petroleum industry are compelled by law to comply with all environmental health and safety laws, regulations, guidelines or directives. Such companies must conduct their operations in accordance with internationally accepted principles of sustainable development. "On the punishment for violation of such directive, it is located in the statutory powers given to the Department of Petroleum Resources (DPR). The question is does DPR has political will to enforce sanctions? To my mind, it remains to be seen whether it is so. DPR has power to close down oil installations including the filling stations. The closure is more in media stunt than real action".

<http://www.ngrguardiannews.com/focus/129172-tank-farms-the-ticking-lagos-time-bomb>

USA, TX, WALKER COUNTY, AUGUST 8 2013. 1 WORKER INJURED AT GAS WELL EXPLOSION IN WALKER COUNTY -

 **Watch the Video** [Worker Injured at Gas Well Explosion](#)

One contract worker was burned after a gas well explosion in Walker County on Tuesday around 4:15 pm. The 35-year old worker from Pioneer in San Antonio was flown to Memorial Hermann in Houston. He is said to be in stable condition with burns on 20% of his body. Walker County Emergency Management says a flash fire ignited as workers were bleeding gas from the well, later causing the explosion. The well is owned by Bluestone Natural Resources, and is located near FM 247 and Lost Indian Camp Road approximately 8 miles north of Huntsville.

<http://www.kbtx.com/home/headlines/1-Worker-Injured-at-Gas-Well-Explosion-in-Walker-County--218591721.html>

USA, CA, LOS ANGELES, AUGUST 8 2013. OIL SPILL NEAR LOS ANGELES MINOR, SECURED, REMEDIATION UNDER WAY

A crude oil pipeline near an Alon Energy USA asphalt refinery in the Los Angeles area leaked about two barrels of crude on Tuesday, but the leak was secured and crews are removing and treating soil in the area, an Alon spokesman said on Wednesday. Alon subsidiary Paramount Petroleum Corp operates one of the pipelines in the area, but ownership of the pipe that leaked "has yet to be determined," spokesman Blake Lewis said. He said Paramount helped with cleanup "in the interests of getting the problem solved." Paramount's and other pipelines in the area, including one owned by Crimson Pipeline LP, were shut Tuesday when the spill was found. Crimson said the spill did not come from one of its lines, but the company shut it as a precaution.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/08/07/pipeline-operations-alon-idUSL1N0G80W320130807>

USA, N.J, KEARNY, AUGUST 8 2013. NJPIRG CALLS FOR STRONGER MEASURES TO PREVENT CHEMICAL ACCIDENTS

ilya hemlin

In response to recent chemical accidents in [New Jersey](#), Texas, and Louisiana, the [New Jersey Public Research Group](#) is calling on the [Environmental Protection Agency](#) (EPA) to protect residents. A study released by the group Tuesday titled, "[Danger In Our Backyards: The Threat of Chemical Facilities to Millions.](#)" found just in New Jersey alone, five chemical plants each threaten the safety of more than one million people. Many potentially dangerous plants produce very non-threatening products. "Everything from oil refineries to companies that make everyday household products like plastics or cleaning solutions, they can also include purification facilities," said Jen Kim, NJPIRG state director. The group called on the EPA to take measures allotted to them under the [Clean Air Act](#) which allow them to require certain chemical factories to use safer alternatives and safer processing practice whenever possible. Kim said New Jersey is a center for the chemical industry, and one of the states most at risk for chemical disasters. In fact, there are five plants in the state, including the Paulsboro Refinery



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in South Jersey and the Kuehne Chemical facility in South Kearny, that have the potential to cause massive danger if a spill occurred. "We have over seventy people go into the hospital from the Paulsboro spill, over a dozen people were killed in the West, Texas explosion and hundreds more were injured," said Kim. President Barack Obama recently issued an Executive Order, directing government agencies to coordinate efforts to improve safety and security at chemical facilities nationwide. Specifically the Executive Order calls for improved coordination among federal, state, and local agencies, and to "modernize policies, regulations and standards" at the nation's thousands of chemical facilities. "Thousands of these chemical facilities across the country use hazardous chemicals and we've seen the 'what if' scenarios in the past couple of months brought to life," said Kim.

<http://nj1015.com/njpirg-calls-for-stronger-measures-to-prevent-chemical-accidents-audio/>

AUSTRALIA, QUEENSLAND, IPSWICH, AUGUST 8 2013. MORE EXPLOSIONS AT IPSWICH

 **Watch the Video** [Police Make another Arrest after Explosives found on Lawn](#)

 **Hear** [Download audio](#)

 **Photo's [16]** [Explosives Found on Lawn](#)



The Police Bomb Squad detonated explosives at a house in West Ipswich.

Police have conducted more explosions in Ipswich, after finding more chemicals at a vacant block adjacent to the Clay Street home rocked by a blast two weeks ago. An emergency situation was again declared in the area surrounding the home just after 5pm on Wednesday and revoked an hour later. A "small quantity" of the chemical found at the home during a week-long search was found at a vacant block in Darling Street and destroyed, police say. A search of the surrounding area was undertaken and nothing further located. Police are expected to return to the scene on Thursday. Late last month, the bomb squad of a highly volatile chemical they found at various locations

throughout the house and yard. Two men who lived at the house allegedly stockpiled volatile chemicals to make homemade bombs for fun. Police at the time said they had found a quantity of chemicals that had the potential to blow the house to pieces. They were alerted to the chemical cache when an explosion on July 25 critically injured a man at the property. The 37-year-old [lost three fingers on one hand and suffered serious injuries](#) to his other hand and groin. He remains in hospital in a serious condition. Another man, Glen Charles Dell, 43, is in custody, [charged with an array of weapons and explosives](#) offences. The charges relate to the explosion, as well as an incident in May that maimed a teenager when he unwittingly picked up a golf ball bomb in a Leichardt park. He is also charged over the discovery of an undetonated bomb discovered at a Bunnings construction site near the Clay Street home. Police will allege that bomb was targeting a construction worker.

<http://www.brisbanetimes.com.au/queensland/more-explosions-at-ipswich-20130808-2rhfl.html>

USA, OH, ZANESVILLE, AUGUST 8 2013. OLD SERVICE STATION RAZED AMID FINANCIAL CONTROVERSY

brian gadd

 **Watch the Video** [Old Service Station Razed](#)



A former service station and later dry cleaner that stood on the point of Maple Avenue and Dresden Road has been demolished to make way for a new intersection at the location. The building in a source of controversy, with the owner protesting the amount he was offered by the State of Ohio for the building.

Workers with Shelly and Sands began demolition of the old service station at Terrace Point on Wednesday to make way for the new Maple Avenue/Dresden Road-Brown Street intersection. But the old building isn't going quietly. Owner Nick Vlahos, who also operates Nikko's Cleaners next door, is fighting for "fair compensation" for the building in legal proceedings in Muskingum County Common Pleas Court. Vlahos said the initial offer by the Ohio Department of Transportation to acquire the building was "insulting" compared to the amount of



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money invested in the property. He declined further comment on the amount and referred questions to his attorneys. One of his attorneys, Michael Braunstein, of Columbus, said ODOT offered \$300 for the old gas service station site, which also has housed a tire repair shop and dry cleaning operation over the years. Joe Rutherford, deputy director of ODOT District 5, confirmed the initial offer but said it was because of the cost ODOT would bear to remove underground fuel storage tanks at the site. He declined further comment since court proceedings in the eminent domain case are ongoing.

The Problem

Documents from two environmental assessments conducted by engineering firm Burgess & Niple in 2009 and 2010 indicated the presence of at least six underground storage tanks, including a portion of one that was under Dresden Road right-of-way. The site also was listed on the Bureau of Underground Storage Tank Regulations website as an underground storage tank site and also as a leaking underground storage tank site. Research by Burgess & Niple found three of the tanks had been removed, but there was no information on five others thought to be on the site — based on records dating back to 1955. The assessment concluded there was some presence of petroleum contaminated soil and possibly groundwater contamination at the site. Some of the chemicals present were above federal and state standards and some below. Debris and soils excavated at the site will be tested before any reuse or disposal, according to the assessment.

The Court Case

Senior Assistant Attorney General Michael Stokes filed a lawsuit in February on behalf of ODOT to force Vlahos to turn over three parcels for the project, court records show. Stokes argued ODOT was "entitled to appropriate the property" and asked the court to enter an order on the possession and conveyance of the property title and to declare a value for the property. The court filing also asked for a jury to take up the matter of compensation. The state placed the Fair Market Value of one of the parcels at \$31,480 and deposited that amount with the court. In Braunstein's response, the attorney asked for the case to go to mediation to work out the final amount and also asked the court to turn over the \$31,480 to help with Vlahos' costs while a final amount for the former gas station property was being worked out. Braunstein said the \$31,480 was for the effect of the project on Vlahos' business parking at the dry cleaners and laundry. The first mediation session was held July 29, but Braunstein said "nothing was accomplished." Another telephone conference is scheduled for today.

The Project

The intersection improvements are part of the Muskingum 60 Safety Project, which stemmed from traffic studies conducted in 2002 and in 2006. Phase 1 began in 2009 with traffic signal upgrades, some side streets converted to "right-in, right-out" to limit left-turn crashes and the installation of a concrete median barrier between Country Club Drive and Military Road on Maple Avenue. The existing concrete median also was expanded at Adair Avenue and Central Avenue, and Underwood Street and Howard Street. Phase 2 includes the work at Dresden/Maple and also creation of a new intersection with Maple in front of the Genesis Bethesda Hospital campus. Three buildings were acquired by ODOT earlier this year and were demolished for that portion of the project, which will allow for better traffic flow between the hospital and the Genesis HealthPlex. A portion of Balls Lane will be closed and vacated once the new route is complete. The sections of Maple Avenue that were left unpaved in 2011 because of the intersection projects, as well as Maple Avenue from Adair to the Interstate 70 on-off ramps, will be paved to round out the project.

<http://www.zanesvilletimesrecorder.com/article/20130807/NEWS01/308070012/Old-service-station-razed-amid-financial-controversy>

AUSTRALIA, NEW SOUTH WALES, DUNGON, AUGUST 8 2013. ABANDONED DUNGOG SERVICE STATION TARGETED IN NSW REMEDIATION PROJECT

Map: [Dungon, NSW](#)

Concerns about leaking underground fuel tanks have pushed authorities into action with a site in Dungog listed as a top priority. Ageing underground fuel tanks scattered across New South Wales are a headache for authorities - operating or abandoned, they account for the majority of the state's significantly contaminated sites. The Environment Protection Authority (EPA) is working on a way to best manage derelict ones, and a site at Dowling Street in Dungog is one of several across regional New South Wales chosen for a remediation pilot project. A leak from the tank is seeping into the soil around it but the EPA says it has not moved off-site and is not a threat to human health or the environment. Dungog Council's environmental services manager Paul Minett says his organisation is looking for experts to help with the plan. "We have placed out for tender for environmental consultants," he said. Minett says council is keen to clean up the historical problems. "If it's successful, we



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are hoping that there's more grant funding from the NSW Govt to carry out some more projects." It is hoped the project will start in October and wrap up after about five months. Council is now looking for environmental experts to help with the project.
<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2013-08-08/abandoned-dungog-service-station-targeted-in-nsw-remediation-pr/4872724>

ENGLAND, SURREY, AUGUST 9 2013. PUB WORKER NEARLY GASSED HIMSELF WHILE CLEANING TOILET BY ACCIDENTALLY CREATING FIRST WORLD WAR GAS BY MIXING STRONG CHEMICALS

mark duell

- Incident happened at Leg of Mutton and Cauliflower in Ashted, Surrey
- Assistant manager unwittingly mixed descaler and bleach last Saturday
- Jason Smith 'had no idea pouring both down urinal would create gas'



In battle: Chlorine gas was a toxic substance used to kill during the First World War. A British Vickers machine gun crew wearing PH-type anti-gas helmets are pictured near Ovillers during the Battle of the Somme in 1916.

A pub worker was overcome by toxic fumes and felt his lungs burning while he cleaned a toilet. Jason Smith unwittingly mixed descaler and bleach at the Leg of Mutton and Cauliflower in Ashted, near Epsom, Surrey, to produce chlorine - used in chemical warfare during the First World War. Fire crews who were called said he was lucky not to have lost consciousness. But Mr Smith admitted he had no idea pouring descaler then bleach down the urinal would create a poisonous chlorine gas. Mr Smith, assistant manager at the pub, said: 'The chemicals combined and started pumping out toxic vapour. When I saw vapour coming out I left, because I knew it was not very good.' But he said he then decided to go back inside the pub toilet in order to wedge open the door and let fresh air inside. Mr Smith added: 'When I bent down close to the ground, my eyes were stinging, my lungs were burning and I nearly passed out.' Fighting back the fumes he swiftly evacuated the pub and rang 101 to get advice. He said: 'I realised what was happening very quickly and sealed off the section. I was about to go in there with a bucket of water when the fire brigade turned up. They took in a giant fan to blow the vapours away.' Epsom firefighters who attended the incident at 3.30pm last Saturday said Mr Smith was lucky to escape the toilet still conscious. Crew manager Jon Bennett said: 'He thought he was doing the right thing pouring the bleach and descaler in the toilet. If he had stayed in there we would have been carrying him out rather than him stumbling out.' Descaling agents can sometimes include hydrochloric acid, which, if mixed with bleach can create chlorine gas - a toxic substance used to kill during the First World War. Mr Smith, who still had chest pains three days later, said he was left feeling 'pretty stupid' for only leaving about five minutes between pouring in the descaler then the bleach. He said: 'I knew from household chemicals you could create mustard gas, but I didn't realise it was the combination I had in my hands at the time.' Roger Bibbings, occupational safety adviser at the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents, said: 'It is important to read materials' hazard data sheets and the labels on the backs of cleaning products, which should detail clear instructions for safe use. 'Many cleaning substances are hazardous and if handled incorrectly, they can cause irritation, inflammation or chemical burns. 'Mixing chemical products together is extremely dangerous and can produce toxic vapours such as chlorine.'

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2386692/Surrey-pub-worker-chlorine-gassed-cleaning-toilet.html>

USA, OH, WAYNE TOWNSHIP, AUGUST 9 2013. HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SPILL IN WAYNE TOWNSHIP



Wayne Township Fire and Rescue Chief Dave Moulden and emergency responders on the scene at Garrison Spurling Road near Ernies Drive, in Wayne Township.

At 7:17 AM, the Clermont County Department of Public Safety Services (Communications Center) received a call regarding a tanker truck accident located on Garrison Spurling Road near Ernies Drive, in Wayne Township. Wayne Township Fire and Rescue responded to the scene to investigate and determined the liquid to be a mixture of aviation fuel and fungicide, necessitating spill containment and a subsequent environmental cleanup. Approximately 200 gallons of aviation fuel was spilled on an adjacent cornfield. The Greater



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Cincinnati Hazardous Materials Unit, the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, Ohio State Highway Patrol, and the Clermont County Emergency Management Agency responded to the incident. The driver of the truck was transported to the hospital for observation. The truck has been removed, but Garrison Spurling will remain closed from Martin to State Route 28 until the environmental clean up is complete later this afternoon or early evening. The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency will oversee the cleanup process. For additional information regarding this incident, please contact Wayne Township Fire and Rescue Chief Dave Moulden at (513) 625-6212.

<http://www.lovelandmagazine.com/2013/08/hazardous-materials-spill-in-wayne-township.html>

ENGLAND, LONDON, AUGUST 9 2013. BLAZING PETROL TANKER CLOSSES PART OF M25 DURING MORNING RUSH HOUR

garth vipers



Delays: black smoke is seen billowing into the air as the petrol tanker burns.

A blazing petrol tanker has blocked parts of the M25 near Potters Bar. The vehicle caught fire early this morning causing significant tailbacks anti-clockwise between Junction 24 and 25 of the motorway, with motorists stuck stationary and some even getting out of their cars. London Fire Brigade (LFB) attended the incident at around 6.30am, with firefighters managing to contain the fire to the cab of the vehicle and stopping the fire from affecting the fuel tanker. The cause of the fire is still unknown, but the LFB released a statement saying there was no fuel spillage, and that the Environment Agency had confirmed that there was no impact to the local area. Writing on Twitter, the LFB said: "Traffic on M25 Westbound between j25-24 after a tanker fire. We contained the fire to the cab & stopped the fuel from igniting. No injuries." Eye witness Harry Cottam later tweeted: "AVOID the M25 tanker on fire....queued for 45mins in A10 and people are out walking around on M25 #traffic." One lane of the M25 anti-

clockwise between Junction 25 and 24 has now reopened but there are still long delays. The authorities are advising people to avoid the area where possible.

<http://www.standard.co.uk/news/transport/blazing-petrol-tanker-closes-part-of-m25-during-morning-rush-hour-8751393.html>

USA, TN, GALLATIN, AUGUST 9 2013. CREWS WORKING TO STOP TOWN CREEK DIESEL SPILL FROM REACHING CUMBERLAND

sarah kingsbury & sherry mitchell

 **Watch the Video** [Crews Working to Stop Town Creek Diesel Spill](#)



Gallatin Fuel Spill: Emergency crews tried to stop up to 100 gallons of diesel fuel that spilled into Town Creek in Gallatin from leaking into the Cumberland River Thursday. The spill originated after fuel overflowed from a tank at 385 W. Main St.

State and county emergency officials still have no estimate of how much diesel fuel was spilled into Town Creek Thursday. Sumner County Emergency Management Agency Director Ken Weidner said the vendor, Hollingsworth Oil in Springfield, was still trying to locate the driver who filled the order that may have led to the overflow. An employee who answered the phone at the company declined to comment Thursday. Daniel Roop, emergency services coordinator with TDEC, who has been on site most of the day, said oil company representatives maintain only 20 gallons of diesel was spilled, but Roop said those estimates seem too low for the fuel to have flowed the estimated four miles down Town Creek. Gallatin

Fire Department Fire Marshal Stan Gwaltney is leading investigation, Roop said. Representatives from the oil company told investigators the spill occurred after the holding tanks were overfilled, but Gwaltney said the cause of the incident is still under



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investigation. "We don't know what happened," he said. Crews are still working in the Lock 4 area, where Town Creek feeds into the Cumberland River and Old Hickory Lake, to contain the spill. "They have got booms (10-feet long sock tubes) and pads to absorb the diesel fuel off the water," Roop said. "They will probably continue to monitor for several days."

Reported earlier

Emergency workers are trying to stop up to 100 gallons of diesel fuel that spilled into Town Creek from leaking into the Cumberland River. The call originated from the Shell station at 385 W. Main St., said Gallatin Fire Marshal Stan Gwaltney. The Gallatin Fire Department and the Sumner County Emergency Management Agency are handling the spill. The Fire Department deployed its fire boat out of the Gallatin Marina to try to prevent the spill from contaminating the Cumberland River near the outlet of the waterway in the Lock 4 area. Gwaltney said emergency workers were told up to 100 gallons of diesel may have spilled. Sumner EMA Director Ken Weidner said he was meeting with Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation officials this afternoon and more remediation equipment would likely be used. "The rain is moving it on downstream, which is a good thing, but it's also a bad thing," he said. "It will pollute it (water) but we can't do anything about it. We are at the mercy of the weather." Weidner said the incident was not weather-related and happened when one of the tanks at the convenience store was overfilled.

<http://www.tennessean.com/viewart/20130808/GALLATIN01/308080090/Crews-working-stop-Town-Creek-diesel-spill-from-reaching-Cumberland>

USA, AK, BETHEL, AUGUST 9 2013. GAS FILLING EXPLOSION INJURES 3

An explosion at the North Star Gas station injured three when the gas tank in their boat they were filling caught on fire. On July 21st, 2013 at 3:04 p.m. fire-fighters and medics responded to Bridge Street for the report of a boat on fire and three burn victims. Upon arrival, the fire had already been extinguished. Medics assessed, treated, and transported the victims to the hospital. Static electricity is believed to be the cause of the fire. The use of plastic funnels is known to cause static and in this incident a water separating funnel was used. The victims are receiving care for their injuries.

<http://www.deltadiscovery.com/story/2013/07/31/delta-news-briefs/explosion-injures-three/1406.html>

USA, MI, LANSING, AUGUST 9 2013. HOW ACCURATE ARE MICHIGAN'S GAS PUMPS? SEARCH OUR DATABASE

melissa anders



Of more than 131,460 gas pumps inspected by the state of Michigan from 2010-2012, 99.6 percent were either within an acceptable range or gave slightly more gas than labelled.

Have you ever filled up your tank and wondered whether you're getting what you pay for? The Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development's Weight and Measures Program is in charge of ensuring that consumers get what they pay for when they buy gasoline. The verdict is that Michigan gas pumps are generally pretty accurate in dispensing the correct amount of fuel for customers. And while an [audit](#) found the state's efforts to monitor the accuracy of the gas pumps are moderately effective, the report said it could still use some improvement. The weight and measures program also monitors propane, deli meats, candy and other commodities sold by weight, measure or count. In addition, its 30 inspectors are responsible for reviewing retail price scanners and

scales and ensuring proper measuring counts for consumer packaged goods. Most of the program's efforts are focused on making sure that gas pumps dispense the correct amount and proper octane of fuel. Of more than 131,460 pumps inspected from 2010-2012, 99.6 percent were either within an acceptable range or gave slightly more gas than labeled. The state allows maintenance tolerance of plus or minus 6 cubic inches per five gallons. Compliance last fiscal year was 98.7 percent, and was 99.3 percent at the end of the fiscal quarter that ended in June, said MDARD Director Jamie Clover Adams. "That's really good," she said. "I think consumers can be assured that they're getting what they paid for when they get gas in Michigan." From 2010-2012, 56 percent of inspected pumps dispensed slightly more than labeled, 23 percent gave less, and 21 percent were accurate. The worst offender, a station in Monroe County's Carleton, dispensed just 2.4 gallons when the pump stated five gallons during a test in 2011. See a searchable database below. A [report](#) released Wednesday by Michigan's Auditor General found the program doesn't have detailed written procedures for imposing fines and penalties on businesses, did not



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conduct timely inspections of condemned fuel pumps and other devices, did not inspect all gas stations in accordance with program goals, and did not prioritize inspections based on risk assessment. The report found that MDARD didn't always impose fines or economic benefit penalties, and when it did, it didn't always charge the full amount. Clover Adams said that's because she's more concerned about bringing the stations to compliance than imposing fines. Last fiscal year, the program issued nearly \$270,000 in fines for weights and measures violations, including gas stations and other businesses. It also charged more than \$65,000 in fees for reinspecting condemned gas pumps. Clover Adams said the department is working on the other issues raised in the audit, such as better identifying locations that need to be reinspected. It also attempts to inspect each of Michigan's more than 4,770 licensed stations once every four years. The audit found it missed about 180 of those in the past four years. Other areas inspected by MDARD, including truck scales, scrap yards, grain elevators and retail store scales, don't get as much staff attention. "We need to do more in that area," Clover Adams said, adding that until 2010, the program appropriation required 75 percent of the money go toward gas pump inspections. "That was removed, so we are doing more of the other types of scales."

Searchable Database

Below is a database looking more than 131,460 pumps inspected from 2010-2012. About 99.6 percent were either within an acceptable range or gave slightly more gas than labeled, according to MDARD. Errors are given in cubic inches. A cubic inch is approximately 1.1 tablespoons. There are 231 cubic inches per gallon, and maintenance tolerance on these devices is plus or minus 6 cubic inches per 5 gallons (about 0.5%). You can search by county or city. Type the name in either one of the fields. Pumps labelled as "within acceptable range" fall inside this maintenance tolerance. You can also click to just see pumps that are in range (yes) or out of range (no). Even if they're not within range, they may have dispensed more gas than labelled.

http://www.mlive.com/business/index.ssf/2013/08/michigan_gas_pumps_audit_weigh.html

USA, CT, RIDGEFIELD, AUGUST 9 2013. FIREFIGHTERS CONTROL FUEL OIL SPILL



Firefighters put hazmat pads in a storm drain adjacent to Hidden Lake Court, where an oil spill occurred earlier today.

Using sand and hazmat equipment, Ridgefield firefighters contained an oil spill on Hidden Lake Court today. Clean-up operations have been turned over to State DEEP officials. The accident occurred around noon when a Montanari Fuel truck was making a delivery. It was not clear how the spill occurred. The truck driver was treated at the scene for some fuel oil in his eyes. Some oil got into a stream that comes out of nearby Turtle Pond and runs downhill to Lake Mamanasco. However, the fire department reported it had eventually stopped the flow into the stream. The highway department helped with sand.

Representatives of the State Department of Energy and Environmental Protection were at the scene early this afternoon as was a clean-up company. DEEP took charge of clean-up operations at 1:30. The town health department was asked to visit the scene at 1:50.

<http://www.theridgefieldpress.com/20543/firefighters-control-fuel-oil-spill/>

USA, LA, NEW ORLEANS, AUGUST 9 2013. EXXONMOBIL WANTS FEDERAL JUDGE TO HEAR BATON ROUGE CLASS ACTION LAWSUIT



ExxonMobil says the benzene release June 14 at its chemical plant in Baton Rouge was far bigger than the 10 pounds reported then, and could be as much as 28,700 pounds.

[ExxonMobil](#) wants a federal judge to preside over a class action lawsuit brought against it by 17 Baton Rouge residents who live in Standard Heights, a neighborhood directly adjacent to the ExxonMobil refinery and chemical plant on Scenic Highway. The residents filed suit in state court against ExxonMobil Corp. and its subsidiaries in June, seeking damages for "gross negligence" and "fraud and conspiracy." The case has been assigned to state District Judge Tim Kelley, but ExxonMobil has petitioned to move the case before a federal judge. ExxonMobil, in its filing, says the case belongs in federal court because 1) the



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company's operations are headquartered outside the state while the plaintiffs are Louisiana citizens, 2) each of the 17 plaintiffs are seeking a sum in excess of \$75,000, with a total potential award of some \$5 million, and 3) state court is an inappropriate venue for such cases under the Class Action Fairness Act. Stephanie Cargile, public and government affairs manager said ExxonMobil is not going to comment on pending litigation. Ashley Liuzza, A New Orleans lawyer with the Smith Stag law firm who represents the plaintiffs, said Thursday evening she believes the case should remain in state court. "It's a local issue," she said, "I see no reason for it to be in federal court." Liuzza said she rejected ExxonMobil's offer to let a federal judge hear the case. ExxonMobil has until Aug. 27 to file briefs as to why the case should be moved to federal courts. Liuzza has until Sept. 11 to file her response, but says she plans to stand firm on her belief the case belongs in state court. In June 2012, the ExxonMobil chemical plant [reported a leak of more than 30,000 pounds of naphtha](#), a light hydrocarbon mixture similar to gasoline with a high concentration of the cancer-causing chemical benzene. The report, however, initially said the Benzene spill was closer to 10 pounds. The plaintiffs say this leak, as well as other incidents at the plant and refinery, have resulted in damaged property, sickness and emotional stress. Specifically, they mention [a 2012 EPA report](#) that detailed problems with mechanical integrity and emergency procedures at the facilities. ExxonMobil opened the doors to its Baton Rouge plant Thursday morning, inviting local media and government officials to tour part of its operations to help curb any negative opinions. Officials also wanted to emphasize its safety-first approach when dealing with matters inside and around their 150-acre facility. Mark Northcutt, a Baton Rouge refinery manager, said ExxonMobil's goal is to make sure "no one gets hurt" and to ensure that everyone is safe at the plant. Over the past five years, there has been an 80 percent reduction of reportable releases at the refinery plant and a 50 percent reduction at the chemical plant.

http://www.nola.com/crime/baton-rouge/index.ssf/2013/08/exxonmobil_wants_federal_judge.html

USA, MD, BALTIMORE, AUGUST 9 2013. \$20K WORTH OF DIESEL STOLEN FROM HALETHORPE BUSINESS

 [Watch the Video Surveillance Footage](#)



Halethorpe-based Warthen Fuel Company on Monday morning was robbed of \$20,000 worth of diesel. Thieves drained 5,000 gallons of diesel out of the [Baltimore](#) County company's fuel tank. Owners believe the theft began not on the fuel company's property but on their neighbor's property where the gate was broken and the surveillance cameras captured some of the action. Footage shows a man casing the property and covering a surveillance camera with what appears to be a plastic bag. Police think the suspects may have pulled the truck up to the adjacent lot and ran the fuel line all the way to the property to pump out the diesel. Owners believe it took three hours to drain the tank of 5,000 gallons of diesel. Mid-way through the heist, the shield that one suspect had placed over

the camera blew off and their truck, departing the facility, was caught on tape. There have been other fuel thefts reported at companies lately and detectives are probing whether any are related as they investigate the case.

<http://www.foxbaltimore.com/news/features/top-stories/stories/20k-worth-diesel-stolen-halethorpe-business-21597.shtml#.UgS6YplwdZ4>

USA, ORE, KEIZER, AUGUST 9 2013. DRIVER HITS PROPANE CAGES AT KEIZER SAFEWAY



The Safeway in Keizer was evacuated Wednesday after a driver crashed into a car and two propane tank cages outside one of the entrances, police said. Dale R. Johnson, of Keizer, lost control while attempting to park in a handicap space near the south entry at about 10:30 a.m., said Captain Jeffrey Kuhns of the Keizer Police Department. "The vehicle crashed into several objects including a handicap parking sign/post, a parked vehicle, two large propane storage containers and a railing located between the south entry and exit doors of the business," Kuhns said. The gas tank of Johnson's car was ruptured in the crash,

causing fuel to spill just outside the store. Safeway customers and employees were evacuated as a precaution as the spill was cleaned up and the building was ventilated. Investigators said Johnson's foot slipped off the brake pedal and onto the accelerator. No injuries were reported and no citations were issued.

<http://www.kgw.com/news/local/Keizer-Safeway-evacuated-after-crash-gas-leak-218878641.html>



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