



## Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network

### Release 2013 – 989 Newsy Stuff

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

**August 09 2013**



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#### USA, WI, JACKSON, JULY 27 2013. FUEL COMPANY SEEKS TO DIVERT CEDAR CREEK FOR PIPELINE FIXES

*Don Behm*

An Illinois fuel distribution company wants to dig up 100 feet of the bed of Cedar Creek in the Jackson Marsh Wildlife Area to repair two sections of the same regional pipeline that [ruptured last July and spilled gasoline](#) in a Town of Jackson farm pasture. West Shore Pipe Line Co. is seeking state permits to divert water around a 280-foot length of the creek and excavate the streambed west of county Highway G. The 10-inch pipe must be exposed so workers can repair degraded metal beneath the stream and prevent a possible spill to the creek and wetlands, a consultant for Buckeye Partners LP says in documents filed with the state Department of Natural Resources. Buckeye Partners operates the line for West Shore. Repairs could include welding metal sleeves onto the outside of the pipe or replacing sections of the line. Contractors for West Shore have been [repairing nine other sections](#) of degraded pipe this summer in a hardwood swamp within the publicly owned wildlife area in the Town of Jackson. Crews have completed repairs on seven of the sections along 3,900 feet of pipeline right-of-way in the center of the wildlife area, said Ben Callan, a DNR water management specialist. The two degraded sections of pipe beneath Cedar Creek are south of the nine targeted for repair this summer. Even more pipe repairs might be done this year at the wildlife area, Callan said. The consultant, Arcadis U.S. Inc., has notified the DNR that it intends to request permits to excavate as many as four additional sections of the pipeline in the Jackson Marsh, Callan said. Two are along the right of way about one-fourth mile south of Pleasant Valley Road. Two others are along Evergreen Creek, a tributary of Cedar Creek, where it crosses the pipeline on the north edge of the hardwood swamp. The proposed work in Cedar Creek and adjacent to Evergreen Creek would bring the total number of pipeline repairs in the wildlife area to 15. No decision on the requested permits for Cedar Creek dredging can be made before late August to allow time for public comment, according to Callan. Comments can be forward to Callan at his DNR email address: [benjamin.callan@wisconsin.gov](mailto:benjamin.callan@wisconsin.gov). A public meeting on the permits is not scheduled. For information on the project, or to request an informational meeting, write to: Ben Callan, 101 S. Webster St., P.O. Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707-7921.

##### Dams to be Erected

Dams made of steel sheets would be installed upstream and downstream of the work area in the creek, as part of the plans submitted to the DNR. The site is a short distance upstream of an electric power line that crosses the creek. Water flowing in the creek would be pumped through pipes around the dams. An estimated 150 cubic yards of muck would be dredged from a 100-foot-long stretch of the creek bed to expose the pipeline. The regional fuel distribution pipeline from northwest Milwaukee to Green Bay was built in 1961. The pipeline right of way through the Jackson Marsh is more than two miles north of the section of pipe that ruptured in July 2012 in the 1800 block of Western Ave. An estimated 54,600 gallons of gasoline spilled in a farm pasture west of Highway G, and drained into fractured dolomite rock within a few feet of the surface. This month, the DNR expanded a drinking water advisory area for benzene in the town as tests confirmed a plume of gasoline contamination was continuing to move west from the spill. Tests have detected benzene in a total of 44 private wells since July 2012. Town residents living near the spill site will be waiting until the spring of 2014 to be [connected to a new permanent water supply](#). The Jackson Town Board has approved a plan to extend municipal water mains from the Village of Jackson. Internal inspection of the West Shore pipeline from Milwaukee to Green Bay was ordered by the U.S. Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration following the spill last year. In addition to the 15 repair locations within the Jackson Marsh, at least 11 other sections of pipe between Germantown and West Bend have been excavated and repaired this year. West Shore remains under a federal order to operate the line with reduced pressure until repairs are completed.

<http://www.jsonline.com/news/ozwash/fuel-company-seeks-to-divert-cedar-creek-for-pipeline-fixes-b9960569z1-217100831.html>

#### SOUTH KOREA, ULSAN, JULY 27 2013. WATER TANK ERUPTION AT SAMSUNG PLANT KILLS 3: REPORT

Three workers were killed and 12 injured on Friday when a water tank burst at a Samsung Fine Chemicals plant in South Korea, a report said, citing police. Yonhap news agency said the 1,300-tonne water tank was being filled to detect any cracks as part of a stress test, but erupted at around the 1,000 tonne mark. Workers were hit by flying debris and the tank's supporting structures. Hospital officials warned the death toll could rise as some of the injured were critical, the agency added in its report datelined from the southeastern industrial city of Ulsan. Samsung Engineering, a unit of conglomerate Samsung Group, was building the tank for SMP, a joint venture between Samsung Fine Chemical and MEMC of the United States. Samsung officials were criticised for downplaying the accident and blocking reporters from the scene. The company initially announced that five to six workers sustained injuries. In January, one Samsung worker died and four others were injured



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following a deadly toxic chemical leak at a chip-making plant. Samsung is the world's top maker of smartphones, memory chips and flat-panel TVs.

<http://www.nst.com.my/latest/water-tank-eruption-at-samsung-plant-kills-3-report-1.327285>

### USA, ARK, LOWELL, JULY 27 2013. CREWS RESPOND TO EXPLOSION AT AERT SITE

Kyle Ieyenberger

 **Watch the Video's:**

- [Chairman Speaks after AERT "Combustion" Fires](#)
- [Crews Respond to Explosion at AERT Site](#)



Lowell Firefighters spray water on a burning silo on Thursday, July 25, 2013, following an explosion at the Advanced Environmental Recycling Technologies facility in Lowell. No one was injured from the explosion and police evacuated businesses within 300 meters as a precaution.

#### **AERT Lowell Plant Update--From Sarah Pore, AERT**

AERT experienced a silo rupture at 7:18 am at its Lowell, AR plastic recycling facility where the roof panels popped off, as designed, due to pressure build up in the plastic silo. Lowell fire and company officials were on site and the Lowell fire department responded, initially secured the area, and extinguished the material inside the silo at approximately 12:00 pm. At 3:50 pm the material reignited and Lowell Fire Department returned and extinguished the fire. The Lowell plant was evacuated as a safety precaution and will resume normal operations shortly. There were no injuries related to this incident. The company will disassemble the silo, remove the material, and make appropriate repairs and safety inspections. Additional information will be forth coming once the silo is inspected. LOWELL, AR

Fire crews spent the night watching over a silo after a Thursday morning explosion at the Advanced Recycling and Environmental Technologies(AERT)

plant in Lowell. The Springdale Fire Department confirmed to KNWA that Lowell fire crews arrived around 7:30 after a silo exploded. Lowell Fire Chief Mike Morris said AERT had not been using the silo since a fire last month and were awaiting repairs. AERT uses fine sawdust and ground plastic to create composite wood products, and it all starts in Lowell. "Their raw material is brought here," Morris says. "They begin the process here and then they ship it to other facilities." Morris says Thursday's explosion has been building for about a month and a half. "Their product spontaneously combusted sometime back," he says. "They've been working since that time with us on a mitigation plan to remove that silo, to disassemble it and remove any remaining fuel." But after Thursday's events, that obviously didn't happen. "Thank the good lord nobody was hurt," Morris says. "There were no injuries reported. Everybody is accounted for, and everybody is safe at this time." Crews can't cool down the base of the silo, and that means they can't leave. "Our main task is to protect the facilities around it, particularly the remaining silo to the North," Morris says. "We've managed to reduce the temperatures within an acceptable range." After the latest incident, Morris told AERT to step up their efforts. "We have to maintain presence on scene and we have to maintain water cooling to the adjacent structure," he says. "You can only hold resources for so long." The Chief says the company plans to take down the silo Friday morning, and until then, at least two firefighters and a ladder truck be there watching. "We will be here until they can assure us that their mitigation plan is in place and has begun," he says. The fire chief said surrounding businesses, including the post office, would be allowed to re-open but asked that folks avoid the area. A fire at another AERT plant in Springdale earlier this month killed one person and seriously injured two others.

#### **About AERT**

Advanced Environmental Recycling Technologies manufactures building material from recycled plastic and waste wood fiber. The company has plants at 801 Jefferson St. in Springdale and 311 S. Lincoln St. in Lowell. It also operates a plastics recycling plant outside Watts, Okla. The company is celebrating its 25th anniversary this year. This is not the first silo explosion at a company facility. The top of a silo at the Springdale plant popped off after a dust explosion in February 2012. The company also had silo explosions in Springdale in May 2008 and April 2007.

[http://nwahomepage.com/fulltext?nxd\\_id=448282](http://nwahomepage.com/fulltext?nxd_id=448282)



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#### USA, N.Y, MANHATTAN, JULY 27 2013. EXXON MOBIL'S \$105 MILLION MTBE DEFEAT UPHELD BY U.S. COURT

*don jeffrey*

A U.S. jury's \$104.7 million damage award against Exxon Mobil Corp for contaminating New York City wells with the gasoline additive MTBE was upheld by a federal appeals court. The award for compensatory damages to clean up contaminated wells was proper, the U.S. Court of Appeals in Manhattan said in a ruling today, denying Exxon Mobil's challenge to the 2009 verdict. The Irving, Texas-based company said it plans to appeal the ruling to the U.S. Supreme Court. "We reject Exxon's argument that the jury's verdict conflicts with and is therefore pre-empted by the Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990," the appeals panel said, adding that the jury properly offset the award by amounts attributed to cleanup of other contaminants. New York sued Exxon Mobil and other oil companies in 2003, alleging that they knew the gasoline additive methyl tertiary butyl ether, or MTBE, would pollute groundwater. Exxon Mobil argued that state laws are pre-empted by the Clean Air Act, which required oil companies to reformulate gasoline to reduce air pollution from vehicle emissions. Oil companies added MTBE to make it burn more thoroughly. "MTBE has not been used for seven years, cleanup successfully continues and the myriad of data shows MTBE detections decreasing," Todd Spitler, a spokesman for Exxon Mobil, said in an e-mail. The company "will be filing an appeal to the United States Supreme Court," he said.

#### Consolidated Cases

This case is one of scores around the country by municipalities, states and individuals against oil refiners, distributors and retailers over MTBE. Many, including New York City's, were consolidated in New York federal court for evidence-gathering. A state appeals court in Maryland in February reversed two jury awards totaling \$1.65 billion against Exxon Mobil over MTBE contamination, ruling that the company hadn't made fraudulent statements and the property owners who sued hadn't demonstrated physical harm. A jury in New Hampshire state court in April ordered Exxon Mobil to pay \$236 million in damages for contaminating groundwater with MTBE. The company has appealed that verdict. The New York jury determined that it would cost \$250.5 million to treat the water and remove MTBE, which can give water a bad odor and taste and cause cancer in rodents.

#### No Punitives

U.S. District Judge Shira Scheindlin ruled that Exxon Mobil shouldn't be liable for the entire cleanup cost because the wells contained pollutants not from gasoline. She also denied punitive damages because the company hadn't recklessly disregarded risks. The wells hadn't been used for drinking water. The appeals court today rejected cross-appeals by the city. It said the lower court was correct both in ordering that the damage award take into account pollution from other sources and in denying punitive damages. The appeals court rejected Exxon Mobil's request for a retrial on the ground of juror misconduct. The company argued Scheindlin should have declared a mistrial after one juror complained that she was threatened by another. The threatened juror was released while the one who allegedly made the threat was not. Exxon Mobil claimed the dismissed juror was harassed because her opinion differed from fellow jurors'. The trial lasted 11 weeks and the jury deliberated for 11 days. It focused on a representative sample of five wells in the New York City neighborhood of Jamaica, Queens. All other defendants had settled with the city. The appeal is In re Methyl Tertiary Butyl Ether Products Liability Litigation, 10-4329, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit (Manhattan).

<http://www.businessweek.com/news/2013-07-26/exxon-mobil-s-105-million-mtbe-defeat-upheld-by-u-dot-s-dot-court-1>

#### INDIA, GUJARAT, VADODARA, JULY 28 2013. BJP MP WRITES TO CENTRE OVER FIRE MISHAPS AT IOC REFINERY

Local BJP Member of Parliament Balkrishna Shukla has written to the Centre seeking an inquiry into frequent fire mishaps at the [Indian Oil Corp](#) owned Gujarat Refinery here, the latest being last week. A fire erupted at the refinery, located on the city's outskirts, on July 17, injuring one person. Shukla has written letters to Prime Minister [Manmohan Singh](#) and Petroleum Minister [Veerappa Moily](#), seeking a thorough probe into the fire accidents that have taken place in the facility whose crude refining capacity is 13.7 million tonnes. "I have written letters to the Prime Minister and the Oil Minister asking for an inquiry into the fire accidents at Gujarat Refinery," he told PTI. As it falls under my Parliamentary constituency it's my duty to raise my concern about these mishaps, Shukla said. "The refinery has a history of accidents. Three major fire accidents have taken place in the refinery in the past four years," he said.

 **Related Stories** [Vadodara admin sets up committee to review industrial safety](#)

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics-and-nation/bjp-mp-writes-to-centre-over-fire-mishaps-at-ioc-refinery/articleshow/21400565.cms>



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#### **NIGERIA, ZAMFARA, GUSAU, JULY 28 2013. NIGERIA: YOUTHS SCRAMBLE FOR FUEL FROM BURST PIPE IN GUSAU**

Scores of youths took over Awala Quarters in Tudun-Wada area of Gusau, Zamfara state, on Thursday to scramble for fuel from NNPC's burst pipe. Some residents told the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) in Gusau on Thursday that they had never seen such quantity of petrol flowing freely. They said the commodity suddenly started gushing out from the earth in the early hours of Wednesday. Lawali Usman, one of the youths said "we started perceiving the smell of petrol at about 3a.m. When we came out, we saw the product gushing out in large quantity from the ground. "Many residents, including youths and housewives, woke to the commotion as it was time to eat before the Ramadan fast. The place was filled with various sizes of containers." He said the scooping of fuel lasted for nearly five hours before the arrival of the police and men of the state fire service who came around 8 a.m. and cordoned off the place. Musa Zakari, a secondary school student said, "working with my younger sister, Rafeeah, we got and sold the petrol and realised N7,400 from road-side sellers." NAN further gathered that the residents were joined by other neighbours who were contacted through cell phones. Many of the residents who pleaded anonymity expressed joy, saying that the "burst is from God as succour over the current hardships we are facing." The Operations Manager of NNPC Depot in Gusau, Mr Shehu Isheyi, confirmed the burst but said that only his superiors in Kaduna Refinery were competent to speak on the issue. NAN reports that the pipeline receives petroleum products from Kaduna Refinery to the Gusau depot.

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201307261048.html>

#### **CANADA, B.C, WINLAW, JULY 28 2013. EVACUATION ORDER REDUCED WHILE HAZMAT CREWS CLEAN UP TANKER SPILL**

bruce fuhr

 **Watch the Video** [Slocan Valley Evacuated after Fuel Spill](#)

 **Photo's [6]** [Evacuation Order Reduced](#)

 **Map:** [Winlaw, BC Canada](#)

 **Key Points:**

- Tanker had been on its way to supply helicopters battling wildfires
- Determined that almost 35,000 litres of A1 jet fuel released into Lemon Creek
- 2,500 evacuated due to health concerns of jet fuel fumes and its explosive nature
- People on the ground say the fumes are so strong it's gagging them
- A Do Not Use Water Order remains in place
- A 2-to-3 kilometer plume 30 to 50 meters wide is being contained by back eddying above the Brilliant dam
- Updated information, including maps of the evacuation area, is also available at the RDCK website: [www.rdck.bc.ca](http://www.rdck.bc.ca)



Regional District of Central Kootenay Emergency Operations Centre spokesman Bill Macpherson has confirmed the evacuation order for the geographic area surrounding the truck tanker spill in Lemon Creek Friday has been reduced. "The north and south evacuation order boundaries remain unchanged," Macpherson said in a statement released this morning to the media. "Residents living further than 800 metres from water courses will not be under an order; if they have gone to a reception centre they can return when able to do so." "For now, those evacuated are asked to remain in place until Highway 6 is reopened." The evacuation order was lifted at 8 a.m. Saturday. Macpherson said all 35,000 litres of jet fuel bound for helicopters battling an isolated wildfire in the mountains 4.5

kilometres from Winlaw was released into Lemon Creek. The fire had grown to 60 hectares as of Saturday. Crews employed by the company are determining expedient removal options for the tanker out of Lemon Creek. A Vancouver HAZMAT team, which arrived early Saturday morning, is currently working with other agencies and crews at containing the spill, which is moving downstream from Lemon Creek into Slocan River and on into Kootenay River. "A two to three kilometre plume 30 to 50 metres wide is above the Brilliant Dam and crews are using a back eddy to contain it," Macpherson said. "Further testing downstream is ongoing, although sampling and visual evidence of air and water at several upstream junctions with the Slocan



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River indicate little odour and relatively clear sampling," Macpherson added. "More sampling of air and water at multiple spots is ongoing." Highway 6 from the South Slocan junction with Highway 3A to New Denver remains closed to traffic. Motorists traveling from Nelson or Castlegar to points north of New Denver are asked to detour through Kaslo on Highway 31. The RDCK said further testing downstream of the crash site located on the Lemon Creek Forestry Service Road is ongoing, although sampling and visual evidence of air and water at several upstream junctions with the Slocan River indicate little odour and relatively clear sampling. More sampling of air and water at multiple spots is ongoing. "A 'do not use' water order remains in place for water users within the evacuation order area and within three kilometres of water courses," Macpherson said. Residents can contact the Emergency Operations Centre for specifics on evacuation procedures at 1-800-268-7325.

#### Hazmat Teams on Site at Lemon Creek Accident Scene

The Regional District of Central Kootenay Emergency Operations Centre spokesman Bill Macpherson said a hazmat team from Vancouver is containing the scene of a truck tanker accident in Lemon Creek. The Vancouver-based hazmat team arrived on scene around 4:30 a.m. Saturday. "The hazmat team is performing water tests and deploying containment equipment at the scene of the accident," Macpherson told The Nelson Daily this morning. Macpherson is expecting to be briefed of the current situation at the accident site in a conference call this morning. Friday, at around 5:15 p.m. a tanker truck carrying 35,000 litres of jet fuel on the Lemon Creek Forestry Service crashed into the creek. The driver suffered minor injuries and was taken to hospital via BC Ambulance. More than 3000 residents were placed under a EOC evacuations order. Emergency personnel was going door to door to homes in the Slocan Valley to advise residents of the evacuation order. "It's precautionary with the fumes from the jet fuel," Macpherson explained. "We're concerned with people that could be affected by the fumes if they're sleeping in a confined space." The road between the Highway 3A/6 junction and New Denver has been closed to traffic.




#### As Many as 3000 Residents Under EOC Evacuation Order

The Regional District of Central Kootenay, in conjunction with the provincial medical officers, expanded an evacuation order for people living in the Lemon Creek area to three kilometers following a tanker truck accident Friday on a forestry road adjacent the water tributary. The accident happened around 5:15 p.m. Friday on the Lemon Creek Forestry Service Road when the tanker truck, carrying 35,000 litres of jet fuel, crashed into the creek. RDCK Emergency Operations Centre spokesman Bill Macpherson said the evacuation zone was expanded from the original 300 meters "from Lemon Creek and its tributaries, due to potential neurological damage from fumes." Staffers working for The Nelson Daily complained of the taste of jet fuel after taking pictures where the Lemon Creek Forest Service Road intersects Highway 6. "You could smell the fumes when we were taking pictures of the jet fuel in the Slocan River near the Perry Siding Bridge," the staffer said. Macpherson said the EOC has set up places for the evacuating residents to stay during the order. The order is mandatory but people over the age of 16 can refuse to leave if they so choose. "Emergency social services have set up reception centres at, WE Graham (School) in Slocan (and both) L.V. Rogers (High School) Mary Hall, Selkirk College campus in Nelson," Macpherson said. "As many as 3,000 households under evacuation order." Lemon Creek is 60 kilometers north of Nelson in the Slocan Valley. The tanker truck was en route to deliver jet fuel to helicopters battling a 35-hectare blaze in the Perry Ridge area. The isolated fire, discovered Wednesday, is burning approximately 4.5 kilometres west of Winlaw. The Ministry of Forests says 65 firefighters and five helicopters have been battling the blaze, which flared up Friday. Drive BC is reporting Highway 6 between New Denver and the Highway 6/3A junction at South Slocan has been closed to traffic due to the spill. Detour is available through Highway 3A to Kaslo. The road is expected to be opened between noon and 5 p.m. Saturday.

#### Health

Jet A-1 fuel, according to a material Safety Data Sheet at the Petro-Canada website, is a clear, combustible liquid with a flash point between 37.8°C (100°F) and 93.3°C (200°F) and is very toxic. Exposure should be avoided as it may cause eye and skin irritation and contains material that may cause birth defects. Inhalation of Jet A-1 fuel can cause respiratory tract irritation and Central nervous System Depression which may include weakness, dizziness, slurred speech, drowsiness, unconsciousness and in cases of severe overexposure, coma and death.

#### Documents

-  [2013-07-27-Lemon 800m Evac Map](#)
-  [2013-07-27-Lemon addresslist streetname](#)
-  [2013-07-27-Media Release](#)

<http://boundarysentinel.com/news/evacuation-order-reduced-while-hazmat-crews-clean-tanker-spill-25756#.UfRfYlOwdZ4>



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#### **THAILAND, RAYONG, JULY 28 2013. 70 TONNES OF CRUDE OIL SPILLS, THREATENS RAYONG BEACHES >> HELICOPTERS AND SHIPS BATTLE TO CONTAIN 2.5KM LONG SLICK**



*Cleaning It Up: Choppers and ships are deployed to spray dispersants to clean up an oil slick on the sea surface after a spill occurred about 20 kilometres from Map Ta Phut.*

Emergency response authorities were still struggling late last night to contain about 50,000 litres of crude oil that spilled into the sea off the eastern province of Rayong, threatening a major tourist beach. The oil leaked from PTT Global Chemical Plc's pipeline at 6.50am yesterday, PTTGC said. A company spokesman said it was possible some of the oil could reach Mae Ramphung Beach, a famous tourist site in Muang Rayong district. The leak location is about 20 kilometres southeast of the Map Ta Phut industrial estate. Ecological Alert and Recovery Thailand director Penchome Sae-Tang voiced her concern over the incident, saying the spill could have a serious impact on the marine environment if it is not cleaned up fast enough. She said the company must be

responsible for the clean-up operation. Marine Department director-general Sorasak Saensombat said yesterday more than 10 ships had been sent to clean up the oil slick, which was about 800m wide and 2.5km long. He said about 30-40% of the slick had been removed during the clean-up operations last night. He said most of the slick should be cleaned up in the next few days and it will take no more than a week to remove all of it. "The company must be responsible for paying for all the clean-up costs involved," Mr Sorasak said. "The company must also take responsibility if the oil spill has an impact on the environment." After the incident, authorities from various agencies – the navy, the Marine Department, the Industrial Estate Authority of Thailand, the Pollution Control Department, the Disaster Prevention and Mitigation Department – were called in to help contain the spill. PTTGC said the leak occurred in the pipeline at a single point mooring. A single point mooring is an offshore-anchored buoy used as a device to transfer oil from the seabed to a tanker. It is attached to the tanker to prevent it from drifting during the transfer process. The company said the incident occurred as an oil tanker transferred crude oil via the buoy to supply to the company's oil refinery on the shore. Shortly after the leak, workers rushed to close the valves of the oil pipeline immediately to stop any further leaks. A 200-metre-long boom was placed around the floating oil to prevent the slick from spreading further. Workers also used oil skimmers to remove the oil and put it in containers on board the ship. Four ships were deployed to spray about 35,000 litres of oil-spill dispersants to clean up the slick on the sea surface, the company said. The company said it also asked the regional office of Oil Spill Response Limited in Singapore to send experts to advise on how to deal with the oil leak. The company said it had sent a team of staff to follow the situation and take samples of the affected sea water for lab tests to ensure the oil spill does not affect the marine environment and the coastal fisheries. PTTGC executive vice-president Porntep Butniphant said the company had done its best to contain the slick, but conceded it was possible that some of the oil would reach Mae Ramphung Beach. The First Naval Area Command based in Sattahip district in Chon Buri also sent a helicopter to patrol the affected sea area and monitor the spread of the oil slick. Marine and Coastal Resources Department director-general Noppon Srisuk said he had ordered officials to monitor the oil spill and report possible adverse impacts on the environment, marine life and coral reefs. Phuchong Saritdeechaikul, director of the marine and coastal resources conservation office in Rayong, said the wind was now blowing towards the shore of Rayong which increased the possibility of the oil reaching beaches there. Pollution Control Department (PCD) director-general Wichien Jungrunguang said he had been monitoring the direction of the spill. "The company is now using oil skimmers to clean up the oil spill. "The cleanup operation seems to be going well with the plan," Mr Wichien said.

<http://www.bangkokpost.com/news/local/361839/oil-spill-threatens-rayong-beaches>

#### **CHINA, SHANDONG PROVINCE, LIAOCHENG, JULY 28 2013. EXPLOSION DESTROYS CHEMICAL FACTORY IN CHINA**

A massive explosion destroyed a chemical factory in eastern Chinese province of Shandong today. The Luxi chemical factory site in Liaocheng city, where the explosion took place, was engulfed in a ball of fire. The Chinese state television showed photographs from the scene with the area turned into a heap of twisted steel. No reports about any casualties were available immediately. The factory produces refined chemicals including sulfuric acid and chemical fertiliser.

[http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/explosion-destroys-chemical-factory-in-china-113072700707\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/explosion-destroys-chemical-factory-in-china-113072700707_1.html)



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### CANADA, ALBERTA, JULY 28 2013. UNEXPLAINED OIL LEAK IN ALBERTA, CANADA CAUSING UPROAR AMONG FIRST NATIONS, ACTIVISTS

Click-2-Listen [Unexplained Oil Leak in Alberta](#)



A series of unexplained leaks in Alberta, Canada, have continued unabated for more than 2 months, leading to outrage among residents of surrounding areas and environmentalists. The Primrose site uses a controversial method of extracting bitumen called "cyclic steam stimulation," or simply "huff and puff." Because the spills have occurred on a military testing site, media and public access to the affected areas have been restricted. The company in charge, Canadian Natural Resources Ltd (CNRL), refuses to reveal how wide ranging the spill is and is assuring the public and Canada's regulatory agency that it is doing everything it can to manage the spill.

<http://www.sott.net/article/264364-Unexplained-oil-leak-in-Alberta-Canada-causing-uproar-among-first-nations-activists>

### CANADA, B.C, PRINCE RUPERT, JULY 28 2013. COAST GUARD TAKING ON CLEAN-UP OF FORGOTTEN SHIPWRECK OFF B.C. NORTH COAST



Almost seven decades after a U.S. military transport ship sank to the ocean floor off the north coast of British Columbia, the Canadian Coast Guard has received approval to remove bunker oil and other potentially hazardous materials from the Second World War-era vessel. The maritime safety agency issued a request for proposals on Friday for a contractor to tap into the rotting hull of the Brigadier General M.G. Zalinski where it lies 100 kilometres south of Prince Rupert, B.C., burping oil to the surface. "This was a vessel that was lost, ran aground and sank. It was one of those dark and stormy nights in 1946," said Roger Girouard, assistant commissioner of the western region for the coast guard. The Zalinski was transporting ammunition and equipment to Alaska at the outset of the Cold War. The location of the wreck was consigned to history. "There she sat for several decades," Girouard said. It lies under 34 metres of water, on the edge of a cliff in the Grenville Channel, a narrow and scenic waterway that sees as many

as a half dozen ferries and cruise ships a day in the summer and countless commercial fishing vessels. Reports said no crew members died when the ship went down in a blinding rain storm, and the wreck remained out of sight and out of mind until an oil slick was reported to the coast guard in 2003. The agency located the source of the oil using an underwater remote-controlled vehicle, and later divers retrieved the ship's bell to confirm her identity. The coast guard had divers patch the hull, but further clean-up efforts stalled for a decade — a fact that still angers the nearby First Nations community of Hartley Bay. "This has been a slow-motion oil spill in our backyard for 10 years," said Arnold Clifton, chief councillor of the Gitga'at Nation, the coastal community nearest the wreck. The ship's manifest listed at least twelve 500-pound bombs, .30 and .50-calibre ammunition and 700 tonnes of bunker oil, and the fishing community is concerned about the potentially toxic effects of those materials on shellfish and other marine life. Their concerns were exacerbated by the 2006 sinking of the Queen of the North ferry, located about 20 nautical miles south of the Zalinski, which has not been subject to a similar attempt to remove its fuel. "We still have a full passenger ferry on the bottom, leaking diesel," said Andrew Frank, spokesman for the community. "When the nation is out fishing, they come across slicks of diesel every now and then." Frank said the timing of the announcement is suspect, as marine safety has become the primary battleground for proponents and opponents of the proposed Northern Gateway oil pipeline to nearby Kitimat and the ensuing increase in tanker traffic. Girouard said the issue of removing the fuel from the sunken ferry has been complicated by issues of ownership and liability. As for the Zalinski, the potential environmental risk to fisheries and shellfish is the impetus for cleaning up the oil before the Zalinski deteriorates any further, he said. A request has been made at a government level to the United States to share in the costs of the fuel removal operation, but Girouard said those discussions do not involve the coast guard. The project is expected to begin in September and take up



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to three months using a process called "hot-tapping" — drilling holes into the side of the vessel to pump hot steam into the fuel tanks. As the steam increases the temperature of the oil, it flows more easily and can be pumped to the surface. It is estimated that there are between 4,000 and 7,000 shipwrecks off the coasts of North America, and Girouard said Barclay Sound, off the west coast of Vancouver Island, is referred to as the "graveyard of the Pacific." Some have been remediated; most have not. "It's a big issue and it's just one of those imponderables in terms of scope and scale," he said.

<http://www.globalpost.com/dispatch/news/the-canadian-press/130726/coast-guard-taking-clean-forgotten-wwii-us-shipwreck-bc-coas>

#### USA, ME, WEST BATH, JULY 28 2013. HUNDREDS OF GALLONS OF HOME HEATING OIL SPILL AT WEST BATH HOME

*beth brogan*



*The Maine Department of Environmental Protection on Friday continued to oversee the clean up of 200-225 gallons of home heating oil that spilled Wednesday in West Bath.*

The Maine Department of Environmental Protection on Friday continued to oversee the cleanup of 200-225 gallons of home heating oil that spilled Wednesday on Higgins Road. West Bath firefighters were called Wednesday afternoon to 44 Higgins Road, where homeowners reported the oil spill. Ann Hemenway of the DEP's Bureau of Remediation and Waste Management, who is overseeing the cleanup effort, responded to the site at 8:30 p.m. Wednesday. She said Friday that when she arrived, firefighters had positioned the tank so it was no longer leaking, and had placed absorbent pads on the ground, "but the oil had sunk into the ground pretty quickly." Hemenway said the wooden "cradle" that had held the home heating oil "just gave way," spilling the oil out onto the

hilly property. "Some actually flowed down the driveway, and some soaked into the ground onto the bedrock," she said. Although a stream sits farther down the hill, Hemenway said no oil escaped into the stream — or the adjacent lily pond — because contractors dug a trench in the driveway to collect it. Workers for Boom Technology of Gorham, contracted by the DEP, spent Thursday and Friday morning excavating contaminated soil and taking it to a disposal facility in Scarborough, but that facility is closed on the weekend, Hemenway said, so the crew was hurrying to clean up the remainder of the spill by the end of the day Friday. Hemenway estimated the cleanup would cost approximately \$10,000. The homeowners — whose name was not available — will pay a deductible, but the remainder will be covered by a state fund to clean up such home heating oil spills, she said.

<http://bangordailynews.com/2013/07/26/news/midcoast/hundreds-of-gallons-of-home-heating-oil-spill-at-west-bath-home/>

#### USA, OK, COPAN, JULY 28 2013. PIPELINE OIL LEAK FOUND



The Corporation Commission says an oil leak has been discovered in a BP line inside a pump station in Copan. The commission says a field person estimated the leak from the 20-inch crude line as 50 to 100 barrels. Officials say a company technician discovered the leak inside the Blake pump station, which is an unmanned facility in a rural area. The Osage County Sheriff's Office confirms it was found around 9 Friday morning at the station 10 miles west of Highway 75, along Highway 10. The line was shut down, but the Corporation Commission said the danger of flammability is too high for crews to start any work to repair it. The agency says some oil went outside the station and into a drainage ditch, which goes to a water reservoir, about 1.5 miles west of the station. Crews were working Friday to move dirt and dam up the drainage ditch. They were trying to make sure the oil doesn't get into any of the area's water supply, but it has gotten a holding pond next to the pump station. Early reports



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indicate the flow of the oil does seem to be going downstream from the nearby water reservoir. The Osage County Sheriff's Office said the spill is considered contained. About two miles of Highway 10 were shut down while crews worked near the pump station.

<http://bartlesvillerradio.com/pages/news/57272013/pipeline-oil-leak-found>

### USA, PA, EARLYSVILLE, JULY 28 2013. CLEANUP OF TOXIC SITE IN EARLYSVILLE LONG OVERDUE, REGULATORS SAY

andrew shurtleff



*The EPA is conducting an assessment of long-term risks related to contaminants found in the soil at the abandoned Avionics facility.*

Environmental regulators say cleanup of a contaminated Earlysville plant site is almost three decades overdue. But the work in assessing the extent of the problem is just beginning. Five toxins including tetrachloroethylene, a carcinogen have been found at the site of a shuttered aircraft parts manufacturer near the southwest corner of the Charlottesville Albemarle Airport and the Walnut Hill neighborhood. The federal Environmental Protection Agency is in the early stages of an 18-month investigation to determine the scope of the contamination. A review of hundreds of pages of state Department of Environmental Quality records shows the origins trace to 1986 a half-dozen years before Teledyne Industries sold the site to Avionics Specialties Inc. Teledyne destroyed an

underground tank on the property as part of a standard remediation operation. That tank held metal sludge and hazardous waste, according to Teledyne and Avionics. "The accumulated metal sludges were removed, the tank was steam-cleaned, the tank's top was removed and one or more holes were jack-hammered through the bottom of the tank to prevent accumulation of rainwater," Avionics said in a 2008 report. "The area, including what remained of this structure, was back-filled and graded." In correspondence with the city of Charlottesville, Teledyne advised that the company had hauled non-hazardous waste to the Ivy Landfill and hazardous materials to a toxic waste dump in Michigan. But not all of the toxins were gone. Twenty-seven years later, toxic chemical solvents lurk in soil and groundwater both at the plant site and in the neighboring subdivision. Avionics and state environmental regulators link the problem to Teledyne. Avionics declined to comment for this story. Teledyne did not return calls for comment. "It is our opinion," DEQ regional waste program manager Graham Simmerman wrote to colleagues in 2008, "that assessment and cleanup of the site should have proceeded immediately after removal of this tank."

#### Significant Findings:

**The contamination, however, only came to light a year earlier.**

In 2007, when Avionics was preparing to shut down and sell the plant, the company's parent, Aerosonic Corp., authorized soil and groundwater evaluations, part of what the EPA refers to as "standard closure activities." "The investigations identified significant groundwater contamination by chlorinated solvents in the shallow aquifer at the site," a 2008 Avionics report reads. "Additional investigations determined that groundwater contamination had migrated beyond the site boundary and has impacted a residential well in the Walnut Hill subdivision." Avionics subsequently contacted Walnut Hill homeowners, as well as the DEQ. DEQ spokesman William Hayden said carbon filters were fitted at 10 homes in the neighborhood as a precaution. Both the DEQ and Avionics continued to monitor properties closest to the plant. At the time, Hayden said, the DEQ did not inform homeowners that one of the contaminants was a carcinogen. Tetrachloroethylene, also known as PCE, has been linked in medical studies to bladder cancer, non-Hodgkin's lymphoma, bone marrow tumors and increased risk of spontaneous abortion. The compound is known for its pleasant aroma and is commonly used in dry cleaning. "We would not have told them any of the side effects. We're not health experts," Hayden said. DEQ's website does offer this: "PCE is known to cause cancer in animals and is suspected to cause cancer in humans. PCE also has non-cancer toxic effects that make it desirable to minimize PCE emissions." Avionics applied for a voluntary remediation permit in 2008 to begin the process of containing the contamination and cleaning up the facility. That application was denied. "We have observed that the applicant provided limited data on the former hazardous waste operations and that our file[s] are insufficient to construct a detailed environmental history of the site," state officials wrote in response. Over the next several years, Avionics conducted historical and scientific studies in



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an effort to pinpoint the exact source of the contamination. Finally, in 2010, the DEQ contacted the EPA. The EPA in June 2012 announced a settlement with both companies to investigate the contamination and alternatives for cleanup.

#### Red Flags & Red Tape

Walnut Hill homeowners said they remained in limbo as groundwater and soil evaluations at their homes continued to return positive for PCE contamination. "A process should not take this long when, in fact, there are chemicals involved that could be harmful," said Michael Kane, president of the Walnut Hill Homeowners Association. Kane said the situation should have been remedied in 2007. "It's frustrating that the government agencies plural have taken so long to get to this point," he said. While the process has been mired in red tape, the companies have avoided responsibility for the problem, Kane said. "Trying to figure out who was responsible Teledyne, Avionics, everyone else. It was finger-pointing. That's all it was," Kane said. "That's the frustration." EPA field work at the site is expected to be finished in August, said project manager Donna McCartney. "We only started the investigation, so we don't even know the entire universe of contaminants that may be present," McCartney said. "But before anything else, the extent of the contamination needs to be delineated."

[http://www.dailyprogress.com/news/local/cleanup-of-toxic-site-in-earlsville-long-overdue-regulators-say/article\\_85151ff2-f704-11e2-90f6-0019bb30f31a.html](http://www.dailyprogress.com/news/local/cleanup-of-toxic-site-in-earlsville-long-overdue-regulators-say/article_85151ff2-f704-11e2-90f6-0019bb30f31a.html)

#### INDIA, TAMIL NADU, TIRUVANNAMALAI, JULY 29 2013. THREE TEENS KILLED AS EXPLOSION RIPS CRACKER UNIT IN VETTAVALAM



*Debris of the building that was damaged in an explosion at the cracker unit in Rajanthangal village near Vettavalam on Sunday.*

Three boys, aged between 14 and 17 years, were killed in a blast at a cracker unit in Rajanthangal village near Vettavalam on Sunday afternoon. According to police, the victims - Chinnaraj (15), son of Siva and a resident of Pandithatattu, and Subash (15), son of Mani and a resident of Rajanthangal village, were school dropouts, while Ayyappan (17), son of Murugan of Rajanthangal village, was a class X student in a government school in the village. The incident took place between 3.50 pm and 4 pm, Vettavalam police said. The boys were working in the licensed cracker unit of Shanmugham, a resident of Rajanthangal village. The unit was located in Shanmugam's agricultural land adjacent to the

residential area. The villagers, on hearing a deafening explosion from the unit, rushed to the spot and found the roof of the unit ripped apart. The three boys working at the unit were found dead, an official said. The official added that the boys were engaged to manufacture crackers for a temple festival. "We are not sure about the cause of the explosion. We will know about it only after scientific experts visit the spot and investigate it," said Chandrasekar, Inspector of Police, Vettavalam Station. He added that there was no other person at the unit except for the three boys. The police recovered the body and sent it for a postmortem. Meanwhile, the villagers staged a protest against officials for failing to shift the cracker unit from the present location despite repeated pleas. Talking to 'Express', Collector A Gnanasekaran said the unit was a licensed one and the owner of the unit had been renewing its licence since 1999. "The cracker unit owner had renewed the license till March 2014," the Collector who visited the spot said. He, however, said that the police had registered a case against Shanmugham and begun investigations. Meanwhile, the district administration has ordered an RDO inquiry in connection with the case. "The RDO inquiry will look into aspects such as safety norms at the unit," the Collector said. On the villagers' plea to shift the unit to another different location, the Collector said that he was not aware of the issue as he had assumed charge very recently. However, he promised to look into it.

**Related Stories** [Poverty forced boys into cracker units](http://newindianexpress.com/states/tamil_nadu/Three-teens-killed-as-explosion-rips-cracker-unit-in-Vettavalam/2013/07/29/article1706853.ece)

[http://newindianexpress.com/states/tamil\\_nadu/Three-teens-killed-as-explosion-rips-cracker-unit-in-Vettavalam/2013/07/29/article1706853.ece](http://newindianexpress.com/states/tamil_nadu/Three-teens-killed-as-explosion-rips-cracker-unit-in-Vettavalam/2013/07/29/article1706853.ece)

#### USA, CO, GARFIELD CO, JULY 29 2013. RETIRED ENGINEER SKEPTICAL ABOUT WPX SPILL CLAIMS

A retired engineer who serves on the Garfield County Energy Advisory Board, and who has been a critic of the regional energy industry, told the Post Independent on Friday that he feels a recent spill of a large volume of "produced water" at facilities owned by WPX Energy is more of a problem for the company than WPX has admitted. A July 2 spill in the Garfield Creek region of Garfield County put nearly 2,100 gallons (or about 50 barrels) of produced water on the ground at a pipeline complex



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owned by WPX, about two miles south of the Colorado River. The spill was in the Kokopelli Field once owned by Orion Energy, before the Orion facilities were bought out by WPX. The spill was blamed on "equipment failure" because a valve gave out during the transfer of produced water from one holding facility to another, according to a report to the Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission (COGCC). Produced water is what comes back to the surface after a natural gas well has been hydraulically fractured, or "fracked." Produced water contains a mix of fracking fluids and numerous compounds, some of them toxic, that are found in the same deep rock formations where the gas and oil is located. According to statements to the Grand Junction Daily Sentinel by WPX spokeswoman Susan Alvillar, the equipment used in the Kokopelli Field was not installed by WPX, but was a holdover from the Orion Energy ownership. Alvillar did not respond on July 25 to requests for comment from the Post Independent. But according to retired engineer Bob Arrington, the company should have tested the equipment involved when it purchased the pipelines and other infrastructure from Orion. "If they accept somebody else's design," Arrington wrote in an email to the Post Independent, "they assume the responsibility" for the integrity of the system. "Just getting it and using it without verifying integrity is negligence in itself," Arrington continued. "WPX is supposed to have engineers that have the know-how and ability to determine the proper use [of equipment] and problems that can arise." Arrington's email to the Post Independent contained a lengthy, and highly technical description of how he feels the company may have erred in its use of the Kokopelli Field equipment. Attempts to obtain comments from either Alvillar or the COGCC on July 26 also were not successful, nor were efforts to contact Kirby Wynn, Garfield County's oil and gas liaison, regarding Arrington's concerns.

<http://www.postindependent.com/news/7460682-113/wpx-energy-equipment-spill>

#### USA, CA, COLTON, JULY 29 2013. COLLISION WITH GASOLINE TANKER KILLS FONTANA MAN

*richard brooks*

A 56-year-old Fontana man was fatally hurt in Colton when the compact car he was driving collided with a truck pulling two gasoline trailers, say police and Riverside County coroner's officials. The wreck was reported at 1:53 p.m. Saturday, July 27, at Main Street and Placentia Lane in Colton. Andrew Oresko was taken to Riverside Community Hospital in Riverside, where he died at 2:31 p.m., coroner's officials said in a written statement. He hadn't been wearing a seatbelt, investigators said.

<http://www.pe.com/local-news/san-bernardino-county/san-bernardino-county-headlines-index/20130728-colton-collision-with-gasoline-tanker-kills-fontana-man.ece>

#### CANADA, TORONTO, JULY 29 2013. CANADA TOUGHENS SAFETY RULES FOR TRAINS WITH DANGEROUS GOODS FOLLOWING CATASTROPHIC CRASH



Canadian transportation authorities banned one-man crews for trains with dangerous goods Tuesday, responding to calls for tougher regulations after an oil train derailment in Quebec killed 47 people. Transport Canada also said trains with dangerous goods will not be allowed to be left unattended on a main track. Hand brakes must be applied to trains left one hour or more. The July 6 tragedy occurred when a runaway train carrying 72 carloads of crude derailed, hurtled down an incline and slammed into downtown Lac-Mégantic. Several train cars exploded and 40 buildings were leveled. The unattended Montreal, Maine & Atlantic Railway train had been parked overnight on a rail line before it came loose. "The disaster brought to light several industry practices which have

caused some concern," said Gerard McDonald, assistant deputy minister of safety and security at Transport Canada. "Given that and with an abundance of precaution, we thought it would be prudent to implement these measures now." Transport Canada says the cause of the derailment remains unknown. Canada's Transportation Safety Board, which is investigating the accident, had asked for changes in regulations governing rail traffic. Transport Canada also is giving rail operators five days to ensure nobody without authorization can enter the cab of unattended locomotives on a main track or sidings. Meanwhile, the town of Lac-Mégantic is taking legal action against Montreal, Maine & Atlantic. Mayor Colette Roy-Laroche said the rail company has not yet paid any of the workers it hired to clean up the crude oil that leaked from dozens of tanker cars. She said at a news conference that the town paid the workers \$4 million after some threatened to walk off the job. Lawyers have been asked to inform the rail company it must reimburse the money immediately, Roy Laroche said. The company did not immediately respond to a message seeking comment. A Chicago-based law firm has begun filing wrongful-death lawsuits on



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behalf of victims of the Quebec railway disaster in a U.S. court against the rail and oil companies involved in the accident. Peter Flowers, of the law firm Meyers & Flowers, had filed two lawsuits by the end of Tuesday, and was expected to file five more lawsuits on Wednesday at the Cook County courthouse in Illinois. "We expect 15 to 20 at least over the next couple of days," Flowers said Tuesday. "We'll be asking for millions of dollars for every one of these folks. ... This is a horrible tragedy." Flowers' first lawsuit, filed Monday, was initiated by the family of Jean-Guy Veilleux, who was killed in the runaway train disaster. It seeks damages from 10 defendants, including Montreal, Maine & Atlantic; its major stockholder Rail World Inc.; Edward Burkhardt, president of Rail Road and chairman of MMA, and several U.S. petroleum companies. The train was carrying North Dakota oil destined for a refinery in St. John, New Brunswick. Calls placed Tuesday to most of the defendants listed in the lawsuit were not immediately returned. The lawsuit alleges that the railway and petroleum companies named had a duty to operate their businesses in a "safe manner and to take reasonable measures to avoid exposing the public to the dangers associated with the transport of crude oil to refineries." The lawsuit also alleges that the defendants were negligent for transporting crude oil in flawed DOT-111 tanker cars. The safety of these tanker cars has been called into question by the U.S. National Transportation Safety Board since a 1991 study found that they were known to rupture at a high rate during derailments. Burkhardt was the only individual listed in the lawsuit. The lawsuit alleges that Burkhardt has a past record as a top executive with other railway companies of reducing crew sizes to cut costs — a measure that allegedly increased the accident rate.

[http://articles.washingtonpost.com/2013-07-23/world/40859577\\_1\\_rail-company-roy-laroche-derailment](http://articles.washingtonpost.com/2013-07-23/world/40859577_1_rail-company-roy-laroche-derailment)

### USA, MISS, COVINGTON CO, SEMINARY, JULY 29 2013. OVER-TURNED TANKER TRUCK ON HIGHWAY 49



**Update: 6:30 p.m.**

We've learned the tanker that overturned Saturday afternoon in Covington County is hauling 8,400 pounds of gasoline. Authorities say it does not appear to be leaking. Mississippi Highway Patrol spokesman Brent Barfield says the driver ran off the road to avoid hitting another motorist. Barfield says the driver was taken to the hospital with non-life-threatening injuries.

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An over-turned tanker truck has traffic almost completely stopped on Highway 49 in Covington County. Sheriff Stann Smith tells us the Covington County Sheriff's Department is assisting Mississippi Highway Patrol on the scene. The crash happened around 2:00 Saturday afternoon near Seminary. Right now, there's no word on a cause or injuries. If you're traveling Highway 49 through Covington County, give yourself plenty of time.

<http://www.wjtv.com/story/22947995/traffic-alert-overturned-tanker-truck-on-highway-49>

### USA, WASHINGTON DC, JULY 30 2013. OSHA SAFETY REGULATIONS DEMAND HAZMAT TRAINING



*Thousands of flight-department employees, such as aircraft maintenance technicians, will be required to take U.S. government-mandated hazmat training to help them identify and protect themselves against potentially hazardous materials.*

Thousands of flight department employees, such as aircraft maintenance technicians, will be required by December 1 to take U.S. government-mandated hazardous material (hazmat) training to help them identify and protect themselves against potentially hazardous materials and situations. The new OSHA regulations are designed to align U.S. practices with the United Nations' globally harmonized system of classification and labeling of chemicals. In the universal system, for example, a signal word—such as "Danger" for more severe hazards, or "Warning" for less severe threats—is used on labels, along with a variety of pictograms and hazard statements describing the nature of the hazards. Labeling of hazardous materials must also include first-aid measures to cope with a spill should one occur, as well as contact information for the chemical's manufacturer.

<http://www.ainonline.com/aviation-news/ainsafety/2013-07-29/osha-safety-regulations-demand-hazmat-training>



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

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### USA, FLA, TAVARES CITY, JULY 30 2013. ALL ACCOUNTED FOR AFTER EXPLOSIONS RIP THROUGH TAVARES GAS PLANT

susan jacobson & lauren ritchie

#### Watch the Video's:

- [Massive Explosions Rock Central Fla. Gas Plant](#)
- [Florida Explosions Reported At Blue Rhino Gas Plant](#)
- [Huge Blast Rocks Florida Gas Plant](#)
- [Explosions Rock Florida Gas Plant](#)
- [10 Workers Missing After Explosions Rock Florida Gas Plant](#)

#### Click-2-Listen Hear the explosions from the fire

 Photo's [7] [Huge Blast Rocks Florida Gas Plant](#)

 Photo's [4] [Aerial Shots of the Explosions](#)

 Photo's [14] [Blue Rhino Gas Plant Explosion](#)



Map [Tavares, FL, USA](#)



*Residents were allowed back in their homes after evacuations as investigators tried to figure out what caused the blasts.*

Roads near a gas plant in Lake County were littered with twisted pieces of propane canisters early Tuesday, hours after explosions that injured at least seven people and forced the evacuation of residents up to a mile away. By 2:40 a.m., residents were allowed to return home and the massive fire was contained, Sheriff's Office spokesman Jim Vachon said. Between 24 and 26 workers were in the main building at Blue Rhino, 300 County Road 448 in [Tavares](#), when the first explosion erupted in another area a little before 11 p.m., said Lt. John Herrell, another Sheriff's Office spokesman. Smaller explosions that residents miles away said sounded like firecrackers went off for half an hour, then subsided. About 12:15 a.m., another set of explosions began when tractor-trailers loaded with propane tanks began exploding, officials said. "The windows shook in my house," said Lake County School Board member Debbie Stivender, who lives nearby. "I thought we being bombed." A little after 4 a.m., firetrucks were spraying water on what was left of the blaze. "You could feel the heat at the end of our subdivision," said Kevin Scharlau, 53, a Tavares resident who was awakened by the blasts. "You could see the gas-grill propane tanks shooting into the air." About 50 homes were evacuated shortly after the explosions, Herrell said. Roads in the immediate area were closed for several hours. Most of the 53,000 20-pound propane canisters at the plant exploded, said Joyce Ross, a spokeswoman for the city of Tavares. At least seven people were injured, Herrell said. One patient was in critical condition early Tuesday at Shands Hospital in

[Gainesville](#), one was in stable condition at Ocala Regional Medical Center and three were in critical condition at Orlando Regional Medical Center. Florida Hospital Waterman in Tavares treated and released one patient and transferred another to Orlando Regional, a spokesman said. "The fact that there are no fatalities is a blessing," Tavares City Administrator John Drury said. "This was a big deal and a lot of people responded quickly and took care of the situation." Blue Rhino refills propane tanks for retail stores across the Southeast U.S., firefighters said. Corporate headquarters are in Winston-Salem, N.C.

#### Related Stories

- [Fifteen missing in Florida gas plant explosion](#)
- [Florida Gas Plant Explosions: Workers Found](#)
- [Florida propane plant hit by dozens of explosions](#)



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- [Florida explosion: Huge blast rocks Blue Rhino gas plant as workers escape ...](#)
- [Florida gas explosion: 7 injured when Blue Rhino plant blows up](#)
- [Florida factory fire: 'More and more explosions'](#)
- [All Workers Found After Florida Plant Blast](#)
- [All 15 workers briefly missing in Florida blasts are found safe: officials](#)
- [7 Injured After 'Humongous' Blasts at Florida Propane Plant](#)
- [At least seven injured, three critically, after blasts rock Florida propane plant](#)
- [Workers located safe and well after US plant blast](#)
- [Miracle in Florida — workers found alive after huge blasts rock gas plant](#)
- [Several people injured after explosion at the Blue Rhino gas plant in Florida](#)
- [Explosions at gas plant rock Florida](#)
- [Roof blown off Florida gas plant in series of propane explosions](#)
- [Workers escape Florida gas plant after a series of explosions rip through factory](#)
- [Massive explosions rock central Fla. gas plant](#)
- [Explosions blow roof off gas plant](#)
- [Series of explosions at Florida gas plant, workers missing](#)

<http://www.orlandosentinel.com/news/local/breakingnews/os-florida-gas-plant-explosion-update-20130730,0,3447866.story>

#### THAILAND, RAYONG PROVINCE, AO PHRAO OF KOH SAMET, JULY 30 2013. THAI OIL SPILL SPREADS TO NEW BAY ON RESORT ISLAND

 **Photo's [9]** [How a Beautiful Thailand Beach Turned Black after a Devastating Oil Spill](#)

 **Photo's [2]** [PTTGC Faces Samet Spill Legal Action](#)

 **Click-2-Listen** [Listen to Oil Spill Hits Beach at Koh Samet Island \(Update 2\)](#)



*About 500 clean-up crew swarm Ao Phrao of Koh Samet in Rayong province after the oil spill reached the tourist attraction.*

Workers in white suits used buckets to scoop up globs of crude oil blackening the once white sands and emerald waters of a tourist island in Thailand's eastern sea on Tuesday, as the oil slick continued to spread three days after leaking from a nearby pipeline. Progress was being made on cleaning the oil that washed into Prao Bay on the west coast of Samet Island on Sunday night, though not fast enough, and rough seas and strong winds spread thin films of dispersed oil to a rocky bay farther north, said Rayong deputy governor Supeepat Chongpanish. "The most urgent issue is to get rid of the oil from the bay as soon as possible," Supeepat said in a telephone interview. "The longer it stays on, the worse effect it will have on the people and environment." Provincial

authorities have declared Prao Bay a disaster zone, but said that more popular beaches on the island's east coast remain untouched. There is concern, however, that if not contained soon the slick could spread to beaches across the island and on the nearby mainland. Authorities said it would take some time to assess the environmental damage. About 50,000 liters (13,200 gallons) of oil — about the amount contained in one and a half tanker trucks — spilled into the Gulf of Thailand off Rayong province on Saturday morning from a leak in a pipeline operated by PTT Global Chemical Plc., a subsidiary of state-owned oil and gas company PTT Plc. The company said it detected a leak when crude oil from a tanker moored offshore was being transferred to the pipeline, 20 kilometers (11 miles) from a refinery in Map Ta Phut, one of the largest industrial estates in Southeast Asia. The leak has since been fixed. The slick floated in the sea for more than a day before it began washing ashore on Samet Island, a small resort island that each year draws some 1 million foreign and domestic tourists due to its white sand beaches and its proximity to Bangkok, 140 kilometers (90 miles) away. PTTGC apologized on Monday and said the cleanup will likely be completed within three days. That appeared to be wishful thinking, however, and the contaminated beach looked much the same Tuesday, when rain storms briefly interrupted cleanup operations. "From what I can see it's still a long way to go," said Suthi Atchaisai, an environmental activist, who was helping with the efforts to clean the bay. "Oil slicks,



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although reduced, are still on the beach and in the water." He said about 1,500 soldiers, workers and volunteers were on the beach Tuesday. Tourists have checked out from the three resorts on Prao Bay, with some moving to other beaches on the island. "The incident happened during the low season and on the quiet side of the island, so the impact on tourism is still very limited," said Chuchart Oncharoen, the director of Rayong's tourism authority. "If the spill is eliminated within three days like PTTGC speculated, tourists will likely stay." Critics have accused the company of failing to be prepared for such an emergency despite previous incidents. "This is a major failure in disaster preparedness of PTTGC," said Srisuwan Janya, a lawyer and chairman of Bangkok-based Stop Global Warming Association. "They must be held responsible for having no clear guidelines on how to tackle such incident and for letting the damage spiral out of control." Srisuwan said his association has called for government agencies to take legal action and seek compensation from the company. The incident is the fourth major oil spill in Thailand's history, according to the Energy Ministry. In 2009, another PTT subsidiary was involved in the Montara oil spill, one of Australia's worst oil disasters, in the Timor Sea off western Australia.

### Related Stories

- [Oil spill hits beach at Koh Samet island](#)
- [Tourists evacuated as oil blackens Thai beach](#)
- [Black waves of oil washing onto Thai resort beach three days after oil leak](#)
- [Thailand Oil Spill: 50 Tons Of Crude Reaches Popular Tourist Island](#)
- [Pipeline leak blackens Thai beach island](#)
- [Operators fear big spill losses](#)
- [PTTGC faces Samet spill legal action](#)
- [Oil spill reaches Thailand tourist beach](#)
- [Refiner apologises for oil spill damage](#)
- [Work gangs battle to clean oil slick from beach at popular Koh Samet island](#)
- [Oil spill blackens coast of Thai island](#)
- [Oil Slick Will Not Have Major Impact On Tourism At Samet Islands, Says Governor](#)
- [PTT 'hiding the truth' of oil spill](#)

<http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2013/07/30/thai-oil-spill-spreads-new-bay-resort-island.html>

### **MALAYSIA, SABAH, KOTA KINABALU, JULY 30 2013. FIRECRACKERS, WORTH RM50,000 SEIZED IN KOLOMBONG**



Janathan (second right) with Hamzah (third left), Azizul (right) and Rafizi (second left) inspecting the seized firecrackers and fireworks.

The State Customs Department seized numerous firecrackers and fireworks valued at RM50,000 during a raid at a double-storey terrace house in Kolombong here recently. Its director, Janathan Kandok, said the raid was made around 11.30am on July 24 after the department received a tip-off. "A 39-year-old local man has been detained to assist in our investigation," he said at a press conference at the Customs headquarters here yesterday. Janathan said initial investigation believed that the illegal firecrackers and fireworks, which were imported from a neighboring country, would be sold in the local market. He said the case would be investigated under Section 135 (1)(d) of the Customs Act

1967, which carries a fine of not more than 10 times the value of the seized items or a fine of RM100,000, and not less than 20 times the value of the seized items or a fine of RM100,000, or jail up to three years, if convicted. Meanwhile, Janathan said in the first seven months of this year, the department had seized a total of RM230,000 worth of illegal firecrackers and fireworks from 18 cases. "Investigation shows a decrease in demand for firecrackers and fireworks from the public with only 18 cases being reported this year with a seized value of RM230,000, as compared to the 79 cases reported last year with a seized valued at RM1.7 million," he said. Janathan added similar operations would be carried out by the department with assistance from the Royal Malaysia Police to curb the illegal activity, especially in Penampang, Papar and Tuaran. Also present yesterday were Sabah Customs deputy director of enforcement and compliance Hamzah Sundang, DSP Nor Azizulkifli Mansor from the city police Crime Investigation Department and ASP Che Rafizi Che Ramli from Penampang police.

<http://www.theborneopost.com/2013/07/30/firecrackers-fireworks-worth-rm50000-seized-in-kolombong/>



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