



Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network Release 2013 – 1,008 Newsy Stuff

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October 4 2013



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USA, FLA, DESTIN, SEPTEMBER 16 2013. 'A FREAK AND TRAGIC ACCIDENT': EXPLOSION THAT KILLED ONE UNDER INVESTIGATION

Key Points:

- Okaloosa Officials say that investigators are focusing on Acetylene torches that were rented to do work on the house.
- Michael Todd Brower, 35, died at the scene. His friend, the home owner, Luis Lopez, a 58-year-old Illinois pediatrician is in a critical condition, both men are from the Benton, Ill., area southeast of St. Louis.

Watch the Video's:

- [Man Dead after Explosion outside Destin Home](#)
- [Florida Explosion Kills Southern Illinois Man, Injures Another](#)
- [Victims Identified in Destin Explosion](#)
- ['A Freak & Tragic Accident': Car Explosion Kills Illinois Man, Injures Another](#)



Photo's [24] [Explosion at Harbor Lane in Destin](#)



A vehicle exploded in front of this home on Harbor Lane in Destin on Saturday evening. One man was killed and another was critically injured.

Noon Update: A 35-year-old Illinois man has been identified as the victim of a deadly car explosion at a Destin vacation home Saturday evening that also critically injured an Illinois physician. The victim is identified as 35-year-old Michael Todd Brower. 58-year old Dr. Luis Lopez, also of Illinois, is in critical condition at Sacred Heart Hospital in Pensacola, according to a Sheriff's Office press release. Firefighters, paramedics, and Okaloosa County Sheriff's Deputies responded to 704 Harbor Lane in Destin last night (Sept. 14) shortly after 7 p.m. in response to reports of a loud explosion and fire. The State Fire Marshal's Office, which is handling the investigation, says the incident is accidental and there is no indication of foul play.

This Morning's Story.

One is dead and another is seriously injured after an explosion rattled homes in Destin Saturday evening. After an initial inspection by the state fire marshal, Okaloosa County Sheriff Larry Ashley said they have ruled out a meth lab being to blame. While the investigation continues, it now appears this was a 'freak and tragic accident,' according to Ashley. The investigation is focusing on acetylene torches that were rented to do work on the house. Details were few, but at about 7:11 p.m., an explosion tore through a home and vehicle at 704 Harbor Lane, which is off Main Street near Joe's Bayou. One person was killed, and another seriously injured person was taken by helicopter to a hospital. A photo of the scene showed a gutted vehicle and extensive damage to the home. Residents almost a mile away reported hearing and feeling the blast. Some even said they heard more than one explosion. Destin experienced another such freak tragedy in 2009, when a gas-related explosion in a Calhoun Avenue home killed 50-year-old Michael Blanchard and seriously injured his fiancée, Faye Boroughs.

Related Stories

- [1 killed, 1 injured when car explodes outside home](#)
- [1 Killed, 1 Injured after Vehicle Explosion](#)
- [Cause still under investigation after explosion kills one in Destin](#)
- [One killed, one hurt when house explodes](#)

<http://www.nwfdailynews.com/local/a-freak-and-tragic-accident-car-explosion-kills-illinois-man-injures-another-1.203213>

USA, PA, HARRISBURG, SEPTEMBER 16 2013. AG: XTO POLLUTED WELL SITE >> KANE: DUMPED MORE THAN 50,000 GALLONS OF TOXIC CHEMICALS

casey junkins

Pennsylvania Attorney General Kathleen Kane believes Exxon Mobil's natural gas division dumped "more than 50,000 gallons of toxic wastewater" at a Marcellus Shale well, so she is charging the company with criminal penalties. But officials with XTO Energy said the spill was unintentional, calling Kane's efforts an unprecedented "abuse of prosecutorial discretion." Fort Worth, Texas-based XTO is a subsidiary of Exxon Mobil, the world's largest publicly owned oil and natural gas company. XTO holds a number of leases in eastern Ohio, as many mineral owners - including the Union Local Board of Education and the Martins



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Ferry Board of Education - agreed to lease land for \$4,950 per acre with 19 percent payments on production royalties. The company also controls the leases local residents previously signed with Phillips Exploration. XTO also purchased Monroe County leases from Beck Energy Corp., though a court ruled these agreements invalid earlier this year, pending appeal. According to Kane, a Pennsylvania grand jury recommended the criminal charges after hearing evidence and testimony. XTO is charged with five counts of unlawful conduct under the Clean Streams Law and three counts of unlawful conduct under the Solid Waste Management Act for the violations that allegedly took place in Lycoming County in 2010. According to Kane, XTO produced fracking wastewater containing chlorides, barium, strontium and aluminum while working at the Marquardt site. She said the company was storing the wastewater in a 21,000-gallon storage tank for later processing. Kane said a Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection inspector discovered the illegal discharge of fracking waste on Nov. 16, 2010, during an unannounced visit. Apparently, a discharge valve on the tank had been opened, allowing the wastewater to flow out of the storage tank onto the ground. Kane said the wastewater then flowed into and polluted a creek. Because of the spill, DEP required XTO to remove more than 3,000 tons of contaminated soil from the Marquardt site. She said the driller allegedly failed to place a spill containment system under any of the storage tanks at the Marquardt site; failed secure any of the storage tanks on site; and failed to utilize any security measures to prevent unauthorized individuals from accessing the Marquardt site. However, XTO officials called Kane's charges "unwarranted and legally baseless because neither XTO nor any of its employees intentionally, recklessly or negligently discharged produced water on the site." XTO leaders said the spill did not cause significant environmental harm, emphasizing the well site has been fully remediated. They also fear that litigation such as this will discourage oil and gas drillers from trying to recycle frack water because of "significant legal and financial penalties should a small release occur." According to the grand jury, XTO did not have a permit to discharge wastewater at the Marquardt site and failed to report any wastewater spills to DEP as required by law, Kane said. During the Thursday West Virginia Oil and Natural Gas Association conference at Oglebay Park, Executive Director Corky Demarco said the action shows that Pennsylvania may not be a friend to drillers. "This shows an absolute disdain for the industry," he said.

Related Stories

- [Shale Criminal Charges Stun Drilling Industry](#)
- [Attorney General Files Criminal Charges Against Marcellus Gas Drilling Company](#)
- [Obama Administration Sues Exxon for Polluting Pennsylvania Drinking Water with Toxic Fracking Waste](#)

<http://www.theintelligencer.net/page/content.detail/id/589788/AG--XTO-Polluted-Well-Site.html>

USA, CO, BOULDER CO, SEPTEMBER 16 2013. BOULDER COUNTY ACTIVISTS CONCERNED ABOUT FLOODED OIL, GAS WELLS >> OFFICIALS: DRILLING SITES WILL BE INSPECTED ONCE IMMEDIATE DANGER PASSES

erica meltzer



County Line Road, north of Erie (Courtesy of Cliff Willmeng)

Boulder's 100-Year Flood

Inundated along with roads, bridges, houses and farms are thousands of oil and gas wells and associated condensate tanks and ponds in northeast Boulder County and southwest Weld County. Anti-fracking activists say the industry needs to account for what types of chemicals may be contaminating soil and groundwater in the area around these wells. The concentration of oil and gas wells in flood-prone areas speaks to one more risk of what they see as a dangerous industry. Regulators say they agree these well sites could pose a contamination risk, and they will get out to assess the damage as soon as it's feasible. An Encana Oil and Gas representative said many wells were "shut in" in anticipation of the flood to minimize the risk. Lafayette-based anti-fracking activist Cliff Willmeng said he spent two days "zig-zagging" across Weld and

Boulder counties documenting flooded drilling sites, mostly along the drainageway of the St. Vrain River. He observed "hundreds" of wells that were inundated. He also saw many condensate tanks that hold waste material from fracking at odd angles or even overturned. "It's clear that the density of the oil and gas activity there did not respect where the water would go," Willmeng said. "What we immediately need to know is what is leaking and we need a full detailed report of what that is. This is washing across agricultural land and into the waterways. Now we have to discuss what type of exposure the human population is going to have to suffer through." Colorado Oil and Gas Association President Tisha Schuller said in an email that



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the industry prepares and drills for these types of natural disasters and opened 24-hour incident command centers to monitor wells and mitigate potential hazards. "We are working around the clock to monitor, prevent, and address the effects of flooding," she said. "In cases where personnel could be freed up, they have been made available to communities for flood rescue and relief efforts." A spokesman for the Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission said the agency is aware of the potential for contamination from flooded drilling sites, but there simply is no way to get to those sites while flooding is ongoing and while resources are concentrated on saving lives. "COGCC will be working with state and local authorities to assess risks and, where necessary, provide environmental response and remediation," said Todd Hartman, a spokesman for the Department of Natural Resources. Hartman said many operators have added security to tanks, like chains to make sure they don't float away, though aerial photographs have shown floating and drifting tanks in some flooded areas. Also, many operators "shut in" or closed down well operations in anticipation of flooding. Wendy Wiedenbeck, a spokeswoman for Encana, a major gas driller in the region, said in a news release that the company shut-in production at wells throughout the affected areas and has remote monitoring to stop production at additional wells if they are affected by flooding. Crews are conducting site-by-site visits as it becomes safe to do so, she said. Willmeng said shutting-in does not isolate all the hydrocarbons in case of flooding. He's also concerned that there simply aren't enough inspectors to deal with all the wells. Andrew Barth, a city spokesman working with the Boulder Office of Emergency Management during the disaster, said local officials are well aware of potential problems from drilling wells, as well as from flooded gas stations and industrial sites. However, inspections and assessment will have to wait until the immediate threat to life and safety has passed. "We've seen those same pictures, and we are concerned," he said. "We are going to go out and look at those as once we're out of the immediate search and rescue phase."

http://www.dailycamera.com/news/boulder/ci_24102154/boulder-county-activists-concerned-about-flooded-oil-gas

AUSTRALIA, QUEENSLAND, STAPYLTON, SEPTEMBER 16 2013. MAN INJURED IN BP SERVICE STATION FIRE

leah fineran

A 22-year old man has been rushed to hospital after being burned in a petrol station fire at Stapylton this morning. Two fire crews rushed to the BP Service Centre at Stapylton-Jacobs Well Road after a call out a 6.30am. However the fire had been quickly put out by a staffer using a dry powder extinguished. A 22-year-old man suffered burns to his hand and stomach and is now being treated in Logan Hospital. The cause of the fire is being investigated.

http://www.goldcoast.com.au/article/2013/09/16/458245_gold-coast-news.html

USA, TX, EL PASO, SEPTEMBER 17 2013. GAS TANKER ROLLS OVER, SHUTS DOWN PART OF I-10

gina benitez

A Western Refining truck rolled over on I-10 Sunday at 8:30 a.m. on its way to deliver gas. Officials are concerned for the safety of travelers and have taken precautionary measures to keep them safe. The westbound Anthony exit where the truck rolled, Exit 0, was shut down. Officials said that the gas clean-up process will take a while and they are working on transferring the fuel to another tanker.

<http://www.kfoxtv.com/news/features/top-stories/stories/gas-tanker-rolls-over-shuts-down-part-i10-1549.shtml>

USA, IA, SIOUX CITY, SEPTEMBER 17 2013. WOMAN HOSPITALIZED AFTER REAR-ENDING FUEL TANKER IN SIOUX CITY

nate robson



Photo's [4] [Woman Hospitalized after Rear-Ending Fuel Tanker](#)



Emergency workers respond to the scene of a rollover accident Monday, Sept. 16, 2013, on US Business Highway 75 just south of 41st Street in Sioux City. Sioux City.

A woman was hospitalized with non-life-threatening injuries after she blacked out and rear-ended a fuel tanker on the northern outskirts of Sioux City Monday. Police Sgt. Terry Ivener said a car was southbound on

Business Highway 75 near the 41st Street intersection when the driver suffered a medical condition and blacked out. The four-



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door sedan then slammed into the back of a Flying J fuel tanker. The car rolled several times and came to rest on its roof. The tanker was not damaged and no fuel leaked. "She struck the rear end of a tanker full of fuel," Ivener said. "It could have been a lot worse than it was." The accident was reported at 11:43 a.m. and closed both southbound lanes for more than an hour. The name of the woman was not immediately available, though Ivener said her injuries were not considered life threatening. He also did not know what hospital she was taken to. The driver of the truck, Jerry Johnson, said the woman struck the back of his tanker hard enough to shake him up. Johnson said he had just left Magellan Pipeline Company and had turned right off of 41st Street onto Business Highway 75 when he felt the impact. The tanker was filled with diesel fuel, he said. Johnson also thought the woman's car was on fire when he first jumped out of his truck to check on her. "Her motor was still running and black smoke was coming out," he said. "Her motor must have just burnt out."

http://siouxcityjournal.com/news/local/woman-hospitalized-after-rear-ending-fuel-tanker-in-sioux-city/article_9a26679d-ada4-5d02-bf28-5d93806f4296.html

USA, CO, CRAIG, SEPTEMBER 17 2013. REGULATORS TO RULE IN TANK EXPLOSION DEATH

Colorado oil and gas regulators are being asked to find Axia Energy in violation of rules for the company's operations of a wastewater tank at the site of a fatal accident outside Craig in January. [Jon Herod](#), an employee of Herod Industries, died Jan. 3 when a 300-barrel storage tank exploded at an Axia oil and gas development site north of Craig. The explosion occurred when workers used a propane torch to thaw valves while trying to transfer wastewater from a hydraulic fracturing operation. Denver-based Axia and Herod Industries have agreed to pay a total of \$16,800 in fines under settlements with the [Occupational Safety and Health Administration](#) in connection with the death, the [Grand Junction Daily Sentinel](#) reported Monday. The [Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission](#) is being asked to decide whether Axia violated several of the agency's rules in its pit operations. Agency staff had inspected the pit and an associated well in December 2012 and conducted another inspection after the explosion and fire. Axia and commission staff differed on whether a hose was placed on the liner in violation of a condition of approval, causing the liner breach, and whether the pit had been properly fenced to protect wildlife. Axia paid fines for safety violations in the incident. OSHA determined it exposed workers to danger by failing to make sure the tank being used to transfer wastewater was marked to indicate it contained flammable liquids or gases. Under an agreement between OSHA and Herod, Herod is paying \$11,200 for four violations, one deemed serious. OSHA says the violations involved issues including failing to mark tanks to indicate the presence of flammable substances, a failure in training and failure to an control open flame.

<http://www.sfgate.com/default/article/Regulators-to-rule-in-tank-explosion-death-4818096.php>

USA, CT, HARTFORD, SEPTEMBER 17 2013. WOMAN CITED AFTER CRASHING INTO HARTFORD GAS STATION

steven yablonski,

 **Watch the Video**

- [Woman Crashes into Hartford Gas Station](#)
- [Driver Slams into Hartford Gas Station, injuring Attendant](#)
- [Woman Cited after Crashing into Hartford Gas Station](#)



A Hartford gas station clerk and customer narrowly escaped serious injury after a woman lost control of her car and crashed through the wall. The incident was reported on the corner of Franklin Avenue and Warner Street early Monday morning, and the store's owner said he's relieved no one was seriously hurt, even though his business is a mess. Isaac Boria said he was at the Select Gas Station just before 2 a.m. when the Acura crashed into the store. "I try to climb up, trying to make sure everyone is fine, and I tried telling everyone to get back," he said. Right before slamming into the building, the car crashed through a gas pump and caught fire. According to police, the driver told them she was heading south on Franklin Avenue when her passenger suddenly told her to

make a right-hand turn into the gas station. She did, but she couldn't handle the turn and lost control. Sam Rizvi has owned the station for about 10 years and was sleeping when he got word of the incident. "It's disastrous," he said. "I can't imagine somebody can do something like that. It's a mistake, but it's horrible." He said he wants to reopen as soon as possible, but when he saw all the damage he realized that it may take some time before that happens. "Nobody got injured," he said.



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"Especially the girl driving the car and the clerk that was working. That's all I worry about." The clerk did go to a local hospital to get checked out after complaining of a sore lower back and hip. The driver was cited for motor vehicle charges and interfering with police.

<http://www.wfsb.com/story/23438801/woman-cited-after-crashing-into-hartford-gas-station>

PAKISTAN, PUNJAB, MUZAFFARGARH, KHANGARH, SEPTEMBER 17 2013. FIREWORKS EXPLOSION BURNS FOUR SIBLINGS ALIVE

abdul mujeeb zahid

Four children of the same family including two brothers and two sisters were burnt alive when a stock of fireworks material exploded after it caught fire in a factory established in a house here in the suburban Khangarh Town on Sunday. Muhammad Younas, a fireworks manufacturer, ran the factory in his house where the mishap took place in which he, himself, has sustained critical burns. Muzaffargarh DPO Rana Abdul Jabbar told the media that it was not a terrorist activity rather a mishap which took the lives of four children. He said that two children seven-year-old Sania and eight-year-old Sonia died on the spot while 10-year-old Usama and 11-year-old Muhammad Kashif succumbed to burns in Nishtar Hospital Multan. While Muhammad Younas has sustained 70 percent burns on his body and his condition is stated to be critical. Rescue 1122 In-Charge Dr Irshadul Haq confirmed the death of four children of the same family. He recalled that last year, Younas's brother along with his three children had also died in a similarly mishap but they did not abandoned the business. Agencies Add: The blast also resulted in fire in surrounding houses resulting massive losses. The rescue teams reached the scene and shifted the bodies and injured to hospital. It should be mentioned that fireworks factories are functional across district but the administration has paid no heed to take action.

Related Story: [Illegal businesses: 2 children killed, 3 injured in fireworks blast](#)

<http://www.nation.com.pk/pakistan-news-newspaper-daily-english-online/national/16-Sep-2013/fireworks-explosion-burns-four-siblings-alive>

USA, N.Y, ALBANY, SEPTEMBER 17 2013. FIREFIGHTERS RAISE FLAGS OVER POTENTIAL CHANGE TO GAS STATION SAFETY REGULATION

jon campbell

Watch the Video's:

- [Footage of an Operational Suppression System in Westchester Co](#)
- [By Way Of Contrast, a Car Colliding Into a Pump in Tennessee, Which Does Not Require Suppression Systems](#)

Document [Here's the letter from the Association of Convenience Stores](#)



Workers repair a pump at the Mobil station along the Hutchinson River Parkway in Harrison on Aug. 9, 2010, after a fire closed the station. A fire-suppression system put out the fire.

New York's largest firefighters association raised concerns Monday over a proposal to no longer require fire-suppression systems at gas stations. At a news conference near the Capitol, the Firefighters Association of the State of New York joined Assemblyman Anthony Brindisi, D-Utica, to urge the New York State Code Council to keep the mandate. "This regulation has been on the books in New York for decades and has protected many New Yorkers from serious harm," Brindisi said. "We need to ensure that this vital safety measure continues to be the law." The council is in the process of updating New York's Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code. In January, a subcommittee recommended

removing the requirement. As it stands, gas stations are required to have a canopy over their pumps with fire-suppressing chemicals in case of a fire. At the news conference, the firefighter group showed video of the system in action during a Harrison explosion in August 2010 that totaled four cars and left six people with minor injuries. The surveillance footage showed a red hatchback backing into a pump, leading to an instant burst of flames followed by a continuous stream of white, cloud-like powder — the dry chemical suppressant — falling from overhead. It's not clear if or when the full Code Council plans on taking up the proposal. Its next meeting is Dec. 11. James Burns of Verplanck, the president of the Firefighters Association, said the proposed change is concerning given the state's recent move to require generators at more gas stations in the wake



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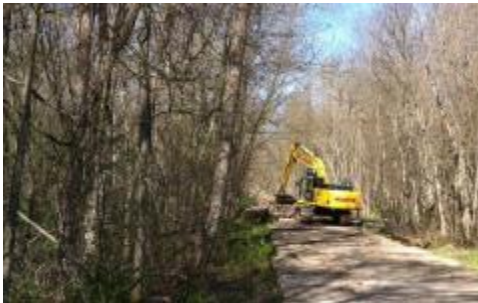
of Superstorm Sandy. While he said that's the right move, power generators can be a fire risk. "That makes it imperative that we continue to mandate fire-suppression systems in New York state," he said. At the January meeting, some members raised concerns about accidental discharges from the fire-suppression system and the potential hazards it could cause. Laz Benitez, a spokesman for the state Department of State, said the subcommittee's recommendation is "just that — a recommendation." The State Department oversees the Code Council. "Under no circumstances will the public's safety be put at risk by these efforts to modernize New York's fire code," Benitez said in a statement.

Related Stories

- [Assemblyman: NY could end gas station fire systems](#)
- [Assemblyman: NY to end gas station fire systems](#)
- [Brindisi: Gas stations need fire suppression canopies \(update\)](#)
- [Brindisi wants gas stations to keep fire suppression systems](#)

<http://www.lohud.com/article/20130916/NEWS/309160068/Firefighters-raise-flags-over-potential-change-gas-station-safety-regulation>

USA, WI, SEPTEMBER 17 2013. FUEL PIPELINE REPAIRS FORCE CLOSURE OF PARTS OF JACKSON MARSH



A contractor for West Shore Pipe Line Co. in May repairs a timber mat access road to pipeline right of way in Jackson Marsh Wildlife Area.

West Shore Pipe Line Co. is scheduled to complete repairs by Oct. 31 on 22 sections of degraded metal — more than double the [nine sections originally targeted](#) in spring — along its regional fuel pipeline within the Jackson Marsh Wildlife Area. Contractors for the Illinois company this week are finishing up bypassing five of the segments by drilling underground parallel to the line and pushing a new piece of pipe through the hole, said Ben Callan, a water management specialist with the state Department of Natural Resources in Madison. The 1,450-foot pipe will replace the line beneath Cedar Creek. West Shore decided to drill beneath the creek to avoid dredging the stream bed to

expose the pipe, Callan said. This is the same pipeline that ruptured in July 2012 and [spilled 54,600 gallons of gasoline](#) in a farm pasture in the town. The pasture, in the 1800 block of Western Ave., is about 2.5 miles south of the wildlife area. Thirteen pipe repairs have been done since spring within the publicly owned wildlife area west of Highway G in Washington County, according to a representative for pipeline consultant, Arcadis U.S. Inc. The company's right-of-way crosses Jackson Marsh between state Highway 60 and Pleasant Valley Road in the Town of Jackson. With early fall hunting seasons underway, the DNR has closed temporarily two areas of the Jackson Marsh, adjacent to the pipeline, to hunting and other public recreation, DNR wildlife biologist Tom Isaac said. The areas, one north of Highway 60 and a second south of Pleasant Valley Road, extend about 100 yards on each side of the pipeline. The remainder of the Jackson Marsh remains open to the public. The closed property north of Highway 60 surrounds equipment and workers drilling beneath Cedar Creek and installing the new pipe. Closures are scheduled to end in late October when pipeline repairs are completed, Isaac said. Maps showing boundaries of the closed areas west of Highway G have been posted at entrances to the wildlife area. The closing south of Pleasant Valley Road encompasses the area where contractors will repair the remaining four degraded pipe sections — two beneath Evergreen Creek, a tributary of Cedar Creek, and two south of Evergreen Creek. Work could begin there this month, Callan said. Buckeye Partners has requested a state permit to build a temporary dam on Evergreen Creek to divert water from the work site and a permit to dredge the stream bed, he said. Two other repairs were done this year where the pipeline crosses private property south of the public hunting grounds on the north side of Highway 60, Callan said. The regional pipeline was built in 1961. An inspection done after the spill found the degraded pipe sections. Repairs generally involve welding metal sleeves onto the outside of the pipe sections as reinforcement. The July 2012 spill was caused by a rupture of a welded seam along several feet of pipe. Benzene and other petroleum compounds have been detected in 44 private wells in the town since the spill. Most of the wells are west of the pasture where the pipeline ruptured, and a [drinking water advisory area](#) extends west of Maple Road. Tests of water samples collected from an additional 23 private wells could not quantify the concentration of petroleum compounds detected in the samples, so those wells are not considered to be contaminated, according to DNR officials.

<http://www.jsonline.com/news/fuel-pipeline-repairs-force-closure-of-parts-of-jackson-marsh-b9997333z1-223827051.html>



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USA, MS, WAYNE COUNTY, SEPTEMBER 17 2013. 5 INJURED IN WAYNE CO. OIL WELL EXPLOSION

ed kemp

 **Watch the Video** [Wayne Co. Oil Explosion Injures 5](#)

Officials are trying to piece together what caused an oil well explosion that injured five workers Monday morning in Wayne County. "The investigation will have to uncover what the source of the gas was and the source of the ignition," said Mississippi Oil and Gas Board Field Director Allen Floyd. Mosbacher Energy Company, based in Houston, operates the oil well. Floyd said that company officials, with oversight from the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), are now looking into the source of the flash fire. Floyd said that such explosions occur when air and fuel mix and combust. "There was no leaking from the well. There was no well control problem," explained Floyd. "What was being done (on-site) was nothing unusual at all." Emergency personnel responded to the explosion around 9 a.m. on Buford Gandy Road, in a thinly-populated area several miles northeast of Waynesboro. Sean Dunlap, public information officer for Wayne County Emergency Management Agency, said that the workers suffered burn injuries. Neither he nor Floyd knew the extent of their injuries. The workers, who were contracting with Mosbacher, were rushed to Wayne General Hospital in Waynesboro. Floyd said two of the workers were subsequently released from medical care. The explosion destroyed a pickup truck and a portable petroleum-chemical storage tank. It also caused a small fire, which emergency responders put out within an hour. Dunlap said there are about 12 homes in a 2-mile radius near the oil field. None of these residences needed to be evacuated. Floyd said there are between 5,000-6,000 active wells in the state. He called Monday's incident highly unusual. "It's been several years since we have had an injury from a fire that I can recollect," said Floyd. "It's something that does not happen often at all."

<http://www.hattiesburgamerican.com/article/20130917/NEWS01/309170009/5-injured-Wayne-Co-oil-well-explosion>

USA, MS, WAYNE COUNTY, SEPTEMBER 17 2013. 5 INJURED IN WAYNE CO. OIL WELL EXPLOSION

ed kemp

 **Watch the Video** [Wayne Co. Oil Explosion Injures 5](#)

Officials are trying to piece together what caused an oil well explosion that injured five workers Monday morning in Wayne County. "The investigation will have to uncover what the source of the gas was and the source of the ignition," said Mississippi Oil and Gas Board Field Director Allen Floyd. Mosbacher Energy Company, based in Houston, operates the oil well. Floyd said that company officials, with oversight from the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), are now looking into the source of the flash fire. Floyd said that such explosions occur when air and fuel mix and combust. "There was no leaking from the well. There was no well control problem," explained Floyd. "What was being done (on-site) was nothing unusual at all." Emergency personnel responded to the explosion around 9 a.m. on Buford Gandy Road, in a thinly-populated area several miles northeast of Waynesboro. Sean Dunlap, public information officer for Wayne County Emergency Management Agency, said that the workers suffered burn injuries. Neither he nor Floyd knew the extent of their injuries. The workers, who were contracting with Mosbacher, were rushed to Wayne General Hospital in Waynesboro. Floyd said two of the workers were subsequently released from medical care. The explosion destroyed a pickup truck and a portable petroleum-chemical storage tank. It also caused a small fire, which emergency responders put out within an hour. Dunlap said there are about 12 homes in a 2-mile radius near the oil field. None of these residences needed to be evacuated. Floyd said there are between 5,000-6,000 active wells in the state. He called Monday's incident highly unusual. "It's been several years since we have had an injury from a fire that I can recollect," said Floyd. "It's something that does not happen often at all."

<http://www.hattiesburgamerican.com/article/20130917/NEWS01/309170009/5-injured-Wayne-Co-oil-well-explosion>

CANADA, ALBA, CALGARY, SEPTEMBER 17 2013. TRAIN DERAILMENT CLEANUP WAS RISKY JOB, SAYS FIRE CHIEF >> CALGARY FIRE CHIEF BRUCE BURRELL SAYS CREWS WERE ORGANIZED FOR THE TASK

 **Hear** [Chief Burrell on CP Rail](#)



Several cars carrying flammable liquids came off the tracks as a slow-moving train was heading northbound out of the Canadian Pacific Railway's Alyth Yard in the city's southeast around 5 p.m. MT last Wednesday.

Calgary Fire Chief Bruce Burrell says people risked their lives cleaning up the [derailment](#) in the Alyth Rail Yard last week when seven tankers carrying flammable liquids came off the tracks. "When you've got six rail cars or seven



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rail cars in various forms or derailment, many of them laying on their side, there is always a risk there. We don't know what the damage is to the underside of the cars until they're uprighted." More than 140 homes were evacuated after the Canadian Pacific Railway cars derailed Wednesday evening. Burrell said that when he arrived about 45 minutes after the incident things were under control. "It was very organized. The evacuation had taken place. The fire crew was in the process of setting up safe perimeters," said Burrell. "The resources were being called in and arriving and I thought the crews were doing actually an exemplary job of dealing with the emergency."

Determining the Danger Level

Mayor Naheed Nenshi questioned why it took so long to find out exactly what was in the cars but Burrell said the signs on the cars have enough information to know whether the substance is dangerous. "When rail cars go across crossings and that in Calgary, or anywhere in fact in North America, they have the diamond shaped placards on them with a four-digit number. Those four-digit numbers we can look up very, very rapidly." "They have categorized millions of hazardous products in groupings based on their properties that gives us initial information." Then Burrell said they contact CP Rail and then the shipper to get exact details on the material. "It takes typically for anywhere from about 45 minutes to an hour."

Hazardous Materials Common

Burrell said it is common for hazardous materials to be transported in the city. "There is not a roadway where trucks travel in Canada or a railway anywhere in North America where these products are not being moved on a regular basis." Burrell said despite concerns from city officials he thinks the relationship with CP Rail is good.

"We work well together at emergency scenes. We tend not to relate to each other a whole lot in between although they do participate in some of the training we do for our Hazmat crews so I would say we have a fairly good working relationship."

Related Stories

- [Railway yard blast probed](#)
- [Derailed train cars removed from Calgary's Alyth Yard](#)
- [S.E. train yard as loud as a rock concert: residents](#)

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/calgary/train-derailment-cleanup-was-risky-job-says-fire-chief-1.1856430>

USA, WA, WILLOW GROVE, SEPTEMBER 17 2013. SUNKEN BOAT INVOLVED IN WILLOW GROVE SPILL RAISED TO SURFACE

roger werth



The Granby, raised over the past few days from the bottom of Fisher Island Slough, floats along a dock at Willow Grove on Monday.

The old 75-foot wooden boat that sank off Willow Grove on Aug. 27 has been raised and salvage operations of hundreds of gallons of oil and fuel continue, the state Department of Ecology reported Monday. Ecology officials said responders were able to pump about 250 gallons of diesel from the boat after it sank. About 50 to 100 gallons of gasoline spilled from the boat into Fisher Island Slough, but responders haven't ruled out finding more around the area of the spill, agency officials said. "These things are always a dynamic situation," Ecology spokeswoman Linda Kent said Monday, adding that she's not sure how long the cleanup will take. The boat sank after an exhaust port broke open on the 84-year-old boat's auxiliary engine, creating a 2-inch hole in the hull below

the water, allowing the vessel to take on water, according to Ecology. The hole has been fixed and the vessel was floating on its own Monday. An Ecology press release made no mention of any damage to wildlife. Responders recovered other potential water-quality threats from the boat, such as a set of batteries, Ecology officials said. An oil-containment boom remains around the boat to prevent additional harmful materials from escaping the immediate area of the sinking. One quart of oil has the potential to foul 100,000 gallons of water, according to Ecology. The boat was built in the style of a trawler but was used to haul employees of a mining company to work on the Alaska Panhandle, according to its owner, Mark Baker of Vader. Its name, the Granby, comes from the name of the company that originally owned it. Baker must pay the costs of the raising and cleanup, which will run into the tens of thousands of dollars. However, specific cost estimates were not available Monday, Ecology officials said. Baker couldn't be reached for comment Monday. He had previously said he'd bought the boat about 13 years ago in hopes of restoring it. He has hired Cowlitz Clean Sweep Inc. and Ballard Diving & Salvage to conduct cleanup.



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Ecology officials oil spills should be reported as quickly as possible, and a hotline is available 24 hours a day at 1-800-OILS-911.

http://tdn.com/news/local/sunken-boat-involved-in-willow-grove-spill-raised-to-surface/article_bb29f2d0-1f35-11e3-99f3-001a4bcf887a.html

USA, CA, SAN FRANCISCO, SEPTEMBER 17 2013. WHAT HAPPENS WHEN I PUT ROCKET FUEL IN MY GAS TANK? >> IF YOU LIVE IN FLORIDA, YOU MAY BE GOOD TO GO

sean kane



Pic provided by the European Space Agency, taken Thursday July 25, 2013, an Ariane 5 rocket is launched in Kourou, French Guiana.

If your car is a diesel, it will run. Liquid hydrogen, the fuel that powered the space shuttle's main engines, could work, says Manuel Martinez-Sanchez, an aeronautics and astronautics professor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. But keeping hydrogen liquid requires maintaining it at a temperature below about -432°F. Storing it in a garage would be tricky, as would keeping it from freezing the engine. RP-1 would work even better. A kerosene fuel developed in the 1950s as a more efficient alternative to alcohol-based rocket fuels, RP-1 powered the Soyuz and Falcon 9 spacecrafts. "It's a close relative of diesel fuel, so there is no real problem using it in diesel engines," Martinez-Sanchez says. "The only special thing about RP-1 is a lower volatility and a higher viscosity, so the engine might not run well on cold days," he says. RP-1 probably isn't worth the trouble, though. Rocket fuel is less efficient than gas, and it

wouldn't even make a car go any faster.

http://www.salon.com/2013/09/16/what_happens_when_i_put_rocket_fuel_in_my_gas_tank_newscred/singleton/

CANADA, ALTA, COLD LAKE, SEPTEMBER 18 2013. ALBERTA FIRST NATION CONCERNED ABOUT SIX LEAKS AT OIL SANDS PROJECT



Produced water, water that is used to extract oil and gas from the ground, covers the ground at a spill site from an Apache Corp. pipeline in northwestern Alberta in June. The Cold Lake First Nation is concerned about two other leaks at a Canadian Natural Resources Ltd. oil sands project in northeastern Alberta, bringing the total in recent months to six.

A First Nation says it is concerned about two other leaks at an oil sands project in northeastern Alberta, bringing the total in recent months to six. Chief Bernice Martial of Cold Lake First Nation said Monday that she is worried about the safety of drinking water, animals and vegetation in her region. In July, Canadian Natural Resources Ltd. said a mechanical failure at an old well was behind ongoing bitumen seepage at its oil sands project on the Cold Lake Air Weapons Range. About 1.5 million litres of bitumen has since been recovered from bush and muskeg in the area. The band said in a news release that it recently learned of two additional leaks of bitumen, but the Alberta Energy Regulator says they both involved "produced" water back in May and June. Spokeswoman Cara Tobin said the waste water from the two sites, about 8,000 litres in total, has since been cleaned up. Clean-up of bitumen at the four other sites is ongoing, she said. The last report posted by the regulator tallies dead wildlife from the leak at 2 beavers, 46 small mammals, 49 birds and 105 amphibians. "Our future generations will not be able to enjoy what once was pristine Denesuline territory," Chief Martial said in a news release. "Animals such as wolves and bears are now migrating through our community, which is a safety risk and precaution. The environment is changing and definitely not for the positive." The company has been ordered to limit the amount of steam it pumps into the reservoir while the regulator investigates. Gerry Protti, chairman of the regulator, said in a speech in Calgary that the spill has significantly affected the company's finances. "We're working extremely hard to come up with the cause of the issue and resolution around it. But when you're taking 40,000-plus barrels of production out of their cash flow, that has a direct impact," he said Monday. "But that shows the importance that the province is attaching to development occurring with the minimum environmental impact."



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Officials with Calgary-based Canadian Natural Resources were not immediately available for comment. Last month, company president Steve Laut said he didn't expect the ongoing spill would have a long-term impact on production. He said he's confident the company can either repair problematic well bores or adjust its steaming strategy to work around them.

Related Stories

- [Canadian Natural restricts operations after bitumen leak](#)
- [Alberta First Nations band wins right to trial over oil sands' effect on treaty rights](#)

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/report-on-business/industry-news/energy-and-resources/alberta-first-nation-concerned-about-six-leaks-at-oil-sands-project/article14342414/#dashboard/follows/>

USA, CO, WELD CO, SEPTEMBER 18 2013. COLORADO AND INDUSTRY WORKING TO ASSESS DAMAGE IN FLOODED OIL FIELDS

mark jaffe & austin briggs



Weld County, CO. - September 16: A drilling derrick near Greeley stands in land flooded by the South Platte River. Aerial photographs of the Platte River flooding cities and farms in Weld County Colorado.

Colorado's richest oil field — the [Denver-Julesburg Basin](#) — is buried in floodwaters, raising operational and environmental concerns, as state and industry officials work to get a handle on the problem. Thousands of wells and operating sites have been affected — some remain in rushing waters, officials said. "The scale is unprecedented," said Mike King, executive director of the Colorado Department of Natural Resources. "We will have to deal with environmental contamination from whatever source." [Any pollution from oil fields](#) likely will be mixed with a stew of agricultural pesticides, sewage, gasoline from service stations and other contaminants, King said. "As far as we know, all wells affected by flooding have been shut," said Tisha Schuller,

president of the Colorado Oil and Gas Association, a trade group. The basin, one of the most promising onshore oil plays, has been the target of an estimated \$4 billion of oil industry investment, with about 48 rigs operating when the flood hit. Companies are using boats and helicopters to check sites not accessible by road, Schuller said. "As water levels recede, operators are assessing any damage and addressing it," she said. The major public health risks will come from contaminated water and sediments, said Miriam Rotkin-Ellman, a Natural Resources Defense Council staff scientist. "The aim is to find where there may be significant pollutants and where they are heading," said Rotkin-Ellman, who studied industrial contamination in New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina. The Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission is setting up a clearinghouse to log the status of every well and operation, said Matt Lepore, the commission's executive director. The commission also is using its mapping technology to identify well sites along the South Platte River for inspection. "Mapping is a really good first step — it locates where the problem could be," said NRDC's Rotkin-Ellman. The commission is forming teams — including inspectors, engineers and environmental specialists — to focus on locations north and south of the South Platte. Still, the specter of pollution has raised [concerns among environmentalist and community groups](#). "With the Texas Gulf Coast, they know in advance a hurricane is coming," said Irene Fortune, a retired chemist who worked for British Petroleum and is now running for the Loveland City Council. "To have something this inland, this level of flooding in an area with high oil and gas development, it's new territory," Fortune said. Gary Wockner, Colorado Program Director for Clean Water Action, said, "Every flooded well needs to get inspected. "The COGCC needs to pass new regulations for drilling in floodplains to better protect people and the environment." There are more than 20,000 wells in the [DJ-Basin](#) and surrounding areas and 3,200 permits for open pits in Weld County, according to state data. A review of the pit permits, however, found a significant number are old permits that may not be operating — most were to hold produced water that contains salts and metals from wells. Major operators in the basin said they were able to shut all the wells hit by the flood. Encana Oil & Gas (USA) has shut about one-third of its 1,241 wells, the company said. "We have plans in place to inspect all of our facilities," Doug Hock, an Encana spokesman, said in an e-mail. "We're using (geographic information systems) to help prioritize lower-lying facilities that may likely have greater impacts." Anadarko Petroleum Corp., the second-largest operator in the basin, shut wells and stopped drilling activity. "The majority of our drilling, completions and workover activities in the affected areas of the field have been shut down," the company said on its website. "Restarting the activities is expected to be significantly delayed due to road and location



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conditions," the company said. The well sites are designed to withstand harsh weather, said William Fleckenstein, a professor of petroleum engineering at the Colorado School of Mines. "The actual wells are meant to hold pressure on the inside. They're designed to be fluid-tight," Fleckenstein said. Concern arises when tanks are knocked over or damaged, Fleckenstein said. The "worst-case scenario," however, would be damage to a high-pressure gas line, which would leak hydrocarbons in the air and be "very explosive," Fleckenstein said. The impact of the flood waters has been uneven in the basin, said the oil and gas association's Schuller. Some areas are untouched, and some facilities are still surrounded by flowing water, Schuller said. "It may take some operations a week to get back up," Schuller said. "It may take a year for others." Pictures of flooded well and drilling sites and damaged or floating tanks have been appearing on several social-media sites. "We've seen the pictures but don't know the locations," Schuller said. "If people provide the locations, we will check them."

http://www.denverpost.com/breakingnews/ci_24107038/state-and-industry-struggle-assess-damage-flooded-oil

USA, OH, NAPOLEON, SEPTEMBER 18 2013. 2,500 GALLON DIESEL FUEL SPILLS AT NAPOLEON RAIL YARD

About 2,500 gallons of diesel fuel spilled from a railroad locomotive today when a broken rail punctured its fuel tank, authorities said. A Napoleon, Defiance & Western train was operating near Perry Street when the rail broke and struck the engine's fuel tank, piercing a hole roughly three inches square, Napoleon Fire Chief Robert Bennett said. Fire crews dug a retaining pit to keep the fuel from escaping the accident site, the chief said. By early afternoon, he said, an environmental contractor had arrived to clean up the spill, with the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency overseeing the scene.

<http://www.toledoblade.com/Police-Fire/2013/09/17/2-500-gallon-diesel-fuel-spills-at-Napoleon-rail-yard.html>

USA, ILL, CHICAGO, SEPTEMBER 18 2013. REFINERY DISPUTE IN HIGH COURT

kathie bassett

The Illinois Supreme Court is set today to hear an appeal of a lawsuit brought by the Roxana School District against the Wood River Refinery and several government agencies. The appeal will be argued before the Illinois Supreme Court in Chicago, with Supreme Court Chief Justice Thomas L. Kilbride presiding. The Roxana School District, which filed the appeal on behalf of taxing bodies that receive property tax revenue from Wood River Refinery, is the sole plaintiff. The case is against the Illinois Pollution Control Board, the Environmental Protection Agency and WRB Refining LLC, Roxana Superintendent Deb Kreutztrager said. Whitt Law LLC of Aurora and Donald M. Craven, P.C. serve as the attorneys of record and will present arguments on behalf of the appellant, the Roxana School District. Assistant Attorney General Richard S. Huszagh, HelperBroom, LLC of Springfield and Edwardsville and Hodge, Dwyer and Driver of Springfield will represent the Pollution Control Board, Environmental Protection Agency and Wood River Refinery in the proceedings. "At issue in the appeal is the property tax treatment of much of the refinery's gasoline and diesel production equipment," Stuart Whitt, attorney for the Roxana School District, said in an earlier interview with The Telegraph. Once certified, pollution control facilities are removed from local assessment rolls and are valued by the Illinois Department of Revenue, as opposed to county taxing authorities, Whitt has said. In recent days Whitt deferred additional comment until after Tuesday's hearing. A consortium of taxing districts originally filed suit earlier this year in the Illinois 4th District Appellate Court after WRB sought approval through the Illinois Pollution Control Board to get part of its \$3.8 billion expansion project classified under "pollution control facility status." At issue are 28 applications filed by WRB seeking classification of \$1.274 billion in improvements under this tax-exempt status, to which the district unsuccessfully sought permission to participate in Pollution Control Board hearings. The Supreme Court appeal is predicated on the taxing bodies' assertion of a right to intervene in Pollution Control Board proceedings. "We cannot comment on the specifics of this case. However, this is one of the multiple lawsuits filed by the school district and some members of the tax consortium against the refinery and other state agencies, costing the taxpayers hundreds of thousands of dollars to litigate," Wood River Refinery spokeswoman Melissa Erker said Monday, reiterating a statement made to The Telegraph last spring. "In general, the suits challenge a longstanding Illinois tax code which has been historically granted for pollution control equipment that reduces emissions at the refinery and in the fuels we make," she said. "This tax code has long been approved for manufacturers across Illinois as a vehicle to encourage investment in pollution-reducing equipment. The installation and investment in such equipment creates both a better quality of life in communities, as well as creating jobs for those who help build these pieces of equipment." In March 2012, the Madison County Board of Review issued a final notice for assessed value of the property for the period in question. The board increased the refinery's assessed value from \$93.4 million, reflecting a fair market value of \$280 million as of Jan. 1, 2010, to an assessed value of \$402.2 million, reflecting a market value of more than \$1.2 billion as of Jan. 1, 2011. The assessment includes a proration of the CORE project, which



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was online for only three months of the assessed year. CORE is the acronym assigned to the massive coker and refinery expansion project, completed last year. With the CORE project in place for a full calendar year, the board increased the refinery's assessed value to \$439 million, reflecting a fair market value of approximately \$1.32 billion as of Jan. 1, 2012, said Kerry Miller, Board of Review chairman. In August 2012, Sangamon County Circuit Judge John Schmidt ruled that the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency and the Illinois Pollution Control Board "complied" with the Illinois Freedom of Information Act and "did not violate" the Open Meetings Act in regard to consortium claims that the agencies violated the law in order for WRB Refining, Wood River Refinery in Roxana to prevent an increase in its property taxes. Consortium members involved in the appellate court suit included the Roxana School District, Wood River-Hartford Elementary School District, East Alton-Wood River High School District, the village of Roxana, Roxana Community Park District, South Roxana Fire Protection District and Wood River Township Hospital District.

http://www.thetelegraph.com/news/local/article_1b7cdb58-1f26-11e3-bf45-001a4bcf6878.html

USA, TX, HOUSTON, SEPTEMBER 18 2013. LINK BETWEEN OIL SPILL EXPOSURE AND HEMATOLOGIC, HEPATIC TOXICITY

A new study reports that workers exposed to crude oil and dispersants used during the Gulf oil spill cleanup display significantly altered blood profiles, liver enzymes, and somatic symptoms compared to an unexposed control group. Investigators found that platelet counts were significantly decreased in the exposed group, while both hemoglobin and hematocrit levels were notably increased. Their findings, reported in The American Journal of Medicine, suggest that oil spill cleanup workers are at risk for developing hepatic or blood-related disorders. In April 2010, Deepwater Horizon, an offshore drilling rig owned by British Petroleum (BP) exploded, spewing over 200 million gallons of oil into the Gulf of Mexico. In order to break down the oil slick, BP used nearly 2 million gallons of dispersants like COREXIT, and an estimated 170,000 workers participated in the cleanup effort. Currently, COREXIT is banned in the United Kingdom because of its potential risk to cleanup workers. While other studies have identified a relationship between oil spills, dispersants, and human health, this new research from the University Cancer and Diagnostic Centers, Houston, TX, led by G. Kesava Reddy, PhD, MHA, and Mark A. D'Andrea, MD, FACRO, focuses primarily on the link between oil spill exposure and hematologic and hepatic functions in subjects who had participated in the oil spill cleanup operation. The investigators looked at a total of 247 subjects between January 2010 and November 2012, with 117 subjects identified as exposed to the oil spill and dispersants by participating in the cleanup over the duration of three months. The unexposed control group of 130 subjects was comprised of people living at least 100 miles away from the Gulf coast of Louisiana. Using medical charts, demographic and clinical records, the team reviewed specific data points such as white blood cell (WBC) counts, platelet counts, hemoglobin, hematocrit, blood urea nitrogen (BUN), creatinine, serum beta-2 microglobulin, alkaline phosphatase (ALP), aspartate amino transferase (AST), and alanine amino transferase (ALT) for both groups. While no significant differences were noted in the WBC counts of the two groups, the study did find that platelet counts were notably decreased in the oil spill exposed group. Also, BUN and creatinine levels were substantially lower in the exposed group, while hemoglobin and hematocrit levels were increased compared to the unexposed subjects. Furthermore, considered indicators of hepatic damage, the serum ALP, AST, and ALT levels in the exposed subjects were also elevated, suggesting that the exposed group may be at a higher risk for developing blood-related disorders. "Phosphatases, amino transferases, and dehydrogenases play critical roles in biological processes. These enzymes are involved in detoxification, metabolism, and biosynthesis of energetic macromolecules that are important for different essential functions," says lead investigator G. Kesava Reddy. "Alterations in the levels of these enzymes result in biochemical impairment and lesions in the tissue and cellular function." Participants also reported somatic symptoms, with headache reported most frequently, followed by shortness of breath, skin rash, cough, dizzy spells, fatigue, painful joints, night sweats, and chest pain. "The health complaints reported by those involved in oil cleanup operations are consistent with the previously reported studies on major oil spills. However, the prevalence of symptoms appears to be higher in the present study compared with the earlier findings of other investigators," added Dr. Reddy. The investigators acknowledge that the lack of pre-disaster health data on the subjects involved in the study is the greatest limiting factor; however, the data collected have shown significant health effects on the cleanup workers. "To our knowledge, no previous study has explored the effects of the oil spill specifically assessing the hematological and hepatic functions in oil spill cleanup workers," explains Dr. Reddy. "The results of this study indicate that oil spill exposure appears to play a role in the development of hematologic and hepatic toxicity. However, additional long-term follow-up studies are required to understand the clinical significance of the oil spill exposure."



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Related Stories

- [The American Journal of Medicine - Health Consequences among Gulf Oil Spill Clean-up Subjects](#)
- [BP Oil Spill Cleanup Workers are at Higher Risk of Sickness, Cancer](#)

<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2013/09/130917090305.htm>

USA, N.J, METUCHEN, SEPTEMBER 18 2013. TANKER SPILLS 800 GALLONS OF GASOLINE IN METUCHEN

A tanker truck sent 800 gallons of gasoline spilling down a borough street, as well as into sewers and a waterway Sept. 10. The truck was in the process of delivering fuel to the Citgo gas station, 209 Central Ave., at 9:48 p.m., when a valve on the vehicle malfunctioned and the fuel began to flow, according to Metuchen police Sgt. David Liantonio. A passerby reported the spill, and police responded along with the Metuchen Fire Department and the Middlesex County Hazardous Materials Unit. Firefighters sprayed foam on the gas to contain the spill and its fumes, and to keep it from igniting. Central Avenue was closed between Durham and Plainfield avenues for the remainder of the night and into the morning hours, Liantonio said. Between 15 and 20 homes along Central Avenue were evacuated for about two hours following the spill in order to protect inhabitants from fume inhalation, he added. The flowing gas made its way into a small creek that feeds into the Dismal Swamp. Sayreville resident Bhupinder Singh, who was driving the truck and is owner of Accurate Bulk Carriers, Sayreville, will be held responsible for the ongoing cleanup, according to Liantonio. Upon arrival, county hazmat officials observed a piece of wood that they said may have been used to hold open the valve. "They think it potentially interfered with the shutoff mechanism," Liantonio said, adding that police believe the fuel spilled unchecked for two to three minutes before Singh activated the manual shutoff. Along with hazmat personnel, New Jersey State Police are working with local officials to determine whether charges should be filed against Singh, Liantonio said. He noted that state police have specialized training in evaluating such vehicles and whether they are compliant with laws regulating them. Singh's truck was impounded following the spill. According to Robert Spiegel, executive director of the Edison Wetlands Association (EWA), gasoline spills can cause devastating problems for wildlife in and around waterways. "It's very toxic," he said. "It's unfortunate that more precautions aren't taken to protect the stormwater drains that go into the swamp." The EWA had yet to determine the extent of any damage caused by the spill, and Spiegel said the plan was for members to visit and evaluate the Dismal Swamp. That would involve checking for visual damage, such as dead wildlife, he said, adding that the area is home to some endangered species. Spiegel said the Middlesex County hazmat unit typically does a good job with cleanups, but if issues remain, the EWA would notify authorities or potentially take legal action.

<http://em.gmnews.com/news/2013-09-18/Front Page/Tanker spills 800 gallons of gasoline in Metuchen.html>

CANADA, MB, SEPTEMBER 18 2013. DRIVER OF FUEL TANKER IN HWY. 83 ACCIDENT DIES

The driver of a fuel tanker that overturned near Melita late this afternoon has died. The 52-year-old man, whose name is not being released, was pronounced dead at the Melita hospital. The single-vehicle accident happened at around 5 p.m. on Highway 83, 15 kilometres south of Melita. Virden RCMP continue to investigate the cause of the collision with the assistance of an RCMP traffic analyst. A diesel leak was detected and efforts are being made to contain it, RCMP said in a news release. The tanker was hauling 15,000 litres of diesel fuel at the time of the collision.

<http://www.winnipegfreepress.com/local/Driver-of-fuel-tanker-in-Hwy-83-accident-dies-224000901.html>

USA, FLA, FORT LAUDERDALE, SEPTEMBER 18 2013. GOOD SAMARITANS COME FACE TO FACE WITH HAZARDOUS MATERIALS



Two bystanders found a man who had committed suicide, but when the Good Samaritans opened the car doors, they were exposed to a cloud from a toxic substance. Fort Lauderdale Police said it was a combination of weed killer and other household chemicals. The car was located in an alley at 916 West Las Olas Boulevard. "It appears he used several different household agents, cleaning supplies and maybe weed killer or items that you use around your house, inside your home to clean," Fort Lauderdale Police Detective DeAnna Greenlaw said. "He then combined those items and created a deadly chemical agent." The two victims were taken to the Broward Health Medical Center as a precaution. "We have two individuals, that we're calling Good Samaritans, [who] observed the



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vehicle," Greenlaw said. "They may have attempted to open the vehicle door to render aid to this individual. Those individuals were transported to Broward Health as a precautionary measure, just to make sure that they were not introduced to the same chemical." T.J. Mujadid was outside while police were clearing out the area and was turned away. "I just came outside, the cops were over there, and they just told me to go outside," Mujadid said. The incident was so dangerous, police told many other people to stay indoors and closed off several blocks. The condition of the two Samaritans is unknown. A firefighter was also taken to the hospital, overcome by the heat. Police have not released the name of the man who took his life, but a note was sent to 7News after the suicide. Investigators are focusing on the letter addressed to a relative or friend, which states, "So I guess this is it. If you are reading this, then I am already gone. This email is on a timed delay to be sent after I am gone." The letter went on to say, "I guess if you wanted to stop me, you would have told someone. You knew the method I was using, Hydrogen Sulfide, and even the date." The note also references his arrest for voyeurism at the Mai-Kai restaurant in Fort Lauderdale. "My life ended on March 8 that day in the parking lot of Mai Kai." "The notes are absolutely part of the investigation," Greenlaw said. "They will be reviewed by investigators, and they will determine the credibility of the notes." The name of the person left on the note is not being released as investigators contact family members.

<http://www.wsvn.com/news/articles/local/21011559224986/good-samaritans-come-face-to-face-with-hazardous-materials/>

USA, AZ, PHOENIX, SEPTEMBER 18 2013. CHEMICAL SPILL AT RECYCLING FACILITY SICKENS NEARLY 20

catherine holland

 **Watch the Video's:**

- [Chemical Spill at Recycling Facility Sickens Nearly 20](#)
- [19 Phoenix Landfill Workers Treated for Possible Chemical Exposure](#)



Emergency crews have evacuated a Phoenix recycling facility after nearly 20 people got sick there Tuesday morning. Emergency responders set up a triage area in the parking lot of the Phoenix North Transfer Station and Materials Recovery Facility near Dixileta Drive and 27th Avenue, just east of Interstate 17. More than 20 emergency units were called to the scene. According to Larry Nuñez of the Phoenix Fire Department, there was an unknown chemical spill. Hazardous-materials crews were on the scene and are trying to determine exactly what is leaking. Nuñez told 3TV that they were dealing with an airborne hazard. Capt. Troy Caskey of the Phoenix Fire Department said 19 people were treated on the scene. Their symptoms include scratchy throats, burning noses

and vomiting. "It came in to us as an 'unknown odor,'" Caskey told 3TV's Ryan O'Donnell. "We're not sure exactly what it was or if it's even related to what's been going on with these people" Workers were evacuated after a reported chemical spill and then allowed back inside after the facility was deemed safe. After four workers became ill, employees were evacuated a second time. Fifteen more people then developed symptoms. Aerial video from Chopper 3 showed paramedics working with several patients. "At this time, no one is seriously injured or ill," Caskey said, explaining that all of the patients refused transport to the hospital for further evaluation. Nunez said it's not clear how widespread the spill was. "Any time you have a hazardous-material type call, we're going to suspect the worst," Caskey said. "We're going to plan for the worst." Haz-mat teams went through the facility to try to pinpoint the source of the reported odor. "At this point, nothing has been found," Caskey said. He said the slight breeze in the area might have cleared out any noxious fumes. "That always helps," he said. "It also is a concern, though. If there is some sort of a hazardous material, that could contaminate people downwind." Caskey said an industrial hygienist and a safety team with the plant will go through the facility before anyone is allowed back inside. While all of this was happening on the north side of the site, the south side, where waste and recyclables are dropped off, remained operational. The Phoenix North Transfer Station and Materials Recovery Facility is where waste and recyclables are separated. The 450-acre site handles about 4,000 tons of waste and recyclables every day

<http://www.azfamily.com/news/Chemical-leak-at-recycling-facility-sickens-nearly-20-224082761.html>

USA, AZ, PHOENIX, SEPTEMBER 18 2013. ADEQ FAILING ON UNDERGROUND TANKS

Are taxpayers being stuck with millions of dollars in costs because Arizona environmental officials aren't doing their job? Though it's not as simple as that, it certainly appears the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality has failed in its assigned task of requiring that all owners of underground gasoline storage tanks maintain evidence of financial responsibility



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for spills. A state Auditor General's report said that up to one-third of all underground storage tank sites do not have such financial responsibility evidence on file with the state, according to an article written by Capitol Media Services. That means taxpayers could be on the hook for cleanup costs at these sites, should they be abandoned. Many are. That's why ADEQ has spent \$335 million to clean up more than 2,600 sites. Granted, many of the abandoned sites are decades old. That's why motorists pay a penny per gallon tax toward the cleanup. Owners have skipped, or the chain of ownership muddies the issue of who is responsible. But unaddressed in the report is what happens going forward. Underground storage tanks are still needed. New ones must replace old ones. Leaks are a big issue for a state so reliant upon ground water. Reliable estimates say a gallon of gasoline can contaminate a million gallons of groundwater. So shouldn't ADEQ grow some teeth? Shouldn't it use a hammer on owners of sites that have been permitted in, say, the last 10 years? It has the power to yank permits for those failing to post evidence of financial responsibility. Mines have to post bonds or deposits to assure reclamation. The same goes for landfills. It's a concept that should apply to any business in a position to contaminate the state's natural resources. ADEQ Director Henry Darwin acknowledged to Capitol Media Services that there is a problem with the financial responsibility filings. He said a staffer has been assigned to work to bring about compliance. A staffer. That's disappointing. ADEQ has an obligation to remediate damage from old tanks and also to assure that taxpayer exposure is limited in the future. That doesn't appear to be happening, leaving taxpayers the bill for millions of dollars.

http://www.nogalesinternational.com/opinion/guest_opinion/adeq-failing-on-underground-tanks/article_0100aa74-1fb3-11e3-8ee0-001a4bcf887a.html

USA, WASHINGTON D.C, SEPTEMBER 18 2013. MULTI-AGENCY CHEMICAL ADVISORY ON AMMONIUM NITRATE ASSERTS EPA JURISDICTION UNDER THE CLEAN AIR ACT'S GENERAL DUTY CLAUSE

russell n. fraker

On August 30, 2013, the Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA"), the Occupational Safety and Health Administration ("OSHA") and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives ("ATF") (collectively, the "Agencies") issued a chemical advisory (the "Advisory") that provides information on the hazards of ammonium nitrate storage, handling and management, and catalogs provisions of various statutes and regulations that may apply to activities involving ammonium nitrate. The Advisory follows President Obama's August 1, 2013, Executive Order: Improving Chemical Facility Safety and Security, issued in response to the tragic West Fertilizer Company ammonium nitrate explosion that occurred in West, Texas on April 17, 2013. The Advisory summarizes the Agencies' conclusions on lessons learned from past ammonium nitrate accidents, hazard information, hazard reduction, community emergency planning, and emergency response measures. These conclusions are drawn from a wide range of legal authorities and non-binding sources. The regulatory authorities cited as "applicable to the manufacture of or processes involving ammonium nitrate" are:

- the Clean Air Act, Section 112(r) (i.e., the so-called "CAA General Duty Clause" (Section 112(r)(1)), EPA's Risk Management Program, and OSHA's Process Safety Management Standard;
- the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (administered by EPA);
- the OSHA Explosives and Blasting Agents Standards;
- the OSHA Hazard Communication Standard;
- the Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards (administered by the Department of Homeland Security, "DHS");
- the Department of Transportation ("DOT") Hazardous Materials Regulations; and
- the ATF Explosives Regulations.

The Advisory additionally provides what is, in effect, an ammonium nitrate research outline listing a total of 28 different design, construction and operational codes, standards and general references, including a series of guidance documents issued by the European Fertilizer Manufacturers Association. While noting that the "codes and standards are not binding," the Advisory indicates that they "may be adopted by reference into laws or regulations" and that "[u]sers of the codes and standards should consult applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations." The long list of codes, standards and references creates ambiguity for facilities that handle ammonium nitrate, particularly related to how they should interpret their legal obligations and the weight they should place on the varied domestic and international standards. Moreover, the many laws and regulations cited in the Advisory are administered by a total of five different federal agencies (i.e., EPA, OSHA, DHS, DOT, and ATF), in addition to any state, local and tribal agencies whose authority may be invoked in particular cases, creating a significant potential for confusion. Among the various regulatory authorities cited, EPA's role under the Clean Air Act may present the greatest potential for expansion of existing oversight and legal obligations. While the authorities of OSHA, DHS, DOT and ATF



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to regulate the management of ammonium nitrate are relatively well-defined, EPA's General Duty Clause authority under Section 112(r)(1) of the Clean Air Act is much less clear, and the agency has only recently begun to exercise this authority through enforcement activity. The CAA General Duty Clause applies to a broad category of chemicals, both listed substances under Clean Air Act regulations and "extremely hazardous substances," a term that is not specifically defined. Interestingly, while ammonium nitrate is not a listed substance under Clean Air Act regulations, the Agencies assert in the Advisory that it "may be considered extremely hazardous under certain circumstances." This suggests that EPA would consider ammonium nitrate to be regulated by the CAA General Duty Clause in some circumstances but not in others. The CAA General Duty Clause requires those who produce, process, handle or store such substances, to the same extent as required under the OSHA general duty clause, "to identify hazards which may result from such releases using appropriate hazard assessment techniques, to design and maintain a safe facility taking such steps as are necessary to prevent releases, and to minimize the consequences of accidental releases which do occur." 42 U.S.C. § 7412(r)(1). The OSHA qualifier in the CAA General Duty Clause is very important to evaluate in determining Clean Air Act applicability, as the separate OSHA general duty clause has been interpreted by both the courts and the Occupational Health and Safety Review Commission to apply only in limited circumstances, most importantly, in those circumstances where an employer has the ability to foresee a hazard and it is feasible to reduce or eliminate the hazard. See, i.e., *Fabi Constr. Co. v. Sec. of Labor*, 508 F.3d 1077 (D.C. Cir. 2007). Consequently, following the West Fertilizer incident, the publication of the Advisory may be viewed by the Agencies under the Clean Air Act as a notice to the regulated community that specific types of accidents are foreseeable when managing ammonium nitrate, and that many rules, codes and standards, both domestic and foreign, identify methods and design parameters which can reduce or eliminate those hazards. Should there be future ammonium nitrate incidents, it would not be surprising to see EPA seeking to enforce allegations of CAA General Duty Clause violations, using the Advisory as evidence both that certain types of accidents were foreseeable and that risk reduction techniques described in the many cited rules, codes and standards were feasible.

<http://www.natlawreview.com/article/multi-agency-chemical-advisory-ammonium-nitrate-asserts-epa-jurisdiction-under-clean>

USA, MI, NAPOLEON TWP, SEPTEMBER 18 2013. DRILLING MIGHT BE REQUIRED TO TREAT CONTAMINATED GROUNDWATER FROM 1989 GAS SPILL.

lisa satayut



This former Amoco terminal, located in Napoleon Township, spilled about 60,000 gallons of gasoline in 1989. At the time of the spill, Amoco, which was acquired by BP in 1998, worked with state environmental officials to clean up and remedy the damage. BP sold the terminal in 2011 to Buckeye, L.P.

The water table in Napoleon Township didn't behave the way officials had hoped during a pilot test to treat groundwater contaminated from a 1989 gasoline spill. As a result, additional testing will most likely be required. "If they (BP) do additional testing, it may include drilling a well into bedrock and conducting a pump test from there," Napoleon Township Supervisor Dan Wymer said, adding that BP has not made any final decisions yet. Wymer said BP is still analyzing the data from the initial pilot test conducted in July but BP crews were not able to pump as much water as they initially thought they could from the wells. The initial

test was conducted by extracting groundwater from a well. It was then sent to the Leoni Township Wastewater Treatment Plant through a sewer line (Clark Lake Interceptor) to treat MTBE in the groundwater from a former Amoco terminal located in the township. MTBE (methyl-tert-butyl) is a fuel additive in gasoline that raises the oxygen content. According to Divinia Ries, a toxicology specialist with the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality, the harmful effects of MTBE are mostly based on animal studies where, in high levels, it affected the nervous system. A few days after the pilot test started in July, it was clear the water couldn't be pumped from the well at the rate officials had hoped. If the issue is rectified by drilling deeper into the ground, BP could enter into a five-year agreement to treat it. Currently, the MTBE groundwater is not treated. Wastewater Treatment Plant Manager John Zang said the plant is treating the MTBE through the plant's regular treatment process, which involves micro-organisms consuming and digesting the MTBE. At the time of the spill, Amoco, which was acquired by BP in 1998, worked with state environmental officials to clean up and remedy the damage. The company provided bottled water to residents desiring it, capped some residential wells and continued monitoring for any long-term pollution. "The terminal didn't



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even belong to them (BP) when the spill occurred, they acquired it afterwards and it doesn't belong to them now, Wymer said. "But, they retained responsibility for managing the effects, which is kind of unusual," he said. BP sold the terminal in 2011 to Buckeye, L.P. According to BP spokesman and pilot test project manager Richard Kilcoyne, BP still owns and operates the fuel pipeline adjacent to the terminal.

Related Stories

- [This isn't the first time the oil company has remedied the spill, which still has the potential to contaminate water wells in a specified area.](#)
- [After 24 years, BP Pipeline is back in Napoleon Township in an attempt to remedy the oil spill from a former Amoco terminal located in the township.](#)
- [BP crews were not able to pump as much water as they initially thought they could from the wells.](#)
- [The initial test was conducted by extracting groundwater from a well](#)

http://www.mlive.com/news/jackson/index.ssf/2013/09/drilling_might_be_required_to.html

CANADA, ONT, NORTH BAY, SEPTEMBER 18 2013. TRAIN DERAILMENT IN NORTHERN ONTARIO

Eleven train cars derailed in northern Ontario Monday morning, including one carrying a load of methanol and three empty residue tank cars that were previously used to transport sulphuric acid. The crash occurred about 60 km south of North Bay near South River. The Canadian National Railway said there were no injuries and none of the cars leaked. The car carrying methanol remained upright, the company said. The other seven cars were carrying general merchandise and consumer goods. A company spokeswoman said the cause of the derailment hasn't been determined. The issue of rail safety made international headlines in July when a crude-carrying runaway train derailed and exploded in Lac-Mégantic, Que., killing 47 people and incinerating a large chunk of the town's core.

<http://www.torontosun.com/2013/09/17/train-derailment-in-northern-ontario>

NIGER, NIAMEY, SEPTEMBER 18 2013. CHINA FINDS RESISTANCE TO OIL DEALS IN AFRICA

adam nossiter



In Niger, government officials have fought a Chinese oil giant step by step, painfully undoing parts of a contract they call ruinous. In neighboring Chad, they have been even more forceful, shutting down the Chinese and accusing them of gross environmental negligence. In Gabon, they have seized major oil tracts from China, handing them over to the state company. China wants Africa's oil as much as ever. But instead of accepting the old terms, which many African officials call unconditional surrender, some cash-starved African states are pushing back, showing an assertiveness unthinkable until recently and suggesting that the days of unbridled influence by the African continent's mega-investor may be waning. For years, China has found eager partners across the continent, where governments of every ilk have welcomed the nation's deep pockets and hands-off approach to local politics as an alternative to the West. Now China's major state oil companies are being challenged by African governments that have learned decades of hard lessons about heedless resource-grabs by outsiders and are looking anew at the deals they or their predecessors have signed. Where the Chinese companies are seen as gouging, polluting or hogging valuable tracts, African officials have started resisting, often at the risk of angering one of their most important trading partners. "This is all we've got," said Niger's oil minister, Foumakoye Gado. "If our natural resources are given away, we'll never get out of this." Below Mr. Gado's seventh-

floor office, reached through a dark stairwell because there is no working elevator, his fellow citizens are living in mud-brick houses without electricity and washing their clothes in the river. Oil production in Niger began nearly two years ago but has yet to make a dent in living standards. "We've got to fight to get full value for these resources," Mr. Gado said. "If they are valued correctly, we can hope to bring something to our people." Seven hundred miles away in the oil-producing region, Chinese refinery workers and engineers massed boisterously at a crumbling and otherwise unused airport for their quarterly holiday flights out, one of the many costs that Mr. Gado said Niger, at the bottom of the United Nations [human development index](#), could not afford. A private auditor hired by Niger recently found bloated costs and unfair charges by the China National



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Petroleum Corporation, providing Niger with ammunition for its next round of tense negotiations in Beijing, Mr. Gado suggested. Tens of millions of dollars have already been scored off the Chinese through such painstaking revisions. Across the border [in Chad](#), officials have taken a harder line with China National Petroleum, reflecting a growing confidence after 10 years of oil production that has brought the country new roads and public buildings, a revamped army, and a strengthening of the government's grip on power, though little change in the country's low poverty ranking. The country's oil minister shut down the Chinese operations in mid-August after discovering that they were dumping excess crude oil in ditches south of the capital, N'Djamena, then making Chadian workers remove it with no protection. "Just dumped in the open," said Antoine Doudjidingao, an economist who helps lead an oil watchdog group in N'Djamena. "This is a serious case, the first of its kind. You can't just shut your eyes in the face of it. It's a responsible reaction." Last month Chad's oil minister refused to allow the Chinese to resume operations, even expelling the company's local director-general and his assistant. There would be no resumption, the government said, until the Chinese built remediation and treatment facilities. "Regardless of the actual spillage, which the Chadian government would normally not care much about, this seems to be a warning, which just goes to show that even the prototypical weak state in Africa can have serious leverage, and that African-Chinese relations are not as unbalanced as is sometimes argued," said Ricardo Soares de Oliveira, a politics professor at Oxford and an expert on African oil. In Gabon, the government has surprised the oil industry by withdrawing a permit for a significant oil field from a subsidiary of another Chinese state-owned company, Sinopec, turning it over to a newly created national oil company. Officials were quoted last month as threatening to cancel permits to other fields as well, accusing the Chinese of environmental missteps, as in Chad, and mismanagement. Some analysts said Gabon's motive was merely to reap more of the rewards from these fields. "The Chinese are genuinely unprepared for this degree of pushback," Mr. Soares de Oliveira said. China's Foreign Ministry rejected the notion that its role had been anything but fruitful. In Niger, it said, it has improved the economy, has hired local residents and is building schools, digging wells and carrying out other "public welfare activities." In Chad, it said, it has urged companies to protect the environment and will seek to resolve the dispute through "friendly negotiation." In Gabon, as elsewhere, it said, it supports cooperation "on the basis of equality, amity and mutual benefit." Few nations in the world are as weak as Niger, where nearly half of the government budget comes from foreign donors. But the nation long had unfulfilled oil dreams that were largely ignored by major companies. In 2008, two partners came together secretly — the country's autocratic ruler, Mamadou Tandja, and China National Petroleum — and signed an unpublicized deal that seemed to give both parties what they wanted. But far less clear, then and now, was whether Niger — one of the world's most impoverished countries, regularly threatened by famine — would substantially benefit from the deal. Mr. Tandja got a costly oil refinery in an area of Niger that he needed to win over with the promise of development, but the need for such a project in this low-energy-consuming nation has been sharply questioned by experts, not to mention the mysterious \$300 million "signing bonus" Mr. Tandja's administration received. In return, the Chinese got access to untapped oil reserves in the remote fields on Chad's border on terms that still make Oil Ministry officials here wince. Beyond that, local residents have protested that the Chinese presence has brought few jobs, low pay and harsh working conditions. Mr. Tandja is long gone, deposed in a 2010 coup by army officers suspicious of his grab for expansive powers, but the contract remains, as does the white-elephant oil refinery. It sits at the border with Nigeria, a nation awash in subsidized oil that crosses into Niger as contraband. The refinery has a capacity that is three times Niger's consumption, and the overall cost should have been only \$784 million, according to a United Nations expert. Niger must still pay 40 percent of the original cost, with money lent to it by the Chinese. "In the context of this fight, we are revisiting these contracts to correct them," said Mr. Gado, the oil minister in the new democratic government led by an opponent of Mr. Tandja. "In the future, we will pay closer attention, to not make the same mistakes." The fight has carried Mr. Gado, a soft-spoken chemist, to Beijing several times to haggle with the Chinese. "I wouldn't say we are at daggers drawn," he said carefully. "But we discuss, sometimes over long months. Every time we discover something, we make an adjustment." Already, the original loan for Niger's portion of the refinery — 10 years, at commercial rates — has been knocked down to a more manageable 25 years at 1 percent, and deferred for seven years. For Niger, the constant struggle with the Chinese is to keep costs down so it can sell its oil cheaply in a region where Nigeria's subsidized oil is king. "We've got to recover what we've invested before the state can hope to gain something," Mr. Gado said. For a time, oil at the refinery was piling up because the high price kept buyers away. The Chinese wanted to charge for piping the crude from the oil fields to the refinery; Niger is refusing. The Chinese wanted to charge export-level prices for the crude oil at the refinery; again, Niger is balking. The Chinese maintain a substantial benefits-freighted payroll at the refinery, another cost Niger is expected to carry; it is rejecting that, too. "This is a lesson we are giving to the Chinese: we are keeping a close lookout on them," said Mahaman Gaya, the Oil Ministry's secretary general. Mr. Gado has not made his last trip to Beijing. Niger's lesson is being applied



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elsewhere as well: African governments, grateful as they are for Chinese-built roads and ministry buildings, are no longer passive partners. "Are we going to continue to ignore what the Chinese companies are doing?" asked Mr. Doudjidingao, the Chadian economist. "I think this is the beginning of a change between African states and the Chinese. It's a consciousness-raising, so they won't be guilty in the face of history."

http://www.nytimes.com/2013/09/18/world/africa/china-finds-resistance-to-oil-deals-in-africa.html?_r=1&

USA, MI, WASHTENAW CO, SEPTEMBER 18 2013. 2 SEMI TRUCKS CRASH, SPILL FUEL AND ACETONE ON I-94 WEST OF ANN ARBOR

kyle feldscher

A crash involving two semi trucks, one of which jackknifed, shut down westbound Interstate 94 near Zeeb Road for a short time Tuesday morning, officials said. Huron Valley Ambulance spokeswoman Joyce Williams said emergency crews were dispatched at 5:57 a.m. Tuesday to westbound I-94 west of Zeeb Road for the crash. She was not sure how the crash took place, but confirmed one of the trucks involved in the crash jackknifed in the process. The trucks spilled diesel fuel all over the freeway - not uncommon in an incident such as this, Williams said - and one of the trucks was leaking an unknown fluid. Washtenaw County Hazardous Materials Team leaders were on scene evaluating the spill, but the entire team was not activated as of 7:45 a.m. Tuesday. Williams said both drivers were taken in stable condition to University of Michigan Hospital following the crash. The freeway was closed for a short time Tuesday morning, but one lane was open in the area as of 7:45 a.m. Tuesday, Williams said. Traffic was slow and drivers are encouraged to avoid the area. The Michigan State Police, Scio Township Fire Department and HVA were among the responding departments to the crash.

http://www.mlive.com/news/ann-arbor/index.ssf/2013/09/2_semi_trucks_crash_spill_fuel.html

KENYA, TESO NORTH, KOTEKO, SEPTEMBER 18 2013. TANKER CRASHES, SPILLS OIL IN TESO MAIZE FARM

reuben olita

Nine family members escaped death after a tanker overturned at Koteke, Teso North on Sunday. The tanker was headed to Kampala, Uganda. The tanker, which belongs to Nana Tracking Company, spilled 13,000 litres of super petrol. The petrol drained into the compound and maize plantation of Simon Omanyala. The driver, Patrick Karanja, was taken to Bungoma District Hospital. Malaba police boss Hassan Ahmed and Amagoro AP boss David Barasa mobilised residents to vacate their homes in case the tanker exploded. A transporter, Charles Ouma, said the 2.30am incident occurred when the driver lost control. Omanyala and other residents were forced to stay in the cold after fleeing their homes with their cattle. He said the petrol has affected his farm and asked for compensation.

<http://www.the-star.co.ke/news/article-136118/tanker-crashes-spills-oil-teso-maize-farm>

ECUADOR, AGUARICO, SEPTEMBER 18 2013. ECUADOR'S CORREA CALLS FOR CHEVRON BOYCOTT

Ecuador President Eduardo Correa.



Ecuadoran President Rafael Correa called Tuesday for a global boycott of Chevron, as part of a campaign to highlight Amazon pollution that Quito has attributed to the US oil giant. Chevron has never worked directly in Ecuador but inherited a pollution lawsuit when it acquired Texaco in 2001, and has yet to pay an associated \$19 billion fine. "This is one of the biggest environmental disasters in the world," Correa said as he launched the campaign in the town of Aguarico, in the north Amazonian province of Sucumbios, where Texaco operated between 1964 and 1990. "The tools that we will use to fight Chevron are the truth and a call for solidarity of citizens of the world to not buy Chevron products," he said. Correa -- a leftist leader often critical of the United

States -- dipped his hand in a pool of oily sludge left in the area and held it up for the cameras. "To save a few dollars, Chevron used the worst mining techniques. There are around a thousand pools like this in our Amazon, and they were never taken care of, just hidden by a layer of earth to deceive the Ecuadorian state," he said. Chevron said in a statement that Correa "has once again decided to interfere in the Chevron case" and accused him of "providing a distorted and inaccurate account of the history of these oil fields and who is responsible for the environmental impact." Chevron maintains that state oil company Petroecuador is responsible for the pollution and cleaning of Aguarico and that the trial was marred by a corrupt judge. Indigenous groups and local farmers sued Texaco for environmental pollution after it left the country in 1990. After years of



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

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litigation, Chevron was ordered in 2012 to pay \$19 billion, but the ruling, which it claimed was fraudulent, has yet to be reviewed by Ecuador's highest court. Ecuador hopes that music and film stars as well as renowned environmental activists will visit the Amazon to support the cause.

<http://www.interaksyon.com/business/70969/ecuadors-correa-calls-for-chevron-boycott>

RUSSIA, BLAGOVESHCHENSK, SEPTEMBER 18 2013. ILLEGAL OIL REFINERY BUSTED IN RUSSIA'S FAR EAST *olga orlova*



Federal Security Service (FSB) agents have discovered an unlicensed oil refining operation in Russia's Far East that had produced an estimated 100 million rubles (\$3 million) in revenues, an FSB spokeswoman told RIA Novosti on Wednesday. The refinery, based in the Amur Region, had been operating for about 18 months, processing up to 32 cubic meters of crude a day and distributing its products across the Far East region, FSB representative Olga Orlova said. Investigators are currently working to establish the sources of crude supplies, she added, without saying exactly when the operation had been discovered. The refinery was being run by a group of individuals from central Siberia's Novosibirsk Region, Orlova said, adding that no criminal charges have yet been pressed.

<http://en.ria.ru/russia/20130918/183551989/Illegal-Oil-Refinery-Busted-in-Russias-Far-East.html>

FRANCE, PARIS, SEPTEMBER 19 2013. TIME TO BID CHEVRON ADIEU



The dust has finally settled, and it is decided that Total Parco is the lucky one to get Chevrans assets in Pakistan. The agreement, which was first signed for regulatory approval in mid August, does not sound surprising anymore as it follows what the French giant did to the Egyptian retail network of the US integrated oil and gas company later in August. Though the deal size is undisclosed, a figure between \$150-200 million should be the ballpark for a deal which is seen to raise around \$300 million for Chevron from both Pakistan and Egypt. Also, a comparison of the retail network of the two countries suggest that a significant amount of the total would be generated from Pakistan; Chevron had around 66 service stations in Egypt, while under the brand name Caltex, the firm has more than 500 retail outlets in Pakistan. Once the Chevron purchase closes, the addition of 538 service stations of Chevron Pakistan Limited would increase Total Parcos share in retail network from 4 percent to 11

percent, a tally close to that of Shell Pakistan (12 percent). Beside the retail network, Chevrans assets open for takeover include also two 12,000 ton storage depots, 12 percent shareholding in Pakistan Refinery Limited, 11 percent stake in cross country oil pipeline, while the lube segment will remain intact. On a province-wise basis, Total Parco is likely to strengthen its retail presence in Sindh including Karachi from 20 to 26 percent which is more in line with its plan to position its retail stations in strategic locations across the country from Khyber Pass to Arabian Sea. And if the strategy of adding 30 new service stations every year until 2020 goes well, two things are clear; one, Total Parco is in for expanding its presence, and two, Total S.A does not have any immediate plans to sell of its downstream business in emerging economies like some of its counterparts. And while some consolidation in the domestic oil marketing sector might help the firms gain more market share, the coming though of the deal is bound to lead to some major FDI outflows from the country. Any guesses how much?

Related Stories

- [Total to buy Chevron petrol stations in Pakistan](#)
- [France's Total snaps up Chevron's Pakistan retail network](#)
- [Total to Buy Out Chevron in Pakistan](#)
- [Total SA and Parco to buy Chevron's retail distribution arm in Pakistan](#)
- [Total snaps up Chevron's Pak retail network](#)

<http://www.brecorder.com/br-research/44:miscellaneous/3693:time-to-bid-chevron-adieu/>



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