



Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network Release 2013 – 1,019 Newsy Stuff

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November 20 2013



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CANADA, QUE, LAC-MEGANTIC, NOVEMBER 7 2013. WATER NEAR LAC-MÉGANTIC TAINTED, GROUPS WARN >> SVP AND GREENPEACE TESTS SHOW SIGNIFICANT AMOUNTS OF CRUDE OIL AND A "SOUP" OF CONTAMINANTS, EXPERT SAYS

monique beaudin



Oily river water accumulates on a rock in the town of Lac-Mégantic in July. Environmental groups are concerned that contaminants remain in the water months after the deadly train explosion.

Parts of the Chaudière River remain contaminated despite weeks of cleanup operations and the removal of nearly 43 million litres of oily water from the river. But Quebec Environment Minister Yves-François Blanchet said there is no threat to people living in Lac-Mégantic or along the river. Drinking water supplies are safe and there is little danger posed to flora and fauna, he said. More than 40 kilometres of river shoreline have been cleaned so far in areas of medium to high contamination, Blanchet said in a statement issued late Wednesday. While the results are "encouraging" and show a significant decrease in contamination, some areas are still contaminated, he said. The

statement detailing work his department has done on the river came a day after two Quebec environmental groups revealed they had found high levels of carcinogenic pollutants in sediment samples taken from the Chaudière a month ago. Blanchet said those results, made public by Greenpeace Quebec and the Société pour Vaincre la Pollution (SVP), confirm testing done by his department. He said his department has collected more than 600 samples from the river and lake. The groups collected sediment samples from the lake and river on Oct. 2 and 3, two weeks after Quebec lifted drinking-water bans for communities that take their water from the river, downstream from the accident site. They say pollutant levels were as much as 27 times higher than accepted levels in samples taken from the river at a site 4.7 kilometres downstream from the lake. "Our findings show clearly that the contamination episode of the Lac-Mégantic spill is not over," SVP's Daniel Green said. "There is still a lot of oil on the bottom of the Chaudière River." The train that derailed in Lac-Mégantic July 6 was carrying more than 7 million litres of crude oil, most of which spilled or was burned in the ensuing fire that killed 47 people. Blanchet said the site where the groups collected the sediment sample is known to have been highly contaminated, and has been cleaned three times, most recently between Oct. 28 and Nov. 1. That means the samples taken by the environment groups aren't representative of the current situation, he said. But a decontamination expert said the tests done by SVP and Greenpeace show significant amounts of crude oil and a "soup" of contaminants in the river in areas where the current is low. The fact that they are present four months after the accident means they could have an impact on the river's ecosystem, said Rosa Galvez-Cloutier, chair of Université Laval's civil and water engineering department. She said the government should do further testing to determine toxicity levels in the river. Environment Canada also collected samples after the derailment, but a spokesperson said Wednesday the results "will only be released when appropriate, as investigations are ongoing and all samples collected may become subject to future legal proceedings." Green said he's concerned about further contamination in the spring, when ice on the river breaks up and there is spring flooding. That could stir up oil from the riverbed, posing risks to drinking water and agricultural lands along the river, he said. Blanchet said the environment department will monitor the situation, but the risk of flooding contaminating fields along the river is very low. While the tests showed heavy contamination in the river, Green said he couldn't say what the state of the lake is because the groups were only able to take one sediment sample there. An estimated 5.9 million litres of oil spilled or burned in the July 6 derailment. Quebec's environment department recently revealed that nearly 400,000 more litres of oil spilled than had been previously thought. The department estimates 100,000 litres of oil entered the river, but Greenpeace's Patrick Bonin questioned that figure, given the contamination the group's tests showed and the fact they saw and smelled oil while taking their samples. The environmental groups called on Quebec to make public information it has on what contaminants are in the river, where they are, what decontamination work was done, and what is planned for the fall and winter, Bonin said. "There are a lot of unanswered questions," Bonin said. Blanchet said work on the river will go on as long as possible as long as the weather cooperates and it is safe for the workers.

Related Stories [Full coverage of the Lac-Mégantic disaster](#)

<http://www.montrealgazette.com/news/Sediment+water+near+M%C3%A9gantic+heavily+contaminated+groups/9132781/story.html>



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USA, CT, CHESTER, NOVEMBER 7 2013. OIL SPILL REPORTED AT CHESTER RESTAURANT



Officials from the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection are at the scene of a large oil spill at a Chester restaurant, according to a spokesman. The spill occurred Wednesday afternoon at Brushmill By The Waterfall, at 129 West Main St., said DEEP spokesman Dwayne Gardner. It is unknown how the oil spill started, but DEEP officials believe that more than 100 gallons was released, Gardner said. An environmental contractor also responded to assist with the clean up.

<http://www.courant.com/community/chester/hc-chester-oil-spill-1107-20131106,0,2615627.story>

USA, ARK, MAYFLOWER, NOVEMBER 7 2013. EXXONMOBIL CITED FOR 9 VIOLATIONS ADDING UP TO \$2.6M IN DAMAGES

 **Watch the Video** [Exxonmobil Cited For 9 Violations Adding Up to \\$2.6M in Damages](#)

 **Photo's [4]** [Mayflower Oil Spill Before-and-After](#)

 **Photo's [4]** [Photos of Ruptured Pipeline](#)

 **Document** [Read the Letter & Citations](#)

 **Document** [ExxonMobil Responds to Citations](#)



ExxonMobil is officially facing civil penalties now. The company is cited for nine violations, adding up to \$2.6 million in damages after a pipeline ruptured in Mayflower earlier in the year. [A letter from the U.S. Dept. of Transportation](#), dated November 6, 2013, states that the violations mostly concern management and operation of the Pegasus Pipeline, which ruptured and sent gallons of oil into a residential neighborhood. Senator Mark Pryor released a statement on the lawsuit Wednesday: "ExxonMobil has caused undue harm to Arkansas families, and they must be held accountable. I commend the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration for issuing this penalty. The fight's not over, but this is a positive step forward as we work to make the Mayflower community whole again." Congressman Tim Griffin is also speaking out. He said, "I'm committed to holding them accountable. When it comes to protecting

our communities, our environment and our drinking water, meeting the minimum requirements of the law should be a given, and going the extra mile to ensure pipeline safety is the right thing to do." The ExxonMobil trial is set for January 2015.

Related Stories

- [Federal Agency finds Probable Violations by Exxonmobilin Mayflower Pipeline Break](#)
- [\\$2.6 Million in Penalties Proposed against Exxon for Oil Spill](#)

<http://www.thv11.com/news/article/286171/2/ExxonMobil-cited-for-9-violations-adding-up-to-26M-in-damages>

USA, TX, DALLAS, NOVEMBER 7 2013. WORRIED ABOUT ANOTHER WEST EXPLOSION? NOW YOU CAN SEARCH WEBSITE FOR TEXAS CHEMICAL STOCKPILES

norman merchant

 **On The Web** [Ammonium Nitrate Database](#)

The State Fire Marshal's Office has launched a website to let Texans search for facilities near them that store large amounts of ammonium nitrate, the chemical that ignited in an April fertilizer plant explosion that killed 15 people in West. The search tool posted this week lets users search by ZIP code to find storage facilities with more than 10,000 pounds, or 5 tons, of



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ammonium nitrate, a chemical commonly used as a fertilizer and as an industrial explosive. Investigators believe between 28 and 34 tons of ammonium nitrate exploded April 17 inside West Fertilizer Co., causing a blast that registered as a small earthquake and destroyed a nearby apartment building, schools and homes. The tool doesn't offer details on each facility, which officials said was necessary for security. Nor does it let users see all of the facilities in a list or on a map. Ammonium nitrate was the explosive used in the 1995 Oklahoma City bombing. The tool is part of a larger effort made by State Fire Marshal Chris Connealy and his staff to understand the potential dangers in Texas of stored ammonium nitrate. Connealy said his staff combed through four federal and state databases for possible storage sites, eliminating redundancies and incorrect entries. Inspectors then visited sites to confirm they were storing ammonium nitrate and to collect details, he said. Inspectors found some facilities that keep the explosive fertilizer in wooden bins or in storage areas that aren't fully secure, just like West Fertilizer, Connealy said. The search tool doesn't say what those facilities are. But the Fire Marshal's Office says it will start in December to hold meetings with local officials responsible for each facility to warn them of possible dangers, Connealy said. Texas doesn't have a state fire code, and Connealy's office is limited in its ability to mandate changes to how fertilizer is stored. "This is primarily a local jurisdiction issue, but as the state we want to provide what resources we can, again, to prevent another incident like West," Connealy said. West Fertilizer's parent company was recently fined \$118,000 by the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration for two dozen serious safety violations, including unsafe handling of ammonium nitrate.

 **Related Stories** Ammonium Nitrate Database is on the Web at: <https://apps.tdi.state.tx.us/ammoniumnitrate/StartAction.do>
<http://www.statesman.com/news/news/state-regional-govt-politics/worried-about-another-west-explosion-now-you-can-s/nbj9Y/>

USA, FLA, JACKSONVILLE, NOVEMBER 8 2013. TOXIC SITE CLEAN UP AT BETHUNE COOKMAN ELEMENTARY

 **Watch the Video** [Toxic Site Clean Up at Bethune Cookman Elementary](#)

Mary McLeod Bethune Elementary was a stronghold in Jacksonville's black community but for the past 12 years it has sat empty, falling apart, and sitting on a toxic site. Finally it is being transformed. "I can say it," said Rhonda Addo. "At last it has been a long time coming." Three weeks ago the dump trucks and other heavy equipment rolled onto the campus of the aging school to begin removing the toxic soil. "The city has made good on the remediation they're cleaning up the land," said Addo. Like several other locations on the Northwest quadrant of Jacksonville, the Bethune site was a dumping ground for contaminated incinerator ash from the 40s to the 60s. The clean up is simple the crews are excavating and replacing two feet of dirt from affected areas. December 7, 2012 the Duval County School Board sold the school to Dr. Rhonda Addo and her congregation Mt. Sinai Holiness Church. The purchased price was \$1,600. Addo said she looked at a structure in disrepair and saw a vision of a bright spot in the community. "It will be a clinic, a school of the arts, a radio television studio, a cafe, a church," said Addo. "This is gonna be your place in the community." They have started the restoration on the inside, it needs a lot of work. "People came in and they stole everything possible while it was vacant," she said. But that work is small when compared to the toxic site clean up. The city said the clean up will be completed by the middle of December. "I'm not gonna let December pass this year without glorifying our savior and lighting up this property," said Pastor Addo. She said her next step is raising the money, a couple of millions, to completed the restoration. "I think it would be sign of hope to the community," said Addo.

<http://www.firstcoastnews.com/topstories/article/334274/483/Toxic-site-clean-up-at-Bethune-Cookman-Elementary>

USA, MA, FRAMINGHAM, NOVEMBER 8 2013. GENERAL CHEMICAL CLEANUP TO BE DISCUSSED IN FRAMINGHAM

danielle ameden

The public is expected to receive an update on the General Chemical contamination during a meeting next week at Woodrow Wilson School, next door to the defunct plant. The meeting is the second called for by a Public Involvement Plan after residents who fought to close the hazardous waste handling facility petitioned to stay involved to see through the cleanup of a toxic plume the Leland Street company left behind. Anne Sullivan, a member of the Framingham Action Coalition for Environmental Safety, said she hopes neighborhood residents attend Wednesday's meeting at 7 p.m. in the Wilson School cafeteria. "The people in the community only have this opportunity to be educated about the groundwater and about the soil and about what this plume is – what happened and what is still there and what will be done about it," Sullivan said. There will be translators for the Spanish and Portuguese-speaking attendees. She said she also hopes parents will be able to attend, even though General Chemical may not pay to provide child care during the two-hour-long session. General Chemical closed its highly scrutinized operation in 2012. It announced its decision as the Board of Health was in the midst of examining the



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firm's operation in light of public health concerns and past waste handling violations. Even closed, the company remains responsible for cleaning up the plume that has encroached on the neighborhood. State Department of Environmental Protection spokesman Joe Ferson said the meeting will give the public a chance to hear about the proposed scope of work and comprehensive site assessment. The results of soil and groundwater testing will be among the topics, he said. Sullivan said FACES continues to represent the local community and environmental justice community of residents who are predominantly minorities or poor. She said the group is concerned about information in a highly technical letter from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency about a lack of necessary data. Proper data is necessary, she said, "to determine the most robust and efficient cleanup that will be needed."

Related Stories

- [Framingham residents raise concerns with General Chemical site](#)
- [General Chemical in Framingham to close this week](#)
- [Framingham's General Chemical Corp. can start cleanup](#)
- [Neighbors of General Chemical in Framingham advised to stay indoors during cleanup](#)
- [Did General Chemical in Framingham pollute Sherborn water?](#)
- [Officials maintain safety of Wilson School in Framingham](#)

http://www.metrowestdailynews.com/editorspick_mobile/x915441205/General-Chemical-cleanup-to-be-discussed-in-Framingham?rssfeed=true

USA, PA, MORRISVILLE, NOVEMBER 8 2013. 2 RECEIVE CHEMICAL BURNS IN BUCKS CO. HAZMAT

At least two people were injured Thursday morning, receiving chemical burns as the result of a hazmat situation in Bucks County. The incident happened just before 10:00 a.m. inside the Keystone Industrial Port Complex, located on Ben Fairless Drive in Morrisville. The two victims were transported by paramedics to area hospitals. One patient went to Capital Health and another went to Helen Fuld Medical Center. The condition of the two patients is still unknown, however injuries are not considered life threatening. The nature of the hazmat is not yet clear. Initial reports indicated that the incident happened at the Kinder Morgan Energy Company, located nearby, but that information proved to be incorrect.

<http://abclocal.go.com/wpvi/story?section=news/local&id=9316933>

USA, N,D, MOUNTRAIL CO, NOVEMBER 8 2013. EARLY REPORT REVEALS ELECTRICAL DISCHARGE CAUSE OF PIPELINE LEAK

luke geiver



Groundwater monitoring wells have been installed onsite and are currently tested weekly. The independent lab results are shared regularly with the North Dakota Department of Health.

Less than one month after shutting down a portion of pipeline in Mountrail County that was leaking crude oil into a wheat field, Tesoro Logistics LP has performed several mandatory and voluntary tests, started soil remediation and restarted the 35-mile section of pipeline. According to Tesoro, the company received permission to restart from the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration. The permission was granted based on a review the pipeline leak by PHMSA, and a submitted restart protocol issued by Tesoro and accepted by PHMSA. The damaged portion of pipeline was removed and received by an independent laboratory for analysis. Early reports show a small diameter hole as the main cause of the leak, likely caused by electrical discharge possibly in the

form of lightning. The source of the electrical discharge is still under investigation, but the reports have confirmed that the leak was not caused by corrosion or other defects at the failure location, according to Tesoro. As of October 31, more than 4,500 of the 20,000 barrels released have been recovered, the company said in its most recent update. And, no injuries or known impacts to water or wildlife as a result of the incident have occurred. Below is a list of the steps taken by Tesoro to ensure integrity before restarting the line:

- Performed a hydrotest on the replaced segment.



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- Executed a tightness test holding pressure on the 35-mile section of the line from Tioga, N.D., to Black Slough to verify soundness of the system.
- Conducted investigations at six different locations on the pipeline to address findings from the Sept. 10-11 smart pig inspection of the 35-mile section of the line from Tioga to Black Slough and found no areas of concern.
- Installed additional integrity monitoring equipment and online analysis along the entire 35-mile section designed to detect indications of a potential leak.

<http://thebakken.com/articles/400/early-report-reveals-electrical-discharge-cause-of-pipeline-leak>

CANADA, QUE, LAC-MEGANTIC, NOVEMBER 8 2013. LAC-MEGANTIC: TWO MORE OIL FIRMS ADDED TO CLASS ACTION LAWSUIT >> MARATHON OIL CORP., SLAWSON EXPLORATION COMPANY, INC. ADDED TO GROWING LIST OF RESPONDENTS

dan ilika



An aerial shot shows the aftermath of the derailment, explosions and fire that leveled part of Lac-Mégantic, Que., July 6, 2013.

A pair of oil producers has been added as respondents in a class action lawsuit seeking compensation from the July rail disaster in Lac-Mégantic, Que., that killed an estimated 47 people. According to Toronto law firm Rochon Renova LLP, both Marathon Oil Corp. and Slawson Exploration Company, Inc. have been added to the lawsuit filed in Quebec court on behalf of those affected by the July 6 derailment, explosions and inferno that destroyed the heart of the small town in eastern Quebec. Texas-based Marathon and Slawson Exploration, the oil and gas division of Slawson Companies, join a list of respondents that include

railway operators Montreal, Maine & Atlantic Railway (MMA) and Canadian Pacific Railway (CP), rail car manufacturers General Electric Railcar Corp. (GE), Trinity Industries, Inc. and Union Tank Car Co., and a host of other companies and individuals. Thomas Harding, whom the lawsuit alleges was the train's driver at the time of the incident, is also named in the lawsuit, as is MMA chair Edward Burkhardt. The lawsuit claims Marathon and Slawson were two of the companies that produced the fuel on board the MMA train and "failed to provide adequate warnings about the composition of the shale liquids and the true dangers associated with shipping it by rail." The train, carrying 72 DOT-111 tank cars at the time, was heading to Irving Oil Ltd.'s New Brunswick refinery when the disaster happened. These parties were added "on the basis that they knew or should have been aware through testing that the shale liquids carried a much greater risk of explosion and flammability than typical crude oil," lawyer Daniel E. Larochelle said in a statement. "They should have communicated this increased risk to the purchasers and shippers of the shale liquids." The lawsuit contains allegations not tested in a court of law.

 **Related Stories** [Lac-Mégantic Class Action -- Victims Demand "Big Oil" Take Responsibility](#)

<http://www.canadianmanufacturing.com/general/lac-megantic-two-more-oil-firms-added-to-class-action-lawsuit-123261>

NEW ZEALAND, AUCKLAND, NOVEMBER 8 2013. GULL INCREASES CAPACITY FOR CIVIL DEFENCE EMERGENCIES

- Gull Increases Capacity for Civil Defence Emergencies, Challenges Big Oil to Play Its Part.
- Four more generator capable outlets for Auckland

Gull, New Zealand's only family owned independent fuel retailer today announced it had equipped four of its Auckland service stations to enable these outlets to operate by using a generator if the electricity supply is cut in a Civil Defence Emergency. Dave Bodger, General Manager of Gull, says that if an emergency strikes and power supplies are cut, the greater Auckland region is woefully underserved by the oil industry. "In May, Auckland Civil Defence Emergency Management Group (ACDEMG) and the Auckland Engineering Lifelines Group (AELG) updated the Fuel Contingency Plan for Auckland. We were disappointed with our own preparedness and worried for all of Auckland. "For 1.5 million people in greater Auckland only six service stations had a generator for electricity on site or were capable of operating with a generator. If electricity failed, expecting emergency services, public transport and essential journeys by private car to be supplied by only six outlets was not only ludicrous but a major problem waiting to happen. "Auckland has over 250 service stations. Six would never cope in an emergency, and while ten is an improvement, the region clearly needs more. We have provided for this capability at four Gull sites and now call on our competitors to play their part," says Bodger. Clive Manley, Group Controller and Manager of



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ACDEMG says that Auckland oil outlets have an important role to play when it comes to contingency preparedness. "We have identified 54 Auckland service stations across all major fuel brands as being a 'priority' for ACDEMG critical customers. "As an independent operator, Gull has shown tremendous initiative and commitment to the Auckland region. The challenge now is for the rest of the fuel industry to respond to how it is going to contribute more to Auckland's civil defence readiness," says Manley. Dave Bodger says that it was an easy decision to upgrade the four Gull sites on the ACDMEG list. "We looked at the cost and saw it as important commitment to be part of the Auckland community. So we reprioritised some spending and upgraded these four sites as soon as practical. "The sites closed for around an hour so the upgrade could be made. This was completed in the early morning to minimise disruption to customers." The 54 Priority service stations are appended below and the full Fuel Contingency Plan is available at: www.aucklandcivildefence.org.nz/About-Us/Document-Library/Supporting-Plans/ There are 18 Gull branded outlets in the Greater Auckland area with three more under construction or due to commence construction.

<http://www.scoop.co.nz/stories/BU1311/S00058/gull-increases-capacity-for-civil-defence-emergencies.htm>

USA, LA, OPA-LOCKA. NOVEMBER 8 2013. CHEMICAL EXPLOSION KILLS ONE, INJURES OTHERS >> LARGE INDUSTRIAL STORAGE TANK EXPLODES

 **Watch the Video**

- [Explosion at Opa-Locka Yard Leaves 1 Dead, 5 Injured](#)
- [Chemical Explosion Kills 1 Injures Others](#)
- [1 Person Dead after Explosion in Opa-Locka](#)

 **Photo's [2]** [Explosion Occurs at American Vinyl, 14225 NW 26th Ave, Opa-Locka](#)



Police received a call Thursday afternoon about a chemical spill at the American Vinyl Company, a building located behind the Opa-Locka Police Department.

Police say one person has died after an explosion at a local warehouse.

The explosion occurred at American Vinyl Company at 2410 N.W. 147 St., Thursday afternoon. According to hazmat crews, a storage container in the building that holds 20,000 gallons of liquid unexplainably exploded. The storage container went airborne creating a hole in the roof of the company. "If it over-pressurizes and some sort of reaction occurs, a chemical reaction, within the tank, and there's no outlet for that pressure to be released, it can very easily cause an explosion," Miami-Dade Fire Rescue spokesperson Arnold Piedrahita said. "As you can see, it blew through the roof." One person passed away and five employees were injured. Two of them had trouble breathing and were transported to the hospital. Crews are not sure whether the man died

because of the initial impact of the explosion or if the storage container landed on top of him. The hazmat team found the employees covered in a yellow liquid. Investigators are unsure what the liquid is exactly. "We see chemical spills, that's a common occurrence, but something of this nature where a large chemical tank explodes through the roof of a warehouse, that's not something that we get everyday," Piedrahita said. The area around the building is clean and no one else was injured or transported to the hospital.

<http://www.wsvn.com/news/articles/local/21012155742595/chemical-explosion-kills-one-injures-others/>

USA, CT, CHESTER, NOVEMBER 8 2013. OIL TANK LEAKS 400 GALLONS INTO CHESTER RIVER

bob wilson

 **Watch the Video** [Oil Tank Leaks 400 Gallons into Chester River](#)

There is a big mess Wednesday in the pretty little town of Chester. Nearly 400 gallons of oil leaked into a stream near a restaurant and the battle is on to clean up the mess. They have a lot of equipment on hand. Oil absorbent booms, pads and containers. The bulk of the work is being done with the hoses. They run off the embankment which is a 70 foot drop, and then they have giant vacuum trucks sucking it up and putting it in. Meanwhile, they are saying tonight they will be there until the wee hours of the morning trying to get the brook clean. Pumps roar and bright lights burn over head in the parking lot as DEEP



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crews suck oil from the brook behind the Brush Mill by the waterfall in Chester. Deep investigators say the room hanging over the waterfall contains the furnace and oil tank for the restaurant. They believe a filter at the furnace let loose sending 400 gallons of heating oil into the brook. "That's a lot, a lot of heating oil. It's going to be dangerous to the wells in the area," said Diane Stanley, Chester. Many people thought the same thing. But DEEP wanted to be absolutely clear, while the houses around the brook are on wells, oil can not get into the drinking water. Their biggest problem is that the steep 70 foot embankment is the only way to the spill. "We have to traverse that area, set the vac trucks up in the parking lot, send the hoses down to the water site, and then start recovering the product at that point," said Jeff Chandler, DEEP emergency response. Down the brook, there are layers of booms put in to contain as much of the oil up river as possible. The idea is to stop the contamination from spreading, then clean it up as fast as they can to minimize the environmental damage. DEEP did catch a break as there was already a small dam a hundred yards from the restaurant. "That dam was very helpful to containing the oil prior to our arrival. Some did get by it, but the majority was contained by the dam," said Chandler. Now despite all of the measures there, the vacuum truck and booms, they say they are not going to get all of the oil out of the brook. But they say that's ok because it's very light and will evaporate and what is left behind will be absorbed by the environment.

<http://www.wtnh.com/web/wtnh/news/middlesex-cty/oil-tank-leaks-400-gallons-into-chester-river>

USA, CO, CAÑON CITY, NOVEMBER 8 2013. SPILL AT COTTER MILL LETS LOOSE UP TO 9,000 GALLONS OF TOXIC & URANIUM-CONTAMINATED WATER >> CONTAMINATION RESTRICTED TO COTTER PROPERTY

shelby kinney-lang



As much as 9,000 gallons of uranium-contaminated water from underground pipes spilled onto Cotter property south of Cañon City on Tuesday, according to the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. Officials say no members of the public have so far been exposed to the spill.

Cotter Corporation informed the health department of the leaking pipes on Tuesday in a "verbal report" delivered over the phone. No health department personnel have inspected the spill site, as yet, and no formal report has yet been filed. Cotter said it will let the contaminated ground dry before excavating and repairing the pipe. From the beginning of its operations in 1958, Cotter's uranium mill site near Cañon City has [visited a plague](#) of leaks, spills and

contamination to the area. The company has wracked up a long series of fines. Uranium mining is a dirty business that frequently results in environmental degradation and risks to public safety. In the past, government oversight of the Cotter property has been lax, turning on self reporting by the company. Community groups have been frustrated by the what they characterize as the meager information Cotter releases on its operations. "We've got a company looking to walk away from a problem without actually cleaning it up," said Travis E. Stills, an energy and conservation lawyer who has been working with community groups in Cañon City since the mid-2000s. Stills represents Colorado Citizens Against Toxic Waste on several ongoing state open records suits that seek information that passed between Cotter, the state health department and the Environmental Protection Agency concerning the uranium mill and the Lincoln Park Superfund Site, but which health department withheld from public review. Uranium is extraordinarily toxic. The health department reports that if the pipe did in fact leak 9,000 gallons, the concentration in the water of uranium would be 834 micrograms per liter and the concentration of molybdenum, also a toxic chemical, would be 2,018 micrograms per liter. For perspective, the EPA places the health safety level of uranium at 30 micrograms per liter. "This is water that they've sucked out of the ground, and they're pumping back to evaporate," said the health department's Edgar Ethington. In fact, he said, the contamination is not new. The leak comes in a pipe used to pump contaminated water from the Soil Conservation Service (SCS) Dam pumpback to ponds on the Cotter property where the contamination will slowly return to solid form. He made the release sound simple. "They got a hole in the pipe and it leaked back into the ground," he said. Warren Smith, community involvement manager in the Hazardous Materials and Waste Management Division of the department, insisted there was no danger to public health. "There is no public health risk here, because there is no exposure to the public," Smith said. "Health risk depends on two factors: the release and exposure. If there's no receptor to be exposed to it, where's the risk?" Smith said that the health department performs regular inspections of the Cotter site. The most recent was a [September inspection](#). Because the pipe was buried, Smith said it would be a stretch to "characterize it as an [inspection] oversight." Smith said it would be a serious lapse if Cotter had failed to report the spill. Inspections don't occur often enough for the state to have happened upon the spill any time soon. "A lot of this is



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performance based," Ethington said. "You expect a breakdown from time to time. You just have to make sure the breakdown does not result in a release that gets off-site." The Cotter site is not operational. Most of the buildings have been demolished. Yet spills are a regular occurrence. The process of closing the mill has been in the works for years, as community groups, the EPA, and Cotter see-saw through negotiations on what the cleanup will look like. That's why the trickling information from Cotter frustrates interested locals. "We should be getting immediate, actionable, good information on the agency's website so the community can understand what's going on," said Stills. "We keep hearing back from the CDPHE that there is no problem there, and we can just leave the place and go on, without cleaning up the ground water, and without doing a full cleanup of the site." Stills said the community group in Cañon is working "to get some real clean-up, that doesn't allow [General Atomic](#), which owns Cotter, to walk away and leave a contaminated neighborhood in its wake."

<http://www.coloradoindependent.com/144835/spill-at-cotter-mill-lets-loose-up-to-9000-gallons-of-toxic-water>

USA, N.D, ALEXANDER, NOVEMBER 8 2013. SALTWATER TANK EXPLODES IN WESTERN ND, CAUSING FIRE, 2,700-BARREL SPILL

amy dalrymple



A tank explosion caused a fire at a saltwater disposal facility near Alexander, N.D., Thursday, Nov. 7, 2013. An estimated 2,440 barrels of saltwater and 270 barrels of oil spilled at the site.

A saltwater tank exploded near here Thursday causing several tanks to catch fire and spill about 2,700 barrels of saltwater and oil, the North Dakota Department of Health said. The tank explosion at a disposal well site about 8 miles southwest of Alexander was reported about 12:15 p.m. Thursday, said McKenzie County Emergency Manager Jerry Samuelson. The explosion, which occurred after a truck driver unloaded and was leaving the site, caused a total of 13 tanks to catch fire, Samuelson said. The cause of the explosion is unknown, Samuelson said. The facility, operated by Mesa Oil Services, had an estimated 2,440 barrels of saltwater and 270 barrels of oil on site at the time of the fire, said the North Dakota Department of Health. Kris Roberts, with the department's Division of

Water Quality, inspected the site Thursday and said the spill was contained on location. The fire was extinguished by about 4:30 p.m., Roberts said. Most of the oil burned in the fire, he said. A significant amount of saltwater remained Thursday with a thin film of oil floating on the water, he said. An environmental contractor was on site and the liquid was expected to be recovered within hours, Roberts said. The Alexander Fire Department responded and the truck driver who was on the site when the explosion occurred offered to get more water to extinguish the fire, Samuelson said. While the truck driver was heading back, he suffered a suspected heart attack, Samuelson said. The man was taken to the hospital in Williston, Samuelson said. The man's name and his condition were not available. No other injuries were reported, Samuelson said.

<http://www.inforum.com/event/article/id/417687/group/News/>

INDIA, MUMBAI, MAHARASHTRA, NOVEMBER 8 2013. OIL LEAK DESTROYS MANGROVES ON MUMBAI COAST

vinaya deshpane



A Portion of the mangroves destroyed by oil leak at Mahul coast. The leak has affected the livelihood of many local fishermen.

Mangroves stretching over several kilometres along the coast in the eastern suburb of Mahul have been destroyed due to an oil leak from a pipeline carrying furnace oil from the sea to a refinery in the area. The sprawling black sheet of oil has settled on the mudflats too, affecting the seedlings of mangroves. Forest officials told The Hindu that the damage was serious and had happened over a period of time. "We did not know the source of the oil leak then, but we issued a preliminary report on October 17 pointing out that oil was continuously leaking in the area," Sanjay Mali, divisional forest officer told The Hindu after inspecting the location on Thursday. The pipeline is owned and operated by the Mumbai Port Trust (MbPT), which denied that the extensive damage was caused by their leaked pipeline alone. "We have plugged the leak



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and will inspect all pipelines in the area," said MbPT spokesperson Mohan Chandran. Forest officials said they would soon conduct a survey to gauge the extent of damage. "It is difficult to estimate the exact area of damage as we will have to conduct a detailed survey through the sea route," Mr. Mali said. But oil slick-damaged mangroves could be seen on the entire stretch of the coastline from Mahul to the area behind the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre. Local fishermen claimed that the slick had spread at least three kilometres till Sewri on the opposite side too. The entire stretch is at least 10 kilometres.

Contaminated catch

The slick has impacted the local fishing community. "Our boats and nets have got damaged due to the oil. The thick layer which settles on the nets is difficult to clean. The fish that we catch are either dead or contaminated. We are not getting a good price for our catch," says Jitendra Waman Koli (36), a fisherman from Mahul village said. Many said their health had been affected. "There are rashes all over the body. We feel weak, suffer from ailments. How often will we keep going to the doctor?" asks Dharma Koli (42). Mahul village has around 15,000 people, mostly fisherfolk. "Different communities fish from different locations, but the oil has been spreading, affecting most of them," said former corporator Rajendra Mahulkar. "We have submitted a written complaint to the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board and the local police," Mr. Mahulkar said. There are several oil refineries in the area. Among them are those of Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited, Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited, Indian Oil Corporation Limited. However, none of them reported this extensive leak. It was finally the local fishermen who complained to the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board on November 1. It had taken the MPCB almost five months to locate the source of the leak. "We have visited the location. We will summon the highest officials of the MbPT and BPCL, and take a detailed action plan from them to contain this," MPCB assistant secretary P.K. Mirase told The Hindu. Inspection of the leakage site shows timely action could have prevented the damage. "It was a small crack. Had it been plugged immediately, it would have saved the mangroves, fish and livelihoods," said Suryakant Vaiti, the president of Vanewale Macchimaar Mandal.

Patchy repair

Even as MbPT has claimed it has plugged the leak, this correspondent found that the officials had only hammered a plank of wood on the crack. Officials said they will need time to fix the crack permanently. Moreover, no agency has taken the responsibility of clean-up. "The leak has not happened due to any act of omission or commission on the part of MbPT. The mudflats don't fall under our jurisdiction. But we will work together with other stakeholders to restore whatever is possible," a spokesperson of MbPT said.

<http://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/energy-and-environment/oil-leak-destroys-mangroves-on-mumbai-coast/article5326829.ece>

USA, AZ, NEW RIVER, NOVEMBER 8 2013. NEW RIVER EXPLOSION: PROPERTY WELL-KNOWN TO LAW ENFORCEMENT

christopher sign

 [Watch the Video New River Explosion](#)



The piece of New River property where a [man was injured Monday night](#) is a familiar spot to law enforcement. ABC15 was there, following ATF agents and Maricopa County Sheriff's Deputies in 1997 when property owner Chuck Byers came under federal investigation for illegally storing chemicals and explosives. In the 1990s Byers was licensed to make munitions and eventually stored a very large amount on the property. In 1997 the ATF took control of the property during a massive search for explosives and recovered stockpiles of various items. At one point, the agency blew up a large cache of explosives on the property and eventually removed a large amount of chemicals and munitions. As the investigation of the explosion Monday night unfolded, a former renter of the property had flashbacks of the massive investigation. "Friends called to tell

me that property was back in the news," said Renee Coltson. When asked if it sent chills down her spine, she answered, "well absolutely, and as you say that, it absolutely does." Coltson rented space on the property from Byers in 1997. To be clear, it's unknown at this point if the investigation from the '90s is connected to the current investigation being led by MCSO. During her year lease, before the ATF instructed Coltson to leave, she said Byers gave her specific instructions regarding where she could go on the property, especially around the storage areas holding the explosives. "Chuck Byers had written into the lease agreement that basically those (storage areas) were off limits," said Coltson.



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Related Stories

- [ATF, MCSO investigate New River blast](#)
- [Man loses leg in explosion in New River](#)

<http://www.abc15.com/dpp/news/New-River-explosion-Property-well-known-to-law-enforcement->

USA, PA, FALLS TWP, NOVEMBER 8 2013. NITRIC ACID EXPLOSION BURNS TWO WORKERS AT PA. DENTURE MANUFACTURING FACILITY AT FORMER U.S. STEEL PROPERTY

alex zdan

A nitric acid explosion left two workers at a manufacturing facility on the former U.S. Steel island with burns to their airways and upper bodies this morning, fire officials said. The two employees are expected to survive their injuries, and were taken to a hospital in Trenton for treatment, Falls Township fire Chief Mike McClellan said. Other workers at Hiossen on Ben Fairless Drive grabbed one worker and took him over to the emergency sink to wash away the chemical, but the second employee staggered outside and was found there by arriving firefighters. The decontamination was done by the Falls firefighters, and no Hazmat team was requested. The reason for the chemical explosion is under investigation, McClellan said. Shortly before firefighters were called out at 9:44 a.m., the two workers were pouring nitric acid from a container into a five-gallon pail. They were not wearing protective equipment other than gloves, according to McClellan. The explosion ruptured the side of the pail but did not damage the facility, which is in the footprint of the former U.S. Steel mill on the island. Hiossen manufactures dentures, and nitric acid is commonly used in that work, officials said. Firefighters remained after the two workers were transported to Capital Health Regional Medical Center in Trenton. Crews checked the air quality for nearly an hour, then allowed the other Hiossen workers back in wearing protective equipment to keep away any lingering effects, McClellan said.

http://www.nj.com/mercer/index.ssf/2013/11/nitric_acid_explosion_in_falls_township_pa_burns_two_workers_at_denture_manufacturer_fire_officials.html

AUSTRALIA, WESTERN AUSTRALIA, NOVEMBER 8 2013. ERIN BROCKOVICH JOINS SMALL TOWN FIGHT AGAINST REFINERY

claire moodie

 **Watch the Video** [Erin Brockovich Joins Small Town Fight against Refinery](#)

A Western Australian town has been fighting for nearly 20 years to prove emissions from a refinery are causing illnesses and American activist Erin Brockovich has now backed their cause.

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2013-11-07/erin-brockovich-joins-small-town-fight-against/5077582?section=wa>

USA, DE, DELAWARE CITY, NOVEMBER 9 2013. PBF HIT WITH NEW EMISSION VIOLATION >> STATE SAYS OPEN-AIRSTACK SPEWED POLLUTION

jeff montgomery



State environmental officials reported unplanned release of sulfur dioxide Sunday and Monday at the refinery in Delaware City.

State regulators have cited the PBF refinery near Delaware City for new pollution violations and reported the unplanned weekend release of nearly 1.5 tons of sulfur dioxide, weeks ahead of a planned restart for one of the plant's larger and harder-working units. The refinery's open-air incinerator stack burned for about 6 ½ hours late Sunday and early Monday, Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control officials said. That came after a loss of water in a tank used to control flows of volatile gases and remove liquids prior to flaring. About 2,750 pounds of sulfur dioxide escaped as a result of the burn-off, DNREC said. No other pollutants were listed. Refineries ordinarily use flares to safely dispose of flammable gases diverted away from regular operations when emergencies or

malfunctions trigger pressure-relief systems. Sulfur dioxide is a pollutant that plays a role in formation of acid rain, smog and toxic soot. Plants in Delaware must report any release exceeding 100 pounds, a level five times lower than federal reporting thresholds or those in New Jersey. PBF spokeswoman Lisa Lindsey declined comment this week on the flaring, saying the company considered details on operations confidential. DNREC late last week separately notified PBF that it was reviewing



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potential sanctions for a much larger release of sulfur dioxide and other pollutants in June. That even followed problems in a boiler used with the refinery's 57,199-barrel-per-day "coker" unit to control carbon monoxide emissions and recover energy from waste gases. Coker operations can release up to 1.5 tons of sulfur dioxide hourly when operating without major pollution control systems. DNREC rules oblige the company to cut production rates and promptly switch to a backup system when its carbon monoxide boiler fails. Although the state did not provide a total amount released in June, more than 263 tons escaped to the air during similar problems in January. DNREC fined the company \$460,200 and ordered it to pay \$69,030 for enforcement costs in July, citing a series of violations that included the problems in January. Delaware City's coker has been shut down for more than a month for major maintenance. During a quarterly earnings briefing last week, company Executive Chairman Thomas D. O'Malley said that restart of the system will coincide with operating changes that produce less low-value coke and more fuel-related products. O'Malley noted \$25 million in recent work at Delaware City to improve rates of return on operations.

<http://www.delawareonline.com/article/20131108/NEWS08/311080047/PBF-hit-new-emission-violation>

GHANA, TEMA, NOVEMBER 9 2013. EXPLOSION INJURES 2 IN TEMA



Two persons were last Wednesday seriously burnt after an explosion occurred in a fuel tanker yard at the Heavy Industrial Area near the Driver's Vehicle and Licensing Authority office in Tema. The two persons, who sustained various degrees of injury, were identified as Eric Boye, a 25-year-old resident of Ashaiman Lebanon and Jerry Odai, a 28-year-old Ashaiman Valco Flat resident. The two fire victims were said to be illegal fuel dealers, popularly known as 'Belebele Boys'. They were siphoning petrol from a fuel tanker with a pumping machine when something suddenly went wrong which led to an explosion. Aside from the two persons sustaining various degrees of injury, over 15 fuel tanks, gallons and fuel tankers loaded with petrol were completely destroyed in the blazing furnace which sparked at about 2:30 pm. Jerry and Eric after the explosion were rushed to the Narkh Bita Hospital at Community Four Tema. One of them was later transferred to Korle-Bu Teaching Hospital in Accra after medics at the first hospital had assessed his injury. The Tema Regional Fire Service personnel were at the scene to bring the fire under control. Benjamin Armah, a

worker at the scene, mentioned that he was at work when he heard the explosion in the yard and quickly rushed there when he saw smoke accompanied by fire coming out of the place. According to him, he rushed to the scene to help send the injured persons to the nearest hospital for medical attention before the fire service personnel arrived. Mr Nii Gilford Tetteh Adam, Tema Regional Fire Service Commander, also told Daily Guide that he was at the office when he received a call about the incident. He quickly put a team together and rushed to the scene to bring the situation under control. According to him, the fire sparked as a result of illegal fuel dealers siphoning fuel from the fuel tanker with a pump which caught fire and quickly spread to the tanks containing petrol and diesel. Mr Gilford advised the illegal fuel dealers to desist from the unlawful acts in order to preserve life and property. The Tema Community One District Police Commander, Superintendent Victor Amedeker and his team of police officers were there to keep security at the place.

<http://www.spyghana.com/explosion-injures-two-in-tema/>

NIGERIA, KOGI, BUDO VILLAGE, NOVEMBER 9 2013. ILLEGAL REFINERY DISCOVERED IN KOGI

 **Watch the Video** [Illegal Refinery Discovered in Kogi](#)



A Joint Patrol Team in Kogi State has discovered an illegal refinery located at Budo village on the bank of River Niger.

The Kogi State NNS Lugard Commander, Commodore Timothy Dakwat told journalists that no arrest was made, as the suspects took to their heels when they noticed the patrol team. "On hearing the noise of the engine and because it was night, they took off into the forest and the place is swampy. In any case they know the terrain more than we do, but they couldn't leave with these fixed structures." The team recovered over 83 drums filled with substance suspected



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to be refined oil. "We had 200 litre drums about 83 and some other quantities of jerry cans and so on of illegally refined products, suspiciously diesel."

<http://www.channelstv.com/home/2013/11/07/illegal-refinery-discovered-in-kogi/>

ZIMBABWE, HARARE, NOVEMBER 9 2013. BLENDED PETROL FUELS ZIM MOTORISTS' IRE

jason moyo



Government has ordered that fuel must be blended with ethanol, but there are fears that ethanol could damage vehicles and impact on food security.

The government's plan to blend petrol with ethanol is supposed to chip away at Zimbabwe's huge fuel import bill, but it has car owners worried. The government has ordered that all fuel sold must be blended with 10% ethanol (E10). The country uses up to two million litres of petrol a day and imports nearly \$2-billion worth of fuel each year. The government says that blending petrol with ethanol will cut the country's fuel bill by at least \$4-million a month. Much of that demand is driven by the flood of second-hand Japanese cars into the country, which amounts to about \$1-billion each year, according to data from the treasury. Car

owners will have no choice and the government is apparently planning to increase blending levels higher than E10, which is raising fears about possible damage to vehicles.

What's E10?

"This label clearly states what fuel is recommended for my car. What's this E10 stuff?" a driver said to a petrol attendant this week, pointing to the "unleaded petrol only" instruction on his fuel tank cap. Green Fuel, an ethanol plant at Chisumbanje, is producing 300 000 litres a day and the company is ramping up production. Green Fuel general manager Graeme Smith has told local media that other countries in the region have shown interest in it. "In the next seven years we will be producing 500-million litres of ethanol per year. The 500-million litres would be enough to substitute the country's petrol requirements by 100%." When the Green Fuel blend first came on to the market as an option to unleaded fuel, sales were poor because of fears about its safety. The result was that Green Fuel found itself with more fuel than the market wanted.

Assuring Motorists of Safety

However, after putting pressure on the government, and reportedly promising to fund farming in return, the government agreed to mandatory blending and the factory, which had been shut down, was reopened. The Zimbabwe Energy Regulatory Authority (ZERA) has been working hard to assure motorists of E10's safety but it wants to raise the blending level to as much as 20% by March. "Studies have already been done by reputable and internationally recognised institutions. Most of the studies are applicable to the vehicle models used in Zimbabwe, including imports," Gloria Magorimbo, the head of the ZERA said. But Green Fuel wants it to be increased further. "If, for example, E85 is adopted, this will translate to a saving of 40 US cents per litre on fuel costs by individual motorists," Smith said. However, experts say only modern flexible-fuel vehicles, also called FFVs, of which there are very few in Zimbabwe, can take E85. Even in the United States less than 10% of the vehicles are FFVs. The promised drop in fuel prices that ethanol would bring has also not been as large as widely expected, and Magorimbo acknowledges there would only be a "marginal drop of two to three cents" in fuel prices.

More Bad News for Motorists

A recent report quoted Toyota Zimbabwe's principal dealer, Simplicio Shamba, as saying that raising blending to E20 would damage older vehicles. "We have written to government advising them that most of our vehicles are compatible up to E10 blended fuel," Shamba was quoted as saying. More bad news for motorists is that ethanol delivers 33% less energy than petrol, which means that cars will use more blended fuel. With such a small difference in price, this means that blended fuel could, in fact, cost motorists more. An expert, who did not want to be named, also said E15, for instance, "would corrode metal and rubber components in older engines". He pointed to a recent study by US vehicle manufacturers that found that 25% of cars approved by the Environmental Protection Agency to run on E15 experienced damage and failure. There is also concern about what increased investment in green fuel will mean for food production.

Price of Maize

In the US one of the effects of the rise in ethanol production has been a rise in the price of maize, which is widely used for ethanol production. Since 2005 maize prices have gone up by 65%. In Zimbabwe, Green Fuel has taken over large tracts of



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land to grow the cane needed to feed its factory. Villagers in the affected areas are split over this. Some are opposed to the use of land to grow cane instead of food, but many have welcomed the economic benefits of being Green Fuel growers.

Related Stories [Road Accident kills 24 people - raises questions about safely transporting the highly flammable fuel in Zimbabwe.](#)

<http://mg.co.za/article/2013-11-08-00-blended-petrol-fuels-motorists-ire>

USA, OH, MENTOR, NOVEMBER 9 2013. THE TERRIFYING MOMENT A FORK LIFT DRIVER IS ENGULFED IN FLAMES AS PROPANE TANK EXPLODES... BEFORE HE WALKS AWAY ALIVE

- 62-year-old man was hauling propane tank when it fell off the vehicle onto the road
- Driver was injured after running over the tank, causing it to explode
- Victim was rushed to hospital burns unit but has now been released

Watch the Video [Surveillance Video](#) [Bottom of page]



Making a run for it: The 62-year-old driver of the fork lift can be seen running from the explosion

Incredible surveillance video captures the moment a forklift truck with a man behind the wheel is engulfed in flames. Officials say the 62-year-old man was transporting machinery to Burton Industries in Mentor, Ohio on Thursday morning. Witnesses say after the driver made a right-hand turn into the driveway of the company, a propane tank fell off the vehicle and then the forklift ran right over the tank. Within an instant there was a fiery explosion. As the driver ran away from the scene, white smoke could be seen coming from his body. 'It does not appear that the tanks were secured or tightened. It didn't look like they were, and it looked as if maybe one bounced off when he came into the driveway. He drove

over it and it blew up.' Mr Burton said he ran outside with a fire extinguisher and saw the driver was already safe. 'When I saw it was a propane tank underneath the forks, I just took off running,' he said. The driver who is in his 60s, was treated for burns to his face and hands, then released a few hours later. 'He jumps right out of the tow motor and walks away with a little smoke,' said Richard Wilson, who runs a tool a business across the street. Mentor fire and police, along with the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, are investigating.

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2492798/Man-escapes-propane-tank-explosion-catching-fire.html>

USA, IA, SIOUX CITY, NOVEMBER 9 2013. CREWS CALLED IN TO CLEAN UP DIESEL SPILL NEAR SIOUX CITY POOL

al joens,

Watch the Video [Gas Spills Near Lief-Erickson Pool](#)

Hazmat crews were called in early Friday morning to clean up a diesel spill on Sioux City's northside. Fire and Rescue officials say a portable diesel tank from a nearby construction site rolled down the hill and landed in the parking lot of Lief Erickson pool. Officials say the amount of diesel that spilled wasn't dangerous, but the spill did come very close to pouring into the storm drain, which could have caused contamination problems. Fire crews arrived on the scene early enough to stop it from reaching the drain. Police are investigating the cause of the spill. "The police department is on the scene and they'll be investigating, if any strange things went on causing the incident, but I don't have any information about that yet," Brian Thiele, Captain of Sioux City Fire and Rescue. The crew is pouring sand on top of the diesel spill to absorb it before it can contaminate the area.

<http://www.ktiv.com/story/23914176/2013/11/08/crews-called-in-to-clean-up-diesel-spill-near-sioux-city-pool>

SINGAPORE, SELETAR HILLS, NOVEMBER 9 2013. WATER IN PETROL FROM KIOSK WAS "ISOLATED CASE": SHELL

Shell said the issue of water found in the petrol from its Seletar Hills petrol kiosk on Monday was an isolated case. Responding to queries from Channel NewsAsia, Shell said it had received feedback from a few customers about engine problems after refilling at the station on Monday evening. It said its investigations showed it was an isolated case of water in a tank of Fuelsave 95 petrol at that station. "We immediately stopped sale of the fuel from the affected tank upon learning of the issue. No other tank at the station and no other station is affected," said the spokesman. The company said as the incident happened



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at off-peak hours, the number of cars affected was small. It said it is working with customers to ascertain if there is cause for concern, and "shall render the necessary assistance". Those who need to contact Shell can call its customer service hotline during office hours.

<http://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/singapore/water-in-petrol-from/879428.html>

USA, MA, WOBURN, NOVEMBER 9 2013. STATIC CHARGE CAUSED EXPLOSION IN WOBURN TUESDAY

An explosion Tuesday that critically injured a worker in East Woburn was caused by an electrical charge that triggered a dust explosion, State Fire Marshal Stephen D. Coan, Woburn Interim Director of Fire and Emergency Services Robert DiPoli, and Woburn Police Chief Robert Ferullo, Jr. said in a joint statement released today. An employee was using an improperly grounded vacuum to clean machinery when a build-up of static charge inside the vacuum ignited the dust, causing an explosion and subsequent small fire, officials said. One man was critically injured and airlifted to a Boston hospital by MedFlight shortly after the first emergency call came in at 12:27 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 5. A worker from a neighboring company attempting to help the man suffered minor injuries, and a police officer was also treated as a precaution. Powderpart uses metal powders and a 3-D printing process that involves lasers during production, according to the release. A representative from Powderpart did not want to comment on the incident. The origin and cause investigation was jointly conducted by members of the Woburn Fire Department, detectives from the Woburn Police Department, State Police assigned to the Office of the State Fire Marshal and agents from the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. The regional Hazmat team, State Police Detectives from the Middlesex District Attorney's Office, State Police Crime Scene Services, Department of Fire Services Code Compliance officers, representatives from the state Department of Environmental Protection, and the federal Occupational Health and Safety Administration also responded to the scene.

<http://www.wickedlocal.com/woburn/news/x1892418290/Static-charge-caused-explosion-in-Woburn-Tuesday>

USA, AL, ALICEVILLE, NOVEMBER 8 2013. RAIN CARRYING CRUDE OIL DERAILS, CARS ABLAZE IN ALABAMA

 **Watch the Video** [Train Carrying Crude Oil Crashed & Burning in West Alabama](#)



Smoke rises from a number of cars that derailed and exploded from a train carrying crude oil in Aliceville, in western Alabama, early November 8, 2013, as pictured in this still image taken from video courtesy of WBMA/abc3340.com. Those cars, which threw flames 300 feet into the night sky, are being left to burn down, which could take up to 24 hours, according to the train owner, Genesee & Wyoming.

A 90-car train carrying North Dakota crude derailed and exploded in a rural area of western Alabama early on Friday, leaving 11 cars burning and potentially bolstering the push for tougher regulation of a boom in moving oil by rail. Twenty of the train's cars derailed and a number were still on fire on Friday afternoon, local officials said. Those cars, which threw flames 300 feet into the night sky, are being left to burn out, which could take up to 24 hours, according to the train owner, Genesee & Wyoming. No injuries were reported. A local official said the crude oil had originated in North Dakota, home of the booming Bakken shale patch. If so, it may have been carrying the same type of light crude oil that was on a Canadian train that derailed in the Quebec town of Lac-Mégantic this summer, killing 47 people. That incident, which the operator Montreal Maine & Atlantic blamed on a train engineer for not braking sufficiently on an incline, fueled a drive for tougher standards for oil rail shipments. Proposed measures included better testing of potentially explosive ultra-light shale crude and improved rail tank car standards. Tank cars made before 2011 have been cited by regulators as dangerously prone to puncture. It was not clear what caused Friday's accident in Pickens County, Alabama, nor how old the tank cars were. The train was being driven by two engineers, both unharmed, officials said. Though it appeared to pose no environmental risk, the accident still appeared to be the most dramatic of its kind in the United States since trafficking of crude by rail began to increase with the growth of shale oil production three years ago. "It will provide very clear evidence of the potential risks for environmental groups and others opposed to the growth of crude by rail, and will likely increase pressure to tighten regulations," said Elena McGovern, Global Energy and Natural Resources analyst at Eurasia Group in Washington. Traders said they feared that tougher regulations could drive up costs for shipping U.S. crude by rail, reducing its competitiveness. Such speculation weakened U.S. crude oil [futures](#) relative to London's benchmark Brent, which already trades at a premium to the price in New York. Assuming the tank cars were full, the



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train, which passes near schools and crosses rivers in the area, held around 65,000 barrels of crude oil, according to Reuters calculations. For other stories about oil by rail see:

Bound for Florida

The train was carrying crude from Amory, Mississippi, to a terminal in Walnut Hill, Florida, that is owned by Genesis Energy, the company's chief financial officer Bob Deere said. It was to be pumped into a regional pipeline and delivered to a 80,000-barrel-per-day Shell Chemicals plant near Mobile, Alabama, according to a source familiar with the matter. Deere said Genesis was still able to receive rail shipments, and deliveries were being rerouted around the affected area. The accident happened in a wetlands area that eventually feeds into the Tombigbee River, according to the Alabama Department of Environmental Management. Booms were placed in the wetlands to contain the spilled oil. Don Hartley, regional coordinator for the Alabama Emergency Management Agency, said the tank cars originated in North Dakota. Three cars had a "bleve" - where pressure builds up and blows a hole. That started the fire, he said. Alabama Emergency Management Agency spokeswoman Yasamie August said that one family was evacuated due to the incident but had already been able to return home. "We don't have a cause yet, that will be determined with the investigation," said a Genesee & Wyoming spokesman. The company said it had notified the National Transportation Safety Board, Federal Railroad Administration and National Crisis Response Center as is standard procedure.

Focus on Tank Cars

Rapid proliferation of oil-by-train shipments started more than three years ago to get oil to markets as pipeline infrastructure lagged booming production in remote places such as North Dakota, as well as Canada's oil sands. The East and West coasts in particular turned to rail to draw cheaper U.S. and Canadian crude. With no major oil pipelines in operation, or even planned, rail allowed them to tap into the burgeoning shale plays in North Dakota and Texas. In the third quarter, crude-by-rail shipments rose 44 percent from the previous year to 93,312 carloads, equivalent to about 740,000 barrels per day (bpd) or almost one tenth of U.S. production. That was down 14 percent from the second quarter due to narrower oil spreads that made costlier rail shipments less economic. The U.S. National Transportation Safety Board has issued safety guidelines on the widely used, cylindrical tank cars known as DOT-111s, including a recommendation that all tank cars used to carry ethanol and crude oil be reinforced to make them more resistant to punctures if trains derail. The new guidelines, put forward in March 2012 but which have not yet been adopted by the Department of Transportation agency that oversees the sector, stem from a deadly ethanol train derailment and explosion in Illinois in 2009. DOT-111 railcars ordered after October 2011 have been manufactured to the new code, but the industry has resisted spending an estimated \$1 billion to retrofit nearly 300,000 existing tank cars. In Demopolis, Alabama, some 40 miles south of the site of the accident, where the rail line runs 300 meters away from the U.S. Jones Elementary School, Mayor Michael Grayson said there hadn't been an accident in the area in a century of train traffic. But since last summer, when the oil trains first began humming past, officials discussed what might happen if a bridge just outside of town collapsed, dumping crude into the river. "Sadly, with this thing, the only thing you can do is try to be prepared," he said by phone.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/11/08/crude-train-explosion-idUSL2N0IT1XQ20131108>

CZECH REPUBLIC, PRAGUE, NOVEMBER 9 2013. UNIPETROL BUYS OUT SHELL FROM CZECH REFINER FOR \$27.2 MLN

Czech downstream oil group Unipetrol has agreed to buy partner Royal Dutch Shell's 16.3% stake in Ceska Rafinerska for US\$27.2 mln, boosting its stake in the country's only refinery to 67.6%. The deal completion is expected at the beginning of 2014, as per Reuters. Italy's Eni will be the only minority shareholder in Ceska Rafinerska with a 32.445% stake. Ceska Rafinerska runs refineries in Litvinov and Kralupy and has a total conversion capacity of 8.7 million tons of crude oil per year. "The transaction brings Unipetrol (to the) 67.5 percent threshold, allowing significant improvement of the company's operational management and bringing operational costs savings," Unipetrol's Chief Executive Marek Switajewski said. Unipetrol, majority owned by Poland's PKN Orlen, is targeting a return to an operating profit in 2013 but said last month it would be tough to meet its goals. Like other European refiners, Unipetrol is facing overcapacity in the sector that has squeezed its margins to near zero. Also the Czech economy is just exiting a record long recession, weighing on demand, and Unipetrol has also had unexpected production problems this year. The group is in the early stages of a five-year, nearly \$1 billion strategy to invest in plant upgrades and invest in new projects while integrating deeper its refining and petrochemical segments. "The acquisition of Shell's shares (in Ceska Rafinerska) improves feedstock security for petrochemical segment development," Switajewski said. Unipetrol said it used its own cash reserves to buy all 16.335% shares in Ceska Rafinerska



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AS from Shell Overseas Investments B.V., boosting its stake in the oil refiner to 67.555%, as per wsj.com. Unipetrol already dominates the Czech gasoline retail market through its gas station subsidiary Benzina AS. Ceska Rafinerska supplies refined oil products to virtually all other gas station networks in the country. Unipetrol, which is majority owned by Polski Koncern Naftowy Orlen SA (PKN.WA), or PKN, will boost its full management control of the refiner, allowing it and PKN to solidify their grip on oil refining and fuel sales in the region.

http://www.plastemart.com/plastic-facts-information.asp?news_id=24553&news=Unipetrol-Buys-Out-Shell-from-Czech-Refiner-for-272-Mln

USA, IN, DYER, NOVEMBER 9 2013. BP PIPELINE BREACH CLOSES DYER PARK

A breach of a BP pipeline during testing Thursday forced the closure of Northgate Park, town officials said. According to a notice on the town website, BP was testing a pipeline with high-pressure water when the breach occurred. "There was no loss of petroleum product but BP employees are attending to the breach and they have closed the park down for precautionary reasons," the statement said. Scott Dean, a spokesman for BP, said repairs were underway Friday on the line, which runs from the Whiting Refinery to Manhattan, Ill. Dean said there was no fuel in the line at the time of the breach. "There is no impact to the community or to current Whiting refinery operations," Dean said. "During the test, BP Pipeline's noticed a drop in pressure in the line. The line was shut down and the leak was isolated." Dean said water tests show no elevated levels of hydrocarbons.

http://www.nwtimes.com/news/local/lake/dyer/bp-pipeline-breach-closes-dyer-park/article_a2666b27-0b81-5880-ac4d-0cdb47601329.html

ALGIERS, KHAROUBA, NOVEMBER 9 2013. SEVEN PEOPLE WOUNDED IN GAS BLAST IN E. ALGIERS

Seven people were injured in a gas station explosion at Kharouba in eastern Algiers on Friday; including two in a critical situation. The gas explosion took place when two trucks were fueling at the gas station, throwing people there into panic, a security source said. The incident was now under investigation, the source added.

<http://www.kuna.net.kw/ArticleDetails.aspx?id=2343088&Language=en>

USA, ILL, LEMONT, NOVEMBER 10 2013. CITGO RECEIVES COURT ORDER TO REVIEW CAUSE OF LEMONT REFINERY FIRE

In the wake of the Lemont refinery fire, Citgo has received a court order to analyze and review what caused the blaze that damaged a crude oil unit last month, according to a Nov. 8 news release from the Illinois Attorney General's Office. "This incident created a significant threat to public safety and the surrounding environment," Attorney General Lisa Madigan said in the release. The fire took place the evening of Oct. 23 when, during maintenance on a pump at the crude oil unit, a valve and bypass piping malfunctioned, causing heavy crude material to leak from the unit, according to the release. No injuries or evacuations were required. However, the fire released pollutants and contaminants into the air in close proximity to residential areas, the release said. The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) sought the court order. Citgo must now recommend corrective actions and a work plan to be approved by the EPA, according to the release. It must also submit the results and location of air sampling conducted during and after the fire detailing the amount of contaminants released, as well as list all citizens, officials and agencies it contacted about the incident. In addition to the order, a three-count complaint was filed alleging the fire created a danger to the environment, public health and welfare, the release said. The complaint accuses Citgo of violating air pollution laws and failing to minimize the release of hazardous substances. Each count seeks a civil penalty of \$50,000 per violation and an additional \$10,000 for each day of each violation, according to the release. "We need to know what caused this fire and we need assurances that the refinery is operating properly and safely," Will County State's Attorney James Glasgow said in the release. Citgo said in a news release that it has taken all necessary steps to respond to the fire and that it will make appropriate corrective actions after the investigation is completed. A previous release from the company said air monitoring during and immediately after the blaze showed no readings of hazardous materials. Citgo later said in a different release that the fire had no environmental impact and that there was no risk of endangerment to human health due to the incident. "The safety of our employees, the community and the environment is not only our top priority; it is our single most important core value," the company said in its most recent release. Citgo cannot restart the vacuum section of its crude unit until it has demonstrated the proper safety measures are in place.

<http://www.mysuburbanlife.com/2013/11/09/citgo-receives-court-order-to-review-cause-of-lemont-refinery-fire/aupaapa/>



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SAUDI ARABIA, JEDDAH, NOVEMBER 10 2013. FUEL TRUCK DRIVER BLAMED FOR FIRE

With the arrest of a gasoline truck driver, police detectives have uncovered the mystery behind a blaze that killed a motorist and injured three others while engulfing five cars at a Kilo 3 intersection in Jeddah on Tuesday. Makkah Civil Defense Col. Saeed Sarhan attributed the accident to the driver of a gasoline tanker truck that supplied fuel at the wrong time to a filling station close to the signal at the intersection between the Makkah Road and the Qasar Khozam Street at Kilo3 in the city. The truck carried a payload of 33,000 liters of gasoline. The driver allegedly drove out the truck from an Aramco supply station at 11:02 a.m. and arrived at the filling station in less than 30 minutes violating the regulations governing driving gas trucks within the city limits. The driver started filling the benzene tank at the petrol station 10 minutes after his arrival without waiting for the regular workers of the filling station. The negligent way in which he connected the supply hose carrying the fuel from the truck to the tank in the station caused spillage of a considerable amount of benzene to the nearby road. Moreover it was not the appointed time for delivering gas to the station. A Civil Defense officer who arrived at the location, noticed the leakage and demanded the tanker driver take the truck away from the spill to avoid likely fires. Moving the tanker caused spillage reaching the road intersection. A number of vehicles were waiting at the signal. Some sparks from a waiting car may have interacted with the benzene and started the deadly fire. In a split second flames fanned a 20-meter long stretch of road. The rear of the truck also caught fire in addition to the five cars. Investigators who included experts of Civil Defense, Crime Evidences and the Jeddah police, have also stated the extent of damage caused by the fire in their report to the authorities concerned. The man killed in the fire was identified with help of DNA tests and his body was handed over to his relatives for burial.

<http://www.arabnews.com/news/474676>

USA, CA, LOS ANGELES, NOVEMBER 10 2013. EPA OFFICERS SICKENED BY FUMES AT SOUTH L.A. OIL FIELD >> SITE OWNED BY ROMAN CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF LOS ANGELES

louis sahaun



Sen. Barbara Boxer (D-Calif.) talks with residents in University Park on Friday. She urged Allenco to suspend operations immediately pending completion of an EPA investigation. The inspectors suffered sore throats and headaches during a visit to Allenco Energy Co. Sen. Barbara Boxer (D-Calif.) urges a temporary shutdown pending an investigation.

Federal environmental officers were sickened by toxic vapors as they toured a south Los Angeles urban oil field whose emissions are blamed by neighbors for a variety of ailments, an [EPA](#) official said Friday. Jared Blumenfeld, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regional administrator for the Pacific Southwest, was among those stricken by the fumes during the recent tour of the Allenco Energy Co. site in University Park, about a half-mile north of USC. "I've been to oil and gas production facilities throughout the region, but I've never had an experience like that before," Blumenfeld said. "We suffered sore throats, coughing and severe headaches that lingered for hours." U.S. Sen. Barbara Boxer (D-Calif.) on Friday urged Allenco to suspend operations immediately pending completion of an EPA investigation, which was prompted by hundreds

of complaints from neighbors who blame the noxious odors for persistent respiratory ailments, headaches, nausea and nosebleeds. Boxer said EPA investigators who toured the site Oct. 24 "told me that they saw a shoddy operation. They saw oil on the ground. They saw pipes held up by 2-by-4s. This cannot go on." The EPA is investigating whether the Allenco operation is in compliance with federal clean air and water laws. The site, owned by the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Los Angeles and leased to Allenco, is surrounded by low-income housing and schools, including the Doheny Campus of Mount St. Mary's College. Tensions have been on the rise in the community since 2010, when Allenco boosted production at its wells by more than 400%. Neighbors complained to the South Coast Air Quality Management District 251 times over the next three years. The agency responded by issuing 15 citations against Allenco for foul odors and equipment problems. However, frustrations over the air district's inability to say whether fumes from the oil field are hazardous has triggered the EPA investigation and others by the Los Angeles County Department of Health, the Los Angeles city attorney's office and the archdiocese. Investigators hope to determine the cause of the ailments and scrutinize the validity of Allenco's operating permits, as well as the archdiocese's lease agreements with the company. "This is an exceptionally important moment for this community," said



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Nancy H. Ibrahim, executive director at Esperanza Community Housing Corp., a nonprofit affordable housing developer in the area. "The AQMD has been complicit in what has become a community health emergency by apparently requiring a mass body count before we get their full attention — and an appropriate response." Boxer, who said she learned of the [University Park illnesses](#) from the Los Angeles Times, said she called upon the archdiocese to act. "The Catholic Church is a strong advocate for children," Boxer said. "Well, if you love children, you don't expose children to dangerous things." Allenco was unavailable for comment. Monica Valencia, an archdiocese spokeswoman, said, "We take the residents' concerns seriously. We are examining our lease with Allenco to ensure their operations are in compliance with our agreement. We continue to work with all involved parties to see that health standards are being met at the site." After analyzing three air samples collected in 2011, the district concluded that the odors posed no health risks. Two weeks ago, Barry Wallerstein, the agency's executive director, tried to assure a crowd at a town hall meeting that recent air samples taken at Allenco also showed that the air was safe to breathe. A new round of air samples, however, has detected "brief episodes of elevated hydrocarbon levels around the facility," air district spokesman Sam Atwood said. "We will continue to conduct air monitoring until we can figure out what's causing them." The facility has a history of violations. For example, an air sample taken from a wastewater tank discharge line Aug. 29, 2011, detected levels of hydrocarbons from volatile petroleum products that were 10,000 times higher than ambient levels, air quality district lab reports show. Although some hydrocarbons are toxic, the analyses did not identify the hydrocarbons in the samples or determine how long they had been leaking. EPA and county health investigators suspect that constant exposure to extremely low levels of pollutants, including hydrogen sulfide, a colorless flammable gas that occurs naturally in petroleum and natural gas, is contributing to the illnesses reported by neighbors. Angelo Bellomo, director of environmental health for the county health department, said the symptoms described by neighbors "are not inconsistent with what we would expect to see after exposure to low levels of hydrocarbons. So, while the detectable concentrations of hazardous pollution may be below regulatory standards, they are nonetheless making people sick." He said his agency will work to develop an alternative set of standards to cover conditions like those in University Park.

<http://www.latimes.com/local/la-me-1109-fumes-20131109,0,3711063.story#axzz2k1kkmqxi>

FRANCE, PARIS, NOVEMBER 10 2013. PYROTECHNICS BLAST AT PARIS MUSICAL INJURES 15



Police guarded the arena after the blast.

A pyrotechnics blast at a Paris arena has injured 15 people, five seriously, just hours before the start of a musical about the French Revolution. The large Palais des Sports venue in the south-west of the city was preparing to stage a production of 1789, The Lovers Of The Bastille. Those hurt are said to be either cast members or stage hands. A technician is said to have accidentally ignited pyrotechnic devices being used in the show. According to Le Parisien newspaper, the use of a power tool close to the devices may have triggered the explosion. About 100 firefighters and a dozen fire engines were deployed to the scene, which was visited by Interior Minister Manuel Valls. Some of those seriously hurt, who were taken to hospitals in the city, suffered burns while one had a heart attack and another received a facial injury, the French broadcaster BFMTV reports. The more lightly injured were mainly examined for damage to

their hearing. So strong was the blast, which occurred just after 18:00 (17:00 GMT), that a shock wave was reportedly felt in nearby buildings. A wall and part of the ceiling collapsed, AFP news agency reports. "The walls shook," an employee at the arena told the agency, adding that only cast and crew were on site at the time. Weekend performances of the show, which premiered in Paris last year, were reportedly cancelled. The Palais des Sports has a capacity of 4,500 and is one of the French capital's largest performance spaces. It hosted the premiere of Les Misérables in 1980.

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- [Paris theatre's technical chief dies](#)
- [Pyrotechnics blast at Paris musical injures 15 Police](#)
- [Fireworks blast at Paris musical about French Revolution: 1 dead, 14 injured](#)
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NIGERIA, KOGI, LOKOJA, NOVEMBER 10 2013. TANKER ACCIDENT KILLS TWO, DESTROYS OVER 10 HOUSES IN KOGI

A petrol tanker in the early hour of Friday lost control and ran off -road, into many houses in Ife, Ijumu Local Government Area of Kogi State, destroying nothing less than ten houses at a go. The accident also resulted in the death of two persons, one Segun Bello who is a primary school teacher, and a yet to be identified person. A source from the community said the petrol tanker's driver who was driving at high speed overtook a small passenger vehicle and in the process diverted away from the main road, collapsed into some residential buildings along the road and burst into flame. The split fuel from the petrol tanker was said to have aided in spreading the raging fire that also consumed many of the buildings aside those brought down by the tanker itself. The teacher, Segun Bello, who died in the raging inferno in an attempt to run out of the destroyed building unfortunately jumped into the raging fire already spreading outside house, the source said. Many other persons were said to have also been injured from the collapsed building and the fire from the petrol tanker. For hours, the Ife - Kabba road, which is a link between the south - west and Lokoja the Kogi State capital was sealed off as a result of heavy gridlocked caused by the accident. It took spirited efforts from the communities to subdue the fire and a lot of efforts from the officers of the Federal Road Safety Corps, FRSC, to ensure the road become passable again.

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201311090223.html>

KYRGYZSTAN, DJALAL-ABAD, NOVEMBER 10 2013. 2 PEOPLE DIE AS A RESULT OF PETROL TANKER'S FIRE

In the wake of a petrol tanker's fire two people died in Kyrgyzstan. The Kyrgyz Emergency Situations Ministry press service informed. According to its data, a driver of KamAZ truck-trailer lost control of the vehicle on the 218th kilometer of Bishkek-Osh highway in Toktogul district of Djalal-Abad province yesterday, on November 8. The truck swerved off the road and fell down from a height of 5 meters and as a result the vehicle inflamed. Rescuers revealed burnt vehicle and removed two corpses (identities are being established).

<http://eng.24.kg/incidents/2013/11/09/28662.html>

USA, CA, SAN PEDRO, NOVEMBER 10 2013. TANK IGNITES ON TOP OF CRANE IN SAN PEDRO >> TANK CONTAINED ACETYLENE

It took firefighters a little more than an hour to knock down a crane fire in San Pedro Saturday afternoon, fire officials said. Firefighters were called out to 2050 John S. Gibson Blvd. shortly after noon Saturday when flames were reported coming from the machinery under the cab of the crane about 150 feet off the ground, according to Los Angeles Fire Department reports. Firefighters managed to extinguish the flames shortly after 1 p.m. and discovered the blaze was coming from a tank that contained acetylene, a highly flammable gas typically used in welding. It wasn't clear how the tank erupted into flames. The cause is under investigation.

<http://www.presstelegram.com/general-news/20131109/tank-ignites-on-top-of-crane-in-san-pedro>

INDIA, MAHARASHTRA, MUMBAI, NOVEMBER 10 2013. OIL LEAKS IN MAHUL NOT NEW: FISHERMEN

Fishermen are at the receiving end of an oil leak near Mahul creek. This time, the extent of the spillage is bigger and threatens to jeopardize their livelihood. However, locals and officials agree that small amounts of oil has been leaking and polluting the water and the mangroves in the area for long. The oil leak near Mahul creek has once again put the fishermen's livelihood in jeopardy. This time, the extent of leak is bigger, but locals as well as officials agree that small amounts has been leaking and polluting the water as well as the mangroves growing around. The Mumbai Port Trust (MbPT) has been compensating the fishermen since 2006 as their fishing nets have repeatedly been wrecked for good by the oil floating in the water, said locals. Despite repeated seepage and almost constant leaks no stringent action has been taken against the polluter, MbPT. The spill was caused as an old pipeline carrying furnace oil from the sea to the Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited refinery had been leaking for more than two months. The outflow came to light when local fishermen reported the spill and damage to about five acres-at a very conservative estimate-of mangroves to the police and the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board (MPCB) last week on November 6. Furnace oil from a MbPT pipe had been leaking near the Mahul creek for reportedly two months. The leak has destroyed at least 5 acres of mangroves in the area and polluted the water near the creek. The leak, said officials, has now been plugged and the flow of oil through the pipeline now stopped after orders by the Maharashtra Pollution Control Board (MPCB). "Port officials paid us Rs 3 lakh since our fishing nets were damaged due to the presence of oil in the water. They again forked out Rs 7 lakh in 2007 and 2010 and around Rs 10 lakh some months ago," said Suryakant Vaity, president,



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Vanewale Macchi Mandal. "This has been a problem for many years. However, no one takes action, even this leak would have gone unnoticed had we not reported it. The contamination has caused irritation to skin and eyes," he added. Vaity said that fishermen have been feeling irritation on the skin and eyes due to concentration of oil in the water. On Saturday, state officials from the BMC mangrove cell inspected the site and confirmed that at least 0.22 hectares of mangroves have been completely destroyed. "We will survey the vegetation close to the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) area to ascertain the kind of damage that has occurred," said N Vasudevan, chief conservator of forests (mangrove cell). "The concentration of oil on mudflats during low tide may also affect the feeding of flamingoes when they flock to the city in winter. Some amount of oil is constantly leaking in the area and affecting the quality of water and mangroves," he added. "It is a miracle that the fishermen are still able to find fish there. Oil floating on the water is not a new phenomenon there," he said. The mangrove cell will assess the damage to mudflats and mangroves next week.

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/mumbai/Oil-leaks-in-Mahul-not-new-Fishermen/articleshow/25527456.cms>

ENGLAND, LANCASHIRE, HEYSHAM, NOVEMBER 10 2013. FUEL TANK DANGERS HIGHLIGHTED FOLLOWING ACCIDENT

Heysham-based airport fuel tank manufacturer Fuel Proof has been prosecuted by the Health & Safety Executive (HSE) after a member of staff suffered horrific burns following an explosion. Preston Crown Court heard this week (October 29th) how 38-year-old Karol Robaczewski has been left almost completely paralysed and wheelchair-bound after being engulfed in a fireball while cleaning a 20,000-litre fuel tank in September 2011. He was working inside the six-metre tank when the lamp he was using became too hot. As he pulled the plug from its socket to turn off the device this caused a spark and coupled with the flammable solvent he was using to clean the walls of the tank this caused the explosion. An investigation carried out by the HSE later revealed Fuel Proof had failed in its duty of care to Mr Robaczewski by failing to carry out an adequate risk assessment of the use of flammable solvents in the cleaning process for its tanks, while it also showed the work should not have been carried out unsupervised. Mr Robaczewski was hospitalised for three months following the incident and has been left with injuries that will never heal. The company pleaded guilty to a charge under the Health and Safety at Work etc Act 1974 and was fined GBP66,000. It was also ordered to pay prosecution costs totalling GBP25,000. HSE inspector Rose Leese-Weller commented after the hearing: "What's even more appalling is that there was never any need for workers to use solvents to clean the tanks, as the company now uses soapy water to clean them out."

<http://www.hja.net/legal-news/news-articles-list/directnews-import/fuel-tank-dangers-highlighted.aspx>

USA, N.Y, SENNETT, NOVEMBER 10 2013. FINGER LAKES RAILWAY TRAIN DERAILS IN REMOTE AREA IN CAYUGA COUNTY

ken sturtz

 **Watch the Video** [Safety Crews Monitoring Derailed Train Carrying Hazardous Materials](#)

A Finger Lakes Railway train derailed Friday in a remote area in the town of Sennett, the New York State Police said. The train, which included 38 cars and an engine, derailed just before 3:30 p.m. Friday between Baker and Hamilton Roads, Sgt. Libert Caloia said. Cayuga County 911 said the derailment occurred in the vicinity of 3941 Taylor Road. Ten cars in the train derailed and five tipped over. There were no injuries. The length of the 38-car train was more than six football fields laid end to end. Caloia said the train was traveling at about 22 mph when it derailed and was heading from Auburn to Solvay. Its cargo included mixed freight. Two cars were carrying hazardous materials, but nothing leaked or spilled. Firefighters from Sennett and Throop responded to the scene. A hazardous materials team from the city of Auburn was called in as a precaution. Finger Lakes [is a small, privately-owned railroad](#) based in Geneva. It maintains more than 150 miles of tracks in Onondaga, Cayuga, Seneca, Ontario, Yates and Schuyler counties. A Finger Lakes Railway dispatcher declined to comment on the matter Friday night and referred questions to the company's headquarters. Caloia said it wasn't apparent what caused the train to derail.

http://www.syracuse.com/news/index.ssf/2013/11/train_derails_in_cayuga_county.html



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