



## Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network Release 2014 – 1,093 Newsy Stuff

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

**August 18 2014**



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### USA, WASHINGTON DC, AUGUST 7 2014. HOT WORK - CSB EMPHASIZES RESOURCES AVAILABLE FOR HOT WORK SAFETY

Safety Videos, Safety Bulletin and Accident Investigations Call Attention to the Hazards of Welding or Cutting Near Storage Tanks

 **Watch the Video:** [Dangers of Hot work](#)

 **Photo's [5]** [Hot Work Safety Bulletin Photos](#)



*Tanks from the Partridge Raleigh oil field incident.*

The U.S. Chemical Safety Board (CSB) today emphasized the hot work safety resources available free of charge through the agency's website at [www.csb.gov](http://www.csb.gov). The Board previously released [safety videos](#), a [safety bulletin](#), and accident investigations all warning of the hazards of welding, cutting, grinding, and other hot work activities in and around storage tanks containing flammable materials. Of particular interest is the CSB's safety video entitled "[Dangers of Hot Work](#)," which presents key lessons from the CSB's hot work safety bulletin, released on March 4, 2010, in Wausau, Wisconsin, near the Packaging Corporation of America (PCA) facility where three workers were killed in July 2008 during a hot work-related explosion. CSB Chairperson Rafael Moure-Eraso said, "The CSB has examined multiple deadly hot work accidents.

Our call to industry is to follow effective hazard analysis and combustible gas monitoring procedures when welding and cutting in and around storage tanks. These simple steps will save many lives." Hot work is defined as burning, welding, or similar spark-producing operations that can ignite fires or explosions. The CSB has conducted numerous investigations into fatal hot work accidents, with final reports which are available at the following links:

- [E. I. DuPont De Nemours Co. Fatal Hot Work Explosion](#)
- [Partridge Raleigh Oilfield Explosion and Fire](#)
- [Bethune Point Wastewater Plant Explosion](#)
- [Motiva Enterprises Sulfuric Acid Tank Explosion](#)

The CSB's "[Dangers of Hot work](#)" safety video uses 3-D computer animations to depict three of the hot work accidents summarized in the bulletin - Partridge-Raleigh, an oil production site in Central Mississippi; the Bethune Waste Water Treatment Plant in Daytona Beach, Florida; and the Motiva Enterprises Refinery in Delaware City, Delaware. Hot work accidents occur throughout many industries in the U.S., including food processing, pulp and paper manufacturing, oil production, fuel storage, and waste treatment. CSB Investigations Supervisor Donald Holmstrom states in the video, "We typically hear about hot work accidents weekly. It has become one of the most significant types of incidents the CSB investigates, in terms of deaths, in terms of frequency." The CSB began investigating hot work hazards following a July 17, 2001, explosion at the Motiva Enterprises refinery in Delaware City, Delaware. A work crew had been repairing a catwalk above a sulfuric acid storage tank farm when a spark from their hot work ignited flammable vapors in one of the tanks. Following the a July 29, 2008, accident at the Packaging Corporation of America (PCA) in Tomahawk, Wisconsin - which killed three maintenance workers and injured another - the CSB began systematically tracking hotwork incidents. The CSB determined the explosion resulted from welding above an 80-foot-tall storage tank that contained highly flammable hydrogen gas - the product of bacterial decomposition of organic fiber waste inside the tank. In the ten months following the explosion at Packaging Corporation, the CSB deployed investigators to five other sites where hot work ignited flammable gas or vapor, including an explosion at MAR Oil in La Rue, Ohio, that killed two contractors in October 2008; an explosion that killed one and injured another at EMC Used Oil in Miami, Florida, in December 2008; an explosion that killed a contract welder at ConAgra Foods in Boardman, Oregon, in February 2009; an explosion at A.V. Thomas Produce in Atwater, California, in March 2009 that severely burned two employees; and the explosion of a massive gasoline storage tank that killed three workers at a TEPPCO Partners fuel distribution facility in Garner, Arkansas, in May 2009. In November of 2011 two contractors at the E. I. DuPont De Nemours Co. located in Buffalo, NY were performing welding atop a 10,000 gallon slurry tank when hot sparks ignited flammable vapors inside the tank, causing an explosion that killed one contractor and seriously injured another. The CSB's [final report and safety video](#) entitled "Hot Work: Hidden Hazards" were released at an April 19, 2012, public meeting. The CSB said a primary cause of the blast was the failure of the company to require that the interior of storage tanks on which hot working is to be performed be monitored for flammable vapor. A proposed recommendation urges DuPont to require monitoring the inside of storage tanks and the area around tanks before performing any hot work, which is defined as welding,



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cutting, grinding, or other spark-producing activities. Just last week there was a deadly accident in Moss Point, MS. According to media report one man was killed and three others injured while performing welding working on a tank that was supposed to be empty. The CSB is following up on this incident and is in the process of gathering additional information. The CSB's 2010 [safety bulletin](#) provides summaries of all the hot work incidents examined by the CSB and identifies seven key lessons aimed at preventing worker deaths during hot work in and around storage tanks containing flammable materials which include:

1. Use Alternatives – Whenever possible, avoid hot work and consider alternative methods.
2. Analyze the Hazards – Prior to the initiation of hot work, perform a hazard assessment that identifies the scope of the work, potential hazards, and methods of hazard control.
3. Monitor the Atmosphere – Conduct effective gas monitoring in the work area using a properly calibrated combustible gas detector prior to and during hot work activities, even in areas where a flammable atmosphere is not anticipated.
4. Test the Area – In work areas where flammable liquids and gases are stored or handled, drain and/or purge all equipment and piping before hot work is conducted. When welding on or in the vicinity of storage tanks and other containers, properly test and if necessary continuously monitor all surrounding tanks or adjacent spaces (not just the tank or container being worked on) for the presence of flammables and eliminate potential sources of flammables.
5. Use Written Permits – Ensure that qualified personnel familiar with the specific site hazards review and authorize all hot work and issue permits specifically identifying the work to be conducted and the required precautions.
6. Train Thoroughly – Train personnel on hot work policies/procedures, proper use and calibration of combustible gas detectors, safety equipment, and job specific hazards and controls in a language understood by the workforce.
7. Supervise Contractors – Provide safety supervision for outside contractors conducting hot work. Inform contractors about site-specific hazards including the presence of flammable materials.

CSB videos, investigations reports and safety bulletins are available at [www.csb.gov](http://www.csb.gov). The CSB is an independent federal agency charged with investigating serious chemical accidents. The agency's board members are appointed by the president and confirmed by the Senate. CSB investigations look into all aspects of chemical accidents, including physical causes such as equipment failure as well as inadequacies in regulations, industry standards, and safety management systems. The Board does not issue citations or fines but does make safety recommendations to plants, industry organizations, labor groups, and regulatory agencies such as OSHA and EPA. Visit our website, [www.csb.gov](http://www.csb.gov). For more information, contact Communications Manager Hillary Cohen, cell 202-446-8094 or Sandy Gilmour, Public Affairs, cell 202-251-5496.

### Related Stories

- [Seven Key Lessons to Prevent Worker Deaths During Hot Work In and Around Tanks](#)
- [E. I. DuPont De Nemours Co. Fatal Hot Work Explosion](#)
- [Partridge Raleigh Oilfield Explosion and Fire](#)
- [Bethune Point Wastewater Plant Explosion](#)
- [Motiva Enterprises Sulfuric Acid Tank Explosion](#)

<http://www.csb.gov/csb-emphasizes-existing-resources-available-on-hot-work-safety/>

### USA, OH, YOUNGSTOWN, AUGUST 7 2014. YOUNGSTOWN CONTRACTOR SENTENCED TO 28 MONTHS FOR DUMPING FRACKING WASTE

john caniglia



*Benedict Lupo owned Hardrock Excavating, where prosecutors say he ordered employees to dump fracking waste that ended into the Mahoning River.*

The owner of a Youngstown oil-and-gas-drilling company was sentenced Tuesday to 28 months in prison for ordering employees to dump tens of thousands of gallons of fracking waste into a tributary of the Mahoning River. U.S. District Judge Donald Nugent also fined [Benedict Lupo, 64, of suburban Poland \\$25,000](#). Nugent rejected defense attorney Roger Synenberg's request for home detention and a harsh fine. Synenberg said Lupo is frail and extremely ill, as he requires dialysis treatments daily and suffers from chronic pain and diabetes. "If he goes to jail, it's the death penalty for him," Synenberg said. But Nugent cited the fact that Lupo ordered two employees to dump the waste and

lie about it. The employees tried to talk Lupo out of it, but he refused. He also pointed out a prosecutor's pictures that detailed six weeks of clean-up in an oil-soaked creek. "All you have to do is look at those photographs to see the damage that was



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done," Nugent said. In March, Lupo pleaded guilty to the unpermitted discharge of pollutants under the U.S. Clean Water Act. His company, Hardrock Excavating LLC, stored, treated and disposed waste liquids generated by oil and gas drilling. As the stored waste liquids piled up at his company in the fall of 2012 and into 2013, Lupo ordered employees to purge waste tanks into a storm-water drain that flowed to tributary. Two employees dumped waste 33 times. In some instances, they drained only a portion of a tank; most times, however, they dumped all of it, said Brad Beeson, an assistant U.S. Attorney. On Jan. 31, 2013, state authorities, acting on a tip, caught one of Lupo's employees dumping the waste. Beeson, in court records, said the impact of the dumping was devastating. Officials found the creek "void of life," the prosecutor said. "Even the most pollution-tolerant organisms, such as nymphs and caddis flies, were not present," Beeson wrote in court documents. "The creek was essentially dead." In a statement to Nugent, Lupo apologized to residents of the Mahoning Valley, as well as his family. "My actions were irresponsible," the statement said. When Nugent asked if he had anything else to say, Lupo spoke softly. "If this was 20 years ago, this probably never would have happened," he said, citing his health. In addition to his failing health, his attorneys also cited the stress of what they called a corporate divorce of Lupo's business. Lupo's sentencing ends a case that brought convictions to the two employees ordered to dump the waste. In March, Nugent sentenced Michael Guesman of Cortland to probation for three years. In July, Nugent gave Mark Goff of Newton Falls a similar sentence. [Guesman and Goff pleaded guilty to the same Clean Water Act charges as Lupo](http://www.cleveland.com/court-justice/index.ssf/2014/08/youngstown_contractor_sentence.html). Guesman told authorities that Lupo ordered him to run a hose from the 20,000-gallon storage tanks to a nearby storm-water drain and dump the polluted wastewater. The wastewater was a byproduct of Lupo's hydraulic fracturing operations commonly known as "fracking" consisting of saltwater brine and a slurry of toxic oil-based drilling mud, containing benzene, toluene and other hazardous pollutants. Guesman said he was afraid of losing his job if he failed to comply with Lupo's orders. Guesman dumped the polluted water into the drain 24 times between Nov. 1, 2012, and Jan. 31, 2013, according to court records. Guesman said Lupo ordered him to perform the secret dumping under cover of darkness and after all of the other employees had left the facility. Guesman said Lupo ordered him to lie if questioned about the dumping and to tell law enforcement officers he had emptied the waste tanks only six times. Goff said Lupo told him to empty tanks of waste into a nearby stormwater drain in October 2012. Lupo told Goff to do it after no one else was at the business and only after dark. The charges said Goff emptied tanks of the liquid on nine different nights. "Clean air and fresh water is the birthright of every man, woman and child in this state," said U.S. Attorney Steven Dettelbach. "Intentionally breaking environmental laws is not the cost of doing business, it's going to cost business owners their freedom."

[http://www.cleveland.com/court-justice/index.ssf/2014/08/youngstown\\_contractor\\_sentence.html](http://www.cleveland.com/court-justice/index.ssf/2014/08/youngstown_contractor_sentence.html)

### USA, N.J, WASHINGTON CO, AUGUST 7 2014. NJDEP TO UNVEIL WASHINGTON TOWNSHIP OIL SPILL REPORT



The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection will unveil a report and answer questions Thursday on June's Spring Lake oil spill in Washington Township. NJDEP is expected to answer questions raised by residents at an Aug. 7 township Environmental Commission meeting, according to Mayor Barbara Wallace. The state agency will make a presentation on the waterway's cleanup, according to NJDEP spokesman Larry Hajna. In June, a Uranus Lane resident allegedly dumped more than 2,700 gallons of fuel oil in a storm drain. The oil was inside the vacuum truck the resident used to suck water out of a swimming pool. Residents on Hydra Lane along Spring Lake called police, complaining of strong fuel fumes and an "orange slick" floating on the water's surface. State-contracted crews worked around-the-clock for more than a week in late June and early July to clear the oil. NJDEP will present its oil spill report to the Environmental Commission at 7:30 p.m. Thursday at the Washington

Township Municipal Building located at 523 Egg Harbor Road.

<http://www.courierpostonline.com/story/news/local/south-jersey/2014/08/05/njdep-unveil-washington-township-oil-spill-report/13626389/>

### USA, TX, HOUSTON, AUGUST 7 2014. NORTH DAKOTA CRUDE NO MORE DANGEROUS THAN SIMILAR FUELS, REPORT FINDS

*robert grattan i*

An industry-funded study released Monday concluded that the oil from the Bakken region doesn't pose a greater risk to transport than other similar, types of crude. The study is the most scientific analysis of the region's crude so far, the North



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Dakota Petroleum Council said. The group hopes the report allays fears that Bakken oil may be more prone to ignition — after a series of accidents involving rail shipments of the oil. “The long and the short of [the report] is that Bakken crude is not unique,” said Jonathan Garrett, a senior analyst with Wood Mackenzie. “What makes the Bakken unique is the amount of crude that’s leaving North Dakota and eastern Montana.” Crude production in the Bakken region has ballooned rapidly in the past few years. Many producers have turned to rail to move the oil. In April, as much as three-fourths of North Dakota’s oil was shipped by train, though the share has since fallen slightly as producers moved back to pipelines. A string of accidents have followed the high volume of rail shipments. Last year, a train derailed the Quebec town of Lac-Mégantic and killed 47. Regulators and the industry have been examining both the characteristics of the Bakken crude and shipping practices in a push for greater safety. The new report by the North Dakota Petroleum Council report offers a range of safety recommendations, maintaining temperature between 90 degrees and 120 degrees and providing maximum tank settling time prior to shipment, among other safety steps. The report also recommends classifying the crude in the most volatile hazardous material packing group for shipping. If followed, the heightened classification may accelerate a push to newer, sturdier tank cars under U.S. Department of Transportation regulations that may be adopted soon. The report follows an analysis by the American Fuel and Petrochemical Manufacturers that also suggested that Bakken crude is no more flammable or volatile than other light, sweet crudes, the Petroleum Council stated in the announcement. However, a government report by the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, recently suggested that the Bakken crude may be more volatile than others crudes. The PHMSA’s conclusion has been disputed by industry groups. The report also offers significant new analysis that may help producers and refiners better understand the benchmarks for crude produced in the region, said Sandy Fielden, an analyst with RBN energy LLC. “If you have established standards that say what this crude looks like,” Fielden said, “It’s easier to for participants in the transaction to carry on business with more confidence.”

<http://fuelfix.com/blog/2014/08/05/north-dakota-crude-no-more-dangerous-than-similar-fuels-report-finds/>

### AUSTRALIA, VICTORIA, WODONGA, AUGUST 7 2014. PETROL TANKER TRAILER ROLLS, KILLS THREE IN CAR ON YACKANDANDAH-WODONGA RD

patrick hatch



*It has been suggested the BP petrol tanker's trailer came lose and crashed into a car, killing the three people.*

Three people were killed when part of a petrol tanker rolled onto a car in Victoria's north-east on Thursday morning. The crash happened about 8.40am on the Yackandandah-Wodonga Road in Staghorn Flat, about 15 kilometres south of Wodonga. Ambulance Victoria spokesman John Mullen said it appeared part of the petrol tanker had rolled onto the vehicle. “A trailer has come away from the truck - it sounds like it's a petrol trailer - and that trailer has rolled onto a car,” he said. A police spokeswoman said three people in the car were confirmed

dead, but they had not been identified. The Major Crash Investigations Unit was heading to the scene, the spokeswoman said.

#### Related Stories

- [Three dead in tanker smash](#)
- [Three killed in petrol tanker crash](#)
- [Three dead in petrol tanker crash near Wodonga](#)
- [Three killed after petrol tanker trailer rolls on to car](#)

<http://www.theage.com.au/victoria/petrol-tanker-trailer-rolls-kills-three-in-car-on-yackandandahwodonga-rd-20140807-3d9i9.html>

### INDIA, CHHATTISGARH, KORBA, AUGUST 7 2014. EIGHT PEOPLE INJURED IN BLAST AT NTPC PLANT

Eight persons, including two engineers, sustained burn injuries in a blast this evening in a pipeline at one of the units of an NTPC plant in Korba district of Chhattisgarh, police said. The incident occurred at around 9 P.M. at Unit No.7 of the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) plant when labourers and engineers were at work there, a senior police official told PTI. The cause behind the blast is yet to be ascertained, he said, adding that a probe has been opened into the incident. Six workers and two engineers received burn injuries in the mishap, he said. The victims were rushed to a local hospital from where they have been shifted to Apollo Hospital in Bilaspur district, he added.

[http://zeenews.india.com/news/nation/eight-people-injured-in-blast-at-ntpc-plant\\_953034.html](http://zeenews.india.com/news/nation/eight-people-injured-in-blast-at-ntpc-plant_953034.html)



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### USA, OK, TULSA, AUGUST 7 2014. HOLLY REFINERY IN TULSA CITED FOR EIGHT SAFETY VIOLATIONS BY OSHA

*robert evatt*

Accusing the company of "unacceptable negligence," OSHA has cited Holly Refining & Marketing for eight safety violations at its Tulsa refinery. The violations, five repeat and three serious, stem from a February inspection that found workers being exposed to hot surfaces on refinery equipment, possible falls from heights and other hazards, according to a press release Tuesday by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, which is part of the U.S. Department of Labor. The agency proposed \$184,000 in fines for the violations. David Bates, OSHA's area director based in Oklahoma City, said in the release that the same violations at Holly were found by OSHA in 2009. "Failure to ensure hazards are eliminated and do not reoccur is essential for employee safety and health," he said. "Negligence, such as that demonstrated by Holly Refining & Marketing, is unacceptable." In addition to the hot surfaces, OSHA said Holly's repeat violations were for not ensuring that floor grating in the processing unit was secure and level; allowing ladder floor openings and open-sided floors to be unguarded, risking falls from heights; and not maintaining electrical equipment and wiring in a safe condition. New, serious violations were for failing to ensure that post anchoring and framing for fall protection railings were complete and effective, failing to ensure that floor holes in walking and working surfaces were guarded or covered, and not guarding metal fan blades effectively. Holly Refining & Marketing, which employs about 376 workers at its Tulsa refinery, has 15 business days from receipt of its citations to comply, request an informal conference with OSHA's Oklahoma City office, or contest the citations and proposed penalties before the independent Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission.

[http://www.tulsaworld.com/business/energy/holly-refinery-cited-for-eight-safety-violations-by-osha/article\\_8a911c28-e6e7-5e71-a554-8606a2a48686.html](http://www.tulsaworld.com/business/energy/holly-refinery-cited-for-eight-safety-violations-by-osha/article_8a911c28-e6e7-5e71-a554-8606a2a48686.html)

### USA, CA, NEWPORT HARBOR, AUGUST 7 2014. SUN BURNS OFF 'SIGNIFICANT' DIESEL SPILL IN HARBOR

*hannah fry*



**Map:** [Newport Harbor, CA, United States](#)

The diesel fuel that blanketed 3 1/2 acres of the Newport Harbor on Monday has burned off, authorities confirmed Tuesday. Neighbors called Orange County Sheriff's Department Harbor Patrol just before 9:30 a.m. Monday to report diesel fuel floating between the Lido Isle and Newport Boulevard bridges, said D.J. Haldeman, watch commander for marine operations. Harbor Patrol responded but could not determine what marina or vessel was responsible for the spill, Haldeman said. He could not estimate the amount of fuel in the harbor. "It doesn't take a whole lot of diesel fuel to spread 3.5 acres," he said. However, the sun had burned off the entire spill by 2:30 p.m. Monday. "If you get some good sun and wind, it'll burn off more quickly," he said. Haldeman estimates that Harbor Patrol responds to small fuel spills at least once a week. Monday's leak was classified as a "significant spill," a magnitude typically seen only three or four times a year in the Newport Harbor area, he said.

<http://www.dailypilot.com/news/tn-dpt-me-0806-fuel-spill-20140805,0,6072939.story>

### USA, ILL, CHICAGO, AUGUST 7 2014. QUALITY CARRIERS, OWNER OF LEAKED ACID TANKER, HAD 187 CRASHES IN PAST 2 YEARS

*chuck goudie*

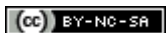
**Watch the Video:** [Quality Carriers, Owner of Leaked Acid Tanker, had 187 Crashes in Past 2 Years](#)



*The I-Team looks at Quality Carriers, the owner of the tanker that leaked acid on the city's South Side Wednesday.*

Wednesday's [acid leak on the South Side](#) was more potential danger and a nuisance for motorists, but now city officials are still demanding answers. Quality Carriers, the owner of the acid tanker, operates a sizable fleet of truck tractors and stainless steel trailers. The company is so big that it received a satisfactory government safety rating even though it has had more than 185 crashes the past two years; more than a dozen of them fatalities. The company advertises as the largest bulk transportation company in North America, based in Tampa, Fla., with more than 4,100 trucks and 3,300 drivers who drove 220 million miles in

2012. With that, many vehicles on the road every day, Quality Carriers has its share of wrecks, mishaps and federal inspection issues. According to federal safety records reviewed by the I-Team from the past two years, Quality Carriers has been involved in 13 fatal crashes; 65 crashes where people were injured and 187 total crashes. The firm's federal safety rating



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satisfactory. One recent federal safety violation in February found that Quality Carriers knowingly allowed an employee to operate a commercial motor vehicle even though they had lost their driver's license. Authorities don't know what caused Wednesday's acid leak, but with traffic disrupted and public safety at risk, they say they intend to find out. "The truck driver, the owner of the company, we have to inspect them and find out what went wrong here. Somebody has to be held accountable," said Ald. James Balcer of the 11th Ward. Quality Carriers has trucks in several affiliated transport yards in and around Chicago, but it isn't clear where this vehicle was from or where it was going with the load of muriatic acid. Among previous federal actions against the company, in June 2010 was a fine for allowing vehicle conditions likely "to cause an accident or a breakdown," and in December 2008, the company was fined for accepting hazardous cargo that could leak. Investigators say the South Side incident doesn't appear to have been caused by an accident, just a leak from the tanker. The I-Team has attempted to reach Quality Carriers executives in Tampa and in Chicago, but no one has returned calls or answered emails.

<http://abc7chicago.com/news/i-team-quality-carriers-owner-of-leaked-acid-tanker-had-187-crashes-in-past-2-years/245635/>

### USA, PA, BRADFORD, AUGUST 7 2014. TANK BLAST INJURES WORKER AT BRADFORD RECYCLING PLANT

nancy sanders



*Explosion at recycling plant in Bradford, PA. injures one worker*

A blast heard throughout Bradford on Tuesday injured a worker at Metalico Bradford Goodman Services. The explosion occurred when an employee at the recycling company was cutting into a crude oil tank with a circular cut-off saw. Officials say the vapors in the tank were somehow ignited by the gas-powered saw. The force of the blast split the tank in half. The name of the victim has not been released. One other worker in the area was treated on the scene for minor injuries.

<http://wivb.com/2014/08/06/bradford-blast-injures-worker-at-recycling-plant/>

### USA, N.M, ALBUQUERQUE, AUGUST 8 2014. CREWS EXCAVATE SOIL IN EFFORT TO CLEAN UP KIRTLAND AFB JET FUEL SPILL SITE

susan montoya bryan



*This image shows one of the jet fuel tanks at Kirtland Air Force Base in Albuquerque, N.M., Thursday, Aug. 7, 2014.*

Crews were busy excavating tons of soil from Kirtland Air Force Base on Thursday as part of a multifaceted, long-term effort to keep a huge plume of jet fuel contaminants from reaching one of the city's drinking water wells. The Air Force is under pressure from New Mexico environmental regulators and the agency that provides drinking water to the Albuquerque metropolitan area to step up its efforts to address the steadily moving plume, which has been decades in the making. The goal of the excavation is to remove 1,700 cubic yards of soil about 100 semi-truck loads from an aircraft fuel loading station on

the base where the underground leak originated about 40 years ago. The work began earlier this summer and will continue through mid-September. "It's one of the many phases we have in cleaning up this site," said Adria Bodour, a program manager with the Air Force Civil Engineer Center. "It's a long project and it has a lot of pieces, but we're committed to getting it done." Crews have removed about one-quarter of the soil around the old fuel pipeline, and samples show none of it meets hazardous levels that would require disposal in a special landfill. The soil is being stockpiled and then taken to a dump in Valencia County. The excavation work is tackling only the first layer of contamination to protect workers as well as prevent any more chemicals and pollutants from working their way down to the water table. The Air Force earlier this year expanded upon a vacuum system that sucks vapors from the soil at deeper levels. So far, that technology has recovered more than 500,000 gallons of fuel, Bodour said. The other more complicated piece of the plan involves cleaning up contaminated water that's close to 500 feet below the surface. The Air Force has submitted a preliminary proposal to the state that calls for installing a



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new well designed to extract the contaminated water using pumps so it can be treated and eventually used as reclaimed water on base property. Other monitoring wells would also be installed. The Environment Department is reviewing that proposal. The U.S. Geological survey announced Thursday it's also drilling a series of wells in a neighborhood on Albuquerque's southeast side to provide early alerts for any groundwater contamination as the plume moves. The size of the spill has been estimated at anywhere from almost 6 million to 24 million gallons, but recent studies aimed at sizing up the dimensions of the plume have come in on the lower end, Air Force officials said. "We do know that many millions of gallons obviously were released," Bodour said. "The exact number and calculating it is a tricky proposition." The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency released a report earlier this year that found it could be three decades before the plume of contamination reaches the nearest drinking water wells. However, state environment officials have said the preliminary report is only one of a number of studies aimed at understanding how quickly the contamination is moving. Previous estimates had shown the contamination might reach the nearest wells in five to seven years.

<http://www.stripes.com/news/us/crews-excavate-soil-in-effort-to-clean-up-kirtland-afb-jet-fuel-spill-site-1.297291>

### AUSTRALIA, VICTORIA, WODONGA, AUGUST 8 2014. BP FLEET OFF ROAD AFTER TRIPLE FATAL TANKER ACCIDENT

#### Key Point:

- Witnesses said the truck was travelling normally before the trailer came off, crossing on to the wrong side of the road and hitting the two cars head-on.
- BP has taken its entire tanker fleet off Australian roads after 3 people including a 4-year-old boy died when a trailer came off and smashed into two cars.

#### Watch the Video's:

- [Deadly Petrol Tanker Crash](#)
- [Petrol Tanker Rolls Killing 3 People](#)
- [Petrol Tanker involved in Triple Fatality had been Serviced last week, BP reveals](#)



BP has taken its entire tanker fleet off Australian roads after three people including a four-year-old boy died when a trailer came off and smashed into two cars. The boy, his mum and a woman in a second car had 'absolutely no chance' when the trailer of a BP petrol tanker became detached while rounding a bend on a country Victorian road, crushing one of the cars. BP has extended a recall of its Victorian trucking fleet to cover its 42 BP and contractor vehicles across Australia, which will be inspected by transport regulators. BP Australia president Andy Holmes said the fleet was recalled as a matter of precaution. 'While the precise cause of this tragic incident may not be known for some time, it is essential we do all that we can to understand how this occurred and to ensure

that it cannot happen again,' Mr Holmes said in a statement. Witnesses said the truck was travelling normally before the trailer came off near Wodonga on Thursday morning, crossing on to the wrong side of the road and hitting the two cars head-on. Detective Inspector Bernie Rankin said it was impossible for the car drivers to take any evasive action. 'These people had absolutely no chance at all,' Det Insp Rankin told Fairfax Radio on Friday. 'It happened in a matter of a split second.' A 33-year-old Allans Flat woman and her four-year-old son died along with a 67-year-old Yackandandah woman in the other car. No fuel spilled out of the tanker but the petrol had to be funnelled into another truck before it could be lifted off the crushed vehicle. It took until early Friday morning to remove the truck. Det Insp Rankin said the trailer and truck will be examined to determine what caused the crash. The Transport Workers Union says it will start legal action against 'rogue' operators in the oil, fuel and gas industries in the wake of the crash. The union hopes the action in the in the Road Safety Remuneration Tribunal will ease pressure faced by tanker drivers from operators. It said this pressure causes drivers to speed and avoid reporting safety defects.

#### Related Stories

- [Motorists Urged not to Panic Buy Fuel after Horror BP Tanker Crash](#)
- [BP Won't Pull Kiwi Tankers after Deadly Incident](#)
- [BP Fleet Off Road after Triple Fatal](#)
- [BP Recalls National Tanker Fleet after Fatal Crash](#)

<http://www.skynews.com.au/news/top-stories/2014/08/08/bp-fleet-off-road-after-triple-fatal-tanker.html>



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### AUSTRALIA, WESTERN AUSTRALIA, PERTH, AUGUST 8 2014. WA WARNING OVER ETHANOL HEATERS PROMPTED BY QUEENSLAND EXPLOSIONS

*liam ducey*

Explosions causing serious burns in Queensland have prompted Consumer Protection WA to issue a warning on ethanol heaters. Ethanol heaters are advertised as an easy, smokeless way to keep warm as they don't require professional installation, connection to gas lines or ventilation. However the heaters have an open flame, difficult to see in daylight and well-lit rooms. Explosions have occurred recently in Queensland when users mistakenly believed the flame had gone out while attempting to re-fuel or move the unit. The last ethanol heater fire reported in WA was in Mindarie in July 2013, when a fabric object was placed over the heater. It subsequently caught fire - causing \$2000 damage - but Consumer Protection commissioner Anne Driscoll said the Queensland experience was enough to warrant a warning to consumers. "These products, if not used properly, can potentially cause serious burns to users with the added risk of starting house fires," she said. "We urge people who have purchased these products to exercise caution when using them and to keep children well clear. "Ensure the flame is completely extinguished and the unit has cooled sufficiently before attempting to re-fuel or move it. "Appropriate guards should be around the flame, especially if children are present or if the flame is difficult to see."

<http://www.watoday.com.au/wa-news/wa-warning-over-ethanol-heaters-prompted-by-queensland-explosions-20140808-101z0a.html>

### CANADA, ONT, SHERWOOD PARK, AUGUST 8 2014. SEMI-TRUCK EXPLODES IN SHERWOOD PARK, NO ONE HURT



*A semi-truck caught fire at Trimac Transportation Services in Sherwood Park Thursday when a welder's spark landed in a pool of diesel fuel*

A semi-truck explosion triggered road closures in Strathcona County Thursday morning. RCMP say they received calls around 10 a.m. warning of a possible tanker truck explosion at Trimac Transportation Services on Petroleum Way in Sherwood Park. When crews arrived, they found a semi-tanker truck that had caught fire while a welder was working on it. The fire started when an errant spark ignited a "small amount of diesel fuel." "This was a significant explosion," said Vern Elliott, the Deputy Fire Chief of Strathcona County. "It was just one fuel tank that you see that are on the roads. Thankfully there was no fuel in it, so this was just a quick explosion of the gas that were inside. Our station is only one kilometre away and we felt the explosion and you could definitely see smoke for a ways." The fire was put out within 15 minutes. No one was hurt. Officials with Alberta Transportation Dangerous Goods and Occupational Health and Safety have been notified and are expected on scene. All surrounding roads have now been reopened.

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/edmonton/semi-truck-explodes-in-sherwood-park-1.2730442>

### USA, W.VA, NITRO, AUGUST 8 2014. EXPLOSION, CHEMICAL LEAK REPORTED IN NITRO; LEAK CONTAINED

*marcus constantino*



*Kanawha County Fire Coordinator C.W. Sigman said a pipe blew off of a tank Wednesday afternoon at Spirit Services of West Virginia in Nitro. He said waste oil from the tank was captured in a secondary containment area.*

A pipe burst at a used oil recycling facility in Nitro Wednesday, causing an explosion and leak that was contained behind a secondary containment wall. Kanawha Metro 911 received a call at 2:03 p.m. Wednesday reporting an explosion at Spirit Services of West Virginia at 4 Plant Rd. in Nitro. Kanawha Fire Coordinator C.W. Sigman initially said a "flash fire" and leak of a "non-hazardous" chemical was reported at the facility, though he later reported there was no fire. No injuries were reported as a result of the incident. Sigman said a pipe blew off the bottom of a tank at the Nitro site and that waste oil then leaked into a new secondary containment area. Officials with the facility told the state

Department of Environmental Protection that the spilled material totaled approximately 22,000 gallons of compressor station process water and used oil. At around 3 p.m., Nitro fire Lt. Casey Mathis said the leak had been stopped. "Apparently valves on two tanks failed," DEP spokesperson Kelley Gillenwater said. "All the material was contained within secondary containment and is being recovered through the use of vacuum trucks". Gillenwater said there are 14 tanks on site used to hold used oil, drip gas (compressor station processed water) and glycol. She said it was not clear what chemical was in which tanks



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because the facility has not yet registered its aboveground storage tanks with the DEP. Most aboveground storage tanks will have to be registered with the DEP by Oct. 1. Sigman said the pipe "must've had some force behind it," because the explosion was heard by firefighters at the Nitro fire station on 20th Street, about a half-mile from Spirit Services. The state Secretary of State website showed Spirit Services of West Virginia was formed as a limited liability corporation on June 11, 2009. Its parent company, Spirit Services, Inc., is headquartered in Charlotte, N.C. Gillenwater said information provided by the company indicated the tanks were inspected in 2011 by Huntington Tank and Testing and are scheduled for inspection in 2015. The company applied for a new multi-sector general permit on Aug. 1. The Nitro facility does not have a facility response plan because it does not meet the substantial harm criteria set forth in the Oil Pollution Act of 1990, according to its latest permit application. Facility response plans are required for facilities that have the capacity to store more than one million gallons of oil, where such a facility has inadequate secondary containment or a spill from such a facility would shut down a public water intake or cause injury to fish or wildlife, among other criteria. Spirit Services of West Virginia offers "services in the collection of non-hazardous used oil, waste water, drums of oily solids, oil filter drums and non-hazardous oily solids," according to its website. The website says the facility in Nitro serves "both the coal and natural gas industry" of West Virginia and surrounding states. According to the company's website, Spirit Services provides services in used oil recycling, glycols/antifreeze recycling, industrial wastewater treatment and remediation waste recycling, among other things. Messages left at the company's Nitro office Wednesday were not returned.

<http://www.charlestondaily.com/article/20140806/DM01/140809549/1296>

#### USA, FLA, ESCAMBIA CO, AUGUST 8 2014. CHEMICAL TANKER DRIVER GETS JAIL TIME FOR HWY 29 DUI



The driver of a chemical tanker truck was recently sentenced to jail after being arrested for DUI near Century. In January, the Escambia County Sheriff's Office said a citizen's tip about 5:30 Tuesday morning about a trucker driving erratically led to deputies stopping the northbound tanker truck full of maleic anhydride on Highway 29 near Tedder Road. The driver, 35-year old Alex Victorovich Kozlov of Milton exhibited odd behavior and an odor of alcohol was detected by deputies, the Sheriff's Office said. He failed a field sobriety test and was arrested for driving under the influence of an alcoholic beverage. "A half empty bottle of vodka was recovered from the cab of the truck which indicated the suspect was still consuming alcohol at time of stop," Sena Maddison, spokesperson for the Escambia County Sheriff's Office, said following the arrest. Kozlov was sentenced by Judge Darlene Dickey to nine months in the county jail, 50 hours of community service, and DUI school. In addition, his driver's license was suspended for 12 months, an ignition interlock was ordered for his vehicle, and he was ordered to pay \$1,606 in fines and costs. Maleic anhydride is the acid anhydride of maleic acid and is used primarily in the formation of unsaturated polyester resins for use in boats, autos, trucks, buildings, piping, and electrical goods. It is also used to make pesticides and other organic compounds, according to the EPA. Acute inhalation exposure of humans to maleic anhydride has been observed to cause irritation of the respiratory tract, burning in the larynx, reflex cough, lacrimation, headaches, eye irritation, and corneal burns.

<http://www.northescambia.com/2014/08/chemical-tanker-driver-gets-jail-time-for-hwy-29-dui>

#### USA, PA, PITTSBURGH, AUGUST 8 2014. HUMAN ERROR LED TO FATAL WELL EXPLOSION IN GREENE COUNTY, DEP SAYS

*molly born*

**Key Points:** Contractor was not properly supervised when he was preparing wellhead for production at drilling site in Greene County, findings show.

Human error by an inexperienced natural gas well worker likely led to a February explosion and fatal fire on a Marcellus Shale drilling site in Greene County, the state Department of Environmental Protection said. The findings were part of a report released Wednesday after a months-long DEP investigation into the incident on the Chevron Corp.-owned well site in Dunkard that resulted in the death of 27-year-old contractor Ian McKee. State investigators said a Cameron International Corp. contractor — called a "greenhat" because of his inexperience — was not properly supervised when he was directed to loosen equipment from portions of the wellhead in preparing it for production days before the Feb. 11 blast. Several days later, one of the "lock pins manipulated" was ejected from the well, allowing gas to escape from the well and catch fire, investigators said. The "greenhat" worker, whom investigators determined had not been trained on such a procedure, was not named in the report. The state's findings also include recommendations for Chevron, including the creation of a "specialized response



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protocol." The review criticized on-site communications between Chevron and the DEP and between the company and the media. The department said Chevron has inspected other wells with similar installations as the Dunkard site and issued guidelines. A company spokeswoman did not immediately return an email and phone message seeking comment. Chevron spokeswoman Lee Ann Wainwright said: "We are reviewing the DEP reports, and we look forward to the opportunity to discuss them with the DEP in the near future." "Chevron is committed to safe operations. We look forward to continuing to work with the Pennsylvania DEP and OSHA in order to fully understand what happened with this incident, and we are determined to prevent it from happening again." Sharon Sloan, spokeswoman for Houston-based Cameron, said she has no knowledge of the report and could not comment. McKee was on the well with a crew of 19 other contractors when it exploded, igniting flames that were fed by leaking natural gas for five days before they finally extinguished themselves. His parents filed a wrongful-death lawsuit against Chevron Corp.'s local subsidiary, Chevron Appalachia LLC, in June. For two days after the explosion, Chevron refused to allow state investigators onto the property, in violation of oil and gas laws, the DEP said earlier this year. The company received nine citations for that and other violations. So far, no fines have been issued to Chevron. John Poister, a spokesman for DEP's southwestern district, said the DEP was awaiting this report to hash out the details of the entire incident with Chevron and begin negotiations over penalties. The agency also has drafted new emergency protocols for its staff based on recommendations from the report and will be training DEP officials over the coming months.

[http://articles.mcall.com/2014-08-06/news/mc-pa-marcellus-shale-dep-explosion-20140806\\_1\\_pennsylvania-dep-human-error-fatal-explosion](http://articles.mcall.com/2014-08-06/news/mc-pa-marcellus-shale-dep-explosion-20140806_1_pennsylvania-dep-human-error-fatal-explosion)

### **USA, N.Y., NEW YORK, AUGUST 8 2014. NEW YORK PAINT COMPANY FINED \$90,000 FOR IMPROPER HAZMAT STORAGE**

A New York paint company has agreed to pay a \$90,000 penalty after environment officials discovered improperly stored hazardous waste during a spring 2012 inspection. The US Environmental Protection Agency says it found more than 100 drums of paint solvents on the property of T.C. Dunham Paint Company in Yonkers. Many of the drums were "leaking and corroded," as well as improperly labelled. The EPA adds that it found drums of lacquers, oil-based paints and solvents "haphazardly stacked in an old truck and in outdoor locations at the paint facility." Announcing the legal settlement on August 7, 2014, EPA Regional Administrator Judith Enck noted that "every business needs to comply with environmental laws to ensure that human health and the environment are not damaged." In 2012, TC Dunham was found liable for about \$4.5 million in injuries resulting from a building fire started by a solvent-based wood floor lacquer that ignited in 2006.

<http://www.hazmatmag.com/news/new-york-paint-company-fined-90-000-for-improper-hazmat-storage/1003195272/?&er=NA>

### **USA, ILL, CHICAGO, AUGUST 8 2014. ACID SPILL FROM TANKER TRUCK CLOSED STREETS NEAR CHICAGO WHITE SOX BALLPARK**

A tanker truck leaking acid on the Chicago's South Side prompted authorities to temporarily close a train platform and streets near U.S. Cellular Field while a hazardous materials crew responded. Chicago Fire Department spokesman Larry Langford tells WBBM-TV (<http://cbsloc.al/1sgb4cl>) that about 500 gallons of muriatic acid were leaked from the tanker on Wednesday afternoon. Langford says the truck was carrying about 3,600 gallons of the acid. There were no injuries. Firefighters used a mobile ventilation unit to keep fumes away from the baseball park. Police said a Metra station, expressway exits and some nearby streets had also been closed. Chicago Transit Authority trains temporarily bypassed the 35th Street Red Line station. Fans attending the afternoon White Sox game against the Texas Rangers were directed to use other expressway ramps.

<http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/2c850fa0ea2b40b8b1abea3d2d4a6442/IL--Truck-Leaking-Acid>

### **USA, MISS, VICKSBURG, AUGUST 8 2014. TANKER TRUCK OVERTURNS NEAR VICKSBURG, HIGHWAY 61 SOUTH CLOSED FOR HOURS**

A tanker truck overturned Thursday north of Vicksburg closing both lanes of Highway 16 South for hours. The crash happened about noon at Highway 61 and Old Highway 61/Washington Street, police said. The truck was on its side blocking both lanes of southbound traffic, police said. The truck driver was injured and taken by ambulance to the hospital, police said. His name and condition were not released. Some diesel fuel spilled onto the highway, and the rest had to be pumped from the overturned truck to another tanker, police said. The southbound lanes were expected to be closed until about 8 p.m., police said. Traffic was being rerouted onto Old Highway 61.

<http://www.wapt.com/news/central-mississippi/tanker-truck-overturms-near-vicksburg/27363938#lbysp9o>



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### USA, MA, MILLBURY, AUGUST 8 2014. TANK TRUCK INSPECTIONS

The millbury Fire Dept. will conduct tank truck inspections throughout August. Fee: \$20 for each pickup truck, \$30 for each bulk delivery truck. The inspection sticker is good through August 2016 and required by state law for all registered vehicles parked overnight in the Town of Millbury and transport combustible liquids. If a tank vehicle transports combustible in a D.O.T. approved container, a certificate of exemption can be issued. To arrange an inspection or for more information, contact the Fire Dept. office at 508-865-5328, 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

[http://www.millburysutton.com/news/2014-08-07/Millbury/Tank\\_Truck\\_Inspections.html](http://www.millburysutton.com/news/2014-08-07/Millbury/Tank_Truck_Inspections.html)

### TRINIDAD & TOBAGO, POINTE-A-PIERRE, AUGUST 8 2014. EMA'S ANGST OVER OIL SPILL

The Environmental Management Authority (EMA) yesterday expressed "great angst" with its inability to take enforcement action against State-owned oil company Petrotrin over the spillage of approximately 17,844 barrels of slop oil from a ruptured storage tank on July 29. In a media statement yesterday, the EMA noted that it was "greatly distressed" by the environmental damage associated with the July 29, 2014 spill of 17,844 barrels of slop oil at Petrotrin's Pointe-a-Pierre oil refinery. Approximately 5,000 barrels of the slop oil found its way into the Guaracara river following the collapse of a bund wall which had been initially designed to stem the flow of any spillage. However, the EMA pointed out that the ruptured tank, which had been built in 1962, predated its Environmental Clearance Rules which had been enacted in 2001. "It is with great angst that the EMA is unable to, at this time, take enforcement action under the Environmental Management Act Chapter 35:05 due to Petrotrin's aged infrastructure which is not facilitated under the Certificate of Environmental Clearance Rules of 2001," the EMA stated.

<http://www.newsday.co.tt/news/0,198734.html>

### USA, FLA, PALM BEACH, AUGUST 8 2014. 1,000-GALLON FUEL SPILL IN RIVIERA BEACH

julius whigham ii

 **Watch the Video:** [1,000-Gallon Fuel Spill in Riviera Beach](#)



*Riviera Beach Fire Rescue is being assisted by Palm Beach County Fire Rescue. A fuel spill from a gasoline tanker truck prompted evacuations of several businesses and closed a stretch of Blue Heron Boulevard in Riviera Beach for hours Wednesday afternoon. The tanker truck was unloading fuel at the BP gas station on Blue Heron, just east of Congress Avenue when it began leaking fuel, said Russ Elgin, Division Chief for Riviera Beach Fire Rescue. The incident began shortly before 3 p.m. and caused an hours long shutdown of the roadway. "On arrival we found a large amount fuel in the parking lot running into the street and running into some storm drains," Elgin said. Police closed a stretch of Blue Heron between Congress Avenue and Avenue S as fire rescue crews applied foam. Initial reports were that about 1,000 gallons of fuel had spilled, but those estimates were later revised to somewhere between 200 and 1,000 gallons of*

*fuel, Elgin said. Workers who were near the tanker truck when the spill began, were evaluated by paramedics, but none were injured, he said. The gas station and nearby businesses were evacuated and a team of local volunteers from the Red Cross was called to assist first responders at the scene. Because the fuel spilled into storm drains, crews were assessing nearby waterways and conducting environmental monitoring, Elgin said.*

<http://www.palmbeachpost.com/news/news/local/fire-rescue-fuel-spill-closes-intersection-of-blue/ngwyP/>

### CANADA, N.S, DARTMOUTH, AUGUST 8 2014. CITY MAY FACE \$1.5M BILL FOR DIESEL CLEANUP AT BUS GARAGE IN DARTMOUTH

brett bundale

A diesel spill at a Halifax Transit garage in Dartmouth could cost the city up to \$1.5 million in cleanup and fuel costs. Roughly 200,000 litres of diesel seeped into the ground after an old piping system leaked for months. It remains to be seen whether the municipality will have to foot the bill for all the costs related to the fuel leak. "It is our position that we feel this is an insurable loss," Shannon Miedema, Halifax's environmental performance officer, said Wednesday. "Our risk insurance and legal experts are working with our adjusters.... It's an ongoing process." Cleanup crews have been sopping up diesel since the leak was detected in April and have removed an underground water main that provided a pathway for the fuel. "They've taken out



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most of a big section of the water line that runs parallel between the building and a ditch," Miedema said. "We had to bring in temporary water so the building and fire hydrant still had water and excavate the pipe, vacuum out everything and pressure wash the area using a degreaser." Rather than replace the water main right away, she said the site will be monitored to see if fuel is pooling along the pipe's pathway. Miedema said the water main could be replaced in the coming weeks, but the cleanup and environmental monitoring will continue for several months. Cleanup crews also drilled through the transit garage's floor slabs to verify that diesel had leaked under the building. "They are drawing the product out from where it's sitting," Miedema said. The leak was first discovered in early April when a car dealership on Windmill Road reported an oily sheen in a nearby ditch and called Halifax Water. The utility told Halifax that the leak appeared to be coming from the transit facility, but it took until late May to confirm the source. The Burnside facility had underground fuel tanks removed in January 2013, but an old piping system connecting the underground system with above-ground tanks was left intact. It is estimated that by last December the piping system began to leak. "It was coming from the fuelling system for all the buses," Miedema said. "There are two above-ground tanks that are intact, but the piping was still connected to the old underground system of tanks. "The above-ground tanks have leak detection so an alarm would go off if anything happened, but this was just a silent leak going into the ground. There was no above-ground evidence." Halifax Transit brought in environmental consulting firm Amec to conduct an emergency response to the fuel spill at a cost of about \$100,000. Conestoga-Rovers & Associates, an environmental and engineering firm, has taken over the cleanup work and estimates it could cost another \$1.2 million, including taxes and a 20 per cent contingency fund. The 200,000 litres of diesel that seeped into the ground comes with a price tag of roughly \$190,000.

<http://thechronicleherald.ca/metro/1227877-city-may-face-15m-bill-for-diesel-cleanup-at-bus-garage-in-dartmouth>

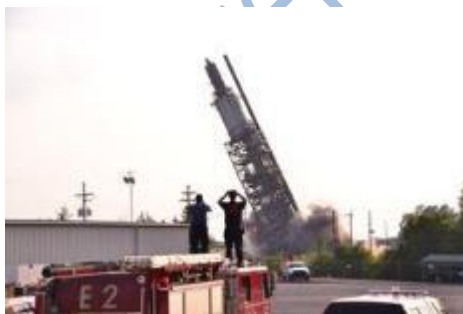
### **BRAZIL, SAO PAULO, SAO JOAO DO RIO PRETO, AUGUST 8 2014. BRAZILIAN AUTHORITIES BUST NETWORK OF THIEVES WHO STEAL TRAIN FUEL**

Brazil's Military Police on Wednesday arrested about 40 people suspected of stealing fuel and other products valued at 30 million reais (about \$13.5 million) from trains, authorities said. Those arrested in the city of Sao Joao do Rio Preto, in Sao Paulo state, allegedly made up a criminal network and perpetrated their crimes mainly on trains owned by America Latina Logistica, stealing fuel and later selling it to gasoline station owners in the area. After securing dozens of arrest warrants, about 250 agents backed up by police dogs, a helicopter and prosecutors from the Gaeco anti-crime special action force were deployed in the operation which unfolded in the Catanduva region. Among those arrested were gasoline station owners and security guards who allegedly facilitated the activities of the network. According to prosecutor Joao Santaterra, with the Rio Preto Gaeco force, the investigation leading to the arrests began last December. "The Attorney General's Office informed us of ... endemic ... crime along the railroad line," Santaterra told local media outlets. He said that the leaders of the band recruited local residents to steal grain, sugar and fuel while security guards opened the train cars or pretended not to notice the crimes. The stolen goods were warehoused for a short period but later delivered to other members of the network responsible for their sale. "It was a very well-organized group, with several different cells with leaders who organized the thieves," Santaterra said. America Latina Logistica said that it is cooperating with the authorities and is awaiting the end of the criminal investigation before commenting on the matter.

<http://latino.foxnews.com/latino/news/2014/08/06/brazilian-authorities-bust-network-of-thieves-who/>

### **USA, TX, MOUNT PLEASANT, AUGUST 8 2014. 'CAT CRACKER' AT OLD REFINERY IMPLoded**

*lou antonelli*



*Old refinery: County emergency personnel watch from atop a fire truck as the old TCC stack comes down late Tuesday.*

It was the symbolic end of an era Tuesday as the heart of the long-time Mount Pleasant oil refinery, the 350-foot thermoform catalytic convertor, was imploded and razed by the company doing the environmental clean-up at the site.

The refinery operated under several owners from 1936 to 1984, producing gasoline, diesel and asphalt products. Mount Pleasant echoed with the reverberation of the explosion late in the afternoon. Titus County emergency personnel were on hand in case there were any problems. A few former employees also gathered to see this most visible reminder of a bygone era destroyed. The last operator, the Dorchester Refining Company, closed the



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refinery and sold off the storage tanks and bulk terminal in late 1984. The property and refining equipment was later purchased by the Trey Corporation, which completed a Chapter 7 liquidation in November 2000. Numerous notices of violations were filed by the federal Environmental Protection Agency against the site, from 1995 through 2003, for releases of hazardous substances into Tankersley Creek, which flows into Big Cypress Creek. The site was then referred to the EPA Superfund for investigation and cleanup. In 2005 the EPA proposed the site for listing in the state Superfund registry. A public meeting was held at the Mount Pleasant Civic Center to receive citizen comments on the proposal to list the site on the state Superfund registry in June 2005. There were no challenges to the proposal at the time. The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality received a good-faith offer from a potentially responsible party in November 2005 to conduct the remedial investigation and feasibility study. In August 2006, the property was purchased by Lone Wolf Land Company, a subsidiary of TOTAL Petrochemicals USA, Inc. In June 2007 the TCEQ accepted the site in the Voluntary cleanup program and that August it was officially deleted from the state Superfund registry. The tower razed Wednesday was where the crude oil was converted to gasoline and other products

The "cracking" process vaporized the crude oil so it could be distilled to various other products.

[http://www.dailytribune.net/news/cat-cracker-at-old-refinery-imploded/article\\_9c900eb0-1dd4-11e4-9f8a-001a4bcf887a.html](http://www.dailytribune.net/news/cat-cracker-at-old-refinery-imploded/article_9c900eb0-1dd4-11e4-9f8a-001a4bcf887a.html)

### CANADA, ONT, OTTAWA, AUGUST 8 2014. OIL COMPANY HELPED COLLECT EVIDENCE FOR INVESTIGATION INTO SPILL

*mike de souza*



*Photos provided by a government scientist show the site of an oil spill in Cold Lake, Alta. An email from Environment Canada revealed federal and provincial authorities allowed Canadian Natural Resources Limited, the company under investigation for the leak, to collect some evidence in the probe.*

An email shows federal and provincial authorities allowed Canadian Natural Resources Limited, under investigation for a serious oilsands leak, to collect some evidence in the probe. Federal and provincial authorities allowed a company under investigation for a serious oilsands leak to collect some evidence of the harm caused to wildlife, according to a newly released email from Environment Canada. Both Environment Canada and the provincial Alberta Energy Regulator are investigating the company, Canadian Natural Resources Limited, over the incident, an apparent blowout in a well that released 1.2 million

litres of bitumen emulsion, a mixture of heavy oil and water, in Cold Lake, Alta. The federal department confirmed in the email, which was addressed to a wildlife organization and obtained by the Star, that it launched its investigation of the oil company to look into potential harm to migratory birds, which are protected under an international treaty. But the email also states that the provincial authorities and the company collected the carcasses — evidence in the investigation — as part of cleanup efforts that began in the summer of 2013. More than 100 animals died near the site of the spill. "Many of the animals were either recovered by provincial authorities or employees of the company, and I invite you to contact the provincial government for information related to number of animals or species information outside of the administration of Environment Canada," said Michael Bell, a regional director of the department's enforcement branch in Edmonton in an email dated Oct. 24, 2013, responding to questions about the incident from Carolyn Campbell, a conservation specialist at the Alberta Wilderness Association. CNRL declined to comment on the Environment Canada email, noting that the matter was under investigation. After learning about the incident on June 27, 2013, Environment Canada took six days to arrive on the site near Cold Lake, Alta. More than a year later, the leak is still continuing at small rates, but the company says it has contained the problem and is collecting the emulsion to prevent further environmental damage. The delayed federal response has prompted questions from an Edmonton-area MP and environmental lawyer, who previously advised Environment Canada on enforcement issues, about whether the department is going too easy on the company, as well as why CNRL was allowed to provide evidence in the probe. "We're right back to the 1950s here," Linda Duncan, Alberta's only elected opposition MP, said in an interview. "I've been part of these dialogues where there's always this argument made that you don't need the feds there because it's duplicating the province, which is nonsense, because the federal jurisdiction is totally separate." Anyone who violates the federal Migratory Birds Convention Act could face a fine of up to \$1 million and up to three years in prison. The law also states that any director, employee or representative of a corporation, who directed, authorized, assented to, acquiesced in or participated in an alleged offence, could face those penalties if convicted. Neither the province nor the company has reported



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finding evidence of violations of federal laws protecting fish or species at risk. One small body of water was contaminated by the spill, but a provincial environmental assessment had previously determined it didn't have any fish. Environment Canada told the Star that it found no evidence of violations of "Fisheries Act provisions that we enforce." The department also defended its response time, explaining that it assesses every incident on a priority basis and responded in this case on site when there was "sufficient information" that the incident involved relevant federal legislation. Spokesman Mark Johnson said the federal department works co-operatively with other enforcement agencies, sharing information where appropriate, including details of releases. In this case, he said Alberta was the lead agency. Jason Maloney, a spokesman for Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development, said that the provincial department provides permits, in cases where wildlife is killed, that allow a company to collect and dispose of carcasses and then report its results. He said most environmental legislation in Canada requires self-reporting, but that the government would investigate if there were concerns about false information. "Failure to self-report, or intentionally misreport by the accused is typically seen very unfavourably by the courts," said Maloney. Duncan, who advised the federal department's efforts to build its enforcement branch in the 1980s, is skeptical about the self-reporting approach and deregulation, which she said was increasingly putting environmental enforcement into the hands of private companies. She said that Prime Minister Stephen Harper's government has also weakened federal oversight in recent years through changes to environmental laws and budget cuts. "The game has always been, get rid of the federal government and then downgrade the provincial, and that is exactly what has gone on here," said Duncan. "So everything that is done, including pipeline inspection, by the way, is done by the company and the proponents." Previously-released internal Environment Canada emails have revealed some government officials had attempted to keep some details of the investigation secret, the Star reported in July. The Alberta Energy Regulator, which is conducting a major investigation into the incident, released an interim report that blamed the company's steam-injection practices as well as faulty wells for contributing to the incident. When asked about the company's role in providing evidence, it told the Star that it couldn't comment on the specific details in the case.

[http://www.thestar.com/news/canada/2014/08/06/oil\\_company\\_helped\\_collect\\_evidence\\_for\\_investigation\\_into\\_spill.html#](http://www.thestar.com/news/canada/2014/08/06/oil_company_helped_collect_evidence_for_investigation_into_spill.html#)

### USA, CO, PUEBLO CO, AUGUST 8 2014 DEPOT CLEANUP GETS \$54.5 MILLION

The Army has shifted \$54.5 million in funding for environmental cleanup at the Pueblo Chemical Depot in the next two years. "PCD is doing important work to dispose of our nation's chemical weapon stockpiles, and these additional funds will support that critical, ongoing mission," said U.S. Sen. Mark Udall, D-Colo. "These funds also will ensure the depot can strengthen its remedial work around its facility and protect public health." Udall is a member of the Senate Armed Services Committee. The funds will increase the projected budget for cleanups at the depot to \$65.7 million in 2014-15, which is greater than the \$11.2 million in President Barack Obama's budget request.

<http://www.chieftain.com/news/2787027-120/depot-cleanup-chemical-million>

### AUSTRALIA, NEW SOUTH WALES, SYDNEY, AUGUST 8 2014. NSW LAUNCHES TANKER AUDIT AFTER VIC DEATHS



*Police believe the trailer detached from the petrol tanker as it went around a bend crushing oncoming vehicles/*

The deaths of three people in a horror tanker smash in country Victoria have prompted an urgent NSW audit of fuel trucks and trailers. A four-year-old boy, his mum and another woman were killed on Thursday morning when the trailer of a BP petrol tanker detached and smashed head-on into two cars while the truck was rounding a bend near Wodonga, close to the NSW border. NSW Police on Friday established Operation Trident, which inspected 31 trucks and trailers involved in transporting fuel across the state. Officers issued 18 notices for wheel and tyre, oil and fuel leakage, suspension and chassis defects. "Whilst we will

have an interest in the trucks of the company involved in yesterday's tragedy, our aim will be to inspect trucks that are identified by officers coming from fuel distribution centres heading for outlets," Traffic & Highway Patrol Commander John Hartley said on Friday. BP has recalled its trucking fleet - all 30 vehicles in Victoria and another 20 around the rest of Australia - so the tankers can be inspected and cleared by transport regulators. NSW Roads and Maritime Services' director for safety and compliance Peter Wells said vehicles registered in NSW are subject to the toughest compliance and enforcement regime in the country, which far outweighs any other state. "Additional inspections of the BP fleet in NSW started today and will be carried out as quickly as possible," he said. "All links in the chain of responsibility including the fuel companies, depots and



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service stations must excel at safety and compliance. "We will not hesitate to use chain of responsibility laws to ensure this occurs."

**Related Stories** [3 Dead in Petrol Tanker Crash near Wodonga; BP Recalls Australian Truck Fleet](http://www.9news.com.au/national/2014/08/08/18/58/nsw-launches-tanker-audit-after-vic-deaths)  
<http://www.9news.com.au/national/2014/08/08/18/58/nsw-launches-tanker-audit-after-vic-deaths>

### BULGARIA, KOSTENETS, AUGUST 8 2014. SPARK TRIGGERED EXPLOSION AT AMMO FACTORY NEAR KOSTENETS



A spark triggered the explosion at the TEREM ammunition plant in Kostenets, according to caretaker Defense Minister Velizar Shalamanov. Shalamanov and Nikolay Nikolov, head of Bulgaria's fire safety and civil protection department, announced Friday that a spark between two ammunition disposal processes had landed on sacks of TNT, triggering a blast. An explosion at the state-owned ammunition disposal facility at around 8.40 am on Friday left ten people injured, including five men and five women, according to reports of the Bulgarian National Radio. Nikolov explained that the women had been near windows at the time of the blast and had mostly suffered cuts from the pieces of glass. He added that the blast wave had broken the windows of nearby houses and that there was no other damage. Shalamanov assured that TEREM would cover the damage expenses. A team of prosecutors, investigators and military police officers are to examine the site of the incident as part of an in-depth probe.

<http://www.novinite.com/articles/162608/Spark+Triggered+Explosion+at+Ammo+Factory+near+Bulgaria's+Kostenets>

### MEXICO, TAMAULIPAS, CIUDAD MADERO, AUGUST 9 2014. PEMEX REFINERY ACCIDENT IN MEXICO KILLS TWO WORKERS, 11 INJURED

**Photo's [7]** [Explosion at Pemex Madero leaves one dead and several wounded](#)



*The refinery flamazo left several workers injured. (Digital Millennium)*

Two workers died after being overcome by a burst of flames in an accident that also injured 11 at a refinery in northern Mexico, state-run Oil Company Pemex said on Friday. The accident took place at a fuel barrel storage area in the Ciudad Madero refinery just outside the port city of Tampico in Tamaulipas state while the facility's coking plant was undergoing maintenance, the company said in a post on its Twitter feed. Pemex said on Friday afternoon via Twitter that one person had been killed. In a separate tweet about six hours later it said a second worker had died in the accident. Televised images of the refinery showed smoke billowing out of one of the refinery's towers, but Pemex said in a statement that the accident did not cause a fire. The refinery's installations were not damaged, the company added. Last month, a fire at one of the refinery's fuel storage tanks

forced the facility to shut down until about 90,000 barrels of gasoline were consumed.

**Related Stories**

- [Flamazo en Refinería de Ciudad Madero deja un Muerto Y 11 Lesionados](#)
- [Explosión en Pemex de Madero Deja un Muerto Y Varios Heridos](#)

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/08/09/mexico-pemex-idUSL2N0QF05A20140809>

### USA, PA, MONTGOMERY CO, HATFIELD, AUGUST 9 2014. MONTCO BUILDING FIRE SPARKS HAZMAT SITUATION

*alison burdo*

A man suffered chemical burns over 60 percent of his body after a chemical fire inside a colorant company's facility caused a hazmat situation in Montgomery County Thursday night. Fire crews responded to reports of a blaze at Penn Color Inc. on the 2800 block of Richmond Road, Hatfield around 9 p.m. The fire was declared under control at 9:32 p.m., according to officials. Medics airlifted the man to Lehigh Valley Hospital. No word yet on his condition. A second victim was transported to Lansdale Hospital with non-life threatening injuries, according to authorities. Officials have yet to disclose what chemical was burned in the blaze, but the building contains potentially hazardous products, according to reports. The Montgomery County Fire



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Marshall is investigating the fire's cause. Doylestown-based Penn Color has multiple facilities along the East Coast, as well as in Europe and India, according to its website.

<http://www.nbcphiladelphia.com/news/local/Hamat-270421011.html>

### USA, PA, YORK, AUGUST 9 2014. PA PLATING COMPANY FINED \$30,000 FOR HAZMAT VIOLATIONS

A Pennsylvania-based plating solutions company has agreed to pay the US Environmental Protection Agency more than \$33,000 to settle allegations of improperly storing hazardous waste. During an inspection of [Hard Chrome Specialists](#), the EPA found Resource Conservation and Recovery Act violations involving hazardous waste stored at the York facility, including waste chromium, cadmium, lead and electroless nickel waste. The alleged violations included: failure to make hazardous waste determinations, failure to properly manage containers of hazardous waste, failure to inspect a hazardous waste storage tank and failure to update the facility contingency plan. The settlement penalty reflects the company's compliance efforts, and its cooperation with EPA in the resolution of this matter. As part of the settlement, Hard Chrome has neither admitted nor denied liability for the alleged violations, but has certified its compliance with applicable RCRA requirements.

<http://www.hazmatmag.com/news/pa-plating-company-fined-30-000-for-hazmat-violations/1003196404/?er=NA>

### USA, MO, ST LOUIS, AUGUST 9 2014. SIX WORKERS HURT, ONE CRITICALLY, IN PROPANE TANK EXPLOSION AT ST. LOUIS TRUCKING YARD

*valerie schremp hahn*



Six workers were hurt, one of them critically burned, in a propane tank explosion at a St. Louis trucking yard Thursday night. The incident happened at about 8 p.m. at SAIA Motor Freight Line, 7337 Hall Street. St. Louis Fire Department Captain Garon Mosby said workers were trying to change a propane tank on a [FORKLIFT](#), which was on the back of a trailer. Somehow a leak from the tank caught fire, causing a flash explosion and burning the workers, who are all men. In addition to the critically burned man, three suffered serious burns but were in stable condition. Two workers suffered minor injuries and refused treatment. Mosby said the tank itself didn't explode and there wasn't a fire to put out as a result of the explosion.

[http://www.stltoday.com/news/local/crime-and-courts/six-workers-hurt-one-critically-in-propane-tank-explosion-at/article\\_89097be4-9ded-54f5-83bc-0ea33510233a.html](http://www.stltoday.com/news/local/crime-and-courts/six-workers-hurt-one-critically-in-propane-tank-explosion-at/article_89097be4-9ded-54f5-83bc-0ea33510233a.html)

### USA, MO, SPRINGFIELD, AUGUST 9 2014. KUM & GO SUED OVER BAD GAS

*sarah okeson*

[PDF Document](#) [Claxton v. Kum & Go](#)

[Watch the Video: Gas Station Faces Class-Action Lawsuit](#)



A Greene County man has [sued Kum & Go](#) over about \$50 in gas that he says damaged the engine and other parts of his pickup truck. The lawsuit filed by Colton Claxton claims that there was negligence on the part of the Iowa company which operates more than 400 stores in 11 states. Kum & Go has said that it has received 55 complaints from people who bought gas on July 17 and 18 at its store on north National Avenue and Chestnut Expressway. Claxton's lawsuit said that immediately after he bought gas the engine on his Chevrolet pickup started sputtering, and the truck stalled. A mechanic found that the truck

had diesel fuel in it instead of unleaded which Claxton thought he bought. The fuel tank was drained and new gas put in. The mechanic suggested replacing the engine, according to the lawsuit. The total bill would be about \$4,790. But Claxton said Kum & Go offered him \$2,962 in compensation. Kum & Go spokeswoman Traci Rodemeyer said the company has "taken full responsibility for the issues and are aggressively working with appropriate teams to address our customers' concerns." "Kum & Go has already resolved any claimed problems with a large majority of the customers affected by this event, and we are actively working to resolve this matter with any remaining affected customers," Rodemeyer said. "We have also identified and fixed the equipment issues at this store to ensure that this type of incident cannot occur again. Kum & Go values the trust and



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relationships we have in the community, and we are truly sorry for the inconvenience that this has caused our customers." Claxton is seeking to sue as a class action. He is asking to be compensated for damages, costs and "for such other relief as the court deems just and proper." [One of Claxton's attorneys is Nathan Duncan of Bolivar, the attorney in a high-profile lawsuit against Mercy](#) filed by a mom who was detained and threatened by a security guard after taking a picture of her 7-year-old son.

### Related Stories

- [Kum & Go takes 'full responsibility' for bad gas issue](#)
- [Kum & Go Dealing With Tainted Fuel Incident](#) -

<http://www.news-leader.com/story/news/local/ozarks/2014/08/08/kum-go-sued-bad-gas/13767431/>

### USA, MI, ROMULUS, AUGUST 9 2014. CREWS WORK TO REPAIR LEAK AT AIRPORT FUEL FARM

 **Watch the Video:** [Crews Repair Gas Leak](#)

Crews at Detroit Metropolitan Airport are working to repair a leak at an airport fuel farm. The airport in the Detroit suburb of Romulus says the leak caused minor delays Thursday at the north terminal after contractors discovered the problem. Airport spokesman Mike Conway says there were no delays Friday morning related to the leak as crews worked to isolate the leak and repair the problem. He says the airport's fueling system is working and airlines are using the fueling system as usual. Conway says crews collected about 2,000 gallons of fuel and water from the ground at the fuel farm, but it wasn't known how much fuel leaked. Officials say the leak didn't pose a threat to health or the environment. The leak has been reported to environmental regulators.

<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2014/aug/8/fuel-leak-at-detroit-airport-causes-delays/>

### USA, CA, LOS ANGELES, AUGUST 9 2014. HIDDEN TANK IN HORSE TRAILER USED TO STEAL 500 GALLONS OF FUEL

veronica rocha

 **Key Points:** Couple stole 500 gallons of gas from Riverside station by pumping it to hidden system inside horse trailer.



*Police say a couple stole 500 gallons of fuel from a gas station by pumping it directly into a hidden tank in a horse trailer.*

A couple stole 500 gallons of fuel from a gas station by pumping it into a horse trailer with a false door and interior tank system, Riverside police said. According to a witness account, the man and woman pulled a horse trailer attached to a ford truck into the Weis Fuel station in the 9400 block of Magnolia Avenue at 4:45 a.m. on July 22 and stopped over a tank filling hole, Riverside police said

Thursday. The horse trailer was apparently equipped with a false door and interior pumping system, which police said was used to extract 500 gallons of gasoline from the station's underground tank. The horse trailer reportedly had an "alien" sticker on the rear.

<http://www.latimes.com/local/lanow/la-me-ln-500-gallons-fuel-stolen-horse-trailer-20140808-story.html>

### BULGARIA, SOFIA, AUGUST 9 2014. BLAST AT MILITARY PLANT IN BULGARIA'S KOSTENETS ACCIDENTAL, NO MORE EXPLOSIONS EXPECTED: OFFICIAL

A Blast at the military plant in the Bulgarian town of Kostenets was accidental and no more explosions are expected. This is what Senior Commissioner Nikolay Nikolov with the General Directorate for fire safety and Civil Protection said speaking for FOCUS News Agency. He explained that the blast had caused a hole of 4 x 2 metres. Nikolov added that four people were hospitalised with injuries. People have been evacuated. There is no risk of another blast," Nikolov remarked. The area around the plant has been closed-off. As FOCUS announced earlier, there was a signal about an explosion at the TEREM - Tsar Samuil EOOD company, dealing with repair and utilisation of ammunitions, received at around 8:50 a.m.

<http://www.focus-fen.net/news/2014/08/08/345006/blast-at-military-plant-in-bulgarias-kostenets-accidental-no-more-explosions-expected-official.html>

### SCOTLAND, ABERDEEN, AUGUST 9 2014. ABERDEEN OIL WORKERS HIT AS SHELL AXES 250 JOBS

Aberdeen oil workers are facing the axe after Shell today announced that it was cutting 250 jobs from its North-east onshore operation. The oil giant confirmed that the jobs will go at Shell's office in Aberdeen. The move is taking place to "better serve



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the needs of its offshore facilities and to build a stronger long-term business in the North Sea". A spokeswoman for the firm added: "Following staff consultation, Shell expects to reduce employee and contractor headcount by a total of around 250 positions over the next year. Revisions to the onshore organisation will be implemented by the end of 2014. "Shell is determined to ensure that it continues to deliver safe, competitive operations in its North Sea Portfolio and maximises value from its operated assets." The company operates some 60 offshore and sub-sea installations and three onshore gas plants at St Fergus, Mossmorran and Bacton. Parent company Royal Dutch Shell last week pledged to return more than 30 billion US dollars (£18 billion) to investors over two years as quarterly profits rose by a third. Earnings for the second quarter of 2014 excluding one-off items increased 33% to 6.13 billion US dollars (£3.63 billion) but chief executive Ben van Beurden said he was determined to get a "tighter grip" on business performance and management.

<http://www.eveningexpress.co.uk/news/local/aberdeen-oil-workers-hit-as-shell-axes-250-jobs-1.513591>

### USA, W.VA, CHARLESTON, AUGUST 9 2014. WEST VIRGINIA WANTS \$2 MILLION FROM COMPANY THAT CAUSED HISTORIC CHEMICAL SPILL

emily atkin



*The Freedom Industries site in West Virginia, which released 10,000 gallons of chemicals into a drinking water supply, is seen in this Jan. 13, 2014, photo.*

The state of West Virginia is [asking](#) a federal bankruptcy judge to approve \$1.8 million in claims against the company that let 10,000 gallons of a mysterious coal-related chemical leak into the Kanawha River back in January, poisoning the drinking water supply for 300,000 people. According to the [Associated Press](#), West Virginia Attorney General Patrick Morrisey said Freedom Industries owes money to a number of state agencies for the trouble they went through following the spill. The \$1.8 million claim would be spread across multiple agencies, though the largest amount \$940,000 would go to the state Department of Health. In the aftermath of the January spill, nearly 600 people checked themselves into local hospitals with what [federal epidemiologists called](#) "mild"

illnesses, such as rash, nausea, vomiting, abdominal pains, and diarrhea. Long-term health effects from the chemical, called crude MCHM, are unclear — there is currently no data on crude MCHM's carcinogenic effects, ability to interfere with human development, or its ability to cause DNA mutations and physical deformities. The associated Press [noted](#) that the \$1.8 million claim would not include costs incurred by the state Department of Environmental Protection, as that agency would seek its own claims against the company. Freedom Industry is currently going through a Chapter 11 Bankruptcy, which it immediately declared in the days following the historic spill. At the time, many [decried the bankruptcy](#) as an attempt by Freedom to avoid having to pay claims from those its chemical spill had harmed. MSNBC's Chris Hayes [called the filing](#) a "staggeringly brazen" attempt to avoid paying claims, and local attorneys [confirmed](#) to Think Progress that they would likely have to drop their lawsuits against the company. "There's going to be no money left. There's gonna be nothing left," Kevin Thompson, an attorney who filed a class action lawsuit against Freedom, said at the time. "The feds are going to have control of them. There's nothing left to do over there." Still, that's not stopping entities from filing claims against the company. Because of this, Freedom has also agreed to a tentative [\\$2.9 million settlement](#) with attorneys representing local residents and businesses. That money from that settlement, reached in July, "could be spent on health studies, water testing or other projects to benefit the group of individuals as well as businesses that were forced to close in the wake of the spill," according to the Wall Street Journal. Freedom was also fined [\\$11,000](#) in July by the U.S. Department of Labor for having unsafe working conditions in the events leading up to the spill.

<http://thinkprogress.org/climate/2014/08/08/3469070/feds-seek-fine-from-freedom-west-virginia/>

### USA, MI, TRAVERSE CITY, AUGUST 9 2014. DIESEL SPILL AT MARINA CAUSED SHEEN

michelle merlin

Officials think a boat leaked diesel fuel this week and caused a sheen to blossom across the water at the city's Duncan L. Clinch Marina. The sheen spread Tuesday and spread to about 60 feet long and 42 feet wide, an official at the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality said today. Members of the U.S. Coast Guard responded to a call and investigated the incident. They furnished a report to the DEQ that said the spill was cleaned up before they arrived. Brian Jankowski, a district supervisor for the DEQ in Cadillac, said it was unclear how much diesel spilled into the bay. "You've got this rainbow sheen on



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the surface, but that can be very thin and an extremely small amount of material," Jankowski said. "Someone could spill half a cup and you could have a sheen five times that size."

<http://www.record-eagle.com/local/x1927915591/Diesel-spill-at-marina-caused-sheen>

### ENGLAND, LONDON, AUGUST 9 2014. CORRUPT EXECUTIVES SENT TO PRISON FOR PUMPING TOXIC LEADED FUEL OVERSEAS

On Nov. 22, 2006, Paul Jennings received an email from a fellow executive at his chemical company. "As you are aware, Indonesia was planning to go lead free in 2000," the note read. "This obviously did not happen for a number of reasons and since 1st January 2000 until the present, we have supplied 28,390 [tons] of [tetraethyl lead] ...generating \$277 million in revenue." Today, Jennings is one of three former employees of the ASSOCIATED Octel Corporation (renamed Innospec) [behind bars](#). They were sentenced Monday in a London court for bribing Indonesian -- and in Jennings' case, Iraqi -- government officials to continue their nations' importation of a toxic product banned across most of the world. The American-owned corporation's scheme to sustain profits for its tetraethyl lead fuel additive, which involved millions of dollars in illicit payments between 2002 and 2008, helped to delay the phase-out of leaded gasoline. Lead's health harms, especially for children, have been known for more than a century. Decreased IQ and increased violence are among the most well-documented risks. Yet today, according to the United Nations Environment Program, cars and trucks in Iraq, Afghanistan, Algeria, Myanmar, North Korea and Yemen can still legally burn gasoline with the heavy metal compound added to prevent engine knock. (Unleaded anti-knock options were recognized before tetraethyl lead became the systemic addition to the automobile fuel recipe in the 1920s. Unfortunately, those alternatives proved less profitable.) The situation baffles and frustrates environmental health experts. "What on earth is going on that this continues? We've had so much bad experience with the use of lead in gasoline," said Howard Mielke, an expert in lead poisoning at Tulane University School of Medicine. "Apparently, it is an extremely lucrative product," he added. Leaded gasoline is not the only product that has been pulled from developed nations' shelves, only to appear in [open markets elsewhere](#) -- often in poor countries where few regulations protect public health. Laws need not always be broken in the process. In the late 1970s, U.S. companies were found to have dumped millions of [children's pajamas](#) treated with toxic flame retardants on developing countries after the retardants were banned in the U.S. Around 1.7 billion pounds of pesticides were exported from U.S. ports between 2001 and 2003, nearly 28 million pounds of which were products forbidden in the U.S., according to the trailer for the film ["Toxic Profits."](#) And in 2011, according to the United States Geological survey, the U.S. exported about [\\$27 million worth of asbestos](#) products. Perry Gottesfeld, executive director of the non-profit Occupational Knowledge International, has uncovered high lead concentrations in paints sold in developing nations. He found at least one overseas lead-based paint manufacturer that was owned by a U.S. company. (The U.S. government banned lead paint for residential use in 1978, although estimates suggest there are millions of American homes that were built and painted prior to the ban.) "If you look at the [historical behavior of the \[leaded fuel\] industry](#) and the [lead paint industry](#), you see some similarities," said Gottesfeld. "The history here is long and poor in terms of how they propped up the use of lead." Indonesia appears to be among the impoverished countries hit from multiple sides by corporate bullies. Its people face exposures to banned pesticides and paints. Overall, the developing Asia-Pacific region now makes up the largest market in the world for paint. A recent study found that [76 percent of the paint sold in that region](#) contains high levels of lead, well above the U.S. regulatory standard. Indonesia is one notable example of an impoverished country hit from multiple sides by corporate bullies. Its people still face exposure to banned paints and pesticides in addition to their fraudulently extended exposure to leaded gas. "When these improvements to the environment such as the adoption of unleaded fuel take place, it is usually the developed nations that are able to implement them first," British Judge Andrew Goymer said in his sentencing remarks on Monday. "The developing nations in the Third World, as it is often called, struggle because of their economically inferior position, and they struggle to keep up with this progress and development." Goymer called Indonesia a "case in point," suggesting the country's drive to go unleaded was "progressively put back and not finally achieved until 2006." "This was a direct consequence of the activities of this company and these defendants," the judge said. Brian Watts, vice president of Innospec, declined to comment on Monday's sentencings. He said that his company continues to sell tetraethyl lead for automobile gasoline in just one country, Algeria, which plans to phase out its use in 2015. The company also claims that it is the only remaining manufacturer of tetraethyl lead in the world, although unconfirmed rumors circulate about potential producers in China and elsewhere. Watts also declined to comment on the continued sale, in any country, of a product long known to be toxic. "The executives who were prosecuted were fully aware of the risks associated with tetraethyl lead," said Kathleen Hamman, a former Department of Justice prosecutor who led the U.S. side of the Innospec investigation. This is a case, she added, where "corruption and environmental degradation hit head-on." Hamman cautioned



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that a country going unleaded is not something that can happen overnight, especially if its roads are still full of cars that run on leaded fuel. "There has to be a transition period," she said. Still, she and other experts are making no excuses for Innospec's criminal behavior that prolonged that period. "The company's line and the defendants' line was that there was an economic necessity or imperative in Indonesia," said Ben Morgan, joint head of Bribery and Corruption at the U.K.'s Serious Fraud Office, which co-investigated the bribery case with the U.S. Justice Department. "The judge described that as a convenient and cynical excuse for corruption." Morgan also suggested that the verdicts against individual executives sent "a very significant message" concerning white collar crime. "It's not enough that the company pays the price," he said. "The people who are the arms, legs and mouth pieces of that company will face the consequences of their actions." Even after these last few nations finally do make the switch, said Tulane's Mielke, their people will continue to suffer the consequences of delay. When the U.S. phased out its use of tetraethyl lead in automobile gasoline during the mid-1970s -- again, many decades after the risks were documented -- cars and trucks had already spewed some 6 million metric tons of lead into the environment, he noted. Heavy metals never break down, so much of that lead lingers in the soil and even inside homes. Leaded fuel also still powers [fleets of propeller airplanes](#) in the U.S., further adding to the accumulated contamination. Mielke laments the slow speed at which the U.S. has worked to abate the "invisible" problem, such as by replacing contaminated soils. "We have the infrastructure, and we're not using it," he said. "Developing countries do not even have the infrastructure to begin with," said Mielke. "So they're handicapped, and then they are going to be handicapped further from the poisoning."

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## USA, WASHINGTON DC, AUGUST 9 2014. NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES AGREES WITH EPA THAT FORMALDEHYDE CAUSES CANCER

*david heath*

For years, the chemical industry has been winning a political battle to keep formaldehyde from being declared a known carcinogen. The industry's chief lobby group, the American Chemistry Council, has persuaded members of Congress that the findings of both the Environmental Protection Agency and the Department of Health and Human Services were wrong and should be reviewed by the National Academy of Sciences. In 2011, the academy did indeed criticize the EPA's report on formaldehyde for being unclear. The chemical industry then used that critique to delay dozens of other ongoing evaluations of potentially toxic chemicals. But on Friday, the academy issued a second report, which found in effect that government scientists were right all along when they concluded that formaldehyde can cause three rare forms of cancer. "We are perplexed as to why today's report differs so greatly from the 2011" report, Cal Dooley, president and chief executive officer of the American Chemistry Council, said in a statement titled "The Safety of Formaldehyde is Well-Studied and Supported by Robust Science." Part of the disparity is that in the 2011 report, Congress asked the academy only to critique the EPA's draft assessment rather than evaluate the dangers of formaldehyde itself. The panel concluded that the EPA's report was too long, repetitive and lacked explanation. But after reviewing the scientific evidence itself, the academy concluded on Friday that formaldehyde is indeed a known carcinogen. Formaldehyde is widely used in wood products and clothing. In a blog posting, Jennifer Sass, a scientist at the Natural Resources Defense Council, called the American Chemistry Council's efforts "a vicious attack on government scientific assessments [meant] to distort and discredit any evidence linking toxic chemicals to diseases, disabilities or death." Using the academy to review any negative findings from the EPA has become common tactic of the chemical industry. The Center for Public Integrity [reported](#) in June that Rep. Mike Simpson, a Republican from Idaho, got the EPA to turn its negative assessment of arsenic over to the academy. At the same time, Congress also insisted that the EPA redo all ongoing assessments to address the criticisms of the 2011 formaldehyde review. Forty-seven assessments are affected. The American Chemistry Council said in its statement that the academy "misses an opportunity to advance the science." Richard Denison, a scientist at the Environmental Defense fund, countered: "One can only hope that this sorry episode and waste of public resources will help to expose the narrow self-interest of the industry, which for years it has deceptively sought to wrap in the mantle of sound science."

<http://www.publicintegrity.org/2014/08/08/15224/national-academy-sciences-agrees-epa-formaldehyde-causes-cancer>



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