



## Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network

### Release 2014 – 1,092 Newsy Stuff

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

**August 13 2014**



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#### PAKISTAN, FAISALABAD, AUGUST 10 2014. HAZARDOUS WORK: WASA WORKER DIES FROM SUFFOCATION

Scores of Water and Sanitation Agency (Wasa) workers on Friday staged a protest demonstration after a sanitary worker died from suffocation and another fainted while cleaning a man-hole in Nigehban Pura. The protesters placed the worker's body at Station Chowk and burnt tyres suspending traffic on the busy intersection for two hours. Amjad Masih, one of the protesters, told the media Wajid Masih and Jamil Masih had fallen unconscious while cleaning a sewer in Nigehban Pura on Sargodha Road. They were taken to a hospital where Wajid died. "We have requested Wasa officers several times to provide us safety gear, including masks, helmets and gloves. They have done nothing in this regard," Amjad said. "The loss of life could have been avoided had the workers been provided proper equipment." City Assistant Commissioner Shafi Khan, Civil Lines Deputy Superintendent Mian Khan Mohal and Sargodha Road Station House Officer Hafiz Irfan arrived at the Station Chowk along with a contingent of police. They called off the protest after the authorities assured them that action would be taken against those responsible for the death. Rescue-1122 were called who removed the burning tyres and opened the road for traffic. Wasa Managing Director Syed Zahid Aziz has announced a Rs500,000 compensation for Wajid's family and Rs200,000 for Jamil who was in critical condition. Aziz went to the residence of Wajid to condole his death. He said the widow of the deceased would be offered a job in Wasa. The managing director told the media a committee had been formed under Director Chaudhry Muhammad Ashraf to investigate the incident. "The committee will submit its report within three days after which action would be taken," he told the media.

<http://tribune.com.pk/story/746205/hazardous-work-wasa-worker-dies-from-suffocation/>

#### RUSSIA, REPUBLIC OF DAGESTAN, MAKHACHKALA, AUGUST 10 2014. MUST SEE VIDEO: EXPLOSION AT SERVICE STATION

 **Watch the Video:** [Explosion at Service Station](#)

 **Watch the Video:** [Watch this Russian Gas Station Explode in a Massive Fireball](#)

 **Photo's [3]** [Explosion at Service Station](#)

 **Photo's [1]** [Watch this Russian Gas Station Explode in a Massive Fireball](#)

Video from an explosion Friday at a service station in Makhachkala, the capital city of the Republic of Dagestan, Russia. Four people were injured in an explosion at a gas station in Makhachkala, the Dagestani Ministry of Health informs. Three cars and a lorry were damaged as a result of the explosion.

#### Related Stories

[Watch this Russian Gas Station Explode in a Massive Fireball](#)

[Explosion takes place at Gas Station in Makhachkala](#)

[Video: La impactante explosión de una estación de gasolina](#)

<http://www.statter911.com/2014/08/09/must-see-video-explosion-service-station/>

#### USA, ILL, JOLIET, AUGUST 10 2014. FUEL LEAK TRACED BACK TO SINKING TUGBOAT

brian stanley



A sinking tugboat has been leaking diesel fuel into the Des Plaines River this week. Battalion Chief Mike Stromberg said the Joliet Fire Department was notified Thursday morning about an oily sheen on the water reaching from near the Jackson Street Bridge to Brandon Road. Stromberg said a bridge tender noticed the sheen earlier this week and notified the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Coast Guard, who asked the fire department to inspect it using a boat. The source of the spill was pinpointed Thursday. Firefighters found the gunk was coming from a tugboat moored near the Jackson Street Bridge since 1987. Since the boat has been unused for so long and is not registered as a working vessel, the spill falls under the EPA's jurisdiction instead of the Coast Guard. "The boat, which is around 30-feet long, is partly submerged and listing into the water," Will County Emergency Management

Director Harold Damron said. "It was being salvaged and pumping out water that contained diesel fuel," Stromberg said. Salvage operations were stopped and booms designed to contain the spill were placed around the wreck. Stromberg said Friday the Environmental Protection Agency is investigating and plans to remove the vessel from the water. Damron said



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people could smell a fuel odor in the area around the boat for a few days, but there are no immediate health concerns since the area is not used for swimming or recreation.

 **Related Stories** [Fuel leak traced back to sinking tugboat](#)

<http://www.theherald-news.com/2014/08/08/fuel-leak-traced-back-to-sinking-tugboat/ammogul/>

### USA, OK, STILLWATER, AUGUST 10 2014. LIGHTNING CAUSES TANK FIRE EAST OF STILLWATER

*megan sando*



Firefighters work to extinguish an oil tank that caught fire as a result of a lightning strike early Friday morning. A lightning strike from thunderstorms early Friday caused an oil tank to catch fire at 6:50 a.m. Firefighters arrived to an oil tank ablaze one-half mile south of Highway 51, east of Stillwater on Fairgrounds Road. Firefighters extinguished the fire with a special concentrate used for flammable liquid fires. Battalion 1, Engine 2 and a tanker responded. Firefighters were on scene for 90 minutes, Battalion Chief Tommy Miller said. "Stillwater Fire Department did a great job of keeping the tank next to the one burning from catching fire," land owner Randy Wedel said. Stillwater responders originally called for aid from Glencoe, but it was canceled. "We were able to extinguish the fire with approximately 500 gallons of water and 15 gallons of foam concentrate which is designed for use on these types of flammable liquid fires," Miller said. No injuries were reported as a result of the fire.

<http://www.stwnewspress.com/local/x1027623221/Lightning-causes-tank-fire-east-of-Stillwater>

### ENGLAND, HAMPSHIRE, AUGUST 10 2014. ENVIRONMENT AGENCY TO PROBE CONTAMINATION AFTER OUT-OF-CONTROL BONFIRE SETS LIGHT TO OIL TANK AT HAMPSHIRE FARM

*charlotte neal*

A blaze started by an out-of-control bonfire spread to a 900-litre oil tank, it emerged today. Twelve firefighters were called to a Hampshire farm when flames spread to nearby trees and two outbuildings. It reached the central heating tank at Weston Farm, near Micheldever, causing an oil leak. It is believed much of the fuel burned away. Now environmental experts are to conduct tests to see if the oil leak has contaminated the area. Farmer David Stevens said: "It was a very stressful evening. It was garden rubbish and got out of control. It spread to a tree and it was not a good place to have a bonfire. It spread to the oil tank and then got bigger. "The Environment Agency has been out, and will look for contamination in the soil. They will be dealing with it as they see fit. As previously reported, Winchester fire crews saved two ferrets from the burning outbuildings and it was thought one of the pets had perished in the blaze which started around 9.45pm on Thursday. However, Mr Stevens confirmed that another three animals were found safe yesterday morning. The five ferrets belong to his 19-year-old son, James Stevens. No-one was injured. Crew manager Phil Foxton, of Winchester fire station, said: "We urge anyone to keep bonfires attended and to start it away from other flammable items such as trees and sheds."

[http://www.dailyecho.co.uk/news/11399488.Bonfire\\_blaze\\_spread\\_to\\_oil\\_tank/](http://www.dailyecho.co.uk/news/11399488.Bonfire_blaze_spread_to_oil_tank/)

### QATAR, DOHA, AUGUST 10 2014. WATER TANKER CARRYING DIESEL SEIZED, DRIVER ARRESTED



A potable water tanker that was seized by the Ministry of Environment while transporting diesel on Shamal Road. The vehicle and the driver were handed over to security agencies. The Ministry of Environment (MoE) patrols seized a potable water tanker transporting diesel on Shamal road. A patrolling squad handed over the vehicle and the driver to security authorities. In a separate incident, another patrolling squad of the ministry rounded up a truck driver for not properly covering the materials loaded in his vehicle. The team also seized the vehicle and handed over to police. This is the second time the ministry has seized a water tanker carrying diesel from Al Shamal in the recent months. Last time, the ministry had seized a water tanker carrying diesel after a patrolling squad found it parked near a petrol station in Al Shamal. The driver, however, escaped. The government recently ordered to set up a committee to fight the growing diesel black market in Qatar. The panel



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has been tasked with putting an effective strategy in place to combat the menace. As a first step, the panel is expected to strengthen rules relating to the distribution of diesel and its monitoring and frame new regulations, if necessary.

<http://thepeninsulaqatar.com/news/qatar/295109/water-tanker-carrying-diesel-seized-driver-arrested>

### USA, LA, RUSTON, AUGUST 10 2014. TANKER CARRYING JET FUEL CATCHES FIRE NEAR RUSTON

 **Watch the Video:** [Tanker Carrying Jet Fuel Catches Fire](#)



A truck carrying jet fuel caught fire on Friday, briefly closing Interstate 20 west bound near Ruston. The Ruston Fire Department says the brakes of the truck overheated. The driver pulled over and used a fire extinguisher to put out the small fire. The Ruston Fire Department quickly arrived on the scene and were quickly able to get the situation under control. They say with the help of the driver, Louisiana State Police and the Department of Environmental Quality -- they avoided a much bigger disaster. "This could have been a very serious incident. That type of fuel could have erupted, and we could have had some mass disaster with traffic traveling both directions. It could have been a real serious incident," said Eric Brazzel with the Ruston Fire Department. The fire department says no one was injured in the incident. Traffic continued to move slowly for a few hours Friday afternoon as the mess was cleaned up.

<http://www.myarklamiss.com/story/d/story/tanker-carrying-jet-fuel-catches-fire-near-ruston/14213/3uAjZ5Q9mEi7HQ40CK8HIQ>

### INDIA, KARNATAKA, MANGALORE, AUGUST 19 2014. MIRACULOUS ESCAPE FOR DRIVER AS TANKER SMASHES INTO CAR

*sunil haleangady*

 **Photo's [4]** [Miraculous Escape for Driver as Tanker Smashes into Car](#)



The driver of a car had a miraculous escape in a ghastly accident near Kulur here on Saturday August 9. Udaykumar was driving a Swift car from Mangalore towards Suratkal when the accident took place. It is said that Udaykumar was stuck in a traffic jam at Kulur, and his car was behind a gas tanker. All of a sudden, another tanker that was behind the Swift went out of control and its driver rammed into the car from the rear end. As a result, the Swift car got sandwiched between the two tankers. The impact of the accident was such the car was completely smashed. Luckily, Udaykumar escaped with minor bruises. Suratkal traffic police registered a case.

[http://www.daijiworld.com/news/news\\_disp.asp?n\\_id=254901](http://www.daijiworld.com/news/news_disp.asp?n_id=254901)

### ENGLAND, PLYMOUTH, AUGUST 11 2014. PLYMOUTH PETROL STATIONS RUN OUT OF FUEL AFTER REPORTS OF A "CONTAMINATION"



*A Morrisons petrol station has confirmed they have no unleaded petrol.*

A number of forecourts in Plymouth have run out of unleaded petrol after a reported slip up at a Plymouth fuel depot. The busy Morrisons petrol station on Billacombe Road in Plymstock and a Texaco station in Tavistock are among those been hit by reports of accidental "contamination" of fuel at a depot in the city. As a result, stations have seen higher than normal levels of fuel purchases – and some may not have had their expected deliveries. Others had deliveries but were ordered not to sell what they had been given - they are awaiting replacement. A shop assistant from Morrisons said: "It was mental in here yesterday. We now have no unleaded left. "I've heard it's something to do with the refinery." Staff at



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the Texaco station in Tavistock also confirmed that they have run out of unleaded petrol, and a station in Liskeard said: "After initially running out yesterday, we now have fuel as usual." Rumours are circulating that someone has accidentally "contaminated" the unleaded fuel at a fuel depot in Plymouth, and that as many as 40 service stations could be affected. In the UK, Valero Energy Cooperation are licensed to sale fuel under the name of Texaco. A spokesperson for Valero said: "Valero investigated the possibility that off spec product had been delivered to a number of service stations in the South West, including the Plymouth area. "As a precaution, Valero immediately asked the affected service stations to suspend sales of unleaded petrol. Valero is currently collecting the affected product and resupplying these sites with petrol. "This affects only a small number of service stations, all of which will receive supplies shortly."

<http://www.plymouthherald.co.uk/petrol-stations-run-unleaded-petrol-contamination/story-22290344-detail/story.html>

### **RUSSIA, BASHKORTOSTAN REPUBLIC, UFA, AUGUST 11 2014. FIREFIGHTERS EXTINGUISH FIRE AT UFA OIL REFINERY - EMERCOM**

Firefighters have extinguished a fire at the Bashneft-Neftekhim oil plant in Ufa, the capital of Bashkortostan, in which one person was hurt, a regional Russian Emergencies Ministry branch told Itar-Tass on Sunday, APA reports quoting Itar-Tass. Twenty-seven firefighters and 14 vehicles are now working at the scene. Bashneft-Ufaneftekhim, a Russian oil refining company, was founded in 1957. It produces about 60 items, including various types of petrol, fuel oil, aviation fuel, liquefied gas and aromatic hydrocarbons. The company refines about 6 million tonnes of oil annually.

<http://en.apa.az/news/214994>

### **NIGERIA, RIVERS STATE, AKUKU- TORU, AUGUST 11 2014. SHELL RECORDS MASSIVE OIL SPILL ON ITS NEMBE CREEK**

chika izuora

A major oil spill has occurred at a Shell Petroleum Development Company of Nigeria, (SPDC), oil pipeline between the Santa-Barbara and Tego Rivers in Owuanga-Toru of Kula Kingdom in Akuku- Toru Local Government Area of Rivers State. The cause of the incident is yet to be ascertained as at press time but the company is pushing for investigation and mitigation exercise. Shell has confirmed the spill, which members of the affected communities described as "massive." "On August 6, 2014, the SPDC JV observed a leak on a section of the Nembe Creek Trunkline (NCTL) at Owangia community, Akuku-Toru LGA in Rivers State. "The impacted section has been shut down, preparatory to investigation into the cause of the leak and repairs. Some tools suspected to have been used for crude theft activities were recovered in the area," Shell Nigeria spokesman, Mr. Precious Okolobor said. Community secretary of Owuanga-Toru Community, Alabo Fiola, who first confirmed the development said, "the oil spills suspected to have come from SPDC facilities in the area, has affected fishing and the other uses of the river." He attributed the spillage to the activities of vandals, while appealing for relief materials for the affected communities. Some members of the affected communities described the spill as massive, but, Shell said the volume of oil involved is yet to be ascertained. Okolobor said a Joint Investigative Visit would be conducted to the area to establish the extent of damage to the pipeline.

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201408100012.html>

### **SCOTLAND, ABERDEEN, AUGUST 11 2014. LOCKE MAKES £200M MOVE FOR UK PETROL STATION CHAIN**

gareth mackie



*Murphy Oil Corporation, which owns petrol stations under the Murco brand, has struck a 200 million pound deal with Alasdair Locke.*

Oil tycoon Alasdair Locke is understood to have struck a £200 million deal to acquire a chain of petrol stations from US-based Murphy Oil Corporation, which last month agreed to sell its troubled Welsh refinery as it retreats from the UK. Locke, who netted more than £100m from the sale of Aberdeen-based driller Abbot Group in 2008, already has about 60 forecourts across the UK through his Motor Fuel Group (MFG) venture, which is backed by private equity firm Patron Capital. It is believed that the purchase of Murphy's network of more than 450 British petrol stations, which trade under the Murco banner, could be announced as early as today. The deal would mark the Arkansas-based oil group's withdrawal from the UK following last month's agreement to sell its Milford Haven, Pembrokeshire, oil refinery to US entrepreneur Gary Klesch. The takeover of Milford Haven



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by Klesch secured about 450 jobs at the closure-threatened refinery, which has the capacity to process 135,000 barrels of oil a day. Murphy, headed by president and chief executive Roger Jenkins, said at the time of the deal that talks over the sale of the Murco UK retail business were at an advanced stage. A spokesman for Murco declined to comment last night, as did a spokeswoman for Patron Capital. It is thought that the chain could be sold for about £200m to Locke and Patron Capital, who teamed up in 2011 to acquire MFG for an estimated £40m. The two joined forces again last year to buy a further 54 petrol stations after securing backing from Royal Bank of Scotland's property finance team. Locke became one of Scotland's richest men when he sold oil and gas services business Abbot six years ago. He founded the company in 1992 and floated it in London three years later. The entrepreneur was executive chairman when US private equity firm First Reserve bought Abbot in a deal that valued the group at £906m, making it the largest private equity buyout seen in the drilling services industry. In 2010, Abbot – by then renamed as KCA Deutag – changed hands again, with control passing to Pamplona Capital Management, and the company completed a \$750m (£447m) refinancing in May. Underlying pre-tax profits at KCA grew 14.4 per cent to \$300.9m last year. Locke, a former investment banker, holds a degree in history and economics from Oxford and is now chairman of Hardy Oil & Gas and Ceramic Fuel Cells, an Aim-quoted maker of generators that convert natural gas into electricity and heat. Last year, Patron joined forces with insurer Legal & General to buy housebuilder Cala in a deal that valued the Edinburgh-based group at £210m. The private equity firm also owns Powerleague, the Paisley-headquartered five-a-side football pitch operator, and two years ago considered an offer for rival Goals Soccer Centres. However, it ultimately decided against making a bid for the East Kilbride firm, which later saw shareholders narrowly reject a proposed £73.1m takeover by a Canadian pension fund. I Proserv, the Aberdeenshire-based energy services group, was yesterday reported to have been put up for sale by private equity house Intervale Capital with a price tag of about £500m. The firm, which employs more than 2,200 people across 11 countries, is led by chief executive David Lamont and last year moved to its new corporate headquarters in Westhill. The company has grown rapidly through a series of acquisitions, including the purchase in February of engineering firm KRG from its Japanese parent Torishima. Proserv did not respond to a request for comment.

<http://www.scotsman.com/business/energy/locke-makes-200m-move-for-uk-petrol-station-chain-1-3505166>

### MEXICO, MEXICO CITY, AUGUST 12 2014. MEXICO OIL REFINERY FIRE DEATH TOLL RISES TO THREE

The death toll from a fire at a northern Mexico oil refinery has risen to three, the oil company said on Sunday, after two more workers succumbed to their injuries. The fire broke out Friday at the complex in Ciudad Madero, a city bordering the US state of Texas, just two weeks after another blaze at the same refinery. State-run energy company Pemex said on Twitter that the workers were doing maintenance work on a coker unit when the accident took place. The firm said the unit was out of service and did not suffer material damage. On Sunday, the oil company announced the latest toll and added that eight injured workers also remain hospitalized. A fire injured 23 workers at the same refinery in the state of Tamaulipas on July 24.

<http://www.brecorder.com/markets/energy/america/187821-mexico-oil-refinery-fire-death-toll-rises-to-three.html>

### USA, TX, HOUSTON, AUGUST 12 2014. PROTESTERS URGE HASTY CLEANUP AT ABANDONED CHEMICAL PLANT >> NEIGHBORS OF FORMER CHEMICAL TRUCK CLEANING FACILITY CALL FOR END TO POLLUTION

cindy horswell



*About 25 residents and members of the Texas Organizing Project rallied for more cleanup at the shuttered CES Environmental Services.*

Residents from a modest southeast Houston neighborhood pointed Sunday toward a lagoon of algae-covered water with a pungent chemical smell that filled the parking lot of an abandoned cleaning facility for chemical trucks. Only some weeds and a cyclone fence separate the facility from homes and a charter school. CES Environmental Services Inc. at 4904 Griggs Road, a shuttered company that once generated as much as \$8 million a year in revenue, filed for bankruptcy and shut its doors in 2010 after paying millions to resolve residential complaints and safety violations that caused explosions and allegedly killed a worker there, records show. Today, a rusty "for sale" sign is staked in front of the dilapidated 8-acre facility, but what worries nearby residents is that a heavy

downpour two weeks ago washed some of that stagnant pool down their streets and into their yards. A dirty pool still remained Sunday, despite days of scorching heat since the rain. "The wastewater left a brown stain on my street. Some city employees came and took samples of the residue. We're supposed to get the results Monday," said Roselyn Johnson, who helped



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organize Sunday's protest. "That wastewater smelled horrible." Johnson, who's disabled and suffers from a breathing disorder, chronic obstruction pulmonary disease, was joined by about 25 neighborhood protestors, many donning surgical masks and loudly chanting "Clean it up!" Mary Moreno, spokeswoman for Texas Organizing Project that lent support to the low-income neighborhood, said, "Something like this would not happen in affluent areas like River Oaks. This is a classic case of environmental racism." The truck-cleaning facility was built right up against homes in the South Union subdivision, within about a block of Houston's Hartsfield Elementary and a stone's throw from the Beatrice Mayes Institute charter school. Residents said the site is now under the control of a bankruptcy trustee and that vacuum trucks were sent after the deluge to suck up some of the wastewater. Bulldozers were also used to form a makeshift dirt dike in an effort to contain any potential contaminants, but Moreno said residents want "more than just a Band-Aid." Texas Commission on Environmental Quality spokesman Terry Clawson said his agency has been working with the bankruptcy trustee and Environmental Protection Agency to try to stabilise the site. The bankruptcy trustee will address whether any contaminants still linger there, he said. The former CEO of the facility, Matthew Bowman, could not be reached for comment. Bowman has been embroiled in legal troubles with a number of facilities that he operated, including Port Arthur Environmental Services. He pleaded guilty in 2013 for occupational safety violations that killed an employee there. He was accused of mislabeling and illegally transporting chemicals there and was ordered to pay a fine and serve a year in prison. During the 10 years the CES facility was in operation, Houston officials received more than 200 complaints about sickening odors wafting into the surrounding neighborhood. CES cleaned tanker trucks for refineries and chemical plants along the Houston Ship Channel, recycling oil and packaging waste for disposal. Neighborhood residents now worry about leftover residue and how the state will secure the old discarded barrels and storage containers. "I don't feel we should have to inhale this stuff," said Bobby Wyatt, another resident living near the site. Jack Cunningham, a fast-food worker who rents a home across from the site, corralled his 2-year-old, saying he's afraid to let children play in his grassy front yard. "Last week, when it rained, the smell made me nauseous," he added. A 75-year-old retired housekeeper, Ray Whitmire, whose home shares a fence line with the facility, said he joined a class-action lawsuit against the facility. He said he received \$5,000 about 2 1/2 years ago. "They also promised that they were going to clean it up. But I still smell it all the time," Whitmire said, adding that many of his former neighbors have died of cancer and he wonders if there's a connection to the facility.

#### Related Stories

- [Defunct facility, owner named in federal indictment](#)
- [Houston waste firm CES files for bankruptcy](#)

<http://www.chron.com/news/houston-texas/houston/article/Protesters-urge-hasty-cleanup-at-abandoned-5680518.php>

### USA, N.J, PAULSBORO, AUGUST 12 20914. NEARLY TWO YEARS AFTER PAULSBORO SPILL, HEALTH CONCERNS LINGER



**Hear at:** [Nearly 2 Years after Paulsboro Spill, Health Concerns Linger](#)

taunya english



*Crews spray water on derailed freight train tank cars in Paulsboro, N.J., Saturday, Dec. 1, 2012, after seven cars of an 84-car freight train with two locomotives derailed the day before.*

After a train crash in Paulsboro, N.J., a cloud of toxic gas sent 28 people to the hospital. Mantua Township resident Ronald Morris was among them. Nearly, two years later, Morris says his fatigue, a rash on his back and lots of missed workdays are related to his exposure to vinyl chloride. The chemical escaped from an overturned Consolidated Rail Corporation train that Friday morning, Nov. 30. "It was nothing. It just seemed like normal morning to me," said Morris, who is a carpenter. He was driving to meet his father in Paulsboro to fix a client's door.

Around that same time, the first 911 calls were coming in to police. In the recordings, residents seem anxious. One woman urges emergency personnel to hurry: "The train derailed at the train bridge in Paulsboro," she said. "Smoke's everywhere." On another call, a man says he's having trouble breathing. Morris says it was around 7:30 a.m. when his truck hit a fog. "I rolled down the window and smelled outside, it smelled weird to me, it didn't smell like smoke, I could just about taste it," Morris said. Four Conrail tanker cars toppled that morning. Morris was a quarter mile away and says the chemical cloud engulfed his truck.



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"At that point, it started feeling like it was irritating me to where it was kind of like burning my skin, it just felt like it was on me," he said.

### **Assessing the Emergency Response**

Morris recounted the incident from his attorney's office in Cherry Hill. He and hundreds of others are suing Conrail. Lawyer Mark Cuker with Williams Cuker Berezofsky wants Conrail to pay for the disruption to his clients' lives and their future medical expenses. The company has agreed to pay for emergency room bills from that day in 2012, Cuker says, but he wants Conrail to also pony up for regular cancer screenings and check-ups. Cuker says Conrail was slow to reveal the hazards of vinyl chloride on the morning of the accident—information, he said, which could have resulted in a safer response. Spokesman Michael Hotra said Conrail cannot comment on the claims of anyone suing the company. "We will address the claims of litigants through our responsive legal filings and in court," Hotra said. Last month, investigators from the National Transportation Safety Board pointed to a string of mistakes following the derailment in Paulsboro. One board member called the emergency response "abysmal." The post-accident [report](#) says: "Although air dispersion modeling tools are readily available, the incident command team did not use any of these tools to evaluate toxic exposure during the first hours following the accident."

### **So Strong You Could 'Taste It'**

That failure makes it hard to know how much vinyl chloride residents came into contact with that day, but Mark Cuker has an estimate: "If you can smell it, it means it's present at a level of 3,000 parts per million. That's what's called the odor threshold for vinyl chloride. If you can taste it, it's got to be even more than that and Ron's not the only person that said he could taste it." "I was coughing up phlegm, and stuff like that. I started getting dizzy, I was feeling nauseous," Morris said. When he arrived at work, his father rushed Morris to the emergency room. At Underwood Memorial Hospital, he was taken straight to a decontamination room, then doctors gave him a breathing treatment, hooked him to an IV and monitored his blood pressure for several hours before he was discharged. But later, back at home, Morris was sick again. "I was actually coughing up blood and stuff," Morris said "I was like a sack of potatoes hugging the white porcelain." Morris' wife, Kristen Pickel called 911 and her husband was taken to the emergency room again. The family got through that day, but said she's been worried ever since.

### **Lasting Effects**

Morris said he's tired frequently—so fatigued that he misses days of work, and he has a recurring rash on his face and back. He believes those symptoms were caused by vinyl chloride. Twice a day, he said, he struggles to catch his breath. "He's not the same person, he has no joy anymore," Pickel said. "I don't know: Is this going to give me cancer? I got young kids, it's just scary," Morris said. "Vinyl chloride is bad stuff," said toxicologist Richard Parent, who leads Consultox Limited in Maine. He's not involved in the Conrail case but often works as an expert witness when disputes over chemicals go to court. Many chemicals have been shown to cause cancer in lab animals, but a smaller number are human carcinogens. Vinyl chloride is one of them. The chemical is valuable in the production of PVC piping and other building supplies. Most of what's known about the health effects of vinyl chloride are based on workers who were exposed decades ago over long periods of time, before the chemical was regulated. Vinyl chloride is linked to a rare type of liver cancer in people who worked with high levels of the chemical on a daily basis—several decades ago. In Paulsboro, some people wonder: Are there long-term health problems for someone who has breathed vinyl chloride for just a few minutes? "For a single exposure over a short time, the data is just not available to assess the extent of risk one has of developing any disease," Parent said.

### **Residents in Limbo**

The New Jersey Department of Health [surveyed](#) local residents about their health in the days following the Conrail accident, and many people reported eye irritation, trouble breathing and dizziness. "A lot of times those symptoms can develop as a result of just a person being concerned, sort of developing the symptoms because somebody told them that's the kind of symptoms they should be developing. That's hard to say because it gets into a psychological thing," Parent said. Attorney Mark Cuker has another take on the health-department survey findings: He says Ronald Morris and hundreds of his other clients are in limbo, but he says the survey is a first step—and validation. "You're not nuts, it's not in your mind, this was enough to make a lot of people sick, in spite of what you were told at the time, or afterwards," Cuker said. "A psychological response to a disaster, danger—a chemical release—obviously is going to cause a stress response which is initiated perhaps by fear and anxiety, but then can manifest itself as a physical reaction," said Robert Laumbach, a physician at the Rutgers Robert Wood Johnson Medical School. "It's a real physical reaction that people might have where they get short of breath, when they feel dizzy in a stressful situation. People may hyperventilate or have other physical reactions that are part of that stress response," said Laumbach, an associate professor of Environmental and Occupational Medicine. Laumbach evaluated some of the first responders to the Paulsboro accident back in 2012 and, in some cases, was hired by attorneys who were



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planning to sue Conrail on behalf of their clients. When people look back on a stressful experience, there can also be "recall bias," Laumbach said. "It's not that they are making it up, but people recall the experience in the way that they expect—or the way others around them expect," he said. Which symptoms are caused by the chemical? Which symptoms are caused by the psychological stress response? Laumbach said that is hard to suss out. "We don't know very much about the short-term exposure health effects that we may have seen in an incident like Paulsboro," he said. The New Jersey Department of Health did not respond to requests for comment on this story, but has an [information page](#) on vinyl chloride. Experts in health-risk communication say public officials have a tough job deciding what to tell residents after an incident like the Paulsboro train derailment. They work to calm people's fears without under or over estimating health concerns. As example, the Ground Zero cleanup and recovery effort in the wake of the Sept. 11, 2001 terror attacks is a case where officials singled a virtual "all clear" when the site still posed many health hazards for people working at the site.

<http://www.newsworks.org/index.php/new-jersey-more/item/71185-nearly-two-years-after-paulsboro-spill-health-concerns-linger->

### AUSTRALIA, QUEENSLAND, BRISBANE, AUGUST 12 2014. CALTEX TO CUT BRISBANE OIL REFINERY JOBS AT LYTTON

*anthony marx*



Caltex plans to axe jobs at its Lytton refinery in Brisbane in a bid to improve efficiencies. A company spokesman refused to confirm speculation yesterday that 100 or more white-collar positions would go as part of the restructure over the next year. About 340 employees and more than 200 contractors currently work at the refinery. "Caltex has been discussing with Lytton employees and contractors a new operational structure to ensure the refinery's long-term success," the spokesman said. "This will involve some reductions in the number of employees and contractors on-site over the next 12 months. Many of the roles being phased out are related to medium-term efficiency projects that commenced during the last few years and will near completion over the next 12 months." Caltex has

forecast losses of up to \$85 million in its refinery business in the first half of the year as it converts its Kurnell plant in Sydney into a fuel import terminal. The company plans to stop refining oil into petrol and other products at the Kurnell facility in the final three months of the year. [Rival BP announced in April that it was shutting its Bulwer Island refinery in Brisbane after almost 50 years of operation.](#) BP will cut 380 staff by the middle of next year, with just 25 jobs remaining to oversee a jet fuel import terminal.

 **Related Stories** [Workers in limbo as Brisbane company cuts 400 jobs](#)

<http://www.couriermail.com.au/business/caltex-to-cut-brisbane-oil-refinery-jobs-at-lytton/story-fnihsps3-1227021000976?nk=74ecf4a2305efe205924bc6b991d4fad>

### USA, ILL, HUNTLEY, AUGUST 12 2014. CLEANUP UNDERWAY AT CONTAMINATED SUN CITY HUNTLEY LAKE >> CONTAMINATION KILLED NEARLY 3,000 FISH THERE

*stephen di benedetto*

A truck company based in Canada could be fined by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency for an accident that ultimately contaminated a lake in Sun City Huntley and killed nearly 3,000 fish. The agency also ordered Trappers Transport in Manitoba, Canada, to cover the cost of a massive cleanup effort ongoing at Wildflower Lake, located in the middle of the Huntley retirement community, and a nearby creek that feeds from the Kishwaukee River. Agency officials still don't know whether a threat exists to residents who use the lake and creek, as they continue to investigate the extent of the contamination that killed thousands of fish. The agency is awaiting test results from a lab in Singapore in southeast Asia, which apparently is the only one that can develop a standard used to analyze the water samples. Officials hope to hear the results within the week. "It is not known if an environmental threat exists for residents who may use the lake or creek for recreational purposes," IEPA spokeswoman Kim Biggs said. "The investigation is continuing and information will be provided, as it becomes available." The environmental hazard happened after a Trappers transport truck caught fire along Interstate 90 near Huntley on July 25. The water runoff from the firefighters' hoses mixed with a chemical carried by the truck, seeped into a ditch and likely entered a branch of the Kishwaukee River that led to Wildflower Lake. The IEPA continues to monitor the cleanup effort, led by an environmental consultant representing the truck company. Since July 31, the consultant has been vacuuming



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contaminated water that went upstream of the lake after barricading Wildflower Lake with berms to prevent polluted water from spreading. Biologists from the Illinois Department of Natural Resources were at the scene Aug. 1 hauling 15 barrels, each holding 200 hundred dead fish, a department spokesperson said Friday. Despite the unknown effects to the lake, the village's water supply is unaffected, village officials said. Huntley's five water wells run at least 1,250 feet into the ground and are protected from direct routes of contamination. Officials also test the water quality from the wells daily.

<http://nwherald.com/2014/08/08/cleanup-underway-at-contaminated-sun-city-huntley-lake/abb375i/>

### **USA, AR, EL DORADO, AUGUST 12 2014. AUGUST 11 2014. MURPHY COMPLETES UK REFINING EXIT WITH PETROL STATIONS SALE**

*karolin schaps & ron bousso;*

Murphy Petroleum has signed an agreement to sell its UK petrol stations to Motor Fuel Group (MFG), completing its exit from Britain's oil retail market. The deal is worth just under 200 million pounds (\$335 million), a person familiar with the matter said, and comes after Murphy agreed to sell its Welsh Milford Haven refinery and distribution terminals to U.S. entrepreneur Gary Klesch. "Murphy is pleased to announce the signing of this agreement, following closely the signing of the agreement last week for the sale of the Milford Haven refinery," the company said in a statement. The deal is expected to close no later than Sept. 30, it added. Through the acquisition MFG, which operates around 60 petrol station forecourts in Britain including some operated under the BP and Total brands, will gain 228 petrol stations that will continue to operate under the Murco banner. MFG is majority-owned by investment fund Patron Capital Partners. "The signing of this agreement supports our stated objective to grow Motor Fuel Group into a significant force in the UK forecourt sector," said Stephen Green, senior partner at Patron Capital. Murphy Oil put its British refining and retail subsidiary Murco up for sale more than two years ago. The Arkansas-based company will keep its crude production operations in the British North Sea.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/08/11/murphy-oil-uk-idUSL6N0QH12720140811>

### **USA, MI, BAY CITY, AUGUST 12 2014. DOW CHEMICAL CO'S TOP-SECRET WORLD WAR I MUSTARD GAS PROGRAM TOPIC OF NEW BOOK BY BAY CITY AUTHOR**

*tim younkman*

A top-secret weapon that resulted in death on a massive scale during World War I was produced and transported in mid-Michigan without the public ever being aware of it, and it remained that way for a century, until now. In a new well-researched book authored by D. Laurence "Dave" Rogers, a long-time Bay City news reporter, editor, and author of local histories, he reveals the secrets of Dow Chemical Co.'s colossal program of manufacturing mustard oil which became the toxic and deadly mustard gas when exploded in an artillery shell. "The people just weren't aware of what Dow was doing," Rogers said. Although Dow chemists had developed ingredients for numerous helpful products from antacids to light metal, the benign-sounding mustard oil was a departure. In his book, "The G-34 Paradox," Rogers delves into what he calls the U.S. Army's secret mustard gas project inside Midland's Dow plants. Rogers, who has authored local histories of the James G. Birney family and the legend of Paul Bunyan, said he stumbled across the information about the secret project as he researched the personal papers of scientist Albert W. Smith, a professor at Case School of Applied Science in Cleveland. Rogers was attempting to find information about contributors to industries during World War II, but found some references to the earlier wartime poison gas project. "It took me over the course of a couple of years to find out the details because people didn't know a lot about the World War I-era production," Rogers said. He added that in his research he could find few references to the history of mustard gas production here. "It was a top-secret program," he said. "However, there was little or no security at the Midland plant until a farmer from Clare, upset with Dow, caused an explosion in 1916 at the plant. After that, there were a couple of guards assigned. Still, there was very little security throughout production." He said the secret program's product was dubbed "G-34" among other code names at various times. It was a certainty that the people living in a 20-mile radius of the plant didn't know that in a little more than a year, more than 100 tons of the death-producing mustard oil was being concocted in the lab and mass produced in the plant. Nor did people know, Rogers points out, that the multi-ton railroad carloads of the deadly substance were being shipped from Midland to a storage facility in Maryland, virtually unguarded and unmarked. If a car derailed and the barrels of oil spilled, the volume of death could have been tremendous. Instead, once in Maryland, some of the gas was shipped to Europe but the war ended before all of it was sent, so most had to be dumped in the Atlantic Ocean, Rogers said. The way Dow-founder Herbert H. Dow got involved in the top-secret program is researched and Rogers notes that Dow and Smith were college associates and friends, and Smith needed a science-based facility to work on developing his ideas so he came to Midland. Rogers points out that the Dow project was set up because the U.S. Army



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generals in the field demanded it for use in retaliation for the Germans gassing Allied troops. The British and French did have mustard gas development programs but it was a slow and time-consuming process and it was thought the Americans could develop it in greater volume and much faster. The mustard oil that is loaded into artillery shells and exploded over an enemy, creates a deadly aerosol in which just a drop or two of the oil hitting the human skin or inhaled causes excruciating burns, blistering and possibly death in many cases. Rogers said the Germans first used the gas in warfare after it was created by German chemists in some of the biggest chemical plants in Germany. At the time it seemed ludicrous that a small plant in Midland, Michigan, could have produced enough to compete with the Germans. However, Dow produced a massive amount of the oil and would have made more had the war gone on. The book also looks at some of the intrigue that went on inside the plant, the deaths of two men exposed to the oil, and a malevolent pair of scientists who provoked a nurse into sabotage. The \$19.95 soft-cover book is available through amazon.com, at the Bay County Historical Museum shop at 321 Washington Avenue, and from Rogers at Historical Press L.L.C., 4659 Dale Court, Bay City, MI, 48706.

[http://www.mlive.com/news/bay-city/index.ssf/2014/08/dow\\_chemical\\_cos\\_top-secret\\_wo.html](http://www.mlive.com/news/bay-city/index.ssf/2014/08/dow_chemical_cos_top-secret_wo.html)

### **RUSSIA, REPUBLIC OF DAGESTAN, MAKHACHKALA, AUGUST 12 2014. SO THAT'S WHY YOU SHOULDN'T PUT A FIREWORKS FACTORY BESIDE A PETROL STATION! DRAMATIC EXPLOSION RIPS THROUGH PYROTECHNICS PLANT AND DEVASTATES ITS NEIGHBOUR**

 **Watch the Video:** [Explosion Rips through Pyrotechnics Plant, Devastates its Neighbour](#)

 **Photo's [8]** [Explosion Rips through Pyrotechnics Plant, Devastates its Neighbour](#)

#### **Key Points:**

- Fireball shot through petrol station, sends people running for cover
- Fire then spread quickly to a fireworks factory next door
- The sound of fireworks exploding could be heard in around Makhachkala

tara brady



*A huge fireball shot through the petrol station which sent people running for cover.*

A fireworks factory has exploded in Russia after it caught fire following a blaze at a petrol station next door. A huge fireball shot through the petrol station which sent people running for cover. The fire then quickly spread to the fireworks factory next door. The sound of fireworks exploding could be heard around the neighbourhood in the city of Makhachkala, in Russia's south-western Republic of Dagestan, while debris was sent flying into the sky. Footage of the dramatic blast was taken by Natella Ankudinova, 38. She uploaded the video onto VKontakte, the Russian version of Facebook. She said: 'I live opposite the petrol station in a high-rise block of flats and always appreciated the view but never realised that I

would get a first-hand view of something so dramatic. 'It was actually a bit too close for comfort but there were no consequences for my home.'

Police confirmed four people had been hospitalised with severe burns as a result of the fire. An investigation has been launched to discover the cause of the blast. Several cars were also destroyed in the flames.

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2721949/So-thats-shouldnt-fireworks-factory-petrol-station-Dramatic-explosion-rips-pyrotechnics-plant-devastates-neighbour.html>

### **USA, VT, BURLINGTON, AUGUST 12 2014. PARTNERSHIP SETTLES HAZMAT CLAIMS FOR \$70,000**

mark davis

A partnership of members of Burlington's Handy family has agreed to pay \$70,000 to settle claims that hazardous materials spilled from an auto shop on Riverside Avenue near a drain that empties into the Winooski River, Attorney General Bill Sorrell announced today. Waste oil stored at the former M&H Auto building spilled in February 2012, necessitating a response from both state and local hazardous material teams. During follow-up inspections of the shuttered auto shop, the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources found several problems with the storage of hazardous materials, according to court documents, including large drums of waste that were rusted, uncovered, or left outside. Additionally, several 55-gallon drums full of waste were not properly labeled and catalogued with federal regulators, the attorney general's office said. It was unclear from court papers whether any of the spilled oil reached the nearby river. "Vermont businesses that generate and handle hazardous waste must



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follow the state's hazardous waste management rules," Sorrell said in a prepared statement. "Those rules protect the public health and the environment. We take violations of the rules seriously." In court papers, the Handys, who run numerous Burlington businesses, admitted the attorney general's allegations, and said that several of the drums had been left by prior tenants. The family, operating under the Sisters and Brothers investment Group LLP, implemented proper procedures for handling waste after the incident, the attorney general said. A Washington County judge approved the settlement.

<http://www.sevendaysvt.com/OffMessage/archives/2014/08/11/partnership-settles-hazmat-claims-for-70000>

### ENGLAND, LONDON, AUGUST 12 2014. DYNAMITE THREAT ON UK FLIGHT

*helen mcardle*

Two litres of nitroglycerin were carried on a passenger flights from the UK's busiest airport in one of almost 900 dangerous goods incidents reported to the UK's aviation watchdog in the last five years. The flammable liquid, the key ingredient in dynamite, is one of the world's most powerful and unstable explosives. It is particularly dangerous to transport as heat or physical shock, such as turbulence, can cause it to combust. However, The Herald has learned that on February 22, 2013, a bag containing two litres of the chemical was found during post-flight luggage screening at Zagreb Airport. The goods had been loaded at London Heathrow. Croatian police were called and an investigation launched. It is unclear which airline was involved, or the concentration of the nitroglycerin. Chemists say it was an "extremely large amount", which - if pure - could almost certainly have blown up the aircraft, suggesting the chemical had probably been diluted in ethanol and may have been transported for medical purposes. It can also be used to treat angina. However, Jamie Gallagher, chemist and science spokesman at Glasgow University, said it should never have been on a plane unless authorities were sure it was safe. He said: "What you can say from this is that it wasn't being transported safely or correctly. Someone has broken regulations and potentially hazardous goods have ended up on board which may have caused a disaster on the aircraft." The incident, reported to the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) by the aircraft operator, is among hundreds of alarming security breaches that have occurred on flights to and from the UK since 2009, and the numbers are on the rise. Figures obtained under freedom of information reveal there were 65 dangerous goods incidents reported to the CAA in 2009. By 2013 this had soared to 278 reported incidents, with 179 by July 17 this year. The CAA said the increase was down to better training and reporting, increased passenger journeys, and a clampdown on errors involving electric wheelchairs and other mobility devices. Only British Airline and freight operators are required to report safety breaches to the CAA, with foreign carriers such as Qantas, Emirates or Lufthansa reporting dangerous goods incidents to their own national authority. Among the 894 safety lapses was the transportation of 1023kg of "undeclared radioactive material" from Heathrow to China without paperwork; fuel-soaked blankets transported in the hold of a Boeing 777 passenger plane from Abuja, Nigeria to Heathrow; "five boxes of undeclared dangerous goods" discovered in the hold of a Boeing 777 on arrival at Heathrow from Ghana; "three pieces of dangerous goods loaded and travelled without pilot's knowledge" on a Boeing 777 Flight from Heathrow to Israel; and eight sporting weapons and two rounds of live ammunition flown on an Airbus 319 passenger plane from France to UK, with airport ground staff only realising the weapons were on board once the plane was in the sky. Dangerous goods can include paint, lighters, aerosols, and even party poppers, as well as poison, acid, radioactive or infectious substances, and explosives. A spokesman for pilots' union Balpa said: "Each of these breaches is a serious matter which we hope the authorities have investigated thoroughly and taken steps to prevent happening again." A spokesman for the CAA, said the body worked very closely with shippers, freight forwarders, airlines and their handling agents to ensure dangerous goods were carried in a safe way. A Department for Transport spokesman would not comment on individual cases. He said: "The independent CAA is the body responsible for checking that the appropriate measures are in place to ensure compliance."

<http://www.heraldscotland.com/news/home-news/dynamite-threat-on-uk-flight.25011147>

### USA, PA, LEHIGH CO, AUGUST 12 2014. PLUMBER BLAMES DIESEL FUEL TANK LEAK FOR KIDNEY FAILURE

*jim boyle*

A 32-year-old Lehigh County man says a heavy exposure to diesel fuel has caused him to suffer acute renal failure and needs a kidney transplant to survive, according to a federal suit filed in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. Jason Marino, of Slatington, Pa., seeks more than \$150,000 in damages for several counts of negligence and violations of the storage tank and Spill Prevention Act against Pilot Travel Centers, LLC, and Sovereign Consulting. According to the complaint, in February 2014 the Robbinsville, N.J.-based Sovereign Consulting contracted Marino, a plumber employed by Remco, Inc., to help a ruptured waterline on the grounds of the Flying J Travel Plaza 710 in New Milford, Pa., a rest area owned and operated by Pilot. The suit says that between October 2003 and November 2013, the Pennsylvania Department of



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Environmental Protection cited the Flying J Travel Center multiple times for failure to keep the underground fuel tanks properly maintained. In November 2013, Pilot learned that one of the underground diesel tanks was leaking, earning another citation in the process. In late 2013 or early 2014, Pilot hired Sovereign to conduct underground drilling to test for the leaks. During the investigation, one of the drills hit a water line, forcing Sovereign to call in Marino, the suit says. According to the complaint, Marino could not access the area for repairs until the frozen ground softened up. When he started excavating in March 2014, the pit that Marino dug to access the water line began to fill with a dark, thick liquid. Even when he pumped out the fluid, it seeped back into the pit, rising as high as Marino's knees and midsection. Despite the leak of the then-unknown substance, Marino continued working to repair the water pipe for the next five days, the claim says. At certain points, he would need to lower to his knees, with the liquid up to his chest. According to the complaint, Marino later learned that the liquid was, in fact, the leaking diesel fuel from Pilot's tank. The claim says that prolonged exposure to diesel fuel can absorb through the skin and infect the bloodstream, causing renal failure. Marino says that at no point did any representative from Pilot warn him of the potential leak or advise him to use protective gear while working on the project. Marino finished the job in April, and in May went to St. Luke's Hospital & Health Network with symptoms of nausea, dizziness and excessive tiredness. The doctors came back with a diagnosis of severe glomerulosclerosis, which is scarring of the small vessels of the kidneys that filter urine from the blood. Marino and his wife were advised that the condition is non-reversible and he would need a transplant to survive. According to the suit, Marino's father, Thomas, offered to donate a kidney, but he was not an exact match for Jason. However, Thomas donated the kidney to the donor bank, in order for his son to receive a new kidney at an accelerated rate. As a result of the surgery, Thomas Marino faces his own recovery challenges and has sued both companies for damages, the suit says. The plaintiffs are represented by Leonard Villari and Thomas Lynam of Villari, Lentz & Lynam in Philadelphia. The federal case ID number is 5:14-cv-04672-JLS.

<http://pennrecord.com/uncategorized/14382-plumber-blames-diesel-fuel-tank-leak-for-kidney-failure>

**USA, N.Y, SILVER CREEK, AUGUST 12 2014. THRUWAY ACCIDENT CAUSES TANKER TRUCK FIRE >> NEW YORK STATE POLICE ARE INVESTIGATING AN ACCIDENT ON THE I-90 THAT CAUSED A TANKER TRUCK CARRYING SOYBEAN OIL TO CATCH ON FIRE.**

 **Watch the Video:** [Thruway Accident Causes Tanker Truck Fire](#)



New York State Police are investigating an accident on the I-90 that caused a tanker truck carrying soybean oil to catch on fire. Troopers say just after 9am Monday, a Thruway maintenance truck was traveling west on the I-90 and stuck the the overpass at Milestrip Road in the Town of Brant with the truck bed. They say that caused the driver to lose control and go into the eastbound lanes of the I-90. The vehicle was then t-boned by a tanker truck forcing both vehicles into a ditch. The tanker truck started on fire. Both drivers were able to get out safely. The Thruway maintenance driver was taken to ECMC with non-life threatening injuries. The driver of the tanker truck was not hurt. The I-90 was closed from Hamburg to Silver Creek for about 45 minutes while troopers investigated.

<http://www.wgrz.com/story/news/local/2014/08/11/thruway-accident-causes-tanker-truck-fire/13905469/>

**USA, TX, RUSK COUNTY, AUGUST 13 2014. ONE MAN KILLED IN RUSK CO. PIPELINE EXPLOSION**

 **Watch the Video:** [Man Killed in Pipeline Explosion](#)

Rusk County officials say one man was killed in a natural gas pipeline explosion in southeastern Rusk County. Firefighters responded to the explosion on Farm to Market 1798 East near the intersection of County Road 3122 on Tuesday afternoon. Rusk County Office of Emergency Management Officer David Chenault said the line was broken by a tractor on a mowing crew. A person was using a tractor about 200 feet off of FM 1798 when the tractor struck a natural gas line, causing the rupture. The victim of the explosion has been identified as Connor Wilson. A family friend says Wilson is from White Oak and worked for Thunderhorse Oilfield Services. He says Wilson is married with four children. A representative from the Rusk County Office of Emergency Management told KLTN that they were made aware that a 12-inch pipeline exploded when they received a 911 call at approximately 5:15 on Tuesday evening. Gas was leaking from the pipeline, but as of 6:35 p.m., OEM



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officials confirmed the pipeline, which is owned by Enbridge, was shut off. Residences in a one-mile radius around the ruptured area were evacuated, although residents were allowed to return to their home by 9:45 p.m. on Tuesday. Eastside and Churchill volunteer fire departments responded to the scene along with Texas Department of Public Safety troopers and the Rusk Co. Sheriff's Department. The scene is about 12 miles southeast of Henderson. FM 1798 is closed from FM 840 to FM 2867; drivers should seek alternate routes. A viewer told KLTV that they heard an explosion from their home in Carthage, about 17 miles away. According to the Texas Railroad Commission, the majority of the pipelines in the area carry natural gas.

<http://www.ksla.com/story/26263735/12-inch-pipeline-exploded-in-southeast-rusk-county-official-says>

### REPUBLIC OF GEORGIA, TBILISI, AUGUST 13 2014. A GAS STATION EXPLOSION IN THE US SENDS A CLEAR MESSAGE TO ALL

 **Watch the Video:** [Car Explodes into Flames at Georgia Gas Station](#)



*Silly ... The driver can be seen talking on his phone as well as leaving the car running while filling up.*

A Georgia driver learnt the hard way why you should always use common sense when filling up at the pump. Footage has emerged of a vehicle exploding at a gas station which shows the driver making a call on his mobile at the time. It's also clear from the vision that the driver had left his car running, breaking another golden rule when it comes to refuelling. Both the driver and a mechanic appear to look under the car as if there was a leak of some sort, suggesting the tank safety may have been disabled and the tank overfilled. In a similar case last year, also in Georgia a gas station fire saw a woman severely burnt. A driver

was filling up his car when he flicked a cigarette lighter near his gas tank and caused a fuel vapour explosion. The man's wife was standing next to him when the incident occurred and suffered second and third degree-burns to her legs, arms, back and head.

<http://www.news.com.au/world/a-gas-station-explosion-in-the-us-sends-a-clear-message-to-all/story-fndir2ev-1227023107409>

### USA, N.J, LACEY TOWNSHIP, AUGUST 13 2014. ARREST IN HAZMAT DUMPING CASE



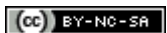
Ocean County Prosecutor Joseph D. Coronato and Lacey Police Chief David A. Paprota today announce the arrest of Nico Morgan, 24, of Lacey for Second Degree Purposely and Knowingly Causing a Release and Abandonment of Hazardous Toxic Pollutants. The arrest stems from an investigation begun on Sunday, August 10, 2014, at 10:41 pm by Lacey Township Police department. On that date and time police and fire units were dispatched for a report of a vehicle in the woods on Lacey Road near mile post 6. Upon arrival emergency personnel found no vehicle present, however, there was a large spill across Lacey Road. Further investigation revealed five 55 gallon plastic containers on the side of the road and in the bordering woods. Two containers, which were empty, had leaked on the road and the wetlands. Lacey Police Traffic Safety Officers Rob Flynn II and Jeff Slota observed and followed a trail of alleged diesel fuel to a Capshaw Road

address. There they observed a black jeep Cherokee with damage to the passenger side and the rear tire missing. The Jeep was attached to a trailer containing one 55 gallon drum with what is believed to be diesel fuel. The officer's investigation revealed the operator of the Jeep was Nico Morgan who resides at 38 Saltspray Drive in Lacey. On Monday, August 11, 2014, at 10 am, the investigating Lacey Officers requested Ocean County Environmental Unit Detective Thomas Haskell and Ocean County Sheriff's Department CSI Sgt. Joseph Greene respond to assist in their investigation. After conferring briefly, the above charge was approved by Assistant Prosecutor Michael Weatherstone. Morgan's bail has been set at \$15,000 no 10%. He is free in lieu of bail to appear in court on a future date. Officials from the Department of Environmental Protection were notified and will supervise the site clean-up. The defendant will be responsible for the full expense of the site remediation if convicted.

<http://www.ocsignal.com/2014/08/arrest-in-hazmat-dumping-case/>

### USA, WASHINGTON DC, AUGUST 13 2014. PHMSA PROPOSES 'REVERSE LOGISTICS' DEFINITION IN HAZMAT REGULATIONS

The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration published a proposed rule Aug. 11 that would add a section that defines "reverse logistics" to the Hazardous Materials Regulations (HMR), applying it to return shipments of certain hazardous



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materials by motor vehicle. The proposed definition is hazardous materials that are intended to be returned to or between a vendor, distributor, manufacturer, or other person for the purpose of returning for credit, recalling product, replacement, or similar reason. PHMSA's rule also handles a reverse logistics issue related to the transportation of used automobile batteries to recycling centers and says this change "will reduce the burden on the regulated community when consolidating shipments of lead acid batteries for recycling." This NPRM follows an advance notice of proposed rulemaking that PHMSA published in July 2012 on this issue. Numerous shipping companies and organizations filed comments, generally supporting the proposal. Comments on the NPRM are being accepted until Oct. 10, 2014. The agency says the NPRM will establish regulations for the shipment of hazardous material in the reverse logistics supply chain; define training requirements associated with reverse logistics shipments; provide authorized packaging for reverse logistics shipments; set segregation requirements for reverse logistics shipments; and allow more flexibility for the transportation of lead acid batteries.

<http://ohsonline.com/articles/2014/08/12/phmsa-proposes-reverse-logistics-definition.aspx?admgarea=news>

### USA, ORE, BEAVERTON, AUGUST 13 2014. NEIGHBORS FRUSTRATED OVER CLAIMED 'HAZMAT HOUSE' >> VACANT HOUSE CLEANED UP AFTER MONTHS OF COMPLAINTS

jennifer dowling



*Barrels of unknown liquids and canisters containing possible flammable substances at an empty house left residents in a Beaverton neighborhood frustrated with an inability to get it cleaned up.*

Barrels of unknown liquids and canisters containing possible flammable substances that have sat outside a vacant Beaverton home since late 2013, August 12, 2014. The house at 250 NW 181st has been vacant since late 2013. Homeowner Scott Rovig said his former home was going through foreclosure. He fell behind in the payments, he told KOIN 6 News, and when the bank demanded around \$35,000, he moved out since he didn't have the money.

#### Worried Neighbors

Nearby residents told KOIN 6 News they nicknamed it the "Hazmat House" and noted it's very close to a park where children play. One neighbourhood association member, who asked to remain anonymous, pointed to some barrels and canisters piled near the driveway. "I'm looking at gas cans here," the member said. "I don't know what's in some of these barrels." Outside, there were also containers labeled "Nitric Acid" and "Muriatic Acid," as well as paint cans and canisters labeled as gear oil. Rovig said some of the barrels were once used to store vegetable oil to make bio-diesel for his truck, and the muriatic acid was used for doing stone work. He said he did not remember having a container labeled "nitric acid." "I just don't want to see this whole thing go up in flames," said the neighbor.

#### Complaint to the County

KOIN 6 News obtained documents that show a neighbor complained to the Washington County Health and Human Service Department in March 2014. "We as a community are worried this home is a fire hazard and much more," she said in the complaint. "We think that there might be rodents (raccoons, etc.) living in the yard...." On May 27, 2014, Washington County Code Enforcement Officer Andre Bjornskov investigated and made a report. Among other concerns, Bjornskov wrote:

- "The pond is not fenced on all sides to prevent children from possible harm."
- "Some of the liquid and chemical materials observed may be toxic or hazardous."
- "There were some propane containers and some other containers. The oil based paint as well as the solvent type chemicals certainly could be flammable."
- A firework, match or cigarette weren't the only items that could start a fire, he said. Extreme heat could cause some materials to spontaneously combust.
- Bjornskov said the toughest challenge in cleaning up abandoned or vacant properties is finding the owner.

#### Maintenance Control of Property

A sticker on the door of the house indicated Safeguard Properties, a mortgage field service company with main offices in Ohio, currently had maintenance control of the Beaverton house. The neighbourhood association member who spoke with KOIN 6 News said the association previously called Safeguard and asked them to clean it up. Washington County's Bjornskov mailed a notice of non-compliance to Safeguard Properties on May 27, 2014. Two days later, Safeguard responded. Neighbors say this house at 250 NW 181st has sat vacant since late 2013 with barrels of unknown liquids and canisters containing possible flammable substances sitting outside the home, August 12, 2014. "I have placed orders to have the reported violations



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addressed," Safeguard employee Iqua Ekong said. However, on July, 2, documents showed Bjornskov checked the property again and reported, "There has been no cleanup of the property." He sent another email. On July 3, a Safeguard employee sent another message. "We are still waiting for a copy of the violation in order to remove all of the hazardous material from the property," Marlisela Meza, a Code Compliance Team Member with Safeguard Properties, replied. Bjornskov reminded them by email the violation notice was sent about a month before.

### **Who Owns the Property?**

KOIN 6 News contacted Safeguard Properties and asked if Rovig was the owner of the house. This sticker is displayed on the front door of the home residents in Beaverton have nicknamed the "Hazmat House," August 12, 2014. (KOIN 6) "Unfortunately, I can't give out any information. We don't own properties though. I need to get you over to our public relations person," a Safeguard Properties representative said. A voicemail asking for comment from the PR representative has not been returned at this time.

### **Clean-Up**

The day after the KOIN 6 News call, clean-up crews arrived at the property and hauled the barrels away. "We are in great appreciation of your help in getting this resolved," a homeowners association member told KOIN 6 News. "I don't know when they would have come out had it not been for you folks."

### **Tips for neighbors of Foreclosed Homes**

Neighbors frustrated with properties that are abandoned or in foreclosure should first file an official complaint with the city or county government, Bjornskov said. Keep code enforcement officers updated. Email pictures of the home or property to the county officials even after the complaint is filed. Patience is required, Bjornskov said, as it is not always easy to determine who is responsible for a foreclosed home. Over the past two years, he said, his workload has increased with more reports about foreclosed homes.

<http://koin.com/2014/08/12/neighbors-frustrated-over-claimed-hazmat-house/>

## **USA, KS, PITTSBURG, AUGUST 13 2014. TWO PEOPLE INJURED AFTER EXPLOSION AT JAKE'S FIREWORKS IN PITTSBURG**

 **Watch the Video:** [Explosion at Jake's Fireworks Injures 2](#)

An explosion at Jake's Fireworks in Pittsburg sends two people to the hospital with serious injuries. The two individuals injured were moving fireworks into a [STORAGE UNIT](#) outside of the main building when the explosion occurred. They have been airlifted to a Springfield hospital with serious injuries. There were 10 people inside Jake's Fireworks, but all escaped unharmed. According to Crawford County Sheriff Dan Peak, the fire marshal is investigating the exact cause of the explosion but says it could possibly be firework related.

<http://www.thefreecamsecret.com/ap/?DF=0&AFNO=1-0-634091-341541&UHNSMTY=303&jntp=np&stno=1-773-851-3143-1973-1919&sanp=adc>

## **INDIA, GUJARAT, AHMEDABAD, AUGUST 13 2014. ORPHAN BOY LOSES FINGERS IN MOBILE BATTERY BLAST**

Virendra Vasava (10) lost four fingers of his right hand after a blast ripped through his hand while he was playing with a mobile phone battery. The orphan had passed by a mobile shop and had picked up the battery out of curiosity which turned deadly in within minutes. The battery burst and injured his hand and face. Virendra is admitted to the burns ward of VS Hospital. Doctors attending to him said that this is the first such burn injury from a mobile battery exploding. "The child has lost four digits of his right hand, including the thumb and index finger. All that is left is his little finger. There are also burn marks on his face," said head of burns department at VS Hospital Dr Vijay Bhatia. Dr Bhatia said that the first priority is to ensure that the wound heals. After that, surgeries could enhance the utility of the right hand. The child will also be trained to make greater use of his left. Virendra was first taken to the Halol referral hospital from where he was referred to Vadodara and later brought to VS Hospital in Ahmedabad. Virendra's grandfather Suresh told TOI that the boy lost both his parents when he was a couple of months old. "He was returning from schools when he passed by a mobile repair shop. He picked up a discarded battery to play with, which caused the accident," said Suresh. It needs mention that experts have warned against the use of cheap mobile phones where the quality of batteries is not guaranteed and are prone to accidents like catching fire. There however has been a flood of cheap mobiles in the market ? most of them imported from China ? which are available to buyers without any quality control and checks.

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/ahmedabad/Orphan-boy-loses-fingers-in-mobile-battery-blast/articleshow/40133391.cms>



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#### USA, CO, FRISCO, AUGUST 13 2014. WESTBOUND EXIT 203 IN FRISCO REOPENED AFTER TANKER TRUCK ROLLOVER

 **Photo's [3]** [Tanker Truck Rollover](#)

Interstate 70's westbound exit 203 on- and off-ramps in Frisco closed for the second day in a row Tuesday, Aug. 12. But unlike Monday's closure for paving, yesterday's traffic interruption was unplanned. Shortly before 8 a.m., a tanker truck traveling westbound took the Frisco-Breckenridge exit with the intention of traveling south on Highway 9, said Sgt. Philip Gurley of the Colorado State Patrol. The truck was hauling about 6,000 gallons of magnesium chloride in its 9,000-gallon tank. As the truck navigated the roundabout at the exit, the wheels of the tanker went up on the curb, shifting the liquid in the tanker and causing the truck to roll over on its side. The truck was reportedly traveling at about 5 miles per hour, according to witnesses statements made to the State Patrol. The driver was transported by Summit County Ambulance to St. Anthony Summit Medical Center as a precaution, Gurley said. He was later released with minor injuries. It took first responders about seven hours to reopen exit 203 to westbound traffic, said Steve Lipsher, public information officer for Lake Dillon Fire-Rescue. First responders had the truck back on its wheels by about 1 p.m. and the exit was reopened at approximately 3 p.m. Eastbound traffic was not affected by the crash. Deputy fire marshal Kim McDonald, of Lake Dillon Fire-Rescue, said magnesium chloride is not considered a hazardous material. There was one leak as a result of the crash and some liquid did spill onto the roadway, but the rest of the tanker had been contained before 9 a.m. Although the spill was not considered the most serious of public health hazards, Lipsher said the Summit Fire Authority's hazmat team responded to assist with the cleanup. "It's salt, so it's not the type of thing that causes a public health risk, but it's also not supposed to be there in that concentration," Lipsher said. "It can harm vegetation and can affect the water supply, but given where the spill occurred, it wasn't that grave of an environmental risk." Also responding to the crash were the Summit County Sheriff's Office, the Colorado Department of Transportation and the town of Frisco. Dillon Towing removed the tanker truck from the scene.

<http://www.summitdaily.com/news/12576515-113/truck-gurley-exit-tanker>

#### ENGLAND, GATWICK, AUGUST 13 2014. "POTENTIAL FOR BIG FIRE" PUT OUT NEAR GATWICK AFTER FUEL TANKER ENGINE CAUGHT LIGHT

Six fire engines from across West Sussex attended a fire involving a fuel tanker near Gatwick last night (Monday). The engine of a fuel tanker transporting petrol caught light on a perimeter road of Gatwick between the North and South Terminals at approximately 10pm. One truck from Crawley Fire Station and five others from across the district attended the scene where fire fighters wore breathing apparatus and used hose reels to put out the remainder of the flames. The tanker's driver had already put out most of the fire using a dry powder extinguisher after he realised the engine was on fire. A spokesperson for Crawley Fire Station said there was "potential for a big fire" which is why six of West Sussex's fire engines were sent out to the scene.

<http://www.crawleynews.co.uk/Potential-big-near-Gatwick-fuel-tanker-engine/story-22521627-detail/story.html>

#### USA, TX, KARNES CO, AUGUST 13 2014. FRACKING COMPANIES FIGHT TEXAS FAMILIES' AIR POLLUTION SUITS, FEARING PRECEDENT

david hasemyer



*Bob and Lisa Parr at their wedding in 2008, with Lisa's daughter, Emma.*

If two Texas couples win their cases, it could change the assumption that ordinary people can't stand up to the industry, legal expert says. Two major oil companies have asked a Texas judge to dismiss a civil lawsuit that could draw new attention to the toxic air emissions from oil and gas production. [The lawsuit](#) was filed last year by Mike and Myra Cerny, who say they can't enjoy the use of their home because of the benzene, toluene and other toxic chemicals released from nearby facilities owned by Marathon and Plains Exploration & Production (PXP). The Cernys are using the same argument that helped another Texas family, Bob and Lisa Parr, win a groundbreaking, [\\$2.9 million judgment](#) against [Aruba](#) Petroleum last April: That the emissions created a nuisance that made their lives unbearable. Air emissions are increasingly recognized as a problem in drilling areas throughout United States, with residents complaining of coughing, headaches, nosebleeds, rashes and dizziness. But lawsuits linking gas



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and oil production to health problems have been considered almost unwinnable, because few scientific studies have been done on how the industry's emissions might affect human health. [Jane Barrett](#), director of the University of Maryland's Environmental Law Clinic, said that if the Parrs and Cernys succeed, their cases could change the assumption that ordinary people can't stand up to the industry. Barrett compared the two Texas cases with early lawsuits filed against the tobacco industry, which was once seen as immune to charges that it was responsible for the harmful effects of cigarettes. "People swore it would never happen in the tobacco industry and it did," Barrett said. "Now the oil and gas industry has to be taking a look at that same big picture, knowing that it could happen in their industry. "It's a snowball they don't want to see start rolling." Aruba Petroleum spelled out its concerns in a [motion](#) it filed last week, asking for a new trial in the Parrs' case. "The judgment thus threatens to establish a startling new precedent in Texas—a precedent allowing juries to award millions of dollars for non-Havner claims arising from the lights, sounds, and odors created in the normal course of oil and gas drilling," according to the Aruba motion. Under Texas law, a non-Havner claim is one in which the plaintiffs don't claim to have suffered a specific disease or injury—so they aren't required to present scientific or medical proof to substantiate their allegations. The non-Havner claims by the Parrs and the Cernys assert only that the emissions created a nuisance that has caused them discomfort. Marathon and PXP have asked a judge to dismiss the Cernys' lawsuit, saying the couple and their son offered no medical or scientific proof that they were harmed by the emissions. A hearing in Karnes County Justice Court is scheduled for Thursday. The couple has asked for more than \$1 million in damages, money they have said would allow them to buy a home away from the drilling. Meanwhile, two other Karnes County families have filed lawsuits alleging that emissions have destroyed their lifestyles. Despite the Parrs' [legal victory](#), the Cernys have a huge hurdle to overcome, said [Thomas McGarity](#), a University of Texas law school professor who specializes in environmental and administrative law. "To show they were exposed to the chemicals and they have the symptoms isn't sufficient," he said. "It is not enough to say the emissions could have caused the harm; they have to prove they more likely than not caused the illness." It's like someone suffering from hay fever saying ragweed caused the sniffles when it could have been just as likely dandelions that caused the symptoms, he said. "All the defendants have to do is point their finger at another possible source," he said. But [William Anaya](#), a Chicago attorney who often represents the oil and gas industry, thinks Marathon's motion mischaracterizes the case. He believes the motion will fail, because Texas law doesn't require the Cernys to provide expert opinions to prove they've been affected by the nuisance created by the emissions. Anaya, who is not involved in the case but has reviewed the documents, thinks a more direct defense should be mounted showing the facilities were not responsible for the emissions. "My question is—and it's rhetorical—why isn't the response by the industry here 'We have the data that shows we didn't create the problem,'" he said. "It makes me wonder if they have the evidence they did not create the problem."

### 'We're Going to Get It'

The Cernys were among the first to complain publicly about the air quality in the 26-county Eagle Ford shale region, one of the nation's most active oil drilling areas. Before they spoke out, the news coming out of the hardscrabble swath of Texas consisted almost entirely of glowing predictions of wealth. The couple bought their small house on a one-acre lot in rural Karnes County in 2003, hoping to escape the bustle of San Antonio and the annoyances that come with big city life. Like many of their neighbors, the unemployed truck driver and partially disabled wife were happy to lease their mineral rights to oil companies in 2012, when the drilling boom expanded to their neighborhood. The Cernys signed a lease with [Marathon](#). No drilling facilities were built on their land, but three wells were drilled nearby to syphon oil from their property. By 2013, their house was surrounded by dozens of oil and gas wells, petroleum storage tanks and smoking flares, including facilities owned by PXP. The Cernys no longer grant interviews. But in a June 2013 interview with InsideClimate News and The Center for Public Integrity, Myra Cerny said she and her husband and their teenage son began getting nosebleeds, rashes, pounding headaches and nausea. With their home surrounded by oil and gas operations, "no matter which way the wind blows, we're going to get it," she said. She recalled one incident when a particularly foul petroleum odor invaded their home. "I couldn't even gather my thoughts," she said. "You felt like you were going to throw up. It's like you were standing in a bug bomb, almost—the smell got that bad...You thought if you laid down you weren't going to get back up." Cerny said that at first they assumed state regulators would protect them from the noxious emissions. "We went on blind faith: [operators] couldn't do it if it wasn't safe," she said. "We didn't understand that, oh yeah, they can. They get their permits and they're basically, as far as I'm concerned, above the law that everybody else has to follow." In August 2012 the Cernys complained to the [Texas Commission on Environmental Quality](#) about sulfur and petroleum odors. According to a TCEQ report obtained by InsideClimate News and the Center for Public Integrity, inspectors found that a Marathon processing facility was releasing more than a dozen compounds, including benzene, hydrogen sulfide, toluene, and xylene that exceeded the maximum emission rate allowed by Texas law. Marathon was cited for not promptly reporting the excessive emissions and for having a non-operating flair,



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according to the report. But the lawsuit said the problems continued. "In its pursuit of oil and gas, the defendants have continuously released strong odors and noxious chemicals into the environment," the lawsuit said. "The nuisance has caused injury to both the plaintiffs' land and to their persons." Marathon and PXP contend the Cernys have no evidence that emissions from their operations caused the family's health problems or ruined their lives. "They make this assertion without providing a single expert on oil and gas operations who has opined that [Marathon] has done anything wrong or a single medical expert who has opined that those operations have caused them any injury," according to the Marathon motion. The Cernys also allege that when the Marathon wells were fracked—a step that releases explosions deep in the earth—cracks appeared in the ceiling, walls and foundation of their home. The companies say those defects predated any drilling or fracking. Marathon claims that the Cernys have benefited from the drilling, earning more from their Marathon lease than from any other source of income. Marathon and PXP also insist the family's poor health is due not to oil or gas emissions, but to years of smoking, heavy use of prescription drugs and "chronic marijuana use" by their son. "Given these histories, it is not surprising that there are no treating physicians or medical experts in this case that attribute the Plaintiffs' symptoms to [Marathon's] activities with a reasonable degree of certainty," according to the motion. But the Cernys' attorney, Tomas Ramirez is confident the motion will fail because it [misses the point of his case](#). His clients aren't claiming that the emissions caused a specific disease or injury, he said. Instead, they say they caused common, everyday complaints that created nuisance conditions at their home. "When you tell a jury: 'This is what I smelled. Here are the sources and this is what happened to me,' then it's an easy path to follow," Ramirez said in an interview. "You don't need an expert to explain a runny nose."

#### **\$2.9 Million Award 'Excessive'**

While Marathon and PXP are trying to block the Cernys' case from going to trial, Aruba Petroleum is fighting to overthrow the [lawsuit](#) it lost to the Parr family, who live near Fort Worth in the Barnett Shale. A hearing on the motion is scheduled for Aug. 29. Aruba contends one of the jurors should have been excluded because of a 1994 misdemeanor criminal record for theft, which in Texas prohibits people from serving on juries. The 38-page motion contends "the Parris' symptoms—such as headaches, nosebleeds, and nausea, among others—are common in the general population and could have been caused by any number of conditions or events." It also argues that the \$2.9 million the jury awarded the family is excessive. The company cites two recent nuisance judgments against other oil and gas companies that awarded the plaintiffs \$36,000 in one case and \$20,000 in the other.

<http://insideclimatenews.org/news/20140813/fracking-companies-fight-texas-families-air-pollution-suits-fearing-precedent>

#### **USA, TN, NASHVILLE, AUGUST 14 2014. WATER NEAR TANKER BLAST IS SAFE TO DRINK, OFFICIALS SAY**

adam tamburin & brian wilson

##### **Watch the Video's:**

- [Nashville Firefighters Work the Scene of a Truck Explosion](#)
- [Nashville Resident Captures Smoke Plume from a Tanker Truck](#)
- [Tanker Truck Explosion was Carrying 8,500 Gallons of Fuel](#)
- [\[4\] Tanker Truck Catches Fire in West Nashville](#)
- [Tanker Truck Explodes in Nashville](#)

##### **Photo's [15] Tanker Truck Fire in West Nashville**



*Nashville firefighters work the scene of a truck explosion at 61st Avenue North and Centennial Blvd.*

The tanker was carrying about 8,500 gallons of fuel, and officials say almost all of that load spilled into a nearby sewer line.

The tanker that exploded along Centennial Boulevard today was carrying about 8,500 gallons of fuel, and officials say almost all of that load spilled into a nearby storm water line. Officials stressed the fuel spilled into a storm water sewage line, not the city's sanitary sewage system. A Metro Water spokeswoman said water in the area was safe to drink. Fire erupted from the tanker soon after it crashed near the intersection with 61st Avenue North around 12:30 p.m.,

according to Nashville Fire Cmdr. Steve Holt. Metro police spokeswoman Kris Mumford said the Tristar tanker was pulling out of a filling station with a full load when it tipped over on Centennial Boulevard. It hit a parked, empty car. Driver Jason Frizzell, 33, of Cookeville jumped out of the cab. He was taken to the hospital with a minor shoulder injury. Holt said that much of the fuel is seeping into Richland Creek. Crews from the Mayor's Office of Emergency Management and Metro Water Services are



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## Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network Release 2014 – 1,092 Newsy Stuff

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

**August 13 2014**



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working to determine the environmental impact of the spill. A third-party clean up crew was sent by Tristar to try to contain the fuel in the creek. Metro Water officials placed environmental booms in the affected area to seep up the fuel before it spread further into the Cumberland River. "Our guys said they were able to get in quickly and gets booms in before it spread," Harvat said. Soon after the initial explosion, gas and diesel fuel in the sewer lines triggered several secondary explosions, blowing manhole covers and sending flames shooting in the air. Holt said all fires had been extinguished, but more explosions could be possible. People near the explosion, including students at several nearby schools, are urged to shelter in place until authorities deem the area safe. Construction worker Leonard O'Neal Morton was working at Pennsylvania and 57th avenues when the tanker erupted into flames. He heard a series of earth-shaking booms and saw a black cloud rising from the crash site a few blocks away. Scared but curious, Morton made his way to the crash, and saw flames shooting up through the thick, acrid smoke. "I have never in my life seen nothing like that," he said. Calvin Buckley lives off 57th Avenue, but he didn't see the explosion. Still, he said Wednesday, he's afraid to leave his house. "There's sewer lines running all around here," he said. "I'd be scared if we got a fire it'd be a chain reaction." Five Metro Schools were placed on lockdown while crews remain on the scene. The schools include Cockrill Elementary, McKissack Middle, Bass Alternative Learning Center and The Academy at Old Cockrill. Nashville Prep is also on lockdown, Metro Schools said. Students from Cockrill, McKissack and Pearl-Cohn who live in the area closed off because of the fire will be sent to the Pearl-Cohn auditorium if area roads aren't cleared by dismissal, said Metro spokeswoman Olivia Brown in a statement. Parents can pick up their children at the auditorium once the school day is over, she said. The students affected include those who ride buses 504 and 509 from Cockrill, buses 509 and 274 from McKissack and Pearl-Cohn students who live from the corner of 63rd Avenue and Morrow Road to 56th Avenue and Centennial Boulevard. Those at the St. Luke's Community House were also evacuated to Nashville Prep.

### Related Stories

- [Tanker Truck Catches Fire in West Nashville](#)
- [Tanker Truck Explodes in Nashville](#)
- [Nashville Residents Warned to Stay inside after Tanker Fire](#)
- [Tanker Explodes in Nashville, Fumes Spark Smaller Explosions](#)
- [Tanker Truck Explosion was Carrying 8500 Gallons of Fuel](#)

<http://www.tennessean.com/story/news/2014/08/13/tanker-truck-catches-fire-near-nations/14008027/>

### USA, LA, NEW ORLEANS AUGUST 14 2014. SHIP STRIKES TANKER, BARGE DOCKED ON MISS. RIVER



The Coast Guard says a ship lost power and steering and collided with another ship and a barge docked on the Mississippi River near New Orleans. Coast Guard spokesman Jonathan Lally says the accident happened Tuesday night at a terminal on the river and there were no injuries. Lally says the outbound Maltese-flagged vessel Flag Gangos struck the Liberian-flagged vessel Pamisos and the barge. He says the crew of a towing vessel was transferring fuel [oil](#) from the barge when the barge broke free causing some oil to be [discharged](#) into the river from a hose. The hose was immediately shut off. The Coast Guard has implemented one-way traffic around the terminal near Gretna across the river from New Orleans. The cause of the accident is under investigation.

<http://www.pennenergy.com/articles/pennenergy/2014/08/oil-and-gas-ship-strikes-tanker-barge-docked-on-miss-river.html>

### USA, IA, EDDYVILLE, AUGUST 14 2014. CARGILL SETTLES EPA DISPUTE IN IOWA, NEBRASKA

Cargill Inc. has agreed to pay more than \$187,000 to settle allegations that it violated the Clean Water Act at large oil storage facilities in Iowa and Nebraska. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Region 7 says the privately held multinational corporation lacked a response plan at two facilities that outlined procedures for addressing serious oil discharges. The facilities are located in Blair, Nebraska, and Eddyville, Iowa. Each facility produces and stores more than one million gallons of oil. The EPA identified the issue during site visits in 2013. The Minnesota-based company submitted response plans in June 2014.

<http://www.kcrg.com/subject/news/business/agriculture/cargill-settles-epa-dispute-in-iowa-nebraska-20140811>



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### USA, TX, BEAUMONT, AUGUST 14 2014. CREW MEMBER DIES AT EXXON MOBIL DOCK

*jared hinson*

Beaumont Fire Rescue personnel tell 12News a crew member aboard a ship fell to his death this afternoon at Exxon Mobil's dock. Captain Brad Penisson says the worker fell approximately ten feet and landed on a middle dock. Beaumont Fire Rescue responded to the incident around 1:30 this afternoon, but by the time EMS arrived at the scene, the worker was dead. The identity of the worker has not been released.

<http://www.12newsnow.com/story/26265547/crew-member-dies-at-exxon-mobil-dock>

### USA, OH, COLUMBUS, AUGUST 14 2014. SIX PEOPLE INJURED IN COSHOCTON GRAIN ELEVATOR EXPLOSION

*eric lytle*

Several people were injured in an explosion yesterday afternoon that caused substantial damage to Coshocton Grain Co., an owner said. Five employees and two state grain graders were there at the time. One was transported by helicopter to a Columbus hospital while five others were taken to Coshocton County Memorial Hospital, though none of the injuries was life-threatening, said co-owner and chairman of the board Larry Endsley. The explosion occurred shortly after 4 p.m. and likely was caused by a spark amid the grain dust as several rail cars were being filled with corn, Endsley said. "While we do our best to minimize the risk, grain elevators are very prone to dust explosions," he said. "When something sparks it, it's almost like a bomb. There was no fire. The whoosh puts the fire out, and in a split second, it's over." It's not over for Coshocton Grain, however, as Endsley said the explosion blew the roofs off several silos and grain bins. "We don't know how much damage there will be yet," he said. "But the worst thing is that we're getting into our busiest time of the year. We'll get to work quickly to get repairs done." Coshocton Grain, which also has facilities in Hebron, Johnstown and in Illinois, handles about 10 million bushels of grain a year at its Coshocton location.

[http://www.dispatch.com/content/stories/local/2014/08/13/grain\\_elevator\\_explosion.html](http://www.dispatch.com/content/stories/local/2014/08/13/grain_elevator_explosion.html)

### AUSTRALIA, VICTORIA, MELBOURNE, AUGUST 14 2014. VITOL TO POUR \$1BN INTO PETROL OPERATIONS

*matt chambers*

Dutch trader Vitol plans to spend \$1 billion in Australia in the next five years, mostly to expand the Shell service station, marketing and refinery business it bought for \$2.9bn this year. Vitol, which yesterday completed its purchase, is part of a group of traders, including fellow Dutch trader Trafigura, that have moved into the Australian market as refineries close down and the nation relies more on imported fuel products. The company has named its local business, including 870 service stations and the Geelong refinery, Viva Energy but has an agreement with Shell to use the oil major's well-known brand to sell its products. Viva chief executive Scott Wyatt, who was previously the Australian head of the Shell business Vitol has bought, said the company intended to invest the \$1bn to "continue to meet more than a quarter of Australia's fuel needs". A Viva spokeswoman said Vitol had "ambitious plans to grow in Australia". "The \$1bn investment during the next five years is aimed at improving our refining business at Geelong, expanding our supply capability to support our growth plans, and developing our customer offering," she said. About \$150m of the funds are earmarked for major maintenance at Geelong over the next two years. The purchase of the whole Shell Australian marketing, refining and service station business, known as the downstream business, was agreed to in February after Shell reviewed the future of Geelong with a view to either sale or closure. While Vitol is keeping the refinery open, the marketing and distribution business will allow it to flex its global trading skills in what has become Asia's biggest fuel product import market. Vitol, the world's second-biggest energy and metals trader after Glencore, is the second major trader to move into Australia as local refineries struggle to make money in the face of competition from imports produced by huge Asian refineries. The first was Dutch-owned Trafigura, the third-biggest trader, whose subsidiary Puma Energy spent \$900m of fuel marketing assets here, including service stations owned by Ausfuel and those carrying the Gull and Matilda brands. Japan's Mitsubishi has more recently revealed plans to build a \$100m diesel import terminal in South Australia, which in 2003 became the first mainland state with no refinery when Exxon Mobil closed the Port Stanvac refinery.

<http://www.theaustralian.com.au/business/vitol-to-pour-1bn-into-petrol-operations/story-e6frg8zx-1227023529351?nk=74ecf4a2305efe205924bc6b991d4fad>



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