



Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network

Release 2014 – 1,033 Newsy Stuff

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January 11 2014



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USA, AZ, PHEONIX, JANUARY 4 2014. ETHANOL TANKER BEING EMPTIED IN PHOENIX RAIL YARD

Watch the Video's:

- [Ethanol Leak at Phoenix Rail Yard](#)
- [Ethanol Tanker Being Emptied in Phoenix Rail Yard](#)
- [Cleanup of Ethanol Leak at Phoenix Rail Yard Complete](#)



It was a very dangerous situation at the Union Pacific railroad downtown Friday morning off 13th Street and Lincoln. Rough estimates are that between 10,000 and 20,000 gallons of ethanol gasoline leaked out of a tanker car and the hazardous material is very flammable. Phoenix Firefighters worked cautiously at the scene of the leak -- the tanker car was sitting right on the tracks. "It has a capacity of about 30,000 gallons they say it's leaking about 100 gallons an hour.. it is leaking from the bottom of the car," said PFD's Captain Ruben Saavedra. Saavedra says the first thing Union Pacific, the Department of Environmental Quality and firefighters did was evacuate the area and establish a hot zone. The initial call came in just before 4 a.m. A few hours later, firefighters made what's called a "B" entry. "What level 'B' entry means is they have flash protection, they have smoke protection on, so if there is any type of flash, they're protected from

that," said Saavedra. As a precaution during the cleanup process, Union Pacific closed the yard to rail traffic. "Number one priority is safety is so we've isolated the hazard to this immediate area to the yard we want to make sure we do everything safe in coordination as a team," said Saavedra. While highly flammable, the ethanol also evaporates quickly, which helped alleviate the mess. Part of the cleanup was moving the ethanol to other tankers. The big challenge according to the Phoenix Fire Department and what took so long was finding a way to stop the leak. The good news is that the container holding the ethanol was not a pressurized tank. By the afternoon, the scene was stable with no injuries to any personnel, according to Chris Ketterer of the Phoenix Fire Department.

<http://www.myfoxphoenix.com/story/24354902/2014/01/03/tanker-leaking-ethanol-in-downtown-phoenix>

PERU, LIMA, JANUARY 4 2014. REPSOL COMPLETES SALE OF LNG ASSETS IN PERU

Spanish oil company Repsol announced Thursday it has completed the sale of liquefied natural gas (LNG) assets in Peru and Trinidad and Tobago to Royal Dutch Shell, after the relevant authorizations have been obtained. In October 2013, Repsol sold its stake in Bahia Bizkaia Electricidad (BBE) to BP, which exercised a purchase option over the asset. The combined transactions represent total proceeds for Repsol of \$4.3 billion (of \$4.1 billion from the sale of assets to Shell and \$0.2 billion from the sale of BBE to BP), and the company additionally sheds financial commitments and non-consolidated debt in line with the figures announced in February 2013 when the assets' sale was agreed. The sale, which includes the minority stakes in Atlantic LNG (Trinidad and Tobago), Peru LNG and BBE as well as the LNG sale contracts and time charters with their associated loans and debt, has generated approximately \$2.9 billion for Repsol in profit and capital gains after tax, slightly higher than the guidance given when the transaction was agreed in February. As a consequence of the transferral of assets, and in line with the company's policy of financial prudence, Repsol will adjust the book value of the North American assets with a provision of \$1.5 billion after tax, in line with new fiscal regulations. The resulting capital gains yet to be booked will be included in the accounting of 2013 and 2014, in accordance with the transferral date of the assets included in the agreement. Repsol and Shell have additionally signed an LNG supply agreement by the latter to the Canaport regasification terminal in Canada of approximately 1 million tons over a 10-year period. Following the completion of the sale, with an economic date set at 30th September 2012, Repsol reduces net debt by \$3.3 billion and significantly strengthens its balance sheet. With this transaction, Repsol has divested assets for more than 5 billion euros, surpassing the objectives outlined in the 2012-2016 Strategic Plan to divest between 4 and 4.5 billion euros in the period.

<http://www.andina.com.pe/Ingles/noticia-repsol-completes-sale-of-lng-assets-in-peru-488886.aspx>

USA, WYO, LARAMIE, JANUARY 4 2014. WYOMING: 2013 SAW MORE THAN 500 SPILLS BUT NOT ONE FINE

amy mall

According to a new report from Wyoming Public Media, there were [more than 500 spills](#) in the oil and gas industry in 2013--in Wyoming alone. But the Wyoming Oil and Gas Conservation Commission did not fine any of the responsible companies for spills. Not one. The spilled materials included oil, natural gas, wastewater or drilling mud--all of which can include toxic



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substances. What's more, the agency hasn't fined anyone for a spill since 2011. No wonder the spills keep happening--more than 500 is completely unacceptable. Meaningful penalties are essential to improve compliance. The laws on the books are only as good as the enforcement. Without strong enforcement to incentivize good behavior, the rules are not going to protect the public, workers, wildlife, or the environment.

http://switchboard.nrdc.org/blogs/amaill/wyoming_2013_saw_more_than_500.html

USA, OH, CINCINNATI, JANUARY 4 2014. CLEANUP COSTS FOR MSD MERCURY SPILL NOW \$1.9M, INCLUDES 'FRUSTRATING' EPA PENALTY OF \$6,000

sharon coolidge



MSD workers accidentally spilled up to 90 pounds of mercury in equipment that was taken to the Rumpke landfill in Colerain Township.

A mercury spill at two Metropolitan Sewer District plants last summer has already cost sewer users almost \$1.4 million and the agency expects to spend another half million on cleanup, Cincinnati documents show. The cost includes a \$6,000 penalty from the EPA, according to the documents. The nearly \$1.9 million cost will fall to MSD's 800,000 users, most of whom live in Hamilton County. Hamilton County owns MSD, but contracts with the city to run the utility. The incident comes as sewer rates are climbing to pay for a federal government-ordered \$3.2 billion upgrade to the sewer system. Hamilton County Board of Commissioners President Chris Monzel called the situation

"frustrating." "I knew there was going to be a process, but it's disconcerting that it's not cleaned up yet and we're being penalized," he said. Monzel said the board will "find out where we're at and ask why it isn't done." In June, two Metropolitan Sewer District workers tossed nine old pieces of equipment into the back of a pickup truck, accidentally unleashing a trail of one of the most dangerous elements commonly in use – mercury. While not harmful to touch, breathing mercury fumes – which can happen during cleanup – is the biggest worry. It can cause vomiting, difficulty breathing and coughing. The workers drove the equipment from an East End sewer plant to Lower Price Hill before taking it to Colerain Township's Rumpke landfill, where the equipment was buried. The employees didn't realize the devices – meters used to measure air flow in wastewater – required cautious handling and special disposal. Mercury spilled when the meters were loaded into the pickup truck, while on the road and when they were dumped into the landfill, according to the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency. It wasn't until two days later that cleanup of the heavy, silvery-white liquid started. The documents from Interim City Manager Scott Stiles to the mayor and members of council say the MSD facilities have been cleaned up and "there is no environmental harm to neighbors or to the environment associated with the spill." MSD, in cooperation with Rumpke and the Ohio EPA, plans to dig up and properly dispose of the devices later this month. The process is expected to take no more than 30 days. Each of the nine meters contained between eight and 10 pounds of mercury; 35 pounds have been cleaned up so far. The rest is believed to be inside the buried meters – which must be disposed of properly. While the spill was small in volume, it is considered significant because mercury can cause neurological problems. The city documents note that since the incident, MSD has taken additional measures to improve storage and handling of chemical products and improved its emergency and spill control plans and procedures. "MSD is also in the process of enhancing its training program to further educate employees so that an incident like this does not happen again," Stiles wrote. "MSD is committed to protecting public health and the environment and MSD ratepayers."

<http://news.cincinnati.com/article/20140103/NEWS/301030117/Cleanup-costs-MSD-mercury-spill-now-1-9M>

TRINADAD & TOBAGO, LA BREA, JANUARY 4 2014. TRINITY: LA BREA OIL SPILL NOT OUR FAULT

carla bridgial

Trinity Exploration has "categorically" denied that the oil spill in La Brea is its fault. "The spill that occurred is not our spill. The evidence is out there but I don't think it's being articulated clearly," executive chairman Bruce Dingwall said yesterday in an interview at the company's Sutton Street, San Fernando, offices. "We produce a completely different type of oil and saw no production losses. We are working closely with those parties involved to ensure we as an industry do everything possible to assist," he added. Dingwall said there was also no leak at Trinity's Well 151, which operates off the southwestern coast in the Brighton field, despite rumours. "We monitor all our assets continuously because we're working out there so there's a lot of activity and a lot of people passing by," he said. Dingwall was joined by Trinity's chief executive, Joel 'Monty' Pemberton. "The



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quality of the crude found on the beach and the actual crude produced from the Brighton well have totally different API density indices. It is not our crude; we have the technical evidence, which has been supported by the Institute of Marine Affairs report," Pemberton said. Providing samples of the La Brea spill crude and Brighton crude, as well as a map of the flow of ocean currents, Pemberton said had a spill emanated from any of Trinity's platforms, it would have flowed south, instead of north to Coffee Beach, and the others affected. "There is no way that oil spill could have emanated from us; it's not Trinity's responsibility at all so where is it coming from? If you follow the currents you might be able to identify where it's coming from," he said. The information on ocean currents was among the data the company needed to produce in order to be awarded a Certificate of Environmental Clearance in order to drill in the area. In addition to spending almost US\$2 million in research, as an additional precaution Pemberton said the company trained several La Brea fishermen to be first responders back in October. When this oil spill happened, he said, Trinity even recommended those people to the clean-up contractors. The company, which is the country's largest independent energy exploration and production company did, however, have to deal with an onshore oil spill at Rancho Quemado on December 21, 2013. The Rancho Quemado well WD2 is sub-licensed to Trinity from Petrotrin under a lease operator's licence. "Two bull plugs — plugs right at the bottom of the tank — were removed, which resulted in oil being spilled. That we picked up just about 5.30 a.m.; we have routine visits to that site and the last visit was 1 a.m. and everything was normal. When we discovered the bull plugs were removed we went into oil spill recovery mode to reduce impact. We were able to begin clean-up operations that Saturday and by Saturday afternoon, the area was cleaned up. We recovered about 99 per cent of oil; about 90 barrels were spilled, and we recovered about 85 to 87 barrels. The Environmental Management Authority and the Ministry of Energy visited the next day and we were able to submit a report the Monday. That incident is in no way related to the La Brea area," he said. The incident is being investigated, he said, adding that it was "abnormal" that the plugs were removed, because "you really do need someone who understands the nature of that asset and plant to remove those plugs".

<http://www.trinidadexpress.com/business/Trinity-La-Brea-oil-spill-not-our-fault-238658251.html>

USA, MA, BOSTON, JANUARY 4 2014. SAFETY CONCERNS LINGER AFTER UPTON RAIL YARD SPILL

calvin hennick

A chemical spill at an Upton rail yard has been cleaned up, but some residents say concerns about safety at the site linger. On Dec. 18, a faulty valve caused approximately 100 gallons of styrene — a highly flammable chemical used to make Styrofoam — to spill at the Grafton & Upton Railroad, located at 25 Maple Ave. Local and state public safety and environmental workers responded to the scene, and the town's nearby wastewater treatment plant was evacuated. Upton Fire Chief Aaron Goodale said the spill occurred on land protected by an impermeable barrier, and the tainted gravel and topsoil has been removed. He said his department received complaints about the smell of the chemical from residents for a couple of days.

<http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/2014/01/02/safety-concerns-linger-after-upton-rail-yard-spill/7DVQDUx3xjHD5fCW3UnAML/story.html>

PHILIPPINES, PANAY ISLAND, ILOILO, JANUARY 5 2014. COAST GUARD GIVES CONTRACTOR TILL JAN. 18 TO REMOVE OIL SPILL BARGE FROM ILOILO

A private contractor has been given until Jan. 18, 2014 to remove from Iloilo a power barge that spilled bunker fuel off Estancia town after it was damaged by super Typhoon Yolanda (Haiyan) last November. Philippine [Coast Guard Western Visayas head Commodore Athelo Ybañez](#) said Kuan Yu Global Technologies Inc. must refloat the offshore power barge and remove it from the spill site. Ybañez was quoted in a report of Iloilo-based news site The Daily Guardian on Friday as saying the salvage permit the Coast Guard gave the contractor is valid until that date. While Kuan Yu has removed the remaining bunker fuel from the power barge, he said the damaged vessel must be removed so affected survivors can rebuild their homes. He added Kuan Yu should follow the schedule of the disposal plan it submitted to the Coast Guard and the multi-sectoral Task Force Oil Spill. Kuan Yu had earlier been criticized for its slow response in the cleanup operations. Power Barge 103, operated by state-owned Power Sector Assets and Liabilities Management, had hit Estancia's coastline after being tossed by Yolanda. For its part, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources' Environmental Management Bureau said Kuan Yu must provide its own waste disposal facility. DENR-EMB 6 acting regional director Atty. Jonathan Bullos said such a facility is needed for contaminated oil spill debris. The Daily Guardian cited earlier reports showing oil spill debris was stored in thin sacks while bunker fuel was placed inside container drums that in turn were placed in a cargo vessel. Ybañez and Bullos warned the debris or bunker fuel may spill into the open sea again.



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Related Stories

- [383 families affected by Iloilo oil spill may return home](#)
- [Oil spill woes in Iloilo not over as 'unpaid' cleanup workers skip work](#)
- [Mga residente na naapektuhan ng oil spill sa Iloilo, pinababalik na](#)
- [Fisherfolk ask DOJ to file raps vs PNoy, others for Iloilo oil spill](#)
- [Siphoning of spilled oil from damaged power barge in Iloilo starts](#)

<https://www.google.com/url?q=http://www.gmanetwork.com/news/story/342401/news/regions/coast-guard>

USA, IA, CLINTON, JANUARY 5 2014. TEN LBS. MERCURY STILL UNACCOUNTED AFTER ADM WELL SPILL

bailey deitz

 **Watch the Video** [10 Lbs. Mercury Still Unaccounted after ADM Well Spill](#)



Two months after a mercury spill at a Quad Cities area plant and much of the toxic element is unaccounted for. The Iowa DNR believes more than ten pounds of mercury is still within a well at ADM in Clinton. KWQC first brought you this story in early November. It happened when crews were pulling a pump from the company's private well and we now have a better idea of the potential impact on nearby water supplies. The EPA's contaminate limit for mercury is two parts of mercury per billion parts (2 ppb) of drinking water. That's like two drops of water in 250 chemical barrels. The DNR says a test in the nearest well at ADM came back showing a very small amount in the parts per trillion level. That would be like a drop out of 20 Olympic-size swimming pools. While officials say threat to public drinking water is extremely low they can't rule out all possibilities down the road. "There's going to be continuous monitoring of the water from those nearby wells," said Ryan Stouder, and Iowa DNR Environmental Specialist. When the mercury release happened in early November about a pound of it was recovered from the soil. The motor from the pump which typically contains about 17 pounds of the hazardous material was then shipped off to see how much it still contained. It turns out about four pounds remained leaving ten to eleven pounds of mercury, an amount that would fill a large plastic cup, left missing. According to the DNR it likely leaked beneath the surface in a 2400 foot well. "It's obviously a concern since it's in the water, but they don't believe it's going to migrate very far since mercury is heavy," added Stouder. Mercury exposure at high levels can harm the brain, heart, kidneys, lungs, and immune system of people of all ages. But experts say even the ingestion of the amount in a glass thermometer would not be fatal. The closest Iowa American Water well used for public drinking supply is about a mile from the spill site. Company spokesperson Lisa Reisen says nearby wells are being monitored closely. Tests haven't shown any problems and all state and federal standards are being met so it's safe to consume. "We've been told by experts, geologists, from the Iowa DNR that based on the flow of the aquifer that it would be many years before it could impact our wells and that would be a worst case scenario," said Reisen. ADM has yet to submit its plan for cleanup which is due to the DNR by January 10th. Officials say it hasn't been decided if the company will face legal action or fines. ADM officials giving this statement today in part, "ADM originally believed that the clean up would be complete by the end of 2013. However, the process has taken a little longer due to the unusual nature of the spill ... The affected well remains out of service, operations at the plant are not impacted and there are no indications that mercury has migrated or that it will migrate outside of the well casing."

<http://www.kwqc.com/story/24360751/10-lbs-mercury-unaccounted-for-at-adm-well>

ENGLAND, PLYMOUTH, JANUARY 5 2014. DOCKYARD WORKERS GET ACCIDENTAL RADIATION DOSE



The workers got radiation doses significantly below the maximum permitted at Devonport Dockyard

Three workers received an accidental dose of radiation during submarine maintenance work in Plymouth, a regulator's report says. The incident took place in a storage facility at Devonport Dockyard in 2013, the Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) found. An accidental tear in heavy plastic sheeting enclosing a component allowed the release of radioactivity. The ONR said the incident was "minor" but wants improvements at the yard.



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Internal Investigations

The accident occurred in the new equipment maintenance storage facility at Devonport when a large radioactive component from a submarine was being manoeuvred within an enclosure in the building. The tear in a plastic sheet allowed the release of a small amount of radioactive particulate matter, some of which was inhaled by the three workers, the ONR said. The standard measure of the biological effect of radiation is the sievert. "Start Quote *Each job is calculated with a radioactive dose. If it goes beyond that, it is quite serious*" End Quote John Large Independent nuclear analyst Chest monitoring showed the three men received radiation doses ranging from less than 10 to 50 microsieverts (millionths of a sievert) - significantly below the maximum daily dose permitted at Devonport Dockyard of 500 microsieverts and the statutory annual dose limit of 20 millisieverts (thousandths of a sievert), the report said. For comparison, the radiation dose from flying in a plane at 35,000ft is five microsieverts per hour. Both Devonport Royal Dockyard Ltd (DRDL), which operates the site, and ONR carried out internal investigations into the incident. The ONR said the investigations identified a number of improvement which could be made, including better risk assessments and better handling of components such as the one involved in the incident. The ONR said it was "generally satisfied" with DRDL's investigation. It said it had decided not to take formal enforcement action against DRDL, but had written to the company to ensure that recommendations were put in place promptly. However, John Large, an engineer and independent nuclear analyst, said any dose of radiation beyond what was planned for a procedure was a concern. "Submarine operations are meticulously planned. Everything is taken into account, such as 'What would happen if that bolt seizes up'," he said. "So each job is calculated with a radioactive dose. If it goes beyond that, it is quite serious." The incident, which is believed to have occurred in the summer of 2013, has come to light following publication of an ONR quarterly site report for the dockyard.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-devon-25611552>

IRAN, TEHRAN, JANUARY 5 2014. UNDERGROUND NUCLEAR EXPLOSION AT CRIPPLED JAPAN ATOMIC PLANT SHOCKS WORLD **SINCE PROVEN TO BE UNTRUE**

An edict issued from the Office of the Russian President said a series of underground nuclear explosions occurred at Japan's Fukushima Daiichi Atomic plant on 31 December.

The edict issued to all Ministries of the Russian Government ordered that all "past, present and future" information relating to Japan's Fukushima Daiichi nuclear disaster now be rated at the highest classification level "Of Special Importance", stressing that this condition is "immediately and urgently needed" due to a series of underground nuclear explosions occurring at this crippled atomic plant on 31 December as confirmed by the Ministry of Defense (MoD). "Of Special Importance" is Russia's highest classification level and refers to information which, if released, would cause damage to the entire Russian Federation, Whatdoesitmean.com reported. The Fukushima Daiichi nuclear disaster was a catastrophic failure at the Fukushima I Nuclear Power Plant on 11 March 2011. The failure occurred when the plant was hit by a tsunami triggered by the 9.0 magnitude Tōhoku earthquake. The plant began releasing substantial amounts of radioactive materials beginning on 12 March 2011 becoming the largest nuclear incident since the 1986 Chernobyl disaster and the second (with Chernobyl) to measure at the highest Level 7 on the International Nuclear Event Scale (INES). According to the report, MoD "assesses" associated with the Red Banner Pacific Fleet detected two "low-level" underground atomic explosions occurring in the Fukushima disaster zone on 31 December, the first measuring 5.1 magnitude in intensity, followed by a smaller 3.6 magnitude explosion moments later. The MoD further reports that the 5.1 magnitude event corresponds to the energy equivalent in megatons of TNT of 0.0005, while the 3.6 magnitude event equals 0.0000005. As a comparison, the MoD states that the atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima in 1945 by the United States released the equivalent of 16 Kilotons = 0.016 megatons of TNT, about the energy equivalent of a magnitude 6 earthquake, and the largest hydrogen bomb ever detonated was the Tsar bomb, a device exploded by the Soviet Union on 30 October 1961, with an energy equivalent of about 50 megatons of TNT. Important to note, this report continues, was that the architect of Fukushima Daiichi Reactor 3, Uehara Haruo, warned on 17 November 2011 warned that a "China Syndrome" (aka: Hydrovolcanic Explosion) was "inevitable" due to the melted atomic fuel that had escaped the container vessel and was now burning through the earth. The MoD further reports that evidence that these underground nuclear explosions were about to occur began after mysterious steam plumes were first spotted on 19 December for a short period of time, then again on 24, 25, 27 December, and confirmed by a report Tokyo Electric Power Company (TEPCO) published on its website. Most curious to note, this report continues, is that the United States appears to have had a more advanced notice of these underground nuclear explosions as evidenced by their purchase earlier this month (6 December) of 14 million doses of potassium iodide, the compound that protects the body from radioactive poisoning in the aftermath of severe nuclear accidents, to be delivered before the beginning of February 2014. With experts now estimating



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that the wave of radiation from Fukushima will be 10-times bigger than all of the radiation from the entire world's nuclear tests throughout history combined, and with new reports stating that dangerous radiation levels have been detected in snows found in Texas, Colorado and Missouri, this MoD report warns the US, indeed, is going to face the severest consequences of this historic, and seemingly unstoppable, nuclear disaster. And not just to human beings either is this nuclear disaster unfolding either, this report grimly warns, but also to all biological systems as new reports coming from the United States western coastal areas are now detailing the mass deaths of seals, sea lions, polar bears, bald eagles, sea stars, turtles, king and sockeye salmon, herring, anchovies, and sardines due to Fukushima radiation. As to the American people being allowed to know the full and horrific mass death event now unfolding around them, this report warns, is not be as the Obama regime has, in effect, ordered all of their mainstream news media organs not to report it, and as recently confirmed by former MSNBC host Cenk Uygur who was told not to warn the public about the danger posed by the meltdown at the Fukushima nuclear plant during his time as a host on the cable network. And with Russian experts now warning that as Fukushima pollution spreads all over Earth (as large amounts of fish, seaweeds, and everything in ocean has been already been polluted, and these products are the main danger for mankind as they can end up being eaten by people on a massive scale) this report warns that Putin's order to classify all information relating to this nuclear mass death event "Of Special Importance" is vital to protect the economic and social stability interests of the Russian Federation as this global catastrophe continues to worsen by the day.

<http://english.farsnews.com/newstext.aspx?nn=13921014000267>

BRAZIL, RIO DE JANEIRO, JANUARY 5 2014. PETROBRAS REPORTS REFINERY FIRE >> NO INJURIES; BLAZE CONFINED TO PLANT'S COKE UNIT

jeff fick

Brazilian state-run oil company Petroleo Brasileiro SA, or Petrobras, said Sunday that a fire broke out at a refinery outside this beachfront city. The blaze at the Reduc refinery in Duque de Caxias is the fourth such incident at a Petrobras-operated refinery since the end of November. Local unions have questioned the company's safety practices as Petrobras has pushed the limits of its crude-oil processing capacity to 98%—practically unheard of in an industry that normally operates at 85% capacity—to meet local demand for gasoline, diesel and other fuels. While Petrobras didn't say whether the blaze would affect output at the refinery, the company can't afford to lose processing capacity for an extended period without hurting its finances. Petrobras is already struggling with a refining shortfall and imports hefty amounts of gasoline and diesel fuel to meet domestic demand. The imports have undercut profits because the fuels are sold at a discount to international prices. The government, which is also Petrobras's largest shareholder, is reluctant to pass along higher prices to consumers for fear of further stoking inflation that is currently running at close to 6%. The fire at Reduc broke out Saturday night and was confined to the refinery's coke unit, which produces naphtha and petroleum coke from residual oil. There were no injuries or environmental damage from the fire, Petrobras said. Reduc processes about 240,000 barrels of crude oil a day, more than 10% of Brazil's refining capacity. Petrobras also recently restarted the Repar refinery in Parana state after a fire knocked out key equipment that shut down the refinery for nearly a month. Two other facilities also reported smaller blazes.

<http://stream.wsj.com/story/latest-headlines/SS-2-63399/SS-2-419101/>

USA, N.Y, EASTON, JANUARY 6 2014. NAME OF EASTON FATAL CRASH VICTIM RELEASED, FUEL SPILL CLEANUP

don lehman

 **Watch the Video's:**

- [Selkirk Man Dead after Gas Tanker Crash](#)
- [Tanker Crash Kills Man](#)



Police have identified a Selkirk man as the driver who died when he crashed a tanker truck Saturday morning in Easton, resulting in a large fuel spill. Stephen A. Andriani, 57, was pronounced dead at the scene of the 10:30 a.m. crash near Bulson Road. An extensive spill of gasoline and kerosene occurred when the fully loaded tanker ruptured. The Washington County Sheriff's Office said Andriani was driving north when the truck veered onto the shoulder and he lost control, causing the truck go to off the road into a ditch. "We don't know why he went off," sheriff's Senior Investigator Bruce Hamilton said. "Once his right wheel got in the ditch he couldn't get out." The truck travelled for about 250 feet before overturning, heavily damaging the cab and trapping Andriani inside, police said. The tanker ruptured,



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and several hundred gallons of fuel leaked. Because of the fuel leak, emergency responders were not able to approach the truck until the fuel was stabilized using foam and absorbent materials, Washington County Sheriff Jeff Murphy said. The fuel ran from the ditch into a culvert and then into a nearby field, Hamilton said. Spill cleanup crews were scheduled to return to the site Sunday to continue removing contaminated soil, he said. Andriani was headed to the Stewart's Shops store in Hartford with the fuel, police said. Slippery roads might have contributed to the crash, but the snow also likely kept down any sparks that might have occurred as the truck slid, lessening the chance of a fire, Hamilton said. The truck had to be uprighted to allow rescuers to get to Andriani. Numerous volunteer fire departments and rescue squads responded to the crash. Contractors drilled holes into the tanker to pump off about 3,000 gallons of fuel that remained inside, police said. The state Department of Environmental Conservation and state Bureau of Fire assisted at the scene. The road was closed into late Saturday night but has reopened. It was unclear Sunday whether the cleanup was going to continue past the weekend.

http://poststar.com/news/local/name-of-easton-fatal-crash-victim-released/article_461caeae-75f9-11e3-a860-0019bb2963f4.html

USA, KS, TOPEKA, JANUARY 6 2014. HAZMAT CREWS CONTAIN SPILL IN SHUNGA CREEK, OFFICIALS BELIEVE SUBSTANCE LIKELY TO BE DIESEL FUEL

corey.jones

 **Watch the Video** [Crews Work to clean up Unidentified Spill in Shunga Creek](#)



A hazardous material spill in the Shunga Creek near S.E. 15th and Adams that was discovered Saturday was contained and posed no threat, authorities said. Topeka fire shift commander Cindy Holt said the department's hazardous materials team responded to the scene around 3:30 p.m. Holt said crews were able to contain the spill with booms between Interstate 70 and S.E. 15th. "It was good that it was cold," she said. "It was icy and that kind of helped dam it up." Holt said the city's water pollution division and the state's fire marshal investigated the spill, determining it to probably be a hydrocarbon — some sort of gasoline, likely diesel fuel. "They did a good job today in the cold," Holt said of the containment crews who were out there for about four hours. "They took

care of everything." Holt said she wasn't sure when the substance would be cleaned up, but that officials would be back out to continue the investigation and attempt to pinpoint what caused the spill and its source.

<http://cjonline.com/news/2014-01-04/hazmat-crews-contain-spill-shunga-creek>

USA, MI, MIDLAND, JANUARY 6 2014. OVERTURNED TANKER NEAR MIDLAND RELEASES CHEMICAL, CLOSES SALZBURG ROAD

mark tower

An overturned chemical tanker reported by Dow Corning has caused authorities to close Salzburg Road to traffic between Waldo and the Midland/Bay county line. The overturned tanker was first reported by Midland County 911 shortly before 5 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 5. According to the report, an unnamed chemical was released from the tanker, which overturned along Salzburg Road, east of Waldo. Midland County 911 reported that Salzburg Road will be closed until further notice, cautioning motorists to avoid the area.

http://www.mlive.com/news/saginaw/index.ssf/2014/01/overturned_tanker_near_midland.html

USA, PA, COLUMBIA CO, JANUARY 6 2014. INTERSTATE CLOSED AFTER GASOLINE SPILL

shauna mcnelly,

 **Watch the Video's:**

- [Crash and Fuel Spill Closes Section of I-80 in Columbia County](#)
- [Interstate Closed after Gasoline Spill](#)

Both lanes of Interstate 80 re-opened by 4:30 a.m. on Monday. No traffic problems have been reported since the highway was cleaned from the tanker truck wreck. 1/4 — Part of Interstate 80 in Columbia County is closed due to a tanker truck rollover and spill. I-80 East and West, between the Buckhorn and Lightstreet exits is shut down. The wreck happened around 4 p.m. Sunday near Bloomsburg. According to emergency dispatchers, the tanker truck was headed east when it rolled over. The



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truck was carrying around 8,500 gallons of gasoline. There is no word on how much of that load spilled or when the interstate will reopen. We want to remind drivers to take their time during the icy conditions.

<http://wnep.com/2014/01/05/interstate-closed-after-gasoline-spill/>

TRINIDAD & TOBAGO, JANUARY 6 2014. OIL SPILLS AND OTHER DISASTERS

michael harris

The series of oil spills which began on December 17 and whose effects, it is now abundantly clear, are going to be with us for a long time to come, presents us with an excellent opportunity to evaluate the true crisis management capacities of this Government. By now it should be apparent to anyone who has been following the unfolding events that the spills which have affected the entire south-western coastal area constitute potentially the most massive ecological disaster this country has ever faced. It should also be clear now, after three weeks of charges and counter charges, claims and counter claims, that the oil spills have simply overwhelmed the capacity and the competence of the key stakeholders to mount an effective response. This is the true disaster revealed by the oil which spilled. Standing front and centre amongst those stakeholders is Petrotrin. It is obvious that the company was caught completely off guard and that in both its management of the clean-up operations as well as in its corporate communications effort, the problem has exposed serious deficiencies and inadequacies in its crisis management planning and resources. While we can readily acknowledge that the rapid succession of leaks discovered in different areas of the South-West would have certainly presented a challenge, the fact is that, under any proper crisis management plan, the response to each incident would have already been prescribed and the only issue would have been the availability of resources required to address the multiplicity of events. But even in the case of a shortage of resources there must have been, in any proper crisis plan, established criteria for prioritising the response of the company in respect of the most critical areas affected. Above all, there needed to be in place a proper communications strategy for constantly addressing all stakeholders, and the country at large, in terms of what the company's response was going to be and why it needed to be so. The record shows that from the very start the entire crisis was mismanaged. On December 18, a day after the very first spill was observed at Pointe-a-Pierre, even as Petrotrin was issuing a self-congratulatory press release stating that it "has mobilised all available resources to manage the spill-response efforts in an effective and efficient manner and the situation is under control," large patches of oil were observed floating off the coast of La Brea. Thereafter it went from bad to worse. Whether it was on the several, progressively longer time-spans, given for completion of the clean-up, or the patently absurd estimates of the cost of the clean-up; or the claims that the clean-up in certain areas was finished when the entire country could see on television that oil still covered everything, or the sight of company officials negotiating with La Brea residents as to how many of them would get jobs in the clean-up operations, Petrotrin's efforts to date have smacked not only of sheer amateurishness but of a complete failure to appreciate the true gravity of the situation. But Petrotrin is not the only culprit in this disaster. The Government's inability to act decisively and strategically was also manifest. The fact is from the moment it was clear that it was not one oil spill but a series of spills, each more inexplicable than the previous, the Government should have declared a limited state of emergency and taken control of the action at a national level. This is so particularly given the suspicions that "two of the 11 oil spills" were the result of deliberate and malicious intent. If in fact there was an attempt at "economic terrorism" as some Government supporters have claimed then the government had a right to intervene and take control of the entire operation rather than leave it to the management at Petrotrin. Instead, perhaps guided by the Prime Minister's utterly asinine statement that the damage from the spill "was not as bad as she had expected" the Government and all the relevant agencies simply stood on the sidelines, observing what was happening without any indication that they had a crucial role to play. This is particularly the case with the Office of Disaster Preparedness Management (ODPM) and the Environmental Management Authority (EMA). It may be that the ODPM is only equipped to handle one disaster at a time and, preoccupied as it was with relief for St Lucia and St Vincent, could not engage in relief efforts for south-west Trinidad or it may be that the ODPM's definition of disaster does not embrace oil spills, but whatever the reason it is clear that the ODPM did little or nothing and is still doing little or nothing, to help with this disaster. As far as the EMA is concerned the situation is even worse. The agency charged with managing and monitoring environmental affairs stood idly by while the worst ecological disaster in our history unfolded and was only spurred to action when the civic group Fishermen and Friends of the Sea publicly reminded it of its authority and responsibility under the law. The abysmal failure of officialdom to respond in a timely and effective manner to this disaster is not simply a matter of incompetence. Although, to be sure, when every state agency is looked upon as simply a locus of jobs for the boys, regardless of the qualifications or competence of the "boys", then the inability of these agencies to respond effectively to crises should not surprise us. What however this sorry tale also reveals is that the instinct to spin every event in such a way as to obtain political advantage and the instinct to cover up events that may



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spell political disadvantage has become so all-pervasive that those in charge, whether at company level, state agency level, or at government level, find it impossible now to discern when and which issues transcend the partisan political realm and affect the entire nation.

<http://www.trinidadexpress.com/commentaries/Oil-spills-and--other-disasters-238800621.html>

USA, LA, BATON ROUGE, JANUARY 6 2014. EXXON REPORTS EMISSIONS AT BATON ROUGE, LA, REFINERY

Exxon Mobil Corp reported a release of 6300 lbs of flammable vapor from a Safety valve at its 503,000 barrel-per-day (bpd) Baton Rouge, Louisiana, refinery, according to a filing with regulators. The filing with the US National Response Center, stated the cause of the release as lifting of an over pressurized safety valve. The incident occurred on Friday, the filing said.

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/international/business/exxon-reports-emissions-at-baton-rouge-la-refinery/articleshow/28462610.cms>

AUSTRALIA, SYDNEY, JANUARY 7 2014. BP, SHELL MULL OVER ASSET SALE

sarah thompson, anthony macdonald, james chessell



Shell and BP are considering the sale of their Australian assets. Photo: luis enrique ascui

Australia's \$50 billion petrol industry is set for its biggest shake-up in decades, with energy majors Royal Dutch Shell and BP considering the sale of refineries and petrol stations in order to free up cash for their core energy production businesses, reports [The Australian Financial Review](#). It is understood Shell is in talks with at least two parties – a large private equity firm and a consortium including investment bank Macquarie Group over the \$3 billion sale of 900 petrol stations and its refinery in Geelong. While sources close to Shell described the negotiations as “preliminary”, it is believed the Anglo-Dutch energy giant is committed to selling what are described as “downstream” assets to focus on its main business of energy exploration, development and production. Shell chief executive Peter Voster said in November the company was “entering into a divestment phase” amid rising costs for energy projects and investor concern about capital expenditure. Shell, which has a partnership with supermarket operator Coles in Australia, sold its petrol stations in New Zealand in 2011 and has had the Geelong refinery on the market since April. It is believed BP is examining a \$3 billion sale of its petrol stations and refineries in Queensland and Western Australia. BP supplies fuel to about 1400 petrol stations of which it owns about 225. Private equity firm Archer Capital kicked off the \$625 million-plus sale of its petrol retailer and distributor, Ausfuel, in February to commodities trader Trafigura's Puma Energy. Australian retail petrol sales are 48 per cent controlled by Coles and Woolworths, which has a partnership with Caltex. The big oil companies now directly own, operate and set prices for around 10 per cent of sites in Australia following Mobil's sale of its service stations to 7-Eleven in 2010. The Australian market has changed dramatically with the number of stations falling from 20,000 in 1970 to around 6300 in 2011, according the

competition regulator which closely monitors the sector. Most sites now sell larger volumes of fuel and rely more on convenience store sales. Refineries in Australia are often older than their international peers – requiring more investment – and have been hit by excess capacity, the rise of alternative fuels and the high dollar. Aside from private equity and opportunistic buyers such as Macquarie, potential buyers for the assets include traders or superannuation funds. Caltex, Liberty Oil, Neumann Petroleum, 7-Eleven and Freedom Fuels were among the underbidders for the Ausfuel owned by Archer.

Related Stories

- [Shell, BP consider selling Australian refineries, petrol stations -AFR](#)
- [Multinationals Just Keep Quitting Australia. This Time It's The Petroleum Industry](#)
- [Shell and BP considering sale of refineries and petrol stations](#)
- [Royal Dutch Shell selling off its petrol stations in Australia?](#)
- [Insider rumours circulating that Shell may divest Shell Oil Co](#)

<http://www.smh.com.au/business/bp-shell-mull-over-asset-sale-20140107-30e88.html>



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USA, N.J. ANDOVER BOROUGH, JANUARY 7 2014. CLEANUP OF OCTOBER GAS SPILL CONTINUES

Cleanup of the gasoline spilled during a fatal accident on State Route 206 in October will continue through at least the first quarter of 2014, according to the manager of the project. "There is still a lot of work to go," Gregory A. Casabona said. Casabona is an engineer and a licensed site remediation professional with Ransom Environmental, the company hired by the state Department of Environmental Protection to clean up the site. The crash occurred Thursday, Oct. 17, when Harminder Singh, 21, of Carteret, driving a JAZ Trucking gasoline tanker northbound on Route 206, lost control, causing the tanker to overturn into the southbound lane and land on top of a Honda Civic driven by Serena Perosi, State Police said. Perosi, 27, of Budd Lake, had to be extricated from her vehicle and was taken to Newton Medical Center and then to Morristown Medical Center where she died the next day. In the accident, the tanker spilled 8,500 gallons of gasoline onto the roadway and the adjacent property. Since the cleanup began in October, 5,631 tons of soil have been removed from the site, Casabona said. "We dug down to about 40 feet below ground level," Casabona said. "Right above the water table. We also installed a recovery well that went down to 65 feet below ground level to help remove any additional contaminants." Soil from the sloped area nearest Route 206 still needs to be removed and will be in February, but a support structure needs to be designed and installed to support the highway from damage while the removal occurs, Casabona said. Two rounds of potable water testing have been done by Ransom, but all results have come back contaminant-free, Casabona said. "There was one structure across the street that was being affected by vapors from the spill," Casabona said, "so we installed a sub slab depressurization system below the building to prevent vapors from entering." Contaminants were found on the top of the shallow water table in the area where the spill occurred, Casabona said, and to remove those, work has begun on a groundwater treatment system that should be fully operational within the next four to six weeks. The treatment system will also have a vapor recovery component that will "mitigate vapor migration away from the spill area," Casabona said. Casabona did not have an estimated cost of the cleanup, but in October a representative from the Department of Environmental Protection said the onus would be placed on JAZ Trucking to pay the costs.

<http://www.njherald.com/story/24369310/2014/01/05/cleanup-of-october-gas-spill-continues>

AUSTRALIA, NEW SOUTH WALES, NEWCASTLE, JANUARY 7 2014. CARRINGTON SPILL CLEAN-UP EXTENDED

Newcastle Port Corporation is cleaning up a fuel spill in the Carrington Basin area originally expected to clear overnight. Beginning on Monday afternoon, the clean-up operation was originally slated for completion by Tuesday morning. A Newcastle Port Corporation spokeswoman confirmed the clean-up was ongoing at 11am on Tuesday. It is unclear how much fuel was spilled. "Newcastle Port Corporation is continuing its investigation into the source of the spill," the spokeswoman said. Residents were warned they may notice an odour "which should diminish reasonably quickly" during clean-up.

<http://www.theherald.com.au/story/2008248/carrington-spill-clean-up-extended/?cs=305>

USA, ILL, NOKOMIS, JANUARY 7 2014. TANKER TRUCK ACCIDENT CLOSES ROUTE 16



Tanker Truck Wreck: An accident involving a truck loaded with 7,500 gallons of diesel fuel closed Route 16 for five hours Thursday.

A tanker truck accident on the snow-packed highway east of Nokomis closed down Route 16 for five hours Thursday, Jan. 2, according to Nokomis Fire Chief Joe Gasparich. The accident occurred at 11:30 a.m. and the highway remained closed in both directions until about 4:30 p.m. The Farmers Oil Company fuel truck, loaded with about 7,500 gallons of diesel fuel to be delivered to a nearby bulk storage facility, failed to make a turn-around maneuver on Route 16 near the Subway restaurant. The tanker had to be emptied before it could be up-righted, and fuel tank trucks from Raymond and Nokomis were brought in to off-load the diesel fuel. Once emptied, the truck was up-righted and moved to the bulk storage facility just across the highway. Kurt's Towing from Litchfield assisted with two heavy wreckers, which were also used to stabilize the truck and tractor during the off-loading process. The Nokomis Police Department closed the highway in both directions while the Nokomis Area Fire Protection District provided fire control protection throughout the incident. The city of Nokomis sand and salt trucks, along with an end-loader, were on standby. The Witt Fire Department was on standby, and members of the Montgomery County Hazmat team were on hand to provide technical support if needed. Illinois State Police assisted local law enforcement with the investigation of the incident.

http://www.thejournal-news.net/news/local_news/tanker-truck-accident-closes-route/article_e7ffae30-767e-11e3-ab93-001a4bcf887a.html



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USA, S.C, ROCK HILL, JANUARY 7 2014. DHEC OVERSEEING CLEAN UP OF ROCK HILL CREEK AFTER KEROSENE SPILL

anna douglas

Environmental control contractors have set up a command post at Confederate Park in Rock Hill to clean up a nearby creek after Sunday afternoon's kerosene spill. City of Rock Hill officials say the clean up will be ongoing this week to ensure the creek and the park area are safe after the spill, which happened at Wilkerson Fuel. The S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control will oversee the clean up effort but state health officials are not in charge of the ongoing work, city officials were told by DHEC. The accidental spill was first reported as diesel fuel but authorities said Monday that the liquid was actually kerosene. When the spill happened, police and fire officials responded. Traffic was blocked for several hours along Pendleton Street, from Annafrel to Confederate streets. DHEC authorities will continue to monitor any effect the spill may have had, city officials were told on Monday afternoon. Wilkerson Fuel is about one block away from Confederate Park. Managers of the fuel company were not available for comment on Monday.

<http://www.heraldonline.com/2014/01/06/5554834/dhec-cleaning-rock-hill-creek.html>

USA, OH, PITTSBURGH, JANUARY 7 2014. WATER POLLUTION FROM FRACKING CONFIRMED IN MULTIPLE STATES

lindsay abrams



A jar holding waste water from hydraulic fracturing is held up to the light at a recycling site in Midland, Texas, Sept. 24, 2013.

Pennsylvania, Ohio, West Virginia and Texas have received hundreds of complaints, an AP investigation revealed. For a process that's driving America's energy boom, the things we don't know about fracking for oil and natural gas often seem to surpass that which we do. One thing we do know: It involves pushing gallons of chemical-laden water into the ground, which has [the potential to seep into nearby sources of drinking water](#). Leaving aside the fact that gas and oil companies aren't required to disclose exactly which chemicals they're using, actual information about water contamination's scope and severity, along with other details crucial to public knowledge and health, is hard to come by. In states at the forefront of the past decade's boom in drilling for

gas and oil, [the Associated Press found](#) hundreds of complaints about well-water pollution, a number of which were confirmed by officials:

- Pennsylvania has confirmed at least 106 water-well contamination cases since 2005, out of more than 5,000 new wells. There were five confirmed cases of water-well contamination in the first nine months of 2012, 18 in all of 2011 and 29 in 2010. The Environmental Department said more complete data may be available in several months.
- Ohio had 37 complaints in 2010 and no confirmed contamination of water supplies; 54 complaints in 2011 and two confirmed cases of contamination; 59 complaints in 2012 and two confirmed contaminations; and 40 complaints for the first 11 months of 2013, with two confirmed contaminations and 14 still under investigation, Department of Natural Resources spokesman Mark Bruce said in an email. None of the six confirmed cases of contamination was related to fracking, Bruce said.
- West Virginia has had about 122 complaints that drilling contaminated water wells over the past four years, and in four cases the evidence was strong enough that the driller agreed to take corrective action, officials said.
- A Texas spreadsheet contains more than 2,000 complaints, and 62 of those allege possible well-water contamination from oil and gas activity, said Ramona Nye, a spokeswoman for the Railroad Commission of Texas, which oversees drilling. Texas regulators haven't confirmed a single case of drilling-related water-well contamination in the past 10 years, she said.

Only a small percentage of the thousands of wells drilled throughout the country, as the AP points out, were found to be contaminated, and not all were necessarily connected to drilling — with so many potential sources of pollution, the exact cause can be difficult to determine. Many people directly affected by fracking-related problems, also, are [silenced by the gas and oil industry](#) under non-disclosure agreements. But most worrisome, according to the AP, is the lack of any set system of reporting complaints and related investigations — in Pennsylvania, specifically, information provided by the state Department of Environmental Protection was scarce. "Right or wrong," said scientist Rob Jackson of Duke University, "many people in the



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public feel like DEP is stonewalling some of these investigations.” With little transparency and muddled details, it's harder than ever to know whether the industry can be trusted.

http://www.salon.com/2014/01/06/water_pollution_from_fracking_confirmed_in_multiple_states/

USA, N.C, CHARLOTTE, JANUARY 7 2014. TRACTOR TRAILER CRASH LEADS TO ETHANOL LEAK IN W. CHARLOTTE

 **Watch the Video** [Tractor Trailer Crash Leads to Ethanol Leak in W. Charlotte](#)

A crash involving a tractor trailer hauling ethanol is causing issues for motorists in west Charlotte. Authorities responded to the crash in an industrial area in west Charlotte in the 6700 block of CSX Way, near Toddville Road. The Charlotte Fire Department says the tanker was hauling ethanol, and a small leak has been detected. HazMat crews are working to off-load the product. Although the scene is off the road, authorities say motorists should avoid the area to make way for emergency vehicles. There are no evacuations in the area, and there's no word just yet on injuries.


<http://www.wcnc.com/news/local/Tractor-trailer-crash-leads-to-ethanol-leak-in-W-Charlotte-238903891.html>

USA, N.Y, NEW YORK, JANUARY 7 2014. OIL COMPANY KNEW ALL ALONG THAT IT WAS TRANSPORTING HIGHLY EXPLOSIVE CHEMICALS >> RECENT DEADLY OIL TRAIN EXPLOSIONS WEREN'T AS SHOCKING TO THE INDUSTRY AS THEY WERE TO EVERYONE ELSE

lindsay abrams



Days after a mile-long train [derailed and exploded in a "giant fireball,"](#) and following a similar incident in July that [killed 47 people,](#) the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration announced Thursday that oil fracked out of North Dakota's Bakken Shale — the same oil behind both explosions — was believed to contain more flammable, corrosive and toxic chemicals than ordinary crude oil. It was news to most of us, but not, as [DeSmogBlog found,](#) to the company receiving the oil shipments. In a [permit application](#) submitted to the Missouri Department of Natural Resources dated over a year before the explosion, Marquis Missouri Terminal LLC acknowledged the high volume of explosive chemicals in its cargo. Rather than a normal permit, Marquis was given a "special conditions" permit because the Bakken oil it receives from BNSF contains high levels of volatile organic compounds (VOCs), the same threat PHMSA noted in its recent safety alert. Among the most crucial of the special conditions: Marquis must flare off the VOCs before barging the oil down the Mississippi River. (Flaring is already a highly controversial practice in the Bakken Shale region, where gas is flared off at rates comparable to Nigeria.) It's a tacit admission that the Bakken Shale oil aboard the exploded BNSF train in Casselton, ND is prone to such an eruption.

 **Related Stories** [DeSmogBlog reports: Exclusive: Permit Shows Bakken Shale Oil in Casselton Train Explosion Contained High Levels of Volatile Chemicals](#)

http://www.salon.com/2014/01/06/oil_company_knew_all_along_that_it_was_transporting_highly_explosive_chemicals/

RUSSIA, MOSCOW, JANUARY 7 2014. RUSSIA BANS 130 RADIATION-CONTAMINATED USED CARS IMPORTED FROM JAPAN



[Russian](#) consumer watchdog agency Rospotrebnadzor has denied entry to around 130 used cars from Japan because of concerns over [radioactive](#) contamination from water leaks at the Fukushima nuclear power plant, which continues to remain a major topic of apprehension for Japan and its neighboring countries. Other cargo coming from the country will be under strict control through 2014, said Rospotrebnadzor on its website. The website listed used [cars](#) and car parts from Japan as those they have banned from entering the country in 2013, indicating that, "Russia has banned 165 batches of contaminated goods from entering the country. There were [mainly used cars](#) – 132, and spare parts of vehicles – 33." Fish from Japan and those caught in the Pacific Ocean were also included in those goods being strictly monitored. "Particular attention is paid to

this issue in Russia's Far East, where [radiation control of fish](#) is being widely implemented, including the distribution chain,"



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said Rospotrebnadzor. Currently, the Customs Union of Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan only allow supply of [fish](#) coming from Japan to Russia under a special declaration that states that the presence of radioactive substances in the products is within safety standards indicated by the department. Present checks done by the department have not revealed any fish or other food product that "don't meet sanitary regulations on radiation indications" yet.

Related Stories

- [Foreign media gets tour of Japan's fish radiation check process](#)
- [Used radiation-contaminated Japanese cars concern Russian customs](#)
- [300 radioactive cars seized as Russian customs inspect Japan imports](#)
- [132 used cars from Japan barred from entering Russia over radiation fears](#)

<http://japandailynews.com/russia-bans-130-radiation-contaminated-used-cars-imported-from-japan-0641885/>

USA, WASHINGTON DC, JANUARY 2014. FARMERS TO DRILLERS MAY NEED TO REPORT EXPLOSIVE CHEMICALS

mark drajem

Farmers and oil drillers may be required to report their use of explosive chemicals under measures the Obama administration is considering to avoid disasters such as a Texas blast that killed 14 people last year. Policy options from an inter-agency working group appointed in response to the fertilizer plant explosion in West, Texas, in April were posted to the regulations.gov website today. Other rules under consideration would require the use of safer alternatives to explosive or toxic chemicals, which could require changes at refineries and plants. The government may "further complicate an overly complex regulatory system by creating requirements for assessing safer alternatives," Scott Jensen, a spokesman for the American Chemistry Council, said in a statement. Other options are more in line with industry's approach, he said. President Barack Obama favored legislation to require adoption of safer technologies when he was a senator and in October ordered agencies to bolster chemical security after the Texas blast. A fire at a Adair Grain Inc. fertilizer depot triggered an explosion of ammonium nitrate, leveling the plant and leaving a deep crater. Specifically, the agency consortium appointed by Obama said it was considering lowering the threshold at which the government would be notified that ammonium nitrate is being used or stored; requiring farmers to report on the so-called chemicals of interest they possess; and writing rules that would mandate oil drillers to track and report on the dangerous chemicals they possess.

Prevent Catastrophe

Lobbying groups representing oil companies and farmers said they needed to study the policy recommendations before determining if they would support them. "If there's a risk that needs to be addressed, we'll sit down with the appropriate authorities and discuss it," Paul Schlegel, director of the energy and environment team at the American Farm Bureau Federation, said in an interview. "But we're not prepared to say that agriculture is a risk that needs federal regulation at this time." Supporters of stricter requirements say the April 17 disaster shows companies should switch to chemicals or mixes that are inert to prevent catastrophic risks rather than seek to manage them. While legislation to make changes has failed in Congress, Obama's regulations may achieve the result, health and safety advocates say.

Years Away

"This is the moment in a generation to inject prevention into the process," Rick Hind, legislative director for Greenpeace, said in an interview. The inter-agency group is asking for comment on the proposals by the end of March and will then send a final proposal to the president soon after. Final rules are still months or even years away. "We anticipate that the options may change significantly in the coming months," the agencies said in their report today. Ammonium nitrate was used by Timothy McVeigh in the 1995 bombing of a government building in Oklahoma City that killed 168 people, including children in a day-care facility, and led to one of the nation's biggest industrial disasters, the explosion of two cargo ships in Texas City, Texas, in 1947. It's widely used by miners, road builders and farmers. Workplace safety agencies have "rules sufficient to cover the risks presented by ammonium nitrate," Wyoming Senator John Barrasso wrote in a letter to Environmental Protection Agency in October. "Imposing additional requirements on compliant companies will not address the safety risks."

<http://www.businessweek.com/news/2014-01-06/texas-blast-cited-as-u-dot-s-dot-eyes-tougher-chemical-handling-rules>

USA, MD, JACKSONVILLE, JANUARY 7 2014. 20 HOUSEHOLDS SETTLE LAWSUIT OVER GAS STATION LEAK

About 20 households affected by a leak at a Jacksonville gas station in 2006 have settled their lawsuit against Exxon Mobil Corp. The Daily Record of Baltimore reports the households were scheduled to have their cases retried beginning Monday in Baltimore County Circuit Court. The plaintiff's lead lawyer, Theodore M. Flerlage Jr., says terms of the settlements are confidential. The leak poured more than 26,000 gallons of fuel into the ground in an area where many residents get their water



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from wells. The leak from underground tanks began in January 2006 and wasn't discovered until five weeks later, when a discrepancy in inventory was noticed. Exxon has maintained that technicians responding to an alarm on the first day improperly reset the detector that first day, rendering it incapable of sounding again. The spill led to multiple lawsuits brought by Jacksonville residents. The households are part of one larger group that was awarded more than \$1.5 billion in damages in June 2011 following a jury trial, but the award was struck down by the Court of Appeals. The remaining plaintiffs in this group are to have their cases retried starting Jan. 27. An Exxon spokesman would not confirm the settlements. "We have apologized to the Jacksonville community and we remain ready to compensate those who were truly damaged by this unfortunate accident," the company said in a statement. Exxon reached a \$4 million settlement with the Maryland Department of the Environment in 2008 and says it spent 10 times that amount on its cleanup effort under the department's direction.

http://www.washingtonpost.com/local/20-households-settle-lawsuit-over-gas-station-leak/2014/01/06/6a3f0dce-76e2-11e3-a647-a19deaf575b3_story.html

SRI LANLA, COLOMBO, JANUARY 8 2014. ANOTHER CONTAINER LOAD OF ETHANOL DETECTED

 **Watch the Video** [More Ethanol Detected](#)

dasun edirisinghe



The Customs yesterday detected, at the Orugodawatta yard, another container load of ethanol smuggled into the country in the guise of palm oil from Malaysia. Customs spokesman and Customs Director (legal) Leslie Gamini told The Island that 80 barrels of ethanol containing 200 litres each were being investigated by the Sri Lanka Customs Revenue Task Force and its Central Investigation Division. Gamini said that the stock of ethanol imported from the Klang Port of Malaysia was worth Rs. 3.2 million, but the Customs would have been deprived of Rs. 10 million in revenue had it been cleared. Gamini said that two persons had already been arrested in connection with importing the container which reached the Colombo port on December 02. "It was imported under a company supposedly situated in Kotahena, but there was no such company at the given address," he said. Gamini said that the rubber seal and signatures on documents also had been forged and falsified documents stating that they paid Rs. 1.8 million as Custom duty had been submitted. Investigations are

continuing with the detained container and the suspects, he added. The Customs detected 10 containers of ethanol, imported illegally last year – two in April and Eight in December. Meanwhile, the JVP accused government politicians of being behind the illegal ethanol imports. JVP Propaganda Secretary Vijitha Herath told The Island that according to the Customs Investigation Report on eight ethanol containers clearly stated that Puttalam District MP Arundika Fernando called his cousin brother, a Director of Customs, to release the containers with 74, 480 litres of Ethanol. He said that MP Fernando also told in a newspaper interview that he knew that government politicians were backing not only the illegal import of ethanol but also drugs. "We asked him to reveal the names of those politicians," Herath said. The Gampaha District MP said that the government should take immediate action to stop the use of political influence to clear such illegal cargo.

http://www.island.lk/index.php?page_cat=article-details&page=article-details&code_title=95495

AUSTRALIA, NSW, SYDNEY, JANUARY 8 2014. WHAT THE SALE OF BP'S AND SHELL'S ASSETS WOULD MEAN FOR SHAREHOLDERS IN CALTEX, WESFARMERS AND WOOLWORTHS

tim mcarthur

According to a report in the Australian Financial Review energy giants BP and Royal Dutch Shell are exploring the potential sale of their respective Australian refineries and petrol stations, with each firm having around \$3 billion in value tied up in Australian assets. Both firms own petrol refineries which if sold will have a bearing on Australia's strategic interests; however it is the ownership of petrol stations which is of greater interest to many investors. Currently (according to the AFR) Coles – which is owned by Wesfarmers and Woolworths control around 48% of retail fuel sales between them. Shell owns around 900 petrol stations and has a partnership for the supply of fuel to Coles, while BP owns around 225 petrol stations and supplies a further 1200 stations with fuel. For obvious reasons both Coles and Woolworths would be interested in bolting these operations on to their current businesses however with the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) keeping a close eye on the levels of competition with the fuel retailing sector, the possibility of either company participating in any industry consolidation is slim at best. Meanwhile, Caltex which enjoys a partnership with Woolworths could also be



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expected to be interested in expanding its fuel retailing network. However just like the supermarket giants, Caltex would be unlikely to get the go-ahead from the ACCC judging by the fact that it was blocked from buying a suite of service stations owned by Mobil in 2010. No matter how the BP and Shell asset sales precede it is certainly looking like an interesting year for the oil & gas and fuel retailing sectors in Australia. In related news there is once again speculation that Chevron which owns 50% of Caltex is looking to offload its shareholding, while murmurings that Shell may continue its sell-down of its 23% holding in Woodside Petroleum are surfacing again as well.

Foolish Takeaway

The move into fuel retailing has been a clever one by the supermarket chains as a way to lock in customers via discount fuel offers and also to increase their footprint in the convenience store sector. Unfortunately for shareholders, neither supermarket owner nor Caltex is likely to be able to benefit from any major asset sales by BP or Shell.

<http://www.fool.com.au/2014/01/07/what-the-sale-of-bps-and-shells-assets-would-mean-for-shareholders-in-caltex-wesfarmers-and-woolworths/>

USA, WA, MOSES LAKE, JANUARY 8 2014. ETHANOL TANKER CRASH LEADS TO CLOSURE OF STATE ROUTE 17 THIS MORNING

cameron probert



A section of state Route 17 between Moses Lake and Othello was closed this morning after a tanker carrying ethanol crashed into a bridge over Lind Coulee. The driver reportedly lost control of the tanker due to icy road conditions and crashed at about 6:30 a.m., leaving the tanker propped partially on a guardrail. The state patrol closed the road until the company could send a crew out to drill a hole and drain the flammable fluid, Trooper Darren Wright said. The state patrol extended the closure past 5 p.m. Wright said they are having some problems clearing the road. The icy roads contributed to at least four other collisions on SR 17 Tuesday morning, along with several other crashes on side roads as vehicles avoided the road closure, Wright said. No one was injured in the collisions.

http://www.ifiberone.com/news/tanker-crash-leads-to-closure-of-state-route-this-morning/article_5504eb18-77d2-11e3-8b67-0019bb30f31a.html

SCOTLAND, DUMFRIES, JANUARY 8 2014. WOMAN KILLED IN DUMFRIES BYPASS CRASH WITH ARTICULATED TANKER



Police said the road was likely to remain shut for some time after the crash took place.

A woman has died in a three-vehicle crash on the A75 Dumfries bypass. The road has been closed following the incident, which took place shortly after 13:00 between the Edinburgh Road and Cuckoo Bridge roundabouts. The crash involved an articulated tanker, a Volkswagen Tiguan and a Ford Ka. Anyone who was driving in the area at the time and who witnessed the crash has been asked to contact police with information. The road at the scene was expected to be closed for "some considerable time" to allow for a full crash investigation to take place. Diversions have been put in place which take traffic

through Dumfries town centre. Significant delays are likely in and around the area.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-scotland-south-scotland-25636681>

USA, WASHINGTON DC, JANUARY 8 2014. AGENCIES CONSIDERING MAJOR CHEMICAL PLANT SAFETY OVERHAUL

ben goad

An interagency panel created to weigh new chemical safety regulations in response to last April's deadly explosion in Texas is considering a major overhaul of the way volatile substances are handled and stored, a new federal document shows. The Chemical Facility Safety and Security Working Group, a task force made up of top-level officials from a variety of federal agencies, is [asking for feedback](#) on an array of potential new rules that could help avert future disasters. The agencies offer



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nine sets of options across several categories, including mandatory — rather than voluntary — new safeguards. The regulations could include a shift to inherently safer technologies and the creation of a third-party audit system. The working group, led by the secretaries of Homeland Security and Labor, along with the administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), stressed that the [list of potential actions](#), released late Friday, is merely a starting point. "This document is a tool for prompting additional thought and obtaining additional information necessary to further evaluate, refine, and supplement these initial options, and we anticipate that the options may change significantly in the coming months," the agencies wrote. Included in the proposal are measures to tighten regulations for the storage and handling of ammonium nitrate, the chemical involved in last April's fertilizer plant in West, Texas, which killed 15 people and injured more than 200. The agencies are seeking information about the costs associated with implementing the measures under consideration. Still, the proposal raised red flags within the industry, where businesses fear the working group will pursue actions "that will further complicate an overly complex regulatory system," according to a statement from the American Chemistry Council (ACC). The council said it was encouraged that the agencies incorporated some of the industry's suggestions in the report, including measures to strengthen coordination between various regulators and improve information sharing between first responders. But the ACC, which favors shoring up existing rules, is worried that the agencies are considering "a regulatory model that would exceed the authority the agencies have today instead of focusing on how to improve current programs," according to the statement. More than 100 groups making up the Coalition to Prevent Chemical Disasters [contend](#) that a transition from reactive safeguards to a more preventive set of policies is exactly what is needed to prevent future accidents, or at least minimize their impact. The group is encouraged by the breadth and scope of the potential actions under consideration, including the incorporation of "inherently safer technologies," said Rick Hind, who serves as legislative director for Greenpeace, a member of the coalition. "They're actually taking a look at the regulatory gaps," Hind said. Members of the public and interested parties will have 90 days to weigh in on the potential actions being floated. President Obama [created the working group](#) via executive order on Aug. 1, though the panel's work has been [fraught with delays](#) connected to last fall's government shutdown.

<http://thehill.com/blogs/regwatch/energy-environment/194511-agencies-signal-major-chemical-plant-safety-overhaul>

AUSTRALIA, WESTERN AUSTRALIA, PERTH, JANUARY 8 2014. BP TO REMAIN IN KWINANA

peter klinger



BP's Kwinana refinery is being prepared for a major scheduled shutdown within months to undergo a multimillion-dollar maintenance program, a sign, sources close to the British giant say, of its commitment to the plant. Although BP would not comment yesterday on market speculation it was planning to sell the refinery along with its nationwide service station network, sources say there had been no change to its refining strategy, suggesting it plans to hold on to the WA asset. With a processing capacity of 137,000 barrels of oil a day and a workforce of almost 400 people, Kwinana is WA's only refinery - and Australia's biggest - and produces petrol, diesel and jet fuel. The refinery's strategic importance would likely make it a sought-after asset if BP changed tack and decided to put Kwinana up for sale. A heavy maintenance shutdown is scheduled for the June quarter. However, the WA and Federal governments are likely to keep a close eye on any sales process to ensure the buyer guarantees one of WA's most important fuel supply assets. Oil majors led by Royal Dutch Shell are reviewing their downstream presence in Australia, with regular speculation they want to sell refineries and service station networks. Shell has stopped refining at Clyde in

Sydney, turning the asset into an import facility, while Geelong has been put up for sale. BP also owns the Bulwer Island refinery near Brisbane, which processes 101,000 barrels a day. The age of Australia's refineries - Kwinana was built in 1955 and Bulwer Island in 1965 - and the country's high operating costs are often quoted as the reasons refining margins are under pressure and companies are considering a sale or conversion into fuel import terminals. Shell's Geelong refinery, which can process up to 120,000 barrels a day, is 55 years old. New refineries being built in Asia are also usually much bigger, giving them a scale advantage over Australian operations. But buyers are unlikely to be easily found. Refineries typically do not suit private equity parties because of their big ongoing capital cost requirements and low profit margins. The most likely buyers are regarded as overseas parties wanting to import their oil products into Australia.

<http://au.news.yahoo.com/thewest/business/wa/a/20646707/bp-to-remain-in-kwinana/>



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USA, MA, WALPOLE, JANUARY 8 2014. CAR CRASH CAUSES PETROL STATION FIREBALL, WORKER THROWN INTO BUSY ROAD WHEN 83-YEAR-OLD MAN LOST CONTROL OF HIS CAR SMASHING INTO A PETROL PUMP.

 **Watch the Video** [Car Crash Causes Petrol Station Fireball](#)



Gas Station Attendant Survives Crash.

An 83-year-old motorist crashed his car at a petrol station, sending an attendant flying and causing a fireball. Surveillance camera footage shows the worker returning to his post between two pumps after putting fuel in a customer's SUV. Moments later, the Toyota Avalon driven by Ed Grace speeds into shot and veers towards the attendant, who ends up sprawled across the bonnet. Mr Grace's car also knocked over a petrol pump, with a fire breaking out at its base as the Toyota comes to a standstill. The attendant was thrown around 30ft onto Main Street in Walpole, Massachusetts, and can be seen in the footage crawling towards the pavement. The SUV speeds off to avoid the flames just before

another employee rushes on to the forecourt and tries to put out the blaze with a fire extinguisher. Mr Grace, a regular customer who lives less than a mile from the 1-A Auto Clinic, said the crash was a terrible accident. He told [WBZ-TV](#): "I pulled in to get gas. There was one car ahead of me. He pulled up and I went to go ahead. I tried to stop. My foot hit the gas pedal." Mr Grace has not been charged but police have impounded his car while they investigate the crash. He said he has not had any recent issues behind the wheel, but will consider giving up his licence. He said: "I don't know. I may. I mean I'm just shook up today. I'm totally shook up. I'm still upset." Mr Grace said he hopes to apologise to the attendant who is in hospital in Norwood, but expected to fully recover from his injuries.

<http://news.sky.com/story/1191553/car-crash-causes-petrol-station-fireball>

INDIA, ERNAKULAM, KARAYAMPARAMBU, JANUARY 8 2014. LPG LEAK TRIGGERS PANIC ON NH 47, TANKER WAS TRANSPORTING LPG FROM BPCL PLANT TO COIMBATORE



Special Arrangement Fire fighters pump water on the tanker from which LPG leaked at Karayampparambu near Angamaly on Monday.

A leak in an LPG tanker on the National Highway near Angamaly created a major scare on Monday afternoon. The leak was detected at Karayampparambu north of Angamaly on the national highway around 1.45 p.m. The tanker was transporting liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) from the BPCL plant in Ambalamugal to Coimbatore. The tanker was immediately stopped and the police and the fire force personnel were alerted. Fire trucks from Angamaly fire station had some difficulty in reaching the scene amidst the confusion and anxiety among the motorists immediately after the incident was reported. Soon the police cordoned off the area and vehicular traffic to either side along the

national highway stretch was stopped. BPCL was also informed about the leak. "Timely intervention and presence of mind of our fire fighters along with sheer luck, timing of the incident, and proper and strict evacuation helped a great deal in preventing the situation from going out of control. We also received excellent technical support from various agencies including BPCL and Kochi airport," T.B. Ramakrishnan, Assistant Station Officer, Angamaly, said. Two fire trucks and six fire fighters from Angamaly fire station fought the situation for more than half hour after which they were joined by fire trucks from various other fire stations within and outside the district. "We created a water mist to bring down the atmosphere temperature and created a cool atmosphere to prevent an explosion," Mr. Ramakrishnan said. Attempts to plug the leak in the safety release valve using a seal available in the safety kit in the tanker failed as it didn't fit in. By then an industrial technical team from the oil company reached the scene and took over the situation. Sources said the safety release valve popped up following a rise in the pressure inside the tanker. It is a safety mechanism integrated into the tanker to avert an explosion in the event of a rise in pressure level. However, the reason for the pressure shoot-up inside the tanker is unknown. As soon as the pressure stabilised through vapour release, the valve got reset automatically. The technical team, however, detected a minor leak even after the safety valve was reset and plugged it with a seal by around 3.30 p.m. The trip to Coimbatore was abandoned and the tanker was taken back to the plant at Ambalamugal. Stoppage of vehicular movement for almost two hours threw the traffic through the national highway completely out of gear. It was a while before normalcy was restored. People in the locality also



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remained in the grip of fear as news about the LPG leak spread. There was a collective sigh of relief as soon as the leak was plugged and vehicular movement was restored.

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Kochi/lpg-leak-triggers-panic-on-nh-47/article5548470.ece?homepage=true>

USA, GA, ATLANTA, LITTLE FIVE POINTS, JANUARY 8 2014. GASOLINE LEAK CAUSES EVACUATION OF LITTLE FIVE POINTS

 **Watch the Video**

- [Little Five Points Evacuated Following Discovery of Gas Leak](#)
- [Gasoline Leak Causes Evacuation of Little Five Points](#)
- [Gas Spill Forces Evacuation in Atlanta's Little 5 Points](#)

The smell of gasoline invaded some Atlanta businesses Tuesday in the Little Five Points area, causing the fire department to evacuate the business district. Business owners called 911 early in the day after finding themselves overwhelmed by the smell. "We could breathe but it was getting worse and worse the longer we stayed there," said Eric Ludgood. Ludgood works at a record store along Euclid Avenue. "The smell is of gasoline, not natural gas, so they've evacuated most of the businesses down here," Atlanta Fire Rescue spokesperson Janet Ward told Channel 2's Erica Byfield. Firefighters brought in heavy machinery to deal with the spill. Ward told Byfield the business owners with bathrooms complained the most about the smell. Officials think there was gas in the sewer. "We think there is a possibility it's gotten into the sewer and so we have called the department of watershed management," Ward said. A man who works in a cellphone repair shop near the corner of Euclid and Moreland avenues told Byfield he thinks an accident at the corner gas station led to the spill. "Yesterday the guy, he just ran into the gas tank. He actually knocked it over, so the gas tank was over and there was a little gas coming out of it and it actually ran into the back of my shop," said Shaman Brown. Ward did not confirm Brown's theory, but late Tuesday crews spent a lot of time examining the pump Brown mentioned.

<http://www.wsbtv.com/news/news/local/gas-leak-forces-little-5-points-business-evacuatio/ncfFk/>

AUSTRALIA, SYDNEY, JANUARY 8 2014. TPG CIRCLES IN \$3B SALE OF SHELL PETROL STATIONS

angela macdonald-smith, james chessell, sarah thompson



Monitor: Coles is watching closely.

Private equity firm TPG is in the final stages of a \$3 billion auction for Royal Dutch Shell's refining and retail business in Australia, along with a consortium involving Macquarie Group. There is also speculation a third party - potentially an Asian energy business - is also vying for the Shell assets, including its refinery in Geelong, several import terminals and a network of 900 branded service stations. BP is also thought to be mulling the sale of its downstream business in Australia as the oil majors seek to channel investment into higher-returning businesses in oil and gas production and bigger growth markets. "Production growth, or lack thereof, is the key focus of investors in the supermajors and therefore money is always going to be ushered more and more upstream away from the downstream," Credit Suisse analyst Mark Samter said. Both Shell and BP have declined to comment on the speculation about the potential sales. But a BP spokesman said that only last month the British parent company had sanctioned \$US150 million of investment for 2014 in the Australian retail business, while maintenance work due this year at its Kwinana refinery in WA was expected to cost tens of millions of dollars.

Refineries have delivered sub-standard investment returns in Australia in the past five years but there is speculation an Asian energy business, such as Thai-owned PTT, might be interested. The 110,000-barrels-a-day Geelong refinery has previously attracted interest from Chinese interests in the sale process run by Merrill Lynch. It is believed Shell's retail partner in Australia, Coles, is monitoring the negotiations. Analysts said that the distribution and retailing end of the majors' Australian



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businesses would be of significant interest to new investors, particularly private equity, but that the refineries would be more problematic to sell. "Now Australia is a net importer of fuel we are very attractive from the point of view of regional and international investment in the Australian market for those companies, unlike BP and Shell, which are really upstream companies rather than downstream marketers," said Nic Moulis, chief executive of the Australian Convenience and Petroleum Marketers Association. He said Mobil had kicked off the trend several years ago for energy majors to exit the "chips and chocolate" business of fuels retailing in Australia to focus on exploration and production and it was unsurprising Shell and BP were thinking of following suit. Mr Samter said petrol and diesel importing and retailing was a "very obvious market for private equity to be looking at" given "enormous synergies" on offer from parts of the business. "There's a serious appetite for these types of assets, they are very high quality, defensive, pretty high visibility; it's a competitive market but it's a rational market," he said, noting Australia stood out among developed countries as still having growth in fuels retailing. Australia's fuels production and retailing sector has seen massive change over the past decade, with the closure of two refineries and a third to be closed next year and significant changes in the ownership of petrol stations. The changes have accelerated in the past 18 months with the entry of giant commodities trader Trafigura into petrol retailing in Australia through more than \$800 million of acquisitions by its Puma arm, owned 40 per cent by Angolan state oil company Sonangol. Caltex Australia, the only locally listed refiner and marketer, is in the middle of a major transformation, with its Sydney refinery to be converted to an import terminal this year and an increased focus on importing, distribution and marketing.

Related Stories

- [TPG Eyes Shell Assets: Report](#)
- [Shell to Sell 900 Petrol Stations, Geelong Refinery for \\$3 Billion to Consortium?](#)

<http://www.smh.com.au/business/tpg-circles-in-3b-sale-of-shell-petrol-stations-20140107-30fg0.html>

AUSTRALIA, A.C.T, GOWRIE, JANUARY 8 2014. HIDDEN FIREWORKS BLOW UP CAR IN GOWRIE



The blast sent a car side panel 10 metres away where it hit another vehicle.

Fireworks hidden inside the front wheel of a ute in Gowrie have exploded, blowing the front panel of the car into another vehicle more than 10 metres away. Police said the fireworks were inside the wheel arch of a white Ford Courier utility when they exploded early on Wednesday morning. Police were called to the ute, parked in Statton Street, Gowrie, at 12.30am. The explosion sent the front panel of the car into another vehicle more than 10 metres away, damaging the second vehicle. ACT Policing superintendent Justine Gough said the explosion had been extremely dangerous and could have had a tragic outcome. "That car panel could have easily landed in someone's house, or even worse, it could of hit a person

causing serious injuries or death," he said. "While someone may have committed this crime as a joke or thought it may be funny, the reality is that someone may have been killed or seriously injured." Police are seeking anyone with information about the explosion or anyone who witnessed any suspicious activity to contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or via www.act.crimestoppers.com.au.

<http://www.canberratimes.com.au/act-news/hidden-fireworks-blow-up-car-in-gowrie-20140108-30g88.html>

NEW ZEALAND, MURCHISON, JANUARY 8 2014. PETROL TANKERS COLLIDE NEAR MURCHISON

No traffic problems have been reported in Christchurch. However, one lane of State Highway 6 has reopened after a two empty petrol tankers collided. A police spokesman said the crash was reported about 1.40am on the highway between Murchison and Inangahua Junction. One driver suffered a sore arm, but both were believed to have escaped serious injury. Diversions were in place via Reefton and Springs Junction for about seven-and-a-half hours, before the road reopened to one lane about 8.15am.

<http://www.stuff.co.nz/the-press/christchurch-life/9586985/Petrol-tankers-collide-near-Murchison>

USA, GA, NEWTON CO, SOCIAL CIRCLE, JANUARY 8 2014. EXPLOSION CAUSED WHEN SOCIAL CIRCLE MAN POURED GASOLINE ON FIRE

aimee jones

Three Social Circle men learned the hard way that it is not a good idea to pour gasoline on a fire. The 28-year-old owner of a home on Paine Crossing Road, along with a couple of friends, had been hanging out together Sunday in the yard, warming



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

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themselves by a fire in a metal barrel, according to the Newton County Sheriff's Office. In an apparent attempt to keep the fire burning, the homeowner poured some type of fuel onto the fire when the container ignited, said NCSO Deputy Felicia Jefferson. "The barrel exploded and the homeowner received extensive burns over most of the front part of his body," Jefferson said. Another man standing nearby was also injured, receiving minor burns. The third friend was not injured, she said. The homeowner was transported by EMS to Grady Medical Center for treatment of his injuries. The 27-year-old friend was transported by a family member to a nearby hospital, according to the NCSO. No charges are expected to be filed. "It is not advisable to put any type of gasoline of any sort on any fire," Jefferson said. "It is very dangerous and we are thankful that the fire was contained and nobody else got hurt."

<http://www.newtoncitizen.com/news/2014/jan/07/explosion-caused-when-social-circle-man-poured/>

FIJI, NASINU, JANUARY 9 2014. OIL SPILL

siteri sauvakacolo



Kinoya Village headman Kaminieli Volau at the oil spill in their village in Nasinu yesterday.

Villagers of Kinoya in Nasinu have expressed concern over a recent oil spill in the sea beside their village. Village headman Kaminieli Volau claimed the spill had started two weeks ago. "This is not the first time such a spill has happened and we fear for the lives of our children as well as our next generation," he said. "If this continues, they might not be able to enjoy and get a chance to eat fresh seafood from our fishing ground in the future. This has been our source of food for many years and we rely on it for our daily living." Mr Volau said he had witnessed four spills already. He claimed some were major ones while a few were small ones which were easily contained.

However, he said the recent one was so bad that the colours of their fishing boats changed from white to black. "We believe these mangroves will die soon because this spill has been here for two weeks," he said yesterday. "The Environment Department had also come in today to see the extent of the spill. "The spill was really thick early this morning (yesterday), it overflowed again." Fiji Electricity Authority CEO Hasmukh Patel confirmed they were notified of the spill by Pernix (Telesource) yesterday. "The spill was caused by excess oil run off during recent cleaning by Pernix at the Kinoya Power Station," Mr Patel said. "The spillage has been contained and cleaned from the site. "FEA has implemented precautionary measures to ensure that such incidences do not occur in the future," he added.

<http://www.fijitimes.com/story.aspx?id=256278>

USA, S.C, ROCK HILL, HEC: ROCK HILL KEROSENE SPILL CAME FROM STORAGE TANK

anna douglas

It could take up to two weeks for environmental cleanup workers to rid a small creek of contaminants from a kerosene spill near Rock Hill's Confederate Park. State environmental officials and the federal Environmental Protection Agency will oversee cleanup of the spill at Wilkerson Fuel Co. on Pendleton Street. A contractor, Highlands Environmental Solutions, is expected to monitor affected soil and water for up to three months. Highlands Environmental Solutions is based in Raleigh, N.C. Few details have been released about what caused the spill on Sunday. The Herald could not reach Wilkerson Fuel officials on Tuesday. An employee who answered the phone on Tuesday afternoon said the company was "not interested" in commenting. The kerosene spill apparently originated from an above-ground storage tank, said Jim Beasley, spokesman for the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control. Company officials believe about 1,500 gallons were released on Sunday, he said. Rock Hill police and firefighters responded to the spill. Traffic was blocked for several hours along Pendleton Street, from Annafrel to Confederate streets. On Monday, contractors arrived to begin cleanup. The work continued on Tuesday around the creek and the Confederate Park area. Wilkerson Fuel is located about one block from Confederate Park. Federal laws require that the "responsible party" notify DHEC when any spill impacts waterways, Beasley said. In this case, Highlands Environmental Solutions notified environmental officials on Wilkerson's behalf.

<http://www.thestate.com/2014/01/08/3195117/dhec-rock-hill-kerosene-spill.html>



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