



## Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network Release 2014 – 1,072 Newsy Stuff

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

June 01 2014



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### AUSTRALIA, QUEENSLAND, BRISBANE, MAY 20 2014. CHEMICAL TANKER, FISHING BOAT COLLIDE ON GREAT BARRIER REEF



*Pictured: Approximate route of LADS passage sourced from AMSA's Queensland Coastal Passage Plan.*

A rumoured collision between a chemical tanker and a fishing boat on the Great Barrier Reef has now been confirmed. Panama-flagged Golden Tiffany (IMO 9197143; 16465 dwt) was north-bound under pilotage, and transiting LADS Passage, when there was a collision with a south-bound fishing vessel. Reef Pilots, which was conducting the pilotage through LADS passage, told Lloyd's List Australia that, at approximately 10pm, the fishing boat made a "sudden unexpected turn" which caused the small craft to "scrape" against the tanker's side. Reef Pilots added that, immediately prior to the incident, no-one from the fishing vessel responded to emergency radio hails, leading the pilotage company to believe that the fishing vessel had no-one on watch. The incident was reported to the Australian Maritime Safety Authority (AMSA). Although

there was no major damage, one expert mariner told Lloyd's List Australia that the situation could have been a lot worse: "that's not to say they couldn't have mowed down the ship with the loss of three people." He also went on to raise a further important safety issue: "It's not a freakish incident, it's happening all the time," he said and pointed to the ATSB report into the collision between the bulk carrier Furness Melbourne and the yacht Riga. That report states that, in the past 25 years, there have been 39 collisions between trading ships and smaller vessels on the Australian coast. It's a view backed up by the AMSA document, "Queensland Coastal Passage Plan," of May 2013, which describes the transit of LADS Passage and states on p47 that: "the main risk of collision is with fishing vessels and small pleasure craft. Keep a careful lookout at all times...". It is unclear at this point as to whether or not there will be any investigation by AMSA or the ATSB. Both were sent extensive questions by Lloyd's List Australia this morning but had not replied by publication deadline. Golden Tiffany is beneficially owned by Sinochem Corporation and it is both commercially and technically managed by Dorval Tankers SC. The incident took place in late April but has only now been confirmed.

<http://www.lloydslistdcn.com.au/archive/2014/05-may/19/local-chemical-tanker-fishing-boat-collide-on-great-barrier-reef>

### USA, MN, MORA, MAY 20 2014. AIRPORT SPRINGS FUEL LEAK



*Out of Order: Local and visiting pilots will have to find fuel elsewhere as the Mora Municipal Airports 100LL fuel pump has been shot off due to a leak.*

Approximately 2,100 gallons of 100 Low-Lead aviation fuel leaked into the soil at the Mora airport between September when new fuel tanks were installed and March when the leak was discovered. At this point staff suspects the leak was caused after new fuel tanks were installed last fall and a drill to install bollards around the tanks nicked the pipe that connects the tanks to the gas pump. According to city administrator Joel Dhein, city employees first suspected something was wrong when the readings for how much fuel was sold didn't match with how much fuel was leaving the tank. At first city employees believed the discrepancy was an error in how their measuring instruments were calibrated since the new 600 gallon tank was smaller than the former 1,200-gallon tank. Later, a camera was inserted into the tank and staff could clearly see a break in

the fuel line that connects the tank to the gas pump. Dhein said they estimated that for every 100 gallons of fuel that was pumped by a customer, 50 gallons leaked into the soil. The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) was notified and advised the city on steps to deal with the situation. The city approved a contract with Meisch and Associates May 6 to perform a remediation investigation that would take samples and determine the impact the leak has had on the soil, water, and air as well as recommend steps to deal with the contamination. This investigation could take six months or more to complete. At this time, Dhein said they believe the leak has been contained to a small area where it does not pose a danger to residents; however, they will not be certain of the impact until the investigation is complete. The minimum cost of this investigation, not including cleanup, is \$15,000. Ninety percent of that work is reimbursable by the MPCA, leaving the city to pay at least \$1,500. Local and visiting pilots will be unable to get 100LL fuel until the leak is fixed.

[http://www.presspubs.com/kanabec/news/article\\_3137d04c-dc4a-11e3-861a-0019bb2963f4.html](http://www.presspubs.com/kanabec/news/article_3137d04c-dc4a-11e3-861a-0019bb2963f4.html)



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### INDIA, GHAZIABAD, MAY 20 2014. JUNKYARD BLAST INJURES 2 BOYS, POLICE FIND 700 DETONATORS

SSP Sacchi Ghildiyal confirmed that they have recovered 700 detonators After an explosion in a junkyard in Loni area of Ghaziabad on Saturday evening led to two children suffering serious injuries, the Ghaziabad police said they had stumbled upon 700 detonators. On Saturday evening, an explosion at a junkyard owned by a scrap-dealer in Loni led to his sons being severely injured, police said. The scrap dealer — identified as Ram Prakash — has been arrested for questioning. His two sons — Rinku (13) and Shivam (10) — are recuperating in a private hospital, police said. SSP Sacchi Ghildiyal confirmed that they have recovered 700 detonators. "The final report in the matter hasn't arrived. But we have confirmed that the blast was caused by these detonators," she said. Ghildiyal added that different intelligence teams, including the Uttar Pradesh Special Task Force and teams from Delhi, had arrived at the spot after the incident. Police sources said they were trying to establish if the detonators were intended for use in mining or for setting off bombs. "Ram Prakash has claimed that he receives the junk from Nangloi and on Sunday a truck had arrived with these detonators. During questioning he told police that he was in the process of smashing the detonators to extract copper from them, when the blast took place," a senior police officer said. After the blast on Saturday, locals in the area alerted police. When police officers conducted a search of the premises, they found the 700 detonators, similar to the one that had caused the blast in the junkyard. Police sources said they had detained another scrap-dealer from Nangloi on Monday for further questioning. "After the blast, panic spread in the area. We have deployed additional personnel in the area to ensure that no untoward incident takes place," a senior police officer said.

<http://indianexpress.com/article/cities/delhi/junkyard-blast-injures-2-boys-police-find-700-detonators/>

### SCOTLAND, EDINBURGH, MAY 20 2014. DALGETY BAY RADIATION: REPORT CRITICISES LACK OF RECORDS OF CONTAMINATED LAND



*The report investigated radium contamination at Dalgety Bay*

It is unacceptable that the UK does not have comprehensive records of land potentially contaminated with radiation, a report has said. It said the failure meant such sites pose an unknown risk to the population. The Committee on Medical Aspects of Radiation in the Environment (Comare) investigated radium contamination at Dalgety Bay in Fife. Members said the Scottish government should consider building an offshore barrier on the affected coastline. The source of the radiation at Dalgety Bay is thought to be luminous instrument dials from aircraft which were buried in the area after the Second World War. The instrument dials on the aircraft had been illuminated by paint containing radium-

226. The planes were stationed at the nearby HMS Merlin airfield, which was commissioned in 1939 as a Royal Naval Aircraft Repair Yard and decommissioned in 1959 before being sold off in the 1960s. In [its report](#), Comare said contamination at the beach in Fife posed a potential risk to public health and could get worse unless action was taken. In addition to the option of an offshore barrier, the report recommended that children should not dig on the beach, additional warnings should be posted at the site and further research should be carried out into the effect of the contamination. The report said a lack of records of the amount of radioactive material brought onto the site meant that it was not possible "to determine the radioactivity remaining or to estimate the longevity or magnitude of the associated hazard". The committee said it was "unlikely that there is a current significant risk posed by airborne contamination" but that more work was needed to determine the risk posed by skin contact, particularly for young children.

#### 'Long Term Solution'

Representatives of the Scottish Environmental Protection Agency (Sepa), Public Health England and the UK Ministry of Defence (MoD) have observer status at Comare meetings. An MoD spokesman said: "The advice from Public Health England, formerly the Health Protection Agency, has consistently been and following consideration of this report, continues to be, that the risk to the local community at Dalgety Bay from the presence of radium is very low. "The government is committed to ensuring that those living locally continue to receive the best possible advice which is why we have worked closely with COMARE to ensure the report's findings are based on the most comprehensive and up-to-date information available. "Over the last two decades the MoD has worked closely with Sepa, the Scottish government and the Dalgety Bay Forum to manage the site so that the local community can continue to safely use the bay. "A report setting out remediation options was published earlier this year and next month the MoD will publish a long term solution for the bay, setting out how all parties can best manage the site in the future."



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### 'Lack of Transparency'

The Scottish government criticised the MoD for allegedly delaying publication of the report. Scotland's Public Health Minister, Michael Matheson, claimed the delay represented "a lack of transparency on behalf of the MoD and suggests a disregard for the concerns of the local community at Dalgety Bay". He added: "The report confirms that it is very unlikely that there is a link between elevated rates of particular cancers at Dalgety Bay and the radioactive contamination. "This is welcome, and I hope it offers some measure of reassurance to the community of Dalgety Bay. "Nonetheless, the report does conclude that the contamination poses a public health risk, particularly through possible skin contact and ingestion. "While the warning signs and access restrictions applied at the beach should minimise these risks, these measures cannot be permanent." He added: "The report makes a number of important recommendations about managing this in the long term, including that effective remediation of the affected area is undertaken as soon as possible. "Sepa have been working with the MoD on the development of remediation options, even while the report remained unpublished, and so I am expecting the MoD to start to implement a long term solution shortly."

#### Related Stories

- [Polluted bay report due next week](#)
- [Management plan for polluted bay](#)
- [Dalgety Bay radiation plans unveiled](#)

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-edinburgh-east-fife-27470332>

### NORWAY, OSLO, MAY 20 2014. 'HYDROCARBON LEAK' SHUTS PRODUCTION AT STATOIL'S SNORRE B PLATFORM

[Statoil ASA](#) has shut down production from the Snorre B platform after it experienced a hydrocarbon leak into a recently identified crater measuring 100 cu m affiliated with a well at one of four seabed production frames, a company spokesman told OGP on May 19. The crater was spotted May 17 after a routine inspection by a remotely operated underwater vehicle. The company said heavy brine is now being pumped into the well to stabilize it. Production will remain shut down until the cause of the leak is found. Thirty-three out of 136 workers on the platform were evacuated to a floating accommodation facility near Snorre A on May 17—the field's other production platform—and eventually onshore May 19. Statoil described these evacuated workers as "noncritical personnel related to handling this type of issue." Statoil said it has kept the Norwegian Petroleum Safety Organization informed of its activities. Snorre field reserves are estimated at 1.55 billion bbl of oil. Statoil in October 2013 recommended the construction of a drilling and processing platform for extracting the remaining reserves from Snorre ([OGJ Online, Oct. 28, 2013](#)). Production from the Snorre A platform was shut down in late 2004 after human error caused a natural gas leak, halting production of about 130,000 b/d of oil from the platform and 75,000 b/d from its Vigdis satellite, which used the Snorre A facilities for processing ([OGJ Online, Jan. 18, 2005](#)). Production resumed in early 2005 ([OGJ Online, Feb. 9, 2005](#)). Partners in the Snorre license are Statoil 33.27556%, Petoro 30%, ExxonMobil E&P Norway 17.44596%, Idemitsu Petroleum Norge 9.6%, RWE Dea Norge 8.57108%, and Core Energy 1.1074%.

<http://www.ogj.com/articles/2014/05/hydrocarbon-leak-shuts-production-at-statoil-s-snorre-b-platform.html>

### AUSTRALIA, NW SOUTH WALES, SYDNEY, MAY 21 2014. CSIRO LAUNCHES SOIL CONTAMINATION DETECTOR



#### *The Remtek in action.*

A handheld detector that reduces both the cost and time taken to remediate sites contaminated by petroleum products has been launched to market in the United States. The device, RemScan, developed by CSIRO and industry partner Ziltek, uses an infrared signal to directly measure petroleum hydrocarbons in the soil, giving a result in around 20 seconds. In a joint statement the organisations said the ability to rapidly and accurately detect petroleum contamination on site, instead of the traditional method of sending soil samples to a laboratory and waiting days for results, will enable industry to close projects or declare sites contaminant free, faster and with a greater degree of certainty. "The technology has the potential to save the environmental remediation industry millions of dollars per year in laboratory and project costs globally," CSIRO and Ziltek said.

Petroleum contamination as a result of leaking tanks or industrial spills is a widespread global issue with potentially serious impacts for human and environmental health. RemScan can be used as a quick in-field screening tool to characterise



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contaminated sites, to validate spill clean-up areas, or to monitor ongoing contaminant degradation. In remote areas, where laboratory analysis is either not available or is prohibitively expensive – RemScan demonstrates its true value as a quick, easy to use and accurate instrument. The technology is particularly useful for the quantitative measurement of diesel, oil and crude products in soil, but can also be used as a screening tool for lighter fuels such as jet fuel and gasoline. Successfully commercialised in Australia by Ziltek in 2012, RemScan is now in use by the mining industry and the oil and gas industries in various Australian states. CSIRO holds the recently accepted US patent for the RemScan method, which is licensed exclusively to Ziltek for global distribution. "CSIRO has enabled the use of infrared spectroscopy for rapid non-destructive prediction of contaminants in soils and soil properties using both near- and mid-infrared spectral regions," CSIRO's Professor Mike McLaughlin said. "CSIRO also identified the potential of this new method to greatly reduce costs to industry and we saw Ziltek as the logical partner for global commercialisation." Apart from oil detection, CSIRO said is continuing to work with Ziltek to extend the technology to enable rapid detection of other soil contaminants.

<http://www.itwire.com/science-news/biology/64140-csiro-launches-soil-contamination-detector>

### USA, CA, LOS ANGELES, MAY 21 2014. ADVOCATES PRESS ON IN CHEVRON'S ECUADOR CONTAMINATION CASE

matthew heller



*Cofan indigenous women stand near a pool of oil in Ecuador's Amazonian region.* Despite a legal setback, advocates cite "overwhelming" evidence of Chevron contamination in Ecuador -- especially the results of Chevron's own tests. With Chevron Corp. recently having won a major victory in its marathon legal battle over environmental pollution claims in Ecuador, advocates for indigenous Amazonian farmers are trying to refocus attention on evidence showing the extent of Chevron's alleged toxic contamination of the rain forest. U.S. District Judge Lewis A. Kaplan gave the company its victory in March by [ruling](#) that attorney Stephen Donziger and his legal team representing Ecuadorians engaged in a conspiracy and criminal conduct to force Chevron to settle the pollution case.

Even if Chevron was responsible for pollution in Ecuador's Amazonian region, Donziger and his clients "were not entitled to corrupt the process to achieve their goal," Kaplan said in barring Donziger and his associates from seeking to enforce in the United States a \$19 billion judgment — later reduced to \$9.5 billion — that was awarded against Chevron in February 2011 by an Ecuadorian court. Shortly before the court announced the judgment, Chevron had sued Donziger and several environmental groups for civil racketeering and fraud, among other claims. Supporters of the Ecuadorians say the scientific evidence that Chevron contaminated land in its former concession area by using substandard drilling practices to minimize costs and maximize profit is overwhelming. Soil test results that Chevron itself submitted to the court in Lago Agrio, Ecuador, "suggest the company's guilt and blow up its alternative narrative that it is the victim rather than the indigenous peoples and villagers living in the rainforest," Karen Hinton, a former public relations consultant for the Ecuadorian plaintiffs, wrote in a May 9 column for [The Huffington Post](#). Chevron's tests at the Sacha 94 and Sacha 57 well sites in Ecuador, Hinton said, showed levels of total petroleum hydrocarbons — a measurement of toxic and, in some cases, carcinogenic chemicals and metals in soil — that were almost nine times greater than what is permitted under Ecuadorian law. Also found in the environment were illegal qualities of benzene, barium, cadmium and lead — all substances that are toxic and dangerous to human health. "The vast majority of test results from the Ecuador trial support what the villagers in the former Chevron concession area always have alleged: Chevron contaminated their land, using substandard drilling practices to minimize costs and maximize profit," Hinton wrote. A [website](#) operated by the Amazon Watch environmental group posted test results earlier this month, noting that Texaco — which was acquired by Chevron in 2011 — claimed to have cleaned the Sacha 94 and Sacha 57 well sites as part of a remediation agreement with Ecuador. Chevron has argued in Ecuador and U.S. courts that the agreement releases it from any liability. "Chevron's own test results show that the remediation itself was inadequate at best and, most likely, fraudulent," [ChevronToxico claimed](#).

#### Economic Extortion

The original judgment against Chevron was the largest ever awarded in an environmental lawsuit. "This is the first time that a small developing country has had power over a multinational American company," [said Donziger](#). Chevron called the judgment "illegitimate and unenforceable" and launched its counterattack by filing a lawsuit in New York accusing Donziger of fraudulently obtaining the judgment by, among other means, manufacturing a "wave of public criticisms of Chevron." Toward that end, the suit said, Donziger recruited Hinton to "create and manage" a "campaign of false and misleading public



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statements." Hinton has defended herself against Chevron's accusations, saying in a post on [Politico](#) that "hard-hitting press releases" do not amount to economic extortion. "Chevron has charged that the Ecuadorian 'conspirators' and their 'co-conspirators,' like me, manufactured evidence about the contamination, and committed fraud," she wrote. "I find this utterly preposterous and assumed we would be allowed to aggressively refute and defend against these charges in court. We were not." During the trial of Chevron's fraud case, Hinton noted, Judge Kaplan "refused to allow any testimony into the record that would prove we did not lie about the contamination," including evidence that Texaco "built hundreds of huge, unlined pits to store permanently pure crude and toxic water left over from oil exploration at well sites." While Kaplan has barred the Ecuadorian plaintiffs from collecting the \$9.5 billion judgment in the U.S., they have filed enforcement actions in other countries where Chevron has assets, including Brazil, Canada and Argentina. "[N]o court that respects the rule of law will let the oil giant off the hook, when it sees the results of [Chevron's own] contamination tests," [Hinton forecast](#) in The Huffington Post.

<http://www.mintpressnews.com/advocates-press-chevrans-ecuador-contamination-case/191063/>

### AUSTRALIA, QUEENSLAND, TOOWOOMBA, MAY 21 2014. WARREGO HIGHWAY CLOSED AFTER PETROL TANKER CATCHES FIRE

A man was lucky to escape with his life after the petrol tanker he was driving caught alight as he drove along the Warrego Highway on the Toowoomba Range. The Courier-Mail understands the truck's engine caught alight about 6pm on Tuesday near Withcott, about 10km east of Toowoomba. The driver was transported to Toowoomba Base Hospital and treated for smoke inhalation. Traffic was brought to a standstill as police closed the west-bound lane while emergency services worked to secure the scene. There were no punctures or leaks to the tanker.

<http://www.news.com.au/national/queensland/warrego-highway-closed-after-petrol-tanker-catches-fire/story-fnii5v6w-1226924558660>

### CANADA, ALBA, CALGARY, MAY 21 2014. GAS PLUS LEAK CLEANUP IN BOWNESS TAKEN OVER BY PROVINCE



*The Alberta government is taking over the remediation of a former Gas Plus station in Bowness where 9,000 litres of fuel leaked into the soil in 2010 from the former service station's underground tank in 2010.*

The province is taking over the cleanup of the former Gas Plus station site in Bowness. The area was contaminated when 9,000 litres of gasoline spilled into the surrounding soil from an underground tank at the former service station in

northwest Calgary in 2010. A number of houses and businesses in the area were affected. Since then Gas Plus has "consistently failed to remediate" the property as required under an [Environmental Protection Order](#). "In the interest of the public, the province will now exercise its authority to carry out the necessary work on and off-site," the province said in a release. Gas Plus Inc., which still owns the land, will still be liable for all cleanup costs and "remain fully responsible for the release of the hydrocarbons," the province said. In a statement released Tuesday afternoon, Gas Plus officials say the allegations aren't true. "[The company] is ready to complete the remediation of their northwest Calgary gas station site and the surrounding area to the remedial standards set by the province through an Environmental Protection Order. However Gas Plus Inc./Handle Transport (Northern) Ltd. are not permitted to complete the final remediation until the written consent of the director of environmental and sustainable resource development has been received, which to date, has not been provided."

#### Mayor Applauds Move

The province says it will go to court if necessary to get GasPlus to give it access to the site. Mayor Naheed Nenshi has been watching the situation in frustration since he was sworn into office in 2010. "I am thrilled that the province is finally going to take over this cleanup," he said. "This has been four years. This is ridiculous. These people deserve the land to be cleaned. We all deserve it. It's so close to the river and I'm absolutely thrilled that the province has now exhausted its various legal and bureaucratic issues and is now doing it." Nenshi said the city had always understood the nature of the problem, but under the current legislation it could not enter the land and Alberta Environment had a lot of red tape they had to go through. "And frankly, [the city] doesn't have the capacity ... to be able to manage complex files like this, so we have been pushing successive ministers of the environment on this for some time and I'm so happy that the province has finally agreed to do the right thing."

#### Related Stories

- [Bowness residents lament slow progress at gas leak site](#)



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- [Calgarian wants province to clean up Gas Plus site](#)
- [Clean up gas leak in Bowness, province orders](#)
- [Gas Plus fuel leak dispute goes to hearing](#)
- [Bowness gas station appeals clean-up order](#)
- [Gas station leak bigger than first thought](#)
- [Bowness residents lament slow progress at gas leak site](#)

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/calgary/gas-plus-leak-cleanup-in-bowness-taken-over-by-province-1.2648462>

### USA, W.VA, CHARLESTON, L MAY 21 2014. CHEMICAL TANK REGISTRATION TO START SOON

ken ward jr

West Virginia regulators are planning an early start to the process of registering above-ground chemical storage tanks under legislation passed in the wake of January's chemical leak into the Elk River. The [state Department of Environmental Protection](#) expects to begin accepting online tank registrations soon after June 6, the effective date of SB 373, the law that requires DEP to begin a new program aimed at avoiding a repeat of the [Freedom Industries leak that contaminated the drinking water supply of 300,000 West Virginians](#). Scott Mandirola, director of the DEP Division of Water and Waste Management, told lawmakers Tuesday that the registration data is important to help the agency as it crafts new rules aimed at implementing the rest of the above-ground storage tank law. "That information gained from the registration is critical for us to understand how to proceed with the rules," Mandirola told the Joint Legislative Oversight Commission on State Water Resources, which met during interim meetings in Charleston. Mandirola said the DEP hasn't come up with a proposed figure for the tank registration fee that lawmakers created to fund the new regulatory program. Under the law, chemical tank owners have until Oct. 1 to register their tanks with the DEP. After that date, the DEP will propose an emergency rule to establish the tank registration fee amount and bill tank owners, said agency spokeswoman Kelley Gillenwater. The law gives DEP officials 30 days from the bill's effective date to begin the registration process. But DEP wants to ensure tank owners have plenty of time to register before the October deadline. "Because that's such a small window, we want to get the process started as soon after June 6 as possible," Gillenwater said. The registration portal will be part of a section of the DEP's website devoted to the new above-ground storage tank program, Gillenwater said. No one is sure yet exactly how many tanks will be covered by the program, though [some initial DEP estimates](#) released in February put the figure at 600 facilities with an estimated 3,000 tanks. In a short appearance before the water commission, Mandirola also emphasized that DEP Secretary Randy Huffman has promised to go above and beyond the mandated public involvement process in writing rules to implement the chemical tank law. Already the DEP has held one comment period in which agency officials sought input from "stakeholders" with an interest in the rule. Those comments will help the DEP draw up its initial draft of the rule, Mandirola said. "What we're talking about is putting out a preliminary draft rule, and then holding meetings, to invite people in so we can have dialogue back and forth," Mandirola said. "It's not the normal rule-making process where we would just sit and listen to their comments and not respond." During the legislative session, Gov. Earl Ray Tomblin was criticized after his staffers held a "stakeholders meeting" to discuss the governor's initial bill responding to the chemical spill, but [invited only industry lobbyists to attend the meeting](#). Some industry-backed provisions discussed at that meeting — including a long list of categories of tanks exempt from the new law — were removed before lawmakers approved the bill. Also during Tuesday's meeting, Kanawha-Charleston Health Department Director Dr. Rahul Gupta briefed lawmakers on his agency's survey of county residents about the leak of the chemical Crude MCHM. Among other things, that survey found that while more than 90 percent of residents are using their tap water again for various purposes, only a third of them are drinking it. "I think it's a perception issue more than anything else," Gupta said. "And it's a trust issue." Gupta said that much more study of the potential impacts of the spill — such as animal studies of MCHM's toxicity, collection of data about human exposures, and the start of long-term medical monitoring in the region — is needed to restore public trust in the water and in their political leaders and public health officials. Just minutes before Gupta's appearance before the water commission, state Department of Health and Human Resources Secretary Karen Bowling issued a news release to say that her agency's Bureau for Public Health would be working with Gupta's agency to "continue to seek funding from outside sources to address and identify any potential long-term health impacts related to the Elk River chemical spill." "Since Jan. 9, DHHR has worked with local and national experts to safeguard public health in the nine affected counties," Bowling said in the release. "DHHR and our Bureau for Public Health will partner with the Kanawha-Charleston Health Department to reach out to federal health agencies and other entities to secure funding to enable more research on the possible health impacts of MCHM." In the wake of the chemical leak, Bureau for Public Health Commissioner Letitia Tierney and other state officials downplayed any potential impacts, suggesting that symptoms that were sending residents to the



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hospital could turn out to be related to the flu, driven by anxiety over the leak, or were no more serious than sunburn. Last month, [a U.S. Centers for Disease Control review of emergency-room data](#), conducted with the DHHR, showed that hundreds of residents who sought emergency-room care were treated for symptoms that were "consistent with known health effects of exposure to MCHM," the main chemical Freedom Industries leaked into the Elk River. Gupta said most people who suffered similar symptoms did not go to emergency rooms or even their family doctor, [and he estimated that roughly 100,000 people across the region experienced such symptoms](#). Reports from the CDC, Gupta and the [West Virginia Testing Assessment Project](#), or WV TAP, have all expressed concerns about residents being exposed to MCHM through inhalation or through skin contact while bathing or washing hands, routes that the CDC and the Tomblin administration did not consider when telling residents the water was safe to use once its MCHM concentration dropped to less than the CDC's "screening level" of 1 part per million.

<http://www.wvgazette.com/article/20140520/GZ01/140529927/1419>

### USA, VA, LYNCHBURG, MAY 21 2014. SCC INSPECTIONS FOUND FEW VIOLATIONS ON CSX TRACKS ON PENINSULA

 [Watch the Video 911 Tapes from Train Derailment Released](#)

 [Photo's \[16\] Lynchburg Train Derailment](#)



State rail safety inspectors have been spending an average of three days a month patrolling CSX tracks east of Williamsburg — which carry an increasingly heavy traffic of oil trains to Yorktown — but have found only two problems they thought were violations since January 2013. Making sure tracks are in good shape, with no faults in the joints between rails or their alignment, is central to safety. Union sources say it was a break in the track caused by an uncorrected defect caused the derailment of a Yorktown-bound oil train on April 30. The accident in [Lynchburg, Va.](#) set off a blaze so intense that firefighters had to let it burn itself out, and spilled 20,000 gallons of crude oil into the James River. On the Peninsula, State Corporation Commission inspectors found a total of 577 defects since January 2013, said SCC spokesman Ken Schrad. Typically, these involve problems ranging from broken joints to missing bolts to broken crossties

to flooded ballast. The state inspectors recommended the Federal Railroad Administration cite CSX for two violations of federal track standards over that time. State inspectors recommend violations when a defect is significant or when one they have identified is not repaired, Schrad said. The kind of safety risk posed, the severity of the defect and the railroad's general level of compliance all go into the state inspectors' recommendation. The federal agency then decides whether to accept the recommendations made by rail inspectors. A Daily Press request for inspection records from the federal agency is still pending. "The process is you inspect, if there's something you slow down, and if you fix it and it is remediated you'd done what you're supposed to," said David B. Clarke, an expert on rail operations at the University of Tennessee's engineering school. "But the regulations are minimal. They set a floor," he said. The [National Transportation Safety Board](#) has said the accident in Lynchburg, which occurred on a section of track subject to a slow move order because of its condition, was not the fault of the crew or of signals, but has not said anything more about its investigation of the derailment of the 105-car train. A CSX spokeswoman was not immediately available for comment. Union officials say CSX tracks east of Richmond are generally in better condition than to the west, because they are used by [Amtrak](#) passenger trains. The state inspectors' finding of about a dozen defects for each day of inspection is not a high number, as long as most of the defects are minor ones like a loose bolt on the connection between rails, union officials say. But if more than two of the four bolts on a connection joint are loose, that's a different story, they say. Wide variations in the width between rails or their heights are also a major concern, if they are found. Inspectors, too, often face the dilemma of seeing a combination of problems that together may present a risk, but no single one of which breaks a federal standard, said Clarke, the engineering professor. While they are allowed to declare there is a defect in the track, some inspectors are reluctant to confront a railroad that doesn't want to slow its trains or accept the inspectors view that there is a problem, he said. Train crews' worries about what they see as generally worsening track conditions across the nation have intensified as shipments across Virginia of highly flammable oil from the Bakken field in North Dakota continue to grow. Clarke said it is not clear that any one factor, such as track conditions, links recent oil train accidents.

<http://www.dailypress.com/news/dp-nws-railroad-tracks-20140520.0.2356953.story?track=rss>



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### ENGLAND, LONDON, MAY 21 2014. BUSINESSMAN BORROWED FRIEND'S PORSCHE FOR THE WEEKEND AND FILLED IT UP WITH THE WRONG FUEL LEAVING HER WITH £15,000 REPAIR BILL

richard spillett

- Alan Thompson borrowed friend Elizabeth Moulton's Cayenne 4x4
- He wanted to return it with full tank, but put in petrol instead of diesel
- The friends were left angry after Porsche tried to charge £15,000 for repairs
- They eventually found a garage which solved the problem for £1,000
- But Porsche stand by their original quote, saying other engine parts would have needed replacing after the blunder



*The fuel cap cover is clearly labelled with the correct type of fuel, but Mr Thompson say Porsche should fit the cars with a device that prevents users filling up with the wrong kind.*

A Porsche owner was left facing a £15,000 repair bill after she lent her beloved car to her friend who filled it up with the wrong fuel. Businessman Alan Thompson, 64, wanted to thank friend Elizabeth Moulton, 66, by returning her Cayenne 4x4 with a full tank after borrowing it for the weekend - but he pumped petrol into the luxury off-roader unaware it actually ran on diesel. Mrs Moulton immediately noticed the £50,000 Cayenne had a problem and drove the spluttering car to her local Porsche dealership - with Mr Thompson offering to pay for the damage. But they were left angry when the dealership quoted her £14,600 to fix the car, before another garage eventually solved the problem for just £1,000. Mr Thompson said: 'I wanted to take it back with a full tank. She drove off and I had no idea there was a problem. 'It

is a common and very easy mistake to make when especially when you get to my age, when one frequently makes mistakes. 'We all make mistakes but I do object to being ripped-off to such a ludicrous extent by Porsche who I have found to be unsympathetic, inefficient and unhelpful.' The dealership Mrs Moulton originally took the car to in Stratford, East London, said the Porsche needed new fuel pumps, fuel lines, a fuel distributor, pressure regulator and sensor, six high pressure injectors, a fuel hose and even a replacement fuel tank - quoting her £14,60 for the work. Mr Thompson then got quotes from other official Porsche dealers and found their prices ranging from £5,000 to £10,000. But he eventually found a garage who would solve the problem it for £1,000 - and Mr Thompson has accused Porsche of trying to rip him off. Mr Thompson, who drives a Mercedes, says a local Mercedes dealer told him they charge £450 when it happens to their cars. The garage he ended up using carried out the work for just over £1,000 - with the 4x4 not needing any of the new parts Porsche had listed. They removed the fuel, fitted a new fuel filter, filled it with a fuel flush detergent to clean out the remainder of the contaminated fuel and then filled it with the diesel. They charged him £1,103 for parts, labour and VAT and the Cayenne is now running as it was before the mix-up. Mr Thompson said: 'I'm happy as I'm over £12,000 better off than if Liz had had Porsche Stratford carry out the work as per their estimate of £13,169.24. 'Porsche should invest another £20 on fitting a fail-safe device to their new vehicles as BMW, Ford and Land Rover do. 'I am pretty sure that every potential buyer of a new Porsche diesel will be delighted to pay £100 for what I would regard as a must have option.' Mr Thompson, from Hadley Wood, North London, said Mrs Moulton was very understanding about his fuel blunder. Mrs Moulton said: 'I was dumbstruck when I was told the cost, I didn't know what to say or do. I couldn't be furious with Alan but I was furious with Porsche. I just thought "for goodness sake". 'Now the work has been carried out, the car is running brilliantly. I just think Porsche should be taken to task over this.' But Porsche defended itself over the incident, saying the quote was 'representative of the work that is recommended to be undertaken in this situation'. A statement from the German manufacturer said: 'By not only filling the tank with petrol but also driving the vehicle with the wrong fuel, it is likely that the engine (in particular the fuel system) suffered considerable damage. 'As diesel fuel acts as both a lubricant and a fuel in a diesel engine, the contrasting solvent-effect of petrol could also have caused longer-term impact on the cylinders, valves, pistons etc. In short, it is highly damaging to the engine.' Porsche added its diesel vehicles are fitted with warning labels on the fuel flap and surrounding area which highlight 'very clearly' the type of fuel the car requires. Over 120,000 motorists fill their car with the wrong fuel each year and a number of manufacturers now having safeguards to prevent it from happening.

[http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2633815/Businessman-borrowed-friends-Porsche-weekend-filled-wrong-fuel-leaving-15-000-repair-bill.html?ITO=1490&ns\\_mchannel=rss&ns\\_campaign=1490](http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2633815/Businessman-borrowed-friends-Porsche-weekend-filled-wrong-fuel-leaving-15-000-repair-bill.html?ITO=1490&ns_mchannel=rss&ns_campaign=1490)



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### USA, TX, SAN ANTONIO, MAY 21 2014. ANOTHER SPILL AT CALUMET

vicki vaughn



*Mike Milam, Plant Manager of Calumet Specialty Products on S. Presa St. talks with visitors in the refinery's control room Friday.*

A spill of diesel fuel occurred at Calumet Specialty Products Partners' refinery in San Antonio on Friday but was contained within the plant, refinery manager [Mike Milam](#) said. The spill of an undisclosed amount of fuel onto a concrete slab occurred at about 11 a.m. when a small valve leaked while the 17,000-barrel-a-day refinery was undergoing planned maintenance. The fuel was captured within a curbed containment area "and completely recovered," Calumet said in a statement. The plant mobilized its emergency response team as a precaution, an internal fire hydrant also was activated and the leaky valve was replaced, the company said. Milam, using a system he instituted at the plant, notified neighbors and other stakeholders of the spill by e-mail and text message. Representatives from the [San Antonio Fire Department](#) were on the scene to review the incident with members of Calumet's safety department, the company

said. Spills that occur in an area designed to contain a release and are "promptly removed" aren't required to be reported to the [Texas Commission on Environmental Quality](#), according to its rules. Calumet, a publicly traded company based in Indianapolis, has spent \$30 million on improvements at the plant, and it likely will spend another \$50 million, Milam said. Calumet, which bought the refinery from [NuStar Energy LP](#) in January 2013, has struggled with spills in the last few months. A March spill left 6,500 gallons of jet fuel in a creek by the plant that feeds into the San Antonio River. Calumet crews used absorbent booms and pads to contain the spill, which affected 1.5 miles of the river. A pedestrian reported a second spill on April 12, and [San Antonio River Authority](#) officials said initial reports showed that about 42 gallons leaked into the creek bed and about 30 yards of the river was affected. The refinery, at 7811 S. Presa St., is close to the Mission Reach, an eight-mile stretch of the river south of Lone Star Boulevard that recently was restored at a cost of more than \$270 million.

<http://www.mysanantonio.com/news/local/communities/southside/article/Another-spill-at-Calumet-5490346.php>

### SAUDI ARABIA, JEDDAH, MAY 21 2014. PETROL STATIONS TO BE SHIFTED AWAY FROM RESIDENTIAL AREAS

nadim al-hamid



The Civil Defense plans to remove 2,500 petrol stations from various Jeddah neighborhoods because residents complain they are fire and health hazards. Col. Saeed Sarhan, spokesman of the Civil Defense in Makkah, said a committee comprising representatives from the directorate, the Jeddah and Makkah municipalities, and fire specialists are studying the issue before a decision is taken. Sarhan told Arab News that many of the stations might be moved to Asafan. The directorate has already warned more than 100 stations in Jeddah, and slapped SR5,000 fines and 24-hour closures on 90 others for violating safety regulations. Residents in Jeddah have demanded that the Civil Defense remove the stations because they violate international safety and security standards. They said the licensing procedures for petrol stations are more than 50 years old.

Rapid urbanization had resulted in the stations being incorporated into local neighborhoods, they said. Talib Al-Freij, a resident, said the municipality, Civil Defense and the area's governorate should intervene and stop issuing permits for petrol stations in residential areas in Jeddah. Some of these stations are close to schools and frequented by drivers. There were also poor safety measures at many of these stations including a lack of covers for petrol tanks and no fire extinguishers. An additional problem is that these stations are not closed when they are refilled with petrol, turning them into "time bombs," Al-Freij said. Mohammad Al-Inizi, another resident, said the petrol stations could cause serious health problems for people including increasing their chances of getting leukemia. He said it was government's responsibility to remove the stations from local neighborhoods because they deal with dangerous, highly flammable substances.

<http://www.arabnews.com/news/574256>



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### VIETNAM, THANH HOA PROVINCE, MAY 21 2014. MORE WORKERS HOSPITALIZED WITH POISONING SYMPTOMS IN CENTRAL VIETNAM



*More than 500 workers were hospitalized on May 19 with poisoning symptoms in Thanh Hoa Province.*

A group of more than 500 workers suffering symptoms of poisoning were rushed to hospitals in the north central province of Thanh Hoa on Monday, just a few days after 1,355 workers suffered a similar fate at a local footwear factory. Members of the latest crop of poisoning victims worked at Hong Fu Co., Ltd., which resumed operation the same day after a three-day closure caused by mass poisoning last week. Others worked at Rollsport Vietnam, a footwear producer located next door to the Hong Fu factory. Many workers claimed that they developed respiratory difficulties, dizziness, and vomiting soon after inhaling a "strange smell" that was believed to emanate from a recent shipment of raw materials. The symptoms first appeared among a small number of

workers and spread; some of the victims allegedly lost consciousness. By the end of the day, more than 500 workers at the two companies had been hospitalized. Dr. Nguyen Thanh Van, director of Hop Luc General Hospital, told Thanh Nien that the symptoms exhibited by the latest crop of workers were "basically" similar to those seen last week. Last Thursday, Hong Fu workers were rushed to local hospitals suffering from itchy throats, nausea, vomiting, unconsciousness and convulsions. They claimed the symptoms began after drinking water provided by the factory. Initial tests conducted on the questionable water turned up nothing out of the ordinary, Le Huu Uyen, spokesman of Thanh Hoa Department of Health, told the press. He said the workers may have suffered from neurotoxicant syndromes which occur when substances like arsenic, lead, mercury, manganese, tin, and insecticides attack nervous tissue. Local public health agencies have yet to identify the toxin. Tuoi Tre quoted an anonymous worker as saying that the recent poisoning unfurled while workers drank water they'd brought from home. "We do not know what made us sick. We feel so scared," the worker said. In March 2011, nearly 300 workers at Hong Fu were hospitalized with serious food poisoning symptoms like stomachache, vomiting and convulsion, after having lunch at its canteen. No fatalities were recorded at the time.

<http://thanhniennews.com/health/more-workers-hospitalized-with-poisoning-symptoms-in-central-vietnam-26461.html>

### USA, GUAM, MAY 21 2014. BILL WOULD UP PENALTY FOR STORAGE TANK VIOLATIONS

 **Watch the Video** [Amendments Proposed to Bill #337 to Allow More Time for Removal of Non-Compliant USTs](#)

With little opposition, a bill that sets stricter penalties for underground storage tanks was discussed yesterday at a legislative public hearing in Agana. Bill 337 would increase the penalties for storage tank violations by \$11,000 to \$16,000 per tank per day per violation, to mirror the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency penalty. It also would appropriate about \$500,000 in the Underground Storage Tank Fund to the Guam EPA to use for training inspectors, hiring additional staff, and mitigating leaks. Eric Palacios, Guam EPA administrator, spoke in favor of the bill that would hold the community to a higher standard in environmental protection. "Leaking underground storage tanks pose a grave threat to Guam's fragile environment, especially its groundwater and marine ecosystem," Palacios said. "If not monitored and constructed properly, USTs can threaten communities when their systems fail. We strongly support the underlying principle of the Underground Storage of Regulated Substances Act of 2009 and its amendments." Written testimony submitted by Mobil Oil Guam Inc. expressed concerns, including questioning whether the law would be retroactive. "It appears that the intent of the bill may be to require that USTs which had previously been properly abandoned in place at the instruction or with the approval of GEPA must now be removed," the documents state. "We suggest that this is neither prudent nor necessary." Another issue was the time frame given to companies that violate the law. Palacios asked for 120 days instead of 30, as outlined in the bill, for companies to remove any tanks that has been previously approved or discovered to be abandoned in place during construction-related activities.

<http://www.guampdn.com/article/20140521/NEWS01/305210007/Bill-would-up-penalty-storage-tank-violations>

### USA, VT, CHESTER, MAY 21 2014. GASOLINE SPILL HASN'T REACHED RIVER IN VERMONT TOWN

Authorities say a 2,000-gallon gasoline spill near a river in the town of Chester, Vermont, has not reached the water. The spill happened last week when a tractor-trailer owned by P&H Transportation of new Hampshire rolled over onto its side on Route 11 West. The Eagle-Times reports (<http://bit.ly/1j50FpZ>) the Vermont Agency of Natural Resources will continue to monitor the



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site as an agency contracted by P&H works to remove any fuel in the groundwater. Officials say the spill did not reach a nearby branch of the Williams River.

<http://www.dailyjournal.net/view/story/bae35a5a11e449a4b062977225571fd7/VT--Gasoline-Clean-up/#.U3yGvsanry0>

### USA, WASHINGTON DC, MAY 21 2014. PROBE FINDS CHEMICAL PLANT OVERSIGHT LAX >> BIG CHANGES URGED FOR U.S. SAFETY RULES

hope yen



*The explosion in West that destroyed a fertilizer plant and an apartment complex prompted a pledge from President Barack Obama to stiffen enforcement.*

The government has no way of fully knowing which U.S. chemical facilities stock ammonium nitrate, the substance that exploded last year at a Texas fertilizer plant and killed 14 people, congressional investigators say. Outdated federal policies, poor information sharing with states and a raft of industry exemptions point to scant federal oversight, says a new report obtained by The Associated Press. The report found regulatory gaps in environmental and worker protections and urged broad changes to U.S. safety rules. President Barack Obama pledged to stiffen enforcement after the explosion on April 17, 2013, in West. Without

improved monitoring, federal regulators "will not know the extent to which dangerous conditions at some facilities may continue to exist," concluded the report by the Government Accountability Office. The GAO found that the Homeland Security Department's database captured only a fraction of the ammonium nitrate storage facilities in the U.S. The federal database shows that 1,345 facilities in 47 states store ammonium nitrate. But spot checks of similar state records found that the federal list missed as many as two-thirds of the storage sites, said the report, which faulted companies' noncompliance, legal loopholes or poor federal coordination with states. About half of the facilities that are in the federal database were located in six states: Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky, Missouri, Tennessee and Texas. They include chemical plants or any location that stores ammonium nitrate, a widely used fertilizer, such as farm supply retailers or fertilizer distribution warehouses. The government audit tracked a monthlong reporting effort last year by the AP that drew upon public records in 28 states. The AP investigation found that schools, nursing homes and hospitals were within the potentially devastating blast zones of more than 120 facilities storing ammonium nitrate. In addition, the investigation concluded that the existence of other facilities nationwide remained a mystery due to poor information sharing. The GAO faulted the Occupational Safety and Health Administration and the Environmental Protection Agency for decades-old chemical safety regulations that have failed in large part to cover ammonium nitrate. Facilities that store ammonium nitrate are rarely inspected by OSHA, including the one that blew up in Texas, in part because the agency relies on EPA regulations that do not list ammonium nitrate as a hazardous material. OSHA had put in place some requirements for storing the fertilizer back in the 1970s, but before the Texas explosion the agency did not widely publicize them to the fertilizer industry. GAO found the industry often viewed the rules as applying only if the material were used to make explosives. The audit said the agency may be unwisely granting exemptions to retailers that store and blend fertilizer for direct sale. As a result, before last year's explosion, OSHA had cited just one facility for violations of its ammonium nitrate storage requirements in its more than 40-year history, the report said. That was in 1997 in Florida after an employee complaint. The findings come as a federal working group established by Obama prepares to submit its report later this month that outlines ways to improve oversight. The EPA, OSHA and the Homeland Security Department generally agreed with the findings. They emphasized that states are not required to report their data to federal agencies, and that new efforts to improve coordination will be spelled out in the coming task force report. OSHA officials also said they were re-evaluating ways to target high-risk facilities for inspection, even with limited resources. "We believe that we have already made significant improvements to reduce the likelihood of ammonium nitrate incidents," wrote David Michaels, an assistant Labor Department secretary for occupational safety and health. The GAO report noted that U.S. safety standards typically fell short compared to those in Canada, France, Germany and Britain, which in many cases bar the use of wood or other combustible material in ammonium storage facilities.

<http://www.gosanangelo.com/news/2014/may/20/probe-finds-chemical-plant-oversight-lax/>

### USA, N.D, BISMARK, MAY 22 2014. OIL, BRINE SPILL IN CROSBY; FARM FIELD AFFECTED

A spill of 100 barrels of brine and 140 barrels of oil has been reported in Crosby. The North Dakota Department of Health on Wednesday said 90 barrels of brine and 65 barrels of oil have been recovered, but some reached a nearby farm field and



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shelter belt. Operator [Samson Resources Company](#) reported the release to authorities on Monday. The company says the failure of a valve on a saltwater disposal well led to the spill. A state inspector is at the site located in northwest North Dakota less than 20 miles from the Canadian border. A state official says the company is in the process of cleaning the site and is monitoring for evidence of "stressed vegetation." Samson Resources is based in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

<http://www.seattlepi.com/news/science/article/Oil-brine-spill-in-Crosby-farm-field-affected-5495828.php>

### USA, W.VA, CHARLESTON, MAY 22 2014. WATER COMPANY'S MCHM RESPONSE TO BE INVESTIGATED

Faced with a "significant number" of complaints from area residents, [the West Virginia Public Service Commission](#) on Wednesday announced that it will investigate West Virginia American Water Co.'s handling of the contamination of the water supply for 300,000 residents in the Kanawha Valley and surrounding region. Commissioners ordered a "general investigation" of the matter and instructed the water company to provide detailed information, including timelines of its response to the Jan. 9 chemical leak at Freedom Industries — including its decision not to close its Elk River intake and any potential alternative water supplies it considered after the MCHM leak. "The issue before the commission is relatively simple — at the time of and under the circumstances that existed with the spill, did the actions of WVAVWC in reacting to the spill and the presence of MCHM in its raw water or finished water supply constitute unreasonable or inadequate practices, acts, or services," [the PSC said in a 20-page order](#). Under [state law](#), the PSC has broad authority to order utilities to remedy such problems, and some residents in their complaints asked the commission to mandate the water company take steps to avoid any repeats of what happened in January. "It sounds like the PSC has recognized the importance of these issues," said Paul Sheridan, a Charleston resident and lawyer who is among those who [filed formal PSC complaints against West Virginia American Water](#). "It seems like a very positive step." Laura Jordan, a spokeswoman for West Virginia American Water, said the company will cooperate with the PSC's investigation. "Our decisions in response to the spill were made in collaboration with various agencies and with the health and safety of our customers as our number one priority," Jordan said in an email. "We are proud of the outstanding work performed by the West Virginia American Water and the interagency response team to restore full water service to our customers." The PSC order listed 26 individuals or families who have formal cases pending against West Virginia American Water, alleging a variety of problems related to the spill and its aftermath. The order also said the commission had received "a significant number of informal and formal complaints" from water company customers. Commissioners described the complaints as "wide-ranging" and alleging "a number of unreasonable or faulty practices by WVAVWC or others." The PSC said the complaints generally focus on the difficulties created by the inability of customers to use the water supplied by WVAVWC during the 'do not use' period." Many complaints request full or partial relief from paying for the water contaminated by the spill during the "do not use" period and, in some instances, beyond, the PSC said. In its order, the PSC instructed West Virginia American Water to provide testimony to the commission that includes the following:

- A chronological description of the "pertinent actions" taken by water company personnel "beginning when any employee of WVAVWC, its parent company, or service company became aware of the spill" through March 31.
- A chronological listing of the measurements of MCHM taken by the water company and the locations where those measurements were obtained, through March 31, as well as "updated measurements" once the company has completed replacement of the filters at the Elk River treatment and distribution plant.
- A narrative describing "the process and factors used to decide whether to close the intake structure." This testimony must include "which, if any, outside agencies were consulted or otherwise had a role in making the decision, the factors contemplated in making the decision, and who ultimately made the decision regarding the continued intake of raw water from the Elk River."
- A detailed description of "the involvement of all agencies or entities external to WVAVWC that were consulted or otherwise involved in developing or implementing protocols used by WVAVWC from the first indication of the spill" through March 31.
- A description of "alternatives for water treatment or alternative or supplemental sources of treated or finished water that were considered by WVAVWC after it became aware of the MCHM spill."

Commissioners said they would put on hold all citizen complaints related to the spill, but they cautioned residents that they must continue to pay any water bills incurred during the "do not use" until those cases are resolved. The PSC set several deadlines for the case, including June 25 for any parties to intervene, July 2 for prepared direct testimony from the water company to be filed, Aug. 20 for direct testimony of commission staff and intervenors, and Sept. 24 for response testimony. Commissioners scheduled a formal hearing on the case for Oct. 7-9 at the PSC building in Charleston.

<http://www.wvgazette.com/article/20140521/GZ01/140529811/1419>



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### USA, N.M. ALBUQUERQUE, MAY 22 2014. FUEL SPILL CLEANUP PLAN TO BE PROPOSED

 **Watch the Video** [Fuel Spill Cleanup Plan to be Proposed](#)

Water utility officials are expected to propose a cleanup plan for the Kirtland Air Force Base fuel spill Wednesday night. It calls for drilling seven extraction wells, then treating the water. The intent is to reduce contaminants to undetectable levels and to use the treated water to irrigate parks and golf courses. A final plan is expected by July. The spill involves an estimated 6 million to 24 million gallons of aircraft fuel that leaked from an underground pipeline on base.

<http://krqe.com/2014/05/21/fuel-spill-cleanup-plan-to-be-proposed/>

### SOUTH AFRICA, GAUTENG PROVINCE, ALBERTON, MAY 22 2014. JET FUEL TANKER ROLLS OVER BUT LEAVES NO SPILL

*sbonokuhle magcaba*

One of the trucks a tanker that carries jet fuel rolled over, but when the accident happened the tanker was empty. A truck that carries jet fuel was involved in an accident on the R59 on the Michelle Avenue off-ramp towards Alberton on Wednesday afternoon. "The tanker that carries jet fuel rolled over, but when the accident happened the tanker was empty," said JMPD communications officer William Ntladi. The accident was reported at around 14h00 on Wednesday and police and rescue workers were dispatched to the scene, he added. Ntladi said, "There are no serious injuries nor are there any fatalities." "Police are at the scene assisting with directing traffic and waiting for heavy duty recovery vehicles to arrive at the scene," said Ntladi. Only one traffic lane is open for traffic.

<http://www.enca.com/jet-fuel-tanker-rolls-over-leaves-no-spill>

### USA, N.C. FAYETTEVILLE, MAY 22 2014. DRIVER OF PICKUP TRUCK THAT CAUSED FUEL TANKER ACCIDENT CITED FOR FOUR VIOLATIONS

*nancy mccleary*

The driver of the pickup truck that was abandoned on the side of N.C. 87 and struck by a fuel tanker was cited for four violations as a result of the fatal wreck, the Highway Patrol said today. Leroy Munson, 51, of Canadian Avenue in Hope Mills, was cited for driving while license revoked, failing to have insurance, having fictitious license tags and not having the vehicle properly registered, Sgt. Jake Katzenberger said. Daniel Mitchell Coleman, 68, of Fair Bluff, was traveling south on N.C. 87, operating a fuel tanker loaded with some 7,800 gallons of diesel fuel when it clipped the back of Munson's truck, Katzenberger said. The truck had run out of gas and Munson had pulled it off to the left side of the road, Katzenberger said. A small part of the truck's bed was sticking out in the road, Katzenberger said, and Coleman failed to see it until the last minute. When Coleman, who wasn't wearing a seat belt, braked, the truck jackknifed, throwing him out, Katzenberger said. Munson's driver's license was revoked in June 2013 after he was convicted of driving while impaired, according to the N.C. Department of Correction records. He was put on probation for 30 months, records showed.

<http://insurancenewsnet.com/oarticle/2014/05/21/driver-of-pickup-truck-that-caused-fuel-tanker-accident-cited-for-four-violation-a-507930.html#.U31bwManry0>

### CAMBODIA, PHNOM PENH, MAY 22 2014. FOR CHEVRON, \$6 A DAY IS APPARENTLY TOO MUCH PAY FOR CAMBODIAN WORKERS

Is \$6 a day really too much for a multibillion-dollar energy company to pay its workers in Cambodia? This is a question Chevron Cambodia Ltd. is grappling with. Starting on May 12, over 200 workers at Chevron's Caltex gas stations across this capital city ground the firm's business to a halt, demanding their salaries be increased from \$110 to \$160 a month. The strike comes just a few weeks after the company upped the monthly wages of gas station attendants and other staff by \$10 to \$20, following a call for a substantial salary increase by the Cambodian Food and Service Workers' Federation (CFSWF). The increase, according to a Chevron statement, makes its current remuneration "competitive and market based." Here's what you need to know to make sense of the situation.

#### Why are Workers still Striking?

They say the increase is too little, and they're determined to continue the strike until their demands are met. Pho Chhunleang, 22, claims his salary is not sufficient to get by. Pho has been working as a Caltex gas station attendant for a year and earns \$110 a month after toiling six days a week from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. "It is not enough to live, for the food prices went up. I am already sharing my room with two friends to reduce the rent. Sometimes, I borrow from them to send \$20 to my family every three months," he said.



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### How is Chevron Responding?

Just like Pho, Chevron Cambodia seems determined to stick to its guns, so to speak. Notified of the strike by the union at the end of April, the company [sent a letter](#) to the National Police last week requesting the armed forces intervene "if the strike affects the firm's business or properties."

### Will the Police Intervene?

Asked whether the police will entertain the multinational's request, National Police spokesperson Kirt Chantharith said the force wouldn't interfere unless it absolutely has to. "The employees have the right to strike under the labor law and our responsibility is to keep an eye out," he said.

### So What's Being Done to Solve the Standoff?

In an attempt to resolve the dispute and resume their business operations, Caltex representatives met with the union on May 13 and 16. However, the negotiations yielded no concrete results, leading only to a provisional "agreement in principle," according to Mora Sar, the union chief. Another attempt took place on May 20, this time brokered by the Ministry of Labor. But neither the union nor the company were able to reach a consensus on all of the workers' demands. (Aside from increased wages, workers want child care benefits and an end of year bonus.) "We did not agree on all. Therefore the strike continues," Mora said. In an email, Chevron Cambodia stated it "has expressed its willingness to further review employees' salaries" and is currently "reviewing options to resolve this issue."

### Is the US Getting Involved?

Last week, eager to see their demands met swiftly, Caltex workers marched to the US Embassy in Phnom Penh to submit a petition calling on the US government to guarantee Chevron will respect workers' rights in Cambodia. While distancing the embassy from the dispute, its spokesperson, John Simmons, said the embassy often discusses the need to respect human and labor rights standards with American multinationals operating overseas. He added that the embassy fully supports the right of workers to "lawfully and peacefully negotiate for fair wages."

<http://www.globalpost.com/dispatch/news/regions/asia-pacific/cambodia/140520/Cambodia-Chevron-Caltex-strike-labor-rights>

## USA, IA, NEVADA, MAY 22 2014. COUPLE SUE IOWA ETHANOL PLANT AFTER BLAZE

donnelle eller

 **Photo's [14]** [Cellulosic ethanol production](#)



Burdell and Barbara Clark have been building their retirement dream — a home, prairies, ponds and stream — on 42 acres near Nevada, Iowa, for two decades. But the couple said a March blaze in a field across the road — filled with thousands of bales of corn stover for a new cellulosic ethanol plant — threatened it all and will again. They're suing DuPont Danisco in Story County District Court, claiming the company has acted recklessly and carelessly in storing the "highly combustible corn stover" across from their home. The couple are trying to force the company to move the bales and pay for the damage to their home and property. Fire risk presents a potential stumbling block as the ethanol industry develops its first next-generation plants after years of planning. DuPont Danisco, however, says it has worked with Iowa State University to build a "safe and sustainable stover management system." DuPont Danisco has had five fires at stover storage areas over three years, said Keith Morgan,

coordinator with the Story County Emergency Management. No one was injured and there was no damage, except that claimed by the Clarks. The Clarks call the stover storage "a clear and present danger." "Firefighters can't put these fires out. They've got to just let them burn," said Burdell Clark, who watched the fire burn for 24 hours before firefighters were able to leave. It continued to smolder for about a week more. "It was a forest wildfire that never moved. "They will catch on fire again. ... We don't want it near our house or anybody else's." DuPont Danisco is building a \$225 million plant that will use stover — corn leaves, stalks and other residue — to make cellulosic ethanol. The company has said it will need 700,000 bales of stover to feed its ethanol plant annually and will collect it from farmers within 50 miles around it. The new ethanol process — also being developed by Poet-DSM in Emmetsburg — is expected to be significantly more environmentally friendly than traditional gasoline. The facility, producing 30 million gallons of ethanol, is expected to open this year. "We're conducting extensive investigations to determine if additional safeguards are required at our stover storage locations to further ensure the safety of our employees, emergency responders and the community," DuPont Danisco said in a statement. The Clarks — he's a retired



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engineer from Sauer Danfoss, she's a patent attorney in Ames — say DuPont Danisco have made promises to them before and failed to keep them. The couple said they began expressing concerns in 2012 that the corn stover storage site was unsightly and would become a fire hazard. DuPont's representatives "repeatedly sought to assure the Clarks that their concerns over a fire at DuPont's Corn Stover Storage Facility were misplaced," according to court documents. A company representative promised not to add stover bales to the site, the lawsuit says. But Burdell Clark said the size of the stover pile grew into what's been described as 55,000 bales — stacked about three stories high. About 5,200 bales were burned in the March 31 blaze. Burdell Clark said the fire left their dream retirement home frozen in blackened ash. Firefighters had to surrounded the home in a "water curtain" to protect it from the blaze that threatened to jump across the road. Clark said he walked through drifts of ash to inspect the damage. Twenty firefighters from seven communities responded to the blaze. A DuPont official acknowledged to reporters in October that uncontrolled fires are a risk for stover plants. A cellulosic ethanol plant in Kansas had a fire in May 2013, and bales burned for a week, according to reports. Officials believe two blazes in Story County were started by lightning — including the March fire — the causes of two were undetermined, and one was due to an inappropriately attended open burn, Morgan said. "We're unable to put them out. The speed that they move through the locations is quick, and the intensity of the heat makes it difficult" to fight, he said. The company also has made it clear it doesn't want firefighters taking unnecessary risks to protect the stover bales, he said. Few regulations exist to dictate where the storage sites are located or how they're built, Morgan said, but DuPont has sought fire officials' input. The company has tried to keep the piles segregated so that fires are unable to spread. Burdell Clark is convinced the large stover pile across from his retirement dream will burn again. "I worry the next time, it will take out everything," he said.

<http://www.press-citizen.com/story/news/crime-and-courts/2014/05/21/couple-sue-iowa-ethanol-plant-after-blaze/9368051/>

### CANADA, ONT, SIMCOE, MAY 22 2014. QUICK-THINKING OFFICER PREVENTS TANKER FIRE

Fast action by a Norfolk County OPP officer prevented a tanker truck loaded with fuel from becoming engulfed in flames at a Simcoe gas bar on Saturday. While patrolling on Queensway West late Saturday afternoon, the officer noticed a tanker truck parked at the Target Gas Bar. The truck, which police say was carrying 54,000 litres of fuel, appeared to have a brake fire near the rear of the tanker. Moving quickly, the officer used several fire extinguishers to contain the fire and prevent it from spreading to the rest of the truck. Firefighters soon arrived and brought the fire under control before it could do further damage. No injuries were reported, and police say the incident is not considered suspicious.

<http://www.norfolknews.ca/news-story/4531863-quick-thinking-officer-prevents-tanker-fire/>

### CANADA, B.C, LEMON CREEK, MAY 22 2014. FUEL SPILL BOOMS DISCOVERED IN LEMON CREEK

greg nesteroff



*Upper portion of absorbent boom, facing upstream.*

Eight lengths of absorbent booms from [last year's tanker spill](#) have turned up in Lemon Creek. Marilyn Burgoon with the Perry Ridge Water Users Association says the materials were discovered May 13 half a kilometre up Lemon Creek forest service road. A few days earlier, a local resident kayaking in the creek noticed a sheen and smelled fuel. A woman collecting water samples for the water users association then discovered the booms just upstream of the sheen, still smelling strongly. Burgoon contacted the Ministry of Environment who asked clean-up contractor Quantum Murray to remove and dispose of booms, each about ten feet (3 m) long. That was accomplished Friday. The ministry said there was no visible fuel or odour detected from the boom at that time and "it is unlikely further material remains at the site." A spokesman suggested the boom may have been displaced during the initial response, caught in a sheltered location, and then released during spring runoff. Independent fisheries biologist

Otto Lang said the booms are a "fluffy light organic material" that float and absorb fuel products. "Here that jet fuel smell is still evident some 10 months after the spill even though it would probably have been exposed to the elements," he said. "I am certain if one looked into the sediments one could also find some jet fuel remaining." Lang said he predicted that under a cold water environment, jet fuel wouldn't evaporate or break down as quickly as consultants suggested and would remain in the creek until spring. He also said a good flood is needed to flush some of the last residual fuel out of the creek. Burgoon said she's concerned the discovery of the booms are signs of a lack of government oversight. "The ministry is so short staffed,



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they're not really overseeing it in a way I think they should be. How is it that someone didn't see those booms besides a local resident?" She was also concerned "deleterious material" could have leached out of the booms and back into the creek over the winter. Burgoon said she feels community groups are increasingly taking on roles previously handled by Ministry of Environment, including ongoing water sampling. "We're the ones doing the work of overseeing when something like this happens. We love the river so we do it, but it's a burden on the community who are the victims of the spill." The incident last July saw a tanker truck carrying jet fuel for [helicopters battling a forest fire](#) on Perry Ridge make a wrong turn onto a forestry road. It tipped over, spilling 33,000 litres of fuel into the creek, which then flowed into the Slokan and Kootenay rivers. Executive Flight Centre, the company that owned the tanker, has an plan to monitor, assess, and document the distribution and concentration of residual contaminants.

#### Related Stories

- [Lemon Creek fuel spill data released](#)
- [Lemon Creek fuel spill data challenged](#)
- [Lemon Creek spill clean-up ongoing](#)
- [Enviro minister visits Lemon Creek spill site](#)
- [Lemon Creek jet fuel spill meeting emotional](#)
- [Tanker truck removed from Lemon Creek](#)
- [The fuel spill bottom line](#)

<http://www.nelsonstar.com/news/260152811.html>

#### USA, WASHINGTON DC, MAY 22 2014. PROBE FINDS SCANT OVERSIGHT OF CHEMICAL PLANTS

*hope yen*

The government has no way of fully knowing which U.S. chemical facilities stock ammonium nitrate, the substance that exploded last year at a Texas fertilizer plant and killed 14 people, congressional investigators say. Outdated federal policies, poor information sharing with states and a raft of industry exemptions point to scant federal oversight, says a new report obtained by [The Associated Press](#). The report found regulatory gaps in environmental and worker protections and urged broad changes to U.S. safety rules. President [Barack Obama](#) pledged to stiffen enforcement following the explosion on April 17, 2013, in West, Texas. Without improved monitoring, federal regulators "will not know the extent to which dangerous conditions at some facilities may continue to exist," concluded the report by the [Government Accountability Office](#). The GAO found that the [Homeland Security Department's](#) database captured only a fraction of the ammonium nitrate storage facilities in the U.S. The federal database shows that 1,345 facilities in 47 states store ammonium nitrate. But spot checks of similar state records found that the federal list missed as many as two-thirds of the storage sites, said the report, which faulted companies' noncompliance, legal loopholes or poor federal coordination with states. About half of the facilities that are in the federal database were located in six states: Alabama, Georgia, Kentucky, Missouri, Tennessee and Texas. They include chemical plants or any location that stores ammonium nitrate, a widely used fertilizer, such as farm supply retailers or fertilizer distribution warehouses. The government audit tracked a monthlong reporting effort last year by the AP that drew upon public records in 28 states. The AP investigation found that schools, nursing homes and hospitals were within the potentially devastating blast zones of more than 120 facilities storing ammonium nitrate. In addition, the investigation concluded that the existence of other facilities nationwide remained a mystery due to poor information sharing. The GAO faulted the [Occupational Safety and Health Administration](#) and the Environmental Protection Agency for decades-old chemical safety regulations that have failed in large part to cover ammonium nitrate. Facilities that store ammonium nitrate are rarely inspected by OSHA, including the one that blew up in Texas, in part because the agency relies on EPA regulations that do not list ammonium nitrate as a hazardous material. OSHA had put in place some requirements for storing the fertilizer back in the 1970s, but prior to the Texas explosion the agency did not widely publicize them to the fertilizer industry. GAO found the industry often viewed the rules as applying only if the material were used to make explosives. The audit said the agency may be unwisely granting exemptions to retailers that store and blend fertilizer for direct sale. As a result, prior to last year's explosion, OSHA had cited just one facility for violations of its ammonium nitrate storage requirements in its more than 40-year history, the report said. That was in 1997 in Florida, following an employee complaint. The findings come as a federal working group established by Obama prepares to submit its report later this month that outlines ways to improve oversight. The EPA, OSHA and the Homeland Security Department generally agreed with the findings. They emphasized that states are not required to report their data to federal agencies, and that new efforts to improve coordination will be spelled out in the coming task force report. OSHA officials also said they were reevaluating ways to target high-risk facilities for inspection, even with limited resources.



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"We believe that we have already made significant improvements to reduce the likelihood of ammonium nitrate incidents," wrote [David Michaels](#), an assistant [Labor Department](#) secretary for occupational safety and health. The GAO report noted that U.S. safety standards typically fell short compared to those in Canada, France, Germany and Britain, which in many cases bar the use of wood or other combustible material in ammonium storage facilities. GAO also urged Congress to eliminate an annual budget provision that exempts from safety inspections facilities with 10 or fewer employees, which make up about four percent of the 1,345 locations. A group of Democratic lawmakers on Tuesday called the U.S. safety lapses "unacceptable" and in a letter urged Obama to take action to address GAO's findings. Signing the letter were chairs or senior members of the relevant congressional committees on labor, environment, or the budget: Rep. [George Miller](#), D-Calif.; Sen. [Barbara Boxer](#), D-Calif.; Rep. [Joe Courtney](#), D-Conn.; Sen. [Bob Casey](#), D-Pa.; and Sen. [Patty Murray](#), D-Wash.

<http://www.sfgate.com/news/texas/article/Probe-finds-scant-oversight-of-chemical-plants-5492755.php>

### CANADAQ, ALBA, CALGARY, MAY 22 2014. GAS PLUS CLEANUP TAKEOVER FROM PROVINCE TOO SLOW, SAYS FORMER NEIGHBOUR >> OWNER OF NORTHWEST CALGARY GAS STATION SITE ACCUSES PROVINCE OF CAUSING REMEDIATION DELAY



*The province is stepping in to finish remediation of a former Gas Plus station where thousands of litres of fuel contaminated the soil in 2010.*

A Calgary woman who used to live near a contaminated Gas Plus station in Bowness says it took far too long to get the province to intervene after the site cleanup stalled. Thousands of litres of gasoline leaked from an underground storage tank at the former service station in northwest Calgary in 2010. The province announced on Tuesday it was taking over the cleanup job after the

property owners' consistent failure to remediate the site. Monica Shruwka moved away three years ago for fear that her children were in danger from the contamination. "As a group of residents we've worked very hard pressuring all levels of government to take action on this cleanup," she said. "And unfortunately, four years later nothing had been done. I have no idea why it took so long, but frankly I'm just grateful. I'm sort of thinking better late than never." Gas Plus Inc. Handel Transport (Northern) Ltd., which owns the property, blames the stalled remediation on the government. The company issued a press release Tuesday saying it has been waiting for a senior official with Alberta Environment and Sustainable Resource Development for permission to complete the final stage of remediation.

#### Related Stories

- [Gas Plus leak cleanup in Bowness taken over by province](#)
- [Bowness residents lament slow progress at gas leak site](#)
- [Calgarian wants province to clean up Gas Plus site](#)
- [Gas Plus fuel leak dispute goes to hearing](#)
- [Gas station leak bigger than first thought](#)

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/calgary/gas-plus-cleanup-takeover-from-province-too-slow-says-former-neighbour-1.2649716>

### USA, WASHINGTON DC, MAY 22 2014. FOUR FATALITIES LINKED TO USED FRACKING FLUID EXPOSURE DURING 'FLOWBACK,' NIOSH REPORTS

robert iafolla

Initial government field studies on hydraulic fracturing operations suggest that workers could be exposed to hazardous levels of volatile hydrocarbons from used fracking fluids, the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health said May 19. At least four workers have died since 2010, apparently from acute chemical exposures during flowback operations, which involve transferring, storing and measuring fluids that return to the surface after fracking, NIOSH said in a [blog post](#). The institute assessed worker exposure to other chemicals mixed into fluids that are injected into the earth during fracking, said Max Kiefer, director of NIOSH Western States Office. Those findings will be detailed in later publications, including a peer-reviewed case study this summer, Kiefer said. "But right now, the exposures of concern from a worker standpoint are from endogenous hydrocarbons that can be emitted from returned flowback fluids, not from other chemicals," Kiefer told Bloomberg BNA May 19. NIOSH highlighted how little is known about the potential health hazards associated with fracking, such as chemical exposure, in contrast to the well-developed knowledge about safety hazards from accidents common to oil and gas extraction. Fracking operators mix silica sand and chemicals into water, which is injected underground to fracture shale formations. The liquid mix is removed and the sand remains in the broken shale, acting as a "proppant" to keep the fractures open and allow oil



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or natural gas to flow. The liquid that flows back can contain volatile hydrocarbons picked up from the shale formations, NIOSH found.

### More Study Needed

The institute has studied the health hazards of silica exposure at fracking well pads, but its research thus far into flowback operations is far less comprehensive, Kiefer said. Researchers would like to look at different types of shale formations, climatic conditions, factors that led to exposure and other variables, he said. NIOSH asked oil and gas companies and other stakeholders to help further characterize risks associated with flowback operations, as well as to assist with developing and implementing exposure controls as necessary. Kiefer said reports from media sources and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration about fatalities triggered the research into flowback operations. Some of the fatality investigations are incomplete, but thus far the workers likely were gauging flowback or production tanks, or transferring flowback fluids, NIOSH said in the blog post. The workers, who were located at well sites in the Williston Basin in North Dakota and Montana, often died when working alone.

### Risk to a Temporary Workforce

Dan Neal, director of Equality State Policy Center in Wyoming, said health hazards pose a particular risk to fracking workers—known as roughnecks—because the work is temporary, and the worksites are transient. A roughneck could get sick after work with a company has finished, plus it could be difficult to establish a causal connection between exposure at a particular site and an illness, Neal said. These factors could conspire to make worker compensation impossible to obtain, he said. "Roughnecks are sort of your ultimate temp worker," Neal told Bloomberg BNA May 19. "Fracking doesn't fit the traditional employment model, which is what safety and health regulations are built around." Moreover, Neal questioned whether health hazards from chemical exposure is something the industry has examined. Safety and health is important to oil and gas companies, said Shawn Bennett, a spokesman for Energy in Depth, a research and advocacy organization launched by Independent Petroleum Association of America. Many oil and gas operators and contractors are involved with OSHA in the National Service, Transmission, Exploration and Production Safety Network, which looks for opportunities to improve environmental, safety and health issues, Bennett told Bloomberg BNA May 19.

### Other Newssites:

The NIOSH blog post on flowback operations is available at <http://blogs.cdc.gov/niosh-science-blog/2014/05/19/flowback/>.  
<http://www.bna.com/four-fatalities-linked-n17179890610/>

### USA, S.C, ANDERSON, MAY 22 2014. KINDER MORGAN REPORTS GASOLINE SPILL IN WESTERN SOUTH CAROLINA REGION

*matt rosenberg*

On May 12, 2014, it reported a spill out of gasoline at the western South Carolina pumping station. Kinder Morgan reported the gasoline spill from the pumping station was within the Plantation Pipe Line Co facility in Anderson, South Carolina. However, Kinder Morgan did not disclose the amount of a gasoline spill occurred. The major pipeline distribution company possesses 51% of the Plantation Pipe Line Co. The system delivers approximately 600,000 barrels of gasoline, jet fuels, biodiesels and diesels each and every day. The transportation system covers over 4,989 kilometres pipeline that starts from Louisiana and ends at Washington D.C. location.

<http://stocksnttrade.com/kinder-morgan-inc-nysekmi-reported-gasoline-spill-in-the-western-south-carolina-region-2261.html>

### USA, MA, CHATHAM, MAY 22 2014. CHATHAM GAS CLEANUP COSTS COULD REACH SIX FIGURES

*doug fraser*

It could cost in the six figures to clean up the gasoline contamination discovered in February at the site of the new fire station on Depot Road, according to Robert Duncanson, the director of the Department of Health and the Environment. Workers doing test borings last winter to determine the load capacity for soil at the building site notified the town that they were getting a hydrocarbon smell in the soil samples. Subsequent investigation determined that the culprit was unleaded gasoline, although the full extent of the spill and contamination is not yet known. Tanks that serviced the police and fire department vehicles are considered the most likely source, Duncanson said, although that hasn't been determined yet. If they are the source, then the spill occurred sometime between 1986 when unleaded gasoline was first used at that location and the tanks being removed from the ground in 1993, he said. Monitoring wells have delineated the boundaries of the plume on three sides, but the westward edge has yet to be found. Work is also being done to determine how thick the layer of contamination is to get an idea of the volume of the gasoline that is in the ground. Duncanson said there will be no delay in the building schedule for the



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## Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network Release 2014 – 1,072 Newsy Stuff

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

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fire station. Testing has shown that the plume has not affected the soil or groundwater at Chatham Elementary School next door. There are no public drinking water wells in the area and the public drinking water wellfields are a significant distance away, Duncanson said.

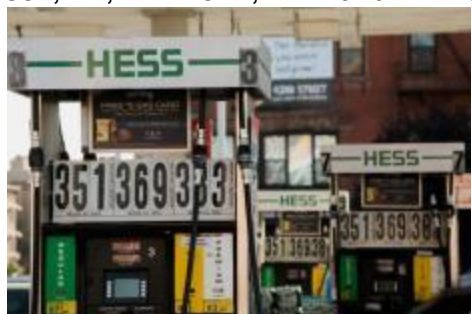
<http://www.capecodonline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20140521/NEWS11/140529937>

### USA, VT, CHESTER, MAY 22 2014. GASOLINE SPILL REACHES WILLIAMS RIVER

Despite efforts, gasoline from a 2,400-gallon spill has reached the Williams River in the Vermont town of Chester. The spill happened last week when a tractor-trailer owned by P&H Transportation of New Hampshire rolled over onto its side on Route 11 West. The Eagle Times reports the property owner, Joel Brookes, smelled gasoline Wednesday morning and saw the reflection of a petroleum byproduct on top of the river watershed in his backyard. The state Agency of Natural Resources optimistically said Monday the fuel had not breached the river. Cleanup teams returned to accelerate the interception of the contaminated soil after discovering it reached the watershed. It's not known how much gasoline remains in the soil and groundwater.

<http://www.burlingtonfreepress.com/story/news/2014/05/22/gas-spill-williams-river/9429263/>

### USA, N.Y, NEW YORK, MAY 23 2014. HESS SELLS GASOLINE STATIONS TO MARATHON FOR \$2.6 BILLION



*Gas prices are displayed at a Hess Corp. gas station in New York.*

[Hess Corp](#) agreed to sell its gasoline stations to [Marathon Petroleum Corp. \(MPC\)](#) for \$2.6 billion, the latest and largest in more than \$12 billion of asset sales as the company focuses on producing oil and natural gas. Hess found a buyer after [filing paperwork](#) in January to put the 1,342 stations along the U.S. East Coast into a separately traded public company. The deal is part of its effort to streamline operations following pressure from activist investor Paul Singer's Elliott Management Corp. last year. "The sale of our retail business marks the culmination of our strategic transformation into a pure-play exploration and production company," Chief Executive Officer John Hess, son of the New York-based company's founder, said in a statement today. Hess said in a separate statement it will continue its 50-year practice of selling holiday toy trucks at the stations this year, and going forward they will be sold online. Marathon Petroleum, which was itself formed by the spinoff of [Marathon Oil Corp's](#) refinery and retail business, said the purchase will make it one of the largest owners and operators of [convenience stores](#) in the U.S., with locations in 23 states. The deal also includes transport trucks and capacity on the Colonial pipeline. Hess-branded stations will disappear over the next three years, Marathon Petroleum CEO Gary Heminger said today on a conference call with analysts. The additional stations will buy 200,000 barrels a day from Marathon Petroleum's refineries, guaranteeing a buyer for 75 percent of the company's gasoline and diesel output.

#### Profit Margin

The company expects to save \$120 million annually from combining operations and is targeting another \$70 million a year from boosting profit margins at Hess stores. Marathon Petroleum put the transaction's total value at \$2.87 billion. That comprises a cash purchase price of \$2.37 billion, an estimated \$230 million of working capital and \$274 million of capital leases, it said in a separate statement. The acquisition is expected to be funded with a combination of debt and available cash, with closing likely in the third quarter, Findlay, Ohio-based Marathon Petroleum said.

#### 'Best-Looking'

Heminger has openly coveted the Hess stores, telling analysts on an October earnings call that they "have one of the best-looking systems on the East Coast." The purchase is "a win-win situation and not totally unexpected," [Fadel Gheit](#), a New York-based analyst for Oppenheimer & Co., said today in a telephone interview. "What Hess got was at the high end of Street estimates and much higher than we thought they could do." Proceeds from the sale will be used for additional share repurchases. Hess increased its buyback authorization to \$6.5 billion from \$4 billion, the company said today. With today's transaction, Hess has raised \$12.2 billion from asset sales since 2013, Gheit wrote in a note to clients. This is the biggest divestiture, followed by the \$2.05 billion sale of the company's Russian subsidiary Samara-Nafta to OAO Lukoil in April 2013. Hess is one of several energy companies, including ConocoPhillips and Marathon Oil, that have gotten rid of retail stations as they separate so-called downstream operations from oil and gas production in response to investor calls for more focused corporate structures. Hess operates fuel and food outlets from [Florida](#) to [New Hampshire](#) and is the largest Dunkin' Donuts



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Inc. franchisee by number of sites, according to the January filing. The company had \$943 million invested in the retail business as of Sept. 30, the filing showed. Hess rose 1.1 percent to \$90.29 at the close in New York, after reaching its highest intraday price since 2008. Marathon Petroleum fell 0.9 percent to \$86.91. Barclays Plc acted as financial adviser to Marathon Petroleum and Jones Day LP served as legal adviser. Goldman Sachs Group Inc. advised Hess.

 **Related Stories** [Marathon Petroleum to Buy Hess Unit](#)

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2014-05-22/marathon-petroleum-to-acquire-hess-retail-unit-for-2-87-billion.html>

### USA, UT, WEST BOUNTIFUL, MAY 23 2014. RESIDENTS WANT ANSWERS FROM HOLLY REFINERY

A group of West Bountiful residents who live near the Holly Refinery want answers from refinery officials about a proposed berm they say was not shown on the original expansion plans and a substation Rocky Mountain Power plans to build on refinery property. The residents who mainly live on the northeast side of the refinery, held a meeting on Wednesday night at city hall to open the dialogue between themselves and the refinery, specifically regarding work on the east side of 800 West, according to information provided by the neighbors. In response to the residents' concerns, Holly's vice president and refinery manager Michael Wright, Jr., said the berm is intended to be permanent with full landscaping. It will be approximately 10-15 feet tall and it will be landscaped with several types of trees, Wright said in an email to the Clipper. The landscaping will also include a weed mat with rocks to keep down any dust that may develop during the expansion. "It is meant to be a visual barrier, but will also provide a noise barrier," Wright said. The substation Rocky Mountain Power is planning is being built to support the refinery's expansion, Wright said. "Originally we asked to expand the existing substation on 500 South but Rocky Mountain Power will not expand their the 46kV station anymore," Wright said. He said the power company is moving away from 46 kV stations and systems. Holly plans on expanding its operation in two phases over the next two years, and has received a permit from the Utah Division of Air Quality to proceed. Plans call for the refinery to increase capacity from 40,000 barrels a day to 60,000 barrels by installing additional crude units and increasing the capacity of existing units. It will also add a second catalytic cracking unit, a cooling tower and several process heaters. The proposed refinery expansion has its foes, especially on the environmental front that is opposed to the proposed expansions at Holly and at nearby Tesoro, because increased production will mean increased pollution. Regulators estimate there will be a seven-ton increase in particulate matter (PM) emissions annually from Holly's expansion, but there will also be a 150.7-ton reduction in sulphur dioxide and a 21.5-ton reduction in nitrogen oxides. Regulations will require Holly to install controls to limit pollution, and to add controls to existing equipment to offset pollution from the new pollution. Adding the second catalytic cracking unit will add 45 jobs to Holly's workforce, according to Mike Astin, Holly's environmental manager, during a November interview. "We think it's a win-win for everyone," he said.

[http://www.davisclipper.com/view/full\\_story/25142351/article-Residents-want-answers-from-Holly-Refinery?instance=lead\\_story](http://www.davisclipper.com/view/full_story/25142351/article-Residents-want-answers-from-Holly-Refinery?instance=lead_story)

### USA, HI, HONOLULU, MAY 23 2014. NAVY: CONTAMINANTS FOUND IN GROUND WATER MONITORING WELL

 **Watch the Video** [Contaminants found in ground monitoring well](#)

The Navy told state health officials it found diesel in a monitoring well under Tripler Army Medical Center, along with a trace of lead. The new information came to light during a City Council hearing on a resolution calling for state health officials to act quickly to resolve a recent fuel spill at Red Hill. An estimated 27,000 gallons of jet fuel were released from one of the military's underground fuel storage tanks four months ago. "It is new information to us and the Navy, and it really heightens the concern that contamination in the groundwater may have spread," said Environmental Health Deputy Director Gary Gill. "There could be an entirely different source of contamination at that Tripler monitor well. Either way, it's not good news," Gill said. Meanwhile new pictures were released by the Navy of the inspection that is underway of underground tank No. 5. State health officials said while the recent discovery still needs to be verified, they believe it underscores the need to move quickly to protect drinking water sources.

 **Related Stories** [Diesel fuel found in monitoring well at Tripler Army Medical Center](#)

<http://www.kitv.com/news/navy-contaminants-found-in-ground-water-monitoring-well/26112876>



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