



Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network Release 2014 – 1,074 Newsy Stuff

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

June 07 2014



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NIGERIA, KWARA STATE, MAY 26 2014. FUEL TANKER KILLS CORPS MEMBER IN KWARA

A member of the National Youth Service Corps (NYSC), serving in Ilesha-Baruba community, Baruten Local Government Area of Kwara State, Muibi Abdulrasaq, was, at the weekend, crushed to death by a fuel tanker. An eyewitness account revealed that the deceased, together with a colleague, were passengers on a commercial motorcycle which tried to overtake a fuel-loaded tanker. It was also gathered that the tanker was coming from Saki, in Oyo State, to dispense petroleum product to a filling station along the Nigeria-Benin Republic border route, while the motorcycle, carrying the two corps members was coming from a market in Ilesha-Baruba community. The source also said that the commercial motorcycle tried to overtake the tanker and had a head-on collision with an incoming wheel-barrow. "Just as the rider of the commercial motorcycle and the other corps member fell into a nearby gutter, the deceased rammed into the tyre of the moving tanker," he said. A corps member, who preferred anonymity, said Muibi died on the spot, while the two other occupants only suffered minor injuries. The deceased, a 2013 batch C corps member was said to be an indigene of Kwara State and a graduate of Accounting from the Kwara State Polytechnic. Mr Ajayi Okansanmi, the Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO) of the Kwara State police command, who confirmed the incident, stated that the deceased rammed into the tyre of the tanker. He also said the tanker driver was already in the custody of the police, undergoing interrogation.

<http://www.tribune.com.ng/news/news-headlines/item/6186-fuel-tanker-kills-corps-member-in-kwara>

USA, MI, DAVISON TWP, MAY 26 2014. GASOLINE FLOWS INTO KEARSLEY CREEK FOLLOWING LEAK IN DAVISON TOWNSHIP

roberto acosta

 **Photo's** [Gasoline Flows into Kearsley Creek Following Leak](#)



A gasoline-absorbent boom stretches across the Kearsley Creek Sunday, May 25 under the East Court Street bridge in Davison Township.

An environmental crew is on scene at the Shell gas station off Lapeer and Irish roads trying to find the source of a leak that's allowed gallons of gasoline to spill into the Kearsley Creek in the Davison area. "We've got gasoline being discharged into the Kearsley Creek. We've got it contained at this point," said Mike Wright, Davison-Richfield Area Fire Chief, after responding around 8 a.m. Sunday, May 25, but he added "There's a leak somewhere. We just don't know where yet." Gasoline-absorbent booms have been put in place by firefighters at creek crossings off two bridges -- one on Lapeer Road and the other on East Court Street, both less than a mile west of Irish Road. The booms allow water to flow through but absorb the gasoline. "All we can do is contain what we can see," said Wright, noting the booms are strung across the length of the creek to try and contain any gas being carried further down the creek and into the Flint

River. He was not sure how much gasoline had flowed into creek. Moody Nasr, manager of the Shell, said they called law enforcement Saturday night after noticing a strong odor of gasoline and Wright said once daylight arrived crews responded Sunday morning to check out the issue. Nasr called Young's Environmental to come out and try to identify the location of the leak and necessary cleanup. Genesee County Hazardous Materials team vehicles from Mundy Township and City of Flint and representative from the state Department of Environmental Quality also responded to the scene. "There's always an environmental concern (with a leak)," said Wright. "That's why the DEQ is here." Stephanie Kammer, environmental quality analyst with the water resources division of the MDEQ, said they will be able to identify where the gasoline is based on the sheen of the gasoline. "Hopefully there won't be any significant effects," she said, noting there has likely been some gasoline that flowed from a storm basin into the river given the length of the incident. "We are going to try and recover the best we can." Kammer said the flow of the river at this time will help in dispersing the gasoline and much of the liquid will evaporate on its own.

http://www.mlive.com/news/flint/index.ssf/2014/05/gallons_of_gasoline_flow_into.html

GHANA, TESHIE, MAY 26 2014. FUEL STATION POSES HAZARD TO FAMILY HEALTH HOSPITAL

If authorities responsible for regulating Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) do not move in fast, a potentially explosive situation is likely to be recorded as a company called the AI Energy Group constructs a petrol station, just behind the Family Health Hospital at Teshie, opposite the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre. According to observers, the lives of



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patients who seek medical attention at the facility are at the precipice of danger with the clearly controversial on-going construction work. The National Petroleum Authority (NPA), the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Health, the Municipal Assembly (LEKMA), and the Ghana Health Service (GHS), among other institution, are responsible for the regulation of the location of such petroleum interest, but it appears the AI group has started this construction at the blind side of these institutions. Residents of Teshie are peeved with the construction work and the Republic newspaper gathered that they may soon initiate moves to stop the construction work. This paper gathered that the AI Energy has been warned several times to halt its construction works but has ignored the warnings. The Republic newspaper gathered that representatives from the Ministry of Environment, Science and Technology, Town and Country Planning, EPA, NPA, LEKMA, and representatives from the Family Health Hospital have all met with the AI group to convince them to stop the construction. Information gathered is that recently, a minor fire at the filling station caused the intervention of Military personnel, before the fire escalated into an uncontrollable inferno. Patients receiving treatment at the hospital had to run for their dear lives during the incident, the Republic gathered. The imminent danger to the health facility, according to experts could be both violent such as a potential fire outbreak or subtle such as respiratory problems caused by the constant inhalation of fumes from the fuel station by patients and workers in the health facility. According to a GHS report some of the health risks that could emanate from the petroleum products the paper gathered are, Acute and Chronic Respiratory Distress Syndrome will become more severe. Other evidence from report regarding health risks from exposure to products containing Benzene and its derivatives, include increases risk of leukemia, Hodgkin's lymphoma, fetal malformations and premature births. Other major health hazard associated with the siting of the Filling Station close to public places, according to the GHS is the fact that the Teshie health facility carries out In-Vitro-fertilization (IVF) so there could be possible destruction of the embryos and babies, and deformities. Information available is that apart from the Teshie community that forms majority of the Family Health Hospital's patients, it also caters for patients from far and near within the Greater Accra Region and other regions.

<http://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/NewsArchive/artikel.php?ID=310451>

ENGLAND, YORKSHIRE, THIRSK, MAY 26 2014. FOUR VEHICLES AND TRAILER COLLIDE ON PETROL STATION FORECOURT

Firefighters from Thirsk and Ripon were called to a petrol station forecourt after four vehicles and a trailer were involved in a collision. North Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service said a man was treated by an ambulance crew after suffering minor head injuries in the accident, which happened at a garage on the A61 at Busby Stoop near Thirsk at 11am today. Fire crews made the vehicles safe and assisted in clearing an oil spill from the garage forecourt.

http://www.yorkpress.co.uk/news/11235150.Four_vehicles_collide_on_petrol_station_forecourt/

PHILIPPINES, ILOILO CITY, MAY 26 2014. CHEMICAL LEAK FROM 'SHOKTONG' WAREHOUSE IN ILOILO CITY VILLAGE, RESIDENTS TOLD TO LEAVE AREA

Residents in Barangay West Timawa, Molo, Iloilo City affected by the reeking odor caused by leaking chemicals from the warehouse of the Imperial Distillery have been asked to evacuate the area for health reasons. The City Environment and Natural Resources Office (CENRO) said the ammonia leak and volatile organic compound used in the manufacture of wine locally known as "shoktong" has prompted the agency to recommend the voluntary evacuation of residents living within the 100-meter radius from the warehouse of the local winery. But affected residents refused to leave the area particularly now that the barangay prepares for its annual fiesta celebration early next week. They claimed that the foul odor is much less intense than during the previous days'. It may be recalled that most residents have spent sleepless night due to the chemical leak. West Timawa village chieftain Nelly Magsipoc said her constituents, especially those with lung and heart ailments, started complaining about the foul odor Wednesday afternoon. Residents said the odor is akin to a burned mixture of rugby and alcohol, causing severe headache, dizziness, and difficulty in breathing as well as dryness of the throat. Even barangay captain herself was brought to the hospital for immediate medical attention. The city's Bureau of Fire Protection and members of the Iloilo City Emergency Responders went to the area and discovered the leaking chemicals inside the warehouse. They covered the chemicals with lime to neutralize and eliminate the offensive smell. City Health authorities said the warehouse of a local wine factory has long been abandoned but several barrels of ammonia and other volatile organic compound are still stocked inside. They theorized that some of the barrels containing the chemicals might have broken open due to the sporadic heavy rains in the city last Wednesday. The rains were believed to have further aggravated the spill as run-away water carried it to more areas. Magsipoc said the owner of the warehouse promised to clean and rid the surroundings of chemicals. It was



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learned that the warehouse owner has already brought the remaining barrels away from residential area to Barangay Incore, Lapaz, Iloilo City for safekeeping.

<http://www.interaksyon.com/article/87603/chemical-leak-from-shoktong-warehouse-in-iloilo-city-village-residents-told-to-leave-area>

USA, MA, BARNSTABLE CO, CHATHAM, MAY 26 2014. MYSTERY GASOLINE PLUME NEAR CHATHAM FIRE STATION

doreen Leggett

Although past studies of the site had come up clean, new tests show a plume of gasoline in the groundwater near the fire station. "This is not welcome news," said Selectman Tim Roper. The extent of the plume, and even where it originates, is still a mystery, said Robert Duncanson, the town's director of health and environment. "There is no smoking gun," he said, adding that the fuel was unleaded so the spill is somewhat recent. "We have not found a source and that is very frustrating." He added that it was discovered when consultants were doing some groundwork for the department's new headquarters. Although tests are ongoing, Duncanson made it clear that the nearby elementary school had not been affected. The test well closest to the school showed no contamination. He added that as a precaution vapor tests had been done at both the school and the fire station, again no issues. He said that while there is still uncertainty over the western boundary of the plume, toward Hitching Post Road, there has been no contamination of the town's water supply. "I think that the important thing is that it is not affecting the school, is not affecting the drinking water," said Selectmen Chairman Florence Seldin. The town is working with the state Department of Environmental Protection and will hire a private company to clean up the site. Duncanson said the spill has contaminated groundwater to a depth of about 20 feet, and has migrated about 200 feet. It could take up to seven years to clean up, he said, adding that it could cost about \$500,000 to complete the job. Construction of the new fire station is being delayed, likely until early 2015 because of the spill. The cost of that project will also escalate because a protective barrier will be put under the foundation as a safety precaution. In the meantime there will still be testing going on at the site. "It's like a pincushion over there," said Duncanson.

<http://chatham.wickedlocal.com/article/20140523/NEWS/140527749>

USA, CA, BERKELEY, MAY 26 2014. FIL-AMS APPLAUD ORDER TO REMOVE OIL DEPOT IN PANDACAN



Oil Depot Relocation: Manila City Mayor Joseph "Erap" Estrada (center), shows a letter to ask the big three oil companies to relocate their oil depot in Pandacan on January 31, 2016.

The U.S.-based Filipino American Coalition for Environmental Solidarity (FACES) praised the recent decision of Manila Mayor Joseph Erap Estrada to reinforce Manila City Ordinance 8283, ordering Caltex, Shell and Petron to implement the phase-out and relocation of the Pandacan oil depot by January 2016. Philippine civil society groups have campaigned for over a decade for the relocation of the massive oil depot out of Pandacan, where spills, leakages and fires have overwhelmed the community for years. The three oil companies have repeatedly delayed and flouted the desires of the community, church leaders, city ordinances, and a 2008 Philippine Supreme Court ruling ordering compliance to relocate the depot. While Petron has recently announced it will

move out of the depot by the 2016 deadline, Shell and Caltex have yet to communicate any intentions to relocate. Mayor Estrada's decision to uphold ordinance 8283 "is a triumph for Manila residents, advocates, and community groups working for public health," FACES said in a statement. It lauded the Mayor's Office for engaging community members through the newly formed Pandacan Oil Depot Monitoring Committee, which is working for citizen involvement in the relocation. An organization that includes environmental scientists, engineers and community activists, FACES urged that closure of the oil depot also involve proper cleanup. It called for the inclusion of residents in the closure and relocation to ensure economic conversion plans that benefit residents, preserve green spaces, bring new jobs and protect the environment. This past week communities across 12 countries including the U.S. and the Philippines held global actions against Chevron corporation (Caltex). In Pandacan, community members marched for the closure, transfer and relocation of the Pandacan oil depot in an ongoing "Jericho March" action that continued until Sunday May 25. Together with allies in Pandacan, FACES is pressing the City of Manila and the "Big Three" oil companies for continued cooperation with the Pandacan community in relocation of the oil



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depots, the discontinuation of the Batangas-Pandacan pipeline operations and compensation for the victims of the oil depot operations.

<http://globalnation.inquirer.net/105094/fil-ams-applaud-order-to-remove-oil-depot-in-pandacan>

AUSTRALIA, VICTORIA, GEELONG, MAY 26 2014. FERTILISER TANKER STRANDED NEAR CLIFTON SPRINGS

bethany tyler



Stuck ship. Corio Bay. Geelong.

A huge fertiliser tanker remains stuck in Corio Bay at Clifton Springs after it lost engine power just after 5pm Sunday night. The 190m Inchcape Shipping Services vessel had discharged its load in Geelong and was returning to Newcastle when it lost engine power just after 5pm. A spokesman from the Port of Geelong said the ship, called Seaboss, had cleared the shipping channel before it broke down, and had to be anchored while the ship's staff worked to fix the engine. He said he expected it would be freed this morning and taken to the anchorage in Melbourne. "The ship has just lost engine power and he'll be anchored here for a little bit until he repairs himself," he said. He denied earlier reports of an oil spill.

Clifton Springs resident Waine Shirreff said he had been looking out the window with his wife when they noticed a large tanker in the bay hadn't moved for more than half an hour. "It's gone past the turn buoy but hasn't quite made it to the next set of markers," he said. "That's where he's stuck, straight out from the Clifton Springs boat ramp." Mr Shirreff said the ship had swung around to face the shore. Fellow resident Peter Groves said he heard a "strange noise like a roar" when the anchor was dropped. "All the lights are on on the stern, the bow is pointing towards the shell refinery, pointing towards Clifton Springs," he said. "I was talking to the bloke who cast it off in Geelong, he does the ropes and said luckily there was no other scheduled shipping for the next 24 hours," he said. Mr Groves said he had seen a lot more shipping activity in the past six months going in and out of Geelong. Inchcape Shipping Services is a global company involved in the oil, cruise, container and bulk commodity sectors.

<http://www.geelongadvertiser.com.au/news/geelong/fertiliser-tanker-stranded-near-clifton-springs/story-fnjuhovy-1226931005823>

USA, NV, LAS VEGAS, MAY 26 2014. HENDERSON NOW 'A LOT SMARTER' AFTER ERA OF TOXIC PRODUCTION

conor shine



A car lies amid the rubble May 6, 1988, after two large explosions destroyed the Pacific Engineering Production Company of Nevada plant in Henderson on May 4, 1988. Debris rained down around the city, and the windows and doors of nearby homes were shattered by the incident.

With its carefully manicured neighborhoods and sprawling office parks, Henderson has outgrown its roots as a magnesium producer for the country's military during World War II. But the city's industrial origins have left behind a toxic legacy that will require more than \$1 billion to clean up. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency recently announced two major settlements to pay for cleanup of contamination at the Black Mountain Industrial Complex, Henderson's largest industrial hub. The owners of the former Kerr-McGee Chemical Plant will pay \$1.1 billion to clean perchlorate contamination that

reached Lake Mead. The chemical is a component in rocket fuel and has been linked to thyroid disorders. In a separate settlement, Titanium Metals Corp. agreed to pay \$13.75 million for improperly producing and disposing of polychlorinated biphenyls. The cancer-causing chemical has been banned in the United States since 1979. Cleanup of contamination from the Black Mountain site has taken place since the 1980s, said JoAnn Kitrell, spokeswoman for the Nevada Division of Environmental Protection. The biggest project has involved installing a series of pumps that push contaminated groundwater through treatment plants. Other efforts have involved removing contaminated soils by truck and installing barriers to prevent chemicals from seeping into the water supply. Kitrell said the site is "less toxic than it has ever been" but still has a lot of history to overcome. The complex got its start as the federally owned Basic Magnesium Plant in 1941, 12 years before Henderson became a city. The property eventually was sold by the government, and its facilities were converted to



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manufacture chemicals and metals by private companies. Industrial manufacturing played a central role in Henderson's economy for 30 years, Historian Michael Green said. "In a way, the industrial complex is to Henderson what gaming is to Las Vegas," he said. Over the years, a range of chemicals were produced at the site, including chlorine, sodium chlorate, boron and ammonium perchlorate. Green said a noticeable cloud used to hang over Henderson's industrial area. "The air in Henderson turned a new color," he said. "It was sort of a grayish, greenish cloud." Waste often was disposed of in unlined ponds or transported offsite through ditches. Such practices were standard and legal at the time, Kittrell said. "We've all gotten a lot smarter and a lot more careful," she said. "There are a lot more regulations in place that are mandatory for industry." Henderson's industrial era waned in the 1980s as the city grew rapidly and morphed into a more typical suburb. A 1988 explosion at the Pacific Engineering Production Company of Nevada rocket fuel factory made chemical manufacturing an unwanted neighbor in the city. The PEPCON plant caught fire May 4, 1988, and set off a series of huge explosions. Two people were killed and more than 300 were injured. The force of the blasts shattered windows and doors around Henderson. Three years later, a 42-ton chlorine leak at Pioneer Chlor Alkali in the Basic Management complex sickened more than 300 people and led to mass evacuations. Most of the operations have since been shut down, but pollution from their operations linger. Kittrell said outside of the perchlorate pollution in Lake Mead, the contamination has been contained within the boundaries of the Black Mountain site. There's no indication the pollution has affected the health of Henderson residents, she said.

<http://www.lasvegassun.com/news/2014/may/25/henderson-now-lot-smarter-after-era-toxic-producti/>

USA, TX, FATE, MAY 26 2014. I-30 BACK OPEN AFTER TANKER FIRE



Interstate 30 in Rockwall County was shut down for several hours early Sunday morning because of a tanker fire. It happened near the town of Fate around 4 a.m. Authorities say the truck was carrying nearly 8,000 gallons of gasoline. The driver apparently swerved to miss an animal on the interstate. That caused the tanker to roll and catch fire. Officials say luckily that accident happened when there weren't many people on the road. The Interstate is back open along that stretch of road. The driver of the truck was taken to a local hospital with minor injuries.

<http://www.myfoxdfw.com/story/25607378/tanker-fire-closes-i-30-in-rockwall-county>

USA, MI, LEONI TOWNSHIP, MAY 26 2014. FIRE DAMAGES HOTEL AFTER MAN FIXING MOPED IN ROOM IGNITES GASOLINE SPILLED ON CARPET

merinda valley



Mechanical repairs, spilled gasoline and smoking culminated in a fire at the Colonial Inn, 6027 Ann Arbor Road early Sunday, May 25. A tenant said he repaired his moped in his room and was later smoking in the unit. He ignited gasoline spilled on the carpet around him and the fire spread toward his moped, Blackman-Leoni Township Department of Public Safety Deputy Director Jon Johnston said in a press release. The tenant was not visibly burned but was taken to Allegiance Health for smoke inhalation. Blackman-Leoni Township Department of Public Safety was dispatched to the fire at approximately 12:30 a.m. Sunday. Firefighters arrived on the scene to find one room engulfed in flames, with fire reaching above it to the second floor landing. The fire was extinguished and did not extend beyond that area. However, smoke and water affected surrounding units. Flames damaged electrical wires serving the building, and its 11 rooms were uninhabitable for the night.

http://www.mlive.com/news/jackson/index.ssf/2014/05/gasoline_sets_fire_at_colonial.html



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USA, PA, NORTHUMBERLAND, MAY 26 2014. "IF I WAS A DOG, THEY'D PUT ME TO SLEEP" - VALLEY SOLDIER POISONED ON HOMEFRONT

rick dandes

Darren Troup is 42 and feels twice his age. The Army veteran walks with a cane and is in constant pain. Some of his teeth have rotted and are falling out. He can't move the fingers on his right hand. His toes are swollen and he can't slide on his shoes most times. He needs medical help, but has given up on the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, even though he believes his ailments originate from his time served at Fort McClellan, near Anniston, Ala., in 1990. "The VA won't get involved because they say there has to be a direct link proven between the ailments I'm suffering from and my service time," he said. But there is. Fort McClellan was a virtual toxic waste dump in the late 1980s and 1990s, its environs poisoned by ionizing radiation and polychlorinated biphenyls.

PCBs.

The Environmental Protection Agency closed the fort in 1999. "Before my time there," he said from his apartment in Northumberland, "I worked at Wood-Mode. I didn't have health problems. I never knew how bad things were when I was serving at the fort. After leaving the service, I was contacted by a woman that was sick and she was reaching out to other people who were based at McClellan." That woman, a former sergeant, asked Troup whether he ever had joint pain or back problems, whether he was getting sick. "And I was." Troup, and others around the country, form a band of brothers affected by a dark secret: They were unknowingly poisoned by the environment at Fort McClellan. And now that Troup needs medical assistance, he says he can't depend on the VA to help. It seems, Troup says, that the VA doesn't want to deal with anything having to do with Fort McClellan. Instead, he is a patient at Geisinger Medical Center, Danville. "My girlfriend drives me," Troup says. "But the doctors there, they don't know what's wrong. I keep telling them it is because of the PCBs, dioxins and other chemicals we were exposed to on the base." About five years after he left the service, Troup began experiencing back problems. "They thought it was sciatica," he said. "I've been living with pain since 2005 until now. I see so many doctors. ... They just give me pills, not narcotics. Things like steroids." "If I was a dog," he said, "they'd put me to sleep."

A history of Deceit

Fort McClellan is the former home of the U.S. Army Military Police and U.S. Army Chemical Schools, and was one of the largest training posts the Army had to offer. Troup spilled blood, sweat and tears over the training grounds in 1990, he said. Everyone lived in close quarters and prepared for assignments abroad — much like any other fort. But throughout the fort's long run, there was a secret that nobody — save a chemical company — knew about. Between 1933 and 1999, Fort McClellan was constantly exposed to major biochemical health hazards. And the problem wasn't confined to the base. The people living in or around Fort McClellan were soaking up PCBs and other caustic chemicals through the air, water, soil and wildlife. "We were laying in the soil on the firing range," Troup said. "We showered with that water. We filled our canteens with that water during hydration formations, and we breathed in the toxins while running what is called Cardiac Hill." Troup — and thousands of others like him — never suspected a "damned thing." But chemical and agribusiness giant Monsanto knew — and it knew for nearly 40 years, "60 Minutes" reported. According to a broadcast by the CBS-TV newsmagazine — and still available for view on YouTube — studies by Monsanto began in 1966, when it tasked a University of Mississippi biologist with testing the water. That biologist placed fish into one of the streams to test the water's effect on wildlife. Within 10 seconds, the fish were disoriented. Within four minutes, the fish were dead. Monsanto filed the report away, never raising the concerns to environmental officials, Troup said. Many more tests would be conducted, but nothing was ever announced publicly. It was the disposal processes that led to health concerns, Troup learned through his own investigations and information revealed by "60 Minutes." As Monsanto processed the now-banned industrial coolants known as PCBs at a local factory, it would discharge toxic waste into Anniston creeks and dumped millions of pounds of PCBs into oozing open-pit landfills, only to be discovered years later during excavations by builders, according to media reports. Other excess Monsanto chemicals also made their way into Anniston's environment, including different kinds of dioxins and herbicides such as Agent Orange. The effects of these chemicals were far-reaching, Troup said. Service members and civilians living in the area have since developed serious health conditions, including various cancers, autoimmune disease, heart disease and diabetes. But these health concerns weren't limited to the soldiers stationed near Anniston. In 1999, the EPA deemed Fort McClellan a toxic site, and the base was federally mandated to be decontaminated. That, Troup said, was only the beginning. In 2003, the city of Anniston sued Monsanto, and the city was awarded \$700 million to help care for exposed residents. Veterans of Fort McClellan, however, were never advised of the lawsuit, Troup said, citing various news sources. They were excluded from it, as the Department of Veterans Affairs presumably would be responsible for any medical care or disability for the chemical exposure. In 2009, "60 Minutes" reporter Steve Kroft called Anniston one of the most toxic places in America, furthering the need for the VA to take



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care of its veterans. But the problem remains that care for these veterans of Fort McClellan still isn't being given. And Darren Troup is a primary example of that. Upon learning of Troup's predicament with the VA on Friday, the staff of U.S. Sen. Robert Casey, a Pennsylvania Democrat, agreed to help.

http://www.dailyitem.com/0100_news/x1396863115/-If-I-was-a-dog-they-d-put-me-to-sleep/print

AUSTRALIA, NEW SOUTH WALES, SYDNEY, MAY 28 2014. ORICA APPLIES TO SHIP STOCKPILE OF TOXIC WASTE TO FRANCE FOR INCINERATION



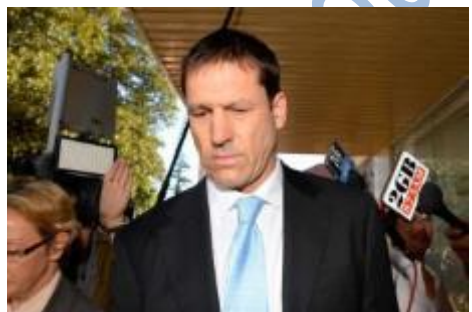
The Greenpeace protest in 2010 that stopped Orica's shipment of hexachlorobenzene to Denmark.

Controversial carcinogen suspect hexachlorobenzene stored at Botany since 1991 after two failed attempts to send it overseas. The Australian chemicals company Orica said on Tuesday it had applied to ship a vast stockpile of toxic waste to France to end a long-running saga over how to dispose of it. The company has 15,000 tonnes of hexachlorobenzene (HCB) – a by-product and suspected human carcinogen of solvent manufacturing – stored at Botany in Sydney's south it has been trying to get rid of for years. Australia has no disposal facilities and a previous plan to ship some of the waste, produced between 1963 and 1991, to Denmark fell through in 2010 when the Danish

government reneged on the deal after protests by Greenpeace. There were similar protests in 2007 when Orica tried to export it to Germany. Orica said it had lodged an initial application with the government to export 132 tonnes of HCB to a facility in France operated by Tredi SA. If successful, the rest of the stockpile would follow. "If Orica's application is successful, the company believes it will have identified the means to resolve an enduring industrial and environmental legacy," said Orica's global head of corporate affairs and social responsibility, Gavin Jackman. "This process can ensure that this legacy is not left for future generations to address." Australia was a signatory to the Basel and Stockholm conventions that dealt with international protocols for the handling of toxic waste, and Orica said its application complied with both. "There is no viable alternative destruction method available in Australia, nor is there likely to be in the foreseeable future," Jackman said. "The only other alternative is continued long-term storage at Botany industrial park, which is not acceptable to the community." Greenpeace said it was opposed to countries exporting hazardous waste owing to shipping risks, and was against incineration, which was what would happen in France. Greenpeace's Australia and Pacific head of research and investigations, Adam Walters, said burning the waste raised concerns about harmful air pollution. "That method of destruction will create dioxins," he said. "It shouldn't be disposed of through high-temperature destruction. There are other chemical methods of destroying toxic waste that don't involve burning." He said the size of the stockpile warranted Orica building a facility to dispose of it safely in Australia, but it just wanted "to send it overseas".

<http://www.theguardian.com/environment/2014/may/27/orica-applies-to-ship-stockpile-of-toxic-waste-to-france-for-incineration>

AUSTRALIA, NEW SOUTH WALES, MONA VALE, MAY 28 2014. TANKER DRIVER DENIES CAUSING DEATH BY DANGEROUS DRIVING OVER MONA VALE DOUBLE FATAL CRASH



Shane Day faces several charges including dangerous driving over the crash last year.

The driver of a fuel tanker that crashed in Sydney's Northern Beaches, killing two people, has denied causing their deaths by driving dangerously. Shane Day, 47, was charged with dangerous driving causing death and negligent driving causing death following the accident in Mona Vale last October. Two people died and five others injured when the Cootes Transport tanker Day was driving crashed into on-coming cars and spilled thousands of litres of petrol, sparking a fierce blaze.. Day's lawyer, Dennis Miralis, says his client is taking the court case hard. "This clearly a very traumatic event for my client," he said. "He not only suffered physical injuries in the course of this incident but he's now going through the incredibly stressful experience of being charged with this very serious offence."

Mr Miralis says it has been accepted by police that the tanker's brakes were defective. The case will return to court in July.

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2014-05-28/tanker-driver-denies-all-charges-over-mona-vale-double-fatal/5483064>



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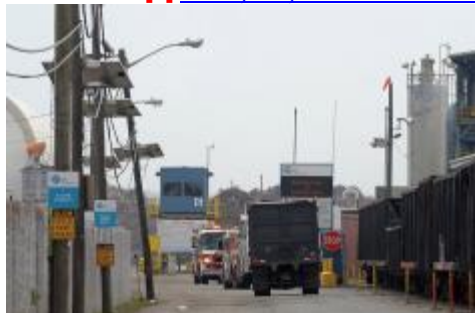
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USA, N.J, JERSEY CITY, MAY 28 2014. RADIATION LEAK REPORTED AT JERSEY CITY METAL RECYCLING PLANT

 **Photo's [6]** [Jersey City >> Radiation Leak at Metal Recycling Plant](#)



A report of a radiation leak from a "container" at a Jersey City recycling facility triggered a large response from police, firefighters and emergency medical technicians this afternoon. The incident was reported at about 2:30 p.m. at Sims Metal Management at 1 Linden Ave., based on emergency responder radio transmissions. A police car that was blocking the entrance of the Sims facility left at 3:02 p.m. and many ambulances, fire trucks and police emergency services were the spotted leaving the scene. Emergency vehicles with lights flashing were still visible deep in the recycling plant. Information on the incident was not immediately available from Jersey City. There was no answer at the Sims facility in Jersey City and the corporate headquarters could not immediately provide information on what was happening.

http://www.nj.com/hudson/index.ssf/2014/05/radiation_leak_reported_at_jersey_city_metal_recycling_plant.html

INDIA, NAVI MUMBAI, MAY 28 2014. THREE TRAILERS CRASH INTO OIL TANKER NEAR PANVEL

george mendonca,

A freak accident brought traffic to a standstill on JNPT road on Tuesday when three trailers collided with an oil tanker. Police said that it took them three hours to clear the road and traffic slowed down during that period causing jams. On Tuesday, around 2am, the driver of an empty oil tanker took a sudden right towards a garage, allegedly without turning on the indicator of the vehicle. "A trailer that was behind him, a few meters away, couldn't stop in time and crashed into the tanker. Two other trailers saw the accident happen. They tried to swerve out of the way but as they were fully loaded, they toppled. This created a massive pile up just 1 km away from Panvel," said Deepak Gandhale, police sub inspector. The driver of the oil tanker was unhurt and, on seeing the damage, he fled. None of the other three drivers were injured. "As soon as we heard of the accident, we came to the spot and started diverting traffic where possible. Since the tanker was empty and neither of the container had flammable goods, a disaster was averted," he added. The driver is still absconding but his employer assured the police that he would surrender soon. "Since no one was injured, he won't be booked under IPC. He will be sent to jail but it is highly likely that he will get bail," Gandhale said.

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/navi-mumbai/Three-trailers-crash-into-oil-tanker-near-Panvel/articleshow/35638235.cms>

AUSTRALIA, QUEENSLAND, MACKAY, MAY 28 2014. PUMA SET TO POUNCE ON FUEL

matt chambers



Puma Energy Australia General Manager Ray Taylor (left) and Puma Energy Chief Executive Pierre Eladari (right) at the company's fuel import terminal in Mackay.

Puma Energy, an aggressive new entrant into the fuel sector, says it expects more closures in Australia's rapidly shrinking oil refinery sector, turning the nation into Asia's biggest fuel import market and underpinning up to \$250 million of planned infrastructure spending. Puma chief executive Pierre Eladari said recent closure announcements at three east coast refineries in Sydney and Brisbane, and the expectation of more to come, were creating big opportunities for the Swiss company and its compatriot and major shareholder, the trading giant Trafigura. "We import our (refined fuel) products, so we are quite skilled in building logistics and connecting with the international markets," Mr Eladari told The Australian yesterday at the opening of a \$70m fuel import terminal at Mackay. The terminal and storage tanks have been built to service the diesel needs of the Bowen Basin coking coal industry. "That is what has been attractive to us about Australia: the market is changing with the closure of the refineries and there is growth in the mining sector," he said. Under its trading agreement with Trafigura, Puma plans to use large, long-range oil tankers not previously used in Australia for refined fuel products to bring in fuel sourced at a cheaper prices from around the world. Puma — a privately held company whose other big shareholder is Angolan national oil company Sonangol — has moved swiftly since it made a decision to move into the Australian market three years ago. Last year it made \$900m of acquisitions of independent retailers, including Ausfuel, which had service stations in Western Australia, Northern Territory and South



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Australia. It also acquired Queensland's Neumann, which has given it the Gull, Matilda, Choice and Peak fuel brands, which Puma has started rebranding with its own red, green and white logo. Puma Australia general manager Ray Taylor said he had plans to spend another \$200m to \$250m expanding import and distribution infrastructure here and expanding and upgrading service stations. "Refineries are shutting," Mr Taylor said, adding this would make Australia by far the Asian region's biggest fuel product import market. "That creates the need for infrastructure investment like the terminal we are building here in Mackay. Ships are coming in from further afield to regional ports as well as the capital cities, so we see a real need for infrastructure investment." Expansions and new terminals are being looked at in Perth, Brisbane, Townsville and, to round out Puma's east coast coal coverage, Newcastle. Trafigura and Puma are not the only ones jumping at the chance to profit from the changing fuel supply scene in a still growing Australian market. Dutch trader Vitol spent \$3 billion buying Shell's retail and marketing unit, including the Geelong refinery, earlier this year. While Vitol has the refinery, like Puma its strength is in trading and accessing cheaper imports. Mr Taylor said he did not believe the refinery closures, which continued last month when BP declared it would close its Bulwer Island refinery in Brisbane, had ended. He said lack of scale, maintenance needs of refineries built in the 1950s and 1960s and the cost of doing business here meant the future was bleak. "We think there will be more closures," Mr Taylor said. "I don't see the dynamics improving for Australian refineries — there is more global capacity coming on in the Middle East and the US is becoming a net exporter — all of that spells further closures." For all the similarities between Puma/Trafigura and Vitol, buying Shell's Geelong refinery was not something that tempted Puma. "The future of Geelong is still in question," Mr Taylor said. "Vitol believe they can bring a set of skills and competence to it that Shell couldn't — time will tell." Trafigura is not just an oil trader: its metals, iron ore and coal trading businesses have operated in Australia for more than a decade. Mr Taylor said there was the chance to bring offtake from mines into future fuel negotiations. "There are opportunities to look at things like that, to be a bit more creative and innovative in the way that we put deals and structures together with customers," he said.

<http://www.theaustralian.com.au/business/puma-set-to-pounce-on-fuel/story-e6frg8zx-1226933723651#>

USA, N.M, DONA ANA COUNTY, ANTHONY, MAY 28 2014. BLASTS, FIRE AT NEW MEXICO BIOFUELS PLANT SPARK BRIEF EVACUATIONS

 **Watch the Video** [Explosions, Large Fire Destroy Bio-Diesel Plant in Anthony, N.M.](#)

 **Photo's** [Explosions, Large Fire Destroy Bio-Diesel Plant in Anthony, N.M.](#)

 **Photo's [11]** [Chemical Fire Explosion at Rio Valley BioFuels](#)



Fire crews from multiple Doña Ana County battle a chemical explosion fire at Rio Valley Bio Fuels in Anthony on Tuesday morning.

More than 1,000 residents of a rural New Mexico county were briefly ordered to evacuate on Tuesday following a series of explosions and a major fire at a biofuels plant, county officials said. The evacuation orders were issued after the blasts were reported shortly before 10 a.m. local time, Dona Ana County officials said in a statement, and a temporary shelter was set up at a high school in the New Mexico community of Anthony. Those orders were lifted several hours later, after firefighters contained the blaze, and residents were being escorted back to their homes as hazardous materials experts inspected the site, officials said in the statement. The cause of the explosions and fire was under investigation, and hazardous materials specialists were trying to determine if any chemicals were released during the incident. State transportation officials were bringing in heavy equipment to build an earthen dam that would contain all water on the site. The Rio Valley Biofuels plant in Anthony, about 20 miles north of El Paso, Texas, was

known to have large quantities of methanol, glycerin and sodium methylate as well as vegetable oil, hydrochloric acid and biodiesel fuel, according to the statement. The county said some 1,200 residents and 350 homes were believed to be within the half-mile evacuation zone. It was not immediately clear how many of those people were forced to leave their homes. According to its website, Rio Valley Biofuels produces biodiesel using recycled oil from local food processors.

Related Stories

- [Biofuel Facility on Fire in Southern New Mexico](#)

<http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/sns-rt-us-usa-blast-newmexico-20140527.0.780822.story>



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USA, N.Y., MID-HUDSON, MAY 28 2014. TWO PROPANE TANKER TRUCKS OVERTURN, ONE IN ULSTER, ONE IN ORANGE



Propane truck lies on its side in Rock Tavern

Two propane tanker trucks overturned within hours of one another Tuesday afternoon shutting down roads in Ulster and Orange counties and resulting in precautionary evacuations in both areas. A tanker truck with 9,000 gallons of liquid propane overturned on Route 32 in the Town of Ulster around noontime with residents in the area evacuated and closing Route 32 from Route 199 to Frank Sottile Boulevard. Several area police and fire personnel are on the scene along with state officials and Ulster County Emergency Management.. The propane was carefully being off-loaded. Meanwhile, about two hours later, another liquid propane tanker truck owned by DePew Co. overturned on Bull

Road in Rock Tavern. Several police and fire departments are on the scene along with Orange County Haz-mat. Homes in the area were also evacuated and power was shut down as a precaution. The 5,000 gallons of propane were off-loaded by 3:45 p.m.

<http://www.midhudsonnews.com/News/2014/May/27/PropaneTrucks-27May14.htm>

JAPAN, HIMEJI, MAY 29 2014. JAPANESE OIL TANKER EXPLODES, 1 MISSING AFTER EXPLOSION SPARKS FIRE ON OIL TANKER OFF JAPANESE COAST

yoko wakatsuki & jethro mullen

 **Watch the Video** [Explosion on Oil Tanker off Japan](#)

 **Photo's [2]** [Japanese Oil Tanker Explodes](#)

Key Points:

- Four crew members were seriously injured in the explosion near the port of Himeji
- The 64-year-old captain of the ship remains missing, authorities say
- The tanker wasn't loaded with oil when the blast hit, the coast guard says
- Ships and aircraft battled the blaze on the Shoko Maru, a 998-ton tanker



Clouds of black smoke billow from a Japanese oil tanker after it exploded.

An explosion on an oil tanker off the Japanese coast set off a huge fire Thursday and left the vessel's captain missing. Ships and aircraft battled the blaze on the Shoko Maru, a 998-ton tanker anchored about 5 kilometers (3 miles) off the port of Himeji in western Japan, the coast guard said. Rescuers have recovered seven members of the eight-person crew, the coast guard said, but the ship's 64-

year-old captain is still missing. Four of the rescued crew members were seriously injured in the blast, the Himeji fire department said, and all seven of them were taken to hospitals after arriving in the port, which is about 75 kilometers (45 miles) west of Osaka on the Seto Inland Sea. The tanker wasn't loaded when the blast went off Thursday morning, the coast guard said, reducing fears of a major environmental disaster. Video footage showed water cannons dousing the stricken ship as large black plumes of smoke rose from a blaze roaring inside its body. Later images showed the tanker scorched, smoldering and listing to one side. There was no immediate danger to other ships, as the tanker was located outside of the port facility, the coast guard said, adding that an exclusion zone was being set up around the damaged vessel. The coast guard said it was still investigating the cause the explosion on the ship, which belongs to Shoho Shopping Co. Ltd, a company based in Hiroshima, Japan.

Related Stories

- [Huge explosion on Japanese oil tanker](#)
- [Two explosions occur on tanker ship off Japan's coast](#)
- [Japan crude oil tanker explodes](#)
- [Japanese Oil Tanker Explosion: Captain Missing, 4 Crew Injured](#)
- [1 missing after explosion sparks fire on oil tanker off Japanese coast](#)

<http://edition.cnn.com/2014/05/28/world/asia/japan-tanker-explosion/>



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USA, ILL, EAST ALTON, MAY 28 2014. 2 WORKERS INJURED IN BLAST AT OLIN BRASS PLANT IN EAST ALTON

 **Watch the** Video [Incident at Olin Brass plant in East Alton](#)



Two workers at the [Olin Brass](#) plant in East Alton were injured around noon Tuesday in an explosion on the plant floor. The blast occurred in the casting facility, said Ann Pipkin, a spokeswoman for Olin Brass. One of the injured employees was transported by helicopter to a St. Louis hospital. That employee's condition was not immediately available. Another was taken to a hospital by ambulance and was treated and released. Pipkin said the cause of the blast has not been determined. Investigators from the federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration were on site after the explosion. A group of subcontractors who were parked on the plant lot said they felt the vibration from the blast. "There was a loud explosion, like a gun going off," said Cory Douglas, a member of a team from SET Environmental Inc., there to remove metal shavings from the plant. "I heard 'boom!'" Douglas said the blast was powerful

enough to send up a cloud of dust from the roof of the giant plant building. The company makes large rolls of brass sheet metal inside a hulking industrial shed off Route 3. The materials are used in a wide range of industries, from production of shell casings to auto parts. While brass for ammunition is manufactured at the site, finished shells are not made there and there's no gunpowder on the site, Pipkin said. The facility was formerly owned by ammunition manufacturer [Olin Corp.](#), but it was sold in 2007 to [Global Brass and Copper Holdings Inc.](#) The plant employs about 1,000 workers. Emergency personnel from the company's own in-house fire department worked with first responders from the East Alton Fire Department at the scene. Firefighters from East Alton declined to comment.

http://www.stltoday.com/news/local/illinois/workers-injured-in-blast-at-olin-brass-plant-in-east/article_02704cff-4cab-58d8-9446-a323a47dea98.html

USA, W,VA, CHARLESTON, MAY 29 2014. WVDEP ASKING TANK OWNERS TO REGISTER ONLINE

mandi cardosi



west virginia department of environmental protection

The West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is asking tank owners to take steps to register their above ground storage tanks online. The DEP is asking tank owners who aren't already signed up for online registration to do so immediately. Last week, DEP officials told the West Virginia Legislature there would be a website explaining the rule making process for Senate Bill 373 — as well as a place for tank owners to register online. "The cooperation of tank owners is essential in making this very detailed and very important registration process go as smoothly and as quickly as possible," said DEP Cabinet Secretary

Randy Huffman. "Working together is the only way we can achieve the monumental task of getting all above ground storage tanks registered, which is the first step in setting up a regulatory framework to help minimize any future risks to public health, safety and peace of mind." The bill, which becomes law June 6, requires all above ground storage tanks located in the state that are large enough to hold at least 1,320 gallons of fluid, are in one place for more than 60 days and are 90 percent or more above ground to be registered with the DEP by Oct. 1. The registration process — which is anticipated to begin around June 10 — will include questions including tank size, contents, construction, age and location. Owners of tanks should visit DEP's website, dep.wv.gov/tanks, for a complete explanation of the new requirements and deadlines, information about how to obtain a user ID and other details about the registration process. This site also includes a survey to help tank owners determine if they actually do need to register and has links to useful information — such as frequently asked questions, nationally recognized standards for tanks, important dates related to the new program and public input received by the agency about the rules for the program. Because there are likely tens of thousands of tanks that will be affected, the DEP is working to revise its Electronic Permitting/Electronic Submission System (ESS) to accept tank registrations online so that the information collected can quickly and easily be stored and accessed. Tank owners who don't currently use the ESS system will need to sign up for a user ID in advance. In order to ensure that the Oct. 1 registration deadline can be met, tank owners are asked to request this ID as soon as possible because there is a stringent security documentation process involved to ensure that those registering



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are authorized by each company to do so. Companies that already use ESS for permit applications and/or discharge monitoring reporting can use their existing user IDs and passwords.

<http://www.statejournal.com/story/25629787/wvdep-asking-tank-owners-to-register-online>

AUSTRALIA, VICTORIA, GEELONG, MAY 29 2014. CONTRACTOR UGL AXES 30 JOBS AT SHELL'S GEELONG REFINERY

danny lannen



Thirty maintenance jobs at the Shell refinery have been made redundant.

Union leaders are preparing to fight for 30 maintenance jobs at Shell Geelong Refinery after an announcement of redundancies by contractor UGL. The company issued a statement on Wednesday confirming the losses and attributing them to completion of specific project work. "UGL can confirm that they did make approximately 30 employees redundant yesterday at the Geelong project, in line with scheduled project works concluding," the statement said. "Headcounts increase and decrease in line with project works which are more ad hoc than general maintenance works. "UGL continues to employ approximately 85 employees at the site." Australian Workers' Union state

secretary Ben Davis said he had started negotiations on the losses. "We're obviously in discussions with them about that and I think it will end up in Fair Work (Commission)," Mr Davis said. "If there are to be redundancies we'll negotiate with UGL and try to make sure there are as few as possible and that as much as possible they are voluntary." UGL shed 13 staff in September last year, citing loss of work after completion of a shutdown project. In July last year the Fair Work Commission directed striking UGL staff back to work after three-day strike action in response to enterprise bargaining agreement negotiations. In 2012 the company signed a 5½-year, \$200m deal to be the refinery's primary mechanical services contractor.

<http://www.geelongadvertiser.com.au/news/geelong/contractor-ugl-axes-30-jobs-at-shells-geelong-refinery/story-fnjuhovy-1226934855419>

ENGLAND, CUMBRIA, LANGWATHBY, MAY 29 2014. CUMBRIA OIL FIRM FINED THOUSANDS AFTER WORKER FALLS FROM TANKER

A Cumbria oil company has appeared in court for safety breaches after an employee fell from the top of a tanker. Carrs Billington Agriculture Ltd, which trades as Wallace Oils, was prosecuted by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) following the incident at its depot in Langwathby on November 12, 2012. Carlisle Magistrates' Court heard how David Strong, 39, from Carlisle, had returned to the depot following his morning delivery run and climbed onto the top of the tanker, which had no guard rail, to use a dipstick to check the remaining fuel level. As he did so, he lost his balance and fell over three metres to the concrete floor below suffering a broken arm. Equipment was in place to allow drivers to empty any remaining fuel from the tanker before refilling it. But the HSE investigation found it had become common practice for drivers at this small depot to climb onto vehicles to check the fuel levels as there was no gauge on the side of the tank and it was easier than emptying the tanker. The court was told that Carrs Billington Agriculture Ltd failed to properly assess the risk that employees would check the fuel in this way, and so failed to provide instructions on how to carry out the work safely. Mr Strong had been trained to use dipsticks by another driver at the depot and no one had ever told him not to use this method. The company has since made clear in its procedures and training that any remaining fuel is emptied from the tankers when they return to the depot before they are refilled. Carrs Billington Agriculture Ltd, of Stanwix in Carlisle, was fined £9,330 and ordered to pay £360 in costs after pleading guilty to a breach of the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999. Speaking after the hearing, HSE Inspector Matthew Tinsley said: "A worker at Wallace Oils could easily have suffered fatal injuries because the company failed to make sure its employees were safe. "The risk of falling from the top of tankers is well-known in the industry. Despite this, the company's failure to assess the risks resulted in workers regularly climbing onto the top of vehicles to check fuel levels before refilling. "There were several other ways this work could have been carried out safely, the simplest being emptying the tank first so workers always started with an empty tank. If this working practice had been captured in the company's procedures and drivers had been adequately instructed and trained at the time of the incident then the employee's injuries could have been avoided."

<http://www.nwemail.co.uk/news/cumbria-oil-firm-fined-thousands-after-worker-falls-from-tanker-1.1139081>

USA, MI, YPSILANTI TWP, MAY 29 2014. 6-YEAR-OLD BOY'S FACE BURNED FROM GASOLINE FIRE



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A fire destroyed this Ypsilanti Township home Monday.

A 6-year-old boy's face was accidentally burned Monday, May 26, after another boy he was with tossed gasoline onto a fire he was by. He was transported to the hospital for burn treatment, according to the Washtenaw County Sheriff's Office. Derrick Jackson, director of community engagement for the sheriff's office, said two sets of brothers, including two 9 year olds and an 8-year-old in addition to the youngest boy, found a gas can in their neighborhood and walked a few doors down to Kaiser Elementary School. They took some matches and began setting things on fire behind the school, he said. He said while they were gathered around, one of the boys tossed gasoline onto the fire and it burst up while the 6-year-old was closest. Captain Tom Stachlewitz, Ypsilanti Township Fire Department, said firefighters responded to a call for an injury at about 12:35 p.m. Monday, May 26, in the 500 block of Eugene Avenue. Although unable to

release any details about the patient or his condition, Stachlewitz said firefighters did help transport the patient to the University of Michigan Mott Children's Hospital in Ann Arbor for treatment. Jackson said the 6-year-old's mother, from the initial call for emergency services, said her son was burned by the other boys. However, he said the investigation by the sheriff's office determined the burn was accidental. No arrests have been made in connection to this case.

http://www.heritage.com/articles/2014/05/30/ypsilanti_courier/news/doc538494be77dfd768209672.txt

ENGLAND, BRISTOL, MAY 29 2014. PETROL TANKER AND LORRY COLLIDE IN AVONMOUTH >> FIREFIGHTERS CUT THE LORRY DRIVER FREE

A lorry and a tanker collided in Avonmouth, leaving a 55-year-old man in hospital with eye injuries. The crash happened at 6.28pm last night, in St Andrews Road in Avonmouth. A HGV collided with an articulated tanker lorry. The driver of the petrol lorry was unharmed, and had got himself out of his vehicle by the time fire services arrived on the scene. But the driver of the HGV was stuck inside the lorry, and firefighters used a staging platform to free him. He was taken to hospital with neck and eye injuries. Fire engines from Avonmouth, Patchway, Western super Mare and Brislington attended.

<http://www.bristolpost.co.uk/Petrol-tanker-lorry-collide-Avonmouth/story-21151964-detail/story.html>

USA, LA, HOLLYWOOD, MAY 29 2014. NORTHBOUND LANES OF 101 FREEWAY REOPENED AFTER TANKER-TRAILER CRASH

A collision between a tanker-trailer and a car temporarily blocked three northbound lanes of the Hollywood (101) Freeway early this morning. The crash took place just north of Cahuenga Boulevard around 5:20 a.m., according to California Highway Patrol Officer Francisco Villalobos. The car, a Toyota, was left wedged under the tanker, which was carrying 8,800 gallons of gasoline at the time of the crash, according to Villalobos. But there was no report of any gasoline spill or injuries, he said. A SigAlert was declared at 5:37 a.m. today for the three northbound lanes. The lanes were cleared and the SigAlert cancelled at 6:12 a.m., Villalobos said.

<http://www.dailynews.com/general-news/20140528/northbound-lanes-of-101-freeway-reopened-after-tanker-trailer-crash>

INDIA, BANGALORE, MAY 29 2014. TANKER OVERTURNS ON ROAD, TRAFFIC COMES TO HALT



There was chaos on Sumanahalli Main Road for a couple of hours as a gas tanker overturned on Wednesday afternoon. According to the police, the tanker carrying highly inflammable liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) had been to a bunk to unload LPG. While reversing, one of its rear wheels hit a stone slab covering a stormwater drain, and the vehicle toppled on the road. The police said passersby ran helter-skelter as the vehicle fell, and traffic on the busy road came to a halt. The police rushed to the spot and ensured that the tanker valves were shut to prevent gas leakage. Two cranes were deployed to pull the tanker to the side of the road. A police official said traffic was diverted and the congestion on the road was cleared. No casualties were reported.

<http://www.deccanherald.com/content/410319/tanker-overturms-road-traffic-comes.html>



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USA, TX, PLEASANTON, MAY 29 2014. OIL TANK BATTERIES ENGULFED IN EARLYMORNING FIRE

chris filoteo

No injuries were reported after two storage batteries were engulfed in flames south of Pleasanton early Monday morning. "A witness working for the oil tank company said lighting hit the tank, which caused the fire to start," Pleasanton Fire Chief Chuck Garriss said. Around 4 a.m., Pleasanton and Jourdanton Volunteer Fire Departments were dispatched to Coughran near Williams Road off Interstate 37 outside of Pleasanton. The two batteries involved were not identical with one being a salt-water disposal tank while the other was an oil battery, according to Garriss. Crews on scene quickly evacuated the area while the blaze lit the earlymorning sky. "We were done after lunch time Monday," Garriss said. "It was more hazardous to clean up the fire rather than let it burn out as we decided." The salt-water disposal tank is owned by Belo Wiley while the oil tank is owned by Ron Rickaway. Garriss noted several hot spots lingered throughout the affected area, but later the embers died without any incident.

http://www.pleasantonexpress.com/news/2014-05-28/News/Oil_tank_batteries_engulfed_in_earlymorning_fire.html

ENGLAND, WALES, POWYS, BRECON, MAY 29 2014. DIESEL SPILL IN USK AND TARRELL RIVERS NEAR BRECON

The river Usk (pictured) is fed by the Tarrell



A diesel spill on the rivers Tarrell and Usk, near Brecon, Powys, has killed insects along a 2km (1.25 mile) stretch of water. Natural Resources Wales (NRW) said they were investigating how 150 litres of oil had been spilled into the river. Early investigations showed that no fish had been affected. A spokesman said: "We will be monitoring the river closely over the coming days and will take further action if necessary." The river Tarrell is a tributary of the Usk. NRW earlier reported that the spill had occurred in Monmouthshire.

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-wales-south-east-wales-27605571>

USA, WYO, SHERIDAN, MAY 29 2014. OIL SPILLS, BURNED OFF, IN POWDER RIVER BASIN

A significant oil spill in the Powder River Basin has been substantially cleaned up after a burning operation, but more work remains to be done, federal officials said. An estimated 25,000 gallons of oil spilled when a 6-inch pipeline sprang a leak May 19 about 45 miles southeast of Buffalo and 35 miles southeast of Gillette. [U.S. Bureau of Land Management](#) officials say the oil flowed more than two miles, but they put in a dam to hold the spill a couple miles short of the Powder River. [Clark Bennett](#) with the U.S. Bureau of Land Management in Buffalo said Tuesday that the burn happened Thursday and Friday. The bureau didn't notify the public about the spill because nobody was being affected, he told [The Sheridan Press](#) (<http://bit.ly/1mrkUBt>). The pipeline's owner, Casper-based [Belle Fourche Pipeline](#), burned off the oil because other cleanup options weren't practical. Company officials burned off the oil in segments, [Duane Spencer](#), the bureau's Buffalo Field Office manager, told [The Associated Press](#) on Wednesday. Bureau officials plan to meet again Friday with Belle Fourche Pipeline to discuss further cleanup. "We've asked them to prepare next steps for remediation," Spencer said. How the spill happened remains unknown. The pipeline was buried, and apparently nobody was working in the area when the spill occurred, Spencer said. The oil flowed in a narrow, ephemeral drainage, he said, and it was stopped just short of reaching private property. Part of the oil crossed state land, and the bureau has been talking with the Office of State Lands and Investments about the cleanup, Spencer said. Spilled crude oil tends to stay on the surface of the ground, and the oil doesn't present a threat to groundwater, bureau officials said.

<http://www.seattlepi.com/news/science/article/Oil-spills-burned-off-in-Powder-River-Basin-5510939.php>

USA, UT, GRAND CO, MAY 30 2014. REMEDIATION OF UTAH OIL SPILL CONTINUES IN GRAND COUNTY SPILL » ONLY A SMALL AMOUNT GOT INTO THE RIVER; CREWS NEED ANOTHER WEEK TO FINISH CLEANUP.

kristen moulton

 **Photo's [4]** [View photo gallery](#)

It likely will take crews another week to finish scraping oil-contaminated dirt and rocks from Salt Wash, a dry streambed on public land 12 miles south of Green River that was filled with thousands of barrels of an oil-water mix when an [oil well failed last week](#). Heavy rainfall Friday night breached the emergency dams erected to contain the oil, and a small amount flowed into the Green River, said an on-scene coordinator for the Environmental Protection Agency. Curtis Kimbel, from the EPA's Region



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8 office in Denver, said he arrived Saturday after crews had stopped the flow into the river. He was told by those working to contain the spill that only a small amount — a matter of gallons, rather than barrels — reached the river, which is running high with the spring runoff, he said. "The important thing is once it was discovered, modifications were put into place to make sure no more got into the river," Kimbel said Wednesday. "We're confident the material is now contained in the wash." Beth Ransel, Moab field manager for the Bureau of Land Management, said BLM technicians are inspecting the river banks, and the National Park Service plans to float the river to inspect it for any residue in the water or along the banks. While it's unknown how much oil made it into the river, she said, those on site believe it was small because there were only small pools of oil and oil-coated rocks left when the severe rains hit. The conclusion that only a small amount reached the river is being challenged by at least one area resident, Jim Collar, a software developer based in Moab who was camping on the rim above the Green River Friday night. Collar shot photos of what he and his friends believe was oil film from the rim of Labyrinth Canyon at the Bow Knot, a famous bend on the Green River. "On Saturday morning when I got up, I took my camera to the canyon rim to take some pictures. I was startled to find this oil sheen on the river," which was about 1,000 feet below, he said. "It was very visible. It was river wide, wall to wall. It was there when we left the next day."

Related Stories [Blowout was firm's second spill from old well near Green River](http://www.sltrib.com/sltrib/news/57998688-78/oil-river-green-wash.html.csp)

<http://www.sltrib.com/sltrib/news/57998688-78/oil-river-green-wash.html.csp>

USA, MN, MORA, MAY 30 2014. MORA MUNICIPAL AIRPORT FUEL LEAK FIXED

kirsten faurie



Out of Order: A leak between the fuel tank and the pump made 100LL aviation fuel temporarily unavailable at the Mora airport. The leak was repaired and fuel was again available to pilots May 23.

The Mora Municipal Airport's 100 Low-Lead aviation fuel is back in service after a leak in the fuel line made the fuel temporarily unavailable. Crews worked May 21 and 22 to repair the leak. The fuel pump was back in service Friday, just in time for Memorial Day weekend. While the cause of the leak is not known for certain, city administrator Joel Dhein said they suspect the fuel line between the tank and the pump was struck by an auger when installing bollards around the tanks. The leak caused an estimated 2,100 gallons of fuel to spill into the surrounding ground over the course of several months. The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency is working with the city to investigate the impact of the spill and develop steps to address the contamination. This investigation could take six

months or more to complete.

http://www.presspubs.com/kanabec/news/article_f09f139a-e69b-11e3-9c91-001a4bcf887a.html

SINGAPORE, MAY 30 2014. OIL SPILL INCIDENTS CAUSED BY HUMAN ERROR AND POOR JUDGMENT: MPA



A general view of the Straits of Singapore. Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore announces disciplinary action and new safety measures after a probe into three oil spill incidents.

The Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA) announced on Thursday (May 29) that human error and poor judgement were the main causes of three collisions which resulted in oil spills in the Republic's port waters and the Singapore Strait early this year. In addition, MPA says there was lack of situational awareness on the part of the bridge teams of the vessels, including the pilots. This is despite MPA's Port Operations Control Centre giving them advisories and warnings of the traffic situation. MPA found that the bridge teams did not make use of things like the Automatic Identification System (AIS)

or Electronic Chart Display and Information System (ECDIS) to avoid the collisions. Disciplinary action will be taken against members of the bridge teams. In the wake of these incidents, a Safety Review Committee was formed to review the overall system of navigational safety in the waters. The panel included experts from the MPA, the Ministry of Transport, local academics, and representatives from the shipping industry. The committee found no significant increase in the number of incidents in Singapore's waters between 2007 and 2013. Over the last few years, the number of incidents averaged between 0.012 and 0.016 per 1,000 vessel movements in port waters and the Singapore Strait respectively. Still, to further enhance



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navigational safety, the committee recommended that a stronger culture of safety awareness be instilled. It also called for enhancement of communication and information sharing between pilots and ship masters, and for more active advisories to be provided to vessels navigating high-risk areas. MPA will form two working groups to implement the measures, and will soon launch a safety campaign with the shipping community. Said MPA Chief Executive, Mr Andrew Tan: "MPA places a strong emphasis on the safety of navigation and takes a serious view of any incidents in Singapore waters. Moving forward, we will work more closely with all our industry partners to review our safety management procedures and implement additional measures to enhance navigational safety. We will also not hesitate to take appropriate actions against those who infringe our safety regulations."

<http://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/singapore/oil-spill-incidents/1127464.html>

USA, OK, BLAINE CO, GEARY, MAY 30 2014. ONE DEAD AFTER TANKER TRUCKS COLLIDE NEAR GEARY

matthew nuttle

 **Photo's [3]** [1 Dead after Tanker Trucks Collide](#)



One person was killed in a fiery crash involving two tanker trucks, just north of the town of Geary in Blaine County, Thursday afternoon. Crews were called to the scene on state highway 270, just after noon. A witness in the area reported hearing an explosion at the same time of the accident. Large black plumes of smoke could be seen billowing out of the burning wreckage of the tankers for miles. OHP closed both the north and southbound lanes of the highway while firefighters worked to contain the blaze. Fire crews out of Greenfield, Geary, Calumet and Weatherford responded to the scene. The wreck involved two tanker trucks, one hauling crude oil the other hauling citric acid. One driver was killed in the crash. The other escaped with minor injuries. Neither driver has

been identified at this time. A large amount of oil leaked from the vehicles and pooled on the shoulder area of the highway. There have been no reports of environmental hazards at this time. The cause of the crash has not been determined at this time.

<http://www.newson6.com/story/25643234/multi-vehicle-crash-involving-tanker-reported-near-geary>

USA, ID, POCATELLO, MAY 30 2014. TANK VESSEL HAD JUST LEFT FOR TRANSPORT WHEN IT ENDED UP IN CAR LOT

michael h. o'donnell

 **Photo's [5]** [Malfunction Sends Large Load into Pocatello Car Dealership](#)



A 140-foot long tank being hauled by a push-pull semi-trailer after leaving Eaton Metal Products off Pole Line Road didn't get very far Thursday morning before the 280,000 pound vessel ended up partially in the car lot of Phil Meador Toyota on Yellowstone Avenue. After an axle at the rear of the rig apparently broke about 11:40 a.m., the load on the southbound rig slid sideways, obliterated a large sign in front of Computer Warehouse and smashed five vehicles — including three new ones — at the Toyota dealership. No one was injured, but traffic on Yellowstone Avenue from Flandro Drive to Pearl Street was restricted to two lanes most of the day. The large tank vessel was being transported by Energy Transportation, Inc. out of Casper, Wyo. At least one large crane was dispatched to the scene to get the large tank removed from the roadway and car dealership, but it was not scheduled to arrive until Thursday evening. Jason Meador said a new yellow Toyota Prius was knocked about 10 feet the air by the impact with the large load. That Prius and a Toyota Avalon and Corolla were the

new vehicles heavily damaged by the wreck. Also sustaining serious damage were a used Dodge Ram pickup and Dodge Nitro. "I was glad nobody was hurt," Meador said. "I'm glad nobody was over there looking at a car." Meador was at his Courtesy Ford Dealership on Flandro Drive when he received a call about the accident. It was the fourth time in two years that automobile dealerships owned by the Meadors have been the victim of vehicle damage. Last summer Meador's dealership had new cars located on the south end of the expansive Ford dealership lot damaged by a driver who suffered a heart attack.



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Then an alleged drunk driver slammed his vehicle into seven new cars parked on the north end of the lot. When Pocatello experienced floods last August, five to seven cars in the Ford lot suffered water damage when most of the dealership's lot was under about two feet of water. "We still have the same insurance company," Meador said about Thursday's wreck. However, Meador said he was confident that the company hauling the large load had adequate liability insurance. Idaho State Police and Bannock County deputies were on the scene assisting Pocatello police Thursday.

http://www.idahostatejournal.com/news/local/vessel-had-just-left-for-transport-when-it-ended-up/article_53b6a96e-e75c-11e3-aa9d-001a4bcf887a.html?mode=image&photo=1

USA, WA, RICHLAND, MAY 30 2014. 6 HANFORD WORKERS REPORT SMELLING VAPORS

Six workers at the Hanford Nuclear Reservation are receiving medical evaluations after they reported smelling chemical vapors at two underground storage tank farms. [Washington River Protection Solutions](http://www.washingtonriverprotection.com), which operates the underground tanks at Hanford, says five of the workers reported symptoms typically related to chemical vapor exposure. The sixth also wanted to be evaluated. The employees were working Thursday in or near Hanford's AP and SY Tank Farms when the vapors were reported. All workers immediately exited the area. Hanford officials are taking samples and checking for possible sources of the vapors. There have been numerous incidents in recent months when Hanford workers have reported smelling chemical vapors while working in the tank farms. The tanks contain radioactive wastes left over from the production of plutonium for nuclear weapons.

<http://www.seattlepi.com/news/us/article/6-nuclear-dump-workers-report-smelling-vapors-5514121.php>

NAMIBIA, WALVIS BAY, MAY 30 2014. COMPANY EXPLAINS PROPOSED DANGEROUS STORAGE

edgar brandt



Native Storage Facility says it will not be importing toxic or radioactive waste to store in the country, but will be storing items classified as dangerous materials on behalf of clients who are already shipping such items through Walvis Bay harbour. Dangerous goods range from explosives, small arms and ammunition to ammonium nitrate and uranium oxide, all which are transported through the port on a monthly basis. "What we propose storing at this facility is dangerous goods that are already in the town, and thereby we will actually make the town much safer. We have never stated that we want to store waste. We have nothing to do with waste, which is not allowed to be stored in such a facility. Waste is usually a very volatile substance and the moment you start moving waste you are creating a much more hazardous environment," Managing Member of Native Storage Facility, Thomas Jonas, explained to New Era. The

company proposes making use of the old disused military bunker outside Walvis Bay. The use of the old military bunker from the then South African Defence Force before Namibian independence would merely be a temporary measure. The company has applied for the use of 10 hectares of land at Farm 58, behind Dune 7, for the long-term solution for the storage of dangerous goods. The Walvis Bay Municipality confirmed that Native Storage Facility made a presentation on the proposed project to the town council this week. However, the municipality spokesman, Kevin Adams, was tight-lipped on the official position of the council. "In the beginning the council advised the company to follow proper procedures, such as consultation with the broader public and they have started with this process," said Adams, adding that the council would inform Native Storage of its official position within the next week or two. The Namibia Ports Authority (Namport) also said it is not engaged in the illegal handling and storage of dangerous goods, or radioactive material of spent nuclear cartridges and plutonium as well as explosives. Said Namport Chief Executive Officer, Bisey /Uirab: "However, Namibian ports like any other port across the globe serves as a conduit to receive and handle various types of cargo, including dangerous cargo." He added that "incompatible dangerous goods stored at Namibian ports are stored as per the International Maritime Dangerous Goods Code (IMDG Code) segregation table. Special cargo, such as radio active material, explosives and infectious substances are not allowed to be discharged during night time and may not be stored in our ports. This means the cargo must be removed from our ports the same day that it is landed. For example, an application for the importation of arms and ammunition or explosives must be accompanied by a valid import permit issued by the Namibian Police and must be escorted under police escort from our ports to its final destination or in case of transit cargo to the border of the next country." Since Namport's inception in 1994, no nuclear waste or any other form of radioactive goods have been landed at Namibian ports. "The only exception is the



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export of uranium oxide (yellow cake from Namibian uranium mines). Due to the low radiation levels, this cargo is allowed a maximum of three days' storage in the port before shipment. Pre- and post-radiation readings are taken for every shipment to ensure that naturally occurring background radiation levels are not exceeded," he explained. /Uirab also said Namport has no direct or indirect interest in the establishment of a hazardous cargo facility intended to be erected by Native Venture Holdings. "We do, however, recognize that the establishment of such a facility may have positive spinoffs for the country. Our engagement with Native Venture Holdings dates back to 2012 and we have constantly been updated with the progress made with regards to the project. Namport has issued a letter of support for the project on condition that Native Venture Holdings obtains all the necessary statutory approvals and source their own business," remarked /Uirab. Some of the residents of Narraville, which is situated about 800 metres from the old bunker, yesterday told New Era they are particularly concerned about the storage of nuclear or dangerous waste in such close proximity to where they live. "We do not have a problem with other materials, but we have a problem with the storage of radioactive materials," said concerned resident Stan Baumann.

<http://webcache.googleusercontent.com/search?q=cache:http://www.newera.com.na/2014/05/30/company-explains-proposed-dangerous-storage/>

CANADA, N.S, HALIFAX, MAY 30 2014. DIESEL SPILL AT METRO TRANSIT GARAGE KEEPS CLEAN-UP CREWS BUSY >> OFFICIALS TRYING TO TRACK SOURCE OF LEAK

brett bundale



Clean-up crews are tracking the source of a diesel leak at the Metro Transit garage in Dartmouth.

A substantial diesel spill at a Metro Transit garage in Dartmouth continues Thursday as clean-up crews work to identify the source of the leak. A site remediation team at the fleet maintenance facility in Burnside has dug a number of recovery wells and is pumping a mixture of diesel and water out of the ground twice a day, a provincial Environment Department spokeswoman said. "Berms were put down to prevent any more product from entering the environment or leaving the property," Lori Errington said. "There is no imminent threat to the environment or health." She said groundwater in the area has not been affected

as most of the diesel is expected to have entered drainage ditches and culverts. The source of the leak is still unknown, although clean up crews suspect the spill is related to the underground fueling system. However, it remains unclear how long the leak has been going on and how much diesel has seeped underground. The Environment Department was first notified of an oily sheen in a ditch along Highway 111 on April 10th. Around the same time a car dealership on Windmill Road, roughly a kilometre away from the transit facility, reported diesel in the area. Metro Transit notified the Environment Department of a diesel spill on April 17. "We advised them on what they have to do as property owners," Errington said. "They hired a site professional to look at where the spill has gone, what needs to be done to stop it and clean it up. They've done everything according to regulations at Metro Transit." Still, the public was not notified of the spill and instead learned of the diesel leak after clean up crews were noticed at the Burnside garage.

<http://thechronicleherald.ca/metro/1210909-diesel-spill-at-metro-transit-garage-keeps-clean-up-crews-busy>

USA, LA, GARYVILLE, MAY 30 2014. RESIDENTS ALLOWED TO RETURN HOME AFTER WASHINGTON COUNTY GAS REFINERY LEAK

 [Watch the Video Tornado Damages Oil Refinery](#)

Lightning hit a gas refinery plant in Washington County this evening, and an ensuing fire caused a leak of product that formed a plume over the plant, county 911 operations manager Ken Bollinger said. Residents in a 2-mile area were evacuated, but were allowed to return to their homes around 9:40 p.m. Shortly after 6 p.m., a worker at the MarkWest Energy Partners refinery, 800 Western Ave. in Chartiers Township, called 911 to report the lightning strike and fire, which was quickly extinguished, Mr. Bollinger said. "It appears there may have been some product leaking into the atmosphere," he said. Neighbors reported seeing a plume over the refinery. MarkWest spokesman Robert McHale, who was on the scene said there were 15 employees on site at time of lightning strike. All employees and contractors have been accounted for and no injuries have been reported, according to Mr. Bollinger and Mr. McHale. The plant will remain shut down until a thorough inspection has been completed, Mr. McHale said in a statement. Company officials did not immediately identify the substance or substances that composed the plume observed over the plant. The county Department of Public Safety's hazardous materials



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team is on site monitoring air quality and "anything in the atmosphere," Mr. Bollinger said. Public safety director Jeffrey Yates is also on-scene. Homes near the plant were evacuated. A bus company helped transport residents north of the plant to the Mt. Pleasant Township Volunteer Fire Company in Hickory and those south of the plant to the Charters Volunteer Fire Hall in Houston. Mr. Bollinger said he was unsure how many people had been evacuated. The Houston Borough Volunteer Fire Department started evacuating homes closest to the plant and "moved outward until they felt the plume had dissipated," he said. About 50 people gathered at the Charters fire hall late Wednesday. Four tables in the humid hall were surrounded by metal folding chairs filled with chatty neighbors. Lap dogs rested on their owners' legs. Plastic cups were filled with lemonade and water provided by the Salvation Army. Among the group, Anthony Mankey, who lives about a mile from the refinery, sat with his wife, Linell, and children, Carolyn, 11, and Jacob, 9. He said he's thought about moving and has had concerns about the refinery before, having heard "strange noises and loud bangs," as he did tonight. "You could hear the roar from the processing plant," he said.

<http://www.post-gazette.com/local/washington/2014/05/28/Residents-evacuated-after-Washington-County-gas-refinery-leak/stories/201405280210>

USA, IN, INDIANAPOLIS, MAY 30 2014. FUEL VAPORS CAUSED FIRE AT GRAHAM'S AUTO REPAIR



The Indianapolis Fire Department released more information about a fire on Tuesday evening. The fire broke out shortly after 7 p.m. at Graham's Auto Repair on 21st and Emerson. Daniel Graham the owner of the shop was working on a fuel tank. A witness said they heard a pop and the fuel vapors caught fire. The fire spread quickly to Graham's clothing while he was running out of the building. His employee Anthony Beverly removed Graham's shirt. They were both able to exit the building. The fire spread quickly through the building causing \$50,000 in damages. An adjoining business received minor fire and smoke damage. It was not clear how the vapors ignited. Graham remains in critical condition at Eskenazi Hospital. An updated condition of Beverly was not released, but he was taken to the hospital with minor injuries on Tuesday night. The fire was ruled as accidental.

<http://wishtv.com/2014/05/28/fuel-vapors-caused-fire-at-grahams-auto-repair/>

USA, TX, ATENS, MAY 30 2014. BIG FIRE DESTROYS FERTILIZER STORAGE FACILITY IN ATHENS SOUTHEAST OF DALLAS

julie fancher & jon mcclure

 [Watch the Video Big Fire Destroys Fertilizer Storage Facility](#)

[Map: Ammonium nitrate storage facilities in Texas](#)

 [Photo's Fire at Athens, TX fertilizer storage facility](#)



A large fire Thursday evening destroyed an East Texas facility that reportedly stored ammonium nitrate, the same fertilizer that ignited a deadly explosion in the town of West last year. The fire was reported about 5:45 p.m. at East Texas Ag Supply in downtown Athens, about 70 miles southeast of Dallas. Police said there was no explosion, and no injuries had been reported late Thursday. First-responders evacuated about 350 people within a five-block radius of the fire, Athens Mayor Jerry Don Vaught said. Three shelters were set up for the affected residents. The cause of the fire is unknown, Vaught said. The building, which has been around for more than 50 years, has always stored fertilizer, he said.

The fire appeared to have largely burned itself out within a couple of hours, but it continued to smolder late Thursday. Vaught said firefighters, who were evaluating the fire from a distance to ensure safety, were going to continue to let it burn. The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality will be testing the air before residents will be allowed to return. Vaught praised first-responders for their efforts. "There was a lot of training after what happened in West to prepare firefighters and the police department," he said. "They were very well prepared and knew where to start. I was doing a lot of praying and the Lord above took care of us today." The building was engulfed in flames when firefighters arrived,



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Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network Release 2014 – 1,074 Newsy Stuff

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

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The Athens Daily Review reported. "The fire was at such a level when the Athens Fire Department got on the scene, there was nothing to do but to back off," County Judge Richard Sanders, who serves as Henderson County's emergency management director, told the Daily Review. Aerial footage showed that the 60-foot column of flames had reduced the facility to little more than a smoking ruin framed by charred walls. Athens resident Charles Rose, 59, said he was frustrated by the lack of information Thursday night. "They're not telling us anything," Rose said. "First they told us it was a restaurant that was on fire. Then they told us it was the fertilizer plant." Rose, a diabetic, was not allowed to get his medicine. It was in his 18-wheeler, which was parked in the evacuated area. He was told to go to an emergency room. "Why should I pay the money for that?" he said. Rose said he was concerned about the air quality following the fire. He said he could smell a foul odor. "It wasn't strong, but you could tell it was there," he said. WFAA-TV (Channel 8) reported that this wasn't the facility's first experience with fire. In November, a restaurant across a narrow street from the building caught fire. The facility wasn't damaged, but firefighters struggled to gain control over flames at the restaurant, which was destroyed. Ammonium nitrate is the chemical that exploded in West in April 2013. That blast killed 15 people, including a dozen first responders, and injured hundreds of others. After the West explosion, officials in Athens took a closer look at East Texas Ag Supply, which is three blocks from the Henderson County Courthouse, the Daily Review reported. The building that housed the operation was made of cinder blocks. The Athens fire chief told the Daily Review that the plant keeps ammonium nitrate on hand but that it typically is shipped out within a few days. He said last June that he planned to do a site inspection, the newspaper reported. It's unclear whether that occurred. "Our greatest tool is prevention," he said. "The best thing we can do is keep something from happening." After the West explosion, Texas state Fire Marshal Chris Connealy scheduled meetings with officials in 68 Texas counties about the dangers of ammonium nitrate. One of the meetings was in Athens in March. The meetings are being conducted in counties with significant quantities of ammonium nitrate. In Athens, a fenced fertilizer facility, El Dorado Chemical, is across the street from a middle school. "It is a concern of ours. I wish the school and the fertilizer facility were not in such close proximity, but I can't change that fact," said Blake Stiles, Athens' school superintendent. Athens ISD has updated its evacuation plan since the West blast, he added. The El Dorado Chemical Co. also stores ammonium nitrate, but that complex is about three miles south of the facility that burned Thursday. El Dorado Chemical reported having anywhere from 50 to 500 tons of ammonium nitrate in 2012, according to a recent chemical inventory filing with the Texas Department of State Health Services.

<http://www.dallasnews.com/news/metro/20140530-big-fire-destroys-fertilizer-storage-facility-in-athens-southeast-of-dallas.ece>

USA, N.D, BISMARCK, MAY 31 2014. COW BLAMED FOR CAUSING SPILL IN OIL PATCH



A cow is suspected of causing a spill of natural gas liquids near a tributary of the Little Missouri River, prompting North Dakota regulators to warn energy companies to ensure their facilities are bovine-proof. State Environmental Health Chief Dave Glatt said Thursday that a cow might have rubbed against a tank valve two days earlier, spilling about 20 barrels of natural gas condensate near Sully Creek, south of Medora in western North Dakota. Condensate is a byproduct of natural gas production. The state Health Department said the site is owned by a subsidiary of Oneok Inc., based in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Glatt said cleanup is underway and absorbent booms have been placed in Sully Creek as a precaution. The company did not immediately return calls seeking comment Thursday. Glatt said the cow was either curious or had an itch that needed scratching. "They just get rubbing along those valves and they open up," Glatt

said. "Sometimes they need to scratch their backs and they open those valves." A similar spill that was blamed on a cow happened a few years ago, though Glatt did not immediately recall the details. "I do know that this isn't the first time it's happened," Glatt said. Energy companies have been told about securing the valves in the past and are now being warned again, Glatt said. "They need to make sure their valves are locked," Glatt said. "They should kind of already know that because it can create issues for them." Glatt, who has relatives who ranch in North Dakota, is no stranger to cattle. He said cows have been known to have a taste for petroleum products. "They like oil and they eat that stuff up," said Glatt, who joked that the offending cow might have had such a craving and opened the valve intentionally. "Sometimes they can be the dumbest animals in the world and sometimes you kind of wonder," he said.

<http://fuelfix.com/blog/2014/05/29/cow-blamed-for-causing-spill-in-oil-patch/>



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