



Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network Release 2014 – 1,048 Newsy Stuff

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

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AUSTRALIA, QUEENSLAND, DALBY, FEBRUARY 21 2014. TEMPORARY CLOSE FOR UNITED PETROL QUEENSLAND BIOFUEL PLANT



Map: [Dalby, Queensland](#)



Hear at: [Audio: Low demand for biofuel closes plant temporarily \(ABC Rural\)](#)



Sorghum is used for biofuel production.

A southern Queensland bio-refinery has been temporarily closed due to a lack of demand for fuel-grade ethanol, according to the company's chief operating officer. The United Petroleum facility buys locally-grown sorghum and processes it into ethanol to create E10 fuel. However, a recent Bureau of Recourse and Energy Economics (BREE) report found the ethanol subsidy scheme has produced few economic, environmental or consumer benefits, fuelling speculation it might be on the chopping block. United Petroleum's David Szymczak is calling on more support from the state and federal governments. "Demand for fuel-grade ethanol has dropped quite markedly because the major oil companies do not want to sell fuel grade ethanol because they do not manufacture it." Mr Szymczak says the Queensland Government has not

provided the biofuel industry with as much support as its New South Wales counterpart. "The NSW Government have been a big supporter. They have a mandate in place of 6 per cent," he said. "However, they've failed to be able to have the oil companies comply with the legislation and at the moment the percentage use is around about 3.1 per cent in NSW. "We call for the Queensland Government to introduce a small mandate to support the industry and encourage the renewable fuel in biofuel." No jobs have been lost at United Petroleum at this stage. However, workers are taking annual leave. And the biofuel plant has support from AgForce grains president Wayne Newton, who says the facility has played a crucial role in supporting the grain industry by putting a base in the market. "From the state level, we'd really like to see a mandate introduced for ethanol. "The NSW government had the courage to do this. It is actually Queensland LNP policy that they do have a mandate for ethanol and biofuels in Queensland, and yet the current government doesn't seem to have the courage to take it forward." Federal Industry Minister Ian Macfarlane responded with a statement saying that, while the Federal Government recognises the Ethanol Production Grants program has played a part in the development of the ethanol industry in Australia, all government programs will be assessed as part of the budget process. The Government will also take into consideration the details of the BREE report. Queensland Energy and Water Supply Minister Mark McArdle says the Federal Government's existing 38 cents per litre fuel excise is a substantial benefit and incentive for domestic ethanol producers and suppliers and is a more effective tool than mandated ethanol-blended fuel requirements. The Newman Government is committed to help businesses in the agriculture sector to diversify and create additional income streams, such as the production of biofuels. This was demonstrated by a funding boost of \$4.6 million over four years to support research and development in Queensland's sugar industry in 2012.

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2014-02-20/ethanol-plant-closed/5272506>

USA MA, SOUTHWICK, FEBRUARY 21 2014. DROP-LIGHT FALLING IN GASOLINE CAUSED SOUTHWICK FIRE >> THE TWO-CAR GARAGE WAS FULLY ENGULFED IN FLAMES

 **Watch the Video** [Drop-Light Falling into Gasoline causes Fire](#)

Southwick firefighters kept flames from spreading to the house, but there was no saving the garage, the snowmobiles and other items inside. Southwick Fire Chief Rick Anderson told 22News a resident of 16 College Highway was working on a snowmobile in the garage Wednesday afternoon, when a drop-light fell into a bucket of gasoline and exploded. The homeowner suffered some minor burns on his face, but was able to get out. Chief Anderson said the two-car garage was fully engulfed in flames when firefighters arrived at about 4:20 p.m. Wednesday. The garage was connected to the house by an enclosed porch, but the fire crews prevented the flames from reaching the house. "The stopped it. Pushed it back," said Chief Anderson. "There was some minor smoke damage in the house, but it's liveable. They're staying there tonight." Two adults live in the house. The entire garage roof collapsed. The chief said there was propane, acetylene and gasoline containers in the garage and his men poured water on them, keeping them cool. There were also two large propane tanks outside, right beneath a burnt-out window next to the rear exterior wall. "We were very lucky," said Anderson. The chief said EMTs treated the victim for his burns, but he didn't go to the hospital. Two snowmobiles were lost in the fire.

<http://www1p.com/2014/02/19/southwick-garage-destroyed-by-fire/>



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JAPAN, TOKYO, FEBRUARY 21 2014. WORST SPILL IN 6 MONTHS IS REPORTED AT FUKUSHIMA

martin fackler



The Tokyo Electric Power Company said it had traced the latest leak to a pair of valves that were left open by mistake.

About 100 tons of highly radioactive water leaked from one of the hundreds of storage tanks at the devastated Fukushima nuclear plant, its operator said Thursday, calling the leak the worst spill at the plant in six months. The operator, the Tokyo Electric Power Company, said the leak, discovered on Wednesday and stopped on Thursday, happened far enough from the plant's waterfront that none of the radioactive water was likely to reach the Pacific Ocean, as has happened during some previous spills. Still, the leak was an uncomfortable reminder of the many mishaps that have plagued the containment and cleanup efforts at the plant, as well as the hundreds of tons of contaminated groundwater that still flow unchecked into the Pacific every day. The company, known as Tepco, said it had traced the latest leak to a pair of valves that were left open by

mistake. The leaked water was among the most severely contaminated that Tepco has reported in the aftermath of the March 2011 disaster at the Fukushima Daiichi plant, when damage caused by an earthquake and a tsunami led to meltdowns in three of the plant's reactors. Each liter of the water contained, on average, 230 million becquerels of particles giving off beta radiation, the company said. About half of the particles were likely to be strontium 90, which is readily taken up by the human body in the same way that calcium is, and can cause bone cancer and leukemia. That means the water was about 3.8 million times as contaminated with strontium 90 as the maximum allowed under Japan's safety standards for drinking water. It also showed levels much more radioactive than a worrisome groundwater reading that Tepco announced earlier this month. That reading — five million becquerels of strontium 90 per liter — which was detected at a location closer to the ocean than the latest spill, prompted criticism of Tepco because the company waited five months to report it publicly. Critics have assailed the company since the accident, saying that it has been slow to acknowledge problems at the stricken plant and that it has disclosed too little information about the conditions inside. Even so, the government has left the company largely in charge of the cleanup work there. Tepco has struggled to deal with the hundreds of tons of groundwater seeping each day into the plant's damaged reactor buildings, where it is contaminated by the melted nuclear reactor cores. To keep the radioactive water from running into the Pacific, the company must pump it out of the reactor buildings and store it in rows of huge tanks it has erected on the plant's grounds. So far, Tepco said, about 340,000 tons of water have accumulated in the tanks, enough to fill more than 135 Olympic-size swimming pools. A ton of water is equivalent to about 240 gallons

http://www.nytimes.com/2014/02/21/world/asia/worst-spill-in-6-months-at-fukushima.html?_r=0

USA, N.C, MOREHEAD CITY, FEBRUARY 21 2014. CREWS INVESTIGATE FUEL LEAK



Gas leak investigated: Environmental cleanup crews investigate an underground fuel tank leak Thursday at the Handy Mart at 3806 Arendell St. in Morehead City.

Environmental cleanup crews were here Thursday investigating an underground fuel tank leak at a convenience store. The Handy Mart at 3806 Arendell St. was closed earlier this week after the fire department was called to investigate a suspected leak from an underground fuel storage tank. A worker with Containment Solutions Services of Mount Union, Pa., said the precise location of the leak hadn't been pinpointed Thursday, but he confirmed the source was an underground fuel tank. Concrete had been removed from the parking lot in the vicinity of the manhole covers that provide access to the inside of the underground fuel tanks and a pumper-tanker truck from Zebra Environmental

Services of High Point was on hand to empty the tank, but workers had not yet entered the tank to inspect. The city fire department initially responded Monday to a complaint of a strange odor at the business. They investigated and identified the underground tank as the likely source, according to Fire Chief Jamie Fulk. Chief Fulk said the business will be closed until the problem can be mitigated.

http://www.carolinacoastonline.com/news_times/news/article_e9b40828-9a57-11e3-9bde-0019bb2963f4.html



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USA, N.C. WINSTON-SALEM, FEBRUARY 21 2014. FUEL TANKER JACKKNIFES, TILTS IN WINSTON-SALEM

 **Watch the Video** [Raw video: Fuel tanker jackknifes](#)



Some Winston-Salem streets were clogged for more than three hours Thursday after a fuel tanker jackknifed, causing the trailer to tilt severely and spill some of its load.

The incident was reported around 2:25 p.m. at the entrance to the Qwik Lube on Fairlawn Drive next to the intersection with Reynolda Road. The scene was cleared shortly after 5:30 p.m., and no injuries were reported. The truck jackknifed while trying to make a turn on an awkward hill, Winston-Salem police said. The trailer tilted at a nearly 45-degree angle, while all the tractor's wheels remained on the ground. Emergency officials estimated about 25 gallons of fuel spilled. Crews transferred the rest of the fuel to another tanker, and the jackknifed truck was driven away from the scene. Southbound Reynolda Road was closed from Fairlawn Drive to Woods Road. Fairlawn Drive was shut down

from Silas Creek Parkway to Reynolda Road, as well as Oakland Drive. The state DMV carrier division is investigating the incident. Winston-Salem police and fire officials responded to the scene as well. There were no mandatory evacuations. The owner of a gas station across the street from the tanker said he was given a voluntary evacuation notice.

<http://www.wxii12.com/news/local-news/piedmont/fuel-tanker-jackknifes-tilts-in-winstonsalem/24584560#mid=18333051>

USA, IN, CRAWFORDSVILLE, FEBRUARY 21 2014. RUNAWAY TANKER SPEEDS THROUGH CITY

Last week a tanker loaded with ethanol escaped CSX railroad workers in the Whitesville area and barreled down the tracks and through the city of Crawfordsville. The runaway tanker, which can hold up to 30,000 gallons of liquid, eventually came to a stop approximately three miles north of Crawfordsville at a bridge that crosses Sugar Creek. The railroad car came to rest close to Concord Road. It is unclear how much ethanol was in the tanker at the time of the incident. CSX spokesperson Carla Groleau said the railroad company is investigating the incident. A full report should be available in three to four weeks. "It is our understanding a CSX crew was doing normal maintenance on the car and it got away from them," Groleau said. "We don't know the details on how this happened, but we will find out during our investigation." Those who witnessed the runaway railroad car said it was moving at a high rate of speed. The tanker did not set off any crossing lights or arms as it sped through the city. The car continued to gain speed as it traveled north. The terrain from the Whitesville area contains a gradual downward slope as it draws closer to the creek. A hill just north of the railroad bridge prevented the runaway car from traveling further north. A crew working on the railroad bridge witnessed the car come to a stop. One witness said the car slowed at the top of the hill and rolled backwards. The rail car then rolled back and forth until finally coming to a halt. A Crawfordsville City Police Department spokesman said there were no laws broken, so local police have no jurisdiction in the matter. "We take this incident very seriously," Groleau said. "Thankfully, there were no injuries nor property damage." CSX will release a full report to the public after officials have concluded the investigation.

http://www.journalreview.com/news/article_47b2d506-99d3-11e3-bad4-0019bb2963f4.html

GREECE, ATHENS, FEBRUARY 21 2014L. PETROL COMPANY CHIEF ARRESTED IN ILLICIT FUEL PROBE >> FIFTEEN PEOPLE TO TESTIFY IN COMING DAYS OVER €3.5M SCAM IN ADULTERATED FUEL



Yiorgos Spanos The gang are believed to have withheld amounts of marine fuel when supplying ship which they then, with the cooperation of fuel truck drivers, channelled into the fuel station network where it was mixed with diesel and resold.

Authorities believe Yiorgos Spanos, owner of Eteka petrol company and chairman of Atromitos Athens football club, is the head of a criminal scam that sold stolen marine diesel oil through his company's filling stations. Involvement in a petrol smuggling ring have been ordered to remain in police custody pending their appearance before prosecutors to testify in the coming days. Police believe that in the last two years, the ring sold approximately 4.5m litres of contraband oil, costing the state €3.5m in lost duties and taxes. Among those arrested is the owner of [Eteka petrol company](#) and chairman of [Atromitos](#)



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[Athens football club](#), [Yiorgos Spanos](#), who the authorities believe headed the criminal organisation behind the scam. An employee and an associate of his company have also been arrested. The arrests were made late on Monday while details on the case were released on Wednesday. According to police in western Attica, who headed the investigation, nine suspects remain at large. In many cases, the adulterated fuel was resold to shipping companies from whom the marine fuel had been stolen from in the first place. The police search of the company's installations and a gas station led to the discovery and confiscation of 8,000l of illegally withheld marine diesel, five fuel trucks and €18,400 in cash. The case file prepared against the detainees concerns the creation and participation in a criminal organisation, fuel smuggling, fraud, money laundering, bribery and abuse of authority. Spanos says the charges against him are groundless. In a written statement, he said that his company, which is active nationwide, contributes €300m to the economy every year and employs over 150 people. But a former minister now tasked with transparency says that the rings involved in the illicit fuel trade "have looted public money for decades", costing the state billions in lost revenue. Yiorgos Sourlas, the secretary general for transparency and human rights at the justice ministry, told the semi-official ANA news agency that former prime minister Lucas Papademos had told parliament in January 2012 that the state has lost at least €25bn over the past 25 years from fuel smuggling. "Over the past 15 years, three reports had been prepared on how the smuggling is carried out and how it can be handled; however, they were never utilised," said Sourlas, a former New Democracy health ministry and deputy parliamentary speaker. He added that although the issue was not under his jurisdiction now, he had "dealt with it for 10 years, since an analysis by the state's chemistry laboratory office into the fuel used in the fire service came to my knowledge ... [I have submitted 49 files on proven fuel adulteration to both the judicial authorities and the military](#) and I have not received a reply, for over a year now."

<http://www.enetenglish.gr/?i=news.en.newsmain&id=1771>

USA, N.C, SMITHFIELD, FEBRUARY 21 2014. 4 PEOPLE TREATED FOLLOWING CHLORINE SPILL IN SMITHFIELD

 **Watch the Video** [4 People Treated Following Chlorine Spill](#)

A total of four people were treated at a hospital following a chlorine spill in Smithfield Wednesday afternoon. Authorities said a 150 pound chlorine cylinder ruptured at 2233 Wal Pat Road just after noon. Emergency crews transported one person to the hospital due to difficulty breathing and vomiting. Authorities said three other people were being treated at a local hospital. Authorities blocked off the surrounding area while the Hazmat team sealed and secured the leak. The tank will eventually be removed.

<http://www.wncn.com/story/24769246/4-people-treated-following-chlorine-spill-in-smithfield>

USA, MA, BOSTON, FEBRUARY 21 2014. UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK REMOVAL FOR MASSACHUSETTS HOMEOWNERS



Tank Removal Massachusetts

To prevent environmental damage from underground storage tanks, Massachusetts is proposing new legislation. Homeowners who currently have underground oil tanks will be exempt from many of these regulations, but are still held responsible for any leakages. Regulations governing the installation or removal of storage tanks are continuing to evolve in Massachusetts. In 1995 the EPA transferred enforcement of regulations of underground storage tanks to the individual States. Massachusetts has instituted a comprehensive program for regulating tanks located in residential or commercial sites. Most municipalities have an additional set of guidelines and procedures for tank removal that complement the State regulations. The authority to enforce these guidelines and procedures rests with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The transfer of regulation enforcement has caused underground storage tank regulations in

Massachusetts to quadruple and more legislation is expected to take effect in the coming years to prevent damage to the State's environment. The majority of the additional regulations are for management and administration of commercial sites, in addition to the required certification for owner/operators. Residential sites are required to follow all local regulations and guidelines. The major updating of the regulations governing underground storage tanks (UST) has been proposed for Massachusetts UST owner operators and can be reviewed at:

<http://www.mass.gov/eea/docs/dep/service/regulations/proposed/ust14dreg.pdf>

<http://www.newswire.net/newsroom/pr/00080325-tank-removal-massachusetts.html>



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USA, GA, BRUNSWICK, FEBRUARY 21 2014. HERCULES' PLAN TO STOP GROUNDWATER CONTAMINATION FROM PLANT COULD BE WORKING BY MID-SUMMER

terry.dickson



Hercules Inc. is coming up with an interim plan to stop more contaminated groundwater from flowing onto neighboring properties and into the marsh and creeks. The plant is now operated by Pinova. Hercules Inc. is working with state regulators on an interim plan to stop more contaminated groundwater from flowing onto neighboring properties, which could be implemented by this summer, an official with the Georgia Environmental Protection Division said. The company sent letters last week to the owners of 13 properties advising them that contaminants that originated at the big chemical plant had migrated from the factory in the groundwater. Hercules also told the Times-Union it is working on a plan to address the contamination. Rather than waiting to see what Hercules comes up with, the EPD is involved in the process, said Jim Brown, manager of the EPD's Hazardous Waste Corrective Action Program. "What we plan to do is work with them ahead of time to make sure that what

they're proposing will meet the needs," Brown said. "We want them to take action now to prevent additional groundwater contamination from leaving their property." Brown expects the plan to be complete by mid-April and put in place by mid-summer. Then Hercules will formulate a plan to treat the source of the contamination, he said. Of most concern on the list of contaminants is benzene, but others include carbon tetrachloride, toluene, acetone and some chlorinated compounds. Hercules confirmed Wednesday it is committed to working with the EPD to come up with a remedy. Brown would not estimate how long it will take to come up with a plan to eliminate the source of pollution and carry it out. "That will take some time. If it was an easy thing to do, it would have already been done," Brown said. The groundwater doesn't stay below ground but "daylights" into Dupree Creek, Terry Creek and the marsh, which will also be addressed. "I'd like to prevent the flow first, then we'll address what has already escaped," Brown said. Pinova now owns the specialty resins operation and produces a variety of products there, including food additives. As the owner when the contamination occurred, Hercules remains responsible for the cleanup.

<http://members.jacksonville.com/news/georgia/2014-02-19/story/hercules-plan-stop-groundwater-contamination-plant-could-be-working>

NIGERIA, LAGOS, IJEGUN, FEBRUARY 21 2014. IJEGUN OIL SPILL TO BLAME FOR FUEL SCARCITY IN LAGOS >> SPILL HAD FLOODED OVER 300 HOUSES IN THE AREA

chiemeli ezeobi

Petroleum industry officials yesterday blamed the worsening fuel scarcity across the Lagos metropolis on the recent oil spill at the Ijegun area of the state. The spill had flooded over 300 houses in the area, forcing the officials of the Pipelines and Product Marketing Company (PPMC) to lock the valve so as to forestall further spill. The arising shortfall in the supply of the product had triggered a wave of scarcity, making many to embark on panic buying of the product. The spill was as a result of a ruptured Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) pipeline which released many litres of petrol into the streets of Ijegun Imore behind Navy Town and Statellite Town, Lagos. The spokesperson, National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), South-west zone, Mr. Ibrahim Farinloye, said the incident would have been a huge disaster if the residents had gone to scoop the free-flowing fuel. Although immediate repairs on the pipelines were carried out by two teams of NNPC personnel who were deployed to the area, the petrol had already seeped deep into the ground. But government officials, who spoke on the condition of anonymity, told THISDAY that the scarcity of fuel could be attributed to the aftermath of the spill. He said: "When the community alerted NNPC of the spill. They were forced to shut down production in order to carry out repairs. They stopped pumping products. "The products that are in the market were those already in the pipeline. Once the valves were shut off, repairs began in order to restore the pipeline back to order. "When the marketers discovered what has happened, they started hoarding products because they are not sure when or where they would get products to buy. "That hoarding of products is what is manifesting today as fuel scarcity. But that would soon end because once NNPC starts pumping again, we can assure you that products would be back to the market." Some of the officials of the National Oil Spill Detection and Response Agency (NOSDRA), met at the site of the spill and confirmed that massive clean up has begun, adding that the oil sheen was merely the residue that had seeped into the ground. It was gathered that initially, the PPMC, a subsidiary of the



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NNPC, had visited and scooped some of the spilled products into their tankers. Many Lagosians were jolted when they suddenly could not find petrol to buy easily, since last week THISDAY checks at different filling stations in Lagos, saw motorists in their large numbers queuing up to purchase fuel with all the confusion that go with it. Checks also revealed that the ripple effect of the scarcity is already being felt by Lagosians as large number of stranded passengers were seen at the various bus stops in the metropolis. As is often the case, the few stations which dispensed the product sought for extra gratification from the desperate buyers. For commercial bus drivers who were forced to buy fuel from the black marketers at exorbitant prices, they simply recuperated their extra expenses from passengers by hiking the fares. Speaking to THISDAY, Mr. Chubuike Onuigbo, a motorist found at one of the filling stations at Okota, a suburb of Lagos said he had queued for over an hour before he could fill his tank. He called on the regulatory agencies like the Petroleum Products Pricing Regulatory Agency (PPPRA) saddled with responsibility of ensuring that fuel is dispensed and sold at the appropriate price to rise up to the challenge and check the illegalities perpetrated in the filling stations.

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201402200779.html>

AUSTRALIA, NEW SOUTH WALES, MUSWELLBROOK, FEBRUARY 21 2014. MINE BLAST GONE WRONG SPEWS TOXIC CLOUD



The sky above Mount Arthur mine in Muswellbrook glows orange after a blast that went wrong

A toxic fume from a blast at the Mount Arthur mine in the Upper Hunter turned the sky bright orange and prompted demands for a much stronger response from environmental regulators. Ammonium nitrate and fuel oil were detonated at the mine near Muswellbrook on Wednesday afternoon, causing poisonous fumes containing nitrogen dioxide to spread several kilometres from the site. Workers in the Muswellbrook industrial area said there were no warnings about the toxic cloud, which left people with sore throats. The blast led to an apology from BHP Billiton.

Mine workers were told yesterday that the ammonium nitrate and fuel oil were in the ground for 21 days, seven days longer than the recommended time in which blast material should be detonated. The Environment Protection Authority is investigating the blast, including the length of time the materials were left in the ground. Mine workers told the Newcastle Herald that blast material, boosters and detonators are left to "sleep" in the ground for longer than the recommended 14 days because of weather conditions. Blasts can also be delayed for production reasons. A blast technician from another mine told the Herald that ammonium nitrate and fuel oil, the most commonly used blast materials in the Hunter, were highly susceptible to water contamination. The dark orange colour of the fume meant the whole "shot" was likely to have been contaminated, he said. Muswellbrook mayor Martin Rush said the community would find the incident disturbing. Cr Rush and NSW Nature Conservation Council chief executive Pepe Clarke said the botched blast, less than three months after Mount Arthur was fined for blasting incidents in October last year, showed the company had a "serious culture problem" and was "cutting corners" and risking people's health. "Given a risk assessment requires a consideration of both likelihood and consequence, and given the probability of a wind change and the heavy consequences arising from a population exposed to fumes, the risk must have been considered to be high," Cr Rush said. "The fact that the blast proceeded will leave people with the impression the company put profit before people. The community will also find it disturbing that the company has offered up excuses in circumstances where zero tolerance conditions were operating, supposedly to ensure health and safety." Muswellbrook Council could seek independent monitoring of each blast at the mine site. "It may be necessary for council to ask the Planning Assessment Commission to consider imposing conditions requiring an independent assessment of each blast if BHP can't ensure the community's safety," he said. Mr Clarke said it was a serious concern that a large mine such as Mount Arthur was managing its blast activities so poorly. "It's clear the \$1500 fine imposed less than three months ago is completely inadequate to deter blasts of this kind and irresponsible conduct by this company," he said. "The company knows perfectly well how to reduce their polluting blast incidents but they continue to cut corners. Exposure to high levels of nitrogen dioxide blast gases can cause severe harm." Of particular concern was the lack of research available about pollutants within blast fumes, Mr Clarke said. The Queensland Department of Natural Resources and Mines notes that "any atmosphere in which nitrogen dioxide is noticeable by smell, irritation and colour should be regarded as potentially dangerous". The department's website notes a 2006 Hunter Valley study was the first in the world to study pollutants within blast fumes. An 18-month Queensland study is investigating fumes. EPA north branch director Gary Davey said it could take "regulatory action" against the company. Mount Arthur Coal issued an apology, saying it took its environmental and community obligations very seriously. NSW Energy



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Coal Asset president Peter Sharpe said the blast was timed to ensure that wind conditions would prevent any fumes from drifting off site. "However, due to a change in conditions immediately after the blast, some fumes did travel towards the industrial area," he said.

<http://www.smh.com.au/environment/mine-blast-gone-wrong-spews-toxic-cloud-20140221-335rf.html>

USA, TX, SAN ANTONIO, FEBRUARY 21 2014. KELLY CONTAMINATION CLEANUP CONTINUES 20 YEARS LATER

barry davis

 **Watch the Video** [Kelly Contamination Cleanup Continues 20 Years Later](#)



Kelly Field was the first Air Force base in the country and home once to thousands of military and civilian workers. The Base Realignment and Closure operations of the 90s shuttered her doors. Now it is Port San Antonio, an industrial park. Before the base closed, massive contamination was found in the ground and in a shallow aquifer which ran under Kelly and through surrounding neighborhoods. The contamination was from a number of known and suspected cancer-causing chemicals used to clean aircraft parts on the base. Once the contamination was discovered, the Air Force began cleaning up both on and after somewhat of a battle off base. The on-base cleanup consisted of soil removal and the building of impermeable berms to prevent the contamination from continuing to contaminate the aquifer off base. However, so much contamination and so much of the chemicals had already spread into the water and attached themselves to the soil surrounding the aquifer the cleanup would take decades. The soil contamination took much less time and was finished in 2010. That is when the property was turned over to the city of San Antonio. The cleanup of the aquifer is another story. It is still going on, roughly 20 years after the contamination was discovered. Right now the Air Force has a nine year "Performance Based" contract with a company which is drilling into each contaminated area of the aquifer, both on and off the former base and treating the water. In the meantime residents who live near Kelly and over the contaminated aquifer say they are still experiencing higher than normal rates of cancer and birth defects. Robert and Guadalupe Alvarado are two of those residents. The Alvarados bought their home on Baker street 40 years ago, through a government program. "We thought it was such a good deal, had we known we would have bought somewhere else," they said. The Alvarados said over the years they have watched their friends and neighbors die of various forms of cancer. On one block of Hollenbeck street, roughly a block from the Alvarados there are 13 homes. Residents of 12 of those homes have cancer or have died from cancer. Studies by the Centers for Disease Control, the Environmental Protection Agency and others show in some instances there are higher than normal rates of cancer and birth defects, but say they studies are inconclusive to the causes. The Alvarados say they don't need studies, they have lived and are living with the results of the contamination. They believe the government is just waiting for that generation to die so it won't have to deal with them anymore. A representative for the government says it's not waiting. Steve TerMaath is in charge of the cleanup operations at all 40 military bases closed by the BRAC commission. He says the "Performance Based" contract and the drilling and treating of the aquifer is proof the Air Force is moving forward. TerMaath says the contamination didn't happen overnight and unfortunately it can't be cleaned up over night. He says the Air Force is committed to staying at it, "as long as it takes to clean up." He also says realistically that may take another couple of decades.

<http://www.kens5.com/news/Kelly-contamination-cleanup-continues-246073611.html>

USA, MI, DETROIT, FEBRUARY 22 2014. DETROIT MARATHON REFINERY NEGATIVELY AFFECTING NEIGHBORS' QUALITY OF LIFE

anne runkle

Near the Marathon Petroleum refinery, residents say the snow isn't white. In the spring, they can't get plants to grow in their yards. And so many people are sick. At a public hearing Wednesday, they told representatives of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality that the dirty, gray snow that falls in Southwest Detroit, Melvindale and other nearby communities is a constant reminder during this harsh winter of the air pollution they live with every day. More than 100 people packed the Kemeny Recreation Center on Fort Street to ask the DEQ to deny Marathon's permit application to make modifications to its refinery that lies in Detroit and Melvindale. The DEQ says it has given Marathon three violations over the past year for exceeding its existing permit limits for particulate matter and carbon monoxide emissions, resulting in fines of \$99,500. No Marathon representatives spoke at the meeting. Residents say the violations are a huge factor in why the permit application



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should be denied. Marathon's application estimates that the proposed refinery modifications will increase emission of some particles but decrease others, said Mary Ann Dolehanty of the DEQ. DEQ representatives acknowledged higher rates of cancer and asthma in the zip codes that surround Marathon, compared to the rest of the state. "Marathon is violating our basic human rights, our basic civil rights," said Joshua Achatz, a southwest Detroit resident. "You can't smoke a cigarette inside a building because it violates the rights of others. This (refinery) is a 250-acre cigarette that burns every day," he said, prompting applause from the crowd. State Rep. Rashida Tlaib (D-Detroit), who represents Ecorse, River Rouge and parts of Detroit, expressed concerns about approving the application when Marathon has already violated its current permit. She added that area residents are already feeling uneasy about Marathon because of a fire and explosion last April that resulted in evacuations of parts of Melvindale and Detroit. Melvindale resident Ed McArdle, who is active in the Sierra Club, said he has been evacuated because of Marathon issues twice in the past 10 years. He criticized the communication process for the hearing, as he said Melvindale residents weren't informed, even though a large portion of the refinery lies in that city. DEQ representatives said the agency may extend a public comment period on Marathon's permit application. The DEQ does not have a timetable for ruling on the application. The refinery processes about 140,000 barrels per day of crude oil that is made into petroleum gases, gasoline, fuel oil, asphalt and other products, according to the DEQ.

<http://www.dailymtribune.com/general-news/20140220/detroit-marathon-refinery-negatively-affecting-neighbors-quality-of-life>

NEW ZEALAND, PAENGAROA, FEBRUARY 22 2014. FUEL TANKER CRASH CLOSES ROAD

letitia Atkinson



The overturned tanker on Old Coach Road.

Fuel is leaking onto the road after a fuel tanker overturned on Old Coach Road in Paengaroa this morning. Maketu Fire Brigade chief fire officer Shane Beech says fuel is leaking from two ruptured sections of the fuel tank. He says there is about 25,000 litres of petrol and diesel on board. Northern Fire Communications shift manager Paul Raddon says the fuel is leaking into a nearby open drain. "Firefighters are attempting to dam the drain to stop the fuel getting into the environment." The driver has been taken to Tauranga Hospital to be checked over. Shane says the road is closed and will be for some time. "We are working to make the scene safe." Police are investigating the cause of the crash and the commercial vehicle investigation unit has been called.

<http://www.sunlive.co.nz/news/65042-fuel-tanker-crash-closes-road.html>

USA, CA, SAN FRANCISCO, FEBRUARY 22 2014. TESORO BARS FEDERAL SAFETY AGENCY FROM EAST BAY REFINERY

jaxon van derbeken



Tesoro Corp.'s Golden Eagle Refinery, where two workers were recently sprayed with sulfuric acid, sits near Interstate 680 close to the Waterbird Regional Preserve in Pacheco.

In an unprecedented challenge, Tesoro Corp. has barred federal authorities from going inside its refinery near Martinez to investigate an incident in which two workers were burned by acid spewing from a broken pipe. The San Francisco Chronicle has learned. State officials ordered a partial shutdown of the Golden Eagle Refinery following the Feb. 12 incident after inspectors with California's workplace safety agency found numerous suspected safety violations, state officials said. The investigators with Cal/OSHA went to the plant at 150 Solano Way in the unincorporated community of Pacheco when a pipe containing sulfuric acid burst, spraying the two workers in the face with the

caustic chemical. The two were flown by helicopter to UC Davis Medical Center in Sacramento, where they were treated for first- and second-degree burns and released later that day. On Feb. 18, Cal/OSHA ordered Tesoro to shut down the section of the refinery where the pipe was located until the company reviews its operations, shows how it protects workers against acid spills and conducts refresher training. The unit adds octane boosters to refined gasoline.



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Probe Blocked

Investigators with the U.S. Chemical Safety Board, the lead federal agency in major chemical-plant accidents, showed up a day after the incident and gained access to the refinery grounds. However, Tesoro has rebuffed federal investigators' subsequent requests to return to the refinery, agency officials said Thursday. Tesoro officials said the Feb. 12 incident was minor and did not qualify under the rules for a federal investigation. Safety board officials could not recall another refinery or chemical plant on U.S. soil that has challenged the board's authority since its inception in 1998. "It's rather unique," said Dan Horowitz, the federal agency's managing director, "because our authority is very broad. We not only investigate incidents, but we can investigate hazards even where there has not been a release."

Feds' Job

The Tesoro incident, Horowitz said, falls squarely into the agency's jurisdiction. "This is a hazardous unit – it released a hazardous substance, (and) those workers were seriously impacted," Horowitz said. "This is not the sort of accident that should be occurring, a loss of containment involving a hazardous substance. This is exactly the sort of incident that regulatory systems are designed to prevent. We need to find out why this happened." He said the Chemical Safety Board has subpoenaed Tesoro to turn over documents about the unit's operations and answer questions related to the accident by March 7. Tesoro, based in San Antonio, downplayed the incident and said it was not satisfied the federal board had the right to intervene. Elizabeth Watters, a company spokeswoman, described the incident as a "minor chemical release" that left the two workers with "minor chemical burns." "We were surprised when the Chemical Safety Board notified the company that the agency intended to deploy a team to investigate, as the (board) is not charged with investigating a personal safety incident that did not result in serious injuries or substantial property damage," Watters said. The Chemical Safety Board's interest in Tesoro's operations heightened in April 2010, when an explosion at the company's Anacortes, Wash., refinery killed seven workers. In a draft report issued last month, the federal board said Tesoro had a lax approach to safety, which had led to "catastrophic consequences." Don Holmstrom, head of the board's Western regional office of investigations, said the latest probe will focus on safety culture as well. "We think there are some serious safety issues that need further examination," he said. "We need to examine how strong their safety culture is."

Working with State

Watters said the company takes "all incidents seriously" and was cooperating with Cal/OSHA's probe, "as it is clearly within their jurisdiction to investigate." The workers burned in the latest incident were wearing standard protective gear, but Tesoro had not issued them the specialized equipment required by law to protect their face and body from acid burns, Holmstrom said. Workers at the refinery told state investigators that they were "afraid" to operate the unit where the spill occurred because acid leaks occur "all the time," according to a Cal/OSHA report. They said the pipes carrying the caustic fluid are dangerously thin. They said the pipe that failed Feb. 12 broke again just four days later, Cal/OSHA said. Pipe-fitters were working on the unit and "the piping came apart in the exact same spot it did during the accident," the state report said.

<http://fuelfix.com/blog/2014/02/21/tesoro-bars-federal-safety-agency-from-east-bay-refinery/>

USA, WI, MILWAUKEE, FEBRUARY 22 2014. ETHANOL WARNINGS POSTED AT MAJOR RETAILERS

rick barrett

Consumers are being warned about the danger of using gasoline that has a high amount of ethanol in outdoor power equipment, under new signage at Lowe's, Walmart and True Value stores. Under federal law, consumers are not supposed to use gasoline with more than 10% ethanol in older vehicles or small engines. But given that the higher blends are cheaper, fueling mistakes are going to happen, according to Briggs & Stratton Corp. and other outdoor power equipment manufacturers behind the [Look Before You Pump](#) signage campaign. Price is the first thing Americans notice when buying gasoline, according to a [Harris Interactive poll](#) done for the Outdoor Power Equipment Institute. Two-thirds of the poll respondents said they assumed any gasoline sold at a gas station is safe for all of their cars as well as boats, lawn mowers, chain saws, snowmobiles, generators and other engine products. The problems could include engine overheating, fuel line ruptures, a breakdown of rubber pieces in engines, expensive repairs and engine failure not covered by warranty. "Ethanol has proved to be a corrosive and problematic fuel additive, and we are keen to share the 'Look Before You Pump' warning with our customers," Ken Goodgame, chief merchandising officer with True Value Co., said in a statement. Engine manufacturers and automakers fought introduction of the 15% ethanol blend known as E15, which is slowly coming into the marketplace. The risks of using E15 in vehicles have been exaggerated, according to the ethanol industry. Also, fuel dispensing pumps clearly state that the higher blend of ethanol isn't meant for older vehicles and small engines.

<http://www.jsonline.com/business/ethanol-warnings-posted-at-major-retailers-b99209868z1-246334361.html>



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GHANA, ASHANTI, KUMASI, FEBRUARY 22 2014. FUEL TANKER BURNT TO ASHES IN KUMASI

A fuel tanker from Burkina Faso exploded into flames on Friday morning, leaving four vehicles burnt. The tanker according to Isaac Owusu of Hello FM, was heading back to Burkina Faso after fueling at Tema. According to an eyewitness, the tanker upon reaching Suame roundabout in Kumasi, Ashanti Region had some difficulties climbing the bumpy roundabout. Shortly, the tanker gutted fire and four cars got burnt to ashes" an eyewitness said. No one was hurt but the cost of destruction could run into hundreds of thousands of Ghana Cedis. Personnel of the Ghana National Fire Service (GNFS) had a hectic time battling the blaze.

<http://news.peacefmonline.com/pages/social/201402/190705.php>

USA, ILL, BOLINGBROOK, FEBRUARY 22 2014. STATE TROOPER CRASHES INTO PARKED TANKER TRUCK ON I-355



An Illinois State Police squad car spun out and crashed into the trailer of a tanker truck that was stopped on the shoulder of the Veterans Memorial Tollway on Friday.

An Illinois State Trooper escaped serious injuries early Friday, after his squad car spun out and ended up partly stuck under a tanker truck parked on the right shoulder. WBBM Newsradio's Bernie Tafoya reports the trooper was responding to a traffic crash on the Veterans Memorial Tollway (I-355) near the Boughton Road Toll Plaza around 5:30 a.m., when he ended up in a crash of his own. State Police Master Sgt. Brian McKinney said the trooper lost control of his squad car, possibly due to high winds and slick conditions on the road,

and spun to the right side of the tollway. The rear of his car struck the trailer of a tanker truck that was stopped on the shoulder. He was taken to Adventist Bolingbrook Hospital with minor head and neck injuries. The cash lanes at the toll plaza on the northbound side of the tollway were shut down after the crash, and traffic was moving only through the I-Pass lanes near the scene of the wreck.

<http://chicago.cbslocal.com/2014/02/21/state-trooper-crashes-into-parked-tanker-truck-on-i-355/>

ENGLAND, YORKSHIRE, SCARBOROUGH, FEBRUARY 22 2014. DRUNK MUM HIT PETROL PUMP



I think I hit one of the pumps"

Those were the words uttered by boozy Scalby mum Angela Richings, after she drunkenly crashed her Audi A1 into a petrol station pump in Scalby Road. And a magistrate claims it was "pure luck" the 50-year-old never caused serious injury on her drink-fuelled drive, after she was found to be nearly five times over the legal limit. Richings, of South Avenue, took to the road in a drunken state after learning her husband, who she'd separated from, was taking his new beau on holiday to the family villa instead of their son. She had hit the bottle after learning the "devastating" news the night before they were due to jet off. The court also heard how the revelation was particularly heartbreaking for Richings, as the plush villa had been bought specifically for her family to enjoy during happier times. And it was that - coupled with copious amounts of alcohol - that put her behind the wheel on the afternoon of January 28, as she embarked on the short journey from her home to the petrol station, a ride that came to an abrupt end when station staff phoned police. She was brought before the bench at Scarborough Magistrates' Court on Thursday February 20, flanked by a band of five supporters, including her elderly parents. She cut a sombre figure throughout the sentencing hearing, having already pleaded guilty to drink driving the day after the crash. After her arrest she spent the night in the cells, an experience described as "distressing and upsetting" for her. And in mitigation, her solicitor David Cammidge said she'd felt "sick and embarrassed" about her actions. He added that Richings, who had 165 microgrammes of alcohol in her breath, had been seeking help to treat her long-running addiction to drink. Not a big drinker in her youth, she had developed a "relationship" with alcohol during the past two



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decades. And Mr Cammidge added: "She's very motivated to address the difficulties that she's encountered." However, despite hearing of her personal turmoil, magistrates took a dim view of her actions - especially since it was her second similar offence, adding that she had a "disregard" for public safety. And she was warned: "It was pure luck that you didn't injure yourself or someone else on your trip to the petrol station," But she was spared an immediate jail term, and was handed a 18-week suspended sentence. She was given a three year driving ban, ordered to undergo supervision and complete 100 hours of community work, and pay £165 in costs. And following her sentencing, police praised station staff for their quick thinking, which they claimed could have prevented a catastrophe. A North Yorkshire Police spokeswoman added: "The potential consequences of driving while nearly five times the drink drive limit do not bear thinking about. "The staff in the petrol station did the absolute right thing by calling the police to enable officers to make the arrest and prevent a potentially catastrophic situation."

<http://www.thescarboroughnews.co.uk/news/crime/drunk-mum-hit-petrol-pump-1-6454369>

USA, AKA, KOTZEBUE, FEBRUARY 22 2014. HEATING FUEL SPILL PROMPTS SWIFT RESPONSE IN KOTZEBUE

jillian rogers



Responders work to clean up fuel-soaked snow last week in Kotzebue. Nearly 400 gallons of heating fuel leaked from a tank outside an apartment building last Monday.

Last week an above-ground heating fuel tank at an apartment building in Kotzebue sprang a leak, prompting officials with the U.S. Coast Guard, the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation and Kikiktagruk Inupiat Corporation to respond. The property is owned by KIC and the spill — originally estimated at between 850 and 900 gallons but since updated to around 350 to 400 gallons— occurred on the morning of Feb. 10. The spill was reported that afternoon to the DEC, and the Coast Guard was deployed last Wednesday. "KIC reported that a large area of snow and gravel was contaminated and suspect some of the heating oil could have traveled onto the ice of Kotzebue Lagoon," stated a release from the Coast Guard. "It is currently unclear how much spilled product could have impacted ice on top of the lagoon during the event, but after initial delineation efforts it is believed to be a very small amount. No affected wildlife has been observed since the spill was discovered." The Oil Spill Liability Trust Fund was opened and a pollution responder and federal on-scene coordinator from Coast Guard deployed to assess the situation. "Our primary concern is for the safety of the community and the responders as they work to mitigate existing pollution," said Cmdr. Shawn Decker, chief of response for the Coast Guard. The spill occurred at the fourplex apartment building located on 8th Ave. The 1,000-gallon tank had been filled on Jan. 20 and was found with just over 100 gallons left after the spill, leading investigators

to the estimate given of spilled fuel. According to the DEC, the fluctuation in temperature in January caused snow and ice to slide off an adjacent roof, hitting the fuel supply line, and separating the line from an oil-fired furnace located in the garage. The force caused a threaded connection to completely fail from its fitting. The damaged portion of line has since been removed, said John Ebel with ADEC on Tuesday. The fuel spilled out of the tank onto snow and gravel, which has since been removed. Ebel and his colleague, along with others who responded to the spill, used an ice auger on the lagoon last week to look for petroleum that maybe have leached on or under the ice. "We did not find fuel at all in those boreholes," Ebel said. Cleanup has been going well underneath the apartment building and around the spill site, he added. "Additional tactics will be used as we advance into break up," he said. The site is stable for now, but as spring approaches and the snow and ice melt, the area will be worked on and monitored again, he said. "We are comfortable and satisfied that they're doing what is responsibly necessary at this time," Ebel said. "But there's still more work to do." The spill report was distributed to the agencies listed on the standard distribution list, which includes the governor's office, Sen. Begich's office, State Emergency Operations Center, U.S. Department of the Interior, National Marine Fisheries Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Kotzebue.

http://thearticsounder.com/article/1408heating_fuel_spill_prompts_swift_response_in



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NEW ZEALAND, PAENGAROA, FEBRUARY 22 2014. CRASHED TANKER LEAKS FUEL IN BAY OF PLENTY

A tanker has crashed in Bay of Plenty leaking large quantities of fuel, putting the environment at risk. A tanker carrying thousands of litres of fuel has crashed in Bay of Plenty leaking large quantities of fuel. The tanker overturned about 8.15am on Old Coach Road in Paengaroa, southeast of Te Puke, northern fire communications shift manager Paul Radden said. The tanker was carrying about 16,000 litres of fuel. Two of its four compartments had ruptured, one containing petrol and one diesel, he told NZ Newswire. "The brigade is currently trying to stem the flow of fuel from the compartments and is also damming up local drains and waterways to prevent the fuel going down there as an environmental issue." Eight fire appliances were at the scene, including a HAZMAT (hazardous materials) unit. The driver was taken to hospital by ambulance, Mr Radden said. His injuries are not believed to be serious. Bay of Plenty police said Old Coach Road was closed. Emergency services would likely be at the scene for several hours and people should avoid the area, police said.

Related Stories

- [Rolled tanker leaking fuel](#)
- [Fuel spill after tanker overturns near Te Puke](#)


<http://home.nzcity.co.nz/news/article.aspx?id=182554&fm=newsmain%2Cnrhl>

INDIA, ALLAHABAD, FEBRUARY 22 2014. BLAST IN FIREWORKS TRADER'S HOUSE INJURES FOUR

At least four persons including a woman and three children suffered injuries in an explosion at the house of a fireworks trader at Chail block under Pipri police station of Kaushambi district on Thursday. The injured persons were taken to a private hospital in Kaushambi from where they were later referred to SRN hospital in Allahabad for treatment. The injured were identified as Saira Bano (36) and her two children Saif (5) and Nazia (6). Another seven-year-old girl named Anjali, who was playing with the children, also sustained injuries.

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/allahabad/Blast-in-fireworks-traders-house-injures-four/articleshow/30783045.cms>

USA, TN, TOONE, FEBRUARY 23 2014. EXPLOSION AT FLARES PLANT IN HARDEMAN COUNTY INJURES WORKER

 **Watch the Video** [1 Employee Severely Burned in Explosion at Kilgore Flares Plant in Toone](#)

An explosion at a manufacturing plant in western Tennessee injured at least one person Saturday. WMC-TV reports the blast happened around 10:50 a.m. at a plant in Toone owned by the Kilgore Flares Company. The worker suffered severe burns and was airlifted to the Regional Medical Center in Memphis. The worker's condition was not known Saturday afternoon. The TV station reports that more employees were hurt, though the extent of those injuries was not known. Emergency crews put out the fire at the plant, which makes air and naval decoy flares for the military. The company released a statement Saturday afternoon, confirming the accident and the injury of one employee. The Jackson Sun reports that Chuck Stout, vice president and general manager, said, "Kilgore is in the process of gathering the facts as to what happened and will cooperate fully with the federal, state and local authorities in that regard." The company withheld the name for the employee and added, "our hearts and prayers are with him and his family."

<http://www.dailyjournal.net/view/story/fb8d0d195fa046b7919022245e197084/TN--Plant-Explosion/#.UwmJUNhDhX4>

USA, FLA, SPRINGFIELD, FEBRUARY 23 2014. CITY WORRIES ABOUT POSSIBLE SEWAGE EXPLOSION >> HIGH HYDROGEN SULFIDE LEVELS



The lift station at Veterans Park in Callaway is causing concern over the possibility of an explosion.

The prospect of exploding sewage is a very real concern for Springfield's leadership. City commissioners during a workshop this week expressed concerns the dangerously high hydrogen sulfide levels at a nearby lift station could cause an explosion and liability could partly fall in their lap. Blame has been traded off between Bay County and Callaway for months as to the cause and who should foot the bill to repair the "BC-2" lift station, which receives and pumps sewage into the sewer line. However, Springfield and Parker also own a share of the Advanced Wastewater Treatment (AWT) sewage system and could be held liable in the case of an incident, city officials said. A public meeting between representatives of the cities and county will be held at 9 a.m. Friday in room 1030 of the Bay County Government Center, 840 W. 11th St. Springfield Mayor Ralph



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Hammond requested commission direction for how Springfield should vote in an upcoming decision from each of the municipalities. "There's a situation over there that is highly explosive, and that isn't just between tempers," Hammond said. "With the right conditions that whole place could blow up." The commissioners' made their wishes known in writing but the votes have been sealed until the AWT meeting. Based on atmospheric testing of the BC-2 lift station in Callaway's Veterans Park, an independent safety services company determined gases in the area not only pose a high threat of fire or explosion but also a threat to the public using the park. That's because air containing more than 500 parts hydrogen sulfide per million parts of air by volume can result in immediate unconsciousness and rapid death, according to the Centers for Disease Control. The wet well of BC-2 has peaked at times to nearly 1,500 parts per million, according to county Utilities Director Paul Lackemacher. Inspectors found nearly identical readings at Lift Station 1 in Callaway near the boat yard. Hammond laid out three options for commissioners: split the cost, wait for a determination on who was at fault, or allow Callaway to assume responsibility for the lift station and take on maintenance, which Hammond said he did not want. "From that lift station, the county needs to know what's going out to the AWT plant," Hammond said. The county operates the system and the lift station but is adamant Callaway is to blame because sewage flow levels through the city's lines are so low the waste sits in the lines for weeks, rotting and creating hydrogen sulfide levels that escape at the BC-2 lift station. Bay County has been proceeding with repairs to the scrubber system and ventilation for nearly a month. Further monitoring and inspection would be needed to determine a long-term solution. Callaway has hired an engineering firm to analyze the lift station and sewer lines and issue a report on the problem. "At this point, with the hazardous conditions, it needs to be taken care of quickly instead of waiting on four or five engineers," Hammond said.

<http://www.newsherald.com/news/government/city-worries-about-possible-sewage-explosion-1.281560?page=0>

USA, W.VA, MARMET, FEBRUARY 23 2014. MCHM LEAK REPORTED AT AMERICAN CHEMICAL SERVICES IN MARMET, WV

lucas hannon, jessie shafer & alanna autler



Update:

According to WVDEP's spill line report, American Chemical Services reported less than 10 gallons of MCHM spilled, and that it was contained in the dike area, and is being cleaned up by a cleaning company. According to the spill line report, the leak was called at around 5 p.m. Thursday, and that odor complaints were reported earlier in the afternoon. WVDEP went to American Chemical Services, but they did not issue an odor violation.

Update:

According to Ron Baker, Operations Manager with American Chemical Services, a valve leaked on an MCHM tank inside a contained area. The leak was contained to a small area. Baker says they are waiting on a clean up crew to use absorbent to clean the leak. According to Baker, five gallons out of 13,000 gallons leaked. The reason it was noticed is because people at the plant

smelled it. Baker says this is completely unrelated to the Freedom Industries storage, and that Calcium Chloride and Glycerine, which are all freeze controlled products, are also stored at the plant. Baker also says that the WVDEP spill hotline was called within 15 minutes of the leak being reported, and that MCHM is in two of 14 carbon steel tanks at the plant. The problem with the valve was internal, and could not have been caught by inspection.

Original:

An MCHM leak was reported at American Chemical Services in Marmet, WV. According to a representative at the plant, at around 5 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 20, a valve containing approximately five gallons of MCHM leaked into a contained area inside the plant. A cleanup company has been dispatched, and the plant is waiting on them to arrive to clean up the absorbent that was put down to keep the MCHM contained. The plant's representative says that this poses no danger outside of the plant. According to C.W. Sigman, Deputy Director of Kanawha County Emergency Management, the fire chief with the Chesapeake Volunteer Fire Department, P.J. Johnson, went to the scene to check it out and he verifies that it was five gallons of MCHM that leaked into a contained area. According to crews at the scene, this MCHM leak has nothing to do with the water crisis, and that MCHM was being stored there for normal purposes. We have a crew on the scene.

<http://www.statejournal.com/story/24781286/mchm-leak-reported-at-american-chemical>



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USA, UT, TOOELE COUNTY, FEBRUARY 23 2014. VICTIMS OF MAGNESIUM PLANT EXPLOSION REMAIN IN UTAH HOSPITAL >> EXPLOSION » US MAGNESIUM WORKERS CAUGHT IN HOT GASSES AT TOOELE COUNTY PLANT. VINCE HORIUCHI

Two workers injured in a blast at US Magnesium's Rowley plant in Tooele County remained in critical condition Saturday at University Hospital's Burn Center. The victims, a 49-year-old supervisor and a 25-year-old worker whose names were not released, were said to be burned over their heads and torsos when hot gases erupted at the plant Friday morning. The incident was under investigation, but officials said it was possible the explosion occurred when a lid was lifted or blown open by pressurized gas from a brick-lined steel furnace device. The plant is at 12819 N. Rowley Road northwest of Grantsville, on the western shore of the Great Salt Lake about 60 miles west of Salt Lake City. US Magnesium emergency personnel provided initial care to the injured men at the plant's clinic shortly after the incident, which was reported to public authorities in a 911 call at 4:45 a.m. Friday. Tooele County paramedics arrived and took over, preparing the unconscious victims for evacuation in two medical helicopters. Though an investigation was preliminary, company officials said the eruption reportedly happened as the workers labored to bring a piece of equipment back on line after several days of maintenance work. A spokesperson for Tooele County Emergency Management characterized the burns suffered by the younger man as more extensive than those of the supervisor. Representatives from U.S. Magnesium could not be reached for comment Saturday. US Magnesium is the largest producer of primary magnesium in North America, according to officials.

<http://www.sltrib.com/sltrib/news/57583366-78/magnesium-plant-county-tooele.html.csp>

USA, MA, MANSFIELD, FEBRUARY 23 2014. SOLVENT SPILL INJURES WORKER AT CABOT INDUSTRIAL PARK IN MANSFIELD

A factory worker in the Cabot Industrial Park was taken to a hospital Friday afternoon after an industrial cleaning solvent splashed on him while he was working with machinery. The worker was taken by Mansfield ambulance to Good Samaritan Hospital in Brockton complaining of skin and eye irritation and respiratory problems, Deputy Fire Chief James Puleo said. The accident occurred around 2 p.m. at Trelleborg Emerson & Cuming, at 290 Forbes Blvd., at the intersection with West Street. Puleo said about 20 employees in the warehouse section of the plant were moved to an office area for safety reasons. Puleo said less than five gallons of the cleaning solvent spilled on the floor of the plant. Because meter readings indicated the solvent was near flammable levels, firefighters shut off machinery, moved workers and soaked the spill with an absorbent to reduce the level of danger, according to Puleo. Because firefighters were called to simultaneous medical emergencies, Puleo said Norton firefighters assisted by staffing the North Main Street fire station. The factory manufactures glass microspheres, syntactic foams, thermal insulation tapes and sea mooring buoys, in addition to other products.

http://www.thesunchronicle.com/news/local_news/solvent-spill-injures-worker-at-cabot-industrial-park-in-mansfield/article_a66c0611-3f39-5f0d-9acd-5e8a963129af.html

USA, CT, NORWALK, FEBRUARY 23 2014. HOUSEBOAT SINKS TO BOTTOM OF ICY RIVER, SPILLS FUEL



A boom is placed around the sunken houseboat to contain the fuel spill in the Norwalk River.

A 46-foot Chris Craft houseboat sank to the bottom of the Norwalk River late Friday, leaking gasoline or fuel oil into the water, the Norwalk Fire Department reported. The Fire Department responded at about 7 p.m. to a report of a strong chemical odor along the Norwalk River, Deputy Fire Chief Edward Prescott said. An investigation by the Engine Company led to the Oyster Bend Marina at 23 Platt St. in East Norwalk, Prescott said. Firefighters found the houseboat resting on the bottom of the river, surrounded by a red substance thought to be gasoline or a fuel oil, he said. The spill 30- to 50-gallon spill was confined within the area of the boat due to the icy conditions in the Norwalk River, Prescott said. The property owner and vessel owner were ordered to contract with an environmental contractor to clean the spill and place booms around the houseboat until it could be salvaged, Prescott said. Cleanup crews were on the scene Saturday afternoon. Inspectors from the state Department of Energy and Environmental Protection and the Coast Guard along with the Norwalk Marine Police responded to the scene of the sunken houseboat.

<http://norwalk.dailyvoice.com/police-fire/houseboat-sinks-bottom-icy-norwalk-river-spills-fuel>



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USA, NV, LAS VEGAS, FEBRUARY 23 2014. MAN RUN OVER AT PETROL STATION: DRIVER SOUGHT

The driver knocks him to the ground - the car then speeds off as the man writhes in pain, clutching his legs.

 **Watch the Video** [CCTV of the Hit-&-Run in Las Vegas](#)

"Warning: Video Shows Man Being Run Over"

Police in Las Vegas have appealed for information over a hit-and-run caught on CCTV that left a man injured at a petrol station. In the footage, a grey Honda Accord is seen driving up to the victim, who was walking from the pump area towards the shop. As he looks back at the car, the driver accelerates, hitting the man and knocking him to the ground. The car then speeds off as the man writhes in pain, clutching his legs. Police have reveal that just before the incident, the victim drove into the station forecourt when a grey Honda Accord pulled out in front of him. The unnamed victim had to drive around the Accord to avoid an accident at an Arco station on February 6. The Accord, a 2010 or 2011 model, had tinted rear windows and a California licence plate beginning with "6C", said police. It was last seen driving out of the parking area westbound on Flamingo Road. The victim was then taken to hospital suffering injuries to his legs. Police say the suspect was described as a white male in his 30s with a medium build, who was last seen wearing a grey hoodie. Investigators have posted video of the incident on their official YouTube page in the hope someone will come forward with information leading to the driver's arrest. "We set up this video so folks would be able to ... notify us if they could identify this person or vehicle," Las Vegas police told FoxNews.com.

<http://news.sky.com/story/1215667/man-run-over-at-petrol-station-driver-sought>

USA, AZ, PHOENIX, FEBRUARY 23 2014. CONTAMINATED GROUNDWATER IN YUMA CREATES CONCERNS BY

chris mcdaniel

Groundwater Map



ADEQ is conducting a 60-day comment period concerning a plume of contaminated groundwater (seen here highlighted in pink) that originates near 20th Street and Factor Avenue and extends northwest to about 3rd Avenue and 18th Street. The four known chemicals contaminating the groundwater are typically associated with dry cleaning or wet/dark photography using negatives and chemicals to produce photographs before digital photography became common. The actual extent of contamination may be different than what is shown here, and may change in the future as new information becomes available to ADEQ.

The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) is considering how to clean-up a large plume of contaminated groundwater which extends through the Sunset Heights and Clarence Trigg neighborhoods of the Yuma Mesa. The plume, originating at 655 east 20th Street -- just to the northeast of the Yuma Sun offices on Arizona Avenue -- is bounded on the north by 17th Street, to the south by 21st Street, to the east by Kennedy Lane, and to the west by 4th Avenue. The groundwater in the effected area, located about 75 feet below ground surface, is contaminated with Bis(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate, cyanide, tetrachloroethene (PCE), and trichloroethene (TCE). These chemicals, which have commonly been used in the past by dry-cleaning and photofinishing companies, are toxic to humans. According to scientific studies, the risk for developing Parkinson's disease by those exposed to either PCE and TCE may increase as much as sixfold. Other studies have linked Bis(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate exposure to birth defects and insulin resistance, a precursor for diabetes. Currently, ADEQ has not found evidence leading them to believe people living in the area above the plume are at risk because their drinking water is piped in by the city of Yuma and not generally derived from well water on site. However, anyone drinking water from a private well near or within the contaminated plume should contact ADEQ immediately. "We try to identify if there are any private well owners out there using well water," said Scoot Goodwin, Senior Hydrologist with the ADEQ Waste Program Division. "We haven't heard of any yet. Certainly if they are within that area, contact us and let us know about it." ADEQ is also monitoring for any vapors seeping to the surface. "One of the things we have to evaluate is the vapor coming off the groundwater," Goodwin said. "We have some vapor wells out there in the neighborhood that aren't indicating that these vapor concentrations are high enough to be a concern. If you are not drinking it, that is the only other way to get exposed at this point." ADEQ recently finished a remedial investigation (RI) report about the contaminated groundwater. The report will be available for review by the general public during a Community Advisory Board meeting scheduled for 6 p.m. March 26 at the Yuma County Main Library, 2951 South



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21st Drive. During the meeting, all interested parties will be given an opportunity to comment and ask questions about the RI report, and will be invited to provide input about possible ways to mitigate the effects of the contaminated groundwater. "We will take comments... and then we will talk about our remedial objectives for the site," Goodwin said. "The next phase is the feasibility study and we'll start proposing ideas of how ADEQ wants to treat this contamination." The report is also available at the ADEQ Records Center in Phoenix at 1110 West Washington Street. With 24-hour notice, an appointment to review the public file can be made from 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. For more information, call (602) 771-4389. According to ADEQ, the contamination was caused by Houston Photo Products (HPP), which operated a motion picture laboratory and a photographic film and paper processing equipment manufacturing facility at 655 east 20th Street from 1966 until 1988. In 1988, the company's name was changed to Houston International Limited (HIL). HIL currently maintains offices at the site. While HPP was in operation, the wastewater at the facility was treated to recover silver before being disposed of in one of three ways. Some of the wastewater was discharged into a 1,000-gallon concrete underground sump on the east side of the property. When this sump was full, it was discharged to a disposal pond also on the east side of the property. Wastewater from this disposal pond overflowed onto the adjacent property to the east of the site. Wastewater was also used to water plants in landscaped areas at the front of the building. Finally, wastewater was discharged to the ground in the southwest portion of the property by a sprinkler system and later to a sump. Beginning in 1975, HPP used PCE to clean stainless steel machine parts in its manufacturing facility. On one occasion in 1978, PCE was discharged to a 1,000-gallon concrete underground tank, according to ADEQ. In 1990, HIL reported a leaking tank to ADEQ, which referred the facility to the Water Pollution Compliance Unit. HIL consultants then conducted an on-site soil and groundwater investigation under ADEQ oversight, and PCE and various metals were detected in the soil. In 1991, HIL began to use Industroclean instead of PCE. The company also installed three groundwater monitoring wells. Groundwater sampling tests from the wells in 1993 showed PCE concentrations exceeded the Arizona Aquifer Water Quality Standard of 5 micrograms per liter. Also in 1993, the ADEQ Hazardous Waste Section (HWS) inspected the facility, and in 1994, issued a compliance order to HIL. Consultants for HIL conducted additional soil and groundwater investigations and a soil vapor survey was completed, which showed elevated concentrations of both PCE and TCE. HIL then moved its motion picture laboratory offsite, and no further industrial wastewater has been generated there since that time. In 2000, ADEQ designated the property as a Water Quality Assurance Revolving Fund (WQARF) site. In 2002, about 1,700 tons of contaminated soil was removed from the site and a one-foot cap was placed over the remaining contaminated soil to prevent direct exposure to the atmosphere. Two unused sumps were removed and three active septic tanks were cleaned. During the clean-up, about 15,000 gallons of PCE and cyanide-contaminated wastewater and sludge were removed. In 2008, the last remaining septic system on the HIL property was decommissioned and replaced with a new system. Between 2009 and 2011, ADEQ installed several permanent soil vapor monitor probes and groundwater samples were taken. The data collected since then indicates the plume of contaminated groundwater now extends about 4000 feet to the northwest of the HIL property.

http://www.yumasun.com/news/contaminated-groundwater-in-yuma-creates-concerns/article_b033de86-9b6d-11e3-a07f-001a4bcf6878.html

USA, MT, BILLINGS, FEBRUARY 23 2014. EPA, CLEANER MOVE TO SETTLE SOLVENT CONTAMINATION CASE

clair johnson



The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency filed a complaint this week seeking \$10 million in costs from a Billings cleaning business along with documents to settle the case stemming from the cleanup of solvent-contaminated groundwater on lower Central Avenue in Billings. In complaint filed in U.S. District Court in Billings on Wednesday, the EPA alleges the defendants, Billings Laundry Co. and its subsidiary, Big Sky Linen Supply, are liable for \$10 million in costs the agency incurred in the cleanup of the Billings PCE Site. PCE is a hazardous chemical used in dry cleaning. EPA, represented by the Department of Justice, also filed a 47-page proposed consent decree in which the agency and Big Sky Linen agreed to settle the matter. In a review of company financial information, the government determined that the defendants "have limited financial ability to pay for response costs" but are able to pay something and meet other obligations, the consent decree said. The payments to the EPA from the companies include a total principal amount of \$825,000. The companies also agreed to pay EPA \$705,000 from proceeds related to insurance settlements. The parties agreed that the settlement was negotiated in good faith, will avoid "prolonged and complicated litigation" and is "fair, reasonable and in the



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public interest," the decree said. The decree was signed by U.S. Department of Justice attorneys, Montana's U.S. Attorney Mike Cotter, EPA officials and Robbin Cline, president of the companies. Cline and his attorney did not immediately return a call seeking comment. The decree said the defendants do not admit any liability. Federal attorneys could not be reached for comment. The consent decree must be approved by a district judge. U.S. District Judge Susan Waters referred the case to Magistrate Judge Carolyn Ostby. Big Sky Linen operated an industrial laundry business at 715 Central Ave. from 1967 to 1993, the complaint said. Big Sky continues to operate a laundry business but dry cleaning is no longer part of the operations. In 1999 and 2001, an investigation by the state Department of Environmental Quality found a PCE-contaminated groundwater plume and potential indoor air contamination associated with the groundwater contamination. EPA's Region 8 Emergency Response program got involved in the site in 2006 and sampled the groundwater, soils and indoor air. The agency determined that the PCE plume was 8,500 feet long, and up to 3,300 feet wide. The plume was moving east-northeast toward downtown Billings. PCE vapors also were found under the slabs of nearby homes and in residential indoor air. In the fall 2008, EPA completed cleanup of the site. The work included excavating about 6,600 tons of contaminated soil and installing a large underground steel containment wall around the plume. The agency also installed vapor mitigation systems in homes, the complaint said. EPA conducted groundwater monitoring of the site in 2012 and will do additional periodic groundwater monitoring for "at least several more years" to track the plume, the complaint said.

http://billingsgazette.com/news/local/epa-cleaner-move-to-settle-solvent-contamination-case/article_2434b6ac-7813-5905-bb4f-a43d0a2d480f.html

NORTHERN IRELAND, COUNTY TYRONE, COOKSTOWN, FEBRUARY 23 2014. CHEMICAL SPILL AT DALE FARM FOOD FACTORY IN COOKSTOWN

Firefighters have been called to deal with toxic fumes at a food processing plant in County Tyrone, after factory staff reported a chemical spill. It happened at about 15:40 GMT at a Dale Farm factory in Cookstown. District commander Andy Sinclair, from the Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue (NIFRS), said the fumes were caused by a spill from a 1,000 litre drum. No-one was injured, but local residents were advised to stay indoors and keep their doors and windows closed.

Evacuation

Mr Sinclair said up 25 firefighters were involved in the operation and had to wear breathing apparatus and chemical protection suits. "On arrival, we found a 1,000 litre drum of chemicals had spilled, which was giving off toxic fumes, which were quite evident and could be seen in colour," the NIFRS commander added. He said they evacuated the immediate area but, because the wind was blowing the fumes in the opposite direction, they did not evacuate a nearby housing estate "We were satisfied that the wind was blowing in the right direction, taking it away into fields, so it wasn't threatening anybody in the immediate stages. "Basically, between ourselves and the management team at the premises, we came up with a plan to dilute the chemical with water and flush it to drainage system that they had on site, so it was maintained and kept on site in their own systems." Mr Sinclair said it was a "quite a protracted incident" and it took his staff about four hours to complete the operation.

Extension

Firefighters left the scene on Cookstown's Moneymore Road at about 20:00 GMT. Dale Farm is the largest dairy production company in Northern Ireland and is part of the United Dairy Farmers Group. The group employs about 1,000 people and exports a range of dairy products to more than 45 countries. Last December, Dale Farm celebrated the official opening of an extension to its Cookstown factory. The company also invested in new machinery, doubling the amount of cheese it was able to proceed at the plant.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-northern-ireland-26310710>

IRELAND, DUBLIN, FEBRUARY 23 2014. INTEREST ON TOPAZ DEBT LEADS TO €13M LOSS >> FUEL RETAILER AND DISTRIBUTOR RECORDS 8 PER CENT RISE IN REVENUES TO MORE THAN €3.17BN



A Topaz petrol station: The Denis O'Brien-owned fuel retailer made a small operating profit but made a loss of more than €13m after interest was paid on its debt. Photograph: David Sleator

[Topaz](#) Energy Group, the fuel retailer and distributor recently taken over by Denis O'Brien, recorded an 8 per cent rise in revenues to more than €3.17 billion in the 12 months to the end of March last year. The group made a small operating profit of €296,000 but the interest bill on its debt mountain pushed it into the red, with a loss after tax of more than €13 million. The group, which



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operates about 330 petrol stations across the country and accounts for about a quarter of the market, is likely to return to profitability this year, however, following Mr O'Brien's purchase of about €304 million of the group's loans from [Irish Bank Resolution Corporation](#). Mr O'Brien, who was previously a minority shareholder in Topaz alongside Neil O'Leary's Ion Equity group, is reported to have paid about €150 million for the loans. According to the 2013 accounts, Topaz has accumulated losses of about €87 million, although it was sitting on cash of about €41 million. Its aviation fuel joint venture with [Shell](#) contributed sales to Topaz of about €260 million, down by about 7 per cent on the previous year.

Redundancy Costs

The group recorded exceptional costs during the period of more than €12 million, mostly relating to redundancy costs accrued through the closure of its distribution terminals in Limerick, Galway and Derry. The group's net debt during the year fell by almost 10 per cent to €176 million, according to the accounts. [John Williamson](#), the group's chief executive, said the debt deal Mr O'Brien struck with IBRC will help the company restructure, and hinted at the injection of fresh equity into the group by its new owner. "[It] allows us to restructure our balance sheet through a fresh issue of new share capital together with a significantly reduced level of debt. This restructuring will radically transform our balance sheet and ensure the group is very well positioned to capitalise on future growth opportunities," he said. He said the group had witnessed a "strong return to growth" during the year. "The company benefited from higher fuel volumes across all three of its divisions . . . growth in convenience retailing, [and] an investment in the forecourt network."

<http://www.irishtimes.com/business/sectors/retail-and-services/interest-on-topaz-debt-leads-to-13m-loss-1.1700846>

USA, N.C, JACKSONVILLE, FEBRUARY 23 2014. LEJEUNE WATER CONTAMINATION DATED TO 1950S



For Darrell Kline, it's all just dates now.

When the 37 year old heard about the latest study conducted by BioMed Central and published in the Environmental Health Journal this week documenting contamination of Camp Lejeune water sources dating earlier in the 1950s, he wasn't shocked by the findings. "It's all the same solvents, but it's probably earlier than we originally thought," said Kline, who was born and raised aboard Camp Lejeune from 1981 to 1984. "I just wish the government had manned up and said they needed to fix it rather than probably just shoving it under the rug." The study, released Wednesday, found that drinking water aboard Camp Lejeune was contaminated with chemicals from a drycleaning facility and a leaking fuel depot from the 1950s until 1985 — which is earlier than previous estimates. A report by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention dated Jan. 16 also cites similar findings. Other sources of contamination not

mentioned in the reports include leaking underground storage tanks, industrial-area spills and waste disposal sites, which are listed on the Agency of Toxic Substances and Disease Registry website: atsdr.cdc.gov/sites/lejeune. The biggest concern for Kline is the uncertainty of what, if anything, will happen to him or his family in the future and whether his undetermined stomach pain is not a much larger concern, he said. His father, who was stationed on Camp Lejeune as a Marine, was diagnosed with testicular and prostate cancer recently. To Kline, the government not taking care of the water contamination victims is a "slap in the face" for his dad's 24 years of military service. The BioMed Central study conducted a mortality study of 154,932 Camp Lejeune residents and compared them to 154,969 Camp Pendleton, Calif. residents during the same time frame. Camp Lejeune, according to the study had elevated mortality rates when compared to Pendleton. The CDC surveyed 12,598 families who had children at Camp Lejeune during the years of known contamination and found that mothers who ingested the water while pregnant were four times more susceptible to having babies born with spina bifida or other serious birth defects. With a 16-month-old daughter who is currently healthy, Kline said he wonders how long the effects of the chemicals will stay within his family. While he is concerned for her health, he does not blame the people who spilled or disposed of chemicals in days past. "The government should foot the bill for everyone affected by the water," Kline said. "I know too many people paying off medical bills for things linked to the water. Their problems are caused by the government and they need to take responsibility. They need to do more than they are doing." Some of the chemicals found in water samples include trichloroethylene or TCE, perchloroethylene or PCE, benzene and vinyl chloride or VC. For children exposed in utero, possible side effects of these chemicals include eye and heart defects, low birth weight, major malformations, low birth weight and more. For people of all ages, the contaminated water may have caused non-Hodgkins lymphoma, rectal, bladder, breast or lung cancer, auto-immune diseases, renal failure, neurological effects and more, according to the report.



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"Back in the day you poured stuff on the ground, it went away and you forgot about it," Kline said. "People weren't as environmentally conscious as they are nowadays." In 1982, the Corps discovered volatile organic compounds or VOC's in two of its eight water treatment plants on base. Tarawa Terrace for example, exceeded the maximum allowable levels of perchloroethylene or PCE for 346 months between November 1957 and February 1987. The most contaminated wells were shut down in February 1985 with the remainder of contaminated wells shut down by March 1, 1987, according to ADSTR. Now, according to Marine Capt. Maureen Krebs, a Headquarters Marine Corps public affairs officer, the water at Camp Lejeune is an "important concern" and it is tested more often than required, meeting all government drinking water standards. Krebs added that the Marine Corps has been actively identifying and notifying individuals who may have been exposed. While the ATSDR study does state that, due to study limitations, it cannot provide definitive evidence for causality nor can it answer the questions of whether someone has been harmed at Camp Lejeune, Krebs said the Corps will continue to assist those who have experienced health issues they believe to be associated with the water they drank aboard the installation. Local hospitals, such as Onslow Memorial Hospital and Naval Hospital Camp Lejeune, are suited to treat people with water-connected ailments or provide necessary referrals to specialists, according to public affairs representatives. Onslow Memorial Hospital spokeswoman Amy Sousa said regardless of the cause of cancer or illness, treatment options are available. Birth-defect treatment, she said, is based on whether a specialist is on staff for the affected system or organ. "In general, we would encourage anyone with concerns to discuss their specific concerns with their doctor," Sousa said. "It would be best if they discussed with their physician whether or not their symptoms could be related to water contamination." At both hospitals, no treatments specifically targets those who have been affected by the water contamination. Because of the contaminated water, the federal government, in 2012, enacted the Honoring America's Veterans and Caring for Camp Lejeune Families Act. Within the act, Camp Lejeune veterans, families, rural veterans, elderly veterans are given healthcare if they were exposed to the contaminated water between 1957 and 1987. Healthcare for affected families and individuals is provided through the Department of Veterans Affairs. As of February 9, according to Stephen Wilkins, a spokesman for the Department of Veterans Affairs in Durham, 9,796 veterans and 954 family members have sought information on care. Of those veterans, 1,788 have reported at least 1 of the 15 covered conditions and 650 have been treated by the VA. Family members have reported 157 cases of suffering from the covered conditions. Family members, according to Wilkins, should begin collecting documents proving eligibility and any bills, receipts and other documentation that can be used for determination and reimbursement. The VA, he said, will not charge copayments for hospital care or medical services provided to those affected by the water who have at least one of 15 of the acknowledged medical conditions. To be eligible for care resulting from exposure to contaminated water, you must be a veteran who was discharged under conditions other than dishonorable and must have served on Camp Lejeune between August 1953 and 1987. Lastly, a person must have a current disease and medical opinion that states the disease is a direct result of exposure to contaminated water. To apply, visit www.ebenefits.va.gov, work with an accredited veteran service officer from a veteran service organization such as the Disabled American Veterans or Military Order of the Purple Heart or visit a local VA facility. The Center for Disease Control did not respond to requests for information from The Daily News. For more information about other studies being conducted, visit www.atsdr.cdc.gov/sites/lejeune. To learn more about the Honoring America's Veterans and Caring for Camp Lejeune's Families Act of 2012, visit www.va.gov/opa/publications/benefits_book/benefits_contacts.asp. For Camp Lejeune's annual water quality reports, visit www.Lejeune.marines.mil/OfficesStaff/EnvironmentalMgmt/AnnualReports.aspx <http://www.jdnews.com/news/military/lejeune-water-contamination-dated-to-1950s-1.280901>

USA, N,M, ALBUQUERQUE, FEBRUARY 23 2014. KIRTLAND SPILL FLOW ESTIMATE LONGEST YET

[PDF Document Computer Simulation & Report](#)

The newest study estimating how fast contaminants from a Kirtland Air Force Base fuel spill would reach Albuquerque drinking water wells gives one of the longest time lines yet – 40 years – but a consultant's independent review of the same data suggests that may be overly optimistic. The 40-year estimate is from a new Air Force-funded contingency planning study, done jointly with the Albuquerque-Bernalillo County Water Utility Authority. However, a Water Authority consultant who examined the same study suggests that the contamination is likely to move more quickly. The consultant's review said more analysis is needed to know how much faster the contaminants will move. The new analysis is the latest in a flurry of sometimes conflicting estimates of how long it might take the contamination, primarily a toxic chemical known as ethylene dibromide, to reach drinking water wells. In November, the state Environment Department estimated the contamination was five to seven years away. A draft study by the federal Environmental Protection Agency made public in January estimated it would take 30 years. Two more computer models of the groundwater flow, one being done for the Air Force and another to be done by the U.S.



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Geological Survey, are expected later this year. The models are all variations of basic computer simulations on the flow of water through the gravels, rocks, sands and clays that make up the aquifer beneath Albuquerque. "This model is now one of many," Water Authority hydrologist Rick Shean said of the latest study. All of them, he said, are plagued by uncertainty in the data being used to develop them. "I'd be more confident with the modeling efforts if the data gaps were filled in," Shean said in an interview Friday. The utility's board of directors is scheduled to hear a report on the study Wednesday. Discovered in 1999, the leak from underground pipes at Kirtland's aircraft fuel loading facility had likely been going on for decades. Contamination has spread off the base, traveling more than a mile beneath a southeast Albuquerque neighborhood, and is now less than a mile from the nearest utility drinking water well. A New Mexico Environment Department scientist estimated as much as 24 million gallons of aviation fuel spilled before the leak was detected. Efforts to determine the spill's extent have been going on since its discovery, but no groundwater cleanup has been done yet. Frustrated by the pace of cleanup efforts and worried about the risk to a major source of the metro area's drinking water, the water utility in 2012 negotiated an agreement under which the Air Force would help fund a contingency planning effort. One of the first steps, to be presented to the water utility board Wednesday, was a computer simulation of the flow of water and contamination through the ground. In addition to estimating how fast the contamination might reach the drinking water wells, the study was intended to estimate the path the fuel might follow, according to Shean. That is important in deciding where to install additional monitoring wells to provide advance warning as the contamination approaches the wells, Shean said. Shean said the water utility wants to see the results of all the models before making decisions about how to proceed with its contingency plans.

<http://www.abqjournal.com/357343/news/kirtland-spill-flow-estimate-longest-yet.html>

BULGARIA, SOFIA, FEBRUARY 23 2014 THE WAR OVER BULGARIA'S PETROL HOLDING SCRAPS

After losing its fuel distributor, the former corporate giant Petrol Holding is struggling to keep its remaining assets. Capital weekly reviews the process in the context of the overall battle for control over the holding. One of the sides in the fight is shareholder Mitko Sabev who got the backing of Corporate Commercial Bank (CCB) at some point. Their opponents are Denis Ershov and Aleksandar Melnik who own 52.5% of the holding between themselves. In a dramatic twist, Ershov took over the company in November 2013. However, he lost the holding's most valuable possession – fuel distributor Petrol. A private enforcement agent sold it to companies linked to CCB majority shareholder Tsvetan Vasilev. There is no publically available information on the creditor that requested the sale of the fuel distributor. UniCredit Leasing was the initial creditor, but it later transferred the credit to another company, which, in turn, decided to cash it in by selling shares. Thus, various companies linked to CCB acquired not only the fuel distributor, but other price assets as well, such as real estate company Eurocapital Bulgaria. Eurocapital later went on to sell another three of Petrol's daughter companies. The money from the deals was initially supposed to go to Eurocapital's account in CCB. However, the funding ended up in an Investbank account. Capital weekly suggests that some of the other important real estate companies, part of the holding, might be sold soon. The newspaper names three of them - Interhotel Burgas, Bulgarian Rose Gardens, and Francis Residence. All three manage attractive estates on the Black sea coast and all three are under restraint on the request of UniCredit Leasing. Although UniCredit Group refuses to comment on customer relations, it will probably decide to cash in on those companies, too. They will most probably be transferred to Eurocapital or some other firm. UniCredit Leasing has already notified Petrol Holding's business airline carrier Air Lazur of a request to return the Challenger plane it bought via the leasing company.

<http://www.focus-fen.net/news/2014/02/22/327994/the-war-over-bulgarias-petrol-holding-scrap.html>

AUSTRALIA, NORTHERN TERRITORY, FEBRUARY 23 2014. MINE WORKERS HELP WOMAN BURNT BY PETROL FIRE



Map:

[Adelaide River 0846](#)

A woman suffering serious burns was found wandering near the Stuart Highway by miners. The gold mine workers encountered the woman near the Hayes Creek roadhouse, about 150 kilometres south of Darwin, this morning. She was rushed to nearby medical facilities. Local paramedics called in a Careflight helicopter and the woman was flown to Royal Darwin Hospital where she is in a serious condition. Careflight director Ian Badham says it is believed the woman was by herself when she tried to start a fire with a can of petrol. "She told the mine workers who started treatment and the medical team from the TIO rescue helicopter that she tried to throw some petrol on to a fire to get it going," he said. "It flared up, leaving her with severe burns to her upper body."

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2014-02-20/mine-workers-help-woman-burnt-by-petrol-hayes-creek/5273302>



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