



Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network Release 2014 – 1,065 Newsy Stuff

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

May 07 2014



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USA, WASHINGTON, APRIL 23 2014. U.S. URGED TO TACKLE LEAD IN AVIATION GASOLINE

carey l. biron

Consumer advocates, public health workers and environmental groups here are calling on the federal government to take a formal step towards regulating the use of lead in aviation gasoline, despite a failure to do so for nearly two decades. The United States is one of the few countries that continue to allow the use of lead in aviation gasoline, known as "avgas" and used in more than 150,000 small planes and helicopters at around 20,000 U.S. airports. Avgas is now the country's largest source of lead in air emissions, with significant, universally acknowledged ramifications for the natural environment and, particularly, for human health. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the lead regulator on such issues, ordered the removal of lead from the gasoline used in motor vehicles a decade and a half ago. Yet despite what proponents of new regulations say are clear scientific findings and a straightforward conversion process, the EPA has yet to weigh in on the matter. "We already know there's no safe threshold for lead exposure, and we also know that lead is toxic and a possible carcinogen even at low levels, leading to brain damage and learning disabilities," Kathy Attar, toxics programme manager with Physicians for Social Responsibility, a consumer protection group, told IPS. "These effects are particularly dangerous for children. The EPA has the evidence it needs, the science is clear, so we really feel that there's no need to wait any longer." Few other countries continue to use leaded avgas, though Algeria, Iraq and Yemen did still do so as of late last year. The United States is not only the world's most prominent laggard in this regard, but also by far avgas's largest user. Smaller aircraft tend to fly much lower to the ground than jet airliners, and hence their emissions can have a much more pronounced, immediate effect on human health (jet fuel is already lead-free). Further, lead stays in the environment for a long time, leading to a "legacy lead" already left over from decades' of use of leaded gasoline and paint. Meanwhile, the global drawdown in the use of leaded fuel has resulted in benefits of some 2.5 trillion dollars a year, according to United Nations [estimates](#) from 2011. That study found that the economic benefits of this phase-out, primarily in terms of public health, outweighed the costs by 10 times.

New Evidence

Physicians for Social Responsibility is one of three advocacy groups now calling on the EPA to make what is known as an endangerment finding over the lead in aviation gas. This initial step would recognise that avgas lead causes pollution and that this pollution poses a threat to human health. Such a finding would constitute a necessary first step towards eventually creating a new regulation on the issue. Yet some say that past EPA determinations on these issues already satisfies the requirements for a formal endangerment determination. "The only showing required for a finding of endangerment is that lead emissions from aircraft engines fuelled by leaded aviation gasoline cause, or contribute to, air pollution which may reasonably be anticipated to endanger public health or welfare," the new [petition](#), filed with the EPA on Monday, states. "In this case, both prongs of that test have been met ... There is no need for further study. EPA has all of the evidence it needs to make an endangerment finding." The EPA was unable to comment for this story by deadline. Another green group, Friends of the Earth U.S., has pushed this line with the EPA in the past, and been turned down. Indeed, the current petition is actually a request for reconsideration of a similar petition filed with the regulator in 2006, while two years ago a court refused to force the agency to take further action. In 2010, the EPA did take initial steps to start drafting a rule, but that didn't include the endangerment finding and the agency has since stated that it needs to undertake more analysis. In mid-2012 it responded to the original Friends of the Earth petition, however, and has said it could decide on future action by the end of 2015. It didn't commit to that date, however. And advocates say new evidence has emerged that wasn't taken into account during the legal proceedings and past agency decisions. "We've seen the EPA issue the results of a lead-monitoring study at 17 airports, including findings of lead levels higher than federal standards," Marcie Keever, legal director at Friends of the Earth, which took part in Monday's petition, told IPS. "In addition, in 2011 a study from Duke University reported on the severe negative impacts of lead from aircraft, finding elevated levels of lead in the blood of those living within 500 meters of airports." The EPA's powers have become intensely politicised in recent years, due both to the agency's positioning as the prime regulator on greenhouse gas emissions and the perception that its rules often increase companies' operating costs. Keever acknowledges that the agency needs to be careful about its rationale for action, but also suggests that the issues surrounding leaded avgas are relatively straightforward. "Because of the pressures the EPA faces whenever it moves forward with regulation, they want to be very thorough," she says. "But we think this issue is much easier than, for instance, greenhouse gases – the science is extremely clear."

Alternatives Available

In the past, members of Congress have pushed the EPA to go slow on the avgas issue. Particularly vocal have been lawmakers from the large northern state of Alaska, where small aircraft are especially important for reaching otherwise inaccessible communities. "While we understand and share your desire to remove lead from avgas ... we also need to ensure



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the EPA does not ban lead used in avgas until we have a safe, viable, readily available, and cost-efficient alternative," 27 U.S. senators [wrote](#) to the EPA in 2011. Now that situation could be changing. In December, Shell became the first major oil company to unveil a "lead-free alternative" avgas, and last year the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration formally noted that such alternatives exist. Further, the economic burdens involved in such a transition could be relatively low. Currently, unleaded gasoline used in automobiles is actually cheaper than leaded avgas. And while some new infrastructure would be required at airports, most aircraft would require no updating whatsoever. According to Friends of the Earth, some 75 percent of the current U.S. fleet could start using unleaded fuel with no retrofitting whatsoever.

<http://www.ipsnews.net/2014/04/u-s-urged-tackle-lead-aviation-gasoline/>

USA, OK, WOODWARD, APRIL 24 2014. NO ONE INJURED IN FIRE, EXPLOSION AT WOODWARD FACILITY >> SEVERAL TANKS EXPLODED



Three workers were on site when several tanks exploded at the facility just after midnight. All employees made it out safely. Several fire departments responded to an industrial fire at a facility in Woodward, early Wednesday morning. Dispatchers tell News 9 the fire at Basic Sediments and Waste Solutions is contained and there's no immediate threat to the area. Three workers were on site when several tanks exploded at the facility just after midnight. All employees made it out safely. It appears a mechanical device malfunctioned and started the fire, according to Woodward County Emergency Management Director Matt Lehenbauer. Right now, law enforcement is directing traffic off Highway 270 at Western Avenue due to heavy smoke.

<http://www.newson6.com/story/25316414/explosion-and-fire-reported-at-woodward-facility>

AUSTRALIA, NEW SOUTH WALES, KURNELL, APRIL 24 2014. CALTEX TO ASSESS BOTANY BAY OIL SPILL IN SYDNEY



Slicks and sludge were visible in areas of the sea around Kurnell and local fishermen raised concerns about the potential harm to wildlife.

Caltex has been ordered to assess the impact of an oil spill on Sydney's Botany Bay during torrential rain earlier this year. Oil leaked from Caltex's Kurnell refinery and flowed into the sea on March 23, when Sydney received a month's worth of rain in one afternoon. Slicks and sludge were visible in areas of the sea around Kurnell and local fishermen raised concerns about the potential harm to wildlife. Initial clean-up work took place immediately after the spill. The NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) has now issued a second clean-up notice to Caltex - a legal direction ordering the company to carry out a broad

assessment of impact from the spill. "Caltex must submit an update in four months and must have completed the ecological assessment program within six months," said acting chief environmental regulator Gary Whytcross. "The final assessment report must be submitted to the EPA by November 22. "It is hoped that these reports will show recovery of the impacted area."

http://www.afr.com/p/business/companies/caltex_to_assess_botany_bay_oil_kAqNxfPVxNwE0lm85mRG4l

GREECE, SANTORINI ISLAND, APRIL 24 2014. GREEK FIREWORKS DISPLAY LEAVES U.S. WOMAN CRITICALLY INJURED – HUSBAND

 [Watch the Video Greek Fireworks Display Leaves U.S. Woman Critically Injured – Husband](#)

"Please pray for my wife" says the husband of an American woman critically injured in a fireworks display in Greece.

The husband of an American tourist in critical condition after being wounded by home-made improvised fireworks on the island of Santorini asked on Monday that people pray for his wife. Chris Presmyk is one of three American tourists and one Greek injured on April 20 from makeshift fireworks thrown as part of a tradition after Easter midnight mass on Santorini island. His wife is in critical condition in a hospital in the town of Heraklion, on the island of Crete, where the four were flown by plane. The Presmyks and two friends went to see the fireworks display outside a local church, but were unaware that some of the fireworks were home-made. Makeshift fireworks may often have explosive materials in them such as gunpowder or dynamite. "We did not know, we thought it would be normal fireworks but of course it was home-made explosive devices, and so we



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were watching from the side and the explosive devices, they got bigger and louder, so there was a gentleman in front of us who said we should back away, and so we turned to do that, and immediately there was an explosion behind us, that was very loud and very close," said Chris Presmyk. He said he had not spoken with his wife since the incident took place after midnight on Saturday. "I have not spoken with her since about two o'clock on Saturday morning. They assure me that she is doing well and that she will recover but they were life threatening injuries," he said, and fighting back the tears added, "Please pray for her." Presmyk's wife, aged 51, suffered injuries to her intestine and doctors said on Monday she is still in critical condition in the intensive care unit after surgery. They were cautiously optimistic however as laboratory tests showed an improvement in her development. "From the very first moment her condition was life-threatening and we had to fight to save her life. (Now) there is a ray of light in her condition. There is a ray of light and optimism," said the Venizelio Hospital Director Nikos Haritakis. Handmade fireworks containing explosive materials are illegal, but are often made and set off after Easter midnight mass which marks the resurrection of Christ. "It is a barbaric custom, a barbaric habit, which at this moment has caused people to suffer, and caused their lives to be in danger," said Haritakis. Police said on Monday five people have been arrested on Santorini island in relation to the event, and at least two of them are facing charges of grievous bodily harm and illegal weapons possession. - See more at: <http://www.ntd.tv/en/news/world/europe/20140423/131573-greek-fireworks-display-leaves-us-woman-critically-injured--husband.html#sthash.W5h4o4gh.dpuf>

<http://www.ntd.tv/en/news/world/europe/20140423/131573-greek-fireworks-display-leaves-us-woman-critically-injured--husband.html>

CANADA, ONT, TORONTO, MISSISSAUGA, APRIL 24 2014. EXPLOSION AT MISSISSAUGA WAREHOUSE INJURES 4 FIREFIGHTERS >> STORED BUTANE LIGHTERS AND AEROSOL CANS OF INSECT SPRAY

 **Watch the Video [3]** [Firefighters Suffered 'Blast Injuries,' Not Burns, Fire Chief Says](#)

 **Photo's [3]** [Explosion At Mississauga Warehouse Injures 4 Firefighters](#)



Police said air quality was a major concern following the Mississauga, Ont., fire due to the potential nature of the substances stored in the building. Air quality tests were conducted throughout the day, but no neighbourhood homes had to be evacuated.

A powerful explosion at a Mississauga warehouse came without warning on Wednesday morning, injuring a group of firefighters who were trying to make their way inside. It was just after 4:30 a.m. ET when firefighters were alerted to the fire at an industrial warehouse located at 2797 Thamesgate Dr., just north of Toronto Pearson International Airport. As the first firefighters on the scene attempted to enter the building, a large explosion caused a wall to collapse, briefly trapping them inside. Mississauga's deputy fire chief, Greg Laing, told reporters that the responding fire crews were not aware that the building

contained explosive materials. "Normally, fires progress in a certain way and that one did not," Laing said Wednesday afternoon. "That one went from a building and contents fire emitting smoke, to an instantaneous destruction of the entire building, which we normally only associate with an explosive device that would do something like that." Peel Regional Police Const. Thomas Ruttan said Wednesday that the warehouse is a storage facility for imported goods that included butane lighters and aerosol cans of insect spray, which appear to be the cause of the explosion. Four firefighters were injured. At least three of those firefighters were taken to hospital. One was treated for smoke inhalation. The explosion also blew out the windows of a fire truck. The heat melted parts of its exterior. "We are incredibly fortunate that nobody was killed," Laing said. the most seriously injured firefighter was reported to be in critical condition when initially taken to hospital. Fire officials offered conflicting information on his status as of late Wednesday afternoon — Laing said he had been informed that individual was in serious, stable condition, while Fire Chief John McDougall said he remained critical. "They are improving, there's two or three of them that are undergoing surgery and some need more surgery but they seem to be stable," McDougall told reporters. "The most serious one is reported to me as being critical, but stable. So, we're hoping that improves over the next few hours." Those firefighters suffered "blast injuries," as opposed to burns, McDougall said. McDougall said the injured firefighters all are "very experienced" and each had between five and 20 years of service. Mississauga Mayor Hazel McCallion said the city has dealt with many fires over the years, though one like this was not expected. "It really has been a very sad day for us," she said, when speaking with reporters Wednesday afternoon. McCallion said it is her understanding that the building was inspected by firefighters a year ago, but it was vacant at the time of that inspection. The mayor said city staff are trying to confirm whether or



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not the business in that building had been granted an occupancy permit. Ken Cree, the former manager of the property, said the 2,800-square-metre warehouse was sold last year. "The building is fire-monitored and the building is sprinklered, so I'm not quite sure why it got so bad," he told CBC News. Twelve hours after they first arrived, firefighters were still dealing with hot spots at the scene. The cause of the fire remains unknown. The Office of the Fire Marshal, the Ministry of Environment and the Ministry of Labour were at the scene, in addition to investigators with the fire service. The CBC's Shannon Martin reported that the Ministry of Environment had a mobile unit on scene. Air quality tests were conducted throughout the day, but no neighbourhood homes had to be evacuated. The Mississauga Fire Fighters Association tweeted their thanks for the thoughts and prayers of others on Wednesday. Firefighters from other cities tweeted their condolences to their colleagues in Mississauga:

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/toronto/explosion-at-mississauga-warehouse-injures-4-firefighters-1.2618753>

USA, N.D, NOONAN, APRIL 24 2014. NOONAN GAS STATION RADIOACTIVE CLEANUP BEGINS

jerry huerta

 **Watch the Video** [Noonan Gas Station Radioactive Cleanup Begins](#)



An abandoned gas station in Noonan has received a lot of attention over the past two months because it contains radioactive material. The material was dumped illegally. Today, was the start of the cleanup. The cleanup of the abandoned gas station in Noonan happened earlier today with Secure Energy Services putting up caution tape around the perimeter first. "The wind does have some effect we're putting some engineer controls in place to make sure that none of the radioactive materials escape us or get away," says Robert Krumberger the manager of Technical Services for Secure's U.S. Division. "We are also doing air monitoring in the support zones." Krumberger says his team started off by doing a background radiation survey to determine the radiation

levels. Then, they removed the socks from the building and placed them in specialized containers. The filter socks then were going to be transported to a licensed and permitted disposal facility. "Secure officials are saying the clean up will likely take a day, but locals have some ideas on what they would like to do with the building." "My opinion, I think they need to demo the building," says Federico Leguizamon. "If they cannot find the owner I think the town needs to or even the county do something about it." "Sell the land to someone and have something nicer put up there," says Marsha Leguizamon. "It would be nice to have some nicer looking stores right as you come into town." The owners of Uno Mas in Noonan Federico and Marsha Leguizamon have lived in town for four years, and were surprised by the building's upkeep. "The concern is making sure once all the radioactive filter socks are out of there, is that the residual contamination that's there doesn't exceed EPA limits" Jody Gunlock said. The emergency manager and 911 Coordinator for Divide County Jody Gunlock has been involved with this project since the beginning. He agrees with what the locals are saying that the building should be demolished. Gunlock added the decision hasn't been made on what to do with the building after the final radiation test is done.

<http://www.kfyrvtv.com/story/25324171/noonan-gas-station-cleanup-begins>

NIGERIA, BORNO, BAMA, APRIL 24 2014. THERE'RE 500 ILLEGAL UNDER GROUND PETROL TUNNELS IN BAMA - - GYANG

henry umoru & joseph erunke

Former Comptroller-General of Customs and Gbong Gwom Jos, HRH Buba Jacob Gyang, yesterday, disclosed that there are over 500 petroleum tankers loading daily to Cameroon, just as he said the people bury them under the tunnels for onward transfer to Cameroon. The traditional ruler, who is a member of the Committee on Land Tenure and National Boundaries, spoke on the various lapses at the different exit points of the country which range from lack of coordination, poor facilities, rivalry and power play among the various security agencies at the border posts. He said: "We are not serious in handling these things because somebody's interest is concerned. There is lot to do about this national security matter. He said many people in our neighboring countries - Niger, Chad and Cameroon are living on products from Nigeria. For instance, in Bama in Maiduguri, there are over 500 petroleum tankers loading daily to cross over to Cameroon. In fact there is an underground tunnel through which Petroleum products are siphoned to Cameroon." He also said that one of the key thriving businesses of Ogun State is smuggling across borders.

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201404230186.html>



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HUNGARY, PRAGUE, APRIL 24 2014. HUNGARY'S MOL ACQUIRES ENI'S 124 CZECH PETROL STATIONS -REPORT

Hungarian petrochemical group MOL will acquire 124 Agip petrol stations in the Czech Republic from Italy's ENI, a paper reported on Wednesday, quoting unnamed sources. MOL will not pay cash for the stations, but exchange them for its Mantova refinery in Italy and some of its petrol stations in the country, the Hospodarske Noviny business daily reported. Eni and MOL declined to comment. MOL will operate 273 gas stations in the Czech Republic after the deal, making it number two on the market. The largest share, 340 stations, belongs to Benzina chain controlled by Poland's PKN Orlen through its Czech subsidiary Unipetrol. ENI is also in talks to leave its stake in the Czech Republic's sole refiner, Ceska Rafinerska, which the Italians could sell to PKN Orlen.

<http://af.reuters.com/article/commoditiesNews/idAFL6N0NF1A720140423>

NIGERIA, EDO STATE, IVUE-UROMI, APRIL 24 2014. TANKER EXPLOSION ROASTS 2 PERSONS TO DEATH IN UROMI



Two persons suspected to be oil bunkers were yesterday roasted to ashes in a tanker explosion at Ivue-Uromi, Esan North East Local Government Area of Edo State. Two persons were however rescued and taken to hospital, by inhabitants of the community. The incident occurred at about 1:30am following an accident that happened when the driver of the truck lost control and crashed into a high tension electric pole. The high tension electric cable reportedly collapsed on the crude oil laden truck, causing it to burst into flames. Spokesperson for the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) in Uromi, Inspector Augustine Apili told newsmen that the accident could have been caused by reckless driving in an attempt by the alleged bunkers to escape from soldiers who were trailing them. He disclosed plans by the NSCDC to arrest the two survivors of the accident, with a view to investigating the source of the crude oil, and those behind the operation. A resident of the community, Mr. Collins Uhebaghi narrated to The Nigerian Observer that he was at a night burial

ceremony close to the scene when he heard a loud explosion, adding that two persons were rescued and taken to the hospital. The Chairman Nigeria Red Cross Society in the area, Mr. Michael Odiahi described the explosion as a disaster, saying they were on ground to prevent people from getting too close to the burning truck in case of further explosions. As at the time of this report, the tanker was still in flames, with no fire fighter in sight while substances suspected to be crude oil filled the gutter.

<http://nigerianobservernews.com/23042014/news/news4.html#.U1jLHMZmim4>

USA, N.H, WILTON, APRIL 24 014. FIRM PAYS \$40,000 FINE FOR REMOVING GAS TANKS

Attorney General Joseph A. Foster and N.H. Department of Environmental Services Commissioner Thomas S. Burack announce that the Hillsborough County Superior Court South approved a consent decree between the state and the defendants, ENI 626 & 630 Gibbons Highway, LLC ("ENI") for violations associated with one of ENI's permitted underground storage tank facilities at the Brookside Mini Mart and gas station in Wilton. The decree assesses a civil penalty of \$40,000, which ENI has paid in full. The settlement resolves allegations that the company conducted permanent tank closure activities including excavation and removal of four petroleum storage tanks before notifying DES of the permanent closure of these tanks. State law requires that DES be notified a minimum of 30 days prior to removal. The company neither admits nor denies the allegations. "Gasoline had been previously released from the vicinity of these tank systems and contaminated an adjacent water supply well, which has since been remediated. Consequently, DES was interested in performing a forensic evaluation of the system's integrity during the closure operations in an effort to find the source of contamination. The lack of prior notification prevented this," said Thomas Burack, DES Commissioner. "Proper notification enables DES to fully investigate the condition of the tanks, piping, and surrounding soil when petroleum storage tanks are unearthed and removed," said Burack. "Notification requirements such as these are essential, not only for determining whether there is a party liable for contamination, but also for assessing the best remedial response required. Notification also allows DES to proactively identify equipment issues that could cause problems at other facilities and that should be avoided in future installations in order to protect the environment and our citizens," said Attorney General Joseph Foster.

http://www.fosters.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20140423/GJBUSINESS_01/140429800



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USA, MA, GREENFIELD, APRIL 24 2014. GREENFIELD SHELL GASOLINE STATION FINED \$10,000 FOR SPILL THAT IMPACTED LOCAL BROOK

anthony fay

The owner and operator of a Greenfield gas station is being fined a total of \$10,000 by the state Department of Environmental Protection, following an incident in which gas from the station leaked into a storm drainage system and a nearby brook. According to a news release sent to 22News by the Mass DEP, they were called to investigate in September 2012, when the Greenfield Fire Department found the leaked gasoline near the Shell station at 100 Mohawk Trail. The DEP says that it was determined the gas had leaked from piping that was underneath one of the station's dispensers. They also say that the owner of the station, the Estate of Helen Mackin, and the operator, Lipton, Inc. of Pittsfield, had failed to properly maintain the underground storage tank system. "Lipton agreed to pay a penalty of \$3,000, correct outstanding violations and certify to MassDEP that all violations have been corrected. Mackin agreed to pay a \$7,000 penalty for the discharge of gasoline to the surface water," the release stated. The Mackin estate has also worked to clean up the contaminated soil and groundwater, the DEP says.

<http://www1p.com/2014/04/23/greenfield-shell-gasoline-station-fined/>

USA, TN, JOELTON, APRIL 24 2014. HIGHWAY 41A CLOSED AFTER FUEL TANKER ROLLOVER

 **Photo's [4]** [Highway 41a Closed After Fuel Tanker Rollover](#)



Highway 41A has been closed after a fuel tanker rolled over near the Cheatham County/Davidson County line. Several gallons of fuel were leaking. The crash happened just after 12:30 p.m. Tuesday. The cause of the crash was unavailable, but the tanker appeared to have rolled over and slid down the embankment. The cab and tanker sustained significant damage. There was no word on any possible injuries. Officials with the Cheatham County Sheriff's Office said a significant amount of fuel was leaking. Video from Sky HD showed several gallons of fuel spilling from the back of the rig. HAZMAT crews responded to the scene, but were proceeding cautiously because of the amount of fuel that was saturating the ground. They have asked for aid from Davidson

County crews. Highway 41A was closed in both directions as crews worked to clear the wreckage. They were spraying foam over the spilled gasoline before attempting to remove it. Drivers have been advised to seek alternate routes. Officials with the Tennessee Department of Transportation said they expected the road to be closed until 7 p.m. No evacuations of the surrounding structures have been issued.

<http://www.newschannel5.com/story/25310693/highway-41a-closed-after-fuel-tanker-rollover>

USA, MI, SEBEWAING, APRIL 24 2014. SEBEWAING RESPONDS TO SECOND FUEL LEAK

chris aldrige

A portion of Sebewaing River has been contained after a fuel leak — the second time a contaminant has entered the river in as many weeks following an April 7 oil-like spill. Matt Bumhoffer, Sebewaing Township fire chief, said crews arrived to the scene Sunday within 10 minutes of receiving a 3:30 p.m. call to see a four- to six-foot wide strip of fuel moving along the river. "There was a strong odor of fuel," Bumhoffer said. They quickly placed an oil boom across the river to contain a 100-square-foot area. "We went and got the Village of Sebewaing's row boat and placed the boom across the river," Bumhoffer said. "Then we got a plug for the tile to stop the flow of product coming into the river." Fuel had been leaking from a 275-gallon tank that tipped over in the basement of a business near Center Street in downtown Sebewaing, Bumhoffer said. The fuel flowed from a four-inch tile connected to a floor drain and into the river. Bumhoffer said the business where the leak occurred had been closed for at least 10 years. He declined to give a name of the business. The incident occurred about a quarter-mile east of the oil-like spill that occurred April 7, within about 50 to 100 yards of the Center Street bridge, according to the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ). "It looks like there may have been water in the basement and the floor drain may have been plugged," said Kip Cronk, environmental quality analyst at MDEQ. "There was a lot of water coming out the pipe. We believe it was flooding of the basement that caused it to tip over." Cronk cited a hard winter as a contributing factor and said melting frost may have "moved things around and moved some product." Neither MDEQ nor Bumhoffer had a measure for how much fuel had spilled into the river. There was, however, close to 100 gallons pulled from the 275-gallon tank located inside the closed business that hadn't spilled into the river, Bumhoffer said. The property owner called Saginaw-based



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Kessler Environmental Excavation environmental company for removal of the fuel tank, Cronk said. The fire department pumped the drain out, flushed water into the pipe and helped vacuum discharge from the river. Crews spent three hours Sunday containing the spill. Bumhoffer and the fire department worked for eight hours Monday to flush out the drain until water started running clear around 6 p.m., Bumhoffer said. Bumhoffer said the 275-gallon fuel tank had been cut up and hauled out. Two 55-gallon "unknown" drums — one metal and rusted, the other plastic — containing "unknown product" also had been removed from the business, Cronk said. "They had environmental risk to them," Cronk said. Bumhoffer said he's been with the department for 16 years and "hasn't seen anything like this on the river." "It's been a bad spring for contaminants going into the river," Bumhoffer said. "It's the first time we've had two back-to-back spills like this." In both incidents, damages have been reported to be minimal. "We haven't had any dead fish or anything like that," he said. Cronk did not yet have an estimate for costs associated with either cleanup, but said the property owner is responsible for the April 20 fuel spill. A source has not yet been determined for the April 7 oil-like spill. Initial lab results show the product being "some kind of lubricating oil," Cronk said, adding that more results will be forthcoming. If a responsible party cannot be determined, "there is potential for funds available through the state and Coast Guard and even Huron County," and a reimbursement program for oil spills through the Coast Guard for fire departments, he said. Cronk said the MDEQ is working closely with village officials, three MDEQ divisions and the Coast Guard to ensure flood and gutter drains are properly draining. He commended the fast response and efforts of the Sebawaing Township Fire Department. "There was minimal environmental damage because of the quick response from the fire department and their containment of the incident," Cronk said. Help also is needed from the community. "Get your tanks out of the ground if you have them," Bumhoffer said. "The DEQ is there to work with you."

http://www.michiganstumb.com/news/article_fc5cd8e8-cae9-11e3-b32b-0019bb2963f4.html

USA, NE, IMPERIAL, APRIL 24 2014. BLOCK OF BROADWAY CLOSED OFF AFTER FUEL OVERFILL

Jan Schultz



Imperial volunteer firefighters apply water/foam along Broadway Monday after an underground fuel tank overfilled. The Bosselman fuel truck is in the rear as are Harchelroad Motors employees applying floor dry material.

A routine filling of an underground fuel tank at the Imperial Kwik Stop Store turned into a two-hour ordeal Monday after the tank overfilled. The block of Broadway between 3rd and 4th Sts. was closed off for two hours mid-afternoon while cleanup operations took place. Fuel from a Bosselman truck was being dispensed into the underground tank between the Kwik Stop's pumps and the Harchelroad building to the south when the overfill occurred. It spilled fuel out through the manhole cover over the top of the tank, onto the lot and east toward

Broadway. Fire Chief Nick Schultz said the safety mechanism that generally safeguards against overfills apparently failed. Initially, the truck driver attempted to stop the flow before the firefighters arrived after a 911 call. When the Imperial Volunteer Fire Department (IVFD) was on the scene, floor dry material was used to soak up the spill and attempts were made to dam it up so as not to reach the storm sewer. That seepage into the sewer system was stopped and contained, Schultz said. Members of the IVFD then applied foam to minimize the fumes and to neutralize the fuel, Schultz said. "Our concern with fuel exposed on the surface is the possibility of flames or sparks that could ignite a major fire," Schultz said. Foaming the area is a precaution against that, he added. The IVFD and Imperial Police Dept. remained on the scene for two hours until the driver finished paperwork and was able to leave. The area remained roped off until a Fire Marshal's Office fuel division investigator and an EPA official could get to the scene. That was expected on Tuesday.

http://www.imperialrepublican.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=6737:block-of-broadway-closed-off-after-fuel-overfill&catid=36:news&Itemid=76

USA, N.C, COVE CREEK, APRIL 24 2014. OVERTURNED TANKER CLOSES A LANE OF I-40 IN NORTH CAROLINA

Authorities say one lane of Interstate 40 West in the North Carolina mountains has reopened after a tanker truck overturned near the Tennessee state line. The Department of Transportation said the tanker wrecked Monday afternoon at mile marker 6 in Haywood County and closed the entire road. Officials said early Tuesday the left lane had reopened. They hoped to have the right lane reopened by 8 a.m. Tuesday.

Related Stories [I-40 Back Open After Truck Hauling Chemicals Overturms](#)

http://www.tricities.com/news/article_5e851a2e-ca29-11e3-994e-0017a43b2370.html



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USA, N.Y., NEW YORK, APRIL 24 2014. ITY OF NEW YORK V. EXXON MOBIL CORP: DAMAGES WITHOUT INJURY

jason kellam

Jurist Guest Columnist [Eric Lasker](#) of [Hollingsworth LLP](#) discusses standing and City of New York v. Exxon Mobil Corp.

It is a fundamental tenet of our constitutional system of justice that courts are limited in jurisdiction to cases or controversies involving injuries that are "concrete, particularized and actual or imminent." In [Lujan v. Defenders of Wildlife](#), the US Supreme Court held that this injury-in-fact requirement was an "irreducible minimum of constitutional standing," essential to the proper balance of power between the three branches of government. But in a now-final ruling by the US Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, a defendant has been held liable for more than \$100 million for conduct that is causing no current injury and that a jury concluded would not cause cognizable injury even assuming a series of speculative actions over the next 25 years. The case is [City of New York v. Exxon Mobil Corp.](#) The case arose from Exxon Mobil's oxygenation of gasoline with a chemical compound called [methyl-tertiary-butyl-ether](#) (MTBE). MTBE was added to gasoline in compliance with a federal mandate under the [Clean Air Act](#) because it helps gasoline burn more cleanly, thus reducing air pollution. At the time, the Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") believed this environmental benefit outweighed a recognized risk that MTBE spreads more easily in groundwater than other gasoline components. However, reports of MTBE groundwater contamination in the 1990s led to a phasing out of MTBE in gasoline in the 2000s and MTBE's undisputed benefit of cleaner air has now taken a back seat to legal disputes over alleged injuries to groundwater supplies. In 2004, the City of New York brought suit against Exxon Mobil for claimed injuries to the city's drinking water supplies. As ultimately demonstrated at trial, the city's damages claim faced a number of real world "fact checks" that should have prevented the case from proceeding. First, the city obtains its drinking water from upstate reservoirs, not the allegedly impacted groundwater. Second, the city was precluded from using the groundwater at issue because it was heavily polluted with other contaminants having nothing to do with Exxon Mobil or MTBE. Thus, the groundwater could only provide a future source of drinking water if the city builds a treatment facility to treat these other contaminants, a facility that is not even in construction and, accepting the city's expressed good faith intent, would not be in place for another 10-15 years. Third, the groundwater is not currently contaminated with MTBE above drinking water standards. Instead, the city's claim rests upon the premise that currently inactive wells would begin pumping drinking water after the construction of the separately required treatment facility and would draw more MTBE in from more distant groundwater supplies. Fourth, assuming the treatment facility was built and the wells were put in service, MTBE levels in the groundwater at their projected peak still would not exceed safe drinking water standards. In holding that the city's claim nonetheless presented a ripe case or controversy, the Second Circuit relied upon two legal predicates: (1) that a projected future injury is sufficient to provide standing so long as there is evidence of some current, measurable impact (even if not sufficient to demonstrate present damage) and (2) that groundwater is damaged by the presence of a chemical compound even at levels within safe drinking water standards. Each of these findings raise significant questions about the vitality of standing jurisprudence in environmental cases and each open the door to new theories of liability without injury-in-fact that disregard the irreducible minimum protection against judicial overreach and unfounded plaintiff-counsel-driven litigation. The Second Circuit's theory of standing based on potential future groundwater damage is analogous to legal theories of medical monitoring in personal injury litigation. In both cases, plaintiffs are bringing suit not for any present injury but for alleged current costs to address the possibility of some manifest injury in the future. The viability of medical monitoring as a proper basis for damages has been hotly contested for decades, with most states rejecting such claims absent evidence of a present injury, but a significant minority of states allowing such claims to proceed. Somewhat ironically, in a recent opinion issued after the Second Circuit's ruling in the MTBE litigation, the New York Supreme Court in [Caronia v. Philip Morris USA](#) [PDF] answered a certified question from the Second Circuit and rejected a medical monitoring claim brought by a putative class of cigarette smokers. The New York Supreme Court explained that "a threat of future harm is insufficient to impose liability against a defendant in a tort context." Thus, New York law arguably now extends broader protections against speculative future harm to land than it does to speculative future harm to human health. The New York Supreme Court's ruling in Caronia does suggest that a medical monitoring claim would be viable if plaintiffs can demonstrate some current physical injury. The Second Circuit's reliance on alleged current low level MTBE detections in the New York City groundwater as a basis for standing could thus be argued as being consistent with the Caronia medical monitoring holding. But there is one very important difference. While medical monitoring plaintiffs seek the costs for screening tests that they allege might detect future cancers at an early stage (which only then would allow for a possible future legal action for damages caused by the cancer), the City of New York was awarded the full cost of "curing" a potential future damage to groundwater before it occurs (if it ever does). The Second Circuit's conclusion that a plaintiff can bring suit based upon the presence in groundwater of within-safe drinking levels of a chemical gives rise to a separate set of problems. While almost always within regulatory limits and not posing any risk to



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human health, the presence of trace amounts of chemicals and other foreign substances in public drinking water supplies is ubiquitous. In one [study](#), for example, the US Department of Interior Geologic Survey (USGS) sampled source water from nine community water systems for analysis of 258 man-made organic compounds and detected trace levels of more than half of the compounds in at least one source water sample, with six compounds detected in more than half the samples. The USGS identified over a dozen different business sources of such trace detections: (1) disinfection by-products, (2) fungicide-related compounds, (3) fungicides, (4) gasoline hydrocarbons, oxygenates and oxygenate degradates, (5) herbicides and herbicide degradates, (6) insecticide and insecticide degradates, (7) manufacturing additives, (8) organic synthesis compounds, (9) pavement- and combustion-derived compounds, (10) personal care and domestic-use products, (11) plant- or animal-derived biochemicals, (12) refrigerants and propellants and (13) solvents. By decoupling legal standing from safe drinking water standards, the Second Circuit thus has set precedent for an endless grab bag of potential lawsuits against broad sectors of the economy, subject solely to the whim of plaintiff's counsel and the sound discretion of trial courts to screen out such claims on non-standing grounds. On April 18, 2014, the US Supreme Court denied Exxon Mobil's petition for writ of certiorari, cementing the Second Circuit's flawed standing analysis into law in that circuit. However, with MTBE litigation pending in other courts across the country and with the prospect of new future groundwater non-injury litigation following the Second Circuit model, the standing issues raised in the Exxon Mobil case are likely to emerge again. Now that the irreducible minimum of constitutional standing has been breached, defendants must focus their efforts on the hard task of shepherding the law back into the proper boundaries of judicial authority.

<http://jurist.org/hotline/2014/04/eric-lasker-exxon-standing.php>

USA, WI, JACKSON, APRIL 24 2014. MOST JACKSON RESIDENTS AFFECTED BY SPILL ARE TAKING NEW WATER SOURCE



Crews from PTS Contractors on Wednesday start work on putting in a water main along Sherman Road in the Town of Jackson, near the site of a 2012 gasoline spill from a West Shore Pipe Line Co. line. West Shore is paying for the work.

Trenches being dug this week along Sherman and Maple roads and in the Crosswinds subdivision in the Town of Jackson mark progress in installing municipal water mains to serve residents living near [a July 2012 gasoline pipeline spill](#). Most of the 150 property owners in a designated town water service area surrounding the spill are opting to connect their homes to the mains as they are completed in the next six months, Town Clerk Julia Oliver said.

Residents can check the notices and events section of the [town website for weekly construction reports](#). The deadline for residents to choose municipal water service is Sunday. Last-minute filers this weekend can place their completed documents in a drop box outside the Town Hall office door. As of Wednesday, the town had received 120 confirmations to hook up and only six rejections, Oliver said. The owner of the regional fuel distribution pipeline that spilled gasoline in a farm pasture nearly two years ago has agreed to pay all costs of extending Village of Jackson water service to the town. The offer includes paying for construction of the lateral line needed to connect municipal mains to residences of property owners accepting the service at this time, Oliver said. West Shore Pipe Line Co. of Illinois, owner of the regional line, has estimated it will cost \$8 million to construct eight miles of water mains within the town water service area. The [Village of Jackson has created a Facebook page](#) to provide updates on water main installation. Town Chairman Ray Heidtke lives within the new service area in the 2200 block of Western Ave. and has decided to accept municipal water, he said. The spill occurred east of his home in the 1800 block of Western Ave. As gasoline spread in ground water generally west of the spill, contamination was confirmed as close as the private well used by his neighbor to the east, he said in explaining why he opted for the municipal service. Of the 150 properties in the town water service area, state environmental officials have ordered 37 contaminated wells to be abandoned. Those residents will be required to use the municipal service. Tests have detected benzene and other gasoline contaminants in 44 private wells at least once since the spill. Most of those wells are southwest, west and northwest of the spill. One property in the service area that will not be connected is the Town Hall, northeast of the spill at 3146 Division Road. A majority of the Town Board chose to opt out because there are two wells on the property and both are in the opposite direction of the spread of ground water contamination, Heidtke said. Property owners connected to a village water main will become customers of the Jackson Water



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Utility and will be billed for future service. No town properties in the designated area will be annexed to the village as a requirement of receiving water service.

<http://www.jsonline.com/news/ozwash/most-jackson-residents-affected-by-spill-are-taking-new-water-source-b99254637z1-256464351.html>

USA, WYO, OPAL, APRIL 24 2014. SMALL WYOMING TOWN EVACUATED AFTER GAS EXPLOSION



This image provided by Rachel Anderson shows officials at the site of an explosion and fire at a natural gas processing facility and major national pipeline hub, Wednesday, April 23, 2014, in Opal, Wyo. Officials said there are no reports of injuries and the residents of Opal have been evacuated to an area about 3 miles outside the town as a precaution. Opal has about 95 residents and is about 100 miles northeast of Salt Lake City.

A small town in southwest Wyoming was evacuated Wednesday after an explosion and fire at a natural gas processing facility and major national pipeline hub. There were no reports of injuries. The gas has been shut off, but people who were in Opal, about 100 miles northeast of Salt Lake City, went to an area about 3 miles outside of town as a precaution, said Lincoln County spokesman [Stephen Malik](#). The town has about 95 residents. "They were downwind from the plant," said Lincoln County Sheriff [Shane Johnson](#). "The fire was still very active, and because of the nature of the processing that goes on there, that was the call that was made for safety reasons." Johnson said he didn't know when people would be allowed back into Opal. No structures in the town were affected, and the fire was confined to the facility operated by pipeline operator [Williams Partners LP](#), county officials said. The explosion occurred in the plant's cryogenic processing tower, a structure that chills unrefined natural gas to separate out impurities, but officials didn't yet know what caused the blast. All employees at the gas processing plant were accounted for, Williams spokesman [Tom Droege](#) said. The explosion was reported at about 2 p.m., and the fire continued to burn into the evening. Williams spokeswoman [Michele Swaner](#) said it was being allowed to burn itself out. The gas processing plant in Opal removes carbon dioxide and other impurities from natural gas that comes from gas fields in the region. It can gather up to 1.5 billion cubic feet of gas per day, and it sends it into pipelines that go to urban centers to the east, west and south. Williams Partners, based in Tulsa, Okla., said in a statement it has suspended collecting gas from surrounding areas and is looking for ways to resume production. The Opal hub, where regional pipelines converge, is the principal spot where prices are set for natural gas produced from the large gas fields in western Wyoming and the San Juan Basin in Utah. The plant makes Opal perhaps best known as a regional gas-pricing hub. Government officials and industry insiders closely watch Opal hub prices to monitor trends with regional gas supply and demand. Williams operates the Northwest Pipeline, which runs through Opal on its way to the Pacific Northwest. An explosion in March at a liquefied natural gas facility operated by Williams on the Washington-Oregon border injured five employees. Gas from the Williams plant at Opal serves a huge number of customers from the Pacific Northwest to Southern California, the Southwest and even as far east as Ohio, said [Brian Jeffries](#), executive director of the [Wyoming Pipeline Authority](#). How long the plant would be out of commission was unknown, but Jeffries said the effect won't be as bad as if the explosion occurred during winter, when demand for natural gas increases for heating, or summer, when demand increases to generate electricity for air conditioners. "It really is that time of year when it's sort of least likely to impact customers," he said. Williams was paying to lodge Opal residents at the Little America resort in Little America, about 25 miles east of Opal, and at a Best Western in Kemmerer, about 15 miles to the west. "We want to make sure everybody's taken care of and they're put up for the night if they're not able to go back to their houses," Swaner said. "Since nobody's on site, it's going to take some time before we can begin our investigation," Swaner said. [Renny MacKay](#), spokesman for Gov. [Matt Mead](#), said investigators would look into the cause of the explosion once the site was secured.

<http://www.sfgate.com/news/us/article/Small-Wyoming-town-evacuated-after-gas-explosion-5425417.php>

USA, AK, ANCHORAGE, APRIL 24 2014. ABILITY TO RESPOND TO OIL SPILL IN THE ARCTIC CALLED 'SOBERLY LACKING'

yereth rosen

Before anyone can adequately respond to oil spills in the U.S. Arctic, people need to know much more about what exists in the Arctic, according to a report issued Wednesday by the [National Research Council](#), the operating arm of the National Academy of Sciences, and the National Academy of Engineering. The 183-page [report](#) on oil spill responses in Alaska's Arctic outlines a



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wide range of deficiencies in knowledge about natural resources, ice conditions, weather patterns and even basic geography in the region. Adequate infrastructure to respond to an oil spill in Alaska's Arctic waters is also sorely lacking, the report said. "The lack of infrastructure in the Arctic would be a significant liability in the event of a large oil spill," it said. "It is unlikely that responders could quickly react to an oil spill unless there were improved port and air access, stronger supply chains, and increased capacity to handle equipment, supplies, and personnel." The report, requested by the U.S. Arctic Commission, the American Petroleum Institute, and numerous federal agencies, makes 13 recommendations for improved spill readiness in the Arctic waters off Alaska. Those recommendations won consensus from a "really diverse" committee that spent 18 months drafting the report, said [University of Alaska Fairbanks Vice Chancellor Mark Myers](#), a committee member. The group included representatives from the oil industry, academia, government resource agencies and Arctic communities. The report is wide-ranging, Myers said. "The oil spill risk isn't just about oil and gas," he said. "It's about marine shipping and even oil tanks on the ground." Recommendations call for beefed-up environmental and scientific research, enhanced U.S. Coast Guard presence, training oil-spill responders in local Arctic communities, new oil-spill response research, an expedited study of Bering Strait traffic, improved sea-ice and weather forecasts as well as more cooperation with Alaska's Russian and Canadian neighbors. A major scientific effort is needed because baseline and historical information is so sparse, the report said. And research must be ongoing because the Arctic is being transformed by climate change, it added. High-resolution satellite and airborne images of coastlines and near-shore environments are needed, and should be updated regularly because the coastline is rapidly eroding and changing, the study said. Expanded use of unmanned aerial and marine vehicles, [already deployed by UAF](#) and other institutions, could help in mapping, the report said. Realistic spill-cleanup research would allow for "controlled field releases" of oil in Arctic waters to test cleanup equipment and methods, the study said. Laboratory tests to date have been useful, the report said, but current and emerging oil-spill response technologies should be validated in tests conducted "under realistic environmental conditions" -- meaning the actual Arctic environment. Up to now, discharges of oil have not been allowed in U.S. Arctic waters for training or scientific exercises. Also recommended is more cooperation with Alaska's Russian neighbors. The Coast Guard "should expand its existing bilateral agreement with Russia to include Arctic spill scenarios and conduct regular exercises to establish joint responses under Arctic conditions," and develop a joint contingency plan with Russia and Canada, the report said. Some of the recommendations -- such as improved mapping -- overlap with ambitions articulated in an [action plan](#) released Monday by the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration. It is unclear whether governments or other entities plan to make the financial investments to carry out the report's recommendations. The report suggests some potential funding sources. Revenues from oil leasing or production could be shared with some sort of "public-private-municipal partnership," the report said. Cost efficiencies could be found if data is shared, including between oil companies, Myers said. The Alaska Legislature appears poised to approve [a bill](#) that would establish an Arctic infrastructure development fund, to be administered by the Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority, that could help pay for new facilities in the region. Lawmakers have made no commitment to put any money into the fund, and there are [no anticipated appropriations](#) until FY 2016, according to legislative documents. As for boosting cooperative efforts with Russian authorities to enhance marine safety, Myers said he is optimistic, despite rising tensions over Ukraine. "Political events come and go. The resources and the challenges remain the same," he said.

<http://www.alaskadispatch.com/article/20140423/ability-respond-oil-spill-arctic-called-sorely-lacking>

USA, TX, DALLAS, APRIL 24 2014. PLANO COMPANY LOSES \$3 MILLION VERDICT IN WISE COUNTY CASE

james osborne

A Wise County couple has been awarded \$3 million by a Dallas jury in their suit against a Plano gas drilling company. Bob and Lisa Parr sued Aruba Petroleum of Plano in 2011, claiming spills and emissions from the company's hydraulic fracturing operations had contaminated their 40-acre ranch in Decatur. They argued the pollution made them sick, as well as their pets and livestock. At times they were forced to evacuate the property, they said. "They're vindicated," said David Matthews, a Houston attorney representing the family. "It takes guts to say, 'I'm going to stand here and protect my family from an invasion of our right to enjoy our property.'" The Wise County drilling site was within the Barnett Shale, which became one of the country's most prolific natural gas plays after the advent of hydraulic fracturing and horizontal drilling techniques. Attorneys for Aruba argued during the trial in Dallas County Court that there are more than 100 natural gas wells within a 2-mile radius of the Parrs' property. "It was arbitrary," said Ben Barron, one of the attorneys representing Aruba in the case. "How do you determine which well caused what, if any, damages? Barron said Aruba had not yet made a decision on whether to appeal the ruling. Also named in the 2011 suit was Encana Oil & Gas of Calgary. The Parrs previously settled with that company for an undisclosed sum. Matthews claims on his website the jury decision Tuesday represented the first "fracking verdict" in Texas.



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The Parrs appeared in the documentary "Gasland Part II," which made the case hydraulic fracturing operations were contaminating the country's air and water. In the lawsuit, the couple presents a long list of maladies they and their daughter suffered since moving onto the ranch in 2008. Included are asthma, nausea, nose bleeds, ear ringing and depression. They note one of their calves was born "dwarfed." "These are all classic symptoms tied to hydrocarbon exposure," said Brad Gilde, a Houston attorney who represented the Parrs in the trial. "The boom hit the Barnett in 2008 and it just so happened that's when the Parrs moved onto the ranch. Almost immediately their health effects started to manifest." Aruba argued in court its operations around the Parrs' ranch did not produce emissions beyond those allowed under Texas air pollution standards. But the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality fined Aruba both in 2011 and 2012 for air quality violations in Wise County, totaling close to \$40,000. The verdict drew cheers from environmentalists, who have been engaged in a long-running battle with the gas drilling industry over what they call the dangers of fracking. "Six regular people who knew nothing about fracking were presented with the facts and awarded the victims \$3 million. It's going to be hard to spin that," Sharon Jones of Earthworks, an advocacy group with offices in Texas, wrote in a blog post Tuesday. Oil and gas companies have been defending lawsuits from the landowners surrounding their drilling sites since the early days of the industry, said Larry Nettles, an attorney with Vinson & Elkins in Houston. He said Friday's verdict would likely give some companies pause, but most worked hard to try and keep their neighbors appeased. "I don't think this is going to be damaging to the industry. But it is a warning to operators they need to exercise caution when running operations near homesteads," Nettles said.

<http://www.dallasnews.com/business/energy/20140423-plano-company-loses-3-million-verdict-in-wise-county-case.ece>

USA, WA, ALGONA, APRIL 25 2014. HOMEOWNERS SUE BOEING OVER GROUNDWATER CONTAMINATION

natasha chen

 [Document Lawsuit filed against Boeing](#)

 [Watch the Video Homeowners Sue Boeing over Groundwater Contamination](#)



Homeowners in Algona have filed a federal lawsuit against Boeing over contaminated groundwater.

Homeowners in Algona have filed a federal lawsuit against Boeing and its environmental contractor, Landau Associates, over contaminated groundwater. The lawsuit includes 116 plaintiffs who allege they were exposed to chemicals like trichloroethylene, or TCE. The cancer-causing chemical was in a solvent used by Boeing to clean airplane parts in the 1960s. Larry Altose, a spokesperson for the Washington Department of Ecology, said, "Over time it has spread about a mile north of Boeing's property." According to the lawsuit, they seek eight categories of damages: loss of property value, remediation costs, repair or restoration costs, value of the trespass and interference with use and enjoyment of property, medical costs, the cost of future medical monitoring, attorneys' fees and consequential damages. The lawsuit also states the amount

in controversy for each plaintiff exceeds \$75,000, although no specific amount is listed. KIRO 7 first reported last spring that water in Algona could be contaminated. Boeing has been paying for tests of groundwater, surface water and indoor air samples. The process has been supervised by the Washington Department of Ecology, with state employees occasionally accompanying testers in the field. So far test results have shown either little or minimal levels of toxic chemicals. The Washington Department of Health spokesperson said the low levels detected were not enough to be harmful to human health. But some residents in Algona don't believe that. Marie McAskill, who is one of the plaintiffs in the lawsuit, said, she moved out of her rental home on 11th Avenue last month. "I had to have my child tested for allergies; I had mold tested in the house. I was like, what's going on? Why are they so sick?" McAskill said. She said her son kept suffering from nosebleeds, swollen glands and a weakened immune system, none of which doctors could explain. Sandy Haugen, who also lives on the same street, is not party to the lawsuit. Still, she and her husband are concerned enough to have only planted flowers this year instead of vegetables. Haugen said she would rather not eat anything grown on her property. If we wanted to sell our house, we couldn't. No one would buy the house, first of all," Haugen said. Another plaintiff, who would not speak on camera, said she and her husband both had cancer. She knows it would be difficult to prove, but she believes it was a result of the toxic chemicals. Boeing told KIRO 7 in a statement: "Boeing has been conducting thorough investigation and cleanup activities under the direction of the Washington State Department of Ecology to identify and address any potential soil and groundwater impacts from our Auburn plant. We are cooperating fully with government authorities in this effort. Boeing does not believe that



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there is any merit to the allegations in the lawsuit, and we intend to vigorously defend against these claims.” Altose said the Department of Ecology will continue to monitor water and air quality by installing larger wells in the area, through which officials can track levels of toxins and the path of the plume over time. He said it may be years before a plan for cleanup is provided to the public.

<http://www.kirotv.com/news/news/homeowners-sue-boeing-over-groundwater-contaminati/nfgjH/>

USA, ILL, PERRY CO, TAMAROA, APRIL 25 2014. OVERTURNED TANKER POSTPONES EMERGENCY RESPONDER DRILL

christy hendricks

 **Watch the Video** [Overturned Tanker Postpones Emergency Responder Drill](#)



route 51 in perry county was shut down wednesday morning after a tanker truck overturned.

An emergency responder drill in Perry County was postponed Wednesday morning so crews could respond to a real emergency. Route 51 in Perry County was shut down Wednesday morning after a tanker truck overturned. It happened near Kimzey Road south of Tamaroa around 9 a.m. No one was hurt. Fire crews on the scene say when the truck started to go off the road, the driver overcorrected and the tanker flipped. The truck was making deliveries of fuel and firefighters say there are still thousands more gallons of fuel in the tank. Part of the clean up involves the trucking company transferring that fuel to another truck.

No word on when the road may re-open. The drill was originally supposed to start at 9 a.m., but started a bit later due to the overturned tanker.

<http://www.kfvs12.com/story/25319872/overturned-tanker-postpones-emergency-responder-drill>

USA, N.D, WILTON, APRIL 25 2014. TRUCK HAULING FUEL OVERTURNED SOUTH OF WILTON



The Rolfson Oil tanker truck and trailer ended up lying on its right side blocking the northbound lane of highway 83 near mile marker 109 approximately 3 miles south of Wilton.

A Mandan man was injured when the diesel tanker truck he was driving overturned on Highway 83. Marlon Schaffer, 56, was transported to St. Alexius Medical Center in Bismarck for his injuries. According to the North Dakota

Highway Patrol, Schaffer was driving the truck, pulling a tanker trailer, on Highway 83 at 7:25 a.m. Thursday when he drove off the highway and into the east ditch, south of Wilton near milemarker 109. The truck overturned when Schaffer attempted to steer it back on the road. During the crash, the cargo tank on the truck detached, and diesel fuel leaked from the trailer after it overturned. The crash remains under investigation by the North Dakota Highway Patrol. Northbound traffic is being diverted into the southbound lane. Traffic cones and traffic controls are in place. Drivers are asked to used to caution when approaching the area.

http://bismarcktribune.com/news/state-and-regional/truck-hauling-fuel-overturned-south-of-wilton/article_aa5d5646-cbb9-11e3-b049-0019bb2963f4.html

AUSTRALIA, NEW SOUTH WALES, SYDNEY, APRIL 25 2014. EPA INVESTIGATES BOTANY BAY OIL SPILL



Oil and water don't mix - sample taken at Botany Bay on March 24.

The Environment Protection Authority says an oil spill in [Sydney's Botany Bay](#) during heavy rain last month highlights the potential impact that industry and natural weather events can have on our urban waterways. In a media release issued yesterday, the EPA states "following the release of oily water into Botany Bay by Caltex Refineries as part of the company's stormwater management emergency procedures at its Kurnell premises, oil was blown to the northern shoreline and onto rock platforms at Congwong and Little Congwong beaches." "While pollution incidents can often be exacerbated or even caused by extreme weather events such as heavy rain, environmental impacts such as that which



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occurred following this incident on 24 March are unacceptable," said NSW Environment Protection Authority Chief Environmental Regulator Mark Gifford. "Industries regulated by the EPA under Environment Protection Licences (EPL) have a duty to report pollution incidents threatening or causing harm to the environment, and are required to prepare Pollution Incident Response Management Plans. The EPA also relies on members of the public who are aware of pollution to report incidents so the appropriate authorities can act as soon as possible." The [Financial Review](#) has reported that Caltex has been issued with a second clean-up notice by the EPA - a legal direction ordering the company to carry out a broad assessment of impact from the spill. "Caltex must submit an update in four months and must have completed the ecological assessment program within six months," said acting chief environmental regulator Gary Whytcross. "The final assessment report must be submitted to the EPA by November 22. "It is hoped that these reports will show recovery of the impacted area." Such incidents can be reported by the public on the EPA Environment Line, 131 555, 24 hours a day seven days a week.

• Multimedia Read the EPA media release [HERE](#).

<http://www.fishingworld.com.au/news/epa-investigates-botany-bay-oil-spill>

USA, AZ, PHOENIX, APRIL 25 2014. TANKER FIRE CAUSED BY FAULTY EQUIPMENT, INVESTIGATORS BELIEVE

mike watkiss

• [Watch the Video Tanker Fire Caused by Faulty Equipment](#)

• [Photo's \[8\] Tanker Fire Caused by Faulty Equipment](#)



Investigators say the massive fire that engulfed two tankers in Central Phoenix on Tuesday morning was likely caused by faulty equipment. The oil-fueled tanker fire started near 24th and Jefferson streets, injuring two people. The fire produced stacks of black smoke that forced Phoenix Sky Harbor Airport to close its two north runways. The Phoenix Fire Department's investigators said the cause of the fire could likely be traced to a faulty or inadequate pump being used by employees at Fuels, LLC. That pump was used to transfer fuel from one tanker to another. "They were using a pump that was insufficient," Fire Captain Ruben Saavedra said. "So they start having some leaks. Some of the oil started to leak out (and) got on to the actual motor of the pump, and it blew.

That's where the ignition started." The fire department told 3TV that Fuels, LLC is fully cooperating with the investigation and the clean-up. Two employees were badly burned in the fire and still hospitalized as of Wednesday. Other people in the area were displaced as a result of the accident. Willie Williams and his wife had to find a new motel room nearby after the room they were staying in took damage during the fire fight. "From the fire yesterday, we got water damage and a few other things," Willie Williams said. "So we got to move."

• [Related Stories Investigators to scour site of 2-alarm tanker fire in Central Phoenix; 2 victims still hospitalized](#)

<http://www.azfamily.com/news/Tanker-fire-caused-by-faulty-equipment-investigators-believe-256583671.html>

USA, TX, AMARILLIO, APRIL 25 2014. OIL TANK EXPLOSIONS EAST OF BORGER

chelsea goss

• [Watch the Video Oil Tank Explosions East of Borger](#)

Four firefighters and four Traditions Oil & Gas employees received an unpleasant surprise this morning when a second explosion occurred at the scene of last night's oil tank battery explosion just east of Borger. "I thought the headline of today's paper was going to be 'Eight dead after an explosion, after a tank battery explosion,'" said Evan Schmidt, pumper for Tradition's Oil & Gas. After last night's explosion, everyone seemed to believe things were settling down. Evan, his father, Tony McPhearson, and a few firefighters were assessing the damage of the explosion the night before and thinking of ways to put out the last remnants of burning fire. It wasn't until they were only about 30ft away from a pool of oil left on the ground did they hear the sound that would alert them of what was to come. "We kind of got a strong hissing sound right before the explosion, which gave us enough time to escape. We were pretty shaken up. We were lucky everybody came out alive," said Gabe Rivera, Borger Fire Dept. Captain. "While we were assessing the damage, I guess there had been some oil leaks from the tanks overnight, there was a huge explosion," said Schmidt. No one was injured in this morning's unexpected second explosion. A few reported singed hoodies or skin that felt as if it had been sunburned, but many just said they felt lucky to walk away from an incident like that. The tank battery fire broke out east of Borger near Skellytown off Ranch Road 280 in the the Spring Creek area near Watkins Camp last night between 9-10 pm. Firefighters responded to reports from residents in the



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area of a possible explosion and possible grassfire. Once they arrived, they were able to find that the battery of one of the tanks had exploded and were able to contain the fire fairly quickly. By one a.m., officials said the fire was pretty much contained but that firefighters would remain on scene until the fire had died down. Around 8 a.m., the second explosion occurred. The firefighters spent the morning cautiously trying to put foam over the remnants of crude oil on the ground and ensure that any signs of fire were put out. \$40,000 worth of damage was done in crude oil loss alone. However, McPhearson says he is just glad everyone was able to walk away unharmed from the incident. "Yea it's a total loss. Everything's got to be replaced. But everyone walked away safe. A little shook up, but safe," he said.

<http://www.connectamarillo.com/news/story.aspx?id=1035745#.U1nEpcZmim4>

USA, TX, HOUSTON, APRIL 25 2014. COURT FILING SAYS SHIP IN TEXAS SPILL WAS SPEEDING

Juan A. Lozano



In this March 22, 2014 file photo, a barge loaded with marine fuel oil sits partially submerged in the Houston Ship Channel. The owner of a tugboat that collided with a ship last month, dumping nearly 170,000 gallons of oil into the Houston Ship Channel, claims in court filings the ship was speeding and being operated in a reckless manner. Houston-based Kirby Inland Marine alleges in court documents filed earlier this month that the March 22 collision, which occurred after the ship struck a barge the tugboat had been pulling, was caused by gross negligence on the part of the ship's owner, Liberia-based Sea Galaxy Marine. In its own court filings, Sea Galaxy says the collision was not its fault.

The owner of a tugboat that collided with a ship last month, dumping nearly 170,000 gallons of oil into the Houston Ship Channel, claims in court filings the ship was speeding and being operated in a reckless manner. Houston-based Kirby Inland Marine alleges in court documents filed earlier this month that the

March 22 collision, which occurred after the ship struck a barge the tugboat had been pulling, was caused by gross negligence on the part of the ship's owner, Sea Galaxy Marine based in Liberia in West Africa. In its own court filings, Sea Galaxy says the collision was not its fault. The [U.S. Coast Guard](#), which is still investigating the cause of the accident, did not immediately return a call Thursday seeking comment on the claims being made by the companies. Two barges that were being pulled by the Kirby Inland-owned tugboat Miss Susan had been leaving Texas City and heading for the Intracoastal Waterway while a Sea Galaxy-owned inbound ship, the Summer Wind, was traveling through the Houston Ship Channel. The collision happened when the barges made a left turn to enter the Intracoastal Waterway and were crossing the ship channel. But Kirby Inland alleged in court documents filed earlier this month that the tugboat had broadcast its position to let all vessels in the vicinity know its position. At the time, the Houston Ship Channel was under a fog advisory. "While the Summer Wind knew of the Miss Susan's position, at no time did it attempt to adjust its speed or heading to avoid the vessel," Kirby Inland said in its April 8 court filing. "The collision occurred, among other reasons, due to the Summer Wind's excessive, unreasonable speed." Kirby Inland alleges the collision "was solely and proximately caused by the fault ... and gross negligence of (Sea Galaxy Marine), and/or by the dangerous or unseaworthy condition of the Summer Wind." Kirby Inland is seeking more than \$10 million in losses from Sea Galaxy. Matt Woodruff, a Kirby Inland spokesman, declined comment Thursday due to the ongoing investigation. An attorney for Sea Galaxy, [Kevin P. Walters](#), also declined comment because of the investigation. He said Sea Galaxy intends to respond to Kirby Inland's allegations in future court filings. The current court filings are part of lawsuits that have been filed against both Kirby Inland and Sea Galaxy by fishermen, business owners and others who are claiming to have suffered economic losses due to the oil spill and the shutdown of ship channel and surrounding waterways, which lasted several days. The ship channel is the main artery linking the area's busy ports with the largest petrochemical complex in the country. In its own court filings, Sea Galaxy described its Summer Wind ship "in all respects seaworthy," and said it was "staunch, strong, properly and sufficiently manned." The company said the loss and damage from the collision "were not caused or contributed to in any way by the fault, negligence or lack of due care on the part of ... Sea Galaxy." Sea Galaxy has filed a petition asking that it be found not liable for injuries or damages, or that its liability be limited to the value of the ship, about \$9.3 million. The Coast Guard has said that cleanup from the oil spill, which spread into the Gulf of Mexico and southward along the Texas coast, is wrapping up.

<http://www.chron.com/news/texas/article/Court-filing-says-ship-in-Texas-spill-was-speeding-5426713.php>



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MADAGASCAR, RAMENA, APRIL 25 2014. MADAGASCAR TO DRAIN CRUDE FROM STRICKEN TANKER



The Bahamian-flagged ship Tromso which ran aground near Ramena off Madagascar, pictured here on April 23, 2014.

Madagascar will during the weekend pump crude from a tanker that ran aground a week ago off its picturesque northern coast to prevent a spill, maritime authorities said Thursday. The 120-metre (393-foot) Bahamian-flagged Tromso, laden with 10,000 cubic metres of [crude oil](#), got stricken last week in the Indian Ocean after it bust one of its two hulls. A Seychelles vessel, the Seychelles Paradise which has a capacity of 1,400 cubic metres will syphon the crude off the Tromso on Saturday to lessen the weight of the tanker, the government's anti-pollution chief Roland Rakotondrasata said. A Madagascar tug will then tow the tanker to its destination, the deepwater harbour of Antsiranana, formerly

known as Diego Suarez, situated roughly 20 kilometres (15 miles) away. By Tuesday the rescue operation should conclude. International experts flown in by the vessel's owners were checking for leaks and mapping the seabed around the tanker using specialised equipment in preparation for the rescue operation. Specialist salvage and oil spill response company, Swire Salvage, located in Singapore, will take charge of the emergency operation. "The operation will be carried out with caution...to ensure zero pollution," according to a statement from the environment ministry. Jerome Sambalis of Madagascar's ports authority said the ship ran aground because of human error. Easter holiday tourists who packed the resort town of Ramena last weekend, watched the cargo vessel flounder around two kilometres (1.2 miles) off the coast. The ship was built in 2008 and last docked in the United Arab Emirates, according to data from MarineTraffic.com.

 **Related Stories** <http://phys.org/news/2014-04-madagascar-crude-stricken-tanker.html>

INDIA, KARNATAKA, MYSORE, APRIL 25 2014. EMPLOYEE OF FERTILIZER FIRM DIES OF SUFFOCATION

An employee of a fertilizer firm in north Mysore, who went to rescue his colleague who had fallen unconscious inside a container, died of suffocation on Thursday. According to Metagalli police, the deceased is Pratap, 28. Pratap and Srikanta, 25, colleagues at Chaitra Fertilizers and Chemicals Ltd, were to clean a container which had remained shut for a long time. Without taking precautions, the duo opened the lid, and Srikanta got inside, only to fell unconscious. Pratap, who went to his rescue, too collapsed inside. Pratap was declared brought dead at KR Hospital, while Srikanta is being treated there. Metagalli police have booked the firm's owner Chandrashekar for the alleged negligence, causing death, under IPC.

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/mysore/Employee-of-fertilizer-firm-dies-of-suffocation/articleshow/34171574.cms>

USA, PA, PITTSBURGH, APRIL 2014. MAJOR OIL AND GAS FIRM TO LIST FRACKING CHEMICALS

kevin begos & matthew daly



This March 25, 2014 file photo shows a worker adjusting hoses during a hydraulic fracturing operation at an Encana Corp. gas well, near Mead, Colo. The energy boom is scrambling national politics. Democrats are split between environmentalists and business and labor groups. Some deeply-conservative areas are allying with conservationists against fracking, the technique largely responsible for the surge.

A major supplier to the oil and gas industry says it will begin disclosing 100 percent of the chemicals used in hydraulic fracturing fluid, with no exemptions for trade secrets. The move by Baker Hughes of Houston is a shift for a major firm; it's unclear if others will follow suit. The oil and gas industry has said the fracking chemicals are disclosed at tens of thousands of wells, but environmental and health groups and government regulators say a loophole that allows companies to hide chemical "trade secrets" has been a major problem. A statement on the

Baker Hughes website said the company believes it's possible to disclose 100 percent "of the chemical ingredients we use in hydraulic fracturing fluids without compromising our formulations," to increase public trust. "This really good news. It's a step in the right direction," said Dr. Bernard Goldstein, the former dean of the University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health. "One hopes that the entire industry goes along with it." But Goldstein noted one "major hedge" in the Baker Hughes position, since the company said it will provide complete lists of the products and chemical ingredients used in frack fluids



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"where accepted by our customers and relevant governmental authorities." Still, Goldstein said the Baker Hughes language sets a new standard for transparency and "clearly distinguishes them from Halliburton," another major industry supplier. Baker Hughes spokeswoman Melanie Kania wrote in an email that it will take "several months" for the new policy to take effect. She said the end result will be a "single list" that provides "all the chemical constituents" for frack fluids, with no trade secrets. Amy Mall, a policy analyst for the Natural Resources Defense Council, said the Baker Hughes move is a positive step, and that "if one company can do it, it's very clear all companies can do it." Mall said NRDC doesn't believe companies should use the trade secret argument to hide drilling chemicals. A spokeswoman for Houston-based Halliburton, another major oil and gas supplier, did not immediately respond to requests for comment. A boom in drilling has led to tens of thousands of new wells being drilled in recent years using the fracking process. A mix of water, sand and chemicals is forced into deep underground formations to break rock apart and free oil and gas. That's led to major economic benefits but also fears that the chemicals used in the process could spread to water supplies. The mix of chemicals varies by company and region — and some of the chemicals are toxic and could cause health problems in significant doses — so the lack of full transparency has worried landowners and public health experts. Many companies voluntarily disclose the contents of their fracking fluids through FracFocus.org, a website partially funded by the oil and gas industry that tracks fracking operations nationwide. But critics say the website has loose reporting standards and allows companies to avoid disclosure by declaring certain chemicals as trade secrets. A U.S. Energy Department Task Force report issued in March that found that 84% of the wells registered on FracFocus invoked a trade secret exemption for at least one chemical. The Task Force said it "favors full disclosure of all known constituents added to fracturing fluid with few, if any exceptions." The FracFocus website is managed by the Ground Water Protection Council and Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission, both based in Oklahoma, and is funded by industry and the Energy Department. Gerry Baker of the Oil and Gas Compact said he doesn't know of any other major supplier that has made a pledge similar to the one from Baker Hughes. "It's a business decision on their part," Baker said. "Somehow, they've committed to this at the highest levels" of disclosure. The Interior Department is expected to finalize proposed regulation for hydraulic fracturing on public lands by the end of the year. The measure would apply to some 700 million acres of federal lands and 56 million acres of lands controlled by federally recognized Indian tribes. The rule proposed last year would require companies drilling for oil and natural gas to disclose chemicals used in fracking operations. The information would be made public. The DOE said 25 states now mandate public disclosure of the chemicals used in hydraulic fracturing, including 15 that use FracFocus as a reporting tool. Industry groups oppose the disclosure rule, saying it would be costly for businesses, with little environmental or safety benefit. The American Petroleum Institute, the oil industry's top lobbying group, has praised the efforts of states to adopt the FracFocus database for disclosing chemicals, but has said additional federal regulations could jeopardize economic growth. Asked about the Baker Hughes plan, API spokesman Zachary Cikanek said in an email that they "also welcome additional efforts by individual companies to increase public engagement and transparency."

<http://www.coloradoan.com/story/news/2014/04/25/major-oil-gas-firm-list-fracking-chemicals/8151379/>

USA, LA, GRETNA, APRIL 26 2014. GAS STATION ALLEGEDLY SOLD CONTAMINATED DIESEL FUEL, SUIT CLAIMS



A gas station is being sued by the owner of a bus who claims the vehicle broke down after she purchased bad diesel fuel. Debra Foucher filed suit against Ames Discount Zone LLC and its insurer in the 24th Judicial District Court on April 1. Foucher alleges that she purchased diesel fuel for the 1998 International school bus from Ames Discount Zone located at 6229 Westbank Expressway in Marrero on Aug. 21, 2013. The plaintiff asserts that two days later the bus engine failed and she was advised by her mechanic the problem was due to contaminated diesel fuel. Foucher claims the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry, which oversees fuel sales in the state, investigated the diesel fuel sold at Ames Discount Zone and found it did not meet the specifications for type 2 diesel fuel and should not be used. The plaintiff alleges due to the bad fuel her vehicle has been damaged and she can no longer use it

for her job as a bus driver. An unspecified amount in damages is sought for repairing damages to the bus, replacement fees, reimbursement for lost revenues, emotional distress and attorney's fees. Foucher is represented by attorney M. Ali Shahlaei of Gretna. The case has been assigned to Division J Judge Stephen C. Grefer. Case no. 737-060.

<http://louisanarecord.com/news/260405-gas-station-allegedly-sold-contaminated-diesel-fuel-suit-claims>



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USA, ARK, SPRINGDALE, APRIL 26 2014. SPRINGDALE HAZMAT CREW RESPONDS TO FUEL SPILL



A hazmat crew responded to a fuel spill Friday afternoon (April 25) at a Springdale gas station. The spill at the Phillips 66 at 4451 N. Thompson St. happened just past noon and temporarily caused a slowdown in lunch time traffic at the intersection of North Thompson Street and Wagon Wheel Road. The spill was caused when a tanker truck operated by Dana Leasing System ran over a ground cover at the gas station, causing the cover to pop up and rupture the truck's saddle tank, said Mike Dixon, deputy director at the Benton County Emergency Management Agency. A below-ground tank also ruptured. An estimated 50 to 70 gallons of fuel spilled in the incident, with about 20 gallons of that being diesel fuel and the remainder being gasoline, Dixon said. No one was injured in incident. Crews soaked up the spill, which was contained to the gas station parking lot, by using an absorbent. The spill did not present any public health risks, Dixon said.

<http://5newsonline.com/2014/04/25/springdale-hazmat-crew-responds-to-fuel-spill/>

ENGLAND, SOMERSET, APRIL 26 2014. SOMERSET PETROL STATION BUILDER ENTERS ADMINISTRATION



Somerset-based Stacey Construction has entered administration, with a buyer sought for the company's assets, it has been revealed this week. Located in the town of Wiveliscombe, Stacey Construction specialised in building petrol stations and motorway services with clients including Esso, Shell, BP and Roadchef. The company called in London-based corporate recovery specialist Moorfields as administrators after a cashflow crisis resulting from long-running payment disputes with two clients. Sixty staff lost their jobs on Wednesday 23 April as the administration was announced. The firm was founded in 1967 by Mike Stacey and at its peak it turned over £20 million; it was recently passed to son Shaun who has pledged to try and buy back some of the business. Shaun Stacey is reportedly targeting a purchase of the petrol forecourt construction division with the aim of setting up a new company. Stacey Construction also ran a main

contracting and refurbishment businesses, operating mainly in the south west of England. Nick O'Reilly, joint administrator at Moorfields, said: "Cash reserves were so depleted that we were forced to lay off all staff immediately. "It's been very tough because most of the staff have worked for the firm for many years. We will now be seeking to sell the property assets and goodwill of the firm to pay creditors. That includes outstanding monies owed." A separate statement from Stacey Construction read: "Credit should go to Shaun Stacey and his team who have worked tirelessly to try to do the right thing by everyone, for customers, staff, suppliers and sub-contractors alike."

<http://www.business-sale.com/news/article/somerset-petrol-station-builder-enters-administration-37637.html>

USA, IN, WHITING, APRIL 26 2014. PENALTIES UNDER REVIEW OVER INDIANA REFINERY SPILL

A [Coast Guard](#) hearing officer will decide whether BP will face any fines, penalties or corrective actions for an oil spill into Lake Michigan last month from the company's northwestern Indiana refinery. The Coast Guard has completed its investigation into the spill March 24 in Whiting and forwarded its findings to the hearing officer in Washington, D.C., Lt. [Brian Dykens](#) told [The Times](#) of Munster (<http://bit.ly/1jKz4ep>). Crews spent several days cleaning up oil along the Lake Michigan shoreline after the company reported that a malfunction at the refinery caused up to 1,600 gallons of oil being discharged into the lake. BP spokesman [Scott Dean](#) said its investigation into the spill is focusing on a now-removed connection between a crude distillation unit and the cooling water system. Representatives from the Coast Guard, the [U.S. Environmental Protection Agency](#) and BP determined the cleanup was complete April 4 after they saw no more sheen and found no more oil. The Coast Guard and [EPA](#) plan to do a follow-up inspection this summer of the lake, which is a source of drinking water for millions of people. "Time allows nature to move around, and maybe wash oil ashore on the rocks or come up from the bottom," Dykes said. "We will cover that whole area to see if we missed anything." The Coast Guard also will determine whether BP violated the Clean Water Act.

<http://www.seattlepi.com/news/science/article/Penalties-under-review-over-Indiana-refinery-spill-5428813.php>



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USA, N.Y, BUFFALO, APRIL 26 2014. NITRIC ACID SPILL PROMPTS EVACUATION AT BUSINESS

 **Watch the Video** [Nitric Acid Spill Prompts Evacuation at Business](#)

A hazmat situation on William Street in Buffalo is clear after a nitric acid spill late Friday morning. You may have used nitric acid to clean test tubes in your high school chemistry class. But higher concentrations can be explosive. Niagara Testing Metallurgical, a company that tests metals and related applications, such as welding, was evacuated while hazmat crews evaluated the scene. The neighborhood around William Street and Benzinger was blocked off and residents in the surrounding homes were urged to evacuate the area, but it was not required. Keenan Archilla was woken up by a neighbor. He said, "Said there's a chemical spill. We thought he was joking around. We were like, what, a chemical spill in Lovejoy, when is that going to ever happen? So we just went down the street to the bar, chilled and waited it off." Once inside, firefighters assessed the danger, which they found to be minimal. A large container of nitric acid had overflowed, forming a pool of acid on the floor. Buffalo Fire Division Chief James Lamacchia said, "They spread soda ash, which neutralizes the acid, and did a test on it for a percentage, and once we deemed that the material was safe, we cleared the area, and the clean-up will be left up to the company." Company officials informed emergency crews that the concentration of the nitric acid was 45-percent, diluted with water. It was enough to cause chemical burns but manageable for Buffalo's bravest wearing their hazmat suits. "The danger shouldn't be that great, but we don't anything for granted, so we treat everything as if it is dangerous," Division Chief Lamacchia said. A company official told News 4 the 45-percent concentration was being used as a cleaning agent. Still, fire officials say it is always better to err on the side of caution. Division Chief Lamacchia said, "Well, anytime you are dealing with chemicals, it is always hazardous, and better to be safe than sorry." Buffalo Police say no one was injured in the incident. After about an hour, neighbors were given the all clear.

<http://wivb.com/2014/04/25/reported-hazmat-situation-at-buffalo-business/>

USA, N.D, TIOGA, APRIL 26 2014. PIPELINE SPILL CLEANUP NEAR TIOGA, N.D., TO TOP \$11 MILLION



Cleaning up the more than 20,000 barrels of oil that leaked from a pipeline near here will take at least \$11 million and up to two more years, but a health official says the process should allow the land to be farmed again.

Cleaning up the more than 20,000 barrels of oil that leaked from a pipeline near here will take at least \$11 million and up to two more years, but a health official says the process should allow the land to be farmed again. The North Dakota Department of Health announced Friday it has approved a remediation plan for the Tesoro Logistics pipeline spill that will involve excavating the contaminated soil and heating it to high temperatures to remove the oil. The plan includes installing a segment of natural gas pipeline to the site to power the heavy equipment. "It's going to be a big operation," said David Glatt, chief of the

environmental health section. An estimated 20,600 barrels – or 865,200 gallons – of oil spilled as a result of a pipeline leak discovered last September in a wheat field near Tioga. It's the largest spill in North Dakota's current oil boom and one of the largest onshore spills in recent U.S. history. To date, about 6,000 barrels of oil have been recovered, Glatt said. Winter weather slowed recovery efforts. "There really wasn't much they could do when all the soil was frozen," Glatt said. Contractor Nelson Environmental Services will begin working at the site within the next few weeks with remediation expected to begin late this spring or early this summer, a Tesoro Logistics spokeswoman said. The health department said remediation is expected to continue for at least two years. Tesoro says work is expected to continue into 2015. Antea Group, a St. Paul-based environmental consultant firm, analyzed different technologies to clean up the soil and was in communication with health officials and the landowners, Steven and Patty Jensen. The consultant recommended excavation and thermal treatment of the soil, estimating the cost at \$11 million to \$15 million in a report submitted to the health department. The Tesoro spokeswoman declined to comment on the cost, but said the company would pay for the full cost of remediation. Glatt said the contaminated soil will be excavated and treated with equipment known as a thermal desorption unit. That piece of equipment requires a considerable amount of power, and the plan includes installing a natural gas pipeline to the site, Glatt said. The natural gas pipeline is less than one mile long, the Tesoro spokeswoman said. Crude oil in the soil will act as a fuel source and natural gas will be a supplemental fuel source, she said. After the soil is treated, it is tested, stockpiled and returned to the excavation. "We're thinking it's all going to be treated on site and put back on site," Glatt said. The area that is contaminated is about 2.5 acres within a 7-acre site. Some contamination extends 30 feet below ground, with contamination as deep as 42 feet below ground in four small pockets, the consultant's report said. Monitoring wells and tests of private water wells in the area have not



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shown any impacts to groundwater, the consultant's report said. Recently, Tesoro officials notified the health department the contamination may have spread a little bit, Glatt said. The health department has asked the company to define the boundary of the contamination. Health officials will oversee the cleanup, likely visiting the site weekly during the early stages, Glatt said. The thermal treatment technology has been successfully implemented at sites with similar crude oil impacts and is capable of reducing crude oil concentrations to very low levels, the consultant's report said. Some cons to the method include potential for noise, nuisance odor and dust generation, the need to import suitable topsoil to the site and the significant power requirements, the report said. Other methods investigated would have been less effective, taken more time, involved significantly more truck traffic, or affected a larger footprint, according to information submitted to the health department. Glatt said the method selected aims to restore the land to its original state. "We want it to be as productive post-pipeline break and remediation as it was pre-pipeline break," Glatt said.

<http://www.wday.com/event/article/id/96271/group/homepage/>

USA, OH, DARKE COUNTY, APRIL 26 2014. CAR TRAPPED UNDER TANKER IN DARKE COUNTY

 **Watch the Video Car Trapped Under Tanker In Darke County**

Update: The driver and passenger of the vehicle trapped under the semi have been taken by CareFlight to a hospital. A medic has taken a third person, who was riding in the backseat, to the hospital. We're told the semi is a tanker truck who had just emptied the contents before the crash occurred. The accident occurred at 9:50 p.m. Two hours later, the vehicle is still wedged under the semi. The two victims taken by CareFlight are said to be in critical condition. At least four investigators are on scene. US 127 is expected to be shut down for several more hours.

Earlier Coverage: Two CareFlight helicopters have been sent to an accident involving a car and a semi. According to dispatchers, a vehicle is trapped under a semi along US 127 and Sebring-Warner Road. We have crews heading to the scene and will update you as more details becomes available.

http://www.abc22now.com/shared/news/top-stories/stories/wkef_vid_19796.shtml

USA, IMPORTANT MEDIA, APRIL 26 2014. APRIL 26 2014. NEW UN REPORT SLAMS ETHANOL AND OTHER BIOFUELS



A pair of new reports from the U.N. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) may have finally buried the worldwide push for mass biofuel production. The pair of reports finds that, once everything is factored in, ethanol and other biofuels can actually be worse for the environment than standard petrol products. The reports, which can be read in full [here](#) and [here](#), come to the conclusion that while biofuel production can decrease greenhouse gas emissions by 30% to 90%, there are many other factors to consider. Land and water use, for one, and as well as the increased potential for conflict relating to [the whole food-for-fuel debate](#). One look at the numbers reveals a startling story. In 2000, over 90% of the U.S. corn crop went to feed people and livestock, with just 5% going towards ethanol production. In 2013, ethanol consumed 40% of the U.S. corn crop, with 45% feeding livestock and just 15%

going towards feeding people. Consider also that U.S. produces 40% of the world's entire corn stock, and you can see how ethanol production is fueling hunger-driven unrest in the developing world. It's a bad scene, and the U.N. finally recognizes it. The new reports are a major reversal from the IPCC's 2007 report, which called for greater global cooperation towards mass production of ethanol and other biofuels. In recent years though, biofuels have come under fire from both the right and left [for massive government subsidies](#), and not being sustainable or clean enough. Automakers have even joined in the fight, lobbying against an effort to allow some gas stations to carry E15 (or 15% ethanol) gasoline. With this latest salvo, the already-flagging biofuel industry may have finally been dealt its deathblow. Electric cars have soared in popularity, and a vast investment into improved combustion engine technology has given consumers more fuel efficient options than ever. There are other, [non-edible plants](#) that could be used for biofuel production, but it seems like the only real benefit to corn ethanol fuel is for those [who want to go really, really fast](#). So at least there's that.

<http://gas2.org/2014/04/24/new-un-report-slams-ethanol-biofuels/>



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