



Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network Release 2014 – 1,111 Newsy Stuff

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USA, TX, SAN ANTONIO, OCTOBER 25 2014. EXPLOSION BLASTS MAN THROUGH WALL AT VODKA DISTILLERY

diana j winters

 **Watch the Video:** [Explosion Blasts Man through Wall at Vodka Distillery](#)

An explosion blasted a man through a wall at an East Bexar County vodka distillery Friday morning. It happened around 8:15 a.m. in the 8500 block of Cover Road, near New Sulphur Springs Road and Calaveras Lake. A man who lives near the distillery said the blast jolted him out of bed. "We heard a loud boom and got up and looked out the back window and couldn't see anything," Gerald Graham said. "And then about that time the gentleman that owns the property came knocking on my door telling me to get out because there was an explosion down at the distillery." One worker was inside the distillery. The explosion sent him flying through a wall and sparked a small fire. It took Bexar County firefighters about 40 minutes to put out the flames. The worker was checked out by emergency crews at the scene and did not have to be taken to a hospital. Firefighters say he was conscious and speaking when they arrived. Some people who live nearby reported a strong smell near the distillery around the time of the explosion. "I didn't really smell anything. Some other people said that they did," Graham said. Distillery officials and fire investigators said they planned to review surveillance footage to determine exactly what caused the blast. "They're initially thinking that there was just some sort of small spark and that either there was a leak from an ethanol or a propane tank that caused the explosion," said Laura Jesse, Bexar County Fire Department spokesperson.

<http://www.ksat.com/content/pns/ksat/news/2014/10/24/explosion-sparks-fire-at-vodka-distillery.html>

CANADA, SASK, YORKTON, OCTOBER 25 2014. POLICE, FIRE CREWS RESPOND TO EXPLOSION AT YORKTON CANOLA-CRUSHING PLANT



Police and fire crews are at a southeastern Saskatchewan canola-crushing plant where witnesses say an explosion occurred.

Police and fire crews are at a southeastern Saskatchewan canola-crushing plant where witnesses say an explosion occurred. A release from the city of Yorkton says all employees at the Louis Dreyfus Commodities plant on Highway 16 are accounted for. The explosion occurred at the meal storage shed which sustained partial damage. One employee suffered minor injuries during the explosion. "We are grateful for the response of the fire and emergency services personnel of the City of Yorkton and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police, as well as the support of the City of Yorkton and the Province of Saskatchewan," said Brian Conn, Vice president of Louis Dreyfus Commodities Canada Limited. "We are investigating the circumstances of the

explosion and working with the authorities." Larry Kitzul says he saw metal blown off the walls of the building. The cause and extent of damage is under investigation.

<http://globalnews.ca/news/1633558/police-fire-crews-respond-to-explosion-at-yorkton-canola-crushing-plant/>

USA, CT, SOUTH WINDSOR, OCTOBER 25 2014. OIL TRUCK ROLLS OVER IN SOUTH WINDSOR

david moran



An oil truck carrying 1,700 gallons of fuel rolled onto its side on Smith Street and leaked heating oil from its tank as well as engine oil Friday afternoon.

An oil truck carrying 1,700 gallons of fuel rolled onto its side on Smith Street and leaked heating oil from its tank as well as engine oil, police said. Firefighters and police responded to the crash, which was reported at 12:48 p.m. State Department of Energy and Environmental Protection emergency response crews responded to help contain the leaking tank and to oversee efforts to recover spilled No. 2 heating oil. The driver complained of back pain, was removed from the truck and is being taken by ambulance to a local hospital. South Windsor Police Chief Matthew Reed said the truck is owned by Teddy's

Oil LLC of Manchester. The driver told police he was turning the truck in the cul-de-sac of Smith Street and that the truck rolled over, police Lt. Scott Custer said. The cul-de-sac is behind the L.L.Bean at the Evergreen Walk shopping center. Firefighters worked initially to contain the oil spill, Reed said. Environmental Services Inc. of South Windsor was called in to assist in the cleanup. DEEP spokesman Dennis Schain said it has not yet been determined how much fuel escaped from the truck. The



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tank was drilled and the remaining oil removed. Officials will compare the amount of oil recovered to what was on board to determine how much spilled. Fuel that seeped into nearby soil will be removed, Schain said. Nearby waterways were being checked too, DEEP said.

<http://www.courant.com/breaking-news/hc-south-windsor-oil-truck-crash-1025-20141024-story.html>

USA, N.Y, AMHERST, OCTOBER 25 2014. ONE INJURED DURING EXPLOSION IN AMHERST

emily lenihan

Among the chemicals in the plant are toluene and mek.

One person was injured during an explosion in Amherst, Friday morning. First responders were called to the limak Imaging Plant at 185 John Glenn Drive, building number two. Responders went to the industrial building after 11 a.m. Friday. It's between Niagara Falls Boulevard and Sweet Home Road. The plant manufactures thermal transfers, and deals with specialty ink. Among the chemicals in the plant are toluene and mek. The plant has 350 employees and four shifts. One person was taken to the hospital, and there are other possible injuries. News 4 is working to learn what caused the reported explosion, and the extent of the victim's injuries.

<http://wivb.com/2014/10/24/crews-respond-to-possible-explosion-in-amherst/>

USA, WASHINGTON DC, OCTOBER 25 2014. FRACKING COMPANIES USING TOXIC BENZENE IN DRILLING: GROUP

mark drajem

Some oil and gas drillers are using benzene, which can cause cancer, in the mix of water and chemicals they shoot underground to free trapped hydrocarbons from shale rock, an environmental watchdog group said today. Benzene isn't banned in hydraulic fracturing, although diesel is restricted because regulators determined it may have carcinogens, including benzene. Drillers need a permit before using diesel in the fracking mixture that's blasted into shale with oil and gas deposits; they don't need one for benzene. The Environmental Integrity Project today said at least six fracking fluid additives contain that compound. "It's bombs away. You can use benzene in large quantities, just as long as you don't call it diesel," said Eric Schaeffer, the Washington-based group's executive director. Schaeffer said the compound could contaminate drinking water, although the group didn't provide any evidence today showing such contamination. In 2005, Congress exempted fracking from requirements of the Safe Drinking Water Act. Health advocates called it the "Halliburton loophole," referring to Halliburton Co. (HAL), the largest provider of fracking services, led by Richard Cheney before he was elected vice president in 2000.

EPA Oversight

The law maintained the EPA's oversight of fracking if diesel is part of the mix, in large part because the agency found that benzene and other so-called BTEX compounds in diesel pose the greatest threat to drinking water. Representatives of drilling companies said that fracked wells haven't leaked chemicals into the aquifer, and so the use of benzene raised by the Environmental Integrity Project shouldn't be a worry to the public. "The risk EIP claims to exist would only actually exist if there were examples of hydraulic fracturing contaminating groundwater. There aren't," Steve Everley, a spokesman for energy in Depth, which represents companies that drill and frack, said in an e-mail. "Presence doesn't indicate harm." Diesel, which has a small percentage of benzene, is typically used when the rock or clay has a tendency to absorb water, according to a 2011 report by Democrats on the U.S. House energy and Commerce Committee. Drillers have said they have largely phased out the use of diesel, although a separate report from the environmental group found that it is still used in some cases. Studies on benzene show that it causes cancer in humans and animals, especially leukemia and other blood cancers, according to the American Cancer Society.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2014-10-22/fracking-companies-using-toxic-benzene-in-drilling-group.html>

ECUADOR, QUITO, OCTOBER 25 2014. ECUADORIANS ASK INTERNATIONAL COURT TO OPEN CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION OF CHEVRON CEO

A group representing some 30,000 Indians and other inhabitants of Ecuador's Amazon region who are affected by oil pollution have requested that the International Criminal Court in The Hague open a criminal investigation of Chevron Chairman and CEO John Watson and other high-level company officers. Pablo Fajardo, chief lawyer for the plaintiffs, said the Amazon Defense Front filed the complaint on Thursday over those executives' role in obstructing a court-mandated clean-up of contamination stemming from decades-old oil operations by Texaco, which Chevron acquired in 2001. In 2011, a court in the northeastern Ecuadorian Amazon province of Sucumbios ruled in favor of the Amazon Defense Front, finding that Texaco dumped millions of gallons of crude residue and toxic waste water in the rainforest between 1964 and the early 1990s and



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thereby spoiled the lands and damaged the health of the local population. Ecuador's National Court of Justice upheld the verdict late last year, although it cut the penalty imposed by a lower tribunal in half to \$9.5 billion. Fajardo says this latest complaint was filed due to Chevron's persistent refusal to abide by those court decisions. The Ecuadorian plaintiffs have sought to enforce the judgment in countries including Argentina, Canada and Brazil by asking courts in those nations to seize Chevron's assets. Fajardo told Efe that Watson was the driving force behind the Chevron-Texaco merger in 2001 when he was Chevron's chief financial officer and knew "first-hand" about the pollution but hid that information from the company's shareholders. Chevron responded quickly, saying in a statement Thursday afternoon that the request for a criminal investigation of Watson was an attempt to distract attention from the fact that the court rulings against the company in Ecuador lack merit and are the result of an unprecedented fraud. The oil supermajor's spokesman, James Craig, recalled that a federal court in New York earlier this year found that the Ecuadorian judgment was the product of fraud and racketeering activity. Chevron says on its Web site that Ecuadorian state oil company Petroecuador should be the target of local communities' legal action. It notes that Texaco ceased operating in Ecuador in 1992 and that Petroecuador has been "the sole and exclusive owner and operator of greatly expanded operations in the area from (that year) to the present." The pollution case was initially filed against Texaco in New York in 1993, but after inheriting the lawsuit Chevron succeeded in having it moved from the United States to Ecuador in 2003, four years before President Rafael Correa came to power amid voter anger at corruption and traditional politicians. Chevron, however, later said the case had become politicized under the leftist Correa and that it could not receive a fair trial. Although the oil company maintains that Texaco was cleared of any liability for damages after performing remediation work in the mid-1990s, plaintiffs say that 1998 agreement with the Ecuadorian government of the time did not release it from third-party claims and that Chevron is renegeing on its pledge to abide by whatever decision was handed down by the Ecuadorian courts.

<http://www.laht.com/article.asp?ArticleId=2358004&CategoryId=14089>

USA, MT, GREAT FALLS, OCTOBER 26 2014. CREW CLEANING UP SULFURIC ACID SPILL NEAR SIMMS

davonté mckenith

A sulfuric acid leak west of Great Falls has emergency crews working to clean up the spill. Vince Kolar, the Disaster & Emergency Services coordinator for Cascade County, says that a truck driver pulled off in Simms because of an air-line issue and noticed that his tote was leaking at around 9:30 p.m. on Thursday. The county road department hauled sand out to help contain the spill, which is estimated at about 250 gallons. Kolar and other emergency personnel remained at the scene until a cleanup crew arrived at around 8 a.m. on Friday. The clean-up is continuing, and Kolar says it will likely take most of the day. Crews are putting down soda ash to neutralize the acid and repeating the process. Kolar says that there is no public health threat. Traffic is not being affected.

<http://www.krtv.com/news/crew-cleaning-up-sulfuric-acid-spill-near-simms/>

USA, HI, HONOLULU, OCTOBER 26 2014. SHIPPING COMPANY PLEADS GUILTY IN MOLASSES SPILL

A shipping company pleaded guilty Friday to criminal charges from a 233,000-gallon molasses spill in Honolulu Harbor, but a federal judge said he wants to examine the legality of \$600,000 in community service payments the company has agreed to pay. Last year's spill killed more than 26,000 fish and other marine life. U.S. Magistrate Judge Richard Puglisi accepted the plea from Matson Navigation Company Inc. to two misdemeanor charges for illegally releasing the molasses without a permit. The company and federal prosecutors wanted to proceed immediately with sentencing, with both sides agreeing Matson would pay a \$400,000 fine and give \$600,000 to environmental organizations. But Puglisi said he has concerns because the \$600,000 community service payment is higher than the maximum statutory fine. Each count carries a maximum fine of \$200,000, and Matson has agreed to pay \$400,000 for both. Matson said in a statement earlier this week that as part of a plea agreement, the company would pay \$300,000 to the Waikiki Aquarium to support coral programs and invasive algae clean-ups, and another \$300,000 to Sustainable Coastlines Hawaii. The deal was still subject to court approval. Puglisi called the community service payments "laudable" and said it's a common practice in many environmental cases. But he said it's usually done as a condition of probation. Without Matson serving probation, it wouldn't be appropriate to include the payments, the judge said. Puglisi ordered a pre-sentence report to look into the issue, saying, "I want to make sure this ... is permissible under the law." He set sentencing for Jan. 29. Enough molasses to fill about seven rail cars — 1,400 tons — oozed out from a section of pipe Matson thought had been sealed off, suffocating marine life and discoloring the water as it sunk to the bottom of Honolulu Harbor in September 2013.

<http://abcnews.go.com/Technology/wireStory/shipping-company-pleads-guilty-molasses-spill-26440338>



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USA, W.VA, CHARLESTON, OCTOBER 26 2014. DEP RELEASES FINAL INTERPRETIVE RULE ON ABOVEGROUND TANKS



Gas firm concerned about the unknowns, paperwork for tank law.

The West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection has completed the final version of the interpretive rule for the new Aboveground Storage Tank Program this week, outlining how it will implement the rule using three risk-based categories for tanks. Department of Environmental Protection communications director Kelley Gillenwater said no significant changes were made in this final version, and most were clarifications. The biggest change was to expand the level 3 category to include unfiltered surface water and empty mobile tanks. This rule is intended to guide tank owners as they work toward certifying all tanks before Jan. 1 and submit a spill prevention response plan by Dec. 3. The rule alleviates the need for every aboveground storage tank holding more than 1,320 gallons of liquid to be inspected by a certified engineer under

the Aboveground Storage Tank Act. Level 2 or 3 tank owners can do their own inspection if it is conducted on a form prescribed by the DEP Secretary per official guidelines. Level 3 tanks include potable water, groundwater or food storage. Level 2 tank classification includes those "determined by the Secretary to have the potential for lesser risk of harm to public health or the environment than level 1 tanks" yet does not qualify to be listed as level 3. Level 1 tanks have "the potential for high risk of harm to public health or the environment due to its contents, size, or location." These tanks may be located in critical zone areas, near source water protection areas, contain substances classified as "hazardous" by the federal guidelines, or hold more than 50,000 gallons. The initial inspection of each level 1 tank must be performed by a qualified professional engineer, a qualified person working under a professional engineer, or by individuals certified to perform tank inspections by American Petroleum Institute or the Steel Tank Institute. This interpretive rule becomes effective on Nov. 20, and will expire in June or upon its replacement with a more comprehensive legislative rule.

http://www.register-herald.com/news/dep-releases-final-interpretive-rule-on-aboveground-tanks/article_de1cd266-15b9-5d06-a734-d4475aa21ad1.html

NORTHERN IRELAND, DOWN, WARRENPOINT HARBOUR, OCTOBER 26 2014. OIL SPILL CLEAN-UP UNDER WAY



A clean-up operation is under way after a spill of marine fuel from a vessel berthed at Warrenpoint Harbour spread to the shore. Warrenpoint Harbour Authority (WHA) said the discharge of fuel was first detected at 9pm on Wednesday and it was first alerted by the ship's captain, triggering an oil spill contingency plan. "A full team of employees trained in oil spill response was immediately put in place and the area around the ship was secured and oil spill booms and absorbent pads were deployed," a WHA spokesman said. "With the rising tide some oil has been detected along the shore adjacent to Barrow Water and this area is being cleaned and the oil residue removed as part of the emergency plan." Northern Ireland Environment Agency (NIEA), Newry and Mourne District Council, the Loughs Agency and other agencies were informed and are assisting Warrenpoint Harbour in remediation of the shoreline, the

harbour authority said. Chief executive Peter Conway said: "The Harbour Authority sincerely regrets that this incident has occurred and assures the public that all efforts are being made to make good the situation. "I am satisfied that the fast implementation of the Harbour Authority emergency plan in association with the various Government agencies has ensured that this spill was contained within a relatively small area." The clean-up continued after nightfall under floodlights, according to NIEA, which was at the scene to oversee the operation and carry out investigations. About 100 litres of heavy fuel oil had spilled from a vessel moored at the harbour and oil containment booms were being deployed, the NIEA said. "Since the initial report NIEA has worked closely with the harbour authority to ensure that a full and successful clean-up is carried out," a spokesperson said. All relevant authorities had been told, including those in the Republic, and NIEA is working closely with these agencies, it said.

<http://www.belfasttelegraph.co.uk/news/environment/cleanup-under-way-after-oil-spill-from-ship-in-warrenpoint-harbour-30691446.html>



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NIGERIA, IBADAN, CHALLENGE, OCTOBER 26 2014. ANOTHER FUEL TANKER ACCIDENT IN IBADAN

What could have resulted in another fire disaster was miraculously averted this morning at the Efunsatan roundabout, Challenge, Ibadan when a 33,000 fuel tanker laden with kerosene crashed less than two kilometres away from the scene of the Molete fire incident of two weeks ago. The crash which occurred around 8:05 am, did not record any causality though. Residents were full of praise unto the God almighty that the content was not petroleum. There was pandemonium in the neighborhood as motorists raced to remove their cars to a safe haven as the content of the tanker, erroneously suspected to be petrol, gushed out in large quantity. As God would have it, the content found a channel of escape in the deep drainage recently constructed as part of the new Ibadan ring-road project of the Oyo State government. When The Street Journal visited the scene of the accident, residents were seen scooping kerosene from the tanker as no security operative was sighted to maintain law and order in the area. Investigation revealed that the ensuing disaster would have been worse than the recent Molete fire incident where about 50 people lost their lives. Over 30 buses parked at the Ijebu motor park adjacent the scene of the accident would have been consumed by fire with the occupants. The environmental sanitation exercise being observed has however, prevented commuters to be at the motor park, but the drivers and touts would have been most vulnerable. "We thank God that the tanker is not loaded with petrol; the entire Challenge/Telele would have been consumed by fire now" said a resident, Pastor Adedotun Campbell. It was gathered that the accident occurred when the fuel tanker lost control of the vehicle as a result of brake failure. The tanker was coming from the Toll-gate end of the ancient city of Ibadan en-route Molete end of the metropolis.

<http://thestreetjournal.org/2014/10/news-flash-another-fuel-tanker-accident-in-ibadan/>

CHINA, HUBEI PROVINCE, ZIGUI COUNTY, OCTOBER 26 2014. FIVE KILLED IN CHINA OIL TANKER EXPLOSION

Five people were killed after an oil tanker exploded in China's Hubei province, authorities said Saturday. Three people were also injured in the accident that happened Friday night in Zigui county, Xinhua reported citing a statement issued by the county government. The oil tanker overturned and exploded, killing its driver and villagers in the immediate vicinity. Three houses were severely damaged by the explosion, it said. Over 70 police officers and firefighters joined the rescue operation.

<http://nvonews.com/five-killed-in-china-oil-tanker-explosion/>

CANADA, ONT, SARNIA, OCTOBER 26 2014. INDUSTRIAL EXPLOSION, FIRE AT VEOLIA ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES'S IN SARNIA INJURES 5



1 person was critically injured, 3 people were seriously injured and 1 person has minor injuries after an industrial explosion in Sarnia, Ont. Five people are injured, including one critically, after an industrial explosion in Sarnia, Ont., police said Saturday. The explosion occurred around 2:40 p.m. ET at Veolia ES Canada Industrial Services Inc. on Scott Road north of Churchill Road/Highway 40, according to Sarnia Police Services. When firefighters arrived on scene, they

extinguished the fire over a span of two hours and dealt with injured people. Eight people were working at the facility when the explosion happened, said Sarnia Police Staff Sgt. David Bonnema. Five people were transported to a local hospital. One individual with critical injuries was later airlifted to another hospital. Initial reports indicated the person was taken to a London, Ont., hospital. Bonnema said the patient was taken to a burn unit at a Hamilton hospital. Sarnia police and Ministry of Labour investigators are conducting an initial investigation into the cause of the explosion, which is currently unknown. Three others suffered serious injuries, while one other person has minor injuries, Mayor Mike Bradley said in an interview with CBC News. He had not had an update on the condition of the five injured people since late Saturday afternoon. Three others were assessed on site and released, said Jeff Brooks, a spokesman with local Lambton County paramedics, to the Canadian Press. James MacDonald, a spokesman for air ambulance Ornge, told the Canadian Press that an Ornge helicopter had been dispatched from London and was on standby at a Sarnia airport. "It has not yet been determined whether we are required to transport a patient to another centre, but we are standing by in case we are needed," he said.

No Known Cause

It is still unclear what caused the explosion, which partially collapsed a building's roof and some of one exterior wall. Nearby residents reported hearing at least one big bang in a discussion on a Facebook page for alerts in the area. Bonnema said the explosion could be heard up to one kilometre away and damage to the building is extensive. Sarnia police and Ministry of Labour investigators are conducting an initial investigation into the cause. The Ministry of Environment will also be involved in



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the investigation, said Bradley. Fire crews were on site throughout the night to periodically check for hot spots, Bonnema said, and investigators will likely begin digging into the rubble on Sunday.

'It's not an Easy Job'

Veolia Environmental Services's Sarnia location offers industrial cleaning and maintenance services, according to its website. It's a small company that works in tank maintenance, said Bradley. The company's industrial cleaning and maintenance services include chemical cleaning, emergency response for spill containment and clean up, hydroblasting, tank cleaning and separations, and vacuum services. "It's not an easy job to do ... and safety is always a factor," he said. The company is located in an industrial area free of residential homes. There is no impact from the explosion to other industries near the scene. Officials are not concerned about airborne chemicals, said Bonnema, as the incident was strictly a structure fire.

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/industrial-explosion-fire-in-sarnia-ont-injures-5-1.2813225>

USA, OH, PORTSMOUTH, OCTOBER 27 2014. SEMI CARRYING OVER 8000 GALLONS OF GASOLINE AND CAR COLLIDE IN WEST PORTSMOUTH, OHIO



Several people are injured after a car and semi carrying 8000 gallons of gasoline collide in West Portsmouth, Ohio on Sunday.

According to Scioto County, Ohio 911 dispatchers the driver of a semi carrying over 8000 gallons of gasoline collided with a car along State Route 73 and State Route 104 on Sunday, October 26th in West Portsmouth. The accident occurred around 2:30 p.m. According to accident investigators on scene, at least two people injured in the crash were taken via helicopter to St Mary's Medical Regional Center in Huntington to be treated for their injuries. Two additional victims in the crash were taken to Southern Ohio Medical Center via ambulance. Motorists are advised to avoid the area if possible as there are several road closures as a result of the crash.

<http://www.wowktv.com/story/27018620/driver-of-semi-carrying-8000-gallons-of-gasoline-injured-in-west-portsmouth-ohio-accident>

INDIA, UTTAR PRADESH, KANPUR, OCTOBER 27 2014. SUV, TANKER COLLISION LEAVES THREE DEAD IN FATEHPUR

Three persons died and two injured in a collision between an SUV and a tanker on a national highway in Fatehpur district on Sunday. Arif, a resident of Behta area of Bindaki town in Fatehpur, Faisal and Rukhsar, both residents of Hardauli in Banda district, lost their lives. Raju Husain, a native of Kashmiri Mohalla in Bakewar area of Fatehpur and another unidentified person were rushed to Lala Lajpat Rai Hospital here. The five occupants in the SUV were on their way to their native place from Mumbai when the accident occurred near Qasimgiri village in Jahanabad area in Bakewar. The driver of SUV tried to overtake a truck. He lost control over the vehicle and it collided with a tanker coming from the opposite direction. Arif, Faisal and Rukhsar died on the spot. The tanker driver fled. It had been impounded, a police official said. The Bakewar police that an ambulance was called. The SUV was lifted to extricate the bodies and rescue the injured persons. The tanker driver had been booked under Section 279 (rash driving), 304-A (causing death by negligence) and 337 of IPC. The bodies were shifted to mortuary for post-mortem examination. The family members of the victims have been informed.

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/kanpur/SUV-tanker-collision-leaves-three-dead-in-Fatehpur/articleshow/44941446.cms>

MALAYSIA, KUALA LUMPUR, OCTOBER 26 2014. CALL FOR CLEAR DEFINITION BEFORE IMPLEMENTING NEW REGULATIONS ON RON95 PETROL

The government should provide a clear definition on those referred as 'high income earners' before implementing new regulations on the subsidised RON95 petrol. Federation of Malaysian Consumers Associations (Fomca) deputy president, Mohd Yusof Abdul Rahman said this was because the definition of this group differed according to the situation and where they were located. While describing the announcement as something much awaited, Yusof said the rich were those who were not the least affected by the rise in costs. "Those earning RM5,000 to RM10,000 are still pressured by the rising cost of living



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in the city," he said when contacted by Bernama. "Firstly, the government has to narrow down on those eligible to receive the subsidy, secondly, remove from the list the industries not qualified for the subsidy, and thirdly, the government needs to fix the leakages and then only, turn to the domestic consumers," he said. On Friday, Deputy Finance Minister Datuk Ahmad Maslan said the selling price of RON95 petrol for the high-income group would be in accordance with the market price starting in June next year. Ahmad said the mechanism and method of implementation were being finalised by the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Domestic Trade, Cooperatives and Consumerism using MyKad or other cards. Low and middle-income earners will continue to enjoy RON95 at the subsidised price. Economic analyst, Datuk Mohd Yusof Kassim, said the move by the government would bring significant benefits to the low and middle-income earners and make a positive impact on national development. The savings from the measures taken could be channelled to projects beneficial to the people and national income distributed to the middle-income group, he said.

<http://www.theborneopost.com/2014/10/26/call-for-clear-definition-before-implementing-new-regulations-on-ron95-petrol-2/>

USA, LA, CADDO PARISH, OCTOBER 27 2014. NEW ORLEANS ATTORNEYS REPRESENTING RESIDENTS AFFECTED BY OIL SPILL IN CADDO PARISH

 **Watch the Video:** [New Orleans Attorneys Representing Residents Affected by Oil Spill in Caddo Parish](#)



New Orleans Attorneys Herman, Herman, and Katz are representing residents affected by the oil spill in north Caddo Parish, according to the lawyers' website. Suncoco Logistics crews are still working to clean up that spill near Mooringsport, estimated to be about 4,000 barrels, which equals to 168,000 gallons. The spill happened nearly two weeks ago, in an area off Mooringsport-Latex Road. Officials say some of the oil did spill into the Tete Bayou but officials say hasn't reach Caddo Lake, a major source of drinking water for many in Caddo Parish. Over 200 deceased animals have so far been recovered.

Related Stories:

- [Crews scramble to contain oil spill in north Caddo Parish](#)
- [13 animals released after being affected by Caddo Parish oil spill](#)

<http://www.ktbs.com/story/27017574/new-orleans-attorneys-representing-residents-affected-by-oil-spill-in-caddo-parish>

USA, UT, SALT LAKE CITY, OCTOBER 27 2014..ARMY PLANS FOR GAS, CHLORINE TESTS IN WESTERN UTAH

Dugway Proving Ground in Utah.



The U.S. Army and Utah air quality officials are taking public comment on plans to release chlorine and low levels of radioactive gas at a military testing range in western Utah next year. According to state and military officials, the gas and chlorine released at Dugway Proving Ground would remain at safe levels. The tests would be done on remote areas of the 1,300-square-mile testing range where there are few plants or trees to attract birds. Any animals in the area would be removed before the tests, and noisemakers and other devices would keep them away, Dugway officials said. Both tests still need approval from

military and civilian agencies before they can occur. If approved, the tests would take place in the summer or fall of 2015. No organizations or groups have come out formally opposed to the tests, but the group Utah Physicians for a Healthy Environment is reviewing the radioactive gas test. President Brian Moench said his group would work to stop the radioactive gas test if it's possible that Utah residents could be exposed to even small amounts of radiation. At a public hearing in Tooele last week, Dugway officials said the radioactive gas released at Dugway Proving Ground would be low enough to equal the levels of radioactive exposure a person receives when undergoing an X-ray. David Blanchard, a manager of the Dugway project, said the gas release will test a U.S. Navy sensor that detects extremely low levels of radiation. The radiation in each test would range from what's released during a dental X-ray to that of a full body scan, Blanchard said. The radioactive gas would be released in a southeast area of Dugway when winds are forecast to blow to the northwest. Blanchard said that would ensure that any radiation traveling beyond a planned safety zone would still have to cross the rest of Dugway and the western Utah desert before approaching populated areas and the Nevada border. The radiation is expected to spread over 3 miles and



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fall below naturally occurring levels. The Army has held public meetings about the test and is planning another one in Wendover on Nov. 6. Public comments will be incorporated into an environmental assessment, which will be released to the public before the test is approved, according to The Salt Lake Tribune. The other test, a planned release of chlorine, awaits a permit from the Utah Division of Air Quality. If the permit is approved, air quality officials would require Dugway to install chemical monitors to make sure the amount of chlorine released is well below levels that are harmful to humans. Army officials plan to put cars and structures in the chlorine's path to see how the chemical affects them, according to planning documents. The U.S. Department of Homeland Security is partnering with the Army on the test, which will show what could happen if a rail car or large container released a poisonous gas in an urban setting. Utah air quality permit manager Marty Gray said the agency's permits will only allow tests in specific weather conditions with low winds. "We've got a lot of conservatism built in to make sure this is safe," Gray said. The air quality division is accepting public comments on the test through Nov. 14. No public hearings have been scheduled, but the division will hold one if someone requests it.

<http://www.stripes.com/news/us/army-plans-for-gas-chlorine-tests-in-western-utah-1.310675>

CANADA, B.C, VICTORIA, OCTOBER 27 2014. 'HUNDREDS OF SPILLS' SHOW HUGE GAPS IN OIL SPILL RESPONSE: INTERNAL B.C. GOVERNMENT EMAIL



MetroB.C.'s marine oil spill response team, Western Canada Marine Response Corporation, practices an emergency clean up in Howe Sound in September 2013.

An alarming email from high-ranking Ministry of Environment staff proves the province is unprepared to deal with a major environmental disaster, says the NDP's environment critic. Email correspondence between Graham Knox, the director of B.C.'s Environmental Emergency Program, and Jim Hofweber, executive director of the Environmental Emergencies and Land Remediation Branch, on March 31, 2014 expose gaping holes in the province's ability to monitor and respond to events such as oil spills and mine tailings breaches, and in its power to hold polluters responsible. "We could point to hundreds of spills on annual basis where gaps occurred or improvements are needed [sic],"

writes Knox, in response to Hofweber's request for additional information on spill response. "Compiling such a report however would involve significant staff resources, that we currently do not have." Knox goes on to outline "a very small sampling of examples of existing gaps or deficiencies." Under a section on spill reporting, he lists an incident where CN Rail advised the ministry of a "small spill at rail yard in lower mainland" which "Ministry staff subsequently discover their [sic] was actually a collision between locomotives and substantially more fuel released than reported and that the spilled materials were moving offsite." When tailings from the Tulameen coalmine were released into the Tulameen River, Knox says the polluter contracted a clean-up company that "did not have sufficient training to complete the work appropriately." When Kinder Morgan reported a spill at their Sumas tank farm, Knox writes "no air monitoring or sampling was done to determine what the concentrations of chemicals in the air were to assure the public and provide scientific basis for the company's claims that there were no health impacts [...]." Some of the most troubling examples highlight the government's apparent lack of enforcement power for its polluter pay model. Knox cites the April 2011 Goldstream River disaster – where a Columbia Fuels tanker truck crashed off the Malahat Highway on Vancouver Island, spilling its contents into the river – as one that "exemplified the current lack of process or requirements of restoration of the environmental after a spill." "The ministry continues to work with Columbia Fuels and numerous stakeholders on a restoration plan but without clear rules and guidelines the process has continued on and the responsible party could ultimately walk away if it so chose [...]" Knox also pointed to a lack of legislation that forces polluters to compensate for the loss of use of public parks and beaches after a disaster. "If a spill were to occur that effected [sic] both Washington state and BC [...] the public on the U.S. would be entitled to compensation for the loss of public use for its lands / resources while British Columbians would be entitled to no compensation (even though the spill occurred here and involved a BC based company)." The content of the email was alarming to read, said NDP MLA Spencer Chandra Herbert. "It lays it out incident after incident. It speaks for itself, there are so many gaps," he told Metro. "It shows our capacity or ability to respond to oil spills and mine disasters is incredibly weak." Chandra Herbert said the email shows a history of non-compliance and, coupled with poor response to recent disasters like the Mount Polley tailings pond breach, "does not give any confidence the government is taking (environmental protection) seriously". He fears a large-scale disaster, like an oil spill near Stanley Park, would leave taxpayers on the hook and do irreparable damage to the environment. The email was found by Chandra Herbert's



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research team while sifting through Freedom of Information releases on the province's Open Information portal. Several portions of the email have been redacted.

<http://metronews.ca/news/victoria/1194639/hundreds-of-spills-show-huge-gaps-in-oil-spill-response-internal-b-c-government-email/>

USA, CT, NEW HAVEN, OCTOBER 27 2014. LARGE FIRE REPORTED AT NEW HAVEN FUEL TERMINAL

olivia lank & erin connolly

 **Watch the Video:** [Fire Officials Continue to Investigate Two-Alarm Fire in New Haven](#)



A large fire was reported at the New Haven oil terminal on Saturday evening. According to police, the fire started from a transformer in the Halvarsson Converter Station at about 5 p.m. The substation, which is located on Forbes Avenue, belongs to Cross Sound Cable. Officials from Mayor Toni Harp's office told Eyewitness News that crews will let the fire burn out by itself. This is an electrical fire, so they can't put water on it. Crews have foam on scene to control the fire if necessary. "There were flames 50 feet in the air, tons of smoke, looked like oil burning," said Philip Hazzard, a Norwalk resident. The fire started in a transformer, which contained 16,000 gallons of mineral fuel. "Ton of black some almost like there were tires burning, and then right behind that you could see a

tremendous amount of flames coming up from down below," said Mike Denamur, a Fairfield resident. Fans at a nearby baseball game at East Shore Park couldn't believe what they saw. "I thought we were going to be evacuated, but the game went on and we're still here," said Stephanie Cullimore, a Westport resident. Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection dispatched to the scene and determined that there was no hazardous material. Interstates 95 and 91 were shut down in both directions for a while as a precaution, but have since been reopened. Fire officials said this massive fire was difficult to fight. "Anytime we have an electrical issue, before we can take any offense action we need to de-energize the electricity, and that was the issue of getting our command post set up," said Thomas Neville, New Haven fire assistant chief of operations.

<http://www.wfsb.com/story/27015324/large-fire-reported-at-new-haven-fuel-terminal>

INDIA, KARNATAKA, PUTTUR, OCTOBER 27 2014. CLOSE SHAVE FOR PASSENGERS AS BUS-TANKER COLLIDE AT SHIRADI GHAT



In an accident, a bus collided head on with a tanker in the middle of Shiradi ghat, here on Sunday, October 26 afternoon. A private SRS bus was plying towards Bangalore from Mangalore which collided with a tanker coming from Bangalore towards Mangalore. The tanker fell in the gorge after hitting the bus. Fortunately, the drivers and passengers escaped with minor injuries. More details awaited.

http://www.daijiworld.com/news/news_disp.asp?n_id=272657

USA, W.VA, NEW MARTINSVILLE, OCTOBER 28 2014. NEW MARTINSVILLE FINED \$5,000 FOR JULY PLANT SPILL

State environmental officials have fined New Martinsville about \$5,000 for a July oil spill at the city's hydroelectric plant. The state Department of Environmental Protection levied the penalty in a consent order earlier this month. On July 10, oil spilled from a malfunctioning turbine at the plant and caused a plume in the Ohio River visible 7 miles downstream. The consent order requires submitting plans within 20 days to make repairs and control contamination. It also requires submitting stormwater and groundwater protection plans for approval within 30 days. New Martinsville Mayor Keith Nelsen signed the consent order, which waives the city's right to appeal.

<http://www.wvgazette.com/article/20141027/GZ01/141029266/1101>



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KAZAKHSTAN, PAVLODAR, OCTOBER 28 2014. FIRE HITS KAZAKH OIL REFINERY



A fire occurred at Kazakhstan's Pavlodar refinery on Oct.25 at 06:40 (UTC/GMT +6 hours), KazMunaiGas - Processing and Marketing JSC said. "Fire hit a process furnace for heating raw materials for catalytic cracking at the Pavlodar refinery," the company said. According to the company's message, the fire was localized and extinguished. There were no reports on possible damage or casualties. The remaining facilities of the plant continue to operate in a normal mode. The situation at the refinery is currently under control, the company said. A commission will assess the consequences of the incident, their impact on the volume of production and define the necessary steps for restoration. KazMunaiGas - Processing and Marketing JSC is a 100 percent

subsidiary of KazMunaiGas JSC National Company. It's main areas of activity are management of refining assets, exports of oil and petroleum products, the development of retail sales of petroleum products.

<http://en.trend.az/casia/kazakhstan/2326396.html>

USA, NV, LAS VEGAS, OCTOBER 28 2014. MAN INJURED IN EXPLOSION, FLASH FIRE AT LAS VEGAS ELECTRONICS SHOP



The Las Vegas Fire Department is investigating an explosion and flash fire at a local business that sent one person to UMC Trauma. It happened around 10:30 a.m. on Monday at an electronics repair shop on the 1700 block of Western Avenue, near Wyoming Avenue and Industrial Road. Crews said the employee suffered second and third-degree burns on 40 percent of his body, with the majority on his arms and legs. An investigation revealed the man was working on a small medical oxygen bottle he had found. He was going to recycle the bottle that is made of aluminum, but it had a brass valve on top. He wanted to take the valve off so only the aluminum would be recycled, so he tried beating the valve off the bottle with a hammer while the bottle laid on a metal bench. Fire investigators believe when he beat the valve off, the oxygen inside the bottle, which was under pressure, ignited when it came into contact with oil and grease that was on the bench. A spark from the mmer was more than likely the ignition source. The bottle ignited and propelled into the ceiling where it was later found intact, embedded in the void area above the ceiling. The valve was later found on the floor. "We found the oxygen tank embedded in the ceiling. We had to take the ceiling down. It went up into the ceiling like a rocket," said one firefighter. The fire was out by the time LVFD crews arrived, but the back garage door was bowed out and the windows of the business were blown out. Fire officials said the man is lucky the injuries weren't more severe. The incident has been ruled accidental. Damage was estimated at \$10,000.

<http://www.jrn.com/ktnv/news/Las-Vegas-fire-crews-investigating-explosion-at-repair-shop-280551082.html>

USA, VA, RAPPAHANNOCK CO, OCTOBER 28 2014. 522 REOPENS AFTER EARLY MORNING TANKER CRASH



After a tanker crashed on U.S. 522, steam rises from a spilled asphalt compound in the Boston area of Rappahannock Monday morning.

Authorities reopened U.S. 522 in the Boston area of Rappahannock County at about noon today, after a tanker overturned early this morning, causing a spill of emulsified asphalt and closing the two-lane highway between Sperryville and Culpeper for close to six hours. The crash, just south of the intersection of Route 604 (Round Hill Road), did not involve any other vehicles. The driver, Wilbur Garman of Orrstown, Pa., was reportedly out of the cab when rescuers arrived and was transported to Culpeper Memorial Hospital (and later flown to University of Virginia Medical Center in Charlottesville. Virginia State Police are



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investigating the cause. A Winchester-based hazardous materials team was dispatched to the accident scene, which is now the site of a cleanup by a Virginia Department of Environmental Quality contractors. The Virginia Department of Transportation had set up detours during the closure. More information later today, and in Thursday's Rappahannock News.

<http://www.rappnews.com/2014/10/27/accident-closes-u-s-522-in-rappahannock/137325/>

USA, IA, STACYVILLE, OCTOBER 28 2014. EXPLOSION, FIRE CLOSE STACYVILLE PLANT

deb nicklay



Firefighters from Stacyville and Osage work at Northern Country Cooperative dry fertilizer plant in Stacyville where an explosion caused a fire in the plant's tower.

The cause of an explosion at Northern Country Co-op's dry fertilizer plant, 610 Union St. in Stacyville, will be investigated and the plant will be closed for a short time, said manager Scot Janssen. "But hopefully it won't be too many days before we're up and running," he said. An insurance investigator will be on the scene to evaluate the damage, he added. Janssen added he had no idea how the explosion occurred and did not have a damage estimate Monday afternoon. The accident, which occurred about 11 a.m. Monday, happened as fertilizer was being taken up an elevator leg into a blending bin. The fire smoldered for some time before the fertilizer was pulled from the plant's tower. No hazardous

materials were involved and evacuations were not necessary, Janssen said. Stacyville and Osage firefighters were on the scene and cleared the site about 3 p.m. Janssen said one employee was taken to the hospital as a precaution but he was able to return to work. "We just wanted to make sure everything was OK," Janssen said. He praised the work done by emergency personnel. "Our firefighters did an excellent job, a really great job," Janssen said. "We can't thank them enough."

http://globe-gazette.com/news/local/explosion-fire-close-stacyville-plant/article_7e2e3033-5fdc-555e-a9d4-7c48fd8703c2.html

USA, NV, LAS VEGAS, OCTOBER 28 2014. MAN HOSPITALIZED AFTER FIREWORKS EXPLODED IN HAND

A man picking up fireworks was hospitalized after they exploded while he held them in Henderson Sunday afternoon, city officials said. Authorities were called to the 2800 block of Bluegrass Lane, near Windmill Lane and Eastern Avenue, shortly before 5 p.m., Henderson spokesman Keith Paul said. The man had injuries on the tips of two fingers and was taken to University Medical Center in a non-life-threatening condition, Paul said.

<http://www.reviewjournal.com/news/las-vegas/man-hospitalized-after-fireworks-exploded-hand>

ENGLAND, WEST YORKSHIRE, OCTOBER 29 2014. FIRE CREW FACES BONFIRE SEASON ROCKET ATTACK

 **Watch the Video:** [Firefighters Under Rocket Attack](#)



West Yorkshire Fire And Rescue release footage showing fireworks being aimed at emergency workers as they attended a blaze.

Video has emerged of firefighters coming under fire from a volley of rockets as they arrived to tackle a blaze in a Leeds street. The footage shows a man carrying a fire hose ducking for cover as showers of sparks explode around him. The fire crew arrives to find two small blazes are alight in the street, apparently to draw it to the area. As the first firefighter gets out of the fire truck to investigate, several people are seen emerging from a side street, with one of them holding something. Suddenly the fire crew comes under fire, with several rockets hitting the front of the fire truck and another narrowly missing the

firefighter. He is then seen covering as a series of explosions detonate around him, accompanied by loud bangs. Eventually, when they are sure it is safe, the crew is able to put out the burning rubbish. West Yorkshire Fire Service has released the footage, filmed in November last year by a camera attached to a fire truck cab, to show what risks firefighters face during the bonfire season. Area Manager Ian Bitcon said: "It's a sad fact that every year our crews encounter some reckless individuals who do not take Bonfire Night or fireworks seriously. "Attacks on firefighters - like the one captured by a silent witness camera in the Chapeltown area of Leeds last November - are despicable. "They needlessly put our firefighters in incredible danger whilst they are simply trying to carry out their duties serving the public." A fire service spokesman said none of the firefighters involved was injured. West Yorkshire Police said the incident was investigated but they were unable to make any arrests. John



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McGheen, Fire Brigades Union national officer, said: "Attacks on firefighters, such as those in the video, are abhorrent, especially when they are in the middle of trying to rescue members of the public from dangerous incidents. "The fire service is a neutral organisation; we are there to protect and rescue people when they're at their most vulnerable. It is unacceptable that whilst doing this, they're being attacked."

<http://news.sky.com/story/1361105/fire-crew-faces-bonfire-season-rocket-attack>

USA, KYK, CORBIN, OCTOBER 28 2014. OLD FUEL TANK EXPLODES DURING WELDING



The used railroad car fuel tank involved in Monday's blast looked like this afterwards. West Knox Volunteer Fire and Rescue Chief Darryl Baker said the explosion blew out both the ends of the tank, which firefighters call a "BLEVE," or Boiling Liquid Expanding Vapor Explosion. The man cutting the tank with the welding torch was blown back from the blast, but was not injured.

Residents of a southern Kentucky city got a surprise when an old fuel tank exploded while being cut up for scrap. West Knox Volunteer Fire and Rescue Chief Darryl Baker says no one was injured in the Monday morning blast, which happened just outside the Corbin city limits. Baker told The Times-Tribune (<http://bit.ly/1w9mRKg>) the blast shook his house. Baker says workers were cutting up an old fuel tank for scrap, but failed to remove all the fuel from the tank. The man who was cutting the tank with a welding torch was blown back from the explosion, but not injured. Fire officials said the property where the blast

occurred was owned by Progressive Rail of Corbin, but is leased to an Indiana company, Three Rivers out of Fort Wayne.

<http://www.kentucky.com/2014/10/27/3504404/old-fuel-tank-explodes-during.html?>

CANADA, ONT, SARNIA, OCTOBER 28 2014. WORKER DIES OF INJURIES AFTER EXPLOSION IN SARNIA



Firefighters pour water on a building at Veolia ES Canada Industrial Services Inc. plant to prevent hot spots in Sarnia, Ontario on Saturday Oct. 25, 2014.

A worker injured in an explosion at an industrial facility in Sarnia, Ont. over the weekend has died of his injuries. The male worker, who has not been publicly identified, was injured when a dust collection system located outside the building at Veolia ES Canada Industrial Services exploded on Saturday afternoon. The explosion left a giant hole in a wall of the plant, and caused significant structural damage, CTV London reported. One employee was suffering severe burns and had to be airlifted to a London, Ont. hospital, where he died on Monday. Four other workers were injured in the blast, and remain in

hospital. While the Ministries of Labour and Environment investigate, the facility and the road leading into it remain closed. No chemicals were released during the explosion.

Related Stories

- [Second worker in critical condition after industrial explosion in Sarnia, Ont.](#)
- [One person critically injured in Sarnia plant explosion](#)

<http://www.ctvnews.ca/canada/worker-dies-of-injuries-after-explosion-in-sarnia-1.2073127>

USA, ILL, METROPOLIS, OCTOBER 28 2014. UF6 LEAK [URANIUM HEXAFLUORIDE] AT METROPOLIS HONEYWELL PLANT SAID TO BE CONTAINED



Update:

A Honeywell spokesperson says there is not an active release at the plant anymore. Emergency personnel are still working to determine a specific source of the release. Peter Dalpe said the white cloudy substance many people reported seeing at the plant is spray from the water towers used to contain leaks. The mitigation towers were directed at the production facility to ensure that no material escaped the building. Daple said that is standard emergency procedure at the site.



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Original Story:

We have received multiple phone calls to the newsroom tonight over a rumor that the Honeywell plant in Metropolis is leaking uranium hexa-fluoride, or UF6, into the community. We have contacted the Massac County Sheriff's Office. They tell us Honeywell is releasing UF6, but it is an in-house release. The sheriff's office says no one is in any danger. Honeywell Spokesperson Peter Dalpe sent our newsroom a statement that reads, "The Metropolis facility experienced a leak of UF6 in its main production building at approximately 7:35 p.m. local time. The leak has been contained and a trained response team is currently working to ensure the leak has been stopped completely. There have been no injuries and there is no indication that any material has left the building. All plant emergency procedures were followed and safety equipment worked as designed." Dalpe also said the plant immediately notified emergency responders as per emergency procedures.

<http://www.wpsdlocal6.com/story/27019742/uf6-leak-at-metropolis-honeywell-plant-said-to-be-contained>

TURKEY, OSTIM, OCTOBER 28 2014. SEVERAL INJURED IN BLAST AT ANKARA INDUSTRIAL ZONE



At least nine people were injured after a blast at Ostim, a major industrial zone in Ankara, on Oct. 27. One of those injured is said to be in critical condition, daily Hürriyet has reported. The explosion is believed to have been caused by a build-up of gas inside a building owned by an ice production company located in one of the sections of the industrial zone, initial reports said. Gas from the factory was seen spreading outside the building following the blast. Ambulances and firefighters have been dispatched to the area. 20 people died in an explosion at a nearby workshop in Ostim in 2011 in one of the deadliest recent industrial accidents to occur in the Turkish capital.

[http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/several-injured-in-blast-at-ankara-industrial-](http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/several-injured-in-blast-at-ankara-industrial-zone.aspx?pageID=238&nID=73517&NewsCatID=341)

[zone.aspx?pageID=238&nID=73517&NewsCatID=341](http://www.hurriyetdailynews.com/several-injured-in-blast-at-ankara-industrial-zone.aspx?pageID=238&nID=73517&NewsCatID=341)

USA, CA, LOSANGELES, RIVERSIDE, OCTOBER 28 2014. CHEMICAL LEAK IN RIVERSIDE SENDS 11 PEOPLE TO HOSPITAL

 **Watch the Video:** [Chemical Leak in Riverside Sends 11 to Hospital](#)



A Riverside County school was closed and residents were evacuated Monday after an unknown gas leak was reported.

Nearly a dozen people, including fire and police officials, were hospitalized early Monday after they were exposed to an unknown chemical leaking from a tank near Lincoln High School in Riverside. The leak prompted authorities to shut down the surrounding neighborhood of 130 homes and order residents to shelter in place, said Riverside Fire Division Chief Mitch Wesche. Students arriving at the high school were turned away. The affected area includes from 10th to 14th streets and Victoria Avenue to Commerce Street. Three police officers and a firefighter were among those taken to hospitals for observation,

Wesche said. Seven residents drove themselves to hospitals. A chemical odor was reported at 6:16 a.m. to be emanating from a 5-foot-tall welding tank in a resident's backyard, officials said. Crews were able to stop the leak, but the neighborhood remained closed off. Residents who sheltered in place were not allowed to leave or enter their homes. A hazardous-material team and Riverside County public health officials plan to investigate how the leak occurred and why the chemical was in the neighborhood.

<http://www.latimes.com/local/lanow/la-me-ln-chemical-leak-riverside-20141027-story.html>

INDIA, KARNATAKA, BHATKAL, OCTOBER 29 2014. TANKERS COLLIDE ON NH-66, SPILLING OIL

Two tankers collided on Shirali National Highway (NH-66) Monday evening, causing one tanker to spill diesel on the roads sending the public into a state of worry for sometime. A truck heading towards Mangalore hit a tanker locomoting in front of it which in turn hit another tanker moving in front of it causing one of the tankers to start spilling diesel, a source informed. Fire engines arrived on the scene to respond to the accident and control damage but need did not arise to utilize them. This case has been registered at Bhatkal Suburban police station.

<http://www.bhatkallys.com/bhatkal-news/accident-at-shirali/>



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USA, WYO, CHEYENNE, OCTOBER 29 2014. CHEYENNE REFINERY DINGED \$153K BY EPA

Frontier Refining, a division of HollyFrontier Corp. that operates the 52,000 barrel per day refinery in Cheyenne, agreed to pay \$153,000 in penalties to take care of alleged violations of the Clean Air Act and others. According to a release from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the penalties resolve a pair of alleged problems in risk management planning and toxic release inventory reporting. "The risk management planning provisions of the Clean Air Act require facilities that store chemicals in amounts exceeding regulatory thresholds to develop and implement plans to assist with emergency preparedness, chemical release prevention and the minimization of any releases that may occur," the EPA release said, noting that Frontier exceeds thresholds for both chemical mixtures and hydrogen fluoride. "EPA inspectors found that the facility had not adequately implemented the risk management planning requirements for these chemicals." The deficiencies, the release stated included failure to follow internal procedures for inspecting piping at the facility and failure to adequately train employees involved in operating process equipment. The EPA settlement also said Frontier Refining also miscalculated chemicals reported to EPA's Toxics Release Inventory and failed to file reports for chlorine, cobalt compounds and molybdenum trioxide handled on site, something the EPA said the public has a right to know. Frontier Refining has since corrected all the alleged violations. "Risk management plans and the Toxic Release Inventory protect communities by making sure that facilities provide transparent information and have procedures in place to prevent and respond to potential releases of the chemicals they use," said Suzanne Bohan, EPA's enforcement program director in Denver. "EPA appreciates Frontier Refining's efforts to address these deficiencies."

<http://www.wyomingbusinessreport.com/article/20141027/NEWS/141029963>

USA, KY, CUMBERLAND PARKWAY, OCTOBER 29 2014. OVERTURNED TANKER SHUTS DOWN PARKWAY

Kentucky State Police Post 15 Columbia Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Division was on the scene this morning of an overturned semi-tanker near the 44 mile marker on Cumberland Parkway. A White Oil Company tanker with a load of diesel fuel left the road while traveling eastbound near the 44 mile marker around 4:30 a.m. today, according to a release from KSP. The vehicle overturned into the median, spilling a large amount of diesel fuel. Both east- and westbound lanes of the Cumberland Parkway were expected to be closed for about four to six hours as crews worked to clean the spill.

http://www.bgdailynews.com/for_the_record/police_news/overturned-tanker-shuts-down-parkway/article_bfb26069-ab4b-5794-8c83-8c9f12f508f0.html

USA, OH, FOSTOTIA, OCTOBER 29 2014. FIRE REPORTED AT POET REFINERY

Rescue vehicles are parked at POET Biorefining, 2111 Sandusky St., Fostoria, Monday evening. A fire at the plant was reported about 6 p.m. A Fostoria Fire Division spokesman said the fire was in the conveyor belt area, and the crew was at the scene for several hours. No one was injured, he said. The fire division plans to release more information today, the spokesman said.

<http://www.advertiser-tribune.com/page/content.detail/id/573823/Fire-reported-at-POET-refinery.html?nav=5005>

USA, N.D, KILLDEER, OCTOBER 29 2014. POISONED BY THE SHALE? INVESTIGATIONS LEAVE QUESTIONS IN OIL TANK DEATHS



The tank battery at Marathon's Buffalo 34-12H well pad. Dustin Bergsing died on the catwalk between the two tanks in January 2012.

Dustin Bergsing was 21 and six weeks a father when he arrived here at Marathon Oil Corp.'s Buffalo 34-12H well pad, a square of red gravel carved into a low hill. By dawn, he was dead. A co-worker found him shortly after midnight, slumped below the open hatch of a tank of Bakken Shale crude oil. It was Bergsing's job to pop the hatch and record how much was inside. An autopsy found he died of "hydrocarbon poisoning due to inhalation of petroleum vapors." An environmental engineer in Marathon's Dickinson, N.D., regional office heard about it a few days later. He'd been warning his bosses they were creating a dangerous buildup of lethal gases in their tanks. But, he said, they ignored him. "With that excessive gas, you get lightheaded," he said in a sworn statement to the attorney for Bergsing's family, Fred Bremseth. "It would be just like carbon monoxide. You're gonna doze off, and Katy bar the doors, man -- you're dead." An investigation of the drilling industry's worker



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safety record and what it means for those living amid the boom. [Click here](#) to read the series. Bergsing died in January 2012. At least three other men have died this way during the Bakken Shale boom, found lifeless on steel catwalks, next to the hatches they'd opened to measure the bounty of the shale. In each case, authorities at first assumed the men had been poisoned by hydrogen sulfide, or "sour gas," a well-known killer in the oil field (EnergyWire, Oct. 21). Most anyone in the oil and gas industry knows sour gas kills. Far fewer know the vaporous petroleum that collects in storage tanks can have the same effect -- a quick death. After being told in each case that the wells didn't emit hydrogen sulfide, authorities largely dropped the idea that the deaths were caused by their jobs, which in each case involved measuring the levels of the petroleum-laden tanks. But last month, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration fined the employer of one of the four men \$2,800, charging the company failed to train its workers in the hazards of petroleum vapors. Zachary Buckles, 20, of Glasgow, Mont., was working for a small contractor, Black Gold Testing, in April when he was found dead with his head over a tank hatch at a Continental Resources Inc. well site south of Williston, N.D. Eric Brooks, director of the OSHA office covering North and South Dakota, acknowledged OSHA had not taken action in similar, previous cases. "This is novel. This is new," Brooks said. "We're looking at the next generation of hazards, and these atmospheric hazards, I believe, are one of them." An EnergyWire investigation identified the cases of the four men -- Bergsing, Buckles, Blaine Otto and Trent Vigus -- from OSHA databases. EnergyWire then obtained hundreds of pages of OSHA reports under the Freedom of Information Act, reviewed autopsies and court filings, and interviewed experts and people who knew the men. The documents show striking similarities between the four cases, which have each been treated differently. In some cases, the investigations show notable inconsistencies in their findings. Robert Harrison, an occupational medicine specialist at the University of California, San Francisco, Medical Center who has investigated fatal chemical exposures in the workplace, said authorities such as coroners and medical examiners may be missing the signs of petroleum poisoning in oil field death cases. "That's certainly something we should be checking into further and doing additional investigations on whenever deaths occur suspiciously like this in the oil fields," he said. "And I'd say dying alone in the middle of the night in North Dakota is a pretty unusual circumstance."

Cardiac Contradiction

Standing at the bottom of the steps to the catwalk where Trent Vigus died, there is still a clear odor of petroleum. The beige stairs at XTO Energy Inc.'s Eugene 14X-8 well near Lambert, Mont., lead up about 20 feet to a catwalk along four tall metal tanks. Looking out from here, straight gravel roads cut through a corduroy of green and disappear across a treeless horizon. Gray paths branch off, winding a bit toward red gravel well pads. Vigus was born and raised hours west of here, in Butte, Mont. After high school, he bounced to Washington state and back. But in 2005, a friend told him there was good money to be made along the North Dakota border, working oil rigs. By July 2010, he was 30 and had worked his way up to chief of Nabors Well Services out of Glendive, Mont. He worked the overnight shift on July 9, 2010, cleaning the Eugene well. Around 3 a.m., Vigus climbed a set of steel stairs to gather readings from the top of the tall, beige tanks. His co-workers found him in a fetal position on the catwalk. They carried him down and frantically tried CPR in the red gravel, with no response. The call came in to the ambulance crew as an oil worker overcome by sour gas. But the emergency room physician later ruled that out after a company safety supervisor arrived and said the well didn't have hydrogen sulfide. Vigus' death certificate states his cause of death as "hypertensive and atherosclerotic heart disease" -- hardening of the arteries. Essentially, it says he died of hardening of the arteries and a sudden cardiac "event" from an undiagnosed heart condition. But some of the postmortem results contradict that and suggest Vigus' exposure to chemicals may have contributed to his death. Laboratory tests turned up small amounts of propane and butane in Vigus' blood. Both these chemicals are found in Bakken crude. Other oil and gas chemicals could have gone undetected, because the test was done for recreational drug use ("glue sniffing" or "huffing") rather than exposure to industrial chemicals. The Billings, Mont., pathologist who did the autopsy, Thomas Bennett, wrote only that the toxicology test found caffeine and nicotine, ignoring the propane and butane results. Bennett wrote that Vigus died from a "sudden cardiac event, most probably due to his underlying enlarged heart from hypertensive cardiovascular disease." But Bennett didn't find any hardening of the arteries in Vigus' 30-year-old body. He wrote in his description of the heart that there were "no gross atheromatous narrowings" of the arteries. That would usually mean there is no atherosclerotic heart disease. In September 2010, a Nabors manager delivered the coroner's report to the Billings Area Office of OSHA, which promptly ended its investigation with no violations. An XTO spokeswoman referred questions to Nabors. Nabors spokesman Denny Smith said, "There was a thorough investigation by us and Nabors, and there were no claims against Nabors." Harrison, the UCSF physician who has investigated fatal chemical exposures in the workplace, reviewed autopsy and medical information on Vigus provided by his family. He says it is possible that the officials who investigated didn't understand the potential for hydrocarbon poisoning from exposure in the oil fields. "There was propane and butane found in Mr. Vigus' blood, and those are also chemicals in Bakken crude," Harrison said. Reached by phone last week, Bennett acknowledged Vigus could have been killed



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by the hydrocarbon vapors. "It could be," he said. "I can't rule it out." He noted that the results from the blood tests could still be re-examined for other hydrocarbons and should be if the family has doubts. "Back in 2010, we didn't know as much" about the dangers of petroleum vapors, Bennett said. "We're still learning how to test for these." The postmortem results and the OSHA report never made sense to Vigus' mother, Terri Vigus of Butte. Her son never had heart problems, and he'd passed a physical in March. They were close, she said. If he was feeling ill, she thinks he would have told her. Terri Vigus still has her son's zipped-up duffel bag in her garage in Butte. She can't bring herself to open it. "OSHA's report was very vague," she said. "I still don't feel the closure on it."

Volatile Vapors

Around the time Vigus died, on the other side of the state line in North Dakota, oil companies and government officials were contending with a new discovery: high levels of airborne petroleum blowing off well sites from crude oil storage tanks. All crude oil has compounds called volatile hydrocarbons such as benzene, butane and propane. Bakken Shale crude has a lot more of these compounds, also called volatile organic compounds, or petroleum vapors, than conventional oil. It's related to why shale oil is more prone to explode in rail cars. As early as 2009, companies and regulators in North Dakota realized that Bakken crude has more of the compounds than they'd expected, and that they were escaping from the vents in the tanks. "They thought it was a nominal amount. It turns out it wasn't a nominal amount," said Jim Semerad of North Dakota's Department of Health. Under the law, tanks are OK as long as they don't emit more than 100 tons per year. In most places, tanks don't even come close. But U.S. EPA records show some wells were emitting more than 2,000 tons per year. Uncorrected, that could have meant growth in ozone and haze in the open skies of North Dakota, and the possibility of EPA sanctions for air pollution. So state officials required tanks to be fitted with devices to reduce those emissions, generally high-efficiency combustors that burn it off. But that doesn't reduce the danger to workers. The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) said in a posting earlier this year that "acutely toxic" levels of gases can whoosh out of the tanks and is studying whether they might have caused oil field deaths. "Even a young guy could be knocked down," Harrison said. "Your heart could go into shock." A separate NIOSH study released this summer found high levels of benzene and VOCs among flowback operators in Wyoming and Colorado, although the levels were not deemed lethal (EnergyWire, Sept. 18). There are also indications of high vapor levels farther east. In February 2013, a worker at a work site was killed when hydrocarbons from a brine tank he was emptying exploded. People who work around crude oil tanks are taught to check the direction of the wind and stand upwind when opening the "thief hatches" on the tanks. It is recognition of the danger, but it's haphazard compared to what worker safety experts at NIOSH recommend. They say companies should look into providing respirators to flowback workers and truck drivers who measure the tanks. Employees shouldn't work alone around the fumes. It would be even better, they say, if workers could get tank measurements without employees opening the hatches. But many states, including North Dakota, require that the measurements be taken in person, by hand.

'Can you keep your mouth shut?'

One of the people who worked with EPA and North Dakota health officials on the issue of volatile organic compounds was a Marathon health, environment and safety specialist -- his title was "HES professional" -- who trained as a chemist. He started at Marathon in October 2011. Oddly, he said, the manager who interviewed him had asked just one question: "Can you keep your mouth shut?" The problem turned out to be not what he said, but what he wrote, according to Bremseth, the attorney for Dustin Bergsing's family. Marathon managers were upset that he put his questions and concerns in writing in emails. Unlike a spoken conversation, those could turn up as exhibits in a lawsuit. "They actually sent someone up to teach him how to write emails," Bremseth said in an interview. A few months after Bergsing's death, he was fired. He had contacted Bremseth when he read a news story about the suit the Minneapolis lawyer filed against Marathon in the Bergsing case. After his sworn statement, Marathon settled the federal lawsuit for an undisclosed sum that Bremseth described as "very substantial." EnergyWire obtained a transcript of his statement to Bremseth on the condition that he not be named. After he started at Marathon, he told Bremseth he'd started asking about fumes coming out of the tanks at production sites. Marathon was using one flare stack instead of two on well pads, and using undersized pipes. That made wells more profitable, he said, by making initial production seem higher than it really was. But it also created a hazard by diverting more gas into the tanks. "It's all about the bottom dollar," he explained. His boss, HES Supervisor Luke Franklin, made it clear he did not appreciate the emails. The specialist recalled what Franklin said shortly before Christmas in 2011: "If you write any more of those, I'm gonna have to fire you." In a few weeks, Franklin would be at the Buffalo well site in Killdeer, shepherding the OSHA officials investigating Dustin Bergsing's death. Reached by phone, Franklin referred calls to a Marathon spokesman who did not comment.

'He Was Amazing'



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Bergsing was born in Livingston, Mont., and lived in Edgar, outside Billings. He was, by all accounts, a good employee and, for a short time, a good father. He had a mop of unruly hair and a fondness for bull riding. It was at the Northern Rodeo Association Championships in Billings in March 2011 that he met Lacey Breeding. They started dating the next day. Soon after, she was pregnant. They moved in together, talked about buying a house, got engaged and set a date for their wedding -- June 30, 2012. Shortly after Thanksgiving, she gave birth to a daughter, McKinley. In September, he'd started working for Across Big Sky Flow Testing. He lived in a trailer on the site for two weeks at a time, measuring the contents of the tanks twice an hour and checking them against what truck drivers were hauling off site. It was good money. There probably aren't many jobs in rural Montana where a 21-year-old can make more than \$1,000 a week. Company owner Steve Polesky told a workers' compensation investigator that Bergsing "was very self-motivated and was one of those guys who took pride in his job." When he was home, Breeding said he was better with their newborn than she was. "He was amazing," she said. "He would stay up during the night with her so that I could get some sleep. From the minute she was born, he dove right in as a father."

Death Notification

It's a five-hour drive from Edgar to Watford City, N.D., a sleepy ranching outpost that has grown into a three-stoplight town clogged with tanker trucks. After Watford City, there's still miles to drive to get to the Buffalo 34-12H pad. There are lonely two-lane roads, then a dirt road that winds past flares and rangeland, through striped badland breaks to a patch of red gravel with two churning pumpjacks and two rows of tall beige tanks. Bergsing pulled his truck up to the site in time for his shift at 2 p.m. Jan. 6, 2012, but he got a speeding ticket doing it. That night, he was alone in his trailer texting back and forth with his fiancée. The last text, around 9:30 p.m., was about the ticket. At 1 a.m., a tank alarm went off at a Marathon facility, indicating a tank was getting too full. Marathon called Polesky, who dispatched an employee to see what was wrong. Jim Kime probably figured Bergsing had fallen asleep in his trailer and deserved a good chewing out. He switched the tank at the site and went up on the catwalk. When he saw Bergsing's body, he checked for hydrogen sulfide, but there wasn't any. Breeding had stayed up all night since the last text at 9:30. McKenzie County Sheriff's Deputy Derrek Harju called her about 4:15 a.m. "The sheriff called me and asked me for Dustin's parents' contact information, and he wouldn't tell me why," Breeding testified last year. "And he told me that I was the only contact listed, and asked my relationship to Dustin. I told him I was his fiancée. And he told me that in that case, I should know that Dustin succumbed to H2S poisoning, gas poisoning, and that I should call the nearest friend or family to come be with me."

'It looks like He Suffocated'

A few days later, late at night, the Marathon HES professional got a call from a co-worker asking if he'd heard about the death at a well site. He hadn't. "He said, 'I walked up, and the guy was leaning up against the post up on the tank battery,'" he recalled. "And, you know, it looks like he suffocated." He and some of his co-workers were puzzled by a newspaper article in which the local sheriff said he'd already ruled out inhalation of gas fumes as a cause of death, before there were autopsy results. "There's not a shadow of a doubt in my mind," he said in the statement, "that if they were doing things right, and correctly and safely they could have prevented his death." Marathon didn't make any changes after Bergsing died, he said. But in May, another young man nearly passed out at another well near Manning, south of where Bergsing died. Along with some co-workers, the HES professional took monitoring equipment out to the well, the Ernest Charchenko 14-33H. "We're talking the -- the oxygen content was below breathable," he said. "It had displaced the oxygen around the tanks. It was almost deadly. It was deadly." After that, he said, the company started providing respirators to people at well sites. He was fired in June 2012, he said, when he wrote a warning that conditions were so dry, well site flares could start a prairie fire. OSHA investigators decided not to fine Bergsing's employer, Across Big Sky Testing, after noting there was no indication of hydrogen sulfide poisoning. But the state workers' compensation agency, called N.D. Workforce Safety & Insurance, approved a claim for Bergsing's daughter to receive death benefits. Across Big Sky, though, is fighting the claim in court. In paperwork challenging the decision, Polesky's wife, Leann Polesky, wrote that Bergsing may have died as a result of "self-induced inhalation." The allegation is that Bergsing was "huffing" -- intentionally breathing in the fumes to get high. A hearing examiner found "no actual evidence" Bergsing intentionally inhaled the toxic fumes and ruled against the company. Still, Across Big Sky is taking the case to the North Dakota Supreme Court, which is set to hear arguments in the case Nov. 26.

OSHA Levies Fine

Marathon may have started providing respirators at its well sites. But Blaine Otto wasn't wearing one when he died. Otto, 40, drove a truck for Falco Energy Transportation. He was found slumped over a catwalk railing in July 2013 at a Newfield Exploration Co. well site in the Little Missouri National Grassland outside Keene, N.D. His face was next to a tank hatch. His eyes were open, but he wasn't breathing. Next to him were his tools for measuring and sampling the tank. OSHA records indicate Otto's death was initially attributed to hydrogen sulfide. But North Dakota State Forensic Examiner William Massello



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ruled out hydrogen sulfide. Instead, he said Otto died of "cardiac arrhythmia" and said it was from natural causes. A claim for workers' compensation benefits in Otto's death was denied. Cardiac arrhythmia can be caused by inhaling hydrocarbon vapors. Massello himself pointed that out when he testified about Bergsing's death in the workers' compensation case. "It can sensitize the heart to the effects of adrenaline and you can get what we call fatal arrhythmias from this," Massello said in the 2013 deposition. After Otto's death, OSHA sent Falco a letter saying its employees should be given "four-gas meters," to warn them of dangerous vapors such as hydrogen sulfide or hydrocarbons. Brooks of OSHA said such a "hazard awareness letter" can be used in the future to show a company knew what needed to be done to protect employees. But OSHA didn't fine the company. The inspector's notes say no hydrogen sulfide or hydrocarbons were found in the autopsy. Without a witness or physical evidence, OSHA inspectors determined they couldn't issue a citation. A family member said the family has hired an attorney but wouldn't discuss the case. Newfield referred questions to Falco, which didn't respond to messages. Zachary Buckles was found on a catwalk at a Continental Resources Inc. well site near Williston with a sweeping view of the Missouri River. The McKenzie County Sheriff's Department originally reported that because Buckles, a flowback operator, was found over the open cover of a crude oil tank, "it is believed that he died as a result of [hydrogen sulfide] gas exposure." But, as with Otto, Massello, the state forensic examiner, listed the cause of death as cardiac arrhythmia (EnergyWire, July 8). In Buckles' case, inhalation of "petroleum vapor exposure" was listed on the state death report among "other significant conditions" along with obesity. Rather than "natural causes," the manner of death is listed as "undetermined." Attempts to reach Buckles' family members were unsuccessful. But the obituary they published in The Glasgow Courier said he died from a "work-related accident." A spokeswoman for Continental Resources said the company "is not aware of any dangers from hydrocarbon vapors or VOCs at any of our locations." But OSHA now says hydrocarbon vapors were a danger at Continental's well. It decided to fine Buckles' employer, Black Gold Testing, saying the company didn't prepare him for those dangers. The company has gone out of business, OSHA officials said, but agreed to pay the \$2,800 fine. Brooks, who signed off on the citations, said the citation reflected growing questions and new concerns about the dangers of tank fumes. "When you have a combination of factors that might relate to a death, it can be challenging to lean it back to one event," he said. But "I think everyone can agree employees that are engaged in tank gauging operations have the potential to be exposed to lethal atmospheric hazards."

'That's a Good Question'

In saying it knows of no dangers from vapors at its wells, Continental Resources also noted the state forensic examiner's classification of Buckles' death as cardiac arrhythmia. But in an interview, Massello said determining whether a death is work-related is not the exact science many people want it to be. "We get deaths in the oil field from hydrogen sulfide, and the vaporized alkane, hydrocarbon vapors," Massello said. "Sometimes we're not sure whether that played any role in the person's death or not, so we check off 'no.'" He said he knows of ongoing studies of the volatile compounds and the levels that have been established as toxic. "They're questioning whether the levels are really valid," he said. "And you know, that's a good question." A key issue, he said, is that the airborne compounds can affect different people in different ways. "One person might not even experience any effects, whereas other people might experience a fatal cardiac arrhythmia as a result of this and drop dead," Massello said.

'Nobody's Got any Data'

If the fumes from a tank can kill in an instant, public health experts say it signals risks for the people who live nearby. These are not drilling sites or frack jobs where a rig arrives, does its work for a few weeks and leaves. These tanks will be in place until the wells tied to them have drained all the possible oil from the Bakken formation, likely for years. Most are out on the prairie where there are more cattle than people, but some are in the middle of North Dakota's scattered population centers. For example, there's Williston, the hub of the Bakken boom. On the city's western edge, there's a 36-tank battery across the street from new housing developments where little girls in pink neon ride bicycles down white concrete streets. What effect are the tank emissions having on them? "Great question," said professor John Adgate of the Colorado School of Public Health. "Nobody's got any data." Adgate this year co-authored a review of public health risks from oil and gas sites that noted emissions from well sites likely pose risks for those who live nearby. The best information so far, he said, comes from the NIOSH study showing workers' exposure to concerning levels of benzene and other VOCs. "How that relates to those tanks as an emissions source is the next obvious question," he said. NIOSH officials, though, caution that their research isn't intended to provide information about exposure to the general population (EnergyWire, Oct. 23). Wilma Subra, a Louisiana environmental scientist who monitors the oil and gas industry, said NIOSH is wrong to play down the importance of its findings to the people who live amid the oil patch. "If the emissions are bad enough to cause death," Subra said, "they have to be causing severe health impacts."



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VIETNAM, HO CHI MINH , OCTOBER 29 2014. CHEMICAL-TRIGGERED FIRES, EXPLOSIONS HAUNT HO CHI MINH CITY RESIDENTS



A gas shop is located next to a chemical store on Go Dau Street, Tan Phu District, Ho Chi Minh City.

Ho Chi Minh City people are extremely worried about the potential fires and explosions from chemical storages, shops, and factories near their living places following a blast that left three dead and four others injured over ten days ago. For safety's sake, the chairman of the local People's Committee has demanded establishments storing chemicals be relocated out of residential areas. On visiting the chemical warehouse of a company on Kinh Duong Vuong Street in Binh Tan District on October 23, Tuoi Tre (Youth) reporters asked the storekeeper about whether the facility has any fire extinguishing equipment but she refused to answer, advising them to contact the company's management. Not long ago, the same warehouse was fined for not meeting requirements for fire prevention and control. The store houses hundreds of kinds of chemicals and is located in a populous residential area, exposing residents to a high risk of fire and explosion. Nguyen Thi T., a local woman said, "People here are always living in worry about chemical-related calamities. "Whenever we smell a strange odor in the air, we immediately rush out of our houses to track down its source." Along Phan Anh Street in the district are a series of producers that use chemicals every day. These manufacturers are situated among residential houses. Tran Dai Hoa, a local, said, "I don't know what chemicals they use, but at about 9:00 am every day, a very strong smell comes out and pervades the air." People here are obsessed with the potential fires from these places, Hoa said. Similar circumstances can be seen in many areas in different districts in the city. Notably, Le Thi Lan H., a resident on Go Dau Street in Tan Phu District, said, "Near my house is a gas shop adjacent to a chemical store. Their employees have almost no knowledge of fire and explosion prevention and control, while their bosses rarely come there." At 4:00 pm on October 17, a violent explosion occurred at Dang Huynh Company, a chemical trader, in District 12, killing three people and severely injuring four others. Tens of houses in the radius of 50 meters from the explosion either collapsed or were destroyed.

Chairman Orders Relocation of Chemical Establishments

At an urgent meeting convened in the wake of the tragedy, Ho Chi Minh City People's Committee chairman Le Hoang Quan said that the poor coordination between competent agencies and their lax control over chemical traders and manufacturers had contributed to the deadly incident. "Management over chemical businesses is now both overlapping and loose," he criticized. The chairman also requested that agencies concerned make plans to remove all chemical warehouses, shops, and factories from residential areas. Such relocation is necessary to ensure safety for residents, he said. Since 2010, seven chemical-related fires and explosions have happened in the city, killing eight people, wounding eight others, and causing a loss in property of VND41 billion (US\$1.92 million), said Colonel Tran Thanh Chau, deputy director of the Ho Chi Minh City Fire Prevention and Control Police Department. The main cause of these accidents is a violation of regulations on safety in transporting, storing, processing, and preparing chemicals, Colonel Chau pointed out.

 **Related Stories** [One Killed, 2 Missing, 4 Injured in An Explosion in HCMC](#)

<http://tuoitrenews.vn/society/23621/chemicaltriggered-fires-explosions-haunt-ho-chi-minh-city-residents>

USA, WASHINGTON, DC, OCTOBER 29 2014. CSB RELEASES NEW SAFETY VIDEO, "BEHIND THE CURVE," DETAILING REPORT FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS ON FATAL 2010 TESORO ANACORTES REFINERY ACCIDENT

 **Watch the Video:** [New CSB Video >> "Behind the Curve," Detailing Report - "Findings & Recommendations on Fatal 2010 Tesoro Anacortes Refinery Accident"](#)

Today the U.S. Chemical Safety Board (CSB) released [a safety video into the fatal April 2, 2010, explosion and fire at the Tesoro refinery in Anacortes, Washington](#). The accident occurred during startup of the refinery's "naphtha hydrotreater unit" after a maintenance shut down. A nearly 40-year-old heat exchanger violently ruptured, causing an explosion and fire that fatally injured seven workers – the largest loss of life at a U.S. refinery since 2005. [The CSB's newly released 14-minute safety video entitled "Behind the Curve"](#) includes a 3D animation of the events that led up to this tragic accident as well as interviews



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with the CSB's investigators and chairperson. CSB Chairperson Dr. Rafael Moure-Eraso said, "The CSB is seriously concerned by the number of deadly refinery accidents in recent years. We have concluded that extensive improvements must be made in how refineries are regulated at the state and federal level. [The CSB's investigation](#) found an immediate cause of the tragedy to be long-term, undetected High Temperature Hydrogen Attack (HTHA) of the steel equipment, which led to the vessel rupture on the day of the accident. The CSB found the industry's standard for determining vulnerability of equipment to HTHA, to be inadequate. In the video Investigator Lauren Grim discusses HTHA, stating: "High temperature hydrogen attack, or HTHA, – is a common hazard that has long been known within the petrochemical industry. However, Tesoro engineers and corrosion experts did not believe it could occur within the heat exchanger that ultimately failed." [The CSB's investigation report](#), approved in May 2014, is one of the most extensive and complex refinery explosion investigations. The investigators also reported their findings of a substandard safety culture at Tesoro, which led to a complacent attitude toward flammable leaks and occasional fires over the years. And the CSB found that the complexity of the startup procedure typically required more than just the one outside operator. Yet operating procedures were not updated to account for the role of additional personnel during the hazardous non-routine work. [The CSB made recommendations](#) in these areas to both the industry group, which issues guidance on HTHA, the American Petroleum Institute, as well as to Tesoro. Investigator Dan Tillema says, "The CSB found that if Tesoro had a strong safety culture, it would have addressed the ongoing leaks and defined a reasonable number of essential personnel for the startup activity. Had Tesoro done these things, we concluded that fewer workers would have been present on the night of the accident, and lives would have been spared." [The CSB's final report also recommended](#) that the governor and legislature of the State of Washington significantly strengthen the oversight of refineries. Specifically, the Board called on the state to require refineries to: conduct more comprehensive hazard analyses and damage mechanism reviews; document the effectiveness of process safeguards; increase the role for worker representatives in process safety management have company safety reviews examined by technically competent regulators. Chairperson Rafael Moure-Eraso said, "Seven lives were lost at Tesoro. It should not have happened. Companies, workers, and communities would all benefit from a more rigorous regulatory system that is focused on continuously lowering risks."

<http://www.csb.gov/csb-releases-new-safety-video-behind-the-curve-detailing-report-findings-and-recommendations-on-fatal-2010-tesoro-anacortes-refinery-accident/>

USA, PA, MURRYSVILLE, OCTOBER 29 2014. SUV, TANKER COLLIDE ON WILLIAM PENN HIGHWAY IN MURRYSVILLE

A tanker truck hauling flammable materials collided with a sport-utility vehicle in the 4100 block of William Penn Highway in Murrysville this morning. A Westmoreland County dispatch supervisor said someone was trapped in the wreckage but he didn't know whether that person was seriously injured. He said the truck was partially over an embankment at the side of the road. Emergency crews were dispatched at 11:53 a.m. and included firefighters, police and medics from Murrysville.

<http://www.post-gazette.com/local/east/2014/10/28/SUV-tanker-collide-on-William-Penn-Highway-in-Murrysville/stories/201410280171>

USA, N.Y, THROOP, OCTOBER 29 2014. ACCIDENT INVOLVING AN SUV, TANKER IN CAYUGA COUNTY UNDER INVESTIGATION

 **Watch the Video:** [Accident Involving an SUV, Tanker in Cayuga County Under Investigation](#)

Crews were on the scene of a serious accident in Cayuga County for several hours Monday. An SUV collided with a tanker in the town of Throop. Firefighters say that the driver of the tanker had to be airlifted to a Syracuse hospital. Three others were also treated for minor injuries. Crews say fuel oil and farm fuel spilled into ditches along the roadway. Emergency workers spent time cleaning up the crash scene. The cause of the accident remains under investigation.

<http://centralny.tvcnews.com/content/news/780855/accident-involving-an-suv--tanker-in-cayuga-county-under-investigation/>

AUSTRALIA, QUEENSLAND, BRISBANE, OCTOBER 29 2014. SAFETY ALERT: AMMONIUM NITRATE EXPLODES DURING TRANSPORT INCIDENT

Queensland's Department of Natural Resources and Mines has issued a Safety Alert, after a road train carrying 44, 1.2 tonne bags of ammonium nitrate was involved in a single vehicle accident and exploded, injuring the driver and two other truck drivers who stopped to provide assistance.

 **Document** [Explosives Safety Alert 86: Ammonium nitrate explodes during transport incident](#)

<http://mines.industry.qld.gov.au/assets/explosives-safety-alerts/explosives-safety-alert-86.pdf>



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