



Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network Release 2014 – 1,097 Newsy Stuff

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

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USA, TN, MURFREESBORO, AUGUST 23 2014. PROPANE TANK EXPLODES INSIDE HANGAR AT MURFREESBORO AIRPORT



Murfreesboro Fire & Rescue Department's Districts 6 and 8 and Engines 1 and 4 responded to a hangar fire at Murfreesboro Municipal Airport (1930 Memorial Boulevard) around 9:00 Friday morning. When crews arrived on scene they discovered smoke and flames coming from the northwest side of the hangar. When the first crews entered the structure, they located a propane tank approximately three feet inside the structure. Initially there were reports that the propane tank exploded. However, the propane tank actually self vented through a relief valve and added to the intensity of the fire. Crews quickly extinguished the fire and checked for extensions. Damage was contained to the front northwest corner and exterior of the building. A Cessna 150 or 152 plane was inside the structure, as well as a boat, trailer, lawnmower, and other motorized vehicles. The Cessna will most likely be a total loss due to heat exposure. The

actual cause of the fire is unknown. The MFRD Fire Marshal's Office is conducting a routine investigation. According to Assistant Fire Marshal Carl Peas, it appears to be accidental. Fortunately there were no injuries. "This could have been much worse," said Peas. "With all the combustible materials such as oil, fuel, and propane, there could have been an explosion."

<http://wgnsradio.com/update-propane-tank-explodes-inside-hangar-at-murfreesboro-airport-cms-21774>

USA, N.C, ROCKY MOUNTAIN, AUGUST 23 2014. OFFICIALS: GASOLINE VAPORS CAUSED FATAL ROCKY MOUNT FIRE

A fire that killed a 63-year-old man and his 4-year-old great-grandson on Monday was started by gasoline vapors ignited by an undetermined heat source, officials said. Investigators believe the blaze started after Frederick Fasegha was fueling a portable generator on the back porch of his Springfield Road home. Fasegha was filling the generator after storms knocked out power to the residence. Family members said the boy, Izhiah Crews, was found with his face pressed to Fasegha's chest. Fire officials advise residents to have battery powered flashlights available when storms knock out power. Candles and other open flame devices should be avoided, they said.

<http://www.wral.com/officials-gasoline-vapors-caused-fatal-rocky-mount-fire/13914129/>

USA, W.VA, CHARLESTON, AUGUST 23 2014. WATER COMPANY WANTS SECRECY IN PSC LEAK INVESTIGATION

ken ward jr



Workers began tearing down the Freedom Industries' tanks in July.

Attorneys for West Virginia American Water are insisting that the state Public Service Commission not force them to release any documents that explain what sort of planning the company did to prepare for potential contamination of its Elk River drinking water supply prior to January's chemical leak at the Freedom Industries tank farm just upstream. Water company lawyers told the PSC that any documents concerning "contingency planning, alternative water sources, and emergency response" are protected under federal and state anti-terrorism laws and "should not be loosed heedlessly into the public realm." In [a legal brief filed Wednesday afternoon](#), West Virginia American lawyers Phil Melick and Chris Callas reiterated the company's position that information about planning for events like the Jan. 9 leak of the coal cleaning chemical Crude MCHM should be kept confidential and shouldn't be considered by

commissioners in the PSC's probe of the water crisis that affected 300,000 people across the region. Commissioners are considering the water company's objection to requests by the commission's Consumer Advocate Division, local businesses and citizens for access to certain documents that would reveal what — if any — planning West Virginia American did for a potential leak from the Freedom chemical storage tanks, located just 1.5 miles upstream from its regional drinking water intake on the Elk. The PSC's decision on the disputed information requests will define the scope of the commission's investigation into how West Virginia American responded to the chemical leak. West Virginia American officials [have admitted that, before the leak](#), they knew little about the chemicals stored at the Freedom site, had no copies of materials safety data sheets for



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Crude MCHM, and were not prepared to test their water supply for that chemical, which was the main one leaked by Freedom. The water company filed its new legal brief two days after [a hearing at which PSC Chairman Michael Albert indicated](#) that the commission would not go along with West Virginia American's plan to keep all talk of planning performed before the leak out of the case. Albert also indicated that, despite the commission's concerns about protecting security information from terrorists, the PSC hoped to find a way to ensure planning materials were not completely hidden in the case. In previous PSC filings, water company lawyers had cited a 2002 anti-terrorism law that mandated secrecy of "assessments," which water systems were required to prepare, to examine their vulnerability to terrorist attack "or other intentional acts." Consumer advocates and citizen groups, though, said they wanted access not to those documents, but to separate emergency plans and source-water protection plans prepared by West Virginia American for the Elk River treatment plant. "The intervenors seek only material relevant to evaluating the conduct of WVAVWC in response to the Freedom spill," Anthony Majestro, a lawyer for businesses that intervened in the case wrote in [a legal brief filed Thursday](#). "That does not include material addressing terrorist or other intentional acts. Under the law, WVAVWC simply cannot shield all material relating to its planning and response to this unintentional pollution event." Water company lawyers allege in their new legal brief that source-water protection plans and emergency planning efforts were "subsumed" by anti-terrorism assessments by the 2002 law, "making all planning more secret than it had been before" that provision was passed by Congress. West Virginia American also alleges that the requested records are exempt from public disclosure under several of the nine additional exemptions that were inserted into West Virginia's Freedom of Information Act after the 2001 al-Qaida terrorist attack. Commissioners have indicated that they would rule on the issue by the end of the week. In their Thursday filing with the PSC, business intervenors said that if the commission is concerned about disclosure to the public of the requested emergency planning documents, the intervening businesses would agree to accept the records subject to a PSC order preventing public disclosure of the records. Majestro said the PSC's Consumer Advocate Division had given the water company a proposed protective order on Monday. Also, Majestro said that, during a meeting Thursday with businesses and others who are suing the water company for damages related to the leak and resulting water crisis, West Virginia American lawyers agreed to turn over the same documents they're objecting to producing in the PSC investigation, subject to an "appropriate protective order." [Records previously made public](#) in the PSC probe and through public records requests to the state Bureau for Public Health have revealed that West Virginia American told regulators three times from 2006 to 2008 that the company planned to examine what potential chemical contaminants were stored upstream from the Elk River treatment plant. West Virginia American completed "source-water protection plans" for seven of its nine West Virginia treatment plants with federal funding provided by the bureau. However, the state-funded contractor didn't do similar reports on the Kanawha Valley plant or on West Virginia American's second largest facility, in Huntington. Last week, West Virginia American spokeswoman Laura Jordan said the company "has begun work" on a source-water protection plan for the Kanawha Valley plant, which, "once completed," will "address additional assessment of the potential sources of contamination," including "an attempt to review Freedom." That work began in February 2011, but was not completed by the time of the Jan. 9 leak at Freedom, Jordan said. In their Wednesday PSC filing, West Virginia American lawyers said the company "undertook on its own to compile a plan for the" Kanawha Valley system. Water company lawyers said the "information developed" included "aspects of contingency planning, consideration of alternative sources, and management planning activities," all of which were "initiated" prior to Jan. 9. On Thursday, Jordan confirmed that the source-water protection plan work for the Kanawha Valley facility "is not yet complete."

<http://www.wvgazette.com/article/20140821/GZ01/140829851/1419>

MEXICO, NUEVO LEON, AUGUST 23 2014. A CLANDESTINE PASTE PETROLEUM POLLUTES A RIVER NORTH OF MEXICO



Petroleos Mexicanos said specialized technicians controlled the oil spill. The oil spilled from a pipeline of Petróleos Mexicanos affects 23 kilometers from the runway in an agricultural region.

A clandestine decision caused an oil spill in line two pipeline Madero-Cadereyta, the Nuevo Teapa-Madero-González, located in this county, Petroleos Mexicanos said. In a statement it was reported that specialized technicians Sector Duct Madero Pemex Refining controlled an oil spill caused by an underground outlet, even without knowing details of the amount. "Workers of the company disabled the illegal taking and suspended the operation of the pipeline to proceed to repair," said the document, without specifying the day and / or days of. According to official



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information, the legal department of the parastatal was informed of the facts and submitted the requisite report to the Federal Public Ministry, to make the necessary inquiries and determine responsibilities. The spill affected the channels that are used to irrigate farmland in the communities of San Juan, Mexiquito, Santa Isabel, Dolores, Soledad Herreras said his side Emeterio Arizpe Téllez, mayor of Cadereyta, a city in the state of Nuevo Leon border with the United States. Around 300 people from state Petroleos Mexicanos (Pemex) perform cleaning, a task that will take three months, said the mayor. The authorities have announced that they distributed in communities affected drinking water pipes and bottles. A mine in the Mexican state of Sonora (northwest) contaminated a river a few days ago with thousands of cubic meters of toxic substances, leaving seven municipalities with restrictions water supply, including Hermosillo, the state capital.

Related Stories

- [Oil Spill affects 6.5 Miles from San Juan River](#)
- [Oil Spill Pollutes River in NL](#)

<http://www.laprensa.hn/mundo/americalatina/740548-96/un-peque-clandestino-de-petróleo-contamina-un-río-al-norte-de-méxico>

GHANA, ACCRA, AUGUST 23 2014. DOES GHANA'S OIL BOOM SPELL THE END FOR ITS FISHING INDUSTRY? >> FISHERMEN SAY THE FOREIGN FIRMS EXPLORING FOR OIL AND GAS ARE FORCING THEM OUT OF THE WATERS THEY HAVE TRAWLED FOR CENTURIES

mark anderson & billie adwoa mcternan in sekondi-takoradi



Oil exploration firms in Ghana's western region are accused of impeding the livelihoods of fishermen.

Beyond a busy harbourside market in the twin cities of Sekondi-Takoradi, where hundreds of fishermen scurry past pans sizzling with sardines, mackerels and moonfish, sit two offshore rigs that serve as a constant reminder of Ghana's looming energy boom. Many in the country's western region, the epicentre of the fishing industry, had been optimistic that oil production would bring jobs, cheaper fuel and economic prosperity. But now, they say oil exploration programmes are impeding their livelihoods. "Our fish catch has reduced drastically since oil exploration started here," says Kofi al-Haji Musa, 43, who has been fishing in the area for 31 years. "Before oil exploration started I could fill my canoe with fish

three times every day. Now, I can't even manage one load," he says. Fishermen and activists say a planned seismic survey by [ESL Consulting](#) and [Medea Development](#) will disrupt their work during the height of the season, ruining the prospect of a profitable harvest. The survey is due to start next week and continue until November. "Seismic surveys will obstruct fishing and deny fishermen the opportunity to fish," says Kyei Yamoah, programme coordinator for natural resources management at [Friends of the Nation](#). "They are causing a lot of problems because they are denying fishermen access to fish at a very opportune time." Foreign firms exploring for oil and gas are forcing fishermen out of the waters they have trawled for centuries, fishermen say, lamenting that the government has sidelined them in pursuit of an energy boom that is [expected to earn the country up to \\$1bn a year](#) when it hits peak production, [up from \\$707m in the first three-quarters of 2013](#) (pdf). "We were excited when the oil companies told us we were going to share the sea – we thought the price of petrol would go down. But now, the companies and the government are not treating us fairly. We have not been consulted [in their plans]," says Nana Kobina Asmah, chief fisherman for Sekondi. Exports from Ghana's fishing industry total about \$60m a year, providing income for 10% of the population, according to government estimates. [The ministry of food and agriculture](#) says: "The fishing sector ... contributes significantly to national economic development objectives related to employment, livelihood support, poverty reduction, food security, foreign exchange earnings and resource sustainability." But fishermen say they have not been consulted by the government, and no one has been willing to hear their grievances. "They don't want us to talk; they are using political means to kill us," says Joseph Eshun, secretary of the Sekondi Canoe Owners Association. "In the next 10 years we all know our fishing industry will be dead." [Ghana National Petroleum Corporation](#) (GNPC), which oversees exploration, says seismic surveys will not disrupt fishing. "We have been engaging the association of fishermen on this project," says a GNPC spokesman. "The fishermen need to understand there is a new entrant into the sea and that there is a need for that coexistence." A spokesman for Medea says the survey will not permanently disrupt Ghana's fishing industry. "The seismic survey could potentially result in a temporary drop in catch levels of fish and other types of catch normally caught by artisanal and semi-industrial fisheries as a result of the movement of fish schools away from the areas undergoing seismic surveys," he



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says. But Ghana's opposition has condemned the ruling party for failing to properly address the needs of fishermen, dismissing the initial audits as flawed. "The environmental impact assessment [of oil exploration] was not properly done," says Kwabena Okyere Darko-Mensah of the New Patriotic party, who is the MP for Takoradi. "The public forum that was held was rushed through, and therefore many of the local concerns were not addressed. It also did not make provisions for alternative livelihoods for fisherman affected by oil and gas exploration – that's where we need to concentrate." GNPC says: "We have plans to assess the dynamics as far as alternative livelihoods are concerned." Ghana's fishing community is worried that their industry will go the same way as that of neighbouring Nigeria, [where fishermen have been displaced by oil production](#). Eshun says: "In Nigeria once oil production started, it was the end of the fishing industry." Yamoah also sees the clock ticking for Ghana's fishermen: "There is no marine protected area, there is no law saying that this area is reserved for only fishermen and no oil firms can explore there. The laws that are being made now are designed to allow all areas to be exploited by oil and gas companies. Eventually, Ghana's fishing industry will collapse – especially in the western region – and fishermen will have to look for other things to do."

<http://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2014/aug/22/ghana-oil-boom-end-fishing-industry>

USA, W.VA, CHARLESTON, AUGUST 23 2014. AIRPORT, CHEMICAL CO WANT SPILL LAWSUIT DISMISSED

jonathan mattise

An airport and a chemical producer want claims dismissed in a lawsuit partly targeting them over a January chemical spill. In U.S. District Court in Charleston, [Yeager Airport](#) filed a motion Tuesday to dismiss claims in the wide-spanning lawsuit. Plaintiffs say the Charleston airport's now-complete runway project contributed to the spill that left 300,000 residents without clean water for days. The lawsuit says Yeager didn't safeguard against stormwater runoff, which let water flow to [Freedom Industries](#) and erode a tank's foundation. Yeager's motion says it generally can't be sued because it is a government agency. Airport officials have previously said the state approved project plans before construction started 10 years ago. They said Freedom never complained about water runoff. The lawsuit says [Eastman Chemical Co.](#), producer of one of the spilled chemicals, should have known about unsafe conditions at Freedom. Eastman also didn't sufficiently warn about the chemical's hazards, the lawsuit alleges. Eastman's motion says federal environmental officials considered the chemical non-hazardous. It says plaintiffs didn't allege life-threatening conditions from contaminated water exposure, nor did plaintiffs provide proof Eastman broke environmental laws. Fourteen businesses and individuals are suing Yeager, Eastman, Freedom executives, the water company and its parent and runway project contractors. Their lawsuit says the chemical producer should pay for medical monitoring in West Virginia and toxicological testing on the chemical. It also calls for West Virginia American Water, whose system was contaminated, to find a backup water supply in case of future contamination problems and conduct additional risk management planning. Plaintiffs are also seeking damages for businesses that lost profits, people who spent extra money amid a water ban and patients who sought medical attention. West Virginia American Water has already filed a motion asking a judge to toss out the lawsuit, as have other defendants. Lawsuits against Freedom are being handled through a bankruptcy claims process.

<http://www.sfgate.com/news/science/article/Airport-chemical-co-want-spill-lawsuit-dismissed-5703747.php>

USA, OH, EVANDALE, AUGUST 23 2014. FIRE CREWS BACK ON SCENE OF GRAIN SILO FIRE

jennifer edwards baker & rachel richardson

 **Watch the Video:** [Fire Crews back on Scene of Grain Silo Fire](#)



Crews are back on scene a day after a fire and at least one explosion tore through an Evendale grain silo, blowing out windows and leaving heavy damage. An Evendale fire official said crews had arrived on scene at about 11:30 a.m. Saturday, and he was still unsure what exactly caused the response, but said it most likely is a rekindle or spot fire. The initial fire and explosion were first reported Friday at about 11:40 a.m. at Bunge North America at 2885 East Sharon Road, a Hamilton County dispatcher said. Employees evacuated safely and no one was injured. Company spokeswoman Deb Seidel said company officials are working with fire crews to determine the cause of the fire. She said the facility is a grain elevator that stores and exports grain. Evendale Fire Chief Mike Hauck said initial dispatches indicate lightning could be a factor. An evacuation order was put in effect for a one-eighth mile radius around the factory



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to safeguard against the possibility of secondary explosions, Hauck said. Crews remained at the scene, searching for smoke until about 7:30 p.m. when they extinguished the remaining remnants of the fire. Four to five windows were blown out during the explosion. Tina Joslyn works at Silco Fire & Security located next door to the facility and said fire crews evacuated employees from her business. "The explosion was enormous, and sounded like one of the semis from Gold Medal next door had run into our building," she tweeted. "I heard a big boom. We thought it was a thunderstorm. They told us to evacuate the building after lunch and go home," said Robert Duncan, who works nearby at Taylor Distributing Co. Bunge is an agribusiness business that manufactures and exports food ingredients, animal feed and biofuels products. The company purchased the facility, formerly known as Central Soya, in 2002, Seidel said.

<http://www.cincinnati.com/story/news/2014/08/22/fire-explosion-reported-at-evendale-factory/14440237/>

USA, AZ, PHOENIX, AUGUST 23 2014. WHISTLEBLOWER CLAIMS DEADLY TANKER CRASH 'BOUND TO HAPPEN'

tanya mendis

 **Watch the Video:** [Whistleblower Claims Deadly Tanker Crash 'Bound to Happen'](#)

 **Photo's [6]** [Whistleblower Claims Deadly Tanker Crash 'Bound to Happen'](#)



A whistleblower has come forward on the heels of a [deadly tanker crash on Interstate 17](#) in North Phoenix, saying Cactus Transport drivers are forced to work dangerously long hours. The rollover accident claimed the life of the driver of the tanker truck, shutting down the highway for hours as crews worked to clean up hot asphalt oil spilled in the crash. An Arizona Department of Public Safety spokesperson said the preliminary cause of the crash was driver fatigue. Witnesses noticed the driver swerving on the road in the moments before the accident. Evidence at the scene showed road signs the driver knocked over before crashing into a pole. A coworker of the man killed contacted 3TV, saying he knew a crash like this would happen soon. "The first thing that went through

my mind was it was bound to happen. It was coming any day," said Robert, a Cactus Transport employee of the past two months. Robert says from the moment he began working there, he was pressured to work beyond the maximum hours without a break. "It's very dangerous to have people that tired working around that kind of stuff," he says. "The hours that they give these guys, they don't give them rest time. They want them to stop one job, get ready to go to the next and work all that day without any kind of breaks or rests." 3TV investigated, pulling Cactus Transport's safety record with the Arizona Department of Transportation. Records show that in the past two years, the company has had 15 hour of service violations, where drivers either didn't have any records showing how long they'd worked or their hours were not up to date. The violations also included one incident where Cactus Transport was caught requiring drivers to stay on the road longer than 14 hours. Since May, drivers were caught in two separate incidents going over their maximum eight-hour limit without a 30-minute break. The fatal crash on Aug. 1 was not included in the most recent data available on the company. Robert says many drivers are working 80 hours a week or more and cooking their books, keeping two separate logs -- one to show DPS during inspections and another to turn in to the company so they can be properly paid for the actual time they work. 3TV placed calls to Cactus Transport for its response to the accusations. When calls were not returned, 3TV went by the company's office in Tolleson, however the property was gated. Employees told us they would let management know we were outside, but no one ever came out to speak to us. Robert has now put in his notice with the company, saying he does not want to compromise his own safety. "I just don't want to see any more of my colleagues hurt," Robert said. "This industry, there seems to be more and more people getting hurt because they are overworked." A DPS spokesperson says it could be months before the investigation into all of the details surrounding the crash is complete. A request for information about whether Cactus Transport will be examined as part of that investigation was not immediately answered.

<http://www.azfamily.com/news/Whistleblower-claims-deadly-tanker-crash-bound-to-happen-272235971.html>

USA, CA, CALABASAS, AUGUST 24 2014. MAN HURT BY FALLING 1,000-POUND SIGN AT CALABASAS GAS STATION

Authorities say a 1,000-pound sign fell on a worker at a Southern California gas station, leaving him with serious leg injuries. City News Service says it happened shortly before 11 a.m. Friday at a Mobil station in Calabasas. Los Angeles County fire Inspector Keith Mora says the worker was trapped for about 20 minutes before he was freed. The worker was subsequently



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airlifted to a hospital just after 11:05 a.m., the Los Angeles County Fire Department confirmed to CBSLA.com. It's unclear why the sign fell. No further information was immediately available.

<http://losangeles.cbslocal.com/2014/08/22/man-hurt-by-falling-1000-pound-sign-at-calabasas-gas-station/>

AUSTRALIA, VICTORIA, MELBOURNE, AUGUST 24 2014. BP PLANS \$9 BILLION INVESTMENT IN AUSTRALIAN FUEL STATIONS AND EXPLORATION PROJECTS

thomas wadlow



BP is looking to expand its filling station network in Australia

BP is looking to step up its activity in the sub-continent by pumping in \$9.3 billion into its Australian filling station network alongside exploration projects such as its Browse venture. The British fuel giant plans to open 12 new petrol stations in the next year and will increase its assets through acquisitions according to Andy Holmes, president of BP in Australia. Bloomberg reports that the company will spend more than one billion Australian dollars at its Kwinana Refinery in Perth. It will also spend another billion on a deep-water drilling project off the southern coast. Holmes outlined the opportunities which exist at the customer end of the business, with BP set to focus on filling stations, truck stops and motorway service stations in the coming months. The company owns around 330 of the total 1,300 BP-branded petrol stations in Australia, although it supplies all of them with fuel and other related products. Petrol sold in Australia is either refined from crude oil in Australian refineries or imported as a finished product from overseas. BP refines crude oil at the Kwinana Refinery and the Bulwer Island Refinery in Queensland. Crude oil is shipped from locations including, the Middle East, West Africa, New Zealand, Indonesia and north-west Australia.

<http://www.businessrevieweurope.eu/finance/100/BP-Plans-9-Billion-Investment-in-Australian-Fuel-Stations-and-Exploration-Projects>

AZERBAIJAN, BAKU, AUGUST 24 2014. PETROL TANKER CRASHES IN BAKU

The driver of the Tanker truck lost control over the vehicle and collided with the metal partition on the road. As a result of crash, there was leakage of fuel out of the tanker, which led to the strong explosion. Fire fighting brigades from Yasamal, Sabail and Binagadi regions arrived at the scene to extinguish the fire. The fire damaged plenty of electric cable at the accident area and caused electric cut in most areas of the Yasamal district, Baku.

<http://news.az/articles/society/91435>

USA, VA, ROSEDALE, AUGUST 24 2014. A FUEL TRUCK IN ROSEDALE, VIRGINIA SPILLED FIVE TO TEN GALLONS OF GASOLINE IN A GAS STATION PARKING LOT LAST NIGHT.

The Belfast-Rosedale Volunteer Fire Department and Emergency Management were called to Valero FasMart in Rosedale, Virginia at 10:39p.m. According to Russell County emergency management and hazardous materials coordinator Jess Powers, a truck driver connected the truck's hose to pump gasoline into the underground storage tank, when he notice that product was spraying from the coupler. Powers said the truck driver immediately stopped pumping the product, disconnected the hose, used pads to cleanup the spill, and estimated that 5 to 10 gallons of product had leaked from the coupler and the hose. Crews used approximately 200 oil absorbing pads to remove the gasoline from the parking lot and from a nearby storm drain.

<http://www.wcyb.com/news/fuel-truck-spills-gasoline-in-gas-station-parking-lot/27695652>

CANADA, OKANAGAN, AUGUST 24 2014. RDCO DIESEL SPILL UPDATE

muriel archibald

RCMP are now investigating the suspicious 1,000 litre diesel spill at the Regional District of Central Okanagan office this morning. RDCO Purchasing and Fleet Manager Andy Brennan says a remediation company has now removed the diesel. "They've just finished with the vacuum truck so most of the material is off-site. We just need to have some landscaping work done next week because we've got oil on the roots of some of the shrubs," Brennan says. He adds damage did not extend beyond the RDCO property. "There was no leakage into the storm drains. It was all contained on-site." The matter won't end when the clean-up is done though. "(The incident) is currently with the RCMP. We have had a couple of leads. There was



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some reports from neighbouring properties of people on our grounds overnight. The RCMP have been here and there is a file open." The spill was not an accident. According to an RDCO employee on scene someone stuck a hose in the tank overnight and the tank filled with water, causing it to overflow.

<http://www.castanet.net/edition/news-story-121520-1-.htm>

USA, MI, MIDLAND, AUGUST 24 2014. SEE VIDEO OF RV ENGULFED IN FLAMES AT MIDLAND COUNTY GAS STATION

brad devereaux

 [Watch the Video RV Engulfed in Flames at Midland County Gas Station](#)

 [Photo's \[18\] RV Engulfed in Flames at Midland County Gas Station](#)



An RV fire happened about 8:30 a.m. Wednesday, Aug. 20, witness Ryan Lughermo said.

A Midland-area man with an interest in "anything with a motor" watched one burn in Midland County's Homer Township, and he caught the entire fire on video. It happened about 8:30 a.m. Wednesday, Aug. 20, at the Shell station on the corner of M-20 and Meridian, witness Ryan Lughermo said. Please note the video contains brief background graphic language. "I heard the initial dispatch on the scanner and arrived on scene within about three minutes," Lughermo said. A former firefighter, he runs a Facebook page called, "[Anythingwithanengine Media](#)." The small business specializes in "shooting video at various horsepower

events and sharing that with the world via the internet," according to the online description. Lughermo was listening to a police scanner when he heard the fire call, quickly driving to the gas station to take still photographs and shoot video. In the video, people can be seen walking away from the gas station and driving away in their cars as the RV begins to burn. Firefighters arrive about 6:45 into the video and park on the road, running over to spray down RV as it produced thick black smoke that billowed around the roof above the gas pumps. The Homer Township Fire Department and Lee Township Fire Department arrived to extinguish the fire. Firefighters were not available for additional information.

http://www.mlive.com/news/saginaw/index.ssf/2014/08/see_video_of_motorhome_engulfe.html

USA, WA, SEATTLE, AUGUST 23 2014. WHO'S DRIVING THAT TANKER? NEW POLAR CODE FOR SAILING EMERGES

john roach

 [Watch the Video's:](#)

- [Our Year of Extremes: Did Climate Change Just Hit Home?](#)
- ['It's Like the World Is Opening Up a New Subdivision'](#)
- [Our Year of Extremes: Did Climate Change Just Hit Home?](#)



A quarter-century after a drunk captain and his fatigued crew ran the Exxon Valdez onto a reef where it spilled 10.8 million gallons of crude oil into Alaska's Prince William Sound, new rules are taking shape to prevent a similar disaster in the rapidly opening Arctic Ocean. There, melting sea ice is opening a new frontier for cruise and cargo ships as well as prospectors for oil, gas, and hard rock minerals. A key goal of the new rules is to ensure people skilled in navigating ice-strewn seas are aboard every vessel in Arctic and Antarctic waters, according to [Lawson Brigham](#), a distinguished professor of geography and Arctic policy at the University of Alaska, Fairbanks, who has participated in

the development of the so-called [Polar Code](#) for more than 20 years. Today, there are just a handful of people in the world with the appropriate training and skills for safe navigation in polar waters, he explained at a recent [workshop on the code](#) in Seattle. The meeting was sponsored by the U.S. Coast Guard, which is the country's representative to the [International Maritime Organization](#), an agency of the United Nations that sets standards for the shipping industry. Within years, Brigham said, "throughout the United States maritime market we may have Statoil, Shell, (and) Conoco Phillips all with their armada of ships with hundreds of vessels and thousands of transits (in the Arctic). The question is: What is the competency of the people in the pilot house?"



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'A Huge Gap'

A series of poor decisions in the pilot house of the Exxon Valdez were largely responsible for its grounding, according to a [government investigation](#). While that spill led to regional shipping regulations that make the Prince William Sound among the safest places to operate in the world, they don't apply to polar waters. Instead, most polar ships comply with the same regulations they do for the rest of the world's oceans. "That in and of itself is a huge gap because operating in the Arctic has its own dangers, its own risks, and industrial activity in that region also has unique impacts on Arctic ecosystems," Elena Agarkova, the senior shipping officer for the environmental group [World Wildlife Fund](#) in New York, told NBC News in a telephone interview. Among the concerns highlighted by environmental and policy experts are frigid temperatures that hinder the smooth operation of machinery, ice-littered waters that can make for perilous navigation, and the paucity of infrastructure for even routine chores such as environmentally-safe disposal of ship sewage, let alone a timely response to a marine accident such as an oil spill. "There isn't a safety net," Brigham explained to NBC News during a break at the workshop. "So you've got to have that safety net within the ship itself and the competency of the people."

Traffic on the Rise

Competence in the pilot house or not, polar ship traffic is on the rise, especially in the Arctic. Some 440 ships crossed through the Bering Strait in 2013 up from 220 five years earlier, lieutenant commander Jason Boyle with the [U.S. Coast Guard District 17](#) in Juneau, Alaska, noted at the workshop. "I expect those numbers to be even greater for 2014 and on as maritime traffic increases in the region," he said. Indeed, several workshop participants represented companies with growing Arctic operations that are grappling with concerns about how implementation of the new rules will impact their businesses. "There are implications for the Polar Code that haven't been fully thought through," Timothy Keane, senior manager of Arctic operations and projects for [Fednav Limited](#), a Montreal, Canada-based shipping company, explained to NBC News at the workshop. For example, he noted, the code requires certified ice navigators on ships but there are no clear guidelines on the procedure to gain certification. Despite the concerns, the part of the code that pertains to ship safety, including navigators, is up for adoption at a meeting of the International Maritime Organization this November in London. If adopted, the rules would then likely go into force by 2017.

'Seminal Regime'

The Polar Code is not a singular document, but rather a series of amendments to existing conventions of the International Maritime Organization including one for the [Safety of Life at Sea](#) and another for the [Prevention of Pollution from Ships](#). All told, the amendments establish mandatory requirements for the design, equipment and operation of ships in the polar regions. "It isn't designed as a barrier to use; it is designed to facilitate safe use of the ocean," explained Brigham, who called the code "a new, historic, seminal regime for the Arctic and Antarctic because it is putting in rules and regulations which don't exist." Elements of the code governing environmental protections are scheduled for adoption next April. The six-month lag in approval and adoption of the environmental portion of the code provides stakeholders more time to shape its contents, including regulations governing use of heavy fuel oil, air pollutants, and the impact of ship traffic on marine mammals. "Safety measures are important," World Wildlife Fund's Agarkova said. "But environmental protections are also of utmost importance. And the Polar Code should be addressing both."

<http://www.nbcnews.com/science/environment/whos-driving-tanker-new-polar-code-sailing-emerges-n186106>

KENYA, NYANDARUA COUNTY, AUGUST 24 2014. NYANDARUA LOCALS KEEP OFF OVERTURNED TANKER

wanjohi gakio



The fuel tanker which overturned at Silanga area along Olkalou- Ndundori road yesterday carrying 30,000 litres of super petrol.

A fuel tanker yesterday rolled as it was negotiating a corner at Silanga on the Ndundori-Ol Kalou road. The tanker, which was travelling at a high speed, spilled most of its cargo by the roadside. However, residents who gathered at the scene kept their distance and gave police officers an easy time in controlling the crowd. The driver and his turnboy escaped with minor injuries and were taken to JM Memorial Hospital in Ol Kalou where they were treated and discharged. Rurii ward MCA Peter Wahome praised the security officers for their swift response and the discipline displayed by the residents at the scene. He urged the government, through the Ministry of Roads, to put up signs and guard rails along the road, which he said had been removed by scrap metal dealers.



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Wahome called for tough measures against scrap metal dealers who vandalise road signs and guard rails.

<http://www.the-star.co.ke/news/article-186046/hyandarua-locals-keep-overturned-tanker>

AUSTRALIA, NORTHERN TERRITORY, DARWIN, AUGUST 24 2014. MONTARA OIL SPILL: FISHERMEN'S LAWYER CALLS FOR INVESTIGATION INTO REPORTS OF SKIN DISEASE

felicity james

Map: [Darwin](#)



A fisherman from the West Timor village of Tablong says these sores appeared after the Montara oil spill.

Indonesian and East Timorese fishermen may be suffering from skin conditions caused by the Montara oil spill, the lawyer representing them has said. On the fifth anniversary of one of Australia's worst oil disasters, Darwin-based lawyer and spokesman for the Australian Lawyers Alliance, Greg Phelps, called for a full scientific investigation. He said when he visited the village of Tablong in West Timor in August 2013 and February this year, he was shown sores and rashes villagers say began appearing after the oil spill. "Almost 100 per cent of the village turned out to tell us about the effects of this event," Mr Phelps said. "We saw people who had skin conditions come from out of the crowd to show us the rashes on their arms and on their neck. Other people reported deaths in that

village." The Montara oil platform, about 250 kilometres off the north-west coast of Western Australia, ruptured on 21 August 2009, spilling millions of litres of oil at the estimated rate of 400-2000 barrels a day. It took more than two months to stop the leak. Mr Phelps said seaweed farming in Tablong also appeared to have been affected. Sheen and weathered oil was observed in Indonesia's exclusive economic zone in September 2009, reaching to within 94km of the island of Palau Roti off the coast of West Timor. [Montara Commission of Inquiry]. "The community reported that their pre-spill production of 500 tonnes has dropped to less than six tonne, which is not much over 1 per cent. And the price has halved because the quality of the seaweed's deteriorated," he said. Mr Phelps said he had the support of the Indonesian government to represent fishermen from the Indonesian province of East Nusa Tenggara, including West Timor, and of the East Timorese government to represent fishermen from the district of Oecusse, on the north-west coast of the island. In a statement to ABC News in July, [the company responsible for the oil spill](#), PTTEP Australasia, said it was aware of the claims the oil spill had damaged West Timorese fishing and seaweed farming communities. "But to date, we have not received any credible evidence that oil from Montara caused damage to the environment in West Timor," the statement said. "[Independent studies published by the Australian Department for the Environment](#) found that 98 per cent of Montara oil stayed in Australian waters. "The Montara Environmental Monitoring Program showed there was no long-term damage to the marine environment, notably at various reefs and shoals in Australian waters closest to Montara. "PTTEP has not recently been contacted by the government of Indonesia in relation to this matter. We have been consistently willing to engage with the government of Indonesia to address these claims. "We have always acted cooperatively and in good faith in our past discussions with the government of Indonesia, and we will continue to do so."

Hydrocarbons entered Indonesian Waters 'to a Significant Degree'

Indonesian and East Timorese fishermen [claimed the spill had a lasting impact on their health and livelihoods](#). [A June 2010 report from the Montara Commission of Inquiry](#) found "hydrocarbons did enter Indonesian and Timor Leste waters to a significant degree." "However, as indicated by AMSA in its submission to the inquiry, most of the hydrocarbons remained 'within 35 kilometres of the platform'," the report stated.

"Sheen and weathered oil was observed in Indonesia's exclusive economic zone in September 2009, reaching to within 94km of the island of Palau Roti off the coast of West Timor." But it found estimates of the spread of oil were also flawed, given they were only based on surface images, and there was no data on distribution beneath the sea surface. "There should have been a thorough sub-surface sampling of the oil/dispersant mix," the report stated. "This was important to inform judgements about the environmental consequences of the Blowout." The inquiry found company failures and the regulatory regime contributed to the disaster. Mr Phelps said he was certain the oil had moved north beyond Australian waters. "If this oil had flowed to the Western Australian coastline, the Australians' reaction would've been very different," he said. "Had it affected any Australian citizens, there would have been an outrage here."



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Montara Inquiry was 'Robust & Comprehensive'

Mr Phelps said the Australian Government should, with the governments of Indonesia and East Timor, request PTTEP Australasia fund an independent investigation into the the reach of the spill and its impact. "We have advised the Government of Australia that there are reports of significant damage to the fisheries and to seaweed farming; there are reported deaths," he said. Mr Phelps said initial investigations should involve taking samples from mangrove muds and coral sediments, fish tissue and seaweed tests. "To conduct the study is just a few million dollars, that's a cheap oil spill," he said. "Why wouldn't they do that to prove that oil didn't get there? Of course they're not doing it because they're afraid of what they'll find." The Federal Industry Minister told the ABC in a statement the Australian Government was confident the inquiry into the Montara incident was "robust and comprehensive and that appropriate measures were taken." In 2012, PTTEP Australasia pleaded guilty to charges under the [Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage Act and was fined \\$510,000](#). PTTEP Australasia continues to operate its Montara oil field project in the Timor Sea, off the coast of Western Australia. A spokesman for the company said it was in the process of putting the Montara project assets up for sale, but that details of the sale were commercial-in-confidence. The spokesman said the Montara project began oil production last year and had produced about four million barrels of oil in the past 12 months.

 **Related Stories** [Fishermen's Lawyer Demands Full Scientific Investigation into Oil Spill](#)

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2014-08-21/montara-oil-spill/5685842>

AUSTRALIA, QUEENSLAND, WILSONTON, AUGUST 24 20`4. CAR CRASHES INTO WILSONTON PETROL BOWSER

nev madsen

 **Watch the Video:** [Car Crashes into Wiltonton Petrol Bowser](#)



Car hits petrol bowser at Caltex Woolworths petrol station at Wiltonton.

Fuel bowser have been isolated and customers turned away from the Caltex Woolworths service station in Wiltonton after a Ford sedan crashed into a bowser. Crews were called to the Erin St service station at 12.50pm. Staff at the service station put an emergency action plan into place, isolating electricity from the fuel pumps to ensure there were no ignition sources. Firefighters disconnected the battery of the car to ensure the safety of the scene. No fuel was spilled as a result of the crash. No one was injured.

<http://www.thechronicle.com.au/news/car-knocks-over-wiltonton-petrol-bowser/2360921/>

AUSTRALIA, NEW SOUTH WALES, SYDNEY, AUGUST 25 2014. CALTEX TO CUT 350 JOBS

elizabeth redman

Caltex says its outlook is still positive despite a competitive environment as it moves to cut another 350 positions as part of a review of costs, on top of the jobs lost due to the closure of its Kurnell refinery. Investors responded positively, sending Caltex shares 3.05 per cent higher to \$26.33 at 10.34am (AEST), against a benchmark index lift of 0.02 per cent. In the six months to June 30, Caltex reported a one per cent lift in profit to \$173 million on a replacement cost basis, compared with \$171m in the previous corresponding period. The result is at the upper end of expectations, after analysts surveyed by Bloomberg tipped a profit between \$155m and \$175m. On a historical cost basis, profit fell 17 per cent to \$163m in the half, compared with \$195m in the prior corresponding period. Revenue rose 11 per cent to \$12.771 billion, up from \$11.495bn in the previous corresponding period. Caltex will pay an interim dividend of 20c per share, fully franked, on October 1 to shareholders on the register on September 9. The group said it will reduce its headcount by approximately 350 people across operational and support positions, mostly over the next 12 months, in addition to the 300-plus cuts it earlier announced related to the Kurnell refinery's closure. Caltex's cost review will result in restructuring costs of \$130m to \$155m before tax in the second half of the year, but the restructure is expected to deliver benefits of approximately \$100m a year before tax. The group also expects to reduce its working capital further, planning to reduce inventory by approximately one million barrels in the second half of 2015, in addition to the previously announced two million barrel reduction targeted after the Kurnell refinery closure. The Kurnell refinery's conversion to an import terminal is on time and on budget, Caltex said. The refining business made an earnings before interest and tax (EBIT) loss of \$65 million. That was impacted by lower refining margins and looming closure of Kurnell,



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slightly offset by a good performance at its Brisbane refinery. The marketing and distribution business, including wholesale transport fuels and its petrol stations, increased EBIT to \$393 million from \$365 million.

Related Stories

- [Caltex to axe 350 jobs in cost-cutting drive](#)
- [Caltex to axe 350 jobs](#)
- [Refining Loss Weighs on Caltex Result](#)

<http://www.theaustralian.com.au/business/latest/caltex-to-cut-350-jobs/story-e6frg90f-1227035585684>

SOUTH AFRICA, JOHANNESBURG, AUGUST 25 2014. PETROL TRUCK CATCHES FIRE IN KZN ACCIDENT

A petrol truck caught alight when it, another heavy-duty truck and a minibus were involved in a collision on the N11 around 30km outside Ladysmith on Sunday, provincial emergency services said. "Emergency services and paramedics from KZN Emergency Medical Services from Ladysmith responded to the collision, which occurred just before 15:00 this afternoon," interim spokesperson Robert McKenzie said. "Emergency services arrived on scene [to] find one truck completely blocking the road while the other truck, a petrol tanker was alight." The cab and the front section of the truck were fully engulfed in flames, which were extinguished by the fire department. "The truck drivers were treated by the paramedics for serious injuries that they had sustained during the collision," McKenzie said. "About another eight people who were on board the minibus escaped injury and decided not to be transported to hospital after being assessed by the paramedics." The two truck drivers were taken to hospital by paramedics from a local private ambulance service. "The road was completely closed due to the collision, and traffic had to be diverted," McKenzie. "The cause of the accident and the preceding events are being investigated by the police."

<http://www.news24.com/SouthAfrica/News/Petrol-truck-catches-fire-in-KZN-accident-20140824>

PAKISTAN, KARACHI, AUGUST 25 2014. UNFORTUNATE INCIDENT: TWO LABOURERS SUFFOCATE WHILE WORKING INSIDE WELL

 [Photo's \[2\] At Least 2 Labourers Died of Suffocation While Working in a Well](#)



Rescue workers climb inside the well to retrieve the bodies of the two labourers who suffocated to death. The men suffocated due to a poisonous gas inside the well in a cattle farm situated in Korangi.

At least two labourers died of suffocation while working in a well in Korangi on Sunday. The men suffocated due to a poisonous gas inside the well in a cattle farm situated in Korangi, within the limits of Awami Colony police station. Following this, rescuers from different welfare associations and the fire brigade department were called to retrieve them. However, their task was made difficult by the large crowd that had gathered. Law enforcers were therefore called to disperse the crowd. The rescuers were able to recover the bodies after hours of hard work. The deceased were then identified as Mashood Khan and Omar. Their bodies were taken to Jinnah Postgraduate Medical Centre for autopsies.

SHO Ahmed Butt said that the well was around 120 feet deep, adding that the men were killed almost instantly by the poisonous gas. No case has so far been registered as the incident is thought to be accidental. However, Butt added that the police are still waiting for the post-mortem report.

<http://tribune.com.pk/story/753140/unfortunate-incident-two-labourers-suffocate-while-working-inside-well/>

USA, NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS SAIPAN, AUGUST 25 2014. NEARLY \$10M IN OVER 10 YEARS FOR CONTAMINATION CLEANUP

haidee v. eugenio

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) said the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has spent \$9.5 million over the last 10 years to clean up hazardous waste left behind by the U.S. military in the CNMI. The agency has also set aside \$4 million this year for the cleanup of three areas contaminated with leftover military activities during and right after World War II on Saipan, the highest annual funding of its kind for the CNMI in recent period. Sablan said work on three of the formerly used defense sites, or FUDS, is completed. These include those in I'Denni, Tanapag, and Kagman Airfield. Nine remaining FUDS properties have been identified, all on the island of Saipan. These include Marpi Point Field, Naftan Bomb Storage, Naftan Ordnance Disposal, North Field, Ordnance Plan, Talofoto Hospital Dump Site, Tanapag Fuel Farm, Koblerville Naval Supply Center, and



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American Memorial Park. "Although the U.S. does the work, the Commonwealth's Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality is responsible for oversight. Our local community also has a role in identifying problem areas and pressing for action, as the Tanapag Action Group did so effectively in the 1990s to force a cleanup of polychlorinated biphenyl contamination in Tanapag," Sablan said. He said in Congress, every year, he supports funding the FUDS program to assure that the work can continue in the CNMI "until all hazardous wastes are removed." FUDS cleanups are done by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, while the U.S. Congress appropriates the funds through the U.S. Department of Defense. Saipan was the site of heavy fighting between U.S. and Japanese forces during World War II. To this day, live ordnance and chemicals from the war are still being discovered in several areas of the island

<http://www.saipantribune.com/index.php/nearly-10m-10-years-contamination-cleanup/>

ENGLAND, SOMERSET, AUGUST 26 2014. FIRE CREW CALLED TO SUPERMARKET PETROL STATION AFTER FUEL LEAK

A fire appliance from Wincanton was sent to deal with a petrol leak at the town's Morrisons supermarket. A cordon was set up around a car was leaking petrol while the cause of the spill was investigated, a spokesman for Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue said. Fire crews confirmed the leak was due to the overfilling of the petrol tank. Fire crews made the vehicle safe and mopped up the petrol. The incident took place just after 3pm on Saturday.

<http://www.westerngazette.co.uk/crew-called-supermarket-petrol-station-fuel-leak/story-22816056-detail/story.html>

AUSTRALIA, SOUTH AUSTRALIA, ADELAIDE, AUGUST 26 2014. DRILLING BEGINS IN ADELAIDE AS AUTHORITIES TEST FOR TOXIC CONTAMINATION IN SOUTHERN SUBURBS

 **Watch the Video** [Drilling Begins In Adelaide](#)



Toxin testing is underway at Clovelly Park, where solvent vapours are a risk in air, soil, and groundwater.

A drilling and testing program will begin in the southern suburbs of Adelaide this week to test for toxic chemicals on populated land. Residents in Clovelly Park and Mitchell Park were told by authorities last month to relocate after elevated levels of industrial solvent were found in air, soil and groundwater. They had known for years that there was toxic contamination in the area resulting from the area's long association with the automotive industry but houses were never thought to be at risk. Now more than 137 holes up to 20 metres deep would be drilled over eight weeks to test soil vapour and groundwater for the industrial

solvent trichloroethylene (TCE). Project manager Richard McLachlan said it would be a significant drilling program "carefully managed with traffic management". "All testing activity will happen in council reserves and road reserves," he said. "In advance of drilling activities occurring in streets, the project team will be speaking with residents so they have a clear understanding of the works that will be undertaken." As well as asking residents to relocate, the South Australian Government has also warned that some homes might need to be demolished and rebuilt with impermeable membranes and concrete slabs. Authorities have previously said there was no immediate risk to health but the relocation of residents was being undertaken for the sake of caution.

<https://au.news.yahoo.com/a/24797768/drilling-begins-in-adelaide-as-authorities-test-for-toxic-contamination-in-southern-suburbs/>

AUSTRALIA, VICTORIA, MELBOURNE, AUGUST 26 2014. VITOL'S VIVA ENERGY BUYS STAKE IN AUSTRALIAN FUEL SUPPLIER

sonali paul

Swiss-based trading giant Vitol has bought a minority stake in an Australian fuel supplier to help shore up demand for fuel from the Geelong refinery it recently took over from Royal Dutch Shell. Vitol's Viva Energy, which bought Shell's refinery and 870 service stations in Australia for A\$2.9 billion said the investment in Liberty Oil was aimed at improving the refinery's outlook. "We look forward to further strengthening this relationship by supporting Liberty both as an investor and a reliable fuel supplier," Viva Chief Executive Scott Wyatt said in a statement. Viva Energy and Liberty declined to comment on how big a stake Viva acquired or how much it paid. The deal is subject to regulatory approval by Australia's anti-trust watchdog. Liberty had held talks with other companies about the stake, but Liberty Managing Director Paul Edmonds said Viva was a "natural fit"



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given it is a big supplier to Liberty. "A significant percentage of our offtakes are sourced from Geelong and we expect this to grow in the coming years," Edmonds told Reuters in an email. Australia's ageing refineries have mostly booked losses over the past several years as they struggled to compete against newer mega processing sites in Asia, leading majors like Shell and BP to sell plants or convert them to fuel terminals. Taking advantage of the new fuel importing opportunities, Vitol and rival Trafigra Beheer have moved into Australia to become fuel retailers over the past 18 months, changing the local landscape.

- [Vitol's Viva Energy buys stake in Australian fuel supplier](#)
- [Vitol's Viva Energy buys stake in Australian fuel supplier](#)

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/08/25/us-vitol-australia-idUSKBN0GP0HJ20140825>

INTERNATIONAL MARITIME ORGANIZATION, AUGUST 26 2014. STATUTORY ALERT: NEW SOLAS REQUIREMENTS FOR ENCLOSED SPACE ENTRY AND RESCUE DRILLS, AND DRAFT REQUIREMENTS FOR PORTABLE ATMOSPHERE TESTING



Applicability: All ships governed by SOLAS and all high speed craft, mobile offshore drilling units and dynamically supported craft.

Because of the serious threat posed to people working in enclosed spaces on board ships, the IMO has introduced new requirements to SOLAS Chapter III, regulation 19, which enter into force on 1 January, 2015. From this date, crew members will be required to participate in an enclosed space entry and rescue drill on board the ship at least once every two months. The IMO is also finalising mandatory requirements for portable atmosphere testing instruments to be carried on board ships. These are expected to be adopted in November 2014 for entry into force on 1 July, 2016, as SOLAS regulation XI-1/7. These portable testing instruments will not be used as part of personal protective safety equipment but as part of the ship's equipment. They will be used to test enclosed spaces from the outside to make sure they are safe to enter and

will cover, as a minimum, the following gases: oxygen, flammable gasses or vapours, carbon monoxide and hydrogen sulphide. The IMO will be issuing an associated circular providing guidance on selecting portable atmosphere testing instruments, which we will detail in a future Class News.

Early Implementation of Regulation XI-1/7

Because the regulation XI-1/7 requirements for portable testing instruments will enter into force much later than the regulation 19 rescue drill requirements, the IMO has drafted a circular to encourage their early implementation. The circular is expected to be issued in December 2014.

Related IMO Resolutions and Circulars

The changes to SOLAS Chapter III, regulation 19 are detailed in IMO Resolution MSC.350(92) Recommendations for entering enclosed spaces are contained in IMO Resolution A.1050(27) High speed craft, mobile offshore drilling units and dynamically supported craft

The enclosed space entry and rescue drill requirements also apply to high speed craft, mobile offshore drilling units and dynamically supported craft from 1 January, 2015. Amendments have been made to the following Codes accordingly:

- the 1979 Mobile Offshore Drilling Unit Code (Resolution MSC.357(92))
- the 1989 Mobile Offshore Drilling Unit Code (Resolution MSC.358(92))
- the 2000 Mobile Offshore Drilling Unit Code (Resolution MSC.359(92))
- the Dynamically Supported Craft Code (Resolution MSC.360(92))
- the High Speed Craft Code 1994 (Resolution MSC.351(92))
- the High Speed Craft Code 2000 (Resolution MSC.352(92)).

<http://maritimecyprus.wordpress.com/2014/08/19/statutory-alert-new-solas-requirements-for-enclosed-space-entry-and-rescue-drills-and-draft-requirements-for-portable-atmosphere-testing/>

USA. S.C, BELTON, AUGUST 26 2014. FUEL HOSE BURSTS, SPILLS 40 GALLONS OF DIESEL >> FIRE, HAZMAT CREWS RESPOND

Fire and hazardous materials crews responded to an Anderson County gas station after a fuel spill early Monday morning. Anderson County dispatchers say the call came in just before 3:30 a.m. about a spill at the Exxon station off Highway 29 at Braezeale Road, north of the Anderson Jockey Lot. Dispatchers said someone was pumping gas, when the hose broke and



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began dumping diesel fuel on the area around the pumps. The Whitefield Fire Department, as well as the Anderson County hazmat team responded to the scene, dispatchers said. Crews initially estimated about 100 gallons of fuel spilled. A hazmat official on scene confirmed the spill was closer to just 40 gallons of fuel. They remained at the gas station until officials from the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control arrived, dispatchers said. Dispatchers said crews contained the spill and cleared the scene by 6:30 a.m. No one reported injuries.

<http://www.wyff4.com/news/dispatch-broke-hose-spills-100-gallons-of-diesel/27711016#!bK1HCx>

USA, IN, SOUTH BEND, AUGUST 26 2014. COOK NUCLEAR PLANT RETRACTS FUEL-SPILL REPORT

Bridgman It turns out a suspected fuel leak at the Cook Nuclear Plant in Bridgman never happened. That's according to officials at the plant, who are retracting a report detailing a 8,700 gallon diesel fuel spill that was sent to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission on Friday. According to our reporting partners at [WSJM](http://www.wsj.com), there was an error reading the tank and the report had to be sent out because they thought oil was missing. A later reading corrected the report.

<http://www.wndu.com/home/headlines/Cook-Nuclear-Plant-retracts-fuel-spill-report-272539641.html>

USA, MD, HAGERSTOWN, AUGUST 26 2014. OFFICIAL: BURNED CITY MAN USED GASOLINE TO START GRILL FIRE

dave mcmillion

A Hagerstown man suffered burns to his lower extremities Sunday afternoon when a charcoal grill ignited "violently" after he used gasoline to start the fire on North Locust Street, according to Hagerstown Fire Marshal Doug DeHaven. Gasoline should never be used to start grill fires because it can result in "flame jetting," in which fire follows gas fumes back to the source of the fuel, according to the Maryland Life Safety Information Exchange. The man who was burned, estimated to be in his 30s, was taken to a burn unit at MedStar Washington Hospital Center in Washington, D.C. His injuries were not believed to be life-threatening, DeHaven said. Rescue crews responded to the rear of 324 N. Locust Street at about 3:45 p.m. for the accident, DeHaven said. DeHaven did not have the man's name and declined to provide specifics about his injuries. He urged people to use the right type of fuel when lighting a charcoal grill. Lighter fluid for charcoal grills and gasoline are "substantially different" in how they ignite, DeHaven said. There is always a concern about the proper use of outdoor grills in Hagerstown, DeHaven said. Grills are not to be used on balconies, and they must be at least 15 feet from a building when they are in operation, he said. "We preach and preach and preach to tenants" about the safe use of grills, he said. The man who was burned Sunday was using the grill at a safe distance from nearby buildings, DeHaven said.

http://www.heraldmillmedia.com/news/local/official-burned-city-man-used-gasoline-to-start-grill-fire/article_44b70bb1-98b1-5720-86e0-65d5bce1f3c9.html

INDIA, UTTAR PRADESH, GHAZIABAD, AUGUST 16 2014. 2 KILLED, TWO INJURED AS OIL TANKER CATCHES FIRE

At least two persons were killed and as many injured when a furnace oil tanker caught fire while they were welding it for leakage near RTO office in Kavi Nagar area here. According to Deputy Superintendent of Police Ran Vijay Singh, two charred bodies of the technicians beyond recognition were recovered from the debris. Two other technicians, Nand Lal and Kshati Prasad, have been hospitalised with severe burn injuries in Safdarjung hospital in Delhi. The area has been cordoned-off as police are suspecting more casualties, he said, adding that identities of the deceased were not established yet. The rescue and search operation was on till the last report came in.

<http://news.oneindia.in/india/2-killed-two-injured-as-oil-tanker-catches-fire-1509363.html>

USA, ILL, GRANITE CITY, AUGUST 26 2014. POLICE: MORTAR ROUND CAUSED DEADLY PLANT BLAST

sara burnett & john o'connor

A mortar round exploded Monday at a suburban St. Louis metal recycling plant that does business with the military, killing two people. The explosion at Total Metal Recycling in Granite City occurred about 6:25 a.m., police said. Total Metal Recycling, which employs about 160 people, according to its website, does business with the military and it's not unusual for it to have items such as "military engines and ammunition casings," police chief Rich Miller said. Bomb technicians were sweeping the site for other possible explosives Monday afternoon. The victims, whom responders could not initially get to because of the fear of further explosions, were not immediately identified. A third person was injured and taken to a St. Louis hospital, police said, but a condition was not available. "This corporation recycles everything you can think of, from plastics to cardboard to metals, and some of their contracts involve getting materials from the military," Miller said at a briefing for reporters near the plant Monday afternoon. He said authorities do not suspect any malicious intent and were investigating the explosion as an



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"industrial accident." Miller did not comment on whether the facility has ever received a live mortar before or whether proper procedures were followed in handling it, saying that would be part of the investigation. He also said investigators are looking at what was happening when it exploded. The Illinois secretary of state's bomb squad was dispatched to the scene to support an explosive ordnance disposal unit from Scott Air Force Base, secretary of state's spokesman Henry Haupt said. Also on the scene were agents from the federal bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives, and St. Louis city and county police agencies, Miller said. Robert Nobsch, resident agent in charge of the ATF in Fairview Heights, said it's not unusual in a situation like this one to get help and other resources from area agencies with expertise in explosives. The heat played a role, too, requiring the rotation of investigators wearing special gear, Miller said. A statement released by the company did not give any details about what might have occurred. It said the firm was cooperating with local, state, and federal authorities. "Our thoughts and prayers are with the families as we collectively cope with this tragedy," the statement said. "We are committed to providing each employee and his or her family with counseling resources during this difficult time." No information was released Monday on the victims pending positive identification, Madison County chief deputy coroner Roger Smith said. Prather Elementary School, with about 500 students in kindergarten through fourth grade, is about half a mile west of the plant. Granite City School Superintendent Jim Greenwald said the students reported to school shortly after the accident occurred and classes proceeded normally, though the principal decided to keep the students inside for recess.

<http://abcnews.go.com/US/wireStory/police-southern-illinois-plant-explosion-kills-25112900>

USA, PA, MANDATA, AUGUST 26 2014. LINE MOUNTAIN HIT WITH \$143,000 CIVIL LAWSUIT

justin strawser

The Lower Mahanoy Township Municipal Authority filed a civil lawsuit in Northumberland County against Line Mountain School District for failure to pay a bill to clean up spilled heating oil into the sewer system. The lawsuit, filed Aug. 15 by Sunbury attorneys William Swinehart and Robert Muelo on behalf of the authority, charges the school district with negligence, breach of contract and trespass stemming from a Feb. 10 leak from a broken pressure gauge at the former Dalmatia Elementary School that dumped 1,250 gallons of heating oil into the authority's wastewater treatment plant. The discharge of the heating oil, which cost \$143,454 with growing interest to clean up, "resulted in significant damage to the sanitary sewer system operated by" the authority, according to the complaint. The district is now two months passed a June 22 deadline that the authority gave the district to pay the bill. The authority has also placed a lien on the district's property. The elementary school at Dalmatia was closed down prior to the 2013-14 school year as a result of elementary student realignment. In January 2014, the 30-pound pressure gauge was installed to replace a 200-pound gauge, but the fuel transfer pump can generate pressure approaching 300 pounds per square inch, according to court documents. When the incident occurred, the district failed to report it to the authority, according to the complaint. The Dalmatia building, according to the complaint, has a heating system which includes an underground fuel tank located on the property that stores fuel pumped inside the basement by a fuel transfer pump. That pump, which has a pressure gauge, brings in fuel from the underground fuel oil tank on the property to the oil-fired boilers and water heaters. Those components are permanently affixed to the real estate in the mechanical room in the basement. The district connected to the authority's sewer system in 2002, but the basement floor is "constructed in such a fashion to permit all liquids discharged onto the floor to enter a sump pump, and thereafter enter a septic tank, which is ultimately pumped into the (authority's) sewage system," according to court documents.

http://www.dailyitem.com/news/article_d6f2ba54-2c83-11e4-9570-001a4bcf887a.html

USA, LA, BATON ROUGE, AUGUST 26 2014. FIRE SHOOTS UP FROM GROUND NEAR GAS STATION, HAZMAT INVESTIGATING

amber stegall

 **Watch the Video:** [Fire Shoots Up from Ground near Gas Station](#)



Fire in drainage near Texaco gas station on Florida Blvd.

The Baton Rouge Fire Department and HazMat officials were investigating a fire that happened near the Texaco gas station in the 6900 block of Florida Blvd. Monday afternoon. Officials say Florida Boulevard from Kenwood Avenue to Donmoor Avenue was closed to traffic for about 20 minutes. Officials with the Baton Rouge Fire Department initially said fire was shooting out of a drainage system in the gas station parking lot. However, officials now say the fire was in an underground system of wiring, an underground transformer, that caught fire. They



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believe the insulation around the wiring may have caused the yellow smoke. Entergy officials are on the scene working to see what caused the fire. Shangi Chinese Buffet, near the gas station, was evacuated for a short time, but the all-clear has been given.

<http://www.wafb.com/story/26365355/fire-shoots-up-from-ground-near-gas-station-hazmat-investigating>

USA, TUMWATER, AUGUST 28 2014. THURSTON CO. TESTING FOR WATER CONTAMINATION AFTER DIESEL SPILL *kara kostanich*

 **Watch the Video:** [Thurston Co. Testing for Water Contamination after Diesel Spill](#)

The Thurston County Public Health Department is testing well water at seven homes in Tumwater after a diesel spill contaminated about 1,000 square yards of land. The homes are located along 49th Avenue SW, about a block away from the spill. On August 16, a Tacoma Rail locomotive hauling routine freight hit some short of obstruction on the tracks. The fuel tank was punctured, causing 1,700 gallons of diesel fuel to leak into the ground. Tacoma Rail says it's a case of "malicious mischief." It's unclear what type of object obstructed the tracks or who is responsible. Both local and federal authorities are investigating. "It's scary. If it would have happened a little bit closer to the road -- where the run off is -- it could have been devastating," said Jim Lance, who lives close to the spill. Neighbors like Lance have tremendous concern after the Thurston County Health Department left a letters on the door steps of homes in the area warning of potential contamination. "It could impact the wells. Even at low concentration. It could be at a level that could be a public health concern," said Art Starry, the Director of the Environmental Health Division at the Thurston County Public Health Department. But Lance's biggest concern is that the spill happened August 16 and he says he wasn't notified until August 22 by letter. "Nobody has told me anything, and that's the problem," said Lance. "They waited days and should have come and told all the residents in the neighborhood." Starry says both Department of Ecology and Thurston County Public Health worked together to notify residents in person as well as in writing. The Health Department says they would like to test all seven residential wells in the area of the spill. They were out testing on Monday, but there was no word if any diesel was detected. Tacoma Rail is offering a \$1,000 dollar reward to anyone with information that leads to an arrest.

<http://www.komonews.com/news/local/Thurston-County-testing-for-water-contamination-after-diesel-spill--272655881.html>

USA, WASHINGTON DC, AUGUST 28 2014. CSB CHAIRPERSON MOURE-ERASO WARNS ABOUT DANGER OF HOT WORK ON TANKS CONTAINING BIOLOGICAL OR ORGANIC MATERIAL



Earlier this month a team of CSB investigators deployed to the Omega Protein facility in Moss Point, Mississippi, where a tank explosion on July 28, 2014, killed a contract worker and severely injured another. Our team, working alongside federal OSHA inspectors, found that the incident occurred during hot work on or near a tank containing eight inches of a slurry of water and fish matter known as "stickwater." The explosion blew the lid off the 30-foot-high tank, fatally injuring a contract worker who was on top of the tank. A second contract worker on the tank was severely injured. CSB investigators commissioned laboratory testing of the stickwater and found telltale signs of microbial activity in the samples, such as the presence of volatile fatty acids in the liquid samples and offgassing of flammable methane and hydrogen sulfide. The stickwater inside of the storage tank had been thought to be nonhazardous. No combustible gas testing was done on the contents of the tank before the hot work commenced. This tragedy underscores the extreme

importance of careful hot work planning, hazard evaluation, and procedures for all storage tanks, whether or not flammable material is expected to be present. Hot work dangers are not limited to the oil, gas, and chemical sectors where flammability hazards are commonplace. The CSB has now examined three serious hot work incidents—all with fatalities—involving hot work on tanks of biological or organic matter. At the Packaging Corporation of America (PCA), three workers were killed on July 29, 2008, as they were performing hot work on a catwalk above an 80-foot-tall tank of "white water," a slurry of pulp fiber waste and water. CSB laboratory testing identified anaerobic, hydrogen-producing bacteria in the tank. The hydrogen gas ignited, ripping open the tank lid and sending workers tumbling to their deaths. On February 16, 2009, a welding contractor was killed while repairing a water clarifier tank at the ConAgra Foods facility in Boardman, Oregon. The tank held water and waste from potato washing; the CSB investigation found that water and organic material had built up beneath the base of the tank and decayed through microbial action, producing flammable gas that exploded. Mixtures of water with fish, potatoes, or



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cardboard waste could understandably be assumed to be benign and pose little safety risk to workers. It is vital that companies, contract firms, and maintenance personnel recognize that in the confines of a storage tank, seemingly non-hazardous organic substances can release flammable gases at levels that cause the vapor space to exceed the lower flammability limit. Under those conditions, a simple spark or even conducted heat from hot work can prove disastrous. I urge all companies to follow the positive example set by the DuPont Corporation, after a fatal hot work tragedy occurred at a DuPont chemical site near Buffalo, New York. Following CSB recommendations from 2012, DuPont instituted a series of reforms to hot work safety practices on a global basis, including requirements for combustible gas monitoring when planning for welding or other hot work on or near storage tanks or adjacent spaces. Combustible gas testing is simple, safe, and affordable. It is a recommended practice of the National Fire Protection Association, The American Petroleum Institute, FM Global, and other safety organizations that produce hot work guidance. Combustible gas testing is important on tanks that hold or have held flammables, but it is equally important—if not more so—for tanks where flammables are not understood to be present. It will save lives.

Related Stories

- <http://www.csb.gov/e-i-dupont-de-nemours-co-fatal-hotwork-explosion/>
- <http://www.csb.gov/packaging-corporation-storage-tank-explosion/>
- <http://www.csb.gov/seven-key-lessons-to-prevent-worker-deaths-during-hot-work-in-and-around-tanks/>
- <http://www.csb.gov/motiva-enterprises-sulfuric-acid-tank-explosion/>
- <http://www.csb.gov/partridge-raleigh-oilfield-explosion-and-fire/>

<http://www.csb.gov/csb-chairperson-moure-eraso-warns-about-danger-of-hot-work-on-tanks-containing-biological-or-organic-material/>

AUSTRALIA, QUEENSLAND, GYMPIE, AUGUST 27 2014. BOOM SET UP AROUND SUNKEN CRUISER AFTER DIESEL SPILL

It's believed a salvor will remove the partially submerged vessel in Urangan Marina on Wednesday. Maritime Safety Queensland has set up an absorbent oil boom around a sunken cruiser in the Urangan Marina. MSQ was advised a 9m cruiser sank at its berth at Fisherman's Wharf Marina in the harbour about 7.30am on Saturday. The MSQ spokesman said officers had set up an absorbent boom around the vessel to contain a diesel sheen. It is believed the marina had engaged a salvor to remove the vessel on Wednesday. There was no indication as to how the boat sank and MSQ was investigating.

<http://www.gympietimes.com.au/news/boom-set-up-at-sunken-cruiser-after-diesel-spill/2364266/>

USA, AZ, SCOTTSDALE, AUGUST 27 2014. SCOTTSDALE POLICE IDENTIFY 2 WORKERS WHO DIED IN SEWER

Jarrod Camp

Watch the Video: [Scottsdale Police Identify 2 Workers Who Died in Sewer](#)



Scottsdale police identify victims from sewage-vault accident near Frank Lloyd Wright Boulevard and Scottsdale Road. Family members are praising two men killed in an industrial accident as heroes for helping an 18-year-old get out of a sewer-lift station in Scottsdale before they succumbed to toxic fumes. Scottsdale police officials identified the two workers as Jarrod Camp, 41, and Jeremy Johnson, 36. Both men lived in Phoenix. Cara Camp, Jarrod Camp's wife, said Tuesday that the men were heroes, and she thanked them for saving 18-year-old Cody Johnson, the only survivor of Monday night's incident, and Jeremy Johnson's son. "Jarrod has been my husband and my best friend," she said. "He's a true hero." Cara Camp, who worked with her husband and Jeremy Johnson at Camp Industries, said she not only lost her husband, but also two coworkers. "We loved him (Johnson) like family" she said. "He was a true hero, like Jarrod." Police believe the two workers were overcome by toxic fumes Monday night as they were inside the confined space near a group of restaurants and bars that ring the Promenade shopping center near Frank Lloyd Wright Boulevard and Scottsdale Road. A third man was able to pull himself out of the 15-foot-deep hole before firefighters arrived, according to a Scottsdale police spokesman. The 18-year-old, whom authorities would not identify, was "conscious but lethargic" when crews arrived, police said. He could not immediately tell emergency workers on Monday night whether he was pulled or pushed out of the



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space. Officials said Tuesday that he is expected to recover. The Arizona Division of Occupational Safety and Health is investigating the incident. Division spokeswoman Rachel Brockway said the agency would not comment while the investigation is ongoing.

 **Related Stories 2** in [Scottsdale sewer apparently die from fumes, officials say](#)

<http://www.azcentral.com/story/news/local/scottsdale/2014/08/26/scottsdale-sewage-vault-victims-abrk/14629257/>

USA, CA, FRESNO, AUGUST 27 2014. EPA TO CLEAN UP DOWNTOWN FRESNO SITE

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will remove several underground tanks from a former gas station in downtown Fresno at 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday. In a press release, the agency said three 4,000-5,000 gallon tanks and one 280 gallon tank formerly used for waste-oil will be removed from the site at 603 Broadway St. The removal is expected to cost up to \$138,000 and is being funded by the EPA's Targeted Brownfields Assessment Program. Water and soil samples will be taken at the site to test if the storage tanks have leaked. If they have, the EPA and the state and regional water boards will carry out the required cleanup in order to make the site available for reuse. The agency's statement said the site could become the location of a quick-service restaurant. The site is currently home to the American & Foreign auto repair shop but was previously occupied by a service station from 1937-1982. Wednesday's cleanup is part of a statewide initiative focused on removing and cleaning underground storage tank sides. So far, 38 sites have been cleaned up in Fresno County, paving the way for redevelopment after years of vacancy. To date, the EPA Brownfields Program has invested more than \$600,000 towards investigation and cleanup in Fresno neighborhoods.

<http://www.thebusinessjournal.com/news/energy-and-environment/13593-epa-to-cleanup-downtown-fresno-site>

USA, LA, NEW ORLEANS, AUGUST 28 2014. AFTER TANKER TRUCK EXPLODES IN NEW ORLEANS EAST, CREWS WORK TO CLEAR SCENE, DRIVER IN STABLE CONDITION

travers mackel

 **Watch the Video:** [Crews battle fuel truck fire](#)

 **Photo's [6]** [Viewers share photos of tanker explosion](#)



Crews continue to deal with large fuel truck fire.

Fire crews are working to clear the scene after a tanker truck caught fire Tuesday afternoon in New Orleans East. WDSU viewers shared breaking news photos of a tanker explosion on Interstate 10 in New Orleans East. Firefighters were alerted to the situation, near Interstate 10 and Interstate 510, when they saw flames and black smoke in the air. Officials said a 24-year-old woman was driving the tractor-trailer from Interstate 510 and merging onto Interstate 10, traveling east. The woman tried to avoid a car and overturned, police said. She was taken to a hospital in stable condition. The truck was carrying 8,600 gallons of fuel, police said. All lanes will remain closed until the fuel is cleaned up, police

said. Initial reports stated that the tanker truck fire caused an explosion with smoke seen as far as Metairie. It is unknown at this time how the situation developed. Multiple witnesses in the area said they could hear a loud boom. One told WDSU that the flames were "jumping high" at the scene. Firefighters were able to extinguish the fire about an hour after the original call went out. Originally, Hazmat needed to determine what kind of chemicals were involved with the accident. Emergency crews initially shut down I-10 and I-510 in both directions as they battled the blaze. Authorities are now beginning to clear the area to allow vehicles to slowly travel through. Interstate 10 was reopened for traffic moving west. Eastbound lanes were reopened about 1:25 a.m. Wednesday. Area traffic should seek an alternate route to avoid any delays until later this evening.

<http://www.wdsu.com/news/local-news/new-orleans/fuel-truck-catches-fire-on-i10-black-smoke-billowing-into-sky/27741772#!bL36hw>

USA, LA, BATON ROUGE, AUGUST 28 2014. EXXONMOBIL TO PAY \$1.4 MILLION AFTER 2012 CRUDE PIPELINE SPILL

timothy cama

ExxonMobil Corp. has agreed to pay \$1.4 million to settle federal claims arising from a 2012 crude oil pipeline spill in Louisiana. A pipe in ExxonMobil's North Line ruptured in April 2012 near Torbert, about 20 miles west of Baton Rouge, La., the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Department of Justice said Tuesday. The pipeline belongs to ExxonMobil



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Pipeline Co., a subsidiary of the oil giant. Federal officials said some oil entered waterways as a result of the 2,800-barrel spill, violating federal water pollution rules. "All businesses have an obligation to protect their workers, the local community and the environment in which they operate," Cynthia Giles, who leads EPA's enforcement efforts, said in a statement. "EPA is committed to protecting communities by enforcing laws that reduce pollution in local waterways." "Oil spills into our nation's waters endanger public health and the environment and warrant concerted enforcement efforts," Sam Hirsch, chief of Justice's environmental division, said in the statement. "Today's settlement achieves a just result and furthers our enforcement mission." The settlement came in the form of a consent decree filed Tuesday in federal court along with the underlying complaint. It is subject to a public comment period and court approval. ExxonMobil confirmed in a statement that it entered into the settlement. "We believe that this settlement provides for an acceptable outcome that avoids protracted litigation between the parties," said spokesman Christian Flathman. "Safety is always our priority, and we are committed to operating in a safe and responsible manner." Flathman did not say whether or not ExxonMobil admitted to the federal government's allegations. In addition to the penalty, federal officials said ExxonMobil was responsible for the costs related to cleaning the spill and pipeline repair to federal standards.

<http://thehill.com/policy/energy-environment/216017-exxonmobil-to-pay-14-million-after-2012-crude-pipeline-spill>

USA, WYO, CHEYENNE, AUGUST 28 2014. FEDS: BACKHOE NICKED PIPE BEFORE WYOMING OIL SPILL

mead gruver



In this May 22, 2014 photo provided by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management, a 25,000-gallon oil spill burns in the Powder River Basin southeast of Buffalo, Wyo., after officials deliberately ignited the crude in what they say was their best cleanup option in the rugged area. BLM officials say a backhoe nicked the 6-inch pipe an unknown amount of time ago. They say corrosion set in at the damaged area, leading to the spill May 19.

A 25,000-gallon oil spill in the Powder River Basin occurred after a backhoe nicked a 6-inch underground pipeline and, over time, corrosion turned the minor damage into an oil-spewing hole, the U.S. Bureau of Land Management said Tuesday. It remained unclear how long ago the backhoe damaged the crude oil pipeline owned by Casper-based Belle Fourche Pipeline, and what sort of construction work the backhoe was doing at the time, BLM officials said.

The company's environmental coordinator, Bob Dundas, declined comment when asked if he could provide that information. "I'm just not going to discuss that," Dundas said. He also declined to discuss ongoing work to clean up the three-mile stretch of arid gully contaminated by the May 19 spill 45 miles southeast of Buffalo. Between May 21 and 23, company officials deliberately ignited and burned off the oil in what was deemed a better and more practical option than using vacuum trucks to clean up the mess in the rugged sagebrush country a few miles east of the Powder River. However, high levels of petroleum compounds called diesel-range organics remained in the soil of Culp Draw weeks later, according to BLM documents obtained by The Associated Press. "We have determined that additional work will need to be done to ensure that remediation and reclamation of the spill location will be successful," BLM natural resource specialist Dustin Hill told Dundas in a letter dated July 18. Cleanup following the spill went well and the spill was mostly resolved, Dundas told the AP on July 18. Additional work in the draw in recent weeks has included tilling the soil and spreading fertilizer to encourage bioremediation of the diesel-range organics, according to BLM spokeswoman Cindy Wertz. "BLM will continue to work with the company on the remediation," Wertz said by email. The oil spilled on BLM and state land and it didn't affect private property. The spill stopped a couple miles short of reaching the Powder River, which flows north into Montana. The BLM released a handful of documents related to the spill and several photos of the burn operation in response to an AP request for information about the cause. Jill Morrison with the Powder River Basin Resource Council landowner group said the new information about backhoe damage raises more questions. "There could have been a leak going on beneath the surface for quite a long time. We don't know," she said.

<http://www.modbee.com/2014/08/26/3505400/feds-backhoe-nicked-pipe-before.html?sp=99/1526/>

INDIA, WEST BENGAL, ASANSOL, AUGUST 28 2014. TWO WOMEN KILLED, 50 INJURED AS POISONOUS GAS LEAKS

Two women were killed and 50 others affected, 12 of them seriously, when gas leaked from a cylinder in a welding workshop in West Bengal's Burdwan district on Tuesday. The incident happened in Asansol under Gopalpur police station when



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ammunium sulphate gas leaked from the cylinder, Asansol-Durgapur Police Commissioner Vineet Goel said. The deceased were identified as Satya Bala Das (80) and Ujjala Das (78). Among those affected by the gas leak is a child. The poisonous gas spread to an area stretching to more than two kms, Goel said. The district administration has ordered a probe into the incident.

<http://indianexpress.com/article/india/india-others/two-women-killed-as-poisonous-gas-leaks-in-west-bengal/>

BRAZIL, RIO DE JANEIRO, AUGUST 28 2014. PETROBRAS FORMER REFINING CHIEF ACCUSED OF BRIBERY, COURT CONSIDERS FREEZE OF CEO ASSETS



Four months after being arrested by Brazilian police on charges of money laundering, Petrobras' former refining and fuel chief Paulo Roberto Costa is now being investigated for bribery. Prosecutors allege that Costa received bribes from construction companies. The names of the companies being investigated and the size of the alleged bribes have not been disclosed. Brazilian federal prosecutors were granted 11 search warrants to gather evidence on Costa, Bloomberg said. State-controlled Petrobras is the subject of a separate Congressional probe into runaway spending at its refineries and for overpaying to acquire a Texas refinery, Bloomberg said. Costa was arrested in March as part of a money laundering investigation, known as Operation "Car Wash." Police said that Costa was involved in \$4.52 billion of illegal transactions with an

unnamed Brazilian currency broker and unnamed politicians during the purchase of Petrobras' \$1.7 billion Pasadena, Texas refinery. In March, police also investigated \$20 billion in transactions between Petrobras and construction firms involved in the company's Abreu e Lima Refinery near Recife, Brazil. The budget for the 230,000-barrel-a-day Abreu e Lima Refinery has quadrupled in less than ten years, Reuters said. A Brazilian court is considering freezing the assets of Petrobras CEO Maria das Gracas Foster. Petrobras said that Foster is not currently in danger of losing her job. The new wave of allegations arrive just as Brazil's presidential election heats up. The country's incumbent president Dilma Rousseff defended Petrobras and its managers as victims of political gamesmanship. Investments in oil production and refining have been major components of Rousseff's re-election campaign. "I think it is extremely wrong to use the biggest oil company in Latin America and the biggest company in Brazil, always during elections, as a political weapon," Rousseff said. Rousseff is the former chairwoman of Petrobras and was serving in that role during the Texas refinery purchase. She has not been named in any investigation.

<http://petroglobalnews.com/2014/08/petrobras-former-refining-chief-accused-of-bribery-court-considers-freeze-of-ceo-assets/>

USA, N.C, WAKE FOREST, AUGUST 29 2014. HAZMAT TEAM CONTAINS FORMALDEHYDE LEAK IN WAKE FOREST *thomasi mcdonald*

Firefighters and a hazmat team were called to an old factory building Thursday morning after a liquid began spilling from a severed pipe. Just before 10:15 a.m., firefighters arrived at the old Burlington Mills factory at 9701 Capital Blvd. after a crew working in the building cut into a one-inch pipe, according to Wake Forest Fire Chief Ron Early. "A clear liquid came out of the pipe," Early said. "The workers smelled something unusual and called 911." A hazmat team from the Raleigh Fire Department contained the leak, Early said. The team determined the liquid was Formalin, a mixture of methanol and formaldehyde, a toxic substance. "It's more of an irritant than anything," Early said. "It's not dangerous unless you ingest it or get it on the skin." No injuries were reported. The hazmat team ordered workers to evacuate the building and contained the substance.

<http://www.newsobserver.com/2014/08/28/4103515/hazmat-team-contains-formaldehyde.html>



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