



Dangerous Goods - Hazardous Materials Group & Network Release 2014 – 1,100 Newsy Stuff

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

September 22 2014



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USA, WA, SPOKANE, SEPTEMBER 15 2014. VAPORS LEAKING FROM TANKER TRUCK FORCE SHUTDOWN OF INTERSTATE 90 IN SPOKANE

Leaking vapors from a tanker truck prompted the shutdown of Interstate 90 near the Washington-Idaho border and an alert for nearby residents to stay indoors. The Washington State Patrol said the incident Sunday afternoon involved a tanker carrying a chemical called anhydrous trimethylamine. The vehicle was parked at a truck weigh station near Spokane. No injuries were reported, but the highway was closed in both directions for several hours. The Spokesman-Review reported (<http://is.gd/cVJ1O3>) that fire crews set up a perimeter in all directions. Later, an emergency alert advised people within a half-mile to remain indoors. Officials say it was prompted by two police officers complaining of throat irritation and headaches. According to DuPont, anhydrous trimethylamine is used in the manufacture of solvents, animal feed supplements and products for the paper, oil and gas industries.

<http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/7e3c48a9dbb24b47a1db23ad7a349c3c/WA--Spokane-Hazmat-Response>

NIGERIA, BAYELSA, YENAGOA, SEPTEMBER 15 2014. AGIP OIL SPILL IS KILLING US, BAYELSA FARMERS CRY



Farmers impacted by an ongoing oil leak from an oil field operated by Nigerian Agip Oil Company, NAOC, have appealed to the Bayelsa government to assist them to stop the pollution. The leakage, reported on August 15 from a ruptured pipeline, has been discharging a mixture of gas and crude under high pressure into the environment. A NAN correspondent, who visited the oil field at Kalaba and Ayambe communities in Yenagoa Local Government Area of Bayelsa, reports that the leakage impacted on nearby farmlands and Taylor creek. Narrating her ordeal, Mary-Gold Nwanlia expressed regrets that the oil leak, which was noticed and reported to officials of Agip on August 15, was left to escalate and caused avoidable damages to her farm. "Now this crude oil and gas spewing into the environment has affected my farm again as my farm is not

far from the spill site. "We plant here every year and we use to go and buy the yam seedlings for planting from far distance. "With this spill my efforts and labour has been in vain because I cannot harvest any healthy yam tuber from this farm again due to the spill. "Even if we harvest them and take home they will get rotten soon after because of the negative impact of the crude oil. "We want government to come to our assistance. I don't have any other job, farming and fishing had been what I depend on to make ends meet," Mrs. Nwanlia said. Also, Timinipre Francis, said that several bags of cassava she soaked in Taylor creek had been contaminated, following the flow of the spilled crude into the nearby swamps. "You can see the cassava I peeled and soaked here inside this bag. "This is what I usually do during the rainy season and I take the fermented cassava home when we bring canoe here. "But, as it is now I cannot take these ones home; the crude oil has condemned them. The current spill has spread to cover this area before we could come to farm. I soaked the cassava here since last week. "And, when we came to the farm we now met the ugly situation; crude oil has spread to this environment and affected the cassava," Mr. Francis said. When contacted, officials of the oil firm declined comments on the development within its operations in Bayelsa. Filippo Cotalini, Media Relations Office Manager at Eni, the Italian energy firm which operates in Nigeria as NAOC, also declined comment.

<https://www.premiumtimesng.com/regional/south-south-regional/168132-agip-oil-spill-is-killing-us-bayelsa-farmers-cry.html#sthash.9K1VSOED.dpbs>

USA, OK, OKMULGEE, SEPTEMBER 15 2014. OKMULGEE COUNTY CREWS SEEK SOURCE OF SPILL INTO DEEP FORK RIVER

 **Watch the Video:** [County Crews Seek Source of Spill Into Deep Fork River](#)



Okmulgee County Emergency Management hopes the public can help them track the source of a substance that spilled into the Deep Fork River. Round one tests results, conducted by the Department of Environmental Quality, are so far inconclusive as to what the substance is. Authorities believe it is some type of petroleum product containing diesel, according to OCEM Director Tim Craighton. The source is thought to be somewhere near Beggs or south of Beggs, flowing toward Okmulgee. They were putting kayaks into the water Saturday to try to track it down. A HAZMAT team also is using booms to stop the substance from



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spreading. The Oklahoma Corporation Commission says it doesn't believe the substance is crude oil. Craighton says someone noticed "something" in the Deep Fork River near Schulter on Thursday. DEQ tests now confirm that something is a petroleum product with diesel in it that's mucking up the river for about 10 miles between Okmulgee and Macintosh counties. A contractor is now putting booms in the river to help absorb the substance and stop it from seeping into Eufaula Lake. "It is a concern," Craighton said. "We do know right now that it has not reached Eufaula Lake. We will be stopping it before it gets to Eufaula Lake." The EPA is investigating where the spill originated. Craighton says residents of Okfuskee County reported seeing a black substance in their water on Sept. 1. If this is a related matter, it would mean it has traveled 80 miles in the water. If you've seen the substance in the river on an earlier date, you're asked to call Okmulgee County Emergency Management at 918-759-9984. The current spill is not believed to be any immediate danger to the public, authorities say.

<http://www.news9.com/story/26524923/okmulgee-county-crews-look-for-source-of-spill-into-deep-fork-river>

USA, LA, NEW ORLEANS, SEPTEMBER 15 2014. GAS PIPELINE ACCIDENT KILLS 1, INJURES 2 IN LA.

Two workers were taken to a hospital for what are expected to be minor injuries; the accident is under investigation. A contractor was killed and two others were injured Saturday during maintenance on a Chevron natural gas pipeline off the Louisiana coast, authorities said. The contractor, whose name was not immediately released, was among four maintenance workers on the platform when the accident occurred about 11:10 a.m. Saturday, said Gareth Johnstone, a spokesman for Chevron Pipe Line Co. He said the two other workers were taken to a hospital for what are expected to be minor injuries. A helicopter brought two people from offshore to meet an ambulance, but both declined to take the ambulance to a hospital after being checked by medics, said Randall Ansley, shift supervisor for Acadian Ambulance. Johnstone said he did not know what caused the death and injuries. The platform is part of a natural gas gathering system and the pipeline was shut-in after the accident, Johnstone said. He said the cause of the accident was being investigated. Johnstone said a small amount of natural gas condensate was released into the water, but dissipated. Natural gas is being released at the platform to relieve pressure on the line owned by Chevron Midstream Pipeline LLC. Johnstone said containment crews were headed to the platform. He said he did not know whether the initial release of gas was under water or at the pipeline level. Col. Mike Edmonson, superintendent of Louisiana State Police, said Chevron reported the accident to the state about 2 p.m. Saturday.

<http://www.ems1.com/safety/articles/1990569-Gas-pipeline-accident-kills-1-injures-2-in-La/>

USA, WASHINGTON DC, SEPTEMBER 15 2014. STATEMENT OF CSB CHAIRPERSON RAFAEL MOURE-ERASO WARNING AGAINST USE OF METHANOL DURING LABORATORY AND CLASSROOM COMBUSTION DEMONSTRATIONS, IN THE WAKE OF RENO, NEVADA, MUSEUM FIRE



Statement of CSB Chairperson Rafael Moure-Eraso Warning Against Use of Methanol During Laboratory and Classroom Combustion Demonstrations, in the Wake of Reno, Nevada, Museum Fire



View of "fire tornado" demonstration.

Last week a team of CSB investigators deployed to the Terry Lee Wells Discovery Museum (The Discovery) in Reno, Nevada, where a flash fire on September 3 injured children and adults viewing a science demonstration. Nine people – eight of them children – were transported to the hospital for evaluation of burn injuries, and one child with more serious burns was admitted to the hospital for treatment. CSB investigators spent two days interviewing witnesses and museum personnel, examining the site, and reviewing relevant documents and safety procedures. The Discovery's leadership and personnel cooperated fully with the investigation and expressed their desire for positive changes to prevent similar incidents in the future. Our investigative team determined that the incident occurred during a "fire tornado" demonstration where salts of different elements were combusted in a dish in the presence of alcohol-soaked cotton balls, while spinning on a lazy Susan-type rotating tray. This produces a tornado-like colored flame that rises in the air. The incident happened during a version where boric acid was to be burned in the presence of a methanol-soaked cotton ball. When the cotton failed to ignite it was realized that it had not been adequately wetted with methanol. More methanol was added to the cotton from a four-liter (one

gallon) plastic bottle. Unknown to personnel, the cotton ball was likely continuing to smolder, and it ignited the freshly added methanol and flashed back to the bottle. Burning methanol then sprayed from the bottle toward the nearby audience of adults and children visiting the museum. This unfortunate incident is similar to a number of others that have occurred around the



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country during lab or classroom demonstrations where methanol has been used as a fuel for combustion. In 2006, high school student Calais Weber was severely burned, and others were injured, at an Ohio high school during a similar demonstration of a chemical "rainbow" that involved combustions salts with methanol. Calais' burns were so serious she had to be placed in a medically induced coma and required multiple skin grafts. Calais' ongoing ordeal was described in a poignant video we released in December 2013, called "[After the Rainbow](#)." In 2012, more students and a teacher were burned, and some were hospitalized, in a methanol-based experiment at a middle school in Liverpool, New York. Then in 2014, a high school student was severely burned by a methanol fire during another rainbow experiment gone awry. And there are many other examples. Methanol is an essential chemical and an emerging energy resource with a multitude of important industrial and environmental uses. But in the cautionary words of Greg Dolan, CEO of the Methanol Institute, which represents the manufacturing community, "Like gasoline, methanol is a toxic and flammable chemical and should only be handled in appropriate settings, and that would certainly not include museums and classrooms." Methanol readily emits heavier-than-air flammable vapors and the liquid has a low flash point, meaning it can ignite at room temperature in the presence of an ignition source. This creates an unacceptable risk of flash fire whenever any appreciable quantities of methanol are handled in the open lab or classroom in the presence of pervasive ignition sources, such as open flames, heat sources, or sparks. There is also a significant risk of flashback to any nearby methanol bulk container, as was the case in this last incident in Reno, Nevada. Similar concerns have been raised by the Committee on Chemical Safety of the American Chemical Society, which this year called on schools and teachers to immediately end all "rainbow" demonstrations involving methanol or other flammable solvents on open benches. In the words of ACS safety experts, "The 'Rainbow' demonstration performed on an open bench using a flammable solvent is a high risk operation." There are well-known safer alternatives to the rainbow demonstration where no methanol is used, only wooden sticks soaked in chemical salts dissolved in water. The recent incidents of methanol fires in schools are just one example of what can happen when lab demonstrations are adopted and used – with the best of educational intentions – but without a thorough review of the hazards and the development of robust safety procedures. Today I am calling on all schools, museums, and science educators to discontinue any use of bulk methanol – or other similar flammables – in lab demonstrations that involve combustion, open flames, or ignition sources. There are safer alternative ways to demonstrate the same scientific phenomena, and many teachers are already using them. Any use of methanol or other flammables should be either avoided completely or restricted to minimal amounts, which have been safely dispensed at remote locations. Bulk containers of flammable liquids must never be positioned or handled near viewing audiences, especially when there are potential ignition sources present. As scientists and engineers, we share in the enjoyment of both teachers and students in creating and watching chemical demonstrations. However, safety must be the absolute priority in all such endeavors. We have seen too many kids and adults suffer tragic injuries to do otherwise.

<http://www.csb.gov/statement-of-csb-chairperson-rafael-moure-eraso-warning-against-use-of-methanol-during-laboratory-and-classroom-combustion-demonstrations-in-the-wake-of-reno-nevada-museum-fire/>

USA, AZ, FLAGSTAFF, SEPTEMBER 16 2014. FOUR BURNED IN EXPLOSION AT ARIZONA PET FOOD FACTORY

 **Watch the Video:** [Flagstaff Plant Explosion Injures 4, Authorities Say](#)

Key Points:

- one worker is in a critical condition, two other workers were released from the hospital, the condition of the fourth is unknown.
- The four men were welding on the fifth floor of the seven-story grain elevator when their torches sparked grain dust and set off the explosion.

Four contractors were burned on Sunday in an explosion at an Arizona pet food factory, a fire department official said. The workers were welding in a grain elevator at the Nestle Purina plant in Flagstaff at around 4:30 p.m. when grain dust caught fire and sparked an explosion, said Flagstaff Fire Department Captain Bill Morse. One worker was airlifted with life-threatening burns to a local burn center and another was transported with serious burns by ambulance to the same facility, Morse said. One of the other workers was transported to a nearby hospital with moderate burns, while the last contractor was treated at the same hospital and released, Morse said. "As soon as they lit that welding torch, that was just enough to light up some of that dust," he said. No one else was injured in the explosion and there was no fire, although the blast was strong enough to blow open a [steel](#) door at the bottom of the elevator, Morse said. The grain handling industry is considered "high hazard," due partly to the risk of fires and explosions from the accumulation of combustible grain dust, according to the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration website. Flagstaff is about 150 miles (240 km) north of Phoenix.

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2014/09/15/usa-blast-arizona-idUSL1N0RG0A420140915>



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USA, TX, TYLER CO, SEPTEMBER 16 2-14. CREWS MAKING PROGRESS ON TYLER CO. OIL SPILL

maleeha kamal

 **Watch the Video:** [Tyler Co. Authorities Trying to Contain Oil Spill](#)



Clean-up crews in Tyler County are using a variety of methods in three different areas along a creek to clean up a mixture of oil, gas, water, and mud that resulted from a spill at an oil well that occurred on Sept. 1. "Friday, the conditions were much better," said Dale Freeman, Tyler County's emergency management coordinator. "I will continue monitoring this operation until complete. The company is acting very responsibly in their efforts to clean up this accidental spill." Freeman said the crews are working in three different areas to clean up the spill. He said the first area includes where the spill began and goes about a half mile or so to an earthen dam. The second area goes from the earthen dam to the bridge at County Road 3725, and the third is the area downstream of the bridge. "There is an underflow of water, so the material in the water collects on the surface where it can be picked up," Freeman said. "The water coming out is considerably cleaner than immediately upstream of the dam." Freeman said the

crews are also washing and flushing the creek banks and streambed down to the dam. The crews are using similar methods for the second area, Freeman said. Freeman said the crews are approaching the clean-up of the third area differently because most of the solid material has been cleaned up in the first two sections. "They have some hand equipment for picking up the solids floating on the water," Freeman said. "They have absorption booms and pads working there to pick up any traces of oil that might be present." In addition, the crews are using gasoline-powered generators through bubbling sticks in the water to help separate the petroleum sheen from the water and facilitating its dissipation into the air. On Friday, crews capped the oil well that blew out. The affected rig, which is owned by BBX, is located north of Dam B. In a previous story, Freeman said the gas in the mixture is highly flammable, and as a result, authorities set up a no-fly zone with a radius of five miles and a ceiling of 30,000 feet. In a previous East Texas News story, Texas Department of Parks & Wildlife Game Warden Jim Yetter said officials will keep an eye on the situation because the oil, hydrocarbons, and heavy metals in the water could potentially damage the drinking water in the area. He said, so far, the environmental damage seems minimal.

Related Stories

- [State officials assessing the damage, working to keep oil spill contained](#)
- [Tyler Co. authorities trying to contain oil spill](#)

<http://www.ktre.com/story/26535483/crews-making-progress-on-tyler-co-oil-spill>

USA, OH, DUNKIRK, SEPTEMBER 16 2014. CRASH LEADS TO EXPLOSION AT HARDIN COUNTY GAS STATION

 **Watch the Video:** [5 Injured in Dunkirk Explosion](#)



The Hardin County Sheriff's Office says a crash forced vehicles into a gas station which started a fire on Monday afternoon. According to the Hardin County Sheriff's Office, the crash occurred near state Routes 68 and 81. An SUV and motor home towing a vehicle collided and crashed into a nearby gas station, sparking an explosion. Photos on Twitter showed an SUV on fire at the location. A witness told 10TV via phone that there were multiple evacuations in the area. The Hardin County Sheriff's Office says at least six minor injuries were reported. Watch 10TV and refresh 10TV.com for the latest news.

<http://www.10tv.com/content/stories/2014/09/15/dunkirk-ohio-crash-leads-to-explosion-at-hardin-county-gas-station.html>

USA, MI, COLUMBIA TWP, SEPTEMBER 16 2014. 3 INJURED IN SEMI-TANKER CRASH

Three people were rushed to allegiance health Saturday night following an accident where a semi tanker tried to avoid a vehicle. According to columbia township police shortly after 8 pm two females driving in a 2009 dodge heading north on brooklyn rd. Drove into the path of the tanker. The semi tried to avoid the car but they collided and the tanker rolled over. The tanker's load of chloride remained intact. The two females, who were not identified, were seriously injured. The truck driver



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was not seriously injured. The michigan state police assisted columbia with the investigation. Investigators are looking at the possibility alcohol played a factor in the accident.

[Http://www.wkwm.com/3-injured-in-semi-tanker-crash/19907925](http://www.wkwm.com/3-injured-in-semi-tanker-crash/19907925)

USA, TX, FORT WORTH, SEPTEMBER 16 2014. NEW STUDY LINKS WATER CONTAMINATION IN PARKER COUNTY TO GAS DRILLING

max b. baker



Parker County homeowner Steve Lipsky demonstrates methane contamination in his well water by lighting it on fire. A new academic study links the contamination to faulty cement or production casing on gas wells.

Faulty drilling practices, not hydraulic fracturing of natural gas wells deep beneath the surface, is the primary cause of water contamination in the Barnett Shale, a new academic study has found. Scientists from Duke, Stanford and three other universities studied more than 130 water wells in North Texas and the Marcellus Shale in Pennsylvania and their findings suggest the methane gas found in water stems from faulty well casings and cement construction designed to protect groundwater during the drilling process. It also states that the gas found in groundwater could be coming from other underground zones where fracking did not take place. Published in the Proceedings of the the National Academy of Sciences, a peer-reviewed journal, and released Monday, the study

is in direct contrast to some earlier examinations which found no evidence of contamination of drinking water from gas drilling in Texas or elsewhere. Rob Jackson, one of the researchers, said he hopes that their findings will encourage the Texas Railroad Commission, which regulates the oil and gas industry, to re-examine wells in the Silverado subdivision in Parker County where higher-than-expected levels of methane gas have been found. "We know for certain that some people's water has been contaminated with methane from oil and gas activities and that it is possible that it will grow," said Jackson, a professor of environmental and earth sciences at Stanford and Duke universities. "We saw homes go from clean to contaminated during the study and that is unique. "I think it is reasonable to ask [the state] to retest some of these homes and to re-examine the production wells," Jackson added. "I think people in Parker County need to know. They need to have it confirmed and, if it affected their drinking water, then they need a new source of water." Ramona Nye, a railroad commission spokeswoman, didn't have any comment, saying that the agency's staff is "reviewing the study, which will take a period of time to complete." But the oil and gas industry criticized the study, quoting a report released in May by the railroad commission that said while the amount of methane in Parker County water wells was increasing, it couldn't be linked to nearby gas drilling activity. The agency's evaluation also indicated that the gas wells in the area were built in an effective manner that should not lead to any contamination. "The gas wells were constructed right and had no integrity problems," said Steve Everley, a spokesman for Energy In Depth, an industry education group. "The state has inspected them ... you have to give more weight to the people who have actually inspected the wells."

Well Integrity Crucial

In hydraulic fracturing, oil and gas producers pump millions of gallons of water underground to break up the shale rock and release the gas that is trapped there. The pipes that are used during the process are surrounded by concrete to protect the chemicals used, and the gas, from leaking out. The horizontal drilling process was perfected in the Barnett Shale, an oil-and-natural gas bearing formation that lies beneath more than 5,000 square miles of North Texas. Since activity escalated in the early 2000s, more than 24,000 drilling permits have been issued, a recent study stated. While fracking is credited with boosting the economy in North Texas and the rest of the country, critics worry about potential dangers. In Denton, for example, voters will go to the polls in November to decide if they want to ban the process within the city limits. The newly released study won't do much to calm anyone's fears. Besides Duke and Stanford, scientists from Ohio State, Dartmouth and the University of Rochester also contributed to the report. They studied samples from seven clusters of wells in western Pennsylvania and one cluster in Texas, some that had already been contaminated. Sampling was done in 2012 and 2013. Jackson and four other researchers analyzed the quantity and isotopes of noble gases such as helium and neon in the groundwater to try to determine if the fugitive gases are naturally occurring or caused by gas production. It's the first time this kind of analysis has been done. In four of the clusters, the team's noble gas analysis shows methane from drill sites escaped into the water from shallower depths through faulty rings of cement covering a gas well's shaft. In one cluster, it was linked to an underground well



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failure, the study said. The study didn't find that the injection of chemicals into the ground to free gas caused contamination. "Our data do not suggest that horizontal drilling or hydraulic fracturing has provided a conduit to connect deep Marcellus or Barnett formations directly to surface aquifers," the study's conclusion states. "Well integrity has been recognized for decades as an important factor in environmental stewardship for conventional oil and gas production." "Future work should evaluate whether the large volumes of water and high pressures required for horizontal drilling and hydraulic fracturing influence well integrity. In our opinion, optimizing well integrity is critical," the study states.

Flaming Spigot

Steve Lipsky, the Parker County resident whose flaming water sparked an emergency order by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in late 2010, said he was not surprised by the recent report. The contamination in his water was blamed on a well drilled by Fort Worth-based Range Resources. "It is spreading and it's getting worse," Lipsky said. "Everyone knows you have to cement through a gas-bearing zone ... Everyone's gas is going up and it's spreading and it's not spreading by Mother Nature because it is spreading too high and too far." The railroad commission investigated and conducted tests of Lipsky's well and at a 2011 hearing cleared Range. In 2012, the EPA withdrew its emergency order, although the company agreed to test 20 nearby water wells every three months for a year. Last year, the EPA's inspector general determined that the agency had cause to act and should continue to assess contamination risks. Range Resources has repeatedly denied any allegation that it contaminated Lipsky's water and the company is suing Lipsky for defamation. A spokesman said they had not reviewed the latest report. "Exhaustive studies have clearly demonstrated that no aspects of Range's activities caused or contributed to the long-standing and well documented fact that gas is naturally occurring in the Trinity aquifer," said Matt Pitzarella, a spokesman for Range Resources.

<http://www.star-telegram.com/2014/09/15/6121333/new-study-links-water-contamination.html>

INDIA, MAHARASHTRA, MUMBAI, SEPTEMBER 16 2014. OIL SLICK SPOTTED ON WESTERN COASTLINE, MPCB CLUELESS

yogesh naik



Oil deposits seen along the shore of Juhu beach on Sunday

Yet another oil slick has struck the state's coastline, stretching from Revdanada in Raigad district to Satpati in Palghar. Officials said the entire western coast lining Mumbai and Thane has been affected. Jabeen Parwani, of BMC's Juhu Beach cleanliness monitoring committee, said, "We have asked a contractor to remove the slick, but he professed helplessness. Many morning walkers have complained to us about their clothes and feet being stained by the oil washed ashore. We

have taken pictures of the slick and will send them to the authorities concerned on Monday." A senior Coast Guard officer said, "There could be two reasons for the slick. Since we impose a heavy penalty ranging between USD 2,000 and USD 5,000 on ships carrying waste oil, many such ships dump their load in deep sea, which then washes ashore, polluting the coastline." Another reason, he added, could be a leakage in an oil refinery pipeline.

<http://www.mumbaimirror.com/mumbai/civic/Oil-slick-spotted-on-western-coastline-MPCB-clueless/articleshow/42486858.cms>

AUSTRALIA, NEW SOUTH WALES, SYDNEY, SEPTEMBER 16 2014. ROLLOVER CONTROL MANDATED ON DANGEROUS GOODS TANKERS IN NSW >> COMPANIES GIVEN UNTIL JANUARY 2019 TO FIT ANTI-ROLL SYSTEMS ON ALL TRAILERS, NOT JUST NEW ONES.

The New South Wales Government has announced that all dangerous good trailers travelling on roads in the state must be fitted with rollover control by the start of 2019. The Environment Protection Authority (EPA) has made the determination under dangerous goods regulations in response to a number of fatal fuel tanker collisions in NSW. It says the most notable of these was the 2009 crash near Batemans Bay on the NSW south coast and the 2013 incident at Mona Vale in Sydney. Both crashes involved Cootes tankers. The EPA's director of hazardous incidents and environmental health, Craig Lamberton, says the determination means that all existing dangerous goods tank trailers must be fitted with rollover control by January 1, 2019, if their owners want to keep operating them. This is in addition to an earlier determination requiring that all new dangerous goods tank trailers manufactured on or after July this year need to be fitted with rollover control. Rollover control can also be known as 'Roll stability system' or 'Roll stability function'. "Rollover control reduces the risk of vehicle rollover and is consistent with good industry practice both here and internationally," Lamberton says. "The decision to require retrofitting of rollover control to tanker trailers by January 1, 2019 is an Australian first and fully supported by the National Bulk Tanker Association



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and the Australian Road Transport Suppliers Association. "Other states had agreed in principle to this initiative in late 2013 but they couldn't agree on the final draft determination, so the NSW EPA has taken the initiative to make the determination on its own. "The EPA has been in extensive consultation with the transport industry and the national dangerous goods Competent Authorities Panel on these changes – given that the trailers in question travel across borders and may be licensed in another state. "The five-year period allows for existing dangerous goods tank trailer owners to appropriately schedule the changes to their fleet."

<http://www.fullyloaded.com.au/news/industry/1409/rollover-control-mandated-on-dangerous-goods-tankers-in-nsw/>

AUSTRALIA, NORTHERN TERRITORY, DARWIN, SEPTEMBER 17 2014. NORTHERN TERRITORY MAN SUFFERS BURNS TO HIS UPPER BODY AFTER POURING PETROL ON A PILE OF RUBBISH



The Australian Ilmenite Resources 'wet plant' at its mine site on Numul Numul Station.

A man has suffered serious burns to his face, hands and arms after pouring petrol onto a pile of rubbish at a mine site in the Roper River region of the Northern Territory. The 32-year-old Chinese national was overseeing the Australian Ilmenite Resources mine, which was recently taken over by

receivers. The incident happened about 4:00pm on Thursday, about 400 kilometres south of Darwin. A Careflight spokesman said the man was treated at Katherine Hospital before being transferred to Royal Darwin Hospital. The union has called for a thorough investigation. "We've had concerns with this mine for a couple of years now," said Brian Wilkins, spokesman for the Australian Manufacturing Workers Union. "We would really be calling on the Department of Mining and Worksafe to do a full investigation into what's happening down there."

<https://au.news.yahoo.com/a/24905835/northern-territory-man-suffers-burns-to-his-upper-body-after-pouring-petrol-on-a-pile-of-rubbish/>

SOUTH AFRICA, JOHANNESBURG, SEPTEMBER 17 2014. PETROL TRUCK HIJACKED IN JOBURG, FOUND EMPTY IN SOWETO

A truck transporting 35,000 litres of petrol was hijacked in Johannesburg in the early hours of Tuesday morning -- and found empty in Protea Glen a few hours later, Soweto police said. Warrant Officer Kay Makhubela said the truck was hijacked around 2am. "The truck driver said he was hijacked by four men on his way from Alrode to Sebokeng. "They forced him to stop when he was on the freeway and they [the hijackers] dropped him off in Brakpan," said Makhubela. The truck was en route to Sebokeng, near Vanderbijlpark, to deliver the 35,000 litres of petrol. "The value of the petrol is estimated to be more than R400,000," said Makhubela. "The truck was recovered in Protea Glen empty." "We are appealing to anyone who might have seen what happened to the petrol to come forward with information," he added.

<http://www.timeslive.co.za/local/2014/09/16/petrol-truck-hijacked-in-joburg-found-empty-in-soweto>

USA, CA, LA, BOYLE HEIGHTS, SEPTEMBER 17 2014. WORKER BURNED IN 'FLASHOVER' EXPLOSION WHILE DELIVERING PROPANE TO BOYLE HEIGHTS BUSINESS

Map: [Boyle Heights, LA](#)



A worker delivering propane to an industrial customer in Boyle Heights Tuesday was critically burned in a "flashover" explosion. Paramedics responded to Ekco Metals in the 1700 block of South Perrino Place about 11:50 a.m. and found a man with burns over most of his body, Los Angeles Fire Department spokesman Brian Humphrey said. The man was taken to a hospital. The man was driving a "large single tank propane service truck," and was filling a large tank when the accident occurred, Humphrey said. The man, about 40, suffered second- and third-degree burns, Humphrey said. Humphrey said the circumstances of the accident are under investigation and Cal/OSHA has been notified.

 **Related Stories** [Explosion Leaves Propane Truck Driver in Critical Condition](#)

[in Boyle Heights](#)

<http://losangeles.cbslocal.com/2014/09/16/worker-burned-in-flashover-explosion-while-delivering-propane-to-boyle-heights-business/>



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USA, N.D, BISMARCK, SEPTEMBER 17 2014. NORTH DAKOTA ENERGY WORKERS CONTAIN OIL, WATER SPILL

The North Dakota Oil and Gas Division says workers have contained 500 barrels of water and three barrels of oil after a spill in the state's northwest corner. The division said 20 barrels of water and one barrel of oil hadn't been recovered Monday at the Oasis Petroleum site about 11 miles northeast of White Earth. The water is used in hydraulic fracturing, a method of extracting oil and gas. The spill is believed to be the result of a tank overflow. The division didn't report any environmental damage. It says a state inspector is traveling to the site and will monitor the rest of the cleanup.

http://bismarcktribune.com/bakken/north-dakota-energy-workers-contain-oil-water-spill/article_a2eed722-3da6-11e4-8ce6-1bcbdec0557e.html

THAILAND, BANGKOK, BANGNA, SEPTEMBER 17 2014. CHEVRON TO INVEST IN NEW STATIONS, OFFER MORE SECONDARY PRODUCTS

pichaya changsorn



Chevron plans to add close to 100 new service stations in Thailand within the next three to four years.

Chevron yesterday announced a significant retail investment plan that included opening new outlets, refurbishing petrol stations, and offering non-oil-related products at its Caltex stations. Salman Saadat, country chairman and general manager for products at Chevron (Thailand), said that besides opening new stations, it would work with the operators of existing Caltex stations to provide new products, including food and beverage outlets, convenience stores, lubrication bays and car workshops. Chevron currently has four "ancillary profit centre" (APC) partners, namely FamilyMart, Caffè D'Oro, Black Canyon and B-Quik. "We will work with our retailers to add new offerings, such as with our APC partners," he said. About 90 per

cent of Caltex stations are so-called ro-ro outlets - that is, retailer-owned and retailer-operated. After a consolidation that saw the closure of many unprofitable outlets over the past four or five years, oil companies have resumed their retail expansions. Shell, Thailand's fourth-largest fuel retailer, announced early this month that it would open 30 new sites in each of the next three years, after halting such expansion for nearly 10 years. Chevron, which has built close to 60 new retail outlets during the past three years, has committed to its plan announced late last year to add close to 100 stations within the next three to four years. "The challenge is to find the right sites," Saadat said. To make its retail outlets more competitive, Chevron aims to increase the number of Caltex stations that have APC or other secondary offerings by 20 this year, and another 20 in 2015. At present, 60 Caltex stations already have at least one APC outlet. "The Thai market is highly competitive. A silver lining is that consumption is growing, in the automotive, logistics and commercial sectors. "But consumers are more demanding. They are looking for additional products and services," he said. Chevron plans to introduce a loyalty programme by the end of this year and is also looking to launch an online campaign to enhance consumers' experiences. Saadat said Chevron was committed to refurbishing "20-plus" retail outlets every year, after converting one-third of its network to the new look since kicking off the programme three years ago. The refurbishment varies from just a signage change to putting in new fuel tanks that require substantial investments. Chevron has become the last of the major oil companies to enter the premium diesel segment, introducing Caltex Power Diesel with Techron D at the end of July. It plans to double the number of its retail stations that offer Power Diesel, aiming to tap the niche segment of luxury diesel vehicle owners, to 50 by year-end. At present, Caltex, Shell and Bangchak price their premium diesel products Bt3.43 a litre higher than for normal diesel, while [PTT](#) and Esso set the price gap at Bt3 a litre. Saadat said Chevron's financial performance during the first half of this year was in line with its targets, despite the difficult economic situation. Chevron opened 22 new retail stations last year, compared with Shell's 12 new openings. He said Chevron was waiting to hear the government's energy policy and it hoped there would be a "more balanced approach" in terms of pricing, tax, and the Oil Fund's structure, as well as less subsidisation of diesel fuel. "We're one of the markets that have very a low [fuel sales] margin," he said, adding that Singapore and Malaysia were offering fairly high sales margins for fuel retailers. At the press conference yesterday, Chevron said it currently had "close to 400" service stations in Thailand. According to the official figures from the Ministry of Energy's Energy Business Department, as of March 31, there were a total of 23,081 fuel retail stations in Thailand. [PTT](#) Group led the pack with 1,621 stations, followed by Bangchak with 1,065 outlets, PTG (772), Shell (517), Esso (516), Caltex (364), and Siam Gas (428). Within Bangkok and surrounding



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provinces, the official figures showed Caltex had 91 retail outlets, the fewest among the top five brands. PTT group had 290 stations, Esso 182, Bangchak 170 and Shell 156.

<http://www.nationmultimedia.com/business/Chevron-to-invest-in-new-stations-offer-more-secon-30243425.html>

USA, WA, SPOKANE VALLEY, SEPTEMBER 17 2014. BIG R HELPS HAZMAT STOP I-90 CHEMICAL LEAK

 **Watch the Video:** [Big R Helps Hazmat Stop I-90 Chemical Leak](#)

jenica villamor



Fire crews said they managed to stop Sunday's chemical leak along I-90 by using routine tools they purchased from a Big R store. "They came running in," said Cody Tylock, Assistant Manager at Big R. Tylock said he helped firefighters find hundreds of dollars worth of supplies that were required to fix the leak, including hoses, hose clamps, and rescue tape. According to Tylock, firefighters only spent ten minutes inside the store. He said firefighters could barely carry all the supplies they had purchased. Fire crews stated they needed the extra supplies because they could not locate the exact area of the leak. "You could smell it, you couldn't see it," said Jeff Bordwell, Spokane Valley Fire. "You could feel it burning your nose and your lips." Though hazmat crews carry equipment

to stop similar hazards, rescue members said the truck used in Sunday's spill was different. Workers said it required specialized parts that responders did not have. They added it was the reason why they had to visit Tylock's Big R store. Emergency workers said they attempted to fix the leak eight times. Eventually, they said they realized none of the parts worked. They claimed they were forced to come up with a solution on the fly.

background: [Chemical leak creates 19 hour I-90 closure](#)

<http://www.krem.com/news/local/Hazmat-crews-ran-out-of-vital-parts-during-I-90-chemical-spill-275224831.html>

USA, PA, SHAWVILLE, SEPTEMBER 17 201. TANKER TRUCKS CRASH INTO RIVER

kimberly finnigan



A close call: Rescue and Haz-Mat Crews work along the banks of the West Branch of the Susquehanna River Monday afternoon. Two tanker trucks, driven by father Bob Wolfe and son Bryan Wolfe landed in the river when the brakes on Bryan's truck failed. Bryan's truck traveled down Goshen Road in Goshen Township and struck the rear of Bob's truck, forcing both vehicles through the guide rails and into the river. Both were able to escape the vehicles and swim to shore. Bryan received minor injuries to his arm.

A father and son had a close call following a traffic accident Monday afternoon. Rescue crews from the Goshen, LeContes Mills, Bigler/Jackson/Woodland, Lawrence Township, and Clearfield Borough fire departments were called shortly after noon for two tanker trucks in the river. The trucks, driven by Bob and Bryan Wolfe, were driving down Goshen Road. Bob Wolfe's truck was stopped at the intersection of Goshen Road and Route 879 in Shawville when

Bryan's truck apparently lost its brakes. Bryan's truck struck the rear of Bob's truck forcing both vehicles through the intersection, through the guide rails, over an embankment and in the river. Bryan's truck ended up on its side. Bryan Wolfe was able to get out of the vehicle through the windshield and Bob Wolfe was able to escape through the door. Both were able to swim to shore. Bryan received minor injuries to his arm.

http://www.thecourierexpress.com/news/local/article_02b06d54-3d9f-11e4-acd3-3b8cc7dc9e4c.html

USA, TX, HOUSTON, SEPTEMBER 17 2014. TEXAS SUPREME COURT RAISES THE EVIDENTIARY BAR FOR DAMAGES IN ENVIRONMENTAL CONTAMINATION CASES

In a recent decision involving damages for environmental contamination, the Texas Supreme Court reversed a jury award because the plaintiff failed to meet the high standard for establishing loss of market value, and the even higher standard for "stigma" damages associated with environmental contamination of real property in the absence of a sale of the underlying property. The decision in *Houston Unlimited, Inc. Metal Processing v. Mel Acres Ranch*¹ highlights the impropriety of



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permitting stigma damages when a plaintiff fails to ground expert testimony regarding damages on established and clear principles. This case involved chemical contamination on a cattle ranch caused by Houston Unlimited, a neighboring metal processing facility. The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality ("TCEQ") confirmed the contamination, and the ranch owner then filed suit seeking damages for loss of market value. At trial, the ranch owner's expert testified that because of the stigma resulting from the TCEQ action, the value of the plaintiff's property had declined—although the ranch had not undergone a sale. The jury found Houston Unlimited liable and awarded the ranch owner approximately \$350,000 in damages. Despite a dissent criticizing the damages testimony of the ranch owner's expert, the Texas Court of Appeals affirmed.² On cert to the Texas Supreme Court, the parties debated whether stigma damages are available in environmental-contamination cases. The court ultimately failed to reach that issue, but it highlighted the daunting standard of proof required for such recovery by stating that while it may be "legally possible to recover stigma damages, it is often legally impossible to prove them." In focusing on the legal sufficiency of the ranch owner's evidence of damages, the Texas Supreme Court found the evidence in the record inadequate to prove that the contamination diminished the fair market value of the property. While the court did not categorically reject the expert's "percentage-reduction-in-value" approach, it found that the "manner in which" the expert "used the approach here is fatally flawed." The court identified three specific flaws: (i) unreliable data, (ii) unsupported assumptions and (iii) analytical gaps.

Unreliable Data

The court found that "the facts on which [the expert] relied" for her calculations "do not actually support her" opinions. For example, regarding one of the "comparable properties," the expert used the listing price, rather than the market price, as the "high value" and an offer price as the "low value," both of which occurred after the contamination. The court found that the data were "not temporally connected to the contamination" and held that "[w]hen the facts support several possible conclusions, only some of which support the expert's conclusions, the expert must explain to the fact finder why those conclusions are superior based on verifiable evidence, not simply the expert's opinion."

Unsupported Assumptions

While noting that when competing "evidence conflicts, it is the province of the jury to determine which evidence to credit," the court asserted that "if the record contains no evidence supporting an expert's material factual assumptions, or if such assumptions are contrary to conclusively proven facts, opinion testimony founded on those assumptions is not competent evidence." In this case, the ranch owner's expert based her opinion on the assumption that the "diminutions she found for [the comparable properties] were 100 percent attributable to contamination that occurred." Accepting *arguendo* that diminution occurred, the court noted that the expert "did not attempt to establish that the contamination caused some or all of the diminution in market value that she found, nor did she attempt to rule out other plausible causes." The court held that "[t]his kind of material assumption, entirely lacking evidentiary support, renders expert testimony unreliable and incompetent to support a judgment" and further emphasized that the plaintiff had neither offered evidence showing that all of the diminution in value was attributable to stigma nor attempted to apportion the diminution among possible causes.

Analytical Gaps

Finally, the court noted that a verdict may not rest on expert testimony "if there is simply too great an analytical gap between" the relied upon "data and the opinion proffered." In this case, the expert failed to account for differences between the property at issue and the comparable properties. For example, the expert did not address how the types of contamination on the various properties were similar or different. In rejecting the expert's testimony because of such gaps, the court explained that the foundation of the approach used is that "the appraised property is compared to comparable properties, which justifies an assumption of comparable values, and then adjusted for differences between the properties."

Lessons

The Texas Supreme Court concluded that the damages expert's "reliance on insufficient data and unsupported assumptions and the analytical gaps in her analysis render her opinion conclusory and without evidentiary value." Because there was no other legally sufficient damages evidence, the court reversed the order awarding damages and the plaintiff recovered nothing. Counsel defending against claims for stigma damages can use Houston Unlimited to illustrate the uncertainty of whether such damages are available in Texas and, even assuming that they are, to illustrate the high evidentiary standard that must be met to recover such damages. Even outside of stigma damages, this case provides useful precedent to defend against more traditional claims for loss of market value. Note that the Texas Supreme Court did not take issue with the fact that the defendant did not object to the plaintiff's expert testimony at trial. In examining the probative value of the expert's testimony, the court explained that "the evidentiary value of expert testimony is derived from its basis, not from the mere fact that the



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expert said it." Nonetheless, prudence dictates objecting to and highlighting flaws at an available opportunity to create a supportive record for review.

<http://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=7462e3ee-0a08-4638-bd45-066e94dfa0b3>

CHINA, BEIJING, SEPTEMBER 17 2014. SINOPEC SELLS \$17.4BN RETAIL UNIT TAKE

Watch the Video: [Sinopec Sells \\$17.5B Stake in Gas Stations](#)



Chinese oil champion [Sinopec](#) is selling a \$17.4bn stake in its retail unit to a large group of mostly domestic investors as the country tries to reform its sprawling state-owned enterprises. The 29.99 per cent stake sale – to investors including tech group [Tencent](#), private conglomerate [Fosun](#) and [China Life Insurance](#) – was considered a precedent-setting deal in China's efforts to [realise value in its SOEs](#), while also improving their performance. But the deal, announced on Sunday, is far from the opening of the oil sector to outside forces that reformers had sought. Sinopec has ceded no control of its lucrative business while raising funds from a sprawling club of state-owned enterprises, leading private groups, pension funds and other Chinese investors. The list of investors

also includes Haier, a Chinese white goods maker; Hopu, a Chinese private equity group; [Bank of China](#) and [ICBC](#), the giant state-owned banks; [CICC](#), a domestic investment bank; and [Cinda](#) Asset Management, the state-controlled "bad bank" asset manager. RRJ, a fund owned by Malaysian dealmaker Richard Ong, stands out as the only non-Chinese direct investor.

About two years ago China said outside capital would be allowed to invest in strategic state sectors – an announcement welcomed by some as opening the door to more private investment in closely held industries. Sinopec has billed this sale as a prime example of that reform. In August it said it was in discussions with 37 bidders for the stake in its retail business, which operates 30,000 petrol stations and holds 60 per cent of the domestic market for oil products. It also owns 23,000 convenience stores under the Easy Joy brand. Stake sizes taken on Sunday range from 2.8 per cent of the total group to a 0.1 per cent holding. The price values the entire unit's equity at about \$59bn. Last year the business produced Rmb25.1bn (\$4.1bn) in profit from operating income of Rmb1.5tn. In June Fu Chengyu, Sinopec chairman, said successful bidders would be determined by a combination of factors, including offer price, domicile, complementary strengths, standing and reputation, and level of conflicts of interest with Sinopec. The company is one of China's three dominant state-owned oil companies. Reformers have argued that their stranglehold on the oil sector raises costs for consumers, crowds out potentially more competitive firms, and allows them to hijack domestic and international policy to support their interests. But Chinese policy makers view SOEs as a useful policy tool, and are reluctant to fully open strategic sectors such as oil to competition. Sinopec was advised by [Bank of America Merrill Lynch CICC](#), [Citic Securities](#) and [Deutsche Bank](#). Separately, Sinopec said it would reverse its oil services unit – one of its more active subsidiaries – into a Hong Kong-listed polyester maker.

<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/2829d7fc-3bfe-11e4-a6ce-00144feabdc0.html#axzz3DXNUutIT>

INDONESIA, JAKARTA, SEPTEMBER 17 2014. PGN PLANS TO BUILD 60 GAS STATIONS IN JAKARTA



State-run gas distributor PT Perusahaan Gas Negara (PGN) plans to team up with the Association of Fuel Station Owners (Hiswana Migas) to establish 60 gas stations in the capital city to accelerate the conversion from fossil fuels to gas. PGN spokesman Irwan Andri Atmanto said the 60 gas stations would be built at existing fuel stations to help reduce costs. "The gas stations will be built in existing fuel stations, which are close to our gas-pipe facilities," Irwan said Monday as quoted by tribunnews.com. The project is estimated to cost around Rp 1.2 trillion (US\$100.89 million) in investment. He said he hoped the Downstream Oil and Gas Regulatory Agency (BPH Migas) would facilitate the projects. PGN and Hiswana Migas are currently discussing the details of the business program. "If the plan runs smoothly, we will be able to install pipes, modify the fuel stations and establish the gas stations in three months," he said, adding that the time line excluded the procurement of new equipment and

operating permits to run the gas stations.

<http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2014/09/15/pgn-plans-build-60-gas-stations-jakarta.html>



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AUSTRALIA, NEW SOUTH WALES, SYDNEY, SEPTEMBER 17 2014. AUSTRALIAN STANDARD AS 2809 ROAD TANK VEHICLES FOR DANGEROUS GOODS:

Is currently being updated (as requested by the Competent Authorities Panel). In particular to include requirements for Anti-Rollover devices for Road Tank Vehicles.

www.infrastructure.gov.au/transport/australia/dangerous/competent_authorities.aspx

USA, MISS, FOREST CO, SEPTEMBER 17 2014. OVERTURNED ETHANOL TANKER CLOSES INTERSTATE

lauren fluker



Accident Closes Highway

Today on Interstate 59 an 18-wheeler carrying a highly flammable liquid overturned, causing major back ups and detours. The accident happened at 10 o'clock this morning on exit 67, near Evelyn Gandy Parkway exit ramp in Forrest County. "This truck over here was eastbound on highway 42 and it attempted to go south onto I-59 and it overturned," said Benjamin Seibert, Mississippi Highway Patrol. "It was filled with about 8100 gallons of ethanol, which is flammable and hazardous material about half of it has leaked out." Authorities say the tanker overturned this morning, shutting down I-59 southbound at exit 67. The northbound lanes of I-59 were passable as crews attempted to upright the tanker and clean up the hazardous chemical. Traffic was re-routed to Mississippi Highway 11 for several hours. The driver received treatment for minor injuries at Forrest General Hospital. The Mississippi Highway Patrol is continuing the

investigation on what caused this accident.

<http://www.whlt.com/story/26537897/overtuned-tanker-closes-interstate>

AUSTRALIA, WESTERN AUSTRALIA, PERTH, SEPTEMBER 17 2014. DANGEROUS GOODS SAFETY MATTERS >> SELF-AUDIT GUIDE FOR PRIME CONTRACTORS

 **Document Download [12 pages, 1319Kb]** [Self-Audit Guide for Prime Contractors](#)

Introduction

Prime contractors have multiple responsibilities to ensure that dangerous goods are transported safely. This self-audit tool is a good starting point to evaluate your transport system.

Why Is Self-Auditing Important?

Ensuring occupational safety within your consignment and transport operations for dangerous goods is a primary responsibility of prime contractors. Self-auditing is a "health check" for your business that should enable you to identify gaps and take effective corrective actions.

Using This Self-Audit Tool

The sections of this self-audit align with Department of Mines and Petroleum's Six Pillars of Dangerous Goods Transport strategy. They address a selection of regulations concerning prime contractors. Where deficiencies are identified by a prime contractor, it is recommended that they are rectified internally in your in your quality management system. You should familiarise yourself with the applicable regulations and codes.

Legislation

Dangerous Goods Safety Act 2004, Dangerous Goods Safety (Road and Rail Transport of Nonexplosives) Regulations 2007

Guidance

Available from the National Transport Commission [\[www.ntc.gov.au\]](http://www.ntc.gov.au)

- Australian Dangerous Goods Code (ADG 7.3)
- Load Restraint Guide (LRG)

Available from Standards Australia [User PAYS www.standards.org.au]

- HB 76 Dangerous goods initial emergency response guide
- Consider using a the Canutec Emergency Response Guidebook [This was the document our HB 76 was originally cloned from, for the ADG Code 6th Edition in 1998] which has a free downloadable version - <http://www.tc.gc.ca/eng/canutec/guide-menu-227.htm> [Ed]
- AS 1678 Emergency procedure guide – Transport



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Scope of Audit

This tool applies to the transport of packaged dangerous goods, not road tanker operations. Use the self-audit if transporting:

- packages less than 500 kg (or litres) capacity (e.g. 200 L drums, 25 L pails, 25 kg bags, cylinders, batteries)
- placardable units (e.g. IBCs, pressure drums, manifold cylinder packs, portable tanks).

Audit Sections

Instruction and training, Packaging, Segregation, Restraint, Safety equipment and vehicle safety, Placarding & Transport documentation

Verification Activities

Verification is important to ensure compliance with the Dangerous Goods Safety (Road and Rail Transport of Nonexplosives) Regulations 2007. Some things you can do as part of the verification process are:

Staff interview – drivers, trainers, loaders, schedulers, maintenance, Packaging suitability, Vehicle loading arrangement, Vehicle inspection (e.g. gates, twist locks, dunnage, straps), Maintenance practice, Placarding practice, Consignment system review – use, Australian Standards HB 76 and AS 1678, transport document – consignment notes, bill of lading, retained for three months

<http://www.dmp.wa.gov.au/index.aspx>

UK, LONDON, CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY, SEPTEMBER 17 2014. IMPROPER CARRIAGE OF LITHIUM BATTERIES

 **Watch the Video's:** <http://www.youtube.com/user/UKCAA>

The UK CAA has just released three videos on the hazard to flight safety from the improper carriage of lithium batteries, see attached CAA Information Notice. The videos provide guidance to:

Flight and cabin crew; Cargo and ramp personnel; and Passenger handling staff.

<http://www.caa.co.uk>

AUSTRALIA, NEW SOUTH WALES, SYDNEY, SEPTEMBER 17 2014. AS1940 STORAGE & HANDLING OF FLAMMABLE & COMBUSTIBLE LIQUIDS

The Standards Development Committee approved AS1940: The Storage and Handling of Flammable and Combustible Liquids Project Proposal PP 896 to commence after August 2014 by Committee: ME-017.

Proponent: Workplace Health and Safety Queensland, Queensland Department of Justice and Attorney-General.

Scope: To update AS1940 in line with the Globally Harmonised System for the Classification and Labelling of Hazardous Chemicals (GHS), incorporate the Buncefield Fire Report Recommendations and revise or clarify various sections of the Standard as part of a 10 yearly review.

National Sector Manager: Jennifer Harwood, Email: Jennifer.Harwood@standards.org.au From: June 2014 Approved Project Proposals - 8th Round.

[See: Approved Project Proposals at Standards Australia](#)

AUSTRALIA, NEW SWOUTH WALES, BOMADERRY, SEPTEMBER 17 2014. OOPS! CAR ROLLS OUT OF BOMADERRY SERVO



A driver came to grief at a Bomaderry service station on Thursday morning.

It has been a bad morning for one local driver, who came to grief at the Caltex service station on Bolong Road at Bomaderry. This photo was taken by Bomaderry resident Bert Waldmann, who came upon the scene on Thursday morning. The driver of the vehicle, a Bomaderry woman, was inside paying for fuel when she saw her car rolling away from the bowser. "I raced out, chased after it, to try to stop it, caught up with it but thought 'I'm going to go over with it if I grab hold,'" she said. The woman, who wanted to remain anonymous, said the mishap capped off a run of bad luck. "I had just been to funeral, lost my job ... and turned 60."

<http://www.illawarramercury.com.au/story/2504638/oops-car-rolls-out-of-bomaderry-servo/?cs=300>



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USA, N.J, ESSEX SO, NEWARK, SEPTEMBER 17 2014. OCCIDENTAL UNIT TO PAY \$190 MILLION IN N.J. RIVER CLEANUP

david voreacos

[Occidental Petroleum Corp. \(OXY\)](#)'s chemical unit agreed to pay \$190 million to cover its liability for the cleanup of the Passaic River in northern New Jersey, state officials said. Occidental Chemical is the legal successor to Diamond Shamrock Chemical Co., which was found to have intentionally dumped industrial waste in the river for decades, acting Attorney General John Hoffman said in a statement. If approved by a judge and the state Department of Environmental Protection, the Occidental payment would mean New Jersey has recovered \$355.4 million for the work, Hoffman said. Part of the settlement will cover costs associated with a \$1.7 billion plan by the [U.S. Environmental Protection Agency](#) to remove 4.3 million cubic yards of contaminated sediment from the lower 8 miles (13 kilometers) of the Passaic, Hoffman said. "The citizens of our state should not be forced to shoulder the cost of repairing damage to one of our most precious natural resources -- the Passaic River -- by industrial polluters," Hoffman said. "Our objective throughout the Passaic River litigation has been to hold accountable those legally responsible." The state eight years ago sued companies associated with the former Diamond Shamrock site on Lister Avenue in [Newark](#), the state's largest city. Diamond Shamrock from the 1940s through 1960s made pesticides and herbicides including the defoliant Agent Orange, Hoffman said.

Maxus Energy

OxyChem will seek reimbursement from Maxus Energy Corp., a subsidiary of YPF SA, according to an e-mail from an Occidental spokesman, Eric Moses. Maxus is financially responsible for claims against OxyChem in the litigation, according to Moses. YPF is Argentina's largest company. "All of the conduct alleged in the state's lawsuit occurred while Maxus companies owned, operated or controlled the Lister Avenue plant site," Moses said. OxyChem never owned the Lister Avenue site and bought the stock of Diamond Shamrock from Maxus in 1986, 17 years after the plant closed, Moses said. Before the sale, Maxus transferred ownership of the plant to its affiliate Tierra Solutions Inc., which still owns the site, he said. As part of the purchase agreement, Maxus retained liability for the plant and agreed to indemnify Houston-based OxyChem, Moses said. A state court judge last year approved two settlements over the Passaic River cleanup that totaled \$165.4 million, according to Hoffman. The case is New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection v. Occidental Chemical Corp., L9868-06, Superior Court of New Jersey, Essex County (Newark).

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2014-09-15/occidental-unit-to-pay-190-million-in-n-j-river-cleanup.html>

USA, CA, CARSON, SEPTEMBER 18 2014. CARSON HOMEOWNERS CONTINUE TO FIGHT SHELL OIL COMPANY ON SOIL CONTAMINATION

carlos granda

 **Watch the Video:** [Soil Contamination ... Homeowners Continue Fighting Shell Oil Company](#)



Carousel housing development residents continue to fight Shell Oil Company over the cleanup of dangerous chemicals underneath their homes.

Carson resident Jose Lopez has lived in the Carousel housing tract for 30 years and he is worried about what is underneath his home. Just a few feet below the surface sits oil contamination from old oil storage tanks that were owned by Shell Oil Company. "It's very frustrating, you know, everybody has cancer and stuff and they don't care about the people," Lopez said. Shell kept three storage tanks in the 50-acre area from the 1920s until the 1960s. After the tanks were shut down in the late 1960s, the 258-home Carousel tract was built. Since 2008, oil has seeped through the soil and concrete surrounding the homes. The Los

Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board found high levels of benzene and methane in the area and residents have been asked to minimize any contact with soil in their backyards. In 2010, the City of Carson filed a lawsuit against Shell, and the water control board ordered the company to clean up the mess. Recently, Carson city officials rejected Shell's latest cleanup offer and are asking the water board to reject it as well. Attorneys representing the city and neighborhood residents said dangerous contaminants continue to seep through. "Some of the tests of benzene are 100,000 times those permitted by the law," said Tom Girardi, attorney for the Carousel homeowners. "You would imagine that if you're really a good company your PR would be, 'hey there was a problem there [and] we did the right thing for those people.'" Mayor Jim Dean said the oil company's offer means clean up would be minimal. "They only want to do the minimum. They only want to remediate the soil that's currently open grass area. They don't want to remediate underneath any concrete or asphalt," he said. In a statement,



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Shell representatives said the Carousel developer is responsible for not properly cleaning up the site before building the homes. "The developer assumed the responsibility to dismantle the reservoirs and properly handle residual wastes to ensure that the site was safe for residential housing. However, the developers buried the concrete reservoir floors and side walls and developed the neighborhood," the statement said. Lopez believes Shell will continue to offer minimal cleanup plans until residents decide to leave the neighborhood. "I think that's probably what they're planning, [for] everybody to get tired and leave and don't worry about paying them anything," he said. "We can't [move out], who am I going to sell [the house] to?" The attorneys involved in the case do not believe the issue will be resolved anytime soon and they expect it to drag into next year.

<http://abc7.com/news/homeowners-continue-to-fight-shell-oil-on-contamination/311032/>

USA, TX, BAYTOWN, SEPTEMBER 18 2014. LIGHTNING STRIKES OIL TANK, CAUSING BIG EXPLOSION

 **Watch the Video's:**

- [Crude Oil Tank Explosion in Baytown](#)
- [Lightning Sparks Oil Tank Fire in Baytown](#)



The lightning hit during one of Wednesday's storms.

Wednesdays storms are being blamed for a fire and explosion in Baytown. It happened around 1pm. According to the Baytown Fire Department, one oil tank was struck, caught fire and exploded. A second tank then fire, as well. Both are operated by Linc Energy No injuries were reported and at this point, there's no evidence of pollution in the bay. "The only thing that can cause us a problem now until we get a vacuum truck down there is if this rain storm dumps a lot of water on us really fast, we might have to do additional diking to keep it out of the bay," said Tim Rogers with the Baytown Fire Department.

 **Related Stories**

- [Coast Guard: Crude oil tank explodes in Baytown](#)
- [Lightning sparks oil tank fire in Baytown](#)

<http://abc13.com/news/baytown-fd-lightning-strikes-oil-tank-causing-big-explosion/312773/>

NEW ZEALAND, TAHUNA, SEPTEMBER 18 2014. LPG TANKER CATCHES FIRE, BLOCKS WAIKATO ROAD

The Fire Service says crews brought the blaze under control, but the LPG tanker is still blocking the road. An LPG tanker that caught fire early today is blocking a Waikato road, police say. The truck caught alight on the Morrinsville-Tahuna Road at Tahuna, just before 6am. Fire crews doused the blaze but the vehicle was still blocking the road and it would remain there for "some time this morning", police said. The driver of the truck was not injured.

http://www.nzherald.co.nz/nz/news/article.cfm?c_id=1&objectid=11326878

USA, NV, LAS VEGAS, SEPTEMBER 18 2014. TANKER COMPANY CHALLENGES FMCSA OUT-OF-SERVICE ORDER

greg grisolano

A Nevada motor carrier has petitioned for a review of an August out-of-service order that brought the company's tanker fleet to a halt. National Distribution Services Inc. has filed a petition for review with the U.S. Department of Transportation's Chief Safety Officer. The company leases a fleet of cargo tank motor vehicles, which are used to transport combustible liquids, primarily petroleum products. The out-of-service order was issued Aug. 14 by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, following an investigation into a May 6 cargo tank explosion that occurred at National's terminal in Corona, California. The explosion killed one mechanic and injured another. The agency claimed in the initial order that at least 35 of the 53 tanks owned, leased or operated by the company have not been inspected or tested as required by federal regulations. An FMCSA spokesman declined to comment beyond the formal responses the agency has filed in the Federal Register. According to the FMCSA's response to the review petition, the May 6 explosion occurred when two welders at National's Corona Facility were installing a new dome lid collar on a cargo tank. The tank had not been cleaned and purged prior to the work commencing, causing vapors to ignite. The resulting explosion blew both welders off the tank. After a two-month investigation, FMCSA



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issued the out-of-service order against National, and also named TankServices LLC, and Carl Johansson, an administrative manager for National. "While Petitioners argue that the repair work was being conducted by TankServices LLC and its employees, the evidence clearly demonstrates that TankServices LLC was a paycheck writing service to National and Johansson, and the unsafe and unauthorized repair work was being completed in National's Corona facility shop, by National's shop workers, using National's welding equipment, and installing parts purchased by National; in fact, the paycheck for the week including May 6, 2014, for the injured welder shows the welder being paid by National," the FMCSA wrote in a Sept. 8 response to the petition. The agency further alleges that investigators found at least 11 tanks had undergone welded repairs on the shells and heads, which did not take place at properly registered repair facility. "National has been conducting unauthorized welds on DOT specification cargo tanks used to transport hazardous materials without safety management controls, adequate safety controls or procedures have been put in place to ensure that the cargo tanks are properly cleaned and purged before repairs are made," the agency response stated. "Such operations present a substantial risk of additional incidents, including catastrophic incidents, resulting in death, severe personal injury, or endangerment to health, property, or the environment." But an attorney for National disputes the agency's investigative findings and says the scope of the stop order should not include Johansson, National or the company's tankers. Attorney Timothy Wiseman's petition also states that there was no common ownership between National and TankServices, "nor did anyone associated with National control, direct or supervise the maintenance work conducted by TankServices." "The only connection between the two companies is that TankServices utilized space in a facility that National rented to perform its services for National and other entities, and that National did, in the past, utilize TankServices to perform maintenance and inspections on its equipment," he said. Wiseman did not respond to a request for comment. National's response also disputed a reported out-of-service order issued July 14 for a tanker during a roadside inspection in California. The company filed a DataQ challenge with FMCSA, which shows that on Sept. 7, a correction was made to the July 14 violation, indicating the violation was assigned to the wrong carrier. The petition, as well as supporting documents and responses from the company's attorney and from the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration, is posted online at the Federal Registry website. The documents may be viewed for free here.

<http://www.landlinemag.com/Story.aspx?StoryID=27674#.VBo1Usanrww>

USA, FLA, MARGATE, WSEPTEMBER 18 2014. MORE THAN 200 GALLONS OF DIESEL FUEL SPILLS AT MARGATE GAS STATION >> FIREFIGHTERS CONTAIN SPILL WITH SAND

amanda batchelor



A diesel fuel spill that happened during a delivery to a Marathon gas station near State Road 7 and Northwest 8th Street was quickly contained Wednesday, Sept. 17, 2014 by personnel from Margate/Coconut Creek Fire Rescue.

Margate firefighters have contained a diesel fuel spill that occurred Wednesday morning at a Marathon gas station. Fire officials said a tank truck driver put the hose in the tank and began pumping at the gas station at 5628 NW Eighth Street. He then went inside the station to fill out paperwork. The coupling on the tank failed, which caused the hose to dislodge and spill more than 200 gallons of diesel fuel. Firefighters were able to contain the spill with sand before it reached a nearby canal.

<http://www.local10.com/news/more-than-200-gallons-of-diesel-fuel-spilled-at-margate-gas-station/28101670>

USA, OH, PITTSBURGH, SEPTEMBER 18 2014. AN INSIDE LOOK: GAS PUMP INSPECTIONS >> ACTION NEWS INVESTIGATES TAKES YOU INSIDE THE PROCESS

bofta yimam

 **Watch the Video:** [An Inside Look: Gas Pump Inspections](#)

You asked. We listened. A viewer posted on our Facebook page, saying she was charged four cents for gas before she even pumped. That prompted us to ask county inspectors how they keep tabs on gas pumps and your money. Allegheny County Weights and Measures inspectors check every pump each year -- that's the law. We caught up with them at a gas station in Castle Shannon. Pittsburgh's Action News investigative reporter Bofta Yimam takes you inside the process.

<http://www.wtae.com/news/an-inside-look-gas-pump-inspections/28089664>



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USA, ALA, BIRMINGHAM, SEPTEMBER 18 2014. 18-WHEELER HAULING PUMPKINS GOES UP IN FLAMES AT BIRMINGHAM GAS STATION

carol robinson

Photo's [18] [18-Wheeler Hauling Pumpkins Goes up in Flames at Gas Station](#)



A tractor trailer caught fire under a fueling canopy at the Pilot truck stop on Highway 78 at the intersection of Findley Blvd. Wednesday September 17, 2014. Birmingham Fire and Rescue Service members extinguished the fire before it could spread to other pumps or the building.

A truck fire at a Birmingham gas station sent a plume of smoke over the area, but the blaze was extinguished and no injuries were reported. Birmingham Fire and Rescue Service was dispatched to the Pilot station on Bankhead Highway at 8:47 a.m. An 18-wheeler caught fire while under the awning at the pumps and was fully engulfed. The fire was under control by 9:12 a.m., according to BFRS. No injuries were reported. Authorities blocked off the parking lot, and Hazmat responded to the scene. Battalion Chief C.W. Mardis said the truck was hauling pumpkins. As of 10:45 a.m., they were still unloading the pumpkins - some are salvageable but the majority aren't he said. He said there was extensive damage to the truck and to the canopy. Firefighters and the canopy's

built-in extinguishing system helped to keep the pumps from catching on fire. A cause of the fire has not yet been released, though it started in the front of the truck. Mardis said it could take several days to establish the cause.

<http://www.al.com/news/birmingham/index.ssf/2014/09/18-wheeler-goes-up-in-flames-a.html>

INDIA, KERALA, KOZHIKODE, SEPTEMBER 18 2014. DON'T GET DUPED, TEST FOR PETROL PURITY AT BUNKS

sankar c g

Palakkad: Do you know that there exists a rule which enables you to check the quality of the petrol that you intend to buy? Yes. There exists such a provision under the Consumer Protection Act 1986 13 (c) as per which a consumer can check the quality of petrol before buying it. A majority of the customers are, however, not aware of the rule and get cheated into buying adulterated petrol. "The Consumer Protection Act says that each and every petrol bunk in the country should stock specially made filter papers using which they can check the quality of the fuel. If a customer has doubts over the quality of the petrol, then he/she can demand the bunk owner to provide them with the filter paper to conduct the test. In order to identify the purity of the fuel, you have to place a drop of fuel on the filter paper. The petrol vapourises quickly leaving behind, if the fuel is impure, residual matter," said Rajam Ganesan, a Hyderabad-based human rights activist. "Pure petrol does not have any impurities. When you pour a drop of petrol on the filter paper it will leave impurities on the paper only if it is impure. If the petrol is pure there will not be any stain or mark on the filter paper," said Rajam. She also said that consumer is the king of market and they should be aware of their rights. "If the petrol bunk operators refuse to give the filter paper needed to perform the test you can make a complaint to the Legal Metrology Department or Consumer Forum Redressal Commission," she added. The necessity of this test attains significance in the wake of increasing number of complaints being filed by consumers about being cheated by the bunk operators. Kozhikode district vice-president of Kerala Government Nurses Association, Satheesh Kumar M, shares his experience. "A few weeks ago, I filled petrol in my car for `400 from a petrol bunk near Kozhikode Medical College. But, the fuel got used up very quickly even though it had travelled for only a few kilometres. There must have been something wrong with the petrol. But since i didn't know about the legalities I kept quiet." When this correspondent visited various petrol pumps, the operators claimed ignorance about the existence of such a rule. "Why should we keep filter papers? We don't do that," said one of the petrol bunk employee from Palakkad. The secretary of Kerala State Consumers Dispute Redressal Commission, Nabeeza Beevi, said, "We have no power to check violations in this regards and are unable to take action. "If someone gives complaint in this regard we will definitely take action. The petrol pumps are completely under the governance of oil companies and we have limited role to play here."

<http://www.newindianexpress.com/states/kerala/Dont-Get-Duped-Test-for-Petrol-Purity-at-Bunks/2014/09/17/article2435400.ece>

IRELAND, CO MAYO, SEPTEMBER 18 2014. GARDAÍ TO INVESTIGATE PETROL STRETCHING SCAM



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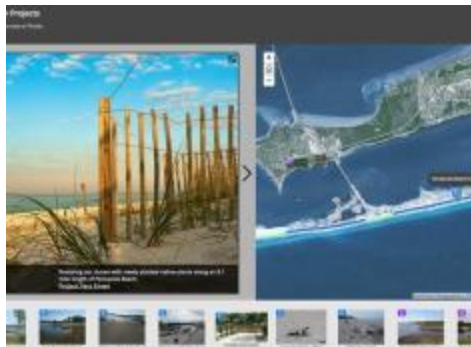
A file is being prepared for gardaí in Co. Mayo on a scam known as petrol stretching. This involves the mixing of cheaper kerosene to petrol. The engines of several hundred cars in the western region have been damaged by the practice, a meeting was told in Swinford last night. More than 360 people attended the meeting in the Gateway Hotel and a further meeting is planned before the end of the month.

Tom Shiel was at the meeting and we'll have a full report and reaction from the meeting in our print edition.

<http://www.con-telegraph.ie/news/roundup/articles/2014/09/17/4032574-garda-to-investigate-petrol-stretching-scam/>

USA, FLA, PENSACOLA, SEPTEMBER 18 2014. STATE LAUNCHES USER-FRIENDLY OIL SPILL PROJECT MAP

kimberly blair



An easy to use, interactive map for the public is now online with photos and details about projects being funded with BP and Transocean fine money from the Deepwater Horizon oil spill disaster.

Trying to keep track of the projects funded by Deepwater Horizon oil spill funds is not an easy task even for government officials close to the action, let alone the public. With a goal of more transparency, Florida Department of Environmental Protection, along with Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, launched an interactive map complete with photos and descriptions of projects that have been completed, and those in the works or approved for funding, in the wake of the April 2010 oil spill disaster. The idea is to help the public better understand and keep track of how the BP and Transocean fine money is being spent and on what, said Ashley Williams, DEP's Gulf Coast spokeswoman. "It's very confusing, and there's lots of funding

streams of money," she said. "The map makes it easy to see what's happening on the ground, and see actual plans and photos. It gives the public an idea of what the project means and how it impacts Florida." Most of the projects on the map so far have been paid for with nearly \$12 million in Natural Resource Damage Assessment early restoration money BP paid in advance of a full assessment of the oil spill damage for which it is liable. This pot of money is commonly referred to as NRDA dollars. Some of the projects featured on the map at deepwaterhorizonflorida.com include:

Four boat ramps in Escambia County: Navy Point, Galvez Landing, and Mahogany Mill have been completed. Construction of Perdido River boat ramp is expected to begin this fall. An early restoration conservation project aimed at restoring a sea turtle nesting habitat, which was significantly disturbed during the spill-response efforts. The sea turtle habitat is a multi-year project meant to reduce impacts of lighting on public lands in an effort to benefit sea turtles' natural navigation to the Gulf. Other projects featured include stormwater and land acquisition projects funded with \$10 million and aimed at improving water quality in bays that feed the Gulf, such as conservation easements at Seven Runs Creek and Escribano Point in Santa Rosa County. The Escribano Point acquisition, management and restoration project provides protection for more than 10 miles of shoreline and benefits the fragile river and bay systems, according to DEP project statement. Future projects that are approved for early restoration and RESTORE Act dollars, fine money BP will pay under the Clean Water Act, will be added to the map, Williams said. Users can click on project images that will activate a satellite map of the exact geographic locations of the project, along with easy-to-consume fact sheets. Users can zoom out or in on the map down to street level, and click on the project photo for details on the scope of the project. "This is more like a quick overview, easy to flip through and easy-to-read fact sheets," Williams said. The more dense and complicated to wade through version of the information is also available on the DEP Deepwater Horizon website. Glitches on the new, interactive map still are being ironed, Williams said. Some photos, such as the Gulf Breeze stormwater project, are missing the scope of work. In addition to the map, DEP and FWC are presenting a public webinar noon to 1 p.m. Tuesday that is meant to educate the members of the Gulf Coast Restoration Council and the public on the different streams of RESTORE Act money and how projects may be submitted and selected for funding. That will be followed by a question and answer session, Williams said. Initial projects to be funded will focus on water quality and habitat restoration. The submission window for council members to submit projects and proposals closes on Nov. 17. Keith Wilkins, Escambia County director of community and environment, believes the map will go a long way in helping citizens understand the big picture of how all the projects in the Panhandle benefit each other. "I applaud DEP and FWC for taking the initiative of doing that," he said. "Escambia County will want to cooperate with the them and locate our (RESTORE Act) projects on the map. We'll use it to help our citizens locate our projects. DEP can rise above the jurisdictions and look at this more comprehensively, and the citizens will be much better off and see how we are benefiting." Want to view the



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Deepwater Horizon restoration project map? The map provides the public an easy to access, quick overview of Deepwater Horizon project progress. Check out the map visit www.deepwaterhorizonflorida.com Want to join the Sept. 23 Webinar? Register at Deepwater Horizon RESTORE Act Webinar <https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/657402498> and learn about the different streams of RESTORE Act dollars that will be available for projects in Florida.

<http://www.pnj.com/story/news/local/environment/2014/09/17/state-launches-user-friendly-oil-spill-project-map/15801845/>

MEXICO, MEXICO CITY, SEPTEMBER 18 2014. GRUPO MEXICO SPILL SPARKS SCRUTINY OF \$150 MILLION CLEANUP

nacha cattan & brendan case

[Mexico](#) is sending federal officials to Sonora state to oversee [Grupo Mexico SAB](#)'s \$150 million cleanup of a [copper mine](#) spill that the government says contaminated the water supplies of at least 24,000 people. The special commission of environmental and agriculture ministry officials will monitor the company's pledge to mop up the worst chemical discharge in Mexico's mining industry, which occurred Aug. 6 in the northern state that borders [Arizona](#). Pressure on [Grupo Mexico](#) rose today as a committee of lawmakers from the lower house of the Mexican Congress said the accident endangered human lives. The mining and railroad company controlled by billionaire German Larrea should establish a development fund for Sonora with 5 billion pesos (\$378 million), the lawmakers said in a [report](#). Grupo Mexico and its Buenavista del Cobre mine have "put at risk human life, the environment and the region's economic development," according to the report. The [Mexico City-based company](#) said last week it would create a \$150 million trust after its Buenavista del Cobre operation dumped 11 million gallons of copper sulfate solution into two Sonora rivers. [Industrias Bachoco SAB de CV](#) and [Ford Motor Co](#) operate plants in Hermosillo, south of the contaminated waterways.

Rain Blamed

The company initially said the chemical spill from the copper mine that turned waters reddish-orange stemmed from heavy rains that caused containment ponds to overflow. The government rejected that claim, while the nation's environmental prosecutor filed a criminal complaint against the company. On Sept. 1, the company said defective pipe seals also contributed to the spill. The spill of copper sulfate and heavy metals contaminated drinking water for communities near the mine in Cananea and resulted in the temporary closing of schools, according to Sonora's civil protection agency. Grupo Mexico said Sept. 4 that Buenavista's output remained stable after the environmental prosecution agency Profepa closed part of the mine, which the company says contains the world's largest copper reserves. The stoppage only affected portions of the mine under construction for future operations, it said.

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2014-09-17/grupo-mexico-spill-sparks-public-scrutiny-of-150-million-mop-up.html>

AUSTRALIA, WESTERN AUSTRALIA, PERTH, [NOPSEMA] SEPTEMBER 18 2014. STENA CLYDE MOBILE OFFSHORE DRILLING UNIT FATALITIES, BASS STRAIT, 27 AUG 2012

[NOPSEMA is National Offshore Petroleum Safety and Environmental Management Authority]

[Update on Stena Clyde investigation](#)

The National Offshore Petroleum Safety and Environmental Management Authority (NOPSEMA) has completed its investigation into the double fatality on the Stena Clyde mobile offshore drilling unit in the Bass Strait on 27 August 2012. Legal proceedings have commenced through the Magistrates' Court of Victoria with the assistance of the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions (CDPP) for specific breaches of the Offshore Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Storage Act 2006. Upon conclusion of the legal proceedings, NOPSEMA will communicate lessons learnt with duty holders and the wider community.

[Update on investigation into fatalities on Stena Clyde drilling rig, Bass Strait, August 2012.](#)

The complex investigation by the National Offshore Petroleum Safety and Environmental Management Authority (NOPSEMA) into the double fatality on the Stena Clydemobile offshore drilling unit in the Bass Strait on 27 August 2012 has reached its final stage. NOPSEMA submitted a brief of evidence to the Commonwealth Director of Public Prosecutions (CDPP) in April and is awaiting their advice. NOPSEMA has collected numerous witness statements and examined extensive evidence, including material seized under warrant. Three independent expert witnesses engaged by NOPSEMA have provided reports on specific areas of the investigation. NOPSEMA is committed to supporting the CDPP should the CDPP decide a prosecution is warranted.

<http://www.nopsema.gov.au>



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USA, ALA, MONTGOMERY, SEPTEMBER 18 2014. ALAGASCO SUES TO STOP USE OF PIPE SAFETY PLAN

Alabama Gas Corporation has taken legal action to attempt to stop the Montgomery Advertiser from publishing or writing about the company's document that outlines a plan to ensure the safety of gas pipes. The document, Alagasco's Distribution Integrity Management Plan (DIMP), was obtained in June through a public records request to the Alabama Public Service Commission (PSC), which oversees the state's utilities. All gas companies are required by the federal Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration to file a plan that assures pipeline safety and integrity with the state entity that oversees utility companies. The regulation requires natural gas distribution companies to develop, write and implement a plan that identifies threats, evaluates and ranks risks, identifies measures to address risk, evaluates effectiveness and reports results. On Sept. 12, Alagasco obtained a temporary restraining order, or restriction on publishing the information, from Jefferson County District Court. The company also filed civil lawsuit against the newspaper and a motion for a permanent injunction, which if granted by a judge would prohibit the Advertiser from publishing the information. A hearing will be held Sept. 25. The Advertiser's use of the document is part of a national USA Today investigation that examines the dangers of cast iron pipes, which when corroded can cause gas leaks, fires and explosions. According to federal data, Alagasco has about 833 miles of cast iron main gas lines, which is the highest of any gas company in Alabama and ninth highest in the country. Federal data also shows that about 7.5 percent of Alagasco's main lines are cast iron, which is three times the 2.5 percent national average. According to Alagasco's motion for a temporary restraining order, the document contains "sensitive, confidential information regarding Alagasco's proprietary pipeline distribution network and infrastructure." The company alleges that the Advertiser obtained the document illegally from the PSC, and that Alabama's open record laws are designed to allow utilities the opportunity to challenge any requests for disclosure. The motion says because the Advertiser didn't "serve" Alagasco with the proper "form" and request, the newspaper unlawfully obtained the document. In the same motion, Alagasco also argues that the document is not considered a public record, and therefore was not subject to disclosure because the document reflects Alagasco's operations, not the operations of state government. The motion said the document contains "critical energy infrastructure information," which is an exemption from public disclosure under the state's open records law. The company also argued that the document is exempt because it contains information that could pose a public security threat. Public knowledge of the company's energy infrastructure would make it "vulnerable to sabotage or terrorist attack, thereby endangering the life, limb and property of the public," according to Alagasco's motion. In the civil complaint against the Advertiser, Alagasco said they had an expectation that the PSC would keep the integrity management plan confidential. "This is an outrageous move by Alagasco and the judge," said Tom Clifford, executive editor of the Advertiser. "It is an unconstitutional assault on freedom of the press, which is especially ironic considering (Wednesday) is Constitution Day." On Tuesday, Dennis Bailey, the attorney representing the Advertiser, filed a motion to remove the temporary restraining order, arguing that prior restraint of the freedom of the press is unconstitutional under the First Amendment. He also argued that in prior federal cases, judges have ruled that information disseminated by a government agency to a news organization can be published even if the government entity erred in releasing the information. Bailey said the complaint doesn't indicate what information in integrity management plan is sensitive or poses a risk to the public. The Advertiser's motion said the document was "freely" emailed by the PSC after consulting with their attorneys, and there was no indication anywhere in the 190-page document showing that the information was proprietary, secret, sensitive, privileged or confidential. According to the motion, locations of gas mains are not secret and are visible to passing motorists. They're often marked in the field to alert the public where not to dig or disturb the ground. Clifford said the integrity management plan is a public document that details the condition of pipes and the company's plan to repair and replace them. If their attempt to exercise prior restraint holds up, the loser will be public safety," Clifford said. "We properly found out where the bad pipes are, and right now we are being ordered by a judge not to tell you where they are. How ridiculous is that?" In July, Alagasco attorneys wrote a letter to Bailey asserting that the PSC should not have provided the document to the Advertiser, and asked the newspaper give Alagasco a reasonable amount of time to respond to questions. After the reporter sent Alagasco a list of questions, attorneys requested that the Advertiser give back all copies of the plan and destroy all records of communication about the documents, according to the Advertiser's motion. "For all that appears, Alagasco became concerned that questions being asked by a reporter Aug. 20 might lead to public knowledge of deficiencies in Alagasco operations, which generated a pre-emptive attack on First Amendment rights three weeks later," the motion said. Bailey said Alagasco agreed to an interview with the reporter several weeks before action was taken to get the document back. "When they saw the questions, took immediate action to get the document blocked," he said. "It's clearly a prior restraint on freedom of the press without establishing the foundation necessary to justify infringing on the First Amendment."

<http://www.montgomeryadvertiser.com/story/news/2014/09/17/alagasco-sues-to-block-advertisers-use-of-safety-plan/15772173>



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