

# Tank and Petroleum Use Mishaps

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

## **USA, PA, WASHINGTON CO, ROBINSON TWP**

**FEBRUARY 20 2012.**

### **DEP INVESTIGATES SPILL AT GAS WELL SITE IN WASHINGTON CO.**

*Don Hopey*

The state Department of Environmental Protection is continuing its investigation of the second spill in three months of condensate - "wet gases" and contaminated drilling liquids - at a Chevron-Appalachia Marcellus Shale gas well operation in Robinson Township, Washington County. John Poister, a DEP spokesman, said today the spilled condensate was discovered last Thursday by a township employee inspecting a gas pipeline facility nearby. The spill had run into Bigger Run Creek, a tributary of Raccoon Creek. He had no information about whether fish or aquatic life were killed, but cleanup crews placed absorbent material in the creek on Friday. Mr. Poister said he did not know how much condensate material was spilled. He said DEP is trying to determine the amount and the cause. Department investigators were at the scene Friday and plan to return this week. Mr. Poister said Chevron-Appalachia is continuing remediation work that started in December when the first condensate spill occurred. The company has dug up and filled more than 10 Dumpsters with contaminated soil. The DEP has not issued a violation notice for either spill.

<http://www.post-gazette.com/pg/12050/1211352-100.stm>

## **USA, ORE, SWAN ISLAND**

**FEBRUARY 20 2012.**

### **MAN, 57, DIES AFTER FALLING INTO HOLDING TANK OF TOXIC CHEMICALS**

A man plunged to his death on Sunday after falling into a holding tank filled with toxic chemicals at work. Firefighters reported to the tanker located on a barge on Swan Island, Portland, Oregon at about 10:15am. An employee reported his 57-year-old co-worker missing after last seeing him near an open hatch leading to the tank before he disappeared from sight. As KATU.com reports, the co-worker called police, and Portland Fire & Recue's Hazmat Team and Technical Rescue Team were called to the scene at at 5954 North Basin Avenue near the Swan Island Basin. Portland Fire & Rescue told the website the victim fell into a tank full of lignin amine, a toxic, corrosive, non-flammable chemical derived from wood and used to spray fruit trees. The worker's identity has has not been released. Rescue workers drained the tank after a camera confirmed the man's body was inside, according to Oregon Live. Two firefighters led the recovery effort, descending into the tank from a 28in hatch opening. Investigators told Oregon Live the level of oxygen in the tank - about one per cent - would cause a person to pass out within a minute and die within a couple of breaths. The process took approximately 45 minutes before the man's body was brought back to surface. Portland Police Bureau, Multnomah County Sheriff's Office, the U.S. Coast Guard and Oregon OSHA were also at the scene.

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2103635/Swan-Island-Man-57-dies-falling-holding-tank-toxic-chemicals.html>

# Tank and Petroleum Use Mishaps

**CANADA, NUNAVUT, RESOLUTE BAY**

**FEBRUARY 21 2012.**

**ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS OF RESOLUTE BAY FUEL SPILL UNKNOWN**

**DRAFT REPORT CITES CHALLENGES TO CLEANING SPILL, ASSESSING EFFECTS ON SOIL**

There is still uncertainty about the environmental effects of a major gasoline spill in Resolute Bay, Nunavut. Officials say an estimated 87,000 litres of gasoline poured onto the ground at the hamlet's fuel tank farm between Oct. 27 and Oct. 28.

The Government of Nunavut hired contractor Nunami Stantec Ltd., which submitted a draft report detailing the cleanup and spill assessment at the site.

Using Access to Information legislation, the CBC has obtained a copy of the draft report the company completed Dec. 19.

## 'Gasoline spurting out'

According to interviews cited in the draft report, a truck driver who wanted to fill up with gasoline around midnight on Oct. 27 noticed one of the tanks at the farm was empty. He asked someone else to open a valve from a larger tank to allow the empty one to fill. Both people then left the site without turning off the valve.

The document details that at about 6:30 a.m. the following morning, a First Air employee noticed "gasoline spurting out of the vapour release valve" of the previously-empty tank.

The Government of Nunavut redacted the fuel tank logs, so it is unclear how much fuel was in the tanks both when the leak started and when it was stopped.

Some fuel contained

Two employees from Nunami assessed the site between Nov. 7 and Nov. 15.

The document shows Nunami focused on three areas: a 20,000 litre containment area around the tank which leaked, a larger lined spill catchment basin southeast of that tank, and the area immediately downhill from the leak, which includes a sensitive marine environment in Resolute Bay.

The engineers concluded that anywhere from 19,000 to 67,000 litres of the leaked gasoline was contained. A total of about 87,000 litres spilled.

## Soil contamination

The engineers analyzed soil samples in an effort to figure out how and where the gasoline spread. They compared chemicals in the soil samples to chemicals found in the catchment basin.

In the draft, the engineers wrote that samples they took downhill from the spill site "showed evidence of primarily gasoline contamination," adding that those samples also show signs of diesel contamination.

Chemicals found in the soil at two areas east of the spill catchment basin – one on the opposite side of an access road – also have properties similar to gasoline. It's unclear, though, when that soil was contaminated. The draft report notes it's possible that it was contaminated in a previous spill.

Emails between Nunami and the Government of Nunavut also show the fuel sample taken from the catchment basin was scheduled to be tested in order to confirm it did in fact come from the tank which leaked.

"Several factors ... resulted in a level of uncertainty"

The engineers give a number of reasons for the level of uncertainty in their draft report.

They said it would have helped them to have had accurate design drawings of the site.

The document also highlights the challenges the crew had in doing their assessment, such as cold temperatures, blizzard conditions, short daylight and a limited availability of equipment.

Recommendations Redacted

The draft report includes three pages of recommendations for the Government of Nunavut.

However, those recommendations are unknown because the territorial government redacted that section of the document.

The government cited a section of the Access to Information and Protection of Privacy Act which deals with information which could be used to make future decisions.

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/north/story/2012/02/20/north-resolute-bay-spill-unknown.html>

# Tank and Petroleum Use Mishaps

## **CANADA, B.C, BURNABY**

**FEBRUARY 21 2012.**

### **CHEVRON REFINERY DEALS WITH GAS LEAK**

*Jennifer Moreau*

Burnaby's Chevron refinery had a gasoline leak early last Thursday morning.

Chevron spokesperson Ray Lord told the Burnaby NOW that it was a rare event and that the leaked gasoline was contained in the refinery's catchment basin.

"We had a minor incident occur here at the plant (Thursday) morning, at about 4 a.m. We were transferring gasoline to a barge here at the refinery. In the course of that transfer, from tank to barge, a loss to containment occurred, meaning some gasoline was lost in the course of that transfer," Lord said.

Chevron was immediately aware of the leak and stopped the transfer. The spill occurred away from the water, near a tank on the refinery's property, and the gasoline was contained in an impounding basin system.

"It's a catch basin that's lined with sort of a rubberized lining. The gasoline down there... was immediately recovered using the vacuum truck," Lord said.

The material is then taken to the refinery's treatment system.

Chevron staff estimated that 4,100 litres or 26 barrels of gas leaked. The leak was caused by a loose pipe flange that has since been repaired.

According to Lord, no one was hurt, there was no environmental impact or odour complaints, but the transfer had to be stopped until they fixed the problem. Chevron contacted Metro Vancouver in case of odour complaints.

Chevron's North Burnaby refinery has been around since 1935. The refinery has been dealing with an ongoing oil seep on its north slope since May 2010. A mix of gas, diesel and crude oil has been seeping outside of the refinery's property due to underground contamination. Chevron has been working to clean up the seep and prevent more material from migrating offsite.

<http://www.burnabynow.com/Chevron+refinery+deals+with+leak/6180772/story.html#ixzz1oGM9T1N1>

## **USA, FLA, ST. AUGUSTINE**

**FEBRUARY 12 2012.**

### **OSHA CITES COOMES OIL & SUPPLY AND FLORIDA ROCK & TANK LINES IN AUGUST BP GAS STATION EXPLOSION IN ST. AUGUSTINE**

The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration today announced Coomes Oil & Supply Inc. has been cited in August's explosion at a BP gas station.

According to an OSHA news release, a delivery driver for Florida Rock & Tank Lines was refilling an above-ground gasoline storage tank that had a broken gauge.

The tank overflowed. Vapors then combined with heat from the running delivery truck to trigger the explosion.

The OSHA inspection found that the gas station and Florida Rock & Tank Lines refilled the tank despite the inoperable liquid level gauging system.

OSHA has proposed a \$70,000 fine be leveled against Florida Rock & Tank Lines along with a citation for one willful violation.

This violation is for "failing to provide the delivery driver to determine if the storage tank had enough capacity for additional gasoline."

A "willful violation" is one committed with intentional knowing or voluntary disregard for the law's requirements, according to the release.

In addition to Florida Rock & Tank Lines, Coomes Oil & Supply has also been issued a citation by OSHA. Coomes Oil & Supply has been cited for failing to provide employees and delivery drivers a mean to determine the gasoline levels in the above-ground storage tank, a "serious violation" according to OSHA.

According to the release, a "serious violation" occurs when there is substantial probability that death or serious physical harm could result from a hazard about which the employer knew or should have known. A \$7,000 fine has been proposed for Coomes.

Brian Sturtecky, OSHA's area director in Jacksonville said, "Despite the fact that safety gauges and devices were inoperable, the employers chose to proceed with the operation and risk the lives of their employees. Unfortunately for the injured employee, the two companies involved in this explosion learned a safety lesson by means of a terrible incident instead of taking the steps they should have to protect their workers in the first place."

Jacksonville-based Florida Rock & Tank Lines transports petroleum and other liquid and dry bulk commodities 816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824

# Tank and Petroleum Use Mishaps

throughout the Southeast.

Coomes Oil & Supply owned and operated 5th Wheel BP, a full-service gas station located on State Road 16 in St. Augustine that closed following the explosion. First Coast News attempted to interview a representative from Coomes this afternoon, however, the company replied, "No comment."

According to OSHA, the companies have 15 business days from receipt of the citations and proposed penalties to comply, request a conference with OSHA's area director or contest the findings before the independent Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission.

<http://www.firstcoastnews.com/news/article/242944/3/OSHA-Cites-Two-Companies-in-St-Augustine-Explosion>

## **CANADA, B.C, SAANICH**

**FEBRUARY 24 2012.**

### **OIL TANK SPILLS CONTINUE TO CAUSE CONCERN IN SAANICH**

Since last November's oil spill that saw 1,000 litres of home heating oil pollute the Colquitz River and kill a number of salmon, Saanich's environmental advisory committee has been looking at ways to prevent a similar disaster in the future.

But in that time, at least three more home heating tanks in Saanich have had spills, leaking at least 400 more litres of oil into the ground.

"That is a big number, and how many more are there that we don't know about that the homeowner hasn't noticed yet?" said Coun. Vicki Sanders, who chairs Saanich's environmental advisory committee. "There aren't a tremendous number of people still using oil as their fuel, so what we can do is mainly on the education side."

However, education wouldn't have helped prevent the most recent spill.

On Feb. 3, an oil company mistakenly delivered and pumped oil into the wrong house on Adelaide Avenue – one that wasn't even using oil as a heat source.

"What I understand is the oil delivery was made to a house that used to have an oil tank. And when (the home-owner) went to a different form of heating, they removed the tank and furnace, but there was still (an oil supply) pipe making a hole in the side of the house," said Adriane Pollard, Saanich's manager of environmental services.

B.C. Hazmat continues to work on the property, testing oil samples and replacing portions of Saanich's storm water system that were contaminated.

"We still don't know the extent of the contamination on the property, but the crews are chasing the oil down in the storm water system," said Dave Rogers, senior incident commander with B.C. Hazmat, a private company that specializes in hazardous material management. Rogers expects crews will remain on Adelaide Avenue for a few more weeks.

In a typical winter, Rogers says his company responds to one spill a month. In the last seven weeks, there have been 11 home-heating oil spills in Greater Victoria that required B.C. Hazmat's services.

"Most of them have been because the oil tanks are made by Burrard Yarrows and Victoria Machinery Depot. Those places went under and closed 20 years ago," Rogers said. "All those ones are now deteriorating from the inside out. That's been the major cause of a lot of contamination this winter."

The municipality recently unearthed some old records that shows which Saanich homes have oil tanks – or had them years ago.

"Once we can establish where they all are, I would think we could send out a notice making people aware of the issue," Coun. Sanders said.

Clean-up is now complete from the devastating Nov. 25 spill that saw oil contaminate the Colquitz River, as well as Colquitz Creek and Swan Creek.

"At this point no further remediation is required," said Graham Knox, manager of B.C.'s environmental emergency program. "Key for us was (water quality) – sampling results and comparing them against the provincial aquatic life standards, and they've all come back (within acceptable levels)."

Ian Bruce, a biologist who was brought in by Saanich to help in the remediation, says the municipality shouldn't be criticized for its response to the spill.

"In my experience of over a dozen fish kills including pollution events, each one is an individual case and there is no easy template to follow," he wrote in a report on the spill. "In the future, with incidents approaching or exceeding the scale of this event, Saanich should look at engaging the stewards as 'eyes and ears' to supplement staff efforts. ... It may be prudent for Saanich to make sincere efforts to reduce or eliminate the present adversarial relationship with the stewards of the Colquitz and other watersheds in the municipality."

Chris Bos, one of the Colquitz River stewards who helped in the response efforts, says he'd like to sit down

# Tank and Petroleum Use Mishaps

with all the agencies involved.

"It's not about finger pointing, it's about learning from what happened so that we can avoid it in the future," he said. Like the environmental advisory committee chair, he anticipates better education for oil tank owners will play a crucial role.

Bos says he, as well as Saanich, will continue to keep an eye on the river and creeks through the coming months to see if the residual oil that remains trapped in upstream vegetation evaporates naturally or if further removal is required.

"There's still oil on a lot of the vegetation, but it's not causing a massive problem at the moment," he said. "It's still something that needs to be addressed because it's not right to have it in the creek."

He's optimistic the spill no longer poses a danger for aquatic life – salmon, insects, seals, otters and herons.

"We're going to try and count the (juvenile salmon) in the spring so we know how the overall watershed has done," he said.

Bruce made seven recommendations to Saanich to help minimize the impacts of future oil spills, and improve the response. Among the recommendations was posting signage along public waterways informing the public how to "observe, record and report" pollution. There's also a call for more training for field staff to help them identify spill material and track it back to its source.

Mike Ippen, Saanich's director of public works, said the cleanup costs related to the November spill have surpassed \$60,000.

The Kenneth Street homeowner who is on the hook for that bill, after his underground oil tank feed line failed, told the News that he's still dealing with his insurance company on the issue.

He said that oil tank owners need to be better educated on the potential environmental and financial impacts an oil spill can have.

<http://www.saanichnews.com/news/140085213.html>

## **NORTHERN IRELAND, CO ARMAGH, SILVERBRIDGE**

**FEBRUARY 24 2012.**

### **ILLICIT DIESEL SEIZED IN CO ARMAGH**

The laundering plant was capable of producing over 5.2 million litres of illicit fuel a year, evading over £3million in duty.

Revenue and Customs, along with PSNI officers, made the discovery in the Silverbridge area on Tuesday.

A quantity of bleaching earth, which used during the laundering process, a fuel tanker, pumps, equipment and seven tonnes of toxic waste were seized during the operation.

The detained man was questioned by Revenue and Customs (HMRC) officers.

He has been released on bail and investigations are continuing.

John Whiting, Assistant Director Criminal Investigation, HMRC said: "Every illegal laundering operation has significant environmental and safety issues. These operations typically generate tonnes of toxic waste, which is often dumped indiscriminately in the countryside."

He added that not only is the tax payer and ratepayer missing out on the tax, which is going into "the pockets of the criminals", they are also paying the substantial clean up and disposal costs.

"Buying illicit fuel not only funds crime but supports and encourages these dangerous activities within our communities. The only winners are the criminals, who are profiting at the expense of honest businesses and endangering the future viability of our legitimate fuel retail service."

<http://www.u.tv/Articles/Article.aspx?guid=de150a92-0a3c-4640-9a7f-515f23c010f0>

## **USA, N.J, PAULSBORO**

**FEBRUARY 24 2012.**

### **DEP: MAJOR LEAK AT PAULSBORO REFINERY POSES NO HEALTH THREAT**

### **A LEAK AT AN OIL TANK SPILLED MILLIONS OF GALLONS OF OIL INTO A CONTAINMENT AREA THURSDAY.**

*Bryan Little*

A leak at a container at the Paulsboro refinery led to a major oil spill, equalling nearly a day's worth of refining capacity, Thursday afternoon, but the spill was contained to the refinery and poses no major health risks, according to the state Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).

As of 6 p.m., around 157,000 barrels of oil—or 6.6 million gallons—had spilled into an emergency containment area, which is cut off by a large berm near the tank, according to the DEP. The containment was preventing the oil from

816, 817, 818, 819, 820, 821, 822, 823, 824

# Tank and Petroleum Use Mishaps

spreading beyond the immediate area, and the DEP said the Delaware River and groundwater should be safe from contamination.

Initial air tests by the Gloucester County Department of Health and refinery personnel indicated no serious health risk from the odor from the leaking oil.

The smell, similar to natural gas or gasoline, spread out from the refinery, and was noticeable within a few miles of the plant less than an hour after the spill. In the evening, people in Deptford and other parts of Gloucester County said they could smell the leak.

The DEP said though there's no major health risk posed by the smell, older adults and people with respiratory issues should consider staying inside to limit their exposure.

DEP spokesman Lawrence Hanja said the Paulsboro Refining Company and its parent company, PBF Energy, are responsible for the cleanup.

Emergency crews were spraying the spill with foam to knock down the smell, and refinery workers had begun pumping oil from both the spill and what remains in the 12-million gallon tank into other storage spots on site.

The 950-acre refinery, which processes about 180,000 barrels of medium and heavy oil per day, produces mostly gasoline, jet fuel and heating oil. It's one of three refineries run by PBF, which also has operations in Delaware City, DE and Toledo, OH.

<http://westdeptford.patch.com/articles/dep-major-leak-at-paulsboro-refinery-poses-no-health-threat>

## **USA, TX, GALVESTON CO**

**FEBRUARY 24 2012.**

### **CRUDE OIL EXPLOSION RATTLES GALVESTON**

#### **EXPLOSION HAPPENED AFTER 7 P.M.**

A tank containing light crude oil exploded in Galveston Thursday evening, causing a 3 alarm fire.

Alicia Cahill with the City of Galveston said they received reports of the explosion at 4900 Old Port Industrial Road about 7 p.m.

She said soon after the initial explosion, another nearby tank became engulfed in flames.

Thirty-five Galveston firefighters battled the fire into the night. Cahill said the fire was extremely hard to contain because the boiling crude oil was feeding the flames.

Crews had to drain the oil from the tanks as well as douse the flames.

Cahill said no injuries were reported.

Galveston police restricted access to many nearby streets, including Harborside Drive from 29th Street to 51st Street. The bridge to Pelican Island was also closed for several hours.

Cahill said firefighters from Texas City and Jamaica Beach were called in to cover any other fire emergencies on the island while Galveston firefighters continued to fight the fire.

As a precautionary measure, officials with Texas A&M at Galveston put a shelter in place for their campus. By about 10:30 p.m., the shelter was lifted.

The fire marshal was called to the scene but there is no word yet on what caused the explosion and fire.

<http://www.click2houston.com/news/Crews-fight-fuel-tanks-fire/-/1735978/8939428/-/ryfng4/-/>

## **USA, WI, MILWAUKEE**

**FEBRUARY 24 2012.**

### **PIN HOLE IN PIPELINE IS CAUSE OF JET FUEL LEAK AT AIRPORT**

*Cary Docter*

Officials with the Wisconsin DNR say a pin hole in a pipeline is the cause of a jet fuel leak at Milwaukee's Mitchell International Airport. Some 9,000 gallons of jet fuel leaked into a creek near the airport before it was flagged as being a problem. Shell officials tracked the leak to somewhere in a 300-foot section of pipe located underneath an airport taxiway. Excavation of the site to find the source of the leak in the pipeline began more than a week ago. To date, 3,465 tons of contaminated soil has been excavated from the airport site.

<http://fox6now.com/2012/02/23/pin-hole-in-pipeline-is-cause-of-jet-fuel-leak-at-airport/>

# Tank and Petroleum Use Mishaps

## USA, TX, GALVESTON

FEBRUARY 25 2012.

### 5 INJURIES IN GALVESTON FUEL TANK FIRE

An oil tank fire that erupted Thursday night in Galveston has been extinguished.

Chief Jeff Smith with the Galveston Fire Department says firefighters needed almost 11 hours to put out the flames at the Texas International Terminal near the Galveston Ship Channel.

"We had a long night," says Chief Smith.

An explosion Thursday night apparently touched off the fire in a crude oil tank at a facility previously known as Galveston Bay Biodiesel on Old Port Industrial Road.

Chief Smith says four workers suffered minor injuries and one firefighter had to be treated for heat exhaustion.

A shelter-in-place was issued for Texas A&M-Galveston after two tanks burst into flames on waterfront property, but was lifted after firefighters contained the flames.

Safety personnel from BP Texas City assisted more than 30 firefighters who were dispatched to the three-alarm fire.

<http://www.myfoxboston.com/dpp/news/local/120224-galveston-fuel-tank-fire#ixzz1oRtcGlbX>

## INDIA, WEST BENGAL, JALPAIGURI

FEBRUARY 26 2012.

### OIL TANKER CATCHES FIRE INSIDE PETROL PUMP

*Pinak Priya Bhattacharya*

The prompt response of fire fighters helped avert an explosion at a petrol pump on Saturday afternoon. The incident occurred when an oil tanker caught fire at the petrol pump on Deshbandhu Chittaranjan Road in Jalpaiguri.

The tanker was emptying oil into the pump's storage tank when the front portion caught fire due to short circuit in the engine. By the time workers at the petrol pump managed to stop transfer of the fuel, the front portion of the tanker was completely in flames. Several vehicles were inside the pump and few were also being filled when the incident happened.

People who had come to refill their vehicles fled the spot.

According to eyewitnesses, two fire engines reached the spot within three minutes of being informed. While a group of fire fighters tried to douse the flames, another team got busy in blocking all fuel channels in the pump. Once the flames were tamed, the tanker was pushed out of the pump when it slammed into a fire engine. But thankfully that did not have any adverse effect. The flames were extinguished after the tanker was pushed out onto the road. Within half an hour the situation was brought under control.

Frenzy ruled the business locality on seeing the vehicle on fire. Shopkeepers on both sides of the road downed shutters and ran to safer places. Even a private bank authority closed down their bank and ATM counter fearing an explosion.

"Had there been an explosion, the whole area would have been on fire. When we saw the tanker up in flames, we thought there was no chance to avert the explosion. But the fire fighters did a great job," said Baidya Karmakar, owner of a jewellery shop located just opposite to the petrol pump.

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/kolkata-/Oil-tanker-catches-fire-inside-petrol-pump/articleshow/12037641.cms>

## USA, WA, BURBANK

FEBRUARY 29 2012.

### 44 GALLONS OF TRANSFORMER OIL SPILL INTO SNAKE RIVER

*Annette Cary*

An estimated 44 gallons of transformer oil that leaked into the Snake River was being cleaned up by Army Corps of Engineers spill response teams Tuesday.

The spill occurred as work was under way to repair Ice Harbor Dam cooling units that gradually leaked as much as 1,680 gallons of transformer oil contaminated with polychlorinated biphenyls, or PCBs, into the river some time after June and continuing through January.

The earlier river contamination was caused by pinhole leaks that developed in metal tubing in the cooling units and grew over several months.

But the new spill was caused by human error.

# Tank and Petroleum Use Mishaps

Maintenance staff were running new transformer oil through lines to clean out old PCB-contaminated oil when the spill occurred, said Corps spokeswoman Gina Baltrusch.

Within 15 minutes, staff realized oil was escaping through an open transfer connection onto a concrete floor in the powerhouse and stopped work, she said. Some of the oil ran into a drain connected to a sump.

About 64 gallons of oil were believed to have leaked through the open transfer connection, but about 20 gallons were recovered before being discharged to the river.

About 11:40 a.m. Monday, an oil sheen was spotted downriver from the drainage discharge by one of the Corps employees scouting the river for signs of contamination.

During the months of gradual leakage of transformer oil, a sheen was not spotted on the water until Dec. 5 and that and subsequent sheens that were spotted spread quickly to a very thin layer on the surface of the water and were not considered recoverable by the Washington State Department of Ecology.

However, crews were able to use absorbent booms placed in the water to clean up the Monday spill. One boom was placed near the dam to prevent any further spread of oil.

Three more booms were used downstream near Eagle Island to soak up the oil, with boat response crews maneuvering them.

An additional spill-response team from Lower Monumental Dam joined Ice Harbor's crews Tuesday.

"We're conducting an investigation to determine the appropriate actions to help prevent this particular type of incident from happening again," said Lt. Col. David Caldwell, the district commander, in a statement.

<http://www.tri-cityherald.com/2012/02/29/1844865/44-gallons-of-transformer-oil.html#storylink=cpy>

## **USA, N.J., GREENWICH**

**FEBRUARY 29 2012.**

### **GREENWICH REFINERY 'CRUDE OIL' CLEAN-UP DOWN TO LAST 20,000 BARRELS**

Crews on Monday had pumped out most of the crude oil that spilled late last week from a tank in the PBF Energy refinery here, better known as the Paulsboro Refinery, New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection spokesman Larry Hajna said.

Hajna said about 150,000 barrels had been removed by Monday from an emergency containment berm designed to hold spilled oil. The oil has been moved to other tanks.

About 10,000 to 20,000 barrels remained in the berm, he added, and that was a mixture of oil, recent rain water and foam that workers had sprayed to help prevent a fire. A barrel of oil is 42 gallons.

The berms are designed to hold about 377,000 barrels.

"We had a really good day yesterday and today, until the wind picked up," PBF spokesman Mike Jarlovich said.

High winds have at times disturbed the foam applied to the spilled oil.

"At this point, we're just focusing on the cleanup," Jarlovich added. "We continue to work with government agencies and focus on cleaning up the area."

Jarlovich said his company has heard complaints from South Philadelphia about the odor that had bothered residents of South Jersey and even as far as Maryland at times since the spill.

State Assemblyman John Burzichelli (D, Paulsboro) said he's been keeping tabs on the situation. The former mayor of Paulsboro is well familiar with the plant's impact on the area, good and bad.

He also attended a site inspection performed during a visit by Lt. Gov. Kim Guadagno shortly after the incident.

"It sounds like they're ahead of schedule," Burzichelli said of the cleanup, conceding weekend winds had made it difficult.

The assemblyman added officials were monitoring the air — particularly in Paulsboro, Greenwich Township and the refinery itself — to ensure potentially harmful compounds don't exceed mandated limits.

When asked about any potential penalties against PBF, Burzichelli suggested exceeding those air quality mandates could result in fines.

Hajna said he hadn't received word of potential fines or other penalties to the refinery. He said there still hadn't been any impact to the Delaware River, and air monitoring in the area hadn't raised concerns.

Burzichelli maintained the refinery is a valuable local asset.

"The jobs are important, and the product they refine is essential," he said. "It's sophisticated. It's a 24/7 operation.

"The response (to the spill) has gone as planned," Burzichelli continued. "The smell has been unpleasant and you prefer that these things don't happen...But a spill like this is very rare.

"These tanks are more prone to being hit by lightning," he said. He recalled the July 2007 lightning strike to a

# Tank and Petroleum Use Mishaps

chemical tank at what then served as Sunoco's now idle Eagle Point plant in West Deptford Township.

The bolt that hit an oil storage tank with 1.5 million gallons of gasoline blending chemical caused an inferno to which 33 fire companies responded.

[http://www.nj.com/gloucester-county/index.ssf/2012/02/greenwich\\_refinery\\_cleanup\\_dow.html](http://www.nj.com/gloucester-county/index.ssf/2012/02/greenwich_refinery_cleanup_dow.html)

## **USA, CO, DENVER**

**MARCH 1 2012.**

### **UNCOR WORKING TO EXPEL CANCER-CAUSING BENZENE FROM UNDER DENVER-AREA REFINERY**

*Bruce Finley*

Suncor Energy has expanded the hose system blowing air bubbles into Sand Creek attempting to expel cancer-causing benzene spreading from under the company's oil refinery north of Denver.

Its crews also have been packing a trench with bentonite clay from Wyoming, focused on meeting a deadline today for the completion of a 1,000-foot-long, 30-foot-deep underground wall designed to hold back contaminated groundwater.

But benzene levels in Sand Creek and the South Platte River remain significantly elevated — as much as 100 times higher than the U.S. health standard.

Three months after state regulators ordered an intensified cleanup, the fouling of northeastern Colorado's main waterway continues — illustrating the difficulty of dealing with one of the Rocky Mountain region's long-running cases of industrial pollution.

A Denver Post analysis of water sampling data shows that the benzene levels in the creek and river may be increasing.

- At the confluence of Sand Creek and the South Platte, the latest test results show an average benzene concentration of 460 parts per billion in February, up 29 percent from an average of 356 ppb in December. The average for the past eight samples, taken in January and February, was 511 ppb. The federal drinking-water standard is 5 ppb.
- Farther downstream, beneath a bike bridge on the South Platte, tests show an average benzene concentration in February of 241 ppb, up nearly 10 percent from 220 ppb in December.
- Benzene measured in the past two weeks at a series of surface wells along Sand Creek also remained elevated: 170 ppb, 110 ppb, 93 ppb and 89 ppb.

The data, from samples taken by Suncor and provided to the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, were provided to The Post in response to written requests.

### **90,000 barrels a day**

Since the 1980s, CDPHE officials have known about and tried to deal with contamination at the refinery north of Denver, where Suncor processes 90,000 barrels a day of crude oil from the region and tar sands piped in from Canada. Suncor purchased the refinery from Conoco in 2004.

In 2008, CDPHE officials signed off on proposed "final measures" for corrective action under Colorado's hazardous waste laws.

Then, on the Sunday after Thanksgiving, a fly-fisherman spotted black goo oozing into the creek and river — and called CDPHE's emergency line. State spill-response coordinators dispatched a county inspector, who found no problem. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency experts responding to a Denver Post query went to the scene and launched an emergency cleanup.

State officials in February 2011 received a report from Suncor about a spill at the refinery likely to worsen problems. But the resurfacing of toxic material in November "was a surprise," said Rob Beierle, the health department environment-protection specialist tasked with overseeing Suncor's cleanup.

The continuing seepage of benzene into the creek and river "is a concern," Beierle said in an interview over diagrams and maps. "We need to clean it up.

"I think we've got a pretty good idea of what's going on. We just need to run Suncor along as fast as we can. It takes time to clean up subsurface contamination."

# Tank and Petroleum Use Mishaps

## "Not the final solution"

This week, Suncor vice president of refining John Gallagher said aerating Sand Creek to release trapped benzene is not producing the results the company had hoped to see. This "is not the final solution," he said.

Company officials and state regulators now envision a combination of cleanup methods, including pumping and treating 500 gallons of contaminated groundwater per minute and removing toxic vapors from soil.

"We are applying significant resources to address the problem of underground contamination and will continue to do so until we make it right for the environment and this community," Gallagher said.

Gallagher also noted that, under CDPHE's current system for classifying the state's waterways and setting thresholds for pollution, the amount of benzene allowed into Sand Creek is 5,300 ppb — far above the federal 5 ppb health standard.

"Based on the fact that the benzene standard is 5,300 ppb, we don't anticipate there is any permanent damage to the Sand Creek environment," he said.

The harm from spilled benzene probably depends on when contaminated groundwater first reached waterways and how fast it can be contained and cleaned. State aquatic biologists have raised no concerns.

"Cancer in aquatic life, like fish, or in humans who use the water as drinking water might take a decade or two to show up," said Joe Ryan, an environmental engineer at the University of Colorado. "Fish would be much more susceptible to the hazard than humans."

Suncor's underground wall "should have an immediate benefit by slowing the groundwater flow," Ryan said.

But eventually groundwater may find a way around the walls, and "something will have to be done to remove the source of the benzene and the benzene in the groundwater trapped by the wall," he said.

## No contamination

No contamination of drinking water is expected because municipal water providers who rely on the South Platte below the confluence with Sand Creek — Aurora and Thornton — treat their water to remove contaminants before water is piped to homes.

Agricultural irrigators also are tracking the situation, as are water-diversion pipeline operators. The Burlington Ditch, lined with concrete in the 1980s, is not connected with Sand Creek, and water sampling at Barr Lake near Brighton has not detected new pollution.

Beyond the refinery, groundwater contaminated with benzene has spread under neighboring property, including Denver Metro Wastewater's Robert Hite Treatment Facility. Metro Wastewater managers there have given Suncor access to build the underground wall and "are concerned for our workers' and contractors' health and safety, and to meet all of our obligations under our (state pollution) discharge permit," agency spokesman Steve Frank said.

Meanwhile, Herb Gibson, Denver-area director for the U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration, anticipates his open investigation of worker exposures to benzene will continue for several months.

The investigation has expanded beyond refinery locations where benzene was found in drinking water to include benzene in air, Gibson said. "We have received complaints."

Benzene apparently penetrated plastic pipes. Suncor still is providing bottled water for drinking. All Suncor workers have had their blood tested.

The overall situation forced a CDPHE reassessment of corrective actions approved several years ago. By the end of this month, Suncor now is obligated to build an additional 2,000-foot-long underground wall at the edge of the refinery property.

## Ways to extract benzene

Cleanup plans also call for continued use of systems designed to extract benzene vapors from soil. About 300 wells drilled around Suncor's property are used to try to monitor the movement of benzene and other toxic contaminants in groundwater. Two pre-existing underground barriers are meant to slow the spread of contaminated groundwater.

Heavy machinery reverberated this week as contractors filled trenches along Sand Creek with the bentonite, which expands upon contact with water to form what is meant to be an impenetrable barrier.

Suncor supervisors said that once this wall is completed, they'll move machinery to start work on the new, bigger underground wall.

"When Suncor purchased these properties from other owners, the ground under the refinery was already contaminated," Gallagher said.

# Tank and Petroleum Use Mishaps

"Suncor is not perfect. We've had some spills on our site that have added to the contamination. It is our intention — and part of the plan that we're following with CDPHE — to remove and recover all of the hydrocarbons in the soil that is practical.

"The uses of our property and neighboring industrial properties will remain the same as they have been prior to this incident."

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## Benzene contamination of South Platte River

Hydrocarbon pollutants including cancer-causing benzene have contaminated groundwater under Suncor Energy's refinery and spread with some entering Sand Creek and the South Platte River. Here are water sampling results based on data provided by Suncor to the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment and released to the Denver Post.

DATE	BENZENE PPB AT CONFLUENCE	DOWNSTREAM OF CONFLUENCE
11-29	N/P*	270
12-1	N/P*	N/P*
12-2	550	230
12-3	330	210
12-4	430	240
12-5	N/P*	N/P*
12-6	250	130
12-7	200	180
12-8	300	130
12-9	250	170
12-10	490	230
12-11	170	280
12-12	600	230
12-13	280	230
12-14	360	250
12-15	280	220
12-16	240	220
12-17	440	380
12/18	210	280
12/19	270	180
12/20	330	200
12-21	480	230
12-22	970	260
12-23	390	260
12-24	470	290
12-26	320	270
12-27	640	190
12-28	240	300
12-29	140	130
12-30	190	130
1-2	300	240
1-3	730	250
1-4	630	240
1-5	650	240
1-6	190	590
1-7	310	260
1-8	400	260

## Tank and Petroleum Use Mishaps

1-9	720	240
1-11	N/P*	260
1-13	N/P*	310
1-16	N/P*	260
1-18	N/P*	210
1-20	N/P*	300
1-23	N/P*	180
1-25	N/P*	310
1-27	N/P*	280
1-30	N/P*	260
2-1	N/P*	240
2-3	N/P*	350
2-6	N/P*	180
2-8	N/P*	230
2-10	460	240
2-13	N/P*	250
2-27	N/P*	200

[Suncor working to expel cancer-causing benzene from under Denver-area refinery - The Denver Post](http://www.denverpost.com/news/ci_20075398#ixzz1odb7DaKD)  
[http://www.denverpost.com/news/ci\\_20075398#ixzz1odb7DaKD](http://www.denverpost.com/news/ci_20075398#ixzz1odb7DaKD)

### USA, CA, MENLO PARK

#### **MARCH 2 2012. STATE FINES MENLO PARK LAB AFTER FATAL EXPLOSION MEMBRANE TECHNOLOGY & RESEARCH FACES SEVEN CITATIONS, PENALTIES**

*Sandy Brundage*

Membrane Technology & Research in Menlo Park faces seven citations and \$55,850 in penalties as a result of a state investigation into the Sept. 2 laboratory explosion that killed a 56-year-old scientist.

Adrian Martin reportedly was adding methane to a tank containing methane, nitrogen, helium and butane when the pressurized cylinder exploded, blowing the scientist 15 feet into an adjoining laboratory and killing him. A woman standing near the door of the lab was thrown clear and survived with a damaged eardrum.

The California Occupational Health and Safety Association (Cal-OSHA) inquiry found that pressure in the cylinder, which was rated for 300 psi, reached nearly triple that level. The attached pressure relief valve was set to vent only after pressure reached 3,360 psi, about 10 times as high as the cylinder could safely contain.

The seven citations include six labeled as "serious." One cites the lab for failing or neglecting to do everything reasonably necessary to protect the life and safety of its employees, in this case, not noting that the tank was only rated for 300 psi.

Other citations penalize the lab for not identifying hazards, lack of training, setting a pressure relief valve to the wrong level, storing other gases in tanks labeled for propane, and failing to check that all equipment was operated within safe parameters. All seven fines add up to \$55,850.

According to Cal-OSHA spokesperson Erika Monterroza, the lab has 15 business days from Feb. 24, the date the citations were issued, to appeal. Representatives from Membrane Technology, located at 1360 Willow Road, were not immediately available for comment. The lab had no previous record of safety violations.

Data from the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics showed that none of the 28 scientists killed at work in 2010 died due to explosions or chemicals.

Mr. Martin left behind a wife, Livia, and a 17-year-old daughter.

[http://www.almanacnews.com/news/show\\_story.php?id=10744](http://www.almanacnews.com/news/show_story.php?id=10744)

### USA, N.D, BISMARCK,

**MARCH 3 2012.**

#### **SPILLS IN OIL PATCH**

#### **STATE INSPECTORS KEEP TABS ON SPILLS**

*Eloise Ogden*

The oil patch in North Dakota has had 147 spills so far this year. State officials inspect the spills.

# Tank and Petroleum Use Mishaps

Mark Bohrer, UIC manager/ spill and statistical coordinator for the North Dakota Oil and Gas Division, said, as of Feb. 15, those 147 spills have ranged from pipeline, pump, tank and treater leaks to truck overflows. He said most of the spills fall into those categories.

The N.D. Oil and Gas Division is a division of the N.D. Department of Mineral Resources. The division regulates the drilling and production of oil and gas in the state.

Bohrer said the vast majority of spills are cleaned up right away, although some may take a little longer depending on if the spill stays on location. If they're off location, he said that can be trickier, but all are cleaned up.

The operator is responsible for the cleanup, whether they hire someone for the work or do it themselves, he said.

Last year there were roughly 1,100 spills in the oil field, Bohrer said.

"We look at all the spills," Bohrer said. He said those include spills on the Fort Berthold Reservation.

Within about 10 days in January, two spills occurred on the reservation.

Cliff Whitman, New Town, director of Homeland Security and emergency services for the Three Affiliated Tribes, said about 1,000 gallons of crude oil spilled on the east side of New Town when the crude was being transferred from a truck to a rail car. The spill happened Jan. 11.

On Jan. 2, a truck carrying a chemical used for fracking went out of control on an icy stretch of Bureau of Indian Affairs Road 14 in the Mandaree area. Whitman said 50 gallons of the fluid spilled.

Whitman said both spills have been cleaned up.

Inspecting spills is a cooperative effort between the N.D. Oil and Gas Division and the N.D. Health Department.

Currently, there are six field inspectors each in Minot and Williston offices, and seven in the Dickinson field office, said Alison Ritter, Bismarck, public information officer for the N.D. Department of Mineral Resources.

There's also a reclamation specialist who is a former field inspector in the Bismarck office.

During the 2011-2013 biennium, 17 new positions, including a number of field inspectors, were allocated for the N.D. Department of Mineral Resources, Ritter said.

During the 2009-2011 biennium, 56 new positions were allocated for that department, she said.

<http://www.minotdailynews.com/page/content.detail/id/563575/Spills-in-oil-patch.html?nav=5010>

## USA, ILL, NEW LENNOX TWP

MARCH 5 2012.

### 'IT'S HORRIBLE, HORRIBLE, HORRIBLE': 2 DEAD IN OIL PIPELINE CRASH

Two cars crashed through a fence and into an oil pipeline in the southwest suburbs early Saturday — killing two men, critically injuring three others and setting off a fiery explosion and oil fire that burned for hours, officials said.

The fire that erupted in New Lenox Township could be seen from at least a half-mile away and wasn't put out until 5 a.m., three hours after the explosion, and the pipeline wasn't capped for six hours. The situation was so hazardous that even by Saturday afternoon, coroner's officials had not been able to recover the bodies.

"This is horrible, horrible, horrible," said New Lenox Police Chief Bob Sterba. The five men involved in the crash were all in their 20s and reside in New Lenox, Sterba said.

One of those killed was identified as Zachary Orel, a Posen firefighter. He also has worked for Trace Ambulance in Tinley Park, the company confirmed Saturday. His relatives declined to comment Saturday.

It was not clear what led to the crash at 2:05 a.m. at an Enbridge Energy pipeline in an industrial park east of Schoolhouse Road and south of Old Plank Road Trail, officials said.

A Ford Mustang with two people inside and an SUV with three occupants were apparently driving side by side when they went through a chain-link fence at the end of a dead-end road and traveled about 125 feet before striking the pipeline. The crash ignited the crude oil inside the pipeline.

A worker said the impact with the pipe appeared to have "sheared off" the top of the Mustang.

New Lenox Police Officer Eric Etchison was a half-mile from the scene when he saw the flames and rushed to the scene, Sterba said. Etchison helped three men get out of the fenced-in area, Sterba said. However, he was unable to reach the two men in the other car because of "significant flames," Sterba said.

"He certainly was quite frustrated because the other car, the flames and heat were so intense, he couldn't get near it," Sterba said.

The pipeline was reportedly burning until 5 a.m. The crude oil leak was capped at 8 a.m., said Rich Adams, vice president of U.S. operations for Enbridge Energy Company.

Firefighters rushed three men to Silver Cross Hospital for treatment, Mead said. Two men were soon transferred to the burn unit at Loyola Medical Center in Maywood, Sterba said. One man was so badly injured he was

# Tank and Petroleum Use Mishaps

airlifted via helicopter, he said.

Officials did not identify the victims Saturday. "The hazardous conditions have prevented us from confirming and recovering the bodies," Will County Coroner Patrick K. O'Neil said Saturday afternoon.

New Lenox Mayor Tim Baldermann said he knew two of the victims through his son, and played basketball with the men last summer. He declined to name the victims because he was not sure if their families had been notified.

"What a terrible accident. We feel badly for the families and the victims," Baldermann said. Said Posen Mayor Donald Schupek: "I'm sorry that it's such a waste of young life."

Balderman said later Saturday that there was "no danger at this time to the public, the situation has been contained."

<http://www.suntimes.com/news/metro/11042598-418/its-horrible-horrible-horrible-2-dead-in-oil-pipeline-crash.html>

## **USA, MN, APPLE VALLEY**

**MARCH 5 2012.**

### **FUEL CLEANUP UNDERWAY AT APPLE VALLEY TANK FARM**

The cleanup continues at an Apple Valley storage facility where an estimated 63,000 gallons of gasoline leaked from a pipe in mid-February.

The city of Apple Valley has shut down four municipal wells near the Magellan tank farm as a precaution. The Minnesota Department of Health will be testing the wells to make sure they are not contaminated.

"No one expects that any gas has gotten anywhere into the municipal water supply," City Administrator Tom Lawell said.

Removing the wells from service hasn't affected the city water supply because demand is low this time of year, he said.

The leak at the privately owned tank farm near County Road 42 and Flagstaff Avenue was discovered Feb. 14.

The spill was contained by the earthen berm around the tank, so the cleanup has focused on fuel that seeped into the soil.

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency estimated that about 58,000 gallons is still in the ground, as deep as 40 feet below the surface. The groundwater supply begins at about 70 feet; the nearest city well is 500 feet deep.

Magellan will install special wells to draw the gas from the ground.

<http://www.startribune.com/local/south/141305793.html>

## **MALAYSIA, KEDAH, SUNGAI PETANI**

**MARCH 5 2012.**

### **OIL SPILL DISRUPTS WATER SUPPLY**

*Stephen Then and Cindy Lai*

A massive oil spill forced a major water treatment plant near here to shut down yesterday, interrupting the supply of 125 million litres of water daily to a population of 300,000 people in the city.

The Lambir Water Treatment Plant, located about 16km from the city centre, had to close when the raw water intake section was affected after Sungai Liku, the main river supplying water to the plant, became contaminated with oil coming from a leaking diesel-bitumen pipeline.

Environment Department's chief for northern Sarawak, Siva Nathiran, said more than 14,000 litres of diesel and bitumen had seeped into the river yesterday.

"Efforts are being made now to clear the pollutants. It may take at least a day to contain the spill.

"Our department has taken samples of the river water for examination. We are also investigating whether there has been any negligence involved," Siva said.

Meanwhile, Communications Assistant Minister Datuk Lee Kim Shin said the leakage was said to have happened around 9pm on Saturday.

"This is an emergency because an entire water treatment plant had to stop operations.

"There is no choice but for Laku (Northern Sarawak Water Supply Board) to shut down operations of the plant until the pollutants are cleared from the river."

Lee, who is also Senadin assemblyman and former Laku chairman, added that Shell and Petronas in Miri had responded very swiftly to help contain the spill.

The Lambir treatment plant is the sole treated water supply source for the entire district.

Lee said at this critical point, the most urgent thing would be to restore the piped water supply.

"This must be the priority. Efforts must be focused on stopping the leak at the source and clearing the river

# Tank and Petroleum Use Mishaps

water of oil contamination," he said.

Lee said Laku had started activating its water pumps at eight underground water wells in its attempt to channel underground water into the Lambir treatment plant.

Lee said he had also asked Miri Resident, Antonio Kahti Galis to deploy personnel from the Civil Defence Department and other voluntary units to help clear the oil spill along Sungai Liku.

By noon yesterday, many supermarkets in the city were fast running out of bottled drinking and mineral water.

Apparently, there was panic buying among city folk here, which prompted city mayor Lawrence Lai to call on those affected by the dry tap to remain calm and not go on a mad rush to buy drinking water.

The mayor, it was understood, had been informed that some quarters were selling a box of drinking water at RM24 instead of between RM7 and RM9 per box.

<http://thestar.com.my/news/story.asp?file=/2012/3/5/nation/10856045&sec=nation>

## **USA, AKA, ANCHORAGE**

**MARCH 8 2012.**

### **GAS SPILLS AT FALSE PASS SEAFOOD PROCESSING PLANT**

Department of Environmental Conservation officials are monitoring a 3,468-gallon spill of unleaded gasoline at the Peter Pan Seafoods plant at False Pass.

The DEC says in a situation report that the plant manager discovered the spill Sunday afternoon and reported it Monday morning.

The gas was lost from a tank that holds 30,610 gallons and DEC officials say it probably leaked from the bottom. The gas in the tank was estimated at 12,325 gallons at the end of January.

The DEC says spilled gas went into a lined containment area.

Peter Pan response workers as of Sunday had transferred 2,100 gallons of gas from the tank into barrels and had another 100 barrels available.

False Pass is on Unimak Island off the Alaska Peninsula about 646 miles southwest of Anchorage.

<http://newsminer.com/bookmark/17781216-Gas-spills-at-False-Pass-seafood-processing-plant->

## **USA, MS, JEFFERSON CO**

**MARCH 9 2012.**

### **FIREFIGHTERS WORK TO EXTINGUISH CRUDE OIL FIRE IN JEFFERSON DAVIS CO.**

The Collins Fire Department Special Operations Response team extinguished a crude oil fire Wednesday in Jefferson Davis County.

The department got a call Wednesday morning from Penn Virginia Oil and Gas Corp., requesting assistance with a storage tank fire on Shivers-Booth Road, according to a press release.

The department maintains specialized training and a large contingency of specialized industrial and petroleum firefighting equipment and foam concentrate to combat hydrocarbon and fossil fuel fires.

The fire was extinguished in less than an hour from the initial call.

The cause of the fire, which started in two oil tanks that held more than 33,000 gallons of crude oil, is still under investigation.

Prentiss Fire Department, Jefferson Davis Emergency Management Agency, the state oil and gas board and several volunteer departments also responded.

<http://www.hattiesburgamerican.com/article/20120308/NEWS01/203080312/Firefighters-work-extinguish-crude-oil-fire-Jefferson-Davis-Co->

## **USA, OK, OKLAHOMA CITY**

**MARCH 9 2012. OKC**

### **FIREFIGHTERS AT SCENE OF TANK BATTERY FIRE**

Firefighters are on the scene of a tank battery fire in Southwest Oklahoma City. Maj. Brian Stanaland says the department is a working fire at Southwest 15th Street and Morgan Road where several tanks are on fire. Hazmat has been called to the scene. Firefighters say they are putting foam on the fire and shutting down both lanes of SW 15th Street. Firefighters say the blaze began about 8 a.m. after a lightning strike. A tank battery is a group of production tanks located in a field to store crude oil.

<http://www.koco.com/r/30635377/detail.html>

# Tank and Petroleum Use Mishaps

**USA, WA, SEATTLE**

**MARCH 12 2012.**

## **TWO MEN BURNED IN EXPLOSION NEAR BALLARD LOCKS**

Two people were hurt Sunday in an explosion at a business near the Ballard locks. Seattle Fire officials say two men working at J.K. Fabrication were welding on a boat next to two fuel tanks and the tanks ignited. One tank flew over a fence and onto train tracks. A 59-year-old man was in critical condition with burns over 40 percent of his body. A 33-year-old man had burns over 20 percent of his body and was in serious condition.

<http://www.nwcn.com/home/?fid=142252775&fPath=/news/local&fDomain=10212>

**USA, OH, JEFFERSON CO**

**MARCH 12 2012.**

## **FIRST RESPONDERS AT SCENE OF FUEL TANK FIRE**

Firefighters responded to a fuel tank fire that broke out about 9:45 a.m. Sunday in Jefferson County. Dispatchers said the fire occurred on Riddles Run Road near the Cardinal plant at a coal mining site. Mingo Junction, New Alexandria and Brilliant fire departments responded and extinguished the fire within the hour. Officials with the Environmental Protection Agency were called out to the scene. No further reports are available at this time.

<http://www.wtov9.com/news/news/first-responders-scene-fuel-tank-fire/nLQX5/>

**CANADA, N.W.T, DELINE**

**MARCH 22 2012.**

## **FUEL TANK OVERFLOWS IN DELINE, N.W.T.**

### **PUBLIC WORKS TRUCK OVERFILLS TANK AT COMMUNITY'S FUEL DEPOT, SPILLING 20,000 LITRES OF GASOLINE**

Territorial government officials say a fuel spill in Deline, N.W.T., earlier this month caused no environmental damage.

The spill happened March 11, when a Public Works fuel truck overfilled a tank at the community's fuel depot. About 20,000 litres of gasoline overflowed out onto the snow.

"There may have been human error involved, there may have been mechanical failure, ... I'd be speculating if I jumped to any sort of conclusion," said John Vandenberg, director of the petroleum products division of the N.W.T. Department of Public Works.

"We will take a look at this and determine what actions we'll take to prevent it from happening in the future."

Vandenberg said all of the gas was contained by a berm around the tank and that a plastic liner prevented it from seeping into the ground.

Shovels and two vacuum trucks were used to collect the contaminated snow. It was packed into drums to be shipped out to a disposal site in Alberta

Officials hope to complete the cleanup before the winter road season ends.

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/north/story/2012/03/22/north-deline-fuel-spill.html>