

# Tank and Petroleum Use Mishaps

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

## **PAKISTAN, PESHAWAR**

**JULY 21 2014.**

### **FOUR KILLED IN CYLINDER BLAST**

At least four people died while three others were injured when a Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) cylinder exploded in Chamkani area of Peshawar on Monday. The explosion damaged the roof of the CNG station. According to details, the gas cylinder installed in a car exploded when it was being filled at a pump station on Peshawar Ring Road, killing four people on spot while injuring three others sitting in another car. Two nearby cars were also damaged in the incident. Soon after the blast, rescue teams reached the site and shifted the bodies to Lady Reading hospital.

<http://dunyanews.tv/index.php/en/Pakistan/229711-Peshawar-Four-killed-in-cylinder-blast>

## **USA, N.D, WILLISTON**

**JULY 23 2014.**

### **EXPLOSIONS, FLAMES ERUPT AT OIL SUPPLY BUSINESS**

*Maya Srikrishnan*

A huge fire with 500-foot flames erupted at an oil industry supply business early Tuesday in the town of Williston, N.D., prompting a half-mile radius evacuation zone around the blaze that is expected to burn for up to 48 hours, officials said.

Explosions and flames began just after midnight at Red River Supply, the Williams County Emergency Services told the Los Angeles Times. A state highway near the fire was closed down.

No injuries were reported and the cause is not yet known.

Red River Supply is a family-owned and operated company and offers various products and services to the local oil industry. It distributes rail spurs for loading and unloading crude oil, drill pipes and casing and provides storage, blending and delivery of drilling fluids — such as calcium chloride, calcium bromide, calcium nitrate and potash — according to the company's website.

Fire departments from three counties, the North Dakota hazardous materials response team and the North Dakota National Guard have all been called in to battle the fire, which has been mostly contained, but emergency officials said in a statement they will be on scene for an additional 24 to 48 hours.

<http://www.columbian.com/news/2014/jul/22/explosions-flames-erupt-at-oil-supply-business/>

# Tank and Petroleum Use Mishaps

**USA, WYO, POWDER RIVER**

**JULY 23 2014.**

## **WYOMING OIL PIPE SPILL CAUSED BY CORROSION**

The owner of a pipeline that sprung a leak and spilled 25,000 gallons of crude oil that flowed more than two miles down a gully in the Powder River Basin said Friday that internal corrosion was to blame.

"It's pretty well been resolved, and we continue to monitor it. The cleanup and repairs went very well," said Bob Dundas, environmental coordinator for Casper-based Belle Fourche Pipeline.

He declined to comment on the age of the 6-inch pipeline or whether the company is investigating any corrosion elsewhere in its system.

Belle Fourche Pipeline is a subsidiary of the True Companies.

The spill happened May 19 about 45 miles southeast of Buffalo and 35 miles southwest of Gillette. The oil crossed mostly federal Bureau of Land Management property, but it also crossed state-owned land in a region that has seen a significant increase in oil drilling over the past few years.

A temporary dam stopped the oil just short of flowing onto private land. The oil remained a couple miles away from reaching the Powder River.

Belle Fourche Pipeline workers burned the oil to clean it up.

The Bureau of Land Management has been investigating the spill but as of Friday had not released findings. BLM Buffalo Field Office Manager Duane Spencer didn't return a message seeking an update on the investigation.

Nobody was working in the area of the buried pipeline at the time of the leak.

The oil didn't pose a threat to groundwater in the remote area, agency officials said.

<http://www.claimsjournal.com/news/west/2014/07/22/252089.htm>

**PERU, CUNINICO**

**JULY 23 2014.**

## **AMAZON OIL SPILL HAS KILLED TONS OF FISH, SICKENED NATIVE PEOPLE**

*Barbara Fraser*

On the last day of June, Roger Mangía Vega watched an oil slick and a mass of dead fish float past this tiny Kukama Indian community and into the Marañón River, a major tributary of the Amazon.

Community leaders called the emergency number for Petroperu, the state-run operator of the 845-kilometer pipeline that pumps crude oil from the Amazon over the Andes Mountains to a port on Peru's northern coast.

By late afternoon, Mangía and a handful of his neighbors – contracted by the company and wearing only ordinary clothing – were up to their necks in oily water, searching for a leak in the pipe. Villagers, who depend on fish for subsistence and income, estimated that they had seen between two and seven tons of dead fish floating in lagoons and littering the landscape.

"It was the most horrible thing I've seen in my life – the amount of oil, the huge number of dead fish and my Kukama brothers working without the necessary protection," said Ander Ordóñez Mozombite, an environmental monitor for an indigenous community group called Acodecospat who visited the site a few days later.

This rupture of Peru's 39-year-old northern crude oil pipeline has terrified Kukama villagers along the Marañón River. People's complaints of nausea and skin rashes are aggravated by nervousness about eating the fish, concerns about their lost income and fears that oil will spread throughout the tropical forest and lakes when seasonal flooding begins in November. Cuninico, a village of wooden, stilt-raised, palm-thatched houses, is home to about 130 families but several hundred families in other communities also fish nearby.

Three weeks after they discovered the spill, the villagers still have more questions than answers about the impacts.

"It sounds like an environmental debacle for the people and the ecosystem," said David Abramson,

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deputy director of the National Center of Disaster Preparedness at Columbia University's Earth Institute in New York.

"There is a need for public health and environmental monitoring at a minimum of four levels – water, fish, vegetation and the population," he said.

Company officials at Petroperu did not return phone calls and emails seeking comment.

Government officials have not officially announced how much crude oil spilled. However, in a radio interview, Energy and Mines Minister Eleodoro Mayorga mentioned 2,000 barrels, which is 84,000 gallons.

Indigenous leaders noted that the pipeline, which began operating again July 12 after the repairs, has a history of leaks.

Leaders of at least four neighboring communities said masses of dead fish appeared in lagoons and streams in the week before the oil spill was reported, indicating that it could have been leaking for days before it was spotted.

Even fish that escaped the worst of the spill could be poisoned, experts said. Fishermen who traveled an hour or two up the Urituyacu River, a tributary of the Marañón, in search of a catch unaffected by the spill returned with fish that they said tasted of oil.

Some Amazonian fish migrate long distances, and ongoing monitoring will be important for determining how fisheries recover, said Diana Papoulias, a fish biologist with E-Tech International, a New Mexico-based engineering firm that advises indigenous Peruvian communities on oil-related issues.

Key concerns include polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), which are classified as probable human carcinogens and can cause skin, liver and immune system problems, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Exposure to PAHs in the womb has been linked to effects on children's brain development, including learning and behavioral changes.

For pregnant women, the fish become a "double-edged sword," Abramson said. "They need that protein source to enhance the neurological development of the fetus, but at the same time, you don't want them ingesting things that have unknown impacts."

Mothers said children and adults in their families are suffering from stomachaches, nausea, vomiting and dizziness, and small children have skin rashes after bathing in the rivers.

In this part of the Marañón valley, the nearest health center is more than an hour away by boat and does not have a doctor.

The government's Environmental Evaluation and Oversight Agency (Organismo de Evaluación y Fiscalización Ambiental, OEFA) has taken no samples of fish tissue for testing, according to Delia Morales, the agency's assistant director of inspection.

Much of the oil settled in pools along the pipeline during the flood season, creating a viscous soup where dying fish flopped weakly. Government officials said damage was limited to a 700-meter stretch along the pipeline. The ground and tree trunks in the forest on both sides of the pipeline were also stained with oil, in a swath local residents estimated at up to 300 meters wide. When that area begins to flood again in November, villagers fear that contamination could spread.

Petroperu hired men from the village of Cuninico to find the leak and raise the pipeline out of the canal to repair it. Several of the men said they were up to their necks in oily water, working in T-shirts and pants or stripped to their underwear. They said they received protective gear only when a Peruvian TV crew arrived more than two weeks later. The July 20 newscast led to a shakeup in Petroperu's leadership.

Meanwhile, the workers' wives wash their clothes in the Marañón River, squatting on rafts moored along the bank. Besides being the only transportation route in the area, the river is the source of water for drinking, cooking, bathing and washing.

Within a week after the spill, the local fish market had dried up. Women who normally sold 10 to 20 kilos of fish a day said their usual buyers shunned them. Children in Cuninico told a reporter from Radio Ucamara, a local radio station, that fish had disappeared from the family table and they were eating mainly rice and cassava, a root.

Abramson said the villagers' mental health can be undermined by poor diet, income loss and

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conflicts between community members.

The pipeline has been repaired and the oil is flowing to the port again, but the long-term impacts of the spill are uncertain.

Light and bacteria help break down oil naturally, said Edward Overton, a chemistry professor in Louisiana State University's Department of Environmental Studies who has studied the Deepwater Horizon oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico. Volatile substances in the oil, which dissolve readily in water, could have caused the fish kills if the pipeline had been leaking for a time before the spill was reported, he said.

"The rule of thumb is that during the spill it's a horrible mess, and two or three years later it's hard to find evidence," Overton said.

But that may not be the case in Amazonian wetlands, where clay soil and high water limit the oxygen available to oil-eating microbes, said Ricardo Segovia, a hydrogeologist with E-Tech International.

The government's environmental agency is expected to issue its report on the spill by the end of this month and could levy fines, Morales said.

Villagers are waiting to see whether the government will sanction its own pipeline operation and pay damages.

"It sounds as though the state is in a precarious position," Abramson said. "It [the government of Peru] has to monitor and assure the health and well-being of the population, but it may be one of the agents that is liable [for the spill]. They have to monitor themselves and decide what is fair and equitable."

<http://www.environmentalhealthnews.org/ehs/news/2014/jul/amazon-oil-spill>

### **MEXICO, TAMAULIPAS, CIUDAD MADERO**

**JULY 24 2014.**

#### **MEXICO'S PEMEX SAYS BLAZE HALTS MOST WORK AT MADERO REFINERY**

Mexican state oil company Pemex said on Wednesday that work at most of its Ciudad Madero refinery in northern Mexico had been halted while it tries to contain an ongoing blaze in a storage tank.

Pemex said in a statement that the fire would likely be extinguished by midday on Thursday as the company's emergency personnel and firefighters from nearby cities worked together, the company said in a statement.

"Most of the refinery plants are stopped for security," a Pemex spokesman said earlier in a telephone interview, adding that there was a very low risk of the fire spreading to other parts of the refinery, located in Tamaulipas state.

Local television images showed out-of-control flames at the site, where the blaze began during the night in a gasoline storage tank.

Pemex said two workers suffered light burns and 21 others were treated for dehydration and exhaustion after battling the blaze. Around 200 people who live near the refinery had been evacuated, the company said.

The Ciudad Madero refinery is the smallest of Pemex's six domestic refineries, with a total crude processing capacity of 190,000 barrels per day.

<http://af.reuters.com/article/energyOilNews/idAFL2N0PY10P20140724>

### **USA, OK, FAIRVIEW**

**JULY 26 2014.**

#### **OIL-COVERED OWLS PROMPT INVESTIGATION OF 'NEGLECTED' OIL FIELD SITE**

The discovery of two barn owls coated in oil has prompted an investigation of a "neglected" oil field site in northwest Oklahoma.

One of the owls died, the Enid News & Eagle reported on July 25. The surviving bird is eating, walking and climbing and is being monitored by Jean Neal, a Fairview caretaker "licensed to handle small non-migratory animals."

The Oklahoma Corporation Commission and state Department of Wildlife Conservation are

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investigating a site near the Major and Garfield County lines. Inspectors found several other dead birds floating in a saltwater tank at the site, the paper reports:

A preliminary report, compiled by an Oklahoma Corporation Commission oil and gas field inspector, noted there was oil on the ground around the tank and in several other areas inside the dike. Rig anchors were not marked, and there were no Oklahoma Tax Commission numbers on the storage tanks or the meter house, the report stated.

Federal rules require saltwater tanks to be covered. The site also lacked required signage, according to the preliminary inspection report, so it's unclear at this time who is responsible for the tanks.

<http://stateimpact.npr.org/oklahoma/2014/07/28/oil-covered-owls-prompt-investigation-of-neglected-oil-field-site/>

**USA, FLA, ORLANDO**

**JULY 27 2014.**

### **A YEAR LATER, OWES EXPLANATION STILL OWED FOR DEPOT EXPLOSION**

The smell is the only noticeable difference between today and a year ago at the Blue Rhino propane plant in south Tavares.

Before a massive explosion that went on all night at the plant a year ago Tuesday, folks around it could always smell the distinctive sulfur odor that is added to propane so human noses can detect the volatile gas.

"The smell never went away before. I don't know what they're doing differently now," said Duane Siebert, who owns a business that backs up to a chain-link fence around the plant on County Road 448.

But he can take a good guess: Blue Rhino employees aren't "bleeding" propane canisters on the hot asphalt behind the building, as they did the night of July 29, 2013, that a worker started a forklift in a cloud of propane, igniting a flash fire that turned 53,000 tanks into flaming missiles.

Tavares firefighters rushed to the scene, but heat prevented them from getting close enough to turn water guns onto the company's three 30,000-gallon tanks.

Police evacuated homes and businesses for a half mile around the plant, and people fled, some of them trying to guide terrified horses through a mile of underbrush to get away from the continual explosions.

At least 17 people were working in the plant, and seven were injured, several seriously. One man woke up from a coma after a month.

The Division of State Fire Marshal, the LP Gas Division of the state Department of Agriculture and the federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration all attributed the explosion that did about \$3 million damage to the same thing: human error.

Employees weren't supposed to be letting propane drain willy-nilly onto the ground behind the plant that refurbishes and refills canisters. OSHA went further: It cited the company for 26 violations and levied \$73,000 in fines. Ferrellgas, the parent company of Blue Rhino, is fighting back, claiming that employees caused this whole mess and there's no way the company could have know they'd do what they did. A hearing before the Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission is set for Dec. 9 in Orlando and is expected to take three days.

Blue Rhino's claim that its workers are at fault seems to run counter to OSHA's citations, which included several for failing even to have written rules, along with failing to train employees, a number of whom didn't speak English. They came from the Marshall Islands in the North Pacific Ocean.

Asked what changes the company has made at the plant to prevent any more explosions, the Ferrellgas spokesman didn't reply.

Wow. Really? That's an unreasonable question for a company that nearly blew a piece of Tavares off the map? Such disdain for the public is inexcusable and leaves bad feelings about the company in the community. Perhaps Ferrellgas doesn't think it owes Tavares even an explanation, let alone compensation.

Tavares officials said Blue Rhino changed the water-gun system that keeps the big tanks cool from

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one that has to be activated manually to one that automatically activates and has remote switches as backup in case it doesn't. It added extra gates for employees and increased the width of aisles between pallets that store the tanks, Tavares City Administrator John Drury said.

Those are all good measures, but they won't prevent disaster. The company needs to develop a training program and aggressively train its workers. It needs to announce that program to the public.

Meanwhile, folks close to the plant are still considering their options.

One suit was filed last year by Herb Welder, who discovered a smoking propane canister in the middle of the living room of his new house after it blasted through the roof. Welder's former lawyers failed to act in the case, and it was closed without his knowledge in June. He plans to refile using a new law firm.

Siebert said last week that Blue Rhino or its insurance company paid for all the immediate repairs caused by the explosion and fire. But Siebert and Welder are more worried about the future.

"Beyond tangible damages, there are some intangible damages. Who in their right mind would buy next to Blue Rhino knowing what is possible?" Siebert said.

And he's right.

Blue Rhino owes the Tavares community in more ways than one, and so far all it's gotten is a cold stare.

<http://www.orlandosentinel.com/news/local/lake/os-lk-blue-rhino-explosion-anniversary-lauren-ritc-20140726,0,409992.story>

### USA, MS, MOSS POINT

**JULY 29 2014.**

#### **HELENA MAN KILLED IN OMEGA PROTEIN EXPLOSION; 3 INJURED**

Jerry Lee Taylor, 25, was killed Monday morning after an explosion at the Omega Protein plant in Moss Point. Taylor lived in the Helena community of Jackson County.

Three other men, all subcontractors for the company, were injured and taken to Singing River Hospital. They have been identified as: Josh Walls, 34; Clay Davis, 40; and Lloyd McGill.

A hospital official told us two of the men were treated for minor injuries and have been released. The third victim underwent surgery Monday afternoon, and was still recovering Monday night.

The explosion happened around 9:30am. Moss Point Fire Chief Tommy Posey told WLOX News the men were repairing one of the metal towers that stored fish oil. He said the tank was supposed to be empty. Two men were working on the tank that exploded; Two were on the ground.

Posey said the explosion was so big, it scattered debris more than 85 yards away, and blew the cap off the tank onto a nearby building.

Major Jackson said he heard the explosion near his office, on the east side of the Omega Protein plant. He's worked at the Moss Point facility for 51 years and said he has never experienced anything like this before.

All employees were sent home for the day and the plant was shut down as the investigation continues.

Omega Protein released a statement Monday evening regarding the deadly explosion.

"The Moss Point facility did not suffer any significant damage or loss of product inventory as a result of the incident, but the plant will not be operating until the conclusion of the on-site investigation. Omega Protein is working cooperatively with local officials as we aid in gathering details about today's events. We expect to have the facility back operating by week's end. Omega Protein's thoughts and prayers are with the workers and their families."

Back in 2012, an Omega Protein worker was killed in an accident that federal investigators have since said was avoidable. Christopher Hebert, 24, of Moss Point had worked at the plant for three years. He was killed when he was caught in a rotating screw conveyor.

Following the fatal accident, an investigation by the U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration found 25 safety and health violations at the plant. Hebert's family filed a

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wrongful death lawsuit, which is still pending in U.S. district court. It's set to go to trial in October.

David Harris Jr. one of the attorneys representing the Hebert Family in that litigation. He released the following statement from the family about Monday's fatal accident:

"Our thoughts and prayers are with the families of the deceased and the other injured people. It appears Omega protein has continued to allow an unreasonably, unsafe and dangerous work environment to exist at the Moss Point plant. The family of Christopher Hebert certainly understands how tragedy feels. If Christopher had not been killed at the plant, he would have been able to continue his efforts to make Omega a safer place to work."

The Moss Point plant and its adjacent shipyard employ about 300 people. There's work year-round, although it picks up during Menhaden fishing season, which runs from mid-April until the first of November.

In May 2011, three men were killed aboard an Omega Protein fishing boat called the Sandy Point. The Sandy Point collided with a 660-foot container ship in the Gulfport ship channel.

<http://www.wlox.com/story/26129569/explosion-at-omega-protein-plant-in-moss-point>

### **USA, PA, BRADFORD, AUGUST 7 2014. TANK BLAST INJURES WORKER AT BRADFORD RECYCLING PLANT**

*Nancy Sanders*

A blast heard throughout Bradford on Tuesday injured a worker at Metalico Bradford Goodman Services. The explosion occurred when an employee at the recycling company was cutting into a crude oil tank with a circular cut-off saw. Officials say the vapors in the tank were somehow ignited by the gas-powered saw. The force of the blast split the tank in half. The name of the victim has not been released. One other worker in the area was treated on the scene for minor injuries.

<http://wivb.com/2014/08/06/bradford-blast-injures-worker-at-recycling-plant>

### **USA, OK, STILLWATER**

**AUGUST 10 2014.**

#### **LIGHTNING CAUSES TANK FIRE EAST OF STILLWATER**

*Megan Sando*

Firefighters work to extinguish an oil tank that caught fire as a result of a lightning strike early Friday morning. A lightning strike from thunderstorms early Friday caused an oil tank to catch fire at 6:50 a.m. Firefighters arrived to an oil tank ablaze one-half mile south of Highway 51, east of Stillwater on Fairgrounds Road. Firefighters extinguished the fire with a special concentrate used for flammable liquid fires. Battalion 1, Engine 2 and a tanker responded. Firefighters were on scene for 90 minutes, Battalion Chief Tommy Miller said. "Stillwater Fire Department did a great job of keeping the tank next to the one burning from catching fire," land owner Randy Wedel said. Stillwater responders originally called for aid from Glencoe, but it was canceled. "We were able to extinguish the fire with approximately 500 gallons of water and 15 gallons of foam concentrate which is designed for use on these types of flammable liquid fires," Miller said. No injuries were reported as a result of the fire.

<http://www.stwnewspress.com/local/x1027623221/Lightning-causes-tank-fire-east-of-Stillwater>

### **ENGLAND, HAMPSHIRE**

**AUGUST 10 2014.**

#### **ENVIRONMENT AGENCY TO PROBE CONTAMINATION AFTER OUT-OF-CONTROL BONFIRE SETS LIGHT TO OIL TANK AT HAMPSHIRE FARM**

*Charlotte Neal*

A blaze started by an out-of-control bonfire spread to a 900-litre oil tank, it emerged today. Twelve firefighters were called to a Hampshire farm when flames spread to nearby trees and two outbuildings. It reached the central heating tank at Weston Farm, near Micheldever, causing an oil leak. It is believed much of the fuel burned away. Now environmental experts are to conduct tests to see if

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the oil leak has contaminated the area.

Farmer David Stevens said: "It was a very stressful evening. It was garden rubbish and got out of control. It spread to a tree and it was not a good place to have a bonfire. It spread to the oil tank and then got bigger.

"The Environment Agency has been out, and will look for contamination in the soil. They will be dealing with it as they see fit.

As previously reported, Winchester fire crews saved two ferrets from the burning outbuildings and it was thought one of the pets had perished in the blaze which started around 9.45pm on Thursday. However, Mr Stevens confirmed that another three animals were found safe yesterday morning. The five ferrets belong to his 19-year-old son, James Stevens.

No-one was injured. Crew manager Phil Foxton, of Winchester fire station, said: "We urge anyone to keep bonfires attended and to start it away from other flammable items such as trees and sheds."

[http://www.dailyecho.co.uk/news/11399488.Bonfire\\_blaze\\_spread\\_to\\_oil\\_tank/](http://www.dailyecho.co.uk/news/11399488.Bonfire_blaze_spread_to_oil_tank/)

### **USA, PA, LEHIGH CO**

**AUGUST 12 2014.**

#### **PLUMBER BLAMES DIESEL FUEL TANK LEAK FOR KIDNEY FAILURE**

*Jim Boyle*

A 32-year-old Lehigh County man says a heavy exposure to diesel fuel has caused him to suffer acute renal failure and needs a kidney transplant to survive, according to a federal suit filed in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania.

Jason Marino, of Slatington, Pa., seeks more than \$150,000 in damages for several counts of negligence and violations of the Storage Tank and Spill Prevention Act against Pilot Travel Centers, LLC, and Sovereign Consulting.

According to the complaint, in February 2014 the Robbinsville, N.J.-based Sovereign Consulting contracted Marino, a plumber employed by Remco, Inc., to help a ruptured waterline on the grounds of the Flying J Travel Plaza 710 in New Milford, Pa., a rest area owned and operated by Pilot.

The suit says that between October 2003 and November 2013, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection cited the Flying J Travel Center multiple times for failure to keep the underground fuel tanks properly maintained.

In November 2013, Pilot learned that one of the underground diesel tanks was leaking, earning another citation in the process. In late 2013 or early 2014, Pilot hired Sovereign to conduct underground drilling to test for the leaks. During the investigation, one of the drills hit a water line, forcing Sovereign to call in Marino, the suit says.

According to the complaint, Marino could not access the area for repairs until the frozen ground softened up. When he started excavating in March 2014, the pit that Marino dug to access the water line began to fill with a dark, thick liquid. Even when he pumped out the fluid, it seeped back into the pit, rising as high as Marino's knees and midsection.

Despite the leak of the then-unknown substance, Marino continued working to repair the water pipe for the next five days, the claim says. At certain points, he would need to lower to his knees, with the liquid up to his chest.

According to the complaint, Marino later learned that the liquid was, in fact, the leaking diesel fuel from Pilot's tank. The claim says that prolonged exposure to diesel fuel can absorb through the skin and infect the bloodstream, causing renal failure. Marino says that at no point did any representative from Pilot warn him of the potential leak or advise him to use protective gear while working on the project.

Marino finished the job in April, and in May went to St. Luke's Hospital & Health Network with symptoms of nausea, dizziness and excessive tiredness. The doctors came back with a diagnosis of severe glomerulosclerosis, which is scarring of the small vessels of the kidneys that filter urine from the blood.

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Marino and his wife were advised that the condition is non-reversible and he would need a transplant to survive.

According to the suit, Marino's father, Thomas, offered to donate a kidney, but he was not an exact match for Jason. However, Thomas donated the kidney to the donor bank, in order for his son to receive a new kidney at an accelerated rate. As a result of the surgery, Thomas Marino faces his own recovery challenges and has sued both companies for damages, the suit says

The plaintiffs are represented by Leonard Villari and Thomas Lynam of Villari, Lentz & Lynam in Philadelphia.

<http://pennrecord.com/uncategorized/14382-plumber-blames-diesel-fuel-tank-leak-for-kidney-failure>

## **USA, N.J, MONTVILLE**

**AUGUST 14 2014.**

### **DIESEL FUEL SPILL AT MUNICIPAL FIELDS IN MONTVILLE**

*Melissa Benno*

On Tuesday, Aug. 12, a diesel fuel spill occurred in Montville when an oil delivery company tried to make a delivery to the former location of the Montville Department of Public Works (DPW), according to Montville Police Chief Rudy Appelmann.

The driver of the truck, which is registered to Veryak Petroleum Enterprises in Kearny, tried to fill tanks located at 86 River Road, the site of Montville's Board of Education building and municipal baseball fields.

Montville's DPW has not been located at that address since 2005. "The delivery person was not paying attention to the hose while pumping the fuel into the tanks," Appelmann said. "The fuel then overflowed and spilled into storm drains going into the Rockaway River."

Appelmann stated that the Parsippany Fire Department Hazardous Materials (HazMat) team along with Morris County HazMat and the NJ Department of Environmental Protection were attempting to contain the spill with booms and absorbent materials to prevent the fuel from proceeding downstream.

The matter is still under investigation at this time, according to Appelmann. TAP into Montville will provide further details once the investigation is complete.

<http://thealternativepress.com/articles/diesel-fuel-spill-at-municipal-fields-in-montvill>

## **USA, ILL, ELDORADO**

**AUGUST 19 2014.**

### **LIGHTNING SPARKS SOUTHERN ILLINOIS OIL TANK FIRE**

A southern Illinois business has contained an oil tank fire started by a lightning strike. WSIL-TV reports lightning ignited oil tanks at Campbell Enterprise early Sunday. The Eldorado Fire Department responded and said the only option was to let the fire burn. Company workers used limestone to contain the flames after fire crews left the scene. The company says no one was injured. The company had trucks and workers onsite all day to handle cleanup. It didn't give an estimation of damages.

<http://www.bnd.com/2014/08/18/3355028/lightning-sparks-southern-illinois.html>

## **USA, IA, DES MOINES**

**AUGUST 21 2014.**

### **LIGHTNING CAUSES FUEL SPILL IN DES MOINES**

*Katherine Klingseis*

Lightning struck a communication tower and caused fuel to spill from an underground fuel tank in Des Moines late this morning, officials said. Firefighters responded to a report of a fuel spill at 925 High St. around 11:15 a.m.

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Maintenance staff said lightning had struck the Century Links communications tower and damaged the equipment earlier in the morning. The lightning strike caused the fuel tank located below the tower to begin pumping diesel fuel to an emergency generator without shutting it off, officials said.

Maintenance crews called 911 after the fuel spill triggered an alarm. Hazmat technicians tested the area for fuel vapor levels, and found the roughly 200 gallons of fuel was confined in the secondary containment system. The fuel posed no threat to the building's occupants or to the environment, according to a city of Des Moines news release. No injuries were reported. The fuel will be transferred back to the original tank when the pump has been repaired.

<http://www.desmoinesregister.com/story/news/local/2014/08/20/lightning-fuel-spill-des-moines/14351513/>

**USA, WASHINGTON DC**

**AUGUST 28 2014.**

### **CSB CHAIRPERSON MOURE-ERASO WARNS ABOUT DANGER OF HOT WORK ON TANKS CONTAINING BIOLOGICAL OR ORGANIC MATERIAL**

Earlier this month a team of CSB investigators deployed to the Omega Protein facility in Moss Point, Mississippi, where a tank explosion on July 28, 2014, killed a contract worker and severely injured another. Our team, working alongside federal OSHA inspectors, found that the incident occurred during hot work on or near a tank containing eight inches of a slurry of water and fish matter known as “stickwater.”

The explosion blew the lid off the 30-foot-high tank, fatally injuring a contract worker who was on top of the tank. A second contract worker on the tank was severely injured. CSB investigators commissioned laboratory testing of the stickwater and found telltale signs of microbial activity in the samples, such as the presence of volatile fatty acids in the liquid samples and offgassing of flammable methane and hydrogen sulfide.

The stickwater inside of the storage tank had been thought to be nonhazardous. No combustible gas testing was done on the contents of the tank before the hot work commenced.

This tragedy underscores the extreme importance of careful hot work planning, hazard evaluation, and procedures for all storage tanks, whether or not flammable material is expected to be present. Hot work dangers are not limited to the oil, gas, and chemical sectors where flammability hazards are commonplace.

The CSB has now examined three serious hot work incidents—all with fatalities—involving hot work on tanks of biological or organic matter. At the Packaging Corporation of America (PCA), three workers were killed on July 29, 2008, as they were performing hot work on a catwalk above an 80-foot-tall tank of “white water,” a slurry of pulp fiber waste and water. CSB laboratory testing identified anaerobic, hydrogen-producing bacteria in the tank. The hydrogen gas ignited, ripping open the tank lid and sending workers tumbling to their deaths.

On February 16, 2009, a welding contractor was killed while repairing a water clarifier tank at the ConAgra Foods facility in Boardman, Oregon. The tank held water and waste from potato washing; the CSB investigation found that water and organic material had built up beneath the base of the tank and decayed through microbial action, producing flammable gas that exploded.

Mixtures of water with fish, potatoes, or cardboard waste could understandably be assumed to be benign and pose little safety risk to workers. It is vital that companies, contract firms, and maintenance personnel recognize that in the confines of a storage tank, seemingly non-hazardous organic substances can release flammable gases at levels that cause the vapor space to exceed the lower flammability limit. Under those conditions, a simple spark or even conducted heat from hot work can prove disastrous.

I urge all companies to follow the positive example set by the DuPont Corporation, after a fatal hot work tragedy occurred at a DuPont chemical site near Buffalo, New York. Following CSB recommendations from 2012, DuPont instituted a series of reforms to hot work safety practices on a global basis, including requirements for combustible gas monitoring when planning for welding or other hot work on or near

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storage tanks or adjacent spaces.

Combustible gas testing is simple, safe, and affordable. It is a recommended practice of the National Fire Protection Association, The American Petroleum Institute, FM Global, and other safety organizations that produce hot work guidance. Combustible gas testing is important on tanks that hold or have held flammables, but it is equally important—if not more so—for tanks where flammables are not understood to be present. It will save lives.

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