



Homeland Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 14 January 2010

Current Nationwide Threat Level

ELEVATED

Significant Risk of Terrorist Attacks

For information, click here:
<http://www.dhs.gov>

Top Stories

- The Associated Press reports that officials delayed reopening a Morehead City, North Carolina port Wednesday while crews continued to clean up a spill of pentaerythritol tetranitrate. A forklift operator Tuesday accidentally punctured nine containers of PETN and a small amount of the chemical explosive leaked out. (See item [6](#))
- According to the Washington Post, Google said on Tuesday that it may pull out of China because of a sophisticated computer network attack originating there and targeting its e-mail service and corporate infrastructure. The company said it has evidence to suggest that “a primary goal of the attackers was accessing the Gmail accounts of Chinese human rights activists,” but it said that at least 20 other large companies have been the targets of similar attacks. (See item [42](#))

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Energy Sector

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: Physical: ELEVATED, Cyber: ELEVATED

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) - <http://www.esisac.com>]

1. *January 13, Charleston Post and Courier* – (South Carolina) **Small leak occurs at Colleton plant.** Colleton County, South Carolina, authorities responded to an anhydrous ammonia leak on January 12 at an oil company on Green Pond Highway. The County Fire and Rescue director said the leak was already capped by the time they arrived at the scene about 1 p.m. He said about 50 to 100 gallons of a chemical-and-water mixture escaped from a leaky valve. He said it was a small leak and cleanup was already under way. No one was evacuated, he said.
Source: <http://www.postandcourier.com/news/2010/jan/13/small-leak-occurs-colleton-plant/>

2. *January 12, Associated Press* – (Texas) **Accident at gas plant kills Texas man.** Federal investigators are investigating a chemical leak at a natural gas-processing plant in northeast Texas that killed one worker and injured another. The accident occurred when hydrogen sulfide was accidentally released from an Enbridge Inc. gas processing plant the evening of January 9 near Bryans Mill, about 135 miles northeast of Dallas. An Enbridge spokeswoman said on January 12 that she did not know the cause of the leak. The Canadian company and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration are investigating. An Enbridge employee was pronounced dead at the scene. The injured man was in critical condition.
Source: <http://www.businessweek.com/ap/financialnews/D9D6DM680.htm>

3. *January 12, Tennessean* – (Tennessee) **TVA coal-burning plant glitch causes release: one of two incidents.** Mechanical problems at TVA's Bull Run coal-fired power plant in East Tennessee caused a tank to overflow on January 11, spilling water into a nearby creek, a TVA official said. The tank held water and did not appear to have any coal ash in it, said a TVA spokesman. Results of testing are expected by the end of the week, but no ash was seen in the water, he said. The incident involved a bottom ash collection tank that overflowed into a pipe trench, which is a trench that carries piping and is designed to contain small leaks, according to TVA information. The pipe is inspected daily and no leaks were found on January 10. The material, which appeared to be water, spilled into Worthington Branch Creek. In another incident, on January 12, a pipe flange failed on a gypsum slurry pipe and released a small amount of water to Worthington Branch Creek. Officials knew water was released since they were testing the pipe by flushing water through it. The TVA spokesman said TVA is making repairs and the plant is still operating. Elsewhere, a breach in a dike at TVA's Widows Creek coal-fired power plant in northeast Alabama was discovered January 5 in an area under construction. Though some seepage was found in the earthen dike wall of a gypsum pond, nothing spilled.
Source:
<http://www.tennessean.com/article/20100112/NEWS01/100112058/TVA+coal-burning+plant+glitch+causes+release++one+of+two+incidents>

4. *January 12, Associated Press* – (Alaska) **142,800 gallons of fuel spilled on Alaska island.** An estimated 142,800 gallons of diesel fuel spilled from a storage tank on an island in Alaska's remote Aleutian chain. The Coast Guard says 1,000 gallons from the January 11 spill on Adak Island entered a creek and flowed into a small boat harbor.

The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation says the fuel flowed from an underground storage tank as a ship moored at a pier pumped fuel to the tank. The flow reached a drainage system that collects water from around the underground tanks and sends it into the creek. The amount overwhelmed the system's oil and water separator. The fuel tank is owned by Adak Petroleum. Workers discovered the spill, halted pumping and set up boom to contain the fuel. Adak Island is 1,300 miles southwest of Anchorage.

Source: <http://abcnews.go.com/Business/wireStory?id=9540123>

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Chemical Industry Sector

5. *January 13, Sidney Sun-Telegraph* – (Nebraska) **16 train cars derail near Kimball.** A January 11 train derailment involving one car containing hazardous material had Kimball County emergency crews responding to an area approximately six miles east of Kimball at 4 p.m. to shut down U.S. Highway 30 and contain the situation. A Union Pacific Rail Road (UP) corporate relations director said on January 12 that UP trains were moving on a second main line in the area. “Our crews worked throughout the night to clear cars from the scene,” he said. “We had trains moving again as of 5:30 [Tuesday] morning.” A Kimball County sheriff said on January 12 that both lanes of Highway 30 were reopened at 8 p.m. the evening on January 11 after being shut down for four hours by the Nebraska State Patrol. Due to the presence of a hazardous material, he said an evacuation took place. “We evacuated a one-mile radius area, which included three homes,” he said. Of the 16 cars that derailed, he said seven contained soybean meal, three contained plastic pellets, two contained corn, one car each contained sale, oat flower, and anhydrous ammonia. One car was empty. Anhydrous ammonia was the hazardous material involved in the derailment. He said there were no leaks detected and that no one was injured in the derailment.
Source: <http://www.suntelegraph.com/cms/news/story-75414.html>

6. *January 13, Associated Press* – (North Carolina) **Cleanup of explosives spill delays NC port opening.** Officials delayed reopening a Morehead City, North Carolina port Wednesday while crews continued to clean up a spill of pentaerythritol tetranitrate, or PETN. No one was hurt when a forklift operator Tuesday accidentally punctured containers of PETN. Officials said nine containers were damaged and a small amount of PETN leaked out. Officials said in a statement Wednesday that crews were observing the “utmost safety” in cleaning the spill. The port had been expected to open at 8 a.m. but officials did not set a new time after that target passed. The cleanup is being performed under the direction of the U.S. Coast Guard. This is the first time in two years PETN has come into Morehead City, and the shipment was approved by the Coast Guard. A company called Maxam UEB shipped the PETN, said a spokeswoman for the North Carolina State Ports Authority, but she did not know where in the United States it was headed. According to business directories, Maxam is an explosives

manufacturer based in the town of Galdakao, near Bilbao, in Spain's northern Basque country.

Source: <http://www.businessweek.com/ap/financialnews/D9D6TRU81.htm>

7. *January 11, Casper Star-Tribune* – (Wyoming) **Workers treated after Solvay chemical spill.** Eighteen contract workers at the Solvay Chemicals plant near Green River, Wyoming, were hospitalized briefly last week after a chemical spill. A superintendent of human resources says a fiberglass line containing sodium bisulfite solution ruptured in the specialty production area of the facility the afternoon of January 8. He says the rupture released sulfur dioxide gas into the area. The gas can cause nose, throat, and breathing problems. The workers potentially exposed to the gas were taken to the hospital for observation and treatment. Solvay says all of the workers were released from the hospital within five hours. The company reported the incident to federal and state mine safety authorities.

Source: http://www.trib.com/news/state-and-local/article_0c253e11-ac08-56dc-8540-a3db603f31ff.html

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector

8. *January 13, Salt Lake Tribune* – (Utah) **Depleted uranium to be tested.** Questions raised about the radioactivity of depleted uranium sent from South Carolina to EnergySolutions' waste site in Tooele County have prompted the Utah governor to order tests of what is in the barrels, a state official said Tuesday. During a meeting of the Division of Radiation Control board, a Department of Environmental Quality executive director said the state and EnergySolutions would sample the depleted uranium, which arrived at the Clive site by train last month from a government atomic-weapons complex cleanup in South Carolina. The Division of Radiation Control will collect samples and send them to an outside lab for testing within two months, the executive director said. But in the meantime, two more trainloads in South Carolina could arrive in Utah by next month while regulators struggle to deal with the safety and policy issues that accompany depleted uranium, which becomes more radioactive over time. The governor's testing request comes after HEAL, an anti-nuclear organization, says it reviewed shipping manifests for some of the Savannah River, South Carolina, cleanup and found the barrels contain reactor waste in concentrations higher than state law allows EnergySolutions to accept. The group said the Department of Energy's sampling of 33 of 33,000 drums of waste is not a valid measure of how hot the waste might be.

Source: http://www.sltrib.com/news/ci_14175732

9. *January 13, Free Lance Star* – (Virginia) **Nuclear plant protester must serve 5 days in jail.** The last of six anti-nuclear protesters arrested at North Anna Power Station's visitor center in 2008 will serve five days in jail for trespassing. A Louisa County Circuit Court jury last week the defendant guilty of misdemeanor trespassing. The defendant had appealed a two-week jail sentence handed down in Louisa General

District Court in September 2008. The defendant is a member of Peoples Alliance for Clean Energy, which opposes a plan by Dominion Virginia Power to add a third nuclear reactor at North Anna. The peaceful protest at the plant's information center by the South East Climate Convergence was held to draw attention to that proposal. Dominion is in the final stage of the application process before the Nuclear Regulatory Commission with a plan that has drawn fire from some environmental groups and nearby residents. Louisa Commonwealth's Attorney said, "We're pleased with the outcome. It's a significant sentence, given the nature of the charge. In a post-9/11 world, we take the safety of a nuclear power plant very seriously."

Source: <http://fredericksburg.com/News/FLS/2010/012010/01132010/520311>

10. *January 12, North County Times* – (California) **San Onofre: Small problems delay restart of Unit 2 reactor.** Imperfect welds and pinhole leaks have kept San Onofre's idling reactor from returning to service as planned, plant officials said this week. The chief nuclear officer for Southern California Edison said Tuesday that the problems have been repaired but have delayed the return-to-service date for the plant's northern Unit 2 reactor by about three weeks. He said the unit is not likely to power up until late January or early February. In an unrelated incident, a report surfaced this week that plant officials waited 16 days before reporting a minor safety issue at San Onofre to federal regulators. That issue involved the temporary shutdown of a mechanism that cools one of the plant's two spent fuel pools. Plant officials said Tuesday that they did not realize the maintenance shutdown needed to be reported to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission until an official with the agency notified them earlier this month. The Unit 2 reactor has been out of service since late September, part of a \$680 million project to replace worn parts housed inside each of the plant's two massive domes. That work is now largely complete, and inspectors are checking for problems.

Source: http://www.nctimes.com/news/local/sdcounty/article_8f007935-43eb-5643-87f7-dfefef9ab3ef.html

11. *January 12, Bloomberg* – (National) **U.S. can't cite delays to defend nuclear waste suits.** The U.S. can not argue that delays in collecting spent fuel from the nation's nuclear power plants were unavoidable as the government defends against multibillion-dollar claims by utility companies, an appeals court ruled. The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Federal Circuit in Washington today reversed a lower court's finding and ruled that another appeals panel had the authority to bar the Department of Energy from using the defense in contract disputes. The decision is a victory for Nebraska Public Power District and other utilities that are seeking to recover billions of dollars they have spent over the last two decades on storing spent nuclear fuel and radioactive waste while waiting for the government to construct a permanent storage facility. The utilities were obligated by Congress in 1982 to collect spent nuclear fuel on site while a permanent storage facility they would help fund was built at Yucca Mountain in Nevada. The companies paid more than \$27 billion into the fund over the years, though the storage facility was never built.

Source: <http://www.businessweek.com/news/2010-01-12/u-s-can-t-cite-delays-to-defend-nuclear-waste-suits-update1-.html>

12. *January 12, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission* – (Virginia) **NRC proposes \$35,000 civil penalty for Babcock & Wilcox in Lynchburg.** The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has proposed a \$35,000 civil penalty against the Babcock & Wilcox facility in Lynchburg, Virginia, for a violation of NRC requirements related to the company’s emergency declaration for an event in July 2009. The violation involved a failure of Babcock & Wilcox facility staff to declare an Alert emergency classification in a timely manner as required by their emergency plan. On July 15, 2009, company employees failed to declare the emergency for more than two hours after they discovered a band saw cooling reservoir did not have the proper criticality controls. A “criticality” can occur when nuclear materials come together in sufficient quantity or in a container of correct shape to initiate a chain reaction resulting in either a “burst” or a sustained release of radiation. A small criticality event would not be expected to affect people or the environment outside the facility but could be serious for workers in the immediate area. “Although this failure to declare the emergency in a timely manner did not have any adverse effects, the results could have been significant under different circumstances,” said the NRC Region II Deputy Administrator for Operations. The NRC identified three other violations associated with the company’s procedures but because of actions taken by Babcock & Wilcox to correct those issues, the NRC is not proposing civil penalties for those violations.
Source: <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/news/2010/10-002.ii.html>

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Critical Manufacturing Sector

13. *January 12, Consumer Affairs* – (International) **AT&T, Motorola, Qwest, V-Tech telephone batteries recalled.** Lenmar Enterprises is recalling about 1,400 rechargeable batteries used in wireless phones. The batteries can overheat, posing a fire and burn hazard to consumers. The firm has received six reports of batteries overheating, resulting in deformation of phones. No injuries have been reported. The recall involves the rechargeable batteries with the model number CB0217 2.4 volt 1500 mAh NiMH. Only batteries with date code 0809 are affected by this recall. The date code can be found on the back of the battery. The batteries were sold to electrical product distributors and retailers nationwide and at Lenmar.com from July 2009 through August 2009 for about \$18. They were made in China. Consumers should immediately stop using the recalled batteries and contact Lenmar to receive a free replacement.
Source: <http://www.consumeraffairs.com/recalls04/2010/lenmar.html>
14. *January 12, Connecticut Post* – (Connecticut) **Fire at Chromium Process causes minor damage.** A small piece of insulation caught fire in a basement crawlspace of an old Canal Street factory Monday afternoon, sending firefighters from both Shelton and Derby Connecticut to the site. The fire at Chromium Process was out within five minutes, the assistant fire chief said. “There were workers working on a pipe during the day and that might have caught the insulation on fire,” he said. All had already left the

building by the time a passer-by noticed the flames and called for help. Chromium Process is one of the last factories still functioning on Canal Street and a fire there could be disastrous, fire officials said. “There are a lot of hazardous materials inside there,” the assistant chief said as he stood outside the factory. The factory manufactures plating for screws. The damage was minor and foul play is not suspected at this time.
Source: http://www.fireengineering.com/index/articles/news_display/139906293.html

15. *January 12, Canton Reporter* – (Ohio) **Minerva plant evacuated after furnace contents spill.** An aluminum processing plant was evacuated Monday night when more than seven tons of molten metal spilled out of a furnace. The plant, Imperial Aluminum, recycles the metal. “One of their furnace liners had a failure and dumped over 15,000 pounds of molten aluminum on the floor and in the pit, an area next to the furnace where it empties into,” the fire chief said. Firefighters responded to the plant at about 8:30 p.m. Monday. Operations at the plant were suspended until the midnight shift reported for duty. “There were only about 14 guys on the shift,” the plant manager said. “I didn’t see any flames when I was in there. I saw steam coming off the floor. Everything was contained in the pit. No one was hurt.”
Source: <http://www.cantonrep.com/news/x1409371284/Minerva-plant-evacuated-after-furnace-contents-spill>

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

16. *January 12, United Press International* – (Texas) **LM dedicates expanded facility.** Lockheed Martin held a ceremony Monday marking the dedication of its new expanded missile and weapons manufacturing and assembly installation in Texas. U.S. company Lockheed Martin announced the dedication of its Lufkin, Texas, facility addition in a move to address growing future demand for missile and weapon systems technologies. The 50,000-square-foot addition demonstrates Lockheed Martin’s move to address new demands for its Patriot Advanced Capability-3 Missile, the Guided Multiple Launch Rocket System and the Terminal High Altitude Area Defense Weapon System programs among others the Lufkin installation supports with electronics and sub-assemblies. “This expansion exemplifies our on-going commitment to developing some of the world’s most advance missile systems that serve our warfighters in their defining moments,” the site director of Lockheed Martin Missiles and Fire Control’s Lufkin Operations said in a statement.
Source: http://www.upi.com/Business_News/Security-Industry/2010/01/12/LM-dedicates-expanded-facility/UPI-82701263326400/

For another story, see item [42](#)

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Banking and Finance Sector

17. *January 13, Associated Press* – (Wisconsin) **Police: Bank robber’s bomb is a fake.** Police say a man who used a fake bomb to rob a Kenosha, Wisconsin, bank remains at large. Authorities say the man walked into the M&I Bank and demanded money from a teller. They say he had a small case with him that he claimed contained a bomb. He left it on the counter and said he had a remote detonator. The suspect fled on foot with an undetermined amount of money. The Kenosha News says the bank and nearby homes were evacuated as the Kenosha County bomb squad used a robot device to determine if the case was dangerous. It turned out to be empty.
Source: <http://www.wkowtv.com/Global/story.asp?S=11813681>
18. *January 13, Bank Info Security* – (National) **Year of the hack: review of 2009 data breaches.** There were 62 data breaches involving financial institutions in 2009 — three of them occurring in the last month of the year. These breaches represent only a portion of the total of 498 incidents compiled in the 2009 Data Breach Report compiled by the Identity Theft Resource Center (ITRC), based in San Diego, California. But the largest of them, the Heartland Payment Systems breach, involved an estimated 130 million credit and debit card numbers taken, accounting for more than half of the 222 million records potentially taken in 2009. Insiders caused the largest number of data breaches within the financial services industry, says the executive director of the ITRC, and this threat will continue to be a problem for financial institutions in 2010, “The numbers come out almost every year, and they have said for the past eight or nine years that 70 percent of all hacking happens internal to the company,” the director said. May was the month with the most breaches (10), followed by August with nine and March with eight. June was the month with the fewest recorded breaches — just one.
Source: http://www.bankinfosecurity.com/articles.php?art_id=2067
19. *January 13, Bank Systems and Technology* – (National) **Card fraud costs U.S. payment providers \$8.6 billion per year.** Card fraud costs the U.S. card payments industry an estimated \$8.6 billion per year, according to a report released on January 13 by Aite Group. Though this sum is small compared with the \$2.1 trillion in total yearly U.S. card volume, this area remains troubling for the industry. Fighting card fraud effectively involves triage and telepathy — picking appropriate battles to fight while anticipating fraudsters’ next steps based on the rapidly evolving technological landscape, Aite’s analysts say. Card technologies in the United States are unlikely to be universally upgraded anytime soon due to prohibitively high implementation costs and the loss of signature interchange. Given the relative speed and cost efficiency for deployment, the most practical method of mitigating card fraud currently would be based around end-to-end encryption, they say.
Source: <http://www.banktech.com/payments-cards/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=222300752>
20. *January 12, The Register* – (New York) **Hackers pluck 8,300 customer logins from bank server.** Hackers have stolen the login credentials for more than 8,300 customers of small New York bank after breaching its security and accessing a server that hosted its online banking system. The intrusion at Suffolk County National Bank (SCNB) happened over a six-day period that started on November 18, according to a release

issued January 11. It was discovered on December 24 during an internal security review. In all, credentials 8,378 online accounts were pilfered, a number that represents less than 10 percent of SCNB's total "Although the intrusion was limited in duration and scope, SCNB immediately isolated and rebuilt the compromised server and took other measures to ensure the security of data on the server," the bank, located about an hour east of New York City, stated. "To date, SCNB has found no evidence of any unauthorized access to online banking accounts, nor received any reports of unusual activity or reports of financial loss to its customers." The breach represents a variation on more traditional types of attacks on online banking. Cyber crooks typically target customers by surreptitiously planting malware on their computers that log their user name and password. By contrast, accessing a server that is storing online credentials for tens of thousands of customers is not the kind of intrusion one hears about every day. Best security practices are clear that passwords should never be stored on servers unless they are encrypted.

Source: http://www.theregister.co.uk/2010/01/12/bank_server_breached/

21. *January 12, WFAA 8 Dallas-Fort Worth* – (Texas) **Dallas police make arrests in ATM theft ring.** Dallas police say they have made a big break in an ATM theft ring. Just before three this morning, the suspects made off with a cash machine from the Doubletree Hotel near Stemmons and Market Center in Dallas. Police later caught up with a car believed to be connected to the crime. Two other vehicles are also believed to be linked. One of the suspects now in custody is who detectives believe was in charge of the theft ring.

Source: <http://www.wfaa.com/news/local/Dallas-police-make-arrests-in-ATM-theft-ring-81212367.html>

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Transportation Sector

22. *January 13, WXYZ 7 Detroit* – (Michigan) **4 men removed from plane at Metro Airport.** Reports of unusual behavior on board a Northwest Airlines plane from Amsterdam to Detroit caused a brief incident at Detroit Metro Airport. A Metro Airport spokesman said the crew on board Flight 243 requested that authorities meet the plane when it landed. The crew says four passengers did not comply with instructions. Once the plane landed, it remained on the tarmac for about 15 minutes while authorities removed four men from the plane. The rest of the passengers were taxied to the terminal where they were allowed to get off the plane. The spokesman says the incident was not a serious threat. The plane had 245 passengers and 12 flight attendants on board.

Source: <http://www.wxyz.com/mostpopular/story/4-Men-Removed-from-Plane-at-Metro-Airport/yobO6bCvc0KRcUTp9wAePg.csp>

23. *January 13, Port Huron Times Herald* – (Michigan) **Cutters clear path to free freighter.** Freighters marooned north and south of the St. Clair River because of an ice jam were able to continue forward Tuesday. The U.S. Coast Guard Sector Detroit

Commander said a convoy of freighters made it down the river Tuesday after five ice cutters cleared a path. The cutters escorted the nine southbound vessels to the Detroit area before turning around and heading north with four freighters. “We will be guiding them through the problem area in the St. Clair River,” the commander said before the trip. The Coast Guard began efforts in the river Sunday near Algonac and Harsens Island after ice locked freighters in place.

Source:

<http://www.thetimesherald.com/article/20100113/NEWS01/1130310/1002/news01/Cutters-clear-path-to-free-freighters>

24. *January 13, Los Angeles Times* – (Michigan) **Suspect in Northwest Airlines bomb plot had round-trip ticket.** The alleged Christmas Day airline bomber had purchased a round-trip ticket — not a one-way fare, as has been widely reported — the presidential administration told congressional aides in a closed briefing Tuesday. According to a person who attended the meeting, the administration also said it was not unusual for international air travelers to buy their tickets using cash, as the suspect had done. Up to 20 percent of overseas flights are cash transactions, Department of Homeland Security officials told House and Senate aides. The man has been charged with smuggling explosives, concealed in his underwear, aboard a Northwest Airlines flight from Amsterdam to Detroit. The device failed to detonate but caused a fire that injured the Nigerian-born suspect.

Source: <http://www.latimes.com/news/nation-and-world/la-na-terror-ticket13-2010jan13,0,1686825.story>

25. *January 12, WXXA 23 Albany* – (New York) **DiNapoli: New York bridges in need of attention.** The New York State Comptroller’s office says New York’s bridges are not getting the safety attention they need, and that some are in worse shape than a bridge that had to be demolished. The Comptroller issued two reports Tuesday, one an audit on how quickly the Department of Transportation (DOT) dealt with safety problems, the other a report on the sorry condition of dozens of bridges statewide. He says the DOT waited too long to take action in some cases and offered some suggestions to change that, but DOT is not reacting terribly warmly to them. The comptroller’s reports say about a third of serious bridge defects went unfixed for longer than they should and that more than 90 bad bridges are still in use. The DOT says the findings are misleading. The Crown Point bridge over Lake Champlain became the poster child for broken bridges in New York State, but the comptroller says there are dozens of bridges still standing that are in worse shape, including the aging Tappan Zee Bridge over the Hudson River. In a statement, the acting DOT Commissioner said, “Bridges that are open for traffic in New York are safe. Bridge safety is reviewed on a regular and ongoing basis, and bridges must meet NYSDOT’s rigorous safety requirements, to stay open. Travel on bridges in need of repair or maintenance may be restricted, and all bridges that are deemed unsafe are closed.”

Source: http://www.fox23news.com/news/local/story/DiNapoli-New-York-bridges-in-need-of-attention/8aQQtnw_A0yK1q7G74p4OA.csp

26. *January 12, Aviation Week* – (International) **Laser attacks on U.K. cockpits now criminal.** Shining a light or laser at an aircraft is now a specific criminal offense in the United Kingdom under a law introduced by their Civil Aviation Authority (CAA). The resulting distraction to air crew is a serious safety risk, especially during critical phases of flight, such as takeoff and landing, the CAA noted in announcing the rule January 12. The CAA introduced the new law after the number of incidents in which laser devices were beamed at transports and helicopters increased 25 times in two years. In 2009, 737 laser attacks on commercial transports, air ambulances and police helicopters were reported — compared to 29 incidents in 2007. The authority listed 19 U.K. airports as “laser incident hotspots” in 2009. The five airports with the highest number of reported incidents are Manchester (51), Glasgow (42), Birmingham (40), Leeds Bradford (39), and London Heathrow (29). Previous offenders were charged under Article 73: “A person should not recklessly or negligently act in a manner likely to endanger an aircraft or any person therein,” which lacked specific wording about lasers. However, laser attacks have led to only about a dozen successful prosecutions in the U.K., according to the CAA.

Source:

http://www.aviationweek.com/aw/generic/story_channel.jsp?channel=comm&id=news/awx/2010/01/12/awx_01_12_2010_p0-196274.xml

For more stories, see items [5](#) and [6](#)

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Postal and Shipping Sector

27. *January 13, Oregonian* – (Oregon) **Suspicious powder found in envelope in McMinnville tests negative for bioweapons.** A powder substance found in an envelope Tuesday morning in McMinnville tested negative for any sort of biological weapon, authorities said Wednesday. Police responded at around 10:45 a.m. Tuesday to a hazardous material call at the Housing Authority of Yamhill County at 135 N.E. Dunn Place. The envelope was opened by an employee, but no injuries were reported. Employees of the Housing Authority have since returned to work.

Source:

http://www.oregonlive.com/news/index.ssf/2010/01/suspicious_powder_found_in_env_1.html

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Agriculture and Food Sector

28. *January 13, Fresno Bee* – (California) **Clovis Costco temporarily evacuated.** Customers and employees were evacuated from Costco in Clovis, California about 3:15 p.m. Tuesday after a cooling agent leaked from the store’s refrigeration system. Several employees and patrons were treated at the scene for minor breathing problems, said a Clovis Fire Department spokesman. Employees were

allowed back into the store about 5 p.m. The store was re-opened to customers an hour later. Some of the leaked chemical contaminated products in the store. Employees and Fresno County Department of Public Health officials will decide what needs to be thrown out and how to safely dispose of it, the spokesman said.

Source: <http://www.fresnobee.com/local/story/1778818.html>

29. *January 12, USAgNet* – (Tennessee) **FDA seizes over \$1 million in food from Nashville processor, warehouse.** At the request of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), U.S. Marshals seized bulk restaurant food products at Won Feng Trading Company, a food processor and warehouse in Nashville, Tennessee. The products are adulterated under the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act because they have been held under unsanitary conditions whereby they may have become contaminated with filth. The Act uses the term “insanitary” to describe such conditions. U.S. Marshals seized all FDA-regulated foods, including a wide variety of bulk restaurant foods, such as 44-pound bags of rice, fresh produce and frozen food products that are susceptible to contamination by rodents, insects, or other filth. The agency has not received any reports of consumer illnesses. Won Feng receives food from throughout the United States and distributes its products within the state of Tennessee. Source: <http://usagnet.com/story-national.php?Id=80&yr=2010>

30. *January 11, WBAL 11 Baltimore* – (Maryland) **Md. seafood co.’s production halted by FDA.** A Maryland seafood distributor has been ordered by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to stop processing and distributing fish and seafood because it is not in compliance with federal food safety laws. Congressional Seafood Company of Jessup and three of its executives were cited by the FDA for failing to follow regulations in the handling of several of its seafood products. The FDA compiled a list of failures, including documenting that fish were refrigerated at appropriate temperatures, keeping different species of fish separated, keeping records and meeting sanitation standards. FDA said officials at the company had been warned several times to get in compliance with federal law. The FDA can take corrective actions, including shutting the company down or recalling its products. Congressional Seafood distributes products to Virginia, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Washington, D.C. Source: <http://www.wbalv.com/consumeralert/22208600/detail.html>

For another story, see item [5](#)

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Water Sector

31. *January 13, Town Talk* – (Louisiana) **Areas under boil notices returning to normal.** Several areas in Central Louisiana remain under boil water notices as of January 13, though many of the problems in water systems stemming from recent cold weather had been solved by Tuesday. “We’re basically at normal capacity,” said a spokesperson for the city of Natchitoches, which had multiple breaks in its water lines resulting in the loss of some service. “The tanks are filling up, no one in the city is

without water service. We're in good shape." Local areas under boil water advisories because of the recent cold include Ward 6 Water Association in southwest Rapides Parish; Avoyelles Water Works No. 1 near Brouillette in Avoyelles Parish; Colfax and Montgomery in Grant Parish; and Belah Fellowship Water System in LaSalle Parish. Ferriday in Concordia Parish is under a boil water advisory because of water treatment problems, and Rosepine in Vernon Parish is under a boil water advisory because of a water main break prior to the recent cold weather. As water systems are returned to normal, bacteria samples will be collected by the state's Office of Public Health and analyzed to make sure it is safe to drink before the advisories are lifted. The Louisiana National Guard positioned 5,000-gallon water tankers in LaSalle, Tensas and Madison parishes to help communities that suffered broken or damaged water systems. The tankers were expected to remain in place for 24-72 hours. Colfax Elementary School, which was closed Monday and Tuesday due to water problems, reopened on January 13.

Source: <http://www.thetowntalk.com/article/20100113/NEWS01/1130323/1002>

32. *January 12, Associated Press* – (New York) **NY settles with 5 health care facilities that flushed pharmaceuticals into water supply.** The New York attorney general announced a settlement Tuesday with five health care facilities that flushed pharmaceutical waste into the New York City watersheds. He reached agreements with the two hospitals and three nursing homes that disposed of painkillers, antibiotics, antidepressants, hormones, and other pharmaceuticals through toilets and sinks and into the watersheds, his office said. The flushes potentially put about 9 million people's drinking water at risk. The hospitals and nursing homes are located within the watershed in Putnam and Delaware counties north of New York City. Although such facilities are allowed to flush many — but not all — drugs through toilets and sinks, the nursing homes and hospitals nonetheless agreed to stop disposing of all drugs in that manner to protect the watersheds, he said. Instead, the facilities will give the drugs to waste management facilities.
- Source: <http://www.latimes.com/news/nationworld/nation/wire/sns-ap-us-nyc-drinking-water,0,4272930.story>

33. *January 12, KFSM 5 Fort Smith* – (Arkansas) **Gasoline leaks into Gravette Sewer.** Homes and several businesses had to be evacuated in Gravette, Arkansas, Tuesday after a gasoline leak. The leak occurred in a storage tank at the Shop N Go gas station on Highway 59. Two thousand gallons of gas got into the city's sewer system. Police, fire, and environmental officials were in Gravette most of the night trying to clean up the mess and determine how it started. "They are going to be flushing a chemical down the sewer lines that will absorb the gas and ship down to the pump station and they'll be able to clean it out from that point," said the director of Benton County Emergency Services. Officials were taking precautions because of the risk of an explosion from the gasoline. Police closed two and a half city blocks along Main St until the area was determined safe. Most of the places evacuated were businesses. He said the gas was not at an explosive level, but in the days ahead there will be plenty of soil testing to make sure the drinking water in the area has not been affected.
- Source: <http://www.kfsm.com/news/kfsm-news-nwa-gravette-gas-leak,0,1724876.story>

34. *January 12, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency* – (Alaska) **Federal Aviation Administration commits to closing vehicle waste disposal wells in Alaska.** The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has pledged to permanently close over two dozen motor vehicle waste disposal wells in Alaska. The FAA action resulted from an administrative order on consent issued by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The FAA Alaska Region has committed to closing the wells, known as injection wells, by 2012. The injection wells, built mainly in the 1940s and 1950s and located across the state, were used by FAA to dispose of fluids collected through maintenance facility floor drains. Disposed fluids likely included motor vehicle waste such as engine oil, brake fluid, fuel, cleaning solvents and other materials. FAA has not used the injection wells for motor vehicle waste in years. Under the Safe Drinking Water Act, EPA banned this category of wells in 1999 and required their closure in Alaska by 2005. Motor vehicle waste disposal wells can contaminate underground sources of drinking water. Since FAA self-identified its wells to EPA in 1996, it has already closed half its inventory and has been actively working to close the rest of its injection wells to comply with the law. FAA entered into the order voluntarily and is working with EPA to document the well closures.
Source: <http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/0/CC2F19CB7B628408852576A900828429>

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

35. *January 12, KCRA 3 Sacramento* – (California) **Kaiser patient data stolen.** Information regarding approximately 15,000 Kaiser Permanente patients, including about 4,000 people in the Sacramento area, was stolen in December, the organization said Tuesday. Names and medical record numbers — and in some cases age, gender, phone number and general information regarding their medical care — were taken December 1 when an external electronic data storage device containing the data was stolen from a Kaiser Permanente employee's car at the employee's home in Sacramento, said the vice president of compliance and privacy for Kaiser Permanente. Kaiser said Tuesday there were no patient Social Security numbers or financial information on the device, adding that there is no evidence that the information was used inappropriately. Affected patients have been notified by Kaiser Permanente.
Source: <http://www.kcra.com/mostpopular/22220329/detail.html>
36. *January 12, Health Leaders Media* – (New York) **NYC agrees to fix troubled Kings County Hospital Center.** The New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation (KCHC) has entered into a consent agreement with federal authorities to clean up the troubled psychiatric emergency department (ED) and psychiatric in-patient units in its Kings County Hospital Center in Brooklyn. A federal investigation at KCHC that began 13 months ago reportedly uncovered systemic violations of civil rights laws protecting institutionalized people. According to the Department of Justice, the violations included: Failure to protect patients from harm; failure to treat psychiatric disabilities of patients; the use of drugs to sedate rather than treat patients; falsification

of patient medical records; and failure to respond promptly to medical emergencies. Federal investigators said these violations and others contributed to the June 2008 death a patient, who collapsed in the psychiatric ED after waiting 23 hours to see a doctor. The patient laid on the floor for more than one hour while hospital employees, including doctors and security staff, walked through the area, ignoring her condition, and made no effort to attend to her.

Source: <http://www.healthleadersmedia.com/content/LED-244818/NYC-Agrees-to-Fix-Troubled-Kings-County-Hospital-Center>

37. *January 12, Nogales International* – (Arizona) **Chemical spill at MCHC sends four to hospital.** A chemical spill inside an X-ray room at the Mariposa Community Health Center in Nogales, Arizona, gave its employees and patients a scare Friday morning. A lack of servicing caused the machine to release the hazardous fluid — sending four people to Carondelet Holy Cross Hospital for minor inhalation, according to the Nogales Fire Department chief. His personnel and the Nogales Police Department evacuated the center shortly after the incident, officials said. Fire department personnel, trained in hazardous materials matters, contained the spill in the 5-foot-by-5-foot room to keep it from spreading throughout the facility. Of the 33 NFD trained technicians, 10 responded to Friday’s incident, which occurred at around 12:50 p.m. It was resolved in about 45 minutes — giving local authorities an indication that their training and partnership is working well.

Source:

<http://www.nogalesinternational.com/articles/2010/01/12/news/doc4b4c9d4c736ca374836483.txt>

For another story, see item [32](#)

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Government Facilities Sector

38. *January 13, Associated Press* – (International) **Up to 100 missing in U.N. office collapse in Haiti.** Up to 100 people are missing in the rubble of the U.N. headquarters building and other U.N. offices that collapsed when an earthquake decimated Haiti’s capital, the United Nations said Wednesday. Among those unaccounted for is the mission chief. The U.N. peacekeeping chief said “less than 10” people have been pulled out of the five-story headquarters of the U.N. peacekeeping mission, and he could confirm “less than five” deaths. The U.N. Secretary-General said Tuesday’s “catastrophic earthquake” has devastated the capital of the Western hemisphere’s poorest country and the death toll “may be in the hundreds or even thousands.” Between 50 and 100 U.N. staff are still unaccounted for, most from the collapse of the headquarters building. But staff members from the U.N. Development Program are also still missing, and the UNDP chief said 10 are believed to have been in the building adjacent to the agency’s main office, which collapsed. The U.N. humanitarian chief told a news conference early Wednesday afternoon that there is an urgent need for search and rescue experts and dogs. A team from China has already arrived, two U.S.

teams are due later Wednesday and more are expected on Thursday, he said. He said the U.N. will be issuing an emergency appeal for Haiti in the next two or three days and urged countries to donate medical supplies and equipment, clean water, food, and shelter materials. The peacekeeping chief would not confirm the French foreign minister's report that everyone in the headquarters building, including the mission head, appeared to have died in the earthquake.

Source: <http://www.chron.com/disp/story.mpl/ap/top/all/6813613.html>

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Emergency Services Sector

39. *January 13, Firehouse.com* – (National) **USFA report: firefighter deaths lowest since '93.** Last year, the number of firefighter killed while on duty was the lowest it has been in more than 15 years. Ninety firefighters died while on duty in 2009, according to a newly released U.S. Fire Administration report. It is the least amount of deaths reported by the agency since the total was 81 in 1993. Thirteen of the 90 deaths were classified as Hometown Heroes. Firefighters who die of heart attacks or strokes within 24 hours of a response or training received the designation, which was adopted after legislation was signed in 2003. An analysis of statistics on the USFA Web site shows the 2009 fatalities the third lowest since the agency started keeping records in 1977. The number of on-duty deaths last year may change in the next few months as more information may be outstanding. Traditionally, state fire marshals across the country are asked to check records to make sure all incidents were reported. During 2008, the USFA reported 118 firefighters lost their lives on duty.

Source: <http://www.firehouse.com/topics/top-headlines/usfa-report-firefighter-deaths-lowest-1993>

40. *January 12, Idaho Northwest Cable News Network* – (Idaho) **Boise Police lab evacuated after Molotov cocktail incident.** A section of the Boise, Idaho, Police Department Crime Lab had to be evacuated Tuesday morning after a lab technician was exposed to some evidence. A lab technician was preparing to process evidence consisted of a Molotov cocktail that had been lit and put out with a fire extinguisher. "It looks at this point as though when she opened it she got a little bit of powder in her face and it may have gotten in her eyes and irritated her face. Powder from the extinguisher it looks like at this time," said Boise's police spokesman. The technician complained of irritation in her eyes and skin and paramedics were called out. Other technicians were evacuated to another part of the building as crews responded.

Source: <http://www.nwcn.com/news/idaho/Boise-Police-lab-evacuated-after-Molotov-cocktail-incident-81245107.html>

41. *January 12, Belleville News-Democrat* – (Illinois; Missouri) **New communication system to link bi-state emergency services.** A nearly \$10 million communication system will link Illinois and Missouri police departments allowing emergency response workers to talk to each other with more ease and create a communication system unlike anything else in the country. The St. Louis Regional Digital Microwave System, a

regionally-based network similar to that which links office computers, consists of 76 tower sites in Madison, Monroe and St. Clair counties, Franklin, Jefferson, St. Charles, and St. Louis counties in Missouri, and the city of St. Louis. The \$9.7 million system is funded by the Department of Homeland Security. It will be designed and installed by Paris-based Lacatel-Lucent Technologies, announced the East-West Gateway Council of Governments. It will provide a level of interoperable communications not seen anywhere else in North America, said the executive director for the St. Louis Area Regional Response System, or STARRS.

Source: <http://www.tmcnet.com/usubmit/2010/01/12/4569110.htm>

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Information Technology Sector

42. *January 13, Washington Post* – (International) **Google threatens to leave China after attacks on activists' e-mail.** Google said on January 12 that it may pull out of China because of a sophisticated computer network attack originating there and targeting its e-mail service and corporate infrastructure, a threat that could rattle U.S.-China relations, as well as China's business community. The company said it has evidence to suggest that "a primary goal of the attackers was accessing the Gmail accounts of Chinese human rights activists," but it said that at least 20 other large companies, including finance, media, and chemical firms, have been the targets of similar attacks. Google said it discovered the attack in December 2009. Industry sources said the attacks were even broader, affecting some 34 firms. Adobe said in a posting on a company blog on January 12 that it had been the subject of a "sophisticated, coordinated attack," but that no sensitive information had been compromised. Congressional sources said that other targeted companies possibly include Northrop Grumman and Dow Chemical. The hackers directed the attacks on the companies through six Internet addresses linked to servers in Taiwan, which sent commands to targeted computers in the firms, said the head of international cyberintelligence for the Silicon Valley-based cybersecurity research and forensics firm Verisign iDefense, which is helping companies investigate the penetrations. The hackers were sending the data to a large Internet data center in San Antonio called Rackspace, he said. They appeared to be after information on weapons systems from defense firms and were seeking companies' "source code," the most valuable form of intellectual property because it underlies the firms' computer applications, he said. U.S. authorities, including the National Security Agency, are involved in investigating the attacks. Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/01/13/AR2010011300359.html>

43. *January 13, Computerworld* – (International) **Adobe patches PDF zero-day, other critical bugs.** Adobe late January 12 patched eight security vulnerabilities, six of them critical, in its popular PDF viewing and editing programs. Security experts urged consumers and corporate IT administrators to use the time provided by a light month of Microsoft patching to update Adobe Reader and Acrobat, calling the Adobe fixes more important for one of the first times ever. The January 12 Adobe update, the company's

third since it announced it would patch Reader and Acrobat quarterly, fixed one flaw that hackers had already exploited. The bug, which was publicly disclosed in mid-December but has been used by attackers since November, had gone unpatched until January 12. In December 2009, Adobe said it would not patch the bug until January 12 because an emergency fix would upset the schedule of quarterly security updates. In the interim, hackers continued to launch limited attacks that targeted specific individuals and companies, and conducted large-scale campaigns that touched thousands of users. Adobe tagged six of the eight vulnerabilities with the phrases “could allow arbitrary code execution” or “could lead to code execution,” security-speak for bugs that could be used to hijack a system.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9144238/Adobe_patches_PDF_zero_day_other_critical_bugs

44. *January 12, ZDNet* – (International) **Adobe confirms ‘sophisticated, coordinated’ breach.** In an attack described as “sophisticated” and “coordinated,” Adobe said its corporate network systems were breached by hackers. The company said the attack also affected other unnamed companies. Adobe did not provide any other details except to say it was aware of the breach on January 2, 2010. Adobe said in a brief statement that it became aware on January 2, 2010 of a computer security incident involving a sophisticated, coordinated attack against corporate network systems managed by Adobe and other companies. They are currently in contact with other companies and are investigating the incident. At this time, they have no evidence to indicate that any sensitive information — including customer, financial, employee or any other sensitive data — has been compromised. They anticipate the full investigation will take quite some time to complete. It is not yet clear if this incident is related to the Google breach that is being blamed on China.

Source: <http://blogs.zdnet.com/security/?p=5230>

45. *January 12, DarkReading* – (International) **Report: Mal-Bredo A virus spreads via social media.** Commtouch on January 12 released its Internet Threats Trend Report for Q4 2009. Spammers continue to be cutting-edge marketers, this time taking advantage of the reputations of global brands, such as UPS, DHL, and Facebook, to prompt opening of emails. During this past quarter, cybercriminals focused on distributing the Mal-Bredo A virus. While the number of variants decreased from 10,000 to 1,000 as compared to last quarter, it was spread with much more virulence. Commtouch’s quarterly trend report is based on the analysis of more than two billion email messages and Internet transactions seen daily within the company’s cloud-based global detection centers. Blended threats, including fake Swine Flu alerts and Halloween tricks, continued to circulate, while spammers introduced a few new ploys including MP3 spam and personal enhancement spam targeting women.

Source: http://www.darkreading.com/vulnerability_management/security/app-security/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=222300666&subSection=Application+Security

46. *January 12, The Register* – (International) **South Korea sets up cyberwarfare unit to repel NORC hackers.** South Korea has launched a cyberwarfare command center

designed to fight against possible hacking attacks blamed on North Korea and China. The division boasts a reported 200 techies, who will be tasked with tackling a reported 95,000 hacking attacks the country's military networks face every day. North Korea was blamed for a wave of attacks against U.S. and South Korean websites last July. However since botnets were used in the attack the true orchestrator of the assault remains unclear. More recently North Korean hackers were blamed for lifting a secret US-South Korean war plan from South Korean systems last month. Some reports suggest the hack may have relied on the use of an insecure (malware infected?) memory stick.

Source: http://www.theregister.co.uk/2010/01/12/korea_cyberwarfare_unit/

Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at sos@us-cert.gov or visit their Web site: <http://www.us-cert.gov>

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Web site: <https://www.it-isac.org>

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Communications Sector

47. *January 13, The Register* – (International) **‘Sandwich attack’ busts new cellphone crypto.** A new encryption scheme for protecting 3G phone networks has not even gone into commercial use and already cryptographers have cracked it — at least theoretically. In a paper published on January 12, the cryptographers showed that the Kasumi cipher, which is also referred to as A5/3, can be broken using what is known as a related-key attack, in which a message encrypted with one key is later changed to one or more different keys. The team dubbed the technique a sandwich attack because it was broken into three parts: two thick slices at the top and bottom and a thin slice in the middle. The results come two weeks after a separate team released a practical method for cracking A5/1, the cipher currently used to prevent snooping on GSM networks. The technique relies on about \$4,000 worth of equipment and requires the capture of only a few minutes worth of an encrypted conversation in order to break it. The attack exploits weaknesses in the decades-old cipher. The GSM Association, which represents about 800 cellular carriers in 219 countries, has vowed to switch to the much more modern A5/3 cipher, but so far, it has provided no time line for doing so.

Source: http://www.theregister.co.uk/2010/01/13/gsm_crypto_crack/

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Commercial Facilities Sector

48. *January 12, ESPN* – (Tennessee) **FedExForum evacuated during Los Angeles Clippers-Memphis Grizzlies game.** FedExForum in Memphis was evacuated during Tuesday night's game between the Los Angeles Clippers and Memphis Grizzlies when a broken water main tripped a fire alarm during the third period. Fans and both teams were told to exit the building by taking the stairs only. No injuries were reported. Source: <http://sports.espn.go.com/los-angeles/nba/news/story?id=4820983>
49. *January 12, Watertown Daily Times* – (New York) **Natural gas leak forces TV studio to evacuate.** An odor that Monday morning was dismissed as sewer gas grew stronger as the hours wore on, finally prompting the evacuation of the WWNV-TV 7 building and the neighboring Benefit Services Group, both on Arcade Street. The Watertown fire department determined it was natural gas, not sewer gas. Although the vapors had not reached an explosive level when units responded at 1:55 p.m. to their second call of the day, the gas buildup likely would have become dangerous if it had been left unchecked, said a battalion chief. National Grid crews jackhammered a hole in the Stone Street sidewalk, directly next to the Sullivan Building, home of Benefit Services, to repair a separated underground stop valve in the gas line, the fire chief said. The work was completed by 6:30 p.m. The gas had passed through underground conduits to seep into the buildings, he said. About 25 people evacuated the television studio, taking refuge in Paddock Arcade until they could return to their jobs shortly before 3 p.m. The station's news director said network broadcasting proceeded uninterrupted during the evacuation. Firefighters initially were called shortly after 8 a.m. to the location to investigate the odor. Gas meters at the time gave no indication of the presence of natural gas, the chief said. Source: <http://www.watertowndailytimes.com/article/20100112/NEWS03/301129964>
50. *January 12, KTVU 2 San Francisco* – (California) **Race to save Pacifica Apartments hits fever pitch.** The marathon work to save three threatened apartment buildings perched on a crumbling cliff in Pacifica became a sprint Tuesday as storm-driven waves were projected to pound the shore through Thursday. The high surf warning comes on top of high tide beginning Wednesday morning. Earthmovers went into high gear at low tide around 4 p.m. racing to get more boulders in place before the big waves hit. Another 500 tons of boulders — some weighing as much as ten tons each — are to raise the rockwall to thirty feet above the beach. The still-eroding cliff behind the address of the apartment building that was red-tagged and evacuated several weeks ago, is now exposing posts for what once the apartment house deck. More than thirty feet of cliff has been lost to the sea in less than 30 days with more falling every day. Residents of the complex have been kept out of their homes for three weeks, but engineers said human ingenuity can save the building. The neighboring apartment buildings remained safe for now, but still some of the residents are getting out. Source: <http://www.foxreno.com/news/22221885/detail.html>

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National Monuments and Icons Sector

Nothing to report

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Dams Sector

51. *January 13, Free Lance Star* – (Virginia) **Utility says North Anna dike leak poses no threat.** A wet spot on an earthen dike found by a cleanup crew Monday at North Anna Power Station in Virginia poses no danger to the public or the plant, a Dominion Power spokesman said. The utility said it is investigating the leak and preparing a plan to fix it. The seepage on Dike 6 near the station's two nuclear reactors, was reported to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission around 5 p.m. Monday. It was listed on the NRC's daily event report yesterday. A spokesman for Dominion's nuclear operations said a crew clearing brush noticed a wet area about 25 feet up the dike. Dike 6 was created during the construction of the power plant in the 1970s to support electrical towers and isolation between Lake Anna and an intake area for planned Units 3 and 4. But only two units were built at North Anna and the intake area is currently used as a settling pond to hold storm water and other runoff from the site. Water from the pond eventually goes back into the lake. Tests determined that the seepage was not ground water and that the leak posed no danger to Units 1 and 2 or to the public. Other dikes at Lake Anna separate cooling lagoons from the main lake. Water used to cool the reactors is discharged into the lagoons and eventually flows through the dikes back into the main lake. "Right now, we're going to do some monitoring and further investigation to mitigate it. There's no evidence of degradation [of the dike] or anything like that," he said.

Source: <http://fredericksburg.com/News/FLS/2010/012010/01132010/520491>

52. *January 13, Missouri Ruralist* – (Missouri) **DNR and FEMA join forces on dam safety.** The Missouri Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is beginning an effort in 2010 to make sure every High-Hazard Potential dam in Missouri has an Emergency Action Plan (EAP). Last year, only 34 of the state's 469 HHP state-regulated dams had an EAP. An EAP is a plan of action to reduce potential property damage and loss of lives in an area affected by a dam failure. The chief engineer of DNR's Water Resources Center staff that inspects and works with dam owners on regulatory compliance issues, has noted that state regulations require owners of all dams in Missouri to have an EAP. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is underwriting some of the DNR cost of assisting dam owners in understanding their responsibilities for EAPs and getting them completed. HHP means there could be loss of life and significant property damage in the event of a breach. The HHP designation does not in any way reflect the current condition of the dam's structural integrity. HHP dams that fall under state regulation are inspected every two or three years by Missouri DNR engineers, depending on the characteristics of downstream residential, business, and public use development.

Source:

<http://mobile.missouriruralist.com/index.aspx?ascxid=cmsNewsStory&rmid=0&rascxid=&args=&rargs=9&dt=633989418482837500&lid=a8yebu2d9qxnz7lo&adms=633989418481275000X51010866f9&cmsSid=34617&cmsScid=9>

53. *January 12, WBAY 2 Green Bay* – (Wisconsin) **Marion no longer divided by broken dam.** In Marion, Wisconsin, officials were told they could reopen Main Street through downtown now that the dam there has been repaired. Two huge holes were discovered in the city's dam last May, forcing a detour. The detour caused traffic problems and impacted local businesses. Now the dam is repaired and Highway 110 which runs over it can be used again. The plan is to fill the community's 108-acre pond and restock it with fish in the spring. But the city of Marion is still trying to figure out what caused the damage in the first place. Crews were actually working near the dam at the time, but Marion's mayor says the city's attorneys are investigating the cause. The cost to fix the damage ended up being more than half a million dollars.
Source: <http://www.wbay.com/Global/story.asp?S=11810778>
54. *January 12, News 8 Austin* – (Texas) **Belton Dam gets facelift to remain safe in the future.** The Belton Dam lake manager with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) said the dam keeps the water contained and controls the level of Lake Belton. "We're primarily here for flood control, but we also serve as a water supply reservoir for the local area and we're also recreation-oriented," he said. "Essentially, what that is is a layer of compacted clay that's held in place by supportive layers of soil and then a protective layer of riprap on top," he said. The slope also contains a few shelves, something that's not normal. He said the slope of the dam should be smooth. "Over the years, we've had a lot of wave action at elevated lake levels that have displaced some of protective layers of riprap on the front slope of the dam," he said. A good portion of the damage happened during flooding in 2007. Now the effects of erosion require engineers to correct it, and that means an extensive project to smooth out that slope. "We expect that to take 12 to 18 months, depending on weather conditions," he said. Road closures are not expected. The repairs are a preventative measure to make sure it stays safe. Workers are starting to move their equipment on site and will start in the next couple of weeks. The project costs \$12 million, and is funded by federal stimulus money.
Source: http://www.news8austin.com/content/your_news/default.asp?ArID=263754

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