



Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 7 April 2008

Current Nationwide



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- According to KING 5 Seattle, Puget Sound Energy, Washington's largest natural gas and electricity utility, was fined a record \$1.25 million by state regulators Thursday for fraudulent natural gas pipeline records that span over four years. The record-keeping violations were committed by PSE's subcontractor, Pilchuck Contractors, Inc. (See item [3](#))
- The Times reports Woolwich Crown Court was told Thursday that a British terrorist cell planned to detonate homicide bombs on seven transatlantic flights over North America, causing catastrophic loss of life. A lawyer, opening the prosecution's case, said that the eight defendants shared a common interest in "inflicting heavy casualties upon an innocent civilian population." The jury was told that the alleged plot was thwarted when police made a series of arrests on August 9, 2006. (See item [12](#))

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Production Industries: [Energy; Chemical; Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste; Defense Industrial Base; Dams](#)

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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. *April 4, Tampa Tribune* – (Florida) **Barge stuck near Egmont Key to transfer oil load.** After an unsuccessful attempt to dislodge a grounded barge at high tide near St. Petersburg, Florida Thursday night, a company is going to remove at least some of the barge's cargo Friday morning before another attempt is made, Coast Guard officials said. The 138-foot tug Yankee, owned by K-Sea Operating Partnership LP, was towing

a 441-foot barge carrying 119,000 barrels of fuel oil before the barge ran aground three miles west of Egmont Key on Wednesday afternoon. Friday morning, the Bouchard Transportation Company will have a tug and barge pull up alongside the grounded barge and start removing some of the fuel oil, said a spokesperson for the Coast Guard. The goal is to lessen the weight on the barge. However, the Bouchard company will not attempt to dislodge the barge afterward if doing so might cause environmental damage. There is a chance authorities might wait until high tide again before another effort is made. The Yankee was towing the oil from Houston to Tampa. None of it seems to have spilled after the barge grounded, he said.

Source: <http://www2.tbo.com/content/2008/apr/04/barge-stuck-near-egmont-key-transfer-oil-load/>

2. *April 3, Galveston County Daily News* – (Texas) **BP looks into Texas City refinery oil spill.** BP America is investigating a crude oil spill at its Texas City refinery. A pipe on a distillation unit leaked at about 3:25 p.m. Wednesday. A company spokesperson said the leak was contained within the refinery unit on asphalt or concrete, “so that would minimize any environmental impact.” He said the refinery is monitoring the air to determine the extent of any gas releases, and it planned to make any required reports to government regulatory agencies. The cause of the leak was unknown. Refinery production remained at normal levels.

Source:

http://www.khou.com/news/local/stories/khou080403_ac_bpoilleak.296af7e6.html?npc

3. *April 3, KING 5 Seattle* – (Washington) **PSE gets record fine for falsifying safety records.** Puget Sound Energy (PSE), the state’s largest natural gas and electricity utility, was fined a record \$1.25 million by state regulators Thursday for fraudulent natural gas pipeline records that span over four years. The Washington Utilities and Transportation Commission levied the fine for record-keeping violations committed by PSE’s subcontractor, Pilchuck Contractors, Inc., based in Kirkland. The violations involved so-called “phantom leaks,” where a natural-gas odor is investigated but no leak is found. The state says an audit of PSE inspection records from January 2002 through December 2005 revealed 209 violations, including submitting false statements regarding inspections and altering pipeline safety-maintenance documents. Under the settlement, PSE will establish a quality control program to better monitor its subcontractors and make changes to its record-keeping system. PSE will also have an independent audit of all gas safety-inspection records.

Source:

http://www.king5.com/topstories/stories/NW_040308WAB_puget_sound_energy_fine_TP.2aa965e3.html

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Chemical Industry Sector

4. *April 3, Commercial Appeal* – (Tennessee) **Lightning ignites propane tank south of Millington.** Lightning struck a propane tank at a chemical company south of Millington early Thursday, starting a small fire that threatened to become a massive explosion.

Workers at U.S. Zinc called 911 at 1:25 a.m. when they saw the strike on the 27,000-gallon tank, which began to burn at two of four vents. The Shelby County Fire Department responded to the call and evacuated the area within a mile of the tank. Ten to twelve industrial and commercial facilities were evacuated. By 7:35 a.m. the fire was extinguished. The flow of propane was all but stanchd about 20 minutes later, but crews continued to pour water on the volatile tank to keep it cool. The tank could easily have exploded, said a fire department spokesperson. Crews planned to try to transfer the propane from the damaged tank into another one, he said.

Source: <http://www.commercialappeal.com/news/2008/apr/03/lightning-ignites-propane-tank/>

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and Waste Sector

5. *April 4, Post-Standard* – (New York) **N-plant to install new seaweed screens.** The James A. FitzPatrick Nuclear Power Plant will be replacing most of its seaweed-screening equipment this fall, a year after surges of algae led to three plant shutdowns. Two new “traveling screens” will be installed during the planned fall refueling shutdown to replace two current machines, said the site vice president for the Entergy Nuclear-owned plant. A third machine will be replaced in 2009. In September and October, the plant was shut down when a bloom of seaweed, called cladophora, clogged the plant’s screening equipment, decreasing the flow of water available to cool the plant. The current equipment, installed when the plant was built in the 1970s, was beefed up with bigger motors and reinforced with more steel after last year’s problems, he said. The new equipment, he said, is similar in design but more modern, and more “fish friendly.”

Source: <http://www.syracuse.com/articles/news/index.ssf?/base/news-11/120729961152650.xml&coll=1>

6. *April 4, Jackson Hole Star-Tribune* – (Wyoming) **Probe finds uranium mine violations.** What has been considered Wyoming’s “model” in-situ uranium mine, and the only operational uranium facility in the state in recent years, is under scrutiny by state regulators for what they describe as an alarming volume of environmental violations. Following an investigation last fall, the Wyoming Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has issued a notice of violation to Power Resources Inc., which operates the Smith-Highland Ranch in-situ leach uranium mine north of Douglas. The six-page investigation report details several “long-standing” environmental concerns at the mine. Among them are delayed restoration of groundwater, “routine” spills, and a seriously inadequate bond to cover restoration. On March 10, DEQ issued a notice of violation to Power Resources Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of Cameco Corp., detailing alleged violations pursuant to two permits. Currently, Power Resources Inc. is bonded for \$38.4 million to cover the cost of restoration at the mine, according to DEQ. “All those well fields are going to be restored to a point acceptable to federal and state regulators,” said a spokesperson for Cameco Corp. “There is some acceptance within the company that we could be more proactive in our restoration activity.”

Source:

<http://www.jacksonholestartrib.com/articles/2008/04/04/news/wyoming/08b3f724c99992fa8725742000812281.txt>

7. *April 3, Associated Press* – (Tennessee) **Oak Ridge Y-12 plant may see cut in hourly jobs.** Government contractors want to extend early retirement incentives to hourly workers to reduce the payroll at the Y-12 nuclear weapons plant in Oak Ridge. B&W Technical Services is asking the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) to approve a “voluntary separation payment plan,” which would provide financial incentives for an undisclosed number of workers. An NNSA spokesperson said Tuesday that the federal agency expects to approve the program “fairly quickly.” The plant employs about 3,100 salaried workers and 1,500 hourly workers. B&W Technical Services, which manages Y-12 for the government, offered early retirement incentives to salaried workers earlier this year. B&W hoped to get 300 to 400 volunteers, but only 230 employees accepted. B&W’s senior vice president and human capital manager said it is still not clear if layoffs will be needed to further reduce the plant’s salaried payroll. The job cuts are necessary because of changing mission requirements and projected budget declines in 2009 and 2010, she said.

Source:

<http://www.tennessean.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080403/BUSINESS01/804030349>

8. *April 3, Cibola County Beacon* – (National) **Agency review nuclear waste.** The House Committee on Energy and Commerce and the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources released a U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) report, titled “Nuclear Material: DOE Has Several Potential Options for Dealing with Depleted Uranium.” The report describes an increase in uranium prices from \$21 per kilogram to \$200 per kilogram over the past eight years. A kilogram is 2.2 pounds. This tenfold price jump has transformed a portion of the Department of Energy’s (DOE) depleted uranium inventory from an environmental liability into a potential \$7.6 billion asset, the report claims. Depleted uranium can be re-enriched and used as feed material for nuclear reactor fuel. GAO recommendations are the following. Congress should clarify DOE’s statutory authority on whether and how DOE may sell the depleted uranium tails. DOE should complete its uranium sales strategy “as soon as possible,” and identify what material it plans to potentially enrich, sell, or store, and it should identify the impacts of its proposal on the domestic uranium industry.

Source: <http://www.cibolabeacon.com/articles/2008/04/03/news/news7.txt>

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

9. *April 3, Defense News* – (National) **U.S. Air Force Buys 28 Predator UAVs.** The U.S. Air Force awarded two new contracts Monday for 24 Predator MQ-1B unmanned aircraft and four Predator B Reaper MQ-9 unmanned aircraft worth about \$78.7 million to General Atomics, according to an Air Force press release. Currently, the Air Force has about 125 Predators with hopes of growing that number to 300 by 2013 to meet the increased mission requirements. The MQ-9 is larger than the MQ-1 and can carry 3,000

pounds of munitions, including the Hellfire missile and conventional laser guided bombs, while the MQ-1 is limited to 500 pounds. The contracts provided for the installation of Hellfire missile kits on the Predator MQ-1.

Source: <http://www.defensenews.com/story.php?i=3462239&c=AME&s=AIR>

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Banking and Finance Sector

10. *April 4, WSPA 7 Greenville* – (South Carolina) **Phishing scam using upstate bank as lure.** The Greenville County Sheriff's Office says someone is using the Bank of Travelers Rest as part of a new "phishing" scam in the county. Executives of the bank notified the Sheriff's Office that the company's name and letterhead is being used in the scam. A bogus email has been sent out that claims to have detected irregular activity on a customers debit card. The scam would require someone to provide their actual debit card number over the phone. Authorities say anyone receiving this should disregard it and not call the phone numbers listed in the email.

Source: <http://www.wspa.com/midatlantic/spa/news.apx.-content-articles-SPA-2008-04-04-0012.html>

11. *April 3, Agence France-Presse* – (National) **U.S. consumers lose record sums to Internet crooks: FBI report.** Fewer Americans fell for Internet fraudsters last year but those who did parted with a record 239.09 million dollars, an annual report by the FBI said Thursday. Just under 207,000 complaints of online fraud were reported to the FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3) in 2007, down from 207,492 complaints the previous year and more than 231,000 in 2005, the report said. But the total dollar loss to the fraudsters was 239.09 million dollars in 2007, up from 198.44 million in 2006, the report said. The preferred method of ensnaring a victim online was through spam email, the source of 75 percent of Internet scams, the report said. Most of the victims of online fraudsters were men – 75 percent – and they lost more money per victim than women to Internet criminals. Just over 40 percent of complaints received last year by the IC3 involved monetary losses of between 100 and 1,000 dollars. Twelve percent concerned losses of between 5,000 and 100,000 dollars, and 0.4 percent of complainants said they had been defrauded of more than 100,000 dollars.

Source:

http://news.yahoo.com/s/afp/20080403/tc_afp/usinternetcrimetechnology_080403225216;_ylt=ApxFYgsU_0NHL0kIwhK4U1TYa7gF

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Transportation Sector

12. *April 4, Times* – (International) **British terrorists planned homicide bomb attacks on seven flights over North America.** A British terrorist cell planned to detonate homicide bombs on seven transatlantic flights over North America, causing catastrophic loss of life, a court was told yesterday. The flights chosen by the alleged terrorists – based in Walthamstow, East London – were scheduled to leave Heathrow Terminal 3

one afternoon carrying almost 2,000 passengers and crew. The seven aircraft were destined for six American and Canadian cities: New York, Washington D.C., Chicago, San Francisco, Toronto, and Montreal. The lawyer, who opened the prosecution's case, said that the eight defendants shared a common interest in "inflicting heavy casualties upon an innocent civilian population, all in the name of Islam." He told Woolwich Crown Court that the key component of the bombs was a liquid hydrogen peroxide explosive carried in half-liter bottles of soft drinks. The devices would have been carried in hand luggage, along with detonators made from batteries and disposable cameras. No date had been finalized for the series of attacks, but the alleged conspirators had conducted detailed research on flights leaving London between August and October 2006. The jury was told that the alleged plot was thwarted when police made a series of arrests on August 9, 2006. That operation prompted a massive security alert at airports worldwide. Passengers were banned from carrying hand luggage and many flights were cancelled. Chaos ensued at airports around the world and international travel ground to a halt. The continuing restrictions on carrying liquids on aircraft are a direct result of security measures imposed after the alleged plot.

Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,346309,00.html>

13. *April 4, KIMT 3 Mason City* – (Iowa) **Closed Mason City bridge showed problems 12 years ago.** A closer look at South Delaware Bridge in Mason City, Iowa, is revealing a history of problems. In 1996 the structure had deteriorated so much that they recommended strict limits on weight and traffic. In January engineers suggested that city leaders close the bridge to cars and pedestrians. The shut down came as a surprise to many in the Mason City area. Those that rely on the bridge for their business are disappointed to find out the city knew of its poor condition more than two months ago. Concrete pieces of the 90 year old span are falling into the creek below. In a letter last month to the city engineer, bridge inspectors told them that under the right combination of loads and vibrations the structural support for the beams may be compromised. One look underneath the span says it all. Re-enforcing steel rods are exposed and concrete is crumbling. The engineering firm hired by the city is estimating cost of replacing the bridge at more than a million dollars. The structural engineer believes repairing the damage is not practical. The City Council is expected to discuss what to do with the bridge at its next meeting in two weeks. The city is looking into a grant for the project.

Source: <http://www.kimt.com/news/local/17283624.html>

14. *April 3, TWEAN 10 Syracuse* – (New York) **Suspicious package found on Thruway.** A section of the New York State Thruway was closed for two hours Thursday afternoon because of a suspicious package at the Weedsport exit in Cayuga County. State police said a maintenance worker found explosive material near the exit. Hazardous material crews were able to remove the explosive and no one was injured. No word on how the device got there.

Source: http://news10now.com/content/all_news/central_new_york/113526/suspicious-package-found-on-thruway/Default.aspx

15. *April 3, Associated Press* – (National) **FAA whistleblowers tell Congress they were**

threatened, ignored for years. The government whistleblowers, who exposed maintenance and inspection problems at Southwest Airlines, told Congress their jobs were threatened and their reports of noncompliance were ignored for years by their superiors. The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) last month took the rare step of ordering the audit of maintenance records at all domestic carriers following reports of missed safety inspections at Dallas-based Southwest. The airline was hit with a record \$10.2 million fine for continuing to fly dozens of Boeing 737s, which carried an estimated 145,000 passengers, that had not been inspected for cracks in their fuselages. Both FAA whistleblowers said the agency views the airlines as its “customers” instead of companies to be regulated. They said the FAA’s chief maintenance inspector at Southwest knowingly allowed Southwest to keep planes flying that put passengers at risk, and that another inspector knew of the problem and did nothing. The inspectors’ concerns about Southwest, which the FAA first acknowledged a year ago, have since been confirmed, and the agency on Wednesday said it is investigating four airlines for failing to comply with various federal aviation regulations. It did not name the airlines. Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,346188,00.html>

16. *April 3, Wall Street Transcript* – (National) **Outlook for transportation sector discussed in Wall Street Report.** The Wall Street Transcript has just published its Transportation issue, a report offering a review of the sector to investors and industry executives. This 42-page feature contains industry commentary through a roundtable forum and in depth interviews with CEOs from five firms and one analyst. Topics covered include truckload capacity issues, railroad volumes, international business, Asia to Europe traffic, the impact of high oil prices, fuel surcharges, reductions in truckload fleet size, exports of used trucks, cargo transportation revenue growth, regulatory outlook, and the possibility of railroad re-regulation. Source: <http://biz.yahoo.com/twst/080403/zfy400.html?v=1>

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Postal and Shipping Sector

Nothing to Report

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Agriculture and Food Sector

17. *April 4, Nebraska Farmer* – (International) **Trip gives corn, cattle producers optimism on beef trade.** Joint meetings with government officials and industry representatives in Washington, D.C., gave Nebraska corn and cattle producers some hope that global markets will continue to open up for U.S. beef. Leading the list was getting the free trade agreement with South Korea implemented, as well as resuming full beef exports to that country. At one time, South Korea was the third most important market for U.S. beef. “We were very discouraged heading into this trip, but we’ve learned that there has been a lot of activity going on in the trade arena that will hopefully yield some positive results over the next couple of months,” said a Nebraska cattle

feeder and lobbyist. A Nebraska Corn Board member and a corn producer from Lincoln said that corn producers understand that the cattle industry must have the opportunity to move its product globally. This is why the Nebraska Corn Board supported the trip to Washington, the second year of the joint corn-cattle producer effort, and has backed beef and other livestock product marketing efforts around the world.

Source: <http://nebraskafarmer.com/index.aspx?ascxid=fpStory&fpsid=33072&fpstid=2>

18. *April 3, Associated Press* – (International) **Corn hits \$6 a bushel on tight supplies.**

Worldwide demand for corn to feed livestock and to make biofuel is putting enormous pressure on global supply. With the U.S. expected to plant less corn, the supply shortage will only worsen. The U.S. Department of Agriculture projected that farmers will plant 86 million acres of corn in 2008, an eight percent drop from last year. This dynamic pushed corn prices to a record \$6 a bushel Thursday. Corn prices have shot up nearly 30 percent this year amid dwindling stockpiles and surging demand for the grain used to feed livestock and make alternative fuels including ethanol. Cold, wet weather in parts of the U.S. corn belt may force farmers to delay spring planting, potentially sending prices even higher. While corn growers are reaping record profits, U.S. consumers can expect even higher grocery bills – especially for meat and pork – as livestock producers are forced to pass on higher animal feed costs and thin their herd size. In addition, corn and corn syrup are used in an array of products, meaning the price of everything from candy to soft drinks will eventually go up, analysts say.

Source: http://biz.yahoo.com/ap/080403/corn_at_6.html?.v=6

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Water Sector

19. *April 4, Reuters* – (International) **U.S. droughts endanger Canada's water: study.**

Increasing droughts in the U.S. and American unhappiness over the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) mean Canada could one day be forced to allow bulk shipments of water to its giant neighbor, a left-leaning think tank said on Thursday. The Polaris Institute demanded that Canada pass a law banning the bulk export of water to the U.S. Ottawa says such exports are already blocked under NAFTA, which the two leading U.S. Democratic presidential candidates want to rewrite. "The U.S. primaries ... have quite clearly indicated there is a real possibility NAFTA will be reopened and renegotiated and if that's the case, we certainly need to be much better prepared," said a representative of Polaris. "And one of the issues that needs to be on the table is taking water off the table," he told reporters. He also said many U.S. cities could face critical water shortages by 2015 and noted the Southwest was already clearly in trouble. Canada's trade minister said there was no truth to the suggestion that NAFTA could one day be used to force Canada to export water to the U.S. "Water under NAFTA is acknowledged not to be a traded good and indeed there is a clear prohibition in Canada on any removal of bulk water from trans-border water basins," he told reporters.

Source: http://news.yahoo.com/s/nm/20080404/wl_canada_nm/canada_water_col_2

20. *April 4, New York Times* – (New York) **Council considers testing water for traces of**

drugs. New York City's vast drinking water supply system provides 1.1 billion gallons a day of water containing minute amounts of pain relievers and other medications. The city does not test for the presence of such drugs, and members of the City Council want to know why. At a public hearing on Thursday before the Council's environment committee, federal officials testified that tests done by the U.S. Geologic Survey indicate that city water contains a range of pharmaceutical compounds, but in concentrations so low that they pose no known health risk and do not require regular monitoring. After a recently published report about the presence of medicines in drinking water, several cities, including Dallas and Austin, Texas, began rigorously testing their drinking water. Some systems, including Philadelphia's, have already been testing for pharmaceuticals. In an investigation last month, the Associated Press reported that tests showed tiny amounts of pharmaceuticals in the drinking water of 24 metropolitan areas, and in the watersheds of 28, including New York City's. After being notified of the results, 22 of the 28 metropolitan areas began testing. Besides New York, the others that did not initiate testing were Fairfax, Virginia; Montgomery County, Maryland; Omaha, Nebraska; Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; and Santa Clara, California. Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2008/04/04/nyregion/04water.html?ref=nyregion>

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

21. *April 4, Associated Press* – (Texas; Oklahoma) **Texas women contract tuberculosis following kidney transplants.** Health officials say two Texas women who received the kidneys of a man contracted tuberculosis as a result, and one of them died. The 46-year-old organ donor had not been diagnosed with the disease and tested negative for tuberculosis six months before he died in June. A report issued by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention about the case noted the man did have risk factors for the disease, including a history of alcoholism, incarceration, and homelessness. Three weeks after the donor died, the Oklahoma Department of Health learned he had the disease. According to the report, a 50-year-old woman who received one kidney died nine weeks after the transplant. Meanwhile, a 23-year-old woman who received the other kidney has responded well to treatment for TB. A 59-year-old Texas man who received the donor's liver has not contracted the illness.

Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,346357,00.html>

22. *April 4, eFluxMedia* – (National) **Glaxo's rotavirus vaccine Rotarix gets FDA clearance.** On Thursday, the Food and Drug Administration approved Rotarix, GlaxoSmithKline PLC's vaccine for the prevention of rotavirus, an infection that causes gastroenteritis in infants and children. The approval follows a phase III trial on more than 15,000 healthy infants from ten Latin American countries conducted by researchers from the Institute of Biomedical Sciences, Faculty of Medicine, University of Chile. The children were randomly assigned to receive two oral doses of Rotarix or placebo. The results of the trial showed that only 31 infants developed gastroenteritis out of 7,025, compared with 161 in 7,081 infants who were given the placebo. The vaccine was also tested on a number of 60,000 infants before receiving the FDA approval. Rotavirus infection usually hits children before age five, causing about 2.7 million cases in the

U.S. each year – about 55,000 to 70,000 of those require hospitalization. The infection also causes between 20 and 60 deaths per year. Frequent hand washing is the best way to limit the spread of rotavirus infection. Rotarix will be given in a two-dose series to infants from 6 to 24 weeks of age and will protect them against rotavirus gastroenteritis caused by G1, G3, G4, and G9 strains of rotavirus.

Source:

http://www.efluxmedia.com/news_Glaxos_Rotavirus_Vaccine_Rotarix_Gets_FDA_Clearance_15939.html

23. *April 4, Associated Press* – (International) **South Korea slaughtering infected birds.** Quarantine workers have destroyed more than 100,000 chickens in South Korea following the first outbreak of a deadly strain of bird flu in the country in more than a year, an official said Friday. The Agriculture Ministry plans to speed up the operation to complete the slaughter of some 308,000 chickens near the outbreak site as soon as possible, said a ministry official. The outbreak in Gimje, 160 miles south of Seoul, was the first bird flu case involving the lethal H5N1 strain in South Korea since March last year. Authorities have also banned any unauthorized movement of about 3.6 million poultry on 265 farms within six miles of the outbreak site as a precaution until those birds can be tested for the virus, the official said.

Source:

<http://ap.google.com/article/ALeqM5jqd0PwdV581qJ3D48kXRHzrZWxvQD8VQV8J00>

Government Facilities Sector

24. *April 4, Lahontan Valley News and Fallon Eagle Standard* – (Nevada) **Delivery driver fails to stop at security point on base.** A delivery driver was arrested Thursday morning after failing to stop at a security point at the Fallon Naval Air Station (NAS) base. A public affairs officer for NAS Fallon said the base had an aircraft engine delivery at about 9:30 a.m. The driver of the commercial tractor-trailer carrying the engine was admitted to the base through the gate and was directed to a security checkpoint. The driver bypassed the security point without stopping and was quickly pulled over for not following directions, the officer said. During the traffic stop, security personnel saw evidence of some form of criminal activity and detained the driver for the Churchill County Sheriff's Office. The undersheriff said the incident is still "fresh," and no information is being released at this time. The truck was never considered a threat to the base.

Source: <http://www.lahontanvalleynews.com/article/20080404/News/923438517/-1/rss02>

25. *April 4, Associated Press* – (California) **4 prison guards attacked in California.** All of the state's prisons were locked down as a precaution Thursday after two inmates attacked four officers at the California Correctional Institution, a corrections official said. The three men were in stable condition at hospitals. A fourth officer, a woman, suffered unknown injuries and was also taken to a hospital. The two inmates involved in

the attack are members of the Surenos, a Southern California gang, the Los Angeles Times reported on its Web site Thursday, citing corrections officials. State prisons were to remain locked down until corrections staff could determine whether the stabbing was an isolated incident.

Source:

http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20080404/ap_on_re_us/prison_guards_stabbed;_ylt=AoJKHOmdU79GuzMW6jL8YfRG2ocA

26. *April 3, WTOP 103.5 Washington and Associated Press* – (District of Columbia) **Fire at FEMA under investigation.** Investigators are looking for the cause of a fire at the Federal Emergency Management Agency's headquarters. About 200 workers were evacuated for about 50 minutes while firefighters put out the blaze. A D.C. fire department spokesman says the blaze began about 7:30 a.m. at the building and that the fire was contained to a room on the first floor. There are no reports of injuries.

Source: <http://www.wtopnews.com/?nid=25&sid=1379630>

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Emergency Services Sector

27. *April 2, First Coast News*– (Florida; Georgia) **Homeland security drill in Fernandina Beach simulates nuclear accident.** Emergency responders from north Florida into south Georgia staged a nightmare scenario the morning of April 2. They practiced what to do next if there was a nuclear accident at the nearby Kings Bay Submarine Base. Crews from Fernandina Beach and Nassau County simulated that five campers there were overcome in a radioactive cloud. The victims got a quick decontamination at the park and then went to the hospital. Now crews will study what happened and figure out how they can move patients faster the next time. The Department of Homeland Security also participated in the drill, but it was coordinated through Nassau County Emergency Management.

Source: <http://www.firstcoastnews.com/news/local/news-article.aspx?storyid=106201&ref=rss>

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Information Technology

28. *April 4, IDG News Service* – (National) **Intel to release anti-theft technology for laptops.** Intel plans to release anti-theft technology for laptops during the fourth quarter of this year, but the company is not offering many details yet. Called Intel Anti-Theft Technology, the new capability will be added to Intel's Active Management Technology, which is part of Centrino vPro and allows IT managers to remotely access and configure computers. In the event of theft, the technology will "basically lock the system, lock the disk, so people cannot be maliciously using and getting the data," said the executive vice president and general manager of Intel's Mobility Group, according to a transcript (PDF format) of his presentation (PDF format) at the Intel Developer Forum (IDF) in Shanghai. The technology, which appears to render both the processor

and storage inaccessible, aims to ease concerns over valuable corporate or personal data falling into the wrong hands when laptops are lost or stolen. The problem of lost data on stolen and missing laptops is a long-standing problem and a growing concern, because of its impact on personal data.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&taxonomyName=security&articleId=9074838&taxonomyId=17&intsrc=kc_top

29. *April 4, Web User News* – (National) **Anti-virus giants fail Vista test.** Anti-virus companies including McAfee, Trend Micro, and Sophos, have come under fire for failing to detect known threats to Windows Vista Service Pack One. According to independent testing body Virus Bulletin, 17 out of 37 anti-virus products all failed to secure Windows Vista SP1 during its VB100 certification testing. To earn VB100 certification, products must be able to detect 100 per cent of viruses and must not generate any false alarms when scanning a set of clean files. Virus Bulletin said McAfee VirusScan, Trend Micro Internet Security, and Sophos Anti-Virus all failed to detect threats known to be circulating in the real world. Microsoft released the SP1 update for all versions of its Windows Vista operating system last month. Virus Bulletin claims that the results of its latest VB100 tests should help people decide which products are best suited to the task of providing solid protection for Vista. However, a senior analyst at the 451 Group questioned in his blog whether the Virus Bulletin results mattered. He said: “With all respect to the folks at VB, who provide a valuable service to the anti-malware industry, part of this is marketing.”

Source: <http://www.webuser.co.uk/news/225511.html>

Internet Alert Dashboard

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

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

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Communications Sector

30. *April 3, Washington Post* – (International) **Reach out and hack someone.** Ottawa-based VoIPshield Systems, a company that makes products to help secure voice-over-IP (VoIP) networks, said it located more than 100 security holes in Internet-based phones made by the biggest players in the business, including Avaya, Cisco, and Nortel. The company currently displays information on 44 of the vulnerabilities on its Web site, and it says many of the flaws are medium- to high-risk, meaning they could be used to intercept, redirect, or initiate phone calls, or to simply disable phone service for the targeted user or company. The chief executive of VoIPshield said the company’s internal researchers uncovered the flaws over the past two years, and that all affected vendors have been notified. So far, vendor patches are available to address 17 of the vulnerabilities listed on its site. Asked to name the most galling vulnerability of the lot,

he said one vendor (Cisco) decided it was a good idea to hard-code a password for a management interface into the VoIP device that could not be changed by the user. He said Cisco told him it planned to correct that decision in future versions of the product.

Source:

http://blog.washingtonpost.com/securityfix/2008/04/reach_out_and_hack_someone.html?nav=rss_blog

31. *April 3, CNET News.com* – (International) **Bluefire plans a new cell phone security app.** Bluefire Security plans to enter the consumer market with Mobile Defender. Bluefire's bid joins them to the ranks of other security vendors who have created mobile versions of their desktop apps. The application, currently available in private beta for Windows Mobile phones, has a simple four-button interface, with each button corresponding to an element of protection--firewall, SMS and MMS spam-blocking, an application protection shield that guards against auto-installing malware, and a feature to remotely wipe the contents of the handheld should it get stolen or irreversibly corrupted. Mobile Defender is of the "set and forget" variety, which means that after you install it, it pretty much runs on its own. While security compromises from mobile phones have been small in scale and mostly isolated incidents, Bluefire's chief executive believes that cell phones dangle attractive lures for hackers along three vector – as mobile messaging becomes ubiquitous and malware authors propagate poisonous code in links; as mobile phone commerce takes off, and as the mobile Web becomes easier to surf from devices like the iPhone.

Source: http://www.news.com/8301-10784_3-9910504-7.html?part=rss&subj=news&tag=2547-1_3-0-20

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Commercial Facilities Sector

Nothing to Report

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National Monuments & Icons Sector

Nothing to Report

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Dams Sector

32. *April 4, Baxter Bulletin* – (Arkansas) **Riverside residents watching rain, dam activity.** Many Norfolk residents who live alongside the river were unnecessarily told to evacuate their homes Wednesday night by the Norfolk Fire Department. The residents, still recovering from massive flooding two weeks ago, said they were uneasy because of the possibility of higher-than-usual water flows coming from Bull Shoals and Norfolk dams due to aggressive power generation, and the added threat that floodgates on the dams

may have to be opened. What the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers wants people to know is that areas downstream from the dams will more than likely see high water again. If the Corps is forced to open floodgates on either dam, the action would be treated as an emergency, and the sheriff's office, the Baxter County Office of Emergency Management, and other officials would be notified and would, in turn, try to notify residents in the affected areas.

Source:

<http://www.baxterbulletin.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080404/NEWS01/804040317/1002>

33. *April 4, Herald News* – (Illinois) **Project improving dam's safety.** A key step in the Glen Palmer Dam reconstruction project was completed Friday. The Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) announced Friday that in addition to removing the hydraulic roller below the dam, a fishway has been constructed and is now open on the Yorkville dam. IDNR has been working with the city of Yorkville since 2006 to reconstruct the dam so that it is safer for the public, as well as the fish that swim through this stretch of the Fox River.

Source:

http://www.suburbanchicagonews.com/heraldnews/news/876823,4_1_JO04_YORKDA_M_S1.article

34. *April 3, Big Bear Grizzly* – (California) **Dam gets underwater inspection.** During a routine dive training operation on March 21, a San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department diver observed a crack on one of the arches of Bear Valley Dam. The diver did not have the tools to accurately measure the width, depth, or length of the crack. He also did not have time to check the other ten arches. After hearing the report and confirming that the dam is not leaking, the Big Bear Municipal Water District (MWD) sent its engineer for a preliminary evaluation of the divers' observations. The crack was reported to the California state dam safety regulators. The engineer's conclusion is that "if the crack is new in the last two or three years, it may have been caused by normal processes including minor dam settlement or seismic activity." He went on to say that "the mass concrete infilling of the arch (in 1988) and the new 24-inch-thick reinforced concrete wall ... were added for just this situation where the original dam continues to degrade over time." According to the engineer, the crack "is inconsequential to the safety of Bear Valley Dam." The state dam safety regulators agreed with the MWD engineer's assessment and provided the MWD with recommendations for a more thorough inspection. The Sheriff's dive team returns to complete a more thorough inspection of all the dam arches on Friday, April 4.

Source: http://www.bigbeargrizzly.net/articles/2008/04/03/news/latest_news/xdam.txt

35. *April 4, Bakersfield Californian* – (California) **Isabella Dam collapse study about to go public.** Detailed information about flooding that would follow a collapse of the two dams at Isabella Lake will be shared with the Kern County Board of Supervisors Tuesday. Kern County's fire chief said the information from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is an update to earlier draft estimates of where water would go if the two dams on the lake above Bakersfield collapsed. The ongoing Corps study will show how

fast water would travel, where it would go, and how deep it would get in locations between the town of Lake Isabella and Bakersfield. The fire chief said the information will be “instrumental in our putting together the necessary evacuation plans.” The inundation information will be available to the public on the county’s Web site, he said.
Source: <http://www.bakersfield.com/102/story/406711.html>

36. *April 3, WMUR 9 Manchester* – (New Hampshire) **Weak dams continue to cause flood concerns.** Over the past three years, some older or poorly maintained New Hampshire dams have been in danger of collapse in heavy rains. Some residents of neighborhoods that flooded said that dams were part of the problem when they were too old to work properly or were not operated correctly. The city of Manchester said the Black Brook Dam is showing no signs of danger, but it is on a long list of dams being monitored. Many dams that were on the list before the floods three years ago are still on the list, but some progress has been made. A year ago, the Mill Pond Dam in Hollis was in danger of collapse, but it has been removed. The Pittsfield Dam, where erosion threatened homes and businesses in April 2007, has been repaired. Damage at the Bristol Dam prompted evacuations in 2006. Most of it has been removed, but officials said more work is needed. Last year at this time, 240 of the state's dams were considered “deficient” or “in need of work.” One year later, the list is down to 127 deficient dams.
Source: <http://www.wmur.com/news/15785934/detail.html>

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To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Web page at www.us-cert.gov.

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