



## Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 15 April 2008

Current Nationwide  
Threat Level is



[For info click here](http://www.dhs.gov/)  
<http://www.dhs.gov/>

- Newstex reports a Delta Air Lines Inc. aircraft and a plane on a domestic Russian flight were involved in a near miss on Sunday over Moscow's Sheremetevo airport. Moscow aviation authorities blamed the crew of the Don-Avia aircraft for failing to keep to height limits after take-off, creating a situation where the two aircraft approached each other at a combined speed of 683 miles an hour. (See item [20](#))
- According to the Register, two ships whose anchors damaged an undersea cable in the Gulf have been traced by the cable operating company using satellite imagery. The owners of one vessel have paid compensation for the damage caused, and the second remains impounded by Dubai port authorities. (See item [41](#))

### **DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Fast Jump**

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

**Service Industries:** [Banking and Finance; Transportation; Postal and Shipping; Information Technology; Communications; Commercial Facilities](#)

**Sustenance and Health:** [Agriculture and Food; Water; Public Health and Healthcare](#)

**Federal and State:** [Government Facilities; Emergency Services; National Monuments and Icons](#)

## **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 14, Bloomberg* – (Midwest) **Oil trades near \$110 on U.S. pipeline leak, Mexico shuts ports.** Crude oil traded near \$110 a barrel in New York as repairs to fix a pipeline crack cut supplies of more than one million barrels a day from the Gulf of Mexico to the U.S. Midwest. The 1.1 million barrel-a-day Capline system was closed April 11 after a technician discovered a leak near Obion, Tennessee. Workers were yesterday welding a new protective casing around the pipeline, the Dyersburg-based State Gazette reported.

There is no firm timeframe for bringing the pipeline back into service, a Shell spokesman said. “It’s a very big volume so it depends on how fast they can repair it,” said the assistant general manager for risk management at Mitsubishi Corp. in Tokyo. “It could mean a drawdown in inventories in the U.S. mid-continent.” In addition, Petroleos Mexicanos closed Sunday two oil-export terminals in the Gulf of Mexico because of winds and lightning.

Source:

<http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601091&sid=aEQsBRsRKgxc&refer=india>

2. *April 14, Bloomberg* – (California) **Kinder Morgan shuts pipeline after train derailment.** Kinder Morgan Energy Partners LP said it is shutting an oil pipeline in Fresno County, California, after a train derailment, according to a report to state regulators. Kinder Morgan will close the pipeline in Selma for inspection, a notice on the Web site of the Office of Emergency Services showed, citing an unidentified caller. Two cars of a train were derailed in Selma, according to a separate report made by a caller from Union Pacific Corp. to the regulators.

Source:

<http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601072&sid=apeXzVziAXNE&refer=energy>

3. *April 12, Associated Press* – (California) **Fish, crabs destroyed after small oil spill in Long Beach Harbor.** The Coast Guard says nearly 50 gallons of oil has leaked from an underground pipeline into Long Beach Harbor, California. An officer says the leak was discovered late Thursday from an underground oil transfer pipeline at the port. A cleanup crew dispatched by the pipeline’s owner, Tidelands Oil Production Company, arrived within an hour. He says the leak has been stopped and the spill is contained. Bait fish and shellfish from charter boats at the harbor along with crabs from a local fish market had to be destroyed. They were kept in tanks that drew surface water from the spill area. The cleanup is expected to be completed within two weeks.

Source: [http://www.mercurynews.com/news/ci\\_8902606](http://www.mercurynews.com/news/ci_8902606)

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## **Chemical Industry Sector**

4. *April 14, Business Legal Reports* – (Texas) **Board releases safety video 3 years after BP explosion.** Three years after the explosion that killed 15 workers and injured 180 others at the BP Texas City, Texas, refinery, the U.S. Chemical Safety Board (CSB) released a new safety video describing the cause of the accident and key lessons learned. The accident occurred on March 23, 2005, during the start-up of the refinery’s octane-boosting Isomerization Unit, when a distillation tower and blowdown drum were overfilled with flammable liquid hydrocarbons. Because the drum vented directly to the atmosphere, there was a geyser-like release of flammable liquid, according to CSB. That, in turn, formed a vapor cloud that spread rapidly through the area. A diesel pickup truck idling nearby ignited the vapor, causing a series of explosions and fires that reached occupied work trailers. The video includes a new 3-D computer animation of

the events leading to the explosion. It also covers BP's safety culture, the human factor issues that contributed to the accident, and the importance of safe equipment design and trailer siting.

Source: <http://safety.blr.com/display.cfm/id/108040>

5. *April 12, Republican* – (Massachusetts) **Legislature taking aim at chemicals.** Many local fire chiefs are supporting a bill calling for new regulations governing chemical processing, citing three explosions in Danvers and Leominster in recent years. “Without immediate attention to chemical mixing regulations, the next incident at one of these facilities could be even more tragic,” said a Concord Fire chief, who is president of the Fire Chiefs’ Association of Massachusetts and is a former Wilbraham fire chief. The bill has been favorably reported out of the House’s Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security and is presently in the Ways and Means Committee. A Massachusetts Chemistry Technology Alliance spokesman, however, said his association is opposed to it. “It creates a new regulatory system on top of the existing DEP (state Department of Environmental Protection) regulatory system,” said the chief executive officer for the alliance. “It establishes another new manufacturing fee.” But, he said, his alliance does approve of some points in the bill. In November 2006, a large chemical explosion in Danvers damaged over 100 buildings in a neighborhood, some businesses and some homes.

Source: <http://www.masslive.com/metrowest/republican/index.ssf?/base/news-13/1207991488156421.xml&coll=1>

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## **Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and Waste Sector**

6. *April 14, Knoxville News Sentinel* – (Tennessee) **Protesters, police meet again.** The Oak Ridge Environmental Peace Alliance sponsored a March for Disarmament on Sunday from Alvin K. Bissell Park to the entrance of the Y-12 National Security Complex. About 200 people marched. Police arrested two people who refused to leave the road in front of the security complex entrance.
7. *April 13, Mid-Hudson News* – (New York) **Indian Point sounds new sirens for three days.** Entergy Nuclear Northeast will sound the new Indian Point emergency notification sirens in New York, on April 15, 16, and 17. Each sounding is planned to occur between 10:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. The new sirens will sound simultaneously at full-volume for four minutes in Westchester, Rockland, Orange, and Putnam Counties. The testing will secure required acoustic – or sound intensity – measurement data on the new system. Throughout duration of the new system testing, the current siren system remains the primary means for public notification. Area residents should be aware that the new sirens do not sound like the current sirens. The new siren sound is a constant, unwavering loud tone. County officials continue to use the current system until the new system is declared operational.

Source: [http://www.midhudsonnews.com/News/April08/13/IP\\_sirentest-13Apr08.htm](http://www.midhudsonnews.com/News/April08/13/IP_sirentest-13Apr08.htm)

## **Defense Industrial Base Sector**

8. *April 13, Associated Press* – (National) **Everyday devices crowd Fort Huachuca's testing.** Whenever the military prepares to deploy a new radio or other communication device for troops on the battlefield, the technology must be put through a battery of tests at the Army's Electronic Proving Ground in Fort Huachuca, Arizona, the military's sole outpost for sensitive electronic testing. But as nearby Sierra Vista has grown, the radio frequencies used by fort officials are seeing an increasing amount of civilian interference. "The primary issue is not direct interference but a recurring level of background noise," said the president of Fort Huachuca's civilian booster group. To protect the proving ground, fort officials and state legislators have crafted a bill that would require developers talk to post leaders and work out ways to avoid impinging on the testing. The measure, Senate Bill 1387, has passed through the Senate and is awaiting hearings in two House committees.

Source:

<http://www.svherald.com/articles/2008/04/13/news/doc4801a8a0d3377941091816.txt>

9. *April 2008, National Defense Magazine* – (National) **Move over MRAP: New light tactical vehicles are coming.** The Army and Marine Corps assert that vehicles suited for urban warfare will continue to be a necessity, and for that reason, the attractiveness of trucks with the agility to navigate city streets – and handle roadside bombs – is growing. Plagued with aging fleets of combat-worn humvees, the ground forces want to buy as many as 50,000 joint light tactical vehicles (JLTV) and have them in operation by the mid-2010s. The Marines want to regain their identity as an expeditionary fighting force capable of doing amphibious operations, and fitting the JLTV aboard their cargo and amphibious ships is a top priority. For the Army, the requirement is for the vehicles to be transportable by the CH-47 Chinook helicopter. Protection requirements must not compromise the ability of crews to acquire what the military calls "situational awareness" of the environment around the vehicle. The Army's program executive officer for combat support advocates building a platform with a foundation that can quickly adapt to changing threats, such as small arms fire and sophisticated roadside bombs.

Source: <http://www.nationaldefensemagazine.org/issues/2008/April/Move.htm>

## **Banking and Finance Sector**

10. *April 14, IDG News Service* – (National) **Colombian man sentenced for computer fraud.** A Colombian man who used keylogging software in a lucrative identity theft scheme has been sentenced to nine years in prison and ordered to pay US\$347,000 restitution. His scheme, which he carried out alone and with a co-conspirator between 2004 and 2007, had more than 600 victims worldwide, including employees of the U.S. Department of Defense, according to the Department of Justice. The man installed keylogging software on hotel business-center computers and Internet lounges in order to

steal passwords and other personal data. Then he and his partner used complex computer intrusion methods to steal money from accounts. The court pegged the actual and attempted losses from the scheme at \$1.4 million. The man was arrested by federal agents last August when he flew into the U.S. with a laptop, purchased with stolen funds, that contained personal and financial information on more than 600 people.

Source: [http://www.infoworld.com/article/08/04/14/Colombian-man-sentenced-for-computer-fraud\\_1.html](http://www.infoworld.com/article/08/04/14/Colombian-man-sentenced-for-computer-fraud_1.html)

11. *April 13, Modesto Bee* – (National) **Scam alert: Turn the table on reverse loans.** A reverse mortgage allows homeowners to tap into their equity for income, usually over a fixed period of time. The idea is that the homeowners, often elderly, can use reverse mortgages to stay in their homes. When the home is sold, the reverse mortgage is paid off. But some con artists will try to sell the mortgage as a way to upgrade a homeowner's lifestyle or as a way to get into another investment. Financial experts caution about this type of mortgage, especially if it is not certified by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Such mortgages can generate commissions and fees for those who sell them, but homeowners can get so far in debt that they lose a home they once owned free and clear.

Source: <http://www.modbee.com/business/story/267989.html>

12. *April 13, Tyler Morning Telegraph* – (National) **Identity theft remains threat for those online.** The good news is that identity theft is declining- down 3.6 percent from 8.4 million in a previous year's study. The bad news is that it still affected 8.1 million Americans last year, according to Javelin Strategy and Research. The average amount lost per individual as a result of ID theft last year was about \$5,500, for a total of \$45 billion. Despite the decline in reported ID theft, the Better Business Bureau (BBB) warns that thieves and hackers still lurk online and is offering advice consumers can use to protect their personal and financial information. The BBB recommends consumers take five steps to prevent ID theft when online: 1. Do not fall for a phishing e-mail. 2. Create strong passwords and protect them. 3. Be safe and secure when on the go. 4. Guard personal computers with anti-virus, anti-spyware and firewall protection. 5. Only transfer information over a secure server.

Source: <http://www.tylerpaper.com/article/20080413/BUSINESS0503/804110354>

13. *April 13, WTVG 13 Toledo* – (Ohio) **Data breach at the University of Toledo.** A data breach at University of Toledo (UT) could compromise the personal information of around 6500 employees. It is the second data breach at UT in a matter of months. UT officials say this time the personal information of around 6500 employees could be compromised. A data file, once only visible to those in UT's payroll department, was mistakenly placed on a shared network. The file contained personal information on thousands of UT Health Science campus employees. Though that information, which included social security numbers, was made available to all university employees, university officials doubt the information was ever stolen.

Source: <http://abclocal.go.com/wtv/story?section=news/local&id=6078444>

14. *April 13, Arizona Republic* – (Arizona; National) **Free grants don't cost \$59.** The

Better Business Bureau (BBB) says the recent mailer many Valley residents received about “guaranteed” government grants is a scam. The postcards typically say “our office is trying to contact you; you are guaranteed a \$25,000 grant from the U.S. Government.” The postcard only provides a telephone number for contact. When consumers call the number, they’re told they must pay \$59 to receive the grant. Of course, a free grant would not cost \$59, but there are other red flags. The BBB says government grants are usually given only to a community program or to serve a social good. Most grants are not awarded to individuals for personal needs. General information about grants is available free of charge from public libraries or the Internet.

Source: <http://www.azcentral.com/arizonarepublic/business/articles/0413biz-cherry0414.html>

15. *April 12, AI Merchant Accounts* – (National) **Merchant Account Service Network responds to concerns over online security.** A recent survey revealed that 57 percent of Americans fear that their account passwords will be stolen when they bank online, and 38 percent do not trust online payment processing, banks and other ecommerce services. TNS Sofres, the largest custom research provider in the U.S. conducted the e-commerce security survey, which interviewed 1,000 adults in the U.S. The survey focused on respondents’ attitudes and behaviors regarding digital security and technology, revealing that identity theft should be the primary concern of businesses when they set up online merchant accounts, as the issue topped the list of consumer anxiety at 74 percent. 44 percent of respondents were concerned about their online bank account information being stolen. Justifying consumer concerns, 21 percent of the respondents in the survey said they had already had their bank data stolen. 40 percent of consumers who took the survey said they would buy more online if the security was strengthened. Another 44 percent of people said that online credit card processing worried them.

Source: <http://www.prweb.com/releases/2008/4/prweb851444.htm>

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## **Transportation Sector**

16. *April 14, Fox News* – (Illinois) **Report: Security breach at O’Hare Airport.** Several Transportation Security Administration (TSA) uniforms were left unsecured and susceptible to theft at Chicago’s O’Hare Airport last month, the Chicago Sun-Times reported Monday. Sensitive security information and a cashbox were also left out in the open past security checkpoints, the Sun-Times reported. Experts said that this is a “serious” situation due to the fact that the stolen uniforms would allow unauthorized persons to get through checkpoints. A Department of Aviation report obtained by the Sun-Times also noted two TSA radios left out in the open, as well as unlocked break room doors at two security checkpoints. A TSA spokesman confirmed to the Sun-Times that the report was true. He said all of the items described were “within the sterile area,” referring to the area passengers enter after the checkpoints. A former inspector general of the U.S. Department of Transportation told the Sun-Times it was “ridiculous” to think it is safe to leave uniforms unsecured if they are past checkpoints.

Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,351204,00.html>



17. *April 14, Associated Press* – (Louisiana) **Vessels collide on Mississippi; 18 hurt.** A boat carrying state prison employees collided with a barge on the Mississippi River upstream from Baton Rouge on Sunday, injuring 18. The crewboat, with 20 people aboard, was taking workers who had just ended their shifts across the river, said a spokeswoman for the Louisiana State Penitentiary in Angola. No one went into the water, she said. The Coast Guard, which was investigating, could not immediately say whether high water played a role. River pilots had voiced worries about the high water, saying it is harder to anchor and navigate in the quick currents. Last month, a freighter ran aground near New Orleans and caused 60 nearby barges to break loose from their moorings. A stretch of river was also closed near Vicksburg, Mississippi, when a barge sank after hitting a bridge.

Source:

[http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20080414/ap\\_on\\_re\\_us/river\\_collision;\\_ylt=ArEz\\_gu29bVAuYJwZ2pGXAKs0NUE](http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20080414/ap_on_re_us/river_collision;_ylt=ArEz_gu29bVAuYJwZ2pGXAKs0NUE)

18. *April 14, Associated Press* – (Oregon) **Oregon railroad asked to explain closure.** Federal railroad officials have given the owners of a short line railroad linking Coquille and Eugene, Oregon, a month to prove it did not illegally abandon the route that is vital to south coast-area shippers. It is the first federal demand to force the Central Oregon and Pacific Railroad to explain itself, and could lead to a mandate to either abandon the railroad or to repair the aging tunnels that prompted the shutdown six months ago and reopen the line. The federal Surface Transportation Board has questioned the railroad company's claims made when it closed the line and its appeals for public funding since then. Lawmakers and advocates for the four major affected industrial companies welcomed the news. The added expense of shipping by truck or barge has cost between \$3 million and \$4 million this year, said the executive director of the Douglas Timber Operators. CORP closed the line under federal rules that allow for an embargo, which is supposed to be a temporary emergency stoppage. Federal law requires rail carriers to provide service upon reasonable request, allowing for temporary suspensions in case of weather or flood damage, tunnel deterioration or traffic congestion. But the government order says a carrier cannot decide not to serve just because of circumstances that make it difficult or expensive. The law requires rail companies to reopen embargoed lines in a timely fashion or abandon them. RailAmerica's actions suggest that CORP's embargo of the line, although it may have been reasonable, may have lasted too long, the board said.

Source:

<http://www.argusobserver.com/articles/2008/04/13/news/doc4801e44b02d19084088360.txt>

19. *April 14, Federal Aviation Association* – (National) **FAA to install runway safety warning system at Boston Logan.** Technology that warns pilots about potential runway safety hazards will be installed and tested at Boston Logan International Airport under a partnership between the Federal Aviation Administration and the Massachusetts Port Authority, which are sharing the cost of the system, estimated at \$5 million. The test system will be installed in November 2009 and testing will begin the following month, a full two years ahead of the planned national program deployment. The system, called Runway Status Lights, uses a series of red lights embedded in the pavement to warn

pilots if it is unsafe to cross over or enter a runway. Boston will be the first location in the country to test Runway Status Lights for intersecting runways. The system is in place at Dallas/Fort Worth and San Diego at non-intersecting runways and has improved runway safety without reducing capacity or increasing controller workload.

Source: <http://www.atc-network.com/NewsItem-25419.aspx>

20. *April 13, Newstex* – (International) **Delta plane in near miss over Moscow.** A Delta Air Lines Inc aircraft and a plane on a domestic Russian flight were involved in a near miss on Sunday over Moscow's Sheremetevo airport, aviation officials said. The Delta flight, a Boeing 767-400, arriving from Atlanta was descending when a Boeing 737-500 aircraft operated by Don-Avia en route to Rostov-on-Don took off and came dangerously close, the Moscow aviation authorities said in a statement. The statement blamed the crew of the Don-Avia aircraft for failing to keep to height limits after take-off, creating a situation where the two aircraft approached each other at a combined speed of 1,100 kilometers an hour (683 miles an hour). "The airplane violated the order and continued intensively to rise and rapidly close in on the approaching plane," the statement said. "Air traffic control immediately ordered the crew of the Boeing 737-500 to reduce height. The crew swiftly followed the instruction." The Delta flight was carrying 219 passengers and 12 crew members. The Don-Avia flight had 51 passengers and six crew members.

Source: <http://money.cnn.com/news/newsfeeds/articles/newstex/AFX-0013-24461635.htm>

21. *April 13, MarketWatch* – (National) **FAA reportedly aware of potential MD-80 problems for years.** The Federal Aviation Administration has known for years of potential problems arising from wiring bundles on MD-80 airliners but did not issue an airworthiness directive ordering inspections of the bundles, located near the jets' main landing gear, until June 2006, according to a Ft. Worth Star-Telegram report. Airlines were given 18 months to comply with the directive. A Star-Telegram review of more than 24,000 MD-80 maintenance and incident reports since 2000 turned up just a single case of chafed and burned wires in the wiring bundle in question: on an MD-88 operated by Delta Air Lines while it taxied to the gate in August 2005. FAA-ordered inspections have prompted numerous flight cancellations this past week for American Airlines, the AMR Corp. subsidiary that ranks as the largest U.S. air carrier.

Source: [http://www.marketwatch.com/news/story/faa-reportedly-aware-potential-md-80/story.aspx?guid=%7B211B1060-26B3-4FCC-B870-8CCD34A364F3%7D&dist=msr\\_3](http://www.marketwatch.com/news/story/faa-reportedly-aware-potential-md-80/story.aspx?guid=%7B211B1060-26B3-4FCC-B870-8CCD34A364F3%7D&dist=msr_3)

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## **Postal and Shipping Sector**

Nothing to Report

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## **Agriculture and Food Sector**

22. *April 14, Farm Futures* – (National) **Record-setting pace for ag exports.** Agricultural exports are continuing their record-breaking pace. According to a U.S. Department of Agriculture economist, February was the first month ever to top \$10 billion in agricultural exports. “For the first five months of fiscal 2008, the export value is at \$47.8 billion,” she said. “That is roughly 42% above the first five months of fiscal ‘07.” Up to this point she had been forecasting \$101 billion in exports for this fiscal year. She now expects the USDA to raise the fiscal 2008 export projection because of stronger than expected exports in most of the major grains and oilseeds. The new forecasted numbers will be released May 29.

Source:

<http://www.farmfutures.com/ME2/dirmod.asp?sid=CD26BEDECA4A4946A1283CC7786AEB5A&nm=News&type=news&mod=News&mid=9A02E3B96F2A415ABC72CB5F516B4C10&tier=3&nid=8F1D6717A0824AEE98F34768848064BF>

23. *April 14, Stateline.org* – (National) **States push to get food to needy.** As the economy slows, a number of states, including Massachusetts, Tennessee, Utah, and New Hampshire, are working to create awareness of the availability of the federal Food Stamps program, while signing up new participants and attempting to retain current enrollees. This year, soaring food and energy prices and lost jobs have led a record number of people to enter the program — more than in any year since the program began in 1964. But even as the number of applicants increases, states are reaching out to millions more who may not realize they are eligible or are reluctant to participate. Only 65 percent of Americans with incomes low enough to qualify for Food Stamps seek help, leaving many who either go hungry or end up relying on other federal and state assistance programs, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), which administers the program. With strapped budgets, states have an incentive to use as much of the open-ended federal food aid program as possible, because none of the money comes out of their pockets. USDA funds 100 percent of the benefits, while states pay a little more than half of administrative costs. Spending \$36 billion, the Food Stamp program is expected to serve 28 million people nationwide in the fiscal year starting October 1, 2008, an eight percent increase in participation over the year before, according to the Congressional Budget Office.

Source: <http://www.stateline.org/live/details/story?contentId=300385>

24. *April 13, Associated Press* – (National) **Disease lab has had accidents with virus.** The only U.S. facility allowed to research the highly contagious foot-and-mouth disease experienced several accidents with the feared virus, the Bush administration acknowledged Friday. A 1978 release of the virus into cattle holding pens on Plum Island, New York, triggered new safety procedures. While that incident was previously known, the Homeland Security Department told a House committee there were other accidents inside the government’s laboratory. The accidents are significant because the administration is likely to move foot-and-mouth research from the remote island to one of five sites on the U.S. mainland near livestock herds. This has raised concerns about the risks of a catastrophic outbreak of the disease, which does not sicken humans but can

devastate the livestock industry. Skeptical Democratic leaders of the House Energy and Commerce Committee demanded to see internal documents from the administration that they believe highlight the risks and consequences of moving the research. The live virus has been confined to Plum Island for more than a half-century to keep it far from livestock. The White House said modern safety rules at labs are sufficient to avoid any outbreak. But incidents in Britain have demonstrated that the foot-and-mouth virus can cause remarkable economic havoc – and that the virus can escape from a facility.

Source:

[http://www.redorbit.com/news/health/1338857/disease\\_lab\\_has\\_had\\_accidents\\_with\\_virus/index.html?source=r\\_health](http://www.redorbit.com/news/health/1338857/disease_lab_has_had_accidents_with_virus/index.html?source=r_health)

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## **Water Sector**

25. *April 14, Huntington News* – (West Virginia) **Antibiotic-resistant bacteria found in Huntington tap water.** A Marshall Professor and Head of the Division of Biological Sciences at Marshall, in October, 2007, told Huntington News reporters that he and his team of biologists had been finding antibiotic resistant bacteria in the Ohio River for years. Recently, he stated that he found “antibiotic resistant bugs in drinking water in high numbers.” However, he is quick to point out that he does not think these bacteria are actually flowing throughout the water supply system run by West Virginia American Water. He thinks it is an “end of pipe” issue. That means his research leads him to believe the bugs likely grow from inside, at the sink, or outside in the piping or ‘service line’ leading up to the water turn on/shut off valve at the faucet inside. Nonetheless, he says “when you open up the tap, this stuff comes out.” The “stuff that comes out” has not been identified because that is an expensive test requiring an expensive machine Marshall does not have, but the antibiotics to which they are resistant have been identified: ampicillin and tetracycline. Resistance to each was common. The researcher says, “I would advise people to use water normally for washing, cleaning and cooking and they may want to run the tap for a little longer for water that will be consumed “raw.”

Source: <http://www.huntingtonnews.net/local/080414-seaton-localbacteriafound.html>

26. *April 13, Associated Press* – (National) **Feds not addressing drugs in water.** A White House task force that was supposed to devise a federal plan to research the issue of pharmaceuticals in drinking water has missed its deadline and failed to produce mandated reports and recommendations for coordination among numerous federal agencies, according to documents obtained by the Associated Press (AP). More than 70 pages of the task force’s documents, including e-mails and weekly reports, were released under the Freedom of Information Act as a Senate subcommittee prepares to convene a hearing Tuesday prompted by an AP investigation about trace concentrations of drugs in America’s drinking water. The lack of public disclosure and failure of federal agencies to act on the pharmaceutical issue is expected to be a focus at Tuesday’s hearing before a subcommittee of the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works. Among others, officials from the Environmental Protection Agency and U.S. Geological Survey are scheduled to testify. The hearing was prompted by a five-

month-long inquiry by the AP National Investigative Team that disclosed the presence of trace concentrations of pharmaceuticals in the drinking water of at least 41 million Americans.

Source:

<http://ap.google.com/article/ALeqM5ip7CEurHqf9xtdqMQBwPCQDtENEwD9013GS80>

27. *April 13, Reporter* – (California) **Wolk bills to address water woes.** In California, the Assembly Water, Parks, and Wildlife Committee voted last week to approve two bills by an assemblywoman to help prepare for some of the state's most critical water challenges. "With California's outdated water infrastructure, a dwindling snow pack, and increasing risk of massive Delta levee failure, this state is struggling to provide for the water needs of its growing population," the assemblywoman said. "While water debates continue to rage, these bills help prepare for the state's long-term water supply needs by doing things most water advocates agree should be done now. That includes taking the first steps toward addressing climate change in our water planning, encouraging water conservation, and providing for the immediate needs of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, the heart of California's water and agricultural system." The bill will next be heard in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.  
Source: [http://www.thereporter.com/news/ci\\_8911541](http://www.thereporter.com/news/ci_8911541)

28. *April 13, Independent Record* – (Montana) **JeffCo to test uranium levels.** Concern about potentially dangerous uranium levels in Jefferson County's ground water is spurring an expanded study of domestic wells here. The Jefferson County Commission gave the nod last week for a proposal to test 120 wells, primarily in Jefferson County. An earlier study found that 12 percent of 40 wells tested in the county had uranium concentrations exceeding federal drinking water standards, and 16 wells showed elevated levels of radon. The initial study, reported in February, was done by a scientist with the U.S. Geological Survey. The potentially dangerous uranium levels came to light after a county resident fell ill, and the cause was traced to domestic well water having uranium concentrations 60 times higher than federal drinking water standards. The proposed follow-up study could include some wells that lie within the Boulder batholith in surrounding counties. Parts of the Boulder batholith, which is an enormous mass of igneous rock made of once-molten material that has solidified below the earth's surface, have high concentrations of uranium. The ground water picks up uranium and other dissolved materials as it flows through rock fractures and interacts with the rocks, the scientist said after the meeting. The proposed follow-up study would also test for radon, a breakdown product of uranium, and other radioactive elements of concern. In addition, it will include limited testing for pharmaceuticals and personal care products in parts of the north end of the county.  
Source: [http://www.helenair.com/articles/2008/04/13/top/65lo\\_080413\\_uranium.txt](http://www.helenair.com/articles/2008/04/13/top/65lo_080413_uranium.txt)

29. *April 12, Associated Press* – (Colorado) **Homeowners feel heat in West coal boom.** People who bought lots on North Fork Ranch, about 200 miles south of Denver, worry when they flip on a switch or take a drink of water. They are afraid that methane gas from drilling in the area's coal seams could seep into their water wells or migrate inside

their homes. A house under construction near the subdivision exploded last April when methane gas leaked from an abandoned well and into the building. Two water wells in the subdivision were damaged in 2006 during gas drilling. Methane gas was a liability in coal mining because of its volatility, but then companies started tapping it as a fuel source. Pumping groundwater relieves the pressure that traps the gas, raising concerns among landowners about the effects on the water table and drinking water wells. Members of the North Fork Ranch landowners' association noted that a recent state study estimated that drilling in the Raton Basin depletes area water by about 2,500 acre feet a year. That amounts to roughly 815 million gallons of water that are not returned to streams and rivers, a volume called "significant" by a deputy director of the Colorado Geological Survey. Some of the water pumped out is reinjected. Some flows into streams or is used for irrigation or livestock if it meets state standards.

Source: [http://www.examiner.com/a-1335664~Homeowners\\_Feel\\_Heat\\_in\\_West\\_Coal\\_Boom.html](http://www.examiner.com/a-1335664~Homeowners_Feel_Heat_in_West_Coal_Boom.html)

30. *April 12, Associated Press* – (Pennsylvania) **Philly officials to address H2O quality.** Treading through a morass of revised data, Philadelphia's water officials will attempt Monday to relieve water-quality worries at a City Council hearing over findings of pharmaceutical traces in the local drinking water supply. Some Council members were upset to learn from an Associated Press investigation, instead of the Philadelphia Water Department, that the city's water supply carries minute concentrations of many pharmaceuticals. Water officials will arrive at the hearing bearing corrected test results. The changes now put the number of pharmaceuticals or their byproducts found in the city's drinking water at 17, instead of 56; and 32 in its watershed, instead of 63. A department spokesman said the mistakes occurred during the preparation of a spreadsheet. Even with the downward revisions, more drugs turned up in Philadelphia than in any of the 24 major metropolitan areas where detections were reported in drinking water. On Friday, the department made its second correction to the number of pharmaceuticals tested for in response to an AP request for clarification on all of its corrections, saying the actual number was 75. Philadelphia draws its drinking water from the Delaware and Schuylkill rivers, which travel past many populated areas on their way to the city.

Source: <http://ap.google.com/article/ALeqM5juA9S30usCZHgYYikjhOIIJxzd-QD900F4EG1>

31. *April 12, Seattle Times* – (National) **Drugs in drinking water: Experts aren't rattled.** Responding to the public alarm, two U.S. senators called for a hearing on the federal response to drugs in drinking water, scheduled for Tuesday. There are reasons to worry about the safety of drinking water. Contaminants commonly found in drinking water include traces of pesticides, herbicides, flame retardants, DEET, mosquito repellent, aircraft de-icers, lead, arsenic, mercury and esters, ketones, and other chemicals found in personal-care products – not to mention additives in toothpaste meant to retard gum and tooth disease. However, experts are relatively unfazed because: improved detection technology means that people are concerned about levels of contamination that were undetectable in years past; even poisons are not always toxic; effects on animals may not predict effects on humans; scientists understand big numbers and use them to gauge

risk; and most people think irrationally about risks. A risk-communication consultant in Boston said people feel less threatened by health risks that they choose, such as smoking, than by risks imposed on them, such as contaminated drinking water. Drugs in drinking water earn mistrust on all counts.

Source: [http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/health/2004343756\\_water12.html](http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/health/2004343756_water12.html)

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## **Public Health and Healthcare Sector**

32. *April 14, Reuters* – (International) **Indonesia says to launch bird flu pandemic plan.**

Indonesia, which has the highest death toll from bird flu of any country, will launch a plan later this week to deal with a possible influenza pandemic, officials said on Monday. The head of surveillance and monitoring at the national commission for bird flu control said the plan would be followed up a week later by a three-day pandemic simulation involving several villages on Bali. “The current situation is already very worrying,” he said, speaking on the sidelines of a bird flu conference, adding that researchers were looking into the role of migratory birds in transmitting bird flu. In the case of a pandemic, an estimated 5 million Indonesians could be infected with the virus, he said, adding that of those infected, between five and ten percent would die. “In such a situation, hundreds of thousands would die,” he said, “and hospitals would be not able to accommodate all patients.”

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/middleeastCrisis/idUSJAK211392>

33. *April 13, Associated Press* – (National) **Sludge fertilizer program spurs concerns.**

Scientists using federal grants spread fertilizer made from human and industrial wastes on yards in poor, black neighborhoods to test whether it might protect children from lead poisoning in the soil. Families were assured the sludge was safe and were never told about any harmful ingredients. Nine low-income families in Baltimore row houses agreed to let researchers till the sewage sludge into their yards and plant new grass. In exchange, they were given food coupons, as well as the free lawns, as part of a study published in 2005 and funded by the Housing and Urban Development Department. The Associated Press reviewed grant documents obtained under the Freedom of Information Act and interviewed researchers. No one involved with the \$446,231 grant for the two-year study would identify the participants, citing privacy concerns. There is no evidence there was ever any medical follow-up. Comparable research was conducted by the Agriculture Department and Environmental Protection Agency in a similarly poor, black neighborhood in East Saint Louis, Illinois. The sludge, researchers said, put the children at less risk of brain or nerve damage from lead, a highly toxic element once widely used in gasoline and paint. Other studies have shown brain damage among children, often in poor neighborhoods, who ate lead-based paint that had flaked off their homes. The idea that sludge — the leftover semisolid wastes filtered from water pollution at 16,500 treatment plants — can be turned into something harmless, even if swallowed, has been a tenet of federal policy for three decades. But in the late 1990s the government began underwriting studies such as those in Baltimore and East St. Louis using poor neighborhoods as laboratories to make a case that sludge may also directly benefit human health. Meanwhile, there has been a paucity of research into the possible harmful



effects of heavy metals, pharmaceuticals, other chemicals, and disease-causing microorganisms often found in sludge.

Source:

[http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20080413/ap\\_on\\_sc/sludge\\_poisoned\\_land%3B\\_ylt%3DAgEXK%20k4qB5raFkL7OzVQStEPLBIF](http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20080413/ap_on_sc/sludge_poisoned_land%3B_ylt%3DAgEXK%20k4qB5raFkL7OzVQStEPLBIF)

34. *April 12, New York Times* – (New York) **Patients' data stolen, hospital says.** An employee of New York-Presbyterian Hospital/Weill Cornell Medical Center in Manhattan stole information from the records of as many as 40,000 patients, a hospital spokeswoman said on Friday. The theft — which occurred over the past several years and included patients' names, phone numbers, and Social Security numbers — was discovered during a federal investigation, and the hospital was notified in January, the spokeswoman said. An internal audit by the hospital confirmed the theft, she said. The hospital does not believe that any medical information was stolen, she said, adding that there is no evidence that the stolen information has been used. She declined to identify the employee who the hospital believes stole the data. Investigators are looking into the possibility that the theft could be part of a larger criminal scheme, and the United States attorney's office for the Southern District of New York is investigating the theft, along with the United States Postal Inspection Service and the United States Secret Service.

Source:

[http://www.nytimes.com/2008/04/12/nyregion/12records.html?\\_r=1&em&ex=1208145600&en=ed292ac58106b7dc&ei=5087%0A&oref=slogin](http://www.nytimes.com/2008/04/12/nyregion/12records.html?_r=1&em&ex=1208145600&en=ed292ac58106b7dc&ei=5087%0A&oref=slogin)

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## **Government Facilities Sector**

35. *April 14, Associated Press* – (Illinois) **4 schools close near Ill. university.** Four public and parochial schools in Chicago are canceling classes as a precaution because they are close to a private university that has closed. Officials said Monday they expect to resume classes Tuesday. The four schools are close to St. Xavier University, which shut down indefinitely last week after threatening graffiti was found scrawled in the restroom of a freshman dorm.

Source:

<http://ap.google.com/article/ALeqM5jtaHz2gh1aFvgx1nkv4Qg9yb4QD901LCN00>

36. *April 13, Associated Press* – (Michigan) **2nd college closes because of threats.** Threatening graffiti found in three men's restrooms led Oakland University to cancel campus classes, sports, and cultural activities for two days. The school said it sent out a security alert Saturday after finding one threatening message, and officials said they found similar messages in men's restrooms in two other buildings later that day. The school did not reveal contents of the threats. But the university's police chief said they referred to possible campus attacks on "4/14." That is the same date noted in threatening graffiti found twice this month in a freshman dorm at St. Xavier University in the Chicago area. Officials at the Catholic liberal arts college shut the school down indefinitely on Friday and told students to leave its campuses in Chicago and suburban Orland Park, Illinois. The public university has about 18,000 students in Rochester,



about 20 miles north of Detroit.

Source: [http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20080413/ap\\_on\\_re\\_us/university\\_threats](http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20080413/ap_on_re_us/university_threats)

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## **Emergency Services Sector**

37. *April 14, Tulsa World* – (Oklahoma) **Rural emergency care needs transfusion.** Rural ambulance services in Oklahoma are dying, leaving thousands of rural Oklahomans without quick and dependable emergency medical care. “It is a crisis,” said the Emergency Medical Services division director for the Oklahoma State Department of Health. “All across the state, we’ve got a very dicey situation.” Since 2000, about 50 rural ambulance services in Oklahoma have closed, and 13 communities in the state have no dedicated ambulance service. Rising gas costs, a higher number of uninsured patients and Medicare reimbursement cuts have fueled the downward spiral for services that play a critical role for rural Oklahomans, who depend on ambulance service as their sole health-care provider. Each service has its own way of funding itself, from collecting fees to property taxes. All rely on Medicare reimbursements. Oklahoma requires nearby ambulance services to respond to any emergency where services have failed, the director said. As a result, surviving services get spread thin, and financial pressures mount.

Source:

[http://www.tulsaworld.com/news/article.aspx?articleID=20080414\\_1\\_A1\\_hAmbu41185](http://www.tulsaworld.com/news/article.aspx?articleID=20080414_1_A1_hAmbu41185)

38. *April 13, San Francisco Chronicle* – (California) **S.F.’s emergency responses fail to meet goal.** At least 439 people have died in San Francisco since February 2004 while waiting for a late ambulance or after delayed medical help arrived, according to a San Francisco Chronicle analysis of dispatch logs for about 200,000 high-priority medical calls. In 27 percent of those, first responders failed to meet the city’s standard for getting help to the scene of high-priority medical calls. In some areas of the city, such as the Ingleside and Excelsior districts, the odds of an ambulance being late are almost 40 percent. While it is impossible to know how many of the 439 people who died would have survived had medical help arrived earlier, studies show a direct relationship between ambulance delays and the survival rates of patients in need of immediate resuscitation. In an investigation that included dozens of interviews with city officials, front-line workers and experts as well as a review of hundreds of documents including dispatch logs and 911 audiotapes, the Chronicle found that delayed responses are the result of numerous causes, from chronic understaffing, language barriers and botched dispatches at the city’s 911 call center to traffic congestion and unavailable nearby ambulances. In the past decade, San Francisco has gradually lowered its response times on high-priority medical calls – improving its overall performance by about 2 minutes. In 2001, more than 10 percent of its responses to such calls exceeded 10 minutes. But dispatchers and rescue crews in San Francisco have been unable to meet the upgraded, 6 1/2-minute standard that city health officials adopted on February 1, 2004, even though that goal is less stringent than a 5-minute goal in urban areas recommended in 1998 by the EMS (emergency medical services) Medical Directors Association of California.

Source: <http://sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2008/04/13/MNR0VTB9I.DTL>

## **Information Technology**

39. *April 14, Computerworld* – (National) **Hackers open new front in payment card data thefts.** Security managers often describe their efforts to protect corporate data from being compromised as a full-fledged battle of wits against cybercrooks who are continually arming themselves with innovative tools and methods of attack. The security breaches disclosed last month by Hannaford Bros. and Okemo ski resort – along with unconfirmed reports of dozens of similar network intrusions – suggest that a new front may have opened up in the battle. The recent incidents have also prompted some to question whether the payment card industry’s highly publicized data security standards are fully equipping companies to fend off attackers. What’s noteworthy about the Hannaford and Okemo breaches is that they both involved the theft of data in transit – credit and debit card information that was being transmitted from point-of-sale systems to payment processors in order to authorize transactions. Just two weeks after Hannaford disclosed its breach, Okemo reported that data from more than 46,000 payment card transactions may have been compromised during a 16-day system intrusion in February. Some of the stolen data was from transactions that occurred two years ago, but data from purchases made by customers while the intrusion was taking place appears to have been stolen in real time during the authorization and card-verification process, according to a spokeswoman for the Ludlow, Vt., ski area. If that is indeed the case, it indicates that malicious hackers are starting to focus on stealing card data while it is on the move, instead of trying to take information that’s stored on systems. Ironically, the push by attackers to get at data in transit is likely in response to retailers’ efforts to implement the security controls mandated by the Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard, or PCI for short, said a Gartner Inc. analyst.

Source:

[http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&articleId=316536&intsrc=news\\_ts\\_head](http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&articleId=316536&intsrc=news_ts_head)

40. *April 14, The Register* – (International) **Database Trojan infests pro-Tibet websites.** Security researchers have unearthed more details about a Trojan that targets backend databases as well as desktop clients. The Fribet Trojan has been planted on pro-Tibet websites, possibly using a Vector Markup Language flaw (MS07-004) patched by Microsoft early last year. When visitors to the pro-Tibet websites are infected, the Fribet Trojan creates a backdoor on compromised hosts. In addition, it loads a “SQL Native Client” ODBC library that is designed to execute arbitrary SQL statements received from a command and control server. The feature provides the ability to run arbitrary SQL commands from compromised machines onto connected database servers. This functionality allows hackers to steal data or modify databases, providing they are able to log onto these databases. The attacker still needs to find out the host name, database name, username and password. However, monitoring functions included with Fribet as well as easily-guessable weak and default values might leave the door open for hackers, net security firm McAfee reports. The Fribet Trojan emerges little more than a month after SQL injection attacks, which inserted iFrame links to sites hosting exploit scripts and malware on legitimate websites. Unlike those attacks, the Fribet Trojan can be used

against the attack sites protected against conventional SQL injection attacks.

Source: [http://www.theregister.co.uk/2008/04/14/database\\_trojan/](http://www.theregister.co.uk/2008/04/14/database_trojan/)

### Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at [soc@us-cert.gov](mailto: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

41. *April 14, The Register* – (International) **Dubai impounds cable slicing ships.** Two ships whose anchors damaged an undersea cable in the Persian Gulf have been traced by the cable operating company using satellite imagery. The owners of one vessel have paid compensation for the damage caused, and the second remains impounded by Dubai port authorities. The Hindu of India reported last week that company officials said they had identified the ships and located both in Dubai. “The matter has been brought to the notice of appropriate authorities which are taking necessary action,” a company officersaid. The Khaleej Times reported on Friday that an officer of the Korean-owned MT Ann had admitted liability, and the owners had paid \$60,000 compensation to Reliance. The Ann has now been released. The other vessel, MV Hounslow, remains impounded. The Hounslow is said to be Iraqi owned, and it appears that her captain was not on board when the vessel was seized by Dubai coastguards and police. Two crewmembers have been arrested. Some \$350,000 is sought in the case of the Hounslow, which is accused by Reliance of having abandoned its anchor after having tried and failed to get it free of the cable. Most accounts of the outages earlier this year have it that two cables were cut in one incident off Egypt and one more in the Gulf. (There was also a power cut at the same time affecting a second Gulf cable, and erroneous reports of a fifth problem, which fuelled speculation regarding some kind of worldwide foul play.) It would appear that the Ann and the Hounslow were responsible for the Gulf damage, both having been close to Dubai at the time. The anchors of the two ships, according to the Khaleej Times damaged the FALCON line between Dubai and Oman. The cause of the Mediterranean breakage remains unreported.

Source: [http://www.theregister.co.uk/2008/04/14/undersea\\_cable\\_cut\\_ships\\_nabbed/](http://www.theregister.co.uk/2008/04/14/undersea_cable_cut_ships_nabbed/)

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## Commercial Facilities Sector

Nothing to Report

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## National Monuments & Icons Sector

42. *April 13, San Luis Obispo Tribune* – (California) **Carrizo oil explorer considers dynamite.** An oil company seeking to explore for oil and gas under the Carrizo Plain National Monument wants to either shake the ground from above or touch off dynamite from below to map the subsurface it owns. The monument, the largest remaining preserve of San Joaquin Valley grasslands, was created by presidential proclamation in 2001. It is home to the greatest concentration of endangered species in the country. The exploration proposed by Vintage Production would be in the valley floor, where earlier exploratory drilling failed to find anything worth developing. But technology has changed dramatically since those test holes were sunk, and the price of oil has risen to \$110 a barrel. Vintage said it wants to get to work as soon as it can on the 30,000 acres of the monument on which it owns mineral rights. The Bureau of Land Management has told Vintage Production, however, that the environmental impact will have to be thoroughly studied by the company and approved by it and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, which oversees the Endangered Species Act.

Source: <http://www.sanluisobispo.com/news/local/story/331162.html>

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## Dams Sector

43. *April 13, Calhoun Times* – (Georgia) **Officials investigating hole in Gordon watershed dam.** Gordon County, Georgia, officials will be going back today to check on a large hole found in Gordon County's watershed dam No. 77, about 15 miles south of Carters Lake in Ranger. According to the deputy director of the Gordon County Emergency Management Agency, the call came in Saturday afternoon about a crack in the dam. "When I went to check on it, it was not a crack. It was a crater," said the deputy director. He said estimates put the hole at 75 feet long, 45 feet wide, and about 35 feet deep. "We notified everybody downstream of the dam to (U.S.) 411 and some on the other side," he said. "We don't feel there's a potential for damage since it's a little above water level." He said the water level was lowered slightly to ease pressure on the dam. He said state officials were at the dam Saturday, and he will be returning today to evaluate if the hole has gotten any bigger. He did say people in Gordon County have reported other sinkholes because of limestone in the area – but nothing that big.

Source:

[http://news.mywebpal.com/news\\_tool\\_v2.cfm?pnPID=722&NewsID=893789&CategoryID=3388&show=localnews&om=0](http://news.mywebpal.com/news_tool_v2.cfm?pnPID=722&NewsID=893789&CategoryID=3388&show=localnews&om=0)

44. *April 13, Associated Press* – (Missouri) **Levee break floods corner of Missouri.** A levee along a river in southeast Missouri has failed for the second time in recent weeks and widespread flooding is reported in the area near Poplar Bluff. Butler County's fire chief says residents of about 50 homes east of Poplar Bluff were evacuated Saturday, but no one has been injured. He says water is three feet deep in some homes and six inches in others. The official says the failure was in a section of temporary levee along the Black River that was built to repair a break that happened in March.

Source:

<http://ap.google.com/article/ALeqM5hUSAqRniLQgPSda1TEcBYrFJbKpwD900GON04>

45. *April 13, Associated Press* – (Arkansas) **Corps opens dam spillway to relieve flood water in Arkansas.** Engineers cracked open spillways Saturday at Bull Shoals Lake, allowing excess water brimming near the rim of the dam to rush down the White River to communities already flooded by weeks of rain. Both forecasters and officials with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers said the new water would not push river levels much higher than already seen through Arkansas' Delta region. However, any new rains washing into the reservoirs making up White River basin would put even more pressure on lakes that likely will not drop for months. Engineers earlier began letting water out from Beaver, Table Rock, and Norfork lakes, which dump water into the White River. The river rises in northwest Arkansas, then heads north to Missouri before turning south to dump into the Mississippi River. The long-term flooding continued to rush against levees soaked for weeks by the waters.

Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,351149,00.html>

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