



## Department of Homeland Security Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 11 June 2008

Current Nationwide Threat Level is

**ELEVATED**  
SIGNIFICANT RISK OF TERRORIST ATTACKS

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

- According to the Wall Street Journal, U.S. aviation regulators have proposed mandatory inspections of hundreds of Boeing Co. jetliners to check for potential fuel-system problems. The FAA said the move applies to nearly all Boeing jetliner models. (See item [20](#))
- The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel reports that three of the ten dams that failed or were compromised Monday in Wisconsin have not been inspected since 1993. State law mandates that all large dams be inspected once every 10 years. (See item [51](#))

**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. *June 10, Bloomberg* – (International) **Chevron, Nigerian union to meet today to avert strike.** Chevron Corp.’s Nigerian unit and the country’s white-collar oil workers’ union will meet Tuesday in an attempt to avert a strike, a union leader said. A strike was “possible” should talks collapse, said the deputy secretary general of Petroleum & Natural Gas Senior Staff Association of Nigeria, or Pengassan. A walkout may stop about 350,000 barrels of crude and 14 million cubic feet of natural gas of daily production from Chevron’s 32 fields in Nigeria.

Source:

<http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601072&sid=aVC2R1mO.6iY&refer=en>

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2. *June 10, Bloomberg* – (Texas) **BP Texas refinery audit finds safety gaps 3 years after blast.** A BP Plc audit of safety improvements at its Texas refinery shows some workers still cannot safely shut down operating units in an emergency, three years after an explosion killed 15 workers at the site. Thirty percent of supervisors and operators surveyed by AcuTech Consulting Group “could not readily access emergency shutdown procedures or emergency operating procedures,” and a relief valve review planned before the explosion had not been completed, according to the audit ordered by U.S. regulators. The March 23, 2005, explosion of BP’s Texas City refinery occurred when gasoline spilled into an antiquated vent system and ignited in a vapor-cloud explosion. Safety experts who have reviewed a copy of the report said the audit shows workers at the refinery remain at risk from unsafe practices and unfinished safety improvements.

Source:

[http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601072&sid=acG\\_jbX6E..U&refer=energy](http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601072&sid=acG_jbX6E..U&refer=energy)

3. *June 9, Reuters* – (Northeast) **U.S. power grids hold during year’s first heat wave.** Power grids and utility delivery systems in the eastern U.S. mainly held on Monday and were expected to handle the strain as well on Tuesday as the first heat wave of the summer extends to a fourth day, utility and grid officials said. On Monday, record temperatures over much of the state caused the New York power grid to surpass last summer’s peak demand by 263 megawatts. The heat is expected to loosen its grip on the East by Wednesday, when New York City is to have a high of 87 degrees Fahrenheit, down from 99 F on Monday. Scattered outages were experienced Monday in the Mid-Atlantic states, where the biggest single blackout – in New Jersey – affected 75,000 customers. Most of the houses and businesses without lights were expected to have power restored by Monday evening, said utility PSE&G. A fire at a switching station in West Orange caused the blackout, and PSE&G officials said they did not know if the issue was related to the heat wave. Spokesmen for the New York Independent System Operator and for the PJM Interconnection power grid said utilities did not have to pare demand on Monday and are not expected to call for it on Tuesday. The PJM spokesman said that while there have been no demand-response programs called upon yet, utilities have been asked to postpone routine maintenance on their generation plants and transmission lines.

Source:

<http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssIndustryMaterialsUtilitiesNews/idUSN0930365920080610?pageNumber=1&virtualBrandChannel=0>

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## **Chemical Industry Sector**

4. *June 10, WSBT 2 South Bend* – (Indiana) **Niles fire sparks chemical leak concern.** A fire at a Niles, Indiana, shop early Tuesday caused concern about a possible chemical leak, authorities said. Crews were sent to the shop about 1:15 a.m. after reports of flames coming from the Niles Chemical Paint business, dispatchers for the city said. When

firefighters arrived, they found smoke coming from the building. And while the fire was small, crews became concerned over chemical leaks, including an ammonia hazard. There was no immediate word of any injuries or on the cause of the blaze.

Source: <http://www.wsbt.com/news/local/19706949.html>

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

5. *June 10, Agence France-Presse* – (International) **Police say no sabotage planned in Swedish nuclear plant scare.** Two Swedes suspected of plotting an attack on a Swedish nuclear plant were cleared Monday after authorities were unable to explain why small traces of explosives were detected on a shaving cream can one of them was carrying, news agency TT reported. The prosecutor said small traces of TNT were detected on the shaving cream can, but there was no explanation for how it got there and there was no reason to suspect the two men of any crime. The two men had been working as welders for several weeks on one of three reactors at the Oskarshamn plant in southern Sweden. They were arrested on May 21 after a routine security control at the entrance to the plant detected traces of highly explosive material on a plastic bag containing toiletry items that one of the men was carrying. The two men were released from custody after one day, after raids in their homes turned up nothing.  
Source: [http://www.eneews.com/police-say-sabotage\\_i90714\\_3.html](http://www.eneews.com/police-say-sabotage_i90714_3.html)
6. *June 10, Reuters* – (California) **Calif. San Onofre 2 reactor starts to exit outage.** Southern California Edison's Unit 2 at San Onofre nuclear power station started to exit an outage and ramped up to a 19 percent power by early Tuesday, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission said in a report. The unit shut by June 5.  
Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/marketsNews/idUSN1032791320080610>
7. *June 10, Tri-City Herald* – (Washington) **Another fine issued over tank spill.** CH2M Hill Hanford Group will spend \$30,800 to resolve a new fine issued by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) against the Department of Energy (DOE) and its contractor for delays in notification of a radioactive tank waste spill last summer. EPA announced the fine Monday, just four days after DOE fined CH2M Hill \$302,500 for nuclear safety violations related to the spill.  
Source: <http://www.tri-cityherald.com/901/story/208112.html>
8. *June 9, Associated Press* – (Vermont) **Governor signs Yankee reliability assessment bill.** The governor of Vermont has signed into law a bill calling for a comprehensive reliability assessment at the Vermont Yankee nuclear plant before lawmakers vote next year on whether the plant's license should be extended for 20 years beyond 2012.  
Source: [http://www.vpr.net/news\\_detail/80867/](http://www.vpr.net/news_detail/80867/)
9. *June 9, Associated Press* – (New Mexico) **Investigation under way into how waste drum sent to WIPP.** The federal government's radioactive waste repository has suspended shipments until it can retrieve a drum of waste that did not comply with the rules for what can be buried in the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant, called WIPP. An

investigation is under way on how the drum was shipped to WIPP, near Carlsbad. An official in the Department of Energy's Carlsbad office says the drum is now nine rows back in a disposal room of the repository, some 2,150 feet underground. He says it will be retrieved and returned to Los Alamos National Laboratory, which shipped it. An Environment Department spokeswoman says investigators will try to determine who was responsible for the shipment.

Source: [http://www.kdbc.com/Global/story.asp?S=8452497&nav=menu608\\_2\\_2](http://www.kdbc.com/Global/story.asp?S=8452497&nav=menu608_2_2)

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## **Defense Industrial Base Sector**

10. *June 9, Reuters* – (National) **Pentagon eyes breakthrough binoculars.** The Pentagon has awarded \$6.7 million in seed money to try to develop binoculars that would tap a user's brain waves to home in on threats, Northrop Grumman Corp. said on Monday. The company said it was leading an academic and industry consortium assembled for the project, known as the Cognitive Technology Threat Warning System program, or CT2WS. The plan features a custom helmet equipped with electrodes placed on the scalp to record neural responses to the presence or absence of potential threats, Northrop said in a statement. The brain's input would "train the system's algorithms, which will continue to be refined over time so that the war fighter is always presented with items of relevance to his mission," the statement said. The goal is to detect enemy forces and vehicles over ranges of one to ten kilometers while surveying a 120-degree or greater field of view, according to documents on DARPA's website.

Source:

<http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssIndustryMaterialsUtilitiesNews/idUSN0928312920080609?pageNumber=1&virtualBrandChannel=0>

11. *June 9, Army News Service* – (National) **Off-road prototype vehicles tested in Afghanistan.** Recently, soldiers from Combined Task Force Currahee test drove a new vehicle that could help alleviate maneuverability constraints in Afghanistan. Afghanistan is a country made of natural barriers like mountains and valleys, which make it difficult for Coalition forces to move through the countryside. The Enhanced Logistic Off-Road Vehicle (ELSORVs) may be the answer to navigating Afghanistan's rugged terrain. According to one of the engineers that built the ELSORV, they can carry 2,700 pounds, and have modified Humvee engines that can conquer approach angles of 90 degrees and climb slopes at 80 degrees. The ELSORVs allow Soldiers to go over obstacles without getting hung up on the undercarriage. The vehicle can go 90 miles per hour safely on a hard surface.

Source: <http://www.army.mil/-news/2008/06/09/9753-off-road-prototype-vehicles-tested-in-afghanistan/>

12. *June 9, Army News Service* – (National) **National Guard gets first Lakota helicopters.** The National Guard received its first two UH-72A Lakota light utility helicopters last week. The 1/114th Service Battalion in Tupelo showcased its two Lakota helicopters Saturday to a crowd of soldiers, civilians, and city officials. The Lakota is a commercial aircraft built for the military with slight modifications to conduct general support tasks

in non-combat environments such as civil search and rescue, evacuation, counter-drug, and limited civil command and control operations through Homeland Security. Plans are to field a total of 345 Lakota helicopters by 2017, and a product manager said 60 of those are already under contract. He said 10 more Lakota Helicopters should be fielded to NTC next month. A number of modifications have recently been approved for the Lakota. A medical evacuation kit will allow soldiers to mount medical gear on the wall of the Lakota instead of storing it in a canvas bag on the floor of the helicopter. Another modification tested last week at Fort Irwin, California, was the Engineer Inlet Barrier Filter. This filter keeps dust and other particles from entering the turbine engines and causing damage.

Source: <http://www.army.mil/-news/2008/06/09/9782-national-guard-gets-first-lakota-helicopters/>

13. *June 9, Reuters* – (National) **Energy Dept says new computer world’s fastest.** A computer designed to run virtual tests of U.S. nuclear weapons will be the world’s fastest, making 1,000 trillion calculations per second, the U.S. Department of Energy said on Monday. The IBM Roadrunner supercomputer at Los Alamos National Laboratory in New Mexico is the first to achieve what is known as a petaflop of sustained performance, the department and IBM said. “Flop” is an acronym meaning floating-point operations per second. One petaflop is 1,000 trillion computer calculations per second. “Roadrunner will be used by the Department of Energy’s National Nuclear Security Administration to perform calculations that vastly improve the ability to certify that the U.S. nuclear weapons stockpile is reliable without conducting underground nuclear tests,” the department said in a statement.

Source: <http://uk.reuters.com/article/technologyNews/idUKN0947487420080610>

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## **Banking and Finance Sector**

14. *June 10, Washington Post* – (District of Columbia) **Tax suspect’s guidance on software left D.C. at risk.** The tax manager charged as the mastermind of the biggest fraud in the District’s history helped play a role in designing the agency’s computer system while she was allegedly stealing millions of dollars a year, current and former employees said. Following her input, officials left her small unit out of the new software system, making it easier for her to escape detection as she allegedly produced fake checks that prosecutors say amounted to \$50 million. Directors in the scandal-plagued tax department now want to scrap the \$135 million system rather than try to upgrade it to make it more secure. The chief financial officer’s technology manager says the system, installed between 2000 and 2004, is too outdated and clumsy to be worth fixing. A chief financial officer has budgeted \$10 million for a search for a new program that can process the city’s income, business, and real estate taxes. The Accenture computer system is not directly to blame for the embezzlement scandals that have racked the agency, officials said. Rather, the fault lies with the decisions of what was left out of it.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/06/09/AR2008060902879.html>

15. *June 10, Wichita Eagle* – (National) **SEC alleges 1,300 ripped off in oil, gas fraud.** The U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) filed an amended case Monday against several area businessmen and oil and gas companies alleging fraud that ripped off more than 1,300 investors. The case involves about \$156 million raised from investors across the country and Canada, which likely makes it the largest SEC case -- monetarily -- ever filed in Kansas, a spokesman said. Defendants in the case, the SEC says, sold securities “by making numerous representations, omissions, half-truths, and outright falsehoods.” Defendants include Wichita and Hutchinson businessmen, and others from Kansas and California as well as Hutchinson, Wichita, and Oklahoma companies. Investigators say the defendants raised money through 22 purported oil-and-gas equipment-leasing and pipeline joint ventures set up to evade securities laws. They lured investors, the SEC says, through the promise of annual returns of 25 to 40 percent and an initial public offering that they said would result in returns as high as three to eight times the investments. Money was supposed to be used to buy and refurbish about 59 oil-and-gas rigs, but only eight are operating, the SEC’s complaint says. The company was never taken public.  
Source: <http://www.kansas.com/news/story/430024.html>
16. *June 9, KFDM 6 Beaumont* – (Texas) **Orange Savings Bank warning community about internet scam.** Orange Savings Bank in Orange, Texas, tells KFDM it has been inundated with calls from customers and non-customers asking about solicitation emails and calls that seemed to be sent ‘by’ the ‘bank’. The email asks the receiver to call a certain number to learn about recent activity on a bank account with Orange Savings. Another email floating around claiming to be from Orange Savings warns the person about a fraud attempt against the bank and offers a link to complete a security prevention program. The Orange Savings Bank president says he and his staff members, along with the FBI, have been fighting this ‘phishing’ form of fraud for the past three months. The bank says the scammers are choosing their potential victims randomly, ‘not’ through the bank’s records.  
Source: [http://www.kfdm.com/news/bank\\_26395\\_article.html/orange\\_savings.html](http://www.kfdm.com/news/bank_26395_article.html/orange_savings.html)
17. *June 9, WSLs 10 Roanoke* – (Virginia) **Phishing scam targets Bank of Floyd customers.** A new phishing e-mail scam targets Bank of Floyd customers. The e-mail claims the recipients’ online account has expired, and if they want to continue using the bank’s online service, they have to renew their account. If they do not, the e-mail threatens to deactivate and delete the online account. The e-mail then gives a link to click on. That link takes the victims to a website where the criminals ask them to enter their personal information in, so they can use it.  
Source:  
[http://www.wsls.com/sls/news/local/article/phishing\\_scam\\_targets\\_bank\\_of\\_floyd\\_customers/12248/](http://www.wsls.com/sls/news/local/article/phishing_scam_targets_bank_of_floyd_customers/12248/)
18. *June 9, BBC* – (National) **Card fraud at Northern Rock in U.S.** Current account customers of the Northern Rock have been stopped from using their debit cards in the U.S. to buy items in stores. The nationalized bank said it taken this measure to counter some apparent frauds on its debit cards there. The current account holders can still use

their debit cards in U.S. cash machines or anywhere else world-wide. A bank spokesman said the fraud had affected “very few” people and the block on the cards was temporary. “As a result of this potentially fraudulent activity we are temporarily blocking debit card transactions made in the U.S., or via a U.S. merchant,” he said. Northern Rock said the transactions appeared to involve cards that had been cloned rather than stolen. The bank does not disclose how many current account holders it has, but it is thought to number in only the tens of thousands. The Northern Rock first noticed the frauds in the last few days of last week.

Source: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/business/7444389.stm>

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## **Transportation Sector**

19. *June 10, Bloomberg* – (National) **FAA says no more ‘polished frost’ on private jet wings.** U.S. air safety regulators have decided, after almost 50 years, that it is no longer safe for private and cargo aircraft to fly with “polished frost” on their wings. Since 1960, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has allowed some planes -- not commercial airliners -- to fly with ice on the wings as long as the ice was smooth. That left it up to operators to clean off the wings themselves and decide whether it was safe to go. On May 8, the FAA proposed removing that language from its regulations, two years after it issued two safety alerts advising against the practice and after complaints from safety groups. The regulatory action comes after several fatal crashes of business aircraft attributed to ice on the wings and an increase in the use of corporate and fractional-ownership jets in the last decade. Commercial aircraft operate under rules that call for a “clean wing” before takeoff and de-icing baths on the runway under certain weather conditions. A deputy director of the FAA’s flight standards service said that only in the last few years has the icing issue risen to the level of “criticality” that required a change. He said the FAA had issued the two safety alerts in 2006 to get the word out quickly because rulemaking takes so long. While the old rule said pilots could take off “with frost adhering to wings or stabilizing or control surfaces if that frost has been polished to make it smooth,” the consensus now is that “you don’t want polished frost, you don’t want anything on the wing,” the official said. Under the rule, pilots are not provided guidance on how to actually polish frost or reach an acceptable level of smoothness. The FAA recommends four ways to comply with the proposed rule: Use wing covers made of light fabric that keep off snow and ice, wait for the weather to warm up, park the aircraft in a heated hangar or de-ice the plane.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/06/09/AR2008060902738.html>

20. *June 10, Wall Street Journal* – (National) **Boeing jetliners face scrutiny.** U.S. aviation regulators have proposed mandatory inspections of at least hundreds of Boeing Co. jetliners to check for potential fuel-system problems. These problems could cause engines to stop running and potentially prevent pilots from restarting them. The proposed regulations, released by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) last week, would require airlines to conduct regular inspections to look for possible air leaks that “could result in multi-engine flameout,” or engine stoppages, under certain conditions.

The proposal says the problem also could result in “an inability to restart the engines, and consequent forced landing of the airplane.” The FAA said the move, which applies to nearly all Boeing jetliner models, was prompted by engine stoppages on six different Boeing aircraft between 2002 and 2004. Some of those incidents occurred during flight, while others took place during ground taxiing operations, according to the FAA. The proposed rules technically affect more than 3,500 Boeing aircraft flown by U.S. carriers, but both FAA and Boeing officials said many of the planes already have been checked under a voluntary inspection program that the plane manufacturer recommended more than a year ago.

Source:

[http://online.wsj.com/article/SB121310359195360475.html?mod=googlenews\\_wsj](http://online.wsj.com/article/SB121310359195360475.html?mod=googlenews_wsj)

21. *June 10, Post-Tribune* – (Illinois) **Diverted United passengers stuck at Gary airport six hours.** Passengers on a United Airlines flight that was diverted to Gary/Chicago International Airport late Sunday were kept on the plane six hours after landing while they waited for buses to take them to Chicago. The United flight landed at Gary’s airport because of severe weather at 11 p.m. Sunday, but the passengers were not allowed to get off the plane until about 5 a.m. Monday when ground transportation arrived. A United spokesman said Gary’s terminal was closed at that late hour, and the airplane was the safest place for the 123 passengers traveling from Denver to Chicago. The official said United officials asked the airport’s on-duty operations manager to open the terminal, but the airport director said the airport was never contacted.

Source: <http://www.post-trib.com/news/997030,gunited.article>

22. *June 10, Times Record News* – (Texas) **Plane makes safe landing.** A Southwest Airlines 737 jetliner was forced to make an emergency landing at Wichita Falls Municipal Airport, Texas, at about 6 p.m. Sunday. The director of airports for the city of Wichita Falls said the captain of the airliner noticed a warning light in the cockpit, and when he and a few passengers smelled smoke, he declared an in-flight emergency. The flight was from St. Louis to Albuquerque, New Mexico. The plane landed safely and all 129 passengers were injury-free. Southwest sent a maintenance crew on board the new plane to determine the source of the smell.

Source: <http://www.timesrecordnews.com/news/2008/jun/10/plane-makes-safe-landing/>

23. *June 10, Marine Log* – (National, International) **RAND study finds no piracy and terror links.** Acts of piracy and terrorism at sea are on the rise, but there is little evidence to support concerns from some governments and international organizations that pirates and terrorists are beginning to collude with one another, according to a RAND Corporation study titled “Piracy and Terrorism at Sea: A Rising Challenge for U.S. Security.” The study notes that piracy is aimed at financial gain while the goal of terrorism is political. Although both events are increasing, piracy is growing much faster and remains far more common than seaborne terrorism. The author of the study said the study’s findings suggest U.S. policymakers focus too much on responding to worse-case terrorist scenarios rather than crafting policies to combat lower consequence (but more probable) attacks that could strike cruise ships or passenger ferries. The number of piracy incidents worldwide increased 68 percent from 2000 to 2006, compared to the



previous six year period, according to the study. Piracy remains greatest in Southeast Asia, especially around the Indonesian archipelago, the report said. The region accounted for nearly a quarter of all piracy incidents recorded during 2006. Other high-risk areas include the waters off Bangladesh, Somalia, the Gulf of Aden/Red Sea, Nigeria, Tanzania, and Peru, which collectively accounted for the bulk of remaining incidents that year. The researcher said that a number of factors have contributed to the recent growth of piracy, including: lax port security and ineffective coastal surveillance; massive growth in commercial maritime traffic; heavy use of narrow and congested chokepoints, such as the Strait of Malacca; and competing resource requirements stemming from heightened national and international pressure to enact expensive, land-based homeland security systems following the September 11 terrorist attacks.

Source: <http://www.marinelog.com/DOCS/NEWSMMVII/2008jun00101.html>

24. *June 9, KMSP 9 Twin Cities* – (Minnesota) **Two Northwest planes clip wings at MSP Airport.** Two Northwest Airlines jets clipped wings at Minneapolis-St. Paul (MSP) International Airport around 4 p.m. Sunday. An Airbus A330-300, incoming NWA45 from Amsterdam landed and was taxiing to the gate when it clipped wings with another A330-300 at the next gate. 296 passengers were evacuated from the incoming flight, but no one was injured. The other plane, destined for Paris, had not been boarded. The Paris flight was delayed 2 1/2 hours due to the wing-clipping. Minor damage was sustained to both planes.

Source:

<http://www.myfoxtwincities.com/myfox/pages/News/Detail?contentId=6722668&version=5&locale=EN-US&layoutCode=TSTY&pageId=3.2.1>

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## **Postal and Shipping Sector**

25. *June 9, Portland Press Herald* – (Maine) **Postal center plans biohazard drill.** The U.S. Postal Service distribution center in Scarborough, Maine, will test emergency responses to anthrax in a biohazard exercise with local, state, and federal agencies on Tuesday. The postal service is equipped with on-site equipment known as a Biohazard Detection System (BDS). The BDS collects hourly air samples that are analyzed to determine whether anthrax is present. The entire sampling and testing process is automated. If the BDS detects anthrax, the system shuts down the operation and sounds an alarm to evacuate the plant.

Source: <http://news.maintoday.com/updates/028481.html>

26. *June 9, Arizona Republic* – (Arizona) **Envelope with powder had religious references.** Religious references were found on the envelope that contained white powder sent to a Chandler, Arizona, business June 2, police said. Police confirmed that the envelope contained a reference to an Old Testament scripture. Police did not release the specific passage, however, withholding that information as their investigation continues. According to police, initial tests revealed that the powder sent to Compass Bank near Chandler Fashion Center was crushed aspirin. A hazardous-materials crew responded to the bank the morning of June 2 when an employee was exposed to then-unknown

powder. The employee did not show any symptoms of illness.

Source:

<http://www.azcentral.com/community/chandler/articles/2008/06/09/20080609abrk-powder.html>

27. *June 9, WTSP 10 Tampa Bay* – (Florida) **Powder in envelope causes scare at Sumter prison.** A piece of incoming mail caused trouble at the Sumter Correctional Institution in Bushnell. Officials with the Florida Department of Corrections say an envelope in the mail room was covered in some type of white powder. At least seven people in administration were exposed to the envelope. Sumter's Hazardous Materials Team responded to the prison. Samples were taken and will be analyzed to determine if the substance is narcotics. The substance was contained to the mail room and most of the people exposed are employees, not inmates.

Source: <http://www.tampabay10.com/news/local/crime/article.aspx?storyid=82221>

28. *June 9, Kentucky Post* – (Ohio) **Workers hold emergency drill at main post office.** Local postal workers spent Monday preparing for the worst. First responders and postal workers participated in an emergency drill at Cincinnati's main post office. The drill focused on response to a biohazard danger, including decontamination of volunteers. The Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Department of Homeland Security, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, members from the Cincinnati police and firefighters, and public health officials took part in the drill.

Source: [http://www.kypost.com/content/wcposhared/story.aspx?content\\_id=7d6224a4-a61c-4853-9366-ddfa79604602](http://www.kypost.com/content/wcposhared/story.aspx?content_id=7d6224a4-a61c-4853-9366-ddfa79604602)

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## **Agriculture and Food Sector**

29. *June 10, Minnesota Public Radio* – (Minnesota) **Researchers link E. coli, ethanol by-product.** About three years ago, researchers in Kansas found evidence that feeding cattle distillers grain promotes the growth of E. coli. A team at Kansas State University, including a microbiology professor, was studying the types of bacteria living in the feces of cattle. Some cows were more likely to have E. coli than others. Half of the test cattle were fed distillers grain, half were not. "There were a significantly higher number of animals in the distillers grain group that were positive for E. coli 0157 compared to the control," said the microbiology professor. A later study at the University of Nebraska found that low levels of distillers grain are not a problem. But the researchers found higher E. coli levels when the feed composed 40 percent or more of the animals' diet. Some experts have raised the possibility that widespread use of distillers grain as feed contributed to a sharp jump in E. coli-related ground beef recalls last year. The recalls came as U.S. distillers grain production increased by more than 25 percent. A Kansas State University researcher said right now there is no evidence that distillers grain played any role in the recalls. But the issue has caught the attention of U.S. public health officials, who are monitoring research developments. An epidemiologist with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said last year's E. coli jump reversed a general decline in E. coli meat contamination. "We need to investigate that area further

to see what we can do to have that level of contamination keep decreasing instead of going up,” said the epidemiologist.

Source: [http://minnesota.publicradio.org/display/web/2008/06/06/distillers\\_2008/](http://minnesota.publicradio.org/display/web/2008/06/06/distillers_2008/)

30. *June 10, Helena Independent Record* – (Idaho; Montana; Wyoming) **Montana loses brucellosis-free status.** Montana will officially lose its status as a brucellosis-free state in coming weeks after a Paradise Valley heifer tested positive for the disease Monday. The downgrade will increase costs for all ranchers, officials, and industry representatives say, but will especially hurt Montana’s cattle breeders, many of whom have built up internationally regarded genetic lines. The disease re-emerged in Montana for the first time in 22 years last May, when several cattle in a herd near Bridger tested positive for the disease. Some of those animals were later traced to a ranch in Emigrant, also in the Paradise Valley. Brucellosis is a serious disease of cattle, elk, bison, and swine that can cause heifers to abort their first calves. In rare cases, the disease can spread to humans. The disease persists in the wild bison and elk in and around Yellowstone National Park, where the free-ranging animals can spread the disease to nearby domestic stock. No other cattle in the herd tested positive. The diseased animal has been destroyed. The heifer was first tested several weeks ago, but a definitive case of brucellosis can only be identified by tests at the National Animal Disease Center in Ames, Iowa, according to the Montana Department of Livestock. A complicated federal and state plan intended to prevent Yellowstone’s wild animals from spreading the disease has been in effect in Montana, Wyoming, and Idaho for years. Nonetheless, cattle from all three states have come down with the disease.

Source:

[http://www.helenair.com/articles/2008/06/10/top/top/50lo\\_080610\\_brucellosis.txt](http://www.helenair.com/articles/2008/06/10/top/top/50lo_080610_brucellosis.txt)

31. *June 10, San Francisco Chronicle* – (National) **Groceries, eateries tossing suspect tomatoes.** Major U.S. supermarket and restaurant chains are pulling selected stocks of fresh tomatoes in the outbreak of salmonella poisoning. Investigators say the outbreak may have originated in imports from Mexico. According to Food and Drug Administration (FDA) officials, the only types of tomatoes implicated in the outbreak thus far are raw red Roma, raw red plum, and raw red round tomatoes. A spokeswoman for the New Mexico Department of Health acknowledged that the link to farms south of the border had to be confirmed by federal disease investigators. New Mexican health officials are working with the FDA in hopes of pinpointing the source of the contamination. An FDA spokesman cautioned Monday that he had “no evidence to support” New Mexico’s preliminary finding that the bacteria came from tomatoes grown in Mexico.

Source: [http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-](http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2008/06/10/BAA51162BT.DTL)

[bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2008/06/10/BAA51162BT.DTL](http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2008/06/10/BAA51162BT.DTL)

32. *June 10, Baltimore Sun* – (National) **Bush seeks \$275 million more for the FDA.** The current presidential administration requested giving the Food and Drug Administration an added \$275 million in funding during the next fiscal year. That would be on top of the \$2.4 billion budget that the Bush administration had initially proposed. The move, which comes as Congress prepares to consider the agency’s budget, would pay for

basing inspectors abroad, increasing the number of inspections, and modernizing computer systems, federal health officials said. The House is scheduled to take up the FDA's budget during hearings this month. Congress usually funds the president's request, which means the FDA is likely to receive the proposed increase.

Source: <http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/health/bal-te.fda10jun10,0,7733172.story>

33. *June 9, Associated Press* – (New Jersey) **NJ burger plant recalls over 13,000 pounds; no illness.** A small hamburger plant has recalled 13,275 pounds of hamburger after tests showed possible contamination of a batch that was kept at the operation, officials said. No illnesses from the potentially deadly E. coli bacteria have been reported from products shipped by Dutch's Meats Inc. of Trenton, New Jersey, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service said Sunday. The batch that tested positive for E. coli 0157:H7 was sampled on June 3 and had been kept at the plant to await results. As a precaution, the company recalled production from May 27 to June 6, the vice president of Dutch's Meats Inc. said. The deadly strain of E. coli is harbored mainly in the intestines of cattle, but can get into meat through improper butchering and processing. The company sells to customers and restaurants in the Trenton area, including some in Pennsylvania, but not to individual consumers.

Source: <http://www.newsday.com/news/local/wire/newjersey/ny-bc-nj--meatrecall0609jun09,0,1832973.story>

34. *June 9, Reuters* – (International) **Scientists figure out how rice absorbs arsenic.** Scientists have worked out how crops such as rice absorb arsenic, a finding that could help prevent people from eating dangerous levels of the poisonous metal, they said on Tuesday. The same gene that helps plants fight off fungal infections appears to allow plant cells to absorb arsenite – the damaging form of the metal, a Swedish and Danish team found. Arsenic, a common and naturally occurring element, can build up in plants or in the bodies of animals and people to cause lung disease and cancers. The Scandinavian team injected yeast with the rice version of the gene that controls how cells absorb arsenite and then compared what happened in yeast without the product of this gene, called nodulin26-like intrinsic protein. Yeast with these “transporter” proteins accumulated arsenite while the others did not, said a plant researcher at the University of Copenhagen, who led the study. This same gene also plays a protective role by allowing crops to absorb silicon in cell walls as a defense against fungal infections, he added. The findings could lead to genetically engineered crops that allow rice, for example, to accumulate silicon but not arsenic, the plant researcher said.

Source:

<http://www.reuters.com/article/scienceNews/idUSL0952016120080609?feedType=RSS&feedName=scienceNews&pageNumber=2&virtualBrandChannel=0>

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## **Water Sector**

35. *June 10, Los Angeles Times* – (California) **DWP drops 400,000 balls onto Ivanhoe Reservoir.** The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (DWP) started dumping thousands of floating plastic balls into Ivanhoe Reservoir to protect the drinking water

supply needed for summer. The water needs to be shaded because when sunlight mixes with the bromide and chlorine in Ivanhoe's water, the carcinogen bromate forms, said DWP's director for water quality compliance. Bromide is naturally present in groundwater and chlorine is used to kill bacteria, he said, but sunlight is the final ingredient in the potentially harmful mix. The DWP drop was designed to stop the three from mingling in the 10-acre, 58-million-gallon Ivanhoe Reservoir. The 102-year-old facility serves about 600,000 customers downtown and in south Los Angeles. Open reservoirs exposed to sunlight are now rare. The area's reservoirs – Silver Lake, Ivanhoe, and Elysian – first registered elevated levels of bromate between June and October 2007. But state health officials said the dangers were minimal because bromate poses a small cancer risk only after consumed daily over a lifetime. But the discovery of bromate prompted officials to look for ways of shading Elysian and Ivanhoe. A tarp would have been too expensive and a metal cover would take too long to install, especially in a year of drought. So one of the DWP's biologists suggested "bird balls," commonly used by airports to prevent birds from congregating in wet areas alongside runways.

Source: <http://www.latimes.com/news/printedition/california/la-me-balls10-2008jun10,0,5107371.story>

36. *June 9, Associated Press* – (Texas) **Texas town releases name of drug found in water.** Drinking water in Arlington, Texas, tested positive for trace concentrations of the anti-anxiety medication meprobamate, city officials revealed Monday in response to a series of public records requests. In a February interview with the Associated Press, the mayor said trace concentrations of one pharmaceutical had been found in treated drinking water, but he declined to name it. He said revealing the name in the post-9/11 world could cause a terrorist to intentionally release more of the drug, causing harm to residents. Monday's identification of meprobamate came after the Texas attorney general said those concerns were not well founded. In water samples taken in October 2006, concentrations of the drug measured around one part per trillion, far below the levels of a medical dose.

Source:

<http://ap.google.com/article/ALeqM5gXAMzpKnryxtUXGU6PyklUNed1GgD916QOS85>

37. *June 9, Associated Press* – (National) **Water transfers will not need permits.** The movement of billions of gallons of water around the country for drinking, irrigation, and other uses will not require permits under the Clean Water Act, even though the water could contain contaminants, the administration announced Monday. The new rule will allow water to be diverted from one body to another without a discharge permit, which is typically required when pollutants are released directly into streams, rivers, and other surface waters. Instead, Environmental Protection Agency officials said the agency will focus on preventing contaminants from entering water sources in the first place. In addition, safe drinking water laws ensure water is clean before it flows into households, and other parts of the Clean Water Act – such as water quality standards – will still protect supplies. Environmental groups criticized the decision, saying it continues to allow pollution to flow into the nation's waterways.

Source:

<http://ap.google.com/article/ALeqM5iJCcaZb8azhl2f4Ftj2jlVMhBVpgD916QO600>

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## **Public Health and Healthcare Sector**

38. *June 10, New York Daily News* – (New York) **West Nile virus fight to be ramped up this summer.** The Health and Mental Hygiene Department in New York City is increasing efforts to prevent West Nile virus infections. West Nile first appeared in New York in the summer of 1999, when 45 people were infected, four fatally. After placing mosquito traps in more than 70 locations citywide and applying anti-breeding larvicides on standing bodies of water, city health officials say they have “gotten a grip on the situation.” “We’re focusing very hard on prevention,” said the assistant commissioner of the department’s Bureau of Veterinary and Pest Control Services. “We use all of the tools available to prevent West Nile from becoming present.” The department plans to aggressively remove standing water throughout the city. For permanent areas of standing water, such as in sewer systems and catch basins, the water will be treated with larvicides that are not toxic to humans.

Source: [http://www.nydailynews.com/ny\\_local/bronx/2008/06/10/2008-06-10\\_west\\_nile\\_virus\\_fight\\_to\\_be\\_ramped\\_up\\_th-1.html](http://www.nydailynews.com/ny_local/bronx/2008/06/10/2008-06-10_west_nile_virus_fight_to_be_ramped_up_th-1.html)

39. *June 10, Financial Express* – (International) **West Nile virus fight to be ramped up this summer.** India, which has been recently affected by the spread of bird flu in the areas bordering Bangladesh, has alleged that the latter had not informed its neighbors about the outbreak so that they could take timely action. Bangladesh has, however, refuted this allegation. The outbreak of bird flu, which was confirmed in the bordering areas of West Bengal on January 15, 2008 rapidly spread to 13 Indian districts. Though it did not reach Kolkata, it did make its way into surrounding districts.

Source: <http://www.financialexpress.com/news/Bangladesh-didnt-inform-us-about-bird-flu/320846/>

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## **Government Facilities Sector**

40. *June 9, Associated Press* – (International) **Bolivian protesters march on US Embassy.** Thousands of demonstrators marched on the U.S. Embassy in La Paz, Bolivia, Monday to demand that Washington extradite a former Bolivian defense minister who directed a military crackdown on riots that killed at least 60 people in 2003. The revelation that the former minister had been granted political asylum in the U.S. sparked outrage in El Alto, a sprawling satellite city outside La Paz where dozens of anti-government rioters were gunned down by soldiers in 2003. On Monday, thousands of residents streamed down the hills into La Paz to demand justice for the killings. Protesters shot fireworks at a U.S. flag flying just beyond the compound’s concrete wall, as helmeted Marines looked on from the embassy’s roof. When crowds tried to push through a police line, officers cleared the street with tear gas.

Source: <http://www.miamiherald.com/915/story/564269.html>

41. *June 9, Seattle Times* – (Washington) **Report of gun prompts lockdown at Seattle school.** A southeast Seattle middle school was on modified lockdown this morning while police investigated a report of a student bringing a gun to school. Police were dispatched to Washington Middle School shortly after 10 a.m. for the weapons report, said a police sergeant. The 14-year-old boy was questioned in the principal's office then released to his sister, police said. Police did not find a gun.

Source:

[http://seattletimes.nwsources.com/html/localnews/2004466736\\_webschoolthreat09m.html](http://seattletimes.nwsources.com/html/localnews/2004466736_webschoolthreat09m.html)

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## **Emergency Services Sector**

42. *June 10, Rutland Herald* – (Vermont) **Flu drill slated at Vermont hospitals.** Hospitals around Vermont on Wednesday will be testing their planned response in the event an influenza pandemic should spread throughout the state. In coordination with the Vermont Department of Health and Vermont Emergency Management, more than 100 hospitals, public health officials and state government officials will take part in the simulated emergency that will run in 11 Vermont hospitals. To test their preparedness, participating hospitals will see an influx of patients about 30 percent higher than the average daily census. Participants will be tested on disease surveillance, investigation and control measures, rapid exchange of information among health professionals and the simulated delivery of timely, accurate and useful information to health care providers and the public. The exercise is funded by the Vermont Department of Health, through federal grants from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services as part of the Hospital Preparedness Program and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Public Health Emergency Preparedness Program, and Homeland Security. The Vermont National Guard, the Department of Public Safety and the Agency of Transportation are also participating in the exercise.

Source:

<http://www.rutlandherald.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080610/NEWS01/806100321/1002/NEWS01>

43. *June 9, KMGH 7 Denver* – (Colorado; National) **Emergency services feel pain at pump.** As gas prices continue to rise, many emergency response companies are struggling to provide necessary services. In Colorado, Pridemark Paramedic Services was paying \$27,000 a month for fuel about one year ago. Today Pridemark is paying close to \$45,000 a month – an increase it has largely had to absorb on its own. Pridemark's diesel-powered ambulances serve Arvada, Wheat Ridge, Golden and Boulder County. Its rates are somewhat regulated, so unlike other businesses, it cannot simply pass fuel costs on to patients. Members of the American Ambulance Association are now lobbying Congress in an attempt to get a special exemption from federal fuel excise taxes.

Source: <http://www.thedenverchannel.com/news/16552844/detail.html>

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## **Information Technology**

44. *June 9, Personal Computer World* – (International) **Malware fears boost sales of USB blocks.** Drive locks that prevented machines being infected via floppy disks are making a comeback in a new form – to block USB ports. Sales of floppy locks dropped when the major malware threat moved online, though there remained a risk that disks could be used to bypass network monitoring to steal data. Electronics supplier Lindy reports a surge in sales of devices that block unauthorized used of USB ports, which have become a major source of infection according to security company ESET. The biggest problem is malware called INF/Autorun, which exploits the Windows facility for running programs automatically when a USB drive is plugged in. USB locks simply place a cover over a port that can be removed with a key. "Completely disabling a port isn't a viable option for companies, so USB port blocks are a cost-effective means of mitigating the risk from malware, data theft and the installation of unwanted files and programs," said a Lindy product manager.

Source: <http://www.pcw.co.uk/personal-computer-world/news/2218588/malware-fears-boosts-sales-usb>

45. *June 9, ComputerWorld* – (International) **Opera adds anti-malware to nearly final browser.** Opera Software ASA will include anti-malware and drive-by download defenses in Version 9.5 of its flagship browser, which is now in beta but close to a final release, the company said today. Part of Opera's "Fraud Protection," which until now has included only antiphishing tools, puts up messages that warn users when they are about to visit a site that is a known malware host or that has been hacked to serve up Trojan horses, worms and other malicious code. The list of blackballed sites is provided by HauteSecure, said an Opera spokesman. HauteSecure already provides a free tool bar for users of Microsoft Corp.'s Internet Explorer and Mozilla Corp.'s Firefox browsers. The browser queries Oslo-based Opera's servers each time a page is requested, and it retrieves a HauteSecure-created blacklist for any compromised pages in that domain.

Source:

[http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&taxonomyName=security&articleId=9095038&taxonomyId=17&intsrc=kc\\_top](http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&taxonomyName=security&articleId=9095038&taxonomyId=17&intsrc=kc_top)

### **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

46. *June 10, Rutland Herald* – (Vermont) **Internet service in state disrupted by outage; fiber optic cable blamed.** Many state businesses found their Internet service interrupted by a problem on the lines provided by Level 3 Communications, according to Vermont's Chief Information Officer. He said state officials had been contacted by Level 3 Communications, a national network that provides fiber optic services, and been told the company was working on a problem that seemed to have been caused by a cut in a fiber cable or cables leading into Albany. Service around Rutland County was reported interrupted. Service has been restored.

Source:

<http://www.timesargus.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080610/NEWS02/806100354>

47. *June 10, Spectrum Daily News* – (Utah) **Phone service is interrupted.** Telephone and Internet service was interrupted for many residents in Southern Utah for most of Monday evening when a fiber-optic cable was damaged near Pintura. A Qwest spokesman said no crews from the telephone company were working, and it was not clear as of Monday night exactly what had happened to cause the problem. The disruption affected land lines and cell phones, as well as some ATM machines and credit card machines inside businesses. Qwest repair crews were on the scene Monday night and expected to have service restored by midnight.

Source:

<http://www.thespectrum.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20080610/NEWS01/806100301>

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## Commercial Facilities Sector

Nothing to report

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## National Monuments & Icons Sector

48. *June 9, Associated Press* – (Pennsylvania) **Court battle over Allegheny National Forest.** A group of Pennsylvania oil and gas producers and others have filed a lawsuit over a revised plan to manage the Allegheny National Forest that they say restricts their rights to forest resources. The Pennsylvania Oil and Gas Association and the Allegheny Forest Alliance filed the suit in Erie against the U.S. Forest Service, National Forest System deputy chief, and the Forest Service's regional forester. The suit claims the Forest Service and its representatives violated federal law by approving a revised plan for the 800-square-mile national forest without giving the public an opportunity to comment. The plan took effect earlier this year. The Allegheny Forest Alliance is a group of townships, school districts, and business, citizens, and special interest organizations.

Source: [http://ydr.inyork.com/ci\\_9529594](http://ydr.inyork.com/ci_9529594)

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## **Dams Sector**

49. *June 9, WTHR 13 Indianapolis* – (Indiana) **Levee break threatens Elnora.** Daviess County is under a Flash Flood Warning, leading the town council to urge residents to evacuate. A levee on the White River was expected to be topped Monday evening and officials in Elnora, Indiana, are strongly suggesting residents leave the area by 8:30 pm. Residents are being advised to evacuate to Plainville.

Source: <http://www.wthr.com/Global/story.asp?S=8453942>

50. *June 9, Associated Press* – (Wisconsin) **Water washes away homes, forces evacuations in Wisconsin.** In Wisconsin, Lake Delton overflowed and emptied out Monday afternoon. Three homes were washed away and two others were torn apart. Despite efforts at sandbagging, water drained into the nearby Wisconsin River after the embankment topped by a county road gave way, state and village officials said. A Department of Natural Resources (DNR) spokeswoman said state officials worried about other dams that were overflowing or near failure. Dams experiencing problems included the Wyocena, Pardeeville, Danville River, Fall River, and Upper Spring Dams. The DNR was checking out other dams in western Wisconsin, said a spokesman for Wisconsin Emergency Management. The DNR was flying over dams in Vernon County and sending engineers to other counties to assess dams there.

Source:

[http://www.startribune.com/local/19655574.html?location\\_refer=Local%20+%20Metro](http://www.startribune.com/local/19655574.html?location_refer=Local%20+%20Metro)

51. *June 9, Milwaukee Journal Sentinel* – (Wisconsin) **3 problematic dams haven't been checked since '93.** Three of the ten dams that failed or were compromised Monday have not been inspected since 1993, state records show. Another dam that was overflowed, the Fall River Dam on the Crawfish River in Columbia County, has not received a full inspection in nearly nine years. The Wyocena Dam in Columbia County, whose embankment was washed out Monday, received its last formal inspection more than 14 years ago, reports from the state Department of Natural Resources show. State law mandates that all large dams such as the Wyocena Dam be inspected once every 10 years. A Journal Sentinel investigation in August found that the DNR had not inspected at least 230 dams in 10 years despite the state law. The dams that were not inspected made up one-quarter of the 926 state-regulated dams. Of those not inspected, 67 were rated as high- or significant-hazard dams.

Source: <http://www.jsonline.com/story/index.aspx?id=760193>

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## **DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Contact Information**

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