In its first regulations on the burial of carbon dioxide underground, the Environmental Protection Agency on Tuesday unveiled measures to protect drinking water from carbon dioxide. (See item 5)

The Federal Aviation Administration announced Tuesday its plans to require that the safety of thousands of airline jet fuel tanks be upgraded to prevent explosions like the one that downed TWA Flight 800 in 1996. (See item 19)

July 16, Bloomberg – (International) Chevron resumes full deliveries of onshore Nigerian crude oil. Chevron Corp. resumed contracted deliveries of crude oil produced onshore Nigeria which were stopped following a militant attack on a pipeline last month. “Force majeure is lifted,” a Chevron spokeswoman said late Tuesday. The pipeline was breached in an attack on June 19, resulting in about 120,000 barrels a day of lost production, Agence France-Presse reported at the time.

Source: http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601072&sid=aq9NzBRK8_Hc&refer=energy
2. *July 16, Hickory Daily Record* – (North Carolina) **Snake causes 8,000 residents to lose power.** About 8,000 residents were without power for an hour early Tuesday morning when a snake got into a Duke Energy substation. A snake got into the substation in Hickory at about midnight Tuesday and tripped the safety equipment, said a Duke Energy spokesman. About 8,000 residents in the Hickory and Lenoir area were without power for an hour, while Duke employees worked to restore power.

Source: [http://www.hickoryrecord.com/servlet/Satellite?pagename=HDR/MGArticle/HDR_BasicArticle&c=MGArticle&cid=1173355895946&path](http://www.hickoryrecord.com/servlet/Satellite?pagename=HDR/MGArticle/HDR_BasicArticle&c=MGArticle&cid=1173355895946&path)

3. *July 16, CNN* – (South Dakota) **Farmers fight plans for new oil refinery.** A battle is raging in a corner of South Dakota over what could be the nation’s first new oil refinery in 30 years. Plans were kept secret for months, but residents of Union County have now voted in favor of rezoning land for a $10-billion refinery capable of converting 400,000 barrels of Canadian oil into gasoline, diesel, and jet fuel every day. But while the county as a whole favored the project by a 58 percent majority on June 3, most of the rural voters whose land would be affected by the refinery said no. Hyperion Energy says the plant will be a first-of-its kind “clean” refinery. “We continue to push the ball down the road. There’s $4-a-gallon gas at the pump. Crude oil is $120 to $140 a barrel. This project is at the right time today and the United States needs it,” said a project executive.


4. *July 15, Electric Light & Power/ Utility Automation & Engineering T&D* – (National) **NERC CEO announces plan to improve response to cyber security and CIP.** The chief executive officer of the North American Electric Reliability Corporation (NERC) recently announced the organization’s plans to improve its response to cyber security and critical infrastructure protection (CIP) concerns for the bulk power system in North America. The plan outlines six specific actions that will lay the foundation for improving grid reliability by enabling faster and more effective action to protect critical assets from cyber or physical threats. “Cyber security is a critical component of grid reliability, but is, by its nature, fundamentally different from any other reliability concern we currently address through our standards, analysis, or enforcement programs,” he said. “It therefore requires a different approach; one that allows for more expedient treatment of critical information, urgent action on standards, and more thorough threat analysis and risk assessment.” Specific actions NERC will take include: Increasing NERC expertise on CIP and cyber security; considering an alternative standard setting process for cyber security standards; expediting the review of existing cyber standards; and facilitating joint collaboration on cyber security.


5. *July 15, Associated Press* – (National) **EPA unveils carbon dioxide storage rule.** The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) wants to make sure curbing global warming does not contaminate drinking water. In its first regulations on the burial of carbon dioxide underground, the EPA on Tuesday unveiled measures to protect drinking water
from carbon dioxide. The fledgling technology, known as carbon sequestration, is critical to reducing carbon dioxide released into the air from coal-fired power plants. The proposal upgrades the 1974 Safe Drinking Water Act to include a new category of injection wells solely for carbon dioxide storage, and creates extensive siting, testing, and monitoring requirements to prevent leaks. The U.S. has the capacity to store 3,900 gigatons of carbon dioxide at 230 different underground storage sites, according to Energy Department estimates. The U.S. emits a total of about seven gigatons of carbon dioxide every year. To date, the bulk of carbon dioxide being injected underground has been done to enhance oil production. But if coal-fired power plants, as expected, start to embrace carbon sequestration technology, more of the carbon dioxide belched out of smokestacks is expected to be entombed in microscopic spaces in underground rock. A final rule is expected in late 2010 or 2011, the EPA said.

Source: http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/25693229/

6. July 15, Reuters – (California) California power grid cleared for renewable power. The California power grid manager on Tuesday praised a decision taken on Monday by the U.S. Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) designed to alleviate bottlenecks in connecting new power generation projects to the transmission grid in California. About two-thirds of the projects in the long queue for review by the California Independent System Operator (ISO) are for renewable power. FERC ruled that the Cal ISO can waive some rules and schedules for new power plants hooking up to the grid, allowing the ISO to reduce the backlog, the grid manager said. The ISO will place project requests into three groups, and delay review of requests submitted after June 2 of this year. The grouping of projects, which was part of the plan approved by FERC on Monday, is the first step in a two-step process for easing the backlog, said the Cal ISO. California requires 20 percent of power delivered by the state’s investor-owned utilities to be generated by renewable power by 2010. The Cal ISO has 361 interconnection requests totaling more than 105,000 megawatts (MW) in the queue. Of those, more than 68,000 MW are from renewable power generation.

Source: http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssIndustryMaterialsUtilitiesNews/idUSN1535273920080716?pageNumber=1&virtualBrandChannel=0

Chemical Industry Sector

Nothing to report

Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and Waste Sector

7. July 15, Washington Post – (New Mexico) GAO: Security lapses continue at Los Alamos. Security lapses at one of the nation’s three nuclear weapons testing labs, the storied Los Alamos National Laboratory in the New Mexico desert, have continued despite frequent and sometimes heated calls for improvements by congressional leaders,
according to a Government Accountability Office report released Tuesday. The report cited “persistent, systemic security problems” at the lab. Investigators with the GAO found that the terms of government contract with Los Alamos National Security LLC, the private consortium that manages the lab, does not provide “meaningful financial incentives for strategic security improvements.” The result, lawmakers say, is the faulty storage of classified items in unapproved storage containers and weaknesses within the site’s internal computer network system. The GAO also found that the Los Alamos Site Office, which is charged with monitoring contractor performance, “continues to suffer from a shortage of security personnel” and “lacks funding for needed security training.”

Source: [http://blog.washingtonpost.com/washingtonpostinvestigations/2008/07/los_alamos_site_still_not.html](http://blog.washingtonpost.com/washingtonpostinvestigations/2008/07/los_alamos_site_still_not.html)

8. *July 15, Associated Press* – (Nevada) **Cost for nuclear waste site jumps to $90 billion.**

Turns out, it is going to cost taxpayers $32 billion more than first thought to open and operate the nation’s first nuclear waste dump. The latest calculation is that the facility will cost over $90 billion. It is the first official estimate since 2001, when the figure was $58 billion. The Energy Department official in charge of managing the Yucca Mountain repository project in Nevada disclosed the new number on Tuesday. The estimate includes $9 billion already spent and covers about 100 years of operation until the dump is sealed up forever. Some of the increase is due to inflation, he said. Also Energy Department officials now expect the dump will hold more radioactive waste than the 77,000 tons initially approved by Congress. A report with precise cost breakdowns will be released to Congress in the next several weeks, he said.


9. *July 15, Reuters* – (New York) **Constellation NY Nine Mile 2 reactor at full power.**

Constellation Energy Group Inc.’s Unit 2 at the Nine Mile Point nuclear power station returned to full power by Tuesday afternoon, a spokeswoman for the company said. The company reduced the unit due to an electrical problem that caused a partial reduction in feedwater. Workers fixed the problem and operators returned the unit to full power.


[Return to top]

**Defense Industrial Base Sector**

10. *July 16, Military & Aerospace Electronics* – (National) **Border security technology demonstrated for potential U.S. border protection.**

21st Century Systems Inc. (21CSI) demonstrated its High-Resolution Situational Awareness (HiRSA) software system that provides situational-awareness software for potential use in U.S. border security at a military testing facility in Yuma, Arizona. 21CSI was selected to provide its sensor management technology for the initial phase of the Jordan Border Security Program, awarded to DRS Technologies Inc. by the U.S. Army’s Communications and Electronics Command (CECOM). The DRS integrated border surveillance system will
include Distant Sentry surveillance towers that use various sensors. HiRSA, as an integral part of the Distant Sentry system, is designed to reduce operating time and the manpower required to secure any perimeter, from buildings and building complexes to miles of open terrain. “HiRSA’s versatility and scalability allows the technology to be adapted to multiple mission domains, such as assisting border patrol agents,” said the chairman and CEO of 21CSI.

Source:
http://mae.pennnet.com/Articles/Article_Display.cfm?Section=ONEWS&PUBLICATION_ID=32&ARTICLE_ID=334410&C=ONEWS&dcmp=rss

11. July 15, Associated Press – (National) Pentagon scales down missile defense test. A technical glitch has prompted the Pentagon’s missile defense unit to scale back plans for a Friday test of a system designed to shoot down missiles heading for the U.S. mainland. The head of the Missile Defense Agency said Tuesday that there were problems with telemetry cards that record data during tests of the ground-based defense missile system. Boeing Co. is the lead contractor on the project. The problems, which arose from soldering of the cards, means the test will be only a simulation of an interceptor missile striking an incoming missile. The Missile Defense Agency had planned to also use a real interceptor missile to try to shoot it down. The Pentagon is building a network of sea and land-based missiles in the United States, Europe, and Japan in response to longer-range missiles being developed by nations such as Iran and North Korea. Iran, which tested missiles last week, is believed to have some with a range of 1,250 miles, which could reach large sections of Europe. The head of the Missile Defense Agency said Iran may also have an intercontinental ballistic missile capable of striking the United States by 2015. There are now 21 ground-based interceptor missiles in Alaska and three in California. The military is currently testing them against more complicated missiles such as those where the warhead separates from the missile body in flight.

Source: http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/25694366/

Banking and Finance Sector

12. July 16, Finextra – (National) U.S. bank fraud prevention spending on the rise – Gartner. According to a survey conducted by Gartner in March of 2008, about 60 percent banks expect to spend even more on fraud detection and customer authentication in 2009 than in 2008. This percentage rises to 71 percent among large banks with consumer deposits of more than $150 billion. About 20 percent of these banks expect spending to rise significantly. According to the survey, online banking fraud detection is the most widely implemented fraud management system across U.S. banks, followed closely by stronger consumer authentication at banks’ Web sites. Over the next two years, the most pervasive plans for new fraud prevention and customer-security-related projects include stronger caller authentication for customers that telephone call centers; enterprise fraud detection that manages fraud across customer channels and accounts; and a case management system for managing fraud. The president and distinguished analyst at Gartner said that, on average, banks tend to consider their Web channels to be more secure than their phone channels. Nevertheless, in 2008, most banks say they will
spend more money on Web fraud detection than on call center fraud detection, which acknowledges that the Web channel is generally more vulnerable when it comes to outright monetary theft or account surveillance.
Source: http://www.finextra.com/fullpr.asp?id=22432

13. July 16, Guardian – (International) Cybercrime: Teenage hacker in global scam discharged. A teenager from New Zealand who was accused of stealing millions of pounds has been discharged without a conviction, despite pleading guilty to hacking into computers around the world. The suspect was arrested last November after an investigation by New Zealand and Dutch police, the FBI and the US Secret Service, and was accused of leading computer hackers who had stolen more than £12m from victims around the world. He admitted accessing a computer for dishonest purposes, accessing computer systems without authorization, interfering with computer systems and possessing software with the intent to commit crime. His case was part of a crackdown on the ring, which has seen eight people around the world charged or convicted since last year. Thirteen others are subject to arrest warrants. The ring, said police, had built a network of more than a million zombie computers - a botnet - to steal credit card information, manipulate stock trades and crash the systems of large companies.
Source: http://www.guardian.co.uk/technology/2008/jul/16/hacking.security

14. July 16, CNNMoney – (National) SEC to limit Fannie, Freddie short sales. The Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) has issued an emergency order to bolster investor protections against so-called ‘naked’ short selling of mortgage financiers Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac. ‘Naked’ short selling occurs when traders sell stocks short without actually owning or borrowing them. The SEC said it will require traders to borrow Fannie and Freddie stocks before selling them short, and they will be required to deliver the stocks at settlement. The requirement takes effect at 12:01 a.m. ET on July 21. The SEC order prevents the naked short selling of 19 firms in all. In addition to Fannie and Freddie, the order applies to BNP Paribas Securities Corp., Bank of America Corp., Barclays PLC, Citigroup Inc., Credit Suisse Group, Daiwa Securities Group, Deutsche Bank Group AG, Allianz SE, Goldman, Sachs Group, Royal Bank ADS, HSBC Holdings PLC ADS, J.P. Morgan Chase, Lehman Brothers Holdings, Merrill Lynch & Co., Mizuho Financial Group, Morgan Stanley and UBS AG.
Source: http://money.cnn.com/2008/07/16/markets/naked_shortselling/?postversion=2008071607

15. July 15, ABC News – (National) Who’s next? List of troubled banks worries Wall Street, DC. While the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) is keeping secret its official list of 90 troubled banks, ABC News has obtained other lists prepared by several research groups and financial analysts. The lists use versions of the so-called “Texas ratio” which compare a bank’s assets and reserves to its non-performing loans, based on financial data made public by the FDIC in March. Analysts say banks with a ratio over 100 per cent would be the most likely to fail, based on what happened to Texas savings and loans during the 1980’s. At the top of the list was ANB Financial National Association of Bentonville, Arkansas, with a 344 ratio. The bank failed earlier
this year and was later taken over by a Louisiana bank. The banks on the list are FDIC-insured, meaning that depositors with less than $100,000 would be covered should their banks go under.
Source: http://abcnews.go.com/Blotter/story?id=5374205&page=1

16. **July 15, Bakersfield Californian** – (National) **Social Security warns of scam.** The Social Security Administration is warning locals not to give out personal information to people claiming on the telephone to be from the agency. The warning comes after several people, including one from Delano, California, got caught in a scam. The bottom line, said a Social Security Administration spokeswoman: The agency does call people, but never asks for their name, Social Security number and bank account information as the scammers are doing. The official said the perpetrators claim they need the information to issue additional funds or rebates or because a computer glitch erased your data. There has been a similar scam via e-mail. When Social Security does need to update people’s information, she said, it notifies them by mail or phone before a personal visit is made.
Source: http://www.bakersfield.com/102/story/497885.html

17. **July 15, Crookston Daily Times** – (National) **CPD: FBI call is a scam.** Crookston Police Department (CPD) chief wants the public to know that if they receive a call from the FBI about some of your money that has been recovered, they should not fall for it. The tactic is currently being used in this area, a CPD release states. Some people have received phone calls from a person pretending to be a representative of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. The person states that the FBI has recovered some money that has been taken from their bank account, and that the agency needs their bank account routing number in order to return the money to their account.

[Return to top]

**Transportation Sector**

18. **July 16, Press of Atlantic City** – (New Jersey) **AC Airport, toll road becoming labs for security.** Atlantic City International Airport is becoming a laboratory for new safety and security measures. The Homeland Security Department and the South Jersey Transportation Authority have struck a deal to give the airport and the Atlantic City Expressway special status. The first test will be a shoe-screening device that could end the need for travelers to remove their footwear at airports. The New Jersey facilities were chosen largely because the Federal Aviation Administration’s William J. Hughes Technical Center is adjacent to the airport.

19. **July 15, USA Today** – (National) **FAA to require fuel-tank changes.** The federal government announced Tuesday its plans to require that the safety of thousands of airline jet fuel tanks be upgraded to prevent explosions like the one that downed TWA Flight 800 in 1996, government and industry sources told USA Today. The Department
of Transportation will mandate that most large jets have a system to flush explosive gases from the center fuel tank, said several sources who have direct knowledge of the new rule. The sources were not authorized to speak publicly about the rule before the announcement. Airlines will have up to 10 years to equip their fleets with the devices, the sources said. Jets built before 1991, many of which will be retired within 10 years, will be exempt. New jets also must have the safety equipment. The rule applies to more than 3,000 jets used by U.S. airlines, including Boeing 737, 747, 757, 767 and 777 models and all Airbus models, the sources said.


20. **July 15, Bloomberg** – (National) **U.S. triples scanners that see under fliers’ clothes.**

The U.S. Transportation Security Administration (TSA) will triple the number of devices at airports that can detect bombs under airline passengers’ clothing. The purchase of 80 so-called Passenger Imager machines will bring the total in use next year to 120 at 21 airports, an agency spokesman said Tuesday. Depending on the model, the devices rely on X-rays to show an outline of travelers’ bodies or electromagnetic waves to create an image that looks like a fuzzy photo negative. They are now used as a substitute for being scanned by TSA screeners with handheld detectors. In addition to the passenger-imaging equipment, TSA will buy 300 “advanced technology” X-ray scanners to check carry-on bags, bringing the total to 900 in 2009, the official said. The TSA has been looking for ways to keep passengers from slipping plastic explosives and other weapons past checkpoint scanners originally designed to catch metal objects such as guns and knives. Locations for the new machines include Chicago’s O’Hare, Atlanta’s Hartsfield-Jackson and New York’s LaGuardia and Kennedy airports, as well as airports in Washington, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Phoenix, Denver, Dallas-Fort Worth, Detroit, Miami and Las Vegas.


21. **July 15, Officer** – (National) **Police and General Aviation Security: The threat from small aircraft and airports.** In the U.S, there are about 650 airports certified for scheduled airline service. That number is very small in comparison to the approximately 19,200 landing facilities available to general aviation. How exactly is security handled at the small general aviation airports? The Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association has partnered with the Transportation Security Administration to develop a nationwide Airport Watch Program that uses the more than 650,000 pilots as eyes and ears for observing and reporting suspicious activity. The Airport Watch Program includes warning signs for airports, informational literature, nationwide toll-free hotline, and a training video to teach pilots and airport employees how to enhance security at their airports.


22. **July 15, WALB 10 Albany** – (Georgia) **New gun laws creates controversy at airports.**
Airport officials throughout Georgia are unhappy with a new state legislation that allows Georgians, who have permits to carry concealed weapons, to bring those guns to more places including restaurants that serve alcohol and onto public transportation. The Governor and gun advocates say the law covers public areas of airports. Airport officials say that could put you in danger. “If they decide to go into the secured area, our TSA people are not armed. And that could create some really interesting issues, and we are not really thrilled about that,” said the airport director. A pro-gun group filed a federal lawsuit against Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport officials for their gun ban saying the airport qualifies as mass transportation. A hearing is scheduled August 11th in U.S. District Court.


[Return to top]

Postal and Shipping Sector

23. July 15, KXAN 36 Austin – (Texas) **Second suspicious package received at IRS building.** Austin police were called out to the IRS building on a call about a suspicious package, the second time in only four days. According to police, an employee opened an envelope with white powder inside and got some of it on her hands. Her hands started to tingle. The employee immediately called 911. The boarding dock area, which is where the envelope was opened, was evacuated. Employees were allowed back into the building about 11 p.m. when Hazmat determined the powder substance was not dangerous.


[Return to top]

Agriculture and Food Sector

24. July 16, Chicago Tribune – (National) **On food safety, U.S. not No. 1.** The Government Accountability Office (GAO) has released an audit suggesting at least six other countries and the European Union have better food safety systems than the U.S. audit, released Monday, was ordered up by two of the most vocal food safety critics, an Illinois Democratic senator and a Connecticut Democratic representative. Both have pressed for a single food safety agency instead of the dual system in the U.S. right now. The Food and Drug Administration regulates most foods, while the Department of Agriculture is responsible for meat, poultry, and egg safety. The audit examined how Canada, Germany, Ireland, Japan, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, and the European Union reorganized their food safety systems to work more efficiently. Each country, the GAO reported, stated that the ability to “trace back” foods and the authority to order food recalls were “critical in helping them respond to outbreaks of food-borne illness.”


25. July 15, Associated Press – (National) **E. coli outbreak spreads to three more states.**

An E. coli outbreak traced to recalled beef in Michigan and Ohio has spawned cases in
three other states, U.S. health officials said Tuesday. New York, Kentucky, and Indiana each have one lab-confirmed case of a bacterial infection that matches the 41 previously reported cases, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The outbreak has been traced to beef sold in Kroger supermarkets in Michigan and Ohio. The Kroger Co. last month recalled ground beef sold in Michigan and Ohio stores, and then this month expanded it to include other states. About 5.3 million pounds of beef was recalled. The Kentucky patient lives near Ohio, but the New York and Indiana patients did not travel to either of the states where the outbreak began, said a CDC investigator working on the outbreak. All 44 illnesses in the outbreak are attributed to the same type of E. coli, one that causes a potentially deadly bacterial infection. The illnesses began between May 30 and June 24. CDC officials say 21 of the victims have been hospitalized and one developed kidney failure, but no one has died.


26. **July 15, Athens Messenger** – (Ohio) **OU professor pens book on food contamination.** Reports of food contamination seem to be an everyday occurrence these days. In fact, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that more than 76 million people will suffer a food-borne illness in the United States this year alone. In her latest book, “Poisons on Our Plates: The Real Food Safety Problem in the United States,” the director of environmental studies and associate professor of environmental science at Ohio University examines the impact of bacteria and viruses on the country’s food supply. Federal regulations, she said, are not as strict as many would like to believe. There is no federal agency or environmental health policy in place to guard against the presence of bacteria in food. According to her book, many people assume the food supply is safe and often are unaware of microbiological contaminants until point-source outbreaks of E. coli or salmonella sicken the masses, generating tremendous news coverage. While distribution sources sometimes are to blame for food contamination, she said consumers share the responsibility.

Source: http://athensmessenger.com/main.asp?SectionID=1&SubSectionID=273&ArticleID=11378&TMP=41395.49

27. **July 15, Bangor Daily News** – (Maine) **Judge approves second phase of Penobscot pollution study.** A federal judge has approved the details of a study that will examine whether it would be better to remove toxic mercury downstream from the former HoltraChem factory or to allow the Penobscot River to flush the pollution naturally. Earlier this year, a senior U.S. District judge agreed with a team of researchers who determined that mercury pollution in the lower Penobscot posed a threat to the health of wildlife and humans. At the time, he directed the research team to put together plans for a more detailed study of how best to clean up the mercury from Orrington, where the HoltraChem facility was located, to Fort Point Light south of Stockton Springs. The
judge now has approved this second phase of the river study, which could begin this summer and likely will continue for at least two years. Both phases of the study are being paid for by Mallinckrodt Inc., the sole surviving former corporate owner of the chlor-alkali factory. From the 1960s until it closed in 2000, the HoltraChem factory used mercury to produce chemicals for paper mills and other industries. Tons of mercury – a powerful neurotoxin particularly dangerous to infants and fetuses – ended up in the soils at the site or in the adjacent Penobscot. Mallinckrodt has spent more than $35 million cleaning up the 235-acre factory site, which has been reduced largely to concrete pads and a few building skeletons. But hundreds of thousands of tons of contaminated soil remain on-site and untold amounts are still in the river.


28. July 15, Detroit News – (Michigan) **Bacteria keeps plaguing area beaches.** On June 10, Macomb County, Michigan, Health Department officials took water samples from around the region and came back with results that startled them in some cases. The unusually high E. coli levels were widespread and resulted in the closure of beaches. As of Monday, Memorial and Blossom Heath beaches, also in St. Clair Shores, were closed. Metro Beach in Harrison Township, the county’s most popular, has not had to close this year. Large amounts of rainfall tend to flush the watersheds in a way that leads to higher readings of E. coli in Lake St. Clair and the smaller streams and rivers that lead to it. And Macomb County saw nearly an inch of rain leading up to the sampling day. Still, the high readings have produced no easy explanations for local environmental officials. “It’s very hard to pinpoint wet weather sources of contamination,” said an environmental engineer with Macomb County’s Office of Public Works. County health officials agree. They too are faced with the prospect of trying to understand whether June 10 was simply a one-time phenomenon, or indicative of a major problem that was only revealed by heavy rains.


29. July 16, Xinhua – (International) **Vietnam reports bird flu-hit chicken in southern province.** Specimens from dead chickens in Vietnam’s southern Long An province have been tested positive to bird flu virus strain H5N1, according to local newspaper Youth on Wednesday. Tests by Vietnam’s Regional Animal Health Center No. 6 have shown that some chickens of a 3,000-fowl flock raised by a household in Can Duoc district were infected with bird flu, the newspaper quoted the deputy head of the province’s Veterinary Bureau as saying. Chickens in the flock started to die 10 days ago after developing bird flu symptoms, he said. The Department of Animal Health under the Vietnamese Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development has yet to confirm the bird flu outbreak in Long An. Now, only southern Tra Vinh province is being hit by the disease, the department said. Bird flu outbreaks in Vietnam, starting in December 2003, have killed and led to the forced culling of dozens of millions of fowls in the country.
30. *July 16, Dispatch* – (Kentucky) **Man allegedly makes bomb threat, arrested.** A Lexington man charged with second-degree murder in Cleveland County was arrested Monday after allegedly making a bomb threat against Brian Center Nursing Care in Lexington. The man was charged with making a false bomb threat. An employee of the Brian Center told police a man called between 11:30 and 11:45 a.m. and said he was going to blow up the building, according to a Lexington Police Department report. The nursing home was evacuated, and police conducted a search of the building but did not find a bomb or explosive device.

Source: [http://www.thedispatch.com/article/20080716/NEWS/807160319/1006/NEWS01](http://www.thedispatch.com/article/20080716/NEWS/807160319/1006/NEWS01)

31. *July 16, Reuters* – (International) **Indonesia defends move to block virus sample sharing.** Indonesian officials say they have refused to share bird flu virus samples with the World Health Organization because scientists and laboratories repeatedly violated U.N. guidelines on sample sharing. In an article published in the latest issue of *The Annals, Academy of Medicine, Singapore*, Indonesian scientists and officials, including Indonesia’s Health minister, said the current system of sample sharing was unfair and perpetuated the “inequities of the global system.” The officials called for “efforts to create a mechanism for virus access and benefit sharing that is accepted by all nations.” They said the last straw came when Indonesian officials learnt at the end of 2006 that an Australian company was developing a vaccine against the H5N1 bird flu virus using a strain of the virus from Indonesia. The officials said it was a clear violation of World Health Organization (WHO) rules that a pharmaceutical company would even have access to viruses that were shared with WHO-affiliated laboratories. WHO rules state there should be no distribution of viruses/specimens outside the network of WHO laboratories without permission from the originating country or laboratory. Source: [http://www.reuters.com/article/middleeastCrisis/idUSHKG294311](http://www.reuters.com/article/middleeastCrisis/idUSHKG294311)

32. *July 16, Associated Press* – (Mississippi) **Health workers to canvass city in anti-TB campaign.** In an effort to curb the spread of tuberculosis (TB), Mississippi Department of Health workers will soon begin going door to door in central Jackson to ask residents to be screened for the disease that is on the rise again in Mississippi after years of decline. The Health Department is also hiring more nurses and disease investigators and holding a two-day TB symposium as part of its effort to prevent Mississippi from reclaiming its spot as one of the nation’s leaders when it comes to the disease, the state Health Officer said. The Health Department is working with community leaders and others to educate them about the targeted surveillance, which was recommended by the Centers for Disease Control, he said. In the 1980s, Mississippi’s rate of TB cases was the second-highest in the nation, but over several years and through basic health care practices, such as early intervention and routine screening, the state reduced its rate to below the national average. The lower numbers held for 15 years, but in 2006, the state began to again see a rise in cases. There were 140 cases in 2007.
Government Facilities Sector

33. **July 15, KGO 7 San Francisco** – (California) **SF city worker arrested for network tampering.** A man accused of commandeering the city of San Francisco’s computer network for himself is in jail, and he is refusing to give up the password. So, the city is spending time and money trying to make sure its system will not have to be rebuilt. The suspect is accused of tampering with the city and county of San Francisco’s computer network, giving himself unlimited access while locking out others. The suspect has been a network administrator for San Francisco for the last five years. The network he worked on includes the city’s 311 system, employee email, and law enforcement records. The computer server involved is now a crime scene. “Just had a rogue employee that got a bit manic and full of himself,” says San Francisco’s mayor. A team of contractors is working undoing what the man did. The Department of Technology and Information Systems director says it does not appear any data has been lost or hurt. It is just that the appropriate people are locked out.


Emergency Services Sector

34. **July 15, Southern Maryland Online** – (Maryland) **Emergency drill At Calvert Cliffs nuclear power plant Tuesday.** Local, state, and federal officials conducted a drill Tuesday involving the Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant in Calvert County. Federal, state, and local drill officials said the exercise was intended to test the ability of plant personnel and off-site emergency organizations to respond in case of a plant emergency. Maryland counties within a 10-mile radius of the plant along with the following government agencies participated in the exercise: the Maryland Emergency Management Agency; Nuclear Regulatory Commission; the Federal Emergency Management Agency; and the Maryland Department of the Environment. Officials from the Calvert County Department of Public Safety lead a contingent of Calvert county departments and agencies participating. St. Mary’s County officials also participated.


35. **July 15, WKYT 57 Lexington** – (Kentucky) **National Guard troops swarm Keeneland.** Members of the Kentucky National Guard swarmed Keeneland on Tuesday morning as part of a drill demonstrating the guard’s Civil Support Team response to a chemical or biological emergency. The team, which specializes in weapons of mass destruction, is tasked with supporting local and state officials during domestic incidents by identifying agents and substances, assessing the consequences, advising on response measures, and assisting with requests for additional support. This National Guard unit is required to
undergo an evaluation like this every 18 months.

Information Technology

36. July 16, Republican-American – (National) **UPS warns of fake e-mail with real virus.** United Parcel Service (UPS) issued a warning Tuesday about fake UPS e-mails that have a real computer virus attached. The e-mails claim to be from “UPS Packet Service” and state that the person receiving the e-mail sent a parcel that could not be delivered because of an incorrect address. The e-mail instructs the reader to open an attachment that contains a copy of the invoice. The attachment, though, instead contains a virus that can wreak havoc on a computer, according to comments posted on the Yahoo! Answers Web site. In a notice posted on its Web site, UPS said it is aware of the fake e-mail and recommends that anyone receiving it delete it without opening the attachment.
Source: http://www.rep-am.com/articles/2008/07/16/business/354051.txt

37. July 16, Computerworld – (National) **Mozilla patches Firefox side of Safari ‘carpet bomb’ threat.** Mozilla Corp. has patched a pair of critical vulnerabilities in Firefox, taking the unusual step of updating the older version 2.0 on Tuesday but delaying the fixes for the newer version 3.0 until Wednesday. Both updates, labeled Firefox 2.0.0.16 and Firefox 3.0.1, plug two holes rated “critical” by Mozilla, which uses a four-step threat ranking system. Firefox 2.0.0.16 was posted to Mozilla’s servers Tuesday afternoon. Firefox 3.0.1, the first update since the open-source browser was upgraded almost a month ago, won’t reach users until Wednesday at the earliest, according to notes from a Mozilla status meeting published online. One of the flaws patched in 2.0.0.16 and 3.0.1 was credited to a security researcher, who wrote last month about a “blended” threat to Windows users who had both Apple Inc.’s Safari browser and Firefox installed on the same system. Then, he said that Safari’s “carpet bomb” bug – first disclosed in May and patched in June by Apple – could be combined with other vulnerabilities to attack not only systems with Microsoft Corp.’s Internet Explorer, but also those equipped with Firefox.
Source: http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&taxonomyName=networking_and_internet&articleId=9110199&taxonomyId=16

38. July 16, Times of Zambia – (International) **Organized crime turns to malware.** Cyber criminals are changing tactics by using malicious software (malware) as a tool for profit — and the trend is set to increase as hacking becomes easier. A security intelligence report by Microsoft has found that detection of malicious software rose by more than 300 percent from the second half of 2006 to last year. Malicious software is software designed to infiltrate or damage a computer system without the owner’s informed consent. A security specialist at Microsoft, said Tuesday: “We found that when a computer crashes, is slow or doesn’t work properly, 80 percent of the time it was because of presence of malware. Criminal gangs and organized crime syndicates such as the mafia and Russian mob are increasingly diversifying into cybercrime, funding
malicious attacks on banks and other organizations with valuable information. There is a move away from pranksters who penetrate systems so they can brag about their feats, to more discreet spying or phishing to obtain users’ personal information and passwords. The report showed a 66.7 percent increase in the number of potentially unwanted software detections (programs that may impact on user privacy or security). For the second half of last year, a total of 129.5 million pieces of potentially unwanted software was detected.

Source: http://www.thetimes.co.za/News/Article.aspx?id=802495

39. July 15, Computerworld – (International) **Apple botches iPhone patching, says researcher.** Apple took more than three months to patch an iPhone vulnerability, even though it had technical details of the bug and had crafted a fix for Mac OS X, the researcher who reported the flaw said Tuesday. “For three months I was walking around with a vulnerable iPhone. They had the vulnerability and the exploit, they understood the exploit because they patched it on Mac OS X, but then they said that they didn’t know that [the iPhone] was vulnerable,” the researcher said. The WebKit vulnerability, which Apple patched last Friday as part of the iPhone 2.0 update, was reported the company in late March after the researcher used it to hack a MacBook Air notebook on March 27 during the “PWN to OWN” contest held at the CanSecWest security conference.

Source: http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&taxonomyName=security&articleId=9110198&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 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/.

Communications Sector

40. July 16, InfoTech and Telecom News – (National) **FCC takes second shot at D-block auction.** The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is making another attempt to auction the “D-block” spectrum and has issued a request for public comment on the idea. The May 14 FCC request came in the wake of the otherwise-successful spectrum auction held in March 2008. By the end of FCC’s auction of the 700 MHz part of the analog spectrum, the commission had earned a record high $19.1 billion, but it failed to sell a significant part of the spectrum—the 10 MHz D-block. The sale of the D-block would have required the buyer to build and operate a nationwide wireless system to be used mainly for public safety communications in addition to commercial wireless communications. According to the FCC’s commissioner, the successful sale of the D-block and construction of a wireless network dedicated to public safety was one of the
most important parts of FCC’s plan for auctioning parts of the analog spectrum, which will be vacated by the mandatory switch to digital television broadcasts in February 2009. One bid was submitted for the block, but it was for far less than the $1.3 billion reserve price, so the spectrum segment went unsold. FCC is planning a new auction and has been taking comments and suggestions about how the D-block should be used. Some ideas offered include a public-private partnership to build a wireless public-safety network, similar to the original plans, or a national wireless Internet system.
Source: http://www.heartland.org/Article.cfm?artId=23523

41. **July 15, IDG News Service –** (California) **IT admin locks up San Francisco’s network.** A network administrator has allegedly locked up a multimillion-dollar computer system for the city of San Francisco that handles sensitive data, and he is refusing to give police the password. The man was arrested Sunday and has been charged with four counts of tampering with a computer network. According to the office of San Francisco district attorney the man made changes to the city’s Fibre wide area network (WAN), allegedly rendering it inaccessible to administrators. He also “set up devices to gain unauthorized access to the system,” the DA’s office said in a statement. The Fibre WAN is used to connect computers in buildings throughout the city and carries about 60 percent of the networking traffic for the city government. On Tuesday it was functioning normally, but the city no longer has administrative access to the switches and routers on the network, according to the chief administrative officer with the city’s Department of Telecommunication Information Services.
Source: http://www.pcworld.com/businesscenter/article/148469/it_admin_locks_up_san_francisco_network.html

Commercial Facilities Sector

42. **July 16, KXLY 4 Spokane –** (Idaho) **Bomb threat closes Coeur d’Alene Casino.** The Coeur d’Alene Casino was evacuated early Wednesday morning due to a bomb threat. Just after midnight Wednesday someone called the sheriff’s department, threatening to blow up the Coeur d’Alene Casino. The casino and nearby hotel were evacuated. Bomb-sniffing dogs searched the Coeur d’Alene Casino and Hotel after authorities received the threatening phone. The hotel was at was at 98 percent occupancy with 400 people needing to be evacuated. A stretch of highway 95 was closed Wednesday morning because evacuees were walking into the roadway. Casino officials say guests and casino personnel were all evacuated within 40 minutes. The road has reopened, as has the casino.

43. **July 15, KSAT 12 San Antonio –** (Texas) **Half-baked idea prompts evacuation.** A promotional campaign for an upcoming movie prompted the evacuation of one local television station and some anxious moments across the city. San Antonio police, along with the fire department and the bomb squad, were called to KENS-TV Tuesday morning after a viral marketing campaign item was delivered to the station to promote
“The Dark Knight.” The building was evacuated for a brief time as bomb squad officials investigated the cake’s contents. The cake, also delivered to KSAT 12, was delivered in a white box and had a cell phone charger coming out the bottom of a cake with a hollow center. Attached to the cable was a cell phone inside a plastic bag that contained promotional materials for the upcoming film. An e-mail and video clip, also part of the viral campaign, were sent to local media warning the Spurs Coyote had been kidnapped. The fire department’s arson bureau opted not to file charges in the case, but suggested to Santikos Theater officials they re-think further promotional campaigns.


44. **July 14, Homeland Security Today** – (National) **Federal program buoys terrorism insurance.** Terrorism insurance remains readily available from large commercial insurance providers in the United States, although rates for the insurance in high-risk cities is often many times more than those in low-risk cities, according to a briefing from the Government Accountability Office (GAO) released July 11. Property damage cost insurance companies an estimated $32.5 billion in the terrorist attacks of 9/11, GAO reported, prompting many insurance companies to stop offering coverage altogether due to the high claims. Congress thus passed the first Terrorism Risk Insurance Act (TRIA) in 2002 to encourage insurance companies to offer the insurance again under the assumption that the federal government would take a great deal of the responsibility for any insured losses due to a terrorist attack. Insurance companies may turn down customers because a new property added to a portfolio may exceed an insurer’s self-imposed limit of how much exposure it will take in a specific area.

Source: [http://hstoday.us/content/view/4224/128/](http://hstoday.us/content/view/4224/128/)

**National Monuments & Icons Sector**

Nothing to report

**Dams Sector**

45. **July 15, Denver Post** – (Colorado) **Sheriff orders dam road open.** Denver Water has until 2 p.m. Tuesday to remove barriers on Dillon Dam Road, according to a public-safety notice issued Tuesday. The Summit County Sheriff’s Office called for immediate removal of the barriers erected July 8 and said the county could issue criminal fire-code charges if the road is still closed Tuesday afternoon, according to a statement from Lake Dillon Fire-Rescue. Denver Water said, “We received the violation notice from Lake Dillon Fire-Rescue and, as it is a legal notice, we will respond… upon reviewing it.” Summit County officials were not consulted before Denver Water closed the road across the dam for safety reasons. Denver Water said studies show it could be a terrorist target.


46. **July 15, Rome News-Tribune** – (Georgia) **Corps to certify downtown levees.** Rome,
Georgia, is dodging a bullet with the help of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The public services director said the Corps has agreed to certify the main levee system in downtown Rome – a task the city could not hope to complete by a September 8 deadline set by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Corps officials said they expect to be able to finish the work in six to eight weeks with the help of city surveyors. Missing the deadline would mean downtown Rome would appear on FEMA’s new digital flood insurance maps as having only provisional protection. Newer levees are certified when they are built, but the Corps built the main levee system in 1939, before certification was required. The levees are inspected annually for deterioration.