



Department of Homeland Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 12 November 2008

Current Nationwide Threat Level is

ELEVATED
SIGNIFICANT RISK OF TERRORIST ATTACKS

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

- The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Food Safety and Inspection Service announced Friday that Barber Foods Company is recalling approximately 41,415 pounds of frozen stuffed chicken products that may contain foreign materials. (See item [24](#))
- According to Computerworld, Arizona’s Department of Economic Security is notifying the families of about 40,000 children that their personal data may have been compromised following the theft of several hard drives from a commercial storage facility. (See item [32](#))

DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Fast Jump

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Energy Sector

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

1. *November 9, New York Times* – (National) **Report calls for overhaul of power grid to handle sun and wind power.** The North American Electric Reliability Corporation says in a report scheduled for release Monday that unless appropriate measures are taken to improve transmission of electricity, rules reducing carbon dioxide emissions by utilities could impair the reliability of the power grid. Such carbon-reduction rules are already in place in 27 states and four Canadian provinces, and new ones could be mandated nationally in both countries. They may force changes in the utility industry, the group said, including the shutting down of coal plants that are located near load centers, and substituting power from wind turbines or solar plants in remote areas. These actions would impose new demands on a transmission system that was never

designed for large power transfers over extremely long distances. The group also said that the carbon emission rules could increase reliance on natural gas, making power generation vulnerable to supply interruptions. Renewable energy can form a larger portion of electricity supplies without reducing reliability, said the president and chief executive of the group, but not without investments in transmission. The report calls for construction of new power lines, which has become more difficult in some regions because of the diminished clout of utilities and the growing strength of preservationists trying to protect rural areas.

Source:

http://www.nytimes.com/2008/11/10/business/10grid.html?_r=3&oref=slogin&oref=slogin&oref=slogin

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Chemical Industry Sector

2. *November 7, Sacramento Business Journal* – (California) **Chemical plant to pay \$2.4M in waste case.** In what may be the largest penalty of its kind, Georgia-Pacific Chemicals LLC has agreed to pay \$2.4 million to settle allegations that the company mishandled hazardous waste at its Elk Grove plant. The agreement requires the company to pay penalties over two-and-a-half years, according to a press release from the county. The director of the Sacramento County Environmental Management Department said in the news release that the penalty is believed to be the largest ever paid to a city or county in the United States as the result of an environmental administrative enforcement action. The county issued an enforcement order in July saying the company had illegally treated hazardous wastes without obtaining authorizations required by the county or state. It also said the company disposed of waste into the sewer system, did not properly characterize its waste and did not complete required daily inspections and five-year assessments of hazardous waste tank systems.

Source: <http://www.bizjournals.com/sacramento/stories/2008/11/03/daily78.html>

3. *November 7, WHNT 19 Huntsville* – (Alabama) **Crews working tanker accident and fire near South Huntsville.** Crews with Huntsville Fire and Rescue were on the scene of a tanker accident and fire in south Huntsville. This is in front of a chemical plant off Hobbs Island Road. That chemical plant is on lockdown because of dangerous fuel that is leaking. New Hope Fire and Owens Cross Roads Fire are also on the scene.

Source: <http://www.whnt.com/Global/story.asp?S=9312299>

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and Waste Sector

4. *November 10, Reuters* – (North Carolina) **Progress shuts NC Brunswick 2 reactor.** Progress Energy Inc. shut Unit 2 at the Brunswick nuclear power station in North Carolina from full power on November 9, the company told the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission in a report. The company said it shut the reactor due to a

spurious safety relief valve opening. Operators said they were investigating the cause of the problem.

Source:

<http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssIndustryMaterialsUtilitiesNews/idUSN1039275220081110>

5. *November 10, Reuters* – (South Carolina) **Duke S.C. Oconee 3 reactor exits outage.** Duke Energy Corp.'s Unit 3 at the Oconee nuclear power station in South Carolina exited an outage and ramped up to 25 percent power by early Monday, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) said in a report. In a report to the NRC, the company said the reactor automatically tripped from full power on November 7 due to a reactor protective system actuation.
Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/marketsNews/idUSN1044616820081110>
6. *November 10, Times Herald Record* – (New York) **Leaking radioactive waste pool at Indian Point drained.** Officials at the Indian Point nuclear power plant in Buchanan have drained and cleaned a leaking waste-containment pool, containing 500,000 gallons of radioactive water and spent fuel rods. The bulk of the work was completed at the end of October, according to the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). The last step is for work crews to coat the pool and do some other maintenance-related work, thus solving a problem that surfaced several years ago. Officials with both Entergy Nuclear and the NRC insist that unsafe levels of contamination have not found their way into drinking water or the Hudson River. Still, supporters and critics agree: Draining the pool and storing the old fuel rods in a safer location was a major accomplishment.
Source: <http://www.recordonline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20081110/NEWS/811100315>
7. *November 7, Reuters* – (New Jersey) **Exelon fixing drywell at NJ Oyster Creek reactor.** Exelon Corp. is repairing a small blister in the drywell at the Oyster Creek nuclear power station in New Jersey, a spokesman for the company said Friday, adding it does not pose any danger to the public. The raised area was on the epoxy coating of the drywell, a bulb-shaped, steel liner that surrounds the reactor vessel. The unit was shut for refueling when Exelon discovered the blister in late October, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) said in a memo. The blister is about the size of a dime with an approximately six inch brown stain that was dry to the touch. Three additional bumps were also observed in the area but without any evidence of a brown stain. On November 5, Exelon removed the blister and saved it for further analysis. The company is now repairing the area. The NRC memo said its staff would continue to follow Exelon's investigation but noted it considered this issue "to be of very low safety significance."
Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/marketsnews/idINN0742603820081107?rpc=33>
8. *November 7, Palm Beach Post* – (National) **2006 vandalism at FPL nuclear plant raises concern about worker screenings.** Information unveiled last week raises troubling questions about a 2006 act of vandalism at Florida Power & Light Co.'s

Turkey Point nuclear power plant in Florida. A sheet metal worker suspected of drilling a tiny hole in a pressurized pipe was authorized to work there despite a history of scrapes with the law, including a DUI conviction, and, according to Federal Bureau of Investigation documents, failing FPL's standard psychological screening test. The man worked at the plant in 2006, when someone drilled a one-eighth-inch hole in the pipe, according to testimony last week before the Florida Public Service Commission (PSC) in Tallahassee. An FPL vice president emphasized that the utility followed the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission's guidelines in its screening process, and an NRC investigation found no violations by FPL. He said the percentage of people who have never been in trouble "is low." That prompted PSC members to question the standards for screening nuclear power plant workers. Those standards are a secret, and have been since the September 11th attacks. A nuclear engineer, who worked in the industry for 17 years and is director of the Union of Concerned Scientists nuclear safety project, says only the last five years of a nuclear plant worker's criminal, credit, and employment history are typically checked. There may be more incidents of vandalism in the nation's nuclear plants. Like screening standards, such incident reports are not readily available.

Source:

http://www.palmbeachpost.com/business/content/local_news/epaper/2008/11/07/a1a_fpl_1108.html

9. *November 7, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission* – (Tennessee) **Fitness for duty.** A licensed employee supervisor at the Sequoyah nuclear power plant in Tennessee had a confirmed positive for illegal drugs during a random fitness-for-duty test. The employee's access to the plant has been terminated.

Source:

<http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/en.html#en44640>

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

10. *November 10, Navy Times* – (National) **T-45's troubles tied to bird strikes, engine malfunction.** In the past few years, major mishaps involving the T-45 Goshawk trainer jet were rare – just one or two a year on average from 2004 to 2007, Navy records show. But that spiked to five crashes in the nine months from September 2007 to May 2008. In each case, the pilots ejected and were not seriously injured, but the \$21 million planes, which joined the fleet starting in 1991, were destroyed. Based on accident investigations, no one was officially faulted in at least three of those crashes. One was caused by an engine malfunction, and two others crashed after striking birds that were then sucked into the engines. As a result of the bird strikes, officials with Chief of Naval Air Training Command installed a land-based radar system designed to tell pilots about any birds in the landing strip area, a CNATRA spokesman said.

Source: http://www.navytimes.com/news/2008/11/navy_goshawks_111008/

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Banking and Finance Sector

11. *November 10, Register* – (International) **Visa trials PIN payment card to fight online fraud.** Visa cards with a built in one-time code generator are to be trialed by four European banks. The technology is designed to tackle the growing problem of online credit card fraud. MBNA, a Bank of America company in the UK, Corner Bank in Switzerland, Cal in Israel, and IW Bank in Italy are to take part in limited trials of Visa's new one-time code card. The next-generation cards feature a numeric keypad on the back of a plastic card. Customers enter their PIN code to generate a one-time password. This code, displayed on a card's display panel, is then used to authenticate online purchases. The approach is an alternative to using a password when authenticating online purchases through the much-criticized Verified by Visa scheme. Source: http://www.theregister.co.uk/2008/11/10/visa_one_time_code_card/
12. *November 10, Reuters* – (National) **Government increases AIG bailout to \$150 billion.** The government dramatically boosted its bailout of insurer American International Group Inc. and eased the terms of its loans to the company on Monday after an initial rescue plan failed to stabilize the company. Under the new plan, the U.S. Treasury will take a \$40 billion equity stake in AIG as part of a package of credits to prevent the collapse of what it called a "systemically important company." The Federal Reserve is providing up to \$112.5 billion in loans and funds for asset purchases. The new package, the largest bailout of a single company, provides AIG with about \$27 billion more than previously extended and will leave the government exposed to billions of dollars of additional potential losses. "This is a one-off, created solely for AIG," a U.S. Treasury official said of the transaction hammered out over the weekend. "This wasn't done to help AIG shareholders. It gives the company the room it needs in its capital structure to execute its asset disposition plan," the official told reporters in a background briefing. Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/ousiv/idUSTRE4A92FM20081110>
13. *November 10, Economic Times* – (California; Texas) **Crisis brings down two more regional U.S. banks.** Two more regional U.S. banks in California and Texas have collapsed. They were Houston-based Franklin Bank and Los Angeles-based Security Pacific Bank, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) said. Franklin Bank was closed by the FDIC and the Texas Department of Savings and Mortgage Lending. Its \$3.7 billion in deposits were assumed by Prosperity Bank, Bloomberg financial news service reported Saturday. Security Pacific was closed by the California commissioner of financial institutions and the FDIC. Its \$450.2-million in assets were acquired by Pacific Western Bank, the FDIC said. Source: http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/News/International_Business/Crisis_brings_down_two_more_regional_US_banks/articleshow/3692700.cms
14. *November 7, Bloomberg* – (National) **U.S. Treasury opens probe seeking improper trading.** The U.S. Treasury opened a probe to identify any improper trading in U.S. government securities by bond investors and dealers, following increases in trades that

fail to settle. The announcement Friday came after repeated warnings by the Treasury to bond dealers to fix settlement problems in the government securities market or face tougher regulation. The Treasury statement asks for information on the 2 percent two-year-note maturing September 30, 2010 and the 3 1/8 percent 5-year note maturing September 30, 2013. “Entities with reportable positions in either of these notes equal to or exceeding the \$2 billion threshold must submit a separate report for the security to the Federal Reserve Bank of New York” before noon on November 14, the Treasury said Friday in a statement released in Washington. The confidential reports requested are for positions held on November 6 at the close of business. The CUSIP, or identification, number on the two-notes is 912828 JL 5, and the CUSIP number for the five-year notes is 912828 JM 3.

Source:

<http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601087&sid=aUKkYSDtd8QU&refer=home>

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Transportation Sector

15. *November 9, Coast Guard News* – (Massachusetts) **Boston based tug runs aground near Buzzards Bay.** Coast Guard crews helped a Boston-based tug crew Sunday after they grounded their vessel near Buzzards Bay, Mass., around 1 p.m. No injuries were reported of the three crewmembers aboard the tug Southern Cross. Coast Guard Sector Southeastern New England received a radio call from the tug reporting that the engine room was flooding and could not be controlled. The crew said they planned to beach the vessel to keep it from sinking. Rescue crews arrived on scene at 1:50 p.m., to find the tug aground near Barney Joy Point, off Dartmouth, Mass. The tug reportedly has about 1,500 gallons of fuel aboard and about 110 gallons of oily water in the vessel’s bilge, but the tug cannot be boomed off yet due to weather conditions.
Source: <http://coastguardnews.com/boston-based-tug-runs-aground-near-buzzards-bay/2008/11/09/>
16. *November 7, U.S. Transportation Security Agency* – (Indiana) **TSA unveils security checkpoints at the new Indianapolis International Airport.** The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) today unveiled the security checkpoints at the new Indianapolis International Airport. The checkpoints blend advanced technology features and passenger-calming checkpoint elements. The new checkpoints include millimeter wave technology that enables TSA officers, in a matter of seconds, to detect weapons, explosives and other metallic and non-metallic threat items without physical contact. The technology passes harmless electromagnetic waves over the body to create an image that looks much like a fuzzy negative. For screening carry-on bags, TSA will deploy multi-view X-ray technology to Indianapolis. Multi-view X-ray systems provide a significant increase in detail and sophistication from current, single-view X-ray and can be upgraded so the machines evolve as threats evolve. TSA employs a layered approach to security using people, process and technology. These layers, including advanced technology, behavior detection officers and federal air marshals, work together at airports like Indianapolis International to create a secure transportation

environment.

Source: <http://www.tsa.gov/press/releases/2008/1107.shtm>

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Postal and Shipping Sector

17. *November 10, Associated Press* – (International) **Deutsche Post to cut 9,500 jobs in U.S.** Mail and logistics company Deutsche Post AG says it will cut 9,500 jobs and close all of its DHL express service centers in the United States amid heavy losses in the market there. In a statement released November 10, the Bonn-based company said that new round of cuts are on top of another 4,500 job cuts it already announced and blamed heavy losses at the unit, which competes with rivals UPS Inc. and FedEx Corp. The cuts are part of a wider plan to curtail operations in the United States, including ground deliveries, and are likely to affect drivers, shipping clerks and warehouse workers. The express unit employs some 18,000 workers. Deutsche Post said earlier this year that competition, rising fuel prices and other factors have put its U.S. DHL operations on track to lose 1.3 billion Euros (\$1.6 billion) by the end of the year. UPS and DHL proposed collaboration in May in which UPS would carry some air packages for DHL. The deal, if completed, could last up to 10 years and infuse up to \$1 billion in annual revenue for UPS.

Source:

http://ap.google.com/article/ALeqM5hEb_rzggLtDhp7JWscL0gJsmbKwwD94C302G0

18. *November 9, KRCG 13 Columbia* – (Missouri) **Bomb squad investigates suspicious liquid.** On November 9, a resident in Cole County, Missouri, found a suspicious glass bottle filled with liquid in his mailbox. He thought it was suspicious, and called police. However, before they arrived, the bottle unexpectedly fell and broke in the street. When Hazmat crews looked at it, they noticed a device in the shattered glass that could have been used as an explosive, and at that point the bomb squad was called in. Crews worked all afternoon testing the liquid, and after several hours determined the liquid in the bottle was not harmful. The Cole County Sheriff's Department said no arrests have been made in the case.

Source: http://www.krcg.com/news/news_story.aspx?id=219419

19. *November 8, Republican Herald* – (Florida) **FBI to decide if courthouse letters were federal offense.** The FBI has opened an investigation into three threatening mailings that arrived at courthouses in Schuylkill, Pike and Jefferson counties earlier this week. Whether the author of the "Can you spell A-N-T-H-R-A-X?" notes committed a crime, however, is still in doubt. The letters, postmarked Jacksonville, Fla., but with no return address or name on the envelope, arrived in Pike and Jefferson counties November 4 and at the Schuylkill County commissioners' office November 5. Schuylkill's courthouse was locked down for nearly two hours. Initially, white powder was believed to be in the envelope. Officials said November 6 it was later determined there was nothing, other than the letter, inside. The U.S. Department of Justice will have to determine, at some point in the near future, if the sender is guilty of terroristic threats, criminal mischief, or any other federal offenses.

Source:

http://www.republicanherald.com/articles/2008/11/08/news/local_news/pr_republican.20081108.a.pg1.pr08fbi_s1.2072467_top3.txt

20. *November 7, Associated Press* – (Ohio) **Suspicious powder at Antioch deemed harmless.** Authorities say white powder inside an envelope mailed to Antioch University in western Ohio turned out to be a non-harmful substance. The envelope was opened November 7 at the university’s administration building in Yellow Springs. The 20 people at the building remained inside while the substance was tested. Authorities were also concerned because someone had hacked in to the university’s Website.
Source: <http://www.ohio.com/news/ap?articleID=1053098&c=y>
21. *November 7, WTAG 580 Paxton* – (California) **Anthrax hoax at CA radio station due to Prop. 8.** Police evacuated Clear Channel employees in Burbank, CA on November 7 due to an anthrax hoax. The letter was linked to the commercials for Proposition 8 that the stations were running. A representative of the Burbank Fire Department said that substance in the letter was tested and is not anthrax. For now the substance is unknown. “Everyone is being let back into the building now. It has turned into a police investigation now,” he said. A KOST promo staffer opened the letter which said “enjoy the anthrax” and contained a white powder believed to be an anthrax hoax.
Source: <http://www.wtag.com/cc-common/news/sections/newsarticle.html?feed=104668&article=4549635>
22. *November 7, Contra Costa Times* – (California) **Envelope with white powder forces evacuation of 3 floors of Burbank office building.** Three floors of a commercial office building in Burbank were evacuated November 7 after an envelope containing an unidentified white powder was opened. The powder turned out to be harmless. A hazardous materials sent to the scene determined the substance was not hazardous, after it was examined and tested negative for anthrax, police said. A radio station employee opened a letter and discovered the white powder, police said. The letter suggested the white powdery substance was anthrax. The letter was opened on the fifth floor, forcing its evacuation, along with the third floor and fourth floor mail room.
Source: http://www.contracostatimes.com/california/ci_10928969

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Agriculture and Food Sector

23. *November 8, U.S. Food Safety and Inspection Service* – (National) **Alabama firm recalls hot dog products for potential Listeria contamination.** R. L. Zeigler Co., Inc., a Selma, Alabama, firm, is recalling approximately 28,610 pounds of hot dog products that may be contaminated with *Listeria monocytogenes*, the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Food Safety and Inspection Service announced today. The hot dog products were produced on September 22, and were sent to food service institutions and retail establishments in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, and Tennessee. The problem was discovered by the Georgia State Department of Agriculture through

microbiological testing. FSIS has received no reports of illnesses associated with consumption of this product.

Source:

http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News_&_Events/Recall_042_2008_Release/index.asp

24. *November 7, U.S. Food Safety and Inspection Service* – (National) **Maine firm recalls frozen stuffed chicken products that may contain foreign materials.** Barber Foods Company — a Portland, Maine, establishment — is recalling approximately 41,415 pounds of frozen stuffed chicken products that may contain foreign materials, the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Food Safety and Inspection Service announced Friday. The products were produced on May 17, June 2, and August 4, and were made available for catalog or Internet purchase from the Schwan’s Home Service, Inc. by consumers nationwide. The problem was discovered after the Schwan’s Home Service, Inc. received consumer complaints of finding pieces of rubber in the product. FSIS has not received any reports of injury at this time. The following product is subject to recall: 20-ounce, cartons of “#584 SCHWAN’S STUFFED CHICKEN KIEV.”

Source:

http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News_&_Events/Recall_041_2008_Release/index.asp

25. *November 7, Minneapolis Star Tribune* – (Minnesota) **Ag department warns of contaminated biscuits.** The Minnesota Department of Agriculture is advising consumers to throw out a brand of biscuits that are contaminated with melamine. The biscuits are under the Wonderfarm brand “Successful.” Lab tests found the biscuits have more melamine than allowed under Food and Drug Administration standards. The Wonderfarm biscuits were made by Interfood Shareholding Company in Vietnam. Agriculture department officials collected the products from an oriental food store in Rochester. Officials say no illnesses connected with consumption of the biscuits have been reported.

Source:

http://www.startribune.com/local/34125484.html?elr=KArks:DCiUHc3E7_V_nDaycUiD3aPc:_Yyc:aUU

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Water Sector

26. *November 10, Shreveport Times* – (Louisiana) **Dumping in Red River investigated.** A Shreveport wastewater treatment company is seeking to resume operations despite a federal and state probe that it illegally dumped potentially toxic wastewater into Red River. CCS Midstream Services LLC, which accepts and treats oil and gas exploration and production wastewater, shut down its Port of Shreveport-Bossier facility in October 2007. The closure came after a series of inspections by U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) officials revealed possible illegal wastewater dumping into Red River and hazardous waste hidden in off-site tanks, federal and state records show. EPA and DEQ records also reveal concerns about the presence of dangerous toxins, such as benzene, toluene and xylene, in wastewater and sludge treated by the company, and serious irregularities in

water testing and record keeping. Yet, CCS, formerly ARKLA Disposal Services, Inc., is seeking permission to discharge wastewater and storm water that ultimately would find its way into Red River, records reveal. The facility, which also reclaims oil from wastewater, is the only one of its kind in the area, a Shreveport official said. A CCS spokesman says the company self-reported the potential violations to the EPA after an employee made management aware. The company is cooperating with investigators, including turning over documents subpoenaed by a federal grand jury regarding a criminal investigation, he said.

Source:

<http://www.shreveporttimes.com/article/99999999/SPECIALPROJECTS05/809280341>

27. *November 10, Daily Press* – (Virginia) **Citizens’ group links sewer lines to contaminated water.** A Poquoson citizens’ group that has been tracking fecal contamination in the city’s creeks since January contends they have found at least one source contributing to the pollution affecting area waters – leaking municipal sewage pipes. Poquoson Citizens for the Environment monitored 10 sites in the Lyons Creek and White House Cove watersheds between January and September. Of them, two locations stood out for extremely high levels of E. coli. Because of those elevated levels, the group decided to focus their initial attempts at determining sources there. One site adjacent registered E. coli bacteria counts that far exceeded allowable levels on a consistent basis and reached as high as 20,000 bacteria per 100 milliliters of water on July 12 – or more than 500 times the recommended level to be able to eat shellfish taken from that water. Even though city officials remain skeptical that the sewage line will ultimately be to blame for the extremely high levels of E. coli bacteria in Lyons Creek, they responded to the report’s findings by moving quickly to arrange testing of the sewage line theory, beginning this week. In addition to testing of the sewage pipes, the Poquoson City Manager agreed to several other recommendations made in the citizens’ group’s report, such as making the group advisers to the city manager, having the city pay for future water testing kits, and providing funding assistance for additional water testing-related training, he said.

Source:

http://www.dailypress.com/news/dp-local_pokowater_1110nov10,0,1704024.story

28. *November 9, St. Petersburg Times* – (Florida) **Climate change threatens Florida’s drinking water supply.** Climate change, blamed for eating away at Florida’s coastline, is also quietly encroaching on the state’s drinking water. Much of the damage to Florida’s water supply will take place out of sight, in the underground aquifers that provide most of the state’s drinking water. As rising seas eat at the state’s coastline, saltwater intrusion will also creep steadily inland. To cope with uncertain freshwater supplies, the state has turned to expensive reservoirs and energy-intensive desalination plants, and plans to build even more. Florida could turn to schemes that seem unthinkable today, like pumping wastewater into aquifers that supply our drinking water. “Recently, there has been rising agreement among water managers that this is an issue that needs to be addressed,” said a research hydrologist with the U.S. Geological Survey. “Climate change is real, and affects the water system enough that it will have an impact on the decisions they make on how they deliver water to their customers.”

Source: <http://www.tampabay.com/news/business/energy/article895015.ece>

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

29. *November 10, eFluxMedia* – (Michigan) **Suspected Norovirus outbreak closes Hope College.** Hope College in Holland, Michigan, is expected to remain closed until Tuesday because of “a growing outbreak of a noro-like virus” there, school officials said. The number of cases of the virus among students, faculty, and staff has risen to about 400, according to reports. Facility sanitizing efforts continue. The source of the infection is not yet known.

Source:

http://www.efluxmedia.com/news_Suspected_Norovirus_Outbreak_Closes_Hope_College_28557.html

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Government Facilities Sector

30. *November 8, Daily Mail Online* – (International) **British firms banned from building new U.S. Embassy in London over secrecy fears.** British firms have been banned from bidding for the £275million contract to build the new U.S. Embassy in London. The American mission is moving from its long-time home in Grosvenor Square in Central London to a new purpose-built secure compound close to the headquarters of MI6 in Vauxhall. But tender documents released by the U.S. State Department last week make it clear British firms will not be allowed to oversee the project. The papers reveal only US-owned and operated firms qualify as the main contractor. However, non-U.S. firms and staff can work as sub-contractors.

Source: <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1084178/British-firms-banned-building-new-US-Embassy-London-secrecy-fears.html>

31. *November 8, Grand Rapids Press* – (Michigan) **Grand Valley State University suspends student for threat.** A Grand Valley State University student was suspended and since has withdrawn from the school after authoring threatening e-mail messages that promised to leave dozens dead at the downtown Grand Rapids and Allendale campuses. The message was sent October 14 to the Grand Rapids Press and “selected individuals on campus,” prompting a quick risk assessment from Grand Valley officials, police and the FBI. A university vice president said public safety officials and experts at Grand Valley convened within minutes of being alerted by the press of the message to determine it was not credible. “We are confident that at no time were people in jeopardy,” said the university vice president. “The university moved and acted as quickly as possible.”

Source:

http://www.mlive.com/chronicle/news/index.ssf/2008/11/grand_valley_state_university.html

32. *November 7, Computerworld* – (Arizona) **Arizona state agency loses data on 40,000 children in disk theft.** Arizona’s Department of Economic Security (DES) is notifying the families of about 40,000 children that their personal data may have been compromised following the theft of several hard drives from a commercial storage facility. The information stored on the stolen disks included the names, addresses and phone numbers of families whose children were referred to the DES for early intervention services over the past several years. In the cases of families that had applied for and received services from the agency, their records also included Social Security numbers, a DES spokeswoman said. The DES provides services such as financial assistance and food stamps programs as well as ones that are aimed at preventing child abuse and neglect. According to the DES spokeswoman, the data on the stolen disks was password-protected but not encrypted. She said the disks were stored in a leased storage unit at a local Extra Space Storage facility that was broken into on October 14, and were part of a much broader array of items — including furniture and electronics — that were taken from multiple units at the facility.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&taxonomyName=security&articleId=9119562&taxonomyId=17&intsrc=kc_top

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Emergency Services Sector

33. *November 10, WNBC 4 Washington* – (District of Columbia) **Police become ambulance chasers after emergency vehicle stolen.** An ambulance was stolen from outside Howard University Hospital in the District of Columbia Sunday night. The vehicle was stolen at about 8:15 p.m. Sunday and was found about an hour later at North Capitol and Bryant streets, after the driver crashed it into a car on Georgia Avenue. Police have not found the people responsible for stealing the vehicle.
Source: <http://www.nbcwashington.com/news/local/Ambulance-Stolen-From-Outside-Hospital.html>
34. *November 8, KUSA 9 Denver* – (Colorado) **Denver Health paramedic supervisor canned over fake credentials.** The veteran paramedic who was responsible for planning for the Democratic National Convention was not certified to hold his job. His falsified paramedic certificate was discovered when Denver Health checked its records against a state database. He lost his job a month later, on October 29. According to the Department of Public Health, use of that online verification technique has increased since a KUSA report in June on a paramedic imposter. Another uncertified paramedic worked for American Medical Response in Denver for 17 months after the company failed to perform the routine online check. Last week, he turned himself in to police on charges of forgery, criminal impersonation, and practicing medicine without a license. In a written statement, Denver Health said it “never knowingly allows uncertified paramedics, or any other uncertified or unlicensed health care professional, to care for patients.”
Source: <http://www.9news.com/news/article.aspx?storyid=103452&catid=339>

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Information Technology

35. *November 10, ComputerWeekly.com* – (International) **Up to 10,000 Web sites hacked into, unpatched visitors in danger, says Kaspersky.** Hackers have launched a widespread Web site attack, leaving malicious links on up to 10,000 web servers, says security software firm Kaspersky Lab. Kaspersky says the servers hacked into are mainly located in Western Europe and the United States. It is not clear at this stage who has hacked the machines, but the expectation is that the number of infected sites will rise. The cyber criminals are adding a line of Javascript code onto the sites that redirects hacked site visitors to one of six servers. These sites then redirect the visitor to a server in China. That server can then launch a variety of attacks, targeting known flaws in the Firefox and Internet Explorer browsers, Adobe's Flash Player and ActiveX management controls, said Kaspersky. Victims who do not have fully patched PCs run the risk of allowing the remote attackers to install spyware on their machines, and then to steal their data.

Source:

<http://www.computerweekly.com/Articles/2008/11/10/233285/up-to-10000-websites-hacked-into-unpatched-visitors-in-danger-says.htm>

36. *November 7, eWEEK* – (International) **Hackers have painted a bull's-eye on an Adobe Reader flaw patched by the company earlier this week.** The attackers are targeting a vulnerability in Adobe Reader 8.1.2 uncovered by Core Security Technologies. According to an advisory from the SANS Institute's Internet Storm Center, attackers are using malicious PDF files to exploit the bug, which Adobe Systems patched November 4. If successfully exploited, the bug could allow hackers to take complete control of a compromised system. The bug lies in the way Adobe Reader implements the JavaScript util.printf() function, and makes it possible to overwrite the program's memory and control its execution flow. Exploit code for the flaw has already been posted to Milw0rm. In addition to Reader, the bug affects Adobe Acrobat 8.1.2. Officials at Adobe advise users to either update their software to Version 9 of Reader and Acrobat, which are not susceptible to the attack, or deploy the patch.

Source:

<http://www.eweek.com/c/a/Security/Hackers-Target-Patched-Adobe-Reader-Flaw/>

Internet Alert Dashboard

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

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

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Communications Sector

37. *November 10, Berkshire Eagle* – (Massachusetts) **Fiber optic project will help broadband.** A new highway fiber optic installation project in Central Massachusetts will contribute to the eventual spread of broadband connectivity into rural western regions of the commonwealth. The \$30.7 million project, dubbed the Intelligent Transportation System, includes installation of fiber optic cable backbone over 58 miles of I-91 and I-291 with 17 variable message signs and 33 closed-circuit television cameras. Through the new roadway broadband information system, the Traffic Operations Center at the Northampton District 2 office will be upgraded and directly linked to the MassHighway Traffic Operations Center in Boston. The project includes additional fiber lines that could be used for other purposes, including enabling broadband access.

Source: http://www.berkshireeagle.com/ci_10945211

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Commercial Facilities Sector

Nothing to report

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National Monuments & Icons Sector

38. *November 7, California Fire News* – (California) **Yosemite Park: 2008 fire season ends.** The fire season concludes this year with a number of projects successfully completed, including those which significantly protect communities in and around Yosemite. In April, 1,124 acres were burned immediately adjacent to the community of Wawona, and in early June, 50 acres were burned in the 1990 A-Rock Fire area just southwest of Foresta. Due to large wildland fires in the central Sierra, including the Oliver Fire and the Telegraph Fire, no large wildland fire use projects were authorized in the park. All lightning strikes were monitored to ensure limited spread, or they were actively extinguished. Over thirty lightning-caused fires occurred within the park in 2008: The largest grew to 12 acres. The remaining fires were extinguished or monitored and contained at well under an acre, including the Cabin Fire which threatened a historic structure in Yosemite's Wilderness. Fall prescribed burning was successfully completed in several key areas around the park, including two units in Yosemite Valley. Yosemite's fire personnel also responded to and suppressed two significant structure fires, including one which destroyed the historic El Portal Market.

Source:

<http://calfire.blogspot.com/2008/11/yosemite-national-park-2008-fire-season.html>

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Dams Sector

39. *November 9, Daily News-Miner* – (Alaska) **Repairs to Tanana River Levee near \$1.5 million.** Fairbanks is paying more this year to clean up the Tanana River Levee than it

has in the previous two decades combined. Work crews are felling trees and clearing brush across the entire 21-mile levee system, which separates Fairbanks from the Tanana River. A different crew has already removed dozens of beaver dams from three major drainage channels, and the Fairbanks North Star Borough expects it might also need to patch spots along the levee's 10-foot-tall wall that have sunk since it was built in the 1970s. The borough, which has been responsible for maintaining the levee since 1987, is working under a deadline – it hopes to prove the levee is ready to handle a major flood before federal emergency managers publish new flood-zone maps for Fairbanks – a mapping project underway. The borough has hired the Corps of Engineers as a partner as it spends close to \$1.5 million to comb the levee of brush and trees. Without that work, the Federal Emergency Management Agency could wind up labeling much of Fairbanks as officially flood-prone – a change that could leave the community paying millions more, collectively, for individual flood insurance plans in the future. All told, the project amounts to the biggest tune-up of the levee system in years.

Source: <http://newsminer.com/news/2008/nov/09/repairs-tanana-river-levee-top-15-million/>

40. *November 7, WNEP 16 Scranton* – (Pennsylvania) **Watres Dam project completed.** A \$10 million construction project to strengthen the Watres Dam is finished. After 12 months of excavation and construction the Watres Dam in Spring Brook Township is completed. A feat of engineering, considering workers replaced the 83-year-old dam without affecting water service to nearly 60,000 people. It serves a dozen Luzerne County communities. Pennsylvania American Water and the government made the \$10 million investment in the name of service and safety. Pennsylvania American officials said the Watres reservoir project represents one of the biggest improvement projects made in all of 2008.

Source: http://www.wnep.com/Global/story.asp?S=9313776&nav=menu158_1

41. *November 7, Morning News* – (Arkansas) **Study: Dam must be replaced.** Bentonville's community development director reviewed preliminary recommendations this week from the Dallas-based Chiang, Patel and Yerby consulting firm, which has studied the dam to give the city guidance on what is needed to make the dam safe. The dam partially failed after heavy flooding in March eroded the banks of Little Sugar Creek, which feeds Lake Bella Vista. A geotechnical investigation the city ordered noted erosion could continue to advance toward the crest of the dam, ultimately leading to a complete failure. Chiang, Patel and Yerby did further studies and now recommends replacing the dam because the dam is designed to hold back 5,000 cubic feet of water per second while the actual water discharge is 54,700 cubic feet per second. The city will have to decide on the best design before proceeding with a construction bid. The dam project is expected to take at least a year to complete. Bentonville's community development director anticipates the Federal Emergency Management Agency will cover 75 percent of the cost and the Arkansas Department of Emergency Management will contribute 12.5 percent, leaving the city to pay the remaining 12.5 percent.

Source: <http://www.nwaonline.net/articles/2008/11/10/news/110808bzdammreprot.txt>

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

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