The U.S. Food and Drug Administration on Monday released a report on its implementation of the Food Protection Plan that was launched a year ago to protect both domestic and imported food from accidental and intentional contamination. (See item 7)

According to the Associated Press, a smoke bomb that detonated inside a Phoenix, Arizona, hotel Sunday night forced the evacuation of 60 guests and employees at the Hilton Garden Inn. (See item 21)

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

Production Industries: Energy; Chemical; Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste; Defense Industrial Base; Dams

Service Industries: Banking and Finance; Transportation; Postal and Shipping; Information Technology; Communications; Commercial Facilities

Sustenance and Health: Agriculture and Food; Water; Public Health and Healthcare

Federal and State: Government Facilities; Emergency Services; National Monuments and Icons

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**Energy Sector**

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: Physical: ELEVATED, Cyber: ELEVATED


1. **November 30, Press-Enterprise** – (California) **No injuries reported in explosion at Idyllwild propane storage facility.** An explosion at a propane storage facility in Idyllwild, California, shot flames 40 feet into the air Sunday morning, scorching a nearby mobile home, and burning off the end of a worker’s moustache, firefighters said. No injuries were reported in the blaze about 7:20 a.m. The driver of a 5,000-gallon transport truck was unloading propane into a massive tank at Suburban Propane, when the blast occurred. The driver was unharmed, said a fire captain. Idyllwild firefighters and Cal Fire/Riverside County Fire Department had the blaze and spot fires under control within about five minutes, he said. Firefighters are still investigating the cause of the explosion and do not yet have an estimate of the damage, he said.
Chemical Industry Sector

Nothing to report

Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and Waste Sector

2. *December 1, Reuters* – (New Jersey) **Exelon replacing NJ Oyster Creek reactor transformer.** Exelon Corp is replacing a main power transformer at the 619-megawatt Oyster Creek nuclear power station in New Jersey that failed on November 28, causing the reactor to automatically shut, a spokesman for the company said December 1. He could not say when the unit would return to service due to competitive reasons. The spokesman noted the company has a spare transformer on site that workers are moving into place. The failed transformer is one of two main transformers that move power from the plant to the grid.


Defense Industrial Base Sector

Nothing to report

Banking and Finance Sector

3. *November 29, News Telegram* – (Texas) **Guaranty Bond Bank issues scam warning.** Guaranty Bond Bank on Friday issued a warning to its customers of a fraud attempt designed to get people to provide con artists with their personal banking information. In the notice sent Friday afternoon, bank officials stated that individuals identifying themselves as “Guaranty Securities” or “Guaranty Bank” are randomly calling customers and non-customers alike, stating their bank cards have been compromised and requesting their 16-digit bank card numbers and security codes. “Please be aware that this is a fraudulent call, and do not under any circumstance release any information,” the bank advisory cautioned. Bank officials also reminded their customers that their debit cards are “safe and secure.” But criminals and con artists who obtain their account and security information, such as passwords and access codes, run the risk of having someone attempt to invade their accounts.

4. **November 28, Associated Press** – (National) **Fed loans to banks increase in latest week.** The Federal Reserve boosted its lending to commercial banks and investment firms over the past week, indicating that a severe credit crisis was still squeezing the financial system. The Fed released a report Friday saying commercial banks averaged $93.6 billion in daily borrowing for the week ending Wednesday. That was up from an average of $91.6 billion for the week ending November 19. The report also said investment firms borrowed an average of $52.4 billion from the Fed’s emergency loan program over the week ending Wednesday, up from an average of $50.2 billion the previous week. The Fed said its net holdings of business loans known as commercial paper over the week ended Wednesday averaged $282.2 billion, an increase of $16.5 billion from the previous week. The report said insurance giant American International Group’s loan from the Fed averaged $79.6 billion for the week ended Wednesday. That was down by $5.6 billion from the average the previous week.


[Return to top]

### Transportation Sector

5. **November 30, Associated Press** – (Rhode Island) **Police investigate a pipe bomb in Rehoboth.** Investigators are working to determine who left a pipe bomb at the intersection of Hornbine Road and Spring Street in Rehoboth. The Providence Journal reported that the bomb was spotted by a motorist who ran over it without detonating it while traveling on Hornbine Road early Saturday. The Rehoboth chief of police told the newspaper that the driver called emergency officials, who closed the road. Residents of two nearby houses were advised of the situation but were not evacuated. The State police bomb squad confirmed that the pipe bomb was genuine and they detonated it at the scene. The chief said investigators have collected remnants of the bomb and are studying the pieces in an effort to nab those responsible. No one was injured during the incident.


6. **November 30, Coast Guard News** – (Florida) **Coast Guard searching for 2 after plane crash in Gulf of Mexico.** The Coast Guard has been searching since about 8 p.m., Sunday, for two people in the water after a private aircraft crashed in the Gulf of Mexico about 14-miles west of Yankeetown, Florida The Coast Guard received a call at 7:45 p.m., Sunday, from an air-traffic controller in Jacksonville, Florida, reporting that a twin-engine, fixed-wing aircraft, reported to have been traveling from Tallahassee, Florida, to Vandenberg Airport in Tampa, Florida, crashed about 14-miles west of Yankeetown with two people onboard. The identity of the missing people is unknown. Rescue boat crews from Coast Guard Station Yankeetown and Coast Guard Station Sand Key, in Clearwater, Florida, along with an HH-60 Jayhawk rescue-
A Coast Guard helicopter crew and an HC-130 Hercules search-plane crew, both from Coast Guard Air Station Clearwater, are searching the water for the missing people.

Postal and Shipping Sector

Nothing to report

Agriculture and Food Sector

7. December 1, U.S. Food and Drug Administration – (National) FDA reports significant progress in protecting the food supply. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration on Monday released a report on its implementation of the Food Protection Plan that was launched a year ago to protect both domestic and imported food from accidental and intentional contamination. The plan, which outlines strategies for prevention, intervention, and response, is designed to address food safety and food defense for both domestic and imported products and covers the full lifecycle of food, by encouraging the building of safety into every step of the food supply chain. Among the highlights of the agency’s accomplishments is establishing offices in five regions that export food and other FDA-regulated products to the United States: China, India, Europe, Latin America, and the Middle East. The FDA has already hired staff for its offices in China and India.
Source: http://www.fda.gov/bbs/topics/NEWS/2008/NEW01917.html

8. November 29, All Headlines News – (National) FDA issues guidelines for “acceptable” melamine levels in infant formula. U.S. Food and Drug Administration officials have issued reassurances about what an “acceptable” level of melamine is in infant formula. “FDA’s ongoing investigation continues to show that the domestic supply of infant formula is safe and that consumers can continue using U.S. manufactured infant formulas,” according to a statement posted on the agency’s website. “FDA has concluded that levels of melamine alone or cyanuric acid alone, at or below 1 part per million (ppm) in infant formula do not raise public health concerns.” U.S. Food and Drug Administration scientists performed a second test on the formula sample that tested positive. The first test found a melamine level of 137 parts per billion (ppb) and the other found levels of 140 ppb. While a level of 250 ppb or less is considered a trace amount, when it comes to infant formula, or food for babies, there is controversy about whether any amount present is safe.
Source: http://www.allheadlinenews.com/articles/7013224943

9. November 28, Des Moines Register – (Iowa) Chemical leak causes scare in eastern Polk County. Hoping to beat rain and snow predicted for Saturday, a farmer was applying anhydrous ammonia to his field near 72nd Street and Iowa Highway 163
when a hose broke loose from the tank behind his tractor. The farmer escaped the tractor and dialed 911. The gas leaked from the tank for about 15 minutes until Des Moines hazardous materials arrived to shut down the leak. Ambulance crews, rescue workers, and police from at least a half dozen Polk County agencies swarmed the scene. Authorities evacuated between 150 and 200 homes in the area around the spill, said the Pleasant Hill Fire chief. Authorities shut down a section of Iowa Highway 163 between Northeast 60 and Northeast 80th streets during the emergency. Five people went to the hospital using their own transportation, officials said.

Source: http://www.desmoinesregister.com/article/20081128/NEWS/81128018/-1/ENT05

10. **November 28, U.S. Food Safety and Inspection Service** – (Massachusetts) Massachusetts firm recalls ready-to-eat frozen beef sandwich products for possible listeria contamination. Home Market Foods, Inc., a Norwood, Mass., firm, is recalling approximately 5,250 pounds of ready-to-eat frozen beef sandwich portions that may be contaminated with Listeria monocytogenes. The 3.5-ounce individually wrapped packages of “Blimpie Fully Cooked Seasoned Beef Shaved Steaks Thinly Sliced with Onions” are subject to this recall. Each label bears the establishment number “EST. 2727” inside the USDA mark of inspection as well as a printed Julian date of “3198,” “3228” or “3238,” on the products available for consumer purchase. The ready-to-eat frozen beef portions were produced on Nov. 14, 17, 18 and 20, 2008, and distributed to retail institutions in the Atlanta metropolitan area, California, Florida, Illinois, and New York. The problem was discovered through company testing. FSIS has received no reports of illnesses associated with consumption of this product.


[Return to top]

**Water Sector**

11. **December 1, Paducah Sun** – (Illinois) Metropolis hopes to keep water plant afloat: as EPA standards change, so, too, do upgrades for water treatment facility. The City of Metropolis is moving along to meet EPA standards by upgrading its aging waste water treatment plant. “It’s probably close to 90 percent done,” said the chair of the Metropolis City Council’s Water, Light and Street Committee. “Barring bad weather, we hope to have it complete in May.” He said the total cost of upgrading equipment and building new facilities at the old plant could cost more than $1 million. More stringent EPA standards of today gave the city no alternatives beyond fixing their old treatment plant or building a complete new one. The need to meet standards for treated water and the prohibitive cost for an all-new treatment plant dictated the city’s course. A Phase 1, the building of a new structure for disinfection of waste water, was completed in June. Continuing now is a Phase 2 of the project that among other things is to upgrade a facility that provides chemical contact to de-chlorinate the water.

12. **November 30, Associated Press** – (New York) **Report: NYC water plant price doubles in 5 years.** Rising construction prices, design changes, and a dearth of bidders have more than doubled the cost of a gigantic water filtration plant being built 10 stories beneath a Bronx driving range, budget experts have found. The plant is now expected to cost nearly $3.1 billion, up from $1.3 billion in 2003. Early estimates from the 1990s put it at $660 million. The skyrocketing price tag has been one of several areas of concern on the part of critics, who say the plant has been horribly mismanaged by the city. The plant, due to be completed in 2012, is designed to filter up to a quarter of the city’s water supply, or about 300 million gallons a day. The project will be New York City’s first drinking water filtration facility, and is believed to be the first subterranean water plant in the nation. Both the city and critics of the project see vindication in the agency’s cost assessment, presented in October to a group of community leaders. Opponents say the budget office findings show the agency overseeing the project, the city Department of Environmental Protection, underestimated its cost. Source: [http://www.newsday.com/news/local/wire/newyork/ny-bc-ny--undergroundwaterp1130nov30,0,2444616.story](http://www.newsday.com/news/local/wire/newyork/ny-bc-ny--undergroundwaterp1130nov30,0,2444616.story)

13. **November 30, Lower Hudson Journal News** – (New York) **Westchester faces $235M work on sewage plants to limit Sound pollution.** Westchester residents who live along Long Island Sound could pay as much as $350 more on average a year in sewer fees under a plan to drastically reduce nitrogen levels in the water. The problem has led the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the state Department of Environmental Conservation to require Westchester to renovate four county-owned sewage treatment plants — New Rochelle, Mamaroneck Valley, Blind Brook, and Port Chester — at a cost of $235 million. If the county does not go along with the plan, it is liable for fines of $150,000 a day. Source: [http://lohud.com/article/20081130/NEWS02/811300367/-1/newsfront](http://lohud.com/article/20081130/NEWS02/811300367/-1/newsfront)

**Public Health and Healthcare Sector**

14. **December 1, HealthDay News** – (National) **Guideline urges HIV tests for all patients 13 and older.** Physicians should routinely screen all patients 13 years and older for HIV, says a new practice guideline released Monday by the American College of Physicians (ACP). In the United States, HIV affects more than one million people, and about 20,000 new infections are caused each year by people who don’t know they have HIV. Screening can help identify undiagnosed cases of HIV infection and prevent further transmission of the virus. The new guideline, released on World AIDS Day, says doctors should offer initial screening to all patients and should determine the need for repeat screening intervals on a case-by-case basis. Patients at higher risk for HIV infection should be retested more frequently than patients at average risk. Source: [http://health.usnews.com/articles/health/healthday/2008/12/01/guideline-urges-hiv-tests-for-all-patients-13-and.html](http://health.usnews.com/articles/health/healthday/2008/12/01/guideline-urges-hiv-tests-for-all-patients-13-and.html)
Government Facilities Sector

15. December 1, ZDNet – (Massachusetts) **Former inmate accused of hacking prison IT.** Federal authorities charged a former inmate with successfully breaking into prison computer systems during his incarceration and stealing identity information on prison personnel. A press release from the Attorney General’s office in Boston describes the indictment: The defendant, age 42, is alleged to have obtained the password to a prison management program and to have made available to other inmates a report listing the names, dates of birth, Social Security numbers, some addresses and telephone numbers of over 1,100 current and former prison personnel. According to the release, the prison allowed inmates computer access to a system containing legal research information and “nothing else.” The defendant bypassed security by, “exploiting a previously-unknown idiosyncrasy in the legal research software.” As configured, the computer prevented inmates from accessing the Internet, e-mail, other computers on the prison’s networks, or even other computer programs on the legal research computer. Source: [http://blogs.zdnet.com/projectfailures/?p=1158](http://blogs.zdnet.com/projectfailures/?p=1158)

16. November 30, Washington Bureau – (National) **Cyber attack has Pentagon worried.** Senior military leaders took the exceptional step of briefing the U.S. President last week on a severe and widespread electronic attack on Defense Department computers that may have originated in Russia. Defense officials would not describe the extent of damage inflicted on military networks. But they said the attack struck hard at networks within U.S. Central Command, which oversees U.S. involvement in Iraq and Afghanistan, and affected computers in combat zones. The attack also penetrated at least one highly protected classified network. Military computers are regularly beset by hackers, viruses, and worms. But Defense Department officials said the most recent attack involves an intrusive piece of malicious software, or “malware,” apparently designed specifically to target military networks. U.S. News and World Report learned that the largest U.S. military base in Afghanistan was hit by a computer virus in November that affected nearly three quarters of the computers on the base. This was not the first such cyberattack, and officials said that earlier incarnations of the virus had exported information such as convoy and troop movements in Afghanistan. It was not clear precisely what information, if any, was being pulled from Defense Department computers by this latest virus, they said. Officials familiar with the computer attack characterized it as extremely aggressive and said that it originated in China. U.S. military officials on the base took the step of prohibiting the use of portable flash memory, or “thumb drives,” as they learned more about the virus. The move reflects the concern that the portable drives can inadvertently spread viruses through separate computer networks in the field. In November, Pentagon officials also banned the use of thumb drives because of concerns that they were spreading a virus through Defense Department computer networks. Source: [http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/nationworld/chi-cyberattack_bdno30,0,633998.story](http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/nationworld/chi-cyberattack_bdno30,0,633998.story) See also: [http://www.usnews.com/articles/news/iraq/2008/11/28/computer-virus-hits-us-military-base-in-afghanistan.html](http://www.usnews.com/articles/news/iraq/2008/11/28/computer-virus-hits-us-military-base-in-afghanistan.html)
Emergency Services Sector

17. *December 1, Washington Post* – (National) **Pentagon to detail troops to bolster domestic security.** The U.S. military expects to have 20,000 uniformed troops inside the United States by 2011 trained to help state and local officials respond to a nuclear terrorist attack or other domestic catastrophe, according to Pentagon officials. The Pentagon’s plan calls for three rapid-reaction forces to be ready for emergency response by September 2011. The first 4,700-person unit, built around an active-duty combat brigade based at Fort Stewart, Georgia, was available as of October 1, said the commander of the U.S. Northern Command. If funding continues, two additional teams will join nearly 80 smaller National Guard and reserve units made up of about 6,000 troops in supporting local and state officials nationwide. All would be trained to respond to a domestic chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, or high-yield explosive attack. Last month, the assistant defense secretary for homeland defense said, authorities agreed to begin a $1.8 million pilot project funded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency through which civilian authorities in five states could tap military planners to develop disaster response plans. Hawaii, Massachusetts, South Carolina, Washington, and West Virginia will each focus on a particular threat — pandemic flu, a terrorist attack, hurricane, earthquake, and catastrophic chemical release, respectively — speeding up federal and state emergency planning begun in 2003. Last Monday, the U.S. Defense Secretary ordered defense officials to review whether the military, Guard, and reserves can respond adequately to domestic disasters. He gave commanders 25 days to propose changes and cost estimates. Source: [http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/11/30/AR2008113002217.html?hpid=topnews](http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2008/11/30/AR2008113002217.html?hpid=topnews)

18. *November 30, New York Post* – (New York) **NYPD rings up $73M deal for 911 upgrade.** New York City plans to upgrade its 911 system after a six-year, multimillion-dollar delay. The NYPD recently signed a $73 million contract with Alabama-based Intergraph Corp. for a state-of-the-art emergency dispatch system that can instantly compile location and caller histories, create maps, and locate the appropriate units to respond. “It integrates everything available and sends it straight to the dispatchers in a much more user-friendly way,” said NYPD’s deputy chief commander of the communications division. The new system will immediately grab the location of the caller — including cell phone users, using GPS technology already available through the wireless companies — then tap into state and city databases to check for arrest warrants and prior calls at a location. The system will keep records of repeat 911 callers, prioritize calls in real time, and create interactive maps which identify subways, schools and other landmarks. The system is expected that the system will be up and running in about two years. Source: [http://www.nypost.com/seven/11302008/news/regionalnews/nypd_rings_up_73m_deal_for_911_upgrade_141512.htm](http://www.nypost.com/seven/11302008/news/regionalnews/nypd_rings_up_73m_deal_for_911_upgrade_141512.htm)
Information Technology

19. December 1, USA Today – (National) **Cyber Monday deals could open door to spam, scams.** Monday will be one of the biggest online shopping days of the year, and also one of the most treacherous. On Cyber Monday, the first Monday after Thanksgiving, consumers are expected to spend $821 million this year, up 12 percent from 2007, says the CEO of Conversive, a customer-service software company for online merchants. Monday may be the biggest day in a $44 billion online holiday shopping season, predicts Forrester Research. But a wobbly economy, combined with a consumer thirst for too-good-to-be-true bargains, has motivated cybercrooks to unleash a torrent of spam, phishing scams, and malicious software. “The downturn will prompt more attempts by cybercrooks, because consumers — in their haste to save costs — may be more susceptible to scams,” says the founder of 41st Parameter, an Internet fraud detection and prevention service. Threats are everywhere, PC security experts say, and Monday will bring a plague of them. Last year, phishing attacks soared 300 percent on Thanksgiving, compared with the previous few days, and this year is expected to be worse, computer-security firm Cyveillance says. They predict cybercriminals this year will launch even more sophisticated phishing attacks on bargain-hunters, as well as on small businesses and credit unions that lack strong anti-virus software and firewalls.


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](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/](https://www.it−isac.org/).

Communications Sector

20. December 1, Government Executive – (National) **A GPS satellite gap?** Government Executive reported that the U.S. may potentially face a GPS satellite gap next year. Of the 31 GPS satellites currently in orbit, 20 are past their design life and 19 lack redundancy in either their navigation or satellite systems or both, according to the biennial report on the Global Positioning System, submitted by the Defense Chief Information Officer to Congress in October. Defense has enough new GPS satellites in the pipeline to maintain an operational constellation (a minimum of 24 satellites are needed to ensure positioning accuracy), but if launches of the GPS IIF model birds are delayed, “sustainment of the GPS constellation will be difficult,” the report noted.

21. **December 1, Associated Press** – (Arizona) Smoke bomb forces Phoenix hotel evacuation. A smoke bomb detonated inside a Phoenix hotel Sunday night forced the evacuation of 60 guests and employees at the Hilton Garden Inn. A Phoenix Fire Dept. deputy chief of public affairs said officials found other weapons in the room where the bomb detonated, including guns and bullets. Officials were still investigating who if anyone was in the room. The hotel evacuated about 35 rooms.


22. **November 29, Pocono Record** – (Pennsylvania) Black Friday bomb threat clears Wal-Mart. Police toting shotguns, submachine guns, and assault rifles patrolled Wal-Mart’s entrance in East Stroudsburg on Black Friday while bomb-sniffing dogs searched inside. The store was evacuated around 5:30 p.m. after an alarming phone call came into the Monroe County Control Center at 5:22. The call came from a man on a pay phone at the Gulf gas station on Route 209 next to the Shannon Inn in Smithfield Township. The caller said there was a bomb in Wal-Mart and it would detonate in 30 minutes. He warned that at time of the detonation, a gunman in the parking lot would open fire on shoppers fleeing the blast. Pocono Township Police brought in a bomb-sniffing dog. Later, because of the size of the store, a second dog from Pocono Township Police arrived to assist. While dogs sniffed the scene, Pennsylvania State Police at Swiftwater verified that the phone call came from the Gulf gas station. A steady stream of customers continued to arrive while police blocked the entrances to the store. The bomb-threat caller has not yet been identified. Police do not know what his motive may have been. When found, he could be charged with risking a catastrophe and possibly terrorism-related charges.


23. **November 28, Mid Hudson News** – (New York) Suspicious package found at Woodbury Common. Police, armed with a bomb-sniffing dog and equipment to handle potential explosives, converged on Woodbury Common Friday morning, as shoppers participated in the Black Friday ritual. A suitcase was found abandoned in a parking lot at the shopping center resulting in the State Police and Orange County Sheriff’s Office dispatching bomb detecting equipment and a K-9 to the scene. The dog did signal a positive response, which turned out to be from chemical reaction hand warmers, said a Woodbury Town Police sergeant. “There were no threats received on the package, but because of the world events lately, we need to take everything seriously and precautionary only, we did establish a large hot zone until a bomb tech unit could come in from New York State Police and assist the Sheriff’s Department in deeming that it was no threat,” he said. Woodbury Common, like other malls, was crowded with holiday shoppers all day long.

Source: [http://www.midhudsonnews.com/News/November08/28/WdbryCom_package-](http://www.midhudsonnews.com/News/November08/28/WdbryCom_package-
24. November 30, San Diego Union-Tribune – (California) Replacing lake’s dam costly, but necessary. The seismically unsound Lake Wohlford dam in Escondido will be replaced by a new dam downstream – once the city finds the funds to do the work. Estimated to cost $19 million to $35 million, depending on the materials used, the dam would be built without interrupting the city’s water supply. Seismic tests in 1969, 1976 and 1978 showed the dam was earthquake resistant. But in 2007, a test using a different method of extracting dam material yielded a surprise. The top two-thirds of the dam, the portion that was built with layers of sand and silt, could liquefy in a big earthquake and flood the city. Since the discovery, the lake has been kept at 43 percent of its capacity, with the waterline below the top of the original rock dam. Once the new dam is completed, the unstable sand-and-silt portion of the old dam will be demolished. Source: http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/northcounty/20081130-9999-1mc30wohlfd.html

25. November 29, Burlington Hawk Eye – (Illinois) Levee work nearly done. A U.S. Army Corps of Engineers project engineer for Henderson County reported that work on the big breach near Carthage Lake is expected to be completed Sunday. After the swollen and fast-moving Mississippi River gouged a 300-foot-long gash in the levee June 17, flooding 28,000 acres of western Henderson County, levee commissioners have had setbacks ranging from high water and flash flooding to delays in getting pumps running to learning their levee may lose its certification status. Source: http://www.thehawkeye.com/Story/flood-henderson-112908
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