Top Stories

- According to the Honolulu Advertiser, the Hawaii Department of Transportation is warning nearly 1,900 holders of Hawaii commercial driver’s licenses to take measures to prevent identity theft after a state computer containing personal information was stolen three weeks ago. (See item 13)

- WHIO 7 Dayton reports that the Montgomery County, Ohio sheriff called for action Tuesday after a Miamisburg fire revealed serious issues with Cricket Wireless cell phone service. The sheriff has filed a complaint with the Federal Communications Commission against Cricket, which is not 911 compliant. (See item 25)

Fast Jump Menu

PRODUCTION INDUSTRIES
- Energy
- Chemical
- Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste
- Critical Manufacturing
- Defense Industrial Base
- Dams Sector

SERVICE INDUSTRIES
- Banking and Finance
- Transportation
- Postal and Shipping
- Information Technology
- Communications
- Commercial Facilities

SUSTENANCE AND HEALTH
- Agriculture and Food
- Water Sector
- Public Health and Healthcare

FEDERAL AND STATE
- Government Facilities
- Emergency Services
- National Monuments and Icons

Energy Sector

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

1. April 9, Greenwire – (Virginia; West Virginia) EPA puts brakes on 3 more mountaintop mining permits. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is objecting to three more federal permits for mountaintop-removal coal mining. EPA asked the lead federal permitting agency, the Army Corps of Engineers, last week to
temporarily hold up two permits for mountaintop-removal operations in West Virginia and another in Virginia. The permits are for A&G Coal Corp.’s Ison Rock Ridge Surface Mine in Wise County, Virginia, a Massey Energy mine in Kanawha County, West Virginia, and a Frasure Creek Mining operation in Mingo County, West Virginia. EPA expressed concern that the permits would threaten water quality, saying they failed to adequately account for the effects of dumping rock from blasted mountaintops into valley streams and rivers. Collectively, the three permits would allow the burial of about 8 miles of streams under blasted rock, blocking downstream water supplies, and damaging ecosystems.


2. **April 7, Associated Press** – (Colorado) **Work to start on Western Colo. gas pipeline.** A subsidiary of Williams is set to start construction in June on a $60 million natural gas pipeline in Western Colorado. Federal regulators have approved the 27.4-mile pipeline, the Colorado Hub Connection. Salt Lake City-based Northwest Pipeline will operate the 24-inch-diameter line. The pipeline will connect to a hub in Western Colorado’s Piceance Basin. Northwest Pipeline serves markets in Seattle and Portland, Oregon. Williams is the largest gas producer in the Piceance Basin, which has led Colorado the last few years in the number of new drilling permits. Companies have reduced drilling as the recession has worsened and gas prices have dropped. Another issue is a shortage of pipeline capacity in Colorado. Competition for space in pipelines results in an excess of gas, forcing companies to reduce prices to get their product shipped.


3. **April 8, WJXT 4 Jacksonville** – (Florida) **Lab settles with OSHA after explosion.** The company that owns T2 Laboratory on the Northside has reached a settlement with the federal agency investigating a fatal explosion. Four people died and 30 others were injured by the December 2007 blast at T2 Labs. Investigators said the explosion had the power of a ton of dynamite and could be felt for miles around. Last year, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) cited the company for several violations and imposed a fine of $17,000. Now, T2 has settled with OSHA, agreeing to pay an $8,000 penalty, and OSHA agreed to withdraw some of the charges.


4. **April 8, Orange Leader** – (Texas) **Firestone Polymers suffers $30 million in Ike damages.** As many homeowners found out in the middle of September 2008, Firestone Polymers Orange Plant quickly realized flood waters from a major hurricane could be worse than high winds. The plant took on 3 to 6 feet of storm surge which resulted in $30 million in repair costs. The lingering salt water also led to electrical, instrumentation, and mechanical damages. Plant officials reported the Orange plant has all of its drying lines back in operation and personnel continue to work on some of the back-up equipment and office buildings. The Firestone Orange Plant completed its
shutdown for Hurricane Ike on the morning of September 11, 2008. The Hurricane Ride-out Team completed final plant checks during that afternoon.


### Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and Waste Sector

5. **April 9, Reuters** – (Pennsylvania) **PPL Pa. Susquehanna 1 reactor slips to 66 pct power.** PPL Corp.’s 1,149-megawatt Susquehanna 1 nuclear power unit in Pennsylvania was at 66 percent power early Thursday, down from 94 percent of capacity early Wednesday, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission said in its power reactor status report. It was not immediately known why the unit, in Berwick, Pennsylvania, about 125 miles northwest of Philadelphia, had been reduced. Meanwhile, the adjacent 1,140-MW megawatt Unit 2 remained shut for a planned refueling outage.


6. **April 8, Miami Herald** – (Florida) **FPL pays fine for guards sleeping on job.** More than two years after a federal investigation found that guards were sleeping on the job at Florida Power & Light’s Turkey Point nuclear plant, the utility has paid a six-figure fine to resolve the case. FPL sent the Nuclear Regulatory Commission a check for $130,000 in January, the commission confirmed on April 6. An FPL spokesman confirmed late on April 6 that the company had paid the fine. Six guards at the Miami-Dade County plant slept or served as lookouts for other guards who were sleeping “on multiple occasions” between 2004 and 2006, the commission concluded. All of the guards were contractors with Palm Beach Gardens-based Wackenhut. None remained on the job after the violations were announced last year, officials said.


### Critical Manufacturing

Nothing to report

### Defense Industrial Base Sector

Nothing to report

### Banking and Finance Sector

7. **April 9, Detroit Free Press** – (Michigan) **Farmington Hills bank told to sell or merge.** The Federal Reserve System’s Board of Governors has ordered Michigan Heritage Bank
in Farmington Hills to find a buyer or merge with another bank by on April 9 because it is “critically undercapitalized.” The move follows two recent “cease and desist” orders issued by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. to University Bank in Ann Arbor and West Michigan Community Bank in Hudsonville. The cease and desist orders are issued by the FDIC to stop banks from committing unsafe or unsound banking practices and violations of laws and regulations. And in March, the Office of Thrift Supervision ordered Home Federal Savings Bank in Detroit to find a buyer or merger partner by on April 8. The government orders reflect the struggles that many Michigan small banks are facing as they cope with the prolonged economic downturn in the state. Though only one Michigan bank, Main Street Bank in Northville, has failed in the past year, the number of problem banks continues to rise and more banks are operating under cease and desist orders. Michigan Heritage, established in March 1997, has $180 million in assets and branches in Novi and Wixom. It lost $3.4 million in the fourth quarter of last year.

Source: http://www.freep.com/article/20090409/BUSINESS06/904090333/1019/Farmington+Hills+bank+told+to+sell+or+merge

8. *April 8, Reuters* – (National) **SEC favors short-selling curbs.** The U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission voted unanimously on April 8 to issue proposed curbs on short selling, including a return of the “uptick rule,” for a 60-day public comment period. The five proposed measures would restrict a type of investing blamed by some lawmakers and executives for worsening the financial crisis and driving down share prices. The uptick rule allowed short sales, a bet that a stock’s price will fall, only when the last sale price was higher than the previous price. Another proposal would only allow shorting if the best available bid was higher than the last bid. Three other possible measures would use a circuit breaker approach to trigger a temporary suspension of short selling in a particular stock, or temporary application of the uptick or bid rule in a security. Under one proposal, if a stock fell by 10 percent or some other amount, a circuit breaker would kick in and trigger the application of the “bid test.” This approach has the support of the largest U.S. exchanges, the New York Stock Exchange, the Nasdaq Stock Market, and BATS exchange. Another circuit breaker proposal would ban short selling in a particular stock for the rest of the day once triggered. A third circuit breaker proposal would trigger the application of the uptick rule for the rest of the day.


9. *April 8, MarketWatch* – (National) **Worsening economy forced FOMC’s hand: minutes.** A significantly worsening economic outlook forced the Federal Reserve’s hand in mid-March, leading the Federal Open Market Committee (FOMC) to commit to buy up to $1.25 trillion in long-term assets to goose the economy and prevent a slide into deflation, according to minutes of the March 17-18 meeting released on April 8. The summary of the meeting indicates little debate among the FOMC members on the question of buying longer-term Treasurys, with the major disagreement coming over how much to buy. All members of the committee agreed that “substantial additional
purchases of longer-term assets...would be appropriate,” the minutes said. “Members agree that the monetary base was likely to grow significantly.” Some members said that the worsening economic outlook and the specter of deflation argued for “very substantial purchases of longer-term assets,” while others said some of the heavy lifting could be accomplished by other Fed programs, particularly the new Term Asset-Backed Securities Loan Facility. Ahead of the meeting, most market participants believed the FOMC would not announce a plan to include Treasurys in its purchases. Almost all members of the policy-setting committee of the U.S. central bank said risks were rising that the economy would worsen more than forecast, and they all agreed that inflationary pressures would remain subdued for some time, according to the heavily edited minutes. Source: [http://www.marketwatch.com/news/story/Worsening-economy-forced-FOMCs-hand/story.aspx?guid={D3063D99-1682-4A84-98B5-3D44C66C1BD5}](http://www.marketwatch.com/news/story/Worsening-economy-forced-FOMCs-hand/story.aspx?guid={D3063D99-1682-4A84-98B5-3D44C66C1BD5})

10. *April 8, Bloomberg* – (Colorado) **Denver Ponzi-scam manager bought Rembrandts, SEC says.** U.S. regulators sued a Denver-area investment manager and his firm, claiming he ran a 15-year Ponzi scheme and spent proceeds on classic cars, motor homes, and artworks by Rembrandt van Rijn. The 46-year-old fraudulently raised as much as $20 million for a series of four investment funds at his Market Street Advisors, the Securities and Exchange Commission said in a lawsuit at federal court in Denver. After his first fund suffered unreported losses around 1995, he opened new funds to raise money, continue paying clients, and support a “lavish lifestyle,” the SEC said. “The defendant repeatedly deceived investors, many of whom considered him a personal friend, by sending them fictitious account statements showing annual rates of return of 7 to 20 percent,” said the director of the SEC’s Denver office in a statement announcing the case on April 8. The SEC said it is seeking an emergency court order to freeze assets. It also wants the defendant and his Aurora, Colorado-based firm to forfeit “illegal gains” and pay unspecified fines. Source: [http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601087&sid=aPz64egceSKE&refer=home](http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601087&sid=aPz64egceSKE&refer=home)

11. *April 8, Associated Press* – (International) **Bathroom emergency leads to assault charge on flight.** A man who says he desperately needed to use an airplane bathroom after eating something bad in Honduras faces a federal charge after being accused of twisting a flight attendant’s arm to get to the lavatory, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) said April 8. The man had a bathroom emergency 30 minutes into a March 28 Delta Air Lines flight from Honduras to Atlanta, but found the single coach aisle on the Boeing 737 blocked by a beverage cart. He said he asked if he could use the lavatory in business class, but was told no. Transportation Security Administration policy requires passengers on international flights to use the restroom in their seating class. When the cart was not moved after a few minutes, the man said he ran for the business class lavatory. He said the flight attendant put up her arm to block him, and he grabbed it to keep his balance. A Delta flight attendant said the man grabbed her right
arm, pulled it down, and twisted it, according to authorities. The man was arrested after the plane landed in Atlanta after a three-hour flight and was held for two days in jail, authorities said. He was charged with interference with a flight crew, said the head of the FBI in Atlanta, and released on bond after appearing before a U.S. magistrate.

Source: http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5hliWbWpIZ2JlkPfzBqJyktDE-PawD97EH0L80

12. April 8, Associated Press – (Florida) US 90 closed, I-10 threatened by rising Suwannee. The Florida National Guard is being dispatched to areas of North Florida where rivers continue to rise from heavy rains in the past few weeks. Floodwaters have damaged or destroyed more than 100 homes in North Florida and the Panhandle and major east-west highways are closed April 9 because they are under water. U.S. Highway 90 is closed at the Suwannee River Bridge on the Madison-Suwannee County line. Sections of Interstate 10 could be closed if the waters continue to rise.


13. April 8, Honolulu Advertiser – (Hawaii) License holders alerted to theft. Nearly 1,900 holders of Hawaii commercial driver’s licenses are being warned to take measures to prevent identity theft after a state computer containing personal information was stolen three weeks ago. The state Department of Transportation sent a letter April 6 to the affected commercial driver’s license holders to notify them of the security breach. The laptop computer contained the names, addresses, Social Security numbers, and other personal information of 1,892 commercial vehicle license drivers. Statewide, there are about 30,000 people with commercial driver’s licenses, said the department spokeswoman. The laptop was assigned to a Transportation Department motor vehicle safety officer in charge of inspecting vehicles on O’ahu and was taken March 18 from a fifth-floor state office in the Kakuhihewa Building in Kapolei. The inspector said he left the computer unattended about 9:30 a.m. and that when he went to get it half an hour later it was gone, the Transportation Department said. The incident was reported to police. No arrest had been made as of Tuesday. Although the theft occurred on March 18, the state did not notify the affected drivers until April 6. The spokeswoman said the department needed to follow protocol before sending the letters. The information in laptop computers allowed state motor vehicle carrier officers to conduct inspections in the field, the Department of Transportation said. That information no longer is stored in the laptops, the department said.

Source: http://www.honoluluadvertiser.com/article/20090408/NEWS01/904080383/1001

14. April 8, U.S. Department of Homeland Security – (National) DHS announces nearly $970 million in preparedness grant final allocations. The Department of Homeland Security’s (DHS) Federal Emergency Management Agency announced April 8 final allocations for Fiscal Year (FY) 2009 Preparedness Grants for 10 federal grant programs, totaling nearly $970 million in federal funding to assist state, local, and tribal governments and private industry in strengthening community preparedness. From 2003 through 2009, more than $26.7 billion will have been provided to strengthen our
nation’s ability to prevent, protect, respond, and recover from terrorist attacks, major disasters, or other emergencies. “Today’s grant allocations provide more transparency and openness than ever before, as stakeholder feedback drove significant improvements in the grant guidance and peer review process, increasing the value of what states get with their dollars,” said the Secretary of DHS. Some of the grant program allocations for fiscal year 2009 are as follows: Transit Security Grant Program – $388.6 million including the Freight Rail Security Grant Program and the Intercity Passenger Rail (Amtrak); Intercity Bus Security Grant Program – $11.7 million; Trucking Security Program – $2.2 million; Port Security Grant Program – $388.6 million; and the Driver’s License Security Grant Program – $48.6 million. These grants are to help strengthen and protect critical infrastructure by focusing on improving strategic planning and preparedness as well as measuring performance.
Source: http://www.dhs.gov/ynews/releases/pr_1239203061205.shtm

Postal and Shipping Sector

15. April 9, Salt Lake Tribune – (National) **Tea sent in protest sets off alarms.** Mailed tea bags are appearing in congressional offices thanks to various efforts sprouting up across America as a way to vent against high tax bills. With the IRS filing deadline of April 15 approaching, several communities are planning “Tea Parties” to highlight the nation’s massive spending and debt, and some taxpayers are addressing tea packets to Washington, D.C. A Utah state senator put a green tea packet in an envelope and sent hers to the White House. But as innocent as tea bags seem, they can cause false security responses when sensors detect an unknown substance. A Manchester, New Hampshire congressional office was shut down recently when a tea bag was mistaken for something more sinister. Aides to a U.S. Representative from Utah have received a handful of letters in his office where the tea bags have been removed. Even the Utah state senate has received two tea bags, one from a Sandy resident identifying himself as “citizen of USA.” A spokesman for the U.S. Postal Service says that tea bags in the mail “cause us some concern.” “They could pose a problem if the tea bag is mailed in a regular envelope instead of a padded bag,” he says. “Other than a few isolated incidents, however, we haven’t seen much so far.”
Source: http://www.sltrib.com/ci_12100982

Agriculture and Food Sector

16. April 9, San Francisco Chronicle – (California; Oregon) **U.S. to ban commercial salmon season.** A federal agency recommended Wednesday to ban the commercial catching of king salmon off California and much of Oregon in an attempt to save the fish. The move, which the National Marine Fisheries Service is expected to make final by May 1, comes after the fewest Chinook salmon ever recorded made their way up the Sacramento and San Joaquin rivers last fall. “There are just no fish,” said the executive director of the Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen’s Associations. “If they allowed
any fishing, they would be putting at risk future fishing.” Whatever the cause, more than 2,200 fishermen and fishing industry workers lost their jobs as a result of last year’s ban. While they received federal disaster aid, fishing communities and fishing-related businesses lost more than $250 million. Wednesday’s decision by the 14-member Pacific Fishery Management Council, meeting in Millbrae, marks the second year in a row that commercial fishermen will not be allowed to reel in chinook. A fishing ban this summer had been expected since March, when none of the three options outlined by the council included commercial fishing in the two states.

Source: http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2009/04/08/MNDI16V7LG.DTL&tsp=1

17. April 7, Newport News Daily Press – (Virginia) **Packaging company loses roof to storm.** Old Point Packing Inc. next to the Small Boat Harbor in Newport News lost part of its roof due to rain and high winds on April 7. The rain and winds ripped off part of the roof from their building, blowing parts across Jefferson Avenue and crushing a parked truck. A supervisor at the packing company said that about 11 people were in the building at the time. High winds also appeared to have caused damage to the roof of Mica of Canada on the eastern side of Jefferson Avenue. The assistant chief of the Newport News Fire Department said it was not yet clear what kind of weather event caused the damage to Old Point Packing. The Coast Guard told mariners to seek safe harbor immediately due to severe weather. The National Weather Service issued a special marine warning that extended 40 miles offshore with winds in excess of 34 knots.

Source: http://www.dailypress.com/news/local/dp-local_storm_0407apr07,0,1572984.story

18. April 7, Digital Journal – (Maryland; New York) **Listeria contamination in Strubs Norwegian Style Steelhead Salmon.** The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) warned consumers not to eat Strubs Norwegian Style Sliced Smoked Steelhead Salmon in 300 gram packages because of potential contamination with the bacterium Listeria monocytogenes. Distributed by West Side Foods Inc. of Bronx, New York, the smoked steelhead salmon was imported from Canada, and 13 cartons were sold to three kosher retail stores in New York and Maryland. The contamination was discovered by the FDA and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency during routine testing. No illnesses have been reported to date from the Strubs product.

Source: http://www.digitaljournal.com/article/270629

[Return to top]

**Water Sector**

19. April 8, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency – (National) **EPA adds nine hazardous waste sites to Superfund’s National Priorities List.** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is adding nine new hazardous waste sites that pose risks to human health and the environment to the National Priorities List of Superfund sites. Also, EPA is proposing to add 13 other sites to the list. The following nine sites have been added to the National Priorities List: Raleigh Street Dump in Tampa, Florida;
Arkla Terra Property in Thonotosassa, Florida; U.S. Smelter and Lead Refinery, Inc. in East Chicago, Indiana; Fort Detrick Area B Ground Water in Frederick, Maryland; Behr Dayton Thermal System VOC Plume in Dayton, Ohio; New Carlisle Landfill in New Carlisle, Ohio; BoRit Asbestos in Ambler, Pennsylvania; Barite Hill/Nevada Goldfields in McCormick, South Carolina; Attebury Grain Storage Facility in Happy, Texas. The following 13 sites have been proposed to the National Priorities List: General Dynamics Longwood in Longwood, Florida; Lane Street Ground Water Contamination in Elkhart, Indiana; Southwest Jefferson County Mining in Jefferson County, Missouri; Flat Creek IMM in Superior, Montana; Ore Knob Mine in Ashe County, North Carolina; GMH Electronics in Roxboro, North Carolina; Raritan Bay Slag in Old Bridge/Sayreville, New Jersey; Gowanus Canal in Brooklyn, New York; Little Scioto River in Marion County, Ohio; Foster Wheeler Energy Corporation/Church Road TCE in Mountain Top, Pennsylvania; Papelera Puertorriquena, Inc. in Utuado, Puerto Rico; Peck Iron and Metal in Portsmouth, Virginia; Amcast Industrial Corporation in Cedarburg, Wisconsin.

Source: [http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/bd4379a92ceec8525735900400c27/0365f7ce1f02fd728525759200668d2e!OpenDocument](http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/bd4379a92ceec8525735900400c27/0365f7ce1f02fd728525759200668d2e!OpenDocument)

20. **April 8, KVUE 24 Austin** – (Texas) **Crews contain sewage spill in Central East Austin.** Austin Water Utility crews cleaned up a sewage spill in Central East Austin. Crews discovered a broken wastewater line the morning of April 8 along a stretch of Vanderbilt Circle near Little Walnut Creek. It is estimated about 100,000 gallons spilled from an 8-inch line. Repairs were completed, and crews flushed down the area to dilute any dangers. The public drinking water is not affected, but residents are encouraged to avoid the creek and keep any pets clear of the area.


[Return to top]

**Public Health and Healthcare Sector**

21. **April 9, Bloomberg** – (National) **Older medical devices to get FDA review.** The makers of 25 types of medical devices marketed prior to 1976 must prove safety and effectiveness so the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) can judge whether to require further review. The action is the first step toward assessing the risk of so-called class III medical devices, including heart valves and lenses inside the eye, that were sold prior to the 1976 U.S. law authorizing the agency’s review. FDA now usually requires makers to show safety and efficacy before marketing approval. Product types introduced before 1976 could continue to be sold without extensive review if the agency declared them “substantially equivalent” to an already approved device.


22. **April 8, HealthDay News** – (National) **Rapid test to detect bird flu in people approved.** A rapid test to detect the H5N1 strain of avian influenza has been approved
by the FDA, the agency said in a news release. The AVantage A/H5N1 Flu Test detects the deadly strain of bird flu using throat or nose swabs from people with flu-like symptoms. It takes less than 40 minutes to yield results, compared with previous tests that take 3 or 4 hours, the FDA said. While the strain of bird flu has proven difficult to pass between fowl and people, experts worry that the virus will mutate and pose the threat of a human pandemic. The World Health Organization has recorded 412 confirmed cases of human infection with H5N1, mostly in Asia and Northern Africa. Source: http://www.forbes.com/feeds/hscout/2009/04/08/hscout625902.html

Government Facilities Sector

23. April 9, Washington Post – (National) Security-clearance checks for OPM allegedly falsified. Half a dozen investigators conducting security-clearance checks for the Federal Government have been accused of lying in the reports they submitted to the Office of Personnel Management, which handles about 90 percent of the background inquiries for more than 100 agencies. Federal authorities said they do not think that anyone who did not deserve a job or security clearance received one or that investigators intentionally helped people slip through the screening. Instead, law enforcement officials said, the investigators lied about interviews they never conducted because they were overworked, cutting corners, trying to impress their bosses or, in the case of one contractor, seeking to earn more money by racing through the checks. In court papers, prosecutors say the workers lied about having interviewed the friends, co-workers, or former professors of applicants seeking government jobs requiring security clearances at Treasury, Defense, and other agencies. One investigator admitted he lied in 30 of 67 background investigations. Another said he lied in a dozen. Sometimes investigators conducted cursory interviews of just a few minutes, too truncated to gather meaningful information about applicants’ potential drug use, associations, foreign travel, and loyalty. “This is a serious problem that needs to be addressed,” an Assistant U.S. Attorney said during the February sentencing of an investigator, the same day two others pleaded guilty in the same District federal courthouse. In court papers in another case, the Assistant U.S. Attorney wrote that such lax investigations “can pose a serious risk to national security.” Source: http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/04/08/AR2009040803841.html?hpid=topnews

24. April 8, Independent Tribune – (North Carolina) Suspicious package found at government center turns out to be trash can liner. A suspicious package discovered on the morning of April 8 in the Cabarrus County Government Center turned out to be a trash can liner, concluding an incident that lasted more than two hours and had the Cabarrus County Sheriff’s Office, Concord Fire and Life Safety, Concord Police and EMS dispatched to the scene. The sheriff’s office dispatched the bomb squad at 9:15 a.m. after an employee discovered the suspicious package under the sink and reported to officials, said the communications and outreach manager for Cabarrus County. The building was immediately evacuated, and the employees were led to the new sheriff’s office community room to wait out the investigation, the communications manager
said. Concord Police blocked off the surrounding streets while the bomb squad worked through their list of protocols to determine if the package contained explosives. Once it was determined that the package was not an explosive, the bomb squad prepared to remove the package and place it in an “over pack canister” to carry out.

Source: http://www2.journalnow.com/content/2009/apr/08/suspicious-package-found-government-center-turns-o/

Emergency Services Sector

25. April 9, WHIO 7 Dayton – (Ohio; National) Cricket: 911 issues will be resolved. The Montgomery County, Ohio sheriff called for action Tuesday after a Miamisburg fire revealed serious issues with Cricket Wireless cell phone service. Authorities said the fire victim, who is a Cricket customer, tried to call 911 several times when his house and business caught fire. But officials said Cricket, which is not 911 compliant, sent the man’s 911 dials to the local police department, which was closed and answered with a recording that said, “If this is an emergency, please hang up and dial 911.” The man finally managed to use a different cell phone provider to reach 911 operators and report the fire. By the time firefighters arrived, the home was fully engulfed and a near total loss. The sheriff has filed a complaint with the Federal Communications Commission against Cricket. He said, “The public safety is at risk, it’s a huge issue for us.” Authorities said sheriff’s deputies have tested Cricket phones all over Montgomery County, and said the 911 issue exists nearly everywhere. A Cricket spokesperson said their team was out testing and changing every necessary routing number in Montgomery County. The Cricket spokesperson said everything will be resolved by Thursday morning. In the meantime, the Sheriff’s Office is recommending Cricket customers to program the county emergency seven-digit phone number into their phones and put it on speed dial.

Source: http://www.whiotv.com/community/19131998/detail.html

26. April 8, Associated Press – (National) More communication, education needed in hurricanes. Graphics that show the risk of storm surges are just one way officials and emergency responders hope to better prepare themselves and coastal residents for the 2009 hurricane season. The director of the National Hurricane Center said at the National Hurricane Conference on Wednesday that most coastal residents have a hard time understanding storm surge risk and the center did not communicate the threat well during Ike, which stormed ashore in Galveston in September. He told hurricane responders from around the country that he hopes the new graphics will help in the 2009 storm season, which begins June 1. The weeklong annual conference pulls together more than 1,300 workers in federal, state, and local governments with emergency services providers to share hurricane experiences, learn about new technology and training, and plan for the coming season.

27. April 8, CNET News – (International) **Conficker wakes up, updates via P2P, drops payload.** The Conficker worm is finally doing something, updating via peer-to-peer between infected computers and dropping a mystery payload on infected computers, Trend Micro said on April 8. Researchers were analyzing the code of the software that is being dropped onto infected computers but suspect that it is a keystroke logger or some other program designed to steal sensitive data off the machine, said the global director of security education at Trend Micro. The software appeared to be a .sys component hiding behind a rootkit, which is software that is designed to hide the fact that a computer has been compromised, according to Trend Micro. The software is heavily encrypted, which makes code analysis difficult, the researchers said. The worm also tries to connect to MySpace.com, MSN.com, eBay.com, CNN.com, and AOL.com as a way to test that the computer has Internet connectivity, deletes all traces of itself in the host machine, and is set to shut down on May 3, according to the TrendLabs Malware Blog. Because infected computers are receiving the new component in a staggered manner rather than all at once, there should be no disruption to the Web sites the computers visit, said the advanced threats researcher for Trend Micro. “After May 3, it shuts down and will not do any replication,” the threats researcher said. However, infected computers could still be remotely controlled to do something else, he added.


### 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).](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/)

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28. April 8, Miami County Republic – (Kansas) **Verizon tower approved by planners.**

Verizon Wireless will retain operation and maintenance of a communications tower in Spring Hill. The permit, approved last week by the Spring Hill Planning Commission, allows Verizon Wireless to operate a telecommunications facility at the city water tower. Verizon submitted the application February 27 for renewal. A conditional-use permit was approved July 22, 2004. The permit expired November 20, 2008. According to city documents, there were communication issues between staff and management at Verizon, which resulted in delay of the permit. The applicant currently operates six antennas on the water tower and an emergency generator and equipment shelter at the tower. The Spring Hill Public Works director identified two concerns regarding homeland security. The director’s concerns involved Verizon having unrestricted access. “Verizon accesses their backup generator through the water tower compound gate,” said the director in the February city document. “I would prefer the access point be changed so they do not
have access through the compound gate.” Verizon agreed to build a fence around the leased area. The second issue involved notification of city staff when access is required for the antennas. “Unless an emergency dictates the necessity to allow access to the compound tower, we need to make sure it’s understood that Verizon will only be allowed access to the tower during normal hours of operation with 24-hour advance notification,” the director said. Verizon agreed to provide 24-hour advanced notice of access, except during emergency situations.


Commercial Facilities Sector

Nothing to report

National Monuments & Icons Sector

29. April 9, Associated Press – (New Mexico) Twitter puts NM fire in real time. Smokey Bear has taken fire prevention to Twitter. Smokey’s profile on the social network was created by the Santa Fe National Forest public information officer, who is prepared to use every source to talk about fire prevention. The information officer says the forest will use Twitter to let people know about fire conditions, environmental documents, and burns set by the forest itself to burn out thick growth. He says the Twitter message — which is limited to 140 characters — will link people to a Forest Service page with more information. The information officer says the Twitter messages are “peer to peer.” Smokey already has about a dozen followers on Twitter.


Dams Sector

30. April 8, WLS 7 Chicago – (Illinois) Barrier on to keep carp out of Lake Michigan. A $10 million electronic barrier meant to keep Asian carp out of Lake Michigan was turned on for the first time on Wednesday. It runs across the Chicago sanitary and ship canal. It was completed three years ago, but was not activated because of fears it might hurt or damage barge operators or recreational boaters. The electronic barrier will be tested over the next few weeks to find a proper voltage that keeps the fish away but is safe for boats and barges.


31. April 8, Jamestown Sun – (North Dakota) Releases increase from Jamestown, Pipestem dams. Combined releases from the Jamestown and Pipestem dams were
increased to 1,500 cubic feet per second Wednesday. The releases are scheduled to increase again on April 9 although the amount has not been determined, said the chief of the water control and water quality section for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. He also said plans to handle releases greater than the maximum of 1,800 cfs now anticipated are being designed to be put in place if they become necessary. These plans would accommodate releases of 4,000 cfs below the confluence of Pipestem Creek and the James River. A new forecast for lake levels at the Jamestown and Pipestem dams is due from the National Weather Service and the Corps of Engineers April 9. By April 10, Corps officials will decide if releases of more than 1,800 cfs will be necessary.

Source: http://www.jamestownsun.com/articles/index.cfm?id=83598&section=news