Top Stories

- According to the Associated Press, more than 27,000 gallons of hydrochloric acid leaked from a storage tank into a retention basin at Dover Chemical Corporation in Dover, Ohio on Saturday, spawning a massive vapor cloud that took hours to dissipate. (See item 5)
- The Associated Press reports that authorities evacuated the town of St. Charles, Minnesota on Friday as a large fire at the North Star Foods plant threatened the anhydrous ammonia tanks inside. A city administrator said there were about 30,000 pounds of anhydrous ammonia in the five tanks. (See item 26)

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Energy Sector

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

1. April 18, Lancaster Eagle-Gazette – (Ohio) AEP Ohio to perform aerial patrols of transmission lines. American Electric Power Ohio has begun helicopter patrols of its high voltage transmission lines throughout the state. The helicopter will pass about 50 to 100 feet above the lines, usually between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. during the week. The aerial patrols are part of the company’s ongoing program to maintain the reliability of the
electric transmission system. Patrols are expected to come through Fairfield County the week of April 27.
Source: http://www.lancastereaglegazette.com/article/20090418/UPDATES01/90418005

2. April 17, New York Times – (New York) Fighting real parrots with a fake owl. Many of Con Edison’s challenges are well known — blackouts and steam pipe explosions included — but a lesser-known problem has proved no less nagging: how to protect equipment from the thousands of monk parakeets that nest in the utility poles of Queens and Brooklyn. These birds — also called monk parrots or Quaker parrots — are attracted to the heat given off by the transformers and other equipment high up on the utility poles. Their nests often wreck the electrical equipment by engulfing the electrical devices, blocking ventilation. The resulting trapped heat can cause the devices to short-circuit, and often to catch fire, sometimes leading to local power failures. In eight fires on overhead equipment in the past 18 months, the nests are the main suspects. Con Edison officials have tried to shoo the birds with nets, spikes, deterrent sprays and sound machines. One Con Edison crew has come up with its own solution: a plastic battery-powered owl that swivels its head and makes a hooting noise, bought at a local nursery.

3. April 16, Shelbyville News – (National) Injured pipeline worker is second casualty in month. A Rockies Express Pipeline worker was injured on the job April 15 in Shelbyville, Indiana in the pipeline project’s second mishap this month. The worker reportedly suffered a broken ankle while he was strapping material onto a flatbed truck. A spokesman for the pipeline’s general contractor Sheehan Pipe Line Construction Co. said that he was aware that a man was injured on the job in another accident, but that he did not have much information about the April 15 incident. The April 15 injury follows the April 1 death of a worker at an Indianapolis hospital from injuries he sustained while working on the project in Decatur County. He was crushed by a rig mat on April 1 after an accident about 8 miles northwest of Greensburg. Shortly after the fatality, a pipeline worker came forward and expressed safety concerns about the project. Other pipeline workers have subsequently contacted the Shelbyville News to express their concerns about safety on the project. A former safety inspector who worked on the pipeline in Kansas and Nebraska told the newspaper that two other Rockies Express pipeline workers have been killed since the project began in 2006. The inspector also said that several safety inspectors quit the project while in the Great Plains states because of other serious injuries and there has been a “total lack of safety and safety enforcement” in the project. “I can tell you with absolute certainty that there have been hundreds of pipeline workers that have been injured since this project began, and more than 50 were hurt in the state of Kansas alone,” the inspector said. “After I left in September in 2007, they continued to have more than that. There’s absolutely no reason for these injuries to occur if you had a comprehensive safety program that was enforced.” The 1,678-mile pipeline originates in Rio Blanco County, Colorado and extends to Clarington, Ohio.
Source: http://www.shelbynews.com/main.asp?SectionID=1&SubSectionID=93&ArticleID=60335&TM=61398.78
Chemical Industry Sector

4. *April 19, Associated Press* – (Arkansas) **Chemical cleanup operation begins in Norphlet.** Crews began removing 7,800 gallons of hydrofluoric acid April 19 from a chemical plant in Norphlet after federal inspectors warned it was improperly stored, officials said. Union County’s emergency management coordinator said contractors and environmental protection officials began their work at the Norphlet Chemical plant just after 10:30 a.m. He said workers began with the tank containing hydrofluoric acid, which inspectors previously said was in a “dilapidated condition.” Officials plan to remove all of the plant’s 30,000 gallons of chemicals after the discovery of the one tank’s poor condition. Contractors and officials from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency were on hand to monitor the cleanup. The coordinator said he expected all the chemicals to be removed in the next three to four days. He said the time needed for the cleanup largely depended on the number of tanks contractors could bring in to store the chemicals for transport. A Union County judge declared an emergency April 16 after Homeland Security officials inspected Norphlet Chemical and found a flaw in a tank that held hydrofluoric acid. As a precaution, the Norphlet School District closed April 17. The school plans to reopen April 20.

Source: [http://ap.thecabin.net/pstories/state/ar/20090419/430902110.shtml](http://ap.thecabin.net/pstories/state/ar/20090419/430902110.shtml)

5. *April 18, Associated Press* – (Ohio) **Vapor cloud from Ohio chemical leak dissipating.** A large chemical spill on April 18 at an east-central Ohio plant spawned a massive vapor cloud that took hours to dissipate, officials said. No injuries were reported. More than 27,000 gallons of hydrochloric acid leaked from a storage tank into a retention basin at Dover Chemical Corporation around 12:30 a.m., the Dover Fire chief said. The leak was contained onsite, but a vapor cloud developed and lingered for hours after the leak was discovered, he said. Firefighters reported that the cloud had dissipated by mid-morning and that a structural defect in the tank was believed to have caused the leak. There were no evacuations, and police said residents in the area received a reverse 911 call telling them to keep doors and windows closed. The company, which makes chemical additives, pumped the spilled hydrochloric acid into tankers and other tanks to limit vaporizing, the Dover Chemical vice president of operations said. Firefighters used a vapor suppressant foam to help trap vapors, the company said.


Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and Waste Sector

6. *April 19, United Press International* – (Pennsylvania) **Babcock & Wilcox settles suit for $52M.** Hundreds of western Pennsylvania residents who alleged radiation exposure are entitled to $52.2 million in damages from Babcock & Wilcox Co. (B&W), a judge says. A U.S. district judge approved a settlement between the manufacturer and 365
claimants who say airborne radioactive emissions from B&W plants northeast of Pittsburgh caused cancer, deaths and other illness, the Pittsburgh Tribune-Review reported. Between 1957 and 1986, the properties were owned by Atlantic Richfield Co. and the Nuclear Materials and Equipment Corp. B&W had long contended its operations did not cause cancer, but the plaintiffs allege the company and its predecessors ran sloppy operations, releasing radioactive emissions exceeding federal limits, the newspaper said. The 14-year lawsuit was one of the longest-running cases in the history of the U.S. District Court of Western Pennsylvania, with 40 percent of the original plaintiffs now deceased and represented by their estates. Court documents indicated the final agreement and its terms, outside of the settlement figure, remain confidential, the Tribune-Review said. Atlantic Richfield settled separately for $27.5 million in February 2008.

7. April 18, Asbury Park Press – (New Jersey) Water tank eyed in radioactive leak. Exelon is investigating whether a storage tank or piping may be the “leak source” responsible for an elevated level of radioactive tritium found in water at the Oyster Creek nuclear power plant in Lacey, according to a federal official. Exelon owns the plant, which recently received a 20-year license renewal from the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). Workers detected 102,000 picocuries of tritium per liter — five times the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency standard for drinking water — in water in a concrete vault on April 15. “Based on sampling and analysis of ground water monitoring wells in the vicinity, Exelon is investigating the potential that the leak source may be the condensate storage tank or associated piping,” according to an NRC spokesman. The very large tank holds thousands of gallons of water, the NRC spokesman said in an e-mail on April 17. During a severe accident, tank water would be pumped to Oyster Creek’s reactor to help keep nuclear fuel covered and cooled, he said. “There is no indication that on-site domestic water wells are affected (by the tritium), based on recent sampling and analysis,” he said in another e-mail. NRC resident inspectors and radiation specialists are “following up on this,” he said. “The condition does not currently, nor is it expected to, result in any actual health and safety consequence to workers on-site or members of the public,” according to the NRC spokesman.
Source: http://www.app.com/article/20090418/NEWS03/904180350/1007/NEWS03

8. April 18, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission – (Massachusetts) Courtesy notification made to State of Massachusetts involving an employee fatality. On April 18, an informational notification was made to the U.S. NRC. At approximately 1:20 a.m. on April 18, the Pilgrim nuclear facility main control room received an emergency medical call stating that a Pilgrim employee had been found unconscious inside the radiologically controlled area of the plant. The individual was treated by the on-site first responders who administered CPR and AED treatment. Off site medical assistance was requested and the individual was transported to the local hospital. At approximately 2:30 a.m., Pilgrim was notified that the individual had died of an apparent heart attack. A courtesy notification was made to the Massachusetts
Emergency Management Agency. “The NRC Resident Inspector has been notified. The event had no adverse effect to the health and safety of the public.” The licensee confirmed that the employee transported offsite was not radiologically contaminated. No press release is planned.

9. *April 17, Miami Herald* – (Florida) **Nuclear reactor malfunction forces a Turkey Point shutdown.** A rare problem with a control rod in the core of a Turkey Point nuclear reactor has caused the unit to remain shut down after a refueling outage, a federal spokesman announced on April 17. “This is certainly not something that you see every day,” said the Atlanta-based spokesman for the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC). A Florida Power & Light spokesman said in an e-mail the afternoon of April 17 that during post-maintenance testing, “we identified a mechanical issue with the control rod drive mechanism where we were unable to withdraw the rod. This is a completely safe position for the control rod and the mechanical issue is currently being addressed.” The NRC spokesman said the situation started earlier the week of April 13 when the nuclear operators were attempting to return Turkey Point Unit 3 to service after a routine outage for refueling. To get the reactor functioning again, mechanisms lift from the core control rods that absorb neutrons. In this case, one of the control rods “appeared to be stuck and could not be moved out of the reactor vessel,” said the NRC spokesman. That meant that the reactor had to be cooled back down since it would unsafe to operate with a rod in the core. Because this was a rare event, any attempt to remove the rod from the core fell outside the technical specifications approved by the NRC. That meant FPL had to seek a “technical specifications amendment from the NRC,” said the NRC spokesman. That amendment was granted, and a power saw was used on April 17 to cut the mechanism that lifts the rods and part of the rod from the rest of the rod, which remains in the core. It remains unclear what FPL plans to do about the rod remaining in the core and whether the mechanism that lifts the rods will need to be replaced, the NRC spokesman said.

10. *April 17, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission* – (Arkansas) **Fitness for duty involving a non-licensed supervisor.** A non-licensed employee supervisor at Arkansas Nuclear facility had a confirmed positive for alcohol during a random fitness-for-duty test on April 17. The employee’s access to the plant has been terminated. The licensee notified the NRC resident inspector.

**Critical Manufacturing**

11. *April 17, Winnipeg Free-Press* – (International) **Engine test site crucial: experts.** Industry officials say a newly announced aerospace engine test center in Thompson, Manitoba, Canada is needed because existing facilities around the world are wearing out
and are increasingly expensive to operate. The Canadian Environmental Test Research and Education Centre is building a $40-million cold weather aerospace engine test center in Thompson with the assistance of $13.4 million from the federal government and a $9-million repayable loan from the province. Two of the world’s largest aerospace engine manufacturers — Rolls-Royce and Pratt & Whitney — are also partners and co-owners of the facility. An official with the National Research Council of Canada said the idea for the new test center in Thompson came from one of its aerospace engine clients. They need to test the operation of large engines in circumstances where they may ingest large quantities of ice crystals — a situation that occurs, for instance, in tropical storms. Aviation regulators are expected to soon require engines to be certified to operate in such conditions, and there is no other test center in the world that can handle that. The National Research Council of Canada and the private-sector partners chose Thompson for a number of reasons, including the fact there is plenty of ambient cold weather.


Defense Industrial Base Sector

12. April 20, WIRED – (National) ‘Green’ training ammo carries cancer risk: study. In the 1990s, the U.S. Army introduced a new set of “green” training ammunition, designed to be less toxic and more environmentally friendly than the lead-filled rounds used before. But these new bullets may have left firing ranges contaminated and exposed soldiers to a new health hazard. Soon-to-be-released research suggests that a key element in the new ammo, once thought to be safe, may in fact be carcinogenic. The Army has stopped production of the bullets. Over 90 million rounds of the “green” training ammunition have been used in the United States, since its introduction. It relies on a blend of tungsten and nylon, or tungsten and tin. That gives the bullets the same density and firing properties as the original, but without using lead. Tungsten was considered non-toxic. But new research by a University of Arizona Research Professor of Pediatrics points to a different conclusion: that tungsten may elevate the risk for cancer. His study, to be presented later this month at the 2009 Experimental Biology Meeting in New Orleans, is sponsored by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, which wanted to take a fresh look at leukemia clusters in Fallon, Nevada and Sierra Vista, Arizona. Nearby tungsten mining appears to have raised tungsten levels in the towns. The Army is concerned enough about possible risks that it has stopped making the tungsten ammo. “The U.S. Army developed a lead free 5.56mm round during the mid 1990s with a Tungsten-Nylon alternate slug materiel. Environmental studies later determined that Tungsten-Nylon had a possible environmental impact. The Army stopped production of its Tungsten-Nylon 5.56mm [rounds],” a spokesperson for the Army’s Armament Research, Development and Engineering Center tells Danger Room. “The residual inventory of 5.56mm Tungsten-Nylon rounds is still available for use in training at lead-restricted sites as it is deemed safer than lead.”


13. April 17, New York Times – (National) Lightweight armor is slow to reach troops. An
experiment to shave up to 20 pounds off a soldier’s burden, much of it by reducing the bulletproof plates that protect the chest and back, has stalled, leaving $3 million in new, lightweight equipment sitting in a warehouse in the United States instead of being sent to the war zone where it was to have been tried out by a battalion-size group of 500 soldiers. The new lightweight bulletproof plates, part of what is known as a Modular Body Armor Vest, are already in use by the military’s Special Operations Command, which includes the Army’s elite light-infantery troops, the Rangers. A team of Army experts went to eastern Afghanistan in early March expecting to begin trial runs of the gear for regular Army soldiers. But the assessment team was ordered back to the United States late last month when its experiment was put off. According to Army officials familiar with the effort, senior Army leaders ordered further reviews of the lighter bulletproof plates to guarantee that soldiers would not be put at risk wearing them during the combat field tests; the leaders also wanted to expand the goals for the assessment.


Banking and Finance Sector

14. *April 20, Associated Press* – (South Dakota) **Sioux Falls phone scam targets ATM cards.** The Sioux Falls Police Department is warning people about an automated telephone scam. The call from a recorded voice tells people their ATM card has been canceled and they need to push “1” to reinstate it. Police say doing that ends the call, but people should just hang up and not press the number or give out any personal information. Calls on April 19 were coming from a phone number in the 514 area code, which is in Canada. It is not clear what information, if any, is gained from the calls.

Source: http://www.kxmc.com/getArticle.asp?ArticleId=363522

15. *April 18, Associated Press* – (Indiana) **State warns of new mortgage fraud scheme.** Indiana’s Attorney General is warning about a mortgage fraud scheme in which criminals exploit a loophole in state law to transfer the ownership of properties. The Attorney General said the thieves are not interested in the property they steal, but in using their “ownership” of a property to obtain a fraudulent loan. Once they get the money, they disappear with it and leave the true property owner with the debt. “The actual homeowners, through no fault of their own, are at risk of losing their home to foreclosure,” the Attorney General said. “Correcting the problem and clearing the cloud off the title could cost the homeowners thousands of dollars.” The Attorney General joined the Indiana Recorders Association and the Association of Indiana Counties in Indianapolis on April 16 to publicize the scheme. He explained that Indiana law does not allow county recorders to demand proof of identification from customers who are recording deeds and other notarized documents. “Criminals are exploiting a loophole to fraudulently transfer ownership of properties in an effort to steal money from lenders,” the Attorney General said during the announcement. The Allen County Recorder said the state’s recorders are looking at legislation similar to a law in California that would require a thumbprint along with a notarized signature. A similar requirement takes effect in Illinois this summer.
16. April 17, Missoulian – (Montana) State alleges Ponzi scheme: 2 Polson men accused of $14 million fraud. There are at least 100 victims of the largest Ponzi scheme ever perpetrated in Montana. On April 16, the state auditor and commissioner of securities announced her office has filed legal action against two Polson residents and their companies, Cornerstone Financial Corp. and K&B Investments. The state alleges the two men committed securities fraud via a Ponzi scheme involving more than $14 million. According to the state auditor, the defendants allegedly offered high rates of return, typically 15 percent annually, and assured investors their money was safe because it was secured by real property with values equal to or higher than their investment. The two men also allegedly promised investors that more than $1.5 million of their funds had been reserved with an escrow service for disbursement back to the investors at a later date, but instead commingled that money with other Cornerstone operating funds. Additionally, the state’s complaint alleges that many of the notes were never secured by real property despite the promises, and for those that were; nearly all the properties securing the promissory notes are now in foreclosure.


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Transportation Sector

17. April 20, Associated Press – (International) Gunman captured in airplane hijacking. Police say a gunman who hijacked a plane in Kingston, Jamaica has been captured after an eight-hour standoff with police. A police spokeswoman says authorities disarmed the young man whom authorities described as “mentally challenged.” Authorities say the 20-year-old Jamaican forced his way past security check points and seized the CanJet Airlines plane in the late evening of April 19. The young man boarded CanJet Airlines Flight 918 in Montego Bay and demanded to be flown to Cuba, the Jamaican information minister told the Associated Press. A total of 159 passengers and eight crew members were aboard the Boeing 737 at the time, according to Jamaican police. Police said all the passengers and two crew members were released after a brief time, but six crew members were held at gunpoint hours longer.

Source: http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5jfW2kkxHGaPHoCpx0nTDDMBkwaJgD97M6G780

18. April 20, Associated Press – (Massachusetts) Marine arrested at Boston airport after bomb materials found in luggage. A U.S. Marine was arrested the morning of April 19 at Boston’s Logan International Airport after screeners found bomb-making materials, a gun, and ammunition in his checked baggage, state police and security officials said. A Transportation Security Administration (TSA) spokeswoman said the 22-year-old man of Jacksonville, North Carolina was booked on US Airways Flight 877 to Charlotte, North Carolina. The TSA spokeswoman said he arrived in Boston on a flight from Las Vegas, Nevada earlier April 19. The TSA is trying to determine why the items were not detected during a screening in Las Vegas. State police at Logan were notified about the
items by the TSA screeners. Reed was charged with possession of an infernal machine and possession of a concealed weapon in a secure area of an airport.
Source: http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,517133,00.html

19. April 20, Aviation Herald – (New York) **Southwest B73G near Islip on Apr 18th 2009, unruly passenger.** A Southwest Airlines Boeing 737-700, flight WN-1552 from Islip, New York to West Palm Beach, Florida, returned to Islip about 18 minutes into the flight after a passenger became disruptive and finally threatened another passenger claiming that he had a gun. The airplane landed safely 45 minutes after takeoff. The disruptive passenger was arrested, and no gun was found.
Source: http://avherald.com/h?article=4185b10f

20. April 19, Associated Press – (Florida) **Pilot in Florida plane crash reported trouble.** An 80-year old pilot began having problems right after taking off from Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport on April 17. A senior air traffic safety investigator said he had not yet heard the tapes, but said the pilot was not specific about whatever went wrong. “I spoke to the FAA [Federal Aviation Administration] today, and their exact words were, “The pilot said, ‘I’m having trouble and I need to come back.’” The pilot was given clearance to land on any runway and turned the aircraft around, then dipped suddenly into the house. “They don’t believe it reached a high point above approximately 300 feet,” the investigator said. Family members told federal investigators the veteran pilot was going to Fernandina Beach to sell the twin-engine Cessna 421, authorities said. “Luckily for us, the majority of the wreckage fell outside the house,” the investigator said. “A lot of it was in the front of the house and a lot of it was in the back of the house.” The small craft had no black box.
Source: http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5hJQ2ZUKnXI9QgZie35T4UwNgekUAD97L5FD00

21. April 18, News Day – (New York) **Mystery package forces Huntington LIRR station evacuation.** Authorities say they evacuated a Long Island Rail Road (LIRR) ticket office in Huntington the evening of April 18 and questioned passengers as a bomb-sniffing dog scrutinized a suspicious package left by a trio of vengeful swindlers. The package was deemed harmless, and no one was arrested in connection with the bizarre incident, which delayed by about 15 minutes the 5:36 p.m. Huntington train due in Penn Station at 6:39 p.m., said a LIRR spokesman, relaying information given to him by the Metropolitan Transportation Authority Police. The incident unfolded just before the 5:36 train was to depart when the three people asked to cash in a ticket. The ticket agent determined that the ticket had been improperly altered and refused to give a refund. That decision infuriated the three people. “The three individuals got a little belligerent, got into it with the ticket agent,” the LIRR spokesman said. That is when the group left the suspicious package with the agent and fled.
Source: http://www.newsday.com/news/local/suffolk/ny-lilirr1912671040apr18,0,3229750.story

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Postal and Shipping Sector

22. *April 17, KOVR 13 Sacramento* – (California) **Suspicious device found in Isleton mailbox.** FBI investigators and the bomb squad were called to Isleton on April 17 after a suspicious device was found in a mailbox. The Sacramento County Sheriff’s Department says the device was found in a mailbox at 103 C Street, which is the U.S. Post Office. After investigating, it was determined not to be a threat.

Agriculture and Food Sector

23. *April 20, Digital Journal* – (Florida) **21 polo horses dead in South Florida.** A veterinarian is saying that the 21 polo horses that died Sunday in South Florida were poisoned. The horses all died from some kind of poison that triggered what is suspected to be heart failure. Seven of the horses died at the International Polo Club Palm Beach. The other fourteen died on route to medical care or while being treated elsewhere. All of the dead horses were from the Lechuza Caracas team from Venezuela. The Lakeland Ledger reports: “Well clearly, it’s an intoxication, clearly there’s some sort of a poison,” a veterinary doctor told NBC. He said it remains to be seen “whether it’s something in the environment or something that the horses were exposed to.” He said the routine in the horses’ stable ahead of the match was absolutely normal. At this point investigators are not sure where the horses came into contact with the unknown poison. The Associated Press reports that, “It could be the water, hay, bedding. We just don’t know. When we find out what it is, we will take all the necessary actions,” the polo club’s president of club operations told the Palm Beach Post. At least 14 of the horses are at a state agricultural laboratory for necropsies to learn the causes of their deaths. It is expected that an investigation will begin on Monday carried out by the U.S. Polo Association.

24. *April 19, Milwaukee Journal Sentinel* – (Wisconsin) **Raw milk draws fans, despite being illegal to sell.** Farmers, some of whom have been drinking raw milk themselves for generations, contend it is safe. They also believe it is legal to provide raw milk to the public on a limited scale. State law says farmers cannot sell or give away raw milk, but they can consume it themselves from cows they own. To satisfy demand from would-be customers, some farmers sell shares in their dairy herd and then provide raw milk to shareholders for a handling fee. The Craig farm has had 1,000 members in an association it formed to supply raw milk — although not all of the members have been active at the same time. State regulators have known for years that some farms provide raw milk to the public. They contend it is illegal and strongly oppose such sales. But with few exceptions, the state has not cracked down on a practice that is minuscule compared with the rest of the state’s dairy industry. “It’s under investigation right now,”
said the state Bureau of Food and Safety Inspection director. The question of just how dangerous is milk straight from the farm with no pasteurization is widely debated. “It is truly a public threat,” said a spokeswoman for the state Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection. Advocates claim that unprocessed milk is healthier because they believe pasteurization destroys nutrients and the enzymes necessary to absorb calcium. Advocates for unpasteurized milk say the safety concerns are exaggerated. “Reports of individuals becoming ill after drinking raw milk do exist but even these reports do not usually provide proof that raw milk caused…the illness,” said the president of the Weston A. Price Foundation, sponsor of the national Campaign for Real Milk.

Source: http://www.jsonline.com/business/43259972.html

25. April 18, Puget Sound Business Journal – (National) Ivar’s recalls turkey soups. Ivar’s Seafood is recalling turkey soups shipped to institutions in Washington and three other states because the labels did not declare that the products contained milk, which can trigger allergies in some people. Mukilteo-based Ivar’s, which operates seafood restaurants and sells chowder, soups and other products, is recalling about 38,000 pounds of the turkey soup products, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Food Safety and Inspection Service. The soups were produced between February 28 and April 7. They were not sold directly to consumers, but were shipped to various institutions in Washington, California, Idaho and Oregon. The government food-safety agency said that the problem with the labels was discovered during a routine inspection. There have been no reports of illness related to the soups. The products recalled are: 12-pound boxes of E.R.I Turkey-flavored egg noodle soup base with turkey meat and 12-pound boxes of two-spoon home-style soups, turkey-flavored egg noodle soup base with turkey meat. Each label bears the establishment number “P-20173” inside the USDA mark of inspection and a “Produced On” date stamped onto the box.


26. April 18, Associated Press – (Minnesota) Plant fire forces evacuation of entire Minn. town. Authorities evacuated the southeastern Minnesota town of St. Charles of about 3,600 Friday as a large fire at a meat processing plant threatened the anhydrous ammonia tanks inside but, despite a scare, firefighters were able to prevent the tanks from exploding. What happened, according the a spokeswoman for the emergency operations center for the incident, was that as crews were deliberately venting ammonia from the five tanks inside the plant, some ammonia in the pipes that run through the plant escaped, causing ammonia levels in the air to temporarily spike twice. She said the ammonia dissipated right away and posed no threat to emergency workers at the scene. A city administrator said there were about 30,000 pounds of anhydrous ammonia in the five tanks. The cause of the fire was not immediately known, he said. Civil defense sirens blared to warn residents to get out. Sheriff’s deputies began door-to-door evacuations of people and pets about 3:30 p.m., and evacuation centers were set up for displaced residents at a church and schools in nearby communities. Both major highways through town were closed. Only reported injuries were minor. Some 200
firefighters and emergency workers from several agencies responded to the fire, including a hazardous materials team from Rochester, and 70 firefighters were still on the scene late Friday to fight the blaze through the night. North Star Foods plant manager said the fire started late Friday morning above one of the ovens where chickens are cooked. “Within two to three minutes, there was smoke coming out of the room pretty heavy,” the manager said.

Source: http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5iohBQC2IPAY_3EdEgOrAooWvCKvgD97KLQ700

Water Sector

27. April 20, Associated Press – (National) AP investigates pharmaceutical dumping in water. U.S. manufacturers, including major drugmakers, have legally released at least 271 million pounds of pharmaceuticals into waterways that often provide drinking water, according to an Associated Press investigation. Federal and industry officials say they do not know how many drugs are released by U.S. manufacturers because no one tracks them. But an analysis of 20 years of federal records found that there is data on a few. AP identified 22 compounds that show up on two lists: The EPA monitors them as industrial chemicals that are released into bodies of water under federal pollution laws, while the Food and Drug Administration classifies them as pharmaceutical ingredients. Two common industrial chemicals that are also pharmaceuticals — phenol and hydrogen peroxide — account for 92 percent of the 271 million pounds.


28. April 19, Associated Press – (Illinois) Report: Chicago suburb supplied contaminated water. Officials knowingly drew drinking water from a contaminated well for more than two decades even after warnings by state environmental officials, according to a published report. Records showed that state Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) officials cited contaminated tap water in Crestwood in the 1980s, saying it contained dangerous chemicals related to a dry-cleaning solvent, according to a Chicago Tribune story published April 19. The water in the suburb south of Chicago was contaminated with chemicals linked to perchloroethylene, or PCE, which is believed to cause cancer. The Tribune reported that village officials told state regulators that they would use water from Lake Michigan, but the village of about 11,000 continued to draw from the contaminated well. It said that at times, up to 20 percent of the village’s water supply came from the well and that officials touted the village’s cheap water rates during the two decades. The well was not shut off until late 2007, after state EPA officials tested the water and found contamination. City officials did not respond to Tribune requests for comment, and messages left Sunday by the Associated Press for village officials were not returned. The village’s mayor in the mid-1980s said he did not know the details of the investigation. He told the Souhttown Star that he had “never been accused of doing something wrong.”

Source:
29. **April 18, Associated Press** – (North Dakota) **Sewer system fails in flood-threatened ND town.** The mayor of the flood-threatened North Dakota town of Valley City asked all residents to leave April 17 after the sewer system backed up, flooding buildings in a four-block area with murky water. “We had a major main collapse in our sanitary sewer system. When it collapsed, the river came in and it overloaded the sewer system,” the mayor said. The mayor urged those of the town’s 7,000 residents who had not already cleared out to leave, but she stopped short of a mandatory evacuation. She said the sewer system would be temporarily rebuilt above the ground and the city will, for now, pump its sewage into the swollen Sheyenne River. Officials said the city’s water was still safe to drink but sending it down drains or flushing toilets would make the backup worse. The mayor said 222 portable toilets will be stationed around town. The sewage should not cause environmental harm because of the large amount of water in the river, said the director of the state Health Department’s environmental section.


30. **April 17, New York Times** – (National) **Aging of water mains is becoming hard to ignore.** Water officials say they believe that a handful of wooden water mains are still in use in South Dakota, Alaska and Pennsylvania, among other places. Wooden planks are bound together with a coil of metal like a barrel. These primitive pipes are not unique to Chelan, Washington. The old wood pipes offer a vivid reminder of the age and fragility of the nation’s drinking water systems, many of which rely heavily on old pipes that often remain out of sight and mind — until they burst. The new federal stimulus law provides $6 billion for water projects, with $2 billion of that directed to drinking water systems. But a report released last month by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) estimated that the nation’s drinking water systems require an investment of $334.8 billion over the next two decades, with most of the money needed to improve transmission and distribution systems. When it comes to pipes, newer is not necessarily better, the American Water Works Association has found. The oldest cast-iron pipes, dating to the late 1800s, have an average useful life of about 120 years. For cast-iron pipes installed in the 1920s, that drops to about 100 years. And pipes put in after World War II have an average life of only around 75 years. The upshot is that all three vintages of pipe will need replacement in a short stretch of time. Still, some pipes last longer than anyone expected — like the remaining wooden pipes that are scattered around the country, relics from the days when many early American water systems used barrel-like pipes or bored-out logs to deliver water. No one seems to know exactly how old the wooden pipe is in Chelan. The rest of the city’s wooden mains were replaced long ago, said the city’s director of public works. Although the wood pipe has given him no trouble, he said he planned to replace the last 500-foot-section before it fails, because repairing wood pipe can be finicky work that combines carpentry with plumbing.

31. *April 20, Computerworld* – (National) **Study: Privacy restrictions may slow rollouts of e-health systems.** Two researchers from MIT and the University of Virginia claim in a study publicly released last week that increased efforts to protect the privacy of health care data could hamper the deployment of electronic medical records systems. The researchers said EMR adoption levels are often lowest in states with strong data-privacy regulations. Strict rules can make it harder and more costly for hospitals to exchange patient data, thereby reducing the value of EMR systems, the study found. The study looked at EMR usage in 19 states over a 10-year period. It suggests that a trade-off has to be made between boosting adoption of the technology and strengthening privacy laws, said an assistant professor of marketing at MIT’s Sloan School of Management and one of the report’s authors. The study was criticized by privacy advocates, who are already concerned about the accelerated move to a nationwide EMR system. 

Source: [http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&taxonomyName=knowledge_center&articleId=337868&taxonomyId=1&intsrc=kc_top](http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&taxonomyName=knowledge_center&articleId=337868&taxonomyId=1&intsrc=kc_top)

32. *April 19, Detroit Lakes Tribune* – (Minnesota) **Medical clinics in Detroit Lakes evacuated due to bomb threat.** Several medical clinics in Detroit Lakes were evacuated on April 15 evening due to a bomb threat. The evacuations affected the St. Mary’s Innovis Clinic, Meritcare and the 7-Day Clinic. Detroit Lakes’ police chief said that an initial call was made to the Becker County Sheriff’s Dispatch at 5:44 p.m. The caller stated that a pipe bomb was placed at a clinic and it would detonate in two hours. Law enforcement teams from Detroit Lakes, Lake Park, Audubon, White Earth and the Sheriff’s Department searched the clinics. Authorities narrowed their focus to St. Mary’s Innovis after it was determined that the calls came from a pay phone inside of St. Mary’s Innovis hospital. A bomb sniffing dog from the State Patrol Explosives Unit in Alexandria was brought in. Five law enforcement officers and 30 firefighters were tied up for several hours dealing with the threat. 


33. *April 19, Central Illinois Pantagraph* – (Illinois) **State looking at legislation to curb sudden hospital closures.** The slow and frustrating decay of a shuttered hospital in southern Illinois has inspired legislation aimed at safeguarding the public when medical facilities close their doors. Under legislation pending in the Illinois Senate, hospitals would have to file notice with the state when they plan to close and outline how they plan to store patient records and dispose of hazardous medical materials. “When a medical facility is vacant, we should make sure that before they cease operation, all concerns about hazardous material and patient records have been addressed,” a state representative said in a statement. The representative is sponsoring the proposal at the request of West Frankfort residents who are concerned over the materials left behind in the United Mine Workers of America Hospital, which closed in 2000. The legislation also could affect the closure of nursing homes and other medical facilities. 

Government Facilities Sector

34. April 20, WFSB 3 Hartford – (Connecticut) 3-alarm fire at Wesleyan leaves 3 injured.
Middletown authorities are working to determine what started a fire at a science building at Wesleyan University that injured two campus safety officers and a city firefighter. The fire escalated to three alarms before being extinguished. Officials said the fire at the Hall-Atwater building was reported at about 11:30 p.m. Sunday, after a student who was working on a project in a lab left for the night. Another student in a nearby lab smelled smoke and called campus officers. The two officers suffered minor injuries while trying to put out the fire. They were treated and released from a local hospital. Officials said a city firefighter was treated for minor chemical burns at the hospital and later discharged. Authorities said a first-floor lab and two nearby rooms were damaged. Officials said the fire got inside the building’s walls and traveled up one floor. They said it also damaged the building’s electrical system. The building was closed Monday. Classes were still in session, but were being held in other buildings. “Apparently the student was doing work Sunday evening. She finished up around 9:30, another student smelled smoke around 11:30,” said a Wesleyan spokesman. Members of the Department of Environmental Protection were called to the school to ensure that the chemicals did not contaminate anything. The Wesleyan spokesman said the student was working beneath a hood in the chemistry lab. “They have a list of all chemicals in the lab, and they don’t know exactly what was under the hood, so they’ll go in and they’ll see what was under the hood,” he said. “They’ll see if something was splattered, if something was airborne just to make sure it’s safe to re-enter the building.”

35. April 19, Muncie Star Press – (Indiana) Bomb threat prompts evacuation of field, not dorm.
Police responded to a bomb threat on the Ball State University campus early on April 18, but no bomb was found. Officers evacuated a field where a Relay For Life event was being held near the LaFollette Complex after they received an anonymous call around 1:30 a.m. April 18. The anonymous caller used an emergency phone on campus to call in the threat, a Ball State spokesman said. Because the caller did not specify whether the threat was related to the field or the dormitory complex, police checked both areas, but only evacuated the field. Standard protocol led officials not to evacuate the dorm. A bomb, which police believe would likely be mobile and small in that situation, would reach farther in an open area than in a building. Police believed people would be safer within the dorm than if they were to go outside, officials said. In some cases, bomb threats are made to get people into a location where there is a real bomb or active shooter, according to the university spokesman. The Delaware County Bomb Squad swept the dormitory and found no bomb. While the university did notify students via e-mail around 4:25 a.m. April 18, they did not use the emergency text message alert system. Text messaging is used only when specific action is needed, the spokesman said. The suspect who made the threat had not been found, the spokesman added on April 19.
Source:
Emergency Services Sector

36. April 20, Washington Post – (National) A sobering exercise for first responders. The National Emergency Medical Services Preparedness Initiative, part of George Washington University, recently unveiled a video game that will allow emergency workers to hone their skills on the virtual scene of large-scale crises. Using a $4.8 million grant from the Department of Homeland Security and taking a cue from a Defense Department game called America’s Army, which shows soldiers what life is like in battle, NEMSPI spent two years designing the game. Target users include paramedics and EMTs, whose training varies greatly across the country, as well as interested citizens, says the NEMSPI’s associate director. Players go through four scenarios that get more complex as the game progresses. It starts with an emerging pandemic, moves to an earthquake and a sports complex explosion, and culminates in the accidental derailment of a train carrying chemicals.

Source: http://www.pressofatlanticcity.com/health_fitness/article_965bb415-fc77-5ec3-8c9a-e72a4f1cb73f.html

Information Technology

37. April 20, The Register – (International) Twitter riddled with worms and scams (again). Multiple new versions of the Mikeyy cross-site scripting worm spread across the Twitter micro-blogging network recently. The first in the latest batch of worms berated Twitter for poor security. The VXer who got a job in security days after creating the first Twitter XSS worm over the Easter holiday weekend has confessed to creating this worm too. A second worm, which began spreading on April 17, referenced Twitter users with a large number of followers (such as @oprah and @aplus) and came from compromised accounts that also referenced the increasingly annoying Mikeyy. On 18 April two more Mikeyy-type worms appeared, this time in the guise of Tweets from compromised accounts, featuring philosophical musings and the word “womp.” The second worm of the day built on infected profiles, changing the title of the profile to “Mikey and the Mysterious Treqz,” as explained in a blog posting by F-Secure. Twitter, not before time, suspended the VXer’s profile recently, and this might be the 17-year-old’s reaction, although this has not been confirmed. Security researchers, who criticize Twitter for its apparent inability to de-worm its site, advise users to turn off scripting, or use Firefox extension NoScript, when viewing users’ profiles in order to avoid getting caught out by the malware. “Once again, Twitter is left looking amateurish in its response as it clearly has not properly hardened its systems from these kind of cross-site scripting attacks,” writes a senior security consultant at anti-virus firm Sophos. April 20 brought yet more security problems for Twitter with the spread of messages promoting TheSmartEcard.com, a site linked to online scams. Twitter itself describes the issue as a “scam/phishing” problem unrelated to malware. It adds that the messages were sent via
compromised accounts, which it is in the process of suspending.
Source: http://www.theregister.co.uk/2009/04/20/twitter_worm_madness/

38. April 18, Computerworld – (International) Mac exploit enters system through VMware. A bug in VMware’s Fusion virtualization software could be used to run malicious code on a Mac by exploiting Windows in a virtual machine, a security researcher said recently. VMware has released Fusion 2.0.4 to plug the hole. According to an exploit researcher at Immunity Inc., a critical vulnerability in VMware’s virtual machine display function can be used to read and write memory on the “host” operating system, the OS running the physical hardware. The researcher crafted an exploit for Immunity’s customers, the Miami-based company is best-known for its Canvas penetration testing tool, and posted a video clip that demonstrates an attack on a machine running Windows Vista Service Pack 1 (SP1) as the host operating system, and Windows XP as the “guest,” the OS running in a virtual machine. “This is indeed a guest-to-host exploit,” the researcher said in an e-mail on April 18. “It uses several vulnerabilities in the ‘Display functions’ (as VMware put it) that allow [someone] to read and write arbitrary memory in the host. Thus the guest can run some code on the host, effectively bypassing ASLR and DEP on Vista SP1.” The same tactics can be employed against a guest operating system, say Windows XP, running in Fusion on a Mac powered by Apple’s Mac OS X, the researcher confirmed. “The vulnerability is also present in VMware Fusion and as such would allow a guest (Windows or Linux) to run code on the Mac OS X host,” he said. “We did not implement this exploit though, but will probably in a near future.”
Source: http://www.pcworld.com/businesscenter/article/163385/mac_exploit_enters_system_through_vmware.html

Internet Alert Dashboard
To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Website: http://www.us-cert.gov.
Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Website: https://www.it-isac.org/

Communications Sector

Nothing to report

Commercial Facilities Sector

39. April 20, Associated Press – (Michigan) 70-year-old arrested in Detroit casino bomb scare. Authorities have arrested a 70-year-old man in connection with suspicious objects first thought to be pipe bombs left in a parking garage at Detroit’s Motor City Casino.
Detroit police spokesman says the man from the suburb of Eastpointe was arrested about 1 a.m. Monday at home after authorities reviewed security video. Police have not released the suspect’s identity, but the spokesman says he was at the casino. Police on Sunday found several devices in the garage. They were detonated electronically at a safe distance from the casino and were devoid of explosive material. The four-story garage was closed for about six hours. Officials said the casino itself was not considered in danger and therefore was not evacuated.

Source: 
http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20090420/ap_on_re_us/casino_explosives;_ylt=Aih0JRYVQmx6CZpV57KXWVtvzwCF
See also: 
http://www.freep.com/article/20090420/NEWS01/90420020/Man++70++arrested+in+Motor+City+Casino+bomb+scare

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**National Monuments & Icons Sector**

40. **April 20, Central Michigan Life** – (Michigan) *Pieces of Iraq war memorial found.* The missing pieces of the Mount Pleasant Iraq War Memorial were found on April 17 in the Chippewa River near Pickens Field, police officials said. According to a press release from the Mount Pleasant Police Department (MPPD), officers acted on a tip that led to both the location of the missing pieces and to two suspects. “Officers were able to locate both juveniles who were identified as the suspects,” the release stated. “In the presence of a parent, both juveniles admitted to their parts in the theft from the memorial.” The juveniles are in the custody of their parents and the MPPD will be submitting the investigation to the Isabella County Prosecutor’s Office with the required juvenile petitions, according to the MPPD. Pickens Field, located at 309 W. Pickard Avenue, near where the missing pieces were found, is a youth baseball and softball park off Pickard Street across the river from Island Park. The bronze helmet and rifle from the memorial in Island Park, 331 N. Main St., were stolen sometime between April 4 and April 7. The missing portion of the statue remains in the property room of the MPPD.


41. **April 18, Associated Press** – (National) *Interior won’t challenge rule on guns in park.* The Presidential Administration said on April 17 it will not appeal a federal court ruling that prohibits carrying loaded guns in national parks and wildlife refuges. Instead, the Interior Department said it will conduct a full environmental review of an earlier policy that allowed concealed, loaded guns in parks and refuges. A U.S. District Judge struck down the gun policy last month. She called the rule, issued in the waning days of the prior Presidential Administration, severely flawed and said officials failed to evaluate its possible environmental impacts, as required by law. The judge set an April 20 deadline for the Interior Department to indicate its likely response. The rule of the prior Presidential Administration, which took effect in January, allowed visitors to carry a loaded gun into a park or wildlife refuge as long as the person had a permit for a
concealed weapon and the state where the park or refuge was located allowed concealed firearms. Previously, guns in parks had been severely restricted. A spokeswoman for the Interior Secretary said on April 17 that the department is not completely discarding the previous rule. Instead, she said that officials intend to complete a comprehensive environmental impact statement that analyzes the possible effects of the previous rule, as well as a range of alternatives. The president of the Brady Campaign to Prevent Gun Violence, which filed a lawsuit to block the rule of the previous administration, said he was pleased at the Presidential Administration’s decision. “Semiautomatic weapons have no place in the valleys of Yellowstone, on the cliffs of Yosemite or under the torch of the Statue of Liberty,” he said. The National Rifle Association has filed a separate appeal of the ruling. A spokesman has said the group will pursue all legal and legislative avenues “to defend the American people’s right to self-defense.”

Source: http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5irWgvJzXz3UFknRjrJgjierKwnFwD97KJ3180

Dams Sector

April 17, Bolton Common – (Massachusetts) **Dam deemed unsafe.** In a March 13 letter to the Conservation Commission, the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation Office of Dam Safety wrote that the Fyfeshire Conservation Area dam “does not meet accepted safety standards and is a potential threat to public safety.” The office issued a certificate of non-compliance and a dam safety order and laid out the steps the town needs to comply with to meet safety regulations. It is something the town needs to take seriously, a conservation administrator told selectmen April 2. She is already working with the town administrator on a request for proposal for an engineer to conduct a Phase 2 inspection, which the state expects the town to begin by June 1. A Phase 1 inspection conducted by AMEC Earth & Environmental of Worcester last July determined the dam was structurally deficient and unsafe. At that time, selectmen closed the bridge over the earthen dam, which dates back to 1878. The Phase 2 inspection will evaluate the dam’s structural integrity and hydraulic capacity to determine whether the dam should be repaired, breached or removed to bring it into compliance.

Source: http://www.wickedlocal.com/bolton/town_info/government/x718256606/Dam-deemed-unsafe
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