Top Stories

- According to the Oil & Gas Journal, six independent producers agreed to spend $6.4 million to comply with the U.S. Clean Air Act at their eastern Utah natural gas production facilities, federal regulators said on April 17. (See item 3)
- WAGA 5 Atlanta reports that a runway had to be shut down at Hartsfield Jackson Airport in Georgia on April 19 because of problems with a military plane. About 65 flights were affected. (See item 18)

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Energy Sector

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

1. April 21, SustainableBusiness.com – (Florida) FPL, GE, Cisco team up on Miami Smart Grid. The Miami mayor announced on April 21 a plan to use federal economic stimulus funds to help spur a $200 million investment in smart grid technology and renewable energy over the next two years. The initiative, called “Energy Smart Miami,” brings together General Electric, Cisco Systems, Silver Springs Networks and utility Florida Power & Light (FPL). The backbone of Energy Smart Miami will be the
deployment of more than 1 million advanced wireless “Smart Meters” to every home and most businesses in Miami-Dade County. These meters will give FPL customers more information and control over their electricity usage while also providing FPL with information that will enhance system efficiency and reliability.


2. *April 21, Charlotte News & Observer* – (North Carolina) **Duke coal plant protesters arrested.** Police arrested dozens of protesters on April 20 at Duke Energy’s Charlotte headquarters after a rally and march against Duke Energy’s coal policies. About 300 people gathered to decry the expansion of Duke’s Cliffside coal-fired power plant in Rutherford County. After marching to the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Government Center, where protesters called on the governor to stop Cliffside, they gathered outside Duke’s downtown headquarters. As the crowd chanted, referring to Duke Energy’s CEO, several dozen people lined up to cross a spray-painted line that delimited Duke Energy’s property; they were arrested. Protest organizers said 44 people were arrested for trespassing.


3. *April 20, Oil & Gas Journal* – (Utah) **Producers settle air pollution charges at eastern Utah sites.** Six independent producers agreed to spend $6.4 million to comply with the U.S. Clean Air Act at their eastern Utah natural gas production facilities, federal regulators said April 17. The three settlements with Bill Barrett Corp., Wind River Corp., XTO Energy Inc., Dominion Exploration & Production Inc., Whiting Oil & Gas Corp., and Miller Dyer & Co. mandate air pollution reductions and conservation practices at the companies’ wellheads, pipelines, and compressor stations, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Department of Justice (DOJ) said in a joint announcement. They said the agreements cover operations on the Uintah and Ouray Indian Reservation near Vernal. They were filed in federal district court in Salt Lake City. The $6.4 million of outlays include retrofitting pneumatic controls with lower emitted components, reviewing processes to increase gas recovery and reduce air emissions at compressor stations and well sites, installing low-bleed or no-bleed pneumatics, and controlling emission sources such as large engines, gas dehydrators, and condensate tanks at all new facilities constructed in the next 5 years, the federal agencies said. It also includes shale-plating all future access roads, spending $100,000 to fund two ambient air monitoring stations’ operation and maintenance for a year, and using less polluting and more energy-efficient technologies in pilot programs, they added. The companies also agreed to pay $632,000 in fines and to spend $200,000 on supplemental environmental projects, EPA and DOJ said. They said complaints, which were filed along with the settlements, alleged that the producers violated hazardous air pollutant emissions standards; federal permitting, emissions monitoring, and reporting requirements; and other Clean Air Act provisions.

Source: [http://www.ogi.com/display_article/359729/7/ONART/none/GenIn/1/Producers-settle-air-pollution-charges-at-eastern-Utah-sites/](http://www.ogi.com/display_article/359729/7/ONART/none/GenIn/1/Producers-settle-air-pollution-charges-at-eastern-Utah-sites/)

4. *April 20, Environmental News Service* – (Texas) **Texas oil company, two executives...**
admit environmental crimes. Crimes related to the disposal of refinery wastes at an underground injection well have landed Texas Oil and Gathering Inc. of Alvin, Texas, its owner and its operations manager in trouble. In U.S. District Court in Houston, the two corporate officers on April 16 admitted conspiracy and violation of the Safe Drinking Water Act for disposing of oil-contaminated wastewaters from its refinery process at an underground class II injection well in Rosharon, Texas permitted to accept wastes only from oil and gas production. The company pleaded guilty to conspiracy and violating the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) for disposing of hazardous waste at an unpermitted facility. A class II injection well is permitted to accept only wastes generated from the exploration of oil and gas. Usually the wastes consist of brine mixed with some crude oil or gas distillate. In this case, the waste water was mixed with refined products and chemicals such as higher concentrations of toluene and xylene not usually found in oil and gas production wastes. The government’s investigation began in January 2003, when the BLSR Operating, Ltd. injection well at Rosharon exploded, killing three workers and seriously injuring four others. Although the explosion was not caused by the defendants, a closer review of the waste dumped into the injection well led to their prosecution.


5. *April 20, Associated Press* – (Colorado) **Court: Water from gas drilling must be regulated.** Energy companies drilling natural gas from underground coal seams must obtain water well permits or replace the water they use, the Colorado Supreme Court ruled April 20. Groundwater pumped out during coal-bed methane drilling is not just a waste product, the court said, ruling on a lawsuit by landowners who say their water supplies are threatened by companies using groundwater to free natural gas in coal seams. The decision means companies must defer to water users with older water rights and replace the water they use when it belongs to others. Pumping groundwater relieves pressure that traps methane gas in coal seams. Other gas drilling might produce water, but not in the volumes that coal-bed methane extraction does. Millions of gallons of water might be pumped over the life of one well. There are about 38,000 active oil and gas wells statewide, and roughly 4,000 of those are coal-bed methane. The state engineer’s office and BP America Production Co. argued that water is a byproduct of drilling and should be regulated by state oil and gas rules. BP America re-injects the water it uses into the ground. But the Supreme Court upheld a state water court ruling that the water is put to beneficial use and, therefore, is subject to state water laws. The justices rejected the argument that water pumped out while drilling gas was “merely a nuisance.” The Colorado Oil and Gas Association, a trade group, said in a statement that coal-bed methane drilling has not been shown to harm water-rights owners.


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**Chemical Industry Sector**

6. *April 21, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency* – (Indiana) **EPA cites Wayne Metals for Clean-Air violations.** U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 5 has filed an administrative complaint against Wayne Metals LLC for alleged Clean Air Act
violations at the company’s metal coating facility in Markle, Indiana. EPA proposed a $54,000 penalty. EPA alleges Wayne Metals violated federal regulations and its state operating permit by emitting excessive amounts of hazardous air pollutants from January 2007 to January 2008. The information was included in the company’s annual compliance report. EPA notified Wayne Metals of the alleged violations in May 2008 and met with the company to discuss the finding in June 2008. Wayne Metals has 30 days from receipt of the complaint to file an answer and request a hearing. It may request an informal conference with EPA at any time to discuss resolving the allegations.


7. April 20, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency – (West Virginia) **Dupont and Lucite International agree to pay $2 million for clean air violations.** DuPont and Lucite International Inc. have agreed to pay a $2 million civil penalty to settle Clean Air Act violations at a sulfuric acid plant in Belle, West Virginia, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the U.S. Justice Department, and the state of West Virginia announced April 20. The sulfuric acid plant is located on a 100-acre chemical manufacturing complex along the Kanawha River. The plant is owned by Lucite and operated by DuPont. The companies will pay $1 million to the United States and $1 million to the state of West Virginia. Further, the companies chose on their own to shut down the sulfuric-acid manufacturing unit of a larger chemical facility at the site and the settlement confirms this agreement. Under the settlement, the sulfuric acid unit is scheduled to shut down by April 1, 2010. In a joint complaint, filed concurrently with the consent decree, the United States and West Virginia allege that the companies made modifications to their plant in 1996 without first obtaining pre-construction permits and installing required pollution control equipment.

Source: [http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/0/c72f8c5f4e4499668525759e0054567a?OpenDocument](http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/0/c72f8c5f4e4499668525759e0054567a?OpenDocument)

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**Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and Waste Sector**

8. April 20, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission – (Florida) **Injured person transported off site with clothing contamination.** The control room at Turkey Point nuclear facility in Florida was notified of an injured person inside the Unit 3 Containment. It was immediately reported that this person fell about 4 feet off of the Reactor Head (while the Reactor Head was on the head stand) and potentially had head/back trauma. Miami Metro Dade Fire and Rescue (911) was called. Medical and Safety personnel arrived in containment and began preparation to transport the individual outside of containment. Metro Dade Fire and Rescue arrived on site and the individual was then transported outside of containment via the equipment hatch. FPL Radiation Protection reported to the control room that due to the individual’s injuries and the difficulty in completing a full frisk, the individual would be transported offsite as a potentially contaminated-
injured person. Security contacted the control room and stated that Metro Dade Fire and Rescue received the individual and began transport offsite to Baptist Hospital, Miami, Florida. An FPL Radiation Protection representative that traveled to Baptist Hospital reported that the individual’s clothing (protected clothing and modesty garments) was contaminated at 200 corrected cps background. No skin contamination was found. An FPL Radiation Protection representative at Baptist Hospital took physical control of all material brought to the hospital from the site and are transporting all material back to site. The ambulance, other equipment, people, and structures with whom the contaminated individual and his clothing made contact between the containment control point and the hospital were surveyed, showed no contamination, and released. The individual was an FPL employee, and was staging equipment at a work site. The licensee has notified the NRC Resident Inspector.


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**Critical Manufacturing**

9. *April 21, Allentown Morning Call* – (Pennsylvania) **Aluminum is stolen from manufacturer.** Nearly $11,000 worth of aluminum was stolen over the weekend from a company that makes protective steel barriers in the Boyertown area, police said. Ten of the 13 pieces of aluminum — described as security crash arms — were 21 feet long and three were 25 feet long. The pieces were valued at between $800 and $900 each, police said. The thefts took place between about 5 p.m. April 17 and 5 a.m. April 20 at Apex Fabrication and Design Inc. in Earl Township. The aluminum pieces had diameters ranging from 6 to 10 inches, with a three-eighth inch wall, police said.


10. *April 20, Birmingham Business Journal* – (International) **Hyundai recalling 532,000 vehicles.** Hyundai has issued a recall for 532,000 vehicles — including the 2006-2007 Sonata and the 2007 Santa Fe, which are both manufactured in Alabama. According to a report obtained from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration’s Web site, the recall was prompted by the possibility of the stop lamp switch malfunctioning. The report said the malfunction could cause “brake lights to not illuminate when the brake pedal is depressed or may cause the brake lights to remain illuminated when the brake pedal is released.” The report also noted that the malfunction might affect the brake-transmission shift interlock because it would prevent the shifter from being able to be shifted out of the park position. It may also cause the electronic stability control (ESC) malfunction light to illuminate and it may not deactivate the cruise control when the brake pedal is depressed. The Korean automaker said it would remedy the problem by having dealers replace the lamp switch free of charge.


11. *April 20, Tampa Bay Business Journal* – (Florida) **Chromalloy Casting Tampa Corp. plans $16.5 million expansion.** Chromalloy Casting Tampa Corp. will invest $16.5
million to expand its engine component manufacturing operation, leading to possibly adding 200 high-wage jobs in the Tampa Bay area. The company is an independent manufacturer of turbine engine components and has global customers, a release said. Chromalloy’s expansion will be completed by year-end for a ramp-up of production in early 2010, according to the release from the Florida governor. The expansion of the facility will create a high-tech manufacturing operation serving major world markets in the power generation and aerospace segments.


**Defense Industrial Base Sector**

12. *April 21, Reuters* – (National) **Lockheed says F-35 classified data not breached.** The Pentagon and Lockheed Martin Corp., its top supplier, discounted a published report that cyber spies had stolen secrets of the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter being built for the United States and nearly a dozen allies. The Wall Street Journal said on April 21 that “terabytes” of the $300 billion program’s design and electronic systems data had been grabbed in raids identified by the paper as appearing to have started in China. The Journal cited current and former officials said to be familiar with the purported computer intrusions, which if confirmed could make it easier to defend against the F-35. It noted it is tough to know the origin of cyberspying for sure because it is relatively easy for experts to mask tracks online. The radar-evading F-35 is being developed with financing from the United States, Britain, Italy, the Netherlands, Turkey, Canada, Australia, Denmark and Norway. Other projected early buyers include Israel and Singapore. Lockheed Martin’s chief financial officer said: “We actually believe the Wall Street Journal was incorrect in its representation of successful cyber attacks on the F-35 program. I’ve not heard of that, and to our knowledge there’s never been any classified information breach.” He acknowledged attacks on Lockheed Martin’s systems “are continuous and we do have stringent measures in place to both detect and stop these attacks.”


**Banking and Finance Sector**

13. *April 21, Baltimore Sun* – (National) **Bailout fraud cases emerge.** In the first major disclosure of corruption and fraud in the $750 billion federal bailout program, investigators said April 20 that they have opened 20 criminal probes into possible securities fraud, tax law violations, insider trading and mortgage modification fraud. The special inspector general overseeing the bailout program said in an interview that the investigations are just the first wave of cases by his office. He expects the first criminal indictments to occur later this year. The disclosures reinforce the worst fears that the hastily designed and rapidly changing bailout program run by the Treasury Department and Federal Reserve is going to carry a heavy price of fraud against taxpayers, even as
questions grow about whether it can accomplish its goal of stabilizing the nation’s financial system. Ultimately, fraud could run into the tens of billions of dollars, according to the special inspector. The risk of those kinds of criminal activities is growing as the bailout becomes bigger and more complicated.


14. April 21, All Headline News – (Pennsylvania) SEC charges Pennsylvania investment advisor with $23M Ponzi-style scheme. A Pennsylvania investment advisor has been charged with fraud in misappropriating more than $23 million of his client’s assets in a Ponzi scheme. The Securities and Exchange Commission announced on April 20 it had charged the defendant and his Acorn Capital Management firm. The government has secured a court order freezing the assets of both. The defendant, of Coatsville, Pennsylvania, allegedly used investor’s funds to pay other investors and also stole some of the money to pay for luxuries such as horse ownership and racing, construction, boats, limousines, chartered aircraft and a vacation home in Palm Beach, Florida, the SEC said. SEC officials say the fraud allegedly began in mid-2005 and continued until recently. The defendant used an investment partnership Acorn II L.P., which he had established in 2001 to invest in publicly traded securities.

Source: http://www.allheadlinenews.com/articles/7014867603

15. April 20, Ogden Standard Examiner – (Utah) F-16 jet lands at Ogden airport. An F-16 jet will be the guest of the Ogden airport for a day or two after it slid off the runway and the front landing gear collapsed. The jet had a brake failure while it was landing about 2:30 p.m. on April 20, and, as it went off the runway, the front landing gear collapsed, said the airport manager. The jet had to land in Ogden because another jet had blown out a tire and was on the runway at Hill Air Force Base. There was no damage to airport property aside from one runway light being crushed, the airport manager added. The airport manager said Hill Air Force Base personnel will repair the jet and the F-16 should be out of the airport within a day or two. It is fairly unusual for a jet based at Hill to land at the airport.

Source: http://www.standard.net/live/news/170360

16. April 20, Aviation Herald – (Florida) Accident: American B752 at Miami on Apr 19th 2009, laser beam injures pilot. An American Airlines Boeing 757-200, performing flight AA-1873 from Orlando, Florida to Miami, Florida, was on approach to Miami when a strong laser was pointed at the cockpit. The crew continued for a safe landing. One of the pilots received unknown eye injuries, the Federal Aviation Administration reported.

Source: http://avherald.com/h?article=4185da8a&opt=0

17. April 19, AVweb – (Arizona) Mechanic charged with falsifying FAA credentials. A federal grand jury has charged a Casa Grande, Arizona mechanic with five felony offenses resulting from a 100-hour inspection on an Alon Ercoupe in July of 2008. A
week after the annual, the engine failed and the aircraft was written off in the off-airport landing that followed. LawFuel.com reported the post-accident inspection “caused FAA aircraft safety inspectors to believe that the fuel pump had not been properly inspected.” They spoke with the mechanic and discovered that he was signing off airplanes with a number issued to another man in 1968. The mechanic was not completely untrained, but he failed the FAA exams three times and the agency is alleging he did not take the hint and find another line of work. He has been charged with three counts of making false statements to a government agency and two counts of fraud involving airplane parts.

18. April 19, WAGA 5 Atlanta – (Georgia) **Passengers delayed at Hartsfield-Jackson.** A runway had to be “shut down” at Hartsfield Jackson Airport April 19 because of problems with a military plane. Several flights were delayed and it has reduced the number of flights going in and out of Hartsfield. “We were told that there was something wrong with a military plane on the ground in Atlanta,” said a passenger. Airport officials said an Army cargo aircraft called Short 360 had blown its right main gear tire. Runway 26R — a runway typically used for flights from northern airports — was closed at about 4 p.m. April 19. Airport crews replaced the tire, cleaned up and reopened the runway at about 6:30 p.m. “They said the plane had been sitting on the runway for almost two hours and it was blocking a complete runway,” said another passenger. Officials with Delta said they experienced minimal delays. Over all, about 65 flights were affected.
Source: http://www.myfoxatlanta.com/dpp/news/Military_Plane_Shuts_Down_Atlanta_Runway_041909

**Postal and Shipping Sector**

19. April 20, Associated Press – (District of Columbia) **Powder found at federal building not hazardous.** D.C. fire officials say a suspicious white powder found in a letter in the mailroom at the Federal Trade Commission building on April 20 does not pose a threat. A fire department spokesman said hazardous materials crews and other law enforcement authorities have left the building on Pennsylvania Avenue in downtown Washington. Employees who were evacuated from the mailroom have returned to the building. The spokesman did not know what the substance was, but says investigators have declared that it was not hazardous.
Source: http://www.examiner.com/a-1971023~Powder_found_at_federal_building_not_hazardous.html

**Agriculture and Food Sector**
20. April 21, Reliable Plant – (Maryland) **Ice cream manufacturer settles with EPA on violation.** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced on April 20 that it has settled a violation of the federal chemical reporting law with Conopco Inc., doing business as Unilever Ice Cream, located in Hagerstown, Maryland. The facility manufactures ice cream and frozen desserts. The action settles a violation to the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) by failing to file a required report of one hazardous chemical, sulfuric acid, at the Hagerstown facility. EPCRA requires companies that store hazardous chemicals in quantities greater than specific thresholds to submit a chemical inventory form with state and local emergency response agencies and the local fire departments. In this case, Conopco had on-site at its facility 2,400 pounds of sulfuric acid in forklift batteries, a quantity that is greater than the minimum allowable amount of 500 pounds, and omitted including sulfuric acid on its 2005, 2006 and 2007 chemical inventory forms. The company has agreed to pay a civil penalty of $19,028.10.


21. April 21, Reliable Plant – (Massachusetts) **Mass. plant cited after worker gets caught in machine.** The U.S. Department of Labor’s Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has cited Brady Enterprises Inc. of Weymouth, Massachusetts, for alleged willful, repeat and serious violations of safety and health standards at its 45 Finnell Drive plant. The food products packager faces $66,500 in proposed fines, following a November 14 accident in which an employee was caught in a labeling machine while cleaning it. OSHA’s inspection found that the machine’s moving parts were not guarded against employee contact, and the machine’s power source had not been shut down and locked out prior to the cleaning. As a result, OSHA has issued the company one willful citation, with a proposed fine of $56,000, for not guarding the machine against employee contact and one repeat citation, with a $3,000 fine, for not shutting down and locking out the machine. “This is the second accident in three years at this plant involving machinery that wasn’t properly guarded or locked out,” said OSHA’s area director for Boston and southeastern Massachusetts. “This employer must take prompt, effective and ongoing action to correct these hazards and prevent future injuries.” OSHA also has issued the company four serious citations, with $7,500 in proposed fines, for lack of lockout/tagout training and hardware, no annual inspection of the plant’s hazardous energy control procedures and use of an unapproved forklift in an area where flammable cocoa dust was present. OSHA issues serious citations when death or serious physical harm is likely to result from hazards about which the employer knew or should have known. The repeat citation stemmed from a similar lockout/tagout hazard cited in October 2006 after an employee lost parts of two fingers in an accident from a month earlier.


22. April 20, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency – (Virginia) **Seafood processing plant in Norfolk, Va. settles chemical reporting violations.** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Monday announced that J.H. Miles and Company has settled alleged violations of chemical reporting regulations at the company’s clam processing facility in Norfolk, Virginia. In a consent agreement with EPA, the company has paid a
$9,408 civil penalty and has completed an $18,540 environmental project for failing to file required reports on ammonia, No. 4 fuel oil and liquid nitrogen used at its facility. According to EPA, J.H. Miles and Company, Inc. did not file chemical inventory forms for ammonia, No. 4 fuel oil and liquid nitrogen for 2005, 2006 and 2007. EPA also cited the company for failing to submit a MSDS for these chemicals. The settlement reflects the company’s cooperation with EPA, and its compliance efforts. As part of the settlement, the company neither admitted nor denied the alleged violations.

Source: [http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/0/6af4e20ec28db9218525759e0064a03c?OpenDocument](http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/0/6af4e20ec28db9218525759e0064a03c?OpenDocument)

23. April 18, Deutsche Presse-Agentur – (International) **Sabotage ruled out after glass traces found in chicken in Sweden.** Police have ruled out a targeted campaign of sabotage against Swedish poultry producers or other food companies despite numerous incidents of pieces of glass found in chicken and other food. ‘In our view this is not a coordinated attack against food supplies,’ the National Criminal Police told the Saturday edition of Stockholm daily. ‘These are separate cases,’ he added, saying the police had no knowledge of extortion attempts against food producers. Police have compiled some 80 instances of finds of glass, needles and pieces of plastic in recent weeks of which 30 were related to chicken. The finds of glass that were reported at the end of March forced the recall of frozen chicken products by a leading producer, Lantmannen Kronfagel. Police have not ruled out that some cases were false alerts, perhaps fuelled by attempts to grab media attention citing experience from food scares in other countries. Head of security at the Swedish Trade Federation that groups companies in the retail business, said he wanted stiffer penalties for false alerts. Lantmannen Kronfagel and other producers have in the meantime stepped up inspections at their facilities.


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**Water Sector**

24. April 21, Carlisle Sentinel – (Pennsylvania) **Solids found outside Land O’Lakes plant.** Last week, a Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) official who was inspecting the Land O’Lakes facility in South Middleton Township found “small white solids” discharging into the Mountain Creek mill race and for at least 300 yards from the outfall of the pipe. The solids were also found in the wastewater plant. The Land O’Lakes facility processes raw milk into butter and other dry, evaporated milk products. Industrial wastewater generated at the facility is conveyed to an on-site wastewater treatment plant. The company is permitted by the state DEP to discharge treated wastewater into a small stream, or race, which flows from Mountain Creek into the Yellow Breeches Creek. According to a DEP report of the incident, the plant manager said the solids were caused by a combination of pH and temperature forming fat globules when wastewater cools. He said it is an “unusual event which happens occasionally as it did about a year ago.” The manager said a local septic service provider
was called in to vacuum the solids from the creek. “The discharge of milk solids into Mountain Creek was a very small amount — we estimate less than five gallons,” explained the director of corporate communications at Land O’Lakes headquarters in St. Paul. “We did receive a notice of violation from the state Department of Environmental Protection. We are taking steps to improve the way we filter solids out of our waste water discharges into the creek.” The communications director said that by next week, Land O’Lakes will begin installation of equipment to immediately improve the filtering of wastewater to remove solids. That installation should be completed in about a month. She said the company is also investing in additional equipment that will further enhance the waste treatment process. “We’re working with DEP on a schedule for installing this additional equipment, which we expect to have in place in 2010,” she said. Land O’Lakes is also “actively pursuing” relocating the industrial waste discharge location from the race channel to the main channel of Mountain Creek.

Source:

Public Health and Healthcare Sector

25. *April 21, Claims Journal* – (Georgia) **Pediatricians fight Georgia ruling on vaccine liability.** Pediatricians and other medical professionals are trying to block a Georgia Supreme Court ruling they fear could encourage lawsuits and harm production of vaccines. The American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP), which represents 60,000 pediatricians, along with several other health organizations, recently filed a friends of the court brief with the U.S. Supreme Court asking that it overturn a recent decision by the Georgia Supreme Court that would allow cases alleging injury from childhood vaccines to be decided by state juries. The doctors claim the October ruling by the Georgia court threatens the no-fault system approved by Congress when it enacted the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Compensation Act of 1986. The federal act was intended to protect the small number of children injured by vaccines and to safeguard the nation’s vaccine supply, according to AAP. Leading up to passage of the legislation, vaccine-related lawsuits against vaccine manufacturers had spiked, and the backers of the federal act feared that rising litigation threatened to halt vaccines.


Government Facilities Sector

26. *April 20, Boulder Daily Camera* – (Colorado) **Couple seeking teacher’s geocache cause school’s evacuation.** The middle-aged couple who set off a bomb scare at Fairview High School in Boulder on April 20 were apparently looking for a geocache hidden by one the school’s social studies teachers. Students were evacuated around noon after another teacher noticed a man burying an orange tackle box wrapped in duct tape near a stone sign at the front of the school. According to police, the teacher asked the
man how he was doing and the man replied “Good, it’s been a great day,” before getting into a cream-colored SUV with Nevada plates and driving away with a female passenger. A bomb squad was called in to investigate the box, and students were sent home for the day, before the squad determined the box was a geocache. Traditionally, geocaching involved using a Global Positioning System to find a hidden box containing a log book. Now the sport, which has spread across the globe, includes using GPS to find caches that are both real and virtual, ranging from boxes to riddles to places with good views.


**Emergency Services Sector**

27. **April 21, Galveston Daily News – (Texas)** Lobby of police station evacuated. Galveston police evacuated the department’s lobby for about 90 minutes after a beachcomber walked in with a device wrapped in duct tape with a wire hanging out, authorities said Monday. Police called the FBI and U.S. Department of Homeland Security, which sent representatives to X-ray the device. The University of Houston’s name was written on the device, which was rusted, and there was a plastic bag inside. The bag could have revealed what the device was, but whatever was inside was damaged by the elements. The object, which was deemed harmless, was possibly washed ashore during Saturday’s storm.

Source: http://galvestondailynews.com/story.lasso?ewcd=7b22c59a03faccfb

28. **April 20, WXXA 23 Albany – (New York)** 911 needs help. Officials in Montgomery County, New York say some 911 equipment there is more than 30 years old and has to be replaced. The 911 Center’s main repeater, used by patrol cars to communicate with each other and the call center, is unreliable. To keep the system going, the Department swapped some equipment, but the local sheriff says that is only a short term fix. The equipment, which was put up in the 1970s and 1980s, is so old it has to be replaced, not repaired. The Sheriff’s Department originally wanted to link up with a state wireless system to transmit, but that system went defunct just this year. Now, the hardware will have to be replaced, with a price tag up to half a million dollars. Thus far, the equipment patch is working. If the system, or part of the system fails, Montgomery County will have to rely on Fulton County 911 to field and dispatch their calls.


29. **April 18, United Press International – (International)** Man charged with threatening police. A young man with a gun broke into a Royal Canadian Mounted Police building in Princeton, British Columbia, Canada, hoping to be shot dead but eventually surrendered, a police officer said Saturday. The man was arrested Friday on charges that include making death threats, theft of police property, and breaking and entering, CKFR-AM reported. The man allegedly planned to shoot police officers with a handgun but the building was empty when he broke a window and entered Thursday night or
Friday morning, the Canadian Broadcasting Corp. reported. He then damaged several police cruisers. When police saw him walking toward an all-night gas station, they evacuated employees and customers. He surrendered after talking to an emergency response team on his cell phone.


Information Technology

30. April 21, Spamfighter News – (International) **Phishing scams surround PayPal account holders.** Security experts at Better Business Bureau (BBB) claim that phishing scams targeting PayPal customers are on the rise. Supporting their research they elucidate the three latest phishing scams on PayPal. One of the phishing e-mails that are presently dodging PayPal customers informs the recipient that his/her PayPal billing updates have expired. Updates will save the e-mail recipients from the problems in near future. The recipient is further told to update his/her information; failure to which may result in the suspension of his/her PayPal account. For this purpose, fake links are also given in the e-mail, which forward the user to a rogue PayPal website. Interestingly, the aforementioned phishing e-mail was general, while the next one is personalized. This e-mail addressing Jane Doe informs her of her online credit card account with PayPal expiring shortly. It further states that in order to ensure uninterrupted services, the recipient should update her credit card details by visiting the PayPal website via the link provided in the e-mail and furnishing all the information asked therein. Finally, the third phishing e-mail states that in wake of some recent fraud activities detected on PayPal accounts, PayPal is going to start a fresh security program so as to make its Internet accounts safe and secure. Before activating this new system, PayPal will be assessing all its accounts to verify the authenticity of the account-holder. The e-mail further tells that the account holders will be informed in case of stealing, hacking, suspension or freezing of their accounts. The e-mail further asks the recipients to confirm the status of their accounts by clicking on the link provided within the e-mail, which ultimately directs the users to a phishing website appearing like PayPal.


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
Commercial Facilities Sector

31. *April 20, WSJM 94.9 Benton Harbor* – (Michigan) **Police destroy dynamite found in Niles apartment building.** On Monday, the Berrien County Sheriff’s Department Bomb Squad, with the help of several area fire departments, conducted a controlled burn of some dynamite that was found in a Niles apartment building over the weekend. According to the Niles Police chief, the controlled burn was done inside the building, as the bomb squad had determined that it would be too dangerous to move the material outside. Everything went as planned. All of the dynamite was successfully destroyed, and officials have determined there is no further threat. The building did suffer minor damage, and the Niles Fire Department will inspect it April 21 to determine when the evacuated residents can return.

Source: [http://wsjm.com/Police-Destroy-Dynamite-Found-In-Niles-Apartment-B/4237049](http://wsjm.com/Police-Destroy-Dynamite-Found-In-Niles-Apartment-B/4237049)

National Monuments & Icons Sector

32. *April 20, Montana’s News Station.com* – (National) **Yellowstone completes Wi-Fi and cell phone plan.** Yellowstone National Park has completed a plan addressing the future of wireless communications in the park. Wireless communications in Yellowstone will be allowed in very limited areas to provide for visitor safety and to enhance park operations. The plan restricts towers, antennas and wireless services to a few limited locations in the park, in order to protect park resources and limit the impact on park visitors. An environmental assessment for the proposed project was released for public review last fall. Changes made in response to comments were incorporated into a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) which was recently signed. Plans addressing wireless communications have been completed or are underway at other National Park Service sites, including Lake Mead National Recreation Area in Nevada and Arizona, and Rock Creek Park in Washington, D.C. Under this plan, cell towers would not be allowed in recommended wilderness, in campgrounds, or along park road corridors. No cell phone service will be allowed in the vast majority of Yellowstone.


Dams Sector

33. *April 21, Associated Press* – (North Dakota) **ND town bracing for water spilling over dam.** Officials in North Dakota say more than 600,000 sandbags have been filled to protect the city of Jamestown from water likely to spill from a reservoir upstream. The
Army Corps of Engineers expects water to pour over the spillway at the Jamestown Dam in the next couple of days. The Corps water control chief says the amount “should be manageable.” Jamestown is just the latest North Dakota community to face a flood threat this spring. Local officials say they are completing a precautionary evacuation plan for low-lying areas in the city of about 15,500 in case dikes fail along the James River. The water control chief says reservoirs near Jamestown will be high “for weeks or months.”


34. April 21, Fayetteville Observer – (North Carolina) **State officials inspect Hope Mills Lake dam.** North Carolina State Dam Safety officials inspected the new Hope Mills Lake dam/spillway Friday, but the town has yet to receive final approval for the structure. The Hope Mills town manager said inspectors did not mention finding any structural problems with the dam during their three-plus hours visit. Dam Safety is waiting for two reports from McKim & Creed, the chief engineering firm for the dam, before granting final approval, he said. Those two items are a final engineer’s certification of the structure and a vibration report. Residents and businesses in the surrounding area experienced vibrations in September when Tropical Storm Hanna sent water spilling over the dam for the first time. He said Dam Safety officials asked for the reports to be submitted as soon as possible and that he expects McKim & Creed to submit those reports by the end of this week. He said he is not sure how long it will take for Dam Safety to finish the process once it receives the reports. Besides Dam Safety inspectors, he said officials from the state Department of Environment and Natural Resources as well as various representatives of the firms involved in the construction of the dam were present for Friday’s inspection.

Source: http://www.fayobserver.com/article?id=324344
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