Homeland Security
Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 27 May 2009

Top Stories

- The Associated Press reports that two men were charged with 85 felonies for allegedly shooting pellet guns at more than 40 cars along a Bay Area freeway in Northern California over the past several months. (See item 18)

- According to Agence France-Presse, a small bomb exploded near a Starbucks cafe in Manhattan’s Upper East Side early Monday. The explosion prompted the temporary evacuation of residents in nearby buildings. (See item 24)

Fast Jump Menu

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

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

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

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

Energy Sector

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

1. *May 26, Reuters* – (International) **Nigerian gunmen open fire at Total offshore site.**
   Nigerian security forces repelled an attempted attack on an offshore oil drilling platform operated by French energy company Total on May 26, a security contractor working in the oil industry said. Around five attackers in a speedboat exchanged fire with security personnel shortly after dawn close to the platform at Total’s 125,000 barrels per day
Amenam field, located around 19 miles from the coast of the Niger Delta. Nigerian militants launched their first major strike late on May 24 against the oil industry since the start of a 10-day old military offensive, bombing a Chevron pipeline and shutting 100,000 barrels per day of output. “To protect the environment, the incident has led to the shut in of approximately 100,000 BOPD production from swamp operations in Delta State,” a Chevron spokesman said in an e-mailed statement. “The incident is being investigated by the relevant stakeholders.”


2. **May 23, Charleston Gazette** – (West Virginia) **17 arrested in mountaintop removal protests.** Seventeen people were arrested protesting mountaintop-removal mines at three sites in Southern West Virginia on May 23. It is the largest number of people arrested this year in an ongoing series of nonviolent protests against mountaintop-removal mining in West Virginia. The protests attracted about 100 people and were organized by the groups Mountain Justice and Climate Action Zero. Two women were arrested for paddling onto the Brushy Fork slurry impoundment near Pettus and spreading a banner over the water. Eight people trespassed on Massey Energy property on a road leading up to the surface mine. Eight others were arrested and charged with trespassing at a Kayford Mountain mine. Six had chained themselves to the trucks. Protestors are trying to stop Massey Energy from blasting at a surface mine 100 feet from the Brushy Fork slurry impoundment. There are several underground mines beneath the impoundment, and the activists say blasting could send the toxic sludge through the played-out mines and into the community. Also, they warn of a repeat of the dam failure at Buffalo Creek that killed 125 people.


3. **May 22, Nashville Business Journal** – (Texas) **OSHA fines Delek for Texas refinery fire.** The U.S. Department of Labor’s Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has cited Brentwood-based Delek U.S. Holdings Inc.’s Texas oil refinery for 30 safety violations following two fatalities. A fire and explosion killed two workers and injured three others in Tyler in November 2008. Proposed penalties total $217,350. The OSHA Dallas office began its investigation November 20 when flammable vapors were ignited after a flammable liquid discharge line ruptured. The investigation found a willful violation for failing to adequately maintain and repair processing equipment. Other citations were issued for violations involving electrical, asbestos, benzene, and portable fire extinguisher standards. In its first quarter earnings release, the Delek president and chief executive said the fire temporarily stopped operations at the refinery. The Tyler refinery, which processed 60,000 barrels per day, has restarted most major units and is in the final phase of returning to capacity.


[Return to top]
4. *May 25, WTHI 10 Terre Haute* – (Indiana) **More details on explosions.** There was a loud bang and lights flickered on May 22, when an explosion happened at CF Industries. The plant houses ammonia, making it a dangerous situation for everyone involved. Officials said it all started when a transformer in the plant’s substation somehow exploded. Circuit breakers around the transformer spilled oil fueling the fire. Because of all the electrical components around that area, Duke Energy had come out to turn off the power around it. Once they did, firefighters from the Otter Creek Fire Department were able to extinguish the blaze in about an hour. CF Industries is getting their power from generators they have brought in, meaning they can continue operations.


[Return to top]

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

5. *May 22, Salt Lake Tribune* – (Utah) **NRC contemplates the next step on imported waste.** Federal regulators want to know if the time is right to think about allowing a Utah company to import 20,000 tons of radioactive waste from Italy. The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) officially opened up its comment line the week of May 11 to “potential parties” in EnergySolutions Inc.’s controversial import application. The door opened for the Salt Lake City nuclear waste company to dispose of low-level waste from 39 states and foreign nations following a May 15 ruling by a U.S. District Court Judge. The ruling basically said a regional radioactive waste organization has no authority to limit the waste the company buries at its Tooele County landfill as Northwest Interstate Compact on Low-level Radioactive Waste and the Rocky Mountain Compact had tried to do. The NRC put its review of the import license request on hold October 6, while the lawsuit was pending. On May 20, the commission asked for input on how to proceed. It is still unclear whether the Northwest Compact, the Rocky Mountain Compact, and the State of Utah will appeal the judge’s ruling.


6. *May 22, Richmond Times-Dispatch* – (Virginia) **Va. uranium mining study approved.** A study of uranium mining in Virginia is moving forward, to the dismay of some mining opponents. A subcommittee of the Virginia Commission on Coal and Energy approved the study on May 21 after fine-tuning the issues to be studied. The study arises from a proposal by Virginia Uranium Inc. to mine uranium in Pittsylvania County in south-central Virginia. During a meeting in the General Assembly Building, opponents told the panel that mining could cause air and water pollution. The panel made clear that one of the most important issues they want studied is mining’s effects on people’s health. The study also will investigate the safest ways to mine uranium; review mining regulations; identify pollution issues; and delve into effects on ecosystems, among other things. The study will be conducted by the National Research Council. The study could cost $1.5 million and last about 18 months. Virginia Uranium, formed by Pittsylvania landowners, says 119 million pounds of the ore, worth about $8 billion, lie underground near Chatham, about 145 miles southwest of Richmond. Officials in Hampton Roads
also have expressed concerns about the mining. Much of the water serving Virginia
Beach, Norfolk, and Chesapeake comes from Lake Gaston, which lies downstream from
the proposed mine.
Source: http://www.timesdispatch.com/rtd/news/state_regional/article/URAN22_20090521-
221901/269205/

Critical Manufacturing Sector

7. May 26, Wall Street Journal – (National) Obama Administration sparks battery gold
rush. In one of the government’s biggest efforts at shaping industrial policy, the Energy
Department has been soliciting applications for $2.4 billion in funding aimed at turning
the U.S. into a battery-manufacturing powerhouse. At the deadline last week, the
department said it had received 165 applications. Companies vying for the federal
money include General Motors Corp., Dow Chemical Co., Johnson Controls Inc. and
A123 Systems, a closely held battery maker backed by General Electric Co. and others.
States including Michigan, Kentucky and Massachusetts are also weighing in with
applications, usually in alliance with their favored battery makers. When the winners are
decided, as soon as the end of July, the Energy Department may anoint Livonia,
Michigan, or Indianapolis or Glendale, Kentucky, as the future U.S. hub of car batteries.
A 2008 study by researchers at Alliance Bernstein forecast the current $9 billion-a-year
auto-battery market, based on lead-acid batteries, could reach more than $150 billion by
2030. The companies and state governments are proposing sites for plants that will make
lithium-ion batteries, the technology that has emerged as the leading choice to power
future electric cars. Lithium-ion batteries are lighter and more powerful than lead or
nickel-metal hydride batteries. Several American companies have demonstrated
technological improvements that make big versions safe and practical for use in cars and
trucks.
Source: http://online.wsj.com/article/SB124329271803452475.html

8. May 26, Reliable Plant – (California) NEC Electronics lauded for eliminating toxic
chemicals. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency on May 22 recognized NEC
Electronics America Inc. for eliminating more than 35,000 pounds of toxic chemicals
from manufacturing operations at its Roseville, California, facility. As part of the EPA’s
National Partnership for Environmental Priorities program, the semiconductor
manufacturer voluntarily made changes to its manufacturing process that used hazardous
chemical mixtures eliminating more than 35,000 pounds of toxic chemicals and saving
$150,000 per year. In September 2007, NEC Electronics America committed to
eliminating three solvents from one of its processing steps. Since then, the company has
eliminated 8,070 pounds of phenol; 19,645 pounds of dichlorobenzene, and 7,366
pounds of trimethyl benzenes, and has not used any of these chemicals since September
2008. The $150,000 annual cost savings come from a combination of factors including:
eliminating the purchase of these chemicals, reducing hazardous waste disposal fees,
and reducing maintenance of air treatment equipment. NEC Electronics America also set
two new environmental goals as part of its environmental management system to
minimize waste reducing the usage of calcium chloride by 1.1 million pounds and calcium hydroxide by 220,000 pounds, which are chemicals used in other semiconductor manufacturing processes.

9. **May 24, WCMH 4 Columbus** – (Ohio) **Commercial fire draws third alarm.**
Washington and Norwich township fire departments called five additional fire companies to the 3700 block of Lacon Drive on May 24. A commercial building was reported on fire by someone who saw smoke pluming off the roof of the Wolfden Products Building. No one was injured, but fire companies remained at the scene for hours to put out a blaze that fed on fiberglass and carbon materials used at the design and manufacturing company that makes lightweight carbon products to replace heavier steel for the racing and aerospace industries. Witnesses at the scene say the building has sustained significant damage, but it is too early to say what caused the fire. The Norwich chief says the townships fire investigators will be attempting to determine the cause of the very damaging fire as soon as they can get inside the structure safely.
Source: http://www.nbc4i.com/cmh/news/local/article/commercial_fire_draws_second_alarm/16041/

Defense Industrial Base Sector

10. **May 25, Washington Post** – (National) **Defense Dept., industry join to protect data.**
Government and industry officials are joining forces to stem the loss of important defense industry data, by some estimates at least $100 billion worth in the past two years, reflecting the cost to produce the data and its value to adversaries. For two years, the Defense Department has been collaborating with industry to try to better protect the firms’ computer networks. Now, as the U.S. Presidential Administration ponders how to strengthen the nation’s defenses against cyberattacks, it is considering ways to share the Pentagon’s threat data with other critical industries, such as those that handle vastly larger amounts of data, including phone calls and private e-mails. The threat scenarios, experts say, are chilling: a months-long blackout of much of the United States, widespread corruption of electronic banking data, a disabling of the air traffic control system. The Pentagon’s trial program with industry illuminates the promise and the pitfalls of such partnerships. The goal is a swifter, more coordinated response to threats facing the defense industry. But intelligence and law enforcement agencies have been reluctant to release threat data they consider classified. And the companies have been reluctant to share intrusion data, for fear of losing control over personal or proprietary information. The pilot program has prompted the Department of Homeland Security to consider extending the model to other industries, officials said. And the Defense Department is in preliminary talks with telecommunications and Internet service providers about creating a similar partnership, industry officials say.
Source: http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-
11. **May 26, IDG News Service – (National) Mobile phone location technology fights card fraud.** Ericsson is courting major banks with a security service the company thinks could cut down on credit card fraud as well as eliminate an inconvenience for travelers using cards overseas. Banks are increasingly blocking credit card transactions in certain high-risk countries due to increasing levels of fraud. A business traveler who lives in the U.K. but goes to Russia can likely have a transaction rejected if the person has not informed the credit card company of their travel plans. Ericsson’s IPX Country Lookup service uses a person’s mobile phone to provide a confirmation that a person is actually in the country where the transaction is carried out, said the U.K. and Ireland regional manager for Ericsson’s IPX products. For the service to work, Ericsson’s technology must be installed on a mobile operator’s network. Once installed, Ericsson will pay the operator a “small fee” every time a bank wants to verify a certain transaction by one of their customer’s mobile phones, the manager said. Ericsson will then put a margin on the lookup fee and charge that to banks, he said. The lookup fee has not been set yet. Ericsson has figured out how to extract the location information from operators worldwide. The technology only identifies what country a person is in and not where they exactly are in that country. It only works for GSM networks. To allay privacy concerns, Ericsson is recommending that the banks should get consumers’ consent prior to using the transaction verification service. Once a person’s approximate location has been passed onto the banks, that data will not be held any longer, the manager said.  

12. **May 26, WCAX 3 Burlington – (Vermont) Police warn of two phone scams.** Williston Police say some residents have received calls from someone claiming to represent the New England Federal Credit Union. That person claims accounts have been deactivated due to suspicious activity and then asks for credit card information and pin numbers to reactivate the accounts. And Rutland City Police are reporting an identical phone scam, except this automated voice claims to represent the Heritage Family Credit Union. Both departments say this is a scam. They say if you get one of these calls report it to your bank and to your local police agency.  

13. **May 26, American Banker – (Illinois) Regulators seize two Illinois banks.** Regulators shuttered two small banks in Illinois on May 22, bringing the year’s failure total to 36. First, state regulators closed $537 million-asset Strategic Capital Bank in Champaign. The Federal Deposit Insurance Corp., appointed as the bank’s receiver, sold all $471 million in deposits and virtually all of its assets to Midland States Bank in Effingham.
Later, the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency announced the seizure of $437 million-asset Citizens National Bank in Macomb. The FDIC said Morton Community Bank will assume all $200 million of the failed bank’s nonbrokered deposits, and agreed to buy about $240 million of Citizens National’s assets. The FDIC will pay about $200 in brokered deposits directly. The failures come amid heightened resolution activity by the FDIC, and continued losses to the Deposit Insurance Fund. One day earlier, regulators seized $13 billion-asset BankUnited in Coral Gables, Florida, and sold it to an investor team, in the largest failure of the year. The estimated price tag for BankUnited’s resolution came to $4.9 billion, making it the second costliest failure of the crisis, behind IndyMac Bank. The FDIC said Strategic Capital will reopen as a branch of Midland States on May 26. In its deal with the buyer, the FDIC agreed to share in losses on roughly $420 million of Strategic Capital’s assets. The failure is estimated to cost the DIF $173 million.


U.S. fraud investigators say they are finding new schemes to improve bad credit histories so lenders will approve mortgages or lines of credit. In one case, a Sacramento man obtained unused Social Security numbers and had employees at a furniture company create fake credit histories for real people with lousy credit ratings, the Kansas City (Mo.) Star reported on May 25. Prosecutors in Kansas City allege some listings on the Web site Craig’s list recently offered to “rent” a credit history dating to 1999 on a Chase Visa card with a low balance and a $55,000 limit. Similar scams discovered in other states threaten to further undermine the already shaky credit industry and the nation’s economy, an assistant U.S. attorney said. “As we have seen in recent years, what hits the lenders hits all of us,” the assistant U.S. attorney said.


15. **May 22, Associated Press** – (California) **3 Calif. men charged in $200 million scam.**

California’s attorney general said on May 22 that he has charged three men with bilking investors out of $200 million through a series of business deals that collapsed. The three defendants face charges of defrauding more than 1,000 investors across California, many of them retirees who lost much of their life savings. The California attorney general said the men operated 55 businesses that collapsed over a 10-year period. The three remained in Shasta County Jail on $5 million bond each, and none has a criminal attorney yet. The charges allege that the three began selling real estate investments in 1997, promising low-risk returns averaging 12 percent. Projects included a subdivision in Susanville, a vocational school in Redding, a golf course near Tracy and an industrial center in Brentwood, all in Northern California. They conducted investment seminars targeting retirees, who invested from $50,000 to more than $1 million, according to the complaint. Many of the projects faltered or were never finished. The charges allege the men used money from new investors to pay earlier ones. The more recent investors were not told of problems arising in the team’s investment portfolio, nor of on of the defendant’s 1986 federal fraud conviction and subsequent probation violations.
Transportation Sector

16. May 26, Dallas Morning News and WFAA 8 Dallas – (National) **Hundreds of aircraft mechanics may have been improperly licensed.** Hundreds of aircraft mechanics nationwide may have been improperly licensed since the mid-1990s. Many of these mechanics continue to work in the commercial airline industry, as well as for aircraft manufacturers and privately owned aircraft maintenance facilities, according to records and interviews obtained by WFAA-TV (Channel 8). They received their certification from Federal Aviation Administration-appointed examiners. There are about 300 such examiners across the country — each with wide discretion to decide how mechanics are tested. Government whistle-blowers, including former FAA employees, said they believe the FAA’s difficulties in regulating these examiners — and the mechanics they test — raise public safety concerns. Unscrupulous examiners develop a reputation for giving easy exams and even selling licenses. Their testing centers take on the character of “diploma mills,” allowing possibly unqualified and untrained mechanics to gain licenses that allow them to work on aircraft without supervision. Source: [http://www.dallasnews.com/sharedcontent/dws/news/nation/stories/052609dnmetairmechanics.455c1a7.html](http://www.dallasnews.com/sharedcontent/dws/news/nation/stories/052609dnmetairmechanics.455c1a7.html)

17. May 25, Orlando Sentinel – (Florida) **Businessman killed in Daytona Beach plane crash; son injured.** A father was killed in a plane crash on May 25 at Daytona Beach International Airport. His 45-year old son is currently listed in critical condition at Halifax Health Medical Center. Airport officials said the two have been lessees at the airport for more than 20 years. They were affiliated with Commonwealth Aviation and Airport Storage, operating hangars and storage units at the airport, a spokesman said. Authorities said the Aero Commander Model 500 twin-engine aircraft took off at 8:43 a.m. on a 3,200-foot runway and seconds later called the airport’s tower and attempted to loop back toward the main runway. It crashed about 200 feet from the main runway. Both men were entrapped in the wreckage until they could be freed by rescue workers. Source: [http://www.orlandosentinel.com/news/local/breakingnews/orl-bk-plane-crashes-in-daytona-beach-052509-0,7578991.story](http://www.orlandosentinel.com/news/local/breakingnews/orl-bk-plane-crashes-in-daytona-beach-052509-0,7578991.story)

18. May 23, Associated Press – (California) **2 men caught in pellet-gun sniper attacks on cars along California freeway.** Two 21-year-old men were charged with 85 felonies for allegedly shooting pellet guns at more than 40 cars along a Bay Area freeway in Northern California. Both men were each charged with 42 counts of assault with a deadly weapon and 43 counts of vandalism in connection with the shootings over the past several months. Both defendants were expected to make their first appearance at the Fremont Hall of Justice on May 26. The California Highway Patrol (CHP) says the men are responsible for at least 45 shootings on Interstate 680 in Fremont. The CHP says they are also suspected in nine other shootings on Interstate 880. Several vehicles were damaged by the shootings and one person suffered minor injuries.
19. **May 23, WSB 750 Atlanta** – (Georgia) **Suspicious packages found at MARTA station.** Bomb squad units successfully detonated one of two suspicious packages found at the West End MARTA Station, authorities said. MARTA Police, Atlanta Police, and Atlanta firefighters responded after the packages were found just after midnight May 23. Lee Street was blocked off for the investigation. MARTA passengers were taken off the trains and transported by bus. Authorities are investigating the contents of the second package. They think a liquid chemical was inside. Authorities have not said exactly what that liquid was. Police said no one was injured.

Source: [http://wsbradio.com/localnews/2009/05/suspicious-packages-found-at-m.html](http://wsbradio.com/localnews/2009/05/suspicious-packages-found-at-m.html)

20. **May 22, Associated Press** – (Massachusetts) **Boston’s subway system suffers brief power outage.** The MBTA is apologizing for a power outage that brought the Boston subway system to a near screeching halt for a portion of the May 22 morning rush hour. Transit officials say the outage began at 8:50 a.m. when a maintenance crew in South Boston tripped a breaker, cutting off one of two feeder cables that supply power to the subways. The second feeder was already off-line for preventative maintenance. It took about 30 minutes before power was completely restored. In the meantime, some 60,000 passengers were stuck on trains and trolleys, many in darkened tunnels. One Red Line train was evacuated, and passengers had to walk about 70 feet to reach the Shawmut Station.


21. **May 22, Associated Press** – (International) **American Airlines pilot fails breath test.** An American Airlines pilot failed a breath test at London’s Heathrow airport, the airline said May 21. Fort Worth, Texas-based American Airlines said the pilot was given the test May 20 after airport security staff alerted police. The pilot, whom the airline declined to name, was supposed to operate a flight with 204 passengers to Chicago. The flight was delayed while a replacement was found and the plane eventually took off. “The company has strict policies on alcohol and substance abuse and holds its employees to the highest standards,” the airline’s London office said. “Employees at all levels of the company are not allowed to be on duty whilst under the influence of drugs or alcohol and regular screening is carried out.”

Source: [http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5hh8Crn9MujNvNZxXI9ctO5bmX7BgD98AKBV80](http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5hh8Crn9MujNvNZxXI9ctO5bmX7BgD98AKBV80)

22. **May 22, Associated Press** – (California) **AF pilot killed in T-38 crash.** The Air Force confirms that a military jet crash in Southern California has killed the pilot and injured another crewman. A statement from Edwards Air Force Base says the 30-year-old captain was killed Thursday afternoon on a training flight when his T-38A crashed near California City, about nine miles north of the Mojave Desert base. The senior navigator ejected from the plane and was injured. The Air Force says he is in stable condition at a hospital. The crash is under investigation. It was the second crash of an aircraft from
Edwards in less than two months. On March 25, a test pilot died when an Air Force F-22A Raptor crashed about 35 miles north of the base.

Postal and Shipping Sector

23. May 23, WBZ 38 Braintree – (Massachusetts) Hazmat called to Braintree post office. Hazmat crews were called to the U.S. Postal Office on Pearl Street in Braintree, Massachusetts, Saturday after workers found an envelope with suspicious powder on it. Investigators are trying to determine what the powder is. They are waiting for lab results. crews cleared the scene by Saturday afternoon.
Source: http://wbztv.com/local/braintree.post.office.2.1017595.html

Agriculture and Food Sector

24. May 25, Agence France-Presse – (New York) Early morning explosion hits New York Starbucks. A small bomb rocked a Manhattan coffee shop early May 25 causing material damage but no injuries, and was speculatively linked by police to three other unsolved explosions in the city in recent years. The blast struck near a Starbucks cafe in a residential neighborhood on Manhattan’s Upper East Side at about 3:30 a.m. The shop was closed at the time of the incident, but the blast smashed windows and damaged the outside facade. “We are going to analyze the type of explosive that was used,” said the New York City police commissioner. “It is described by bomb experts as a low explosive.” The incident evoked memories of three similar events in the city. “After the Mexican consulate, the British consulate, the Times Square bombing event at the recruiting station, we have this event,” the commissioner said. “They all happened between 3:30 and 4:30 a.m., that is the immediate similarity we are looking at.” The explosion prompted the temporary evacuation of residents in nearby buildings at 92nd Street and Third Avenue.
Source: http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5iWTJG4LkWLQWo8-qtpoIHznCc7Q

25. May 24, KELO 11 Sioux Falls – (Minnesota) Explosion at soybean plant rattles residents. Part of a highway was shut down and a southwest Minnesota town was temporarily evacuated after a fire and explosion at a local business. At 10:00 p.m. on May 23, police and fire departments responded to a call at the Minnesota Soybean Processors Plant in Brewster. The Nobels county sheriff says when he arrived on scene it appeared several bio diesel tanks at the Minnesota Soybean Processors Plant were on fire. Residents were told to leave their homes as a precaution. More than a dozen fire departments responded to the scene and authorities say the joint effort helped put out the fire and get residents back in their homes. Thirteen agencies assisted with the fire including fire departments from as far away as Okoboji. The cause of the explosion is
not known and no one was hurt.  
Source: http://www.keloland.com/News/NewsDetail6371.cfm?Id=85072

26. May 22, U.S. Food Safety and Inspection Service – (California) California firm recalls beef and pork products due to undeclared sulfites. Paisano Meat, Inc., a Gardena, California, establishment, is voluntarily recalling approximately 350,000 pounds of beef and pork products because they may contain undeclared sulfites, the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) announced May 22. Sulfites can be a health hazard to individuals who are sensitive to sulfites. The beef and pork products are not identified with production or package or case codes on the bags or boxes. These beef and pork products were distributed to food service institutions, lunch wagons and retail establishments in southern California. The problem was discovered by FSIS during an investigation into a complaint sent to the Agency. FSIS has received no reports of illness due to consumption of these products.  

Water Sector

27. May 25, WTIC 1080 Hartford – (Connecticut) Untreated wastewater released into Connecticut River. Crews, the afternoon of May 25, completed permanent repairs to the Enfield Wastewater Treatment Plant after an electrical fire and resulting power outage on May 24 allowed untreated wastewater to flow into the Connecticut river for nine or ten hours, the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) said. As a result, the DEP was urging people along the river to avoid “full body contact” with the water from Enfield to Middletown until May 26. The fire occurred sometime after 10 p.m. May 24, and knocked out power needed for the full treatment of sanitary sewage, the DEP said. Systems allowing for “primary” treatment of the waste through “settling” were never interrupted, so no solid particles were discharged, officials said. The problem only affected systems for “secondary” treatment, including disinfection and aeration, said the DEP. Disinfection resumed the morning of May 25 with the help of a portable generator and electrical contractors were on-site working to repair damage caused by the fire, the DEP said. They completed the repairs around 1:30 p.m. May 25. The Enfield plant discharges about four-million gallons a day of treatment wastewater into the Connecticut River.  

28. May 22, San Francisco Chronicle – (California) Federal dollars flow to state water projects. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on May 21 awarded $280 million to the California State Water Resources Control Board’s Clean Water State Revolving Fund program for wastewater treatment, pollution control, and estuary management projects. The state Department of Public Health’s Drinking Water State Revolving Fund program received $159 million for drinking-water infrastructure improvements. The award is one slice of the $6 billion in water system improvement funds contained in the American Recovery and Investment Act of 2009. About 20
percent of the money must go toward conservation, green infrastructure, and energy-efficiency projects.
Source: http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2009/05/21/BA9117ORCF.DTL

For another story, see item 6

[Return to top]

Public Health and Healthcare Sector

29. May 26, Xinhua – (International) **A/H1N1 confirmed cases continue to rise across world.** The number of A/H1N1 flu cases continued to rise in the world as authorities called for continued vigilance against the new virus. Mexico’s health ministry on Monday confirmed a total of 83 deaths from the A/H1N1 flu in the country, three more from the previous report, and the total number of A/H1N1 virus infections rose to 4,541. However, the ministry said the rise of the figures was not caused by any new deaths or infections, but just through confirmation of previously reported suspected cases. In the United States, the number of confirmed and probable A/H1N1 flu cases has risen to 6,764 in 48 states, with 10 deaths, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reported on Monday. In its previous report on Friday, the number of confirmed and probable cases was 6,552 with nine deaths in 48 states. The CDC anticipates that there will be more cases, more hospitalizations and more deaths associated with this new virus in the coming days and weeks.

30. May 26, Health Day News – (National) **Viable swine flu shot closer to reality.** Progress has been made toward developing a viable H1N1 swine flu vaccine, with experts at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention saying they have two promising candidate viruses for use in such a shot. “Today CDC received, from one institution, a candidate vaccine virus,” the CDC’s interim deputy director for science and public health program said during a news conference on Friday. The strain was created by “combining the genes of the novel H1N1 virus with other parts from other viruses,” she explained. This type of hybrid virus will grow more easily in eggs — an essential part of the vaccine production process. Meanwhile, a Chicago man and a 50-year-old New York City woman died of swine flu over the holiday weekend, bringing the national toll to 12 in the United States, the Associated Press reported.
Source: http://www.ajc.com/health/content/shared-auto/healthnews/cdc-/627418.html

[Return to top]

Government Facilities Sector

31. May 24, Associated Press – (National) **Future accuracy of GPS signals called into question.** A government report says the accuracy of GPS signals could deteriorate in the next few years because of delays in satellite launches, but the Air Force says it has plenty of ways of keeping up the navigation system increasingly relied on by drivers and
cellphone users. The Government Accountability Office reported last month that there is a risk that launches of new satellites will not keep pace with the wear and tear on the global positioning system. That could mean the accuracy and reliability of hundreds of millions of civilian and military GPS devices — including everything from “buddy finder” cellphone applications to guided bombs — could degrade until new satellites are in orbit. The next generation of GPS satellites, dubbed IIF, has been beset by launch delays and budget overruns. Contractor Boeing Co. said the delays were due to design changes necessary to ensure that the satellites would last. The work is now done, and the first IIF is slated to launch in November, nearly three years behind schedule. The GAO, the investigative arm of Congress, said the chief risk is that the following generation of satellites, IIIA, will be delayed in a similar fashion. Lockheed Martin Corp. is building that series, and the first are scheduled to launch in 2014. The Air Force’s mission is to maintain a “constellation” of 24 working satellites, virtually ensuring that at any time there are at least four in the sky above any point on the Earth. That is the minimum number needed for a GPS device to compute its location by measuring the slightly different amounts of time it takes for radio signals to reach it from each satellite. The satellites do not work forever: A few launched in the early ‘90s are still in operation, but most have shut down. The delayed launch of the IIF series means that for a few years, satellites could be failing faster than they are being replaced.


32. **May 23, Stars & Stripes** – (International) **Korean man caught selling U.S. weaponry.** Seoul police are investigating how a South Korean man was allegedly able to run a weapons smuggling ring for 12 years and sell stolen U.S. military guns and ammunition out of a warehouse in central Seoul, a police spokesman said on May 21. Police arrested the 30-year-old man and two other men in January and accused them of illegally obtaining and smuggling military equipment believed to have come from U.S. military bases in South Korea. Police announced the arrests on May 21. Police said they raided the suspect’s warehouse in Seoul’s Dongdaemun district after getting a tip and conducting a long stakeout. They said they found about 1,000 weapons and pieces of ammunition, including M-16 rifle rounds, M-60 machine-gun barrels, bayonets, smoke shells, grenades, bulletproof helmets and vests, mine detectors, night-vision goggles and lenses, and parts needed to make firearms.


33. **May 21, Reuters** – (National) **IRS lax in destroying sensitive tax papers.** Sensitive documents about U.S. taxpayers were found in trash outside all Internal Revenue Service sites visited in an investigation, putting the people at risk of identity theft, an inspector’s report says. The tax collection agency must bolster oversight of contractors who dispose of papers with personally identifiable information, the inspector general for tax administration at the U.S. Treasury said in the report released May 21. “At every location we visited, we found documents containing PII (personally identifiable information) or other SBU (sensitive but unclassified) information in regular waste containers and/or dumpsters,” it said. “If security policies are not adequately
communicated and adhered to, sensitive taxpayer information and employee data are at an increased risk of disclosure or other improper usage.” The IRS, in response to the report, said it recently put in standards to oversee waste contracts, including background checks for employees. It agreed to all of the recommendations the inspector requested to improve oversight. Investigators visited eight IRS offices in Arizona, Maryland, New York, and Utah and interviewed managers across the country from September 2007 to May 2008.

Source: http://www.reuters.com/article/topNews/idUSTRE54K3NW20090521

34. May 21, KSBW 8 Monterey – (California) “Suspicious package” found at UC Santa Cruz. A “suspicious package” was found on May 21 in a storm-water drain at the main entrance of UC Santa Cruz, police said. Santa Cruz police shut down the entrance to the campus, evacuated buildings and diverted traffic. It turned out the device was just part of a geocaching-type game. Geocaching is an online treasure hunt game where players use a global positioning system receiver to hide and seek certain containers.


For another story, see item 22

Emergency Services Sector

35. May 26, Pittsburgh Tribune-Review – (Pennsylvania) Penn Township and Jeannette Police plan to train for united response. Two Westmoreland County police departments are developing a specialized joint emergency response team that will train for incidents such as a barricaded gunman or a hostage situation. Penn Township’s police chief approached Jeannette’s police chief with the idea to have officers trained in the adjoining communities. Jeannette’s police chief said he considers the idea an opportunity. Jeannette’s police force is in line to receive $23,512 through the Edward Byrne Justice Assistance Grant program and plans to use some of the money for training and equipment, such as helmets and bulletproof vests. Training programs are offered by Westmoreland County Community College. A regional emergency response team can spring into action, controlling a situation until the state police Special Emergency Response Team arrives, which can take some time before all members are in place. “This team could at least secure the perimeter until we get the state police SERT team,” Jeannette’s police chief said.


36. May 25, New London Day – (Connecticut) State police recover stolen fire truck. Connecticut state police have recovered a fire truck that was stolen over the weekend and have one person in custody in connection with the theft. Police would not comment further, but did say the truck did not appear to be damaged and that they received information that led them to it Sunday morning. Police had been searching for one of the town’s volunteer fire trucks, which they believed was stolen this weekend. The incident is still being investigated. The suspect, whose name was not released, was being held at
Troop F in Westbrook.
Source: http://www.theday.com/re.aspx?re=f281217f-e908-414a-89a2-4f862bb01d54

37. May 24, KCBS 740 San Francisco – (California) **South Bay cops investigate theft of police car.** A “black and white” Mountain View Police patrol vehicle was stolen over the weekend. The officer assigned to the vehicle was working a concert at the Shoreline Amphitheatre in Mountain View, California, Friday night when he received a call for assistance from other officers. He reportedly pulled up to the scene, got out, and inadvertently left his keys in the vehicle. According to a Mountain View Police spokeswoman, the officer returned a few minutes later and it was gone. A shotgun designed to fire beanbags was also in the vehicle.

[Return to top]

**Information Technology**

38. May 26, National Science Foundation – (National) **Viral epidemics poised to go mobile.** While computer viruses are common, there have been no major outbreaks of mobile phone viral infection, despite the fact that over 80 percent of Americans now use these devices. A team headed by the director of the Center for Complex Network Research at Northeastern University set out to explain why this is true. The researchers used calling and mobility data from over six million anonymous mobile phone users to create a comprehensive picture of the threat mobile phone viruses pose to users. The results of this study, published in the May 22 issue of Science, indicate that a highly fragmented market share has effectively hindered outbreaks thus far. Further, their work predicts that viruses will pose a serious threat once a single mobile operating system’s market share grows sufficiently large. This event may not be far off, given the 150 percent annual growth rate of smart phones. This study builds upon earlier research by the same group, which used mobile phone data to create a predictive model of human mobility patterns. The current work used this model to simulate Bluetooth virus infection scenarios, finding that Bluetooth viruses will eventually infect all susceptible handsets, but the rate is slow, being limited by human behavioral patterns. This characteristic suggests there should be sufficient time to deploy countermeasures such as antiviral software to prevent major Bluetooth outbreaks. In contrast, spread of MMS viruses is not restricted by human behavioral patterns, however spread of these types of viruses are constrained because the number of susceptible devices is currently much smaller.

For more stories, see items 10 and 40

**Internet Alert Dashboard**
Communications Sector

39. May 26, Chattanooga Times Free Press – (Tennessee) Comcast conversion completes initial phase. Chattanooga cable television users are adapting to the digital age with relative ease, Comcast of Chattanooga officials say. Chattanooga’s cable TV provider wraps up the first phase of its $16 million digital upgrade May 26 after distributing more than 40,000 digital boxes and transport adapters to customers served by Comcast’s hub from its Polymer Drive headquarters. Over the next five months, Comcast expects to distribute more than 250,000 other boxes to Chattanoogans to make initial or upgraded digital connections for their video services.

40. May 22, KTVX 4 Salt Lake City – (National) Cell phone recall. Some cell phones are being recalled because they might not be able to help customers in an emergency. Samsung is recalling 160,000 Jitterbug phones. They say when they are in a no service area and display an “out of range, try again later” message, the phone might not connect to 911 as it should. The phones were sold from March 2008 through this May 2009.
Source: http://www.abc4.com/content/news/state/story/Cell-phone-recall/rzsNVxAqskm5Onb-E6NrBA.cspx

For another story, see item 31

Commercial Facilities Sector

See item 24

National Monuments & Icons Sector

41. May 24, Morongo Valley Hi-Desert Star – (California) Fire burns in national park. Firefighters are keeping a sharp eye on the weather forecast as flames consume over 100 acres in the Lost Horse Mine area in Joshua Tree National Park. The fire started about 3:49 p.m. Sunday, May 24, and was spotted by hikers, said a park spokesman. Twelve hikers in an area near the flames were evacuated by helicopter. “They got caught and weren’t able to hike out themselves,” the park spokesman explained. Engines from the state Cal Fire, the Bureau of Land Management and San Bernardino County trundled into the park as the sun set May 24. They were staging on Geology Tour Road, which is closed to the public, as is Keys View Road. The fire was classified as a Type 3, calling
for mainly National Park Service and local resources to be used in the battle. If it worsens, managers could reclassify it as a Type 2 fire, which would prompt them to call in more widespread resources, the park spokesman said.

Source: http://www.hidesertstar.com/articles/2009/05/24/news/doc4a1a0d4114a96706291833.txt

[Return to top]

**Dams Sector**

42. *May 24, News Star* – (Louisiana) **River to peak at 44 feet.** Scattered rain kept water levels rising on the swollen Ouachita and Mississippi rivers on May 23 as flood officials continued to keep watch. The National Weather Service (NWS) had forecast the Ouachita River to crest at 43.5 feet on May 23, but a tropical system from the Gulf of Mexico brought scattered showers and delayed the crest to May 25 at 44 feet. A NWS meteorologist said the Monroe area can expect 1.5 to 2 inches of rain in the next several days. The Tensas levee district executive said that amount of rain should not require any additional flood preparation. “If we get one to two inches of rain, that will just prolong our crest,” the meteorologist said. “[NWS] told us three inches in the Ouachita basin would put us at 45 feet.” At that level or higher, the Tensas Basin Levee District would begin to erect the folding flood wall in downtown Monroe. The president of the 5th Louisiana Levee District said a crew of about 40 convicts was working along the Mississippi to counter at least 10 river boils in East Carroll, Madison and Tensas parishes. “What bothers me is these sand boils,” he said. “You can’t leave them unbagged. If you do, you take the chance of the levee collapsing, and you can’t afford to do that.” He expects the Mississippi to crest at 47.1 on May 24. He expects the river level to start dropping on June 1.

Source: http://www.thenewsstar.com/article/20090524/NEWS01/905230331

For another story, see item 2
DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Contact Information

About the reports — The DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is a daily [Monday through Friday] summary of open–source published information concerning significant critical infrastructure issues. The DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is archived for ten days on the Department of Homeland Security Website: http://www.dhs.gov/iaipdailyreport

Contact Information
Content and Suggestions: Send mail to NICCReports@dhs.gov or contact the DHS Daily Report Team at (202) 312-3421

Subscribe to the Distribution List: Visit the DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report and follow instructions to Get e-mail updates when this information changes.

Removal from Distribution List: Send mail to support@govdelivery.com.

Contact DHS
To report physical infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact the National Infrastructure Coordinating Center at nicc@dhs.gov or (202) 282–9201.
To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US–CERT at soc@us–cert.gov or visit their Web page at www.us-cert.gov.

Department of Homeland Security Disclaimer
The DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is a non–commercial publication intended to educate and inform personnel engaged in infrastructure protection. Further reproduction or redistribution is subject to original copyright restrictions. DHS provides no warranty of ownership of the copyright, or accuracy with respect to the original source material.