



Homeland Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 22 June 2009

Current Nationwide Threat Level

ELEVATED



Significant Risk of Terrorist Attacks

For information, click here:
<http://www.dhs.gov>

Top Stories

- According to the Associated Press, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission is notifying the owners of 26 nuclear plants that they are not saving enough money to dismantle the reactors once they are no longer operating. (See item [9](#))
- The New Orleans Times-Picayune reports that the discovery of an envelope bearing a suspicious white powder prompted public safety officials to seal off the F. Edward Hebert Federal Building in New Orleans for more than four hours on June 18. (See item [21](#))

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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://www.esisac.com>]

1. *June 19, Platts* – (International) **Nigerian militants bomb Eni crude pipeline.** Nigeria's main militant group, the Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta (MEND), said on June 19 it had bombed an oil pipeline operated by Italy's Eni in southern Bayelsa state. MEND said in a statement that the pipeline which "delivers crude oil to the Brass export terminal" was blown up at the Nembe creek. MEND said

it encountered a military gunboat and dispossessed the seven soldiers of their weapons. There was no immediate reaction from Eni. A military spokesman said he would not be able to confirm the attack on Eni's pipeline, but that Nigerian troops had engaged militants in a fierce gun battle on June 19 in Bayelsa state.

Source:

<http://www.platts.com/Oil/News/8648813.xml?sub=Oil&p=Oil/News&?undefined&undefined>

2. *June 19, Associated Press* – (Texas) **2 Texas City refineries fail to report outages.** Representatives of two refineries were summoned to a meeting with Texas City officials after they failed to report power outages that set off a series of extended flare burns the week of June 15. The non-emergency power failures located at Texas City refineries operated by Valero and Marathon happened the afternoon of June 16, the Galveston County Daily News reported. Higher-than-allowed levels of chemicals were released into the air from the Valero refinery, prompting a report to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality while several units at Marathon's refinery went offline. That incident did not require an emissions report to the state's environmental agency. The city's director of emergency management said neither company contacted the city as required in a long-standing agreement. A Valero spokesman said because the power outage did not require emergency assistance the company did not contact the city. A spokeswoman said Marathon did use the Texas City Industry Mutual Aid System, an inter-industry notification system. The city's director of emergency management said both incidents should have prompted a call to the city's emergency management office or at least the police dispatch center to report what would have been classified as a low-level Level 1 alert. He said company officials met with city officials June 17. Neither company is subject to any form of fines or punitive action for failing to make the reports.

Source:

<http://www.dallasnews.com/sharedcontent/APStories/stories/D98THFQ81.html>

3. *June 18, Associated Press* – (West Virginia) **Group says 14 activists arrested at W.Va. mine.** Authorities arrested 14 people on June 18 after anti-mining activists staged a protest that briefly halted production at one of southern West Virginia's largest coal mines. All were involved in a protest at Massey Energy Co.'s Twilight surface mine. Four of the activists scaled the 300-foot boom of a piece of earthmoving equipment at the Boone County mine and unfurled a sign protesting mountaintop removal mining, a practice that involves blasting away ridge tops to expose coal seams. A protester said he and three other climbers spent at least 4 hours about 200 feet in the air before climbing down to be arrested with a 10-member ground team. The Boone County deputy sheriff said all 14 face felony conspiracy charges and a mix of misdemeanors. The four climbers also are charged with trespassing, fleeing on foot, littering and battery, the deputy sheriff said. Ten others are charged with trespassing. The group was expected to make their initial court appearance the afternoon of June 18. The protest was the latest in a series aimed primarily at stopping mountaintop removal mining.

Source: <http://www.forbes.com/feeds/ap/2009/06/18/ap6562468.html>

4. *June 18, CleanTechnica.com* – (National) **Closer to the Sun: Satellite solar is out of this world.** Another type of space race is to be the first company to get solar satellites into orbit. U.S. companies are aggressively researching the technology, reports Yale 360. One firm called PowerSat in Washington State has filed for patents to link as many 300 shiny satellites together in space, beam the energy to one big satellite, then transmit the power back to Earth. The star trek also includes using solar-powered thrusters to launch satellites into orbit 22,000 miles above Earth. California utility PG&E also has signed a deal with Solaren for 200 megawatts of space-based solar power in 2016, according to the Wall Street Journal.
Source: <http://cleantechnica.com/2009/06/18/closer-to-the-sun-satellite-solar-is-out-of-this-world/>
See also: <http://e360.yale.edu/content/digest.msp?id=1930>
5. *June 17, Washington State Department of Ecology* – (Washington) **Special exercise testing spill readiness in central Puget Sound.** The State of Washington's Department of Ecology (Ecology) and U.S. Coast Guard are currently evaluating the ability of seven different oil shipping and oil handling companies to effectively use site-specific oil-spill response strategies for Commencement Bay and Vashon Island. These are called geographic response plans. No oil has been spilled. However, spill containment boom has been set out in Quartermaster Harbor and five oil-skimming vessels, a helicopter and other boats are involved in the drill. The equipment deployment exercise includes ConocoPhillips Polar Tankers, Harley Marine Services, Inc., BP Shipping, SeaRiver Maritime, Inc., Alaska Tanker Co., Sound Refining, and U.S. Oil & Refining Co. The drill also involves equipment and personnel from the Marine Spill Response Corp., a private, non-profit spill-response contractor for the seven oil companies. All of the companies operate in central Puget Sound and maintain mandatory oil-spill contingency plans that spell out how they will respond to oil spills — including using geographic response plans tailored to reduce the effects of oil spills to sensitive natural, cultural and economic resources in an area. Ecology evaluates the spill readiness plans, which are tested through announced and unannounced spill drills. The spill drills test how well the companies implement their plans.
Source: <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/news/2009news/2009-145.html>

For another story, see item [18](#)

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Chemical Industry Sector

6. *June 19, Reliable Plant* – (Michigan) **Lockhart Chemical to pay \$101,900 fine for hazmat violations.** U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 5 has settled with Lockhart Chemical Company of Flint, Michigan, for alleged violations of federal hazardous waste regulations. A \$101,900 penalty has been set. The company failed to meet hazardous waste tank secondary containment, certification and inspection requirements. Lockhart also failed to have a hazardous waste storage permit, properly label tanks and keep proper shipping records. The hazardous chemicals accumulated

were methanol and butanol, which are both ignitable. Following an EPA inspection, Lockhart modified its production process, ceased using tanks to accumulate hazardous waste and notified EPA that it is a small-quantity generator.

Source:

<http://www.reliableplant.com/article.aspx?articleid=18324&pagetitle=Lockhart+Chemical+to+pay+%24101%2c900+fine+for+hazmat+violations>

7. *June 18, WHO 13 Des Moines* – (Iowa) **National Guard disaster training.** The Iowa National Guard is hosting a disaster simulation that will take place at several locations around the Des Moines, Iowa, metro area. Vigilant Guard 2009 is bringing together hundreds of first responders including National Guard units from Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska. Thursday's simulation included a train derailment that resulted in a dangerous chemical spill. Members of the Guard worked with Des Moines Police and Fire, Polk County Emergency Management, hazmat crews and the bomb squad to respond to the pretend disaster. One-hundred and 66 Iowans who applied to be part of the training played the roles of the dead and injured. Five-hundred National Guard members and 500 members of other emergency response agencies are taking part in the training.

Source: <http://www.whotv.com/news/who-story-disaster-drill-061809,0,5275058.story>

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and Waste Sector

8. *June 19, Rutland Herald* – (Vermont) **Leak shuts Vt. Yankee water line.** Another leak at the Vermont Yankee nuclear plant has forced Entergy Nuclear officials to take what they called a non-safety water line off duty. A 4-inch carbon steel line, which uses filtered Connecticut River water from the plant's service water system to clean off giant filter screens, sprung a leak earlier the week of June 15, according to a spokesman for Entergy Nuclear. The leak in the so-called service water system was discovered around June 17 when an Entergy worker went to clean debris from the giant screens. The service water system provides cooling water to a key safety component in the reactor, but the leaking spur was not considered a safety issue, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission said. "We wash these screens every two to three days. We backwash them with river water," the spokesman said.

Source:

<http://www.rutlandherald.com/article/20090619/NEWS02/906190341/1003/NEWS02>

9. *June 18, Associated Press* – (National) **NRC to send shortfall letters to 26 atomic plants.** The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission will notify the owners of 26 nuclear plants June 19 that they are not saving enough money to dismantle the reactors once they are no longer operating. In a memo obtained by the Associated Press on June 18, the agency told congressional offices it would make a formal announcement of its findings on June 19. It said it would work with the plants on a case-by-case basis to develop remedial savings plans. The plants deemed coming up short range from the Vermont Yankee station near Brattleboro to the three Browns Ferry reactors near Decatur, Alabama. NRC officials also said another 19 plants would have to be

mothballed for up to 60 years after they shut down, partly in hopes that their decommissioning funds would see enough investment growth to pay for dismantling the reactors and removing radioactive components. Such long periods of idleness have raised concerns that plant systems could decay over time, raising the chances of an accident that might release radioactivity to the environment. Various reports by government agencies and independent groups also have raised alarm that the plants could be tempting targets for terrorists bent on creating radioactive “dirty bombs.”

Source:

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5hZeDcJSPLxdu2GpLAtnsdeECXO3QD98TF44G3>

10. *June 18, WFOR 4 Miami* – (Florida) **FPL wants to store waste above ground in tanks.** Florida Power & Light has requested a zoning change from the county that would allow them to store nuclear waste in above ground containers at its Turkey Point facility. Currently, FPL stores its waste in underground stainless steel lined concrete pools. According to CBS4 news partners the Miami Herald, those pools will be filled in the next two years and there is no other place to send the waste. The utility wants to rezone six acres of land at Turkey Point so they can construct above ground storage tanks. Over the last 35 years of operation, the facility has generated more than two million pounds of waste. The Florida Department of Environmental Protection has already given its approval to the land usage change for the storage facilities. The power utility now needs permission from Miami-Dade County.

Source: <http://cbs4.com/local/fpl.waste.nuclear.2.1049656.html>

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Critical Manufacturing Sector

11. *June 18, AboutLawsuits.com* – (National) **Heat gun recall: Wagner, ACE and Milwaukee heat guns.** Approximately 300,000 Wagner Spray Tech heat guns have been recalled due to a risk that they may continue to produce heat even after the power is switched off, posing a potential fire and burn hazard for consumers. The heat gun recall was announced on June 17, 2009 by the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) and Wagner Spray Tech Corp. of Minneapolis, Minnesota. At least nine reports have been received of the heat guns malfunctioning and overheating. A faulty electrical component has been cited as the cause of the heat gun problems, which can cause them to stay hot after use. This can cause the heat gun’s plastic casing to melt and cause a burn if it is touched or set fire to nearby combustibles. The heat guns, which are manufactured in China, are designed to emit hot air to strip paint, remove flooring, defrost frozen surfaces and mold plastic. The recalled models are the Milwaukee Heat Gun MHT3300, the ACE HT3500 Heat Gun, and the Wagner Heat Gun HT3500.

Source: <http://www.aboutlawsuits.com/heat-gun-recall-risk-of-fire-4464/>

12. *June 17, Milwaukee Journal Sentinel* – (Wisconsin) **Fire damages Menomonee Falls manufacturing building.** A fire caused about \$50,000 in damage on June 17 to a building products manufacturing company, the Menomonee Falls fire chief said.

Firefighters were called to Builders Hardware and Hollow Metal at 8:41 a.m. for heavy smoke in the rear of the building. Prior to the department's arrival, the building's sprinkler system was activated, the fire chief said. When firefighters arrived, they found the sprinklers did much of the work putting out the fire, he said. It took nine sprinkler heads to put out the fast and hot fire. Typically, two sprinkler heads will do it, he said. The fire originated in the filtering system in a paint booth, but the ignition source is not known.

Source: <http://www.jsonline.com/news/waukesha/48287347.html>

13. *June 17, Colorado Tribune* – (Colorado) **Fire causes minor damage to manufacturing plant south of Platteville.** Authorities are investigating the cause of a fire that did minor damage to a camper manufacturing plant south of Platteville on June 17. The fire started about 3:30 p.m. When firefighters arrived, there was smoke showing from the exterior of the building. About 15 firefighters and six fire engines from the Platteville-Gilcrest and Fort Lupton fire departments extinguished the fire. A Platteville-Gilcrest training officer said damage was minimal and the dollar amount of the damage was not yet known.

Source:

<http://www.greeleytribune.com/article/20090617/NEWS/906179979/1002/NONE&parentprofile=1001>

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

Nothing to report

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Banking and Finance Sector

14. *June 19, Reuters* – (International) **Stanford indicted in massive U.S. fraud case.** A Texas billionaire, three associates, and a top Caribbean regulator were indicted on fraud, conspiracy, and obstruction charges in an elaborate \$7 billion pyramid scheme to bilk investors, U.S. Justice Department officials said on June 19. The financier was set to appear on June 19 in federal court in Virginia to answer Texas grand jury charges he orchestrated the fraud through his bank on the Caribbean island of Antigua. The financier, an executive, two accountants, and Antigua's top regulator were hit with 21 charges alleging they concocted a broad ruse to deceive investors, fabricate financial statements, and hide their fraud. "This scheme was carefully orchestrated to make sure the true information never saw the light of day," said the head of the Securities and Exchange Commission's enforcement unit.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/bondsNews/idUSN1942415420090619>

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Transportation Sector

15. *June 19, Boston Globe* – (Massachusetts) **Plane, vehicle near a collision.** An airplane hurtling down a runway at Logan Airport on June 18 narrowly averted colliding with a construction vehicle that strayed into an unauthorized area, triggering a federal investigation and halting all construction at one of the country's busiest airports. The incident, classified as the most serious type of runway incursion short of a collision, occurred at 6:36 a.m. and terrified air traffic controllers, who saw the vehicle dangerously close to the plane's wing shortly after the flight was cleared for takeoff. "It was an actual near miss," said a spokesman for the Massachusetts Port Authority. Officials said the driver of the vehicle, a Ford Explorer, was on a taxiway and apparently failed to follow safety procedures requiring him to stop at the runway intersection and radio the tower for permission to cross. The taxiway, known as Taxiway M, is in the middle of the airfield and under construction. It crosses Runway 15R, the one the plane was speeding down. A spokesman for the Federal Aviation Administration said an alarm sounded in the control tower warning that an object was on the runway, and air traffic controllers noticed the vehicle. The driver — who works for HNTB Inc., a company involved in the taxiway construction — has been suspended pending an internal investigation, officials said. The company is cooperating fully. The driver was not identified.

Source:

http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2009/06/19/plane_vehicle_near_a_collision/

16. *June 19, Associated Press* – (International) **Passengers not told pilot of NJ-bound jet had died.** Continental Airlines Flight 61's 60-year-old captain had died of a suspected heart attack midway through the June 18 flight from Brussels, and two co-pilots had taken over the controls. The crew of the Boeing 777 made an announcement over the loudspeaker asking if there was a doctor on board, but passengers did not suspect anything was amiss. The flight stayed on schedule. A passenger, who was a cardiologist and radiologist from Brussels, examined the pilot in the cockpit and tried to revive him using a defibrillator. But it was too late. The doctor said there was "no chance at all" of saving him. The dead pilot was based in Newark and had worked for Continental for 32 years, the airline said. A former leader of the Continental pilots' union, who currently flies Boeing 767 jets for the airline, said pilots must pass an extensive physical every six months to remain qualified to fly. The exam includes an electrocardiogram, blood pressure check and a vision test. For long routes such as trans-Atlantic flights, a third pilot is aboard to permit the captain or first officer to take rest breaks. He said there is no specific training on how to react if a crew member becomes incapacitated, but any one of the three pilots is fully qualified to operate the jet.

Source: <http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5iovN3SY651-awcKmljXAkYb8z5RwD98TMOIO0>

17. *June 19, Aviation Herald* – (New York) **CommutAir DH8B at Syracuse on Jun 18th 2009, engine failure.** A CommutAir de Havilland Dash 8-200 on behalf of Continental

Airlines, performing flight C5-8752/CO-8752 from Syracuse, New York to Cleveland, Ohio with 34 passengers and 3 crew members, experienced the failure of the right hand engine immediately after liftoff from runway 15. The airplane climbed to 3000 feet, maneuvered around the airport for about 20 minutes while the crew worked checklists and returned for a safe landing on runway 10 about 25 minutes after departure.

Source: <http://avherald.com/h?article=41b63103&opt=4865>

18. *June 19, Associated Press* – (Illinois) **Storms sock city, slug airports.** Chicago airports experienced storm-related delays, thousands of residents of northern and central Illinois lost power, and flash flooding closed roads and backed up traffic following heavy rains that beat down on the city. Chicago Police said flooding closed a northbound ramp on Lake Shore Drive. Flight delays at O'Hare International Airport averaged one hour and more than 50 flights were canceled. Midway was seeing shorter delays and no cancellations. The storm also kicked WBBM-AM off the air. Just after noon, the radio station's broadcast tower was hit by lightning, a spokeswoman told the Chicago Sun-Times for a story on its Web site. WBBM was back on the air around 12:40 p.m., the paper reported. ComEd reported 5,800 customers without electricity, mostly in the Rockford area. About 7,300 Ameren customers were without power, mostly in Knox, Peoria, and Warren counties. According to Ameren, the storm left about 43,500 customers in the dark early Thursday morning.

Source: <http://www.chicagobusiness.com/cgi-bin/news.pl?id=34480>

See also: <http://www.marketwatch.com/story/ameren-illinois-utilities-report-service-restored-for-23600-majority-of-customers-to-have-lights-on-tonight>

19. *June 18, Contra Costa Times* – (California) **Grass fire contained at Byron Airport.** Fire crews on June 18 contained a four-acre grass fire at the Byron Airport. The blaze was first reported about 2:55 p.m. on airport property, off Byron Highway. About seven engines from the Contra Costa County Fire District and the airport worked to contain it by 3:15 p.m., dispatchers said. The blaze burned right up to the runway of the small airport, but no planes or property was damaged, and no one was injured.

Source: http://www.mercurynews.com/breakingnews/ci_12622228

For more stories, see items [5](#), [7](#), and [41](#)

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Postal and Shipping Sector

20. *June 19, BBC News* – (International) **Personal data exposed on Web site.** Personal data including the signatures of recipients has been exposed to those tracking deliveries on the Parcelforce Web site, the BBC has discovered. A failure in the system allowed people using the mail tracing service access to the name, postcode and signature of various addressees. The breakdown put Parcelforce at risk of breaching data protection rules. The delivery service, part of the Royal Mail Group, apologized. It said the problem had been resolved. Customers sending a package with Parcelforce Worldwide are given a reference number which allows them to track the progress of the delivery. However, when the BBC News Web site entered reference numbers into the "track and

trace” feature on the Parcelforce Web site, a series of unconnected deliveries was revealed. Although the same reference number was typed in, the specifics of parcels with other reference details were displayed. Within the space of 30 minutes, the system handed out details of parcels in Cleveland, Swansea and even awaiting customs clearance en route from Shanghai. These included some parcels that had already been delivered. On the page declaring “proof of delivery,” the name and postcode at its destination were shown, alongside a reproduction of the signature of the recipient. Such information would give an identity fraudster easy access to people’s names, addresses and signatures.

Source: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/business/8107737.stm>

21. *June 18, New Orleans Times-Picayune* – (Louisiana) **New Orleans Federal Building locked down after white powder found in mailroom.** The discovery of an envelope bearing a suspicious white powder prompted public safety officials to seal off the F. Edward Hebert federal building in the Central Business District of New Orleans for more than four hours Thursday. Though preliminary tests determined that the powder was not hazardous, the material was sent to an FBI laboratory, officials said. Firefighters and other first responders rushed the scene and officials put the building on lockdown, meaning no one could enter or exit. Nine federal employees and two New Orleans police officers were isolated and tested because they had been exposed to the powder, said a spokesman for the New Orleans Fire Department. No one was injured. After about four hours, authorities re-opened the building. Along with police and fire personnel, several other agencies, including the Louisiana State Police, FBI, U.S. Marshals and Regional Transit Authority, responded to the scene. The mailroom was cleaned and eventually cleared of any possible toxins. The lab test is pending. Details about the powder and the envelope were not available.

Source:

http://www.nola.com/news/index.ssf/2009/06/new_orleans_federal_building_1.html

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Agriculture and Food Sector

22. *June 19, USAgNet* – (National) **Blood disorder found in pesticide applicators.** A study involving 678 individuals who apply pesticides, culled from a U.S. Agricultural Health Study of more than 50,000 farmers, recently found that exposure to certain pesticides doubles one’s risk of developing an abnormal blood condition called MGUS (monoclonal gammopathy of undetermined significance) compared with individuals in the general population. The disorder, characterized by an abnormal level of a plasma protein, requires lifelong monitoring as it is a pre-cancerous condition that can lead to multiple myeloma, a painful cancer of the plasma cells in the bone marrow. The study will appear in the June 18 issue of *Blood*, the official journal of the American Society of Hematology. “As several million Americans use pesticides, it’s important that the risks of developing MGUS from the use of pesticides is known,” the senior study author and National Cancer Institute investigator said.

Source: <http://usagnet.com/story-national.php?Id=1315&yr=2009>

23. *June 19, Wall Street Journal* – (National) **Nestle recalls Toll House cookie dough products.** Federal health officials warned consumers not to eat raw or baked prepackaged Nestle Toll House refrigerated cookie dough because of E.coli infection risks. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) along with state regulators are investigating a nationwide E.coli outbreak possibly linked to the Nestle USA's Toll House products. The company voluntarily recalled the products on June 19. The FDA reported that since March, the government has received 66 reports of illness in 28 states, and that 25 people were hospitalized, including seven with a severe complication. The FDA said no one had died. Nestle USA said it has not found the E.coli strain implicated in the outbreak — E.coli O157:H7 — but the company recalled the products after the FDA told it about the investigation. In Colorado, health officials reported that several people ate raw cookie dough before becoming sick, and Colorado officials there said the dough might be the source of the outbreak. "We can't be certain that raw cookie dough is the source of these infections, but we are concerned enough that it might be and want consumers to be aware," said the food-borne disease epidemiologist at the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment.
Source: <http://online.wsj.com/article/SB124541930544731395.html>
24. *June 18, Kansas City Star* – (Missouri) **Authorities seek two diseased horses taken illegally from area stable under quarantine.** Missouri State and Federal authorities are looking for two diseased horses that were taken illegally while quarantined at a Raytown stable. Officials say someone cut padlocks on the building doors and stalls at the Raytown Equestrian Park, the night of June 17. They took two of seven horses that had tested positive for a blood-borne disease called equine piroplasmosis. "Although this disease is not easily transmittable and does not affect humans, it is a disease that through ticks and contaminated needles can have a great impact on our horse industry," the director of the Missouri Department of Agriculture said in statement. The department is working with local officials and the FBI to locate the missing horses, which are microchipped. The five other horses at the stable that had tested positive for the disease were euthanized on June 18 with the consent of the owners. All 64 horses at the Raytown stable had been quarantined since June 6. The origin of the infection is unknown.
Source: <http://www.kansascity.com/115/story/1260237.html>
25. *June 18, Omaha World-Herald* – (Nebraska) **Crash displaces building tenants.** Shortly before 10 p.m. on June 17, a van crashed into the corner of Hank's Place in Omaha, Nebraska. The building also is home to some apartments. Much of the building later collapsed. About 25 people were inside Hank's Place at the time of the crash, but no one was seriously hurt, authorities said. Dispatch reports indicated at least four apartment tenants, one a baby, also were evacuated. The driver of the van was arrested at the scene. Police closed the 40th and Ames intersection. It remained closed to traffic the following morning. The van had careened onto the sidewalk near the bar and took out a light pole before smashing into the corner of the bar, knocking out the storefront's right side and scattering bricks across the street. A few patrons reported bruised legs, said the bar owner, but none required treatment. About 10:45 p.m., the front part of the

roof collapsed, causing a fracture in the building next door. That building houses Big Jim's Barbershop, which remained mostly intact. But the right-side wall tore away slightly from the building, displacing at least five people who live in apartments above the barbershop.

Source: <http://www.omaha.com/article/20090618/NEWS01/906189997/-1/FRONTPAGE>

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Water Sector

26. *June 18, GateHouse News Service* – (Illinois) **Sulfuric acid kept from Macomb water supply.** A sulfuric acid spill at Macomb's water plant on the night of June 17 never reached the city's water supply, the Public Works director said June 18. Macomb firefighters were called to the city's water plant, in Glenwood Park, just before 10 p.m. June 17. Most of the park was then sealed off to the public. The spill caused no injuries and did not affect the water-treatment process, officials said. An automatic shut-off valve malfunctioned on a tank that holds 39 percent sulfuric acid, spilling about 400 gallons of acid used in the water treatment process. Firefighters were at the treatment plant for about five hours. In addition to the Macomb department, firefighters from Emmet Chalmers were called in to help at the scene and to help man the Macomb station in the case of any additional emergency calls. The hazardous materials teams from the Galesburg and Canton fire departments also were called in. The tank that spilled is used by water plant employees during the day to mix the acid into the city's water supply. The acid is a "pH balancer" for the water. To counteract the acid, firefighters, dressed in fully sealed hazardous materials suits, covered it with powdered lime. Most of the acid was found in the room where the reverse osmosis process is handled as well as an adjacent electrical room. A small amount went out a back door but was contained. The two rooms have been sealed off, and city workers were allowed back in the building at about 3 a.m. June 18. The director said cleanup will include shoveling up the lime-covered acid, bagging it, putting it in a barrel and transporting it to an approved hazardous waste disposal site.

Source: http://www.pjstar.com/news_state/x998774771/Haz-mat-spill-at-Macomb-Water-Plant

27. *June 18, Water Technology Online* – (Texas) **TX town fights waste pit on land above aquifer.** A small Texas town is fighting a proposed plan to dispose of natural gas and oil drilling waste on land above the community's drinking water aquifer, WFAA-TV reported June 17. Fenco Contractors Group, a Texas-based oil and gas waste hauler, has submitted a permit application to the Texas Railroad Commission. A Fenco's spokesperson said the disposal facility will offer "state-of-the-art containment." The town mayor disagrees, "It would contaminate our entire system before we would even know it." The spokesperson has hired an engineer, to design the disposal facility. The proposed facility would recycle some water for reuse in drilling and would contain the waste in a plastic-lined pit. When asked if he could give a guarantee that the town's drinking water will not be tainted as a result of the facility, the engineer told WFAA-TV, "Well, as a result of this facility, I'm not sure any of us can give a 100 percent

guarantee on anything in life.” The Texas Railroad Commission, which has primary regulatory jurisdiction over the oil and natural gas industry, is reviewing the permit application.

Source: http://watertechonline.com/news.asp?N_ID=72095

28. *June 18, Daily Advance* – (North Carolina) **Camden to fix ammonia problem at wastewater plant.** Camden County is still working to correct what caused high ammonia readings at the new wastewater plant that resulted in a notice of violation from the North Carolina Division of Water Quality more than a month ago, which resulted in a \$2,500 fine. The county manager said the fine has not been paid because the county wants to fix the problem first. In April, commissioners were told that operational improvements would cost about \$8,000. But a new proposal included a combined estimate of \$26,000. The county commissioners voted on June 15 to approve the plan submitted by engineers of McGill Associates to restore the almost-new wastewater plant. “We decided not to pay the fine and instead we submitted a formal request to (the state) and asked that the \$2,500 fine be included [in the new estimate from McGill and Associates] to bring the plant back online,” the manager said. “We think they understand there are always kinks to be worked out when a new plant first starts operating.” The irregular reading of ammonia occurred because of the sparsity of residents and businesses connected to the water and sewer lines, officials said earlier. The slow-moving septic material inching along through 14 miles of piping from the main service area to the plant — which usually takes about one and a half weeks — allows the waste more time to build up toxicity. The longer it takes for the material to move through the lines, the more toxic it becomes. If there were more usage of the lines, it would help push the sewage through the lines at a faster rate and thus reduce the toxicity. Commissioners also approved a \$135,000 engineering contract from McGill and Associates this week to engineer a design concept to expand water and sewer lines along the northern end of U.S. Highway 17 corridor.

Source: <http://www.dailyadvance.com/news/camden-to-fix-ammonia-problem-at-wastewater-plant-671492.html>

29. *June 17, WV Gazette* – (West Virginia) **EPA takeover sought for State’s water program.** West Virginia regulators have allowed a “complete breakdown” of their water pollution control program, and federal officials should seize permitting and enforcement duties from the State Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), a coalition of environmental groups said on June 17. In a formal petition, the Sierra Club and three other groups urged the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to take over West Virginia’s handling of the Clean Water Act’s National Pollution Discharge Elimination System, or NPDES. The petition focuses on DEP’s program for mining, but also targets problems in non-mining water quality enforcement and permitting. Among other things, it cites the State’s granting of broad compliance waivers, the Legislature’s weakening of key pollution rules, and a long-standing lack of action by DEP on permit limit violations by coal operators. “The state’s capitulation to the industries it is obligated to regulate under the Clean Water Act and its resulting failure to enforce or maintain its NPDES program leave EPA no choice but to withdraw its approval of that program,” said the petition, signed by citizen group lawyers. The DEP

secretary said he had not yet seen the petition.

Source: <http://wvgazette.com/News/politics/200906170581>

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

30. *June 19, Los Angeles Times* – (National) **81 U.S. healthcare workers have H1N1 virus.** At least 81 U.S. healthcare workers have contracted laboratory-confirmed cases of the novel H1N1 influenza virus and about half caught the bug on the job, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said Thursday. The finding is worrisome because it suggests that hospitals and workers are not taking sufficient preventive measures to limit the spread of the virus. If a large-scale outbreak of the virus recurs this fall, a similar infection rate could cause significant problems — not only because it would limit the number of workers available to care for the sick, but also because the infected nurses, doctors and others could transmit the virus to debilitated patients before their own symptoms become apparent. Already-ill patients would be more likely to develop life-threatening side effects from the flu. The report in the Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report studied 48 cases that occurred from the beginning of April to May 13, and concluded that “probably half were related to the healthcare setting,” said CDC’s Center for Preparedness, Detection and Control of Infectious Diseases. An additional 33 cases have been observed since then, but not studied in depth.

Source: <http://www.latimes.com/news/nationworld/nation/la-sci-flu19-2009jun19,0,7032033.story>

31. *June 18, Reuters* – (National) **Tough medical device oversight needed, U.S. panel told.** The U.S. Food and Drug Administration’s approval process for medical devices needs strengthening to better protect patients from safety risks, experts told lawmakers on June 18. At a hearing on medical devices, which range from tongue depressors to artificial hips, a Congressman said he was trying to determine if there were problems that should be fixed through new legislation or increased FDA oversight. “There is evidence of an approval system that is broken — that its standards, its procedures and its rules don’t meet modern needs of getting medical devices to those in need with confidence in their safety,” said the Representative, who chairs a House Energy and Commerce subcommittee.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssHealthcareNews/idUSN1841787620090618>

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Government Facilities Sector

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Emergency Services Sector

32. *June 19, Eugene Register-Guard* – (Oregon) **Officer claims retaliation for raising safety issues.** A Eugene, Oregon, police officer has filed a \$600,000 lawsuit against the city and his supervisor, alleging violation of Oregon's whistle-blower law. In a seven-page complaint filed in Lane County Circuit Court, the officer charged that he was wrongfully discharged from the department's K-9 unit May 20 and suffered other retaliation for reporting to supervisors "negligent and unintended firearms discharges" he allegedly witnessed when working with the department's SWAT team. The only individual named in the suit is the officer's direct supervisor on the K-9 team. In his suit, the officer claimed that he lost his K-9 assignment after making multiple requests to police department supervisors for additional training and equipment for the city's SWAT team to reduce danger to them and to K-9 officers who often worked with them. The officer charged that he also experienced harassment as a result of raising the safety concerns. The acting Eugene police chief on June 15 said the claim is "completely without merit."
Source: <http://www.registerguard.com/csp/cms/sites/web/news/cityregion/15408059-41/story.csp>
33. *June 18, Associated Press* – (Maryland) **4 Baltimore firefighters hurt in fire truck crash.** Four Baltimore firefighters have been hurt after their fire truck ran off the road and crashed into a home's back porch. A fire department spokesman said the fire engine was heading to a reported fire when the accident happened about 3:30 p.m. Thursday. The Engine 46 fire truck drove into the backyard of a home and hit a back porch. The officer on the fire truck suffered head injuries and the other three also had non-life-threatening injuries. They were all taken to Shock Trauma. The accident's cause is under investigation.
Source: <http://wjz.com/wireapnewsfmd/Baltimore.fire.truck.2.1050730.html>
34. *June 18, KUOR 89.1 Redlands* – (California) **LA County installs reverse 911.** Los Angeles County Thursday launched an emergency alert system, similar to reverse 911. The system automatically connects to each of the county's 7 million landlines, and can be expanded to include cell phones. Los Angeles County Sheriff's officials say they may still use bullhorns as backup, but their new emergency notification telephone system will get the warning out earlier and faster during disasters. The system makes a thousand calls a minute in multiple languages. If the phone's busy, it calls back twice. If an answering machine picks up, it leaves a recorded message. Riverside and San Bernardino Counties already have emergency notification phone systems. Orange County does not.
Source: <http://www.scpr.org/news/2009/06/18/la-county-installs-reverse-911/>
35. *June 18, KERO 23 Bakersfield* – (California) **Emergency communication center under fire in grand jury report.** A follow-up Kern County, California, grand jury investigation on problems with the county's Emergency Communications Center says the Communications Center still has problems that could affect officer and public safety. The follow-up investigation says the Emergency Communication Center is not meeting federal guidelines, but the Sheriff's Office which runs the Communication Center says they are. Every day, dispatchers there handle approximately 1,400 calls.

According to the investigation from March and April last year, current staffing levels are making it difficult to answer emergency calls. It said the Communication Center is short staffed every day at critical times, something the Sheriffs Office disputes. The report says the staffing level is affecting performance. The report found 581 calls took one to two minutes to be answered. Federal guidelines require calls to be answered within 10 seconds.

Source: http://www.turnto23.com/east_county/19795538/detail.html

For more stories, see items [5](#) and [7](#)

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Information Technology

36. *June 19, Spamfighter* – (International) **Apple accepts Mac's vulnerability to malware.** Security company 'SecureMac' reports that Apple has eventually admitted that viruses and spyware pose a threat to Mac OS X and to its most recent operating system 'Snow Leopard.' According to Apple, Snow Leopard is being designed to add new mechanism that would facilitate in protecting against attacks like phishing and sandboxing in Safari. However, this technology is not a complete anti-malware solution. Apple claimed on its official website that Mac had built-in technologies, which helped to protect from malicious software as well as other security threats. Since computer systems were not cent percent immune from attacks, antivirus software might be deployed for additional protection, Apple suggested. Responding to Apple's statement, SecureMac said that they appreciated Apple for acknowledging the fact that Mac was not immune to malware attacks. This statement contradicted Apple's TV advertisements that criticized their counterparts by claiming that Macs were totally safe. Nevertheless, it was vital that one should realize that the new mechanisms built into the operating software would not safeguard from all attacks, SecureMac added. Source: <http://www.spamfighter.com/News-12582-Apple-Accepts-Macs-Vulnerability-to-Malware.htm>
37. *June 18, CNET News* – (International) **Microsoft's free antimalware beta on the way.** Microsoft will launch a public beta of its anti-malware service, Microsoft Security Essentials, on June 23 as it phases out its Live OneCare suite in favor of a simpler free consumer security offering. Microsoft Security Essentials, which will run on Windows XP, Vista, and Windows 7, will be available in the U.S., Brazil, and Israel in English and Brazilian Portuguese. A public beta version for Simplified Chinese will be available later in the year. The service works like traditional antivirus products in which client software monitors programs on a PC. When something changes on the computer, such as files being downloaded or copied or software trying to modify files, the system checks against a set of malware signatures in the client program to see if the code matches the signature for known malware. If so, it blocks it from getting downloaded. If no signature match is found, the system will ping the server-based Dynamic Signature Service to see if any new signatures are available and, if so, it removes the malware. If it appears to be new malware, the Dynamic Signature Service may request a sample of the code in order to create a new signature. The service

updates its anti-malware database constantly and publishes new antivirus signatures to Microsoft Update three times a day, the general manager of Microsoft's Anti-Malware team said in an interview on June 18.

Source: http://news.cnet.com/8301-1009_3-10268040-83.html

38. *June 17, SC Magazine* – (International) **“Nine-Ball” mass injection attack compromised 40,000 sites.** A new threat dubbed “Nine-Ball” has compromised up to 40,000 legitimate Web sites, which are, in turn, infecting users with an information-stealing trojan, according to security vendor Websense. The attack is called “Nine-Ball” because of the name of the final, malicious landing page, which is loaded with drive-by exploits, that unsuspecting users automatically are redirected to if they visit one of the compromised sites. Ninetorag.in, the exploit site, contains malicious code that looks for already patched vulnerabilities in Acrobat Reader, QuickTime, Microsoft Data Access Components (MDAC) and AOL SuperBuddy, which it then attempts to exploit, the manager of security research at Websense, told SCMagazineUS.com on June 17. The flaws have all been patched; some date back to 2006, the manager said. But, the Reader and QuickTime vulnerabilities are newer, making it less likely that users are patched for them. If the malicious code finds an unpatched vulnerability to exploit, it either drops a malicious PDF file or a trojan designed to steal user information, the manager said. All of the exploits currently have low detection rates, he added. The 40,000 legit but compromised Web sites were “sleeping” up until June 15, the manager said. Before then, if a user visited one of them, they were redirected to Ask.com. On June 15, though, the attack updated and users started being redirected to the ninetorag malicious site.

Source: <http://www.scmagazineus.com/Nine-Ball-mass-injection-attack-compromised-40000-sites/article/138664/>

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/>.

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Communications Sector

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Commercial Facilities Sector

39. *June 19, WTSP 10 St. Petersburg* – (Florida) **Evacuation lifted in Hernando brush fire.** A brush fire forced the evacuation of more than 20 homes and the Bayport Inn motel in Hernando County, Florida, near Pine Island Drive and Cortez Boulevard. The

order was lifted shortly after 8:30 p.m. Firefighters say a late night lightning strike on June 17 sparked the blaze. Then wind from nearby thunderstorms on June 18 made matters much worse. "It turned the fire directly in to the Bayport community," said an employee of the division of forestry. The owner of the Bayport Inn was working when the fire started moving fast, "It was scary, very scary. The flames were 80 feet high. We got out of there just in time." The division of forestry is still on the scene and says the flames pushed to the north, away from the homes and no one has been hurt. The only damage in the area is to power poles causing a temporary power outage for residents but workers with the electric company were working hard to restore the poles and power before nightfall. At last report, nearly 900 acres were burning and the division of forestry says the fire is only 30 percent contained.

Source: <http://www.wtsp.com/news/local/story.aspx?storyid=107973>

40. *June 18, Chicago Daily Herald* – (Illinois) **Dangerous gas leads Elk Grove firefighters to evacuate pools.** Several hundred Elk Grove Village residents were evacuated from two community pools on June 18 because of a cloud of chlorine gas, fire officials said. No one was injured. Firefighters were called to Elk Grove Park District's Pirate's Cove Theme Park and Rainbow Falls Waterpark around 1 p.m. Employees at Pirate's Cove, which has a water area for bumper boats, and Rainbow Falls started mixing two different types of chlorine to introduce into the water system, the Elk Grove fire chief said. At Pirate's Cove, the mixture of trichloride and dichloride gave off a cloud of chlorine gas. Simultaneously, the same two chemicals were being mixed at Rainbow Falls, but no gas was released because the materials did not mix together completely, the fire chief added. The chemicals were being mixed in buckets and small containers. The fire department's hazardous materials team used water to dilute them. Meanwhile, the outdoor pool area at Pirate's Cove, and the Rainbow Falls pool area were evacuated for about two hours, as was the Rotary Fest area, downwind from Rainbow Falls. Three children in a park district day camp were taken to Alexian Brothers Medical Center for evaluation and were released. Seven adult campers and park employees were evaluated by fire personnel and signed release forms. "Both facilities are open at this time and everything is going well," the fire chief noted. Area fire departments assisted with the evacuation, as did the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District. While there was a danger of fire, or that large groups of people could have inhaled the material, the fire chief said, "due to employees that had their wits about them and fire personnel that evacuated these people, nobody was hurt seriously."

Source: <http://www.dailyherald.com/story/?id=301486&src=1>

For another story, see item [25](#)

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National Monuments & Icons Sector

Nothing to report

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Dams Sector

41. *June 18, Pittsburg Tribune-Review* – (Pennsylvania) **Runaway barges hit Braddock Dam, close locks.** Two barges broke loose and struck the Braddock Dam the morning of June 18, causing a temporary closure of the locks there, officials said. About 1 a.m., the limestone-loaded barges broke loose from a five-barge tow as it was heading downstream toward the locks, said an Army Corps of Engineers spokesman. One barge hit the first gate of the dam, which is used to create “environmental flows” to maintain water quality and support fish and wildlife. The other barge struck the second gate. The tow operator, from Elizabeth-based Tow Line River Service, ran the other three barges in the tow aground on the Kennywood side of the river to keep them from reaching the dam. The spokesman said the 15-ton barges were not moving very quickly when they struck the closed gates, because the tow was approaching the locks and slowing down at the time they broke loose. The barge that hit the first gate was removed and the lock reopened to traffic by 8 a.m., but salvage crews had to be called in to move the second barge. It was expected to be cleared by that afternoon. Corps personnel were at the dam that morning to assess any damage, which appeared on the first gate to be limited to a dent in the outer skin, he said. They were still investigating what caused the barges to break loose, and whether the previous night’s storm caused heavy flows that contributed to the accident.

Source: http://www.pittsburghlive.com/x/pittsburghtrib/news/pittsburgh/s_630053.html

42. *June 18, South Florida Sun-Sentinel* – (Florida) **Lake Okeechobee dike is bolstered.** A freshly dug trench goes a mix of sand, stone and grout that hardens into a wall reaching as deep as 80 feet to protect against unseen erosion threatening the Herbert Hoover Dike. The wall is part of a decades-long effort to strengthen the dike considered by the Army Corps of Engineers to be one of the six in the country most at risk of failing. Funding delays and design problems through the years stalled efforts to fix the dike, built in the 1930s after flooding from hurricanes in 1926 and 1928 killed more than 2,000 people. The work to build the wall started in December 2007 and so far just 2.5 miles are finished in the 140-mile-long dike. But the corps contends it now has a repair plan that works and the money to rehab the most vulnerable section of the dike — a 22-mile stretch between Port Mayaca and Belle Glade. Three contracting companies are now working on 11 miles of the 22-mile stretch, at a cost of more than \$100 million. The goal was to finish the wall in that 22-mile stretch by 2013, but that work is expected to stretch into 2014, according to the corps. From flood control to storing water for South Florida, Lake Okeechobee’s dike is “central to everything we do in South Florida,” the corps’ director of Everglades restoration said. The current rehab plan includes building a wall, up to three feet wide and 80 feet deep, through the middle of the earthen dike. The corps is also adding a supporting berm around the outside base of the dike to reinforce the structure and help stop erosion.

Source: <http://www.sun-sentinel.com/news/local/breakingnews/sfl-lake-okeechobee-dike-p061909,0,3512604.story>

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