



# Homeland Security

## Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 14 July 2009

### Current Nationwide Threat Level

ELEVATED



Significant Risk of Terrorist Attacks

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

### Top Stories

- According to the Cape Cod Times, public safety officials warned residents in the Knob Hill Road area of Yarmouth, Massachusetts to stay in their homes on July 10 after a three-alarm fire at a 5,000-square-foot storage building containing fertilizer on Old Colony Cranberry Bog. Smoke inhalation from the fire sent 28 firefighters to the hospital. (See item [26](#))
- KSL 5 Salt Lake City reports that a wall of mud and water crashed down on homes in Logan, Utah on July 11 after a canal ruptured above a neighborhood known as “The Island” in a wooded drop-off area south of Utah State University. (See item [47](#))

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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. *July 13 KARE 11 Minneapolis and Associated Press* – (Minnesota) **Tanker rollover near Albertville closes interstate for hours.** Interstate 94 near Albertville reopened the evening of July 12, nine hours after a tanker truck carrying fuel overturned. The Minnesota State Patrol says the crash happened just before 11 a.m. when a driver

crossed over a lane of traffic to try to get to the center median to make a U-turn. The man had missed a turn for the Albertville Outlet Mall. It took authorities until 8 p.m. to clean up the spilled fuel and get the truck up righted. No one was injured. Authorities say the driver could face misdemeanor criminal charges for making an illegal U-turn. The closure backed up traffic for miles much of the day. Traffic had to detour on Highway 25 in Monticello and onto Highway 101 in Rogers. Crews may be back on site July 13 digging up more of the contaminated soil.

Source: [http://www.kare11.com/news/news\\_article.aspx?storyid=819399](http://www.kare11.com/news/news_article.aspx?storyid=819399)

2. *July 13, Associated Press* – (Oregon) **Company fined for late reporting on oil leaks.** The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has fined an oil distributorship on the southern Oregon Coast for failing to report leaks from underground storage tanks in a timely manner. The agency said Monday that Ron's Oil Company in Coquille is appealing the \$14,400 fine. DEQ says the company collected soil samples while replacing underground piping at facilities in Bandon, Gold Beach, and Coos Bay, but did not report what it found within the 14-day period as required. A DEQ enforcement officer says leaks were found at the company's facilities in Gold Beach and Coos Bay.  
Source: <http://www.ktvz.com/Global/story.asp?S=10717501>
3. *July 12, Reuters* – (Texas) **Alon Texas refinery hit by power interruption – filing.** Alon USA's 67,000 barrel per day (bpd) Big Spring, Texas, refinery was hit by a power interruption that affected multiple units, according to a notice filed July 12 with Texas pollution regulators. Among the units affected by the interruption of electrical power from the utility provider were the refinery's crude unit, gasoline-producing fluidic catalytic cracking unit, reformer and diesel hydrotreater, according to the notice with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.  
Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssEnergyNews/idUSN128446020090712>
4. *July 12 Reuters* – (Texas) **Exxon reports Beaumont FCC malfunction –filing.** Exxon Mobil Corp reported a malfunction in a gasoline-producing fluidic catalytic cracking unit at its 344,500 barrel per day (bpd) Beaumont, Texas, refinery on July 11, according to a notice filed with state pollution regulators. The FCC's wet gas compressor was shut Saturday night after a part on the unit broke releasing hydrocarbons into the air, according to the notice filed with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.  
Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssEnergyNews/idUSN128198120090712>

For another story, see item [16](#)

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## **Chemical Industry Sector**

5. *July 12, Niagara Gazette* – (New York) **Lockport: City hit with pair of industrial accidents.** A pair of industrial accidents startled Lockport residents as an explosion at VanDeMark Chemical rattled north end homes about 6 p.m. on July 10 and a brown cloud of smoke chased some residents from their Mill Road homes on July 11. On July

10, residents reported hearing the explosion as far north as the Oak Hill Golf Course and to VanBuren Street along the Erie Barge Canal. According to a Lockport Fire Department report, the explosion was caused by a chemical reaction of a process vessel at VanDeMark. Workers were cleaning a vessel with toluene when the explosion occurred. The blast caused some leakage in a pipe containing propargyl chloroformate. VanDeMark manufactures phosgene derivatives and is North America's leading producer of merchant phosgene. On July 11, firefighters were called to a large cloud of smoke coming from the Milward Alloys on Mill Street. A command post was set up at the VanDeMark Security Station. No plant personnel were at the site. A team of firefighters was unable to find the source of the fire. Milward produces aluminum and copper alloying additives for the metallurgical industry.

Source: [http://www.niagara-gazette.com/local/local\\_story\\_193183909.html](http://www.niagara-gazette.com/local/local_story_193183909.html)

6. *July 11, Katy Times* – (Texas) **Chemical warehouse causes four-alarm fire.** Firefighters battled a four-alarm fire for several hours at a warehouse in the Katy/Cy-Fair area on July 11. Emergency personnel were dispatched at approximately 2:45 p.m. to Ram Chemical and Supply, Inc. The company is located in the 4900 block of Greenhouse Road, just north of Kieth Harrow Boulevard. "We have most of the fire contained," a Cy-Fair Volunteer Fire Department public information officer said at approximately 4:15 p.m. The contents in the warehouse have prompted Harris County hazmat crews to be at the scene. Residents have been asked to stay in their homes until further notice. "Our main concern is corrine and other acids used in production. Corrine is a respiratory irritant," the information officer said. The warehouse was not in operation at the time, and no injuries have been reported so far. The Harris County Fire Marshal's Office arson department is investigating the incident to determine the cause of the fire.

Source:

<http://www.katytimes.com/articles/2009/07/11/news/doc4a590bd02af89853301985.txt>

7. *July 11, WTMJ 620 Milwaukee* – (Wisconsin) **Worker injured in Saukville plant explosion.** A worker was injured on July 10 in an explosion at the Cook Composites & Polymers plant in Saukville. The victim, a 57-year-old Grafton man, suffered severe burns. According to Saukville Police, the man was mixing several ingredients and had just put them in a heated kettle which caused a "flash back," burning the employee. He was transported to Columbia St. Mary's Hospital in Mequon. The company's Web site says, Cook Composites "is a world leader in the production and distribution of gel coats, unsaturated polyester resins, coatings resins and emulsions."

Source: <http://www.620wtmj.com/news/local/50481472.html>

For another story, see item [26](#)

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

8. *July 13, Associated Press* – (New Jersey) **Power outage shuts down NJ nuke plant.** Oyster Creek Nuclear Generating Station is temporarily out of commission following an

unplanned shutdown that occurred when severe storms knocked out electrical power to the Lacey Township facility early Sunday. The station automatically shut down when thunderstorms knocked out power to the area at 1:35 a.m., and the plant declared an “unusual event,” the lowest level of alert, 15 minutes later. The all-clear was sounded after electrical power was restored to the area at 4:05 a.m., but the plant remained off-line on Monday for equipment testing. No word on when it might be put back into service.

Source:

[http://www.philly.com/philly/wires/ap/news/state/new\\_jersey/20090713\\_ap\\_poweroutageshutdownnynukeplant.html](http://www.philly.com/philly/wires/ap/news/state/new_jersey/20090713_ap_poweroutageshutdownnynukeplant.html)

9. *July 13, Reuters* – (Florida) **FPL Fla. St. Lucie 2 reactor shut.** FPL Group Inc’s 839-megawatt Unit 2 at the Saint Lucie nuclear power station in Florida shut by early Monday from full power early Friday, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) said in a report. The station is located on Hutchinson Island in St. Lucie County, about 120 miles north of Miami. There are two 839 MW Units 1 and 2 at the station. Unit 1 continued to operate at full power.

Source:

<http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssIndustryMaterialsUtilitiesNews/idUSN1324437720090713>

10. *July 10, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission* – (National) **NRC published annual security inspection report to Congress.** The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has made available to the public an unclassified version of an annual [report](#) to Congress outlining the previous year’s security inspection program. The report is required under the Energy Policy Act of 2005. The report covers the NRC’s security inspection program, including force-on-force exercises, for commercial nuclear power reactors and certain nuclear fuel cycle facilities for calendar year 2008. According to the report, the NRC conducted 182 security inspections at nuclear power plants and Category I fuel cycle facilities with spent nuclear material in 2008. Of those inspections, 24 were force-on-force inspections, which use a well-trained mock adversary force to test a facility’s ability to respond to threats. The security inspections identified a total of 133 findings, of which 125 were of very low security significance and eight were of low-to-moderate security significance. All were corrected immediately or compensatory measures put in place, if necessary. Details of the findings are considered sensitive and not released to the public. The report also contains information on programmatic improvements made as a result of a videotape of sleeping security officers at the Peach Bottom nuclear power plant in Pennsylvania, a discussion of corrective actions taken after some force-on-force inspections, and the primary objectives of the Category 1 security oversight program.

Source: <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/news/2009/09-124.html>

11. *July 10, York Daily Record* – (Pennsylvania) **Testing finds elevated tritium at Peach Bottom.** Environmental monitoring at Peach Bottom Atomic Power Station in York County has turned up levels of a radioactive form of hydrogen six times what the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency says is acceptable. But Peach Bottom maintains there is no public health threat or health threat to employees at the plant. A spokeswoman said

Friday workers are performing further tests and attempting to locate the source of the tritium, which forms in the nuclear fission process at the heart of the plant's operations. The tests turned up levels of tritium in groundwater toward the middle of facility grounds that were up to 123,000 picocuries. The EPA-endorsed acceptable level for drinking water is around 20,000 picocuries per liter, according to the plant. Peach Bottom monitors 22 wells on site and also performs geoprobing of other areas to take samples. The tritium was found during geoprobing July 6 near the Peach Bottom Unit 3 turbine building, the plant said.

Source: [http://ydr.inyork.com/ci\\_12810188](http://ydr.inyork.com/ci_12810188)

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## **Critical Manufacturing Sector**

12. *July 12, MyCentralJersey.com* – (New Jersey) **Vermiculite factory in Edison burns in early morning fire.** A mineral factory was gutted on July 12 by a three-alarm blaze that fire officials are calling “non-suspicious,” township police said. The fire at the Schundler Company plant at 150 Whitman Ave. was reported before dawn. The building's roof collapsed. There were no reported injuries. The factory processes vermiculite and perlite and its Web site says the company was the largest producer of the two substances on the east coast.  
Source: <http://www.mycentraljersey.com/article/20090712/NEWS/90712002/Vermiculite+factory+in+Edison+burns+in+early+morning+fire>
13. *July 12, KAIT 8 Jonesboro* – (Arkansas) **Industrial fire in Paragould Sunday morning.** Paragould firefighters were on the scene of a large industrial fire at Martin Sprocket and Gear manufacturing. First responders were on the scene since approximately 4:30 a.m. There are no reports of injuries, but the firefighters are still working to put out the blaze as of 10:30 a.m. The cause of the fire is currently unknown. Martin Sprocket is located on South 3rd just south of the U.S. 412 intersection and employs approximately 160 at the Paragould plant. Company management on the scene told Region 8 News they are currently assessing the situation.  
Source: <http://www.kait8.com/Global/story.asp?S=10712374>
14. *July 12, Reuters* – (International) **French workers threaten to blow up factory.** Workers at collapsed French car parts maker New Fabris threatened on July 12 to blow up their factory if they did not receive payouts by July 31 from auto groups Renault and Peugeot to compensate for their lost jobs. New Fabris was declared in liquidation in April, so the workers stand to get no redundancy money, although they are entitled to draw state unemployment benefit. They want Renault SA and PSA Peugeot Citroen to pay 30,000 euros (\$41,800) for each of the 336 staff at the factory, or some 10 million euros in total, in return for its remaining stocks of equipment and machinery. “The bottles of gas have already been placed at various parts of the factory and are connected with each other,” a CGT trades union official told France Info radio. “If Renault and PSA refuse to give us that money it could blow up before the end of the month,” he added. A delegation of the workers has a meeting on July 9 with Renault, which had no

immediate comment. Police also declined to comment on the threat by the workers, who are occupying the New Fabris factory at Chatellerault, near Poitiers in central France. Some French workers have adopted militant tactics in the economic crisis, including “bossnappings” where managers have been held hostage in their offices.

Source:

<http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssConsumerGoodsAndRetailNews/idUSLC42677020090712>

For another story, see item [5](#)

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## **Defense Industrial Base Sector**

Nothing to report

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## **Banking and Finance Sector**

### 15. *July 11, Associated Press* – (Wyoming) **Regulators shut small Wyoming bank.**

Regulators on July 10 shut Bank of Wyoming, marking the 53rd failure this year of a federally insured bank. The Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. was appointed receiver of the failed bank, based in Thermopolis. It had \$70 million in assets and \$67 million in deposits as of June 30. The FDIC says Central Bank & Trust of Lander, Wyoming, will assume all deposits and purchase about \$55 million in assets. The FDIC will retain the remaining assets to sell later. Bank of Wyoming’s only location will become a branch of Central Bank & Trust. Bank of Wyoming accounts will automatically become depositors of Central Bank.

Source: <http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5gg9RS-ZvzlfzrcnujKaEDMXrYyYgD99BT9080>

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## **Transportation Sector**

### 16. *July 13, Reuters* – (International) **Somali pirates end monsoon lull with hijacks,**

**attack.** Somali pirates seized two ships over the weekend and used one to attack an oil tanker in a flurry of activity in the Gulf of Aden ending a monsoon season lull, maritime officials said on Monday. The pirates seized a dhow, called “Nefya,” on Saturday to use as a mother-ship, said the coordinator of the East African Seafarers’ Assistance Program. It was unknown how many crew were on board or the Nefya’s nationality. On Sunday, pirates hijacked an Indian dhow carrying camels, sheep, and cattle away from north Somalia, said the harbor master at Mukalla port, Yemen. There were 15 Indian crew members on board. Then on Monday, the Nefya was used for a failed attack on the 265,000-ton, Liberian-flagged oil tanker, according to the European naval force, Atalanta. Pirates in two skiffs, operating with the Nefya, opened fire on the “A



Elephant” at dawn in waters between the Gulf of Aden and the Red Sea, according to the coordinator of the East African Seafarers’ Assistance Program and the European Union anti-piracy force’s lieutenant commander. The merchant vessel was slightly damaged but escaped after the attack was thwarted by a helicopter from Atalanta’s French warship ACONIT, the commander told Reuters by telephone. The weekend attacks came after another dhow was taken on Friday, and a Turkish ship was hijacked earlier the week of July 6. Maritime groups say the pirates had been keeping a lower profile for more than a month due to monsoon rains.

Source:

<http://in.reuters.com/article/oilRpt/idINLD4315520090713?pageNumber=1&virtualBrandChannel=11584>

17. *July 12, Newsday* – (New York) **Aftermath of bridge fire expected to snarl commuters.** The ramp off the Cross Island Parkway will remain closed indefinitely as investigators search for the cause of the July 10 fire, which prompted a temporary shutdown of the Throgs Neck Bridge that led to long delays and hours of confusion. Most trucks will be diverted to the Robert F. Kennedy Bridge, formerly known as the Triborough Bridge, a Metropolitan Transit Authority (MTA) Bridges and Tunnels spokeswoman said July 12. Trucks on the Clearview have been diverted to the Bronx-Whitestone Bridge via a circuitous path along several Queens streets. “Everything now is being reassessed as the engineers are on the scene,” she said. “Nothing is really decided right now”. The fire started among construction materials beneath the bridge deck the morning of July 10 and forced closure of the bridge for several hours. It was mostly reopened by the evening of July 10, but trucks of 7,000 pounds or more with commercial license plates were banned through the weekend. The cause of the fire remains under investigation, a fire department spokesman said July 12. The fire occurred at the south end of the bridge, near where the Cross Island Parkway entrance merges with the Clearview Expressway, the spokeswoman said. The Metropolitan Transportation Authority had planned weeks ago to close the Cross Island Parkway ramp for construction.  
Source: <http://www.newsday.com/news/printedition/longisland/ny-nybrid1312964560jul12,0,4794614.story>
18. *July 11, Associated Press* – (Texas) **American Eagle flight makes emergency landing.** An American Eagle flight on its way from Dallas-Fort Worth to Dayton, Ohio, had to make an emergency landing at the Dallas-Fort Worth Airport. An American Airlines spokesman says the flight landed safely the morning of July 11. He says all 43 passengers aboard and three crew members were put on another flight to Dayton before noon. He said pilots had turned the plane back after receiving indication of a hydraulic system issue. He said they were able to get the landing gear down manually to land the plane.  
Source: <http://www.chron.com/disp/story.mpl/ap/tx/6525273.html>
19. *July 11, BBC News* – (Arizona) **British plane in U.S. smoke scare.** More than 300 passengers and crew aboard a British Airways jet at a U.S. airport were evacuated down emergency slides after smoke filled the cabin. The Boeing 747 had pulled away from the

departure gate at Phoenix, Arizona, en route to London Heathrow when passengers began complaining of smoke. There were shouts of “fire” and some people panicked but none was seriously injured, eyewitnesses told the BBC. Fire crews found light smoke but no fire and suspect an electrical problem. About 15 people received minor scrapes and bruises, and one person was taken to hospital with shoulder pain. Confirming the safe exit of all 298 passengers and 18 crew members aboard Flight BA288, British Airways said the aircraft had been evacuated “following the usual procedures”.

Source: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/americas/8145686.stm>

20. *July 11, E.W. Scripps Co.* – (Florida) **Air Force plane back at MacDill after TIA emergency landing.** The Air Force pilots involved in the July 10 emergency landing at Tampa International Airport are safely returning back to MacDill Air Force base. The KC-135 is a refueling tanker. It was headed to North Carolina, but just minutes after take off from Tampa’s MacDill Air Force base smoke started pouring out inside the rear of plane, the pilot evaluator said. “By the time the boom operator got to the front of the plane, the back end was very smoky and it was hard to see all the way in the back of the airplane.” None of the 19 crew members were injured, they quickly donned oxygen masks to protect them from smoke and fumes that reeked of fuel. A faulty auxiliary power unit is to blame. “First we made sure that was shut down and our procedures are to depressurize the airplane so that we can get rid of the smoke and we all went on oxygen 100 percent,” he said. After about four hours, the plane was back in the air for a return flight to MacDill Air Force base. The KC-135 involved in the July 10 incident was built in 1962. In fact all of these types of planes are from the 50’s and 60’s. The Air Force is phasing them out. The planes cost \$40 million each.

Source: [http://www.abcactionnews.com/news/local/story/Air-Force-plane-back-at-MacDill-after-TIA/gs\\_Es0T-k0OhBnV3u8POIQ.csp](http://www.abcactionnews.com/news/local/story/Air-Force-plane-back-at-MacDill-after-TIA/gs_Es0T-k0OhBnV3u8POIQ.csp)

21. *July 10, Milwaukee Journal Sentinel* – (Wisconsin) **3 TSA agents released after suffering from odor at airport.** Three Transportation Security Administration (TSA) agents taken to Aurora St. Luke’s Medical Center have been treated and released after complaining of illness from a foul odor that turned out to be Goof Off cleaning liquid inside a passenger’s bag at Mitchell International Airport on July 10. Rags saturated with Goof Off — which contains xylene — were inside the bag when the man came through a security checkpoint on July 10. Agents complained of dizziness and being light-headed before Milwaukee County sheriff’s deputies, Milwaukee firefighters and a hazardous materials team responded to investigate and locate the source of the smell about 9:45 a.m. on July 10. Three other agents were treated at the scene. Authorities tracked the man’s bag to a nearby Super 8 motel, where he had thrown it away in a trash bin. A hazmat crew took the bag and held it for the TSA, which requested it as evidence. The assistant director of the regional hazardous materials team for the Milwaukee Fire Department said the fire department would dispose of the bag.

Source: <http://www.jsonline.com/news/milwaukee/50473187.html>

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## **Postal and Shipping Sector**



22. *July 10, Kansas City Star* – (Kansas) **Suspicious package sent to Clay County Courthouse.** Emergency crews detonated a suspicious package that was delivered today to the office of the Clay County, Kansas, Circuit Court clerk. No injuries or structural damage were reported. Investigators went to a rural area of Clay County to talk to a potential person of interest, the Sheriff said. Around 10 a.m., a package, which contained wiring, alligator clips and unidentified objects, was delivered to the office of a circuit clerk. The circuit clerk contacted courthouse security, who put the package through an X-ray machine. The package was then removed from the building and placed outside. The Independence explosive ordnance disposal team detonated the package using a robot. There were no explosives in the package, the sheriff said.  
Source: [http://www.kansascity.com/news/breaking\\_news/story/1317315.html](http://www.kansascity.com/news/breaking_news/story/1317315.html)

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## **Agriculture and Food Sector**

23. *July 12, WFMZ 69 Allentown* – (Pennsylvania) **Several barns burned, horses hurt in four-alarm fire.** More than 100 firefighters from around the region worked through much of the night to put out a massive fire at the Pink Star Equestrian Center in Oley Township, Berks County, Pennsylvania. They got the call to respond shortly before 11:00 p.m. on July 11. The fire went to four alarms, bringing in firefighters from five counties to help battle the flames, before it was put under control about 2-1/2 hours later. The fire chief told 69 News that three barns were destroyed and another was severely damaged in the fire. He puts the damage at \$700,000 to \$1,000,000. The owner of the equestrian center told 69 News that four of the center's more than 30 horses being housed at the facility were injured in the fire, two of them critically. They are now under the care of veterinarians who were called to the scene during the fire. The chief says one firefighter suffered a minor injury in the fire. The chief says the extra firefighters were called in from surrounding counties, Chester, Lancaster, Lehigh, and Montgomery, primarily to provide additional water for the fire. Some of that water was used to help prevent the flames from spreading to nearby buildings. Oley Turnpike was road was closed for more than nine hours. Investigators are now trying to determine what sparked the massive fire. A state police fire marshal has been called in to help.

Source:

<http://wfmz.com/view/?id=1226929&title=Several%20Barns%20Burned%2C%20Horses%20Hurt%20In%20Four-Alarm%20Fire>

24. *July 12, U.S. Food Safety and Inspection Service* – (Illinois) **Illinois firm recalls ground beef products due to possible E. coli O157:H7 contamination- class I recall.** E. S. Miller Packing Co., a Montgomery, Illinois establishment is recalling approximately 219 pounds of ground beef products that may be contaminated with E. coli O157:H7, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) announced on July 12. These ground beef products were produced from July 7, 2009, through July 10, 2009, and were distributed to consumers and several local restaurants in the Montgomery and Paw Paw, Ill., areas, located in northern Illinois. The problem was discovered through FSIS microbiological sampling. FSIS has received no reports of illnesses associated with consumption of these products.

Source: [http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News\\_&\\_Events/Recall\\_038\\_2009\\_Release/index.asp](http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News_&_Events/Recall_038_2009_Release/index.asp)

25. *July 12, Oregon Live* – (Oregon) **Produce plant is evacuated after carbon monoxide leak.** Seven people were hospitalized the morning of July 12 and another 14 were treated after a carbon monoxide leak at a produce plant in Brooks, north of Salem, Oregon. Firefighters were called to Curry & Co. in Brooks after the leak was discovered, said the assistant chief at Marion County Fire District 1. There were about 40 people working this morning at the plant, which was evacuated. Seven people reported minor injuries and were taken to Salem Hospital. Firefighters are not certain yet what caused the leak, the assistant chief said.

Source:

[http://www.oregonlive.com/news/index.ssf/2009/07/produce\\_plant\\_is\\_evacuated\\_aft.ht ml](http://www.oregonlive.com/news/index.ssf/2009/07/produce_plant_is_evacuated_aft.ht ml)

26. *July 11, Cape Cod Times* – (Massachusetts) **Chemical fire confines residents.** Public safety officials warned residents in the Knob Hill Road area of Yarmouth, Massachusetts, to stay in their homes the afternoon of July 10 as the state's hazardous materials response unit investigated a three-alarm fire at a storage building containing fertilizer. The fire, which engulfed a 5,000-square-foot metal-framed building on Old Colony Cranberry Bog at about 11:15 a.m., sent plumes of potentially toxic smoke billowing into the air, officials said. Firefighters from across the Cape responded to the call for assistance to battle the blaze. Smoke inhalation from the fire sent 28 firefighters and three civilians to Cape Cod Hospital for evaluation. They were evaluated for inhaling dangerous toxins, but all of them checked out fine, the Yarmouth fire captain said. Firefighters on the scene said the fire may have been sparked by an electrical problem, noting that the owner had been sanding the floors inside and that some kind of electric spark may have ignited cleaning rags, although no official cause had been determined as of the Times' press deadline. The first Yarmouth fire department unit on the scene reported that half the building was engulfed in flames when they arrived, the fire captain said. When fire crews discovered fertilizer was inside the building, a "tier three" hazardous materials response was called — the highest level of response for such incidents. Exploding propane tanks inside the building sent people running. Though the fire was doused at 12:15 p.m., about an hour later, the situation grew tense again when units near the building were told to back away immediately because of the potential danger of the chemical-filled smoke still smoldering inside. The state hazardous materials response team arrived, as did the Red Cross, which provided cold drinking water for the firefighters. The bog's owner said that the barn was probably a \$100,000 loss; not including the cost of whatever equipment was destroyed or damaged. The state Department of Environmental Protection is investigating any potential environmental damage linked to run off from the firefighting effort, the fire captain said.

Source:

<http://www.capecodonline.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20090711/NEWS/907110315/-1/NEWSMAP>

27. *July 11, WESH 2 Orlando* – (Florida) **Fumes sicken workers at Orange Co. warehouse: 2 people taken to hospital after possible chlorine leak.** Two people were

taken to a hospital after a possible chlorine leak at a produce company in Orange County, the morning of July 11. Rescue officials said that some kind of fume made people sick at the warehouse on Exchange Drive, between Presidents Drive and Landstreet Road. Officials responded to the facility just after 6 a.m. and took two patients to Dr. Phillips Hospital. An Orange County fire rescue airboat was brought in to blow air through the building to ventilate it after crews did a wash down of the spill. Officials said that, as of 9:02 a.m., the building was completely ventilated and no further hazardous substances were found in the air. They said they notified the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services of the incident because the place handles food products.

Source: <http://www.wesh.com/health/20025718/detail.html>

28. *July 11, Milwaukee Journal Sentinel* – (Wisconsin) **Patrick Cudahy fire brought out heroes who saved lives and business.** The fire that started late on July 5 was declared extinguished on July 8, though crews responded to a flare-up July 11. Firefighters from 30 different departments from across the state used more than 33 million gallons of water to douse the flames. Despite extensive damage at the plant, the firm, a division of Smithfield Foods, said production would restart at the site as soon as possible. “We lost some 270,000 square feet of storage and production space” said the president and chief operating officer of Patrick Cudahy Inc. But around 750,000 square feet did not suffer damage, including production areas for dry sausage, precooked sausage and sweet apple-wood smoked bacon, the president added. Meticulous disaster plans that had been rehearsed over the years were put in place, a mobile command was established, an evacuation center created, police, fire and emergency crews working hand in hand with the school district and disaster-relief agencies. “The emergency response worked from start to finish,” said Cudahy’s police chief. No one was killed or injured. The plant was saved. In its latest statement, Patrick Cudahy said it is busy assessing the damage to the historic facility, with media reports indicating the price tag could exceed \$50 million.

Source: <http://www.jsonline.com/news/milwaukee/50548042.html>

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## **Water Sector**

29. *July 12, WKMG 6 Orlando* – (Florida) **Floods bring sewage, fish to streets.** Homes were flooded and streets were closed in portions of Central Florida the night of July 11 after severe thunderstorms dumping massive amounts of rain ripped through the region. The city of Kissimmee issued a contamination warning, telling residents to stay out of the water because the flooding forced sanitary sewer manholes to overflow with raw sewage. Osceola County firefighters told Local 6 News that neighborhoods in northwest Kissimmee were flooded. Deputies forced some residents near Lake Toho and on Emmett Street, west of John Young Parkway, to stay elsewhere for the night because of the hazards. One resident said the flooding was worse than in the 2004 hurricanes. Neighbors said they spotted fish swimming in the floodwaters, which they said was deep enough to swim in. No injuries were reported.

Source: <http://www.clickorlando.com/weather/20028966/detail.html>

30. *July 11, Occupational Health and Safety* – (Maine) **EPA to clear lead-contaminated soil along Penobscot River.** The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) expects to soon begin work to clean soil contaminated with lead at the Rolnick Site along the Penobscot River in Brewer, Maine. The agency estimates it will take three to four months to clean the four-acre site that once held both an auto salvage shop and a gas station, situated a half mile from the center of town in a mixed residential and commercial area. The lead contamination threatens the health of workers and others who come in direct contact with the contaminated soils and is a potential threat to the Atlantic salmon and striped bass population in the Penobscot River, EPA says. Source: <http://ohsonline.com/Articles/2009/07/11/EPA-to-Clear-Lead-Contamination.aspx>

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## **Public Health and Healthcare Sector**

31. *July 13, Wisbusiness.com* – (Wisconsin) **UW-Madison: Study suggests H1N1 virus more dangerous than suspected.** A new, highly detailed study of the H1N1 flu virus shows that the pathogen is more virulent than previously thought. Writing in a fast-tracked report published Monday in the journal *Nature*, an international team of researchers led by a University of Wisconsin-Madison virologist provides a detailed portrait of the pandemic virus and its pathogenic qualities. In contrast with run-of-the-mill seasonal flu viruses, the H1N1 virus exhibits an ability to infect cells deep in the lungs, where it can cause pneumonia and, in severe cases, death. Seasonal viruses typically infect only cells in the upper respiratory system. “There is a misunderstanding about this virus,” the lead researcher said. “People think this pathogen may be similar to seasonal influenza. This study shows that is not the case. There is clear evidence the virus is different than seasonal influenza.” The ability to infect the lungs is a quality frighteningly similar to those of other pandemic viruses, notably the 1918 virus, which killed tens of millions of people at the tail end of World War I. There are likely other similarities to the 1918 virus, says the lead researcher, as the study also showed that people born before 1918 harbor antibodies that protect against the new H1N1 virus. Source: <http://www.wisbusiness.com/index.iml?Article=164263>
32. *July 12, Associated Press* – (Kansas) **Gunman surrenders to police at Kan. VA med center.** Officials say a gunman who entered a Veterans Affairs medical center in Topeka, Kansas, surrendered without hurting anyone and is now a patient at the hospital. A Veterans Affairs spokesman said the man is a U.S. military veteran who served in the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. He says the man had pulled out a gun and threatened himself Sunday in the emergency room of Colmery-O’Neil VA Medical Center. No one was hurt. Source: <http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5hDCah4s03LpuWa-Qnv1xw0NkuwdwD99D71500>
33. *July 10, NBC Los Angeles* – (California) **Hospital emergency room evacuated after lighting system explodes.** The explosion of a fluorescent light ballast at Foothill Presbyterian Hospital in Glendora prompted the evacuation of the facility’s emergency

room Friday, authorities said. When firefighters arrived, two hospital employees and a civilian complained of eye irritation, but all declined treatment, the dispatch supervisor said. Firefighters evacuated the emergency room while hospital maintenance crews searched for the source of the explosion, he said. The emergency room was expected to reopen sometime before 3 a.m., the dispatch supervisor said.

Source: <http://www.nbclosangeles.com/news/local/Hospital-Emergency-Room-Evacuated-after-Lighting-System-Explodes.html>

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## **Government Facilities Sector**

34. *July 13, San Diego Tribune* – (California) **Blaze at Camp Pendleton is no threat to structures.** A fire at Camp Pendleton grew to 500 acres Sunday, a base spokesman said. The fire is on the northeastern part of the base and is not expected to threaten any structures. The cause of the blaze is not known. It began about 2:10 p.m. Saturday. The spokesman said there are three engines on the scene, and the base's fire department is handling it with no outside help. He said the fire was 50 percent contained.  
Source: <http://www3.signonsandiego.com/stories/2009/jul/13/blaze-camp-pendleton-no-threat-structures/>
35. *July 10, U.S. Department of Justice* – (National) **Fourth person pleads guilty to illegally accessing confidential passport files.** A fourth individual pleaded guilty today to illegally accessing numerous confidential passport application files. The 27 year-old suspect, of Washington, D.C., pleaded guilty before the U.S. Magistrate Judge in the District of Columbia to one-count criminal information charging him with unauthorized computer access. According to court documents, from August 2003 through July 2004, the suspect worked as a contract employee for the State Department as a file assistant. According to plea documents, the suspect admitted he had access to official State Department computer databases in the regular course of his employment, including the Passport Information Electronic Records System (PIERS), which contains all imaged passport applications dating back to 1994. The imaged passport applications on PIERS contain, among other things, a photograph of the passport applicant as well as certain personal information including the applicant's full name, date and place of birth, current address, telephone numbers, parent information, spouse's name and emergency contact information. These confidential files are protected by the Privacy Act of 1974, and access by State Department employees is strictly limited to official government duties. In pleading guilty, the suspect admitted that between June 22, 2004, and July 15, 2004, he logged onto the PIERS database and viewed the passport applications of more than 75 celebrities and their families, actors, models, musicians, athletes, record producers, family members, a politician and other individuals identified in the press. The suspect admitted that he had no official government reason to access and view these passport applications, but that his sole purpose in accessing and viewing these passport applications was idle curiosity.  
Source: <http://www.usdoj.gov/opa/pr/2009/July/09-ag-672.html>
36. *July 10, Associated Press* – (Kansas) **Kansas audit raises computer security**



**questions.** A legislative audit in Kansas has raised questions about the security of State computer networks and whether agencies are vulnerable to cyber attacks like a recent one against U.S. government Web sites. The [audit](#) reviewed computer security issues at five State agencies and found some weak password controls and missing security patches for servers. And 39 percent of one unnamed agency's passwords were cracked within five minutes using free software available on the Internet. Tests were performed on networks for the State pension system, the State treasurer's office, the court system, the Department of Transportation, and the Board of Nursing. The audit did not specify the results for each agency for security reasons. Seventeen of 133 servers scanned at the five agencies, or 13 percent, were missing at least one security patch for their operating systems, the audit found. Forty-nine were missing at least one patch for their software applications, and 30 were missing three or more patches for applications. Even with encryption, after 24 hours, the lowest percentage of cracked passwords was 23 percent. Three of the four agencies that had their passwords tested had either weak policies or weak network password settings, and the fourth was weak in both areas, the audit said. Even the agency that had relatively strong policies and settings had 35 percent of its passwords cracked within five minutes.

Source: [http://www.kansascity.com/news/breaking\\_news/story/1317431.html](http://www.kansascity.com/news/breaking_news/story/1317431.html)

For another story, see item [22](#)

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## **Emergency Services Sector**

37. *July 13, Biofuels-news.com* – (National) **Ethanol emergency response training released.** The Ethanol Emergency Response Coalition (EERC) has compiled and released the Complete Training Guide for Ethanol Emergency Response, to help prepare ethanol producers, transporters and first responders who may experience or come in contact with an ethanol-related emergency. This complete training package includes two videos, an instructor's guide, interactive workshops and seven modules and PowerPoint presentations, each focusing on a specific and important aspect of ethanol response. Guidelines are also given for fire departments and first responders that have ethanol production facilities in their communities. The Complete Training Guide to Ethanol Emergency Response is now available at the EERC website.

Source: [http://www.biofuels-news.com/industry\\_news.php?item\\_id=1016](http://www.biofuels-news.com/industry_news.php?item_id=1016)

38. *July 13, York Daily Record* – (Pennsylvania) **County 911 to go fully digital.** York County's director of Emergency Services said the cut-over to the new 911 system at midnight July 29 for fire and EMS agencies should be a seamless, soundless transition. Engineering the actual cut-over from the old Legacy system to the new digital P-25 trunk system sounds simple: Firefighters and emergency medical technicians will switch off their old radios and turn on their new ones. The system endured two 30-day tests — set up to pave the way for fire and EMS — nearly passing the first one in April-May. The second one ran all the way through, ending June 15. The director wanted the cut-over to happen a month from then, on July 15, but the county's fire and EMS agencies asked for more time to study new training manuals.



Source: [http://ydr.inyork.com/ci\\_12820014](http://ydr.inyork.com/ci_12820014)

39. *July 11, WRAL 5 Raleigh* – (North Carolina) **Three injured when Raleigh fire truck overturns.** Three people were injured Friday morning when a fire truck overturned in downtown Raleigh, a police spokesman said. Preliminary information indicated that three passengers of the truck were injured. They were taken to WakeMed Hospital. All of the firefighters are assigned to Fire Station No. 1 at 220 S. Dawson St., the assistant fire chief said. Both drivers of the tiller truck involved in the accident have “extensive experience” driving the vehicle, he said. The wreck happened at about 10:50 a.m. at the intersection of Dawson and West South streets. The truck was making a left turn from Dawson Street onto West South Street when the driver and the rear driver had a miscommunication about making the left turn or continuing straight, according to the police report. The truck, which is worth \$750,000, had significant damage.  
Source: <http://www.wral.com/news/local/story/5546712/>

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## **Information Technology**

40. *July 13, Computerworld* – (International) **Researcher says IE bug could spread quickly.** A critical ActiveX vulnerability used by hackers to exploit Microsoft Corp.’s Internet Explorer browser is a prime candidate for another Conficker-scale attack, security experts said. On July 6, just hours after security companies reported that thousands of compromised sites were serving up exploits, Microsoft acknowledged the flaw in the ActiveX control that can be accessed using IE. The bug has been used by hackers since at least June 9. Microsoft said it will issue a patch for the flaw on July 14. The vulnerability “exposes the whole world and can be exploited through the firewall,” said the chief research officer at security software vendor AVG Technologies USA Inc. “That’s better than Conficker, which mostly did its damage once it got inside a network.” Conficker exploited a Windows flaw that Microsoft had thought dire enough to fix outside its usual update schedule in October 2008. The worm exploded into prominence in January, when a variant infected millions of machines that remained unpatched. Microsoft confirmed the latest flaw shortly after security researchers at Danish firms CSIS Security Group AS and Secunia said that thousands of hacks of legitimate Web sites over the July 4 weekend had exploited the bug. The hackers took advantage of the bug to reroute users to a malicious site, which in turn downloads and launches a multiexploit hacker tool kit.  
Source:  
[http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/340930/Researcher\\_Says\\_IE\\_Bug\\_Could\\_Spread\\_Quickly?taxonomyId=17](http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/340930/Researcher_Says_IE_Bug_Could_Spread_Quickly?taxonomyId=17)

41. *July 11, CIO.com* – (International) **Apple still mute to iPhone complaints.** The iPhone 3GS has been an undeniable marketplace hit since its release on June 19, and will likely continue to soar in sales despite three customer complaints that have surfaced recently. The big three gripes: the iPhone 3GS battery life is dismal, the 3GS overheats, and there is a serious SMS vulnerability. The most serious of the iPhone’s problems concerns a new SMS vulnerability that could allow an attacker to remotely install and run unsigned

software code with root access to the iPhone. A security expert, who hacked a Mac via Safari in 10 seconds at this year's PWN2Own contest, said in a presentation that the weakness is in the way iPhones handle text messages. The seriousness of this problem has spurred Apple's intent; Apple is reportedly working on a patch that should be available later this month. "I believe that the SMS vulnerability may be the most pressing, since stories of hijacked, zombie, misbehaving iPhones are more likely to leave a long-lasting negative impression than are the heat and battery life issues," said a Forrester analyst.

Source:

[http://www.pcworld.com/article/168265/apple\\_still\\_mute\\_to\\_iphone\\_complaints.html](http://www.pcworld.com/article/168265/apple_still_mute_to_iphone_complaints.html)

### Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at [soc@us-cert.gov](mailto: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

### 42. *July 11, Ventura County Star* – (California) **Outage reminds businesses to plan.**

Extended outages that include both telephone and Internet are rare, but as businesses learned on July 6, it is important to have a plan for when it occurs. Businesses from Malibu to Santa Paula lost phone and data service after an important Verizon fiberoptic line was severed on July 6 in Camarillo. Some businesses were not affected, but the worst hit could not handle customer calls or transactions. The outage had a widespread effect because Verizon is the local exchange carrier, which means various providers send their data over the company's fiberoptic line.

Source: <http://www.venturacountystar.com/news/2009/jul/11/local-businesses-had-backup-plans-when-line-was/>

### 43. *July 10, NetworkWorld* – (Texas) **Rackspace aims to repair credibility in wake of power failures.** It has been a difficult two weeks for Rackspace and its users, with two power outages in a co-location facility interrupting service for an estimated 2,000 customers. Rackspace has been open about its failures, communicating with customers directly and through the company's official blog and Twitter account. Open communication and a commitment to fixing technical problems will both be crucial for Rackspace as it attempts to repair damaged credibility, says the CEO. "Any time we have an incident like this, it does impact our credibility," the CEO said in an interview on July 10 with Network World. "The only way we earn it back is we have to execute at a high level for a long time." Power outages on June 29 and July 7 hit Rackspace's 144,000-square-foot data center in the Dallas suburb of Grapevine. Rackspace operates nine data centers worldwide for about 60,000 customers. Within the Dallas facility, some customers experienced downtime of about 40 minutes on June 29 and on July 7 some customers suffered downtime of 15 to 20 minutes. The facility has three "phases,"

or physical areas, and both outages hit the same phase, affecting a total of about 2,000 customers, according to Rackspace.

Source: <http://www.networkworld.com/news/2009/071009-rackspace-ceo-speaks.html>

44. *July 10, Government Computer News* – (National) **Legislation would create inventories to help manage radio frequency spectrum.** Bills in both houses of Congress would require detailed inventories of federally managed radio frequency (RF) spectrum and create Web portals to make that information available to the public. H.R. 3125 was introduced July 8 by the chairman of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, and immediately referred to that committee. A similar bill, S. 649, was introduced in the Senate in March and was voted out of the Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee July 8. Both measures are titled the Radio Spectrum Inventory Act and, with minor differences, would require that the Commerce Department's National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to create inventories of radio spectrum under their management in 180 days after the measures became law. The inventories would list the authorized services for, and the users of, each band of frequency in the geographical areas in which they are licensed to operate, and include maps showing the usage of spectrum in each area. The NTIA and the FCC also would submit annual reports to Congress updating the status of the inventory, identifying the least used blocks of spectrum and recommending whether spectrum should be reallocated. The bills differ slightly in the spectrum to be covered. The House bill covers bands from 225 MHz to 10 GHz, while the Senate version covers bands from 300 MHz to 3.5 GHz. Both bills would exempt sensitive information from published inventories for national security and proprietary business reasons.

Source: <http://gcn.com/articles/2009/07/10/radio-frequency-spectrum-inventories-legislation.aspx>

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## **Commercial Facilities Sector**

45. *July 10, Leesville Daily Leader* – (Louisiana) **Church bomb suspects face minimum seven years in prison.** Defense counsel has been assigned to all four men involved in the bombing incidents at Grace and Three Pines Apostolic churches in Deridder. The charges currently pending in Vernon Parish against each are theft, simple burglary, criminal damage to property, vandalism, and discharging an incendiary device. In Beauregard Parish, each man is charged with one count of theft, one count aggravated burglary, two counts possession and manufacturing of a bomb, and two counts simple arson of a religious building. The four men allegedly broke the windows of Cypress Creek Baptist Church in Vernon Parish on the evening of July 1. After that, the men are reported to have robbed a fireworks stand and a Frito Lay distribution truck. Using materials stolen from both sites, they made three bombs. One was set off on a roadway in Vernon Parish, one was set off outside of the Champions Center at Grace Church in DeRidder, and one was left, but not detonated, in Three Pines Apostolic Church in DeRidder. Beauregard Parish Police officers responded to a burglary in progress at Three Pines after a call was made by a person living in the church who allegedly heard

the men inside.

Source: <http://www.leesvilledailyleader.com/news/x1885890300/Church-bomb-suspects-face-minimum-seven-years-in-prison>

For another story, see item [46](#)

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## **National Monuments & Icons Sector**

46. *July 10, KITV 4 Honolulu* – (Hawaii) **Iolani Palace reopens after investigation.**

Authorities reopened Iolani Palace shortly before noon on July 10 after determining a suspicious package found on the grounds was not dangerous. A downtown Honolulu worker found a blue plastic box about the size of a shoebox near the bandstand of the palace. The box had no markings and had an electrical outlet on it, the worker told KITV. The Honolulu Police Department (HPD), state sheriffs and Department of Land and Natural Resources agents went to the palace, evacuated the facility, and closed it. HPD's bomb squad was sent to investigate the unattended box. There was additional concern over the package because the Royal Hawaiian Band holds a concert at the bandstand on Fridays. Police closed Richards Street between Hotel Street and King Street. They also closed the eastbound lanes of King Street from Alakea Street. They redirected King Street traffic down Mililani Street to Queen Street. Police reopened the roadways at 11:39 a.m.

Source: <http://www.kitv.com/mostpopular/20018616/detail.html>

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## **Dams Sector**

47. *July 13, KSL 5 Salt Lake City* – (Utah) **Search for Logan mudslide victims resumes.**

Crews in Logan, Utah, will resume their recovery effort on July 13 for a mother and her two children whose home was leveled by a powerful landslide. A wall of mud and water crashed down on homes in Logan on the afternoon of July 11. A canal ruptured above a neighborhood known as "The Island" in a wooded drop-off area south of Utah State University. The family's home collapsed under the pressure of the powerful landslide. Search crews have been looking through 10 to 12 feet of material, concentrating on removing the debris. Searching had to stop because the operation became too dangerous after dark. The search will continue Monday starting at 8 a.m. It is expected to be a slow process because the ground is unstable. More than a dozen houses have mud and water damage or structural concerns. Several families are living in a Red Cross shelter. It is too soon to say when those families could potentially return to their homes, and some homes may have to be condemned. For several days leading up to the disaster, residents reported water coming off the hill and down the street. But city officials say they never suspected a canal problem. The Logan Public Works director said, "There are springs all along that entire road on that slope and we have some water issues every year." Angry residents say this time the water was muddy. They say that should have been a warning. There are no state inspections of canals. Legally, it is left up to the companies that own

the canals.

Source: <http://www.ksl.com/?nid=148&sid=7139979>

See also: <http://www.deseretnews.com/article/705316296/Canal-breaks-causes-landslide-in-Logan.html?pg=1>

48. *July 13, Associated Press* – (Tennessee) **Engineering expert: \$3M study is wrong.** A \$3 million study blaming a massive coal-ash spill in Tennessee on a complex combination of structural and geologic factors is wrong, says an engineering expert who evaluated the disaster for his own mining and utility clients. “That wasn’t an explanation,” said the expert, who has been designing hydraulic-fill structures similar to the Kingston Fossil Plant landfill for 30 years. “That was smoke and mirrors.” In a report shared with regulators, it concludes that the December 22 breach that sent 5.4 million cubic yards of toxic-laden muck into the Emory River and a lakeside neighborhood about 40 miles west of Knoxville occurred because of an undiagnosed and preventable buildup of water pressure against a perimeter clay dike. The expert did not buy a more exotic conclusion of Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) consultant AECOM USA Inc. last month that the spill was because of several factors in and under a mountainous dredge cell upstream of the dike, including liquefying soils and a deep, unknown, unstable layer of silt and ash dubbed “slimes.” The TVA Chief Operating Officer said that the TVA continues to believe that the AECOM study “provides a thorough, well-documented and appropriately reviewed assessment of the conditions that resulted in the failure of the ash-dredge cell at Kingston and the mechanism of that failure.”

Source: <http://www2.journalnow.com/content/2009/jul/13/engineering-expert-3m-study-is-wrong/>

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