



# Homeland Security

## Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 17 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 Associated Press, a federal judge found a former Boeing Co. engineer guilty of six counts of economic espionage and other charges on Thursday for taking 300,000 pages of sensitive documents that included information about the U.S. space shuttle and a booster rocket. (See item [12](#))
- The Detroit News and the Associated Press report that a 2-mile stretch of Interstate 75 just north of Detroit remains closed after a tanker containing 13,000 gallons of fuel burst into flames on Wednesday, igniting the Nine Mile overpass, which quickly collapsed. (See item [16](#))

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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 16, Newark Advocate* – (New Jersey) **Police seek info about copper theft from AEP.** Licking County Crime Stoppers is offering up to a \$1,000 reward for anyone who has information that will help law enforcement with the investigation of theft of copper

tubing from an American Electric Power substation in Newark. AEP is offering an additional \$5,000 reward for information that leads to the arrest and conviction of those responsible. The Newark Division of Police reports on July 9 someone stole 30 feet of 1-inch copper tubing from an AEP substation on Brice Street. The thieves dug into the gravel to get to the tubing. The theft temporarily knocked out electric power to 3,800 AEP customers from east Newark to Hanover.

Source: <http://www.newarkadvocate.com/article/20090716/NEWS01/907160325>

2. *July 15, WAPT 16 Jackson and Associated Press* – (Mississippi) **1 killed, 3 hurt when gas line ruptures.** One worker died at the scene and three others were air lifted to the University of Mississippi Medical Center in critical condition. The explosion happened along Smith County Road 99 near Sylvaena at about 3:30 p.m. on July 16. Workers were testing a new gas pipeline when something went terribly wrong, officials said. Investigators said the force from the blast was so great that it lifted the pipe off the ground and left it standing straight up in the air. The Smith County sheriff said workers were using nitrogen to pressure test the pipeline. During the tests, something caused the line to explode. The line caught fire, but firefighters were able to put it out quickly. The sheriff said it was a new pipeline and was not operational yet. The sheriff said at least a dozen workers were at the site when the line exploded. Sheriff's investigators took their witness statements. The eyewitness accounts will become part of the federal investigation into the explosion. Investigators from OSHA will take over the investigation. Among the things they will look for is what kind of safety protocols were in place as workers tested the lines and if the workers followed them.  
Source: <http://www.wapt.com/news/20065473/detail.html>
3. *July 15 Platts* – (National) **U.S. FERC needs cease-and-desist power in energy markets: Spitzer.** A U.S. Federal Energy Regulatory Commission member on July 15 said he supports language in a Senate energy bill that would give FERC cease-and-desist authority to quickly intervene in gas and power markets to stop suspected misconduct and to freeze company assets if necessary. The commissioner also cautioned against Congress setting formulas to determine allocation of costs for building transmission lines to renewable power generation. "In the securities area, where there's an enforcement case, it's a means of preserving the rights of the plaintiffs, or in this case, the government," he told reporters at a Platts Energy Podium event in Washington. "And the cease-and-desist order is simply a legal mechanism to ensure that the assets are not dissipated." As for the degree and scope of the authority that should be given to FERC, "that's up to Congress," he added. "But it's not novel and it's consistent" with the cease-and-desist authority that the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission and the U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission have. The western and eastern parts of the country have different electric transmission issues, he said. In the West, generation is located far from load pockets, whereas in the Eastern Interconnection there are generation resources planned and already located within load centers, he continued. Congress is considering giving FERC backstop authority for multi-state transmission lines. The biggest problem seems to occur when a multi-state power line does not have interconnections to deliver electricity in every state that it crosses, he said.

Source:

<http://www.platts.com/Electric%20Power/News/6453796.xml?sub=Electric%20Power&p=Electric%20Power/News&?undefined&undefined>

4. *July 15, Platts* – (Texas) **More arrests to come as cops bust \$4-mil Texas NGL theft ring: DA.** Local and state police continued to make arrests in seven eastern Texas counties on July 15 after cracking what they say is a ring of natural gas liquids thieves. Grand juries in two counties, Panola and Rusk, indicted 17 people on July 14 in connection with the theft of at least \$4 million worth of gas condensate from separation tanks in those two counties, the Panola County District Attorney said. State and local authorities are calling it the largest oilfield crime ring they have arrested in the state's history. The attorney expects even more arrests to follow in the coming weeks as authorities pressure the individuals arrested for the names of their buyers and indict those further up the chain. Operating at night, the ring was alerted to high NGL levels on a separation tank by drivers of brine removal trucks assigned to suction off separated salt water, he said. Using a rock to jam the tank's gauge on high, a second set of drivers would then back a vacuum truck up to the tank and suck out the gas condensate, he said. When full, the vacuum truck delivered it to local wholesaler, he said. Police think that wholesaler then resold the gas condensate to other dealers who helped the wholesaler forge manifests for the cargo.

Source:

<http://www.platts.com/Natural%20Gas/News/6453845.xml?sub=Natural%20Gas&p=Natural%20Gas/News&?undefined&undefined>

5. *July 15, Reuters* – (National) **Maritimes & Northeast gas line delivers new LNG.** Maritimes & Northeast Pipeline said on July 15 that it began receipt and redelivery of natural gas from the Canaport liquefied natural gas terminal in Saint John, New Brunswick, to Atlantic Canada and New England. "Since first gas flow from offshore Nova Scotia in 1999, Maritimes has made major advancements in supply diversity, adding onshore natural gas and now imported LNG," the company said in a statement. The 340-mile U.S. and 330-mile Canadian Maritimes & Northeast Pipeline is owned by affiliates of Spectra Energy, Emera Inc and Exxon Mobil Corp. Maritimes said it placed into service in January its Phase IV expansion project to facilitate delivery of natural gas from the Canaport terminal to markets in Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts and Atlantic Canada. The project, built under a long-term firm service contract with Repsol Energy North America, doubles Maritimes' U.S. year-round firm mainline capacity from approximately 400 million cubic feet per day to approximately 800 million cubic feet per day, the company said.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssEnergyNews/idUSN1536138720090715>

For more stories, see items [16](#) and [47](#)

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## **Chemical Industry Sector**

6. *July 16, Ohio News-Messenger* – (Ohio) **Truck accident leads to chemical leak.** Several area emergency response teams responded to a truck accident which caused a

chemical leak on the Ohio Turnpike. The Swanton post of the Ohio State Highway Patrol said the accident happened on July 14 at the 76-milemarker. The director for the Sandusky County Emergency Management Agency said the non-hazardous material was leaking from a drum in the cargo area of the semi truck out of Clinton, Ohio. Locally, the Woodville Fire Department, the Sandusky County Hazmat team and the Harris-Elmroe Fire Department were dispatched to the crash. According to troopers, the spillage was contained to one area. The hazmat team was sent mostly as a precaution. Source: <http://www.thenews-messenger.com/article/20090716/NEWS01/907160306/-1/newsfront2>

7. *July 15, Associated Press* – (South Carolina) **1 woman dead after 1,800 gallons of ammonia leak near chemical distribution facility in SC.** South Carolina authorities say a woman was killed and a half-dozen people taken to a hospital after 1,800 gallons of ammonia leaked from a tanker truck. A Department of Health and Environmental Control spokesman said a truck was unloading ammonia at Tanner Industries in Lexington County in central South Carolina on July 15 when a hose ruptured. The spokesman says the ammonia quickly evaporated, creating a cloud that drifted across a nearby highway. A thirty-eight-year-old woman drove into the cloud and was overcome by the fumes. Officials do not believe people living near the leak are in danger. A Tanner spokesman says the Pennsylvania-based company would send a team to investigate. The U.S. Chemical Safety Board is also sending a team. Source: <http://www.latimes.com/news/nationworld/nation/wire/sns-ap-us-sc-ammonia-death,1,2163051.story>

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

8. *July 16, Reuters* – (Maryland) **Constellation Md. Calvert Cliffs 1 reactor shut.** Constellation Energy Group Inc's 873-megawatt Unit 1 at the Calvert Cliffs nuclear power station in Maryland shut by early Thursday from full power early Wednesday, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission said in a report. The 1,735 MW Calvert Cliffs station is located in Lusby in Calvert County, about 55 miles southeast of Washington. Unit 2 continued to operate at full power. Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/marketsNews/idUSN1639774320090716>
9. *July 15, Reuters* – (Connecticut) **Dominion Conn. Millstone 2 reactor in cold shutdown.** Dominion Resources Inc. put the 882-megawatt Unit 2 at the Millstone nuclear power plant in Connecticut into cold shutdown from hot standby mode on July 13 to fix a small leak in the reactor coolant system, a spokesman for the company said Wednesday. He could not say when the unit would return to service due to competitive reasons. Workers identified the leak in the vicinity of a reactor coolant pump while inspecting systems prior to restarting the unit. It is a small leak of about 0.03 gallons per minute, the company told the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission in a report. The leak did not pose any threat to plant workers or the public. The unit had been off line since July 3 due to a grid disturbance caused by offsite lightning strikes to the local electric distribution system.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/marketsNews/idUSN1534166220090715>

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## **Critical Manufacturing Sector**

10. *July 15, New York Times* – (International) **Gunfight wounds 2 police officers at U.S.-operated gold mine in Indonesia.** At least two police officers were wounded on July 15 in a skirmish with gunmen near a gold mine operated by an American company in eastern Indonesia, officials said. The firefight followed several days of violence, including three deaths, directed at the mining operations of Freeport-McMoran in Papua, an impoverished province under military control. It came just after Freeport ordered a group of employees to avoid traveling along a road linking a nearby town and the gold mine. A spokesman for Freeport said that it was not clear who the gunmen were, and that the authorities had yet to make any arrests in the recent deadly ambushes. Two Freeport workers, an Australian mining expert, and an Indonesian security guard were killed in skirmishes recently; and a police officer fleeing from an ambush died after falling down a ravine. Freeport, based in Phoenix, operates the world's largest gold mine in Papua, where Freeport employs 20,000 workers. The Indonesian news outlets have speculated that military or police officials, who are paid by Freeport for protection, may have directed the ambushes to secure their business.

Source: <http://www.nytimes.com/2009/07/16/world/asia/16indo.html>

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## **Defense Industrial Base Sector**

11. *July 16, Global Security Newswire* – (International) **Israel to test Arrow 2 missile defense in U.S.** Israel plans in coming days to launch an Arrow 2 missile interceptor off the California coast, the Jerusalem Post reported on July 15. The exercise would be the first Arrow 2 test to target a mock enemy missile capable of traveling 625 miles. This would be the third time the United States has hosted an Arrow exercise, as the geography around Israel is less amenable to long-range missile intercept tests. The test would also provide the United States “the opportunity to have the Patriot system, the [Terminal High-Altitude Area Defense] system and the Aegis system all interacting with the Arrow system, so that we’re demonstrating full interoperability as we execute this test,” said the U.S. Missile Defense Agency chief.

Source: [http://gsn.nti.org/gsn/nw\\_20090716\\_8438.php](http://gsn.nti.org/gsn/nw_20090716_8438.php)

12. *July 16, Associated Press* – (National) **Chinese-born man convicted of espionage.** A Chinese-born engineer was convicted on July 16 of stealing trade secrets critical to the U.S. space program in the nation's first economic espionage trial. A federal judge found a former Boeing Co. engineer guilty of six counts of economic espionage and other charges for taking 300,000 pages of sensitive documents that included information about the U.S. space shuttle and a booster rocket. Federal prosecutors accused the 73-year-old stress analyst of using his 30-year career at Boeing and Rockwell International to steal the documents. They said investigators found papers stacked throughout his house that

included sensitive information about a fueling system for a booster rocket — documents that Boeing employees were ordered to lock away at the close of work each day. They said Boeing invested \$50 million in the technology over a five-year period. The judge convicted the engineer of six counts of economic espionage, one count of acting as a foreign agent, one count of conspiracy, and one count of lying to a federal agent. He was acquitted of obstruction of justice. The Economic Espionage Act was passed in 1996 to help the government crack down on the theft of information from private companies that contract with the government to develop U.S. space and military technologies.

Source: [http://www.nytimes.com/aponline/2009/07/16/us/AP-US-Economic-Espionage.html?\\_r=2&ref=global-home](http://www.nytimes.com/aponline/2009/07/16/us/AP-US-Economic-Espionage.html?_r=2&ref=global-home)

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## **Banking and Finance Sector**

13. *July 16, Philadelphia Inquirer* – (Florida) **Chase forgives debts of scam victims.**

JPMorgan Chase, the nation's largest credit-card issuer, has agreed to forgive the debts of 13,000 cardholders who it says were defrauded by a group of Florida debt-settlement companies that promised to rescue them from their credit-card debts. Chase's Wilmington subsidiary, Chase Bank USA, agreed to the forgiveness as part of a settlement reached on July 13 with a receiver appointed to run Hess Kennedy Chartered L.L.C. and affiliated companies. The receiver was named in July 2008 as a result of a separate lawsuit filed by Florida's attorney general, who called the companies "scam artists who prey on the vulnerable." Chase's agreement follows similar deals announced in November 2008, in which Capital One and HSBC forgave the debts of 24,000 cardholders. All told, the card issuers have written off more than \$150 million in debt, according to the receiver. The receiver, a former prosecutor in New York and Florida, said the owner of Hess Kennedy Chartered L.L.C. was at the center of a web of companies that lured clients with assurances that they could settle credit-card debt "for 30 to 50 cents on the dollar." What the companies did not say in their ads was that they would instruct clients to stop paying their creditors and instead start making monthly payments to Hess Kennedy. But rather than disburse that money to creditors, as legitimate debt-management services sometimes do, Hess Kennedy kept it toward an up-front payment of fees.

Source:

[http://www.philly.com/philly/business/20090716\\_Chase\\_forgives\\_debts\\_of\\_scam\\_victims.html](http://www.philly.com/philly/business/20090716_Chase_forgives_debts_of_scam_victims.html)

14. *July 16, Wall Street Journal* – (International) **Auction-rate fugitive is nabbed in Spain.**

A former Credit Suisse Group broker, who in June was declared a fugitive by federal prosecutors pursuing alleged fraud involving auction-rate securities, has been apprehended in Marbella, Spain. Prosecutors from the U.S. attorney's office for the Eastern District of New York in Brooklyn said the former broker had been apprehended, but did not provide any details. The former broker was caught by Spanish authorities with the assistance of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, said people familiar with the matter. The former broker, 36 years old, was charged in an indictment unsealed last week for failure to appear and visa fraud. The former broker and an accomplice, both



formerly of Credit Suisse Securities (USA) LLC, have been accused of engaging in an alleged fraudulent scheme to obtain higher commissions by selling clients higher-risk auction-rate securities backed by mortgages, when those clients wanted to buy lower-risk securities backed by student loans.

Source: <http://online.wsj.com/article/SB124768144752246623.html>

15. *July 15, SPAMfighter News* – (National) **Information stealing phishing e-mail targets Chase customers.** The Consumer Protection Board (CPB) of New York State has issued a warning to Chase Bank customers that they could be attacked by a phishing scam involving e-mails that seek personal information in the pretext of upholding new security measures. CPB and Chase have been receiving complaints from anxious customers who have got an e-mail that asks them to urgently fill in a form with details including personal identifiable credentials. Citing fresh security measures apparently launched at Chase, the fake e-mail explains that it is important that recipients complete the form. Meanwhile, the e-mail appears legitimate just as one in a typical phishing scam. Additionally, it displays a web-link and asks the recipients to click on the link. However, the link leads to a fake website where personal information is stolen from the consumers i.e. after the e-mail gets a customer to follow the web-link and access the bogus site, solicitations are made for the customer to enter his confidential information like employment details, credit card number and other personal information. Nevertheless, security researchers stated customers who have replied with their information to these fraudulent messages might become victims since the form solicits their name, phone number, address along with passwords, bank account details, Social Security number, credit card details as well as other sensitive data.
- Source: <http://www.spamfighter.com/News-12730-Information-Stealing-Phishing-E-mail-Targets-Chase-Customers.htm>

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## **Transportation Sector**

16. *July 16, Detroit News and Associated Press* – (Michigan) **Tanker fire shuts down I-75, collapses Nine Mile bridge.** A two-mile stretch of Interstate 75 just north of Detroit remains closed as authorities investigate a fuel tanker explosion and overpass collapse. Police say I-75 in both directions is indefinitely closed between Interstate 696 and 8 Mile Road. The tanker crashed and exploded on July 15, injuring three people and collapsing part of the Nine Mile overpass, leaving officials wondering how long repairs could take on a major north-south artery. About 8 p.m., the tanker containing 13,000 gallons of fuel traveling north on I-75, under the Nine Mile overpass, burst into flames, igniting the bridge, which quickly collapsed, Michigan State Police said. “We don’t know what caused it. We don’t know if something collided with the tanker or not.” The structure fell into a twisted mass of concrete and reinforced steel, melting the east half and sending plumes of smoke almost 200 feet into the air. The bridge on the northbound lanes dropped down onto a tractor-trailer and tanker, flattening both and leaving burned-out hulks of steel. “It’s a disaster,” said a witness to the scene, “Basically, the Nine Mile/75 interchange no longer exists.” The fire burned directly beneath the overpass, making it difficult for firefighters to determine when all the fuel had burned away, he

said. Officials with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency were monitoring air quality and checking whether fuel spilled into surrounding sewer ditches, the police officer said. But there were no evacuations or warnings for nearby residents. State police were consulting with the Michigan Department of Transportation to reroute traffic around the site.

Source: <http://www.detnews.com/article/20090716/METRO/907160424/Tanker-fire-shuts-down-I-75--collapses-Nine-Mile-bridge?imw=Y>

See also: [http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20090716/ap\\_on\\_re\\_us/us\\_tanker\\_explosion](http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20090716/ap_on_re_us/us_tanker_explosion)

17. *July 16, Associated Press* – (Texas) **No injuries as small plane lands on Texas highway.** Two businessmen were unhurt after one safely landed their small plane on a West Texas highway when it lost power. The two men were on their way home to San Angelo, Texas, from a business meeting when the single-engine six-seat Cessna 210 lost power July 15. They were about four miles from a San Angelo airfield. The pilot radioed the tower that he had lost power and was looking for a place to land. He found one on U.S. 87. The plane stopped with one wheel on the pavement and one wheel on the center median. No one was injured.

Source:

[http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5icTQlsNihOIIm2NZch7PsoP\\_i276AD99FBUBG1](http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5icTQlsNihOIIm2NZch7PsoP_i276AD99FBUBG1)

18. *July 15, Newsday* – (New York) **Falling section of Roslyn viaduct bridge injures 2.** Two construction workers sustained minor injuries July 15 when a large section of the Roslyn viaduct bridge that was being removed slipped from blocks it was resting upon, officials said. That section of the bridge is being removed as part of a multi-year state reconstruction project of the Route 25A Bridge, officials said. The concrete and metal section is about 79 feet long and 50 feet wide. The cause of the accident is not known, a Department of Transportation spokeswoman said, but is under investigation.

Source: <http://www.newsday.com/news/local/nassau/ny-librid1612973445jul15,0,3703421.story>

19. *July 15, Aviation Herald* – (Florida) **American MD83 at Orlando on Jul 15th 2009, pressurization problem twice.** An American Airlines McDonnell Douglas MD-83, flight AA-1531 from Orlando, Florida to Chicago O'Hare, Illinois with 115 passengers, was climbing towards 7000 feet after departure from Orlando, when the crew reported pressurization problems and decided to return to Orlando. The airplane landed safely about 20 minutes later. The airplane was repaired and took off again one hour later, however the crew was again faced with the same problem and decided to return again for another safe landing.

Source: <http://avherald.com/h?article=41cb6b2e&opt=4865>

20. *July 15, Associated Press* – (Washington) **Washington State gets additional ferry money.** A U.S. Senator said July 15 she has secured \$7.6 million more in federal money for Washington State's ferry system, a day after the state was snubbed in an initial announcement of stimulus grants. The U.S. Transportation Secretary announced \$60 million in federal stimulus for the nation's ferries on July 14, but Washington State —



which has the largest ferry system in the nation — only received one grant for \$750,000. “They did not take into account appropriately the number of people who use our ferries every day for getting to work, getting their kids to school,” and getting necessary goods and services, the Senator said July 15. “When you invest this money into a ferry that actually gets people to work, it’s a stronger investment for the country.” Now the State will receive additional money for three other projects, including a new passenger-only ferry from Seattle to Bremerton and a terminal replacement in Anacortes. “Washington’s ferries carry more passengers each day than our entire nation’s other ferry operations combined,” the U.S. Transportation Secretary said.

Source:

<http://seattletimes.nwsources.com/html/localnews/2009/07/16/apwastimulusferries4thldwritethru.html>

For more stories, see items [6](#) and [7](#)

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## **Postal and Shipping Sector**

21. *July 16, Boston Globe* – (Massachusetts) **A hairy situation at the post office.** The Cambridge, Massachusetts bomb squad descended on the Central Square post office yesterday because of a buzzing electric nose-hair trimmer. The package addressed to an MIT staff member aroused suspicion about 7:30 a.m. Postal workers contacted the authorities, and the building was evacuated for 90 minutes. Calls to the sender’s address went unanswered, prompting bomb technicians to open the package, the spokesman said.

Source:

[http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2009/07/16/buzzing\\_birthday\\_box\\_alarms\\_cambridge\\_post\\_office/](http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2009/07/16/buzzing_birthday_box_alarms_cambridge_post_office/)

22. *July 16, Fosters Daily Democrat* – (New Hampshire) **Passport center employees evacuated at Pease tradeport after white powder found in package.** Employees at the National Passport Center in Portsmouth, New Hampshire were evacuated Wednesday morning after a suspicious white powder was found on a package attached to a passport. According to a fire official, workers were evacuated as a precaution shortly after 10 a.m. after the “suspicious” package was found on the third floor of the Pease International Tradeport facility. The fire official said once the white residue was discovered, the center notified local authorities and followed all internal procedures by evacuating everyone in the vicinity of the third floor. No one was injured or sickened, he said. Members of the regional Haz-Mat team, along with local police, were dispatched to the center and were able to secure the package. Once secured, the package was immediately taken to the state crime lab in Concord for further analysis by a member of the Haz-Mat team and a police officer. Results of the tests are expected to be relayed to local police and/or the federal law enforcement agency inside of the passport center, said the fire official.

Source:

[http://www.fosters.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20090716/GJNEWS\\_01/707169685](http://www.fosters.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20090716/GJNEWS_01/707169685)

For another story, see item [31](#)

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## **Agriculture and Food Sector**

23. *July 16, WFMY 2 Greensboro and Associated Press* – (North Carolina; South Carolina) **Food Lion sprouts recalled in NC for possible Listeria contamination.** Solar Farms Inc., a South Carolina company, is recalling its alfalfa sprouts sold at Food Lion stores in North and South Carolina after tests revealed the presence of a potentially harmful organism. The North Carolina Department of Agriculture said on July 15 that it found *Listeria monocytogenes* in routine testing of samples of the sprouts from Solar Farms Inc. The alfalfa sprouts were sold in the Carolinas in 4-ounce containers with the code “Sell By:072209.” They also were sent to restaurants through Sysco of Charlotte, North Carolina.  
Source: <http://www.digtriad.com/news/local/article.aspx?storyid=127414>
24. *July 15, LaSalle News Tribune* – (Illinois) **Major Mendota fire extinguished.** In Illinois, Mendota and Troy Grove firefighters as well as Mendota police and La Salle County deputies rushed to Mendota Agri-Products on July 16 to battle a major fire at an industrial site. A Mendota resident who has an acquaintance at the plant said several employees were in a meeting when the fire started, so Mendota Agri-Products ordered evacuation and sent all employees outside. Mendota Agri-Products’ production facility has expanded and modernized to one of the largest grease processing plants in the country, according to its Web site. The plant helps create animal feed fats made from 100 percent restaurant grease. The fire was under control at about 12:51 p.m. An employee who had gotten out of work at 10:30 a.m. expressed concern for his workplace. “I hope that grease doesn’t catch on fire. There’s thousands and thousands of gallons of grease in there,” he said.  
Source:  
<http://www.newstrib.com/articles/news/nci/default.asp?article=D3944648F65AF954EE0A015A7BD7493DDBA912D2326C26CD>
25. *July 15, CNN* – (New York) **Boast leads to arrest in NY Starbucks bombing.** A man who allegedly set off a small bomb at a Starbucks coffee shop on May 25 was arrested after he made the mistake of bragging about his exploit to friends, police said on July 15. New York City police commissioner told reporters that a 17 year-old male was arrested the night of July 14 at his Manhattan apartment after a police investigation revealed that he bragged to his friends about planting the explosive outside an Upper East Side Starbucks. The male allegedly told his friends prior to the explosion that “Project Mayhem” was about to begin, the commissioner said, and that they should watch the news on Memorial Day. The male suspect was a fan of the movie “Fight Club” and imitated the lead character from the film, the police commissioner said. The movie, released in 1999, also includes a scene in which a Starbucks is destroyed. The commissioner said there is no evidence at this time to suggest that suspect was behind

other recent small explosions in the city, such as the bombings at the Times Square Army recruiting center and the Mexican consulate. The suspect made the small explosive out of a plastic bottle, firework powder, a metal cap and electrical tape, the commissioner said. The blast, at 3:30 a.m. on Memorial Day, damaged a nearby bench and shattered the store's windows, the commissioner said. No one was injured in the explosion, but the bomb was powerful enough to have caused serious injuries if anyone had been nearby, the commissioner added. The suspect has been charged with arson, criminal possession of a weapon and criminal mischief, he added.

Source:

<http://www.cnn.com/2009/CRIME/07/15/new.york.starbucks.explosion/index.html>

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## **Water Sector**

26. *July 16, Natchez Democrat* – (Mississippi) **Tuesday power outage causes Ferriday tank to drain.** Ferriday, Mississippi residents were left without water on the afternoon of July 14 after a power outage turned off the pumps at the water plant, the mayor said. The plant is connected by three electrical phases, and one of the phases was still working, he said. By the time the town had figured out what had happened, the plant's tank had drained down and the town was left without water. "When you have a (boil-water) situation like we do, and something like this happens, it makes the situation that much worse," he said. Even after power was restored, residents had to deal with very low water pressure while the tank refilled. It took approximately two-and-a-half hours for the tank to refill, he said. Entergy received a call about the power outage at approximately 3 p.m., a spokesman with Entergy said. One of the phases going into the plant had been damaged — possibly by lightning — and the load to the phase caused by the heat stressed the phase to a point where it overloaded and burned, the Entergy spokesman said. State health policy mandates that whenever water pressure falls below a certain point, the Department of Health and Hospitals (DHH) be contacted, and the mayor said that representatives from the DHH were already in town at a meeting. The water was then treated and tested by the state. The event underscores why it is important for the town to get generators for the new water plant it is planning to build, the mayor said.

Source: <http://www.natchezdemocrat.com/news/2009/jul/16/tuesday-power-outages-causes-ferriday-tank-drain/>

27. *July 15, Cullman Times* – (Alabama) **Nine violations for Hanceville treatment plant in June.** The Hanceville Wastewater Treatment Plant violated state regulations nine times in June. ClearWater Solutions, the private company that operates the treatment plant, reported to the Hanceville Water and Sewer Board on July 14 that the violations were due to processing problems with the facility's equalization basin. Equalization basins are used to store peak wastewater flows for later treatment and to absorb peak flows that can occur during rainstorms. Rainwater infiltration into Hanceville's sewer system has been cited repeatedly in recent years as the main reason for the treatment plant's many violations and overflows into Mud Creek. June marked the seventh consecutive month the plant has not been compliant with Alabama Department of

Environmental Management regulations. Among the June violations were weekly average discharges of total suspended solids, bio-chemical oxygen demands, ammonia and nitrogen that exceeded the plant's permit limits. To counteract the sewer plant's problem, the city of Hanceville recently applied for a \$400,000 grant from the Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs to fund a sewer line repair project. The project includes the replacement of 3,800 feet of sewer lines, beginning at Veteran's Park and ending at the Highway 91 and Highway 31 intersection. If approved, the grant would require a 20 percent match in funding from the water board.

Source:

[http://www.cullmantimes.com/cnhi/cullmantimes/homepage/local\\_story\\_197095435.html?keyword=leadpicturestory](http://www.cullmantimes.com/cnhi/cullmantimes/homepage/local_story_197095435.html?keyword=leadpicturestory)

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## **Public Health and Healthcare Sector**

28. *July 16, Boston Globe* – (Massachusetts) **Mass. expands stock of flu drugs.**

Massachusetts will have enough flu medication in its emergency stockpile to treat nearly 350,000 patients by the time the fall influenza season arrives — an autumn that could deliver a potent and lethal brew of flu strains. Authorities at the Department of Public Health decided in recent weeks to redirect \$2.5 million in federal emergency preparation money toward bolstering the state's cache of flu treatments, which is kept in reserve in case supplies at pharmacies, hospitals, and clinics run dangerously low. The springtime arrival of swine flu — and its rapid spread around the globe — has fostered fears among disease trackers that the typical autumn and winter battle with the flu could turn into something epic later this year. They are steeling themselves for the potential that swine flu, known scientifically as H1N1, could reemerge with newfound vengeance at the same time the seasonal flu arrives.

Source:

[http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2009/07/16/mass\\_expands\\_its\\_stock\\_of\\_flu\\_remedies\\_for\\_the\\_fall/](http://www.boston.com/news/local/massachusetts/articles/2009/07/16/mass_expands_its_stock_of_flu_remedies_for_the_fall/)

29. *July 15, KOMO 4 Seattle* – (Washington) **Backpack tossed out of truck prompts scare at Tacoma hospital.**

A backpack thrown out of a truck driving by St. Joseph Hospital prompted a security scare on Wednesday night. Witnesses saw a red truck carrying two men pull up to the entrance of the emergency room around 6:45 p.m. One of the men then threw the backpack out the car window, yelling something indecipherable before speeding away in the truck. Officials evacuated the emergency room and diverted all incoming trauma cases to Tacoma General Hospital as a precaution. The bomb squad arrived on the scene.

Source: <http://www.komonews.com/news/local/50907582.html>

30. *July 14, Homeland Security Today* – (National) **Feds, states believe they're prepared for H1N1 vaccination plan.** The H1N1 outbreak served as a genuine test of the public health system's ability to respond to an emerging public health threat and a re-evaluation of overall national preparedness for a deadly pandemic. Among the issues federal and state public health authorities are grappling with is when to begin making potential

vaccines, how to best use antivirals, and whether hospitals in particular are prepared for a surge of flu victims next season. Authorities at both the federal and state levels say this mass inoculation program will be confusing, especially with doctors' offices, clinics and other outlets already in the midst of dispensing more than 100 million doses of seasonal winter flu vaccines. However, state public health directors and other officials, especially from the states hit the hardest by H1N1 early this year, say they believe they are prepared to deal with a mass vaccination program and all the attendant problems that accompany it, but they would like more direction and guidance from the Department of Health and Human Services and the Department of Homeland Security regarding logistical issues.

Source: <http://www.hstoday.us/content/view/9362/149/>

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## **Government Facilities Sector**

31. *July 16, Daily Mail Online* – (International) **Suspicious powder sent to U.S. embassy during the G8 summit was ashes of sender's wife.** A powder sent to the American embassy in Rome during last week's G8 in Italy was the ashes of the sender's wife, it emerged today. Officials at the embassy went into overdrive when the envelope arrived last Wednesday, just hours before the U.S. President arrived in the Italian capital for the summit. The post room of the building was sealed off, and staff evacuated as police scientists in protective overalls arrived to take the powder away amid fears it could be an anthrax terror attack. A letter found inside the package explained that they belonged to the sender's wife and that he had sent similar envelopes containing the ashes to other American embassies in London, Paris, and Istanbul. The man, who was from Texas but who officials at the U.S. Embassy in Rome refused to name, had sent a letter with the ashes asking if it was possible to scatter them in the city as they had spent a 'very nice holiday there once many years ago.'

Source: <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-1200144/Suspicious-powder-sent-U-S-embassy-Rome-G8-summit-ashes-mans-wife.html#ixzz0LRD8IoST>

32. *July 15, New York Times* – (Colorado; New York) **Swine flu confirmed in 67 at AF academy.** Sixty-seven Air Force cadets have tested positive for swine flu and are being isolated at the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, a spokesman for the academy said Tuesday. The outbreak is the single largest in Colorado, which up until last week had 146 confirmed cases of the H1N1 virus, according to the State Public Health and Environment Department. Academy officials first became concerned last week when a growing number of incoming freshman cadets, who began basic training in June, started falling ill with flu-like symptoms. One hundred cadets have been isolated in a dormitory, and test results from an Air Force epidemiology laboratory in Texas found that 67 had contracted swine flu.

Source: <http://www.military.com/news/article/swine-flu-confirmed-in-67-at-af-academy.html?ESRC=topstories.RSS>

33. *July 14, Manhattan Mercury* – (Kansas) **Suspicious package sent to Riley County courthouse.** A suspicious package sent to the Riley County Courthouse late Tuesday morning was determined to be harmless. The package was determined to be tobacco, according to an official at the scene. The Manhattan Fire Department and the Riley County Police Department received a call around 11:40 a.m. of a suspicious package delivered to the Court Clerk's office. Manhattan's Hazardous Materials unit responded and police evacuated the building. Employees in the clerk's office were isolated and the building's air conditioning unit was turned off. A fire department official said the evacuations were a precautionary measure.

Source:

<http://www.themercury.com/news/article.aspx?articleId=9cb4085ad85e4be6a4f00e4769e76e69>

For more stories, see items [22](#) and [44](#)

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## **Emergency Services Sector**

34. *July 15, KMGH 7 Denver* – (New York) **Surgical tech's Hep C case expands to New York.** The case of a Colorado surgical technician suspected of exposing patients to hepatitis C is expanding to New York, where health officials are urging patients to be tested for Hep C, and could expand to Texas. The technician in question told investigators with the Denver Police Department during her taped interview on June 30 that before coming to Colorado, she worked at Northern Westchester Hospital in Mount Kisco, New York. On Wednesday, the New York Department of Health told 7NEWS that the Westchester County Hospital is notifying approximately 2,800 patients by letter of possible exposure to hepatitis C. The affected patients were seen during the time she was employed at that hospital — between October 8, 2007 and February 28, 2008.  
Source: <http://www.thedenverchannel.com/news/20062720/detail.html>
35. *July 15, KOKI 23 Tulsa* – (Oklahoma) **Man arrested for impersonating paramedic.** Tulsa Police have confirmed that a man accused of posing as a paramedic at a deadly accident scene has been arrested. An affidavit from the Tulsa County DA's office Tuesday, detailing the disturbing crime that happened at the scene of a deadly crash last month along Highway 51 in Sand Springs, says the man pretended to be a firefighter/paramedic in front of other officials at the scene of the crash. He is accused of stealing a bag of narcotics from a Life Flight helicopter and a piece of medical equipment. He was arrested Wednesday afternoon.  
Source: <http://www.fox23.com/news/local/story/Man-Arrested-For-Impersonating-Paramedic/H94t5mwitEGGLT0BoE8eFA.csp>
36. *July 15, York Daily Record* – (Pennsylvania) **911 radios' reach worries Hanover area firefighters.** In the southwest corner of York County, Pennsylvania, emergency officials are concerned their radios will not pick up some transmissions when fire and EMS agencies cut over to the new 911 system later this month. Florida-based Harris Corp., the company that installed the P-25 trunk system, guaranteed 95 percent coverage, said



Penn Township's fire chief, who is also a member of the county's fire radio committee. The Hanover fire commissioner said Hanover borough is already experiencing problems with spotty coverage. Officials in Hanover, Penn Township and West Manheim Township all have experienced instances where their pagers — used to notify volunteers and career firefighters of a call — do not receive the page. The county's emergency responders have already cut over to the new paging system, which is separate from the radio system.

Source: [http://ydr.inyork.com/ci\\_12846836](http://ydr.inyork.com/ci_12846836)

37. *July 13, CivSource* – (National) **Microsoft, ESRI launch fusion center solution.** Public safety and homeland security professionals have a new tool to fight today's evolving physical and virtual security threats. Microsoft and ESRI launched Fusion Core Solution, a solution architecture to strengthen the ability of government agencies to prepare, assess, and respond to threats of national security as well as natural disasters. Fusion Core Solution combines ESRI's ArcGIS Server Advanced Enterprise and Microsoft Office SharePoint Server 2007. The Massachusetts Commonwealth Fusion Center is an early adapter of the Fusion Core Solution and the agency depends on the offering for a number of capabilities, including geodatabases and advanced analytics. Source: <http://civsourceonline.com/2009/07/13/microsoft-esri-launch-fusion-center-solution/>

For more stories, see items [29](#) and [43](#)

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## **Information Technology**

38. *July 15, Washington Post* – (International) **Spammers, virus writers abusing URL shortening services.** Purveyors of spam and malicious software are taking full advantage of URL-shortening services like bit.ly and TinyURL in a bid to trick unwary users into clicking on links to dodgy and dangerous Web sites. Fortunately, with the help of a couple of tools and some common sense, most Internet users can avoid these scams altogether. According to alerts from anti-virus vendors McAfee, Symantec and Trend Micro, the latest to abuse these services is the Koobface worm, which targets users of social networking sites like Facebook (Koobface is an anagram of Facebook) and Myspace. It is now also spreading via microblogging service Twitter. Koobface arrives as a message that urges users to click on a link to a video, which invariably leads to a site that prompts the visitor to install a missing video plug-in. The fake plug-in turns the user's system into a bot that can be used for a variety of criminal purposes, from spamming to attacking other computers and spreading the worm. At the same time, URL shortening services appear to be fueling a massive ongoing commercial spam campaign. Source: [http://voices.washingtonpost.com/securityfix/2009/07/spammers\\_virus\\_writers\\_abusing.html?wprss=securityfix](http://voices.washingtonpost.com/securityfix/2009/07/spammers_virus_writers_abusing.html?wprss=securityfix)
39. *July 15, Enterprise Security Today* – (International) **Researchers rate all six Microsoft patches as critical.** Microsoft on July 14 released six bulletins as part of its monthly

patch cycle. Three of the bulletins cover critical flaws, including two unpatched zero-day vulnerabilities. Three other bulletins address important risks that security researchers said can quickly escalate to critical. The CTO of Qualys said Microsoft's advisories should be addressed immediately because they allow an attacker to take complete control of a victim's computer. Microsoft proxy server ISA 2006 has a vulnerability rated as important that allows remote unauthenticated users to access the server. However, paired with a knowledge of the administrator's username, attackers can take full control of the server. Because administrator usernames are often easy to guess, the CTO said, this vulnerability deserves special attention if IT organizations are using ISA with the Radius configuration. Likewise, MS09-030 is an advisory for the Publisher component in the MS Office 2007 suite rated as important, but can be used to take full control of a system if the victim is logged in as administrator. If an organization uses Publisher or has it installed as part of Office 2007, this should be treated as critical as well, the CTO said.

Source: [http://www.enterprise-security-today.com/story.xhtml?story\\_id=67785](http://www.enterprise-security-today.com/story.xhtml?story_id=67785)

40. *July 14, InformationWeek* – (International) **Firefox 3.5 vulnerability rated 'highly critical.'** US-CERT on July 14 warned about vulnerability in the new Firefox 3.5 browser that could allow a remote attacker to execute malicious code. Proof-of-concept exploit code was posted on July 13 on Milw0rm.com, an exploit code aggregation site, so it is likely that the vulnerability is being actively exploited. The vulnerability is related to the way Firefox 3.5 processes JavaScript code. Mozilla has acknowledged the vulnerability and has a fix that is being tested. "The vulnerability can be exploited by an attacker who tricks a victim into viewing a malicious Web page containing the exploit code," the company said on its security blog. "The vulnerability can be mitigated by disabling the JIT in the JavaScript engine.

Source:

<http://www.informationweek.com/news/internet/security/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=218500486>

41. *July 14, Network World* – (International) **Latest malware trick: outsourcing quality assurance.** Creators of Waledac malware enlisted the Conficker botnet as a tool to spread malware of their own, marking the first time Conficker was made available for hire, according to Cisco's mid-year security report. This was symptomatic of a wider trend Cisco noted of malware purveyors using established business practices to expand their illegal enterprises. Cisco likened the arrangement between Waledac and Conficker to a partner ecosystem, a term Cisco uses to describe its collaboration with other vendors. Waledac used the Conficker distribution channel to send spam and to expand its own botnet, Cisco says. Malware distributors are also outsourcing their quality assurance programs to services provided by the likes of virtest.com, Cisco says. For a fee the site tests malicious files against the latest versions of 26 virus-scanning software products to determine whether the anti-virus software can detect the malware. Cisco says running the malware through this screening results in malware that is 10 to 20 times more effective than it would be otherwise, and frees up the attackers to work on other products rather than test how detectable their current exploits are.

Source: <http://www.networkworld.com/news/2009/071409-cisco-security.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 15, Ars Technica* – (National) **FBI charges satellite descramblers under DMCA.**

The FBI has set its sights on satellite descramblers, charging three individuals behind the Viewsat satellite receiver with conspiracy to violate the Digital Millennium Copyright Act (DMCA). The indictment was unsealed this week after the owner of Viewtech was arrested in San Diego, where he is currently being held without bail. Several associates were also arrested. The group faces up to five years in prison and a \$250,000 fine each. Viewsat is a free-to-air (FTA) satellite receiver box that claims to provide users with access to free satellite programming, such as religious and cultural content. However, as most Viewsat customers also know, the device is engineered in such a way that makes it simple for users to grab what is otherwise designated as for-pay satellite programming. All that is required is for the FTA boxes to spoof DISH's smartcards so that the DISH Network can see that the boxes are authorized. The satellite companies know that this practice is not particularly rare, so they occasionally re-encrypt their signals and send out new smartcards to legitimate customers. In this case, DISH Network started rolling out new encryption known as either "Nagra 3" or "rom 240," this update "dramatically" reducing the sales of Viewsat receivers, according to the indictment document. By March of 2008, the defendant began working with the other two defendants to circumvent this new encryption. The defendant allegedly agreed to reimburse their expenses and finance research on how to crack Nagra 3, while the other two worked together and recruited more hackers for the project.

Source: <http://arstechnica.com/tech-policy/news/2009/07/fbi-charges-satellite-descramblers-with-conspiracy.ars>

43. *July 15, Houston Chronicle* – (Texas) **Texas seeks OK to jam cell phones.** Texas officials urged Congress on July 15 to permit states to electronically jam cell phone calls made by prisoners. A Texas state representative and the inspector general of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice told lawmakers about a death row inmate who used a cell phone he bought for \$2,100 from a prison guard to make threats against the state representative last October. The state representative said electronic jamming was one of the most valuable tools in preventing cell phone attacks by inmates. A Texas Senator is sponsoring legislation to allow correctional facilities to individually petition the Federal Communications Commission for permission to use wireless jamming devices. While 28 states want the ability to jam cell phone signals, representatives of the communications industry testified that jamming would not be the best solution to prevent cell phone use by criminals. The president-elect of the Association of Public-

Safety Communications Officials expressed concern that jamming could block phone service to public safety officers, like those making 911 calls at or near a prison using jamming. The state representative said Texas has tried every alternative.

Source: <http://www.chron.com/disp/story.mpl/breaking/6531323.html>

44. *July 14, IDG News Service* – (National) **Shiny new Space Fence to monitor orbiting junk, satellites.** The new Space Fence system will provide better accuracy and faster detection while allowing for an increase the number of satellites and other space objects that can be detected and tracked, thus avoiding collision and damage to other satellites. Some work has begun on tracking and detecting the overabundance of space junk which has become a growing priority as all manner of satellites, rockets and possible commercial space shots are promised in the coming few years. On July 15, Northrop Grumman said it grabbed \$30 million from the U.S. Air Force to start developing the first phase of a global space surveillance ground radar system. The new S-Band Space Fence is part of the Department of Defense's effort to track and detect what are known as resident space objects (RSO), consisting of thousands of pieces of space debris as well as commercial and military satellites. The new Space Fence will replace the current VHF Air Force Space Surveillance System built in 1961. According to GlobalSecurity.org, the current Space Fence includes nine sites located on a path across the southern United States from Georgia to California along the 33rd parallel and consists of three (3) transmitter and six (6) receiver sites. The main transmitting station located at Lake Kickapoo, Texas, has an average power output of 766,800 watts feeding a two-mile long antenna array. It provides the primary source of illumination. Two other transmitting stations are located at Jordan Lake, Alabama, and Gila River, Arizona. These stations, with average power output of approximately 40,000 watts each, improve low altitude illumination at the sides of the main beam.

Source: <http://news.idg.no/cw/art.cfm?id=7A76DFD8-1A64-67EA-E4A1E6FC48E9EAA4>

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## **Commercial Facilities Sector**

Nothing to report

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## **National Monuments & Icons Sector**

45. *July 15, Lake County Record-Bee* – (California) **Marijuana grow, guns found on National Forest property.** According to a public information release provided by the captain of the Lake County Sheriff's Office (LCSO), on July 14 at approximately 7 a.m., members of the Lake County Sheriff's Department Special Weapons and Tactics Team, detectives, and U.S. Forest Service agents infiltrated a large marijuana cultivation operation located in the Lower Nye/Copper Butte area of the National Forest in Lake County, California. Law enforcement personnel surrounded a tent located in the garden and three male adults immediately opened the tent and fled downhill. One additional

suspect remained in the tent and was taken into custody. In the tent, law enforcement personnel located a 9 mm semi automatic handgun. While walking the suspect out, detectives encountered two more suspects actively working in the garden. One of these suspects had a gun in his hand. As detectives approached the suspects, the one holding the gun dropped it and both fled. The team was unable to capture either of these men. Detectives seized a total of five firearms, including a Tec-9 assault weapon with a makeshift silencer. Detectives seized approximately 130,000 marijuana plants. This is the third marijuana cultivation operation this year where deputies have encountered armed suspects.

Source: [http://www.record-bee.com/ci\\_12847980](http://www.record-bee.com/ci_12847980)

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## **Dams Sector**

46. *July 15, WSBT 22 South Bend* – (Indiana) **Center Lake residents fear levee breach is imminent.** Some Warsaw, Indiana homeowners are worried about the safety of their houses on Center Lake. In March, part of the levee there eroded because of flooding. They fear if the levee is not fixed, the next time could be even worse. “We feel now that the levee has been compromised, it’s already weakened, and we know it’s going to fail,” a member of the Center Lake Conservation Association (CLCA) told WSBT News. CLCA is working with the city and the Department of Natural Resources to fix a growing problem with the levee that runs between the wetlands and the lake. “The levee became an issue because [water] started coming through — not over the top — but also actually through the dike, so we had to sandbag that levee, otherwise that would have failed,” she explained. She says given the fact there has been flooding at Center Lake the last two years in a row, future flooding is not out of the question. That could mean a complete breach, flooding businesses and homes along State Road 15 and the lake. The Warsaw city planner said, “We don’t know to the extent of the breach on the levee, or to the extent of what shape it’s in, that’s why DNR (Department of Natural Resources) is going to do a walk-through and then once we get that information from them we can determine what we may need to do in the future.”

Source: <http://www.wsbt.com/news/local/50886982.html>

47. *July 15, Asheville Citizen-Times* – (North Carolina) **Dams at coal ash ponds under scrutiny.** Progress Energy’s dams holding back ponds of coal ash at the Asheville, North Carolina plant could come under closer state scrutiny. The governor is urging legislation that would require the North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources to inspect those dams every two years. Currently, the state only requires utilities to submit inspections by private engineers every five years. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ranks the Skyland plant’s dams for its two coal ash pond dams as “highly hazardous,” included among 44 coal ash ponds nationwide. The ranking does not mean the compacted earthen dams are structurally weak or are likely to break, but that any breach in the 90-95 foot-high walls could spill sludge across Interstate 26, potentially costing lives. Progress Energy workers inspect the dams monthly, checking for any structural weakness such as trees growing on the dam or animals burrowing into the compacted earth, said a spokesman for the utility. The utility

has two ponds side by side, storing ash from the coal burned at the Skyland plant. One pond was used from 1964 to 1982. The active pond was opened in 1982 and can hold 450 million gallons of liquid coal ash, covering about 46 acres.

Source: [http://www.citizen-](http://www.citizen-times.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20090715/NEWS01/90715071)

[times.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20090715/NEWS01/90715071](http://www.citizen-times.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20090715/NEWS01/90715071)

48. *July 15, KTVX 4 Salt Lake City* – (Utah) **Logan mudslide site still unstable; shelter closes.** Crews are back out in Logan, Utah trying to make sure a hillside will not send another wave of mud and debris down on houses below. On July 14, crews found a mother and two children who were killed when their house collapsed on them from the landslide. On July 15, engineers were out examining that hill trying to make sure the hill is stable above Canyon Drive, and also trying to figure out exactly what caused that deadly landslide. The families misplaced by the slide have found places to stay. The Red Cross says it is closing a shelter where the families have been staying. The Red Cross is working with other agencies to make sure they have a new home. Others displaced by the landslide are staying with family members or in hotels paid for by the Red Cross.  
Source: <http://www.abc4.com/content/news/state/story/Logan-mudslide-site-still-unstable-shelter-closes/UJ5Oh9hJHU26mArH8Dk3cg.csp>
49. *July 15, New Orleans Times-Picayune* – (Louisiana) **Plaquemines Parish to be reimbursed by FEMA for Hurricane Ike expenses.** The Federal Emergency Management Agency will reimburse Plaquemines Parish for money the parish spent on emergency work during Hurricane Ike last year, the parish said in a news release on July 15. Federal funds have been authorized to cover 100 percent of total eligible costs for debris removal and emergency protective measures, such as flood fighting and plugging levee breaches. To date, the parish has spent \$15.9 million on debris removal and levee repairs for Hurricane Ike, the news release said. FEMA has approved the reimbursement for \$6.7 million so far, and the parish has applied for reimbursement on the remaining money.  
Source: [http://www.nola.com/news/index.ssf/2009/07/plaquemines\\_parish\\_to\\_be\\_reimb.html](http://www.nola.com/news/index.ssf/2009/07/plaquemines_parish_to_be_reimb.html)
50. *July 15, WDAY 8 Fargo* – (North Dakota; International) **Engineers to travel to Winnipeg to study diversion.** Canada may soon play an integral part in the future planning of permanent flood protection in the Fargo, North Dakota metro. City, county, and township leaders are taking a trip to Winnipeg, Manitoba Canada to see how its diversion works. The Red River Basin Commission is hosting the tour. Engineers from Fargo, Moorhead, Cass, and Clay counties and watershed districts will take part. Engineers say the diversion is similar to what the metro would need. They do not know too much now about the design, width, or depth. Once in Canada, engineers will look at the channels, bridges, and other diversion structures. They have already seen levees and flood walls in Grand Forks so this trip will help leaders see a diversion, and not just on paper. Some pros of a diversion, fewer properties would need to be bought in towns and it is less likely to fail than flood walls or levees. Some cons, a diversion can increase chances of flooding downstream and it would cut into prime farmland.  
Source: <http://www.wday.com/event/article/id/22967/>



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