



Homeland Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 23 July 2009

Current Nationwide Threat Level

ELEVATED



Significant Risk of Terrorist Attacks

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

Top Stories

- KJRH 2 Tulsa reports that an official with Magellan Midstream Partners says an intruder tampered with an ammonia pipeline that caused a massive leak in Pawnee County, Oklahoma on July 18. As many as 100 people were evacuated from a five square mile area around Skedee. (See item [5](#))
- According to AboutLawsuits.com, a class action lawsuit was filed Tuesday against McDonalds after thousands of patrons at a restaurant in Milan, Illinois were exposed to hepatitis A. The complaint alleges that management knew at least one employee was infected and failed to take steps to prevent patrons from becoming infected. Nearly 20 people in the area have been diagnosed with hepatitis A. (See item [18](#))

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Energy Sector

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

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) – <http://www.esisac.com>]

1. *July 21, Nextgov* – (National) **Congress must do more to protect grid from cyber, nuclear attacks.** Congress should pass measures to protect the nation's electric grid

against electromagnetic pulses emitted after a nuclear blast, witnesses told a hearing on July 21. When a nuclear warhead detonates at altitudes between 25 and 250 miles, it emits a high-altitude electromagnetic pulse, or EMP, which disrupts and damages electronic systems, including electric grids, the chairman of the Commission to Assess the Threat to the United States From Electromagnetic Pulse told the Subcommittee on Emerging Threats, Cybersecurity and Science and Technology. Geomagnetic storms that occur from significant changes in solar wind pressure can have a similar impact, he said. The chairman recommended that a bill, H.R. 2195, which would amend the Federal Power Act, address the threat of a cyberattack against the electric grid and address electromagnetic threats from nuclear EMP attacks and large-scale geomagnetic storms. Other critics have said the bill would not prompt owners and operators of electrical facilities to do their part to enhance cybersecurity and should be expanded to address other components of the nation's critical infrastructure such as transportation and water. NERC released 40 Critical Infrastructure Protection standards designed to defend critical infrastructure from cybersecurity threats and is working on additional standards that are expected to have initial industry approval by the fourth quarter of 2009, said its chief security officer. NERC also might incorporate into security standards elements of the National Institute of Standards and Technology's Special Publication 800-53, which provides recommended security controls for federal information systems. These standards do not address EMP directly, though NERC is looking into the threat. Federal government should hold emergency authority to take action in case of an attack, but should not set standards for protection of the electric grid, he added. "Preparedness and awareness efforts like the assessments, alerts and standards are necessary, but not sufficient, to protect the system against specific and imminent threats," he said. "NERC firmly believes that additional emergency authority is needed at the federal level to address these threats, and NERC supports legislation that would give an agency or department of the federal government necessary authority to take action."

Source: http://www.nextgov.com/nextgov/ng_20090721_4170.php?oref=topstory

2. *July 21, Associated Press* – (West Virginia) **4 injured after train derails at W.Va. coal plant.** Four people were hurt, including one who suffered serious injuries, when a Norfolk Southern Corp. freight train derailed and struck a loading facility at a coal preparation plant in southern West Virginia on July 21, a spokesman for the railroad said. While the most seriously injured victim's injuries are not considered life threatening, they were serious enough for him to be airlifted to a hospital, a Norfolk Southern spokesman said. Other victims were taken to an area hospital for evaluation of what appeared to be minor injuries after being pulled from a damaged building at the Black Bear Preparation Plant in Mingo County, said a spokeswoman for the state Office of Miners' Health, Safety and Training. The derailed train apparently hit a support for a loading facility, causing it to collapse at about 7:30 a.m., said an Alpha spokesman, who had no further details. When the loading facility fell, it caused a building to collapse, trapping the workers. It is unclear how much of the building was damaged. A spokeswoman for the federal Mine Safety and Health Administration had no immediate comment.

Source: <http://www.wtkr.com/news/dp-wv--coaltrainderailme0721jul21,0,1781105.story>

3. *July 21, Reuters* – (International) **Fire cuts power to 100,000 customers in London.** Engineers worked through the night to restore electricity to parts of greater London on July 21 after a fire thought to be sparked by vandals cut power to around 100,000 customers, utility EDF Energy said. The fire, which started on the afternoon of July 20, broke out on a bridge which carries electricity cables over Dartford Creek, an area in southeast London. It was the biggest power outage the city has seen in years and forced hundreds of shops to close. “We believe it is likely that the fire was started by unauthorized people interfering with the cables,” EDF Energy added in a statement. Although electricity was restored to about 31,000 customers in the southeast London areas of Dartford, Crayford, Bexleyheath, Erith, and Orpington by midday on July 21, power would not fully return until late on July 22, the company said. Another 45,000 people also were receiving temporary power through a rota system, which provides three hours of electricity at a time before switching to other affected areas. EDF also said it was providing emergency generators for care homes and other vulnerable customers. Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssIndustryMaterialsUtilitiesNews/idUSLL56795820090721>

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Chemical Industry Sector

4. *July 20, WPLG 10 Miami* – (Florida) **Chemical fire breaks out in Miami.** Two Miami firefighters were treated for possible heat exhaustion after a hazardous materials investigation at a warehouse on July 20. The blaze began as a car fire near 72nd Street and Northwest First Avenue. The flames jumped to a nearby storage container. Miami firefighters who went to battle the flames were concerned because the smoke was yellow, indicating that a chemical was burning. Firefighters said they believe the chemicals were chlorine mixed with battery acid. The heat of the day, combined with the heavy protective clothing firefighters wear as well as the high temperatures generated by the blaze itself, probably contributed to the possible heat exhaustion of two firefighters. One was transported to Jackson Memorial Hospital, while the other was treated at the scene. Both are expected to recover. Source: <http://www.justnews.com/news/20117143/detail.html>
5. *July 20, KJRH 2 Tulsa* – (Oklahoma) **Intruder caused ammonia leak, officials say.** An official with Magellan Midstream Partners says an intruder tampered with an ammonia pipeline that caused a massive leak in Pawnee County on Saturday. In an email Monday, the government and media affairs director said, “Initial indications are that the release was caused by the unauthorized opening of a valve by an unknown third party. Magellan is working with local law enforcement authorities as part of the continued investigation.” The Pawnee County Sheriff’s office alerted Magellan about 1:30 a.m. on Saturday when ammonia began leaking from the pipeline. The undersheriff says the area is secured by a chain link fence. Law enforcement is investigating the incident as a criminal case. As many as 100 people were evacuated from a five square mile area around Skedee. Hazmat crews sealed the leak by that afternoon, and residents were allowed to return home. The Magellan Midstream Partners pipeline runs from Verdigris

to Enid, then up to Minnesota.

Source: <http://www.kjrh.com/content/news/2viewgc/story/Intruder-caused-ammonia-leak-officials-say/Za4wgEm1gk-6hoybjcE1CQ.csp>

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and Waste Sector

6. *July 22, Reuters* – (Illinois) **Exelon Ill. Lasalle 1 reactor exits outage.** Exelon Corp's 1,118-megawatt Unit 1 at the LaSalle nuclear power station in Illinois exited an outage and ramped up to 31 percent by early Wednesday, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) said in a report. The unit shut on July 18 so workers could replace a seal on a pump that circulates water through the reactor.

Source:

<http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssIndustryMaterialsUtilitiesNews/idUSN2229532920090722>

7. *July 20, New Orleans Times Picayune* – (Louisiana) **Nuclear Regulatory Commission conducting special inspection at Entergy plant.** The NRC is conducting a special inspection at Entergy Louisiana Inc.'s Waterford 3 nuclear plant in Taft, Louisiana, because of repeated problems with electrical relay switches in the plant's safety system. The inspection was ordered after plant operators discovered problems in a high-pressure safety injection pump that is used to supply cooling water to the plant's reactor core during some accident conditions. The operators found the problem while they were performing tests on June 22. The problem was traced to an electrical relay, which was subsequently replaced, allowing the pump to operate normally. But NRC officials are concerned because there have been six previous failures of similar electrical relay switches at Waterford in the past year. Such conditions are not commonly seen at other plants, the commission said. "We want to thoroughly understand the failure and its significance because of the repeat nature of the problem and the importance of this piece of equipment in protecting plant safety," said the Region IV Administrator. The inspection began Monday and is expected to last for several days. The Commission will file a public report about its findings in the next month or month and a half.

Source:

http://www.nola.com/business/index.ssf/2009/07/nuclear_regulatory_commission_1.html

For another story, see item [21](#)

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Critical Manufacturing Sector

8. *July 22, Associated Press* – (International) **New ambush near world's largest gold mine; 2 dead.** Gunmen opened fire on July 22 on buses carrying employees of U.S. mining company Freeport in Indonesia's impoverished Papua province, killing two people in the latest attack on the world's largest gold mine, witnesses and the state news

agency said. An Associated Press reporter was told by a policeman who witnessed the shooting that a police vehicle escorting the convoy flipped. Since July 11, at least a dozen people have been killed or wounded in ambushes along a road leading to the mine, prompting a massive security operation in the militarized zone that is off limits to foreign journalists. Arizona-based Freeport has been targeted with arson, roadside bombs and blockades since production began in the 1970s during the U.S.-backed Suharto dictatorship. Freeport staff were ordered to stop traveling the road last week, and hundreds have been unable to return to work. The buses were turned back when the firing began. Some analysts believe the shootings resulted from a rivalry between the police and military over multimillion dollar illegal gold mining or protection businesses at the mine. Others blame criminal gangs.

Source:

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5jsEYSPoTLRSz3BXp8sCFNA7mE8gwD99JAE601>

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

9. *July 21, Military Times* – (National) **Crack found in hull of submarine Toledo.** Sailors discovered a crack in the attack submarine Toledo prior to the boat getting underway in Connecticut, which will likely lead to inspections of other submarines, according to a Navy spokesman. Crew members on July 17 discovered a 21-inch crack in the topside hull, as well as a corresponding one-inch crack in the pressure hull that would have leaked water if the ship was submerged, the spokesman said. In 2007, Toledo was one of several Navy ships needing close re-inspections after faulty welds were discovered on non-nuclear internal piping in new Virginia-class submarines. It is not clear if the recently discovered cracks on Toledo are connected to the problems discovered in 2007. Other Los Angeles-class subs that needed weld re-inspection were the Oklahoma City and Newport News. As of late May, an investigation by Naval Sea Systems Command into the faulty welds was not concluded.

Source: http://militarytimes.com/news/2009/07/navy_toledocracks_072109w/

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Banking and Finance Sector

10. *July 23, Bloomberg* – (International) **Hong Kong banks agree to repurchase Lehman minibonds.** BOC Hong Kong Holdings Ltd. and 15 other banks agreed to pay at least 60 cents on the dollar to investors in notes linked to failed Lehman Brothers Holdings Inc. after a 10-month dispute that stirred street protests and forced lenders to change the way they sell investment products. The banks will repurchase the so-called Lehman minibonds in two stages, the Securities and Futures Commission Chief Executive said at a press conference on July 22. The total compensation will amount to about HK\$6.3 billion (\$813 million), said the central bank deputy chief executive. Hong Kong, where banks sold \$1.8 billion of the notes, is an example of how the financial devastation resulting from Lehman's September 15 bankruptcy rippled across the globe. As the

securities plunged and allegations of mis-selling mounted, citizens who lost their savings took to the streets and lawmakers scolded the heads of the city's central bank and securities watchdog in public.

Source:

<http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=newsarchive&sid=avaWSCSXUkTc>

11. *July 22, Wall Street Journal* – (New York) **Ex-WG trading compliance officer pleads guilty to fraud.** The former chief compliance officer at broker-dealer WG Trading Co. LP pleaded guilty on July 21 to criminal charges in connection with more than \$100 million in loans allegedly made to her bosses. The 54 years old, of Mahwah, New Jersey pleaded guilty to conspiracy, securities fraud and money laundering at a hearing before a U.S. District Judge in Manhattan. The loans were made as promissory notes and the guilty party said she realized the loans were not being repaid and what they were doing was illegal. The guilty party, who is cooperating with prosecutors from the U.S. Attorney's office in Manhattan, faces up to 20 years in prison on the securities fraud charge. On July 22, the guilty party, who worked at the firm from March 1991 to February 2009, also was separately charged in a civil complaint in U.S. District Court in Manhattan by the Securities and Exchange Commission. In its complaint, the SEC alleged nearly \$554 million in investor assets were misappropriated and that the guilty party assisted the firm's general partners in perpetrating the fraud. The WG Trading Co.'s principals were charged criminally with conspiracy, securities fraud and wire fraud in February. Prosecutors from the U.S. Attorney's office in Manhattan have alleged that both former owners of the New York Islanders professional hockey team misappropriated \$550 million of funds invested by charities, university foundations and pension plans and used that money to finance their luxurious lifestyles.
Source: <http://online.wsj.com/article/SB124819519777069093.html>

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Transportation Sector

12. *July 22, Associated Press* – (New Jersey) **1 dead, 2 injured in Newark airport shuttle crash.** One person is dead and two are in critical condition after a courtesy bus crash at Newark Liberty International Airport. A Port Authority spokesman says a FedEx truck and a shuttle operated by the Newark airport Marriott collided head-on along South Service Road around 1:30 a.m. July 22. He says the shuttle bus driver was pronounced dead at University Hospital in Newark. He says the FedEx driver and a passenger on the courtesy shuttle remain hospitalized. No names have been released.
Source: http://www.philly.com/philly/wires/ap/news/state/new_jersey/20090722_ap_1dead2injureinnewarkairportshuttlecrash.html
13. *July 22, WCVB 5 Boston* – (Massachusetts) **Air France plane forced to return to Logan.** Passengers on a red eye flight the evening of July 21, bound for Paris, was delayed taking off by two hours. Less than a half hour into the flight they were forced to make an emergency landing at Boston's Logan International Airport. The plane returned to Logan about 2 a.m. Passengers aboard Flight 321 said they were told the plane was

having technical problems. There had been some initial reports of engine problems but, so far, no confirmation from the airline or MassPort.

Source: <http://www.thebostonchannel.com/news/20139552/detail.html>

14. *July 22, Washington Post* – (District of Columbia) **Metro discovers problems in additional track circuits.** The train control system designed to prevent Metro crashes is malfunctioning across the railroad, suggesting that a technological failure at the heart of last month's fatal crash might be widespread, according to officials and documents. At least a half-dozen track circuits on four of the transit system's five lines have failed to properly detect the presence of trains in recent weeks, records show. In addition to the continuing failure of a track circuit at the accident site between the Takoma and Fort Totten stations, the agency found "anomalies" in six other track circuits, the Metro rail chief said. In some instances, workers troubleshooting the problematic circuits have taken the unusual step of turning off those which could not be immediately fixed. Officials are closely monitoring circuits between Grosvenor and Medical Center on the Red Line and at Foggy Bottom on the Orange/Blue Line, Greenbelt on the Green Line and Court House on the Orange Line. The Greenbelt circuit was put back into service early July 21 and the circuit at Court House was disabled July 20, officials said. The chief said Metro officials do not know what is causing the problems. He also said that none of the problems are anything close to the magnitude of the track circuit problem at the crash site. Some malfunctions might be related to track maintenance, he said. In a statement July 21 after the Washington Post article appeared online, Metro said that "the rail system is safe" and that it is a "gross exaggeration" to suggest that the problem is widespread.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2009/07/21/AR2009072102479.html>

15. *July 21, Oregonian* – (Oregon) **Fuel barges running afoul on the Columbia River.** Fuel barges from Tidewater Barge Lines have been involved in five nighttime incidents on the Columbia River since February 2008, including two accidents involving dam locks and three groundings at the river bottom. The incidents, most recently a 2-day grounding of a Tidewater fuel barge earlier this month near Hood River, did not result in any fuel leaks. But the number of incidents is up significantly over prior years, U.S. Coast Guard records indicate. The most dramatic: A barge, loaded with gasoline, ran into a wall at The Dalles Dam in May, putting a 4-square-foot gash in its outer hull. And the federal agencies involved, including the Coast Guard, are giving scant details, citing the confidentiality of ongoing investigations that have now reached up to 16 months long. Combined, the barges were carrying more than 6 million gallons of gasoline and diesel, a potential threat to the Columbia's sensitive environment and vaunted salmon runs. Tidewater, based in Vancouver, Washington, is the main transporter of gasoline and diesel fuel up the Columbia and Snake rivers. Washington and Oregon regulators say Tidewater works well with them on fuel spill prevention drills and response. And Washington regulators, who operate the Northwest's most robust oil and fuel spill program, say the risk of a massive fuel leak in the Columbia-Snake system is low. But the potential environmental damage in the event of a leak or spill is high. All of Tidewater's incidents occurred in the dark, when regulators say navigation is tougher.

Otherwise, it is difficult to find common denominators between incidents, in part because of the minimal details given by the federal agencies involved.

Source:

http://www.oregonlive.com/environment/index.ssf/2009/07/loaded_fuel_barges_running_afo.html

16. *July 21, Atlanta Journal-Constitution* – (Georgia) **Buckhead MARTA station opens after scare.** The Buckhead MARTA station re-opened at 1:55 p.m. July 21 — three hours after authorities began investigating a suspicious package. The package was discovered shortly after 11 a.m. outside the station. The MARTA police assistant chief said the contents of the package had not been determined at 12:30 p.m. The station, which is on Peachtree Road, was evacuated, and a “bus bridge” was set up to transport passengers between the Lindbergh Center rail station to the south and the Medical Center station to the north. Police also closed Peachtree Road adjacent to the station. Peachtree Road was reopened to vehicles shortly before 12:30, but the station remained closed the assistant police chief said. Police also evacuated nearby buildings, including the Atlanta Financial Center.

Source: http://www.ajc.com/news/atlanta/buckhead-marta-station-opens-96852.html?cxntlid=homepage_tab_newstab

17. *July 20, Denver Post* – (Colorado) **200-acre fire jumps I-70 on W. Slope.** Firefighters believe they have contained a 200-acre fire that late Monday morning jumped a 5-mile stretch of Interstate 70 between Fruita and Loma. The fire is believed to have been sparked by a lightning strike at about 6 p.m. July 19. Fire crews from multiple agencies fought the blaze and were in the mopping up stages the evening of July 19. But just before noon on July 20, the fire reignited and jumped from the north side of I-70 to the median, about a half-mile east of the Loma exit. At one point on Monday, the fire burned along a 5-mile stretch of I-70, closing some lanes, said a spokesman for the Colorado Transportation Management Center. “It was mostly smoke,” he said. Both eastbound and westbound lanes were closed.

Source: http://www.denverpost.com/newscolumnists/ci_12877222

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Postal and Shipping Sector

See items [12](#) and [29](#)

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Agriculture and Food Sector

18. *July 22, AboutLawsuits.com* – (Illinois) **Hepatitis exposure class action lawsuit filed against McDonald’s.** A class action lawsuit was filed Tuesday against McDonalds after thousands of patrons at a restaurant in northwestern Illinois were exposed to hepatitis A.

The complaint alleges that management knew at least one employee was infected with hepatitis A and failed to take steps to prevent patrons from becoming infected. The hepatitis exposure lawsuit was filed on behalf of all customers who ate at the McDonald's on 400 W. 1st Street in Milan, Illinois and received preventative treatment for the virus as recommended by local health officials. Nearly 20 people in the area have been diagnosed with hepatitis A, with 11 of them have requiring hospitalization. It has been confirmed that at least two employees at the Milan McDonald's were continuing to work at the restaurant while infected, and management allegedly knew about the condition several weeks before the Rock Island County health department temporarily shut the restaurant down last week. Vaccinations for hepatitis A were rushed into the area for an estimated 10,000 residents who may have been exposed to the infection after visiting the McDonalds. At least 2,000 people have already received vaccination shots. According to the Illinois Department of Public Health, a food service worker employed by the McDonald's restaurant in Milan and diagnosed with hepatitis A was reported to have worked during his/her infectious period and handled food items that were not subsequently cooked.

Source: <http://www.aboutlawsuits.com/mcdonalds-hepatitis-exposure-class-action-lawsuit-4980/>

See also: <http://www.idph.state.il.us/public/press09/7.19.09HepAClusterResp.htm>

19. *July 21, Corpus Christi Caller-Times* – (Massachusetts) **Train derails, spilling corn feed in Robstown.** Ten train cars derailed in Robstown July 21 spilling corn feed along State Highway 44 near U.S. Highway 77, Robstown police reported. The reason for the 4:45 p.m. derailment of the Union Pacific train is not known, said a sergeant from the Robstown Police Department. Officials said there are no injuries and no damage has been found on the rail cars that were overturned. No roads were closed, he said. He said Union Pacific was bringing in heavy equipment for cleanup, which he estimated would take about four hours.

Source: <http://www.caller.com/news/2009/jul/21/train-derails-spilling-corn-feed-in-robstown/>

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Water Sector

20. *July 21, Water Technology Online* – (National) **Water-system security bill introduced in House.** A [bill](#) that would amend the Safe Drinking Water Act to enhance the security of U.S. public drinking water systems was introduced July 20 in the U.S. House of Representatives. The bill, known as the Drinking Water System Security Act of 2009, or H.R. 3258, would require the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to establish risk-based performance standards for community water systems serving more than 3,300 people and certain other public water systems with security risks.

Source: http://watertechonline.com/news.asp?N_ID=72272

See also:

http://energycommerce.house.gov/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1711:energy-and-commerce-democrats-introduce-drinking-water-system-security-act&catid=122:media-advisories&Itemid=55

21. *July 21, Associated Press* – (Arizona) **Water experts: Mining near Grand Canyon is risky.** Uranium mining near the Grand Canyon would court disaster, risking damage to critical water supplies, local officials and water experts told a House panel on July 21. A hydrologist who has been conducting research on springs in the canyon for 25 years told the House Natural Resources Committee’s parks subcommittee that past mining polluted a stream that feeds the Colorado River, and that more pollution is likely should mining resume. A water utility manager said virtually all of Southern Nevada would be left without water supplies if a mining disaster should occur. Two other scientists, however, said modern mining techniques have improved and development should not be prohibited because of past mistakes. The committee is considering a bill that would permanently bar the filing of new mining claims on 1.1 million acres of federal lands north and south of the canyon. Renewed interest in nuclear power has led to a surge in uranium mining claims in the area. There are as many as 10,000 existing mining claims on nearby federal lands for all types of hard-rock exploration and some 1,100 uranium mining claims within five miles of the canyon. The Interior Secretary announced on July 20 that he is barring the filing of new claims on nearly 1 million acres of U.S. Forest Service and other public lands for two years while the Administration studies whether mining on those lands should be permanently prohibited.
Source: http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20090721/ap_on_re_us/us_grand_canyon_mining

22. *July 21, Water Technology Online* – (Florida; National) **Agrichemicals threaten FL aquifers: USGS study.** The combined effects of pesticide compounds and elevated nitrate levels in lakes in central Florida’s Lake Wales Ridge region may threaten drinking water sources and aquatic life, U.S. Geological Survey scientists have reported in a first-of-its kind [study](#). The study, Water Quality and Evaluation of Pesticides in Lakes in the Ridge Citrus Region of Central Florida, is the first to evaluate the occurrence of pesticides in lakes on the Ridge, a major citrus-producing area where pesticides are applied multiple times per year. The report also represents one of the first monitoring efforts nationally to focus on regional-scale assessment of current-use pesticides in small- to moderate-sized lakes (5 acres to 393 acres). The authors said underground drinking water sources in the region are vulnerable to contamination due to a wet climate, soils lacking in materials to filter or break down substances, and porous drinking water aquifers. The importance of continued early detection, monitoring, and understanding of the chemicals and their impacts was stressed in the study. According to the authors, local-scale groundwater flow-path studies “could provide information on the processes and hydrogeologic factors controlling the transport and fate of pesticides in the lakes and in adjacent aquifers, and help to determine the influence of the lakes on regional water quality in this dynamic, closely linked groundwater/surface water system.” To this end, the USGS is helping state agencies develop a sampling network to detect contaminants as they enter the aquifers.
Source: http://watertechonline.com/news.asp?N_ID=72271

23. *July 21, Water Technology Online* – (Georgia) **Lake Lanier not for drinking, judge orders GA.** Unless Congress rules differently, metropolitan Atlanta has only three more years during which it can withdraw water for drinking from its primary source, nearby

Lake Lanier, a U.S. District Court judge ruled July 17, according to various media reports. In his decision the judge wrote: “The Court recognizes that this is a draconian result. It is, however, the only result that recognizes how far the operation of the [lake] has strayed from the original authorization.” The suit before the court involved a dispute over a 2003 agreement involving Georgia and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. In that suit, the states of Alabama and Florida have contended that the lake was formed for only three purposes: controlling floods, allowing barges to float downstream, and power generation. Those two states also rely on water flows from Lake Lanier to support wildlife farther downstream. The Alabama governor said the ruling would have a tremendous impact on his state’s economic future. “Atlanta has based its growth on the idea that it could take whatever water it wanted whenever it wanted it, and that the downstream states would simply have to make do with less,” he said. “Following the court’s ruling [July 17], this massive illegal water grab will be coming to an end.” The Georgia governor has said he would appeal. His state has contended that one of the purposes of the lake is to supply drinking water for the metro Atlanta area.

Source: http://watertechonline.com/news.asp?N_ID=72273

24. *July 20, Maryville Daily Forum* – (Missouri) **Pink water not dangerous.** An equipment malfunction at the Maryville, Missouri, Water Plant caused the city’s water to turn pink on July 20. City officials advised residents that the water is safe to drink, but if they are not comfortable doing so, they should wait until the color clears from the water. In the early morning hours, workers discovered the pink water at the city’s drinking water plant. It was determined that an equipment malfunction had resulted in too much sodium permanganate being fed into the water supply, resulting in the odd color, according to a press release. Sodium permanganate is a chemical used to enhance the quality of water in city systems, the Maryville Public Works director said. Crews began working to flush the excess chemical out of the system after finding the issue. City officials expected the system to be back to normal by that evening, he said. “It basically has to get out of the pipes,” he said. “The only way to get it out of the pipes is to open the valves and let the water run and whether we do it at the fire hydrants or you do it at your house, the water has to work its way out of the system.” A boil order is not in effect, as the chemical cannot be boiled out of the water, he said. He also said that the city’s water supply and concentration of sodium permanganate never exceeded their maximum allowance. City officials are still looking into the cause of the malfunction of the sodium permanganate feeder, but their first concern was the color of the water.

Source: <http://www.maryvilledailyforum.com/news/x631636287/Pink-water-not-dangerous>

For another story, see item [1](#)

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

25. *July 21, Associated Press* – (New York) **NY to make \$540M payment for false Medicaid bills.** The state and city of New York agreed Tuesday to pay a record \$540 million to settle allegations they helped overbill the federal government for Medicaid

services. Also, an unidentified speech therapist will receive \$10 million from the settlement as the whistleblower who called attention to the state and city billing practices. The Justice Department began an investigation after the whistleblower filed two lawsuits alleging the state submitted false claims for speech therapy services that didn't qualify for reimbursement. The department looked into reimbursement claims for services provided to New York schoolchildren from 1990 to 2001. Under the settlement, New York State will pay about \$440 million and New York City will pay \$100 million. And the federal government will continue to monitor the state and city programs. The state has already paid about \$108 million, while the rest will be paid in 10 installments of \$33.1 million over more than five years.

Source:

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5jkuU476CdKQDxScGAiuWgTIPm5fAD99J47OO0>

26. *July 20, KTLA 5 Los Angeles* – (California) **Fire damages L.A. medical marijuana clinic.** Firefighters are trying to determine what caused a fire that ripped through a medical marijuana clinic in the Westchester area Monday morning. The building houses “Westchester Collective” — a medical marijuana facility — as well as other businesses. The fire apparently began in a laboratory at the clinic, which is located on the second floor. No other structures burned, according to officials. It took some 69 firefighters about an hour to put out the flames. No one was hurt in the blaze.

Source: <http://www.ktla.com/news/landing/ktla-westchester-commercial-fire,0,3843038.story>

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Government Facilities Sector

27. *July 20, United Press International* – (California) **Calif. Lab questioned over beryllium work.** The Lawrence Livermore Laboratory in California could face fines and penalties over its use of the hazardous material beryllium, a federal official says. A spokesman for the National Nuclear Security Administration (NNSA) said the enforcement actions could come about if the federal agency determines the lab in Livermore, California, violated Energy Department regulations, the Contra Costa Times said Monday. The NNSA spokesman said preliminary findings by his agency determined the Lawrence Livermore National Security system for dealing with beryllium at the lab is lacking in some regards. “The LLNS system for beryllium hazard identification, assessment, and abatement is not as comprehensive or thorough as it should be,” the agency spokesman at the Livermore site told the Times. Lawrence Livermore National Security is a partnership between several companies and the University of California that operates the Livermore facility for the Department of Energy. “The lab has a sound hazards control system in place,” the lab spokesman said in an e-mail response to the federal probe. “However, some mistakes were made with regard to beryllium exposures.”

Source: http://www.upi.com/Science_News/2009/07/20/Calif-lab-questioned-over-beryllium-work/UPI-27931248112389/

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Emergency Services Sector

28. *July 21, Homeland Security Today* – (National) **Improvements needed in fed disaster mitigation case management programs.** Following its audit of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) funding and coordination of disaster case management in response to Hurricane Katrina, the Government Accountability Office (GAO) stated in its just released report of the review that FEMA needs to establish a time line for developing a disaster case management program. FEMA also needs to include practices to enhance coordination among stakeholders involved in this program and to evaluate outcomes of disaster case management pilot programs in order "to inform the development" of an overall disaster case management program. FEMA agreed with GAO's recommendations and is taking steps to address them, GAO told lawmakers. Source: <http://www.hstoday.us/content/view/9451/149/>
29. *July 21, Tampa Bay Highlands Today* – (Florida) **White powder scare No. 2.** The city of Sebring, Florida, was again disrupted by the arrival of suspicious envelopes, and the target this time was the Highlands County Sheriff's Office. Just after 2 p.m. Tuesday, two envelopes containing a suspicious white powder arrived at the sheriff's office in the mail, according to the sheriff's chief of staff. Approximately 40 employees were evacuated from the first and second floors a few minutes later as one letter was delivered to each level. Once outside, department heads were busy checking to make sure all their staff members were out of the building. Emergency responders quickly arrived on the scene and began taping the area off. The threat did not disrupt 911 dispatchers or Highlands County Jail officials and operations continued as usual. The substance found inside the envelopes has tested negative for anthrax or any other biochemical. Source: <http://www2.highlandstoday.com/content/2009/jul/21/211754/sheriffs-office-evacuates-after-suspicious-envelop/>
30. *July 21, Burlington Free Press* – (Vermont) **South Burlington to vote on \$7.2M planned police station.** Funding for a proposed \$7.2 million police station will be placed on a special ballot September 15, the South Burlington City Council decided Monday evening. The 4-1 vote brought the city closer to a project designed to replace the police department's crumbling and moldy headquarters. The council also agreed to make a concerted effort to better communicate the police station project to the public. Source: <http://www.burlingtonfreepress.com/article/20090721/NEWS02/907210310>
31. *July 21, Buffalo News* – (New York) **Threats prompt evacuation of City Hall, Police HQ.** A Buffalo, New York, man was arrested Monday afternoon after police say he called in fake bomb threats that forced the evacuation of City Hall and Buffalo Police Headquarters for one hour. The man is charged with two counts each of falsely reporting an incident, aggravated harassment and disorderly conduct, said a Buffalo police spokesman. The buildings were evacuated and searched by police and fire personnel with the aid of a bomb-sniffing dog. Officials determined it was safe for employees to

return after no device was found in either building.

Source: <http://www.buffalonews.com/437/story/739687.html>

32. *July 21, WHIO 7 Dayton* – (Ohio) **Bomb threat over at Juvenile Justice Center.** The new Montgomery County, Ohio, Juvenile Justice Center in Dayton received a bomb threat late Tuesday afternoon. Sheriff's deputies moved all juvenile detainees to the adult jail next door while bomb-sniffing dogs from Dayton police and Wright Patterson swept the building. Officials said no explosives were found. All the juvenile detainees have been returned to the Juvenile Justice Center.

Source: <http://www.whiotv.com/news/20133585/detail.html>

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Information Technology

33. *July 22, FOX News* – (International) **Report: federal documents detail iPods overheating, catching fire.** Apple iPods have burned users or caught fire more than a dozen times, but neither the company nor the federal government has disclosed this to the public, according to a Seattle television station. In a report posted on its Web site on July 22, KIRO-TV says it used the Freedom of Information Act to get more than 800 pages of Consumer Product Safety Commission documents regarding iPod-related injuries and property damage. Within the documents were details of at least 15 separate incidents where iPods overheated, sparked, smoked, caused burns or caught fire, KIRO-TV said. The station became interested when an individual of Arlington, Washington, was mystified by a penny-sized burn on her chest in November 2008. "At first I thought, how in the heck did I get burned?" she told a KIRO-TV reporter. "Then I remembered that I had my iPod right there." KIRO-TV filed an FOIA request in December 2008, but said the CPSC documents took seven months to arrive, delayed by Apple lawyers filing several exemptions. A 14 year old of Portland, Oregon, described being burned by an iPod Nano she had gotten for Christmas in 2007, one of the incidents mentioned in the documents. "I picked it up and it was really hot, and so my first instinct was to drop it so I didn't burn myself," she told KIRO-TV. "But I looked at my hand and it was red and it started to get swollen." Other incidents included a teenage girl's bedside chair catching fire when an iPod overheated, and another iPod catching fire aboard a ship with thousands of people aboard. An Apple representative had no official comment.

Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/story/0,2933,534275,00.html>

See also: <http://www.kirotv.com/money/20089894/detail.html>

34. *July 22, Associated Press* – (National) **Report: Cyber expert shortage may hinder government in protecting Web sites, internal systems.** U.S. federal government agencies are facing a severe shortage of computer specialists, even as a growing wave of coordinated cyberattacks against the government poses potential national security risks, a private study found. The study describes a fragmented federal cyber force, where no one is in charge of overall planning and government agencies are "on their own and sometimes working at cross purposes or in competition with one another." The report, scheduled to be released on July 22, arrives in the wake of a series of cyberattacks in July that shut down some U.S. and South Korean government and financial Web sites.

The recruiting and retention of cyber workers is hampered by a cumbersome hiring process, the failure to devise government-wide certification standards, insufficient training and salaries, and a lack of an overall strategy for recruiting and retaining cyber workers, the study said. “You can’t win the cyber war if you don’t win the war for talent,” said the president of the Partnership for Public Service, a Washington-based advocacy group that works to improve government service. “If we don’t have a federal work force capable of meeting the cyber challenge, all of the cyber czars and organizational efforts will be for naught.” The study was drafted by the partnership and Booz Allen Hamilton as the U.S. Administration struggles to put together a more cohesive strategy to protect U.S. government and civilian computer networks.

Source: <http://www.latimes.com/news/nationworld/politics/wire/sns-ap-us-internet-security,1,5665316.story>

35. *July 21, CNET News* – (International) **Firefox 3.0.12 patches five critical problems.** Mozilla on July 21 released Firefox 3.0.12, an update to the open-source browser that fixes five critical security vulnerabilities and fixes a handful of other bugs. “We strongly recommend that all Firefox 3.0.x users upgrade to this latest release,” Mozilla said on its developer blog. “If you already have Firefox 3, you will receive an automated update notification within 24 to 48 hours. This update can also be applied manually by selecting ‘Check for Updates...’ from the Help menu.” Version 3.0.12 fixes five critical problems and one high-level security problem, according to the Mozilla security advisory site. Mozilla is trying to move people to the newer Firefox 3.5, which offers faster JavaScript program execution, new privacy features, and a handful of technologies geared for more powerful Web applications. And Mozilla is pushing the new browser hard. Security and stability fixes for the 3.0.x series will end in January 2010.
Source: http://news.cnet.com/8301-1009_3-10292587-83.html?part=rss&tag=feed&subj=News-Security
36. *July 21, The Register* – (International) **Open-source firmware vuln exposes wireless routers.** A hacker has discovered a critical vulnerability in open-source firmware available for wireless routers made by Linksys and other manufacturers that allows attackers to remotely penetrate the device and take full control of it. The remote root vulnerability affects the most recent version of DD-WRT, a piece of firmware many router users install to give their device capabilities not available by default. The bug allows unauthenticated users to remotely gain root access simply by luring someone on the local network to a malicious website. “This means someone can even post some crafted [img] link on a forum and a dd-wrt router owner visiting the forum will get owned,” a user wrote in this posting to Milw0rm. “A weird vulnerability you’re unlikely to see in 2009. Quite embarrassing I would say.” Messages sent through the DD-WRT website to the software designers were not returned by time of publication, but comments posted to this user forum thread said the vulnerability affected the most recent builds, prompting a user by the name of autobot to declare the vulnerability a “mini code red.” The bug resides in DD-WRT’s hyper text transfer protocol daemon, which runs as root. Because the httpd does not sanitize user-supplied input, it is vulnerable to remote command injection. While the httpd does not listen on the outbound interface, attackers can easily access it using CSRF (cross-site request forgery) techniques.

Source: http://www.theregister.co.uk/2009/07/21/critical_ddwrt_router_vuln/

For another story, see item [1](#)

Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Website: <http://www.us-cert.gov>.

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Website: <https://www.it-isac.org/>.

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Communications Sector

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Commercial Facilities Sector

37. *July 22, Chico Enterprise-Record* – (California) **Cleaning fluid spill prompts hazmat response.** A hazardous-materials crew worked on July 21 to identify a cleaning solution spilled by workers inside a small room on the second floor of a Chico, California mall. Workers threw cat litter on the spilled liquid, which reportedly caused it to give off fumes. One member of a cleanup crew reported burning a finger and suffered ill effects from inhaling some of the fumes. Chico fire department division chief said members of the Butte Interagency Hazardous Materials team entered the affected area wearing level D suits, designed for the least hazardous conditions. Since the spill was confined to a small area and the store was not open to the public yet, the division chief said it was not necessary to evacuate the mall.

Source: http://www.chicoer.com/publicsafety/ci_12889247

38. *July 22, St. Louis Post-Dispatch* – (Missouri) **No ruling on bond reduction.** A circuit judge did not rule Tuesday on a motion to reduce the \$45,000 bond for the Fostoria, Ohio man charged with making a terrorist threat against a St. Louis firm that sells extended auto-service contracts. His next court date is July 27. According to court documents, the man allegedly told a sales representative during a phone call that he would burn down the building and kill the employees and their families. The name of the firm has not been released, but court records list its address as 300 North Tucker Boulevard, which is the address for a service-contract broker called TXEN Partners, which does business as Service Protection Direct.

Source:

<http://www.stltoday.com/stltoday/news/stories.nsf/laworder/story/80F89A5776258A47862575FB00173F2F?OpenDocument>

39. *July 22, Denver Post* – (Colorado) **Explosive found in Goodwill drop box in Arvada.**

Police are looking for whoever left a military explosive device in a Goodwill store drop box in Denver, Colorado on or the day before July 21. The device, thought to be a claymore mine, was found by a Goodwill employee familiar with mines used by the military. A bomb squad that removed the device was not sure whether it was functional. The strip mall surrounding the drop box and store was evacuated.

Source: http://www.denverpost.com/news/ci_12887579

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National Monuments & Icons Sector

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Dams Sector

40. *July 21, Pioneer Press* – (Illinois) **Northwestern Wisconsin lake to be emptied for dam and bridge repair.** Workers plan to empty a northwestern Wisconsin lake so they can repair a dam and bridge. The state Department of Natural Resources said a complete drawdown on Chapman Lake in Stanley would take place over the next few weeks. Workers need to lower the water to work on the County Highway O Bridge and the Stanley Mill Dam. The lake will drop no more than 6 inches a day, allowing fish and other creatures to adjust. The DNR said most of the fish would escape by moving up or down stream. The project is set to begin in late August. The lake will be refilled in the spring of 2011.

Source: http://www.twincities.com/wisconsin/ci_12886781?nclick_check=1

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