



Homeland Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 3 November 2009

Current Nationwide Threat Level

ELEVATED



Significant Risk of Terrorist Attacks

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

Top Stories

- According to WPMT 43 Harrisburg, there are no signs the H1N1 virus is slowing down, but federal officials say delays in the production of the H1N1 vaccine should be diminishing as millions of more doses are being doled out over the next several weeks. (See item [31](#))
- The Associated Press reported that officials urged residents near the Red Chute Bayou levee in Bossier City to leave their homes on November 1 as water continued to spill over the top of the levee and a breach seemed possible. Emergency officials worked October 31 and November 1 to fortify weak spots in the bayou fed by the Flat River, but witnesses said water was topping the levee and sandbags in places. (See item [46](#))

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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. *October 31, CBS 5 San Francisco and Associated Press* – (California) **Crews Scoop Up Oil In SF Bay, Find Slicked Birds - cbs5.com**. Crews working on October 31 to

clean up a fuel leak in San Francisco Bay just a day after an oil tanker spilled hundreds of gallons into the water said they found some oil washed ashore and spotted about a dozen oil-slicked birds. U.S. Coast Guard officials said skimmer boats were scooping up shipping fuel Saturday from the Dubai Star, a Panamanian-flagged tanker, about 2.5 miles southeast of the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge. In all, the Coast Guard had dispatched and deployed 18 boats, a petty officer said. Using a new high-tech aerial process, authorities estimated between 400 and 800 gallons of oil spilled into the Bay — forming a sheen about 2 miles long and 200 yards wide — when the tanker’s fuel line ruptured at 6:45 a.m. on October 30 during a fuel transfer. About 53,000 feet of nonabsorbent barriers known as boom were deployed to contain the oil from Yerba Buena Island to the San Leandro Channel. Meanwhile, a helicopter surveyed for environmental damage on October 31 while wildlife crews searched the ground for affected wildlife. Assessment teams reported tar balls had washed ashore at Crown Memorial Beach in Alameda, and some oil in nearby Ballena Bay, according to the petty officer. San Francisco city officials also advised people to avoid contact with water in the Bay. Officials did note though that the spill was much smaller than the disastrous Cosco Busan spill of 2007. That 53,000-gallon spill caused about \$70 million in damages to beaches, wildlife, and the fishing industry.

Source: <http://cbs5.com/environment/SF.bay.spill.2.1283490.html>

2. *October 30, Thibodaux Daily Comet* – (Louisiana) **Drivers cited after getting trucks stuck on bridge.** Two truckers were ticketed for ignoring weight restrictions after their 18-wheelers got stuck on the Larose Pontoon Bridge the morning of October 29, shutting down the bridge for three hours, State Police said. A Jobbers Oil Transport Company truck turned onto the bridge about 10:30 a.m. carrying over 20 tons of gasoline. The loaded truck caused the bridge, which has a weight limit of 10 tons, to lean dangerously, State Police said. “When the Jobbers truck was crossing, he was really too heavy and the bridge began leaning on the side he was passing on,” a trooper said. At the same time, another 18-wheeler from Ace Transportation that also exceeded the bridge’s weight limit tried unsuccessfully to cross from the Louisiana side, State Police said. Both trucks were stuck on the bridge, which spans Bayou Lafourche, until another Jobbers Oil truck arrived to pump the fuel from the stranded tanker. Removing the fuel reduced the tanker’s weight and allowed for safe passage, police said. There were no injuries or damage to the bridge or any of the vehicles, State Police said.

Source:

<http://www.dailycomet.com/article/20091030/ARTICLES/910309958/1026?Title=Drivers-cited-after-getting-trucks-stuck-on-bridge>

3. *October 30, Ruston Daily Leader* – (Louisiana) **Ruston is left without power.** More than 12,000 city utility customers throughout Ruston were without power on October 30 after moisture from torrential rain knocked out the city’s main generator on north Trenton Street. “The city of Ruston had a catastrophic failure of its main electric transformer at the U.S. 167 North substation, which has resulted in the entire city being without electrical power,” the mayor said in a statement the morning of October 30. The power outage began around 9 a.m., said the city utilities director. City work crews turned on the city’s backup generator on Frazier Road during the afternoon and restored

power throughout some parts of the city, he said.

Source: <http://rustonleader.com/news.php?id=5934>

4. *October 30, Reuters* – (Puerto Rico) **Fuel leak caused Puerto Rican depot blast: FBI.** A fuel leak created a vapor cloud that caused last week's explosion and massive fire at a Puerto Rican fuel storage depot, according to federal investigators who ruled out arson or sabotage on October 30. The fire raged for more than two days at the Caribbean Petroleum Corp., or Capeco, storage facility in Bayamon, near the Caribbean island's capital of San Juan. Fuel leaked out while one of the huge storage tanks was being filled, creating a vapor cloud, officials said. The gases were ignited by an unidentified energy source, possibly from a water treatment plant at the site, they said. It was too early to know whether negligence, such as a lack of maintenance or lax procedures, was involved. Federal authorities made the announcement after completing the first phase of their investigation and interviewing 105 people. Two people were hurt and more than 1,000 people were evacuated from neighborhoods around the blaze, which spewed a towering column of toxic smoke into the air. The fire destroyed nearly half the storage facility's 40 tanks, which contained a variety of oil products from gasoline to jet fuel.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/newsMaps/idUSTRE59T42Y20091030>

For another story, see item [14](#)

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Chemical Industry Sector

5. *October 31, KSEE 24 Fresno* – (California) **Fertilizer spill shuts down highway 198.** Highway 198 west of Coalinga has been shut down in both directions because of a massive fertilizer spill. According to the California Highway Patrol (CHP) says a tanker truck carrying more than 4,000 gallons of fertilizer overturned, spilling its load, and causing an accident near Fame Lane. A rescue helicopter had to be used to fly one of the injured out. The CHP says Highway 198 is now open. It was determined that the fertilizer in the truck was non-toxic.

Source: <http://www.ksee24.com/news/local/67807507.html>

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector

6. *November 2, Energy Efficiency News* – (National) **US nuclear industry calls for more federal support.** The Nuclear Energy Institute (NEI), which represents the nuclear industry in the US, is calling for a comprehensive package of federal policies, financing and tax incentives to support a major expansion. The U.S. currently has 104 nuclear reactors spread across 31 states, which provide 20% of the nation's electricity and 72% of its low-carbon supply. The U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission has received around 25 license applications for new reactors over the last two years, some of which

could start operating as soon as 2016-18 if given the go ahead. The NEI wants to see the creation of a Clean Energy Deployment Administration to act as a permanent financing mechanism for new plants. It is also calling for significant tax incentives to support industry development. However, the Union of Concerned Scientists (UCS) says the plans amount to a request for \$100 billion in new federal loan guarantees on top of the \$110 billion loan guarantees already agreed by Congress. “It is truly staggering that an industry this big and this mature can claim to need so much government help to survive and thrive in a world in which technologies that don’t emit global warming pollution will benefit,” says a official with the UCS. “If the nuclear industry gets its way, Christmas will come early this year – thanks to US taxpayers.”

Source: <http://www.energyefficiencynews.com/i/2541/>

7. *November 1, Salem Today’s Sunbeam* – (New Jersey) **NRC to seek public input on possible environmental impacts of Salem nuclear license extensions.** The federal Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) will hold a pair of public hearings on Thursday to gather comment on the possible environmental impact of a possible 20-year extension of PSEG Nuclear’s three nuclear reactors at its Artificial Island generating station. PSEG on August 18 officially filed applications with the NRC for license extensions for its Salem 1, Salem 2 and Hope Creek units. NRC staff will hold two public sessions on Thursday in the meeting room of the Salem County Emergency Services Building on Cemetery Road here. The sessions - one at 1 p.m. and one at 7 p.m. - each with the same format. An NRC “open house” will be held for one hour prior to the start of each meeting to provide interested members of the public with an opportunity to talk informally with agency staff. However, formal comments regarding the license extension proposals must be expressed during the transcribed meetings.
Source: <http://www.nj.com/sunbeam/index.ssf?/base/news-5/125706360979120.xml&coll=9>

8. *November 1, Associated Press* – (Utah) **Funds dwindling to oversee Utah’s hazardous waste.** Businesses that handle some of Utah’s most dangerous materials are being inspected less often because of dwindling funds to pay for the work. State monitoring of hazardous and radioactive waste has for years been funded by fees collected from commercial waste companies. That fund — which reached nearly \$6 million in 2006 — has fallen off with the down economy, dwindling to just \$30,000 at the end of the last fiscal year. Utah is still adequately regulating hazardous waste operations but is no longer able to inspect them as often as in the past, said the director of the state’s hazardous and solid waste division. That not only includes monitoring of large hazardous waste disposal sites in Utah but also regular checks on hundreds of smaller operations — from autobody shops and dry cleaners to oil refineries — that generate and store dangerous materials. “We don’t have staff we used to have,” the director said. In some cases, hazardous waste operations that were inspected once a week often now get a visit once every three weeks or so, he said. Travel and other costs have been trimmed — and some jobs have been left unfilled — as state regulators try to cope with less money. “We have just tried to reprioritize our efforts,” the director said.
Source: <http://www.deseretnews.com/article/705341288/Funds-dwindling-to-oversee-waste.html>

9. *October 31, Brattleboro Reformer* – (Vermont) **Four VY protesters won't be charged.** The Windham County State's Attorney's Office has declined to prosecute four elderly Massachusetts women who walked through the Vermont Yankee nuclear plant gates to protest its continuing operation. The four elderly women had the unlawful trespassing charges stemming from a September 28 direct action dropped on the afternoon of October 30, 2009. According to the county state's attorney, the office has declined to take the case because going forward with the charges would squander the prosecutors' time and money. "I must consider the question of where to focus scarce state prosecutorial resources," said the state attorney. Prosecuting this case could consume resources in an amount disproportionate to the crimes they were charged with, she added.
Source: http://www.reformer.com/localnews/ci_13682967
10. *October 30, Atlanta Business Chronicle* – (National) **Reactor redesign could slow nuclear projects.** Safety concerns surrounding a reactor model at the forefront of America's "nuclear renaissance" could delay plans for a wave of nuclear power plants in Georgia and other Southeastern states. The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has ordered Westinghouse Electric Co. to redesign the shield building of its AP1000 reactor, the model chosen for two new nuclear units at Atlanta-based Southern Co.'s Plant Vogtle near Augusta and 12 other units at six nuclear facilities in the Southeast. In a letter to Westinghouse dated October 15, the NRC rejected the proposed shield building design for the reactor, questioning its ability to withstand severe weather such as tornadoes, earthquakes or hurricanes. "This is a situation where fundamental engineering standards will have to be met before we can begin determining whether the shield building meets the agency's requirements," said the director of NRC's Office of New Reactors. Southeastern utilities have been particularly aggressive in launching the first expansion of commercial nuclear power in the U.S. in more than two decades.
Source: <http://atlanta.bizjournals.com/atlanta/stories/2009/11/02/story4.html>

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Critical Manufacturing Sector

11. *November 2, ClickonDetroit.com* – (Michigan) **Breaking news: One injured in Marysville plant explosion.** There are several injuries at South Park Welding Supply Plant after several explosions on November 2. The business is located near the Port Huron and Marysville city line. The fire started shortly after 8 a.m. and is reportedly still on fire. There have been at least 15 to 20 homes evacuated. Cleveland Elementary School and the Grant Education Center have also been evacuated. A 48-year-old employee is hospitalized with burns to his head, upper body, hands, and arms. The Marysville Police Chief told the Times Herald an employee was removing a valve from a settling tank when it exploded. He said several tanks exploded and glass and metal flew across the room. Firefighters from Marysville, Port Huron and Port Huron Township are all on the scene. Gratiot Boulevard is closed. South Park Welding Supplies has been in business since 1924. The company sells and services equipment used for welding. It also specializes in acetylene requalification of cylinders, all gases

used for welding and cutting, helium for balloons and beverage CO2.

Source: <http://www.clickondetroit.com/news/21494991/detail.html>

12. *October 31, New Haven Register* – (Connecticut) **Milford Fabricating reopens 7 months after fire destroyed old facility.** Seven months ago, a four-alarm blaze destroyed Milford Fabricating Co factory in New Haven, Connecticut, and left 97 employees wondering if they still had a job. The company has now fully reopened at its new facilities at 500 Bic Drive. Just 28 days after the fire, the company was partially back in production at its West Avenue facility, said its owner. After the fire, he said his goal was to satisfy his suppliers, while also ensuring no employee lost their job. He said it was a daunting task. He said he has signed a five-year lease at the former Bic pen manufacturing plant, and is considering selling the former Erna Avenue site to help purchase the new Bic Drive location. The company has an option to purchase the property in the lease agreement. He said the company has purchased \$4.5 million worth of new equipment, with insurance picking up most of the bill. Milford Fabricating builds custom parts for the aerospace and medical industries, including Sikorsky Aircraft Corp., Pratt & Whitney, and PerkinElmer. The fire marshal ruled the March 31 blaze was sparked by a faulty vent door on a laser cutting machine. The fire spread quickly, destroying the 26,000-square-foot facility and everything inside. All the employees escaped without injury.

Source: http://www.nhregister.com/articles/2009/10/31/news/milford/spill-mirebuild_art.txt

13. *October 30, Charlotte Observer* – (National) **OSHA to toughen oversight of states.** The federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) will strengthen its oversight of states that run their own job safety programs — including the Carolinas — to ensure they adequately protect workers, the agency's leader told a congressional panel on October 29. That announcement came during a hearing that focused on shortcomings at the Nevada Occupational Safety and Health Administration, which has come under sharp criticism after 25 construction deaths in Las Vegas. "We are not trying to change the nature of our relationship between federal and state OSHA, but we need to speak with one voice and assure American workers they will receive adequate protection regardless of the state in which they work," said the federal OSHA's acting chief. A federal review of Nevada's workplace safety program found, among other things, that inspectors failed to issue citations for willful and repeat violations. An Observer investigation into the poultry industry, published last year, found similar problems in North Carolina's OSHA program. During the decade ending in 2007, only one of every 1,800 violations found at N.C. manufacturing plants was deemed "willful," a designation that can result in stiff fines and hurt a company's reputation. Nationally, about one of every 300 citations against manufacturers is labeled willful. Average fines for serious violations in North Carolina were less than half the national average, the Observer found. Studies have found that injury rates can be deceptive, largely because they're based on companies' own reports. In its investigation, the Observer found that North Carolina poultry giant House of Raeford masked the extent of plant injuries. OSHA recently launched a national program aimed at catching companies that hide workplace injuries. Federal OSHA

oversees workplace safety in about half the states. The remaining half run their own programs, with oversight from federal OSHA.

Source: <http://www.charlotteobserver.com/breaking/story/1027351.html>

14. *October 30, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency* – (Michigan) **EPA settles with Detroit company on hazardous waste violations; \$700,000 to be spent on facility updates at two locations.** U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 5 has settled with Usher Enterprises Inc. of Detroit, Michigan, for alleged violations of federal hazardous waste regulations at two of its oil recycling facilities. EPA's administrative order requires the company to spend \$700,000 to upgrade two of its facilities by installing new tanks, upgrading secondary containment, and decontaminating and testing the integrity of other tanks. Usher will also pay a \$19,700 penalty. Usher Enterprises is a used oil processor operating two facilities in the Detroit area. It stored close to 1 million gallons of used oil at the Grand River location and had more than 50 tanks at the other location. Inspections were part of the Detroit Flyway Initiative, which focused on oil-related facilities that might have an impact on the Detroit River, a major nesting and feeding area for migratory birds. Under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, EPA controls hazardous waste from its production to final disposal. The law is designed to avoid costly cleanups by requiring safe storage and disposal of hazardous waste.

Source:

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/0/3643B4ABBF318B358525765F004B2AD9>

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

15. *November 1, Army Times* – (National) **Coordination, not sameness, sought in uniforms.** Lawmakers have dropped the idea of making everyone in combat wear the exact same uniform and camouflage pattern. But out of concern for safety, function, and performance, they want more cooperation between the services over ground combat and utility clothing. The key concern is that U.S. personnel wearing different uniforms in a combat zone raise the risk of friendly fire. The services raised enough of a fuss about having different needs that lawmakers dropped from the 2010 defense authorization bill a proposed requirement to standardize combat uniforms in the future. In a report accompanying the defense bill, congressional negotiators agreed that the services may have uniforms that “uniquely reflect the identity of the individual services.” But the report says lawmakers still want uniforms that minimize the risk of mistaken identity and share technological advances and improvements across all services. Lawmakers also directed the services to establish joint criteria for ground combat uniforms, and expect special operations forces to be covered by the joint standards. To prod more cooperation in uniforms, lawmakers ordered a quick, 180-day assessment by the Government Accountability Office that will look at what uniforms are now in use, their advantages, similarities, and differences.

Source: http://www.armytimes.com/news/2009/10/military_uniforms_103109w/

16. *November 1, Defense Industry Daily* – (National) **Boeing secures \$84M order to upgrade B-1B's avionics software.** Boeing received an \$84 million order from the US Air Force for upgrades to the B-1B heavy bomber fleet's avionics software that will enhance the aircraft's color cockpit displays, data link, radar and navigation systems. The award (F33657-01-D-2050, SD-21) continues a software-sustainment program that has updated the B-1B's operational capabilities since the aircraft entered service in 1989. This new contract authorizes Boeing to start work on Sustainment Block 16. Boeing will update the following B-1B avionics systems: Offensive Avionics Flight software; Electrical Multiplexing (EMUX) software; Communications/Navigation Management System (CNMS) software; Offensive Radar System (ORS) software; Central Integrated Test System (CITS) software; Graphics Controller (GC) software; and associated support equipment software (e.g. simulation, ground processing, etc). Boeing provides avionics software upgrade once a year for the USAF's fleet of 66 B-1Bs. Sustainment Block 14, which was awarded Sept 29/07, is in flight test at Edwards Air Force Base, CA, and will be delivered to the Air Force in 2011. Sustainment Block 15, which was awarded Sept 29/08, will be delivered in 2012. Design and development work for Sustainment Block 16 will begin immediately. On July 30/09 Boeing completed the 1st flight of a B-1B upgraded with the Fully Integrated Data Link (FIDL). This upgrade includes new processors, color displays and communications architecture. The Air Force 419th Test Squadron conducted the flight from Edwards Air Force Base, California. The objective of the FIDL development program is to integrate beyond line-of-sight and line-of-sight data links in the B-1 bomber. The data links eliminate the need for manual entry of weapons data for targeting. Additional upgrades include new open-architecture processors, mass-storage capability and an Ethernet network to integrate the aircraft's systems.
Source: <http://www.defenseindustrydaily.com/Boeing-Secures-84M-Order-to-Upgrade-B-1Bs-Avionics-Software-05906/>

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Banking and Finance Sector

17. *October 30, CNN* – (National) **9 banks in major holding company fail.** Nine subsidiaries of FBOP Corp., a multistate holding company that included California National Bank of Los Angeles, succumbed Friday to the nationwide banking crisis, bringing to 115 the number of banks closed by regulators so far this year. The Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. said the nine banks in California, Illinois, Texas and Arizona that made up the privately held FBOP were taken over by U.S. Bancorp (USB, Fortune 500) of Minneapolis. The banks, which had combined assets of \$19.4 billion and deposits of \$15.4 billion, will open Saturday as U.S. Bank branches. The nine banks are Bank USA N.A. of Phoenix, California National Bank of Los Angeles, San Diego National Bank of San Diego, Pacific National Bank of San Francisco, Park National Bank of Chicago, Community Bank of Lemont in Lemont, Ill., North Houston Bank in Houston, Madisonville State Bank in Madisonville, Texas, and Citizens National Bank of Teague, Texas. Together, the nine banks had 153 offices. Customers of failed banks are protected, however. The Federal Deposit Insurance Corp., which has insured bank

deposits since the Great Depression, currently covers customer accounts up to \$250,000. The FDIC said it entered into a loss-share transaction with U.S. Bank on \$14.4 billion of the \$18.2 billion in combined purchased assets. Under that arrangement, the agency said U.S. Bank will share in the losses on the asset pools covered in an effort to maximize returns on the assets by keeping them in the private sector.

Source:

http://money.cnn.com/2009/10/30/news/economy/fbop_failure/index.htm?postversion=2009103022

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Transportation Sector

18. *November 2, KSBW 8 Monterey* – (California) **Bay Bridge will likely reopen today, Caltrans says.** The San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge will likely reopen for traffic sometime November 2, the California Department of Transportation said. The span, which connects Oakland with San Francisco, shut down last week for emergency repairs. The bridge is expected to open late this morning or early this afternoon. A Caltrans representative said at a news conference that workers made significant progress overnight to assure the bridge's safety. He said final inspections are under way. The bridge has been closed since last Tuesday after two rods and a crossbar failed, sending 5,000 pounds of metal into traffic. It is the longest closure since the span was shut down for a month after the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake.

Source: <http://www.ksbw.com/news/21495469/detail.html>

19. *November 2, WTVT 13 Tampa* – (National) **Fumes closed St. Pete airport checkpoint.** A security checkpoint at the St. Petersburg-Clearwater International Airport was closed for about an hour Sunday as emergency officials investigated reports of something in the air causing people to choke and cough severely. Pinellas County deputies, Largo Fire Department's hazardous material team and Pinellas Park firefighters responded to the airport after receiving a call from Transportation Security Administration Agents around 4:15 p.m. About 50 people were exposed to the airborne irritant, but no one was hurt, according to the sheriff's office. Deputies said they checked the area, but were unable to determine the source of the problem. The security checkpoint was reopened shortly before 5:30 p.m.

Source: <http://www.myfoxtampabay.com/dpp/news/local/pinellas/st-petersburg-clearwater-airport-checkpoint-evacuated-110209>

20. *November 1, Northbrook Star* – (Florida) **No injuries reported in Northbrook freight train collision.** No injuries were reported after a 3 p.m. crash when two Canadian Pacific freight trains, heading northeast and southwest on a Union Pacific track, collided after one of the trains derailed. Northbrook police closed the strip mall near the derailment. No one was reported injured. A Northbrook Deputy Fire Chief said damaged train cars were bumped off the tracks on both sides of a road and were resting on the viaduct over the road as well. An on-scene Canadian Pacific manager, said both

trains were moving at impact when one of them derailed, but the crash was not head-on. The wreckage covered four blocks, he said. The manager said the Canadian Pacific train was hauling wheat and clay. Both trains together comprised only 18 cars. Outdoor propane tanks next to a dry cleaning business were about 10 yards away from the fallen cars that had tumbled off rails on the east side of Shermer, as hazardous material emergency trucks arrived to check the area. A Mobil gasoline station was about 50 yards away from the accident scene on the southeast corner of Shermer and Willow roads. Employees there said they did not hear sounds of the accident. Several electric utility poles were damaged, but local residents watching the scene said they still had electric power. Emergency officials were unsure if the rail viaduct over Sherman Road sustained damage. They also said cleaning and repairing the railroad stretch will take at least three days.

Source: <http://www.pioneerlocal.com/northbrook/news/1858991,Northbrook-trainderailment-110109-s1.article>

21. *October 31, Minneapolis Star Tribune* – (Minnesota) **MnDOT to investigate mysterious car damage.** The Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT) continues to investigate whether a chunk of concrete that damaged a man's car as he drove under Interstate 494 fell from the bridge above. An Inver Grove Heights man was driving southbound on I-35E passing beneath the bridge Friday when something struck his Ford Focus, shattering the windshield and caving in part of the roof. Jones, who was not injured, said he found small pieces of concrete inside his car. An MnDOT spokesman said a crew will try to determine Monday whether the piece of concrete fell from the bridge, which is structurally sound and was not closed following the incident. The spokesman said it is possible that the piece may have been from patchwork that had been applied to the bridge in the past, or that it could have fallen from a passing truck.

Source:

<http://www.startribune.com/local/68030062.html?elr=KArksLckD8EQDUoaEygyP4O:DW3ckUiD3aPc: Yyc:aUUT>

22. *October 31, KMOX 1120 St. Louis* – (Missouri) **Barges break loose on Mississippi; one hits railroad bridge.** A midday barge breakaway in the Mississippi at St. Louis has sent over a dozen barges floating down the river north of downtown. The 13 barges — all containing coal — broke loose, and four sank. A fire captain said at least one barge struck the MacArthur railroad bridge just south of downtown's Poplar Street Bridge, causing the MacArthur to be shut down for a short time. "Officials from the Terminal Railroad have since checked the MacArthur and found no significant damage, so they opened it back up to train traffic," the fire captain said. Those bridges have been hit before and are built to withstand a barge strike. Road traffic on the Poplar Street Bridge was not interrupted. All the breakaway barges have been rounded up or marked at the point where they sank. No injuries are reported, either aboard the barges or on shore. Because of the placement of the bridges, the St. Louis stretch of the Mississippi is considered particularly difficult to navigate during high water.

Source: <http://www.kmox.com/UPDATE--Barges-break-loose-on-Mississippi--one-hit/5568190>

For more stories, see items [2](#) and [5](#)

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Postal and Shipping Sector

23. *October 30, WPRI 12 Providence* – (Rhode Island) **HAZMAT responds to councilman's home.** Emergency crews arrived to the scene of a potential HAZMAT situation Thursday afternoon at the Grove Ave. home of an East Providence city councilman. The councilman said he called 911 after opening a suspicious letter containing some kind of white substance. He said the note was threatening and politically motivated in nature. It has to do with his recent vote not to raise taxes in the city, he said. Police said the city manager also received a suspicious letter Wednesday at his office. However, no white powder was found inside. Fire crews on scene were able to test the powder and found the substance was not harmful. The mayor's office has said the white powder was in fact sugar. Investigators said Thursday night they had identified a suspect, but had not made an arrest.

Source:

http://www.wpri.com/dpp/news/local_wpri_east_providence_hazmat_situation_brian_c_oogan_house_20091029_nek

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Agriculture and Food Sector

24. *November 2, Associated Press* – (Kansas) **Kan. officials to announce relocation of lab investigating animal diseases.** A federal research lab that investigates animal diseases spread by insects, spiders and other bugs is moving to Kansas. Congress included \$1.5 million in the most recent agriculture appropriations bill to move the Arthropod-Borne Animal Diseases Research Laboratory from its current home in Laramie, Wyoming to Manhattan, Kansas. The lab would work with livestock disease researchers at Kansas State University. A group of federal, state and local officials will officially announce the move Monday. Agriculture officials originally planned to move the lab to Ames, Iowa but members of Kansas' congressional delegation pushed for the change during budget hearings this year. The Kansas Bioscience Authority provided a matching \$1.5 million to attract the lab.

Source: <http://www.fox2now.com/news/sns-ap-ks--arthropodlab-kansas,0,7090770.story>

25. *October 31, KRGV 5 Rio Grande Valley* – (Texas) **Gas leak at Coca-Cola plant in McAllen contained.** Authorities are investigating the cause of a gas leak in McAllen that forced evacuations and sent 17 people to the hospital. A McAllen fire chief tells us an ammonia leak started inside the compressor room of the Coca-Cola plant near the intersection of 23rd St and the west bound Frontage Rd of Expressway 83. Authorities say the leak was contained and a hazardous materials crew investigated the incident. The chief says 11 people and 6 fire fighters were sent to the hospital. They had

difficulty breathing and are at several medical centers around the Valley for observation. All roads around the Coca-Cola plant including 23rd St and the Frontage Rd were reopened. Just down the Frontage Rd from the plant, staff and patrons of the Zone Action Park were evacuated. No one who was at the Zone Action Park tonight was hurt. The investigation into the cause of the leak continues.

Source: <http://www.krgv.com/news/local/story/Gas-Leak-at-Coca-Cola-Plant-in-McAllen-Contained/V1Smwzqm8UeRB7wULi3fQw.csp>

26. *October 31, U.S. Food Safety and Inspection Service* – (National) **New York firm recalls fresh ground beef products due to possible E. coli O157:H7 contamination.** Fairbank Farms, an Ashville, New York establishment is recalling approximately 545,699 pounds of fresh ground beef products that may be contaminated with E. coli O157:H7, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) announced today. FSIS became aware of the problem during the course of an investigation of a cluster of E. coli O157:H7 illnesses. Working with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and state health and agriculture departments, FSIS determined that there is an association between the fresh ground beef products subject to recall and illnesses in Connecticut, Maine and Massachusetts. FSIS is continuing to work with the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, the Connecticut Department of Public Health, other state health and agriculture departments and the CDC on the investigation. Each package bears the establishment number "EST. 492" inside the USDA mark of inspection or on the nutrition label. These products were packaged on September 15 and 16 and may have been labeled at the retail stores with a sell-by date from September 19 through 28, unless otherwise noted above. The products were sent to distribution centers, intended for further distribution to retail establishments in Northeast and Mid-Atlantic regions.

Source:

http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News_&_Events/Recall_059_2009_Release/index.asp

27. *October 30, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency* – (National) **EPA proceeds with revoking regulations allowing carbofuran pesticide residues on food.** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is moving forward to implement the agency's May 2009 final rule revoking tolerances, or residue limits, for the pesticide carbofuran. EPA continues to find that dietary exposures to carbofuran from all sources combined are not safe. "The evidence is clear that carbofuran does not meet today's rigorous food-safety standards," said assistant administrator for EPA's Office of Prevention, Pesticides and Toxic Substances. EPA encourages growers to switch from carbofuran to safer pesticides or other environmentally preferable pest control strategies. Since the tolerances are being revoked, EPA reminds growers that carbofuran should not be applied to any food crops after December 31, 2009. Use of carbofuran after this date could result in adulterated food products, which would be subject to enforcement by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

Source:

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/0/790517A9792BE9A48525765F005996B8>

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

Water Sector

28. *October 30, Scientific American* – (National) **EPA tests porous pavement to combat contaminated rain runoff.** In an effort to prevent polluted parking lot rain runoff from contaminating surrounding soil and underground water, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on Thursday said it has launched decade-long test of permeable materials to find one that can filter out impurities in rainwater before it flows to its final destination. Parking lot pavement tends to collect grease, oil, antifreeze, and other chemicals leaked from parked cars. When a heavy rain or snowstorm passes over this area it tends to wash these toxins toward the nearest porous surface. Sometimes this water rushes to a storm drain but other times storm drains are overwhelmed and runoff keeps flowing until it reaches the nearest patch of soil or body of water. The EPA's first test site is its Edison, New Jersey, facility, where the agency has replaced a 3,995-square-meter section of parking lot with three different types of permeable pavement — interlocking concrete pavers, porous concrete and porous asphalt — and planted several rain gardens with varying vegetation for the study. Researchers will over time evaluate the effectiveness of each pavement type and the rain gardens in removing pollutants from stormwater, and how they help water filter back into the ground, according to the EPA. This long-term porous pavement research is part of the agency's Green Infrastructure Research Program and expected to let the EPA document the performance and capabilities of three porous pavement systems simultaneously at the same site, according to an EPA document describing the study. Source: <http://www.scientificamerican.com/blog/post.cfm?id=epa-tests-porous-pavement-to-combat-2009-10-30>
29. *October 29, Akron Beacon Journal* – (Ohio) **U.S. EPA comes up with plan to treat water contamination in Copley.** A remedy with a \$5 million price tag has been selected for a federal Superfund site in Copley Township, Ohio. The plan chosen by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency on Wednesday calls for treating contaminated groundwater near the Copley Square Plaza and connecting about 30 households to Akron water. In addition, some buildings, including the Meadows of Copley condominiums, will get devices to collect any dangerous vapors that might move through the soil and seep into the structures. The EPA will inject a chemical compound into contaminated groundwater near the plaza at Copley and Jacoby roads to break down the dry-cleaning chemicals that are polluting a shallow aquifer. The chemical treatment in the water and soil would turn the contaminants into a nontoxic substance that will naturally degrade, according to the EPA project manager. The process will probably take about two years of treatment to eliminate the contamination that was first reported in 1990 from a dry-cleaning shop. Use of the contaminated aquifer will also be restricted under local regulations. Over the winter, the EPA will be designing the water connections and the soil-vapor devices. Affected residents will be notified by the agency in late 2009 or early 2010. There will be no cost to residents. In 1994, the Ohio EPA discovered toxic chemicals stored in eight homemade pits under the dry-cleaning

shop. About 8,000 gallons of solvent-contaminated waste were removed from the leaking pits.

Source: http://www.waterworld.com/index/display/news_display/137072944.html

30. *October 29, Beaver County Times* – (Pennsylvania) **Mine drainage treatment facility completed.** Cleaner water is rushing through the Montour Run watershed, and insects and fish are rebounding, but the work is not yet done. The Montour Run Watershed Association will dedicate its McCaslin Road mine drainage treatment facility in Findlay Township, Pennsylvania, on November 5. It is the fourth facility the association has helped produce to cleanse contaminated water in the airport area in the last four years. The next mine drainage facility is targeted for Robinson Township, near The Mall at Robinson, according to the president of the watershed association. Additional projects are in the preliminary planning stages. The McCaslin Road plant is near Clinton Road, not far from its intersection with Route 30. The plant, funded by Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection programs, will remove 14,000 pounds of acid and 1,700 pounds of aluminum annually from Enlow Run, which has been contaminated by abandoned coal mines. The treatment plants are making progress, according to the president. Species of fish and insects that could not tolerate contaminated water have returned to the Montour Run system, which remains on the DEP's impaired waterways list.

Source:

http://www.timesonline.com/bct_news/news_details/article/1373/2009/october/29/mine-drainage-treatment-facility-completed.html

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

31. *November 2, WPMT 43 Harrisburg* – (National) **Deadly week for H1N1; more vaccines on the way.** There are no signs the H1N1 virus is slowing down, as the vaccine continues to trickle in. Federal officials say delays in the production of the H1N1 vaccine should be diminishing as millions of more doses are being doled out over the next several weeks. "There's a gap between supply and demand, we do expect more doses in the next week or two. When I say more, we're projected 8 to 10 million more doses over the next couple of weeks," said the director of National Institute for Allergy and Infectious Diseases. This production increase comes at a good time. The CDC reports 19 children died of complications from the H1N1 virus just last week. That brings the total number of pediatric deaths to 114. Doctors say kids are the most at-risk because their bodies are not able to fight off the virus. At this point, doctors cannot predict how much longer the virus will cause problems. The good news is it has not mutated, meaning the vaccine appears to be the best way to stop it from spreading.
- Source: <http://www.fox43.com/news/wpmt-amnews-swinevaccinemoore,0,3371380.story>
32. *October 30, Health Day News* – (National) **Antibiotic resistance still a major public health threat.** The emergence of antibiotic-resistant bacteria continues to present a

major public health problem, said scientists gathering at one of the world's largest infectious diseases meetings Friday. Chief among the concerns are resistant gram-negative bacteria and bacteria that appears to be infecting younger and otherwise healthier people. The troubling trend is compounded by another concerning fact: a paucity of new antibiotics coming down the pipeline, they added. "Antibiotic development is dying, and we are running out of drugs. We have organisms that are already resistant to every antibiotic we can throw at them," said a member of the Infectious Diseases Society of America's (IDSA) Antimicrobial Availability Task Force and an assistant professor of medicine at UCLA. "What will be increasingly seen in the coming decade is a dramatic decline in the availability of new antibiotics, which are desperately needed." Antibiotic resistance, even to new drugs, has become such an issue with gram-negative bacteria that clinicians have had to reach back into the arsenal, resurrecting a drug that hadn't been used much in 20 years, polymyxin. But now pathogens are becoming resistant to that drug as well, analysis of lab samples at one New York City hospital showed.

Source: <http://health.usnews.com/articles/health/healthday/2009/10/30/antibiotic-resistance-still-a-major-public-health.html>

33. *October 30, KTKA 49 Topeka* – (Kansas) **Kansas Department on Aging investigating the disposal of medical records.** Kansas Department on Aging and the Kansas Attorney General's office is looking into Briarcliff Care Center for violations of the state regulations to safe guard residents records. The Topeka Police Department found documents thrown in the trash. A spokesperson for the Department of Aging said the AG's office was involved as well because of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, or HIPAA, violations. Managers of Briarcliff called into the Department on Aging's office to report themselves.

Source: http://www.ktk.com/news/2009/oct/30/kansas-department-aging-investigating-disposal-med/?topeka_news

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Government Facilities Sector

34. *November 2, Stars & Stripes* – (International) **Military lags in protecting officer IDs.** The military is playing catch-up on a year-old complaint that hundreds of thousands of officers' Social Security numbers have been floating around on the Internet. In an October 2008 letter to the Defense Department and the Federal Trade Commission, Public.Resource.org detailed its discovery of roughly 232,000 military officers' Social Security numbers in government and commercial databases, available to anyone with an Internet connection. The nonprofit group, devoted to making public records available online, found the numbers in the Congressional Record. Copies are available online and in print at libraries throughout the United States. The founder and president of Public.Resource.org, estimates that 500,000 officers' Social Security numbers were printed in the Congressional Record between 1971 — when the military began using them to identify troops — and 1996. Moreover, digitized versions of the federal publication have been available online for years. But his complaint, addressed

to the military Inspector General, did not reach the Defense Privacy Office until August. The office is now in the process of ensuring the numbers have been redacted, both online and in print.

Source: <http://www.military.com/news/article/military-lags-in-protecting-officer-ids.html?ESRC=topstories.RSS>

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Emergency Services Sector

35. *November 2, WFAA 8 Dallas-Fort Worth* – (Texas) **MedStar program seeks to curb non-emergency 911 calls.** Last year, MedStar took 21 habitual 911 emergency callers to the hospital a total of more than 800 times. With 127 calls in 2008, one patient's care came at a cost of nearly one million dollars. Now, MedStar is making house calls in an attempt to cut back on the non-emergency services. The agency has put together a team of paramedics that will deal with habitual callers with the hopes of freeing up paramedics to deal with more life threatening emergencies and saving taxpayers money. The MedStar program is called the Community Health Program. During weekly visits, paramedics check vital signs and make sure patients are taking their medications properly. There are seven patients actively enrolled. Their 911 calls have dropped 52 percent since the program started three months ago.

Source:

http://www.wfaa.com/sharedcontent/dws/wfaa/latestnews/stories/wfaa091101_mo_me_dstar.276438298.html

36. *November 1, WIVB 4 Buffalo* – (New York) **WNY prepares for when disaster strikes.** If a natural disaster hits Western New York ,emergency and military personnel believe they will be ready to help because of what is being called the largest joint disaster drill ever in the region. This week, 1300 National Guard troops and hundreds of local first responders will train together as part of an emergency response exercise called Vigilant Guard, which will simulated a regional earthquake. At the Air Reserve Station in Niagara Falls, National Guard troops have set up a fully functional field hospital, which includes among other things. The training will take place in several western New York communities.

Source:

http://www.wivb.com/dpp/news/local/WNY_prepares_for_when_disaster_strikes_2009_1101

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Information Technology Sector

37. *November 30, The Register* – (International) **DDoS attacks topple 40 Swedish sites.** Swedish authorities have few leads in their investigation of a massive denial-of-service attack on October 29 that downed about 40 websites belonging to police and media outlets. According to The Local, the attacks flooded media IT development firm

Adeprimo with some 400,000 requests per second, compared with the 800 requests that are typical. Sites that use Adeprimo's media platform were among the hardest hit. They included the main Gothenburg paper Goteborg-Posten, which was inaccessible from early morning to about noon on Thursday. A separate wave of attacks later on October 29 knocked the website for the Swedish police out of commission for a couple of hours. Investigators say both attacks were well executed and are most likely linked because the the amount of traffic was almost identical for each. They said the torrent appeared to originate in Asia, but of course, that says little about where the attackers may have been located.

Source: http://www.theregister.co.uk/2009/10/30/swedish_ddos_attacks/

38. *November 2, IDG News Service* – (International) **Microsoft: Worms are most prevalent security problem.** The Conficker worm continues to be one of the most prevalent threats facing PCs running Windows, according to a new security report published by Microsoft. For the first six months of the year, Microsoft found that more than 5 million computers were infected with Conficker, according to its latest Security Intelligence Report. Conficker spreads either by exploiting a vulnerability in the Microsoft Windows Server service, through infected removable media or brute-forcing weak passwords on other PCs. Conficker alarmed Microsoft so much when it appeared that Microsoft issued an emergency patch in October 2008 for the software vulnerability that allowed it to spread rapidly. The worm is still circulating, mainly in enterprises, said the general manager of the Microsoft Malware Protection Center. Due to its password-cracking ability, if Conficker gets on one PC in a company, it can often then rapidly spread. Microsoft collects data on infections from its free security products such as Windows Defender, the Malicious Software Removal Tool (MSRT), Security Essentials as well as ones the company sells. Another worm — called Taterf — took the number two spot for the most infections at 4.9 million. Taterf steals authentication and account information for massively multiplayer online games such as World of Warcraft and Lineage, among others, and spreads through infected drives such as a USB stick or an infected network drive. Microsoft did see a decline of machines infected with Zlob, a notorious Trojan horse that spread by tricking people into believing it was actually a media codec, which is software used to encode and decode audio or video.

Source: <http://www.networkworld.com/news/2009/110209-microsoft-worms-are-most-prevalent.html?hpg1=bn>

39. *October 29, Online Defense and Acquisition Journal* – (National) **DHS to announce cyber merger.** In what could mark a major improvement to the nation's ability to defend itself against cyber threats, the Department of Homeland Security will announce Friday that the U.S. Computer Emergency Readiness Team (CERT) will merge with the National Coordinating Center for Telecommunications (NCC). The two groups — now separated by two floors — will now be co-located and will operate jointly. It's an interesting pairing, putting the public-private CERT together with the NCC, an interagency group of 22 Federal departments and agencies first created by a U.S. President in the aftermath of the Cuban Missile Crisis. The pending merger was discussed October 29 at a conference on cyber issues at the National Defense

University. One expert at the conference expressed concern that centralizing the functions of the two groups might work against their effectiveness given the widely distributed nature of the Internet. “The primary issue this affects is in response. The military itself is commanded hierarchically but distributes capability among different commands. Unifying the agencies can help with funding but slow response and dilute capability,” said an associate professor at the Calumet campus of Purdue University. Source: <http://www.dodbuzz.com/2009/10/29/dhs-to-announce-cyber-merger/>

For another story, see item [40](#)

Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at sos@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

Nothing to report

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Commercial Facilities Sector

40. *November 2, ComputerWorld* – (National) **Swine flu emergency should put IT on alert.** Though the H1N1 flu has been declared a national emergency by the U.S. President experts say that many companies remain ill-prepared for its potential consequences, which could include employee absentee rates of 40% or more. While October’s emergency declaration is targeted mostly at helping health care providers and government agencies bypass regulatory requirements to provide critical care, experts say it should also be a red flag for the IT and business communities. “Organizations probably have not allocated enough resources for virtual private networks nor tested VPNs for the fact that 80% of their staff could be working from home,” said executive director of DRI International, a training institute that focuses on helping businesses prepare for emergencies. “We ran some tests with companies, and they ran out of TCP/IP addresses in five minutes.”

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/344960/Swine_Flu_Emergency_Should_Put_IT_on_Alert

41. *October 31, KSLA 12 Shreveport* – (Louisiana) **Storm damages Shreveport Convention Center.** Storm damage to the Shreveport Convention Center could approach a quarter of a million dollars according to some estimates. From a distance

the convention center appeared to have escaped the wrath of Thursday's severe weather. But a closer look reveals the full extent of the damage. Shattered glass covered the front end of the convention center, with at least 62-glass panels broken. The structure also suffered a hole punctured into the limestone facade on the west wall of the convention center, along with a broken security gate below the hole. During the storm, personnel on the second floor had quickly gone into a central room for safety. Fierce winds peeled back, and in some cases threw off, some of the metal corner seals on the rooftop and flipped over large air vents. Inspection crews even found a tree limb responsible for at least one of the punctures to the roof.

Source: <http://www.ksla.com/Global/story.asp?S=11417697>

42. *October 30, WESH 2 Orlando* – (Florida) **Police: Man Concealed Weapon At Downtown Disney.** The Orange County Sheriff's Office said a man was arrested Thursday night, charged with carrying a concealed weapon at downtown Disney without a permit. According to a police report, a witness saw the 24-year-old man conceal a gun in his waistband in a downtown Disney restroom and reported it to a Disney security guard. The report said that when deputies confronted the man, he pulled away and that a loaded 9 mm Glock fell out of his pants while deputies attempted to secure him. The report also said the deputies saw the man flash gang signs. The man was also charged with resisting arrest without violence. Police said the gun was reported lost or stolen last summer.

Source: <http://www.wesh.com/news/21478462/detail.html>

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

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National Monuments and Icons Sector

43. *October 31, Associated Press* – (New York) **Arrest made in fire at 9/11 victims chapel.** A man was arrested Saturday on suspicion of setting a small fire at the temporary home for the remains of thousands of World Trade Center victims, police said. Police announced the arrest nearly 12 hours after the fire, which was set following a break-in. Charges against the 26-year-old were pending, police said. The smoldering flames in a section of the facility's chapel on Manhattan's East Side were quickly extinguished. Firefighters got a call at about 9 a.m. to respond to Memorial Park, a weatherproof tent on Manhattan's East Side where the city is storing the remains of 9/11 victims who have yet to be identified. The fire damaged a wooden bench, while mementos — pictures, notes, flowers — honoring the dead disappeared. Authorities were unsure whether the mementos had been stolen or burned, "but little remains inside the chapel," a spokesman said, adding that the structure showed some smoke damage. Fire marshals and police were investigating.

Source: http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/33568716/ns/us_news-crime_and_courts/

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Dams Sector

44. *November 2, Reuters* – (International) **Landslide risk rises near Three Gorges Dam: report.** China's vast Three Gorges reservoir will see a increasing number of landslides and other geological hazards as the water reaches its maximum level this autumn, a magazine report warned on Monday. The Three Gorges Dam, the world's largest, aims to tame the mighty River Yangtze and provide cheap, clean energy. Reservoir engineers began withholding outflows last September to push the dam's water level up to 175 meters (574 ft) above sea level. "More slumping and landslides will happen in the next three years, and the higher the water level in the reservoir is, the greater the risks will be," said a report by Caijing magazine. It cited a research paper by the Chongqing Political Consultative Conference, an advisory body in the region. The Caijing report also said that due to the rising water level in the reservoir, some old landslide fissures are reviving and could become active and move again. On Monday, an earthquake measuring 5 on the Richter scale shook southwest Yunnan Province, injuring 28 people and causing more than 1,000 homes to collapse, the official Xinhua News Agency said.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/GCA-GreenBusiness/idUSTRE5A11C520091102?rpc=401&>

45. *November 2, Everett Herald* – (Washington) **County dams sound, federal inspectors say.** There are dozens of dams in Snohomish County, Washington, including one bigger than King County's Howard Hanson Dam. The dams are safe, experts say, and are not designed to prevent flooding like the weakened Howard Hanson, the dam that is threatening the Green River Valley. Dams upriver here range from 9-footers on tributary creeks to the massive Culmback Dam on the Sultan River. The 270-foot-tall Culmback, bigger than the Howard Hanson, holds more than 160,000 acre feet of water behind it in Spada Lake. The dam provides electricity and drinking water for Snohomish County PUD and the city of Everett. "Prior to construction, the project underwent an elaborate design process to ensure it was structurally sound," said a PUD spokesman. Federal regulators inspect the dam each year and have found no problems, he said. Another large dam — on the Tolt River in King County — flows into the Snohomish River watershed via the Snoqualmie River. Seattle Public Utilities operates the 200-foot-tall structure to manage drinking water and to produce a small amount of electricity. There are three smaller dams in Snohomish County in need of repair, said a spokesman for the state Department of Ecology. If any of the small dams fail, the likely damage would be flooded basements or some other type of property damage. A county study of worst-case scenarios found that it would take a shallow 7.5-magnitude earthquake to cause widespread dam failure here.

Source: <http://heraldnet.com/article/20091102/NEWS01/711029919>

46. *November 1, Associated Press* – (Louisiana) **Officials fear Red Chute levee breach possible.** Officials urged residents near the Red Chute Bayou levee in Bossier City to leave their homes Sunday as water continued to spill over the top of the levee and a breach seemed possible. Emergency officials worked Saturday and Sunday to fortify weak spots in the bayou fed by the Flat River, but witnesses said water was topping the

levee and sandbags in places. Officials asked residents in several northeast Bossier City neighborhoods to consider leaving their homes because of a threat the levee could breach. Authorities opened a shelter at a nearby school. Residents reported water in homes in some areas. The Caddo-Bossier Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness said more than 1,600 homes and 4,200 residents were in the potential flood area and they feared some people were not taking the threat seriously. If there is a breach in the levee, the water will flood the area quickly and people would then be trapped, authorities said. Red Chute's waters began spilling over the levee early Saturday and continued into Sunday. One emergency official said the potential flood could be worse than the area's previous floods of 2001 and 1991. In some areas, Red Chute was coming over the levee and sandbags at a steady flow, but the levee itself had not broken. Officials hoped the bayou's level would crest sometime Sunday. Officials were reaching out to residents with special needs and taking people to the old Parkway High School for shelter.

Source: <http://www.dailycomet.com/article/20091101/APN/911011437>

47. *October 31, Associated Press* – (Nebraska) **Water released from Neb. dam after hole found.** Water is being released from the reservoir at Red Willow Dam north of McCook, Nebraska, so engineers can examine a small hole in the earthen levee. A spokesman of the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation said Saturday that crews were inspecting the dam at Hugh Butler Lake and water was being released periodically. He said once the inspection is complete, engineers can determine what repairs are needed. Red Willow Dam is 126 feet tall, and it forms a reservoir that can hold 86,630 acre-feet of water. Maintenance workers discovered the hole the week of October 19.

Source: http://www.kotatv.com/Global/story.asp?S=11420002&nav=menu411_2

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