



Homeland Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 17 November 2009

Current Nationwide Threat Level

ELEVATED



Significant Risk of Terrorist Attacks

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

Top Stories

- The Associated Press reports that a late-night explosion shook an electric arc furnace at the Beta Steel Corp.'s northern Indiana hot-strip rolling mill, blowing out the side of the furnace and injured eight workers, six of whom required medical care. (See item [11](#))
- According to the Associated Press, federal health regulators have found tiny particles of trash, including bits of steel, rubber and fiber, in drugs made by Genzyme, the second time this year the biotechnology company has been cited for contamination issues. (See item [32](#))

Fast Jump Menu

PRODUCTION INDUSTRIES

- [Energy](#)
- [Chemical](#)
- [Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste](#)
- [Critical Manufacturing](#)
- [Defense Industrial Base](#)
- [Dams Sector](#)

SUSTENANCE AND HEALTH

- [Agriculture and Food](#)
- [Water Sector](#)
- [Public Health and Healthcare](#)

SERVICE INDUSTRIES

- [Banking and Finance](#)
- [Transportation](#)
- [Postal and Shipping](#)
- [Information and Technology](#)
- [Communications](#)
- [Commercial Facilities](#)

FEDERAL AND STATE

- [Government Facilities](#)
- [Emergency Services](#)
- [National Monuments and Icons](#)

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. *November 15, Virginian-Pilot* – (National) **Dominion customers without power down to less than 3,000.** Less than 3,000 residents in the region remain without electrical power this afternoon from the nor'easter that whipped through the region. About 270,000 Dominion Virginia Power customers between Williamsburg and Nags Head, North Carolina, lost power, most during the peak of the storm the evening of November 12. By comparison, about 615,000 of Dominion's customers in the region — or about

95 percent — were without electricity as a result of Hurricane Isabel in 2003. Dominion's vice president of reliability said he expected to restore service to most affected customers — other than those with unique circumstances — by the evening of November 15. "We may see a few pockets where we can't get in without access." The number of residents without power was down to about 11,000 the morning of November 15, and dropped by about 8,000 throughout the course of the day. The challenge with this storm has been the flooding, which prevented crews from reaching some areas, such as Ocean View in Norfolk, he said. Cox Communications Inc. had widespread outages among its customers, mostly resulting from the loss of electricity, but company officials did not provide numbers. Repair crews prioritize outages involving power lines that serve hospitals, water pumping stations, police and fire departments and other emergency facilities.

Source: <http://www.istockanalyst.com/article/viewiStockNews/articleid/3636859>

2. *November 15, Zanesville Times Recorder* – (Ohio) **Gas leak forces temporary evacuation.** Residents within a half mile of the 7000 block of Irish Ridge Road in Harris Township, Ohio were forced to evacuate because of a gas leak near the compressor station. A Rockies Express pipeline spokesman said the cause of the leak had not been determined as of November 14. The \$6.6 billion, 1,679-mile pipeline, which is a partnership between Kinder Morgan, Conoco-Phillips and Sempra Energy, stretches from Colorado to eastern Ohio. November 12 was the first day gas was being pumped through the high-pressure line. "Our gas controls automatically shut down the line and segregated a segment of the line," he said. The leak occurred about half mile east of the compressor station, he said. One of the final pieces to the local part of the project was the compressor station, which is known as the Chandlersville station, which is just west of Philo. He said no one from the company was working in that area at the time and no injuries were reported due to the leak. Crews from the company were on scene November 14 to try to determine the cause and fix the problem. Fore said the pipeline has safety measures in place and the line is monitored at all times. All the safety protocols went into effect as they should have, he said. Residents, including some of those who were evacuated, milled around the Harrison Township Volunteer Fire Department and Harrison Township EMS, which were set up as emergency shelters. They were able to return to their homes around 12:45 p.m. The fire department and other agencies responded and handled the evacuation, blocked off roads such as Duncan Run Road, and set up shelters.

Source:

<http://www.zanesvilletimesrecorder.com/article/20091115/NEWS01/911150304>

3. *November 14, WTOV 9 Steubenville* – (West Virginia) **Worker suffers minor injuries during explosion.** An explosion led to a fire in Marshall County gas plant the morning of November 14. It happened at about 8 a.m. at the Adaline Compressor Station, south of Cameron, West Virginia. According to the Marshall County Emergency Management director, one worker suffered minor injuries and was treated and released at the scene. It is believed only one person was working at the plant at the time. He said that the explosion and fire was contained to one building at the facility and that there is significant damage. People staying at a nearby campground reported hearing an

explosion, then their homes shaking, then seeing flames. One person said that a few things in their trailer were knocked down by the explosion. What caused the explosion is not known. Columbia Gas, which owns the plant, is at the scene investigating. No evacuations were ordered because of the explosion.

Source: <http://www.wtov9.com/news/21615788/detail.html>

4. *November 14, Parsippany Daily Record* – (New Jersey) **Debris knocks out power in Morristown.** Morristown was left in the dark for more than two hours the afternoon of November 13 when some 12,000 homes and businesses lost electricity after a power line was knocked out by a wind-blown canopy shortly after noon. A Jersey Central Power and Light spokesman said a 230,000-volt transmission line at the utility's Ridgedale Avenue substation was struck by a flying, aluminum-legged carport that was blown from a neighbor's property by strong winds. "The carport was essentially picked up by the wind and thrown into the high-voltage wires," he said. According to the spokesman, there were no explosions preceding the outage, although people in the area described a loud 'boom' and felt the ground shake just before the lights went out. Power was restored to 8,000 customers by 2:15 p.m. and the remaining 4,000 homes and businesses by 2:30 p.m. For the 120 to 150 minutes that the lights were out, many Morristown businesses were forced to shut.

Source:

<http://www.dailyrecord.com/article/20091114/COMMUNITIES/311140001/1005/NEWS01/Debris-knocks-out-power-in-Morristown>

5. *November 13, Reuters* – (Utah) **Utah refinery shuts at U.S. safety board request.** Silver Eagle Refining agreed to shut down its 10,250 barrel per day (bpd) Woods Cross, Utah, refinery on November 13 at the request of the U.S. Chemical Safety Board (CSB) and Utah's state Occupational Safety and Health Administration, the company said in a statement. CSB investigators found widespread safety problems at the refinery as part of a probe of a November 4 explosion at the plant, the board chairman said in a statement. The explosion knocked out power to other area refineries and damaged dozens of nearby homes, pushing several off their foundations, leading to widespread criticism of Silver Eagle. "Over the past several days, the CSB team has developed a number of serious concerns about the integrity of the piping and equipment at various locations in the plant," he said. "These concerns include a lack of required documentation and a lack of needed calculations of the fitness for service of various pieces of equipment." CSB investigators earlier had announced they had found that the November 4 blast was an explosion of hydrogen gas released when a 10-inch pipe burst. The pipe "showed evidence of significant thinning which had not been detected by the refinery's mechanical integrity program," he said. The refinery had shut some of its units following the explosion. The other units will be shut "in an orderly and safe fashion," the company said. The refinery will restart after repairs and safety inspections are completed.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/GCA-Oil/idUSTRE5AD09G20091114>

Chemical Industry Sector

6. *November 15, Star Beacon* – (Ohio) **Chemical leak causes cloud of gas.** Firefighters blocked State Road between Route 20 and Middle Road Saturday afternoon after a chemical release sent a cloud of gas south from the Millennium Inorganic Chemicals Cristal Company plant at State Road and Middle Road. A large amount of titanium tetrachloride was released into the atmosphere after a hole developed in a reboiler at the plant causing the leak around 2:49, according to an Ashtabula Township Fire Department report. The Ashtabula Township Fire Department Chief said an engine is sent to the site immediately following a leak to determine a course of action. He said firefighters decided to block traffic because the white cloud was settled over the road and other residential areas between Middle Road and downtown Ashtabula but the road was blocked for only a short period of time. The chemical is used as a white pigment in everything from powdered doughnuts to paint, a fire department lieutenant said. He said it is perfectly safe when the manufacturing process is complete but in its gaseous state it is a concern. The lack of wind kept the cloud hovering over the area for a while Saturday afternoon. The warm weather helped push the cloud south toward Route 84 and downtown Ashtabula.

Source: http://www.starbeacon.com/local/local_story_319010302.html

For another story, see item [10](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector

7. *November 15, Citrus Daily* – (Florida; Maryland) **Gap in Crystal River nuclear plant containment prompts NRC, PE meeting.** The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has scheduled a public meeting for Friday, November 20, with Progress Energy to discuss the recently identified gap in the concrete containment at the Crystal River nuclear power plant. The meeting is scheduled to be held from 9 a.m. to noon in the Commissioners' Conference Room at the NRC's headquarters office, 11555 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland. Progress Energy, which operates the plant, requested the meeting to give the NRC a status report on the company's efforts to evaluate the possible causes and extent of the gap, as well as the company's future activities. The gap was discovered after the plant had been shut down for a planned refueling outage, which included replacing the steam generators inside containment. Workers found the half-inch separation in the concrete about 9 inches from the outer surface of the 42-inch thick containment wall. The gap is located near the area where a hole was cut in the concrete to move the large steam generators out of and into the containment building. Source: <http://www.citrusdaily.com/local-news/gap-crystal-river-nuclear-power-plant-containment-prompts-public-hearing/2009/11/15/16487>
8. *November 13, Reuters* – (Michigan) **DTE Mich. Fermi 2 reactor up to 95 pct.** DTE Energy Co.'s 1,122-megawatt Unit 2 at the Fermi power station in Michigan ramped up to 95 percent power by early November 13 from 25 percent by early Thursday after

exiting an outage, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission said in a report. The unit shut on September 30 due to hydrogen leakage in the generator. Hydrogen is used for cooling.

Source:

<http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssIndustryMaterialsUtilitiesNews/idUSN1345550520091113>

9. *November 12, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission* – (New York) **NRC to increase oversight at Ginna nuclear power plant.** The R.E. Ginna nuclear power plant will receive additional oversight from the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) based on NRC inspection findings involving the performance of the turbine-driven auxiliary feedwater pump. Ginna is operated by Constellation Energy, LLC, and located in Ontario, New York. The auxiliary feedwater system is a back-up system that, in the event of an accident, is one of multiple methods designed to remove heat from the reactor when it is shut down. In an inspection report issued today, an NRC Special Inspection Team sent to the plant to look into multiple failures of the turbine driven auxiliary feedwater pump found that Ginna had identified corrosion of a pump component in 2005, but did not take adequate corrective action to prevent the recurrence of corrosion. This finding was assessed as “white,” or of low to moderate safety significance. Taken together with a “white” finding for a December 2008 pump problem, the plant moved into the “degraded cornerstone” column of the NRC’s Action Matrix which calls for the plant to have a supplemental NRC inspection.

Source: <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/news/2009/09-045.i.html>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Critical Manufacturing Sector

10. *November 16, Huntington Herald Dispatch* – (Kentucky) **Sulfuric acid leak injures workers, reports say.** A significant chemical spill occurred overnight at the Special Metals plant in Burnaugh, Kentucky. Boyd County 911 confirmed the spill occurred just after midnight. Dispatchers said emergency responders had cleared the scene by 6:50 a.m. Monday, but dispatchers declined comment when asked about any threat to the public at large. Multiple broadcast reports indicate the spill involved sulfuric acid. Those reports said 15 workers were injured, at least four of whom were transported to King’s Daughters Medical Center. One broadcast report indicates the spill was contained to the plant. A Boyd County 911 dispatcher confirmed hearing reports of 15 injured, but declined further comment.

Source: <http://www.herald-dispatch.com/news/briefs/x165322042/Sulfuric-acid-leak-injures-workers-reports-say>

11. *November 15, Associated Press* – (Indiana) **8 injured in explosion at Beta Steel mill in Ind.** A late-night explosion that shook Beta Steel Corp.’s northern Indiana hot-strip rolling mill injured eight workers, six of whom required medical care. The Portage Fire Chief said on November 15 that two of the six workers hospitalized after Saturday night’s blast suffered the worst injuries. He did not know the names or conditions of the

workers but said none of them had life-threatening injuries. Their injuries ranged from burns to back injuries. Two of the workers shaken by the blast declined medical treatment. He says an explosion shook an electric arc furnace at the mill about 10:20 p.m. Saturday, blowing out the side of the furnace. Fire crews put out spot fires in a few minutes. Beta Steel produces hot-rolled coil for steel service centers and tube and pipe manufacturers.

Source: <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/chi-ap-in-betasteel-explosi,0,7736953.story>

12. *November 14, Reliable Plant* – (New York) **Scotia Bag Plant facing \$509,000 OSHA fine for violations.** Cranesville Aggregate Company, doing business as Scotia Bag Plant, Scotia, New York, faces a total of \$509,000 in proposed fines from the U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA). The plant, which bags cement and asphalt, has been cited for 33 alleged willful, repeat and serious violations of workplace safety and health standards following comprehensive OSHA inspections over the past six months. OSHA found that plant employees who bagged cement were exposed to excess levels of cement dust without adequate ventilation, respiratory protection, personal protective equipment, and training. In addition, the plant did not evaluate and identify respiratory hazards, train forklift operators, or prevent an employee from working under a suspended load. As a result, OSHA has issued the plant six willful citations, with \$375,000 in fines. OSHA defines a willful violation as one committed with plain indifference to or intentional disregard for employee safety and health. Seven repeat citations, with \$75,000 in fines, have been issued for conditions similar to those cited in earlier OSHA inspections of Cranesville facilities in Kingston, Glens Falls and Fishkill, New York. These included an unsanitary workplace, unlabeled containers of hazardous chemicals, and fall and electrical hazards. Twenty serious citations, with \$59,000 in fines, have been issued for ineffective respirator training, a lack of personal protective equipment, a lack of emergency eyewashes, obstructed exits, unguarded machinery, and additional forklift and electrical hazards. OSHA issues serious citations when death or serious physical harm is likely to result from hazards about which the employer knew or should have known.

Source:

[http://www.reliableplant.com/article.aspx?articleid=21236&pagetitle=Scotia+Bag+Plant+facing+\\$509,000+OSHA+fine+for+violations](http://www.reliableplant.com/article.aspx?articleid=21236&pagetitle=Scotia+Bag+Plant+facing+$509,000+OSHA+fine+for+violations)

13. *November 13, Aero-News Network* – (National) **NTSB recommends grounding after another fatal Zodiac crash.** As previously noted on ANN, another Zodiac CH-601 series (the subject of an National Transportation and Safety Board (NTSB) grounding recommendation to the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) seven months ago, until a flight control problem could be corrected), was involved in another fatal accident last week. On November 6, 2009, a Zodiac CH-601XL, an experimental amateur-built airplane, was destroyed as a result of an in-flight breakup near Agnos, Arkansas, killing the pilot — who was the sole occupant. In April 2009, the NTSB called on the FAA to ground the Zodiac CH-601XL after the Safety Board linked six accidents involving that aircraft model to aerodynamic flutter, a phenomenon in which the control surfaces and

wings of the airplane can suddenly oscillate and lead to catastrophic structural failure. Those accidents killed a total of ten people. Preliminary investigation of the November 6 accident in Arkansas reveals a failure mode similar to that seen in the earlier crashes. The Safety Board's urgent recommendation to the FAA was to "prohibit further flight of the Zodiac CH-601XL, both special light sport aircraft and experimental, until such time that the FAA determines that the CH-601XL has adequate protection from flutter." Source: <http://www.aero-news.net/index.cfm?ContentBlockID=89f7e0ee-8468-4ec7-9944-6cfdba1cd110>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Defense Industrial Base Sector

14. *November 13, The Register* – (National) **F-22 Raptor stealth coatings are crap' case goes to court.** A former Lockheed stealth-tech engineer has alleged that radar-invisibility coatings on the USA's F-22 "Raptor" ultrasuperfighter are "defective", and that Lockheed supplied them knowing that this was the case. It has now been confirmed that the whistleblower's lawsuit will be heard in federal court. The suit was actually filed in California in 2007, and was unsealed earlier this year. Now AP reports that the suit will be handled by federal lawyers in Atlanta, near Lockheed's Marietta plant at which the Raptor is assembled. The Raptor is universally considered to be far and away the most capable air-to-air fighter jet in the world, and also the most advanced example of stealth technology yet built. It is also the world's most expensive fighter, with each one projected to have cost the US taxpayer well more than \$300 million once the planned 187-strong fleet has been delivered. The engineer says that between 1995 and 1999, he witnessed Lockheed knowingly use on Raptors "coatings that Lockheed knew were defective". He contends that he was "one of the top... low observables engineers in the stealth technology industry", having worked on the original F-117 stealth fighter and at Northrop on the B-2 stealth bomber before joining the F-22 team. When he tried to raise the matter with company management, he was told to "stay out of it". Source: http://www.theregister.co.uk/2009/11/13/olsen_raptor_case_gets_to_court/
15. *November 13, Aviation Week* – (International) **A400M enters final preflight test phase.** In the run-up for its planned first flight early next month, the A400M prototype has been handed by Airbus Military to the flight-test organization to initiate the required ground trials. The milestone sets off a series of test events to ensure flight instruments are working correctly, the TP400 turboprops are ready, and the engine/aircraft interface poses no concerns. The next few weeks will see engine run-ups, then taxi tests, beginning with low-speed tests reaching a maximum 60 knots, and rejected takeoff brake tests at 120 knots. Airbus Military notes each of the tests will be followed by close analysis from flight-test engineers before the ground test program advances. During this phase, telemetry equipment to be used during flight-tests also will undergo final checks. The A400M program is running about three years behind schedule. The full authority digital engine control software, which was among the pacing items in recent months for flight, is now delivered. Meanwhile, industry officials remain in talks with government customers about changes to the fixed-price

development contract. Those talks also are supposed to come to a conclusion by around year's end, although the pace of discussions has slowed and a new contract is now not expected until at least next year.

Source:

[http://www.aviationweek.com/aw/generic/story.jsp?id=news/ATEST111309.xml&headline=A400M Enters Final Preflight Test Phase&channel=defense](http://www.aviationweek.com/aw/generic/story.jsp?id=news/ATEST111309.xml&headline=A400M+Enters+Final+Preflight+Test+Phase&channel=defense)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Banking and Finance Sector

16. *November 14, Sierra Vista Herald* – (Arizona) **Goddard warns of ‘phishing’ scam targeting credit union customers.** The Arizona attorney general warned consumers about a “phishing” scam purported to be from Credit Union West, a Glendale-based financial institution, requesting personal information. Verizon, Sprint and T-Mobile customers have received text messages stating that their Credit Union West account has been suspended because of unusual activity. The text messages provide a phone number for the customers to call to get their account back in good standing. Cox Communication customers have also received voice-mails with similar messages. This is a scam, as Credit Union West does not ask for confidential information through text message or e-mail.

Source: <http://www.svherald.com/content/news/2009/11/14/goddard-warns-phishing-scam-targeting-credit-union-customers>

17. *November 14, ProPublica* – (National) **Regulators seize another recipient of TARP ‘healthy bank’ bailout.** Regulators seized three banks on November 13, bringing the toll of failed banks for the year to 123. One of the banks closed on November 13 was a TARP recipient: Pacific Coast National Bank of San Clemente, California, received \$4.1 million in taxpayer funds in January. That investment, made through the Treasury Department’s program to invest in “healthy banks,” will be wiped out. The FDIC struck a deal with Sunwest Bank of Tustin, California, to assume Pacific Coast’s deposits and assets. Pacific Coast had only two branches. The failure will cost the FDIC \$27.4 million. The other two banks seized were in Florida. The failure of Orion Bank of Naples, a community bank with 23 branches, will cost the FDIC \$615 million. Century Bank of Sarasota will cost the FDIC \$344 million. IberiaBank of Louisiana assumed all the deposits and part of the assets of each.

Source: <http://www.propublica.org/ion/bailout/item/regulators-seize-another-recipient-of-TARP-804>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Transportation Sector

18. *November 16, Associated Press* – (International) **Dozens missing, 8 dead as Myanmar ferry sinks.** A ferry carrying nearly 200 passengers sank after colliding with an oil barge in a river in Myanmar, killing at least eight and leaving more than three dozen

missing, officials said Monday. The motorized ferry “Nay Win Tun” carrying 176 people sank in the Ngawun River after the collision, 84 miles west of Yangon. The officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to release information, said the accident in the Irrawaddy Delta occurred around 8 p.m. Sunday, and most of the passengers were farmers.

Source: http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/33961857/ns/world_news-asiapacific/

19. *November 16, New York Post* – (National) **Feds ride rails to stop bombers in their tracks.** Federal officers equipped with nuclear and biological-weapons detectors have begun to ride the nation’s rail system, including Amtrak, to prevent terrorists from hauling dirty bombs and other explosives to big-city targets, The Post has learned. The Department of Homeland Security, working with the FBI, has been quietly rolling out handheld radiological devices to specially trained Transportation Security Administration agents who are randomly fanning out aboard trains and buses and at transit hubs. “The nuclear, biological, chemical issue is now the most concerning and feared because of its mass-casualty possibilities,” said a top federal official familiar with the initiative. “This expands our capabilities to detect weapons of mass destruction, and it shows the direction we are heading nationally.” The small portable instruments detect radiological and biological particles emitted from materials that may be transported in baggage or personal belongings. The new devices are similar to models carried by the New York Police Department, which has been building a nuclear and biological detection apparatus to protect streets, bridges, subways and tunnels.

Source:

http://www.nypost.com/p/news/local/feds_ride_rails_to_stop_bombers_9xkvJztFSHEC0e234R8eWM

20. *November 16, Washington Post* – (National) **Federal oversight of Metro’s transit system proposed.** In response to a growing number of collisions, derailments and worker fatalities on Metro’s transit system, the current administration will propose that the federal government take over safety regulations for the nation’s subway and light-rail systems, the Washington Post reports. Under the proposal, the U.S. Department of Transportation would set and enforce federal regulations to ensure that millions of passengers get to their destinations safely. Administration officials said the plan will be presented in coming weeks to Congress. According to a law passed in 1965, the federal government is prohibited from regulating the nation’s subways. But, the administration plans to change that rule. In the wake of the District of Columbia (D.C.) Metro’s June 22 fatal crash, a D.C. Councilman says he welcomes the additional oversight. The new plan would requirement the U.S. Department of Transportation to keep track of safety certification programs, similar to standards already in place for airlines and Amtrak.

Source: <http://www.wjla.com/news/stories/1109/678558.html>

21. *November 15, Denver Post* – (National) **Bird strike in engine forces Denver-bound jet to return to Kansas City.** A Frontier Airlines plane headed to Denver on Saturday night had to make an emergency landing in Kansas City after at least one of its engines was damaged when the aircraft struck a flock of birds. There were no reported injuries to the more than 120 people on board the plane after it landed at Kansas City

International Airport, according to a Frontier spokesman. A Frontier spokesman said the Airbus 319 was damaged shortly after taking off from Kansas City at 6 p.m. He said he did not know what kind of birds the plane hit. "The report said the No. 2 engine was damaged," he said, adding that the twin-engine jet still had power as the aircraft landed. An airport dispatcher said the plane landed safely and taxied on the runway under its own power. A passenger told 9News that she saw flames and smelled a horrible odor. She described terrified passengers who were weeping. The spokesman could not confirm the report of fire, but said it would not be uncommon to see a burst of flames when a bird collides with a jet engine.

Source: http://www.denverpost.com/news/ci_13792733

22. *November 15, Contra Costa Times* – (California) **More Bay Bridge lanes being shut down for safety.** More lanes will be closed on the Bay Bridge in the middle of the day in an attempt to slow down drivers on the S-curve. Caltrans already has been closing one westbound lane midday Mondays through Fridays, allowing crews to inspect a cracked eyebar on the east span of the bridge. On Friday, Caltrans started closing one lane on the eastbound lower deck between 12:30 and 2 p.m. Both closures will continue on weekdays indefinitely from the center anchorage of the west span to just east of the S-curve, which is east of Yerba Buena Island. The reason for the latest closure is to slow drivers on the S-curve, where more than 40 accidents had been reported before Monday, when a truck driver plunged off the bridge to his death, said a Caltrans spokesman.

Source: http://www.thereporter.com/news/ci_13793720

23. *November 15, Newsday* – (New York) **Kennedy Airport terminal closed after security lapse.** Terminal 5 at Kennedy Airport ground to a halt for more than 80 minutes Sunday after a passenger was improperly screened at a security checkpoint, Port Authority and federal Transportation Security Administration (TSA) officials said. The passenger, who was not identified by officials, was not adequately screened before passing through security about 11:20 a.m., a TSA spokeswoman said. Security workers had to stop screening passengers so the passenger could be located and pass through security again, the spokeswoman said. Terminal 5 was operating on schedule again by 12:42 p.m., the spokeswoman said.

Source: <http://www.newsday.com/news/new-york/kennedy-airport-terminal-closed-after-security-lapse-1.1591520>

24. *November 14, Aviation Web* – (National) **Northwest flight 188 fallout brings changes to FAA.** The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Administrator said in a news conference Friday that the FAA had not contacted North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD) soon enough regarding wayward Northwest Flight 188 - he also said things would change. Flight 188 last month went silent and overshot Minneapolis St. Paul International Airport by 150 miles, but the FAA did not notify other agencies about the loss of radio contact until one hour and nine minutes after last contact. In a news release, the FAA announced it "has taken steps to ensure more accurate preliminary information about air traffic events can be provided to top officials more quickly." As part of that push, the FAA will be updating its training and procedures for

how controllers handle aircraft that have gone NORDO, short for no-radio. The FAA says new incident notification procedures will be adopted by the end of the month and it will review changes to training and procedures by the end of January, 2010. The agency noted specific goals. Changes target three areas. First, it aims to ensure that air traffic controllers are armed with the knowledge, ability and tools to identify those aircraft that are in communication with Air Traffic Control and when those communications have been interrupted. Second, it aims to ensure that coordination with other agencies regarding loss of communications is handled effectively and accurately. Third, the FAA aims to improve the accuracy of its preliminary investigations and the timely dissemination of information, internally.

Source:

http://www.avweb.com/avwebflash/news/northwest_flight_188_change_faa_procedures_201531-1.html

25. *November 13, WLKY 32 Louisville* – (Kentucky) **FAA: 7 Laser incidents reported in Louisville in 2009.** The Federal Aviation Authority (FAA) provided more information about the number of incidents in which people aimed laser pointers at aircraft in Louisville. The FAA said Friday that the FBI terrorism task force is investigating seven incidents in all. WLKY first found out this was happening in the Louisville area when the WLKY NewsChopper was targeted Thursday, along with the chopper for WHAS, as they hovered over the mass flu clinic at Papa John's Cardinal Stadium. The other five incidents include three UPS planes, one FedEx plane and one passenger flight as it landed at Louisville International Airport. Aiming a laser pointer at aircraft can cause pilots temporary flash blindness.

Source: <http://www.wlky.com/news/21610776/detail.html>

26. *November 13, WFSB 3 Hartford* – (Connecticut) **Police investigate bomb threat at Bradley.** Connecticut State Police were at Bradley International Airport to investigate a bomb threat. Police said that Bradley Airport received a bomb threat over the phone at 12:30 p.m Friday afternoon. State police, Airport Security, TSA and the FBI were all notified. Officials said two parking garages at the airport was shut down during the investigation. Police said that the airport is still open and fully functional and no evacuations were ordered. Police are still investigating.

Source: <http://www.wfsb.com/news/21608405/detail.html>

For more stories, see items [2](#), [6](#), and [13](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Postal and Shipping Sector

Nothing to report

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Agriculture and Food Sector

27. *November 16, BBC* – (International) **Tuna body shies from fishing ban.** The body responsible for managing Atlantic bluefin tuna has decided not to suspend the fishery in response to concerns over dwindling stocks. The International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (Iccat) instead decided to lower the annual catch quota by about one third. Conservation groups said the decision would encourage illegal fishing. Iccat scientists said recently that bluefin numbers were at about 15% of pre-industrial-fishing levels. They also said that drastic limits on fishing now would facilitate the growth of a more profitable industry in years to come, as stocks became more plentiful. A number of conservation groups attending the Iccat meeting in Recife, Brazil said that delegations - led by the EU - had put short-term commercial concerns before the longer-term interests of both tuna and fishermen. This will definitely encourage under-reporting of catches and illegal fishing. However, the European Commission - which represents the EU - described the outcome as “strong”. The Commission also noted that the option of a moratorium remains on the table “in case new assessments show... there is a serious threat of fishery collapse”. The new quota allows 13,500 tonnes of bluefin to be caught next year in the Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean, down from 19,950 tonnes. Some countries, notably in southern Europe, have simply exceeded their annual quotas, while illegal and unreported catches are estimated to add a further 30% to official numbers.
Source: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/science/nature/8362168.stm>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Water Sector

28. *November 14, United Press International* – (Ohio) **Akron agrees to reduce sewage overflows.** The city of Akron, Ohio, has agreed to reduce sewer overflows polluting the Cuyahoga and Little Cuyahoga rivers and the Ohio & Erie Canal, authorities said. The settlement between the U.S. Justice Department, the Ohio attorney general’s office and the Akron City Council still must be approved in federal court, justice officials said in a statement Friday. “These steps will improve water quality in the Cuyahoga River and its tributaries, protect public health, and enhance recreation and other public uses of the River,” the statement said. The settlement calls for Akron to expand the capacity of its sewage treatment plant, reduce overflows from 32 sewer outlets, pay a \$500,000 fine and provide \$900,000 to remove a dam on the Cuyahoga River between Brecksville and Sagamore Hills Township. The settlement resolves a lawsuit brought against Akron this year by the federal government and the state of Ohio.
Source: http://www.upi.com/Top_News/US/2009/11/14/Akron-agrees-to-reduce-sewage-overflows/UPI-93361258217304/
29. *November 13, Water Technology Online* – (Texas) **Utility adds software to streamline water management.** IBM announced in a November 13 press release that the Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA) is using IBM software to reduce the complexity and costs of managing the utility’s resources and services, which span across more than 36,800 square miles and 58 counties in central and south Texas, serving more than 2.2 million residents. IBM said its software gives LCRA’s

maintenance and operations staff a “bird’s-eye view of the assets across the utility so they can address issues before outages occur, and the software helps to accurately predict resource needs as the utility continues to grow and gain new customers.” Since earlier this year, IBM has made a major new push into the water and energy markets, with an eye toward selling utilities “smart” data management systems that improve operating efficiency and resource conservation. LCRA supplies low-cost electricity for central Texas, develops water and wastewater utilities, provides public parks, and supports community and economic development in 58 Texas counties. LCRA sells wholesale electricity to more than 40 retail utilities, including cities and electric cooperatives that serve more than 1 million people in 55 counties. LCRA also regulates water discharges to manage floods — in one of the nation’s highest flood-risk regions — and releases water for sale to municipal, agricultural and industrial users. The introduction of the IBM software and associated mobile applications program into LCRA operations has allowed the utilities provider to consolidate asset information into one repository and integrate it with inventory, accounting and labor information to help staff identify issues before outages occur, accurately predict future resource needs and generate up to the minute reports, the release said.

Source: http://watertechonline.com/news.asp?N_ID=72945

30. *November 12, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency* – (Pennsylvania; Maryland) **EPA Cites 14 municipalities for stormwater violations.** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has cited 14 municipalities in Pennsylvania and Maryland for stormwater violations, nine of which are within the Chesapeake Bay watershed. EPA requires the cited municipalities to correct problems with their respective municipal separate storm sewer (MS4) programs and come into compliance with their state-issued discharge permits. MS4s are publicly owned drainage systems designed to collect and convey stormwater from urbanized areas. In Pennsylvania, EPA issued orders to Birdsboro Borough and Ontelaunee Township in Berks County; Mechanicsburg Borough in Cumberland County; Atrim Township in Franklin County; East Donegal Township, Terre Hill Borough, Pequea Township, Akron Borough and East Earl Township in Lancaster County; Myerstown Borough in Lebanon County; and, Monaghan and Newberry Townships in York County. In Maryland, EPA issued orders to Baltimore City and Anne Arundel County. Several of these municipalities have already taken steps to comply with the orders.

Source:

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/0/E047EE6A78C3327D8525766C0070E4C0>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Public Health and Healthcare Sector

31. *November 14, Asbury Park Press* – (New Jersey) **Grease fire spreads, causes damage at Neptune hospital.** A grease fire that started in an eatery and spread through duct work caused damage to the interior and roof of Jersey Shore University Medical Center, an official said. The fire began at about 5 p.m. in the kitchen of the Shore Grill, located in the hospital’s Brennan Lobby, said a hospital spokesman. Flames then

traveled to the roof through a metal exhaust draft that serves the kitchen exclusively. The blaze did not spread to any other parts of the hospital, he said, and firefighters from the Neptune and Asbury Park fire departments extinguished it by 6 p.m. As a precaution, patients in two units in the building where the fire broke out were moved to other parts of their units.

Source: <http://www.app.com/article/20091114/NEWS/911140335/1004/NEWS01>

32. *November 13, Associated Press* – (Massachusetts) **FDA finds bits of steel, rubber in Genzyme drugs.** Federal health regulators have found tiny particles of trash in drugs made by Genzyme, the second time this year the biotechnology company has been cited for contamination issues. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) said Friday that bits of steel, rubber and fiber found in vials of drugs used to treat rare enzyme disorders could cause serious adverse health effects for patients. Despite those problems, the FDA said the products would remain on the market, because there are few alternative treatments. FDA regulators say doctors should closely inspect vials for particles before injecting them into patients. Doctors should return the product to Genzyme if they suspect contamination, the agency said. Physicians should also watch for potential allergic reactions, blood clots and other problems in patients. The FDA announcement is the second case of contamination for the Cambridge, Massachusetts-based company this year. In June, Genzyme was forced to shut down a key production facility due to viral contamination. Genzyme did not return repeated calls for comment.

Source:

http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5gcmSL0HIIdvgBOb62M97dLNX_LbwD9BUQNK02

33. *November 13, South Bend Tribune* – (Indiana) **Boxes of medical files found abandoned in South Bend.** An agent with the Indiana attorney general's office removed 21 boxes of medical records from a downtown office building Friday that contain the personal information of hundreds of local people. The boxes, consisting of thousands of sheets of paper, contain patients' Social Security numbers, addresses, phone numbers, diagnoses and prescriptions. Although the records appeared to be locked safely in a storage closet in the basement of the building, it appears the medical practice that was in the building years ago moved out and left them.

Source: <http://www.southbendtribune.com/article/20091113/News01/911139960/1130>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Government Facilities Sector

34. *November 15, Johnstown Tribune-Democrat* – (Pennsylvania) **UPJ investigating source of computer virus.** Officials at the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown (UPJ) say they are re-evaluating their computer defenses after their network fell victim to a virus attack last week. They also are continuing their investigation into the source of the attack, which was first noticed early Tuesday. At about 5 a.m., members of the information technology department noticed that something foreign on the network was consuming large amounts of bandwidth. In effect, the virus clogged the networks to

such a degree that the flow of information on campus was reduced to a slow trickle. “I really credit our IT staff for catching this as quickly as they did, because it really could have had serious consequences,” said the director of Alumni and Community Relations at UPJ. He said that without their quick reaction, the entire IT infrastructure on campus could have been brought down. All computer labs on campus were closed before noon on Tuesday and several lab-based classes were canceled. The director said the IT department will continue to investigate the origin of the attack, but that the virus did not necessarily originate on campus. Several servers and Web sites around the world reported similar attacks early last week.

Source: http://www.tribune-democrat.com/local/local_story_319223225.html?keyword=topstory

35. *November 14, Kyodo News Service* – (International) **Fire damages hangar at NAF Atsugi.** A fire broke out early Saturday at a hangar at the U.S. Navy’s Atsugi base in Kanagawa prefecture, with three Japanese men sustaining burns, two of them seriously, police and firefighters said. The three were working to remove asbestos from tile flooring in the hangar along with four other workers, they said. No aircraft or ammunition were stored in the wooden hangar. The fire, which damaged part of the hangar, was extinguished about 90 minutes later by Navy personnel and firefighters, they said. The fire broke out when a light bulb fell and broke as workers were spreading thinner on the floor to peel off the tiles, they said.
Source: http://www.navytimes.com/news/2009/11/kyodo_navy_fire_base_111409w/
36. *November 13, Army Times* – (National) **Data breach could affect 60,000 GIs, civilians.** The Corps of Engineers is investigating the recent loss of an external hard drive that could pose identify theft problems for as many as 60,000 soldiers and Army civilians. A Corps of Engineers spokesman in Washington, said the security breach occurred in the command’s Southwestern Division, which is headquartered in Dallas, in early November. “Right now the focus is on investigating [the incident], alerting people who may be affected, and taking measures to make sure it doesn’t happen again,” he said. Information stored on the missing hard drive includes personal data, such as names and Social Security numbers, on a number of current and former soldiers and some civilian employees, according to information provided by the Southwest Division. Most of the affected population includes soldiers whose files went before the Fiscal 2008 sergeant first class and 2008 master sergeant promotion boards, and the 2007 colonel promotion board and the 2009 lieutenant colonel command board.
Source: http://www.armytimes.com/news/2009/11/army_breach_111309w/
37. *November 13, Star Tribune* – (Minnesota) **Suspicious package found at university contained.** A suspicious package that led police to lock down the University of Minnesota’s Carlson School of Management for hours on Friday afternoon turned out to be an old military ammo can containing stage makeup. Minneapolis and University police responded to a call from the school at about 2:40 p.m. after someone found the ammo can in a men’s restroom. The building was quickly evacuated, and the Minneapolis bomb squad was called to examine the package. The ammo can, basically a small metal box, was X-rayed and carefully examined before it was opened, said a

university spokesman. Police cleared the building and left the scene at about 8 p.m. “It’s worth looking into, because it’s an odd item [to find] in a bathroom,” he said. The can’s owner has not been identified, and police do not believe any crimes have been committed. “I’m sure someone put it down and forgot about it,” the spokesman said. “There’s nothing illegal about being in possession of an ammo can or makeup.”

Source:

<http://www.startribune.com/local/70069557.html?elr=KArksLckD8EQDUoaEyqyP4O:DW3ckUiD3aPc: Yyc:aUUF>

For another story, see item [42](#)

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Emergency Services Sector

38. *November 16, Associated Press* – (West Virginia) **W.Va. police change policy after M-16 is stolen.** The Wheeling Police Department in West Virginia is changing its gun storage policy after an assault rifle was stolen from an off-duty officer’s car. The police chief says officers who are issued M-16 rifles are now required to place them in individual lockers at the end of their shift. The guns are issued to members of the department’s SWAT team. In the past, they were allowed to bring the weapons home in case of an off-duty emergency. That has changed since one of the guns was stolen from an officer’s car last month. If SWAT team members are called into duty, they will have to travel to the department to retrieve their guns.

Source:

http://www.phillyburbs.com/news/news_details/article/92/2009/november/16/wva-police-change-policy-after-m-16-is-stolen.html

39. *November 15, Associated Press* – (Nevada) **3 dead in medical helicopter crash north of Reno.** Investigators said the pilot of a medical helicopter issued a mayday moments before the aircraft crashed into a hilly area north of Reno near the Nevada-California state line early Saturday. All three crew members — the pilot, flight nurse and paramedic — were killed. The helicopter, an Aerospatiale AS350, had dropped off a patient at a Reno hospital and was returning to its base in Susanville, California, when it crashed around 2 a.m. Saturday, according to a Federal Aviation Administration spokesman. It was the second fatal crash of a Mountain Lifeflight helicopter returning to Susanville after dropping off a patient at Renown Medical Center in Reno. According to the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB), a Eurocopter AS-350B operated by the company crashed into Honey Lake, about 11 miles southeast of the company’s Susanville base, on March 21, 2002. NTSB investigators determined the pilot failed to maintain altitude and said the smooth surface of the water contributed to pilot disorientation.

Source: <http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5hoMftQjB-XvNYugDcwnHqM3LOY4gD9BVKI400>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Information Technology Sector

40. *November 14, The Register* – (International) **Researcher busts into Twitter via SSL renegot hole.** A Turkish graduate student has devised a serious, real-world attack on Twitter that targeted a recently discovered vulnerability in the secure sockets layer (SSL) protocol. The exploit by the graduate student is significant because it successfully targeted the so-called SSL renegotiation bug to steal Twitter login credentials that passed through encrypted data streams. When the flaw surfaced last week, many researchers dismissed it as an esoteric curiosity with little practical effect. For one thing, the critics said, the protocol bug was hard to exploit. And for another, they said, even when it could be targeted, it achieved extremely limited results. The skepticism was understandable: While attackers could inject a small amount of text at the beginning of an authenticated SSL session, they were unable to read encrypted data that flowed between the two parties. Despite those limitations, the graduate student was able to exploit the bug to steal Twitter usernames and passwords as they passed between client applications and Twitter's servers, even though they were encrypted. He did it by injecting text that instructed Twitter's application protocol interface to dump the contents of the web request into a Twitter message after they had been decrypted. Twitter's security team closed the hole the week of November 9.
Source: http://www.theregister.co.uk/2009/11/14/ssl_renegotiation_bug_exploited/
41. *November 14, ComputerWorld* – (International) **Microsoft confirms first Windows 7 zero-day bug.** Microsoft on November 13 confirmed that an unpatched vulnerability exists in Windows 7, but downplayed the problem, saying most users would be protected from attack by blocking two ports at the firewall. In a security advisory, Microsoft acknowledged that a bug in SMB (Server Message Block), a Microsoft-made network file- and print-sharing protocol, could be used by attackers to cripple Windows 7 and Windows Server 2008 R2 machines. The zero-day vulnerability was first reported by a Canadian researcher on November 11, when he revealed the bug and posted proof-of-concept attack code to the Full Disclosure security mailing list and his blog. According to the researcher, exploiting the flaw crashes Windows 7 and Server 2008 R2 systems so thoroughly that the only recourse is to manually power off the computers. At the time, Microsoft only said it was investigating his reports. Then on November 13, it took the next step and issued the advisory. "Microsoft is aware of public, detailed exploit code that would cause a system to stop functioning or become unreliable," a spokesman for Microsoft security group, said in an e-mail. "The company is not aware of attacks to exploit the reported vulnerability at this time."
Source:
http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9140858/Microsoft_confirms_first_Windows_7_zero_day_bug
42. *November 13, Government Technology* – (California) **California plans to launch information security operations center.** California intends to create a state-of-the-art information security operations center to monitor cyber-threats and protect state and local government networks from attack. The proposal is part of a sweeping five-year plan, released November 12 by the state Chief Information Security Officer, which is

designed to safeguard government data and critical technology resources from increasingly sophisticated cyber-criminals. The plan calls for creating a California Information Security Operations Center (CA-ISOC) that would provide real-time detection of cyber-attacks and security intrusions across all state government agencies. The center also would support local government networks that need assistance. The CA-ISOC would watch for attacks on the state government's critical information infrastructure, including attempts to disrupt automated control networks for dams, power plants and other physical facilities. The plan also envisions creating a California Computer Incident Response Team that would work in concert with the state's Emergency Management Agency and Fusion Center, as well as the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

Source: <http://www.govtech.com/gt/articles/733337>

43. *November 13, PC World* – (International) **DNS problem linked to DDoS attacks gets worse.** Internet security experts say that misconfigured DSL and cable modems are worsening a well-known problem with the Internet's DNS (domain name system), making it easier for hackers to launch distributed denial-of-service (DDoS) attacks against their victims. According to research set to be released in the next few days, part of the problem is blamed on the growing number of consumer devices on the Internet that are configured to accept DNS queries from anywhere, what networking experts call an "open recursive" or "open resolver" system. As more consumers demand broadband Internet, service providers are rolling out modems configured this way to their customers said the vice president of architecture with Infoblox, the DNS appliance company that sponsored the research. "The two leading culprits we found were Telefonica and France Telecom," he said. In fact, the percentage of DNS systems on the Internet that are configured this way has jumped from around 50 percent in 2007, to nearly 80 percent this year, according to the vice president. Though he has not seen the Infoblox data, a Georgia Tech researcher agreed that open recursive systems are on the rise, in part because of "the increase in home network appliances that allow multiple computers on the Internet." Because modems configured as open recursive servers will answer DNS queries from anyone on the Internet, they can be used in what's known as a DNS amplification attack. In this attack, hackers send spoofed DNS query messages to the recursive server, tricking it into replying to a victim's computer. If the bad guys know what they are doing, they can send a small 50 byte message to a system that will respond by sending the victim as much as 4 kilobytes of data. By barraging several DNS servers with these spoofed queries, attackers can overwhelm their victims and effectively knock them offline.

Source:

http://www.pcworld.com/businesscenter/article/182168/dns_problem_linked_to_ddos_attacks_gets_worse.html

For another story, see item [34](#)

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/>.

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Communications Sector

Nothing to report

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Commercial Facilities Sector

Nothing to report

[\[Return to top\]](#)

National Monuments and Icons Sector

44. *November 15, Associated Press* – (New Jersey) **Ellis Island museum evacuated after powder found.** A white powder that was found at Ellis Island and caused a brief evacuation at the immigration landmark in New York Harbor has been deemed harmless. A Jersey City, New Jersey fire official says a hazardous-materials team responded to a call about the powder at the island's immigration museum on Saturday afternoon. The museum was evacuated for about 90 minutes, but visitors did not have to leave the island. The director of Jersey City's Fire and Emergency Services Department says it has not been determined what the powder is. Just days ago some foreign missions to the United Nations received envelopes with white powder inside. Tests showed the powder was flour.

Source:

http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5gq5p_FvmVRztFY0VJMlaOMZcRy5QD9BVM3U00

[\[Return to top\]](#)

Dams Sector

45. *November 14, Monterey County Herald* – (California) **San Clemente Dam to come down.** California American Water says it will try to tear down San Clemente Dam on the Carmel River after all. Plans to demolish the aging 106-foot-tall dam came to a halt in February because of a disagreement over project liability and a freeze in state funding. But Cal Am, which owns the dam, announced Friday that with the help of the

California Coastal Conservancy and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, plans to remove the dam are back on. "The project will resolve earthquake and flood safety issues associated with the dam while benefiting the wildlife that depend on the river," the Cal Am president said in a news release. San Clemente Dam was built in 1921 to hold 2,000 acre-feet of water. The reservoir has filled with about 2.5million cubic yards of sediment over the years and now holds only about 125 acre-feet of water. In the early 1990s, the state's Department of Water Resources Division of Dam Safety declared the structure unsafe. Officials say the dam could collapse in the event of a magnitude-5.5 earthquake on the Tularcitos Fault, which the dam straddles, or in a magnitude-7 or greater earthquake on the San Andreas Fault. An environmental impact report issued in 2007 by the Department of Water Resources and the Army Corps of Engineers evaluated five options to bring the dam into compliance with current standards. The options included reinforcing the dam by buttressing it with added concrete or removing it, with the Carmel River being rerouted through San Clemente Creek to bypass the accumulated sediment. Environmental groups have favored demolishing the dam because that would provide the greatest benefit to wildlife and the river ecosystem. Initial construction for dam removal could begin in September 2013, with the project completed by January 2016. Demolition will require approval of the Public Utilities Commission.

Source: http://www.montereyherald.com/local/ci_13788055

46. *November 12, Womack Publishing Co.* – (Virginia) **Appalachian increases discharge from Leesville Dam.** The normal water level at Smith Mountain Lake has exceeded full pond and the reservoir at Leesville, Virginia, is also full due to heavier than expected and continuing inflow resulting from rainstorms in the region. After consultation with the National Weather Service and The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Appalachian Power is increasing the discharge of water from the Leesville Dam into the Staunton River in an effort to create more storage volume in the lower project reservoir. As of the morning of November 12 inflow to the Smith Mountain Project was 26,474 cfs and discharge from Leesville was 4,682 cfs. The adjusted reservoir elevation was 795.67 feet. The flow at the USGS gauge at Brookneal on the Staunton River was 15,000 cfs (18.49') and at Altavista 15,200 CFS (15.34'). The company will monitor downstream river levels and will adjust its discharge flow accordingly.⁶⁷ Smith Mountain Project is a 636-megawatt pumped storage hydroelectric facility located in southwestern Virginia that utilizes an upper reservoir (Smith Mountain Lake) and a lower reservoir (Leesville Lake).

Source: <http://www.wpcva.com/articles/2009/11/12/chatham/news/news40.txt>

[\[Return to top\]](#)

DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Contact Information

About the reports - The DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is a daily [Monday through Friday] summary of open-source published information concerning significant critical infrastructure issues. The DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is archived for ten days on the Department of Homeland Security Website: <http://www.dhs.gov/iaipdailyreport>

Contact Information

Content and Suggestions:

Send mail to NICCCReports@dhs.gov or contact the DHS Daily Report Team at (202) 312-3421

Subscribe to the Distribution List:

Visit the [DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report](#) and follow instructions to [Get e-mail updates when this information changes](#).

Removal from Distribution List:

Send mail to support@govdelivery.com.

Contact DHS

To report physical infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact the National Infrastructure Coordinating Center at nicc@dhs.gov or (202) 282-9201.

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Web page at www.us-cert.gov.

Department of Homeland Security Disclaimer

The DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report is a non-commercial publication intended to educate and inform personnel engaged in infrastructure protection. Further reproduction or redistribution is subject to original copyright restrictions. DHS provides no warranty of ownership of the copyright, or accuracy with respect to the original source material.