



Homeland Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure
Report for 13 May 2010

Current Nationwide
Threat Level

ELEVATED

Significant Risk of Terrorist Attacks

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

Top Stories

- The St. Joseph News-Press reports that firefighters evacuated residents near the Maysville, Missouri water plant on Tuesday after a vapor cloud erupted from a ruptured barrel containing hydrochloric acid as it was being moved by public works employees. (See item [22](#))
- According to the Associated Press, a television communications satellite owned by Intelsat is drifting out of control thousands of miles above the Earth, threatening to wander into another satellite's orbit and interfere with cable programming across the United States, the satellites' owners said on Tuesday. The satellite's systems were knocked out by a solar storm. (See item [44](#))

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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. *May 12, WTHR 13 Indianapolis* – (Indiana) **Storms knock down power lines, cause flooding in Indianapolis.** Heavy storms caused power outages, flash flooding, and lightning strikes in central Indiana Wednesday morning. Fire crews believe that a lightning strike damaged a natural gas line and sparked a fire that threatened the main gas line that supplies the city of Indianapolis. Fire officials say it appears lightning hit a power transformer connected to a primary power line. When it crashed to the ground, it ruptured a small gas line about as thick as a pencil. A fire started in that gas line, which is connected to a larger 20-inch gas main. “We were well aware of this area up here, so we took steps right away to save that area and figure out what was going on. It was considered to shut down that entire line early on but we were able to see that the fire had gone out and it was that small test probe. But that was a consideration that would have left a large part of the city without gas for a short time,” said the chief of the Pike Township Fire Department. SkyTrak Doppler Radar recorded around 30,000 lightning strikes across the state Wednesday morning.
Source: <http://www.wthr.com/Global/story.asp?S=12468220>
2. *May 12, Associated Press* – (Louisiana) **Rig operators told to prepare to shut down.** The Louisiana Department of Natural Resources has told operators of oil and gas wells to be prepared to shut down if ordered by the Coast Guard. The emergency order issued May 11 applies to oil and gas wells in Cameron, Vermilion, Iberia, St. Mary, Terrebonne, Lafourche, Jefferson, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, Orleans, and St. Tammany parishes. All border coastal waters. Oil already has reached some of the areas from the Deepwater Horizon disaster. At least 4 million gallons of oil has spilled into the Gulf of Mexico since the rig exploded and sank last month. Although no shutdowns have been ordered yet, state officials are telling well operators to be ready to do so if ordered by federal officials overseeing the spill.
Source:
<http://www.hattiesburgamerican.com/article/20100512/NEWS01/100512009/Rig+operators+told+to+prepare+to+shut+down>
3. *May 12, Contra Costa Times* – (California) **Series of errors led to Dubai Star oil spill.** An oil spill in the fall that fouled Alameda, California beaches was caused by a series of errors that appears to have begun when an oil-tanker valve failed to close during refueling near the Bay Bridge, investigators have found. The spill worsened, officials said, because no one noticed a fuel tank of the Dubai Star was overflowing until 2,000 gallons of toxic, sticky bunker fuel spilled onto the deck of the ship. In addition, alarms did not sound and the fueling company failed to get a boom around the spill within an hour as state law requires. The Panama-flagged Dubai Star promptly notified the Coast Guard but did not alert clean-up organizations for hours after the October 30 spill, officials said. More than 400 gallons of bunker fuel spilled into the bay and washed east, resulting in bans on shellfish harvesting in parts of Alameda for several weeks. Coast Guard officials hope to wrap up cleanup of Crown Memorial State Beach in Alameda today. Cleanup work is still active at Crab Cove. Those were some of the preliminary conclusions provided by state and federal officials during a forum May 11 in Oakland on the readiness to respond to oil spills in the bay. The forum was sponsored by the Pacific Environment and the San Francisco Estuary

Partnership, a coalition of government, business and nonprofit groups.

Source: http://www.contracostatimes.com/top-stories/ci_15064964?nclick_check=1

4. *May 11, New Orleans Times-Picayune* – (Louisiana) **Two Marathon refinery workers injured after boiler malfunction in Garyville.** Two workers at Marathon Oil Refinery in Garyville, Louisiana, received minor injuries the morning of May 11 after a boiler apparently malfunctioned, plant officials said. There were reports of a loud “boom,” but no other injuries were reported outside the plant. There was a “disruption” in a boiler at 9:30 a.m., said a company spokesman. Two workers received minor injuries, cuts and scrapes, and were treated on the scene by Marathon EMS personnel. A boiler is used in refining crude oil, which is heated up at all levels of the process. There are numerous boilers located throughout the plant. The malfunction had no impact on plant operations.

Source:

http://www.nola.com/business/index.ssf/2010/05/two_marathon_workers_injured_a.html

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Chemical Industry Sector

5. *May 12, CBC News* – (International) **Perfumes’ chemical safety unknown: report.** Top-selling fragrances contain chemicals that can trigger allergic reactions or disrupt hormones but are not listed on labels, according to a new report calling for changes in federal regulations. The report, released May 12 by Environmental Defence in Canada and the Campaign for Safe Cosmetics in the U.S., assessed 17 fragrances bought in both countries that were tested by an independent laboratory in California. The tests found: a dozen or more chemicals not listed on labels; multiple chemicals that can trigger allergic reactions or disrupt hormones; and substances that have not been assessed for safety by the beauty industry’s self-policing review panels, the groups said. The report found that in each product there were an average of 10 sensitizing chemicals that can trigger allergic reactions such as headaches, wheezing, asthma, infant diarrhea and vomiting and reduced pulmonary function. An average of four hormone-disrupting chemicals were found in each product. The chemicals may mimic the hormone estrogen. Of the 91 ingredients identified in the study by lab tests or product labels, 19 ingredients have been reviewed by the industry-funded Cosmetic Ingredient Review, and 27 were assessed by groups that develop voluntary standards for chemicals used in fragrance. The president and CEO of the Canadian Cosmetic, Toiletry and Fragrance Association, said federal regulations do not require manufacturers to include ingredients on labels that are detectable but “not quantified” because the amounts used are infinitesimally small.

Source: <http://www.cbc.ca/health/story/2010/05/11/fragrance-perfume-chemicals.html>

6. *May 12, CNN* – (International) **Pirates hijack chemical tanker in Gulf of Aden.** Pirates in the Gulf of Aden hijacked a chemical tanker carrying a crew of 15 Bulgarians on Tuesday, the European Union Naval Force Somalia said. The Bulgarian-flagged tanker, the MV Panega, was about 100 nautical miles east of Aden, Yemen, en route from the Red Sea to India, the force said in a news release. “As long as the pirates are on board the ship, we are just monitoring the situation,” said a Swedish navy commander for the EU naval force. He said he had no reason to believe that anyone had been hurt.
Source: <http://edition.cnn.com/2010/WORLD/africa/05/11/pirates.hijacked.ship/>

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector

7. *May 12, Cleveland Plain Dealer* – (Ohio) **Perry nuclear power plant shut down.** Operators at the Perry nuclear power plant manually shut down the reactor at about 11:20 p.m. May 11 after pressure dropped in the equipment that automatically shuts down or “scrams” the reactor in an emergency. The reactor temperature at noon May 12 was less than 200 degrees and electrical engineers were busy trying to track down the problem. Plant owner FirstEnergy Corp submitted a written report to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission at about 3 a.m.
Source: http://www.cleveland.com/business/index.ssf/2010/05/perry_nuclear_power_plant_shut.html

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Critical Manufacturing Sector

8. *May 10, Reuters* – (National) **US launches new probe of Toyota over truck recall.** The U.S. government launched a new investigation on Monday into whether Toyota Motor Corp promptly notified safety regulators about a pickup truck recall for a steering system problem. The investigation is the latest undertaken by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) over disclosure matters that could result in a fine if the company is found to have been tardy in taking action on Hilux trucks. The U.S. safety agency said Toyota conducted a recall of certain Hilux trucks in Japan in 2004 for steering relay rods that were prone to fatigue, cracking, and possible fracture. At the time, Toyota told regulators the problem was limited to vehicles sold in Japan and had not received complaints in the United States, NHTSA said. The automaker then told NHTSA in 2005 the problem had been found in several U.S. models and launched a recall to cover those vehicles. But last week, NHTSA said it was alerted to a number of U.S. consumer complaints filed with Toyota prior to the original 2004 recall in Japan.
Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSN1023988320100510>

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

9. *May 12, WAVY 10 Portsmouth* – (Virginia) **Men recovering after CO poisoning.** Six men are recovering at the hospital after breathing in toxic gasses at BAE Systems in Norfolk Tuesday. The men were working on the USS Bataan when they inhaled dangerous levels of carbon monoxide. Doctors told WAVY.com, May 12, that the men are doing well and have been put on hyperbaric chambers for treatment. By day's end, each contractor will have gone through the lengthy treatment three times to make sure the carbon monoxide is out of their systems. Norfolk Fire Rescue investigators are working with the Occupational Safety and Health Administration to figure out what went wrong on the Bataan.

Source: http://www.wavy.com/dpp/news/local_news/men-recovering-after-co-poisoning

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Banking and Finance Sector

10. *May 12, KNSD 7 San Diego* – (California) **Geezer bandit has Facebook fans.** The so-called Geezer Bandit struck again May 11 on the same block as his first bank heist. While investigators are trying to identify the elusive bandit, hundreds of Facebook fans are now following his every move. Investigators said a man believed to be in his 60s or 70s is responsible for at least nine bank robberies around the county since last August. He has two Facebook pages, and between them, he had almost 300 fans as of May 11. One post reads, "Go Geezer!" Another reads, "Catch the geezer already!" The FBI said they are looking into the Facebook pages. It's unknown whether or not the suspect started the pages himself. Three different rewards offer \$16,000 total for the arrest and conviction of the Geezer.

Source: <http://www.nbcsandiego.com/news/local-beat/Geezer-Bandit-Has-Facebook-Fans--93536179.html>

11. *May 11, WPBF 25 West Palm Beach* – (Florida) **Delray Beach police search for ATM skimmer.** Police in Delray Beach, Florida are searching for a man they said stole at least \$1,000 in cash from ATMs using "skimmed" card information. Police said they don't know where the man was able to steal the information from. Police said the victim's cards were used at various locations in Delray Beach and North Lauderdale. The thief is described as in his 20s with a close-cropped haircut. Police believe the man may have been driving a white four-door mid-'90s vehicle, possibly an Acura or a Nissan.

Source: <http://www.wpbfl.com/news/23520634/detail.html>

12. *May 11, Krebs on Security* – (National) **FBI promises action against money mules.** The FBI's top anti-cyber crime official said May 12 that the agency is planning a law enforcement action against so-called "money mules," individuals willingly or

unwittingly roped into helping organized computer crooks launder money stolen through online banking fraud. The acting chief of the FBI's cyber criminal section said mules are an integral component of an international crime wave that is costing U.S. banks and companies hundreds of millions of dollars. He said the agency hopes the enforcement action will help spread awareness that money mules are helping to perpetrate crimes. "We want to make sure the public understands this is illegal activity and one of the best ways we can think of to give that message is to have some prosecutions," the director said at a Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) symposium in Arlington, Virginia, May 11. The conference focused on combating commercial payments fraud. Money mules typically are first contacted by e-mail, usually with a greeting that claims the prospective employer found the recipient's resume on Careerbuilder.com, Monster.com, or some other job-search site. The fraudsters usually represent themselves as international finance or tax companies that are looking to hire "financial agents" to help customers move their money abroad speedily. Candidates often are told the position is a work-at-home job, that no experience is necessary, and that they need only have access to a computer with an Internet connection.

Source: <http://krebsonsecurity.com/2010/05/fbi-promises-action-against-money-mules/>

13. *May 11, WTHI 10 Terre Haute* – (Indiana) **Another bank scam hits Wabash Valley.** Since May 7, both members and non-members of a Normal, Illinois-based credit union, who have service through AT&T, have received text messages saying their ISU Credit Union accounts have been locked. Besides saying the account has been locked, the text message also provides a toll free number to call to fix the problem. "Please do not call the 800 number. They are requesting your debit card number, they want your PIN, they want that security code on the back so that they can run freely with your account information," said the credit union's marketing coordinator. ISU Credit Union said that if anyone receives this text message they should delete it. Also, they should call AT&T and let them know about the scam.

Source: <http://www.wthitv.com/dpp/news/local/another-bank-scam-hits-the-wabash-valley>

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Transportation Sector

14. *May 12, Agence France-Presse* – (International) **Egypt detains US passenger with weapons in bags.** Egyptian authorities detained a passenger arriving at Cairo airport from New York May 12, after finding guns, bullets and knives in his baggage. A U.S. university professor of Egyptian origin had flown in on an EgyptAir flight from New York's JFK airport. Customs officials noticed the passenger looked nervous and decided to open his luggage. They found two handguns and 250 bullets hidden in metal boxes. In a secret compartment in the bag, authorities also found two swords, five daggers and six knives. An investigation has been launched.

Source:

[http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5i0c_q6pz_vu1ItGWFjwF7UaB
ASvw](http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5i0c_q6pz_vu1ItGWFjwF7UaBASvw)

15. *May 12, Reuters* – (International) **Libyan jet crash kills 103, Dutch boy survives.** A Libyan Airbus jet crashed early May 12 as it tried to land in Tripoli airport, killing 103 people on board, most of them Dutch, and leaving a young Dutch boy, who did not have life-threatening injuries, the sole survivor. The Airbus A330-200 was flying from Johannesburg, South Africa, to the Libyan capital when it crashed just short of the runway around 6 a.m. The Dutch prime minister said there were several dozen Dutch passengers onboard. Libyan officials said 22 of the victims were Libyans, but they gave no details of the other nationalities of people onboard. The minister said investigators were working out what went wrong with Afriqiyah Airways flight 8U771, but he said he ruled out terrorism as the cause. The Libyan state-owned airline has never before had a crash.

Source:

<http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSLDE64B0MI20100512?type=marketsNews>

16. *May 12, Associated Press* – (International) **2 Russian pilots arrested at Berlin airport.** Two Russian men, both pilots, were taken into custody May 12 at Berlin's Tegel Airport after a witness told police she suspected they were planning a hijacking. They were overheard speaking in Russian by a woman at an Air Berlin counter before they boarded the plane. The two men, aged 49 and 26, were booked on an Air Berlin flight to Moscow around midday. Though they were both registered pilots, neither was part of the aircraft's crew. Both have been turned over to Berlin police for questioning. The plane was evacuated and its 135 passengers were all questioned. Most were able to take a later flight to Moscow.

Source: <http://www.cnn.com/id/37108945>

17. *May 12, Associated Press* – (International) **EU proposes new rules on ash avoidance.** The European air safety agency is proposing a new set of procedures that would significantly decrease airspace closures due to volcanic ash. The new solution would adopt the U.S. practice of imposing a 120-mile (190 kilometer) no-fly buffer zone for all aircraft in the vicinity of any visible ash plume. The change, which still has to be approved, would be a significant departure from previous practices in Europe. The U.S. Federal Aviation Administration, the European Commission, and airlines and other national authorities have been involved in consultations on the issue.

Source: <http://www.businessweek.com/ap/financialnews/D9FL9DK80.htm>

For another story, see item [6](#)

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Postal and Shipping Sector

18. *May 11, Associated Press* – (Colorado) **OSHA proposes \$217,000 in fines for Postal Service over safety concerns at Denver center.** Federal workplace safety regulators

have proposed fining the U.S. Postal Service \$217,000 for allegedly exposing workers at the Denver Network Distribution Center to electrical hazards. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) said May 10 it issued three willful citations after it found workers tested live electrical equipment without adequate training, personal-protective equipment and safety-related work practices. It also issued one serious citation, alleging failure to post signs warning of electrical hazards. OSHA contends the Postal Service knew of hazards but didn't correct them promptly. The Postal Service said employee safety is a priority and that it will work with OSHA on any necessary adjustments.

Source: <http://www.kdvr.com/news/sns-ap-co--postalservicecited,0,6315843.story>

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Agriculture and Food Sector

19. *May 11, Food Poison Journal* – (National) **More recalls of Freshway lettuce, second strain of E. coli found.** The number of confirmed and probable E. coli O145 infections from Freshway bagged lettuce remained steady at 29 May 11, but additional recalls were announced as evidence of additional contaminated product surfaced. CIDRAP NEWS reported on developing news on a number of fronts. It noted that Freshway has now recalled 72 different types of bagged lettuce in 23 states. The article also pointed out that a second firm, Vaughn Foods of Moore, Oklahoma, has recalled lettuce from the same Yuma, Arizona farm implicated in the original recall. Vaughn is recalling bagged romaine with a sell-by date of either May 9 or May 10, CIDRAP reported. It also indicated that a second, independent strain of pathogenic E. coli was isolated in a Freshway bag of shredded romaine lettuce. CIDRAP said Andrew Smith Co. of California recalled 1,000 cartons or about 23,000 pounds of lettuce sold to Vaughan Foods and to an unidentified third firm in Massachusetts.

Source: <http://www.foodpoisonjournal.com/2010/05/articles/food-poisoning-information/freshway-lettuce-e-coli-o145-more-recalls-second-strain-of-e-coli/>

20. *May 11, United Press International* – (National) **Oregon grasshopper plague expected again.** Oregon scientists and farmers are predicting a devastating plague of grasshoppers this summer, perhaps worse than western U.S. states experienced last year when Oregon was stormed by 2-inch-long, clear-winged grasshoppers. The grasshoppers ate plants over tens of thousands of acres of in Harney County in 2009 and this summer the ravaged area could double to 140,000 acres in the county. Hungry grasshoppers beginning to hatch in New Mexico and Arizona could make 2010 the worst grasshopper plague since the mid-1980s, said a spokesman for the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Natural population cycles and widespread drought conditions allow the grasshoppers to thrive. Treating the Roaring Springs, Oregon Ranch's grasshopper egg beds with Dimilin, a growth regulator that kills grasshoppers immediately after hatching, probably will cost \$4,000 but will save 20,000 acres of grass.

Source: http://www.upi.com/Science_News/2010/05/11/Oregon-grasshopper-plague-expected-again/UPI-78941273611136/

21. *May 10, KMEG 14 Sioux City, Iowa* – (Nebraska) **USDA declares five Nebraska counties as disaster areas.** The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has designated Banner, Box Butte, Cheyenne, Kimball and Morrill counties in Nebraska as natural disaster areas because of losses caused by severe winter weather, including storms with excessive snow, excessive rain, high winds, and blizzard conditions, that occurred from Oct. 1, 2009 and continuing. Farmers and ranchers in the following counties in Nebraska also qualify for natural disaster assistance because their counties are contiguous: Dawes, Deuel, Garden, Scotts Bluff, Sheridan and Sioux counties. Farmers in the following counties in Colorado and Wyoming also qualify for natural disaster assistance because their counties are contiguous: Colorado: Logan, Sedgwick, Weld; Wyoming: Goshen, Laramie. All counties listed above were designated natural disaster areas May 6, 2010, making all qualified farm operators in the designated areas eligible for low interest emergency (EM) loans from USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA), provided eligibility requirements are met. Farmers in eligible counties have eight months from the date of the declaration to apply for loans to help cover part of their actual losses. FSA will consider each loan application on its own merits, taking into account the extent of losses, security available and repayment ability. FSA has a variety of programs, in addition to the EM loan program, to help eligible farmers recover from adversity.
Source: <http://www.kmeg14.com/Global/story.asp?S=12458050>

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Water Sector

22. *May 12, St. Joseph News-Press* – (Missouri) **Mo. FFs respond to hazmat incident.** When a yellowish-white cloud of vapor erupted from a ruptured barrel May 11, firefighters evacuated everyone living near the Maysville, Missouri, water plant. That included about 50 people who live on the south side of town next to Missouri Highway 33, said the Central DeKalb County Fire Protection District chief. "This worked like it is supposed to," said the Department of Natural Resources' on-scene coordinator for hazardous chemical spills. Firemen and public works employees noticed the yellowish liquid was reacting with water on the ground from recent rains, he said. They chose evacuation and decided not to put water or any chemicals on the spill. The incident started when two public works employees were moving some old barrels from behind a building, located across the parking lot from the water plant, said Maysville's public works director. An employee started to move one barrel and it ruptured when it was touched, he said. The employees did the right thing and called 911. This was about 1:30 p.m., and the stinky cloud started spreading. The sheriff closed Highway 33, and the call was made to notify authorities that there was a spill. Tests performed by two Region H employees determined that the spill was acidic and most likely hydrochloric acid. Residents of the DeKalb County community got the all-clear to return at about 4 p.m.
Source: <http://www.firehouse.com/news/top-headlines/mo-ffs-respond-hazmat-incident>

23. *May 12, East Bay Newspapers* – (Rhode Island) **Vandal(s) release water from Watson Reservoir.** Someone broke into the control area at Watson Reservoir, turned the spigots and released as much as 40-million gallons of water last week. Authorities have no suspects but continue to investigate this crime, the Little Compton, Rhode Island police chief said May 11. Police were alerted to the incident Wednesday, May 5, by a worker from the Newport Water Department who had discovered it during a routine check. Locks had been cut as had the chains that secure the large reservoir valve handles. The chief said that one or two of the valves had been opened, allowing large amounts of water to escape. The water loss is a rough estimate, he said, based on the fact that the Newport Water employee said the water level of the 688-acre reservoir had dropped by about a foot. The water ran into Pachet Brook and from there toward Nonquit Pond and on into the Sakonnet River. Police do not know if this was a random act of vandalism or whether someone had purposely targeted the reservoir for some reason, the chief said. They also do not know how long the water had been flowing before the release was discovered. Several years ago, someone released a large volume of water from that same reservoir during the dry season by removing a control board from the dam. Newport Water owns and manages the reservoir's water, which it usually uses as a supplemental source in the dry, summer months.
Source: <http://www.eastbayri.com/detail/135827.html>
24. *May 12, WSAZ 3 Huntington* – (West Virginia) **Water leak causing street flooding in Charleston.** A street in Charleston, West Virginia, keeps flooding, but no one knows where the water is coming from. Neighbors tell WSAZ.com they believe there may be a leak in the middle of Wyoming Street, but they can not get the water turned off. The leak appears to be in the 400 block of Wyoming Street. According to people who live along the street, the road has flooded, but the water has not entered any homes. The neighbors are worried about the elderly people who live along the street. Residents claim they have called West Virginia American Water since noon May 11, but no one has done anything about it. A spokesperson with West Virginia American Water tells WSAZ.com the problem was reported Tuesday afternoon and a crew did look at the leak. The crew determined it was not a severe leak and because of the rainy conditions the problem would not be fixed until Wednesday. The crew believed the rain would have caused the road to become treacherous if a hole was made to repair the problem.
Source: <http://www.wsaz.com/news/headlines/93569364.html>
25. *May 11, WMUR 9 Manchester* – (New Hampshire) **Boil order issued for Bretton Woods.** A precautionary boil water order has been issued for Bretton Woods, New Hampshire after a water main break. Most residents and businesses, including the Mount Washington Hotel, were without water May 11 after the water main break at a pumping station. Officials said crews had planned to replace a coupling elbow at the station Tuesday morning, but it gave way and drained the system. Officials asked residents to boil their water for the next few days as water supplies return. Two consecutive rounds of clean water samples will have to be obtained before the boil order is lifted. No samples have tested positive for E. coli so far, so officials said the order is precautionary.
Source: <http://www.wmur.com/newsarchive/23517969/detail.html>

26. *May 10, Nashville City Paper* – (Tennessee) **Metro reserves continue to grow.** According to the Metro Water Services director, Nashville’s (Tennessee) water-reserve supply is operating at 88 percent of its capacity. At its lowest, reserves had been measured at 37 percent of operating capacity. “The conservation efforts by the citizens of Nashville has been very successful,” he said. At a news conference May 10, he said Nashvillians must continue to limit their water use until the K.R. Harrington water treatment plant, which had been submerged by floodwater, is functioning again. He said the process should take a week at a minimum. The water services director said repairs at K.R. Harrington are going well, but several daunting tasks still remain: Walls within a 9 million-gallon tank must be pressure washed; electrical circuits require cleaning; filters have to be replaced; and the plant’s chemical-feeding system awaits repairs and testing. When the plant is fixed, the water quality must be tested and approved by the Tennessee Department of Energy and Conservation, as well as an outside authority. In the meantime, Davidson County residents will continue to receive all their tap water from the Omohundro water treatment plant, the city’s lone operating treatment plant. Also, bottled water distribution continues.
Source: <http://nashvillecitypaper.com/content/2010-flood/water-metro-reserves-continue-grow>

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

27. *May 12, Los Angeles Times* – (California) **State regulators to inspect Olive View hospital.** State regulators said May 11 that they plan to inspect Olive View-UCLA Medical Center as soon as possible, following admissions by hospital and county officials that they did not know the neonatal intensive care unit had been downgraded for more than a year and a half. County health officials announced a shift in policy, even as they continued to say the county-run facility in Sylmar, California was allowed to care for seriously ill babies despite what the state called a “critical medical staffing deficiency.” Going forward, Olive View will transfer all babies who need ventilators for more than four hours, bringing them closer to meeting state requirements for a low-level neonatal intensive care unit. “That’s a new decision that we’ve made for this interim period,” said the interim director of the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services. The facility is applying to regain mid-level neonatal intensive care unit status, he said.
Source: <http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-babies-20100512,0,2868387.story>
28. *May 11, KRNV 4 Reno* – (Nevada) **3 dental van employees become sick outside elementary school in Reno.** Three employees working in a mobile dental van parked outside of a grade school in Reno, Nevada became ill after they inhaled noxious gases caused by chemicals used to develop x-rays, officials said. The Saint Mary’s Regional Medical Center van was parked outside of Roger Corbett Elementary School May 11, when an error in the mixing of chemicals occurred, officials said. There were no

children in the van, and only the three employees were affected, officials said. The incident triggered a busy response from area emergency crews including the hazardous-materials team. The mobile dental unit was there to provide free exams, according to a city of Reno spokesperson. The school went into a code yellow lockdown as a precaution. The affected workers went back to Saint Mary's after becoming sick. The children were kept in the school during the incident.

Source: <http://www.mynews4.com/story.php?id=16760&n=122>

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Government Facilities Sector

29. *May 12, Associated Press* – (Texas) **Glass tubing broke in A&M lab explosion.** Two Texas A&M graduate students were treated for minor injuries after glass tubing overpressurized and broke during a lab experiment. A Texas A&M spokesman said the students were working with dry ice near a fume hood when the accident happened. The spokesman said the May 11 lab accident, which forced the Chemistry Annex to be evacuated for about 45 minutes, remains under investigation. An official with A&M's environmental health and safety department said physical plant employees safely cleaned up the debris in the fourth-floor research lab.

Source: <http://www.chron.com/dispatch/story.mpl/ap/tx/7001390.html>

30. *May 12, WESH 2 Orlando* – (Florida) **Police: Student intended to blow up school.** Students from a Sharpes, Florida high school are back in class May 12 after a fellow student is accused of wanting to blow up their school. Authorities said a 16-year-old Eau Gallie High School student was caught with bomb-making materials May 11 in Brevard County. Police said the student had written instructions defining the best locations to place bombs to cause the most destruction at the school. At school in the student's backpack and locker, police found bomb-making instructions, wire cutters, knives, and unspecified ingredients for bombs. Police did not describe the ingredients or say if they were explosive. The student was arrested before school started. According to the school's principal, "Teachers and the school resource officer were tracking the teenager's Internet use while at school for weeks." The student is charged with attempting to make a destructive device and is being held at the Juvenile Detention Center in Sharpes.

Source: <http://www.wesh.com/news/23526217/detail.html>

31. *May 12, Associated Press* – (Wisconsin) **Dane County bomb squad called to federal courthouse in Madison after abandoned backpack found.** The Dane County bomb squad was called to the federal courthouse in Madison, Wisconsin because of an abandoned backpack. A police spokesman said the bomb squad determined the backpack wasn't a threat about 1 a.m. May 12. Police had cordoned off an area around the courthouse after a guard found the backpack between the building and the building's gas main. The State Journal reports the backpack contained clothing and personal items.

Source: <http://www.fox11online.com/dpp/news/wisconsin/dane-county-bomb-squad-called-to-federal-courthouse-in-madison-for-abandoned-backpack>

32. *May 11, WOAI 4 San Antonio* – (Texas) **Evacuations at middle school ordered due to strong chemical odor.** Parts of a San Antonio, Texas middle school had to be evacuated May 11 due to a strong chemical odor. Students and staff inside the gym, cafeteria, and Fine Arts Building at Bernard Harris Middle School reported smelling the odor shortly before 11 a.m. School officials evacuated the buildings, and a team from the San Antonio Fire Department's Hazardous Materials unit was called to the school to determine what was causing the odor and whether or not it was harmful. Students were moved to the academic wing of the school and were served sack lunches in their classrooms. Four adults and two students were treated by EMS during the incident. All were released and allowed to return to the building. The haz-mat team later confirmed the odor originated in a mechanical room. School officials told News 4 WOAI the cause of the water leak is believed to be from a faulty chemical pump, which was leaking bleach. The SAFD haz-mat unit performed air-quality testing in the affected areas and determined the air was safe to breathe. The buildings were set to reopen for school May 12. School officials sent home a letter with students to inform parents about the evacuation.

Source: <http://www.woai.com/news/local/story/Evacuations-at-middle-school-ordered-due-to/YjvvB6jTZ0SjY8TX9UuvaQ.csp>

33. *May 11, Daily Collegian* – (Pennsylvania) **Two students interviewed in connection to Atherton device.** Penn State Police interviewed two students they said constructed the device found at the University Park, Pennsylvania campus in Atherton Hall May 5 that set off a bomb scare and caused about 500 people to be evacuated. Because the investigation is ongoing, Penn State Police did not release the students' names or say if the device was made to intentionally cause panic. Police evacuated Atherton Hall at about 9:03 p.m. when a custodian found a water bottle with wires and batteries protruding from it on the first floor, a Penn State spokesman said. While police were inspecting the device for more than three hours, two students approached police and said the suspicious device belonged to them, police said. After further investigation, police determined the device was not a threat.

Source:

http://www.collegian.psu.edu/archive/2010/05/11/two_students_interviewed.aspx?fbccchannel=1#{

34. *May 11, Seattle Times* – (Washington) **Fire department investigates mysterious chemicals in Kent.** Firefighters and the hazardous materials response team from the Kent, Washington Fire Department are working with the state department of ecology to identify the chemicals in the bed of a pickup parked next to Kent's City Hall. Kent police were alerted to the chemicals by a woman who found them near a trash bin in Kent. Concerned for animals near the trash bin, the woman placed the chemicals in the back of her pickup and brought them down to the Kent Police Department, parking on the first floor of the three-story parking garage next to city hall, according to a news release. After determining that the chemicals could pose a potential

hazard, police alerted firefighters and asked the department of ecology to investigate. The first floor of the parking garage has been cordoned off as a precaution. Over 50 containers of various sizes have been cataloged by investigators. Most appear to be similar to what would be found in a high school or college chemistry lab. Several of the chemicals have not been identified. None of the chemicals were leaking or creating an environment hazard, the news release said. The department of ecology plans to remove the chemicals from the scene and dispose of them. An investigation into where the chemicals were found and where they may have originated from will also be conducted.

Source:

http://seattletimes.nwsources.com/html/theblotter/2011839983_fire_department_investigates_m.html

35. *May 10, News 8 Austin* – (Texas) **Man detained with knife at Capitol raises issue of security.** Only a few months after a man opened fire on the south steps of the Capitol in Austin, Texas, another man allegedly brought a knife to a health care meeting May 10 inside the building. The 20-year-old man was detained by Department of Public Safety troopers at a hearing on health-care legislation costs. According to DPS, the man was talking to himself and acting strangely, pointing out lawmakers one by one. A witness reported the man's behavior to authorities, who then took the man out of the room. At some point when the man stood up, a knife fell out from either his pockets or the chair where he was sitting, according to DPS. Someone at the hearing saw the weapon and took it to troopers outside the meeting. The man was then sent to receive a mental health evaluation.

Source: <http://news8austin.com/content/headlines/270933/man-detained-with-knife-at-capitol-raises-issue-of-security>

For another story, see item [28](#)

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Emergency Services Sector

36. *May 12, Chicago Tribune* – (Illinois) **Citing problems, sheriff exits Harvey weapons-theft probe.** Only hours after Cook County, Illinois, sheriff's officials agreed to join an investigation into the theft of nearly two dozen weapons belonging to south suburban Harvey police, they pulled out. The sheriff's department had joined on the sole condition that its investigation be independent of that of Harvey police, a sheriff's spokesman said, but Harvey officials were not cooperating. The sheriff has been critical of Harvey's internal operations and his department was part of a task force that raided Harvey's police station in January 2007, seizing evidence from unsolved crimes. Investigators from state police and the state's attorney's office subsequently filed murder and attempted murder charges using the seized evidence. The stolen weapons, including high-powered assault rifles, were taken from a shooting range belonging to Harvey police, prompting a statewide alert this week.

Source: <http://www.chicagobreakingnews.com/2010/05/weapons-stolen-from-harvey-police-shooting-range.html>

37. *May 12, SouthCoastToday.com* – (Massachusetts) **Dartmouth man charged after suitcase left unattended at Fall River’s Government Center.** Government Center in Fall River, Massachusetts was evacuated late Tuesday morning, and a Dartmouth man was arrested for allegedly leaving a “suspicious” looking suitcase unattended on a sidewalk outside the building. Police charged him with a single felony count of threats causing evacuation or public inconvenience. Police said that after interviewing the suspect at the police station, they determined that his intent was to cause a disturbance and the eventual evacuation of Government Center by allegedly leaving the unattended suitcase. The suitcase was found by a Federal Emergency Management Agency employee about 10:38 a.m. near a cement planter on the west side sidewalk of Government Center, which is over Interstate 195. Government Center is designated as a FEMA Disaster Center due to the recent flooding throughout the region. A security detail has been assigned to the building. The FEMA employee saw the suitcase, and notified a security officer, who informed police. The state police bomb squad examined the suitcase and determined it was not an explosive.

Source:

<http://www.southcoasttoday.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20100512/NEWS/100519969/-1/NEWSMAP>

38. *May 12, Lafayette Journal and Courier* – (Indiana) **Firehouses to be storage solution.** Emergency management officials plan to move some hazardous materials response equipment to fire stations in Lafayette and at Purdue University in the coming months. The move is being made, in part, to mitigate a storage crunch that Tippecanoe County, Indiana, has been working to solve for months. The director of the Tippecanoe Emergency Management Agency told the county council May 11 that two large trailers, and a pickup truck that is used as a pull vehicle will be moved to the Lafayette and Purdue fire stations over the summer. Along with storing the equipment, the fire departments will assume primary response duties for hazardous material incidents within the county under this new arrangement. The county’s hazardous materials workers and volunteers will continue to be the first responders for incidents outside of Tippecanoe County, because Tippecanoe Emergency Management Agency is the lead agency within the Indiana Department of Homeland Security’s nine-county District 4. The crew will serve a supplementary role for incidents within Tippecanoe County.

Source: <http://www.jconline.com/article/20100512/NEWS02/5120326>

39. *May 12, Associated Press* – (Louisiana) **Coast Guard worker: Firefighting efforts when Gulf rig exploded were uncoordinated.** A Coast Guard worker said he was not aware of anyone coordinating efforts to put out a fire on a drilling rig that exploded in the Gulf of Mexico last month. A civilian Coast Guard worker who helped coordinate search and rescue efforts after the blast April 20, made the remarks at a hearing May 11 in suburban New Orleans. When asked whether uncoordinated firefighting efforts could lead to the sinking of a disabled vessel, he said that was “exactly correct.” He said putting out fires on the water requires a great deal of training and coordination. He said

a platform owner may be responsible for enlisting somebody to coordinate firefighting efforts. But he added that he was unsure of who was responsible for coordinating those efforts.

Source: <http://www.wreg.com/news/sns-ap-la--gulfoilspill-firefighting,0,6082652.story>

40. *May 11, KGTV 10 San Diego* – (California) **Report says county needs 14 more fire stations.** San Diego County in California needs 14 more fire stations, according to a new report commissioned by the county board of supervisors. “It’s the first time the San Diego region has had a blueprint for the future,” said a supervisor, who initiated the \$300,000 study by Citygate Associates of Sacramento. The study examined the county’s needs when it comes to fire protection and emergency medical services. “The report concludes that we are really doing better than people think we are,” she said. “But we have a long way to go yet.” The 14 new fire stations the report recommended would include two in Oceanside, one near Rancho Santa Fe, 10 in the city of San Diego, and one in Santee. The three North County stations would cost nearly \$20 million to build and \$5.4 million per year to staff and operate. The other 11 would cost \$72 million to build and \$20 million per year to operate. The report concluded that the changes will take five to seven years as local governments recover from the economic downturn.

Source: <http://www.10news.com/news/23523471/detail.html>

For another story, see item [12](#)

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Information Technology Sector

41. *May 12, The Register* – (International) **Server-based zombies power souped-up DDoS assault.** Hackers have begun using compromised servers instead of client PCs to launch more powerful denial of service attacks. Hundreds of Web servers are infected with a DoS application that transforms them into zombie drones, according to database security firm Imperva. These zombie servers are controlled using a simple Web application, consisting of just 90 lines of PHP code. Servers are harder to compromise than desktop PCs, which can potentially be compromised as easily as tricking a user into opening a maliciously constructed e-mail or visiting a dodgy Web site. However once compromised, servers offer more horsepower and, typically, fatter pipes for throwing out spurious traffic. Attacks launched from Web servers may also be more difficult to detect. “Trace backs typically lead to a lone server at a random hosting company,” Imperva warns.

Source: http://www.theregister.co.uk/2010/05/12/zombie_server_ddos/

42. *May 12, SC Magazine* – (International) **Only two patches released by Microsoft for May, as main talking point surrounds SharePoint vulnerability.** Microsoft released two bulletins for critical vulnerabilities on the May 11 patch Tuesday. Security bulletin MS10-030 is a Windows-based update resolving a vulnerability affecting Outlook Express, Windows Mail and Windows Live Mail. Microsoft claimed that to

successfully take advantage of this vulnerability, an attacker would either have to host a malicious mail server or compromise a mail server, or they could perform a man-in-the-middle attack and attempt to alter responses to the client. The data and security team manager for Shavlik Technologies, claimed that this bulletin affects every supported Microsoft operating system, however the Microsoft e-mail clients - Windows Live Mail and Windows Mail - are not installed by default on some of the affected operating systems and will require a user to install the client. The other bulletin, MS10-031 addresses one vulnerability in Microsoft Visual Basic for Applications (VBA). The update addresses the vulnerability by modifying the way VBA searches for ActiveX controls embedded in documents.

Source: <http://www.scmagazineuk.com/only-two-patches-released-by-microsoft-for-may-as-main-talking-point-surrounds-sharepoint-vulnerability/article/169998/>

Internet Alert Dashboard

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

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

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Communications Sector

43. *May 11, IDG News Service* – (National) **Bill would require FCC report before reclassifying broadband.** A Florida Congressman has introduced legislation to require the U.S. Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to deliver a detailed cost-benefit analysis to Congress before moving forward with a plan to reclassify broadband as a regulated common-carrier service. The bill would also require the FCC to conduct a market study to show “market failure” in the broadband industry before moving forward with the plan to reclassify broadband. The FCC Chairman’s plan to reclassify broadband as a regulated service is a mistake the Florida Representative said at a press conference May 11 organized by Americans for Prosperity, an antiregulation advocacy group. The effort will hurt the FCC’s goal of making broadband available to all U.S. residents, he said. “I think this is a partisan move by him to regulate the Internet,” the Representative said. “This curious step by [the] Chairman would reverse course and ... do an end run around Congress, where this issue should and must be debated first.”

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9176583/Bill_would_require_FCC_report_before_reclassifying_broadband

44. *May 11, Associated Press* – (International) **Drifting satellite threatens US cable programming.** A TV communications satellite is drifting out of control thousands of miles above the Earth, threatening to wander into another satellite’s orbit and interfere with cable programming across the United States, the satellites’ owners said May 11. The communications company Intelsat said it lost control of the Galaxy 15 satellite

April 5, possibly because the satellite's systems were knocked out by a solar storm. Intelsat cannot remotely steer the satellite to remain in its orbit, so Galaxy 15 is creeping toward the adjacent path of another TV communications satellite that serves U.S. cable companies. Galaxy 15 continues to receive and transmit satellite signals, and they will probably overlap and interfere with signals from the second satellite, known as AMC 11, if Galaxy 15 drifts into its orbit as expected around May 23, according to the two satellite companies. AMC 11 receives digital programming from cable television channels and transmits it to all U.S. cable systems from its orbit 22,000 miles (36,000 kilometers) above the equator, SES World Skies said. It operates on the same frequencies as Galaxy 15.

Source:

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5jsD1ADq1E1T72pmwbLWgez1asEZgD9FKU1PO0>

45. *May 11, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency* – (Washington) **Bothell wireless facility faces \$57,000 fine for diesel spill.** Under an order with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, New Cingular Wireless has agreed to pay a \$57,255 penalty for spilling more than 12,000 gallons of diesel at its Bothell, Washington data center in 2008 in violation of the federal Clean Water Act. According to the order, on Aug. 1, 2008, New Cingular Wireless spilled approximately 12,432 gallons of diesel when an above-ground storage tank overflowed on its property. The spill traveled across an asphalt area and into a storm drain that empties into a wetland pond adjacent to Par Creek. The company cleaned up the spill in early September 2008.

Source:

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/0/5930E7643A01AD38852577200077DB73>

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Commercial Facilities Sector

46. *May 12, Arizona Daily Star* – (Arizona) **Serial arsonist targeting churches northwest of Tucson.** A serial arsonist is targeting northwest side churches, Pima County Sheriff's Department investigators say. Four church fires since April 9 are all related and likely the work of one or more individuals working together, said the head of the Sheriff's Department's Criminal Investigations Division. "What we're seeing at the scenes leads us to believe it's the same person," he said. The fires are being labeled hate crimes because they involved churches, he said. His department has been in contact with the U.S. Attorney's Office and the U.S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms. The most recent fire happened Monday night at the Catalina Lutheran Church in Catalina, about 15 miles north of where the first three incidents occurred. Despite the distance, the captain said investigators are confident all four fires are connected. The fact they are not happening in just one area is even more concerning. "They're operating at a pace that's alarming to us," he said.

Source: http://azstarnet.com/news/local/crime/article_cfa62cf4-5df7-11df-b54c-001cc4c03286.html

47. *May 11, Virginian-Pilot* – (Virginia) **Powder at Beach Westin believed safe.** Virginia Beach, Virginia fire officials ran hazardous materials tests to identify a mysterious white powder found in the sales office of The Westin Virginia Beach Town Center May 10. They all came back negative. Three hours after arriving, blocking off the street, and limiting access to the building, authorities think they identified the substance as coffee residue. Somebody had spilled a few packets of creamer and sugar and had not bothered to clean up. The mess was far from the coffee machine and alarmed one of the workers at the Westin, the Virginia Beach battalion chief said. Authorities had to take precautions and test for everything, he said. The substance is still being sent out to be positively identified, but officials believe it is benign.
Source: <http://hamptonroads.com/2010/05/white-powder-found-westin-town-center-harmless-how-about-coffee-break?cid=lstst>
48. *May 11, Foxnews.com* – (New York) **Parts of Times Square evacuated after suspicious package.** Authorities evacuated parts of Times Square in New York City once again due to a suspicious package. The suspicious package was called in at 9:06 p.m., though the package is believed to be garbage, NBC New York reports.
Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/us/2010/05/11/parts-times-square-evacuated-suspicious-package/>
49. *May 11, KIRO 7 Seattle* – (Washington) **3 accused of failed attempt to firebomb store.** Lacey police have arrested three men in connection with a failed attempt to firebomb a convenience store in Lacey, Washington. Police said the three men were apparently upset about a purchase they had made at the store recently. The men constructed a Molotov cocktail and threw it through the window of Harry's Market on College Street. But damage to the store consisted of a broken window because the men forgot to light the Molotov cocktail on fire before throwing it.
Source: <http://www.kirotv.com/news/23522042/detail.html>
50. *May 11, South Florida Sun Sentinel* – (Florida) **Bogus pipe bomb found in Pompano Beach park.** The Broward Sheriff's Office investigated a report of a pipe bomb at a Pompano Beach, Florida park May 11. The incident occurred shortly before 8 p.m. at Exchange Club Park in the 2800 block of Northeast 24th Street, the sheriff's office said. The sheriff's bomb squad determined that the object was not an actual explosive device, but instead a bogus bomb about 18 inches long consisting of two PVC pipes with exposed wires, tape, and aluminum foil.
Source: http://articles.sun-sentinel.com/2010-05-11/news/fl-pompano-pipe-bomb-report-brf-20100511_1_pipe-bomb-exchange-club-park-actual-explosive-device

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National Monuments and Icons Sector

51. *May 12, KFDM 6 Beaumont* – (Texas) **Wildfire danger growing in East Texas.** Due to extremely dry conditions, the Texas Forest Service has shifted some fire crews to southeast Texas because of increasing wildfire occurrence and the presence of

hurricane debris. The agency also has mobilized a helicopter to the region to assist with wildfire suppression and structure protection. A recent fuel-dryness map produced by the state forestry and rural firefighting agency shows most vegetation in southeast Texas is either critically or extremely dry. An accompanying fire-danger graphic shows fire danger within this region as either high or very high. Southeast Texas residents especially must use increased caution with all outdoor fire and equipment use.

Source: <http://www.kfdm.com/news/texas-37769-fire-southeast.html>

52. *May 12, National Park Service* – (Arizona) **Flagstaff tactical operations team called in to assist rangers in Grand Canyon National Park.** At approximately 1 p.m. May 11, National Park Service investigators attempted to contact a male subject in Grand Canyon National Park in Grand Canyon, Arizona, after they became aware that he had an outstanding warrant. The man was visiting a local resident and was staying in a house in a park residential area. Because the subject was believed to be in possession of a weapon, park personnel decided to take every precaution to protect the safety of their team and local residents; and after several unsuccessful attempts to engage the subject, park rangers established a perimeter around the house while investigators continued to try to communicate with him. Additionally, the Flagstaff Tactical Operations Team was called in at approximately 1:40 p.m. to provide support, assistance and a tactical response if necessary. At the same time, all nearby residences were evacuated and the roads into the area were closed off. At approximately 7:30 p.m., having exhausted all other options, the tactical team entered the home and found the subject deceased from an apparent self-inflicted gunshot wound.

Source: http://www.nps.gov/grca/parknews/2010-105-11_tactical.htm

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Dams Sector

53. *May 11, WZVN 7 Fort Myers* – (Florida) **Damaging Lake O releases to continue.** The Army Corps of Engineers said it has no choice to release water from Lake Okeechobee in Florida into the Caloosahatchee, even though the water is killing oyster, shrimp, and clam beds in the river. Lake Okeechobee was recently listed by Popular Mechanics magazine as one of the top 10 infrastructure projects that must be fixed now. The Herbert Hoover Dike is nearly 80 years old and is labeled an “active failure” by the US Army Corps of Engineers. Water in the lake is at 15 feet and the the dry season is just now ending. A spokesman with the Corps said water must come out and it is coming in massive quantities down the Caloosahatchee River. That has environmental groups claiming it is negatively affecting wildlife. That may be just the start of it. If any significant hurricane were to hit, it could easily raise the water level four feet. The Army Corps of Engineers has budgeted \$120 million a year to rehab the lake and the dike. That project is expected to continue at least another 5 years.

Source: <http://www.abc-7.com/Global/story.asp?S=12464990>

54. *May 11, Riverside Brookfield Landmark* – (Illinois) **Dam could be notched by 2012.** Two thirds of the Hofmann Dam in Lyons, Illinois could be removed in two

years, a move that would allow the fish in the Des Plaines River to move upstream more freely and bring other ecological benefits to the river an engineer from the United States Army Corps of Engineers said recently. The Hofmann Dam project was just one project discussed during a presentation by two engineers from the Army Corps of Engineers at a public forum April 29 at the Riverside Township Hall sponsored by the Riverside Residents for Flood Protection. In addition to creating a large notch in the center of the Hofmann Dam, the project would remove the smaller Fairbank and Armitage Dams and re-grade Swan Park in Riverside, Illinois. However, notching the 258-foot-long Hofmann Dam would have little impact on flooding. An engineer with the Army Corps said that punching a big hole in the Hofmann Dam would provide only slight benefits, he estimated an inch or two, in flood reduction, but result in a lot of ecological benefits. The Hofmann Dam project is estimated to cost as much as \$7.7 million. The federal government would contribute 65 percent of the funding while the state would have to chip in the remaining 35 percent in what would be a joint project between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Illinois Department of Natural Resources.

Source:

<http://www.rblandmark.com/main.asp?SectionID=1&SubSectionID=1&ArticleID=6132>

55. *May 11, Associated Press* – (Tennessee) **Corps of Engineers says releasing water from Tenn. dam prevented more damage to Nashville.** The release of water from a dam upstream of Nashville, Tennessee during historic flooding has prompted a U.S. Senate inquiry into whether the public was adequately warned about rising waters downstream. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers said May 11 the controlled release of water from Old Hickory Dam the weekend of May 1-2 prevented the lake from spilling over the dam and flooding Nashville with an additional four feet of water. Dams all around middle Tennessee took on large amounts of water during the record rainfall that weekend. Nashville received a total of 13.5 inches over two days, causing lakes and rivers to swell with runoff. The dams around Nashville are mostly used for river navigation and have limited space to store floodwaters, said the chief of water management for the Nashville District.

Source: <http://www.39online.com/news/nationworld/sns-ap-us-tennessee-flooding-corps,0,4254643.story>

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