



# Homeland Security

## Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 24 February 2011

**Current Nationwide Threat Level**

**ELEVATED**

*Significant Risk of Terrorist Attacks*

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

### Top Stories

- Reuters reports that Ford Motor Co., facing government pressure after 77 injuries, announced plans to recall nearly 150,000 F-150 pickup trucks to fix air bags that could deploy without warning, a fraction of the vehicles the government contends should be called back and repaired. (See item [13](#))
- According to the Associated Press, the U.S. State Department said officials are processing thousands of dual U.S.-Libyan nationals, private U.S. citizens, and nonessential embassy staffers for a ferry trip out of Libya where hundreds have died in protests. (See item [32](#))

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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. *February 23, Elyria Chronicle-Telegram* – (Ohio) **Ice storm cuts power across area.** Some 5,000 customers across northern Ohio remained without power February 23 following a February 22 ice storm. A FirstEnergy spokesman said the storm cut power to 200,000 customers from Toledo to Youngstown. Pockets of outages remained February 23, including neighborhoods in North Ridgeville, Avon and Avon Lake, the

spokesman said.

Source: <http://chronicle.northcoastnow.com/2011/02/23/ice-storm-cuts-power-across-area/>

2. *February 23, Holland Sentinel* – (Michigan) **56,000 still without power in lower Michigan.** Approximately 56,000 Consumers Energy electric customers in lower Michigan were still without power February 24. More than 183,000 customers were affected by weather-related outages since a winter storm began February 20. Around 120 crews from Indiana and Ohio went to Michigan to help restore power, according to Consumers Energy officials. The majority of customers were expected to have power by February 25, but some residents of the hardest-hit counties were told they would have to wait until February 26.  
Source: <http://www.hollandsentinel.com/news/x1694035397/56-000-still-without-power-in-lower-Michigan>
3. *February 23, KPTV 12 Portland* – (Oregon) **PGE worker wounded in downtown explosion.** A small explosion in an underground electrical vault burned a Portland General Electric (PGE) worker February 22 in Portland, Oregon. Firefighters were called to the 1900 block of Southwest Morrison Street across from PGE Park. On that block, the Civic Condominiums and the Morrison Apartments share the same underground parking garage where the vault is located. Power went off in both buildings and evacuations followed. A PGE spokeswoman said the electrical worker was working on a commercial meter when an arc flash occurred, burning her and starting the fire. She was taken to the burn center at Legacy Emanuel Hospital. PGE crews were working with fire investigators to determine the cause of the incident.  
Source: <http://www.kptv.com/news/26956777/detail.html>
4. *February 22, Long Beach Press-Telegram* – (California) **Tanker spills oil into Long Beach harbor.** At least 700 gallons of oil spilled into the Long Beach, California harbor when a ship's tank overflowed during a fueling operation alongside Pier A, forcing the partial closure of the port's inner waterways February 22. The spill occurred when an internal transfer of oil aboard the Libyan-registered tanker Al Jalaa went awry, washing across the vessel's deck and into the water February 21. By noon February 22, an estimated 5,000 feet of boom had been deployed to contain the mess, and 5 boats were on scene skimming waterways for oil. The U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) closed portions of the Back Channel and areas around Piers B and C as a precaution, a USCG spokesman said. It was unclear if any other ships had been forced to delay their arrival or departure. The affected area is home to a Toyota auto terminal, oil farm, a sportfishing operation, and container yard. No animal deaths or injuries had been reported by late February 22. The cause of the incident was being investigated by USCG, Fish and Game, and local port authorities.  
Source: [http://www.presstelegram.com/news/ci\\_17453676](http://www.presstelegram.com/news/ci_17453676)
5. *February 22, Palestine Herald Press* – (Texas) **Explosion destroys oil trucks near Brushy Creek.** No one was injured as a result of an oil truck explosion February 22 near the northern Anderson County community of Brushy Creek in Texas. The

Anderson County sheriff's chief deputy said two employees of Kilgore-based C&S Lease Services were servicing a well around 8 a.m. when the incident occurred. "They have a boiler that heats the oil on the truck and it caught fire, which caught the truck on fire, which caught the oil on fire," the chief deputy said. The hot oil truck which contains costly equipment, in addition to a pickup truck, was destroyed as a result of the fire, the chief deputy said. An Anderson County official estimated the total loss to be in the vicinity of \$200,000 to \$250,000. At one point, small propane tanks started exploding, according to the chief deputy, with those explosions reportedly heard as far away as 3 miles. The explosion occurred approximately 50 yards from oil holding tanks.

Source: <http://palestineherald.com/local/x62853130/Explosion-destroys-oil-trucks-near-Brushy-Creek>

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

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## **Chemical Industry Sector**

6. *February 23, Sunbury Daily Item* – (Pennsylvania) **Fuel spill cleanup continues on Route 235.** Nine months after a tanker truck rolled and spilled 7,500 gallons of fuel on Route 235 in Snyder County, Pennsylvania, hazardous-materials crews are expected to return soon to continue what has proven to be a complicated, time-consuming cleanup. A state department of environmental protection spokesman said haz-mat crews initially recovered about half of the spilled fuel using vacuum trucks, and an undetermined amount of the fuel would have been burned up in the fire that followed the May crash. The spill that resulted from the crash was 40 times the amount that typically leaks following a truck accident, county emergency management officials have said. However, the quantity of fuel spilled has made the cleanup particularly difficult. A groundwater monitoring system was installed, along with a temporary pump and treatment system.  
Source: [http://dailyitem.com/0100\\_news/x1348433163/Fuel-spill-cleanup-continues-on-Route-235](http://dailyitem.com/0100_news/x1348433163/Fuel-spill-cleanup-continues-on-Route-235)
7. *February 22, Associated Press* – (Ohio) **Coast Guard checks Ohio River barge alcohol leak.** The Coast Guard is investigating an alcohol leak on a barge in the Ohio River in Ohio. The isopropyl leak was reported February 21. The captain of the tug vessel notified authorities at Coast Guard Sector Ohio Valley that alcohol was leaking from the top of a barge the tug was pushing. An unknown amount spilled onto the deck of the barge about 5 miles south of Cincinnati. A Coast Guard pollution investigation team was sent to the scene. A temporary patch has been placed over a hole to secure the leak. The cause of the leak is under investigation.  
Source: <http://www.wfmj.com/Global/story.asp?S=14072958>

For more stories, see items [21](#) and [23](#)

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

8. *February 23, Brattleboro Reformer* – (Vermont) **Source of VY tritium elusive.** During a conference call with Vermont Yankee staff the week of February 14 regarding the ongoing groundwater contamination investigation at the nuclear plant in Vernon, Vermont, technicians said the source is still unknown. Pressure tests and boroscope exams have been completed on two of five underground lines in the vicinity of the RAD Waste Building, according to a Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) spokesman. The plant stack sump discharge line and the Augmented Off-gas Delay Pipe Drain Line have also been checked, he said. One possibility is a phenomenon called rainout. Yankee staff said rainout refers to what happens when an airborne release of tritium is occurring from the plant, typically via the plant stack, at the same time there is precipitation. “The tritium can be deposited on plant buildings or the ground and subsequent rainfall can wash that contamination into the groundwater at the site,” he wrote in an e-mail. “When we are seeing fluctuations in groundwater contamination, particularly at the low levels being measured in GZ-24S.” The latest well sample showed 1,000 picocuries per liter of tritium, down from 8,139 on January 26, the NRC spokesman wrote. Vermont’s chief of radiological health said rainout can also affect the plant’s sewer system, but noted all manholes at the plant showed no signs of tritium.  
Source: [http://www.reformer.com/localnews/ci\\_17456040](http://www.reformer.com/localnews/ci_17456040)
  
9. *February 23, LoHud.com* – (New York) **Indian Point 3 goes offline to repair a leaking pipe.** Entergy Nuclear officials took Indian Point 3 offline February 22 to repair a leaking pipe that brings Hudson River water into the Buchanan, New York, nuclear plant to cool its equipment. There has been no release of radioactive material and none was expected during the shutdown, regulators and plant officials said. The shutdown was planned rather than done under emergency conditions, but Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) officials said they were evaluating whether it would count against any performance standards.  
Source: <http://www.lohud.com/article/20110223/NEWS02/102230329/-1/NEWSFRONT/Indian-Point-3-goes-offline-to-repair-a-leaking-pipe>
  
10. *February 23, Platts* – (National) **Nuclear units can operate beyond 60 years, with R&D: DOE official.** No reason has yet been discovered why light-water power nuclear reactors could not operate beyond 60 years, but coordinated, near-term research efforts should address the issues, industry and government officials said February 22. Co-sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), and the Nuclear Energy Institute, the 3-day workshop in Washington D.C. examined “life beyond 60” issues for power reactors. The NRC Chairman told the workshop “it’s very important that we guard against any potential sense of complacency about aging management and license renewal.” Some 61 of the 104 operating U.S. reactors have had their initial 40-year licenses renewed by NRC for an additional 20 years. The NRC Chairman said “the industry has done good work in

developing effective aging management programs to meet NRC safety requirements. This is a track record that the industry can be proud of. But it's also important to recognize that we have very limited experience in seeing how aging management programs actually work after the initial 40-year period of operation." He added that "if the industry's research demonstrates that licensees can safely conduct extended operation beyond 60 years, the NRC has every reason to believe that the licensing reviews will proceed efficiently and effectively."

Source:

<http://www.platts.com/RSSFeedDetailedNews/RSSFeed/ElectricPower/8578886>

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## **Critical Manufacturing Sector**

11. *February 23, Associated Press* – (Kentucky) **Couple accused of stealing parts from Toyota plant.** A couple is accused of stealing between \$20,000 and \$40,000 worth of catalytic converters from the Toyota plant in Georgetown, Kentucky, WKYT reported February 23. A Georgetown police lieutenant told WKYT that one of the robbers was contracted to work at the plant. He was arrested February 19 after an employee saw him and realized he should not have been at the plant. The man's girlfriend is also under arrest after they say she dumped two duffel bags full of catalytic converters behind a business. Police are looking at surveillance video to figure out how many times the man went into the building, and Toyota is checking inventory to figure out how many parts are missing. Police believe the thefts began in September 2010.  
Source: <http://www.wave3.com/story/14082278/couple-accused-of-stealing-parts-from-toyota-plant>
  
12. *February 23, WITN 32 Washington* – (North Carolina) **Worker injured in Hertford County plant explosion.** A worker at the Nucor Steel Plant in Cofield, North Carolina, was burned and sent to the hospital February 22, according to a security officer. Exactly what happened is unclear, but the officer believed the worker was operating a slag pot carrier when an explosion happened.  
Source:  
[http://www.witn.com/news/headlines/Worker\\_Injured\\_In\\_Hertford\\_County\\_Plant\\_Explosion\\_116721034.html?ref=034I](http://www.witn.com/news/headlines/Worker_Injured_In_Hertford_County_Plant_Explosion_116721034.html?ref=034I)
  
13. *February 23, Reuters* – (National) **Ford to recall F-150 pickups over air bags.** Under government pressure, Ford Motor Co. said February 23 it will recall nearly 150,000 F-150 pickup trucks to fix air bags that could deploy without warning, a fraction of the vehicles the government contends should be called back and repaired. The recall covers trucks from the 2005-2006 model years in the United States and Canada for what Ford calls a "relatively low risk" of the air bag deploying inadvertently. The government, however, has urged the company to recall 1.3 million F-150s from the 2004-2006 model years, citing 77 injuries from air bags deploying accidentally. The recall is being closely watched because Ford's F-Series pickup truck is the best-selling vehicle in America. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) has been

investigating the air bag issues for more than a year. In May 2010, Ford told the government that the problems did not “present an unreasonable risk to vehicle safety” because there was a low rate of alleged injuries and the air bag warning lamp provided an “obvious warning” to drivers. Ford told NHTSA in May that some drivers reported injuries that included burns from contact with the air bag, bruises, neck and back pain, and minor cuts. “Two customers reported broken or chipped teeth and two reported fractures of the extremities (elbow or arm),” wrote the director of Ford’s automotive safety office. The NHTSA’s acting director of defect investigations, wrote in a memo November 24, 2010 that the agency knew of 238 cases in which the air bags deployed inadvertently and noted that Ford made production changes to the trucks in 2006 and 2007 to fix the air bag wiring and other issues. The memo said that Ford did not believe the issue “warrants any corrective action” because the number of reports and incidents were low, owners received “adequate warning” from the air bag warning light and the “resulting injuries are minor in nature.” The government said Ford should conduct a recall “to remedy this defective condition.”

Source: <http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/41733165/ns/business-autos/>

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## **Defense Industrial Base Sector**

Nothing to report

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## **Banking and Finance Sector**

14. *February 23, Associated Press* – (National) **‘Burly Bandit’ gets 10 years.** A bank-robbing bus driver who hit banks in six northeastern states is going to prison for 10 years. A judge in Bangor, Maine, also ordered the 48-year-old to pay \$81,059 in restitution to the banks he hit during a 3-month spree last summer. Nicknamed the “Burly Bandit” by the FBI, the convict — a driver for Greyhound — pleaded guilty to 11 counts of robbery for the heists at banks and credit unions, which started April 9, 2010 in Buffalo, New York, continued in Vermont, Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Rhode Island, and ended with a July 13 job at Bangor Savings Bank in Orono, Maine. He was arrested the day after that heist following tips from people who recognized him from surveillance photos.

Source: <http://www.wcsh6.com/news/local/story.aspx?storyid=149041&catid=2>

15. *February 23, Associated Press* – (Arizona) **Former loan officer charged in federal fraud case.** A former Phoenix, Arizona, loan officer charged in a \$40 million mortgage fraud scheme is facing additional charges. The U.S. Attorney’s Office said the 42-year-old was arrested by the FBI February 18. The suspect was being charged with bankruptcy fraud after prosecutors alleged she changed her name in May 2010. Prosecutors said the suspect tried to hide assets and income from bankruptcy court by filing them under her previous name. The suspect’s other trial, related to her alleged

role in a nearly \$40 million mortgage fraud scheme is set to begin in August.  
Source: <http://www.kswt.com/Global/story.asp?S=14081488>

16. *February 22, Federal Information & News Dispatch, Inc.* – (Massachusetts) **Man accused of \$4M fake life settlement fraud.** A Massachusetts man, also living in Florida, was charged February 17 in federal court with mail and wire fraud in connection with a 6-year scheme involving purported investments in “life settlements,” in which it is he defrauded about 20 victims of approximately \$4 million. The 67-year-old suspect, of Winthrop, and Jupiter, Florida, was indicted on 5 counts of wire fraud and 13 counts of mail fraud. The indictment alleged that from 2002-2008, the suspect engaged in a scheme to defraud investors by misrepresenting to people how those funds would be used, invested and repaid. He instead diverted the funds for his own personal and business purposes.  
Source: <http://insurancenewsnet.com/article.aspx?id=248845>

17. *February 19, Reuters* – (Colorado) **Tied-up teller arrested in Colorado bank robbery.** A Colorado bank teller who claimed he was robbed at knifepoint and tied up inside a bank vault was arrested February 19 along with his alleged accomplice after police said the crime was an inside job. The 22-year-old male was taken into custody after detectives determined “something was just not right” with his harrowing story, a spokesman with the Longmont, Colorado police department told Reuters. “This bank is inside an open, busy Wal-Mart,” the spokesman said. “A bank robber is not going to take the time to go to all that work.” He said police and FBI agents responded February 18 to reports of an armed robbery at the Academy Bank in Longmont. A bank employee said she discovered the teller bound with duct tape inside the bank vault when she reported for work, according to the police report. The teller told police “an Asian or Hispanic man with a chubby face” wearing an Army jacket and wielding a knife robbed him shortly after the bank opened, the spokesman said. Bank surveillance cameras captured images of a man matching the teller’s description fleeing the bank with an undisclosed amount of cash. Investigators identified the robber as a 22-year-old male, and from there the scheme unraveled, police said. On February 19, police searched the teller’s home and found “money and other evidence related to the crime,” the spokesman said. The robber and teller were arrested and charged with aggravated robbery and conspiracy to commit a theft of over \$20,000. The teller also faces a false reporting charge.  
Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/02/19/us-bank-robbery-idUSTRE71I3S220110219>

For another story, see item [43](#)

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## **Transportation Sector**

18. *February 23, KTVI 2 St. Louis* – (Missouri) **Freezing rain blamed for 26-car crash on I-64/40.** Twenty-one people were taken to the hospital February 23, after a nasty

chain reaction crash on Interstate 64 in St. Louis, Missouri. And officials are blaming it on some freezing rain and an icy patch on the interstate. The chain reaction crash happened around 5 a.m. on Interstate 64/Highway 40. One after another, cars kept smashing into the vehicles in front of them. A total of 26 cars and 2 semi trucks were involved in the crash. The St. Louis Fire Department reports two pumpers and two ambulances were also damaged in the crash. Emergency workers said it was practically impossible to get the people out because they were packed so tightly together. Emergency crews had to walk on top of the mass of vehicles just to see how many people were trapped. Cries could be heard coming from the cars and some people were sprawled out on the pavement waiting for medical attention. Authorities said it was amazing more people did not suffer serious injuries. The Missouri State Highway Patrol said they responded to 50 to 60 calls for service February 23 due to icy road conditions in St. Charles, St. Louis and Lincoln counties.

Source: <http://www.fox2now.com/news/ktvi-highway-40-20-car-pile-up-traffic-accident-022311,0,3125075.story>

19. *February 23, KREM 2 Spokane* – (Washington) **Train cars derail, blocks roads.** Authorities worked to clean up train cars that derailed February 22 in Kettle Falls, Washington. Authorities said the cars came off the tracks between 8:30 p.m. and 9 p.m. coming to a rest on some major roads. Kettle Falls Police said four cars blocked Juniper and Myers Street. The train was not carrying any hazardous materials.  
Source: <http://www.nwcn.com/home/?fId=116728814&fPath=/news/local&fDomain=10222>
  
20. *February 22, KFSN-TV 30 Fresno* – (California) **Punctured fuel tank halts Amtrak in Bakersfield.** A punctured fuel tank brought an Amtrak train to a halt February 21 just outside Wasco, California. Bakersfield station KGET-TV reports, several hundred passengers left downtown Bakersfield around 6 p.m. February 21, but 3 hours later they ended up back in Bakersfield. Amtrak said shortly after leaving Bakersfield, the train hit debris on the track, damaging the diesel fuel tank. Passengers said it took 30 to 45 minutes to get everyone off the train and they walked a quarter of a mile with their luggage in hand to board another Amtrak train to Bakersfield. The train that broke down was connected to the new train and towed back to Bakersfield for repairs.  
Source: <http://abclocal.go.com/kfsn/story?section=news/local&id=7972891>

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## **Postal and Shipping Sector**

Nothing to report

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## **Agriculture and Food Sector**

21. *February 23, Southeast Missourian* – (Missouri) **Area agriculture distributors to pay \$55,000 EPA fine for Clean Air Act violations.** Southeast Missouri farm supply company ADI Agronomy will pay a \$54,922 federal penalty for the failure to comply with risk management elements of the Clean Air Act. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced the settlement February 22. EPA noted that ADI’s facilities in Kennett, Missouri, known as Ag Distributors, “failed to establish and implement maintenance procedures to ensure the ongoing integrity of its anhydrous ammonia process equipment, and failed to document that the equipment complied with recognized and generally accepted good engineering practices, among other violations.” The facility is subject to heightened federal scrutiny because it houses at least 10,000 pounds of the corrosive chemical anhydrous ammonia.  
Source: <http://www.semissourian.com/story/1705302.html>
  
22. *February 22, Associated Press* – (International) **WADA seeking information from China on beef tainted with steroids.** The World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) has asked China for information on the use of steroids in raising cattle after some athletes blamed their positive doping tests on tainted beef. The director general of WADA said February 22 that “there seems to be some evidence” that Chinese cattle may have been stimulated with steroids. A recent study by a WADA-accredited lab in Germany found that 22 of 28 travelers returning from China tested positive for low levels of clenbuterol, probably from food contamination.  
Source: <http://www.baltimoresun.com/sports/nationworld/wire/sns-ap-wada-china-tainted-beef,0,2636857.story>
  
23. *February 22, Honolulu Star-Advertiser* – (Hawaii) **Workers evacuated after ammonia leak.** Seventeen workers at Coca Cola Bottling Co.’s Mapunapuna’s facility in Honolulu, Hawaii evacuated the building February 22 after the accidental release of ammonia from the plant’s refrigeration unit. The alarm was called in at 12:30 a.m. by someone riding a bike near the plant. Two plant employees suffered from minor respiratory and eye irritation, fire officials said, but they were treated and released at the scene. Firefighters and police closed a 1 block area around Mapunapuna and Pukaloa streets. As a safety precaution, about a dozen employees at Armstrong Produce also were evacuated since the produce wholesale warehouse is downwind of the Coca-Cola plant. Officials reopened the area at 2:30 a.m.  
Source: <http://www.staradvertiser.com/news/breaking/116669289.html>

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## **Water Sector**

24. *February 23, Galveston County Daily News* – (Texas) **Oily sheen cleanup continues along coastline.** The U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) could learn February 23 the source of an oily sheen about 1 mile long that coated the rocky coastline of Galveston Bay near San Leon in Texas. USCG’s first report of the incident came February 16, a spokesman said. An environmental cleaning crew began working to remove the substance February 17, and placed booms in the water. The spill near Sixth Street left some residents

feeling ill, USCG reported. As of February 22, USCG did not know what the oily sheen was, whether it could be refined oil or fuel. USCG was working with the Texas General Land Office to determine the spill's source. No wildlife was reported to have been affected by the sheen. There was no estimate on how long the cleanup would take.  
Source: <http://galvestondailynews.com/story/213274>

25. *February 21, Associated Press* – (West Virginia) **House committee strips coal slurry ban from bill.** A West Virginia House of Delegates committee February 21 eliminated a permanent ban on disposing of coal slurry by pumping it underground from legislation aimed at curbing the practice. The decision by the house judiciary committee is a win for coal mine operators, who want to continue slurry injections. And it is a defeat to coalfield residents and environmental groups who say the practice pollutes groundwater and is linked to cancer, lead poisoning, kidney failure, and other health problems. The committee left intact tax breaks designed to encourage coal companies to research alternatives for treating slurry and sent the measure to the house finance committee. The liquid is left over after washing coal to remove rock and other material before it is shipped to customers and usually is stored in surface ponds. The state Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) put a moratorium on new slurry injection permits 2 years ago, but 13 operations are allowed to continue the practice. The DEP Secretary said the moratorium will remain until he is convinced the agency can regulate the practice and keep the public safe.  
Source: <http://sundaygazettemail.com/News/201102211483>

26. *February 21, KHOU 11 Houston* – (Texas) **Houston: Buffalo Bayou sewer line repair to cost \$7M.** A sewage leak in Buffalo Bayou in Houston, Texas, in November 2010 will cost almost \$7 million to permanently repair, according to an appropriations request submitted to city council. Council members are scheduled to take up the issue at their meeting February 23. According to documents submitted to the council, the leak happened November 30, 2010, when the Northside Wastewater Treatment Plant's 144-inch sewer line "experienced heavy raw wastewater flow which exceeded its handling capacity." The wastewater was diverted to another 84-inch line, which developed large holes. That allowed the sewage to enter a storm sewer and spill into the bayou. The following month, a separate leak nearby dumped about 100,000 gallons of sewage into the bayou. Both leaks were plugged, but a public works spokesman said more permanent repairs are needed. If the council passes the measure, the repair is expected to last until December 30.  
Source: <http://www.khou.com/news/Bufalo-Bayou-sewer-line-repair-to-cost-7-million-116619113.html>

For more stories, see items [6](#) and [8](#)

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## **Public Health and Healthcare Sector**

27. *February 23, Washington Post* – (Maryland) **Clinic fined \$4.3 million for failing to provide patients’ medical records.** Federal officials ordered Cignet Health in Prince George’s County, Maryland, to pay a \$4.3 million penalty for failing to provide medical records to dozens of patients, and for failing to cooperate with a subsequent government investigation. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services’ (HHS) Office for Civil Rights said February 22 Cignet Health, which operates 2 clinics in the county, failed to give a copy of medical records to 41 patients who requested them from September 2008 to October 2009. Under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) privacy rule, records must be provided no later than 60 days after a request. The patients filed complaints with the HHS Office for Civil Rights, which enforces privacy and security laws. During the investigation, Cignet did not cooperate and refused to provide the records, even after a federal subpoena was issued. It is the first time federal officials have imposed a civil penalty for violations of the HIPAA privacy rule since it went into effect in 2003. In previous instances, offenders agreed to change practices or pay fines to settle the case.

Source: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2011/02/22/AR2011022207094.html>

28. *February 23, Bloomberg News* – (New Jersey; International) **FDA warns Sanofi about plant violations.** Sanofi-Aventis SA has received warning letters from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regarding its facilities in Germany and New Jersey. An inspection found the company did not establish or follow procedures to prevent contamination at a facility in Frankfurt, Germany, and workers there had not been given adequate training, FDA said February 22. In a separate letter, FDA said Sanofi’s New Jersey site had not complied with regulations on the reporting of side effects and post-marketing studies. The week of February 14, the French drug maker agreed to buy Genzyme Corp., a Cambridge, Massachusetts-based biotechnology company, for \$20.1 billion. FDA asked Sanofi to report within 15 days on the steps it plans to take to correct violations at both facilities. Measures previously taken by Sanofi to correct problems in New Jersey are inadequate, according to the FDA. The agency said it may withhold approval of any drug applications until it has confirmed that Sanofi has addressed the problems.

Source:

[http://www.boston.com/business/healthcare/articles/2011/02/23/fda\\_warns\\_sanofi\\_about\\_plant\\_violations/](http://www.boston.com/business/healthcare/articles/2011/02/23/fda_warns_sanofi_about_plant_violations/)

29. *February 22, Federal Bureau of Investigation* – (Georgia) **APS Healthcare pays \$13 million to settle false claims act case.** The U.S. Attorney’s Office February 22 announced that “Innovative Resources Group, LLC,” doing business as “APS Healthcare Midwest,” of White Plains, New York, has reached a \$13 million settlement with the United States and the state of Georgia to resolve allegations under the False Claims Act. The United States’ share of the settlement is \$5.2 million. The government alleges APS submitted false claims to Medicaid through the Georgia Department of Community Health because it did not provide specialty services related to disease management and case management to members of the Georgia Medicaid Management Program (GAAMP) during the period from September 1, 2007 through February 28,

2010. Under the GAMMP contract, APS agreed to provide case and disease management services to Georgia Medicaid recipients and was paid a monthly fee for each member receiving such services. The government contends APS failed to provide required services to a large portion of Medicaid recipients, and over-billed the Georgia Department of Community Health in its monthly invoices.

Source: <http://atlanta.fbi.gov/dojpressrel/pressrel11/at022211.htm>

30. *February 22, Contra Costa Times* – (California) **Children’s Hospital Oakland fined for safety violations.** State regulators fined Children’s Hospital Oakland in California \$10,350 February 22 for safety violations that include inadequately protecting employees from violence in its emergency department. The hospital has had several dramatic incidents in recent months, noted the California Occupational Safety and Health Administration (Cal-OSHA) citation. In July 2010, a 49-year-old gunman held a registered nurse and a ward clerk hostage before being subdued by police. In October, a gunshot victim was dropped off on hospital property within minutes of a second gunshot victim walking in and a third being carried there by bystanders. Cal-OSHA faulted the hospital for not having adequate procedures for protecting employees as they respond to gunshot victims dropped off at hospital doors, and for not effectively training employees to deal with workplace violence. Cal-OSHA also cited the hospital for not documenting it included nonmanagement employees in developing plans for protecting against bloodborne pathogens, not doing antibody testing of at least one health care worker after a Hepatitis B vaccination, and conducting workplace violence training primarily by having employees read written materials instead of having interactive training with appropriate instructors. The hospital will appeal the fine, the president and CEO said. He noted that in the past 3 years, out of 156,289 patients treated in the hospital’s emergency department, 77 were gunshot victims. Of those 77, 8 were dropped off by vehicle, walked in or, in one instance, came by bicycle.

Source: [http://www.insidebayarea.com/news/ci\\_17453339](http://www.insidebayarea.com/news/ci_17453339)

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## **Government Facilities Sector**

31. *February 23, LaCrosse Tribune* – (Wisconsin) **Capitol remains open, but security added.** Both houses of the Wisconsin Legislature reconvened February 22 with hundreds of law enforcement officers protecting the lawmakers. The La Crosse County Sheriff’s Department sent two deputies to the state capitol February 22 to help monitor protesters inside the building. “There has been no violence. There have been no issues,” a sheriff’s captain said. The department responded to a statewide request for an extra 600 officers.

Source: [http://lacrosetribune.com/news/article\\_f0b58bc0-3f0a-11e0-a372-001cc4c03286.html](http://lacrosetribune.com/news/article_f0b58bc0-3f0a-11e0-a372-001cc4c03286.html)

32. *February 23, Associated Press* – (International) **Evacuation effort for Americans begins.** The U.S. State Department said officials are processing U.S. citizens for a ferry trip out of Libya. The government arranged the trip to evacuate Americans from Libya

to the Mediterranean island of Malta. The State Department believes there are several thousand dual U.S.-Libyan nationals, and about 600 private U.S. citizens in Libya. Officials have been trying to get 35 nonessential embassy staff members and family members of embassy personnel out of the country. The U.S. President's administration has not yet outlined any steps to take against the Libyan regime for its violent crackdown on protesters that has seen hundreds of people killed.

Source: <http://www.kspr.com/sns-ap-us-libyaupdate.0,1397849.story>

33. *February 22, Honolulu Star-Advertiser* – (Hawaii) **Arson investigation opened in Waimanalo school fire.** Police arson detectives in Honolulu, Hawaii, opened an investigation into a fire set February 20 outside of a classroom at Waimanalo Elementary School. Firefighters responded at 7:30 p.m. to what was initially reported as a rubbish fire. They found a small fire had burned the door of a classroom. Police said people attending a meeting at the school put out the fire. Fire investigators later determined that fire was intentionally set and turned the matter over to police. Damage was estimated at more than \$500.

Source: <http://www.staradvertiser.com/news/breaking/116665629.html>

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## **Emergency Services Sector**

34. *March 1, National Defense Magazine* – (National) **Tunnel detection task force speeds sensors, robots to border.** A federal task force organized to halt the construction of illegal tunnels being built underneath the U.S.-Mexico border has begun deploying ground sensors and robots in the Southwest. With 129 tunnels detected under U.S. borders since 1990, DHS, U.S. Northern Command, the Army Corps of Engineers, and other agencies formed the rapid reaction tunnel detection joint capability technology demonstration in 2010. Its first task was to deploy a series of passive seismic sensors, which can detect movement underground at hotspots. That happened within months of the organization's formation, the program's operational manager said. Leadership does not want to wait "3 years" before deploying technology, she added. We "want to get something in the field now — this year," she said. Next will be tethered robots sent into tunnels for mapping and situational awareness. They will be inserted through 8-inch-wide boreholes drilled down to underground cavities. They come equipped with a suite of sensors, including electro-optical, infrared, and chemical-biological to detect weapons of mass destruction. Mapping can reveal entrances that emerge on private property, thus allowing law enforcement agencies to obtain search warrants, she said. An untethered robot that can independently move in tunnels is under development, she said.

Source:

<http://www.nationaldefensemagazine.org/archive/2011/March/Pages/TunnelDetectionTaskForceSpeedsSensorsRobotstoBorder.aspx>

35. *February 23, Bolivar Herald-Free Press* – (Missouri) **County E-911 board leases software trouble-shooting.** The Polk County E-911 Board in Bolivar, Missouri

approved the purchase of a 6-month lease with a 911 database management company at its February 18 meeting. A technician with Intrado, which provides 911 infrastructure, service, and problem-solving, is familiar with Polk County's E-911 system, the director said, and has continued to trouble-shoot system issues when he is available. Though purchase of a lease means a technician can diagnose and treat issues with the 911 system more quickly, hardware for the county's system is no longer made. Intrado's service may not guarantee a fix if the issue is a broken part. The dispatch center's insurance only covers damage due to major events, such as lightning or a tornado, a spokesman said. Should the 911 system fail, calls will be routed to Greene County in Springfield, Missouri. ProQA, a computer-aided priority dispatching system, will go live February 28. Dispatchers have been trained on the system and have met with nearly all of the county's fire departments, sharing how dispatching will change. Source: [http://bolivarmonews.com/news/article\\_eb90423e-3ed8-11e0-a4ba-001cc4c002e0.html](http://bolivarmonews.com/news/article_eb90423e-3ed8-11e0-a4ba-001cc4c002e0.html)

36. *February 22, WGGB 40 Springfield* – (Massachusetts) **Armed men attack Sunderland police.** Two armed men stormed a police station in Sunderland, Massachusetts, on a mission to free their brother, February 21. "I've been a police officer for 36 years. I'm a retired police chief. This is the first time someone has come into the police station and threatened officers to get someone out of jail," said a former Northfield police chief and current Sunderland officer. "They were basically armed with their hands and pepper spray," a sergeant said. But the Sunderland chief noted the two men also had a butcher knife. The men were angry over their brother's arrest. Threats made over the phone to kill the officers had suddenly become reality. "We're in trouble, especially when I saw that knife," the Sunderland officer thought to himself. "Get the knife away from him and get him restrained as quickly as I can," the Sunderland chief said. "We called for back-up and back-up was fortunately in the area and arrived. By that time, we had both in custody." All three brothers were booked and spent the night at the Franklin County House of Corrections, pending their February 22 arraignment. Source: <http://www.wggb.com/Global/story.asp?S=14072667>

37. *February 22, Firehouse.com* – (National) **USFA releases firefighter injury report.** A new report compiled by the United States Fire Administration (USFA) shows that between 2006 and 2008, there were 81,070 firefighter injuries, with the most occurring on the fireground. Officials examined the nature, types, and causes of injuries through data submitted to National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS). They noted that very few injuries indicate problems with protective gear. "Only 9 percent indicate protective gear failures as a factor in the injury. Modern equipment and equipment standards, combined with current equipment replacement cycles, may preclude protective equipment failures. Firefighter gloves with wristlets, positive pressure self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA), and hoods account for 32 percent of equipment problems," the report said. It noted 41 percent of firefighter injuries were to the upper and lower extremities torso, arms, hands, legs, and feet, while the head and shoulder regions account for 26 percent of injuries.

Source: <http://www.firehouse.com/news/top-headlines/usfa-releases-firefighter-injury-report>

38. *February 22, Associated Press* – (California) **Inmate dies in attack at Centinela State Prison.** Authorities are investigating the stabbing death of an inmate at a remote state prison in Imperial County, California. A Centinela State Prison spokesman said February 22 the victim suffered puncture wounds in the chest and abdomen after being stabbed by two inmates February 21. He was taken to the emergency room where he was pronounced dead. Prison guards who stopped the attack in the maximum security yard found two man-made weapons made of metal. The spokesman said the alleged assailants have been placed in a segregation unit pending the investigation. The victim was serving the ninth year of a 19-year sentence for first-degree burglary in Kern County. The prison, located 15 miles north of the U.S.-Mexican border, houses about 4,235 inmates.

Source: <http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/n/a/2011/02/22/state/n184619S15.DTL>

For another story, see item [18](#)

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## **Information Technology Sector**

39. *February 23, Help Net Security* – (International) **41% of organizations not aware of security risks.** Forty-one percent of organizations are not well aware of or protected against IT security risks, according to McAfee. Another 40 percent are not completely confident they can accurately deploy countermeasure products thus leaving them at risk. The McAfee report found that to address these concerns, nearly half of all companies plan to spend an average of 21 percent more in 2011 on risk and compliance solutions. Overall, the survey indicated strong growth for risk and compliance products in 2011 with the majority of decision-making executives demanding integrated and automated solutions rather than point products.

Source: <http://www.net-security.org/secworld.php?id=10653>

40. *February 23, Softpedia* – (International) **Phishing on the rise again after holiday decline.** German antivirus vendor Avira warned the number of phishing attacks is again on the rise after a significant decline in December 2010. “While the numbers for Phishing in December were almost all red, showing a dramatic drop for the (.org) (-151 percent), (.com) (-76 percent), and (.net) (-24 percent) domains, we now have seen the exact opposite development in January 2011,” according to Avira. “Phishing was definitely on the rise and even if the malware URLs still show mostly as red numbers, some of them have also increased,” an Avira data security expert said. PayPal remains the most phished brand, having been targeted in almost 37 percent of attacks in January, an increase of 53 percent since December. eBay, was also among the favorite phishing targets, with attacks against the Web site almost doubling since December and accounting for 27 percent of the total.

Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Phishing-on-the-Rise-Again-After-Holiday-Decline-185762.shtml>

41. *February 22, The Register* – (International) **Facebook users subjected to more clickjacking.** Facebook users have been subjected to another round of clickjacking attacks that force them to authorize actions they had no intention of approving. The latest episode in this continuing saga, according to Sophos researchers, is a set of campaigns aimed at Italian-speaking users of the social network. The come-ons promise shocking videos about such things as the real ingredients of Coca Cola. Instead, they are forced into registering their approval of the videos using Facebook’s “Like” button. Clickjacking is a term that was coined in 2008. It describes attacks that allow malicious Web site publishers, or their users, to control the links visitors click on. They are typically pulled off by superimposing an invisible iframe over a button or link. Virtually every browser is vulnerable, although many come with safeguards that can make exploitation harder.  
Source: [http://www.theregister.co.uk/2011/02/22/facebook\\_clickjacking\\_attacks/](http://www.theregister.co.uk/2011/02/22/facebook_clickjacking_attacks/)
  
42. *February 22, Softpedia* – (International) **US spam levels begin to recover.** U.S. spam levels began recovering in January, which pushed the country back into the list of top 20 spam sources after 2 months of absence. According to data from security vendor Kaspersky Lab, the overall amount of spam slightly increased in January by 0.5 percentage points and averaged 77.6 percent of all e-mail traffic. Meanwhile, e-mail phishing levels remained low. This type of rogue traffic comprised 0.03 percent of all e-mails sent in January, a decrease of 0.1 percent compared to December. The percentage of e-mail messages carrying malicious attachments remained significant at 2.75 percent, representing an increase of 1 percent over the last month of 2010.  
Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Spam-Recovers-in-USA-185593.shtml>
  
43. *February 21, The Register* – (International) **Flash drives dangerously hard to purge of sensitive data.** In research that has important findings for banks, businesses, and security experts, scientists have found computer files stored on solid state drives are sometimes impossible to delete using traditional disk-erasure techniques. Even when the next-generation storage devices show files have been deleted, as much as 75 percent of the data contained in them may still reside on the flash-based drives, according to the research, which was presented the week of February 21 at the Usenix FAST 11 conference in California. In some cases, the SSDs, or sold-state drives, incorrectly indicate the files have been “securely erased” even though duplicate files remain in secondary locations. The difficulty of reliably wiping SSDs stems from their radically different internal design. Traditional ATA and SCSI hard drives employ magnetizing materials to write contents to a physical location that’s known as the LBA, or logical block address. SSDs, by contrast, use computer chips to store data digitally and employ an FTL, or flash translation layer, to manage the contents. When data is modified, the FTL frequently writes new files to a different location and updates its map to reflect the change. In the process, left-over data from the old file, which the authors refer to as digital remnants, remain.  
Source: [http://www.theregister.co.uk/2011/02/21/flash\\_drive\\_erasing\\_peril/](http://www.theregister.co.uk/2011/02/21/flash_drive_erasing_peril/)

For another story, see item [44](#)

### Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at [sos@us-cert.gov](mailto: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

44. *February 23, Help Net Security* – (International) **Spyware compromises 150,000+ Symbian devices.** A new variant of spyware “Spy(dot)Felxispy” on Symbian devices causing privacy leakage has recently been captured by the National Computer Virus Emergency Response Center of China. According to NetQin Mobile, there are more than a dozen variants of the spyware since it first was spotted, and the latest has affected more than 150,000 devices. Symbian is an open source system and software platform designed for smartphones and maintained by Nokia. Once installed, the spyware turns on the conference call feature without users’ awareness. When users are making phone calls, the spyware automatically adds itself to the call to monitor the conversation. NetQin Cloud Security Center detects the spyware can remotely turn on the speaker on the phone to monitor sounds around users without the users’ awareness. It is also capable of synchronizing the messages the user received and delivered to the monitoring phone.  
Source: [http://www.net-security.org/malware\\_news.php?id=1640](http://www.net-security.org/malware_news.php?id=1640)
  
45. *February 22, KXTV 10 Sacramento* – (California) **State Capitol vigil foe claims union web attack.** A Conservative radio talk show host who announced plans on his Web site to infiltrate a union solidarity vigil at the California capitol said his site had been shut down by a union cyberattack. “It was a massive denial-of-service attack that crashed the server,” said the host, 55, who had posted plans on his site to disrupt a candlelight vigil on the west steps of the capitol February 22. He said the computer attack began February 21. The site was still down early February 22, although the talk show host said February 22 it would be restored shortly. The vigil was organized by a number of labor groups to express solidarity for union supporters in Wisconsin fighting a Republican-led effort to strip collective bargaining rights. The Web site, cached by Google before it went down, encouraged anti-union activists to wear Service Employees International Union (SEIU) t-shirts concealing anti-union protest signs that would be brought out during the vigil: We will approach the cameras to make good pictures ... signs under our shirts that say things like “screw the taxpayer!” and “you OWE me!” to be pulled out for the camera (timing is important because the signs will be taken away from us). In a brief conversation with News10, the talk show host said he was never serious about the infiltration plan, and simply posted it on his Web site to bait his opponents.

Source:

<http://www.news10.net/news/article.aspx?storyid=124287&provider=top&catid=188>

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## **Commercial Facilities Sector**

46. *February 22, Denver Post* – (Colorado) **15-year-old charged in Springs Wal-Mart fire.** A 15-year-old is facing felony arson charges in a fire in the garden department of a Colorado Springs, Colorado Wal-Mart Supercenter, authorities said February 22. The fire was quickly doused by the store's sprinkler system. The teen is charged with first-degree arson and fourth-degree arson and is being held in a juvenile detention center, according to the Colorado Springs Fire Department. The small fire was reported at about 4 p.m. February 21. The store reopened February 22. No one was injured, but more than 40 firefighters responded to the call, including 4 engine companies. There was no structural damage to the building.

Source: [http://www.denverpost.com/breakingnews/ci\\_17454222](http://www.denverpost.com/breakingnews/ci_17454222)

47. *February 22, KHOU 11 Houston* – (Texas) **HPD: Woman charged with arson in fatal apartment fire.** Police say a neighbor is responsible for an apartment fire that killed an 11-year-old boy in Houston, Texas. The 40-year-old woman is charged with arson in connection with the fire, which started around 3 a.m. February 19 at a complex in the 8500 block of Broadway. Firefighters found the boy's body after extinguishing the blaze. They said the fire started on the patio of a downstairs apartment and quickly spread to surrounding units. He was found in the apartment above where the fire started. Police said the suspect was staying at her sister's apartment when they began arguing about how long she would be there. Investigators said she admitted to setting fire to a closet area that was connected to the exterior patio while her sister and another person were in a nearby bedroom.

Source: <http://www.khou.com/news/local/HPD-Woman-charged-with-arson-in-fatal-apartment-fire-116689064.html>

48. *February 22, KTXL 40 Sacramento* – (California) **Explosions and homemade bombs at Home Depot.** Explosions and a haz-mat situation startled employees February 22 at a Sacramento, California Home Depot. Just after 2 a.m., employees who were inside stocking heard loud explosions in the parking lot along Meadowview Road. Responding officers discovered that four homemade bombs spread around the parking lot and garden center had exploded. A fifth unexploded bomb was found. Haz-mat crews were called in to clean up the contents of the five bottle bombs — toilet bowl cleaner and foil. No one was hurt, and the ones that exploded did not do any damage.

Source: <http://www.fox40.com/news/headlines/ktxl-explosions-at-a-sacramento-home-depot-20110222,0,356373.story>

For another story, see item [3](#)

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## National Monuments and Icons Sector

49. *February 23, Fayetteville Observer* – (North Carolina) **Fire crews begin day 3 of fighting Cedar Creek blaze.** Weather conditions February 23 should allow firefighters to make more progress against a fire that has burned about 800 acres in the Cedar Creek community, according to North Carolina forestry officials. Firefighters planned their next steps during a strategy meeting early February 23, a spokeswoman for the North Carolina Forest Service said. The fire has been burning since February 21. No homes were lost, officials said. The fire is about 40 percent contained, the spokeswoman said, and firefighters hoped to make more headway February 23.  
Source: <http://www.fayobserver.com/articles/2011/02/23/1073430?sac=Home>
  
50. *February 22, Richmond Times-Dispatch* – (Virginia) **Light rain, snow help quell wildfires.** Light overnight rain and snow February 22 helped knock back wildfires on more than 6,000 acres of federal forest and park land in western Virginia. The fires, including one on nearly 2,000 acres in Shenandoah National Park, continued to smolder during the day February 22. A return of warm, dry, windy weather could cause them to flare up again, federal officials said February 22. None of the fires is contained or encircled. But one, on 665 acres in Craig and Roanoke counties, should be contained later February 22, a U.S. Forest Service spokeswoman said. The other two fires — one on 2,565 acres and one on 914 acres — are in Rockingham County west of Harrisonburg. Meanwhile, fires on more than 5,000 acres of private land across the state were all under control February 22, the Virginia Department of Forestry said. Most of the fires, aided by dry weather and stiff winds, began February 19.  
Source: <http://www2.timesdispatch.com/news/2011/feb/22/light-rain-snow-help-quell-wildfires-ar-859807/>
  
51. *February 22, Anniston Star* – (Alabama) **Two wildfires burn in Talladega National Forest.** U.S. Forest Service firefighters were battling two separate wildfires February 22 in the Shoal Creek Ranger District of the Talladega National Forest in Alabama. Officials have named the two fires; the “Beasley Branch” fire, first reported to firefighters February 21, is located on “very steep terrain” off Cleburne County Road 49, about 7 miles southeast of Piedmont, a press release from the Shoal Creek District press office said. Firefighters estimated the Beasley Branch fire to stretch between 50 and 75 acres. The second fire, called the “Fleet” fire, began February 19. Firefighters have that fire partially contained and were working February 22 to secure a line around the blaze, which had burned more than 600 acres of national forest and private lands, the press release said. The cause of both fires is under investigation, a Talladega National Forest spokeswoman said.  
Source: <http://annistonstar.com/bookmark/11549038-Two-wildfires-burn-in-Talladega-National-Forest>

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## Dams Sector

52. *February 23, Des Moines Register* – (Iowa) **New Birdland-area levee to be ‘much more reliable’**. Long-awaited reconstruction of the Birdland levee in Des Moines, Iowa, is roughly three-fourths complete as flooding elsewhere in Iowa offers a painful reminder of what the north Des Moines neighborhood has suffered over the years. Once complete, the roughly \$11 million project will provide the Birdland area with the strongest flood defense it has ever known. While not completely finished, reconstructed stretches of the levee, such as where a breach occurred in 2008, are already able to better withstand flood risks, though none are immediately anticipated. In many places, the newly constructed levee will be wider and about 2 feet to 4 feet taller than before. The earthen embankment is mostly constructed, and rock is being laid in other areas to armor shorelines and prevent erosion. Construction is on pace to finish in September or earlier. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers hired Ceres Environmental, a Minnesota contractor, for the project.

Source: <http://www.desmoinesregister.com/article/20110223/NEWS/102230357/New-Birdland-area-levee-to-be-much-more-reliable-?odysey=tab|topnews|text|News>

53. *February 22, Pittsburg Morning Sun* – (Kansas) **Safety concerns found for Eastern Kansas dam**. One dam in eastern Kansas has been ruled to have a high safety risk. According to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Tulsa district, the John Redmond Dam in rural Coffey County has been deemed to have a safety risk. The Tulsa district commander for USACE said the high risk rating is due to safety concerns at the Hartford Levee. That is because of potential consequences from seepage through the foundation and wave overtopping during a probable maximum flood. He said the dam itself was considered low risk. “Let me emphasize that currently there is no evidence to suggest that an emergency situation exists at any of our projects,” he said. Part of the measures the Corps will use to reduce the risk at the dam include construction of a filter to control the foundation seepage and piping in the ponding area as well as the installation of instruments to monitor foundation seepage. Dams near Council Grove and El Dorado were placed in a “moderate to high risk” category along with the Elk City project. He said risk reduction measures for the El Dorado Dam include updating emergency action plans and emergency exercises and the stockpiling of materials for use in the event of an emergency. USACE projects at Bill Hill, Fall River, Marion, and Toronto were all deemed to be “low-risk.”

Source: <http://www.morningsun.net/newsnow/x1027117765/Safety-concerns-found-for-Eastern-Kansas-dam>

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