



# Homeland Security

## Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report 21 October 2011

### Top Stories

- Some 70,000 bridges nationwide, including 215 in the Washington D.C. area, have been rated structurally deficient by federal, state, and local agencies, a new report said. – *Washington Post* (See item [14](#))
- More than half of Virginia's high-hazard dams do not meet minimum state safety requirements, according to a new report by the Virginia Department of Recreation and Conservation. – *Staunton News Leader* (See item [50](#))

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### Energy Sector

**Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: Physical: LOW, Cyber: LOW**

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

1. *October 20, San Francisco Chronicle* – (California) **Fuel spill closes 101 near Cotati.** Northbound Highway 101 near Cotati will be shut down until at least 2 p.m. as crews clean 4,000 gallons of gasoline that spilled from a wrecked fuel truck, the California Highway Patrol said. The fuel truck collided with another truck near the junction of Highways 101 and 116 at about 6:30 a.m. Officers closed all northbound lanes 20 minutes later. The southbound direction remains open. A hazardous materials team has been sent to the scene.

Source: <http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/c/a/2011/10/20/BAKA1LK6BM.DTL&tsp=1>

2. *October 20, Grand Rapids Press* – (Michigan) **Wind storm knocks out power to more than 40,000 statewide.** Strong winds knocked out power to thousands in Michigan, October 20, including 25,000 Consumers Energy customers and 15,000 DTE customers. Consumers was bringing in crews from Ohio to help with restorations. Saginaw Bay-area communities were the hardest hit for Consumers customers, with 8,100 outages in Saginaw County, 2,300 in Bay County and 1,300 in Genesee. In West Michigan, Muskegon County had 3,500 outages and Kent County had 1,000, according to Consumers. DTE Energy was reporting 15,000 customers lost service. In Clinton County, CMS Energy reported 1,100 customers without power.

Source:

[http://www.mlive.com/news/index.ssf/2011/10/wind\\_storm\\_knocks\\_out\\_power\\_to.html](http://www.mlive.com/news/index.ssf/2011/10/wind_storm_knocks_out_power_to.html)

3. *October 19, Fairbanks Daily News-Miner* – (Alaska) **Truck rolls over in South Fairbanks, spills 1800 gallons fuel oil.** A heating oil truck rolled over near Lakeview Terrace in Fairbanks, Alaska, October 19, spilling an estimated 1,800 gallons of fuel, according to the Fairbanks Fire Department. The Alaska Aero Fuels truck reportedly tipped on its side around noon while trying to turn onto Lakeview Terrace. City firefighters responded at 12:10 p.m. Medics tended to the injured driver who was still in the vehicle while another crew set up dikes to limit the spread of fuel, according to a fire department news release. Representatives from the company and a city public work truck helped with the cleanup. The oil truck was reported to be carrying 4,300 gallons of oil, according to the police department. Slick roads were a contributing factor in this and several other crashes in the area, the fire department said.

Source: [http://www.newsminer.com/view/full\\_story/16102142/article-Truck-rolls-over-in-South-Fairbanks--spills-1-800-gallons-fuel-oil?instance=home\\_lead\\_story](http://www.newsminer.com/view/full_story/16102142/article-Truck-rolls-over-in-South-Fairbanks--spills-1-800-gallons-fuel-oil?instance=home_lead_story)

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## **Chemical Industry Sector**

4. *October 20, Associated Press* – (Arkansas) **40,000 gallons of acetone aflame at artificial fingernail factory near Little Rock.** Firefighters have contained a chemical fire at a factory that produces artificial fingernails and related products in central Arkansas. The North Little Rock fire assistant chief said the fire at the Onyx Laboratories plant in Maumelle, just north of Little Rock, continued to burn early the afternoon of October 20, but is under control. He said one person was taken to a hospital. The assistant chief said up to 4,000 gallons of acetone ignited in the blaze. The Arkansas Department of Emergency Management earlier said some 40,000 gallons were alight. Fire engines blocked the road leading to the facility as firefighters sprayed water on an outbuilding where the fire burned. The building was used to fill bottles of nail polish remover for retail sale. Workers at light-industry businesses in the

immediate area were evacuated.

Source:

<http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/665907843127488e9be666ce1375b696/AR--Chemical-Fire-Arkansas/>

5. *October 20, WLEX 18 Lexington* – (Kentucky) **Tanker carrying hydrochloric acid overturns in Lincoln County.** A tanker truck carrying hydrochloric acid flipped over on a road in Lincoln County, Kentucky, late October 19, causing people in the area to close their windows to avoid the fumes, and part of the road to be shut down. Officials said the truck was carrying 78,000 pounds of hydrochloric acid to a water treatment plant when it ran off the road. Hazmat crews said only a few gallons leaked from the tanker, but people in the area were warned to shut their windows and doors because of the fumes. The road was reopened and the spill cleaned up by early October 20.

Source: <http://www.lex18.com/news/tanker-carrying-hydrochloric-acid-overturns-in-lincoln-county>

6. *October 19, Associated Press* – (Nebraska) **Nebraska fiberglass company cited for violations.** Federal labor officials want to impose nearly \$170,000 in fines on a Nebraska fiberglass company for violations of safety and health standards, the Associated Press reported October 19. The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) said October 19 that America's Fiberglass Animals was cited for eight repeat and seven serious violations found during an inspection at its plant in Minden. The agency said the inspection was a follow-up after the company moved operations from Hastings. The OSHA said the company was cited in 2010 for exposing employees to serious chemical hazards and for other dangerous conditions, and failed to correct them.

Source: <http://www.canadianbusiness.com/article/51935--nebraska-fiberglass-company-cited-for-violations>

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

7. *October 20, Denver Post* – (Colorado) **Judge halts uranium-mining plans in Colorado over environmental issues.** A federal judge ruled October 18 that U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) officials violated environmental laws when they re-launched a program to mine uranium and produce yellowcake fuel in Colorado. The judge ordered DOE officials to stop approving exploration, mining, and all other activities on 31 sites leased to uranium companies. The ruling affects about 25,000 acres southwest of Grand Junction along the Dolores and San Miguel rivers. A 53-page opinion said the DOE "acted arbitrarily and capriciously in failing to analyze site-specific impacts" on people and the environment. The judge also found DOE officials violated the Endangered Species Act by failing to consult with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service biologists about the impact of leasing uranium lands. The decision means federal overseers of the nation's push to develop fuel for nuclear energy must proceed

far more carefully and conduct a detailed analysis, with full public participation, of the likely effects that renewed uranium mining and milling would have on air, land, water, and people.

Source: [http://www.denverpost.com/news/ci\\_19152290](http://www.denverpost.com/news/ci_19152290)

8. *October 20, TCPalm.com* – (Florida) **FPL, NRC: No safety issue as Hutchinson Island reactor shuts down after water pump fails.** One of Florida Power and Light Co.'s (FPL) two nuclear reactors on Hutchinson Island was shut down for repairs of a cooling system water pump that was failing early October 19. Operators shut down Unit 1 around 5:30 a.m. because the malfunctioning part caused pressure to rise in a cooling system outside the reactor and nuclear containment building, a spokesman said October 20. "It is a non-nuclear, non-safety-related component," an FPL spokesman said. The shutdown was reported to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. And the commission, in an online report, said the power plant is "stable (and is) at normal operating temperature and pressure."

Source: <http://www.tcpalm.com/news/2011/oct/20/fpl-nrc-say-no-safety-issue-as-one-of-hutchinson/>

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## **Critical Manufacturing Sector**

Nothing to report

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## **Defense Industrial Base Sector**

9. *October 19, Los Angeles Fire Department Media and Public Relations* – (California) **Fire and hazardous materials clear industrial area in Sylmar.** Just before daybreak October 19, a small fire at a manufacturing plant in Sylmar, California, resulted in a protracted hazardous materials incident, requiring the evacuation of 220 people. At 6:16 am, the Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD) responded to a structure fire at 12500 North Gladstone Avenue, in the north section of the San Fernando Valley. Because of the type of business, the facility's size (nearly 350,000 square feet), and its contents, additional resources were requested. The fire erupted during a routine cleaning at "Spectrolab," a solar-cell, manufacturing plant for spacecraft power systems. Thanks to the quick thinking of the on-site, specialized cleaning personnel, the fire was swiftly extinguished and confined to one room of the facility. Despite that, there were extended operations by two LAFD hazardous materials squads, as they worked to stabilize the hazardous chemicals involved. The response included 122 firefighters, as well as the Los Angeles Police Department, and the Los Angeles County Health Hazardous Materials Division.

Source: <http://lafd.blogspot.com/2011/10/fire-and-hazardous-materials-clear.html>

## **Banking and Finance Sector**

10. *October 20, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* – (Pennsylvania) **FBI: Bethel Park latest target for serial bank robber.** A man investigators believe is responsible for two bank robberies in the past week struck again October 19, this time hitting a First Niagara Bank in Bethel Park, Pennsylvania, according to the FBI. A special agent with the FBI said the bank, on the 4000 block of Library Road, was robbed at around 9:15 a.m. Based on surveillance photos, the agency believes the same man robbed a Citizens Bank in McCandless October 14, and another branch of the same bank in Fox Chapel October 17. In each of the cases, the man handed a teller a note demanding money and told them he had a weapon, though none has been seen. The tellers complied and he made off with the cash in a small, light-colored SUV.  
Source: <http://www.post-gazette.com/pg/11293/1183506-55.stm>
11. *October 19, City News Service* – (California) **Well-Dressed Bandit arrested; suspect in 10 bank robberies.** A man suspected of committing 10 bank robberies in the San Diego-area — and dressing up for the occasions — was arrested October 19, authorities reported. He was taken into custody in the 5500 block of Friars Road in Mission Valley about 6:45 a.m., according to the FBI. He allegedly is responsible for a 16-month spree of heists committed by a thief nicknamed the "Well-Dressed Bandit" by investigators due to his tendency to wear a dark suit, leather jacket, or scarf during his crimes. During the most recent robbery, the thief tried to simulate a concealed gun by holding his hand stiffly in his jacket pocket, the FBI said. A witness saw him fleeing the scene of that crime in a black Lexus or Mercedes-Benz and was able to take down a partial license plate number. He was being held without bail in county jail and was expected to make his initial appearance before a federal judge October 21.  
Source: <http://ranchobernardo.patch.com/articles/well-dressed-bandit-arrested-suspect-in-10-bank-robberies>
12. *October 19, U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission* – (California; Nevada) **CFTC obtains permanent injunction against California resident Scott Bottolfson and his two companies for defrauding customers in multi-million dollar commodity pool Ponzi scheme.** The U.S. Commodity Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) October 19 announced a federal judge entered a consent order of permanent injunction against a man and Spirit Investments, Inc. (Spirit), both of Encinitas, California, and Increase Investments, Inc. (Increase) of Reno, Nevada, requiring them jointly and severally to pay a civil monetary penalty of \$6,813,462.51. The order also imposes permanent trading and registration bans against the defendants. The court's order stems from a CFTC enforcement action filed January 7, that charged the man, Spirit, and Increase with operating a \$14 million commodity pool Ponzi scheme, and misappropriating \$11 million of customer funds from at least 2002 through 2010. The order found the man solicited pool participants to trade commodity futures in two commodity pools, through his companies, Increase and Spirit. He solicited about \$14 million from participants to be traded in the pools, but instead of trading pool participant funds as promised, he deposited only about \$2.97 million into trading

accounts. The remaining \$11.03 million was deposited into his personal accounts and used for his personal expenses, to make so-called profit payments to participants, as is typical of a Ponzi scheme, or was otherwise misappropriated. Of the \$2.97 million deposited into trading accounts, he lost about \$845,000 trading, the order said. On February 11, judgment was entered against the man in the criminal case, finding him guilty of wire fraud. He received a 60-month jail sentence, and was ordered to pay \$6,813,462.51 in restitution.

Source: <http://www.cftc.gov/PressRoom/PressReleases/pr6125-11>

13. *October 19, Tulsa World* – (National) **Ex-SemGroup CEO settles in SEC suit.** The co-founder and former chief executive officer (CEO) SemGroup LP (SGLP) agreed October 18 to pay \$225,000 in fines and give up \$1.2 million worth of stock to settle a U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission's (SEC) civil lawsuit accusing him of misleading investors for his own gain amid the Tulsa, Oklahoma-based energy company's financial collapse in 2008. The former CEO's consent does not admit any wrongdoing or denial of the federal allegations, which included misrepresentation of SemGroup's dire financial situation while encouraging investors in subsidiary SemGroup Energy Partners LP in 2007 and 2008. The subsidiary touted its "stable and predictable revenues" from throughput and terminal agreements with the parent SemGroup worth more than \$100 million annually. The former CEO's oil futures trading strategy, however, led to \$2.7 billion in realized losses by July 2008, days before SGLP's stock tumbled 50 percent. "[He] should have known that SemGroup was not successfully managing commodity price risk ... He also should have known that more complete disclosure of these risks would be material to SGLP investors," the SEC filing stated. The former CEO, who was fired in October 2008, also will have to give up 150,000 units in the former SGLP, now called Blueknight Energy Partners. The company's oil futures trading strategy, guided by the former CEO, historically was profitable, but rising oil prices overwhelmed the strategy and increased SemGroup's net derivative liabilities to \$2.9 billion by May 2008, according to the federal filing. The former CEO sold SemGroup's trading book on the New York Mercantile Exchange to Barclay's around July 10. The move forced SemGroup to realize \$2.7 billion in market-to-market losses. Still, most of SGLP's investors knew nothing about the parent company's pending financial fall until July 17, when the value of units dropped from \$22.80 to \$11 in one day.

Source:

[http://www.tulsaworld.com/business/article.aspx?subjectid=49&articleid=20111019\\_49\\_E1\\_CUTLIN929907](http://www.tulsaworld.com/business/article.aspx?subjectid=49&articleid=20111019_49_E1_CUTLIN929907)

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## **Transportation Sector**

14. *October 19, Washington Post* – (District of Columbia; National) **Key Bridge, 14th St. Bridge among 215 area bridges rated structurally deficient.** Some 215 bridges in the Washington, D.C. region are structurally deficient, including three of the five major bridges that cross the Potomac into Washington, according to a report released October 19. The group Transportation for America said the Key Bridge, the Memorial Bridge,

and the 14th Street Bridge all need immediate repair. More than 215,000 vehicles cross them on an average day. The 14th Street Bridge is scheduled to undergo a complete overhaul in the next 4 years. The area bridges were among 70,000 nationwide rated structurally deficient by federal, state, and local agencies. That rating means they need substantial repair or replacement. Transportation for America, a coalition of groups focused on national transportation policy, compiled its report from 2009 Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) data, the most recent available. The FHWA explained that bridges are considered structurally deficient if significant load-carrying elements need repair. Rating a bridge deficient does not imply it is likely to collapse or is unsafe, but that it might need closer monitoring or more frequent inspections. The District had the region's oldest bridges, with an average age of 57 years, and 30 of them were in structural trouble, 12.3 percent of the total. Pittsburgh, which sits at the confluence of three rivers, had more deficient bridges than any other metropolitan area. About 30 percent of its bridges were bad. Oklahoma City topped the list of areas under 2 million people, with almost 20 percent of its bridges rated deficient, and Tulsa, Oklahoma ranked first in the under 1 million population category with close to 28 percent of its bridges in need of immediate repair.

Source: [http://www.washingtonpost.com/local/commuting/key-bridge-14th-st-bridge-among-215-area-bridges-rated-structurally-deficient/2011/10/19/gIQAFZkxL\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/local/commuting/key-bridge-14th-st-bridge-among-215-area-bridges-rated-structurally-deficient/2011/10/19/gIQAFZkxL_story.html)

15. *October 19, Associated Press* – (National) **FAA proposes fine for Utah-based Skywest airline.** The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) wants to fine Utah-based SkyWest Airlines \$160,000 for operating four flights earlier this year that officials said had incorrect weight balances. The FAA said in a news release October 19 that the St. George-based company failed to accurately document cargo and baggage loads on March 3 flights leaving San Diego, Phoenix, Omaha, Nebraska, and Missoula, Montana, en route to Salt Lake City. SkyWest has 30 days to respond to the FAA from the time it received the civil penalty letter. SkyWest has paid civil penalties in eight previous cases alleging similar problems of improper weight, balance, and loading calculations, and documentation.

Source: <http://www.fox13now.com/news/local/kstu-skywest-airline-faa-proposes-fine-for-utahbased-skywest-airline-20111019,0,2857270.story>

For more stories, see items [1](#), [3](#), [5](#), and [9](#)

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## **Postal and Shipping Sector**

16. *October 19, Hot Springs Village Voice* – (Arkansas) **Bogus e-mail targets postal customers.** Some Hot Springs Village postal customers are receiving bogus e-mails about a package delivery, according to an October 19 press release from the post office in Hot Springs, Arkansas. The e-mails contain a link that, when opened, installs a malicious virus that can steal personal information. The e-mails claim to be from the U.S. Postal Service and contain fraudulent information about an attempted or intercepted package delivery. The user is instructed to click on a link to find out about

the delivery. Clicking on the link activates a virus that can steal information such as user name, password, and financial account information, the release said. The post office advised users to delete the message without clicking on the link. The U.S. Postal Inspection Service is working to resolve the issue and shut down the malicious program.

Source: [http://www.hsvvoice.com/news/2011-10-19/Headlines/Bogus\\_email\\_targets\\_postal\\_customers.html](http://www.hsvvoice.com/news/2011-10-19/Headlines/Bogus_email_targets_postal_customers.html)

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## **Agriculture and Food Sector**

17. *October 20, Food Safety News* – (Minnesota; Wisconsin; Michigan) **Six ill in Minnesota Salmonella egg outbreak.** At least six people in Minnesota have Salmonella Enteritidis infections linked to contaminated organic eggs, Food Safety News reported October 20. The Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) and the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) said October 19 they are investigating the outbreak and have traced back the eggs to the Larry Schultz Organic Farm in Owatonna, where environmental testing confirmed the presence of Salmonella Enteritidis. The farm is cooperating with the investigation and has recalled its eggs, which were distributed to restaurants, grocery stores, food wholesalers, and food service companies in Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Michigan. According to state public health authorities, routine reportable disease monitoring identified six cases of Salmonella Enteritidis infection with the same DNA fingerprint. The individuals became ill between August 12 and September 24. The recalled eggs are packaged under the Lunds & Byerlys Organic, Kowalski's Organic, and Larry Schultz Organic Farm brands. They are packed in bulk and varying sizes of cartons (6-egg cartons, dozen-egg cartons, 18-egg cartons). Cartons bearing Plant Number 0630 or a "Sell by" date are NOT included in this recall.  
Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2011/10/six-ill-in-minnesota-salmonella-egg-outbreak/>

18. *October 20, Food Safety News* – (Illinois) **Feds seize food at Illinois warehouse.** Peanuts, flour, rice, and other foods stored in what regulators said was a rodent-infested warehouse in Streamwood, Illinois were seized by U.S. Marshals October 17. Under a warrant issued by a federal court in Illinois, and acting at the request of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), marshals confiscated the various food products from the warehouse owned by Chetak Chicago LLC. The FDA, in a news release, said it initiated the action after investigators during a recent inspection found "live rodent and birds, rodent carcasses, gnawed product packaging, significant amounts of rodent fecal matter, rodent urine stains, and rodent nesting material" in the food warehouse. According to the FDA, investigators collected more than 300 samples of materials showing significant unsanitary conditions, a violation of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act. The seized goods had been under an Illinois Department of Public Health embargo since August 17.  
Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2011/10/feds-seize-food-at-illinois-warehouse/>



19. *October 20, Food Safety News* – (National) **Taylor Farms salads recalled for Salmonella.** Taylor Farms Retail Inc. has recalled 3,265 cases of various salad blends that may be contaminated with Salmonella, Food Safety News reported October 20. The recall follows a random test conducted on a finished package of spinach by the Washington State Department of Agriculture. The salads were distributed in Arizona, California, Colorado, Florida, Kentucky, Missouri, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Oregon, South Carolina, Texas, Virginia, Washington, and Puerto Rico, and sold in various retail supermarkets. The recalled bagged salads by brand name and item description are: Fresh Selections, Hearts of Romaine, 10-ounce bag; Fresh Selections, Leafy Romaine, 10-ounce bag; Fresh Selections, Field of Greens, 10-ounce bag; Fresh Selections, Romaine Blend, 10-ounce bag; HEB Spring Mix, 5-ounce bag; Marketside, Fresh Spinach, 10-ounce bag; Marketside, Caesar Salad Kit, 14.6-ounce bag; Marketside, Asian Salad Kit, 15-ounce bag; Marketside, Southwest Salad Kit, 15-ounce bag; Marketside, Premium Romaine 9-ounce bag; Marketside, Premium Romaine Family, 18-ounce bag; and Taylor Farms, Field Greens 8-ounce bag.  
Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2011/10/taylor-farms-salads-recalled-for-salmonella/>
20. *October 20, Food Safety News* – (National) **Allergy alert: Peanuts in mini s'mores.** Nassau Candy Distributors is recalling its Nancy Adams Classics Mini S'mores because they may contain peanuts not listed on the label, Food Safety News reported October 20. The nationwide recall began after the company received a report a unit purchased in a retail location contained undeclared peanuts. A subsequent investigation revealed some bags of peanut clusters may have been inadvertently packed into boxes of the s'mores. The Nancy Adams Classic S'Mores are not supposed to contain peanuts. All of the retail stores have been notified, and the affected product is being removed from the shelves and being discarded. The recall is for Nancy Adams Classics Mini S'mores, net weight 5.5 ounces, in a red and silver box.  
Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2011/10/allergy-alert-peanuts-in-mini-smores/>
21. *October 20, Macon Telegraph* – (Georgia) **Fish kill in Wilkinson has state asking questions.** Georgia wildlife and environmental officials are trying to determine the cause of a fish kill in Commissioner Creek in Wilkinson County, Georgia, the Macon Telegraph reported October 20. In all, 4,000 to 5,000 dead fish were found in a 9-mile stretch of the creek and its tributary, Little Commissioner Creek September 28 and 29, said the regional supervisor for the west central Georgia fisheries section of the state wildlife resources division. He estimated 30 to 40 percent of the fish in the creek between McIntyre and the Toombsboro area died, and the surviving fish appeared disoriented and listless. He said the acidity of the stream was high, but that alone did not seem to have killed the fish. Aluminum in the water may have been high, which is toxic to fish when combined with high acidity. The communications director for the Georgia Environmental Protection Division (EPD), said in an e-mail EPD officials took water samples and visited the facilities that have permits to release water into the stream system. The EPD is evaluating the operational data it collected. Among those facilities are two kaolin processors — BASF Catalyst and Unimin Corp. — as well as a kaolin-related Carbo Ceramics plant, a Gordon sewage treatment plant and two Wilkinson County schools, according to EPD documents. There are nine discharge

permits in all.

Source: <http://www.macon.com/2011/10/20/1751698/state-seeks-cause-of-fish-kill.html>

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## **Water Sector**

22. *October 19, Associated Press* – (Pennsylvania) **Driller wins OK to stop water deliveries to Pa. town with methane in aquifer; residents upset.** Pennsylvania environmental regulators said October 19 they have given permission to a natural-gas driller to stop delivering replacement water to residents near Allentown whose drinking water wells were tainted with methane, the Associated Press reported. Residents expressed outrage and threatened to take the matter to court. Cabot Oil & Gas Corp. has been delivering water to homes in Dimock since January 2009. The Houston-based energy company asked the state Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) for approval to stop the water deliveries by the end of November, saying Dimock's water was safe to drink. The DEP granted Cabot's request October 18, notifying the company in a letter. Residents suing Cabot in federal court said their water is still tainted with unsafe levels of methane and possibly other contaminants from the drilling process. They claim DEP had no right to allow Cabot to stop paying for replacement water. Source: [http://www.washingtonpost.com/business/apnewsbreak-driller-given-ok-to-stop-water-deliveries-to-pa-town-with-methane-in-aquifer/2011/10/19/gIQACouRxL\\_story.html](http://www.washingtonpost.com/business/apnewsbreak-driller-given-ok-to-stop-water-deliveries-to-pa-town-with-methane-in-aquifer/2011/10/19/gIQACouRxL_story.html)
23. *October 19, Associated Press* – (Kansas) **Drought taking toll on Kansas reservoirs.** Prolonged drought conditions are taking a toll on Kansas reservoirs, where declining levels are raising concerns about sustained water supply and the possibility of algae blooms, a water office official said October 18. The assistant director of the Kansas Water Office told the Joint Committee on Energy and Environment that the shrinking reservoirs could have an impact on communities into 2012 and that the drought's intensity is spreading north and east. He said one lake of particular concern is John Redmond Reservoir, which is a source of water for the Wolf Creek nuclear plant in eastern Kansas. The reservoir is at about 54 percent of its conservation pool level, and that could decline to 34 percent by mid-November. The nuclear power plant draws water from the reservoir to fill a lake used for cooling the power plant during operations. The associate director said the water level at John Redmond was down about 3 feet because of the normal recharging by Wolf Creek and the drought. Source: <http://www.eldoradotimes.com/newsnow/x1199434849/Drought-taking-toll-on-Kansas-reservoirs>
24. *October 19, Associated Press* – (California) **San Luis Obispo fined \$57K for sewage spills.** The Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board announced October 18 the central coast city of San Luis Obispo, California, has been fined \$57,000 for sewage spills. Some 43,000 gallons of sewage was dumped, with nearly 31,000 gallons of it

spilling into San Luis Obispo creeks. The San Luis Obispo County Tribune said the fines against the city are for four separate spills in the past 3 years. The largest was a 30,000-gallon spill into Orcutt Creek that eventually flowed into San Luis Obispo Creek in February 2009. It was blamed on a corroded pipe. The board said the city has been responsible for 51 sewage spills totaling 107,000 gallons in the past 5 years.  
Source: [http://www.mercurynews.com/news/ci\\_19146651](http://www.mercurynews.com/news/ci_19146651)

25. *October 19, Baltimore Sun* – (Maryland) **More than 1 million gallons of sewage flow into Herring Run.** A blockage in a 12-inch sewer main caused 1.16 million gallons of sewage to overflow into a tributary of Herring Run in Maryland, according to a statement October 19 by the Baltimore County Department of Public Works (DPW). The sewer line is in the Anneslie-Idlewylde area near the border of Baltimore and Baltimore County, DPW said. The overflow occurred October 12 but was not discovered until October 19 after an odor complaint was investigated, according to the statement. The Baltimore County Department of Health is monitoring the stream and has posted signs advising people to avoid contact with the water.

Source: <http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/maryland/baltimore-county/bs-md-co-sewage-overflow-20111019,0,402371.story>

26. *October 19, Napa Valley Register* – (California) **Man ends water tower occupation after six hours.** A 22-year-old transient with unknown motives climbed on top of a water tower at the site of the old Sawyer Tannery in Napa, California, October 19, and resisted efforts to get him down for six and a half hours. Napa County Mental Health and the crisis negotiation team were called to the scene, police said. The man threw a heavy metal can filled with rocks at officers below and attempted to destroy cell phone equipment on the tower, police said. He came down from the tower after repeatedly asking authorities at the scene for water. The man was hit with a Taser after he refused to be taken into custody and tried to climb back up the tower. He surrendered to officers and was taken to Queen of the Valley Medical Center and later booked into the Napa County Jail on suspicion of assault with intent to create great bodily injury, trespassing, and cutting a utility line. Police officers, speaking in Spanish through a bullhorn, initially tried to persuade the man to come down, offering him cigarettes and tacos as dozens of bystanders watched from a distance. During the standoff, the man could be seen climbing in and out of the water tank through a hatch. Estimates of damage were not available at press time.

Source: [http://napavalleyregister.com/news/local/man-ends-water-tower-occupation-after-six-hours/article\\_68e83bfa-faa5-11e0-8ffb-001cc4c03286.html](http://napavalleyregister.com/news/local/man-ends-water-tower-occupation-after-six-hours/article_68e83bfa-faa5-11e0-8ffb-001cc4c03286.html)

For more stories, see items [7](#) and [51](#)

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## **Public Health and Healthcare Sector**

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## Government Facilities Sector

27. *October 20, Associated Press* – (Georgia) **Ga. school system to add security for post-game handshake, locker room trip after coach beaten.** A brawl involving two Georgia high schools is prompting at least one other school district in the state to change its security policies for games in Augusta. The Augusta Chronicle reported the Richmond County Board of Education amended its policy for post-game security and will now have two public safety officers on the field during the traditional handshake after athletic events. Authorities said the officers will then follow each team to their locker rooms. The policy change comes after a Warren County High School coach was beaten with a football helmet as he and his team returned to their locker room after October 14's 21 to 2 win over Hancock Central in Sparta.

Source:

<http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/792d0f8616c94b90b4fe556f3f04bce6/GA--Coach-Beaten/>

28. *October 20, Chillicothe Gazette* – (Ohio) **Ohio University dorm fire ruled arson.** A October 20 fire at an Athens, Ohio University (OU) dorm has been ruled an arson. The fire at True House Residence Hall on South Green Drive at OU's main campus was found about 4 a.m. The fire originated on the first floor and was contained to the room where it began, according to a release from the state fire marshal's office. While the fire damage was contained to the room of origin, some other rooms sustained heat and smoke damage. The alarm system activated and everyone got out of the dorm uninjured. Specific details on how the fire was set have not been released. A reward of up to \$5,000 has been posted for information leading to the identification of those responsible for the fire.

Source:

<http://www.chillicothe gazette.com/article/20111020/NEWS01/110200306/Ohio-University-dorm-fire-ruled-arson>

29. *October 18, WRC 4 District of Columbia* – (District of Columbia) **Fight at college fair forces evacuation.** Thousands of students were evacuated from the Washington Convention Center after a fight at a college fair October 18 in Washington D.C. About 2 hours after the event began, some students started fighting. Organizers decided to shut down the event, and 12,000 teenagers were asked to leave, the police chief said. The fight involved a small group of students. The event, which was supposed to last until 1 p.m., was evacuated before 11:30 a.m.

Source:

[http://www.nbcwashington.com/news/local/Fight\\_At\\_College\\_Fair\\_Forces\\_Evacuation-132080598.html](http://www.nbcwashington.com/news/local/Fight_At_College_Fair_Forces_Evacuation-132080598.html)

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## Emergency Services Sector

30. *October 19, Reuters* – (Arizona) **ICE officer busted on drug charges after Arizona chase.** A U.S. immigration officer in Arizona was arrested on drug charges after

leading authorities on a high-speed chase as he tossed bundles of marijuana from his government truck, state troopers said October 19. The deportation officer with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), was taken into custody October 18 in southern Arizona following a 45-minute pursuit that ended when his vehicle flipped, troopers said. The Phoenix-area officer was booked into a Pinal County jail on suspicion of possession of marijuana with intent to distribute, according to court records. A suspected co-conspirator was arrested at his home. A law-enforcement task force of police and federal agents had placed the officer under surveillance since early September following reports from three sources that he may be corrupt, said an Arizona Public Safety Department spokesman. He said authorities had set out 500 pounds of marijuana in the desert and let the officer know through sources where it could be found. Investigators then watched as he picked up 14 bundles of the drug and loaded them into a truck.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/10/20/us-crime-iceofficer-drugs-idUSTRE79J0DJ20111020>

31. *October 19, Carthage Press* – (Missouri) **Lightning strikes jail security system.** A Jasper County, Missouri sheriff's chief deputy told the Jasper County Commissioners October 18 that a lightning bolt hit the jail knocking out the jail's electronic security system. He said the jail was secure and prisoners were locked in their cells, but the electronic controls for the locks, fire alarm, and other systems were damaged by the strike. He said the companies responsible for the systems damaged had been called to make repairs.  
Source: <http://www.carthagepress.com/news/x485799885/Lightning-strikes-jail-security-system>
32. *October 19, Associated Press* – (International) **U.S., Mexico to upgrade border quake system.** The U.S. and Mexico will expand an earthquake monitoring system south of the border in the wake of 2010's deadly magnitude-7.2 temblor, officials from both countries announced October 19. U.S. experts will provide sensors, a computer network, and training to help their counterparts in northern Baja, California to identify areas at greatest risk of suffering damage from a big temblor and could save lives and property, officials said. Emergency planners were unable to determine where to send help in the early stages after the Easter 2010 quake that was centered south of Mexicali and killed two people in Mexico, said the director general of the Mexican National Center for Prevention of Disasters. The lack of backup systems also made it impossible to share data when the Internet and communications went down. Under the new program, scientists from both countries will be better able to share data on earthquake hazards, officials said. The project is an historic collaboration that will benefit both countries, said the assistant secretary for water and science of the U.S. Interior Department. Under the jointly funded project, the U.S. Geological Survey and U.S. Northern Command will provide new sensors that can measure strong ground motion in the earthquake-prone Mexicali and Tijuana areas. The sensors will be set in different types of soil, which plays a role in amplifying or reducing the shock of a temblor.  
Source: <http://www.deseretnews.com/article/700189722/US-Mexico-to-upgrade-border-quake-system.html>

33. *October 19, FireRescue1.com* – (Ohio) **NIOSH: Lack of training factored in water tank explosion LODD.** A self-made water-delivery system with inappropriate parts caused a pressurized water tank to explode during a brush fire, killing one firefighter and injuring another, according to a National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health report, FireRescue1.com reported October 19. A lack of training and written operating policies and procedures also contributed to the accident in 2010, investigators found. A volunteer firefighter from the McArthur, Ohio, Fire Department, was fighting a brush fire September 26, when the force of the explosion dislodged the hose reel, which struck and killed him. The department was one of nine called to the scene of the large, rural grass fire. But vehicles and fences separated the crew from the fire line, so while three firefighters began raking a fire break, the rest drove to other areas and began extinguishing hot spots with a self-made, 120-gallon pressurized water tank, the report said. Despite a burst hose and inadequate water pressure, the firefighters did not report warning noises or physical changes. When the water tank exploded, the victim was thrown backward about 20 feet by the hose reel and killed instantly, investigators found the firefighter operating the hose line nozzle was knocked down by the force, but was not seriously injured, and two others escaped injury. The system did not have a safety release valve for over-pressurization, and its pressure gauge was not designed to be used in such a system, according to the report, released October 6. It cites this as well as inappropriate system components as contributing factors in the death. Also, the report noted the firefighters had limited training and few written operating policies and procedures, especially regarding how to use the equipment.  
Source: <http://www.firerescue1.com/fire-news/1168954-water-tank-explosion-suggests-need-for-funding-awareness-written-procedures-policies/>
34. *October 19, Associated Press* – (Arkansas) **Hope ER closes to treat meth lab-contaminated man.** The emergency room at a hospital in Hope, Arkansas had to shut down for 7 hours to be decontaminated after treating a man covered with anhydrous ammonia when his methamphetamine lab exploded, the Associated Press reported October 19. The Texarkana Gazette reports the ER at Medical Park Hospital was closed from midnight until 7 a.m. October 18. Hempstead County officials said emergency room workers felt a burning sensation on their skin and eyes. The man then admitted he had been making meth and his lab exploded. The patient was airlifted to a Little Rock hospital, and a hazardous materials cleanup team got to work in the hospital.  
Source: <http://www.todaysthv.com/news/article/177329/2/Hope-ER-closes-to-treat-meth-lab-contaminated-man->
35. *October 19, KVAL 13 Eugene* – (Oregon) **911 out in Diamond Lake area.** The Douglas County 911 center in Oregon was notified October 19 of a telephone outage affecting 911 service in the Diamond Lake area of Douglas County. Citizens in the affected area were not able to dial 911 from their land line telephone. They will be able to reach 911 on a cellular phone if necessary. Additionally, if a citizen needed to contact 911, they could go to the Diamond Lake Lodge. The lodge had a cellular telephone available for 911 calls.  
Source: <http://www.kval.com/news/local/132197313.html>

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## **Information Technology Sector**

36. *October 20, Softpedia* – (International) **Flash vulnerability allows website admins to spy on visitors.** A computer science student from Stanford University discovered a flaw in Adobe Flash that would allow a Web site administrator to remotely and silently turn on a visitor's Web cam and microphone, Softpedia reported October 20. According to the student, the trick works in all versions of Flash in most Mac browsers. Windows and Linux browsers are not susceptible, probably because of a CSS bug, but he believes an adaptation would not be too difficult to accomplish. It looks as if this click-jacking method has been used before, but since Adobe added a framebusting JavaScript code, the whole thing appeared to be fixed. The old method relied on inserting the Adobe Flash Settings Manager page into an invisible iframe, masking it with a game or something that would urge users to click. The student managed to bypass this restriction by putting only the SWF file into an iframe, instead of the whole settings page.  
Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Flash-Vulnerability-Allows-Website-Admins-to-Spy-on-Visitors-228863.shtml>
37. *October 19, H Security* – (International) **Oracle fixes 77 vulnerabilities, including Java and database holes.** Oracle released two Critical Patch Update advisories, H Security reported October 19. One of the advisories describes 20 security holes in the Java Runtime Environment. The other deals with a collection of 57 holes in such traditional Oracle products as the company's database and middleware solutions, and in Oracle Linux 5. Since some holes were rated critical, Oracle recommended users install the updates as soon as possible. Five of the Java holes alone were given the maximum CVSSv2 score of 10.0. Things were not quite as dramatic with the classical Oracle products, where only one Solaris hole in the LDAP service was in the top range at 9.3.  
Source: <http://www.h-online.com/security/news/item/Oracle-fixes-77-vulnerabilities-including-Java-and-database-holes-1363748.html>
38. *October 19, SC Magazine* – (International) **New Mac malware variant disables OS X defenses.** Malware authors updated a Mac trojan to disable the anti-malware protection Apple built into its OS X platform, researchers warned. A new variant of the so-called "Flashback" backdoor trojan, dubbed Flashback.C, attempts to disable the automatic updater component of XProtect, the built-in Mac OS X anti-malware application, researchers at anti-virus firm F-Secure said in a blog post October 19. Like earlier variants, the malware masquerades as an update to Adobe Flash Player, and to be installed requires users to enter their administrator password. Researchers do not know how many users have been infected with the latest variant of Flashback, discovered October 17, but the number is believed to be "very small," the chief research officer at F-Secure, told SCMagazineUS.com.  
Source: [http://www.scmagazineus.com/new-mac-malware-variant-disables-os-x-defenses/article/214752/?utm\\_source=feedburner&utm\\_medium=feed&utm\\_campaign=Feed%3ASCMagazineNews+\(SC+Magazine+News\)&utm\\_content=Google+Reader](http://www.scmagazineus.com/new-mac-malware-variant-disables-os-x-defenses/article/214752/?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3ASCMagazineNews+(SC+Magazine+News)&utm_content=Google+Reader)

For more stories, see items [39](#) and [40](#)

### 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

39. *October 20, Fremont Tribune* – (Nebraska) **Internet, long distance service out in 43 communities.** A construction crew damaged a Great Plain Communication fiber line, resulting in a loss of Internet access to 43 communities across Nebraska, Great Plains Communications announced October 20. Incoming long distance telephone calls may also be affected in some communities. Area communities affected by the outage include Dodge, North Bend, Scribner, and Herman. The cable was buried more than 6 feet underground. Construction crews typically locate and avoid buried cable, but a Great Plains news release said it was unclear how the line was missed. "Great Plains Communications is working to reconnect the damaged line and expects to have the problem fixed shortly," the release said. The company is also working to re-route Internet traffic on its redundant fiber ring.  
Source: [http://fremonttribune.com/news/local/article\\_fed55ff4-fb35-11e0-ad70-001cc4c002e0.html](http://fremonttribune.com/news/local/article_fed55ff4-fb35-11e0-ad70-001cc4c002e0.html)
40. *October 20, Laurinburg Exchange* – (North Carolina) **Internet down again.** More than 6,000 AT&T customers in the Laurinburg, North Carolina-area were without Internet service October 19. The outage, which began around 2 p.m., follows a similar disruption October 17. That outage began around the same time and was not fixed until well into the evening. Representatives with AT&T customer service said they were unable to comment on the cause of the outages. They did say service could be restored within hours or as late as midnight October 20. Outages have not been limited to the downtown area. A number of medical offices near the hospital have been similarly affected.  
Source: [http://www.laurinburgexchange.com/view/full\\_story/16103630/article-Internet-down---again?instance=secondary\\_stories\\_left\\_column](http://www.laurinburgexchange.com/view/full_story/16103630/article-Internet-down---again?instance=secondary_stories_left_column)
41. *October 19, KDRV 12 Medford* – (Oregon) **Klamath County working on 911 outage.** The Klamath Emergency Communications District in Oregon reported a 911 emergency outage October 19. A little after 9 a.m. October 19, CenturyLink experienced a fiber cut 2.4 miles outside of Merrill. The cut affected the ability to call out of the areas of Merrill, Malin, Lakeview, Bonanza, and Chiloquin areas, which has affected the ability to call 911. The Klamath 911 Communications District said they rerouted the 911 lines to be answered by local emergency responders. As of the



afternoon of October 19, they did not have an estimated repair time.  
Source: <http://kdrv.com/page/228054>

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## **Commercial Facilities Sector**

42. *October 20, KVVU 5 Las Vegas* – (Nevada) **Three-alarm fire tears through Vegas strip mall.** A three-alarm fire that tore through a strip mall east of the Las Vegas Strip October 20 caused at least \$500,000 in damage, according to Clark County fire investigators. The fire started at a thrift store inside Commercial Center. At one point, as many as 70 firefighters were at the scene.  
Source: <http://www.fox5vegas.com/story/15738951/fire-at-vegas-strip-mall-forces-morning-road-closures>
43. *October 19, Houston Chronicle* – (Texas) **Arson deemed cause of Garden Ridge fire.** An arsonist started a fire at a home decor store in Conroe, Texas, October 12, causing about \$15 million in damage, officials said October 19. The fire gutted a 110,000-square foot Garden Ridge store. Officials said the fire started in the middle of the store while customers were inside. Officials have no suspects. The roof of the building, in the College Park Shopping Center, is partially collapsed, and debris is piled inside. A section of the south wall is missing, and the building is cordoned off.  
Source: <http://www.chron.com/news/houston-texas/article/Arson-deemed-cause-of-Garden-Ridge-fire-2226925.php>
44. *October 19, Associated Press* – (California) **LA firefighters battle apartment blaze.** More than 100 Los Angeles firefighters battled for about an hour to extinguish a pre-dawn fire in a 20-unit Westwood apartment building October 19. A fire spokesman said it took 115 firefighters about 64 minutes to put out the fire on the fourth and fifth floors. He said 3 of the 20 apartments are uninhabitable. Other residents were told to stay in their apartments — shelter in place — during the fire fight.  
Source: [http://www.mercurynews.com/news/ci\\_19145971](http://www.mercurynews.com/news/ci_19145971)
45. *October 19, Boston Herald* – (Massachusetts) **Roxbury fire suspect held on \$100,000 bail.** The man accused of starting the fire early October 17 that engulfed a Roxbury, Massachusetts apartment building in flames, injuring more than a dozen people, and displacing more than 50 residents, fled the scene without calling 911 and told hospital staff that he “blew up the house,” officials said at his hospital bed arraignment October 19. Prosecutors said the suspect ignited a gas pipe leading to a stove in a relative’s apartment in an attempt to take his own life. The midnight fire required 160 firefighters to subdue and trapped dozens of tenants inside, including one 6-year-old boy, whose grandmother saved his life by throwing him into the arms of a waiting firefighter. The suspect pleaded not guilty at the arraignment in Massachusetts General Hospital, and the judge ordered him held on \$100,000 cash bail. The fire caused \$4 million in damage.  
Source: <http://www.bostonherald.com/news/regional/view.bg?articleid=1374568>

46. *October 19, Reuters* – (Washington) **Man with rifle arrested at Occupy Seattle protest.** A convicted felon believed to be part of the Occupy Seattle protest was arrested at the demonstration in Seattle after he was found carrying an unloaded rifle in a bag, along with 16 rounds of ammunition, police said October 18. But the suspect was not accused of threatening anyone with violence when he was arrested October 17, a Seattle police sergeant said. He was jailed on suspicion of being a felon in possession of a firearm, itself a felony offense under state weapons laws, he said, adding that formal charges had yet to be filed. The suspect was arrested after officers patrolling Westlake Park, a downtown plaza that has been the scene of ongoing protests, saw him with a camouflaged rifle bag over his shoulder and heard him say he had a Ruger, the name of a gun manufacturer. Police opened the bag to find an unloaded, short-barreled semiautomatic rifle with a pistol grip, and when they asked the man if he had any ammunition for the weapon, he produced a box with 16 rounds, the police sergeant said. Police have made about 40 arrests in all in conjunction with Occupy Seattle protests in October.

Source: <http://kgmi.com/Man-with-rifle-arrested-at-Occupy-Seattle-protest/11230684>

47. *October 19, Sioux Falls Argus Leader* – (South Dakota) **10,000 reward offered in arson spree.** State and local agencies have mobilized to create an arson task force and offer a \$10,000 reward in hopes of solving a record-breaking string of suspicious fires in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, the Sioux Falls Argus Leader reported October 19. Counting the latest fires, emergency crews have responded to 16 suspicious fires in less than 2 months in the same central Sioux Falls neighborhood, stoking fears a serial arsonist is at work. A state fire marshal, a 24-year veteran of the service, said October 19 he cannot remember a run of fires such as the one Sioux Falls is experiencing. The fires have caused thousands of dollars in property damage, mostly to unoccupied garages and vehicles. The newly formed task force will include Sioux Falls Police and Fire Rescue personnel, as well as personnel from the South Dakota Department of Public Safety, state fire marshal's office, South Dakota Division of Criminal Investigation, and Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives.

Source: <http://www.argusleader.com/article/20111020/NEWS/110200307/-10-000-reward-offered-arson-spre>

For more stories, see items [4](#), [9](#), and [51](#)

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## **National Monuments and Icons Sector**

48. *October 19, KFDM 6 Beaumont* – (Texas) **Fire consumes at least 225 acres in Hardin County.** Firefighters from across Hardin County, Texas spent much of the afternoon and evening October 18 working to put out a wildfire that consumed at least 225 acres. The Texas Forest Service called in two helicopters to help fight the fire. The Kountze Volunteer fire chief said the fire was likely sparked by a downed electrical porcelain bell used to insulate hot wires. Entergy crews were on the scene repairing the line and restoring power to nearby homes and businesses. The fire chief said firefighters had to move quickly to get a handle on the wildfire that was fueled by low

humidity and winds gusting to 35 miles an hour.

Source: <http://www.kfdm.com/articles/kountze-45330-wildfire-firefighters.html>

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## **Dams Sector**

49. *October 20, United Press International* – (International) **Bangkok governor orders floodgates open.** The governor of Bangkok, Thailand, ordered the city's floodgates opened to drain water into the sea, saying the water moving through the city's canal system will be under control, CNN reported October 20. The decision to drain out water through canals in the inner parts of the city could lead to flooding if there are leaks, the Bangkok Metropolitan Administration said. The interior areas of Bangkok have escaped major flooding so far as authorities diverted water to areas outside the main capital to prevent the Chao Phraya River from overflowing its banks and sweeping through the political and economic centers. Three months of hard monsoon rains killed 320 people, damaged thousands of homes, and forced tens of thousands of people to seek refuge in shelters. About a third of Thailand's provinces have been affected. Overall damage could exceed \$2 billion, the Thai finance ministry said. Source: [http://www.upi.com/Top\\_News/World-News/2011/10/20/Bangkok-governor-orders-floodgates-open/UPI-85791319109251/?spt=hs&or=tn](http://www.upi.com/Top_News/World-News/2011/10/20/Bangkok-governor-orders-floodgates-open/UPI-85791319109251/?spt=hs&or=tn)
  
50. *October 19, Staunton News Leader* – (Virginia) **It's a dam hazard in Augusta County.** More than half of Virginia's high-hazard dams do not meet minimum state safety requirements, said a new report by the Virginia Department of Recreation and Conservation (VDRC). It said that out of 13 high hazard dams in Augusta County, 5 do not meet the standard, putting 378 residents at risk. Upgrades to two dams is in the design phase and will cost millions. The Augusta County Service Authority is responsible for the costlier of the projects, an upgrade to Coles Run Dam. It is expected to cost \$4.5 million. The authority hopes to start construction next summer. Currently, 81 percent of significant hazard dams in Virginia, those that would possibly result in loss of life and significant property damage, do not meet state requirements, the report said. "Because these [projects] are very expensive and a lot of the dam owners did not have the funds, for years we were sort of automatically renewing their conditional operation certificates," said a VDRC spokesman. If dam owners do not get under compliance with the state regulation, the department can take its own action, such as draining a lake, and then charge the dam operator for the cost, the spokesman said. Source: <http://www.newsleader.com/article/20111020/NEWS01/110200330/It-s-dam-hazard-Augusta-County>
  
51. *October 19, Monroe News-Star* – (Louisiana) **Corps agrees to increase river flow by lowering Felsenthal.** The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers decided to increase the flow of the Ouachita River so industries such as Graphic Packaging in West Monroe, Louisiana, and municipalities such as the city of West Monroe can release more treated wastewater into the river and avoid production curtailments, the Monroe News-Star reported October 19. The commander of the Corps' Vicksburg, Mississippi District, said the agency will increase flow by lowering the pool at the Felsenthal lock and dam

from 65 to 64 feet. That will increase flow from about 350 cubic feet per second (cfs) to as much as 550 cfs. Industries and cities along the river rely on releasing millions of gallons of treated wastewater into the river each day, but the current flow is not enough to meet dilution requirements from environmental regulators. Graphic Packaging has about 900 gallons of storage and has yet to curtail production, but Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality officials have said the company would have to reduce production within 30 days if the flow is not increased.

Source: <http://www.thenewsstar.com/article/20111019/NEWS01/111019032/Corps-agrees-increase-river-flow-by-lowering-Felsenthal?odyssey=nav/head>

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

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