



Homeland Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 8 March 2011

Current Nationwide Threat Level

ELEVATED

Significant Risk of Terrorist Attacks

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

Top Stories

- Associated Press reports two natural gas companies suspended the use of injection wells in central Arkansas after an industry commission found a link between the wells and hundreds of recent earthquakes in the area. (See item [5](#))
- According to the Cleveland Plain Dealer, a technician’s use of a walkie-talkie rendered the Davis-Besse nuclear plant’s entire emergency shutdown system inoperable for a time, March 3. (See item [9](#))

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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. *March 6, KOCO 5 Oklahoma City* – (Oklahoma) **Up to 40,000 lose power in OKC, Shawnee.** Up to 40,000 people lost power in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma through the Shawnee area March 6, OG&E reported. An OG&E representative said a backhoe hit a power line, causing the outage. The spokeswoman said power was restored by about 3 p.m. She said crews had been working to fix the power line that was knocked down. The power company said the line that was damaged feeds five substations, causing the

dramatic loss of power.

Source: <http://www.koco.com/r/27098063/detail.html>

2. *March 6, Associated Press* – (Louisiana) **Tornado slams US town as downed tree kills young mother; gas leaks prompt evacuation.** A tornado slammed a southwestern Louisiana town, killing a young mother who was sheltering her child and injuring 11 other people. More than 100 homes in Rayne were damaged, many of them destroyed, authorities said, and about 1,500 people were evacuated because of natural gas leaks. Authorities said at least 11 people were injured March 5 by the tornado, which brought winds reaching 135 mph and had sprung from a vast storm system kicking up abundant moisture from the Gulf of Mexico. A spokesman said the natural gas leaks, which were later fixed, delayed authorities trying to count how many homes and businesses were damaged. About 1,500 people were ordered out of the area for the night, she said, because officials feared more gas leaks could occur.
Source: <http://www.660news.com/news/world/article/193211--1-killed-after-suspected-tornado-slams-southwestern-louisiana-gas-leaks-prompt-evacuation>
3. *March 5, KTVA 11 Anchorage* – (Alaska) **137 oil wells out of compliance.** A report presented to Alaska lawmakers the week of February 28 claims 137 northern Alaska oil wells are out of compliance with state regulations. The wells are relatively old with most having been drilled between 1944 and 1981. According to the Alaskan Oil and Gas Commission, most of the wells are abandoned, and only 10 were properly sealed. Two of those are now under lakes, and a landslide has buried another. Despite the fact the wells appear to violate state and federal rules, the report claimed there is little the state can do to force a cleanup. The paper said the Federal Bureau of Land Management should pay to properly shutter and clean up the old well sites.
Source: <http://www.ktva.com/home/top-stories/137-Oil-Wells-Out-of-Compliance-117475439.html>
4. *March 5, Prescott Daily Courier* – (Arizona) **Fuel tanker overturns on Highway 89 in Chino Valley.** A fuel truck's trailer tanker overturned on Highway 89 and the Road 4 South roundabout March 5, spilling about 300 gallons of unleaded gasoline and diesel onto the roadway and rerouting traffic for many hours, a Chino Valley Fire District (CVFD) official confirmed later in the day. CVFD battalion chief said accident investigators believed that shortly after 9 a.m., the driver of a Maverik fuel truck tried to enter the roundabout too quickly, causing the tanker to overturn and spill a portion of its contents. The battalion chief said the truck was hauling 4,400 gallons of fuel en route to the Maverik Country Store, 1060 S. Highway 89. Hazmat crews from the Prescott Fire Department and Central Yavapai Fire District conducted the clean-up, which included siphoning off much of the remaining fuel from the overturned tanker and into another fuel truck to avoid more spillage from cracks in the tank.
Source:
<http://www.dcourier.com/main.asp?SectionID=1&SubSectionID=1&ArticleID=91324>
5. *March 4, Associated Press* – (Arkansas) **'Fracking' disposal sites suspended, likely linked to Arkansas earthquakes.** Two natural gas companies have agreed to

temporarily suspend use of injection wells in central Arkansas where earthquakes keep occurring. Oklahoma City, Oklahoma-based Chesapeake Energy and Clarita Operating of Little Rock, Arkansas told the Arkansas Oil and Gas Commission March 4 they have stopped operation of the wells near Greenbrier and Guy pending the panel's next regular meeting March 29. The commission said there is likely a link between the wells and the earthquakes. There have been more than 800 earthquakes in the area in the past 6 months and a magnitude 4.7 quake — the strongest in Arkansas in 35 years — hit there March 6. The high-pressure wells are used to dispose of waste water from natural gas drilling.

Source: http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2011/03/06/fracking-arkansas-earthquakes_n_831633.html

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Chemical Industry Sector

6. *March 6, Bakersfield Now* – (California) **Tanker explodes on loading dock at Mojave-area chemical plant.** A fire and explosions were reported March 5 at Niklor Chemical Co. in Mojave, California. The first arriving crews from the Kern County Fire Department were faced with flames coming from a semi-trailer parked on the loading dock. A captain said the company's sprinkler system activated and helped keep the fire contained to the trailer. Hazardous materials crews could not detect any chemical release. The explosions were determined to have been the result of cylinders rupturing that had been stored in the trailer. The metal fragments and fire caused an estimated \$100,000 damage to the trailer and building. No injuries were reported. The exact cause of the fire is still under investigation. Niklor, located at 1667 Purdy Road, is known to repackage agricultural chemicals arriving by rail. However, the plant was closed at the time of the incident.
Source: <http://www.bakersfieldnow.com/news/local/117491909.html>

7. *March 6, Contra Costa Times* – (California) **Complex scenario challenges crews.** An emergency drill March 6 in an unusual setting provided several challenges. In the trench section of the Alameda Corridor, in Vernon, California, area firefighters had to extinguish a burning rail car with 20,000 pounds of chlorine that was near another car containing flammable ethanol vapors. At the same time, other personnel had to rescue an injured train-crew member who slipped and broke his leg while investigating the burning rail car. The full-scale exercise brought out firefighters from Los Angeles, Los Angeles County, Vernon, and Compton; officers and deputies from Los Angeles police and Los Angeles County sheriff's departments, and representatives from Union Pacific and Burlington North Santa Fe (BNSF) railroads and the Alameda Corridor Transportation Authority. The exercise simulated an incident inside the corridor, including the sighting of smoke from a cargo container on a train in the corridor trench, a fire on one of the cars, a leaking tank car, and injured railroad personnel. The exercise objective is to improve unified command, communications, hazardous materials

operations, and command operations.

Source: http://www.contracostatimes.com/california/ci_17554093?nclick_check=1

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector

8. *March 6, WSYR 9 Syracuse* – (New York) **Nine Mile Point alarms checked, all in working order.** Constellation Energy Nuclear Group (CENG) said a false alarm that sounded March 5 and 6 at the Nine Mile Point Nuclear Station in Scriba, New York, was caused by an electrical component that failed. The warning sirens are used to alert people nearby the station when there is an emergency. They sounded multiple times between 11 p.m. March 5 and 3 a.m. March 6. But CENG said there was no emergency. A spokesperson said 1 out of 37 emergency sirens inadvertently activated at 11:15 p.m. March 5. When crews responded, they determined an electrical component failed. She said it has since been fixed and all of the alarms have been validated and found in working order. CENG has made a formal notification to the Nuclear Regulatory Commission about the incident.
Source: <http://www.9wsyr.com/news/local/story/Update-Nine-Mile-Point-alarms-checked-all-in/wSPDcAa-9kyaZ8prMU2MVw.csp>

9. *March 5, Cleveland Plain Dealer* – (Ohio) **Walkie talkie disrupts safety system at Davis-Besse nuclear plant.** The Davis-Besse nuclear power plant in Oak Harbor, Ohio went “radio-inactive” March 3 — losing its emergency water cooling system for 2 minutes — due to a technician’s walkie talkie. The technician used his walkie talkie in a room containing a back-up or auxiliary control panel for a system designed to automatically pump water into the reactor in the event of a catastrophic accident. The radio wave disrupted the signal from the control panel to special pumps and emergency valves that even on stand-by are electrically alive for an instantaneous reaction. In two bursts of conversation lasting 8 seconds and 19 seconds during a 2-minute period, the technician rendered the plant’s entire emergency shutdown system inoperable, the company told federal regulators March 3. The company posted a sign on the door to the room warning all employees not to key radios near the sensitive control panel, a company spokesman said. The incident should have never happened, said a nuclear safety engineer with the Union of Concerned Scientists. He said such incidents occurred many times in the early 1980s, so much that the Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) issued a warning bulletin in December 1983. “This hasn’t happened in decades,” he said. “We will definitely be looking into this,” said a spokeswoman for the NRC’s regional office in Chicago.
Source: http://www.cleveland.com/business/index.ssf/2011/03/davis-besse_nuclear_power_plan_1.html

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Critical Manufacturing Sector

10. *March 4, Warren Tribune Chronicle* – (Ohio) **Machine mangles worker.** A 38-year-old man was rescued from a hopper for metals shortly after 11 a.m. March 3 in Niles, Ohio, after his legs were pinned by the blades of an auger-like device inside, a police detective said. Police and fire officials were called to Ironics Inc., 750 S. Main Street, to help free a worker whose leg somehow became trapped in a tube of the device. “He was cleaning the machine when he was trapped in the machine’s blades,” the police detective said. A fire department lieutenant said both of the man’s legs were stuck. “He was able to get one leg free,” he said. “We were able to get the second leg out by reversing the direction of the coils by hand.” The department called for a helicopter to fly the man to the hospital. But, because it was estimated to be 9 minutes away, officials determined it would be faster to send the patient to St. Elizabeth Health Center in Youngstown by Lane LifeTrans ambulance. One of the man’s legs was mangled, officials said. Ironics Inc., according to its Web site, provides iron oxide in various packaging and sizes. It also provides A-scrap, B-scrap and foundry metals.
Source: <http://www.tribtoday.com/page/content.detail/id/554000/Machine-mangles-worker.html?nav=5021>
11. *March 4, Associated Press* – (West Virginia) **4 hurt, 1 seriously, in W.Va. tin mill accident.** Four workers were injured when a steam valve malfunctioned March 4 at a tin mill in Weirton, West Virginia. One worker was seriously injured and taken to a hospital in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Another was treated at a local hospital and released, while the other two were treated at the scene. The plant is owned by Luxembourg-based ArcelorMittal. It makes rolled steel sheets for use in cans for food and other products.
Source: <http://abcnews.go.com/Business/wireStory?id=13060965>
12. *March 4, WKYT 27 Lexington* – (Kentucky) **Fire at plant forces evacuation.** A fire at the Aichi Forge plant in Scott County, Kentucky, forced more than 100 employees to evacuate March 4. Company officials said the fire started in a large piece of equipment used for cutting. The machinery had many filters in it. Officials said the filters caught fire and started smoldering, causing heavy smoke. All 125 employees were evacuated from the building, and company officials said their own firefighters worked until the Scott County Fire Department arrived. Fire officials said they helped put the fire out, and then worked to get smoke out of the building. They also ran air quality and carbon monoxide tests in all areas of the building before workers went back inside. Officials said no one was hurt in the fire.
Source: <http://www.wkyt.com/news/headlines/117407848.html?ref=848>

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

13. *March 6, PhillyBurbs.com* – (National) **Man sentenced for defrauding U.S. Navy.** Bristol Alloys Inc., and its president who cut corners when manufacturing

submarine parts, must repay the U.S. Navy \$1.3 million. Besides the money in restitution for the Fairless Hills, Pennsylvania company, a U.S. district court judge March 4 ordered the company president to serve 41 months in federal prison. Bristol and its president pleaded guilty in October 2010 to selling substandard metal to customers. As a subcontractor, Bristol fraudulently supplied a Navy contractor with metal that did not conform to required military specifications and provided counterfeit certifications that purportedly showed that the metal had been heat-treated according to contract requirements. The U.S. prosecutors contended the defendants knew that no such heat treatment had occurred. The metal supplied was used in building Virginia Class submarines and other Navy ships and submarines.

Source: http://www.phillyburbs.com/news/local/courier_times_news/article_aafec0bd-0bdc-5fdb-9bb1-11d525f7bc8a.html

14. *March 6, Agence France-Presse* – (International) **China ‘hacked’ into secret S. Korea military files.** Chinese computer hackers in June 2010 gained access to secret South Korean military files on a planned spy plane purchase from the United States, Agence France-Presse reported March 6. The hackers accessed information in defense ministry computers on the plan to buy unmanned Global Hawk aircraft. Information about the breach was revealed by an opposition Democratic Party lawmaker and a member of the parliament’s defense committee.

Source:

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5hoPjSaKhzX6th7fTgDWFIVH4ePeg?docId=CNG.7131e2b502649c227658543dce51e738.261>

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Banking and Finance Sector

15. *March 6, WGN Radio 720 Chicago* – (Illinois) **Bank blaze inside Loop highrise spurs evacuation.** An extra-alarm fire inside a Loop bank branch in Chicago, Illinois, injured two people March 6 and led firefighters to evacuate the building. Fire crews responded to the call of the fire at 33 N. Dearborn Street about 1:35 p.m., fire officials said. The fire appeared to have been contained to a Bank of America branch on the main floor. A bicycle unit police officer was riding past the building with her partner when she saw a “wall of fire” through the bank’s windows. Firefighters elevated the fire to a 2-11 alarm and did a floor-by-floor search, evacuating between 10 and 15 people from upper floors, the assistant deputy fire commissioner said. He said fire officials were investigating claims the building’s fire alarm never sounded.

Source: <http://www.wgnradio.com/news/local/breaking/chibrknews-firefighters-battle-loop-highrise-fire-20110306,0,2125233.story?track=rss>

16. *March 5, Boston Herald* – (Massachusetts) **Cops eye link in hoax bomb bank robberies.** Winthrop, Massachusetts, police believe the same man who left a phony bomb at an Everett bank March 3, robbed a bank in Winthrop March 6. A man robbed the Bank of America on Bartlett Road in Winthrop at 9:20 a.m. March 6, handing the teller a note written on an envelope threatening he had a bomb. “He showed the teller a

device that was consistent with a pipe bomb,” the Winthrop police chief said. He said the man did not leave the bogus bomb at the bank. The area was searched, in case the device had been left elsewhere, and deemed safe. He said the robbery may have been committed by the same man who robbed a bank in Everett March 3. In the Everett incident, a man robbed an East Boston Savings Bank and caused a bomb scare when he left a suspicious package behind. The device turned out to be a hoax. The suspect is described as a white male between the ages of 40 and 45, wearing a white hat with an emblem, a leather jacket, and a black scarf.

Source:

http://news.bostonherald.com/news/regional/view/2011_0305cops_eye_link_in_hoax_bomb_bank_robberies/

17. *March 4, Sparta Expositor* – (Tennessee) **Walling man arrested on explosives charge.** A Walling, Tennessee man was arrested March 4 in connection with a pipe bomb found February 14 at US Bank on Highway 111, in Sparta. The man faces a Class B felony prohibited weapons charge for allegedly making and transporting the pipe bomb, according to a detective with White County Sheriff Department (WCSD). The detective stated February 14 a female employee of a business located in the US Bank facility found a package, took it to the business, and called another detective with WCSD. Tennessee Highway Patrol’s Bomb Squad later detonated the pipe bomb. There were no injuries and no property damage. The warrant alleges the suspect “admitted to assisting in the construction of the bomb in Overton County and did transport it to White County.”

Source:

<http://spartaexpositor.com/articles/2011/03/04/news/doc4d714e664cc39110553731.txt>

18. *March 3, Biloxi Sun Herald* – (Mississippi; Georgia; Alabama) **81 bogus credit cards found in traffic stop.** Two Georgia men have been indicted on charges alleging authorities found 81 counterfeit credit cards hidden in their vehicle and their clothes after their arrests in a traffic stop in Harrison County, Mississippi. Harrison County sheriff’s investigators arrested the two men on suspicion of fraud September 30, and Homeland Security Investigations began a probe. An indictment unsealed the week of February 28 alleged the men used one of the fake cards at a gas station in Georgiana, Alabama, before they were pulled over in Harrison County at the 33 mile-marker on Interstate 10. Public records do not show where the men were heading. Both men were charged with conspiracy and access-device fraud, a type of credit-card fraud. Their trial is set for April 4.

Source: <http://www.sunherald.com/2011/03/03/2913778/81-bogus-credit-cards-found-in.html>

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Transportation Sector

19. *March 7, Winston-Salem Journal* – (North Carolina) **Northbound lane of I-77 remains closed to traffic at NC/Virginia line due to high winds.** One northbound lane of Interstate 77 remained closed near the North Carolina/Virginia state line the morning of March 7 because of high winds in the mountainous area. The lane was not expected to re-open until mid-morning, according to the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT). Authorities closed all lanes of I-77 the night of March 6 at the North Carolina/Virginia border because of the high winds, a NCDOT alert said. According to information broadcast on emergency communications channels, authorities responded were to a multi-vehicle wreck in the southbound lanes of I-77 that appeared to have been weather-related. Winds in the area were gusting at more than 40 miles per hour, officials with the National Weather Service (NWS) said. The winds were expected to taper off by 4 a.m. March 7, NWS said.
Source: <http://www2.journalnow.com/news/2011/mar/07/5/northbound-i-77-closed-traffic-ncvirginia-line-bec-ar-839828/>
20. *March 7, New York Post* – (New York) **New York City-area air-traffic controllers make two times more errors than average.** Air-traffic controllers monitoring New York City, New York’s congested airspace make mistakes at more than twice the national rate, a New York Post analysis of government data found. The paper reported the results March 7. Controllers in the New York City area make one error per 40,000 flight operations, Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) figures show, which is more than double the national average of one error per 84,000 flight operations. It also is a higher rate than their counterparts in other big cities. For example, controllers in Atlanta, Georgia, err in 1 out of 56,000 operations, while Chicago, Illinois controllers make mistakes in 1 out of every 53,000 operations. Overall, controllers at John F. Kennedy International Airport in Queens, New York handle the most flight operations: an average of 1,292 daily. They are followed by Newark, New Jersey, with 1,168, and LaGuardia Airport in Queens, with 1,164. The FAA said it has boosted its vigilance of controllers’ errors by encouraging them to report mistakes that might otherwise go unnoticed.
Source:
http://www.nypost.com/p/news/local/nyc_sky_eyes_are_err_controllers_i53KM15YSsVNat1K3zXwjL
21. *March 7, Frisco Summit Daily News* – (Colorado) **I-70 wreck that had Interstate closed for hours on Sunday.** When a semi carrying bags of an unknown material collided with an SUV, the result was two seriously injured people and a complete shut-down of a portion of I-70 that lasted for hours March 6. The incident occurred in the westbound lane just east of Silverthorne, Colorado. Both lanes of I-70 were closed after the incident around 3:45 p.m. — just as the typically heavy ski traffic was trying to exit the county. Traffic was diverted over Loveland Pass, which turned into a snaking parking lot over the Continental Divide. The eastbound approach to the tunnel reopened about 6:15 p.m., but westbound did not reopen until about 9 p.m. Since trucks carrying hazardous materials are required to go over Loveland Pass, it is not clear what the truck was carrying and why, if it was hazardous, it was on the interstate in the first place. The injuries to those involved in the wreck were apparently not life-threatening.

Source:

<http://www.summitdaily.com/article/20110307/NEWS/110309843/1078&ParentProfile=1055>

22. *March 7, WTNH 8 New Haven* – (Connecticut) **Flooding closes roads, some people evacuated.** More than 3 inches of rain fell in parts of Connecticut March 6 into March 7, causing streets to flood and rivers and streams to rise March 7. Evacuations were reported in some areas. The governor activated the state emergency operations center to help towns deal with flooding. Metro-North service on the Danbury line was suspended because of a track washout just south of the Bethel station. In New Milford, a mudslide on Grove Street forced residents out of their homes. Route 7 was closed between Route 202 and Sunny Valley Road because of water over the road. New Milford Schools closed March 7. In Farmington, several roads including sections of Town Farm, Johnson, and Meadow were closed, police said. “We anticipate Route 4 in the area of Town Farm Road will be flooded within the next couple hours,” police said. In Shelton, emergency crews were dealing with severe flooding in the Maples section because of rising water around the Stevenson Dam. Local authorities and the Connecticut Department of Transportation posted detours and alerts for several towns because of the high waters.

Source: http://www.wtnh.com/dpp/weather/severe_weather/flooding-closes-roads-march-7

23. *March 6, Glen Falls Post-Star* – (New York) **Derailed train in Fort Ann returned to tracks.** A train car that derailed in Washington County, New York, March 5 is back on the tracks and the operator is assessing the damage. Fort Ann Volunteer Fire Department officials responded to the derailment of a Canadian Pacific Rail car. The fire department’s first assistant chief said March 6 that Canadian Pacific had worked through the night to return the car to the tracks. The car was back on the tracks at around 4 a.m. March 6 and Clay Hill Road was reopened to vehicle traffic. No injuries were reported, and hazardous materials were not discovered on the derailed car. The cause of the derailment remains under investigation. The first assistant chief said the railroad tracks were heavily damaged by the derailment. There was no information about the condition of the tracks March 6.

Source: http://poststar.com/news/local/article_4e1197d2-4866-11e0-a39b-001cc4c002e0.html

24. *March 4, TheStreet.com* – (National) **Airlines remove oxygen units in fire threat.** According to industry sources, U.S. airlines have quietly removed oxygen devices from the bathrooms on 6,000 aircraft, responding to Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) concerns that an unobserved passenger could trigger a fire using such a device, TheStreet.com reported March 4. The FAA issued an airworthiness directive February 10 ordering the removals, with the work to be completed within 21 days after each airline received the directive, the sources said. All work was expected to be completed within a few days. Airlines have been able to accomplish the work during routine maintenance. Additionally, the agency alerted foreign aviation regulatory authorities, and some have ordered carriers in their countries to follow the

same policy, sources said. The danger was “you could take the generator and [manipulate] it to create a hazard,” said an aviation safety consultant, a former member of the National Transportation Safety Board. “You could have an oxygen-fed fire that would be extremely hot.”

Source: http://www.thestreet.com/story/11031809/1/airlines-remove-oxygen-devices-in-fire-threat.html?cm_ven=GOOGLN

For more stories, see items [4](#), [7](#), and [46](#)

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Postal and Shipping Sector

25. *March 4, Associated Press* – (Alabama) **UNA staffer suspended after suspicious mail incident.** The University of North Alabama in Florence, Alabama, said March 4 it suspended an employee suspected of sending a threatening letter that prompted the evacuation of a campus building. The school said the unidentified staff member was placed on unpaid leave and barred from the school. A university spokesman said the person is prohibited from contacting anyone on the northwest Alabama campus. No charges have been filed, but the case is being turned over to state prosecutors and federal postal inspectors. Authorities evacuated Stevens Hall after a threatening letter containing white powder was delivered March 3. Officials said it was addressed to a faculty member. There is no word yet on what the powder was.

Source: http://www.waaytv.com/news/local/story/UNA-Staffer-Suspended-After-Suspicious-Mail/aBFhUjc-40K_WDUm5kLamw.csp

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Agriculture and Food Sector

26. *March 7, Albert Lea Tribune* – (Minnesota) **Grain bin explodes.** One man sustained minor injuries when a grain bin exploded March 4 in Lansing, Minnesota. Austin Fire Department and Mower County sheriff’s deputies responded to a call at around 5:20 p.m. that a small explosion had taken place at the bin, located off County Road 2. The explosion started in the loading area garage, where it blew out a wall, and traveled 60 feet up the grain leg, causing two additional blowouts. Austin’s fire chief said the explosions did not cause visible flames, and the grain bin itself was not affected. One employee sustained minor injuries from the explosion and was transported to the Austin Medical Center for precautionary reasons. The cause of the fire is not known, but is likely related to a common dust build-up. No grain was lost as a result of the explosion.

Source: <http://www.albertleatribune.com/2011/03/07/grain-bin-explodes/>

27. *March 7, Food Safety News* – (Maine; New York) **Processors cited over lobster, crab & tuna.** Seafood processing facilities turning out lobster bisque, canned pasteurized crabmeat, and refrigerated tuna loins, as well as yellow fin and big eye tuna, received

warning letters in February about their operations. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) sent the warning letters on: February 4 to Greene, Maine-based KJPL Restaurants Inc., doing business as Hurricanes Soup & Chowder Co.; February 18 to Green Island, New York-based Carioto Produce Inc.; and February 23 to Maspeth, New York-based Sea Express Inc. The letters were released to the public March 1. FDA told KJPL Restaurants that its seafood Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Points (HACCP) plan for “Soup with Fish & Shellfish & Mollusks” does not list the food safety hazard of *Clostridium botulinum*. Seafood HACCP problems were also cited in the warning letter to Carioto Produce. For Sea Express Inc., FDA’s main concern was the firm does not have a HACCP plan for refrigerated raw flounder to control the possibility of parasites.

Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2011/03/seafood-processors-in-trouble-over-lobster-crab-tuna/>

28. *March 6, Food Poison Journal* – (Oregon; National) **E. coli contaminated hazelnuts likely from Oregon.** An E. coli outbreak that has caused at least 7 illnesses in Michigan (1), Minnesota (3), and Wisconsin (3) involves hazelnuts likely grown and harvested in Oregon. The three Minnesota infections involved men over age 50 from Hennepin, Stearns, and Redwood counties. Two were hospitalized; all three have recovered. Hazelnuts grow on trees, but they are harvested after they fall to the ground, where the contamination likely occurred, according to an official at the Minnesota Department of Agriculture’s dairy and food inspection division. “The fact that they do spend some time on the ground increases the risk of environmental contamination,” he said. The investigation is now focusing on farms in Oregon that produce the majority of U.S. hazelnuts.

Source: <http://www.foodpoisonjournal.com/foodborne-illness-outbreaks/e-coli-contaminated-hazelnuts-likely-from-oregon/>

29. *March 4, U.S. Food and Drug Administration* – (National) **Unilever announces recall of Skippy Reduced Fat Peanut Butter Spread due to possible health risk.** Unilever United States, Inc. announced March 4 a limited recall of Skippy Reduced Fat Creamy Peanut Butter Spread and Skippy Reduced Fat Super Chunk Peanut Butter Spread, because it may be contaminated with Salmonella. The recall is being conducted in cooperation with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA). No other Skippy products are affected by this recall. The product was distributed to retail outlets in Arkansas, Connecticut, Delaware, Illinois, Iowa, Maine, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Dakota, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and Wisconsin.

Source: <http://www.fda.gov/Safety/Recalls/ucm245897.htm>

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Water Sector

30. *March 6, Wellesley Patch* – (Massachusetts) **Crews clean up 400-gallon Wellesley High School oil spill.** Wellesley, Massachusetts, fire personnel and Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) crews worked to clean up a Wellesley High School oil spill March 6. A captain of the Wellesley Fire Department told Wellesley Patch a Wellesley High School boiler leaked about 400 gallons of oil because a pressure release valve came off of one of the two pressure gauges of the school's 12,500-gallon heating oil tank. The oil in the room drained to an old steam pipe that dumped into a stream off of the Charles River where the fire department caught it, the captain said. The captain termed it a "surface water" issue. Fire personnel released absorbent booms into the stream to collect the oil. DEP crews were monitoring air quality in the school March 6.
Source: <http://wellesley.patch.com/articles/crews-clean-up-400-gallon-wellesley-high-school-oil-spill>
31. *March 4, WSAZ 3 Huntington/Charleston* – (West Virginia) **Boil water advisory for Belle Residents.** West Virginia American Water issued a precautionary boil water advisory late March 3 for customers in Belle, West Virginia. The advisory affects customers between Dupont Avenue and Riverside Drive from 4th Street to 13th Street. The advisory was due to a water main break. The company said March 4 it had crews working to repair the problem, but in the meantime customers might have short interruptions in service until the problem is solved. Company representatives said workers would collect water quality samples once the break was repaired.
Source:
http://www.wsaz.com/news/headlines/Boil_Water_Advisory_for_Belle_Residents_117373263.html?ref=263
32. *March 3, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency* – (National) **EPA submits for public comment the next round of Safe Drinking Water Act contaminant monitoring.** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has proposed 30 currently unregulated contaminants for monitoring in water systems, and submitted the proposal for public comment. Under the authority of the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), EPA regulates more than 90 contaminants in drinking water. To keep drinking water standards up-to-date with emerging science, SDWA requires EPA to identify up to 30 unregulated contaminants for monitoring every 5 years. This current proposal is the third Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Regulation and includes requirements to monitor for 2 viruses and 28 chemical contaminants that could be present in drinking water and do not currently have health-based standards. EPA is seeking public comment on the proposed list of 30 contaminants until May 2, 2011. Following the public comment period, EPA will review the input before the list is scheduled to be finalized in 2012, with sampling to be conducted from 2013 to 2015. Sampling will take place at all systems serving more than 10,000 people, and at a representative sampling of systems serving less than 10,000 people.
Source:
<http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/1e5ab1124055f3b28525781f0042ed40/713bc83b19ccad9d85257848006f0aac!OpenDocument>

33. *March 2, Water Technology Online* – (International) **Wastewater treatment efficiency may be reduced during severe flu pandemic, research indicates.** New research published in the journal *Environmental Health Perspectives* indicated existing plans for antiviral and antibiotic use during a severe influenza pandemic could reduce wastewater treatment efficiency prior to discharge into receiving rivers, resulting in water quality deterioration at drinking water abstraction points, according to a press release. The research team coupled a global spatially-structured epidemic model that simulates the quantities of antiviral and antibiotics used during an influenza pandemic of varying severity, with a water quality model applied to the Thames catchment in England to predict environmental concentrations. An additional model was then used to assess ecotoxicologic effects of antibiotics and antiviral in wastewater treatment plants (WWTP) and rivers, the release stated. The team concluded that in a moderate and severe pandemic, nearly all WWTPs (80-100 percent) were projected to exceed the threshold for microbial growth inhibition, potentially reducing the capacity of the plant to treat wastewater. “Our results suggest that existing plans for drug use during an influenza pandemic could result in discharge of inefficiently treated wastewater into the UK’s rivers,” said the lead author. “The potential widespread release of antivirals and antibiotics into the environment may hasten the development of resistant pathogens with implications for human health during and potentially well after the formal end of the pandemic.”
Source: <http://www.watertechnology.com/municipal-industrial/article/wastewater-treatment-efficiency-may-be-reduced-during-severe-flu-pandemic-research-indicates>

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

34. *March 6, Los Angeles Times* – (California) **Computer with patient records is stolen from hospital.** A laptop computer containing more than 660 patient names and diagnostic information was stolen from Rancho Los Amigos National Rehabilitation Center in Downey, California, Los Angeles County health officials confirmed March 4. At least 667 patient records were on the stolen laptop, which included names, dates of birth, and medical information, said a spokesman for the county department of health services. The laptop, which was not encrypted, had been attached to a diagnostic machine that performs electromyographies. Staff members at the county-run hospital became aware of the stolen laptop February 24, and letters were sent to patients affected by the theft. The hospital has begun a review of portable electronic devices and is working to prevent future occurrences.
Source: <http://www.latimes.com/news/local/la-me-stolen-laptop-20110306,0,4424267.story>
35. *March 4, Health Data Management* – (National) **Big breach at Cord Blood Registry.** The Cord Blood Registry, which stores more than 350,000 cord blood collections for individuals and their families, has notified about 300,000 individuals of a breach of their protected health information. Backup tapes were stolen from an employee’s car December 13. Notifications started February 14, but the registry did not

post information about the breach on its Web site. NetworkWorld.com learned of the breach weeks later and published a story March 4. Clinical data was not breached, but personal demographic and financial information was exposed. “The tapes may have contained your name, Social Security number, driver’s license number, credit card information and/or credit card expiration date,” according to the notification letter. “Because a computer and other property also were stolen at the same time from a locked vehicle, we do not believe these tapes were the target of the theft.”

Source: <http://www.healthdatamanagement.com/news/Big-Breach-at-Cord-Blood-Registry-42107-1.html>

36. *March 3, Associated Press* – (Florida) **Former WellCare execs charged with Medicaid fraud.** A grand jury in Florida has indicted five former executives of WellCare Health Plans Inc., alleging they pocketed Medicaid money designated for patient care. The March 3 announcement comes nearly 4 years after the FBI raided the company’s Tampa, Florida office in 2007. Prosecutors have said the company inflated expenditures by submitting fake documents. Under some mental health care contracts, WellCare was paid per patient and required to spend at least 80 percent on care. Any leftover amount beyond 20 percent was to be repaid to Florida, but the bogus expenditures allowed WellCare to keep that surplus. The company paid the state \$80 million in restitution in 2009. A WellCare spokeswoman stressed the defendants have not been with the company since 2008, and that WellCare is also taking legal action against them.
Source: <http://www.bradenton.com/2011/03/03/3004403/former-wellcare-execs-charged.html>
37. *March 3, Associated Press* – (Florida; Kentucky) **Fla. doctor pleads guilty in eastern Ky.** A Florida doctor has pleaded guilty to conspiring to distribute pain pills to eastern Kentuckians who traveled to his clinic. The U.S. attorney’s office said the 52-year-old man acknowledged he illegally prescribed some 25,000 pain pills to people from Kentucky at his clinic in Oakland Park, Florida, in 2008 and 2009. He pleaded guilty to conspiracy to distribute oxycodone and methadone. Sentencing will be June 24. Prosecutors said he faces up to 20 years in prison.
Source: <http://www.miamiherald.com/2011/03/03/2096429/fla-doctor-pleads-guilty-in-eastern.html>

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Government Facilities Sector

38. *March 7, IDG News Service* – (International) **Hackers targeted French gov’t computers for G20 secrets.** IT staff spent the weekend of March 5 and March 6 in a massive clean-up operation to remove traces of a “spectacular” attack on computers at Bercy, the headquarters of the French ministry of economy, finances and industry, a government minister said March 7. “There was an attack on the computer systems at

Bercy,” the budget minister said in an interview on radio station Europe 1. “It’s probably the first time it’s been as spectacular as this.” Staff at the ministry had suspected for some time something was amiss, but it was only recently that the general secretariat for defense and national security confirmed their suspicions, the budget minister said. That organization may release more details later the week of March 7, he said. The attackers broke into mailboxes and servers over the course of several weeks. There is no sign that personal tax files were targeted. The attack was probably from outside France, the budget minister said.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9213559/Hackers_targeted_French_gov_t_computers_for_G20_secrets

39. *March 6, United Press International* – (South Carolina; International) **Security breach exposes personal info.** The personal information of some 31,000 faculty, staff, retirees, and students at the University of South Carolina (USC) was exposed on the Internet, officials said. The breach is the third time in 2 years USC has experienced a major breach of security on its computer system, the State newspaper reported. The breach was discovered in January on a computer server at USC Sumter, but potentially affected people throughout the school’s eight campuses because the information was on a shared server. “Letters went out as soon as individuals were identified,” a USC spokeswoman said March 4. “There is no evidence that anyone’s personal information was compromised or used improperly,” she said. “USC Sumter has addressed the matter, notified the individuals, and provided them guidance on how to protect their information.” USC Sumter did not mail the letters until March 1, several weeks after the breach was found. The letters told those who might be affected how to check credit records. The letter suggested those whose information was breached place an initial fraud report on their credit files and provided information on how to contact the three major credit bureaus.

Source: http://www.upi.com/Top_News/US/2011/03/06/Security-breach-exposes-personal-info/UPI-16901299431393/

40. *March 5, Associated Press* – (International) **South Korean Web sites experience new round of cyberattacks.** Unidentified attackers targeted more than two dozen South Korean government and private Web sites March 5, a day after two waves of similar attacks, but officials reported no serious damage. A total of 29 Web sites were hit that day in so-called “denial of service” attacks, in which large numbers of “zombie” computers try to connect to a site at the same time in an attempt to overwhelm the server, the Korea Communications Commission said. The commission official said the attacks were “so weak that no actual damage was detected so far,” and he said the commission would keep a close watch on the situation in coming days, but that the fallout was likely to remain limited because the government and computer security companies were well prepared. The attacks on sites including South Korea’s presidential office, the foreign ministry, the defense ministry, some financial institutions, and U.S. Forces Korea followed two rounds March 4 in which damage was also limited. The commission official said 40 Web sites were originally targeted March 4, though only 29 came under actual attack. A total of 29 were targeted March 5, he

said.

Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/scitech/2011/03/05/south-korean-web-sites-experience-new-round-cyberattacks/>

41. *March 4, NextGov* – (International) **CIA blames ‘technical difficulties’ for website crash.** The CIA’s Web site, which crashed March 3, was revived shortly before 11 a.m. March 4. The spy agency declined to discuss what might have caused the blackout, but Office of Management and Budget officials referred all questions to civilian cybersecurity authorities at the Homeland Security Department, which suggests the event was an attack. A CIA spokeswoman said in an e-mail: “Web sites sometimes experience technical difficulties. The agency is making every effort to restore CIA.gov as soon as possible.” Soon after she wrote, the site was back up and offering “the second installment in the lighthearted K-9 Cam series” on how to become a bomb-sniffing CIA dog, and posing this intriguing question: “What country has three megacities with populations of greater than 15 million? (No, it’s not China).” Later in the day, a CIA spokeswoman said the agency was still analyzing the “technical problems,” which also included an e-mail outage that took down employees’ unclassified messages. The CIA overhauled its Web site in February “to make information about the agency available to more people more easily,” the CIA director said at the time.

Source: http://www.nextgov.com/nextgov/ng_20110304_9555.php

42. *March 4, KTVU 2 San Francisco* – (California) **Monterey HS students arrested for allegedly building explosives.** The Monterey County, California, bomb squad in March 3 detonated an explosive device allegedly found in the bedroom of a 16-year-old boy who had been arrested earlier in the day for making threats against his school, a deputy police chief said. The boy and a friend, also 16, were seen late the morning of March 3 passing a bullet around Monterey High School, the deputy chief said. A counselor asked if they wanted to hurt people and they said yes, prompting the school to call police. The boys were arrested and booked in juvenile hall at about 1 p.m. on suspicion of conspiracy, making threats, and possession of ammunition. Police obtained search warrants for their homes and served one at 7414 Tustin Road in Prunedale. Officers allegedly found a prescription bottle filled with fireworks explosive powder with a fuse sticking through the cap. The device was under the boy’s mattress and could have caused serious injury, according to the sheriff’s office. The Monterey County Sheriff’s Office bomb squad was called to the home at about 9:40 p.m. and rendered the device safe, along with fireworks powder found in the boy’s bedroom, the department said.

Source: <http://www.ktvu.com/news/27087902/detail.html>

43. *March 3, eWeek.com* – (National) **DHS needs to change rules to recruit hackers into U.S. security agencies.** Hackers and other computer experts willing to collaborate with DHS to bolster the nation’s cyber-defense are unable to do so because of red tape, according to the former head of the department. Two former secretaries of Homeland Security joined the head of DHS to discuss the evolution of threats facing the United States, including the challenges of securing cyber-space. They expressed their views

during a March 2 roundtable discussion at Georgetown University, which was webcast by the Aspen Institute. There are a number of possible scary scenarios, including a sophisticated hacker from another country breaking into the power grid or other critical infrastructure and shutting things down, a Trojan that wipes out information on government computers, or even steals sensitive documents. The Department of Defense and DHS currently work together on cyber-defense. The federal government is short “tens of thousands of cyber experts” and is aggressively hiring, according to NextGov. A former CIA official estimated that about 1,000 security experts in the nation possess the skills to safeguard U.S. cyberspace, but the country needs about 30,000, according to Government Executive.

Source: <http://www.eweek.com/c/a/Security/DHS-Needs-to-Change-Rules-to-Recruit-Hackers-into-US-Security-Agencies-252689/>

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Emergency Services Sector

44. *March 7, Associated Press* – (Kentucky) **Eastern Ky. Man charged after ambulance stolen from outside hospital in Hazard.** An ambulance crew in Perry County, Kentucky went inside the Hazard Appalachian Regional Hospital in Hazard for only a few minutes March 4 and left the keys in the ignition. When they came out of the hospital, the vehicle was gone, WYMT-TV in Hazard reported. The city police sergeant said an off-duty Kentucky State Police detective saw the ambulance being driven erratically and flashed his lights at the vehicle. Officials said the 26-year-old male driver told the detective he only needed a ride home and was going to call the ambulance service the next day and report where the vehicle was. He was jailed on DUI and other charges.

Source:

http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/67b91a627bc94f9abf57351a8fc44eef/KY-ODD--Ambulance_Stolen/

45. *March 7, New York Post* – (New York) **Radio problems from 9/11 not fixed, could strike again.** The communications failures that led to the deaths of hundreds of first responders on 9/11 still have not been fixed, despite tens of millions of dollars spent on elaborate radio systems in lower Manhattan, the New York Post has learned. The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey (PA) February 24 approved \$130 million for the design and construction of a massive communications system at the 16-acre World Trade Center site in Manhattan, New York, which the bi-state agency owns. The PA is planning to hard-wire the new buildings at the site and build in transmitters, antennas, and broadcast equipment that would allow emergency workers to communicate even if all power fails and the buildings again come under attack. The problem is the PA is not following recommendations to install a whole new system, but is instead expanding its antiquated radio infrastructure — which is being discontinued by the manufacturer and is not compatible with the emergency communications setup of the New York Police

Department (NYPD) and the Fire Department City of New York (FDNY), the agency confirmed. Because of that, sources told the Post, NYPD refused to sign off on the PA's plans and then broke off talks altogether before the agency's board voted unanimously on the spending.

Source:

http://www.nypost.com/p/news/local/manhattan/radio_shock_waves_4ktnHOr6DUx4eqSYIXTwPO

46. *March 6, San Rafael Police Department* – (California) **Explosive device found.** On March 6 at approximately 4:30 p.m., a citizen brought to the San Rafael Police Department (SRFD) in San Rafael, California, two gas grenades that he found in his garage. The citizen was instructed to place the grenades on the ground near the fire department. The citizen did not know if the grenades were live. Officers inspected the grenades and, because of safety concerns, the streets around the fire department were closed to vehicle and pedestrian traffic. An explosive ordnance disposal team from Berkley was called and responded. The devices were removed and taken to another location to be detonated. The area around the fire department was closed for about 2 hours. The fire department moved their trucks out of the fire station in order to respond to emergency calls.

Source: http://www.srpd.org/pr_full/index.php?article-id=94

47. *March 3, WSAV 3 Savannah* – (Georgia) **Bomb squads gather in Savannah for underwater explosives training.** Bomb squads from around the United States were in Savannah, Georgia, conducting high-tech training that included lots of explosions, WSAV reported March 3. Savannah is working to become the East Coast training site for the FBI's Underwater Post Blast Investigations Course. The class teaches law enforcement how to deal with suspicious devices or detonations in the water. Agents said this is important training, especially considering the threat of terrorism in a city with a big port. "We've never run it anywhere else in the United States because we were looking for kinda the right combination of of FBI folks and local agency folks who were motivated to do a lot of legwork to put this course on," said a Los Angeles, California, FBI agent.

Source: <http://www2.wsav.com/news/2011/mar/03/bomb-squads-gather-savannah-underwater-explosives--ar-1534828/>

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Information Technology Sector

48. *March 7, IDG News Service* – (International) **After attacks, Google vows to fortify Android store.** Google will build new safeguards into Android Market, its application store for the Android mobile OS, following an attack the week of February 28 that infected thousands of phones and forced the company to wipe the malware remotely from phones, it said March 6. More than 50 applications in the Android Market were

found to contain a program called DroidDream, which is capable of stealing information about a mobile device and downloading other malicious applications to the phone. Google addressed the issue March 5, when it confirmed it decided to use a command that remotely erases malicious applications. Android users who have downloaded a malicious application will get an e-mail within 3 days from the address android-market-support@google.com explaining the situation, wrote Android's security lead. In addition to wiping malware, Google is also forcing an update on users called "Android Market Security Tool March 2011" which fixes the security issues DroidDream exploits. Some users may get a notification on their device that a malicious application has been removed Android's security lead wrote. About a day after the vulnerabilities have been fixed, users will receive a second e-mail. Phones running Android versions below 2.2.2 are vulnerable. The issues are fixed in the latest 2.3 version of Android, known as "Gingerbread."

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9213563/After_attacks_Google_vows_to_fortify_Android_store

49. *March 7, H Security* – (International) **Further attacks on WordPress under investigation.** Following a massive attack on WordPress.com March 3, WordPress was hit by a second attack in the early hours of the morning March 4. Apparently there was some speculation the attacks might be connected to the current unrest in the Middle East, but investigation now appears to show these attacks originated in China, with some traffic from Korea and Japan. The Automattic status page which displays the operating status for WordPress and other services showed the two outages. A note on the second attack states, "Unfortunately, the DDoS attack from yesterday returned in a different form this morning and affected sitewide performance, The good news is that we were able to mitigate it quickly and performance returned to normal around 11:15 UTC. We are continuing to monitor the situation closely." WordPress's founder commented to TechCrunch that one of the targeted sites was a Chinese-language site that was also blocked on Baidu, leading to the initial assumption that the attack was political. Later, he said closer investigation showed it more likely to have been business related, although there has been no response from the site's owner.

Source: <http://www.h-online.com/security/news/item/Further-attacks-on-WordPress-under-investigation-1203108.html>

50. *March 7, H Open Source* – (International) **Mozilla patches Java applet problems in Firefox.** Two days after it released the Firefox 3.6.14 and Thunderbird 3.1.8 security updates, the Mozilla project has issues new versions of its open source Web browser and e-mail client to address several critical issues found in the previous releases. According to the developers, Firefox 3.6.15 fixes a bug that prevented some Java applets from loading in version 3.6.14, while Thunderbird 3.1.9 corrects a problem that caused a crash after the update. Various other bugs affecting all platforms have also been closed in both Firefox and Thunderbird.

Source: <http://www.h-online.com/open/news/item/Mozilla-patches-Java-applet-problems-in-Firefox-1202991.html>

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Internet Alert Dashboard

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

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

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Communications Sector

51. *March 7, Radio Ink* – (Florida) **Fort Lauderdale business owner sapped with \$20,000 pirate fine.** A man received a \$20,000 Federal Communications Commission (FCC) fine for operating an unlicensed radio transmitter at his commercial property in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. In response to complaints about an unlicensed station on 99.5 MHz, agents from the enforcement bureau's Miami office used direction-finding techniques to locate the source of radio frequency transmissions on the frequency March 16 and August 24, 2010. They wound up at a commercial property owned by the man. FCC agents determined the signals from the man's building exceeded the limits for operation and therefore required a license. A review of FCC records showed no authorization was issued to him, or to anyone for any operation of an FM broadcast station on this frequency, at or near this address. Agents again used direction-finding techniques August 31, 2010, to locate the source of radio frequency transmissions at 99.5 MHz to his commercial property in Fort Lauderdale. Again agents determined the signals exceeded the limits for operation and therefore required a license. Despite having acknowledged receipt of both notices of unlicensed operation, the man continued to operate an unlicensed radio station on 99.5 MHz from his property. Source: <http://www.radioink.com/Article.asp?id=2127646&spid=24698>

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Commercial Facilities Sector

52. *March 6, KTVU 2 Oakland* – (California) **Explosive device found near Pebble Beach golf course.** A Monterey County, California bomb squad was dispatched to Pebble Beach Golf Links March 6 where an apparent explosive device was found near the golf course, according to the sheriff's office. At around 8:30 a.m., a beachcomber reported spotting a suspicious device that looked like 2 pipe bombs taped together at the base of a 40-foot cliff near the 9th hole at Pebble Beach, according to the sheriff's office. The Monterey County sheriff's bomb squad went to the scene, examined the device, and rendered it safe. Source: <http://www.ktvu.com/news/27099140/detail.html>

53. *March 5, Portland Press Herald* – (Maine) **Exhaust gases force city hotel to evacuate.** Seven people were treated at hospitals for carbon monoxide poisoning March 4 after exhaust gases were sucked into the Residence Inn Marriott in Portland, Maine through its rooftop air intake system. The hotel was evacuated after elevated levels of carbon monoxide were detected in the building. Portland firefighters found levels of the toxic gas as high as 500 parts per million (ppm). The federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration says 50 ppm is the maximum safe exposure. The Portland Fire Department chief said exhaust fumes from the hotel’s heating system were sucked into the air intake system on the building’s roof. The problem apparently was caused by a combination of a temperature inversion and wind currents, he said.
Source: http://www.pressherald.com/news/doctors-firefighters-team-up-on-co2-scare_2011-03-05.html
54. *March 5, San Diego Union-Tribune* – (California) **North Park hotel evacuated, wanted man arrested.** A fugitive believed armed with a pistol and a shotgun was taken into custody at the Lafayette Hotel in the North Park neighborhood of San Diego, California, March 5, after San Diego police evacuated part of the hotel, then sent a police dog after the man, authorities said. Police said U.S. Marshals were trying to arrest the man on suspicion of assault with a deadly weapon, and learned he was staying at the hotel. Officers surrounded the room about 7 p.m., evacuated some guests and repeatedly tried to persuade the man to surrender. They talked to him by phone and bullhorn. The man’s family members told authorities he had a pistol and shotgun, a police spokesman said. He said the man agreed to come out of his room, but then went back inside. Officers sent in a police dog and used “less-lethal munitions” to subdue the man and get him into custody about 10:30 p.m.
Source: <http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/2011/mar/05/north-park-hotel-evacuated-wanted-man-arrested/>
55. *March 5, KOMO 4 Seattle* – (Washington) **Powerful blast ignites blaze at N. Seattle motel.** A powerful blast shook a motel and ignited a fire in Seattle, Washington, March 5, shattering windows and pushing thick smoke into nearby units. Witnesses said it started after the man who stays there got into trouble with his caseworker. The room blew up at one end of the Georgian Motel, at 8801 Aurora Avenue N. in Seattle. Witnesses said the man who stays there was around all day — but left just moments before the blast shook the building. When firefighters arrived, the windows were blown out and the occupant was gone from the motel. The motel’s manager said the tenant is a mental health patient who was placed there a few weeks ago. Fellow tenants said the man was caught drinking alcohol by his caseworker, and became upset. Police will not confirm that information — but do say the man walked out the door just minutes before the room exploded and caught fire. Nobody was hurt in the explosion or fire. Investigators are still trying to figure out how the fire started and whether crimes were committed.
Source: <http://www.komonews.com/news/local/117470459.html>

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National Monuments and Icons Sector

56. *March 6, KGUN 9 Tuscon* – (Arizona) **Wildfire in Redington Pass Sunday.** A Coronado National Forest spokeswoman said firefighters were fighting a wildfire March 6 at Milepost 6 on Redington Pass in Arizona. The blaze was “human caused,” she said and was 80 percent contained at 6 p.m. A 20-person crew with two fire engines was working on it and would remain at the site. “There’s minimal activity at this time,” she said. She said one engine and a crew will work the fire March 7. No word yet on how many acres burned.
Source: <http://www.kgun9.com/Global/story.asp?S=14198109>
57. *March 4, Odessa American* – (Texas) **Brewster County fire still active.** A fire in Brewster County, Texas, that started March 1 was still active March 4 but was at 50 percent containment. The public information officer with the Texas Forest Service said the “Mind” fire burned about 3,000 acres since it started. “We have two 20-person crews, 6 engines, 1 heavy air tanker, 4 single-engine air tankers, another 20-person crew en route, and 2 more crews ordered,” the public information officer said. The Texas Forest Service and the U.S. Forest Service, along with the Diablos, a firefighting service from Mexico, were focusing on the northeast and southwest corners March 4 because those areas were the most active.
Source: <http://www.oaoa.com/news/brewster-61394-county-fire.html>
58. *March 4, Mobile Press-Register* – (Alabama) **Blakeley State Park offering reward for boating equipment allegedly stolen from Delta Explorer.** Blakeley State Park in Alabama is offering a \$500 reward for the recovery of stolen boat and electronic equipment from the Delta Explorer sometime the night of March 2 as the popular tour boat was docked at the Tensaw River. Thieves, apparently approaching by boat from the river, stole propellers, cowlings, and batteries from Blakeley’s two 150-horse power outboard motors (Yamahas) and electronic equipment used in narrating the environmental tours conducted by the park, the park director said. Preliminary estimates place the value of the stolen equipment at about \$4,000 to \$5,000. A Blakeley Park night attendant regularly patrols the pier where the boat is docked. Investigating the theft were the Baldwin County Sheriff’s Office, Marine Police of the Alabama Department of Conservation & Natural Resources, and park personnel. The theft was also reported to the U.S. Coast Guard because the thieves stole the boat’s Coast Guard registration documents.
Source: http://blog.al.com/pr-community-news/2011/03/blakeley_state_park_offering_reward_for_stolen_goods.html

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Dams Sector

59. *March 7, WEWS 5 Cleveland* – (Ohio) **Officials worry that a Medina County dam could fail, putting several homes in jeopardy.** Medina County, Ohio, emergency management officials were watching the area near the Osage Dam very closely, March 7, as erosion has put the dam's stability in question. The recent rain and weather has caused the Osage Dam in Sharon Township to begin to erode, and emergency management officials have evacuated three homes and closed down the Osage trail, a road that goes over the dam. If the Osage dam were to fail, at least another six houses could be in jeopardy as there would be nothing stopping the Osage Lake from flooding the area downstream.
Source: http://www.newsnet5.com/dpp/news/local_news/officals-worry-that-a-medina-county-dam-could-fail-putting-several-homes-in-jeopardy
60. *March 6, Evansville Courier & Press* – (Indiana) **Levee break on White River will flood fields for several days.** A large levee break in western Daviess County, Indiana, will leave water standing for several days, a top official said. The director of emergency management for Daviess County said no homes have been affected, just farmland and nearby county roads. The break is in a levee on the White River near county roads 650 North and 375 West, about 3 miles west of Indiana 57. It was reported at 4:15 p.m. March 6 by a conservation officer. The break is about 25 feet wide. The cause is unknown, according to the director. The river was 23.2 feet March 6 at 7 p.m., and was expected to rise slightly before returning to that level March 10. Flood stage is 15 feet.
Source: <http://www.courierpress.com/news/2011/mar/06/broken-levee-daviess-county-ind/>
61. *March 6, Reading Eagle* – (Pennsylvania) **Boyertown ordered to upgrade Earl Township dam.** For the second time in recent years, the state is ordering Boyertown, Pennsylvania, to upgrade a spillway in its municipal water system. The borough recently received word that improvements must be made at the Trout Run Dam in Earl Township. The dam is on the state Department of Environmental Protection's (DEP) list of problem structures. A DEP spokesman said the agency has determined the 32-foot-wide spillway would not be able to handle the most severe weather conditions possible for the area — 7.5 inches of rain in 24 hours — without water pouring over the top of the dam, which was built in the 1970s. The borough manager said Boyertown officials are not yet sure what the upgrade to the Trout Run Dam spillway could cost.
Source: <http://readingeagle.com/article.aspx?id=292225>
62. *March 3, Palm Beach Post* – (Florida) **Cash-strapped corps to seek cheaper Lake Okeechobee dike repair.** In a 2006 report that spurred a \$1 billion repair job, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) argued that the Herbert Hoover Dike on Lake Okeechobee in Florida “needs to be fixed now, and it needs to be fixed right.” As a result, USACE embarked on the gold standard of dike repair to erect a 2-foot-thick, 70-foot-deep wall in the center of the 80-year-old earthen berm. After committing \$200 million to complete a 22-mile section, now half-finished, Corps officials plan to announce the week of March 7 that they are not going to continue the plan after that section is done. Instead, they will re-engineer, looking for less-costly alternatives that

meet safety goals. The reason is the high cost of the wall construction — \$10 million per mile — and competition for scarce federal money. A second factor, however, is the refusal last year by the South Florida Water Management District to pay for land needed to expand and strengthen the berm. In 2006, the water district’s “grave-and-imminent-danger” study said the levee has “a one in six chance of dike failure with each year that passes.” The Corps announced it would spare no expense to ensure the dike’s safety. A Corps study termed the levee a “unique structure,” governed under stricter dam criteria because of the potential for “catastrophic life-safety, economic and environmental consequences should a breach occur.”

Source: <http://www.palmbeachpost.com/storm/cash-strapped-corps-to-seek-cheaper-lake-okeechobee-1293886.html>

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