



Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report 9 October 2012

Top Stories

- California had its largest single-day gasoline price spike in almost 5 years October 4, leading to long lines at the pump, gas shortages, and station closures. – *Long Beach Press-Telegram* (See item [1](#))
- As many as 30 American banks have been targeted by a cybercrime gang that is recruiting botmasters for a large-scale coordinated attack to conduct fraudulent wire transfers, experts said. – *ThreatPost* (See item [18](#))
- Federal authorities stopped Medicare payments to providers charged in a sweep that netted 91 people in 7 cities accused of \$430 million in fraudulent billing schemes. – *Insurance and Financial Advisor* (See item [36](#))
- The potential scope of the meningitis outbreak that has killed at least five people widened dramatically October 4 as health officials warned that hundreds, perhaps thousands, of patients who received steroid back injections in 23 States could be at risk. – *Associated Press* (See item [37](#))

Fast Jump Menu

PRODUCTION INDUSTRIES

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

SUSTENANCE and HEALTH

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

SERVICE INDUSTRIES

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

FEDERAL and STATE

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

Energy Sector

1. *October 5, Long Beach Press-Telegram* – (California) **Gas shortage shutter Costco stations, prices skyrocket.** California had its largest single-day gasoline price spike in almost 5 years October 4, leading to long lines at the pump, gas shortages, and even station closures. Experts said the price increases could continue for weeks and the average might even break the \$5 mark. By October 4, at least five Los Angeles-area gas stations crossed the \$5 per gallon mark, according to GasBuddy.com. A refinery closure, a contaminated pipeline, and the State’s strict pollution limits are all, in part, to blame, experts said. Gasoline inventories across the State are lower than they have been in more than 10 years. Gasoline station owners in southern California have stopped making wholesale purchases to fill underground tanks since the price of gas increased the week of October 1, said a spokesman with the California Independent Oil Marketers Association. Even the Costco discount store chain, which typically has some of the cheapest prices, is starting to run out or is seeing long lines at its pumps.
Source: http://www.presstelegram.com/ci_21698765/gas-shortage-shutters-costco-stations-simi-northridge-and?source=rss viewed
2. *October 4, Pagosa Daily Post* – (Colorado) **Gas company fined for infractions in Ignacio.** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) October 4 announced a Clean Air Act settlement with Texas-based Elm Ridge Exploration Company, LLC (Elm Ridge) resolving alleged violations at the Ignacio Gas Treating Plant located on the Southern Ute Indian Reservation near Ignacio, Colorado. The settlement requires Elm Ridge to pay \$207,150 in civil penalties as well as \$67,850 in unpaid permit fees. In addition, the firm has agreed to replace existing compressor engines with lower-emitting engines equipped with pollution-control equipment, administer a wood stove change out program with the Southern Ute Indian Tribe, and implement a project that will reduce greenhouse gas emissions and conserve natural gas. The company worked cooperatively with EPA to resolve these violations.
Source:
http://www.pagosadailypost.com/news/21634/Gas_Company_Fined_for_Infractions_in_Ignacio/
3. *October 4, Associated Press* – (New York) **NY court strikes down local drilling moratorium.** A New York judge invalidated Binghamton’s 2-year moratorium on natural gas drilling, marking the first time a local law that would ban or delay hydraulic fracturing in New York was struck down. The State supreme court justice became the latest New York judge to weigh in on local bans or moratoriums October 2, ruling the city law approved December 2011 failed to meet the standards of a properly enacted moratorium. He said the city never established there was a “dire emergency” regarding a practice that is still not allowed in New York. As the New York State Department of Environmental review continues, more than 30 upstate municipalities have passed bans on gas drilling and more than 80 have enacted moratoriums. The laws enacted by towns sitting atop the gas-rich Marcellus Shale formation are typically in response to fears fracking could contaminate water supplies, though the energy industry said the process has been used safely for years.

Source: http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-505245_162-57525908/ny-court-strikes-down-local-drilling-moratorium/

4. *October 4, Hagerstown Herald-Mail* – (West Virginia) **Four charged in theft of copper wire from power stations.** Four people have been charged in the theft of more than 400 pounds of copper wire from multiple electric power substations in Berkeley County, West Virginia since August, according to county court records. The four were arraigned the week of October 1 on charges of conspiracy to commit breaking and entering, court documents said. The charges filed against the defendants stem from police investigation of five cases of copper ground wire theft at four Potomac Edison substations, according to a Berkeley County sheriff's deputy lieutenant. Charges have yet to be filed in three other cases of copper wire theft from substations in Berkeley County. Another case in Morgan County also is pending, he said. The value of the copper stolen was calculated to be about \$1,392, but the cost of repairing the damage to the substation fence as well as the power company's equipment exceeded \$30,000. The stolen copper wire was sold at multiple scrap metal businesses in the area, according to court documents.

Source: <http://www.herald-mail.com/news/tristate/hm-four-charged-in-theft-of-copper-wire-from-power-stations-20121003,0,5989234.story>

5. *October 4, Bakersfield Californian* – (California) **Cal-OSHA: Explosion may have caused fatal tank accident.** An explosion may have caused the October 3 fatal water tank accident in the Oildale section of Kern County, California, State investigators theorized October 4. A California Occupational Safety and Health Administration spokesman said the two men involved in the accident were using water and highly pressurized air to check for leaks in the tank. Something may have caused the pressure to release suddenly, vaulting the workers into the air, he said. Authorities said a welder was killed in the accident after apparently hitting his head during a fall inside the tank, located at an oil field power plant and steam generation facility. A supervisor inside the tank with him suffered a broken ankle. Both men were working for Brahma Group Inc., a Salt Lake City-based engineering and contracting firm.

Source: <http://www.bakersfieldcalifornian.com/local/x1903885917/Cal-OSHA-Explosion-may-have-caused-fatal-tank-accident>

For more stories, see items [51](#) and [52](#)

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

Chemical Industry Sector

6. *October 4, Milwaukee-Wisconsin Journal Sentinel* – (Wisconsin) **Cyanide removed from abandoned metal plating company.** Around 415 gallons of hazardous cyanide compounds were removed October 4 from an abandoned metal plating factory in Slinger, Wisconsin, a U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) official said. Fourteen containers, including several 55-gallon drums, were loaded onto a truck for shipment to a waste processing company, said an on-scene coordinator with the EPA's Superfund program in Chicago. A federal emergency response contractor last month

estimated 8,868 gallons of hazardous chemicals were left inside the former Niphos Coatings building when the company closed in March 2010. No chemical wastes had been shipped off site since 2008. The week of October 8, around 1,634 gallons of acids, including extremely hazardous nitric acid, will be removed from the building, the EPA official said. The factory is located in a residential neighborhood and a few blocks from 3 schools.

Source: <http://www.jsonline.com/blogs/news/172661161.html>

7. *October 4, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency* – (Texas) **EPA reaches settlement with US Ecology Texas and TD*X Associates for violation of federal environmental laws.** October 4, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency announced it reached a settlement with US Ecology Texas and TD*X Associates in Robstown, Texas, for violating federal hazardous waste laws. The settlement, a legal document called a Consent Agreement and Final Order (CAFO), resolves three counts against the two firms for processing hazardous waste without a permit or interim status, and one count against US Ecology Texas for storing hazardous waste without a permit or interim status. The CAFO requires US Ecology Texas and TD*X Associates to follow specific standards for what can be processed at the facility, apply to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for a hazardous waste permit, and pay a fine of \$788,120.

Source:

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/d0cf6618525a9efb85257359003fb69d/75ca37df094c547c85257a8d006ea6b8!OpenDocument>

For more stories, see items [14](#), [15](#), [16](#), [28](#), [30](#), and [35](#)

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

Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector

8. *October 5, Reuters* – (Pennsylvania) **PPL to shut Pa. Susquehanna 1 reactor for inspection.** Pennsylvania power company PPL Corp said October 5 it reduced power at both units at the 2,450-megawatt Susquehanna nuclear power plant in Salem Township, Pennsylvania, and was preparing to shut Unit 1 later this month for additional turbine inspections. The company said in a release it was looking to confirm data provided by new technology that could lead to the finalization of a plan to resolve the issue of turbine blade cracking that was first identified in 2011.
Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/10/05/utilities-operations-ppl-susquehanna-idUSL3E8L556Q20121005?type=marketsNews>
9. *October 5, Associated Press* – (South Carolina) **Regulators warn of flood risk at SC nuclear plant.** The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) said the danger of flooding at Duke Energy's Oconee Nuclear Station in Seneca, South Carolina, is higher than previously thought, the Associated Press reported October 5. A NRC report said estimates of flooding have increased substantially if the 385-foot high Jocassee Dam failed upstream from the three reactors. The report warns such flooding could leave the station blacked out. The NRC removed large parts of the report from the public version

in order to protect infrastructure that could become a security target. Duke said Oconee is safe and the utility has taken steps to reduce flood risks.

Source: http://www.wavy.com/dpp/news/north_carolina/ap_north_carolina/Regulators-warn-of-flood-risk-at-SC-nuclear-plant_58148208

10. *October 5, Reuters* – (Idaho) **Idaho nuclear lab fined after workers exposed to radiation.** The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) fined Idaho National Laboratory near Idaho Falls, Idaho, more than \$400,000 October 4 for multiple safety violations stemming from two mishaps in 2011 that caused workers to be contaminated with radiation. "DOE considers these events to be of high safety significance," a director of enforcement and oversight for DOE wrote in the violation notice. He was referring to two incidents that exposed employees to radiation at the nuclear research and development center, which is operated by contractor Battelle Energy Alliance. The lab was fined for failure to prevent contamination of a worker's hand in August 2011. And in November 2011, 16 workers were also exposed to low-level plutonium radiation while preparing fuel plates for shipping. They suffered no adverse health effects. An Energy Department investigation released this year faulted the lab for failing to properly assess risks posed by the handling of plutonium fuel cells and for not activating its emergency plan sooner. Regulators also found Battelle failed to perform real-time air monitoring in November 2011. Idaho National Laboratory has implemented 59 of 79 corrective actions and intends to make the rest of the changes by the end of the year, a spokesman said.

Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/health/2012/10/05/idaho-nuclear-lab-fined-after-workers-exposed-to-radiation/>

For another story, see item [51](#)

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

Critical Manufacturing Sector

11. *October 5, Associated Press* – (National) **Safety agency investigating Honda Pilot, Odyssey.** The U.S. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) is investigating complaints that Honda Odyssey Minivans and Pilot sport utility vehicles (SUV) can roll away after drivers remove the ignition key, the Associated Press reported October 5. The probe affects more than 577,000 vehicles from the 2003 and 2004 model years that have automatic transmissions. The mechanism that locks the key in the ignition can fail. When that happens, drivers of the vans and SUVs are able to remove keys without shifting into park. Some have left the vehicles, and the vans or SUVs have rolled off. Owners have filed 43 complaints with NHTSA, including 16 that resulted in crashes. Two people reported injuries.
Source: <http://www.wbay.com/story/19744062/safety-agency-investigating-honda-pilot-odyssey>
12. *October 4, Reuters* – (International) **GE orders turbine part inspection after GEnx engine failure.** General Electric Co (GE) October 4 issued its second directive the week of October 1 for an inspection of its new GEnx engine on Boeing Co jets, this

time telling airlines to check the installation of a turbine part, after an engine failed on a Boeing 747-8 freighter during September in Shanghai, China. GE told GEnx operators to make sure the part, a low-pressure turbine stage-one nozzle, is installed correctly at the rear of the engine. October 2 GE had called for inspections of the low-pressure turbine itself. GE said some operators have already begun the hour-long inspection and have not discovered new issues. GE said in a statement it is not calling for repeated inspections. The public affairs director for the National Transportation Safety Board said damage in the affected 747-8 engine was mainly limited to the low-pressure turbine hardware, located at the back of the engine. “Our initial findings indicate that the low-pressure turbine stage-one nozzle may have been improperly assembled”, she said. GE said 120 GEnx engines powering Boeing 787 and 747-8 aircraft are flying daily.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/10/04/ge-engine-idUSL1E8L4J7A20121004>

13. *October 4, U.S. Department of Labor* – (Illinois) **U.S. Department of Labor’s OSHA cites Bedford Park, Ill.-based Hoist Liftruck for 25 safety and health violations.** The U.S. Department of Labor’s Occupational Safety and Health Administration October 4 cited Hoist Liftruck Manufacturing Inc. in Bedford Park, Illinois, with 25 safety and health — including 4 repeat — violations. A safety inspection was opened in April and a health inspection was opened in May. Proposed fines totaled \$82,170. The repeat violations involved failing to provide welding curtains, and conduct fit testing and medical evaluations for workers required to wear respirators. Similar violations were cited in 2007. Eighteen serious safety violations involved failing to develop and implement a confined space program, train forklift drivers and evaluate them every 3 years, properly store flammable containers, provide personal protective equipment, and adequately train workers on hazard communication. Three other-than-serious violations were also cited.

Source:

http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show_document?p_table=NEWS_RELEASES&p_id=23097

14. *October 4, U.S. Department of Labor* – (Wisconsin) **U.S. Department of Labor’s OSHA conducts follow-up inspection of Stroh Precision Die Casting in Mauston, Wis.; finds 9 safety violations.** The U.S. Department of Labor’s Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) October 4 cited Stroh Precision Die Casting for nine safety, including five repeat, violations at the company’s Mauston, Wisconsin facility. OSHA conducted an inspection in May as a follow-up to an August 2011 inspection that had resulted in citations for failing to provide appropriate protective equipment and train workers on hazardous chemicals, among other violations. Proposed fines for the most recent inspection totaled \$51,590. The repeat violations involved failing to provide appropriate hand protection, require workers to wear face protection, train workers on the use of personal protective equipment, properly label chemicals in the workplace, and train workers on hazardous chemicals. Similar violations were cited based on the 2011 inspection. Four serious safety violations involved failing to guard abrasive wheels, and remove oil residue on floors to prevent workers from slipping.

Source:

http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show_document?p_table=NEWS_RELEASES&p_id=23094

15. *October 3, U.S. Department of Labor* – (Ohio) **U.S. Department of Labor’s OSHA cites Cleveland Tank and Supply for 19 violations, including exposing workers to chromium, other hazards.** The U.S. Department of Labor’s Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) October 3 cited Cleveland Tank & Supply Inc. with 19 serious health and safety violations – including failing to assess and monitor exposure to hexavalent chromium, and provide adequate personal protective equipment. As a result of an April inspection based on a complaint, OSHA proposed total fines of \$72,800. Fifteen health violations included failing to assess workers’ exposure to hexavalent chromium and ensure exposures were below the permissible limit. Other violations involved failing to provide an emergency eye wash station, inspect and train employees to use fire extinguishers, provide hazard communication training, securely mount a liquefied petroleum cylinder, provide training to powered industrial operators, and properly guard bench grinders. Additionally, four serious safety violations involved failing to develop machine-specific lockout/tagout procedures, evaluate power industrial truck operator performance every 3 years, ensure machine guarding was provided for various pieces of machinery, and ensure point of operation guarding was in place on machinery to prevent amputation and other hazards.

Source:

http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show_document?p_table=NEWS_RELEASES&p_id=23091

16. *October 2, Baltimore Sun* – (Maryland) **Olson Wire Products fined for waste violations.** Olson Wire Products Co. agreed to pay an \$80,000 fine to settle allegations it improperly stored hazardous wastes at its southwest Baltimore plant, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced October 2. The agency cited Olson, which makes refrigerator racks and other steel-wire shelving, following a May 2011 inspection of its facility. Inspectors found wastewater treatment sludge, waste from its electroplating operations, and used aerosol cans stored there in apparent violation of federal hazardous-waste law and regulations, according to EPA. Among the alleged infractions: Storing wastes for more than 90 days without a permit, failing to properly label or keep waste containers closed, offering to ship hazardous wastes offsite for disposal without required manifests, and using unauthorized shippers.

Source: http://articles.baltimoresun.com/2012-10-02/features/bs-bz-olson-wire-epa-fine-20121002_1_waste-violations-hazardous-wastes-allegations

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

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

Defense Industrial Base Sector

17. *October 5, Global Security Newswire* – (Tennessee) **Y-12 operator to assume majority of protection duties within ‘weeks’.** The contract operator of the Y-12

National Security Complex in Oak Ridge, Tennessee said it is “several weeks” away from assuming most responsibilities held by the fired firm previously charged with defending the nuclear arms facility, the Knoxville News Sentinel reported October 5. The week of September 24, Babcock & Wilcox (B&W) Technical Services Y-12 said it would end the arrangement that assigned site protection duties to WSI-Oak Ridge, a division of G4S Government Solutions. The move came after a July break-in by peace activists revealed many security lapses at the complex. “We expect to be done with the majority of transition activities in several weeks; other transition close-out activities may take longer,” a B&W Y-12 spokeswoman said.

Source: <http://www.nti.org/gsn/article/y-12-operator-assume-defensive-duties-within-weeks/>

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

Banking and Finance Sector

18. *October 4, ThreatPost* – (International) **Cybercrime gang recruiting botmasters for large-scale MiTM attacks on American banks.** A slew of major American banks may soon have to brace themselves for a large-scale coordinated attack bent on pulling off fraudulent wire transfers, ThreatPost reported October 4. RSA’s FraudAction research team has been monitoring underground chatter and has put together various clues to deduce that a cybercrime gang is actively recruiting up to 100 botmasters to participate in a complicated man-in-the-middle hijacking scam using a variant of the proprietary Gozi Trojan. This is the first time a private cybercrime group has recruited outsiders to participate in a financially motivated attack, said a cybercrime communications specialist for RSA FraudAction. The attackers are promising their recruits a cut of the profits, and are requiring an initial investment in hardware and training in how to deploy the Gozi Prinitalka Trojan. Also, the gang will only share executable files with their partners, and will not give up the Trojan’s compilers, keeping the recruits dependent on the gang for updates. With this kind of scale, banks could be facing up 30 times the number of compromised machines and fraudulent transfers as the average attack, if the campaign is successful. As many as 30 banks have been targeted, many of them well known and high profile. RSA said the gang is targeting American banks because of past success in beating their defenses, as well as a lack of two-factor authentication required for transfers.

Source: http://threatpost.com/en_us/blogs/cybercrime-gang-recruiting-botmasters-large-scale-mitm-attacks-american-banks-100412

19. *October 4, Austin American-Statesman* – (Texas) **‘Trick or Treat Bandit’ strikes again.** The man who robbed a north Austin, Texas bank October 4 has been nicknamed the “Trick or Treat Bandit” and is believed to have robbed six other banks in the area since October 2009, detectives said. Police responded to a robbery call at the International Bank of Commerce branch. Officers said the man displayed a weapon, demanded money, and left the scene with an undisclosed amount of cash. The first robbery he is believed to be responsible for occurred October 6, 2009, at a Bank of America branch in north Austin, police said.

Source: <http://www.statesman.com/news/news/crime-law/blotter-trick-or-treat-bandit-strikes-again/nSTkz/>

20. *October 4, SecuringPharma.com* – (National) **Ten plead guilty in US fake credit card ring.** U.S. attorneys have secured guilty pleas from 10 people accused of using fake credit cards and driver’s licenses to buy goods, SecuringPharma.com reported October 4. The accused are alleged to have used fake cards at Walmart, Target, and other retailers. Once purchased, the products, which included iPads and other electronic items, were put up for sale on eBay, the Birmingham News reported. Evidence of the operation was uncovered in May 2011 when a U.S. Secret Service agent bought an iPad from eBay. Investigators traced the iPad back to a Target store where it was allegedly purchased using a fake identity. To date, 10 people have been arrested, all of whom pleaded guilty. The investigation continues. A possible ringleader has yet to be arrested. Authorities allege the unnamed person directed the operation, with those arrested so far working in various lower roles.

Source: <http://www.securindustry.com/security-documents-and-it/ten-plead-guilty-in-us-fake-credit-card-ring/s110/a1432/>

21. *October 3, U.S. Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation* – (National) **Fraudulent e-mails claiming to be from the FDIC.** The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) has received numerous reports of fraudulent emails that have the appearance of being sent from the FDIC, according to a notice released October 3. While the emails exhibit variations in the “Subject” lines, the messages are similar. They all make reference to the suspension of recipient’s ability to conduct transfers via ACH and/or wire transfer. The emails then encourage recipients to install a software update by clicking on a link provided. They then say that functionality will be restored once the software update is installed. The emails and the link provided are fraudulent. Recipients should consider the intent of these emails to load malicious software on the recipient’s computer, or to collect personal or confidential data. Recipients should not click on the link provided. The FDIC does not send unsolicited emails to consumers or business account holders.

Source: <http://content.govdelivery.com/bulletins/gd/USFDIC-55ee11>

For another story, see item [36](#)

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

Transportation Sector

22. *October 5, San Antonio Express* – (Texas) **School bus plunges from I-37 downtown.** A car reportedly cut off a school bus in downtown rush-hour traffic October 4 on Interstate 37, near San Antonio, causing the bus driver to lose control and slam into a guardrail before plunging 20 feet down to the access road below, stopping just feet from a hotel. The driver was injured as well as the only passenger, a Highland Park Elementary School student, and the bus assistant. All were hospitalized but none had life-threatening injuries, officials said. Northbound traffic on Interstate 37 was blocked in 2 lanes for about 90 minutes as the fire department cleaned up oil and fuel

and police investigated.

Source: http://www.mysanantonio.com/news/local_news/article/School-bus-plunges-from-I-37-downtown-3920271.php

23. *October 5, Associated Press* – (National) **American Airlines cancels flights as it scrambles to fix seats malfunction.** American Airlines cancelled dozens of flights as it scrambled to fix seats that could pop loose during flight, the Associated Press reported October 5. Airline officials said October 4 that they had come up with a fix for the seats, and they began pulling 48 Boeing 757s out of service to make repairs. American said the work caused them to cancel 50 flights October 4 and 44 flights October 5. Each 757 that American operates in the U.S. has 188 seats. All of the planes were expected to be back in service by October 6. Since the week of September 24, seats have come loose on three American Airlines flights involving 757s that had been recently refurbished. Federal officials said they were continuing a safety investigation into the events at the nation's third-biggest airline. American originally said the problem was due to a clamp that holds rows of seats to tracks on the aircraft floor. Officials offered a new explanation October 4, saying that a combination of wear, poor design, and even soda spilled into the tracks caused pins to pop out of the grooves.

Source: <http://www.news-press.com/article/20121005/BUSINESS/310050045/American-Airlines-cancels-flights-scrambles-fix-seats-malfunction>

24. *October 4, WSAZ 3 Charleston* – (West Virginia) **Safety measures taken along W.Va. turnpike after series of semi accidents.** A string of tractor trailer accidents on the West Virginia Turnpike had the parkways authority taking notice. At a meeting in Charleston October 4, State officials said they added a new flashing sign that warns truck drivers of a sharp curve between the Sharon and Paint Creek exits. This particular exit has been the location of nearly a dozen accidents over the past month. Most of the accidents have happened while it is raining. State officials said they also paved the turnpike in that area so tires are able to grip the pavement better. The parkways authority also approved \$450,000 for paving along the turnpike near the Camp Creek exit. State officials said they noticed an increase in accidents along that stretch of road as well.

Source: <http://www.wsaz.com/news/charlestonnews/headlines/Tractor-Trailer-Crashes-Have-Highway-Officials-Looking-for-Answers-172362291.html>

For more stories, see items [1](#), [12](#), [16](#), [52](#), and [53](#)

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

Postal and Shipping Sector

25. *October 4, Olympic Peninsula Daily News* – (Washington) **Ex-postal worker charged in theft of mail in federal court.** A former Sequim, Washington post office worker was charged September 14 in federal court with one count of embezzlement of mail by a postal employee, the Olympic Peninsula Daily News reported October 4. Beginning in 2007 and continuing until March 15, 2012, while working as a U.S. Postal Service

employee, the former post office worker “did knowingly embezzle and steal letters and mail and things of value contained therein, that had come into his possession and that were intended to be conveyed by mail,” a court document stated.

Source: <http://www.peninsuladailynews.com/article/20121005/news/310059988/ex-postal-worker-charged-in-theft-of-mail-in-federal-court>

26. *October 4, Woodside Almanac* – (California) **‘Significant’ mail theft reported in Woodside.** A “significant theft” from mail boxes in Woodside, California, occurred from October 3 through October 4, the San Mateo County Sheriff’s Office reported. “Numerous mailboxes were forced open with pry tools and locks were cut with bolt cutters,” a sheriff’s deputy said in an alert issued October 4. The thefts occurred overnight. Mail theft is often connected to check, credit card, and identity theft, he said. A U.S. postal inspector is working with the Sheriff’s Office to investigate the thefts. Source: http://www.almanacnews.com/news/show_story.php?id=12202

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

Agriculture and Food Sector

27. *October 5, WKYT 27 Lexington* – (Kentucky) **Chemical spill forces McDonald’s to temporarily close.** Early October 5, a McDonald’s near the University of Kentucky campus in Lexington was forced to close for several hours because of a chemical spill. Investigators said employees received a call from someone they thought was the company that monitors their fire suppression system. The caller instructed them to test the system and when they did, the chemical spilled onto the restaurant floor. Fire officials said they are looking into whether the phone call was a prank. The health department was notified and said the chemical is not toxic. Source: <http://www.wkyt.com/news/headlines/Chemical-spill-forces-McDonalds-to-close-172804411.html>
28. *October 4, Champaign News-Gazette* – (Illinois) **Toxic chemical missing from Danville milling facility.** Police in Danville, Illinois, were investigating the theft of a potentially hazardous material from Bunge Milling. The director of public safety said in an October 3 news release that police were called to the plant after a pesticide handler reported he was missing five packs of Phostoxin chemicals, a pesticide in railroad cars. “The chemical is a controlled substance and can only be used by licensed persons,” the director said. When exposed to water or moist air it will release toxic, corrosive, or flammable gases, he added. At the time of the theft, the chemical was in tablet form, but once the active ingredient aluminum phosphide becomes moist, it will continue to emit gases for up to 3 days. Source: <http://www.news-gazette.com/news/courts-police-and-fire/2012-10-04/toxic-chemical-missing-danville-milling-facility.html>
29. *October 4, U.S. Food and Drug Administration* – (National) **Sunland, Inc. announces voluntary expansion of ongoing recall to include all products manufactured in its peanut butter plant after March 1, 2010 due to possible health risk.** October 4, Sunland, Inc. announced a voluntary expansion of its ongoing recall of all products

manufactured in its peanut butter plant because they are potentially contaminated with Salmonella, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration reported. The expansion includes all products manufactured after March 1, 2010, and added 49 products whose best-if-used-by dates have not expired. The expanded recall also adds 90 products consumers may still have in their homes but have expired. Distribution of many of the newly recalled products was discontinued some time ago. The expansion covers all previously identified peanut butter, almond butter, cashew butter, tahini, and roasted blanched peanut products. The new product categories are several varieties of flavored butters and spreads, including Thai Ginger Butter, Chocolate Butter, and Banana Butter. As of September 25, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported a total of 30 illnesses in 19 States. The products, distributed under the Sunland's own label and under other brand names, were distributed nationally to numerous large supermarket, grocery, and retail chains. The products were also available for purchase on the Internet.

Source: <http://www.fda.gov/Safety/Recalls/ucm322747.htm>

30. *October 4, Wenatchee World* – (Washington) **Feds fine Dovex \$134,613**. The Dovex Fruit Co., an international fresh fruit and vegetable processor with facilities in Wenatchee, Washington, was fined \$134,613 for failing to fully meet requirements for a risk-management plan since 2008 as required by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. Dovex corrected the violations, the Wenatchee World reported October 4. The Clasen Family Co., a cold fruit storage company with facilities in Union Gap and Yakima, also failed to submit its risk management plan since 2004. Clasen Family Co. will pay \$17,030 and spend at least \$58,800 installing equipment to reduce the risk of ammonia leaks and improve emergency response. The risk management plans are required by the federal Clean Air Act for emergency situations involving anhydrous ammonia, one of the most potentially dangerous chemicals used today in agriculture and refrigeration.

Source: <http://www.wenatcheeworld.com/news/2012/oct/04/feds-fine-dovex-134613/>

31. *October 2, U.S. Food and Drug Administration* – (National) **Kenny's Farmhouse Cheese recalls: Kentucky Rose - Kentucky Bleu - Awe-Brie and Tomme de Nena cheeses due to possible health risk**. October 2, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration announced that Kenny's Farmhouse Cheese was voluntarily recalling Kentucky Rose, Kentucky Bleu, Awe-Brie, and Tomme de Nena cheeses due to possible Listeria contamination. There have been no reported illnesses to date. The products were sold to farmers markets, restaurants, distributors, and retail stores in Florida, Indiana, Illinois, Kentucky, Ohio, Tennessee, and Virginia between August 22 and September 25.

Source: <http://www.fda.gov/Safety/Recalls/ucm322678.htm>

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

Water Sector

32. *October 5, Cal Coast News* – (California) **Sanitation district discharging fecal matter into the ocean**. Shortly after a hearing that fined California's South San Luis

Obispo County Sanitation District \$1.1 million for spilling sewage into the environment, the district is facing further fines for again violating its permit requirements, Cal Coast News reported October 5. September 28, plant employees sent a sample of effluent being released into the Pacific Ocean to a lab that reported the sample had a fecal coliform content of 50,000 most probable number of fecal coliform per milliliter (MPN). Anything over 2,200 MPN violates the district's operating permit and requires a mandatory penalty. This event was the second time in less than 90 days that effluent testing showed fecal coliform levels at more than 30,000 per MPN. In the past, high coliform levels at the plant were primarily blamed on issues with chlorination equipment malfunctioning. However, in the latest sampling, the levels of chlorine residue were unusually high, which means the sample contained fecal chunks the chemical was unable to penetrate.

Source: <http://calcoastnews.com/2012/10/sanitation-district-discharging-fecal-matter-into-the-ocean/>

33. *October 5, Mt. Pleasant Morning Sun* – (Michigan) **Union Township issues boil water contamination notice to residents along stretch of River Road.** October 5, some residents of Union Township, Michigan, were asked to boil their water before consumption until further notice. Following a water main break and loss of water pressure, the township suggested that residents take caution against potential bacteria in the water. The public works coordinator said the township hand-delivered notices to anyone affected.

Source: <http://www.themorningsun.com/article/20121005/NEWS01/121009871/union-township-issues-boil-water-contamination-notice-to-residents-along-stretch-of-river-road>

34. *October 4, Hackensack Record* – (New Jersey) **Tiny parasite is driving \$100M plan to replace Garret Mountain reservoirs.** A tiny, waterborne parasite is driving a \$100 million plan to replace three reservoirs on Garret Mountain with concrete tanks, the Hackensack Record reported October 4. As New Jersey's Passaic Valley Water Commission (PVWC) moves forward with State approval, there are questions about health risks from the organism in the three reservoirs. The PVWC periodically tests its reservoirs and the Passaic and Pompton rivers for the presence of cryptosporidium (crypto) and giardia. The most recent sampling, conducted September 14, showed the presence of both in the reservoirs, but at low levels that were no cause for alarm. The U.S. Environment Protection Agency standard for water utilities is to remove 99.99 percent of all crypto and giardia from drinking water. The water commission's plan is to drain each of the three reservoirs, beginning with the Levine reservoir in 2014, and then build two low-rise concrete tanks at each reservoir.

Source:

http://www.northjersey.com/news/environment/Tiny_parasite_is_driving_100M_plan_to_replace_Garret_Mountain_reservoirs.html

35. *October 4, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency* – (New Jersey) **EPA finalized cleanup plan for Scientific Chemical Processing superfund site in Carlstadt, New Jersey.** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) finalized its plan to clean up contaminated ground water at the Scientific Chemical Processing Superfund site in

Carlstadt, New Jersey, according to an October 4 news release by the agency. Past industrial activities contaminated shallow and deep levels of the ground water with volatile organic compounds, which can have serious health effects. Because of the nature and complexity of the contamination at the site, the cleanup has been conducted in three phases which began in 1990. During the third phase that was just finalized, substances designed to break down the contaminants to less toxic forms will be injected into the deeper ground water in affected areas both on and off the former Scientific Chemical Processing Company property.

Source:

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/d0cf6618525a9efb85257359003fb69d/3deb9cc2757ace7385257a8d00531b6f!OpenDocument>

For another story, see item [53](#)

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

Public Health and Healthcare Sector

36. *October 5, Insurance and Financial Advisor* – (National) **Feds stop Medicare payments after 91 arrests for alleged false billings.** Federal authorities have stopped Medicare payments to providers charged in a sweep that netted 91 people in 7 cities accused of \$430 million in Medicare billing schemes. The Medicare Fraud Strike Force said operations in Miami, Los Angeles, Dallas, Houston, Brooklyn, New York, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and Chicago led to the arrests, the largest health care fraud takedown on record, the U.S. Attorney General said October 4. Those arrested allegedly participated in schemes to submit claims to Medicare for treatments that either never happened or were not medically necessary. Patient recruiters, Medicare beneficiaries, and others received cash kick-backs for giving beneficiary information to providers so those providers could submit the false claims, according to court documents. The alleged fraud includes more than \$230 million in home health care fraud, more than \$100 million in mental health care fraud, and about \$49 million in ambulance transportation fraud, the U.S. Attorney General said. Those charged include the owners and operators of 2 different hospitals, 1 in Miami and 1 in Houston, and 16 medical professionals, including 7 physicians, chiropractors, nurses, a psychologist, and a physical therapist. The defendants face various health care fraud charges, including conspiracy to commit health care fraud, health care fraud, violations of the anti-kickback statutes, and money laundering. The Department of Health and Human Services also suspended or took administrative action against 30 health care providers based upon what officials called credible allegations of fraud. HHS can suspend payments until the resolution of an investigation under the Affordable Care Act. Source: <http://ifawebnews.com/2012/10/05/feds-stop-medicare-payments-after-91-arrests-for-alleged-false-billings/>
37. *October 5, Associated Press* – (National) **Hundreds may be at risk in meningitis outbreak.** The potential scope of the meningitis outbreak that has killed at least five people widened dramatically October 4 as health officials warned that hundreds, perhaps thousands, of patients who got steroid back injections in 23 States could be at

risk. So far, 35 people in 6 States — Tennessee, Virginia, Maryland, Florida, North Carolina and Indiana — have contracted fungal meningitis, and 5 of them have died, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. All had received steroid shots for back pain, a highly common treatment. In an alarming indication the outbreak could get a lot bigger, Massachusetts health officials said the pharmacy involved, the New England Compounding Center of Framingham, Massachusetts, has recalled three lots consisting of 17,676 single-dose vials of the steroid, preservative-free methylprednisolone acetate. An unknown number of those vials reached 75 clinics and other facilities in 23 States between July and September, federal health officials said. Several hundred of the vials, maybe more, have been returned unused, one Massachusetts official said. But many other vials were used. At 1 clinic in Evansville, Indiana, more than 500 patients got shots from the suspect lots, officials said. At 2 clinics in Tennessee, more than 900 patients received shots. Clinics and medical centers rushed to contact patients who may have received the apparently fungus-contaminated shots. And the Food and Drug Administration urged doctors not to use any products at all from the Massachusetts pharmacy that supplied the suspect steroid solution.

Source: <http://vitals.nbcnews.com/news/2012/10/05/14241074-hundreds-may-be-at-risk-in-meningitis-outbreak?lite>

38. *October 4, Associated Press* – (Florida) **Man gets 10 years for firebombing abortion clinic.** A homeless man was sentenced to 10 years in federal prison October 4 for the New Year's Day firebombing of a violence-plagued Pensacola, Florida's American Family Planning Clinic. He told detectives he had been living in a parking lot near the clinic and decided to set the fire because he was upset that abortions were performed there. He pleaded guilty in July to charges of arson and damaging a reproductive health facility. The fire gutted the clinic. The building's charred shell has since been razed. Source: <http://www.kob.com/article/stories/S2789678.shtml?cat=600>

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

Government Facilities Sector

39. *October 4, United Press International* – (Pennsylvania; International) **U of Pennsylvania confirms data breach.** The University of Pennsylvania (Penn) said it was among dozens of universities worldwide that were hacked with student and employee records then posted online. In an email October 3, Penn officials confirmed the data breach but said it was limited. "Fortunately, no sensitive information that could result in identify theft, such as Social Security numbers, PennKey passwords, bank account numbers, or credit card numbers are contained in the database that was compromised," the email said. A hacker group called Team GhostShell took credit for the breach, posting a short statement on the Web citing problems in educational institutions including the mounting burden of student debt. The posting included links to sites where the stolen data was posted. The affected database at the university was taken off-line and the problem was fixed, Penn officials said. Similar breaches were experienced at Harvard, Stanford, Duke, Purdue, Rutgers, Cornell, and Johns Hopkins, while the Universities of Tokyo and Cambridge in Britain were among those hit outside the United States.

Source: http://www.upi.com/Science_News/Technology/2012/10/04/U-of-Pennsylvania-confirms-data-breach/UPI-38071349378891/

40. *October 4, Levittown Patch* – (Pennsylvania) **Police: Man behind school threat under arrest.** A Bristol Borough, Pennsylvania man was taken into custody and is facing several charges after he is alleged to have harassed a Philadelphia defense attorney and made threats against a school October 4. He was thought to be armed, but police discovered no weapons on him. The suspect was facing charges out of Philadelphia because he called a city defense attorney that represented him during an arson case in the 1980s and made the threats, the borough police chief said. He is alleged to have harassed the lawyer and told him that “blood will flow” at an unnamed school. He also told the lawyer about owning an AK-47 and attending a recent gun show in the south. Philadelphia police detectives alerted borough authorities after noticing the suspect resided just 2 blocks from Snyder-Girotti Elementary School. Officers and school officials locked down Snyder-Girotti and the nearby middle-high school for about 2 hours. Parents of students received phone calls to alert them of the situation and a message was posted on the district’s Web site. In some cases, misinformation relayed over social media and through text messages caused unneeded concern, according to some parents.
Source: <http://levittown.patch.com/articles/man-behind-borough-school-threats-under-arrest#video-11608072>
41. *October 4, U-T San Diego* – (California) **Data service outage at SM City Hall.** City crews were working October 4 to restore phone and Internet services at the San Marcos Civic Center in California, after discovering that vandals had cut a data line. A city spokeswoman said the outage has not affected 9-1-1 service. Employees discovered the disruption October 4 when they arrived at city hall. The location of the severed data line was not disclosed. Public works crews and information technology contractors were working to repair the line and get phone and Internet service running again. Officials were also working to set up a temporary phone line for residents who needed to contact city hall.
Source: <http://www.utsandiego.com/news/2012/oct/04/data-service-outage-sm-city-hall/>
42. *October 3, Dark Reading* – (National) **Government agencies get creative in APT battle.** A cybersecurity engineer at Lawrence Livermore Laboratory and a handful of colleagues from Sandia Labs, Los Alamos Labs, and Department of Energy’s (DOE) Pantex plant wrote a Python-based tool to block malicious Web sites, hashes, and spear-phishing attacks, Dark Reading reported October 3. The so-called Master Block List (MBL) runs on an Apache server and can be integrated with any application to share real-time threat data. The engineer said the tool is simple — not XML-based, like some open-source tools — and has helped unite the various labs so they can share attack information quickly. “It’s nothing fancy: It’s less than 300 lines of code,” he said. “Talking about indicators of compromise is hard, and so is parsing PDFs, Office, and XML, for most [people],” he said. The goal was to make it easy for anyone to use. Some 10 DOE organizations in addition to Lawrence Livermore employ its MBL tool, which incorporates threats detected by the various agency sites, as well as from various

threat intelligence sources. “There have been a couple of cases where we’ve been protected against attack campaigns that others have fallen victim to because they are not” using the list, the engineer said.

Source: <http://www.darkreading.com/threat-intelligence/167901121/security/news/240008438/government-agencies-get-creative-in-apt-battle.html>

For another story, see item [17](#)

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

Emergency Services Sector

43. *October 4, Los Cerritos News* – (California) **Suspect arrested after sheriff’s sergeant shot at in Norwalk.** A Los Angeles County sheriff’s sergeant was shot October 3 in Norwalk, California, by a known gang member. October 3, a Norwalk Crime Suppression Team along with the assistance of Norwalk Operation Safe Street detectives were conducting a narcotic operation in the parking lot of a fast food restaurant in an attempt to survey and arrest a known gang member who was wanted for possession of a firearm and narcotics by a felon. However, the suspect did not appear. After the operation concluded, a sheriff’s sergeant noticed he was being followed by a car. The suspect drove up to the undercover vehicle and began shooting at him, striking his vehicle at least once. The car then fled. During the investigation, it was confirmed the suspect was the driver and person shooting from the vehicle. A few hours later, he was tracked down at a motel and arrested. He was booked at Norwalk Sheriff’s Station for assault with a deadly weapon (firearm) on a peace officer and is currently being held on \$450,000 bail.

Source: <http://www.loscerritosnews.net/2012/10/04/breaking-news-suspect-arrested-after-sheriffs-sergeant-shot-at-in-norwalk/>

For another story, see item [36](#)

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

Information Technology Sector

44. *October 5, Help Net Security* – (International) **Trojan disguised as image delivered via Skype messages.** A spamming campaign that surfaced in the last few days is being propagated via compromised Skype accounts. The offered links do not lead to an image, but to a malicious executable (skype_02102012_image.exe) posing as one. “Running the file will cause it to self delete and the infected PC will begin making DNS requests to a number of URLs, including a .pl, a .com and a .kz - we also saw references to IRC channel names in the network traffic and are investigating further,” said a researcher from GFI.

Source: http://www.net-security.org/malware_news.php?id=2285

45. *October 5, Softpedia* – (International) **Adobe revokes code signing certificate for software signed after July 10, 2012.** October 4, Adobe revoked the compromised code signing certificate that was used to sign several malicious applications. Updates signed with a new certificate were issued. The revoked certificate was used to sign software code after July 10, 2012. According to Adobe, the Windows platform and three Adobe AIR applications – Acrobat.com desktop services, Adobe Story AIR applications, and Adobe Muse – for both Windows and Mac are affected.
Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Adobe-Revokes-Code-Signing-Certificate-for-Software-Signed-After-July-10-2012-297123.shtml>
46. *October 4, Computerworld* – (International) **Microsoft to patch 20 bugs next week in month of Office updates.** Microsoft announced October 4 it would deliver 7 security updates, 1 critical, to patch 20 vulnerabilities in Office, SharePoint Server, SQL Server, Windows, and other parts of its product lineup. The one update pegged critical, Microsoft’s highest threat ranking, will tackle bugs in all supported versions of Office on Windows. The other six updates were labeled “important,” the next-most-serious rating in the firm’s scoring system. There was no update scheduled for Internet Explorer, which Microsoft addressed in September when it rushed out an emergency patch to stymie active attacks exploiting a bug in the browser. The September 21 “out-of-band” update also included patches for several additional vulnerabilities, which were originally slated to ship the week of October 8. Security experts tapped the critical Office update as the one to plan to deploy as soon as possible.
Source: http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9232068/Microsoft_to_patch_20_bugs_next_week_in_month_of_Office_updates
47. *October 4, Help Net Security* – (International) **Bogus Skype password change notifications lead to phishing.** Bogus emails supposedly sent by Skype are targeting users of the popular VoIP service, saying their Skype password was “successfully changed.” Users who have not recently initiated the password change themselves are in danger of believing their account is being hijacked and following the offered links. Those that do will be faced with a spoofed Skype login page that sends the entered login credentials to the scammers behind the phishing attempt. Users are advised to always log into the legitimate online services only via the official login page.
Source: <http://www.net-security.org/secworld.php?id=13728>

For more stories, see items [18](#), [21](#), [39](#), [41](#), [42](#), and [48](#)

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>

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

Communications Sector

48. *October 2, Newark Star-Ledger* – (New Jersey) **Sun outages October 4th through the 12th will interrupt cable service.** The note Optimum customers in Edison, New Jersey, received October 2 stated “Between October 4 and October 12, 2012, you may notice a very brief interruption in TV service due to Sun Outages.” Twice a year, at the Spring and Fall Equinox, satellite downlink sites in the Northern Hemisphere experience reception interruptions due to the transition of the sun. Reception interruptions span a period of about 10 days as the sun aligns directly above the satellite and the downlink antenna. Interference gradually increases through the transit time period, peaks, and then subsides as the transit period ends. The start and end dates of the sun outage cycle for any geographical location determines the severity of the interference on any given day. Millions of customers in New Jersey could be affected by these outages.

Source:

http://www.nj.com/middlesex/index.ssf/2012/10/sun_outages_october_4th_throug.html

For more stories, see items [41](#), [44](#), and [47](#)

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

Commercial Facilities Sector

49. *October 5, WLTX 38 Columbus* – (Alabama) **Stores close for a few hours due to a chemical spill.** The Auburn, Alabama HAZMAT team cleaned up a chemical spill that occurred October 4 and left a few stores closed for a few hours. Big Lots and Office Max closed for a while due to a chemical spill. Auburn police and fire blocked off the scene and evacuated both buildings. Eight people were checked by paramedics after a battery-operated cleaner was leaking battery acid. To err on the side of caution, the HAZMAT team was called in.

Source: <http://www.wltz.com/story/19740757/stores-close-for-a-few-hours-due-to-a-chemical-spill>

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

National Monuments and Icons Sector

50. *October 4, KJCT 8 Grand Junction* – (Colorado) **Highway 13 fire.** A Highway 13 fire broke out about 15 miles north of Rifle, Colorado, KJCT 8 Grand Junction reported October 4. Since October 3, the fire grew in size to more than 500 acres. Fire officials said the flames were not threatening any structures, but they continued to attack them aggressively. Three planes and a helicopter were fighting from the air, supporting the more than 75 firefighters. There were no evacuations. The cause of the fire is still under investigation but officials believe it is human caused. They said dry conditions are a major factor in what is fueling the flames.

Source: <http://www.kjct8.com/news/Update-Highway-13-Fire/-/163152/16864744/-/wk6gld/-/index.html>

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

Dams Sector

51. *October 5, Knoxville News Sentinel* – (Tennessee) **TVA proposes earthen berms and concrete flood walls to protect dams.** The Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) settled on the method it thinks would be best to protect several of its dams in case of a rare “worst-case” flood event, the Knoxville News Sentinel reported October 5. The federal utility filed a draft environmental impact statement on the issue and is looking to add public comments. A TVA spokesman said the public will have until November 19 to add comments. The dams involved are Fort Loudoun, Cherokee, Tellico, and Watts Bar. Three alternatives for safeguarding the dams were considered. TVA’s preference involves earthen berms and concrete flood walls, said a senior manager of TVA’s River Forecast Center. TVA would remove sand baskets placed at the dams as a temporary measure and replace them with a combination of earthen berms and flood walls, she said. The first alternative is to do nothing and leave the dams with the temporary fixes in place now, and the third is to replace all the sand baskets with concrete flood walls. In 2009, TVA installed the temporary wire and sand structures to raise the dam heights by 4 feet. This was done after TVA updated its river modeling program and found water elevations that would occur in east Tennessee during a “probable maximum flood” would be higher than thought. The review of the river modeling was part of TVA’s process to renew construction at its idled Bellefonte nuclear plant, said the forecast center manager. A copy of the draft environmental review is on the TVA Web site under Environmental Reviews.

Source: <http://www.knoxnews.com/news/2012/oct/05/tva-proposes-earthen-berms-and-concrete-flood-to/>

52. *October 4, New Orleans Times-Picayune* – (National) **America’s levees, dams, navigation projects will decay without new money sources, report says.** America’s vast network of levees, dams, navigation structures, and hydroelectric power facilities will continue to decay if the federal government does not find new ways to pay to for their maintenance and operation, and fail to prioritize new projects already approved, said a new study released October 4 by the National Academy of Sciences’ National Research Council. The report outlines six alternatives for policymakers, many of which call for greater reliance on private funding to maintain the sprawling infrastructure maintained by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, including new fees on shippers and manufacturers. Options include to: hike federal funding; decommission or sell parts of the infrastructure overseen by the Corps; boost revenue collected from the beneficiaries of infrastructure projects; and expand partnerships with private industry and local government. The report also calls on the Corps to consider flood-control methods other than building new structures, such as removing or raising existing homes and businesses from flood-prone areas and adopting land use and zoning rules that would avoid new construction. The system the Corps manages was estimated to be worth \$237 billion in the 1980s, but is now worth only \$164 billion, the study said.

Source:

http://www.nola.com/environment/index.ssf/2012/10/americas_levees_dams_navigation.html

53. *October 4, Las Vegas Review-Journal* – (Arizona; Nevada) **Canal break slows Colorado River flow.** Federal regulators were slowing the flow of the Colorado River below Hoover Dam after a break in the canal that feeds river water to Arizona's largest cities. The Bureau of Reclamation said October 4 the river would be running uncharacteristically low below Hoover and Davis dams during October because of reduced deliveries to Arizona. Arizona stopped taking water from the Colorado after the Central Arizona Project canal failed September 30 near Bouse, 50 miles southeast of Lake Havasu City, Arizona. Arizona officials estimate about 400 acre-feet of water was lost in the break. That is enough to supply 800 average single-family homes in Las Vegas for 1 year. The canal breach flooded a nearby highway, forcing it to close temporarily. It is unknown when the canal will be repaired, but the Central Arizona Project will continue to make normal deliveries to customers from water it has stored in Lake Pleasant, north of Phoenix. The reduced water releases from Hoover and Davis will cause lower than normal river levels below the dams and in the Laughlin and Bullhead City, Arizona area. Boaters were warned to look out for sandbars, boulders, and gravel that might normally be submerged this time of year.

Source: <http://www.lvrj.com/news/canal-break-slows-colorado-river-flow-172752251.html>

54. *October 4, Thanh Nien News* – (International) **Experts say Vietnam dam can cause 6.1-scale earthquakes; 'we'll have to pay'.** The building of Song Tranh 2, the largest hydropower dam in central Vietnam that has been linked to hundreds of tremors in the area, was a mistake, professors said in a study released October 3. A professor from Vietnam National University-Hanoi, said the \$197.53 million dam was built on a weak granite base, and its walls lie on fault lines, prone to landslides and earthquakes. This was in addition to the increased pressure caused by absorption of water into the fault lines, which has been blamed by experts as the main cause of hundreds of small earthquakes, he said. Since the dam was completed in late 2011, residents in Bac Tra My District, Quang Nam Province, have watched their houses crack due to hundreds of earthquakes, including at least 30 since early September. The study, started in April and led by the general secretary of the Vietnam Society for Soil Mechanics and Geotechnical Engineering and seven other scientists, said the dam had increased the frequency of earthquakes in the area, and that the earthquakes have directly damaged the dam. The research team found cracks and land sinking inside the dam, and one official said there is a high risk the dam could be destroyed. The study's authors said the dam should be studied further by foreign experts. The dam's investor, State-owned monopoly Electricity of Vietnam, said it would store water in the dam during 2012's monsoon season.

Source: <http://www.thanhniennews.com/index/pages/20121004-vietnam-experts-criticize-dam-location-amid-spate-of-earthquakes.aspx>

For another story, see item [9](#)

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



Department of Homeland Security (DHS)
DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report Contact Information

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

Contact Information

Content and Suggestions:	Send mail to cikr.productfeedback@hq.dhs.gov or contact the DHS Daily Report Team at (703)387-2273
Subscribe to the Distribution List:	Visit the DHS Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report and follow instructions to Get e-mail updates when this information changes .
Removal from Distribution List:	Send mail to support@govdelivery.com .

Contact DHS

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

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

Department of Homeland Security Disclaimer

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