



Homeland  
Security

# Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report

## 10 December 2013

### Top Stories

- More than 225,000 homes and businesses in Texas and several other States were without power December 6 following severe ice storms December 5. – *Reuters* (See item [4](#))
- A severe winter storm that affected several States within the U.S. caused more than 2,500 flight cancellations and delays, and numerous car accidents December 8-9 due to icy road conditions and freezing rain. – *Associated Press* (See item [13](#))
- Snow and icy conditions caused numerous accidents and forced the Arizona Highway Patrol to close Interstate 15 in the Virgin River Gorge December 7, leaving an estimated 300 vehicles on the roadway. – *St. George Daily Spectrum* (See item [19](#))
- A December 6 fire at the Indoor Flea Market complex in Halltown, West Virginia, that started in an auto repair shop displaced several families living in the complex's apartments and caused more than \$1 million in damages. – *Associated Press* (See item [35](#))

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### Fast Jump Menu

#### PRODUCTION INDUSTRIES

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

#### SUSTENANCE and HEALTH

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

#### SERVICE INDUSTRIES

- [Financial Services](#)
- [Transportation Systems](#)
- [Information Technology](#)
- [Communications](#)
- [Commercial Facilities](#)

#### FEDERAL and STATE

- [Government Facilities](#)
  - [Emergency Services](#)
-

## **Energy Sector**

1. *December 9, KHOU 11 Houston* – (Texas) **Bomb threat at Willis business delays classes for nearby schools.** National Oil Well in Montgomery County, Texas, was evacuated for more than 3 hours December 9 due to a bomb threat. Classes at nearby schools were delayed while authorities searched the building and cleared the scene. Source: <http://www.khou.com/news/local/Bomb-threat-at-Willis-business-delays-classes-for-nearby-schools-235036911.html>
2. *December 9, Associated Press* – (Virginia) **Storm leaves more than 89,000 in Va. without power.** Crews worked to restore service December 9 to more than 89,000 customers throughout Virginia that lost power as a winter storm moved across the State. Source: <http://www.wric.com/story/24169989/storm-leaves-more-than-89000-in-va-without-power>
3. *December 9, Associated Press* – (Maryland) **More than 23,000 without power in Maryland as winter weather moves through region.** Utilities around Maryland worked to restore service December 9 to more than 23,000 customers around the region who lost power due to severe winter weather. Source: <http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/7e5d58829c8b4b12bf52f948226e996e/MD--Cold-Snap-Outages>
4. *December 6, Reuters* – (National) **Over 225,000 without power in Texas after ice storms.** More than 225,000 homes and businesses in Texas and several other States were without power December 6 following severe ice storms December 5. Source: <http://www.globalpost.com/dispatch/news/thomson-reuters/131206/over-225000-without-power-texas-after-ice-storms>
5. *December 6, Mount Clemens Macomb Daily* – (Michigan) **Oil pipeline construction delayed.** Citing late approval of environmental permits and seasonal setbacks, Enbridge announced the construction of an oil pipeline through a 50-mile area of northern Macomb and Oakland counties would be delayed until the spring of 2014. Source: <http://www.macombdaily.com/general-news/20131206/oil-pipeline-construction-delayed>
6. *December 5, Wall Street Journal* – (Texas) **An icy wind wreaks havoc on Texas oil fields.** Several energy companies throughout Texas reported that production of oil and gas has slowed down due to severe winter weather that has caused power outages, equipment to freeze, and icy road conditions throughout the State. Source: [http://blogs.wsj.com/corporate-intelligence/2013/12/05/an-icy-wind-in-texas-wreaks-havoc-on-the-oil-wells/?mod=wsj\\_streaming\\_stream](http://blogs.wsj.com/corporate-intelligence/2013/12/05/an-icy-wind-in-texas-wreaks-havoc-on-the-oil-wells/?mod=wsj_streaming_stream)

## **Chemical Industry Sector**

Nothing to report

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

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

7. *December 9, KATV 7 Little Rock* – (Arkansas) **Transformer fire under control at Nuclear One.** The Unit 2 reactor at the Arkansas Nuclear One power plant in Russellville was shut down December 9 after a fire broke out in a transformer outside the reactor building.  
Source: <http://www.katv.com/story/24171024/transformer-fire-breaks-out-at-nuclear-one>
8. *December 6, Wilmington News Journal* – (New Jersey) **Malfunction signal forces second shutdown of Hope Creek nuclear plant.** The Hope Creek nuclear power plant in Lower Alloways Creek Township shut down December 5 as it was returning to power from a previous unplanned shutdown. The reactor shut down after the detection of high water levels in a moisture separation system, the same issue that caused the December 1 shutdown.  
Source: <http://www.delawareonline.com/article/20131206/NEWS/312060068/Malfunction-signal-forces-second-shutdown-Hope-Creek-nuclear-plant>

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

## **Critical Manufacturing Sector**

Nothing to report

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

## **Defense Industrial Base Sector**

Nothing to report

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

## **Financial Services Sector**

9. *December 9, Softpedia* – (International) **Man pleads guilty to role in \$725,000/€29,000 hacking and ID theft scheme.** A Gladstone, Missouri man pleaded guilty the week of December 1 to his part in a \$725,000 hacking and fraud scheme that used passwords stolen from businesses to make online purchases. The scheme ran between 2006 and 2009 and involved four co-conspirators that previously pleaded guilty.

Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Man-Pleads-Guilty-to-Role-in-725-000-529-000-Hacking-and-ID-Theft-Scheme-407290.shtml>

10. *December 7, Softpedia* – (International) **RBS website disrupted by DDoS attack.** The Royal Bank of Scotland (RBS) confirmed that its NatWest Web site was the target of a distributed denial of service (DDoS) attack December 6, causing disruptions for customers. RBS was also recently targeted by a DDoS attack December 2.

Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/RBS-Website-Disrupted-with-DDOS-Attack-406953.shtml>

11. *December 6, Associated Press* – (Florida) **Florida lawyer found guilty in \$800M insurance fraud scheme.** An attorney from south Florida was found guilty December 4 for his part in the Mutual Benefits Corp., insurance fraud case. The company sold investments in life insurance policies that were fraudulent and lost investors around \$830 million.

Source: <http://www.insurancejournal.com/news/southeast/2013/12/06/313250.htm>

12. *December 6, KCBS 2 Los Angeles* – (California) **‘Valley Bandit’ linked to 8 bank heists since Dec. 2012.** Authorities asked for the public’s assistance in identifying a suspect known as the “Valley Bandit,” believed to be responsible for eight bank robberies in the San Fernando Valley beginning in December 2012. The suspect’s most recent robbery was at a Wells Fargo bank branch December 4 in the West Hills area.

Source: <http://losangeles.cbslocal.com/2013/12/06/valley-bandit-linked-to-8-bank-heists-since-dec-2012/>

For another story, see item [31](#)

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

## **Transportation Systems Sector**

13. *December 9, Associated Press* – (National) **Big storm dumps snow on east coast, travel dicey.** A severe winter storm that affected several States within the U.S. caused more than 2,500 flight cancellations and delays, and numerous car accidents December 8-9 due to icy road conditions and freezing rain.

Source: <http://news.msn.com/us/big-storm-dumps-snow-on-east-coast-travel-dicey?app=1>

14. *December 8, Associated Press* – (California) **Water issues plague new LAX international terminal.** Bacteria, copper, brass, and rust from the building's plumbing contaminated water at five gates in one terminal at the Los Angeles International Airport and forced airplanes to replenish their water supplies from bottles or by transporting water from other nearby terminals.

Source: <http://news.msn.com/us/water-issues-plague-new-lax-international-terminal>

15. *December 8, Associated Press; KOB 4 Albuquerque* – (New Mexico) **Los Alamos**

**responds to fatal plane crash.** A single-engine plane crashed south of the Los Alamos Airport killing at least one person onboard and prompting the closure of the Canyon Rim Trail in Los Alamos December 8

Source: <http://www.kob.com/article/stories/S3238376.shtml?cat=500#.UqXwxSQo4y8>

16. *December 8, KTRK 13 Houston* – (Texas) **Smoke, power outage prompt evacuation of Bush IAH Terminal B; HFD investigating.** Terminal B at the Bush Intercontinental Airport was evacuated and passengers were transported to other terminals causing flight delays December 8 after a broken transformer started smoking and caused a power outage. A new transformer was installed more than 7 hours later.  
Source: <http://abclocal.go.com/ktrk/story?section=news/local&id=9353380>
17. *December 8, WMC-TV 5 Memphis* – (Tennessee) **3 people forced to jump from bridge to avoid car on slick roads.** Winter weather and icy conditions caused multiple accidents on I-385 in Shelby County, sending at least one person to the hospital and closing several stretches of the highway for several hours as police responded.  
Source: <http://www.wmctv.com/story/24164593/icy-conditions-cause-multiple-accidents-overnight-in-shelby-co>
18. *December 8, Associated Press* – (Wisconsin) **Snow causes at least 2 fatal crashes in S Wis.** Winter snow in Wisconsin contributed December 8 to multiple accidents, including two fatalities, and led to full or partial lane closures on several highways throughout the State.  
Source: <http://www.charlotteobserver.com/2013/12/08/4530709/crashes-cause-dozens-of-injuries.html>
19. *December 8, St. George Daily Spectrum* – (Utah; Arizona) **Icy freeway reopens after hundreds spend night in Virgin River Gorge.** Snow and icy conditions caused numerous accidents and forced the Arizona Highway Patrol to close Interstate 15 in the Virgin River Gorge December 7, leaving an estimated 300 vehicles on the roadway while emergency crews worked to evacuate many and bring food, blankets, and fuel to others.  
Source: <http://www.thespectrum.com/article/20131208/NEWS/312080001/>

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

## **Food and Agriculture Sector**

20. *December 9, Food Safety News* – (North Carolina) **Final report issued on Salmonella outbreak linked to church barbeque.** The North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services Division of Public Health released a final report citing that while food or beverages consumed at a barbeque held at Sandy Plains Baptist Church in Shelby September 7 did cause a Salmonella outbreak that sickened 104 people, no particular food or beverage source could be identified as the source of the outbreak.  
Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2013/12/final-report-issued-on-church-barbeque-salmonella-outbreak/>

21. *December 7, Food Safety News* – (International) **Prosciutto recalled in Canada for possible Listeria contamination.** Santa Maria Foods of Canada recalled approximately 2,600 pounds of whole boneless ham prosciutto products December 6 for potential contamination with *Listeria monocytogenes*. The products were shipped to California and Michigan for further distribution.  
Source: <http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2013/12/prosciutto-recalled-in-canada-for-listeria-contamination/>
22. *December 7, WSTM 3 Syracuse* – (New York) **Fulton dealing with ammonia leak at K&N's Foods (old Birdseye).** An anhydrous ammonia leak at the K&N Foods processing plant in Fulton sent one worker to the hospital and prompted authorities to order a stay indoors advisory for 572 residents for over 3 hours December 7.  
Source: <http://www.cnycentral.com/news/story.aspx?id=980557>

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

## **Water and Wastewater Systems Sector**

See item [27](#)

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

## **Healthcare and Public Health Sector**

See item [24](#)

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

## **Government Facilities Sector**

23. *December 7, Associated Press* – (Florida) **Workers charged in Florida from stealing wire from FBI construction site.** Federal officials charged three workers for adding unnecessarily large amounts of electrical wire needed for the construction of a new FBI building in Fort Lauderdale and attempting to sell the extra copper wire for more than \$23,000.  
Source: <http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/acc2a21de0da49b7ad73665e65097728/FL--FBI-Wire-Ripoff>
24. *December 6, Associated Press* – (Texas) **Ex-executive indicted in Texas cancer fund scandal.** A former top executive of the Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas was indicted December 6 over an improperly awarded \$11 million taxpayer-funded grant that forced the State agency into turmoil by allegedly allowing Dallas-based Peloton Therapeutics in 2010 to secure one of the agency's awards even though the merits of the company's proposal were never scrutinized.  
Source: <http://abcnews.go.com/Politics/wireStory/executive-indicted-texas-cancer->

[fund-scandal-21127190](#)

25. *December 6, Associated Press* – (Michigan) **SW Mich. College closes for day due to threats.** Lake Michigan College in Berrien County was shut down and students and employees were sent home December 6 after a fired maintenance worker made threats. Authorities found the threats not to be credible after investigating.  
Source: <http://www.greenwichtime.com/news/article/SW-Mich-college-closes-due-to-security-issue-5041711.php>
26. *December 6, Charleston State Journal* – (West Virginia) **2 Preston County schools evacuated due to carbon monoxide.** South Preston Middle School and Tunnelton-Denver Elementary School in Preston County were evacuated and classes were cancelled December 6 after 37 students fell ill due to high levels carbon monoxide after a neighboring business' furnace pushed smoke into the school. Classes were scheduled to resume December 9 after levels returned to normal.  
Source: <http://www.statejournal.com/story/24155337/preston-county-elementary-school-evacuated-due-to-carbon-monoxide>
27. *December 6, Associated Press* – (North Carolina) **CDC study links Camp Lejeune water to increased risk of birth defects and cancer before 1985.** The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention released a report that confirmed that children born at U.S. Marine Corps base Camp Lejeune between 1968 and 1985 were four times more likely to have serious birth defects if their mothers drank the tap water on base, which was contaminated with chemicals from a dry cleaner and a leaky fuel depot.  
Source: [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/12/06/cdc-study-camp-lejeune\\_n\\_4398826.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/12/06/cdc-study-camp-lejeune_n_4398826.html)
28. *December 6, Fredericksburg Patch* – (Virginia) **Federal worker pleads guilty in \$94K shopping spree.** A National Science Foundation employee pleaded guilty December 5 in connection with stealing \$94,493 from the foundation and using the funds for personal expenses. The employee used government-issued purchase cards to purchase items for himself and others, from 2010 through July 2013.  
Source: <http://fredericksburg.patch.com/groups/police-and-fire/p/fredericksburg-resident-pleads-guilty-to-nsf-theft>

For another story, see item [1](#)

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

## **Emergency Services Sector**

29. *December 9, KPHO 5 Phoenix* – (Arizona) **Armed suspect surrenders, ends hospital standoff.** The emergency room at Phoenix Baptist Hospital in Arizona was evacuated December 9 after a man armed with a knife barricaded himself in an emergency room bathroom before surrendering to police after 4 hours.  
Source: <http://www.kpho.com/story/24169274/phoenix-pd-man-with-gun-holes-up-in->



[phoenix-hospital](#)

30. *December 6, Tulsa World* – (Oklahoma) **Theft, arson of rural fire truck under investigation.** Authorities are investigating after an Avant Fire Department truck was stolen and a computer was destroyed from their office in Osage County during a reported theft and arson.

Source: [http://www.tulsaworld.com/news/crimewatch/theft-arson-of-rural-fire-truck-under-investigation/article\\_55a53152-5e7a-11e3-ab21-001a4bcf6878.html](http://www.tulsaworld.com/news/crimewatch/theft-arson-of-rural-fire-truck-under-investigation/article_55a53152-5e7a-11e3-ab21-001a4bcf6878.html)

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

## **Information Technology Sector**

31. *December 6, Softpedia* – (International) **Russian authorities prosecute BlackHole creator and 12 other suspects.** Authorities in Russia announced charges against the alleged creator of the BlackHole exploit kit and 12 others for allegedly using BlackHole to distribute banking trojans and cause losses totaling \$2.1 million.

Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Russian-Authorities-Prosecute-BlackHole-Creator-and-12-Other-Suspects-406627.shtml>

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

### **Internet Alert Dashboard**

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at [soc@us-cert.gov](mailto:soc@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: <http://www.it-isac.org>

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

## **Communications Sector**

Nothing to report

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

## **Commercial Facilities Sector**

32. *December 9, WFAA 8 Dallas* – (Texas) **Firefighters battle four-alarm fire at a hotel in The Colony.** A Comfort Suites hotel in the City of The Colony was evacuated December 9 when a four-alarm fire broke out and damaged the building. The hotel was safely evacuated and a cause was under investigation.

Source: <http://www.wfaa.com/news/daybreak/Firefighters-battle-four-alarm-fire-in-Carrollton-235026401.html>

33. *December 9, Southern California City News Service*– (California) **2-alarm Santa Ana**



- apartment fire forces 125 to evacuate.** A December 8 fire at the Rosewood Villas apartments in Santa Ana caused 125 to evacuate and left 50 unable to return to their homes after the blaze caused an estimated \$550,000 in damages.  
Source: <http://www.presstelegram.com/general-news/20131209/2-alarm-santa-ana-apartment-fire-forces-125-to-evacuate>
34. *December 8, Pleasantville Press of Atlantic City* – (New Jersey) **Fire causes \$300,000 damage to Vineland property.** An auto-repair facility in Vineland caught fire December 7 resulting in \$300,000 in damages. No one was inside the building and the cause is still under investigation.  
Source: [http://www.pressofatlanticcity.com/news/breaking/fire-causes-damage-to-vineland-property/article\\_f648bea2-6024-11e3-8176-001a4bcf887a.html](http://www.pressofatlanticcity.com/news/breaking/fire-causes-damage-to-vineland-property/article_f648bea2-6024-11e3-8176-001a4bcf887a.html)
35. *December 9, Associated Press* – (West Virginia) **Cause sought for flea market fire in Jefferson County, damage tops \$1 million.** A December 6 fire at the Indoor Flea Market complex in Halltown, West Virginia, that started in an auto repair shop displaced several families living in the complex's apartments and caused more than \$1 million in damages. The cause is under investigation.  
Source: <http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/05a1ab0d1d174f1eb13e4263612f1a9b/WV--Flea-Market-Fire>
36. *December 6, WNBC 4 New York City* – (New York) **Woman plows car into Trader Joe's on Long Island, 15 hurt.** Fifteen people were injured after a driver lost control of their car and drove through the windows of a Trader Joe's grocery store in Nassau County December 6.  
Source: [http://www.nbcnewyork.com/news/local/Car-Hits-Trader-Joes-Supermarket-Oceanside-Long-Island-234776971.html?\\_osource=SocialFlowTwt\\_NYBrand](http://www.nbcnewyork.com/news/local/Car-Hits-Trader-Joes-Supermarket-Oceanside-Long-Island-234776971.html?_osource=SocialFlowTwt_NYBrand)
37. *December 7, Worcester Telegram & Gazette* – (Connecticut) **3-alarm fire destroys historic Pomfret church.** A three-alarm fire at the historic First Congregational Church of Pomfret in Connecticut destroyed the entire front hall and sanctuary December 7. Fire marshals are continuing to investigate the cause.  
Source: <http://www.telegram.com/article/20131207/NEWS/312079733/1246>

For additional stories, see items [4](#), [20](#)

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

## **Dams Sector**

Nothing to report

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



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

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**Contact Information**

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**Contact DHS**

To report physical infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact the National Infrastructure Coordinating Center at [nicc@hq.dhs.gov](mailto: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](mailto:soc@us-cert.gov) or visit their Web page at [www.us-cert.gov](http://www.us-cert.gov).

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