



Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report 1 November 2012

Top Stories

- Utility crews were assessing the damage and working to restore service to more than 2 million homes and businesses in New Jersey. The State’s largest utility, Public Service Electric&Gas (PSE&G), said it has restored power to 30 percent of its 1.4 million customers who lost service. – *Associated Press* (See item [3](#))
- Two of the biggest airports serving New York — John F. Kennedy (JFK) and New Jersey’s Newark Liberty International — reopened “on a very limited operational schedule” after losing power during the recent superstorm. – *Associated Press* (See item [17](#))
- Six New York City hospitals were forced to evacuate hundreds of patients October 30 after losing power at the height of Hurricane Sandy, according to the New York City mayor and other news reports. – *Los Angeles Times* (See item [28](#))
- Telecommunications companies told federal regulators that Hurricane Sandy knocked out 25% of wireless cell towers and a quarter of cable services in 10 States. A small number of 9-1-1 call centers were also affected. – *USA Today* (See item [42](#))

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Energy Sector

1. *October 31, Detroit News* – (Michigan) **DTE works to restore remaining 40K powerless in metro Detroit.** Hurricane Sandy departed Michigan and left least 40,000 without electricity as of October 31, down from a high of 120,000 October 30, according to DTE spokesman. “We should have restored power to 90 percent of our customers by late October 31,” the spokesman said. “We also have a lot of individual customer problems scattered across the metro area that will have power returned over the next couple of days.” According to DTE, Wayne and Oakland counties accounted for about half of all outages, most of which were caused by falling trees and tree limbs. “Right now, we have 10,000 outages in St. Clair county, 6,000 in Oakland, 4,000 in Wayne and 3,000 in Macomb counties,” the DTE spokesman said.
Source: <http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20121031/METRO/210310380/1361/DTE-works-to-restore-remaining-40K-powerless-in-Metro-Detroit>
2. *October 31, Associated Press* – (National) **About 115,000 without power in mid-Atlantic.** Crews continued working to restore power to thousands in Maryland, Delaware, Washington, D.C., and northern Virginia after winds from superstorm Sandy downed trees and power lines. By October 31, 115,000 customers were still in the dark. That meant more than two-thirds of those in the region who lost power during the storm had their power restored by October 31. Baltimore Gas and Electric was reporting the most outages with nearly 86,000 customers in the dark. Anne Arundel, Baltimore, and Harford counties have the most outages. On the Eastern Shore, Delmarva Power reported 7,400 outages in Maryland and Delaware. In the Washington area, Pepco reported about 1,300 outages, down from 21,000 October 30. In northern Virginia, Dominion Virginia Power reported 20,000 outages, down from 110,000 October 30.
Source: <http://www.myfoxdc.com/story/19960416/about-115000-without-power-in-mid-atlantic>
3. *October 31, Associated Press* – (New Jersey) **More than 2M in NJ without electricity.** Utility crews were assessing the damage and working to restore service to more than 2 million homes and businesses in New Jersey. The State’s largest utility, Public Service Electric & Gas (PSE&G), said it has restored power to 30 percent of its 1.4 million customers who lost service. Still, 900,000 PSE&G customers are without electricity. Jersey Central Power & Light reported outages for 954,283 customers, mainly in Monmouth and Ocean counties. Atlantic City Electric said 121,035 homes and businesses remain in the dark. Orange & Rockland Electric reported 53,822 customers without service.
Source: <http://www.abc27.com/story/19960011/more-than-2m-in-nj-without-electricity>
4. *October 31, Associated Press* – (New York) **1.9M customers still without power in NY State.** Utility crews in the Hudson Valley, New York continued their efforts to restore electricity service to the tens of thousands of customers still without power in the aftermath of superstorm Sandy. Most of the outages in Mid-Hudson Valley were in Dutchess, Orange, and Ulster counties, where more than 100,000 customers remained without power October 31. Sullivan County in southeast New York had another 32,000

outages. The power situation is even worse on Long Island and in New York City and its northern suburbs, where more than 1.6 million customers have lost power from the October 29 storm. In all, some 1.9 million utility customers in New York State have lost power because of Sandy. Utility officials say they are still assessing the damage in many areas and have given no estimates on when they expect power to be restored.
Source: <http://online.wsj.com/article/AP28202beab2424d3ea7bef5e5b22d2c01.html>

5. *October 31, Galveston Daily News* – (Texas) **BP fire sends black smoke over Texas City.** A fire at BP's Texas City, Texas refinery sent a large plume of black smoke over the industrial sector of the city. The fire broke out October 30, BP officials said. A BP spokeswoman said the fire was at the Resid Hydrotreating Unit (RHU) in the western section of the refinery. The fire was fueled by heavy crude, also called bottom crude oil, that proved to be tough to extinguish. All personnel were accounted for, the BP spokeswoman said. Crews shut the unit down, but the rest of the refinery remained operational. BP fire crews battled the blaze. Streets to the refinery were temporarily closed to traffic. There were no reports of any workers or residents going to the hospital for treatment. The BP spokesman said air monitors did not pick up any significant pollutants in the air at the facility. While no shelter in place was ordered, the Texas City school district delayed the release of students who live in the areas closest to the city's industrial sector.

Source: <http://galvestondailynews.com/story/358522>

6. *October 30, Associated Press* – (Pennsylvania) **Pa. power outages could last a week, utility says.** Utility crews made some progress in restoring power to Pennsylvania in the wake of the storm that brought winds and rain across much of the State, but 1 million customers remain in the dark. PECO Energy, the utility company reporting the most power outages in Pennsylvania, said 490,000 customers remained without service October 30, but power had already been restored to about 350,000 customers. It could take a week to restore everything. PPL reported 341,000 without service. FirstEnergy reported 199,000 without power. Hardest hit were Bucks, Berks, Chester, Delaware, Lehigh, Monroe, Montgomery, and Northampton counties, as well as Philadelphia. A Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission spokeswoman said the storm is in the top three ever in outages, ranking with hurricanes Agnes in 1972 and Floyd in 1999.

Source: http://www.ldnews.com/state/ci_21887300/pa-utilities-report-1-2-million-without-power

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Chemical Industry Sector

7. *October 31, Louisville Courier Journal* – (Kentucky) **Tanks of dangerous gas delay cleanup; Dixie Highway to remain closed until at least Thursday.** The cleanup of 13 railroad cars that derailed in Kentucky's southwest Jefferson County October 29 was taking longer than expected as workers trod carefully around two tanks filled with a highly corrosive gas. The longer cleanup time will keep Dixie Highway near the derailment site closed until at least November 1, said the head of the Louisville

Emergency Management Agency. Officials acknowledged October 30 that a rail car carrying 30,000 gallons of 1,3-butadiene had leaked its entire load, but officials said the chemical vaporized and was not a risk to the public. Two other railroad cars that derailed were carrying hydrogen fluoride, which were not leaking, but cleanup crews have to proceed carefully as they work to level and stabilize the cars to make sure the chemical does not escape, the head of the agency said.

Source: <http://www.courier-journal.com/article/20121030/NEWS01/310300026/1001/Dixie-Highway-remain-closed-until-least-Thursday-after-train-derailment?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|Home|p>

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector

8. *October 31, MarketWatch* – (New Jersey) **Exelon lifts alert at Oyster Creek nuclear plant.** Exelon Corp. lifted an alert on its Oyster Creek Generation Station in Forked River, New Jersey, a company spokesman said October 31. The spokesman said Exelon moved the nuclear plant off alert at 3:52 a.m. Eastern Standard Time. Workers were returning to the plant to resume its refueling operation. An alert was declared October 29 as Hurricane Sandy struck the New Jersey coast. The plant had already been off line since October 22 for refueling.

Source: http://www.marketwatch.com/story/exelon-lifts-alert-at-oyster-creek-nuclear-plant-2012-10-31?link=MW_latest_news

9. *October 31, Chosunilbo* – (International) **‘Human error’ blamed for Wolseong reactor shutdown.** The shutdown of the No. 1 nuclear reactor at South Korea’s Wolseong power station October 29 was the result of human error, Korea Hydro and Nuclear Power (KHNP) said October 30. It said a plant operator made a mistake while manipulating a circuit breaker, causing a power shortage to some equipment which led to a malfunction in the cooling system. “An internal probe revealed that a senior employee handed over his responsibilities to a junior with only two years of experience, who misunderstood his orders and operated the wrong switch,” a KHNP staffer said. This is similar to the mistake that caused a malfunction at reactor No. 1 at the Gori nuclear power station that led to a blackout in February. At that time, a subcontracted worker with little experience failed to follow procedure and pushed the circuit breaker, causing the entire nuclear plant to lose power for 12 minutes. The latest incident appeared to spell the death warrant for the Wolseong No. 1 reactor, which reaches the end of its 30-year life cycle November 20. A KHNP official said an inspection revealed serious damage to the inside of the reactor and a detailed probe will take place after the reactor is dismantled.

Source: <http://www.nucpros.com/content/human-error-blamed-wolseong-reactor-shutdown>

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Critical Manufacturing Sector

Nothing to report

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

Nothing to report

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Banking and Finance Sector

10. *October 31, Associated Press* – (Illinois) **Ill. man guilty in \$48 million bank fraud.** A suburban Chicago man has pleaded guilty to defrauding a bank of more than \$48 million as part of two failed condominium projects in Chicago's Loop, the Associated Press reported October 31. The U.S. Department of Justice said the man pleaded guilty to a single count of bank fraud. Authorities said a co-defendant remains a fugitive and believed to be outside the United States. According to the man's plea, between 1993 and 2003 he and the co-defendant borrowed money from the former CIB Bank based in part on fraudulent purchase contracts on two buildings that inflated the buildings' worth. The bank lost the money.

Source: <http://www.sfgate.com/news/crime/article/Ill-man-guilty-in-48-million-bank-fraud-3995201.php>

11. *October 31, Reuters* – (International) **Barclays hit by fresh U.S. investigations.** Barclays, already rocked by an interest rate rigging scandal, unveiled new U.S. regulatory investigations into the bank's financial probity October 31. Following investigations in the U.K. over its dealings with Qatari investors, Barclays said the U.S. Department of Justice and Securities and Exchange Commission were probing whether its relationships with third parties who help it win or retain business are compliant with U.S. laws. The bank is under investigation by Britain's financial regulator and fraud prosecutor into payments to Qatari investors after it raised billions of pounds from the Gulf state 5 years ago to save it from taking a taxpayer bailout. Barclays also said that the U.S. Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) could be close to fining it over an investigation into the manipulation of power prices in the western United States from late 2006 until 2008. FERC could notify the bank of proposed penalties as early as October 31, and Barclays said it would "vigorously" defend this matter. The investigation was first announced in April, alleging the bank took substantial electricity market positions to move daily index settlements.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/10/31/us-barclays-results-idUSBRE89U0C420121031>

12. *October 31, New York Times* – (New York) **After Hurricane Sandy, stock exchanges prepare to open.** Despite the damage from Hurricane Sandy, New York City's Wall

Street is preparing to open for business October 31. After closing the stock and bond markets for two days, the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE), Nasdaq, and other trading platforms were set to resume normal operations, following nonstop meetings and extensive testing of their systems. The exchanges want to get up and running as soon as possible to serve their clients and show they can operate in difficult conditions. A long delay could frustrate investors and damage their image. The New York Exchange and Nasdaq said their systems were ready to resume operations. But some firms that trade on the exchanges continued to face problems in the aftermath of the storm. In preparation, the New York Exchange created an emergency response team, and roughly 30 staff members have been sleeping at the Lower Manhattan headquarters. October 30, the exchange conducted trial runs with financial firms to detect potential bugs. As the markets prepared to go back online, exchange officials and regulators braced for technical problems. The Securities and Exchange Commission spent much of October 30 walking the exchanges through checklists that aim to detect potential mishaps.

Source: <http://www.cnn.com/id/49617351>

13. *October 31, Help Net Security* – (International) **Bank of America customers under phishing attack.** The phishing “account suspended” warning purportedly sent by Bank of America’s Cardmember Services is hitting inboxes once again, Help Net Security reported October 31. “During our usual security enhancement protocol, we observed multiple login attempt error while login in to your online banking account,” the email reads. “We have believed that someone other than you is trying to access your account for security reasons, we have temporarily suspend your account and your access to online banking and will be restricted if you fail to update.” According to PhishTank, the offered link takes potential victims to a very realistically spoofed Bank of America login page. The fake Web page has since been made unavailable. However, the URL in the email can be easily changed to point to another page,
Source: <http://www.net-security.org/secworld.php?id=13877>
14. *October 30, American Banker* – (New York) **Citi to close storm-damaged Wall Street building for ‘weeks’.** One of Citigroup’s downtown New York City offices damaged by Hurricane Sandy will be closed for weeks, the company said October 30. “Our facility at 111 Wall Street experienced severe flooding and will be out of commission for several weeks,” a chief executive wrote in a memo to employees. “We are still assessing when other sites that were not damaged, including 388 and 390 Greenwich Street, can reopen.” Continued power outages, lack of mass transportation, and mandatory evacuation orders make decision-making difficult, he wrote. For the time being, Citi will rely on back-up sites and work-from-home strategies.
Source: http://www.americanbanker.com/issues/177_210/citi-to-close-storm-damaged-wall-street-building-for-weeks-1053997-1.html
15. *October 30, Internal Revenue Service; U.S. Department of Justice* – (Texas) **Jury finds Alvin man guilty on bank fraud charges.** A federal jury convicted a man of conspiracy to commit bank fraud and nine counts of bank fraud involving loans totaling more than \$39 million in the Houston area, a United States Attorney announced

October 30. The government presented evidence at trial that from July 2004 and continuing through September 2007, the man, along with his co-conspirators, participated in a scheme to defraud financial institutions insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and residential mortgage lenders. The man would locate condominium units from a builder or developer. He would then set up trust accounts with names similar to the condominiums through which the title to pass. Co-defendants would recruit straw buyers with good credit to act as borrowers in applications for residential mortgage loans to purchase one or more of the properties, which would ultimately go into foreclosure because of the failure to pay the loans. The loss from the scheme was determined to be more than \$20 million.

Source: http://www.yourhoustonnews.com/pearland/news/jury-finds-alvin-man-guilty-on-bank-fraud-charges/article_3eeb7197-9869-5e20-bfa3-74e0b8bf8b19.html

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Transportation Sector

16. *October 31, Reuters* – (New York; Rhode Island) **New York Harbor “unlikely” to fully reopen Wednesday: U.S. Coast Guard.** The U.S. Coast Guard (USCG) said it was “unlikely” that New York Harbor would be fully reopened October 31 following Hurricane Sandy, as damage assessments continued in the area. The port was open, but under severe traffic restrictions, a spokesman for the USCG said. The Port of Long Island Sound was reopened October 30. Meanwhile, the ports of Pt. Judith and Block Island, Rhode Island, remained closed to vessel traffic until the Coast Guard could complete assessments of those waterways, the USCG said.

Source: <http://www.cnbc.com/id/49622018>

17. *October 31, Associated Press* – (New Jersey; New York) **JFK, Newark airports reopen on limited schedule.** Two of the biggest airports serving New York — John F. Kennedy (JFK) and New Jersey’s Newark Liberty International — reopened. The first passenger flight to JFK arrived from Long Beach, California, October 31 with 150 passengers and the first flight into Newark was a FedEx plane. A Port Authority of New York and New Jersey spokesman said the two airports reopened “on a very limited operational schedule.” Some terminals at Newark lost power during the superstorm, but electricity returned October 30. New York’s LaGuardia Airport remained closed. Authorities were assessing the impact of the storm on the airport.

Source: <http://www.wboc.com/story/19961809/jfk-newark-airports-reopen-on-limited-schedule>

18. *October 31, Homeland Security News Wire* – (National) **Improving high-speed rail ties against freezing, thawing conditions.** A research project is helping high-speed rail systems handle the stress of freezing and thawing weather conditions, Homeland Security News Wire reported October 31. The 3-year study looks at the freeze-thaw durability of concrete railroad ties. A Kansas State University release reports that the Federal Railroad Association recently awarded more than \$1.2 million for the study of the materials and fabrication process, and to develop quality control tests that ensure

safe freeze-thaw durable concrete railroad ties. To study the freeze-thaw conditions in concrete rail ties, researchers will add surfactants to the concrete as it is being mixed in the laboratory. These compounds produce millions of microscopic bubbles in the concrete that act as pressure release valves to help protect the concrete against damage. Researchers will evaluate the vibration conditions and air voids created by the bubbles in rail ties produced from various other materials, including surrogate clear materials, cement paste, and mortars before scaling up to concrete. The ties will also be studied to determine if they get wet enough on the tracks to cause damage. Additionally, the team will develop evaluation methods that will help railroad tie manufacturers determine the freeze-thaw resistance of concrete rail ties once they are produced.

Source: <http://www.homelandsecuritynewswire.com/dr20121030-improving-highspeed-rail-ties-against-freezing-thawing-conditions>

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Postal and Shipping Sector

19. *October 30, Petaluma Patch* – (California) **Man found with 100+ pieces of stolen mail.** A Petaluma, California man was found with more than 100 pieces of stolen mail from all over Sonoma County after getting into a car accident October 30. The suspect said he purchased the mail from someone for \$200. Police also found a fraudulently obtained VISA card that they said he used to set up a fake bank account. Petaluma Police and the US Postal Inspector are working to return the mail to the proper owners. Source: <http://petaluma.patch.com/articles/man-found-with-100-pieces-of-stolen-mail>

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Agriculture and Food Sector

20. *October 30, U.S. Department of Agriculture Food Safety and Inspection Service* – (National) **Texas firm recalls chicken enchilada products that may contain foreign materials.** Food Source, L.P., of McKinney, Texas, recalled approximately 11,400-pounds of frozen chicken enchilada products that may contain fragments of plastic, the U.S. Department of Agriculture said in a recall October 30. The recalled product comes in a 57-ounce box labeled “Bremer Party Size White Meat Chicken Enchiladas.” The product UPC is 041498169213 with a best by date of September 20, 2013. The products were shipped to retail stores in New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia. The company alerted the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Food Safety and Inspection Service after receiving two consumer complaints. Source: http://www.fsis.usda.gov/News_&_Events/Recall_070_2012_Release/index.asp

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Water Sector

21. *October 31, Associated Press* – (Connecticut) **Conn. treatment plants discharging raw sewage.** Millions of gallons of untreated or partially treated sewage spilled into Long Island Sound and other Connecticut waterways during flooding and power outages caused by superstorm Sandy, officials said October 30. The Connecticut Department of Public Health urged people to stay away from floodwaters because they may be contaminated by sewer system discharges or sewage backups on private properties. The Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) said the discharges were not expected to harm the environment. The mayor of Bridgeport urged residents October 29 to avoid flushing toilets, taking showers, and washing dishes because the treatment plants were flooded. He said he was not expecting any contamination problems, adding that discharges of untreated sewage happen from time to time during heavy rains. Discharges of untreated or partially treated sewage into waterways were reported in Branford, Bridgeport, East Lyme, Fairfield, Greenwich, Ledyard, New Hartford, and New Haven, according to the DEEP. In the State, 31 of the 89 treatment plants and 308 sewage pumping stations were running on backup generators October 30, officials said. Similar problems were reported in other States hit by the storm.
Source: <http://www.rep-am.com/articles/2012/10/31/news/connecticut/680384.txt>

22. *October 31, Long Island Press* – (New York) **Sandy causes infrastructure failure at Bay Park sewage plant.** Residents of the Bay Park Sewage District in New York were advised to limit water use because of an infrastructure failure at its sewage treatment plant, Nassau County said October 30. “At this time, the Bay Park Sewage Treatment Plant is not operational and therefore cannot treat sewerage,” a Nassau County executive said in a statement one day after superstorm Sandy walloped Long Island and knocked out power to millions of residents. He also issued a conserve water order due to the storm. Those living south of the Long Island Expressway from the Queens border to the Meadowbrook Parkway were advised to limit water usage immediately, officials said. A ban was placed on watering grass and washing cars. The Nassau County Department of Health said residents must avoid contact with sewage, which may backup at manhole covers and basement drains.
Source: <http://www.longislandpress.com/2012/10/31/sandy-causes-infrastructure-failure-at-bay-park-sewage-plant/>

23. *October 31, Associated Press* – (National) **Drought influencing Missouri River management plan.** Residents and officials in the Dakotas urged the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to conserve water in upstream Missouri River reservoirs as drought conditions persist, the Associated Press reported October 31. The call comes just a year after record flooding on the river. The Corps would hold 6 meetings in 5 States over 4 days on its annual operating plan for the river for the upcoming year. Meetings were held October 25 in Bismarck, North Dakota, and Pierre, South Dakota. The Corps said September runoff in the Missouri River system was a record low. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration said the dry conditions could carry into the spring. The Corps will conduct checks in March and July to determine what level of water to

release to downstream areas.

Source: <http://www.timesunion.com/default/article/Drought-influencing-Missouri-River-management-plan-3996019.php>

24. *October 30, Sioux City Journal* – (Nebraska) **Dakota County Rural, Dakota City water customers asked to boil water.** Dakota County rural water customers and Dakota City residents in Nebraska were asked to boil water due to a malfunction in a water service pump, the Sioux City Journal reported October 30. South Sioux City water customers were not included in the precautionary boil order. Boiled water should be used for drinking, ice, washing dishes, brushing teeth, and food preparation until further notice. A Dakota City administrator said officials are testing the water and customers will be notified when it was no longer necessary to boil water.
Source: http://siouxcityjournal.com/news/local/briefs/dakota-county-rural-dakota-city-water-customers-asked-to-boil/article_c2c3dadbd-e274-5ee6-ba0f-518c13c6265f.html

25. *October 30, Marlboro Star Ledger* – (New Jersey) **Boil water advisories in New Brunswick, Atlantic City, Warren County.** Just two towns and one county throughout New Jersey were currently under boil water advisories following October 29's devastating storm, but authorities cautioned October 30 that the number could rise because much of the damage had not been assessed across the State. As of October 30, New Brunswick, Atlantic City, and a portion of Warren County supplied by a small water company were under the advisory. State environmental officials said that they were concerned water companies across the State may be without power for a significant period of time, which could drain their backups and limit their ability to pump and treat. A spokesman for the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection said officials were evaluating the power situation at water companies and formulating plans should they be without electricity for several days. "Some may start to ask people to conserve water or restrict use and so forth. At the moment there is plenty of water but we don't know the short-term for the next week or so," he added. The two waste water plants not running because of the storm are Union Beach in Monmouth County and the Middlesex County Utilities Authority, the spokesman said.
Source:
http://www.nj.com/news/index.ssf/2012/10/boil_water_advisories_in_new_b.html

26. *October 30, Austin American-Statesman* – (National) **Several thousand San Marcos customers under boil water notice.** City officials were asking several thousand San Marcos, Texas water customers to boil water before drinking, cooking, or making ice with it until tests come back showing the water is not contaminated. The city issued the boil water notice through at least October 31 after contractors installing a water main broke a line west of Sessom Drive October 30. Water was cut off to about a third of the city's water meters — or about 3,330 customers — for less than two hours, city officials said. Service was restored to all but five homes by October 30, when the boil water notice was given to those affected. However, one water meter could serve several people, and a city spokeswoman said she did not know precisely how many residents are affected. The boil water notice covers the area between Old Ranch Road 12 and Wonder World Drive, north of Prospect and Rogers Streets, and neighborhoods north

and west of Old Ranch Road 12 to Ed J.L. Green Drive, officials said. Officials said they would lift the boil water notice as early as October 31 if no contamination was found after testing the water system.

Source: <http://www.statesman.com/news/news/local/several-thousand-san-marcos-customers-under-boil-w/nSr66/>

27. *October 30, Glen Falls Post-Star* – (New York) **Sewage overflowing because of flooding across NYC.** New York City environmental officials said untreated sewage flowed into waterways around each of the city's five boroughs. The New York Department of Environmental Protection's (DEP) online map showed high-volume overflows at more than a dozen locations around the Bronx, Brooklyn, and Queens, and smaller flows from Manhattan and Staten Island. The city's wastewater system handles combined sewage waste and storm water and directly discharges an estimated 25 billion gallons annually when heavy rain or flooding overwhelms treatment plants. There are 14 treatment plants and 423 discharge outlets. The DEP posts and updates overflow advisories for 28 waterways in and around the city that are determined from computer models based on rainfall.

Source: http://poststar.com/news/state-and-regional/sewage-overflowing-because-of-flooding-across-nyc/article_a9cae24a-a61d-5f4d-8066-144c8c9a8d56.html

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

28. *October 30, Los Angeles Times* – (New York) **Storm forces evacuation of hundreds of New York hospital patients.** Six New York City hospitals were forced to evacuate hundreds of patients October 30 after losing power at the height of Hurricane Sandy, according to the New York City mayor and other news reports. New York City officials were coordinating with 53 healthcare facilities about water levels, staffing, and structural issues. New York Downtown Hospital and the Manhattan Veterans Affairs Hospital closed October 29 during the hurricane. NYU Langone Medical Center hospitals, including Tisch Hospital, were evacuated. Tisch Hospital staff and most of its 200 patients were evacuated after a backup generator failed, the Associated Press reported. At Coney Island Hospital in Brooklyn, officials decided to evacuate the facility when it was operating on a backup generator. Officials at Bellevue Hospital, which lost power but remained open, monitored the hospital's energy needs while it ran on backup power.

Source: <http://www.latimes.com/news/nation/nationnow/la-na-nn-hurricane-sandy-hospital-evacuations-20121030,0,4689379.story>

29. *October 30, Bloomberg News* – (New York) **NYU hospital knew generators subpar before storm.** New York University Hospital's board of directors knew that generators at NYU Langone Medical Center were outdated and at risk before their failure during Hurricane Sandy forced patients to evacuate, said a trustee October 30. The facility's

backup generators “are not state-of-the-art and not in the most state-of-the-art location,” he said in an interview on Bloomberg Television. “That is all very well-known by the board of directors of NYU and in fact we are undergoing a \$3 billion renovation of the entire hospital facility to completely modernize it to ensure we would have backup power forever,” he said. The Lower Manhattan hospital began evacuating patients to other medical facilities October 29 after the storm interrupted power and the backup system failed; evacuations continued October 30. “The one thing we had not counted on, New York University’s hospital backup power, in spite of them ensuring us that it’s been tested, stopped working, and we’re working with them to help move people out,” the New York City mayor said October 29 at a news conference.

Source: <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2012-10-30/nyu-hospital-knew-generators-subpar-before-evacuation-cohn-says.html>

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Government Facilities Sector

30. *October 31, Greenville News* – (South Carolina) **Hacker gained access to data using employee credentials.** South Carolina’s identity theft nightmare has grown to include some businesses, and officials have disclosed for the first time that the hacker was able to crack the system by somehow obtaining the credentials of a Department of Revenue employee. The director of the Revenue Department disclosed October 29, about the possible impact of the breach on small businesses that an unspecified number of State identity numbers used for corporations had been “compromised” at the same time as 3.6 million Social Security numbers and 387,000 mostly encrypted credit or debit card numbers. The director also disclosed October 30, that the hacker was able to breach the Revenue Department’s system by somehow obtaining an employee’s credentials. He said about 250 employees have special credentials that allow them access to the system. He declined to say whether the State knew whose credentials were used. The governor of South Carolina announced that the State had negotiated an agreement with Experian, which is providing identity theft protection and credit monitoring for taxpayers who have filed returns since 1998, to cap costs for taxpayers at \$12 million. The director of the Revenue Department said 5,000 of the credit or debit card numbers exposed in the hacking are expired cards that cannot be used.

Source: http://www.greenvilleonline.com/article/20121031/NEWS/310310036/Hacker-gained-access-to-data-using-employee-credentials?odyssey=tab|mostpopular|text|NEWS&nclick_check=1

31. *October 30, Hazleton Standard Speaker* – (Pennsylvania) **Classrooms damaged when winds tear school’s roof.** Winds from Hurricane Sandy peeled rubber roofing off a section of the Hazleton, Pennsylvania Area Ninth Grade Center, exposing 12 classrooms to rainwater that seeped through ceilings, insulation, drywall, and wiring. Any soft material that got wet had to be removed to avoid mold, the assistant facilities director for the Hazleton Area School District, said October 30. Classes will not meet in the damaged classrooms in the near future. The school superintendent said he was grateful that no students were inside when the storm struck. Anticipating the storm, the

superintendent cancelled classes October 29 and October 30. After meeting with administrators, he said classes will probably will resume November 1.

Source: <http://standardspeaker.com/news/classrooms-damaged-when-winds-tear-school-s-roof-1.1396213>

32. *October 30, Miami Herald* – (Florida; International) **Sandy uncovers suspected old bomb at Guantanamo base.** The U.S. military shut down a ferry landing at the Navy base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, and sent for a bomb disposal team from Florida October 30, after Hurricane Sandy churned up a suspicious object in the bay that might be a live, 500-pound bomb. The object was discovered October 30, said spokesman at the Pentagon Southern Command in Miami. “We don’t know conclusively what type of bomb it was and whether it was live or inert.” Base officials evacuated the area around the bomb and dispatched a Navy plane to Mayport, to fetch the Explosive Ordnance Disposal team. The experts were due at the base October 30, to determine if it was a live bomb. “If it is,” the Pentagon spokesman said, “they’ll neutralize it and then they’ll dispose of it.”

Source: <http://www.bradenton.com/2012/10/30/4259959/sandy-uncovers-suspected-old-bomb.html>

33. *October 30, Wallingford Patch* – (Connecticut) **Sheehan High School’s roof damaged in storm.** While all other Wallingford, Connecticut Public Schools reopened October 31, Sheehan High School remained closed. An old section of the Sheehan building’s roof was damaged by heavy winds and rain from Hurricane Sandy, causing water to leak into classrooms and offices. Sheehan will be closed to students October 31 and November 1.

Source: <http://wallingford.patch.com/articles/sheehan-high-school-s-roof-damaged-in-storm>

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Emergency Services Sector

34. *October 31, WTVR 6 Richmond* – (Virginia) **Three bombs explode; source says detective and a family were targets.** Three pipe bombs exploded October 30 and sources close to the investigation said that a Stafford, Virginia detective and a Stafford family were the intended targets. Now multiple police sources claim the Feds and local law enforcement are searching for a former law school student in connection with the crimes. Fredericksburg Police and agents from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives spent more than half the day at the targeted home. “We had windows blown out, holes through the roof, and walls damaged in the house,” said a Fredericksburg Police public information officer. Investigators said clues collected at that home led them to believe the same suspect was involved in two other bomb blasts. “We’ve determined they are connected,” said the public information officer. Sources close to the investigation said a Stafford detective used to rent the home a couple of

years ago but no longer lives at that address. A Stafford detective's home in another neighborhood was also hit with a pipe bomb about 35 minutes after the Fredericksburg bombing. The third house was hit by a pipe bomb blast October 30. The suspect planted a pipe bomb with bolts, screws, and nails inside. The bomb was wedged between sand bags the homeowner had been using to keep storm water out.

Source: <http://wtvr.com/2012/10/31/three-bombs-explode-source-says-detective-and-a-family-were-targets/>

35. *October 30, WMC 5 Memphis* – (Arkansas) **Arkansas teen chased by police imposters.** An Arkansas teen was chased by police imposters on a Mid-South highway, October 28. Two men followed her in a vehicle that looked like a police car. It had a spotlight and a flashing blue light on the dash. She finally pulled over on a deserted road near a cotton field and one of the men walked up to her driver's side window. The teen said, "I rolled the window down a little bit and I said 'Is there a problem?'" He said, "Yes. You need to get out of the vehicle. I said 'no.'" "I heard someone trying to open my passenger door, looked over, and there was someone trying to open that," she said. It was another man. She took off. She filed a report with the Craighead County Sheriff's Department.

Source: http://www.wmctv.com/story/19958938/arkansas-teen-chased-by-police-imposters?hpt=ju_bn4

For another story, see item [42](#)

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Information Technology Sector

36. *October 31, Help Net Security* – (International) **Can the Nuclear exploit kit dethrone Blackhole?** The author of the Nuclear exploit pack recently released version 2.0. He/she advertises it on his/her own page, likely linked to from a number of underground forum entries. As evidenced from the page, the exploit pack is currently being used in several malicious campaigns, which end up delivering information-stealing trojans and ransomware onto the compromised computers. However, what differentiates this offer from others is that the cybercriminal is determined not to be blamed for the criminal actions performed by his/her customers, and he/she tries to achieve this by introducing Terms of Service (TOS) that everyone must agree to before using the kit. According to a researcher, the Nuclear exploit pack's TOS forbid actions that violate the law of the Russian Federation, acquisition of traffic using spam emails, iFrame-based traffic acquisition practices, testing the software on public services such (VirusTotal and others), offering Cybercrime-as-a-Service business services using the kit, and developing an affiliate program using the exploit kit. The kit also lacks operational security features which would make the campaigns harder to detect and analyze.

Source: http://www.net-security.org/malware_news.php?id=2308

37. *October 31, Softpedia* – (International) **Multiplatform Jacksbot malware spotted in the wild.** Several weeks ago, security researchers from Intego issued a report about a new Java backdoor trojan called Jacksbot. At the time, the threat was considered low-risk because no computers were infected with it. Now, however, Trend Micro experts said they spotted the trojan in the wild. Since it is a Java application, Jacksbot can target not only Windows systems, but also Mac, Linux, and any other OS that supports the Java Runtime Environment (JRE). So far, experts found it on only two computers — one in Malaysia and one in Australia. Considering that one of Jacksbot’s capabilities is to steal Minecraft passwords, it is believed that this might also have something to do with the way it is spread. A threat response engineer at Trend Micro claims that Jacksbot can be considered a remote access trojan (RAT) because it is capable of taking control of computers, and allow its master to execute various “backdoor commands.” Although it can run on any platform that supports JRE, it appears that the backdoor mainly focuses on Windows. Experts say the developers might be experimenting for a multiplatform malware, but for the time being, judging by its code, it only works properly on Windows.

Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/Multiplatform-Jacksbot-Malware-Spotted-in-the-Wild-303363.shtml>

38. *October 31, Softpedia* – (International) **SQL Injections and DDoS attacks: Most popular topics on hacker forums.** Security solutions provider Imperva released the result of its 13th Hacker Intelligence Initiative report, which is based on the analysis of some highly popular hacker forums, including one that is considered to be one of the largest, with 250,000 members. According to experts, the most discussed topics on hacker forums are SQL Injection and distributed denial-of-service (DDoS) attacks, both occupying 19 percent of the discussion volume. It is believed SQL Injection is a favorite attack vector because many of the security solutions deployed by organizations do not even know how to identify such attacks. Another hot topic among hackers is represented by social networks. That is because these Web sites are not only an important source of information, but they also provide the means to make a profit. Facebook is the most discussed (39 percent), followed by Twitter (37 percent), and Myspace (15 percent). Google+ and LinkedIn show up in only 5 percent and 4 percent, respectively, of the social media-related threads.

Source: <http://news.softpedia.com/news/SQL-Injections-and-DDOS-Attacks-Most-Popular-Topics-on-Hacker-Forums-303268.shtml>

39. *October 31, The H* – (International) **Plone CMS vulnerable to privilege escalation and code execution.** The Plone Foundation warned users that there are multiple vulnerabilities in its open source Plone content management system as well as the Zope toolkit. According to the security advisory, these security holes could be exploited by an attacker for privilege escalation, allowing them to bypass certain security restrictions, or to execute malicious arbitrary code on a system. While specific details about the vulnerabilities, which are rated as “highly critical” by security specialist Secunia, are being withheld for the time being, the developers strongly recommend that administrators take certain steps in order to protect their sites. These include making sure that installations are running with the minimum required privileges, using an

intrusion detection system to monitor resources for unauthorised changes, and monitoring system logs for unusual activity. The Foundation says that a majority of these problems were found as part of audits by the project's security team, but some were also reported by users. All supported versions of the software are said to be affected. Patches to close the holes will be released November 6.

Source: <http://www.h-online.com/security/news/item/Plone-CMS-vulnerable-to-privilege-escalation-and-code-execution-1740709.html>

40. *October 31, The H* – (International) **Trojan bargain with Windows 8 support.** Cybercriminals have already started to develop malware for Windows 8. For example, on a Google-hosted site, a “Remote Administration Tool” called Xtreme RAT, which is already Windows-8-compatible, is available with free updates included. The tool includes, among other functions, a keylogger which can store the recorded keystrokes to any FTP server and can capture passwords from all major browsers. Xtreme RAT can also transmit the screen contents to the “admin” and tap Web cameras and microphones. The developer advertises that his tool can trick Data Execution Prevention (DEP) and that the latest version works with the so-called Cryptem — special programs that change executable files to impede detection by antivirus software.

Source: <http://www.h-online.com/security/news/item/Trojan-bargain-with-Windows-8-support-1740800.html>

For more stories, see items [13](#) and [30](#)

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

41. *October 30, Computerworld* – (National) **Storm forces Internet hubs to run on generator power.** Two buildings in lower Manhattan, New York, that serve as major network hubs for the U.S. are operating on generator power, due to Hurricane Sandy, Computerworld reported October 30. Telecom companies use the buildings, known as carrier hotels to interconnect networks to allow data sharing and users of one network to connect with those of another. Thus, the two buildings are critical to the nation's infrastructure. Hundreds of domestic and international network connections are made at these two buildings. The close proximity to network resources turned the buildings into major data center locations. When Con Edison shut off power in lower Manhattan October 29 to protect equipment from storm flooding, it triggered generator backups for the two buildings. The generator is currently powering the facilities.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9233080/Storm_forces_Internet_hubs_to_run_on_generator_power

42. *October 30, USA Today* – (National) **FCC: 25% of cell towers, broadband down in 10 States.** Telecommunications companies told federal regulators that Hurricane Sandy knocked out 25% of wireless cell towers and a quarter of cable services in 10 States. A “very small,” but unspecified, number of 9-1-1 call centers have also been affected, but emergency calls are being rerouted, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) chairman told reporters October 30. Neither the telecom firms, which voluntarily reported the figures, nor the FCC estimated how many wireless and cable customers were affected. However, the FCC chief warned that service would likely get worse before it gets better. Further disruptions are expected as the storm moves west and north or if cell towers running on backup generators go down before electrical power is restored. Utility companies estimated that between 7 million and 8 million customers did not have power. Verizon Wireless, AT&T, Sprint Nextel, and T-Mobile USA all reported service problems, as did Cablevision Systems, Comcast, and Time Warner Cable.

Source: <http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2012/10/30/hurricane-sandy-wireless-cellphone-outage/1669921/>

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Commercial Facilities Sector

43. *October 31, WOWT 6 Omaha* – (Nebraska) **Bomb squad detonates live pipe bomb.** Police in Omaha, Nebraska, confirmed the Omaha Bomb Squad detonated a live PVC pipe bomb in a city park October 30. Responders were called out to Seymour Smith Park. Police said they found the pipe bomb in a wooded area, located near the skate park. Bomb Squad technicians set up a 300 foot perimeter and detonated the bomb. It was unclear how the bomb ended up in the park.

Source: <http://www.wowt.com/home/headlines/Bomb-Squad-Called-To-Park-176501151.html>

44. *October 31, Lima News* – (Ohio) **S.A.Y. Furniture store fire rekindles.** After a blaze destroyed S.A.Y. Furniture in Lima, Ohio, October 30, firefighters were on the scene again October 31. Fire smoldered where furniture was trapped underneath a collapsed roof October 31, the American Township fire chief said. He said the problem they faced was actually getting to the smoldering fire. Elida Road was closed both ways to accommodate the only fire hydrant across the street. It reopened shortly after firefighters were able to disconnect the hose. The S.A.Y. Furniture was open at the time the fire originally started October 30. He said there was one occupant, an employee, inside the building, but he self-evacuated. Although damage costs were unknown, he said the east end of the building was a total loss, with the roof completely collapsed from the front. The center part of the building, along with the west end of the building, he said, has smoke and water damage. The cause of the fire was also still unknown.

However, the fire chief said the explosion that many heard was due to high-tension power lines that caused power outages on Elida Road.

Source: http://www.limaohio.com/news/local_news/article_7c9aa56a-2359-11e2-8e1e-001a4bcf6878.html

45. *October 31, Associated Press* – (New York) **Breezy Point fire in Queens burns down neighborhood.** A tiny beachfront neighborhood told to evacuate before Hurricane Sandy hit New York City burned down as it was inundated by floodwaters. Charred foundations of 80 to 100 buildings were left in the sand at Breezy Point October 30, a coastal community on Jamaica Bay known for its marshland and shorebirds. Firefighters arrived at October 29 to find water chest-high in the streets, and used a boat to make rescues as orange flames engulfed home after home. The water and high winds whipping the coast from Sandy kept the blaze raging for several hours as firefighters hauled hoses while sloshing in ankle-high water. One firefighter suffered a minor injury and was taken to a hospital. Two civilians suffered minor injuries and were treated at the scene. Firefighters had to rescue several more, climbing onto an awning to take trapped people from an upstairs apartment with a roof that was catching fire from the house next door. A row of about 25 businesses burned with apartments above many of them. More than 190 firefighters were sent to the blaze, still putting out some pockets more than nine hours after it erupted, training hoses on the inside of a medical center. The neighborhood was among the low-lying areas the mayor said were a flood danger a day before Sandy came ashore. A security guard at an ocean apartment complex in nearby Rockaway Park, said about half of the 300 or so residents insisted on staying behind, noting that Irene did not hit the community hard a year ago amid the same warnings.

Source: http://abclocal.go.com/wls/story?section=news/national_world&id=8868001

46. *October 31, Bergen Record* – (New Jersey) **Rescue teams in Little Ferry today looking for people still stranded after tidal surge.** Rescue teams continued to knock on doors October 31 in Little Ferry, New Jersey, where floodwaters receded in some areas and cleanup efforts were underway. The Little Ferry police chief said teams will go door to door in the southern part of town where there was still several feet of water. A quarter of the residents of Moonachie and Little Ferry — 3,500 people — had been rescued by October 30. The water had rushed in at around midnight, just after many residents had gone to bed thinking they had survived Hurricane Sandy unscathed. The water poured through the narrow residential streets, crashing into the basements of small single-family homes and apartment complexes. Three-quarters of Little Ferry was affected by the flood, said the police chief. He said the town was prepared for heavy rains and had made sandbags available for residents, but said nobody expected the surge to overtake the flood control systems in the Meadowlands. The marshland has 35 levees, berms, and tide gates, but they did not stop the water. The mayor of Carlstadt said floodwaters had inundated most of 970 businesses in their industrial region — businesses, he said, that account for 82 percent of all the tax dollars coming to the borough. Warehouses owned by Coach and Donna Karan were affected

Source:

http://www.northjersey.com/news/bergen/Rescue_teams_in_Little_Ferry_this_morning_looking_for_people_stranded_in_flood_video.html?page=all

47. *October 30, WJW 8 Cleveland* – (Ohio) **Sandy sinks dozens of boats on Lake Erie.** The latest storm to hit northeast Ohio wreaked havoc on area marinas, WJW 8 Cleveland reported October 30. Turbulent waters tore apart docks in Edgewater, sinking an estimated 30 boats. At nearby Whiskey Island Marina, three power boats and four sail boats were under water while wind reduced some docks to scraps of wood. Damage estimates would not be available until the wind and rain subsides. Source: <http://fox8.com/2012/10/30/sandy-sinks-dozens-of-boats-on-lake-erie/>

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National Monuments and Icons Sector

48. *October 31, National Parks Traveler* – (National) **The aftermath of superstorm Sandy on the National Park System.** Nearly 70 National Park System units along the Eastern Seaboard were either fully or partially closed due to impacts from “superstorm Sandy,” and it could be days before some reopen, according to a statement by the National Park Service (NPS) October 31. There was extensive flooding in New York’s Battery Park. All electrical and mechanicals on Ellis Island were underwater and a fuel tank was dislodged. Liberty Island may have lost all high voltage equipment. In the Washington, D.C. area, all parks were closed with several reporting light damage and debris. At the Assateague Island National Seashore along the coast of Maryland and Virginia, most of the island was still underwater. The park remained closed October 31. At Valley Forge National Historical Park and Hopewell Furnace in Pennsylvania, both parks were without power. New Jersey’s Morristown National Historical Park was closed with hundreds of trees down. At Governor’s Island National Monument in New York, a dock was destroyed and buildings were filled with 2-3 feet of water. At Fire Island National Seashore in New York, NPS boardwalks were washed out at several locations. New Jersey’s Sandy Hook was closed and inaccessible. At Biscayne National Park, officials had to temporarily close Elliott Key because “extremely high tides and waves associated with Hurricane Sandy ... caused significant damage to the docks and oceanside boardwalk...” In Virginia, Shenandoah National Park was closed indefinitely due to storm damage, as was Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area in Pennsylvania. Several sections of the Appalachian National Scenic Trail were closed due to storm damage. Officials at the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park planned to open October 31. Source: <http://www.nationalparkstraveler.com/2012/10/updated-aftermath-superstorm-sandy-national-park-system10762>

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Dams Sector

49. *October 31, Quincy Patriot-Ledger* – (Massachusetts) **Sea-wall damage from Hurricane Sandy being assessed in Marshfield.** Town employees were to inspect the Marshfield, Massachusetts sea walls October 31 to determine the extent of damage caused by Hurricane Sandy. The storm surge October 29 damaged sea-wall cappings at Fieldston Beach and at the wall near Foster Avenue, a Marshfield police spokesman said. All other infrastructure in town appeared intact, he added. Marshfield's sea walls have failed against coastal storms in recent years, prompting the town to fund major repair projects. In May 2010, the sea wall off Surf Avenue between Constellation and Farragut roads fell apart. In October 2010, a section of wall between Constitution and Constellation roads started crumbling. In the past three years, town meeting voters have approved spending more than \$2.5 million to repair the town's failing sea walls. Source: <http://www.patriotledger.com/topstories/x2143898262/Sea-wall-damage-from-Hurricane-Sandy-being-assessed-in-Marshfield>
50. *October 31, Tacoma News Tribune* – (Washington) **Flood watch in effect on Puyallup River near Orting.** A flood watch was expanded October 31 to include two rivers in Pierce and King Counties, Washington, according to the National Weather Service. With heavy rain forecast to hit October 31, officials warned that the Puyallup River near Orting and the White River below the mud dam could possibly overflow. County officials were monitoring the water. The flood watch extended through October 31. Up to 2 inches could fall in Tacoma by the end of that day. Mountain areas like Paradise could see 4 inches, with the snow level rising to 7,000 or 8,000 feet. Source: <http://blog.thenewstribune.com/crime/2012/10/30/flood-watch-in-effect-on-puyallup-river-near-orting/>
51. *October 29, Albany Times Union* – (New York) **City dumps drinking water reservoirs.** New York City was dumping water October 29 from the Schoharie Reservoir and other reservoirs in its Catskill drinking water system as superstorm Sandy headed toward land. The goal was to leave more space in the reservoirs to catch rainfall and limit potential flooding downstream, according to the city Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). City officials were criticized in past storms for leaving reservoirs more full, which meant less rainfall could be collected there. At the 17.6-billion-gallon Schoharie Reservoir since October 26, after it became known that the storm could hit, DEP released 1.4 billion gallons of water, a department spokesman said, 8 percent of maximum capacity. The reservoir held 15.5 billion gallons October 29. DEP also was releasing water from the 123-billion-gallon Ashokan Reservoir in Ulster County, which was 78.5 percent full. In Sullivan County, the 35-billion-gallon Neversink Reservoir was beyond 100 percent capacity, and DEP officials continued to release water to lower it. 402 million gallons were dumped from the reservoir since October 25. At the Rondout Reservoir in Ulster and Sullivan counties, 600 million gallons of water a day were being released. The 49.6-billion-gallon reservoir was 93 percent full October 29. Source: <http://www.timesunion.com/default/article/City-dumps-drinking-water-reservoirs-3991282.php>

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