Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report
13 November 2012

Top Stories

- A gasoline rationing plan that lets motorists fill up every other day went into effect in New York November 9, as utility crews made some progress erasing new outages that put thousands of homes and businesses in the dark in a region still reeling from Superstorm Sandy. – *Associated Press* (See item **1**)
- Hundreds of millions of gallons of untreated or partially treated wastewater have flowed into New Jersey's waterways since Superstorm Sandy, affecting 1.4 million residents in 48 towns, the Associated Press reported November 8. – *Associated Press* (See item **28**)
- After 59 hang-up 9-1-1 calls in 2 days, police staked out and arrested a southern Nevada man they think made more than 3,600 phantom emergency calls during the past year, the Associated Press reported November 8. – *Associated Press* (See item **37**)
- Malware that disables computers and demands that hefty cash payments be paid to purported law-enforcement agencies before the machines are restored is extorting as much as $5 million from end-user victims, researchers said. – *Ars Technica* (See item **44**)

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. *November 9, Associated Press* – (Connecticut; New Jersey; New York) **Gas rationing begins in NY as power outages abate.** A gasoline rationing plan that lets motorists fill up every other day went into effect in New York November 9, as utility crews made some progress erasing new outages that put thousands of homes and businesses in the dark in a region still reeling from Superstorm Sandy. Police enforced the new system at filling stations in New York City and on Long Island as drivers turned out before dawn to line up for their rations. Gas was available to drivers with license-plate numbers ending in an odd number or a letter November 9. November 10, drivers with license plates that end in even numbers or zero could fuel up. Buses, taxis, and limousines, commercial vehicles, and emergency vehicles are exempt from the plan, as were people carrying portable gas cans. Only a quarter of the city's gas stations were open, the mayor said. Some were closed because they were out of power, others because they could not get fuel from terminals and storage tanks that could not unload their cargo. Snow blanketed several States from New York to New England and stymied recovery efforts from Superstorm Sandy as additional storm-weakened trees snapped and more power lines came down. The New York governor joined the calls for an investigation November 9, ripping the utilities as unprepared and badly managed. The utilities have said they are dealing with damage unprecedented in its scope and are doing the best they can. By November 9, there were more than 220,000 outages left in the New York area, mostly on Long Island, and about 250,000 in New Jersey. Almost all Connecticut residents had lights again, down from 625,000 at the storm's height.
   Source: http://wcfcourier.com/news/national/gas-rationing-begins-in-ny-power-outages-persist/article_8d7c15fc-c103-5e33-a072-7f06bf94d27f.html

2. *November 8, KOTV 6 Tulsa* – (Oklahoma) **Oil tanker crash shuts down downtown Tulsa highway ramp.** The northwest corner of the IDL was opened after a tanker truck wrecked November 8, spilling thousands of gallons of crude oil on the highway in Tulsa, Oklahoma. This happened where Highway 412 connects with Interstate 244 and the Tisdale Parkway. More than 10,000 gallons of crude oil were inside the tanker truck when it flipped on its side. The driver was not seriously injured but nearly 6,000 gallons of crude spilled on to the highway. For that, they dug trenches downstream of the wreck. The trenches kept the oil from the city's water drainage system, and specially trained crews then removed the oil from the trenches and into another tanker. Investigators said the driver of the truck was ticketed for speeding and the company that owns the truck was cited for having faulty equipment. The rear tires were practically bald, and most of the truck's other tires look the same. The trucking company, TIGA Logistics of Houston, was required to pay for the cleanup.
   Source: http://www.newson6.com/story/20040033/oil-tanker-crash-shuts-down-downtown-tulsa-highway

For another story, see item **29**

[Return to top]

Chemical Industry Sector

3. *November 9, Bloomberg Bureau of National Affairs* – (National) **PHMSA issues special permits for HAZMAT transport following Hurricane Sandy.** The Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA) issued several emergency special permits authorizing the shipment of hazardous materials, including gasoline and diesel fuel, in 13 States and the District of Columbia, the Bloomberg Bureau of National Affairs reported November 9. The special permit allows cargo tankers that previously transported other combustible liquids to transport gasoline in and through the hurricane disaster relief area. The special permit also exempts gasoline and diesel fuel shipments from shipping paper, marking, placarding, and security plan requirements, provided that the vehicle is escorted by law enforcement personnel. PHMSA also issued a special permit to Walmart to allow a one-time shipment of various hazardous materials from damaged retail stores affected by the hurricane. The hazardous materials will be transported from the damaged Walmart and Sam's Club stores to a temporary warehouse facility approximately 10 miles away.
Source: http://www.bna.com/phmsa-issues-special-n17179870834/

[Return to top]

Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector

4. *November 9, Reuters* – (Pennsylvania) **PPL shuts Susquehanna 2 reactor due to control system fault.** PPL Corp said it shut down its 1,190-megawatt Unit 2 at the Susquehanna nuclear power plant in Salem Township, Pennsylvania, November 9 after a computer system that controls the reactor's water level malfunctioned. "Operators manually shut down the reactor when they identified the malfunction," PPL said in a statement. During the outage, employees will address the control system malfunction and begin a previously scheduled turbine blade inspection, PPL said.
Source: http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/11/09/utilities-operations-ppl-susquehanna-idUSASA054ZT20121109

5. *November 9, CNN* – (International) **Cracks at South Korean nuclear plant raise fresh safety concerns.** Tiny cracks were found in tunnels at a nuclear plant in South Korea, increasing concerns about nuclear safety in the country following a recent scandal involving the use of unverified parts, CNN reported November 9. The reactor where the cracks were found will remain offline for weeks as regulators investigate the problem, putting extra strain on South Korea's already stretched power supply going into the winter months. The utility Korean Hydro & Nuclear Power Co. (KHNP) said it detected microscopic cracks in six control rod tunnels at Unit 3 of its Yonggwang nuclear plant in the southwest of the country. "The cracks are not serious and there is no risk of radiation leakage," said the head of the mechanics department at KHNP. The problem was discovered while the reactor was switched off for a regular 36-day maintenance period. But it will now stay out of service for a further 47 days as inspectors seek to determine the cause of the cracks, the South Korean Nuclear Safety and Security Commission said.
Source: http://www.cnn.com/2012/11/09/world/asia/south-korea-nuclear-reactor/

6. *November 8, Associated Press* – (National) **Top regulator supports re-evaluating earthquake risks at nuclear plants.** Recent earthquakes demonstrate the need for the country's nuclear industry to re-evaluate the geologic hazards facing power plants, a process that has already started, the new chair of the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) said the week of November 5. The NRC Chairwoman said in an interview that a spate of natural events shows the importance of further study. In March, the NRC instructed power companies to re-evaluate the seismic and flooding hazards that their power plants face in the wake of the Fukushima crisis and the East Coast earthquake in 2011. Nuclear plants in the eastern and central United States will have until the end of 2013 to finish the re-evaluation, she said. New evaluations for nuclear plants on the West Coast will take until 2015 to complete since they face more varied geologic conditions.
   Source: http://www.washingtonpost.com/business/top-regulator-supports-re-evaluating-earthquake-risks-at-nuclear-plants/2012/11/08/6ae1a43c-2a01-11e2-aaa5-ac786110c486_story.html

[Return to top]

Critical Manufacturing Sector

7. *November 9, U.S. Department of Transportation* – (National) **NHTSA recall notice - Jeep Grand Cherokee and Liberty air bag control module.** Chrysler announced a recall November 9 of 744,822 model year 2002 and 2003 Jeep Liberty vehicles manufactured from January 9, 2001 through March 28, 2003, and 2002 through 2004 Jeep Grand Cherokee vehicles manufactured from February 13, 2001 through May 23, 2003. A component in the air bag control module may fail causing the front airbags, side curtain airbags, and/or seatbelt pretensioners to deploy inadvertently while the vehicle is being operated. Inadvertent deployment of the airbags may increase the risk of injury and the possibility of a vehicle crash. Chrysler will notify owners, and dealers will install a supplemental jumper harness to the airbag control module, free of charge. The recall is expected to begin during January 2013.
   Source: http://www-odi.nhtsa.dot.gov/recalls/recallresults.cfm?start=1&SearchType=QuickSearch&rcl_ID=12V527000&summary=true&prod_id=203408&PrintVersion=YES+

8. *November 9, Associated Press* – (National) **Chrysler to fix stalling problem in midsize cars.** Chrysler is telling owners of more than 46,000 model year 2011 Chrysler 200 and Dodge Avenger cars to take them to dealers to fix a problem that can make the engines stall, the Associated Press reported November 9. Owners of the affected models are getting notices from the company. The cars have 3.6-Liter V-6 engines. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration began investigating in June after getting complaints from drivers. The safety agency and Chrysler received 161 complaints about stalling, mostly at low speeds. Investigators traced the cause to a computer that runs the pollution controls. Chrysler will reprogram the computer.
   Source: http://www.sanluisobispo.com/2012/11/09/2290358/chrysler-to-fix-stalling-problem.html

9. *November 8, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission* – (National) **LG Electronics recalls electric ranges due to burn and fire hazards.** The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, in cooperation with LG Electronics, November 8 announced a voluntary recall of about 161,000 LG Electric Ranges. Burners on the electric ranges can fail to turn off after being switched off and the temperature setting can increase unexpectedly during use, posing burn and fire hazards to consumers. LG has received 80 reports of incidents involving burners failing to turn off or the temperature setting increasing unexpectedly during use. The units were sold at Best Buy, Home Depot, Sears, and regional appliance retailers nationwide from January 2006 to June 2010. Consumers should immediately contact LG to schedule a free in-home repair. Consumers whose burner heat setting cannot be regulated by using the controls or who experience problems with a cooktop burner remaining on, should immediately stop using the recalled electric range until it is repaired.
   Source: http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml13/13031.html

10. *November 8, U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission* – (National) **Fireplaces and inserts recalled by Monessen Hearth Systems due to fire risk.** The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, in cooperation with Monessen Hearth Systems, November 8 announced a voluntary recall of about 15,000 Signature Command Controlled Direct and B-Vent Gas Fireplaces and Inserts. A control component in the fireplaces and inserts can prevent the unit from lighting though gas continues to flow, posing a fire hazard. The units were sold at hearth dealers and distributors nationwide between October 2011 and October 2012. Consumers should immediately stop using and turn off the fireplace using the master control switch on the command center which is located inside the control door. Consumers should contact Monessen Hearth Systems Company to arrange a free repair.
   Source: http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/prhtml13/13033.html

11. *November 7, U.S. Department of Labor* – (Ohio) **U.S Labor Department's OSHA cites B.W. Supply in Lyons, Ohio, for 25 health and safety violations, proposes more than $205,000 in fines.** The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) November 7 cited B.W. Grinding Co., doing business as B.W. Supply, for 25 safety and health – including three willful – violations at the company's Lyons, Ohio iron foundry. Proposed penalties totaled $205,100. Two willful health violations involved failing to implement a hearing conservation program for workers who perform grinding operations as well as a respirator protection program that includes medical evaluations for workers who are required to wear powered air-purifying respirators. One willful safety violation was failing to provide personal protective equipment for employees working around molten metal. Twenty serious safety and health violations and two other-than-serious health violations were also cited.
   Source:
   http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show_document?p_table=NEWS_RELEASES&p_id=23220

[Return to top]

Defense Industrial Base Sector

Nothing to report

[Return to top]

Banking and Finance Sector

12. *November 9, Reuters* – (International) **MoneyGram settles fraud allegations with DoJ.** Payment transfer company MoneyGram International Inc said it reached a $100 million settlement with U.S. authorities related to suspected fraudulent transactions by some agents, Reuters reported November 9. The settlement also involves the appointment of an independent compliance monitor. The U.S. Attorney's Office for the Middle District of Pennsylvania and the U.S. Department of Justice had accused MoneyGram of aiding wire fraud and failing to implement an effective anti-money laundering program, the company said. MoneyGram did not provide details of the allegations, which relate to transactions by third-party agents in the United States and Canada from 2003 to early 2009.
Source: http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/11/09/us-moneygram-fraud-idUSBRE8A80WO20121109

13. *November 8, Reuters* – (New York; National) **Longtime Madoff employee admits decades of fraud.** One of Bernard L. Madoff Investment Securities LLC's longest-serving employees pleaded guilty November 8 to falsifying records, a conspiracy that a prosecutor said began in the 1970s at the start of the multibillion-dollar Ponzi scheme. The man, a former controller, told a New York City federal court judge that for years he fudged the books on the company's founder's orders, but that at no point did he suspect the epic, decades-long fraud. The former controller, who signed a plea agreement with federal prosecutors, pleaded guilty to charges of conspiracy to commit securities fraud and falsifying documents. The man's son, another former employee, pleaded guilty in 2011 to criminal charges of bank fraud and charges that he reported people were employees so they could receive retirement benefits. The father joined the firm in 1964 and was the firm's first employee who was not a family member. Although he retired in 1998, he and his wife illegally remained on the payroll and received benefits but did not work. A prosecutor said that "as early as the mid 1970s" he had begun changing the financial records of accounts at the founder's direction.
Source: http://www.chicagotribune.com/business/sns-rt-us-madoff-controller-pleabre8a804e-20121108,0,3089269.story

14. *November 8, Chicago Sun-Times Media Wire* – (Illinois) **'Stringer Bell Bandit' strikes another Chicago bank.** A man dubbed the "Stringer Bell Bandit" — named after a character from the TV series The Wire — robbed his fifth bank in past in Chicago in the past month, the Chicago Sun-Times Media Wire reported November 8. The most recent robbery happened at a Citibank on North LaSalle Street, police said. The man is also suspected of robbing a Citibank branch on West Adams Street October 10, a Citibank branch on West Washington Street October 17, a PNC Bank branch on

West Monroe Street October 23, and a Fifth Third Bank branch on South Dearborn Street November 2, the FBI said. Weapons were not shown in the robberies, which were described as ”non-takeover.”
Source: http://chicago.cbslocal.com/2012/11/08/stringer-bell-bandit-strikes-another-chicago-bank/

15. *November 8, U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission* – (Louisiana) **SEC charges Baton Rouge-based investment adviser with hiding losses from mortgage-backed securities investments.** The U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) November 8 charged a hedge fund manager in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, with defrauding investors by hiding $32 million in losses suffered during the financial crisis from investments tied to residential mortgage-backed securities (RMBS). The SEC alleges that the man and his firm Commonwealth Advisors Inc. caused the hedge funds they managed to buy the lowest and riskiest tranches of a collateralized debt obligation (CDO) called Collybus. They sold mortgage-backed securities into the CDO at prices they had obtained 4 months earlier while knowing that the RMBS market had declined precipitously in the meantime. As the CDO investments continued to perform poorly, the man instructed Commonwealth employees to conduct a series of manipulative trades between the hedge funds they advised (called cross-trades) in order to conceal a $32 million loss experienced by one of the funds in its Collybus investment. He and Commonwealth lied to investors about the amount and value of mortgage-backed assets held in the hedge funds, and they created phony internal documents to justify their false valuations. He and employees under his direction also continued to cross-trade and create false gains to conceal their losses.
Source: http://www.sec.gov/news/press/2012/2012-222.htm

16. *November 8, U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission* – (California) **SEC charges executives and auditor of electronic game card company with fraud.** The U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) November 8 charged three executives with repeatedly lying to investors about the operations and financial condition of an Irvine, California-based company that purported to sell credit card-size electronic games. The SEC also charged the company’s independent auditor with facilitating the scheme. The SEC alleges that the company's chief executive officer (CEO) and chief financial officer (CFO) orchestrated a scheme in which Electronic Game Card Inc. (EGMI) enticed investors by claiming to have millions of dollars in annual revenue, hold millions of dollars in investments, and own an off-shore bank account worth more than $10 million. In reality, many of the company’s purported contracts were phony, the purported investments were merely in entities affiliated with the two executives, and the bank account did not exist. As a result of EGMI’s false claims, the company’s outstanding common stock was once valued as high as $150 million. EGMI is now bankrupt and its stock is worthless. The SEC charged the company’s outside auditor — certified public accountant — with repeatedly issuing clean audit opinions about EGMI based on reckless and deficient audit work. Also charged is a man who later replaced the CEO and ignored many red flags about the accuracy of the company’s public statements and the integrity of the former CEO and CFO. He provided false

information during conference calls with analysts and investors.
Source: http://www.sec.gov/news/press/2012/2012-223.htm

17. *November 8, Associated Press* – (Idaho; California) **AK-47 Bandit' hits Rexburg credit union.** The FBI said a robber who held up a Rexburg, Idaho credit union with an AK-47 rifle November 6 likely has hit other banks elsewhere in the country. The federal law enforcement agency released photos from the heist at the East Idaho Credit Union showing the man brandishing an assault rifle. Officials said the man is also known as the "AK-47 Bandit" and is suspected in robberies including a holdup in California in February in which he wounded a police officer. The subject entered the Rexburg bank wearing a mask, black gloves, a black coat with a hood, and baggy jeans during the robbery. After ordering employees into a vault, he was seen driving in a dark blue sedan on South Yellowstone Highway.
Source: http://seattletimes.com/html/localnews/2019640318_apidak47bandit.html

For another story, see item **34**

[Return to top]

Transportation Sector

18. *November 8, WAVY 10 Portsmouth* – (Virginia) **Local ports focus on evacuating cargo.** The Port of Virginia stopped receiving diverted vessels and cargo in the wake of Hurricane Sandy and was focused on dealing with the backlog the added cargo caused, WAVY 10 Portsmouth reported November 8. The Port of New York and New Jersey was closed for a week because of the storm. Virginia handled more than 6,000 containers from two diverted vessels, according to a spokesman. He said another 3,500 automobiles bound for the Northeast hub also came off in Virginia. “We are working to move the cargo to its destination by any means available: truck, rail, and barge," said the interim executive direction of the Virginia Port Authority. Before port officials received the call to help, they were in the process of clearing their own vessels in Hampton Roads backlogged because of Hurricane Sandy.
Source: http://www.wavy.com/dpp/news/local_news/norfolk/Local-port-focuses-on-evacuating-cargo

19. *November 8, Associated Press* – (Virginia) **Bus driver convicted in crash that killed 4 in Va.** A judge convicted a man of four counts of involuntary manslaughter in a crash that killed four and injured dozens along Interstate 95 in 2011, the Associated Press reported November 8. The witnesses said the erratic driving occurred for up to an hour as the driver drank coffee and Red Bull energy drinks. Finally, they said, he nodded off at the wheel and lost control of the low-fare Sky Express bus. The National Transportation Safety Board said in July that driver fatigue and other factors likely caused the crash. The board found that the driver had limited opportunities for quality sleep in the days leading up to the accident, and that ineffective government oversight allowed the Charlotte, North Carolina-based company to operate despite various safety violations. The board said U.S. Department of Transportation officials were in the

process of shutting down Sky Express at the time of the crash but had given the company an extra 10 days to appeal an unsatisfactory safety rating. Without the extension, Sky Express would have ceased operations the weekend before the crash. In June, government safety officials shut down more than two dozen similar curbside bus operations for safety violations in the largest single federal crackdown on the industry.
Source: http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2012/11/08/bus-accident-virginia/1692641/

20. *November 8, Associated Press* – (Arizona) **Plane returns to Phoenix after mechanical problem.** The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) said a mechanical problem was the reason why a Southwest Airlines flight to Ontario, California, had to return to Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport. Passengers aboard Flight 1015 told KTAR 92.3 FM Phoenix that a bird struck one of the plane's engines about 45 minutes into the flight November 8. But the FAA would not confirm the bird strike, saying only that the pilot declared an emergency due to an engine outage due to mechanical problems. FAA officials said the jet landed safely and passengers were put on a new plane.
Source: http://www.mercurynews.com/breaking-news/ci_21957712/plane-returns-phoenix-after-mechanical-problem

For more stories, see items **26** and **29**

[Return to top]

Postal and Shipping Sector

Nothing to report

[Return to top]

Agriculture and Food Sector

21. *November 8, Associated Press* – (National) **Drought tracker: Dryness worsens in Kan., Okla.** The worst U.S. drought in decades got worse in Kansas and Oklahoma, further frustrating ranchers and growers of winter wheat, an update from the U.S. Drought Monitor showed November 8. The latest map showed that dry conditions intensified in Kansas, the top U.S. producer of winter wheat. The update showed that the expanse of Kansas in extreme or exceptional drought climbed roughly 6 percentage points, to 83.8 percent. Three-quarters of hard-hit Oklahoma — another key winter wheat state — was mired in the two highest forms of drought, up 8 percentage points from the week of October 29. Thirty percent of Oklahoma's fledgling winter wheat crop was found to be in poor to very poor shape, a decline of 18 percentage points from the week of October 29, as topsoil moisture in the State continues to grow increasingly parched. Ninety-five percent of Nebraska and half of Iowa remained in the two worst drought categories, according to the update.

Source: http://www.businessweek.com/ap/2012-11-08/drought-tracker-dryness-worsens-in-kan-dot-okla-dot

22. *November 8, U.S. Food and Drug Administration* – (National) **NestlÃ© USA announces voluntary recall of NESQUIK Chocolate Powder.** NestlÃ© USA announced November 8 a voluntary recall of limited quantities of NestlÃ© NESQUIK Chocolate Powder in the 10.9, 21.8, and 40.7-ounce canisters, reported the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. The NESQUIK recall was the result of a calcium carbonate recall from supplier Omya, Inc. due to the possible presence of Salmonella. The products were distributed nationally, and have a best before date of October 2014.
Source: http://www.fda.gov/Safety/Recalls/ucm327533.htm

23. *November 8, Food Safety News* – (National) **Salmonella peanut butter outbreak hits 41.** A Food Safety News update reported November 9 that at least 41 people in 20 States have fallen ill in an outbreak of Salmonella linked to Trader Joe's Valencia Creamy Salted Peanut Butter made by Sunland, Inc. The case count rose by 3 people since last reported, with one new case each in New York, North Carolina, and Virginia. Since early October, Sunland voluntarily recalled hundreds of products featuring best by dates between March 31, 2010 and September 24, 2013.
Source: http://www.foodsafetynews.com/2012/11/salmonella-peanut-butter-outbreak-hits-41/

24. *November 7, WAVY 10 Portsmouth* – (Virginia) **Watermen affected by sewage spill.** Flooding from Hurricane Sandy resulted in a number of sewage treatment plants in Virginia overflowing into parts of the James River, the Lynnhaven River, the Nansemond River, and the Black River. "That sewage going into shellfish areas is a risk and so we had to close those areas for harvest," a spokesman from the Division of Shellfish Sanitation said according to a November 7 report by WAVY 10 Portsmouth. The harvest areas have been closed for 3 weeks, and watermen are suffering from the inability to harvest the shellfish. However, tests on some oyster samples cleared the way to resume the harvest for the Black River, Poquoson River, and a portion of the James River, WAVY reported. Other areas will remain closed for about another week.
Source: http://www.wavy.com/dpp/news/local_news/newport_news/watermen-affected-by-sewage-spill

[Return to top]

Water Sector

25. *November 9, Tulsa World* – (Oklahoma) **Broken Arrow fined by EPA for wastewater plant violations.** The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) fined Broken Arrow, Oklahoma, for shortcomings in its wastewater treatment plant's emergency preparedness plans, Tulsa World reported November 9. The $3,180 fine follows a June 11 inspection that found violations of the federal safety regulations governing facilities that handle large amounts of dangerous chemicals, according to EPA documents provided to the City Council. The Broken Arrow Wastewater

Treatment Plant is included in that category under the Clean Air Act because it uses chlorine. The EPA described the violations in a letter to the plant manager as "easily correctable," with most fixes pertaining to documentation. The EPA cited the plant for having an outdated emergency response plan, dated 1999; an undated hazard review document; no documentation for several possible chemical releases, responses or first aid procedures; and vague descriptions of several possible release scenarios in documented procedures. It also said plant workers were overdue for renewing their hazardous waste operations and emergency response training. Although not listed as a violation, the report adds that workers needed better certification documentation.
Source: http://www.tulsaworld.com/news/article.aspx?subjectid=11&articleid=20121109_12_A11_BROKEN978740

26. *November 8, WAVY 10 Portsmouth* – (Virginia) **Suffolk sewage leak stopped.** Officials with the Hampton Roads Sanitation District (HRSD) in Virginia said crews stopped a large sewage spill at Shingle Creek November 8 that was caused by Hurricane Sandy. More than 18 million gallons of untreated sewage spilled. Crews closed a portion of Wilroy Road to allow HRSD to begin repairs. According to HRSD officials, crews and contractors completed construction of an alternate piping system. According to the City of Suffolk, the 800 block of Wilroy Road will be closed at least until late November to allow for HRSD crews to finish repairs. Detours will be directed toward Nansemond Parkway, Progress Road, Suburban Drive, and Route 58. Scientists continue to monitor water quality. Residents living upstream and downstream from the break are asked to avoid recreational activities on the waterways.
Source: http://www.wavy.com/dpp/news/local_news/suffolk/suffolk-sewage-leak-capped

27. *November 8, Medical Daily* – (National) **Deadly 'superbug' found in water treatment plants.** Researchers from the University of Maryland and the University of Nebraska Medical Center found that at least four water treatment plants in the United States contain superbugs, the methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) and the methicillin-susceptible Staphylococcus aureus, Medical Daily reported November 8. The concern is that the plants are putting sewage workers at risk for contracting the bacteria, and that plants that do not treat water with chlorine may be leaving the most lethal strains. The four treatment plants in the Mid-Atlantic and the Midwest were treated effluent, in which wastewater with solids and some other impure substances, is used to irrigate and fertilize fields. The researchers wanted to discover whether MRSA could be spreading in that manner. The researchers found that 83 percent of the sewage in the plant was infected with the bacteria, and that 93 percent of MRSA was resistant to two or more antibiotics. However, as the treatment process continued, the number of bacteria declined. Only one plant had MRSA still alive at the end of the process; this one did not regularly chlorinate the water at their facility. The study was published in the journal Environmental Health Perspectives.
Source: http://www.medicaldaily.com/articles/13008/20121108/deadly-superbug-found-water-treatment-plants.htm

28. *November 8, Associated Press* – (New Jersey) **Sewage issues prompt call for NJ to curb water use.** Hundreds of millions of gallons of untreated or partially treated wastewater have flowed into New Jersey's waterways since superstorm Sandy hit the week of October 29, creating what the State's governor called "a huge problem" November 8. Most of the wastewater is coming from the crippled Passaic Valley Sewerage Commission (PVSC) system, which suffered power outages and flooding from Sandy, the State Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) said. November 8, the governors office and the DEP urged the 1.4 million residents in 48 towns served by the PVSC to restrict water use to reduce stress on the system. Right after the storm, the PVSC system was releasing 500 million gallons of untreated wastewater and stormwater a day into Newark Bay, a DEP spokesman said. The PVSC, after restoring power and repairing some of the damage the weekend of November 2, has been pumping 250 million gallons of partially treated wastewater per day through its normal route into New York Harbor. Utilities are not allowed to dump untreated or partially treated water into waterways unless an emergency exists, the DEP spokesman said. The Middlesex County Utility Authority's (MCUA) wastewater treatment system also sustained damage and has been pumping about 65 million gallons of untreated wastewater per day into the Raritan River, MCUA's executive director said November 8. The DEP issued a water restriction advisory to the 38 towns and 797,000 customers of MCUA November 6.
Source: http://www.timesunion.com/news/science/article/Residents-in-48-NJ-towns-asked-to-reduce-water-use-4020252.php

29. *November 8, Baltimore Sun* – (Maryland) **'River' subsides, Charles Street businesses re-open.** After a day in which they temporarily became waterfront businesses, shops and cafes on North Charles Street in Baltimore began reopening November 8, when the river created by a massive water main break at 20th Street receded. Some businesses remained idled, though, as Baltimore Gas and Electric Co. (BGE) cut off a gas line to 46 commercial and residential buildings in the vicinity of Charles and 20th Street to accommodate crews repairing the nearby broken water main. Crews began restoring gas to some of those customers the evening of November 8, and more were scheduled to be restored November 9, BGE said. By the evening rush hour, cars were allowed back on Charles up to North Avenue, where it was blocked off for the two blocks up to 21st Street. Remaining closed to vehicular traffic were the westbound lanes of North Avenue between St. Paul Street, and Charles and Lanvale Street between St. Paul and Maryland Avenue. Lafayette Street was re-opened to through traffic. Crews were able to begin pumping water that had collected in the void under the street where the main had broken, said a spokesman for the city's Department of Public Works. He said homes and businesses in the area are not likely to lose water service as repairs continue, although water pressure may be down. The city does not have an estimate for how long the repairs might take.
Source: http://articles.baltimoresun.com/2012-11-08/news/bs-md-ci-water-main-update-20121108_1_charles-street-baltimore-gas-massive-water

[Return to top]

Public Health and Healthcare Sector

30. *November 9, Charlestown Patch* – (Massachusetts) **Pharmacy director subpoenaed in meningitis outbreak.** The director and co-founder of New England Compounding Center, the pharmacy connected to the deaths of up to 30 people, was subpoenaed to appear at State House and Senate hearings the week of November 12 on how his company's tainted steroids could have caused hundreds of people to contract meningitis, the Charlestown Patch reported November 9. He has indicated that he will not appear voluntarily at the hearings, according to the Associated Press. Food and Drug Administration officials and experts at the Centers for Disease Control are also expected to testify.
    Source: http://charlestown.patch.com/articles/pharmacy-director-subpoenaed-in-meningitis-outbreak-investigation-1a083bce

31. *November 8, WRAL 5 Raleigh* – (North Carolina) **Fatal Durham Hospital fire ruled accidental.** A fatal fire that erupted during a defibrillation procedure at Durham Regional Hospital in Durham, North Carolina, November 6 was an accident, investigators said November 8. Preliminary findings indicated a spark happened during an attempt to revive a patient, who was critically ill. The fire was initially reported to 9-1-1 as an explosion, and callers described a chaotic, smoke-filled scene. Investigators have said the sprinkler system functioned properly and hospital employees responded appropriately to the incident.
    Source: http://www.wral.com/deadly-durham-hospital-fire-ruled-accidental/11753038/

[Return to top]

Government Facilities Sector

32. *November 9, Bandera Bulletin* – (Texas) **Courthouse evacuated after bomb threat.** A suspected hoax took place November 2 in Bandera, Texas, after a bomb threat forced the evacuation of the county courthouse and courthouse annex. According to a police captain, an unnamed man upset with a woman he believed was from Bandera County threatened to blow up the courthouse and kill certain county officials. The captain said the caller and woman met on an Internet chat site. After stating the woman offended and disrespected him, the caller said he wanted her identified and prosecuted, and that he would take action against Bandera County and its schools if officials did not follow through. The courthouse, as well as the annex that houses the county tax and election offices were evacuated. The county judge was guarded by deputies until the courthouse was cleared. November 3, the caller again phoned the Sheriff's Office and threatened to kill a specific county official unless all Bandera County inmates were released. “After another extensive conversation with the caller, the caller retracted all of his previous threats,” the captain said in a press release. ”The caller claimed to have been responsible for several of the notable bomb threats all over the United States in recent history. The caller stated that he just calls in 'hoaxes.'” Walmart administrators in Boerne, Hondo, and Kerrville also received bomb threats and evacuated the stores. Investigators believe the Bandera County caller may be responsible for those threats, as

well.
Source: http://www.banderabulletin.com/news/article_ed7e8836-2a7b-11e2-acd7-0019bb2963f4.html

33. *November 8, Lancaster Newspapers* – (Pennsylvania) **Fire closes Penn Manor high school.** Penn Manor High School in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, was closed November 9 to students, faculty, and staff. A fire November 8 in a clothes dryer filled the school with smoke. More than a dozen rescue vehicles responded to the fire, and emergency workers used fans to help ventilate the building. Classes were delayed 3 hours. "Due to the amount of smoke in the building, the district is working with a fire restoration company to perform cleanup work," the superintendent said in an announcement made November 8. "The full extent of the work will take a number of weeks, but we would like to conduct extensive work Friday, Saturday and Sunday," he said.
Source: http://lancasteronline.com/article/local/773286_Fire-closes-Penn-Manor-high-school.html

34. *November 7, U.S. Department of Justice* – (Missouri) **Three are convicted of fraud involving recovery funds.** Extensive investigations by Inspectors General and U.S. Attorneys resulted in guilty pleas from three Missouri business owners who falsely claimed to be service-disabled veterans in order to win special federal contracts of more than $5 million in Recovery Act funding, according to a November 7 U.S. Department of Justice release. One defendant brazenly pretended to be a service-disabled veteran decorated for combat wounds suffered in the Vietnam War. The other two falsely claimed to be service-disabled vets and also bribed a federal official with $20,000 of goods and services that included “entertainment at a local gentlemen’s club,” according to prosecutors. The first man, who fraudulently claimed he was decorated for service and being wounded in combat, ran a construction firm was able to win $6.7 million in Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business (SDVOSB) Program contracts. The two other defendants, partners in a St. Louis contracting firm, set up a shell-company they falsely said was owned and operated by service-disabled veterans. Additionally, they bribed an official at the St. Louis VA Medical Center who helped steer SDVOSB Program contracts to the shell company. The shell-company was able to secure $3.4 million in SDVOSB Program contracts, including a Recovery funded contract for $654,000 for work on the VA Medical Center.
Source: http://www.stopfraud.gov/iso/opa/stopfraud/DC-121107.html

[Return to top]

Emergency Services Sector

35. *November 9, Associated Press* – (New Mexico) **Albuquerque officer's uniform stolen.** Police said an Albuquerque, New Mexico officer's police uniform was stolen from his home during a burglary. KOAT 7 Albuquerque reported that a burglar struck the officer's home November 7 and the Albuquerque police chief fears the thief may try to impersonate a police officer. He said there are at least four stolen uniforms that are out on the streets that have the patches and the insignia of the Albuquerque Police

Department. The stolen uniform comes after police said the week of November 5 that a thief took off with a semi-automatic assault rifle, body armor, and several other items from a detective's truck while he was playing golf. Police said they recovered those items.
Source: http://www.sfgate.com/news/crime/article/Police-Albuquerque-officer-s-uniform-stolen-4023100.php

36. *November 9, Associated Press* – (Massachusetts) **Boston paramedic accused of stealing drugs.** A former Boston paramedic pleaded not guilty to stealing and tampering with painkillers and sedatives from ambulances and locked drug storage areas. He was released without bail after his arraignment on 73 counts November 9 in Suffolk Superior Court, on the condition that he allow himself to be fingerprinted and photographed by police and that he not work as a paramedic or EMT while his case is pending. Prosecutors allege during the summer of 2011 he stole painkillers and sedatives intended for patients being transported, and in some cases replaced the medications he stole with other liquids. Prosecutors said 10 people received diluted drugs but there is no evidence anyone was harmed by the paramedic's actions. His lawyer said he "vehemently" denies the charges.
Source: http://www.mysanantonio.com/news/crime/article/Boston-paramedic-accused-of-stealing-drugs-4023476.php

37. *November 8, Associated Press* – (Nevada) **Nevada man accused of making phantom 911 calls.** After 59 hang-up 9-1-1 calls in 2 days, police staked out and arrested a southern Nevada man they think made more than 3,600 phantom emergency calls during the past year. A Henderson police spokesman said November 8 that detectives questioned the man before, but he always denied making the calls or blamed them on others using his phone. November 7, detectives confronted the man after watching him allegedly make a call to the city's 9-1-1 dispatch center. The police spokesman said he later told police his phone was broken and dialed 9-1-1 by itself. He is being held at the Henderson jail on 59 counts of unlawful use of an emergency phone number. Police said he could face 1 year in jail and a $2,000 fine on each charge.
Source: http://www.timesunion.com/news/crime/article/Nevada-man-accused-of-making-phantom-911-calls-4021507.php

38. *November 8, KRQE 13 Albuquerque* – (New Mexico) **Aged station crowds firefighter's work, lives.** Firefighters in Rio Rancho, New Mexico, said their station and living quarters are in need of a restoration, KRQE 13 Albuquerque reported November 8. That is just one of a long list of reasons fire officials are calling on the State to fund a station renovation. Officials said the sewage system is going bad, and even the station's own fire-protection system is outdated. Fire officials said both the city and the county will request $1 million from the State for a complete station renovation.
Source: http://www.krqe.com/dpp/news/politics/aged-station-crowds-firefighters-work-lives

[Return to top]

Information Technology Sector

39. *November 9, Softpedia* – (International) **Joomla 3.0.2 and 2.5.8 available for download, security fixes included.** The Joomla Project released Joomla 3.0.2 and Joomla 2.5.8. Both variants come with a number of improvements, including fixes for security issues. In Joomla 3.0.2, a medium priority cross-site scripting (XSS) vulnerability that affected the language search component was fixed. In the 2.5.8 version of Joomla, nine tracker issues were fixed, along with a clickjacking vulnerability caused by "inadequate protection."
Source: http://news.softpedia.com/news/Joomla-3-0-2-and-2-5-8-Available-for-Download-Security-Fixes-Included-305842.shtml

40. *November 9, The Register* – (International) **Windows 8, Surface slabs already need critical security patch.** Microsoft will release critical updates for Windows 8 and other software on November's Patch Tuesday the week of November 12. The upgrades will arrive within weeks of the Windows 8 launch at the end of October. All supported versions of the Windows operating system from XP SP3 up to and including Windows 8 and Windows Server 2012 will need patching to close three security holes that enable hackers to execute malicious code remotely on vulnerable systems. The fourth critical patch will address a vulnerability in Internet Explorer 9 on Windows 7, Vista, and Server 2008. Two of the updates for November will also patch Windows 8 RT as used in Microsoft's new Surface tablet laptop. Microsoft's security experts also lined up an "important" update that corrects a remote-code execution bug in Excel in Microsoft Office 2010, 2007, and 2003. A sixth update, labelled "moderate" in severity, prevents information leaking from Windows Vista, 7, and Server 2008.
Source: http://www.theregister.co.uk/2012/11/09/nov_patch_tuesday_pre_alert/

41. *November 9, The Register* – (International) **Bloke flogged $1.2m of pirated Microsoft gear on eBay, say Feds.** A man from Atlanta, Michigan, was charged with selling counterfeit Microsoft software valued at more than $1.2 million. He is accused of five counts of criminal copyright infringement and one count of mail fraud over the alleged resale of pirated software sourced from east Asia. According to his charge sheet, the man unlawfully distributed Microsoft Office 2003 Professional and Microsoft Windows XP Professional by purchasing dodgy copies of the products from China and Singapore, and then sold the software through auctions on eBay. He allegedly made at least $140,000 through selling more than 2,500 copies of Microsoft programs between May 2008 and September 2010 before he was arrested. If convicted, he faces up to 45 years in prison and $1.5 million in fines.
Source:
http://www.theregister.co.uk/2012/11/09/ebay_counterfeit_ms_software_prosecution/

42. *November 8, ZDNet* – (International) **Twitter user passwords reset after accounts breached.** An unknown number of Twitter users received a genuine email from the company warning they should change their password as soon as possible. However, a Twitter spokesperson told ZDNet that the email was sent to a wider group of users than intended. In the email, the microblogging company noted: "Twitter believes that your

account may have been compromised by a website or service not associated with Twitter. We've reset your password to prevent others from accessing your account." It remains unclear how many users were affected by the password reset email or what caused the mass emailing of Twitter's users. A post November 7 noted that in some cases when "large numbers of Twitter accounts have been hijacked," the company sends out these emails en masse; even sending messages to accounts that may not have been affected by any hack or hijack to err on the side of caution.
Source: http://www.zdnet.com/twitter-user-passwords-reset-after-accounts-breached-7000007108/

43. *November 8, Softpedia* – (International) **Experts find DOM-based XSS vulnerability in Google.com.** Security researchers from Minded Security identified a document object model (DOM)-based cross-site scripting (XSS) vulnerability on Google.com. The security hole was identified with the aid of DOMinatorPro — a runtime JavaScript DOM XSS analyzer. According to the researchers, DOMinatorPro revealed a piece of code in googleadservices.com /pagead/landing.js which used invalidated input to build the argument for two "document.write " calls. They found that the buggy JavaScript was utilized by google.com/toolbar/ie/index.html (both HTTP and HTTPS). "[This] means that one more time a (almost) 3rd party script introduces a flaw in the context of an unaware domain," a researcher from Minded Security explained. He suggested a workaround, but Google decided to address this issue by removing the problematic script altogether.
Source: http://news.softpedia.com/news/Experts-Find-DOM-Based-XSS-Vulnerability-in-Google-com-305585.shtml

44. *November 8, Ars Technica* – (International) **Mushrooming ransomware now extorts $5 million a year.** Malware that disables computers and demands that hefty cash payments be paid to purported law-enforcement agencies before the machines are restored is extorting as much as $5 million from end-user victims, researchers said. The estimate, contained in a report published November 8 by researchers from antivirus provider Symantec, is being fueled by the mushrooming growth of so-called ransomware. Once infected, computers become unusable and often display logos of local law-enforcement agencies, along with warnings that the user has violated statutes involving child pornography or other serious offenses. The warnings then offer to unlock the computers if users pay a fine as high as $200 within 72 hours. The report identified at least 16 different ransomware versions spawned by competing malware gangs. Many are completely different families of malware, rather than multiple variants of the same family, and most have their own unique behavior.
Source: http://arstechnica.com/security/2012/11/mushrooming-growth-of-ransomware-extorts-5-million-a-year/

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

See item **29**

[Return to top]

Commercial Facilities Sector

45. *November 8, Associated Press* – (New York) **Feds: NY man planted Home Depot bomb to extort $2M.** An employee planted a working pipe bomb in the lighting department of a Huntington, New York Home Depot as part of a plot to extort $2 million from the company, a federal prosecutor said November 8. The employee was arrested November 7 and charged with attempted extortion and the use of a destructive device. In an anonymous letter, the employee notified the manager of the Home Depot that he had placed a bomb there. The police were able to find it, took it away, and detonated it. But the employee's letter said he only wanted to prove he could plant a bomb without being detected. He then threatened to set off three more bombs at Home Depots on Long Island if he did not get the money, prosecution said. The letter said those bombs would shut down the stores on Black Friday. Each would hold a pound of roofing nails, according to the complaint. After a second letter was sent, lowering the ransom demand to $1 million and setting a drop date for October 26, investigators were able to identify and arrest the employee.
Source: http://www.salon.com/2012/11/08/feds_ny_man_planted_home_depot_bomb_to_extort_2m/

For another story, see item **32**

[Return to top]

National Monuments and Icons Sector

Nothing to report

[Return to top]

Dams Sector

Nothing to report

[Return to top]

NTAS
National Terrorism Advisory System
NO ACTIVE ALERTS
www.DHS.gov/alerts

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