



Homeland
Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report

4 June 2012

Top Stories

- A coal mine run by the former operators of the Kentucky Darby mine, where a 2006 explosion killed five miners, was closed for 9 days in May after a surprise inspection found numerous safety violations. – *Louisville Courier-Journal* (See item [3](#))
- A day after American Eagle mechanics gave a clean bill of health to a plane that made an emergency return to Chicago's O'Hare International Airport because of a landing gear problem, the same aircraft was forced to turn around in flight and land at O'Hare again because of a similar issue. – *Oklahoma City Oklahoman* (See item [16](#))
- Starting June 4, the meat industry will have to test raw beef trimmings for six new strains of E. coli that have been linked to a growing number of illnesses. – *Associated Press* (See item [19](#))
- Experts said a Wisconsin study that shows a connection between viruses in drinking water and human illness is likely to have a national impact and could lead to federal rules requiring treatment of all public water systems. – *Wisconsin State Journal* (See item [20](#))
- Thousands of people in three Oregon coastal communities held their first tsunami evacuation drill May 31. Experts have said an earthquake in the area could result in the area being hit by a 40-foot tsunami. – *Associated Press* (See item [34](#))
- The Berkeley County Coroner's Office confirmed three people were killed May 31 after an explosion and fire destroyed 16 units at an apartment building in Goose Creek, South Carolina. – *WCSC 5 Charleston* (See item [42](#))
- Proposed repairs for Montana's Fort Peck Dam hammered by Missouri River flooding in 2011 would cost more than \$225 million, according to federal cost estimates. However, officials said they are able to afford only \$46 million for damage assessments and repair work for now. – *Associated Press* (See item [50](#))

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Energy Sector

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: Physical: LOW, Cyber: LOW

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) - <http://www.esisac.com>]

1. *June 1, Mid-Hudson News Network* – (New York) **Thousands of gallons of gas spill when tanker truck overturns.** Nearly 3,000 gallons of gasoline spilled when a tractor-trailer tanker truck overturned on Route 82 in Union Vale, New York, May 31. Residents in a half mile radius of the scene were evacuated. The Dutchess County Sheriff's Office said the driver took evasive action when a vehicle coming the other way crossed into his lane. The tanker was carrying different petroleum products, but a State Environmental Conservation Department spokeswoman said only gasoline spilled, with some running into a storm drain that fed into a stream, resulting in a fish kill downstream in Sprout Creek. A utility pole was also damaged in the accident, resulting in wires coming down and Central Hudson sending a crew to the scene. Many agencies were on the scene including Dutchess County Emergency Response, Dutchess HAZMAT, State DEC, State Office of Emergency Management, Dutchess County Soil and Water, and the Dutchess Health Department.
Source: http://www.midhudsonnews.com/News/2012/June/01/fuel_spill-01Jun12.html
2. *May 31, Associated Press* – (Northeast) **Downed trees blamed for most outages in Oct. storm.** Downed trees rather than transmission system problems were largely to blame for widespread power outages during a freak October snowstorm in the Northeast in 2011, a report by federal regulators and a utility group said May 31. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and North American Electric Reliability Corp. also said inaccurate weather forecasts led utilities to initially rely on their own crews rather than call for mutual aid, delaying repair work. The report said in the Pennsylvania-to-Maine region, 74 transmission lines and 44 transmission substations experienced outages. Those problems caused less than 5 percent of customer outages at the peak of the October 29-30 storm, which left more than 3.2 million homes and

businesses without power. The report said nearly three-quarters of the transmission line outages occurred when trees fell onto power lines, and many of the trees were beyond utilities' rights-of-way. The report recommends more tree-cutting and increasing the reporting of outages caused by vegetation.

Source: <http://www.businessweek.com/ap/2012-05/D9V3P8D02.htm>

3. *May 31, Louisville Courier-Journal* – (Kentucky) **Mine run by former Darby operators temporarily closed.** A coal mine run by the former operators of the Kentucky Darby mine, where a 2006 explosion killed five miners, was closed for 9 days in May after a surprise Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) safety blitz uncovered dozens of dangerous safety violations, the Louisville Courier-Journal reported May 31. The May 16 inspection of K and D Mining Inc.'s Mine No. 17 in Harlan County, Kentucky, found little or no ventilation where miners were working, thick accumulations of coal dust that can cause black lung and explosions, a broken methane gas warning light, conveyor belts that were covered in coal dust that was as much as 9 inches deep in places and rubbing against metal (a potential fire danger), and a mining machine with 22 electrical violations. In addition, the main track into the mine was not properly maintained, miners were working under unsupported roofs, fire suppression equipment failed to work, the backup power generator for the mine did not start, trash and other combustible material was piled up in one of the mine's escape routes, and the locations of breathing devices were not properly marked, MSHA inspectors found.

Source:

<http://www.greenbaypressgazette.com/usatoday/article/55318256?odyssey=mod|newswell|text|GPG-News|p>

4. *May 31, Associated Press* – (Washington) **BP's Wash. refinery back to work after Feb. fire.** A BP refinery in Washington State that shut down after a February fire has resumed normal operations. A BP spokesman said May 31 that repairs and maintenance were completed in May at the Cherry Point refinery near Blaine. The 3-month outage was cited as one reason that gasoline prices have been higher on the West Coast than the rest of the nation. BP Cherry Point is the third-largest refinery on the West Coast. It produces 20 percent of Washington's gasoline needs and supplies the majority of jet fuel for Sea-Tac, Portland and Vancouver, British Columbia, airports. The refinery was hit by a fire February 17.

Source: <http://www.businessweek.com/ap/2012-05/D9V3QIV04.htm>

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Chemical Industry Sector

5. *June 1, Baton Rouge Advocate* – (Louisiana) **Chemical complex loses power.** The CF Industries nitrogen complex near Donaldsonville, Louisiana, remained without power the night of May 31 after strong winds knocked out electricity in the early afternoon, a company official said. Straight-line winds or a possible tornado knocked out power to

most of the plant, said CF's human resources manager. He said the plant is designed to shut down in a controlled fashion when something such as a major loss of power happens, noting there was no danger of an explosion. The plant is the largest nitrogen fertilizer-producing complex in North America, the company said. Its products include urea, urea ammonium nitrate solution, and ammonia, according to annual financial filings. CF Industries does not generate its own power and relies on Entergy Corp, the human resources manager said. Severe weather caused damage to some distribution facilities, a utility spokesman said. The Donaldsonville fire chief said his department received reports that residents smelled ammonia vapors, although State environmental officials could not confirm that ammonia was released into the air.

Source: <http://theadvocate.com/home/2981068-125/cf-industries-loses-power-in>

6. *June 1, Associated Press* – (Mississippi) **1 person killed, 2 injured in explosion at Pascagoula plant.** One person was killed and two injured in an explosion June 1 at the Mississippi Phosphates plant in Pascagoula, Mississippi. The Jackson County sheriff said the steam explosion occurred in the work yard. The State on-scene coordinator for the State Department of Environmental Quality said there was no danger to the public or the environment. He said plant officials reported no chemical release. May 21, an explosion at the plant killed an employee. Company officials said the June 1 accident occurred during a maintenance procedure in a portion of the plant that was not operational at the time. Madison, Mississippi-based Mississippi Phosphates manufactures a fertilizer, diammonium phosphate, at the Pascagoula facility.
Source: <http://www.clarionledger.com/article/20120601/NEWS/120601012/1-person-killed-2-injured-explosion-Pascagoula-plant>
7. *June 1, Associated Press* – (Michigan) **Michigan DEQ approves Dow Chemical Co. plan for cleaning dioxin-tainted soil in Midland yards.** The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) accepted Dow Chemical Co.'s plan for cleaning up properties contaminated by dioxins from its Midland plant, the Associated Press reported June 1. Residential areas in the mid-Michigan city were polluted by airborne emissions from the plant for much of the 20th century. The company and the DEQ agreed on a cleanup framework in February after years of negotiations. Dow later submitted a detailed work plan, which the DEQ approved June 1. It calls for sampling soil on around 1,400 properties, most of them residential but some vacant. Those with dioxin levels higher than 250 parts per trillion will be eligible for soil replacement and new landscaping.
Source:
<http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/1147ecbafadf4aac927941376621cec0/MI--Dow-Dioxin>
8. *June 1, Wheeling Intelligencer; Wheeling News-Register* – (West Virginia) **Fire temporarily shuts down portion of PPG plant.** A May 31 fire at PPG's Natrium. West Virginia plant left the plant temporarily closed as officials evaluated the extent of the damage. The fire occurred at a facility that creates calcium hypochlorite, which is used in water treatment applications. A PPG spokesman said the facility was evacuated and the on-site PPG fire brigade responded and extinguished the fire within 30 minutes. During the fire, traffic along W. Va. 2 was closed for about 20 minutes. The spokesman

said one employee was treated for chlorine inhalation at a first aid center on site and released. He said while there are no environmental concerns or health risks, a fence line monitoring system detected low levels of chlorine. Though the levels were low enough to not present any risks, PPG staff May 31 implemented off-site precautionary measures. In the meantime, the facility remained closed as officials evaluated the damage and searched for a cause of the fire. Area fire departments and the fire team from Bayer Corporation also responded.

Source: <http://www.theintelligencer.net/page/content.detail/id/570541/Fire-Temporarily-Shuts-Down-Portion-of-PPG-Plant.html?nav=510>

9. *May 31, Associated Press* – (National) **Judge gives preliminary OK to herbicide settlement.** A federal judge in southern Illinois gave preliminary approval to a \$105 million settlement between Syngenta and community water systems in six States over the presence of one of the Swiss chemical maker's popular agricultural herbicides in drinking water. He ruled May 30 the deal in the nearly 8-year-old lawsuit over weed-killing atrazine appears to be a good compromise. The agreement could help reimburse nearly 2,000 community water systems that have had to filter the chemical from its drinking water or pay to test for it, the attorney behind the class-action lawsuit said. The lawsuit was pressed by community water systems from at least a half-dozen States — Illinois, Iowa, Indiana, Kansas, Missouri, and Ohio — that have sought to have the company reimburse them for filtering atrazine. As part of the deal, 1,887 community water systems serving more than 52 million Americans may be eligible to make a claim, the attorney said. With the judge's action, notice of the settlement will be sent to class members, with the judge to make a final determination October 22. Syngenta said it agreed to settle the matter "to end the business uncertainty" and avoid further legal costs. Under the settlement, the company will continue to sell atrazine to U.S. corn growers and denies any liability linked to the chemical, which Syngenta said is used in more than 60 countries and has been marketed in the United States since 1959. Research has shown runoff after rainstorms can wash the chemical — used for decades to kill grasses and broadleaf weeds — into streams and rivers, where it can enter drinking water supplies.

Source: <http://www.businessweek.com/ap/2012-05/D9V3PI9O3.htm>

10. *May 31, WABI 5 Bangor* – (Maine) **Chemical spilled from Bucksport train derailment downgraded.** Maine officials said a lot less paper-making chemical leaked from two train cars that overturned into the Penobscot River in Bucksport than originally estimated. The Maine Department of Environmental Protection said May 31 about 100 to 1,000 gallons spilled in the May 25 derailment. At first officials thought it might be as much as 6,000 gallons. The Pan Am Railways train was headed to the Verso Paper Mill when four cars derailed. The chemical that spilled was a form of liquid latex used to help coat paper during production. The two tanks with the latex were emptied May 30. Two other derailed cars with other chemicals were drained May 31. Officials said that over the next few days, three of the four train cars will be moved into the river and pulled out by a crane. The fourth will be lifted up the embankment.

Source: <http://www.wabi.tv/news/30578/chemical-spilled-from-bucksport-train-derailment-downgraded>

11. *May 31, WHBQ 13 Memphis* – (Tennessee) **Firefighters battle chemical blaze.** May 31, firefighters in Memphis, Tennessee, responded to a smoky fire coming from the front of Mid Continental Lab, a material testing company. The choking billows of ash and smoke were accompanied by a piercing chemical smell that forced the 40 firefighters at the scene to don masks with oxygen tanks. The contents of the lab, packets of radioactive material, generated special concern. Firefighters determined Cesium 137, a low level radioactive material, burned in the fire. Due to the low quantities, they concluded it was low risk to personnel, but they pulled them out for safety. It took fire crews about 40 minutes to extinguish the fire. The business was destroyed in the fire, which an owner said ignited in outside storage sheds. She said they got all of the gauges out of the shed, except for one.

Source: <http://www.myfoxmemphis.com/dpp/news/local/firefighters-battle-chemical-blaze-rpt-20120531>

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector

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Critical Manufacturing Sector

Nothing to report

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

12. *June 1, PC Pro* – (National) **Chipmaker denies inserting backdoor into silicon.** Chipmaker Microsemi denied suggestions it deliberately put a backdoor into ProASIC3 chips following the discovery of a weakness by a University of Cambridge researcher, PC Pro reported June 1. The denial follows speculation over the origins and purpose of a backdoor that could allow hackers to alter field programmable gate arrays used in military and other applications. Although Microsemi said it could neither confirm nor deny the details of the attack because the Cambridge researchers had not provided technical details necessary for a full investigation, it said “Microsemi can confirm that there is no designed feature that would enable the circumvention of the user security.” However, the Cambridge research team is sticking by its assertion that the backdoor remains a weakness and that only redesigned silicon would properly fix the problem.

Source: <http://www.pcpro.co.uk/news/374962/chipmaker-denies-inserting-backdoor-into-silicon>

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Banking and Finance Sector

13. *May 31, Associated Press* – (Texas) **Harlingen man pleads guilty in cash bank fraud.** A man faced up to 30 years in prison in a bank fraud scheme using more than a dozen fake identities, the Associated Press reported May 31. Prosecutors in Brownsville, Texas, said the man pleaded guilty to defrauding USAA Federal Savings Bank. Authorities said the man opened two dozen checking and savings accounts using 19 different IDs during 2011. He used stolen account information from other financial institutions to seek credit card cash advances and fund the USAA accounts. He would then request debit cards for those USAA accounts and withdraw the cash. Investigators said the case involved nearly \$187,000 in fraudulent cash advances from several banks and credit unions.
Source: <http://www.kiiiiv.com/story/18667730/harlingen-man-pleads-guilty-in-cash-bank-fraud>
14. *May 31, Chicago Tribune* – (Illinois) **Off-duty cop's 911 call helps nab suspect in 5 bank robberies.** An off-duty Chicago police lieutenant in the drive-through lane of a Chicago bank called 9-1-1 when he saw it being robbed by a man also suspected in four previous robberies and an attempted robbery, authorities said May 31. The man was charged in the robbery of \$3,480 from a FirstMerit Bank branch in Chicago May 30, and after his arrest admitted to robbing four other banks and trying to rob another one in August 2011, according to an FBI affidavit. The man threatened tellers with a gun, but he later told law enforcement officers that it was a fake. Dye-pack stained cash and a BB gun were found in the man's garage after he was arrested.
Source: <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/local/breaking/chi-offduty-cops-911-call-helps-nab-suspect-in-5-bank-robberies-20120531,0,624991.story>
15. *May 31, Fort Lauderdale Sun Sentinel* – (Florida) **Eight charged in \$39 million mortgage fraud scheme.** According to a U.S. attorney, eight people were indicted in a \$39 million mortgage fraud scheme, the South Florida Sun-Sentinel reported May 31. The federal indictment alleged the group fraudulently obtained inflated mortgages for the purchase of condo units in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. The group was accused of preparing false documents to qualify for inflated mortgage loans totaling \$39 million from January 2007 through November 2008. Once the loans closed, they would divert portions of the proceeds for their personal use, prosecutors said. The indictment charges them with conspiracy to commit wire fraud and mail fraud. If convicted, they face up to 20 years in prison on each count.
Source: <http://www.sun-sentinel.com/news/broward/fort-lauderdale/fl-mortgage-fraud-ring-20120531,0,5122119.story>

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Transportation Sector

16. *June 1, Oklahoma City Oklahoman* – (Illinois) **Tulsa-bound airplane has landing-gear issue.** A day after American Eagle mechanics gave a clean bill of health to a plane that had made an emergency return to Chicago's O'Hare International Airport because

of a landing gear problem, the same aircraft was forced to turn around in flight and land at O'Hare again May 31 because of a similar issue. This time it veered off the runway, airline and federal aviation officials said. Nose-wheel problems are the primary focus of the Federal Aviation Administration's investigation, officials said, adding the pilots involved in the incidents May 30 and 31 reported that the Embraer ERJ-145 regional jet pulled hard to the right after the plane landed and was braking on the runway. Both pilots also reported to air traffic controllers an "unsafe gear indication" warning light on the cockpit display, according to sources at O'Hare. The emergency landings marked the third incident involving an American Eagle commuter plane at O'Hare in 2 days. May 30, another Eagle plane was clipped by a 747 cargo plane on a taxiway.

Source: <http://newsok.com/tulsa-bound-airplane-has-landing-gear-issue/article/3680300>

17. *June 1, Firehouse.com* – (New Jersey) **N.J. firefighter critical following tractor-trailer fire.** Seven firefighters were injured, one critically, after a tractor-trailer caught fire and exploded on a highway in Mansfield, New Jersey, May 31. The incident occurred in the southbound lanes of I-295 in Burlington County when the tractor-trailer's driver noticed smoke coming from the truck. A Florence Township firefighter was flown to a medical center with a head injury and was listed in critical condition. Six other firefighters were transported to another hospital with non life-threatening injuries.

Source: <http://www.firehouse.com/news/10724220/nj-firefighter-critical-following-tractor-trailer-fire>

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Postal and Shipping Sector

Nothing to report

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Agriculture and Food Sector

18. *May 31, Associated Press* – (National) **USDA survey shows fewer honeybee colony losses.** The U.S. Department of Agriculture said fewer honeybee colonies are being lost, suggesting bees' health may be improving. A survey made public May 31 shows about 22 percent of U.S. honeybee colonies were lost during the winter. That is a lower mortality than in the previous 5 years when colonies were decimated at a rate of about 30 percent a year. Bees are essential pollinators of about a third of the United States' food supply. Some of the devastation is attributed to colony collapse disorder, in which all the adult honey bees in a colony disappear or die. Prior to 2006, when the disorder was recognized, losses were about 15 percent a year from a variety of pests and diseases. Researchers said an unusually warm winter could have impacted colony survival. More than 5,500 beekeepers completed the survey.

Source: <http://www.sacbee.com/2012/05/31/4529721/usda-survey-shows-fewer-honeybee.html>

19. *May 30, Associated Press* – (National) **Government to expand E. coli testing in beef trimmings next week.** The government is expanding E. coli testing in some raw meat, a move expected to prevent more people from contracting the bacteria that can cause severe illness or death. Starting June 4, the meat industry will have to test beef trimmings for six new strains of E. coli that have been linked to a growing number of illnesses. Until now, the meat industry has been required to test for just one strain of the pathogen, known as E. coli O157:H7. That strain was identified after an outbreak at Jack in the Box fast-food restaurants killed four children. However, illnesses from that strain have decreased over the years while more people have been sickened by other strains found in foods such as lettuce and ground beef. The Agriculture Secretary said the change is needed to protect Americans from food-borne illnesses. The new tests will be conducted on beef trimmings — parts of the cow used to make ground beef — and expanded later to ground beef itself, and other cuts. In 2011, the agency collected nearly 2,700 samples for testing from meat processing plants nationwide. That number will not change, but each sample will now be tested for the six additional E. coli strains. Source: http://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/government-to-expand-e-coli-testing-in-beef-trimmings-next-week/2012/05/30/gJQAm57c2U_story.html

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Water Sector

20. *June 1, Wisconsin State Journal* – (Wisconsin; National) **New Wisconsin study on viruses in drinking water could have national impact.** A Wisconsin study that shows a connection between viruses in drinking water and human illness is likely to have a national impact and could eventually lead to federal rules requiring treatment of all public water systems, according to experts, the Wisconsin State Journal reported June 1. The research, published by the journal *Environmental Health Perspectives*, was conducted in 14 Wisconsin communities by two microbiologists with the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Agricultural Research Service. The 2-year study was among the first to closely link the presence of viruses in tap water to sickness in people drinking that water. At least 60 communities in Wisconsin do not treat drinking water with chlorine or ultraviolet light, both of which kill the contaminants, said the State Department of Natural Resources (DNR). The study found the source of viruses contaminating drinking water was likely wastewater coming from leaking sanitary sewers. The director of the DNR Bureau of Drinking Water and Groundwater said May 31 the study prompted the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to begin a nationwide sampling program that could result in a federal rule requiring treatment. The EPA-funded study showed that all 14 communities studied during the 2-year project had human viruses in their tap water. Of 1,204 samples, 24 percent were virus positive. The higher the virus concentration, the higher the rate of illness found in each community. During one part of the study, when norovirus was very common in one

community's tap water, the proportion of illness in children younger than 5 years old attributable to their drinking water could have been as high as 63 percent.

Source: http://host.madison.com/news/local/health_med_fit/new-wisconsin-study-on-viruses-in-drinking-water-could-have/article_e8e5eefe-ab87-11e1-95bf-001a4bcf887a.html?comment_form=true

21. *June 1, Mount Pleasant Morning Sun* – (Michigan) **Water boil order affects some Union Township residents.** More than 120 Union Township water customers in Branch County, Michigan, were told to boil their water before consuming it June 1, the Mount Pleasant Morning Sun reported. The township said a water main break May 31 resulted in lost pressure, and bacterial contamination might have entered the system. Officials said utility crews became aware of the problem when monitors noted a substantial drop in water pressure. Crews later discovered water coming out the ground near a fire hydrant where an underground valve failed. Repair work began immediately but the system must be flushed and two consecutive clean samples must be taken, 24 hours apart, before the system can be declared safe.
Source: <http://www.themorningsun.com/article/20120601/NEWS01/120539931/water-boil-order-affects-some-union-township-residents>
22. *June 1, WUSA 9 Washington, D.C.* – (Washington, D. C.) **Water main break at Connecticut Ave forces evacuations.** A DC Water spokeswoman said customers have water service after crews repaired a broken water main that disrupted travel in the Dupont Circle area in Washington, D.C., May 31 and June 1. Two southbound lanes and all northbound lanes of Connecticut Avenue were reopened June 1, however, N Street was to remain closed for a couple of days. Repair work to the broken main was slow going because of the placement of gas and power lines. She said crews replaced the valves but still needed to complete utility work before paving is done. Emergency crews ordered the evacuation of 35 buildings and businesses in the area while Pepco shut off power to many. Several parking garages and cars were flooded. DC Water estimated it would take approximately 2 days to repair and repave N Street in the area of the break.
Source: <http://wusa9.com/news/article/207045/373/UPDATE-Water-Main-Break-At-Connecticut-Ave-Forces-Evacuations>
23. *June 1, Muskogee Phoenix* – (Oklahoma) **Plant repairs \$7.5M.** Wagoner, Oklahoma officials learned May 31 it will cost about \$7.5 million to solve water plant problems that resulted in a violation of State standards. The Wagoner water treatment plant broke down July 2011, leaving thousands without water for nearly 2 days. The Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality (ODEQ) sent city officials a violation notice as a result, as well as a mandate to ensure a breakdown in one part of the water treatment plant never stops the water flow again. Water customers will ultimately see higher water bills no matter which plan the public works authority chooses. Acceptable project repairs to the ODEQ range from \$7 million to \$8.5 million in cost. The expected project completion date is April 2016.
Source: <http://muskogeephoenix.com/local/x234178517/Plant-repairs-7-5M>

24. *June 1, Shelby-Utica Patch* – (Michigan) **Boil water order remains in effect for Shelby Township for 3rd straight day.** For the third straight day, a boil-water alert remained in effect for Shelby Township and the northeastern end of Utica, Michigan, after a 36-inch water main broke May 29 on 24 Mile Road. The order was also placed on the eastern portion of Rochester but was lifted May 31. Water pressure was restored, and crews repaired the break, but public health officials advised residents in Shelby to continue to boil the water until tests show the water is free of contamination. The department of public works director said if water samples return clear May 31, the boil-water alert would be lifted June 1. The township also asked residents to refrain from outdoor watering. The Detroit Water and Sewage Department is responsible for all repairs to the broken water main and Detroit will be in charge of repairing the road. Source: <http://shelby-utica.patch.com/articles/boil-water-order-remains-in-effect-for-shelby-township-for-3rd-straight-day>
25. *May 31, KWCH 12 Hutchinson* – (Kansas) **City preps permanent fix to treatment plant leak.** Wichita, Kansas, identified a permanent solution to the leaking valve at the primary sewage treatment plant, KWCH 12 Wichita reported May 31. The repair work was scheduled to be completed June 1 and involves the construction of a concrete plug in the chamber that leads to the leaking valve. The permanent work will eliminate the line from which elevated levels of bacteria traveled into the Arkansas River. The Kansas Department of Health & Environment (KDHE) changed the location of the advisory May 31. It now goes from 47th Street South to the Oklahoma State Line. KDHE said people, livestock, and pets should avoid contact with river in the advisory area. Source: http://articles.kwch.com/2012-05-31/city-preps_31931701
26. *May 31, WGCL 46 Atlanta* – (Georgia) **Clean-up beginning after water main break.** Clean-up began May 31 following a water main break in DeKalb County, Georgia, at Rockbridge Road. Tens of thousands of gallons of water May 30, flooded streets, yards and homes. A county official said it appears the line simply collapsed. A fire hydrant also came off the line which caused the high volume of water, according to the official. A power pole was leaning and Georgia Power was called to the scene. Source: <http://www.cbsatlanta.com/story/18659556/dekalb-county-water-main-break-floods-homes>
27. *May 31, KREX 5 Grand Junction* – (Colorado) **Drinking water quality possible at risk from Hewlett Gulch Fire.** U.S. Forest Service officials said drinking water quality in Fort Collins, Colorado, could be at risk for up to 3 years following the Hewlett Gulch Fire, KREX 5 Grand Junction reported May 31. Officials claim increased erosion on burned slopes above the Poudre River could increase the amount of sediment in the river, which could affect drinking water quality. Fort Collins Utilities said they plan on monitoring the water quality. They also said burned trees could pose a public safety concern if they fall on nearby trails. Source: <http://www.krextv.com/news/around-the-region/Drinking-Water-Quality-Possibly-at-Risk-from-Hewlett-Gulch-Fire-155932325.html>

28. *June 1, Associated Press* – (Rhode Island) **Exxon Mobil settles well contamination case with Pascoag residents for \$7 million.** A judge approved a settlement May 28 that will have Exxon Mobil Corp. pay \$7 million to those in Pascoag, Rhode Island, who had their water supply contaminated with the gasoline additive MTBE, the Associated Press reported June 1. The contamination, discovered in 2001, was traced to leaking tanks at a Mobil gas station that has since been torn down. The settlement gives about \$2 million to 1,300 homeowners and \$5 million to the Pascoag Public Utility District for installing new wells and pipelines. Residents are expected to see checks for \$700 to \$1,500 by July.

Source:

<http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/d866459da9124f47834ca6857da3cb6a/RI--Well-Contamination/>

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

29. *June 1, Dover Fosters Daily Democrat; Associated Press* – (New Hampshire) **Exeter Hospital closes lab amid Hepatitis C investigation.** More than 600 people who were treated at Exeter Hospital’s cardiac catheterization lab in Exeter, New Hampshire, since August 2011 were being asked to undergo testing for Hepatitis C after four patients were diagnosed with the virus, the Dover Fosters Daily Democrat reported June 1. Testing by the State’s Division of Public Health Services confirmed the four contracted an identical strain of the disease, indicating they either contracted it from the same place or from each other. Based on a preliminary investigation, the only common point of connection between the four was Exeter Hospital’s cardiac catheterization laboratory, the chairman of the hospital’s department of medicine said. The State’s public health director said all medical clinics in the area have also been asked to report any recent cases of Hepatitis C to the State to see if they can be linked with the same genetic strain identified in the hospital patients. The hospital began formally investigating three cases of hepatitis C with a possible connection to Exeter Hospital May 14. Hospital officials then learned of a fourth case shortly thereafter.

Source:

http://www.fosters.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20120601/GJNEWS_01/706019923/-1/FOSNEWS

30. *May 31, Associated Press* – (National) **St. Jude Medical pays \$3.7M to end investigation.** The U.S. Department of Justice said May 31 that St. Jude Medical Inc. will pay almost \$3.7 million to settle allegations it overcharged the government for implantable heart devices. The Justice Department said St. Jude overcharged the Department of Defense and the Department of Veterans Affairs for replacement pacemakers and defibrillators. It said the St. Paul, Minnesota company marketed the devices to the government “by touting the generous credits available should a device need to be replaced while covered under warranty,” but when a device was replaced while still under warranty, it often failed to grant the appropriate credits. The

government said St. Jude's actions amounted to overstating the cost of replacement devices.

Source: <http://www.vcstar.com/news/2012/may/31/st-jude-medical-pays-37m-to-end-investigation/>

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Government Facilities Sector

31. *June 1, Boston Globe* – (Massachusetts) **BC chemistry lab evacuated after graduate assistant is exposed to dangerous chemical.** A graduate assistant in the Boston College chemistry department in Boston was taken to a local hospital after he came in contact with a dangerous chemical June 1 that forced officials to evacuate the building. The man was unpacking a box in a chemistry laboratory when he was exposed to a chemical that had spilled in the box, said a spokesman for the school. The man decontaminated himself using facilities in the building and was later transported to a local hospital, authorities said. A Boston Fire Department HAZMAT team responded and evacuated the Merkert Chemistry Center. A Boston fire spokesman said the chemical was identified as Piperdine.

Source: <http://www.boston.com/metrodesk/2012/06/01/chemistry-lab-evacuated-after-graduate-assistant-exposed-dangerous-chemical/uDNUGeus47kspZvummEThO/story.html>

32. *May 31, WCNC 36 Charlotte* – (North Carolina) **2 arrested after fireworks set off at Charlotte HS.** A northeast Charlotte, North Carolina high school was evacuated May 31 after two teenagers allegedly set off various explosives on campus. Vance High School was evacuated due to smoke after police said two teens set off smoke bombs and other fireworks both inside and outside the school. A total of six students complained of minor injuries, but it does not appear anyone was transported to the hospital. The two suspects were each charged with possession of fireworks and possession of a weapon on school grounds. One was also charged with damage to real property.

Source: <http://www.wcnc.com/news/local/High-school-evacuated-after-fireworks-set-off-155949635.html>

33. *May 30, Cumberland Valley Breeze* – (Rhode Island) **New, more secure entrances planned for Lincoln schools.** A plan to increase security in Lincoln, Rhode Island schools by re-configuring the main entrances in the 2013-2014 fiscal year was approved by the school committee May 22 and must now receive approval from the State Department of Education, the Cumberland Valley Breeze reported May 30. The entrances would require visitors to go through the main offices before being granted entry into the rest of the building, a business manager explained. Currently, visitors could bypass the main office after they are buzzed into a building. "We're going to change the flow of entry," she said, explaining that visitors would go through a vestibule so no one can sneak past. "We think that's really critical." They are planned

for every school but the high school, which already has security cameras in use, she said. A new entrance for the high school will be proposed later.

Source: <http://www.valleybreeze.com/2012/05/30/cl/new-more-secure-entrances-planned-for-lincoln-schools>

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Emergency Services Sector

34. *May 31, Associated Press* – (Oregon) **Thousands expected for tsunami drill in Ore. town.** Thousands of people in the Oregon coastal communities of Coos Bay, North Bend, and Charleston held their first tsunami evacuation drill May 31. The Coos Bay fire chief said vivid television images of the 2011 tsunami in Japan have made people on the Oregon Coast take the possibility much more seriously than about 10 years ago. The threat facing the Oregon Coast is a megaquake from the Cascadia Subduction Zone, where two plates of the Earth's crust butt together off the coast. When they slip, they could send a 40-foot surge of water moving at the speed of a jetliner into the Oregon coast, northern California, and Washington. Geologic evidence shows the zone jolts on average every 300 to 600 years, and the last one was 312 years ago. At Coast Guard Air Station North Bend, just 17 feet above sea level, one of the five helicopters was slated to fly to higher ground at Southwest Oregon Community College, where students and staff were to gather at assembly points during the drill. Coast Guard staff were scheduled to stay at their posts in case of a real emergency, but some planned to hike uphill to an assembly point, said a lieutenant.
Source: <http://abcnews.go.com/US/wireStory/thousands-expected-tsunami-drill-ore-town-16464273#.T8eFqFK1VvB>
35. *May 31, Camp Verde Bugle* – (Arizona) **Police say motive unclear on fire-bombing of hospital helicopter.** An alleged helicopter fire bomber was arrested for seriously damaging a medical aircraft at Verde Valley Medical Center the week of May 21 in Cottonwood, Arizona, the Camp Verde Bugle reported May 31. A broken beer bottle was found shattered around the front of the helicopter. The front fuselage and windshield were charred. An 8-10-inch hole had been broken on the windshield and the flames from the resulting fire burned the cockpit and control panel, according to a police report. Police reports stated the man arrested was held at the site after an arriving hospital employee spotted him walking away from the helicopter landing pad as flames were exploding on the chopper. He told police investigators he lives in a wash and was on his way there after drinking. Police said that after he left the bar, he went to a nearby convenience store and purchased a bottle of beer, drank the beer, and then filled the bottle with gasoline. A hospital spokeswoman said there had not yet been a final determination if the helicopter could be repaired. A pilot said the helicopter costs about \$3.7 million fully outfitted as a medical helicopter.
Source:
<http://www.cvbugle.com/main.asp?SectionID=1&SubSectionID=1&ArticleID=34836>

For more stories, see items [17](#), [39](#), and [40](#)

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Information Technology Sector

36. *June 1, The H* – (International) **Critical vulnerability derails Ruby on Rails.** The developers of the Ruby on Rails Web framework have closed a critical vulnerability that allowed attackers to execute SQL commands on the database server. An “SQL Injection” attack such as this could allow the attacker, for example, to read confidential information without authorization. The vulnerability exists in versions 3.0 and later of Active Record, Rail’s database layer, and is exposed when using nested query parameters. Code that directly passes parameters to a ‘where’ method, is affected. Source: <http://www.h-online.com/open/news/item/Critical-vulnerability-derails-Ruby-on-Rails-1588773.html>
37. *May 31, IDG News Service* – (International) **Browser feature can be abused to misrepresent download origin, researcher says.** Legitimate browser functionality can be abused to trick users into believing that a trusted Web site has asked them to download a file, which is actually being served from a rogue server, a Google security engineer demonstrated May 29. The method removes the need for spoofed pages. His proof-of-concept attack begins with a button on a page that, when clicked, opens the official Flash Player download Web site in a second tab and switches the browser’s focus to it. After a few seconds, the original page serves a file called flash11_updater.exe from the researcher’s server, which causes the browser to display a download dialog. However, because this happens while the active tab is the one with the official Flash Player Web site loaded into it and an adobe.com URL in the address bar, it appears as if the download was initiated by Adobe’s Web site. “All the top three browsers are currently vulnerable to this attack,” he said in a blog post. Source: http://www.pcworld.com/businesscenter/article/256610/browser_feature_can_be_abused_to_misrepresent_download_origin_researcher_says.html
38. *May 31, Threatpost* – (International) **Apple details iOS security features in new guide.** Apple released a detailed security guide for its iOS operating system, Threatpost reported May 31. The document lays out the system architecture, data protection capabilities, and network security features in iOS, the operating system that runs on iPhones, iPads, and iPod Touch devices. One of the more-discussed security elements in iOS is the implementation of ASLR (address space layout randomization), an exploit mitigation designed to prevent attackers from using memory corruption bugs. The document also talks in detail about the way that Apple’s code-signing process for iOS apps works. Source: http://threatpost.com/en_us/blogs/apple-details-ios-security-features-new-guide-053112

For another story, see item [12](#)

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

39. *June 1, Computerworld* – (National) **Opinion split on authority to shut down wireless in emergency.** In April, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) issued a notice seeking public comments on whether the government and law enforcement should have unchecked authority to initiate a localized or citywide wireless service shutdown for public safety purposes. The 1-month period for filing public comments ended May 30. A review of the responses to the FCC requests over the past month shows that many support the idea of the government having the ability to quickly shut down wireless services, but only as a matter of last resort and only in an extreme emergency. The general manager of Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) insisted that a temporary interruption of cell phone service is a necessary tool “under extreme circumstances where harm and destruction are imminent.” She noted, “For example, wireless devices may be used to detonate explosives.”

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9227650/Opinion_split_on_authority_to_shut_down_wireless_in_emergency

40. *May 31, Reuters* – (National) **Text, don’t call when natural disaster strikes.** It is better to send text messages than to call when natural disasters strike and networks get congested, a senior U.S. official said May 31, also urging people to add battery-powered cell phone chargers to their storm emergency kits. The head of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) told reporters that forecasts for a “normal” Atlantic hurricane season should not keep those in potentially affected areas from getting ready for storms that could make landfall. The U.S. government is working to extend its public alert warning system beyond radio and television to mobile networks, he said, noting that most new and upgraded cell phones have the capacity to receive such emergency notices. Households without fixed-line phones should be ready to charge cell phones during power cuts, the FEMA administrator said, also calling on families to make alternative communication plans for when wireless networks are congested.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/05/31/uk-usa-weather-storms-idUSLNE84U01D20120531>

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Commercial Facilities Sector

41. *June 1, Associated Press* – (Pennsylvania) **Firefighter hurt battling Schuylkill Haven blaze.** A firefighter was hurt from falling through the floor of a building while battling a huge fire in Schuylkill County, Pennsylvania. The firefighter was reported inside the burning building in Schuylkill Haven’s downtown business district when the floor gave way May 31. The firefighter was quickly rescued by other volunteers and taken to an ambulance for treatment of injuries. Flames destroyed a garage attached to an adjacent gun shop, another garage that housed a woodworking shop, and two other garages. A tavern and several apartments also sustained damage. More than 100 firefighters from Schuylkill Haven and surrounding communities worked for more than 2 hours to bring the flames under control.
Source: <http://www.mcall.com/news/breaking/mc-schuylkill-haven-firefighter-hurt-060112-20120601,0,7655788.story>
42. *June 1, WCSC 5 Charleston* – (South Carolina) **Coroner identifies Goose Creek fire victims.** The Berkeley County Coroner’s Office confirmed three people were killed May 31 after an explosion and fire destroyed 16 units at an apartment building in Goose Creek, South Carolina. According to the coroner, a third body was found in the fire June 1. During a news conference May 31, authorities said two other bodies were recovered following a fire that broke out in a unit in the Pine Harbour Apartment Complex. Authorities said they were questioning one man about the incident. A Berkeley County Sheriff’s Office spokesman said the fire was being treated as a crime scene. The investigation was turned over to the Drug Enforcement Administration and the State Law Enforcement Division. According to the Red Cross, 16 units were destroyed, affecting a total of 46 people.
Source: <http://www.live5news.com/story/18667419/emergency-crews-responding-to-apartment-fire-in-goose-creek>
43. *May 30, Jersey Journal* – (New Jersey) **Bricks fall from West New York apartment forces evacuation.** The residents of a West New York, New Jersey apartment building had to be relocated after loose bricks fell from the front face of their building May 30. Police received a call after bricks from the upper part of the building fell on the pavement below. The building safety department deemed the building secure but uninhabitable due to the unsafe conditions and evacuated the 15 families living within. The building was expected to open within a few days.
Source:
http://www.nj.com/hudson/index.ssf/2012/05/bricks_fall_from_west_new_york.html
44. *May 30, WESH 2 Daytona Beach* – (Florida) **Woman calls in bomb threat to Holly Hill company.** Officials in Holly Hill, Florida, evacuated hundreds of people after a bomb threat was called in to an electronics store, WESH 2 Daytona Beach reported May 30. Police and fire authorities said the store was Metra Electronics. A woman was arrested by officers after the threat was traced to her cell phone, police said. She was a contract worker for Metra Electronics, investigators said. The call cost businesses in the

area thousands of dollars, not including the use of police and county resources, police said. Investigators said bomb-sniffing dogs were called to go through the building. Employees, including the suspect, were moved from the area to a safe place on city property by Votran buses. Officials allowed employees to return to work more than 3 hours after the threat was received.

Source: <http://www.wesh.com/news/central-florida/volusia-county/Woman-calls-in-bomb-threat-to-Holly-Hill-company/-/12983450/14310254/-/smqiq1/-/index.html>

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National Monuments and Icons Sector

See item [27](#)

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Dams Sector

45. *June 1, DawnNews* – (International) **Supply from Tarbela power house restored.** A fire that engulfed 20 workshops in the Tarbela Power House in Lahore, Haripur district, Pakistan, was under control and the power plant's electricity supply was restored June 1 after a system shutdown was repaired, according to a spokesman for the ministry of water and power. The spokesman said trees near a switchyard of the water and power development authority's Tarbela dam power plant caught fire May 31. Drums of chemicals and diesel stored in the workshops exploded due to the fire. No damage to machinery and equipment of the power plant was reported, but the 1,833 megawatt supply of electricity to the national grid was suspended after a technical fault caused the system to trip, according to the spokesman. Two helicopters and several fire engines were employed to put the fire out.

Source: <http://dawn.com/2012/06/01/supply-from-tarbela-power-house-restored/>

46. *June 1, Watertown Daily News* – (New York) **Madrid dam repairs this summer.** With a \$60,000 grant from the St. Lawrence River Valley Redevelopment Agency, Madrid, New York, will repair Mill Dam on the Grasse River during summer 2012. The dam supervisor said May 31 the 96-year-old dam needs concrete resurfacing across its spillway and on the cement bulkheads that jut out from each side of it. He said the town was awaiting the State Department of Environmental Conservation's final approval of the project's work permit and predicted the spillway would be resurfaced in 2 weeks. Town officials were studying in recent years the feasibility of upgrading the dam enough so it could be used to produce hydroelectric power. They envision a modest "micro hydro" generator of up to 10 megawatts of electricity.

Source: <http://www.watertowndailytimes.com/article/20120601/NEWS05/706019940>

47. *May 31, Associated Press* – (Missouri) **Corps awards \$20M in contracts to fix Mo. levee.** The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers said May 31 it awarded \$20 million worth of

contracts to three firms to repair the Birds Point levee, which was intentionally breached during 2011 in southeast Missouri to alleviate flooding on the Mississippi River. The Corps said other contracts will be awarded in 2012 to repair flood damage near the confluence of the Mississippi and Ohio rivers in Kentucky and Illinois. Work will restore the levee to its original condition prior to blasting. A lawsuit by more than 140 southeast Missouri farmers whose land was damaged when the levee was breached is pending in federal court.

Source: http://www.stltoday.com/news/state-and-regional/missouri/corps-awards-m-in-contracts-to-fix-mo-levee/article_bb5575ae-7aba-5ed6-9d6b-6d82094baa11.html

48. *May 31, Williston Herald* – (North Dakota) **Levee closed to pedestrian traffic, flood repairs under way.** The Williston Levee and the Williston Resource Office in North Dakota will be closed May 29 to August 15 for repairs, the Williston Herald reported. During the 2011 flood, the levee suffered significant damage and the \$11.7 million project includes restoring the levee crest to an approximate elevation of 1862-1863 feet above sea level. The levee will be seeded for grass, returning it to pre-flood status and level of flood risk reduction. The access road will also be resurfaced during this period. The levee is a federally constructed flood control project designed to reduce the risk of flooding in low lying areas due to backwater from Lake Sakakawea, the reservoir for the Garrison Dam.

Source: http://www.willistonherald.com/news/levee-closed-to-pedestrian-traffic-flood-repairs-under-way/article_3f55db7a-ab4f-11e1-9e5a-001a4bcf887a.html

49. *May 31, Porterville Recorder* – (California) **Success Lake water level hits high mark, Corps reports.** Porterville, California officials began releases matching the inflow into Success Lake May 31 as the water level reached its maximum point that will be allowed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers during the summer. The lake level reached 644.73 feet elevation and storage was 64,929 acre feet, just under the 65,000 acre feet that was to be allowed. The Corps is allowing the lake to fill to a higher point than any time during the past 8 years as the level was held down due to concerns with the safety of the dam. Officials now say the dam is safe, but they will closely monitor the higher water level. The level should hold for a few days before water is released for irrigation.

Source: <http://www.recorderonline.com/news/level-52940-water-lake.html>

50. *May 30, Associated Press* – (Montana) **Corps: Fort Peck Dam repair may cost more than \$225 million, but only \$46 million available.** Proposed repairs for Montana's Fort Peck Dam following epic flooding along the Missouri River in 2011 would cost more than \$225 million, according to cost estimates released May 30 by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Corps officials acknowledged they are able to afford only \$46 million for damage assessments and repair work for now, mostly for the dam's spillway. Record snowfalls and massive spring rains in Wyoming and Montana in 2011 prompted the release of unprecedented volumes of water from the Corps' six Missouri River dams. The torrent damaged Fort Peck's spillway gates and eroded areas downstream from the dam, located at the top of the Missouri River system. The most expensive repairs outlined by the Corps' engineering consultants would bolster the spillway so it could handle releases of 265,000 cubic feet of water per second (cfs),

which is more than four times the peak release of almost 66,000 cfs during 2011's flooding. The Fort Peck project manager said the proposed repairs are needed to ensure the spillway can be used to safely release water. The governor of Montana said the State would support any work that improves safety and storage capacity for the dam. Work on damage to the spillway gates already is underway. The \$245 million figure does not include any work that could be needed on a concrete drainage system beneath the spillway. Testing to determine whether that drainage system is working properly is planned for the week of September 4. As part of the testing, the Corps plans to release water at between 3,000 and 30,000 cfs at periodic intervals over 4 days.

Source:

<http://www.therepublic.com/view/story/d7b301126517440a80ebb311f71eff5e/US--Fort-Peck-Dam>

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