



Homeland Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 29 April 2009

Current Nationwide Threat Level

ELEVATED

Significant Risk of Terrorist Attacks

For information, click here:
<http://www.dhs.gov>

Top Stories

- The Associated Press reports that the nation’s busiest air traffic control facility in Southern California relies heavily on inexperienced trainees, who are expected to make up more than 40 percent of controllers there later this year, according to a Transportation Department inspector general report released Monday. (See item [15](#))
- According to the Seattle Times, Seattle’s winter-storm strategy, which involved dumping nearly 12,400 tons of sand on iced-over streets last December, is causing new problems for the West Point Wastewater Treatment Plant, where unprecedented amounts of grit from city storm drains have plugged up pumps and triggered emergency repairs. (See item [22](#))

Fast Jump Menu

PRODUCTION INDUSTRIES

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

SUSTENANCE AND HEALTH

- [Agriculture and Food](#)
- [Water Sector](#)
- [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

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

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

1. *April 28, Associated Press* – (International) **North Dakota pitching hookup to Keystone pipeline in Saskatchewan.** A new study says building a pipeline from northwestern North Dakota to TransCanada Corp.’s new Keystone pipeline in southern Saskatchewan would be the most efficient way to move the region’s oil production.

North Dakota officials planned to pitch the U.S. \$199 million project at a regional oil conference in Regina expected to draw more than 900 industry officials, said the director of the state Department of Mineral Resources. The director of the state Pipeline Authority was scheduled to outline the study's conclusions at the conference on April 27. He and others said its data will be used to attempt to interest private pipeline companies in the project. The Pipeline Authority commissioned the study, which was done by two engineering firms and explored three possible pipeline routes. Each began at a point near the north border of the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation, between Parshall and New Town. One proposed route would transport oil to TransCanada's proposed Keystone XL pipeline in far eastern Montana. The other two would transport oil to the company's Keystone line, with linkups in southern Saskatchewan or eastern North Dakota, depending on the route taken. Building a 12-inch line north to Saskatchewan, where it would meet the Keystone line near Whitewood, "appears to be the preferred alternative," the study said.

Source: <http://dconline.com/article/id33562>

2. *April 27, Reuters* – (National) **U.S. refiners preparing plans for flu emergency.** U.S. refiners, particularly those with operations near the Mexico border, said on April 27 they were closely monitoring the spread of swine flu and preparing contingency plans for a possible outbreak. No refinery units had yet been idled or slowed as a result of the health threat and companies were tight-lipped about what steps they would take if workers began to fall ill. Some 25 percent of U.S. fuel production capacity comes from Texas. Shell Oil Co, which operates four joint-venture refineries on the Gulf Coast, said it had canceled all nonessential travel to Mexico and has given health advice to employees who had traveled there in the past few days. "Shell is actively monitoring the current situation and in particular the World Health Organization's guidance," the company said in a statement. Refiners began developing plans to deal with a flu pandemic two to three years ago when fears about avian flu spiked, according to sources familiar with the plans. Unlike hurricanes, where refiners count on a large contingent of in-house forecasters to monitor weather conditions for threats to infrastructure and personnel, refiners will take action based on international and national health agency instructions, the sources said. "They'll be watching what organizations like WHO say to do," said one of the sources. "If one of the major public health agencies says to do something, then I think you'd see a lot of companies adjust their operations based on that."

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssEnergyNews/idUSN2753537320090427>

3. *April 27, Cleveland Daily Banner* – (Ohio) **Outage leaves 5,000 without power Saturday.** Almost 5,000 customers of Cleveland Utilities suffered an 86-minute power outage early morning on April 25 in the northeast section of the utility's service area. A manager of the utility's Electric Division said the outage was reported at 9:45 a.m. April 25 and continued to 11:12 a.m. Although the cause of the outage was undetermined at the time of its occurrence, it has since been determined to have been the failure of an electronic card in the utility's Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system. He said the power outage affected 4,725 utility customers for 86 minutes. These customers live north of Highway 64 and east of Highway 11 (North Lee).

Source: <http://www.clevelandbanner.com/index.cfm?event=news.view&id=E86A485F->

4. *April 25, Columbus Dispatch* – (Ohio) **EPA hits pollution-spewing power plant.** A coal-fired power plant near Marietta has violated the Clean Air Act since at least 1991, according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Columbus-based American Municipal Power, which sells electricity to about 80 city and village electrical systems, faces a hefty fine and, if it does not close the 58-year-old Richard H. Gorsuch power plant or find another fuel to burn there, could shell out millions for air-pollution filters. EPA officials said American Municipal Power and former co-owner Elkem Metals, Inc. should have installed the filters when they repaired and upgraded the plant from 1982 through 1991. American Municipal Power said in a statement that it has responsibly operated the plant since it bought a 70 percent stake in 1988 and bought out Elkem 11 years later. Elkem officials would not comment. An EPA notice of violation, dated March 27, states Elkem and American Municipal Power overhauled and replaced equipment, including superheaters and turbines, and installed a new substation and burner-control system from 1982 to 1991. The EPA’s regional air enforcement chief in Chicago said those changes triggered a Clean Air Act requirement that calls for filters to capture sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxides. The companies face retroactive fines of as much as \$37,500 a day. American Municipal Power officials have said they might close the plant in the face of tightening federal air pollution limits. The company’s statement mentions it might also find a different fuel to burn. FirstEnergy recently announced it would refit its R.E. Burger plant along the Ohio River near Shadyside to burn biomass instead of coal. The move would cut sulfur dioxide pollution so the company would not have to install filters.

Source:

http://www.columbusdispatch.com/live/content/local_news/stories/2009/04/25/Gorsuch_ART_ART_04-25-09_B1_GODLLVJ.html?sid=101

5. *April 25, South Coast Today* – (Massachusetts) **SEMASS cited for safety violations.** Two years after an explosion caused a two-day fire and led to the discovery of safety violations, the SEMASS trash-burning plant in Rochester, Massachusetts has been cited for four more violations. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) cited plant owner Covanta Energy this month for storing oxygen cylinders beside combustible acetylene cylinders with no barrier between them. Fire safety regulations require employers to separate oxygen cylinders and fuel gas cylinders at least 20 feet apart or by a non-combustible barrier at least 5 feet high. “When you store cylinders with no barrier, there’s a huge potential for an explosion,” said a representative of the Utility Workers Union of America, which represents SEMASS workers. Covanta did not return phone calls on April 23 and April 24. The OSHA citations, issued April 2, were based on a safety inspection requested by UWUA Local 369 last fall. According to a spokesman for the Department of Labor, the violations carry fines totaling \$6,375. OSHA also cited Covanta, which is based in New Jersey, for covering openings in electrical equipment with cardboard or duct tape, not allowing the enclosures to contain a blast in the event of equipment failure. Covanta was also found in violation for an opening in a distribution panel breaker partially covered with duct tape and for other instances of improper maintenance of electrical equipment.

Source:

<http://www.southcoasttoday.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20090425/NEWS/904250334/-1/NEWS06>

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

Chemical Industry Sector

6. *April 28, Reliable Plant* – (National) **EPA warns facilities to submit risk management plans.** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is working to ensure that facilities submit updated risk management plans (RMPs) as required by federal law and has levied fines against companies that do not. The plans, required under the Clean Air Act, contain information assessing plans in place to prevent and respond to accidental releases of hazardous substances from facilities and must be updated at least every five years. About 140 facilities in the area covered by EPA's Region 2 office, which includes New York, New Jersey, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands, have plans due this year. In a streamlined enforcement process, EPA's Region 2 office continually identifies facilities that currently have risk management plans in place to see which plans are overdue. Where the Agency finds facilities that have not updated their plans on time, EPA is giving that facility a chance to comply and pay a discounted penalty. This was the case recently for the Kuehne Chemical Company in South Kearny, New Jersey. As a result of EPA's enforcement efforts, the company updated its plan and paid a \$1,400 penalty for late filing. Additional enforcement actions are planned in the coming months.

Source:

<http://www.reliableplant.com/article.aspx?articleid=17222&pagetitle=EPA+warns+facilities+to+submit+risk+management+plans>

7. *April 27, Delaware News Journal* – (Delaware) **DP&L Workers: 9 taken to hospital after chemical spill in Delaware.** Nine people were taken to a local hospital after a tanker truck spilled sulfuric acid on Delaware 9 near Delaware City. It happened about 11:30 a.m. April 27. The program manager for the Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control said the truck was headed for the DuPont Red Lion sulfuric acid plant. She said investigators are not certain how much acid spilled from the truck, or how the leak occurred. Nine employees with Delmarva Power and Light were working near the scene and were taken to Christiana Hospital.

Source: <http://www.delmarvanow.com/article/20090427/NEWS01/90427038/1002/rss>

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

Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and Waste Sector

8. *April 27, U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission* – (Georgia) **Fitness for duty involving a non-licensed contract supervisor.** A non-licensed contract supervisor at the Vogtle nuclear facility had a confirmed positive for a controlled substance during a random fitness-for-duty test. The employee's access to the plant has been terminated. The licensee notified the NRC resident inspector.

Source: <http://www.nrc.gov/reading-rm/doc-collections/event-status/event/en.html#en45024>

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

Critical Manufacturing

9. *April 27, Wausau Daily Herald* – (Wisconsin) **Two injured in explosion.** A hydraulic cylinder burst the morning of April 27 at Jarp Industries in Schofield, injuring two employees. The explosion occurred at about 10 a.m., sending a small piece of metal through a wall. The employees were taken to the hospital with minor bumps and bruises and were released within a few hours, said the chief financial officer at Jarp. Production at the facility will not be affected by the explosion, but repairs still are being evaluated. Everest Metro Police and the Schofield Fire departments responded to the explosion.

Source:

<http://www.wausaudailyherald.com/article/20090427/WDH0101/90427196/1981>

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

Defense Industrial Base Sector

Nothing to report

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

Banking and Finance Sector

10. *April 27, HedgeFund.net* – (Florida) **SEC charges hedge fund manager with a new fraud.** The Securities and Exchange Commission is charging that a Florida-based hedge fund manager, who had already agreed to stop violating securities fraud provisions, was up to his old tricks. The SEC alleged that the defendant had shifted his strategy for his firm, Founding Partners Capital Management and that he was investing in riskier securities without telling investors. About \$550 million in investments was involved the SEC claimed. Founding Partners, which is headquartered in Naples, Florida, invests in Sun Capital Inc. and Sun Capital Healthcare Inc., two related companies that provide loans to healthcare and other businesses guaranteed by accounts receivables. Starting in 2004, the SEC claimed, Founding Partners let the Sun Capital companies invest in healthcare companies that were financially troubled, without informing investors that it was taking on the more risky securities. The SEC also charged that the defendant used investor money improperly to pay personnel expenses. The defendant also told investors that the funds had audited financial statements for 2007, when they did not, the SEC complaint alleged.

Source: <http://www.hedgefund.net/publicnews/default.aspx?story=9995>

11. *April 27, St. Paul Business Journal* – (Idaho; Wyoming) **U.S. Bancorp buys Idaho bank assets from FDIC.** U.S. Bancorp on April 24 took over the deposits of a small Idaho bank from the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. (FDIC). Minneapolis-based U.S.

Bank, which is the second-largest bank in the Milwaukee area, acquired \$225 million in deposits of the First Bank of Idaho and branches that operate under the name First Bank of the Tetons. The deal includes seven branch banks in Ketchum, Hailey, Bellevue, Driggs and Victor, Idaho and in Jackson, Wyoming. The First Bank of Idaho, which has about 115 employees, had faced a capital shortage and received a cease-and-desist order April 15 from the Office of Thrift Supervision, a division of the U.S. Department of the Treasury that oversees federal savings associations, according to media reports. The branches involved in the April 24 acquisition will all be re-branded as U.S. Bank in the near future, according to a press release from U.S. Bank. Prior to the acquisition, U.S. Bank had 90 branch offices in Idaho and 14 in Wyoming. U.S. Bank did not acquire any brokered deposits of the bank or assets or liabilities of the First Bank of Idaho's parent holding company, Sun Valley Bancorp., based in Ketchum, Idaho.

Source: <http://www.bizjournals.com/milwaukee/stories/2009/04/27/daily10.html>

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

Transportation Sector

12. *April 28, World Aeronautical Press Agency* – (National) **NTSB requires new safety procedures for Boeing 757 and 767s.** The American National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) issued a safety recommendation (A-09-41) asking the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to require Boeing to realize new procedures for B-757 and 767s crews to address an illuminated “Standby Power Bus OFF” light including specific steps to take so that complete loss of battery power is avoided. Among these, there must be landing at the nearest suitable airport and actions to take if landing is not possible. Once the procedures are ready (recommendation A-09-42), FAA should require all the operators using these aircraft to train their crews with the new indications. In January, the FAA already issued a Safety Alert For Operators (SAFO), but NTSB did not consider that measure enough: “The Board - is written in a note - does not consider these improvements to be sufficient because SAFOs are not mandatory nor do they necessarily have a long-term impact. Improved procedures should be specified and required because of the potential severity of loss of battery power.”

Source:

http://www.avionews.com/index.php?corpo=see_news_home.php&news_id=1103631&pagina_chiamante=index.php

13. *April 28, Staten Island Advance* – (New York) **Engineer flagged overpass 6 months ago.** Six full months before concrete and asphalt rained on the Staten Island Expressway from the Hylan Boulevard overpass, endangering drivers below, a state engineer called for the installation of a steel net beneath the bridge to catch debris from the deteriorating span. But despite the engineer's recommendation to put up the netting by January at the latest, the work was never done, due to a backlog of other urgent repairs and a shortage of manpower to make them, according to a state Department of Transportation spokesman. Instead, a one-foot diameter section of the roadway fell through to the highway on April 26, forcing authorities to effect a partial closure of the Expressway while emergency responders shored up the bridge. Built in 1965, the Hylan overpass is already well beyond its expected 30-year life span. Severe deck deterioration was

discovered during the biannual inspection last October, the spokesman said, but the steel structure of the bridge is safe. A full deck replacement will ultimately be needed.

Source:

<http://www.slive.com/news/advance/index.ssf?/base/news/1240920019193510.xml&coll=1>

14. *April 28, Salt Lake Tribune* – (Utah) **Falling piece from I-15 bridge forces closure.** A chunk of concrete falling from an Interstate 15 bridge onto a West Bountiful street damaged a car and will require closing two of the freeway’s northbound lanes for two or three days. One I-15 lane closed after the 11 a.m. accident, and workers were set to close a second of the four northbound lanes at 8 p.m. Monday, a Utah Department of Transportation spokesman said. The state temporarily opened Legacy Parkway to truck traffic to help ease the flow. A patch of concrete about 3 feet long and an inch thick fell and caused minor damage to a car, officials said. There were signs of salt that has seeped through the bridge during its 25 years or more of life, and recent freeze-thaw cycles apparently cracked the concrete. “It broke loose, kind of like a pothole in reverse,” the spokesman said. The bridge remains structurally sound, UDOT said, but workers will have to cut away and replace two patches of the outer concrete before reopening the northbound lanes.

Source: http://www.sltrib.com/news/ci_12240829

15. *April 27, Associated Press* – (California) **California air traffic facilities rely on trainees.** The nation’s busiest air traffic control facility in Southern California relies heavily on inexperienced trainees, who are expected to make up more than 40 percent of controllers there later this year, according to a report released Monday. The Transportation Department inspector general report expressed concern about air traffic controller staffing levels at the Southern California Terminal Radar Approach Control Facility near San Diego, as well at the Northern California Terminal Radar Approach Facility near Sacramento. The two facilities handle planes approaching and leaving California airports. There are currently 76 trainee controllers — 32 percent of the work force — at the Southern California TRACON, the report said. But the Federal Aviation Administration plans to hire another 34 trainees later this year to make up for expected retirements, raising the share of controllers at the facility who are trainees to more than 40 percent. The report also said that overtime by controllers working in the tower at Los Angeles International Airport has increased more than 800 percent since 2006, and was up 120 percent at the Northern California TRACON. The report recommended that FAA “take immediate action” to address staffing and overtime concerns.

Source: <http://federalnewsradio.com/?nid=27&sid=1661678>

16. *April 27, Aviation Herald* – (New Jersey) **Continental B753 at Newark on Apr 26th 2009, engine fire.** The crew of a Continental Airlines Boeing 757-300, performing flight CO-348 from Newark, New Jersey to San Francisco, California, reported an engine fire indication for the left hand engine and a blown tire right after lift off. The airplane leveled off at 2100 feet and returned for a safe landing 13 minutes after takeoff.

Source: <http://avherald.com/h?article=418bb620&opt=0>

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

Postal and Shipping Sector

17. *April 27, TBO.com* – (Florida) **Officials: Suspicious powder at courthouse not anthrax.** A suspicious white powder found in an envelope at the Hillsborough County Courthouse Monday afternoon is not anthrax, Tampa Fire Rescue officials said. The powder fell out when a clerk opened the envelope. The substance has not been identified but is not considered to be hazardous, said a fire captain. The clerk is undergoing medical tests. The envelope was found about 12:45 p.m. in the clerk of the court's felony division on the second-floor of the annex building at Jefferson Street and Kennedy Boulevard. The first and second floors at the north end of the annex were evacuated, but employees have been cleared to return. Sixty people work in the area but only the clerk who opened the envelope was considered at risk for exposure, the fire captain said.

Source: <http://www2.tbo.com/content/2009/apr/27/271435/suspicious-white-powder-found-hillsborough-courtho/news-metro/>

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

Agriculture and Food Sector

18. *April 27, USAgNet* – (National) **Raw alfalfa sprouts linked to Salmonella contamination.** The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommended that consumers not eat raw alfalfa sprouts, including sprout blends containing alfalfa sprouts, until further notice because the product has been linked to Salmonella serotype Saintpaul contamination. Other types of sprouts have not been implicated at this time. The investigation indicates that the problem may be linked to contamination of seeds for alfalfa sprouts. Because suspect lots of seeds may be sold around the country and may account for a large proportion of the alfalfa seeds currently being used by sprout growers, and cases of illness are spread across multiple states, FDA and CDC are issuing this general advisory. FDA will work with the alfalfa sprout industry to help identify which seeds and alfalfa sprouts are not connected with this contamination, so that this advisory can be changed as quickly as possible. CDC, FDA and six State and local authorities have associated this outbreak with eating raw alfalfa sprouts. Michigan, Minnesota, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Utah, and West Virginia have reported 31 cases of illness with the outbreak strain of Salmonella Saintpaul to CDC. Most of those who became ill reported eating raw alfalfa sprouts. Some reported eating raw sprouts at restaurants; others reported purchasing the raw sprouts at the retail level. Initial investigation results trace the contaminated raw alfalfa sprouts to multiple sprout growers in multiple states. This outbreak appears to be an extension of an earlier outbreak in 2009. In February and March, an outbreak of Salmonella Saintpaul infections occurred in Nebraska, South Dakota, Iowa, Kansas, and Minnesota.

Source: <http://usagnet.com/story-national.php?Id=922&yr=2009>

19. *April 25, Winter Haven News Chief* – (Florida) **Explosion, fire rock Bartow ethanol plant.** A tank at Bartow Ethanol Inc. in Bartow exploded the morning of April 24, with

the blast and related fires causing extensive damage to the south side of the building. The plant and three nearby businesses were evacuated, but no injuries were reported. A 911 call was placed at 10:26 a.m. on April 24 to the Bartow Police Department. A 50,000-gallon tank, mostly filled with ethanol vapors, exploded, putting two other nearby tanks in danger of igniting, a police sergeant said. The explosion damaged the south side of the metal building. Bartow police initially responded and then called the Bartow, Polk County, and Fort Meade fire departments to the scene. Polk County Emergency Medical Services also responded. Employees from Bartow Ethanol, Peace River Citrus, Commercial Cold Storage, and Orange Cogeneration were evacuated, he said. Trains on the nearby CSX railway line also were stopped. About 30 firefighters used handheld hoses to put out small fires in the area and keep the tanks cooled. The situation was under control by about 11:45 a.m. State fire marshals were trying to determine the cause of the fire the afternoon of April 24. Bartow Ethanol Inc. produces food-grade alcohol for liquor, vinegar, and other products.

Source:

<http://www.newschief.com/article/20090425/NEWS/904255011/1011/LIVING?Title=Explosion-fire-rock-Bartow-plant>

20. *April 25, Wichita Eagle* – (Kansas) **Worker injured in fall at grain elevator.** A 25-year-old man was in critical but stable condition with a hip injury on April 24 after falling 25 feet inside a grain elevator at Cereal Food Processors Inc. in Wichita. Fire rescue crews had to use ropes to reach the man, who landed on a concrete floor about 100 feet up in the elevator. Crews were called to the scene shortly before 9 a.m. The Wichita Fire captain said a worker was going up on a lift inside the elevator when it caught on something, jerking him off the lift and causing him to drop a piece of equipment on the man below. The man below fell 25 feet to the concrete floor and injured his hip. Because there were no stairways or elevators to the scene, fire crews from the city and Sedgwick County set up a rope system and lowered the man to the ground floor. The man was taken to Via Christi Regional Medical Center-St. Francis Campus.
Source: <http://www.kansas.com/topstories/story/786853.html>
21. *April 24, Associated Press* – (Illinois) **Pigs killed in farm fire.** Schuyler County authorities say a fire killed an estimated 2,800 pigs and an undetermined number of piglets. Authorities say Littleton firefighters were called to the farm late on April 22 after a passer-by spotted smoke at the farm, located in Schuyler County between Industry and Rushville. Firefighters from six other communities were called to the scene to help extinguish the fire. Timberline LLC is owned by a group of farmers from Missouri, Illinois, and Iowa who hired Carthage Veterinary Service to manage the location. A doctor at Carthage Veterinary said on April 23 that there are usually about 5,600 sows kept in four buildings on the farm. He said about half were killed in the fire. No cause for the fire has been given.
Source: <http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/chi-ap-il-fire-pigs,0,378204.story>

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

Water Sector

22. *April 27, Seattle Times* – (Washington) **Latest storm headache: Seattle sand clogs sewer plant.** Seattle’s failed winter-storm strategy, which involved dumping nearly 12,400 tons of sand on iced-over streets last December, is causing new problems for the West Point Wastewater Treatment Plant, where unprecedented amounts of grit from city storm drains have plugged up pumps and triggered emergency repairs. Plant operators called the situation “unprecedented” and attributed it to heavy rains that apparently flushed out pockets of sand and gravel still remaining on city streets four months after it was dropped. The volume of material became so heavy April 16 that it shut down a pump and forced the early shutdown of a basin that filters grit from wastewater before it is treated and released into Puget Sound. A spokesman for Seattle’s transportation department said in an e-mail that the city has swept up more than 11,300 tons of sand since January. That is more than 91 percent of the nearly 12,400 tons the city says it dropped in what proved to be a largely futile effort to make city streets passable. The city refused to use salt to clear the roads, citing concerns about its impact on chinook salmon habitat. That policy has since been changed. Transportation managers dispatched sweepers to clean up the sanding material after the storms passed. A spokeswoman for King County’s wastewater division said most of the sand was generated by the city’s snow-control efforts. But plant operators were hesitant to attribute an exact figure to the city. Instead they had only a general year-to-year comparison for grit removed at the plant: 2,800 tons in 2008 versus 300 tons in 2007.

Source: http://seattletimes.nwsources.com/html/localnews/2009127486_sand27m.html

23. *April 27, Milwaukee Journal Sentinel* – (Wisconsin) **Combined sewers continue to overflow in Milwaukee, Shorewood.** Combined sanitary and storm sewers in central Milwaukee and eastern Shorewood were continuing to overflow to local rivers and Lake Michigan on April 27 in an effort to prevent basement backups. The deep tunnel wastewater storage system remains near capacity, so combined sewers are blocked from discharging to the tunnel. The Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District is continuing to blend partly treated sewage and fully treated wastewater at its Jones Island treatment plant, said the water quality protection manager for the district. The step temporarily boosts treatment capacity at Jones Island, allowing workers to pump wastewater out of the deep tunnel in advance of the next rainstorm forecast on April 27. Brown Deer, Mequon, Elm Grove and the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District reported sanitary sewer overflows during the recent heavy rains, said the regional watershed coordinator for the state Department of Natural Resources in Milwaukee. A regional sewer near N. Green Tree Road and the Milwaukee River discharged an estimated 620,000 gallons of sewage to the river on April 26, a district official said. The sewer was overwhelmed by excessive flows that exceeded its design capacity, he said. The overflow there ended on April 26.

Source: <http://www.jsonline.com/news/watch/43794427.html>

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

Public Health and Healthcare Sector

24. *April 28, ABC News* – (International) **Swine flu spreads around the globe.** Two more cases of swine flu in the United States were confirmed overnight in California. Health officials said two students from the St. Mel School in Sacramento County were diagnosed with the virus, Influenza Type A. That brings the total number of swine flu cases in the United States up to 50, according to the Associated Press. Most of the cases, however, are mild and none fatal. Around the world, New Zealand confirmed 11 cases and Israel one on Tuesday. South Korea, Australia and the Czech Republic announced several suspected cases. Spain had one previously confirmed case, the United Kingdom two and Canada six. France is still testing some cases and some results in Germany came back negative. Most of the individuals involved had recently returned from Mexico. To slow the global spread of the virus, the U.S. State Department and the European Union's health commissioner recommended that non-essential travel to Mexico be avoided. The World Health Organization announced that it is raising its pandemic alert level to Phase 4 from Phase 3, the first time the alert level has been raised above 3 since the system was adopted in 2005. The Phase 4 designation signifies that the new swine flu virus can cause sustained outbreaks and is adapting itself to spread among humans, significant steps toward a pandemic. But the ranking does not necessarily mean that a pandemic is a foregone conclusion.
Source: <http://abcnews.go.com/International/story?id=7446222&page=1>
25. *April 27, Military.com* – (National) **Pentagon prepared for flu outbreak.** In a worst-case scenario that the current flu crisis threatens military operations, the Defense Department has already stockpiled enough vaccines to meet demand across the services, a Pentagon spokeswoman told Military.com April 27. The President has called the worldwide spread of swine flu infection a cause for concern but not a cause for alarm. But the Department of Health and Human Services, which has taken point on the crisis, declared “a public health emergency in the United States” over the flu that has killed about 140 people in Mexico with 1,600 known cases. The declaration permits the government to use medication and diagnostic tests that government might not otherwise be able to use and it releases funds for the acquisition of additional antivirals, the Homeland Security Secretary said during an April 26 White House press conference.
Source: <http://www.military.com/news/article/April-2009/pentagon-prepared-for-flu-outbreak.html?ESRC=topstories.RSS>
26. *April 27, Boston Globe* – (Massachusetts) **Tracking swine flu via Twitter.** HealthMap, the online disease-surveillance system created by Children's Hospital Boston researchers, is getting faster. Now the real-time disease tracker is posting Twitter messages on the current swine flu outbreak. HealthMap already bolsters official reports with the early warning that Internet searches, chat rooms, or news stories can give about emerging infectious diseases. Sometimes these unofficial sources predate expert alerts, a potentially important asset when diseases can quickly circle the globe via international air travel. A month ago, HealthMap added Twitter to the mix. So far, the short-message service has grown from 50 to 1,800 users globally.
Source: http://www.boston.com/news/health/blog/2009/04/tracking_swine.html

27. *April 27, North County Times* – (California) **Murrieta: Hospital faulted for infection control.** According to federal documents, the reasons Southwest Healthcare System stands to lose reimbursement for Medicare and Medicaid patients stem from several instances of improper infection control procedures and the lack of an intercom system in a room that was being used as a nurses station. A 21-page report released Monday by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services provides details about an early March survey of Rancho Springs Medical Center in Murrieta, California, where state health officials found fault with the practices of hospital staff. State officials said there were incidents of the hospital not using approved practices for cleaning surgical units and gear, a lack of oversight of nursing stations and improper procedures for quarantined areas. State officials have said they will conduct an unannounced survey of the hospital sometime between now and mid-July to make the determination on behalf of the federal body.

Source:

<http://www.nctimes.com/articles/2009/04/27/news/californian/murrieta/z787b71e31c6201cb882575a5006abb42.txt>

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

Government Facilities Sector

Nothing to report

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

Emergency Services Sector

28. *April 27, Oklahoman* – (Oklahoma) **Cell phones put help on hold for Oklahoma 911 callers.** Lack of funding to expand the 911 system around Lake Texoma has some law enforcement officials fearing that they will not be able to find cell phone callers needing emergency help. It is a problem in dozens of Oklahoma counties and it may only get worse. More Oklahomans are forgoing landline telephones for lighter-taxed cell phones, leaving less money for local governments to afford enhanced wireless 911 systems. Hundreds of thousands of tourists stream into Marshall County each summer, relying on cell phones for their communication needs. But county officials do not have enhanced wireless 911, which uses cell phone towers to pinpoint the longitude and latitude of callers. That means callers in need, whether on land or in water, will have to tell responders exactly where they are. “We have boating accidents on Texoma and don’t know where they are. We have to send search and rescue teams out to find them,” a Marshall County sheriff’s office official said, adding that upgrading the 911 system will cost \$250,000. Some of that money could be raised if the county’s 18,000 residents agree to increase a monthly tax on their home phone lines from 3 percent to up to 15 percent of base charges, and enact a new 50-cent-a-month tax for cell phone users.

Source: <http://newsok.com/cell-phones-put-help-on-hold-for-oklahoma-911-callers/article/3364722>

29. *April 26, WLWT 5 Cincinnati* – (Ohio) **Local product protects first-responders from viruses.** Union Springs Pharmaceuticals of Cincinnati, Ohio is working to protect first responders who are helping people affected by the swine flu. The company makes a spray and respirator mask called “MyClyns.” The company says the spray kills pathogens that other products would not protect against such as the bird flu, HIV, MRSA and the swine flu. The spray comes in a pocket-size bottle. Users can use the spray on their face and hands after coming into contact with a virus or germs. The respirator is coated with a microbial that protects against viruses.
Source: <http://www.wlwt.com/health/19297042/detail.html>

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

Information Technology

30. *April 28, Spamfighter News* – (Massachusetts) **Teenaged hacker decreed for 11 months.** A teen computer hacker who controlled several systems in botnet attacks has to face an imprisonment of 11 months in an adolescent prison. The 17 year old from Worcester, Massachusetts, referred to N.H. in court records or by his online name Dshocker, beseeched guilty of system fraud, four cases of wire cheating, and interstate threats during November 2008. N.H. also obtained stolen credit card numbers and purchased goods and services from them both for himself as well as for others. He assisted several carders purchase goods from these stolen cards teaching an associate who worked for a big shipping firm to redirect the packages of goods either to himself or to other carders. While announcing his punishment in the second week of April 2009, he was also granted two years probation period. Federal prosecutors informed that from November 2005 to May 2008, the accused also hacked the commercial computer systems to steal details and spread bogus bomb threats. As per the U.S. Attorney Office, the teenager issued orders to a control server commanding a network of thousands of systems to assail the target system, collapsing it or turning it slow, refuting services of that computer to the users. That is called “distributed denial of service attack.” The accused also confessed to obtaining unauthentic access to several systems repeatedly, which includes Road Runner, Comcast and Charter Communications, and robbed customer data. He also gained unauthentic access to the proprietary software and firmware of a company to amend cable modems, enabling him and others free web access.
Source: <http://www.spamfighter.com/News-12271-Teenaged-Hacker-Decreed-for-11-Months.htm>
31. *April 27, PC Magazine* – (International) **Swine flu scam sites may evolve into malware.** Opportunistic people are registering domain names related to “swine flu.” F-Secure has a list of them and a warning. They say that none of them are pushing malware yet, although based on history it is only a matter of time. One of them does try to scam people. The site is selling a report, for \$19.95 on how to deal with swine flu, including which Chinese herbs one should buy for it.
Source: <http://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817,2345974,00.asp>
32. *April 27, CNET News* – (International) **McAfee launches free online cybercrime help**

center. Instead of worrying if a computer is infected with a virus, a user can now go to a new Web site McAfee is launching on April 28 that is designed to help computer users figure out if they have legitimate reason to be concerned. The new Cybercrime Response Unit offers a forensic scanning tool that checks for malware on the computer and cookies left by suspicious Web sites to help determine if the machine has been compromised. A toll-free number is available for people whose scan results are worrisome. If visitors feel they may have been victimized by cybercrime, they can click through to a page that contains a series of questions that will be used to determine the level of risk. They are asked whether there are unexplained charges or suspicious activity on any financial accounts or other indications of identity fraud and whether the computer is running more slowly than usual, displaying pop ads, or having difficulty shutting down or starting up. There are also questions about user behavior, including whether the visitor responded to an e-mail or Web site request for personal information that may have been a scam, whether an e-mail attachment was opened that could have been malicious, and whether the computer was lost or stolen. The visitor is then prompted to run the McAfee Cybercrime Scanner. However, the tool does not run on Firefox. The scanner looks for unwanted processes or unauthorized programs running on the computer, visits to known malicious Web sites, unauthorized connections to the computer, unauthorized modifications to the computer protections, security sessions or browser and other unauthorized activity.

Source: http://news.cnet.com/8301-1009_3-10228520-83.html

Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at soc@us-cert.gov or visit their Website: <http://www.us-cert.gov>.

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Website: <https://www.it-isac.org/>.

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

Communications Sector

33. *April 28, Dayton Daily News* – (Ohio) **Dispatch center to handle emergency calls in May.** Emergency 911 calls will again be handled out of the new Regional Dispatch Center sometime in May after problems with a Nortel switch are resolved and equipment has been tested, the Montgomery County sheriff said. On April 27, the Emergency Communication Policy Committee, which oversees the center, was briefed on what went wrong March 26 when several 911 calls about a Harrison Township house fire were not received at the center on the first day of operations. Currently, 911 calls are being handled at the sheriff's dispatch center in Dayton, while the new dispatch center is handling calls to member jurisdiction's regular police and fire lines. The sheriff's captain blamed AT&T for improperly programming the switch. A full report from AT&T is due May 1 or May 4. The report and AT&T's testing will be reviewed by a consultant hired by the county.

Source: <http://www.daytondailynews.com/news/dayton-news/dispatch-center-to-handle-emergency-calls-in-may-97985.html>

34. *April 28, Associated Press* – (New Jersey; New York) **Cablevision has fastest Internet speeds for cable.** Cablevision Systems Corp. is set to unveil April 28 the fastest Internet speeds available from any cable or phone company. Starting May 11, the Bethpage, New York-based cable operator will offer speeds of up to 101 megabits per second downstream throughout its service area, and 15 Mbps upstream. Cablevision has three million subscribers in the New York metro area. The company also plans to double the downstream speed of its Wi-Fi Internet service up to 3 Mbps for free. Cablevision offers wireless Internet at several Wi-Fi hotspots in New York’s Long Island, Connecticut and Westchester service areas, and in parts of New Jersey.

Source:

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5hVLD2ZjUpD0si5FcgL2E85D4i9WAD97R7VB81>

35. *April 27, KSWO 7 Lawton* – (Oklahoma) **Comanche County upgrades the 911 system.** Comanche County, Oklahoma has upgraded to an enhanced 911 system that was originally approved by voters in December 2005. The system helps locate people who make 911 calls from cell phones. Taxpayers had to pay 50 cents extra each month on their cell phone bills to pay for the upgrades. Cell phone companies had to upgrade their towers to provide emergency dispatchers with the technical information they needed for their computers to pinpoint those callers. So far Sprint and Nextel are the only two companies that have completed their tower upgrades. Other cell phone providers in the area are still in the process of updating their systems and towers. Officials said all the systems and upgrades will be done by the end of April.

Source: <http://www.kswo.com/Global/story.asp?S=10259454>

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

Commercial Facilities Sector

Nothing to report

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

National Monuments & Icons Sector

36. *April 27, Arizona Republic* – (Arizona) **15 acres burning near Tonto National Forest.** At least 100 firefighters are working to extinguish flames that have engulfed 15 acres near the Tonto National Forest. Two crews, three engines, two heavy air tankers and three helicopters were sent to contain the fire, a Forest public affairs officer said. Fire officials were first called around 6 a.m. Monday morning, one mile east of Pine, where the fire had spread throughout an area of steep, rocky terrain, the spokesman said. Currently, no homes surrounding the area are in danger. “They are optimistic they’re going to get the fire under control soon,” the spokesman added. The cause of the fire is under investigation.

Source: <http://www.azcentral.com/news/articles/2009/04/27/20090427abr-fire0427-ON.html>

37. *April 27, Greenville Sun* – (Tennessee) **Forest Service conducts “prescribed burn.”** The U.S. Forest Service intentionally burned about 2,200 acres of Cherokee National Forest woodland in southern Greene County on April 25. The Forest Service’s Nolichucky/Watauga District ranger said some 32 U.S. Forest Service personnel, assisted by a helicopter and dozer, conducted what the Forest Service calls a “prescribed burn” in the Phillips Hollow and Henry Ridge section of Camp Creek Bald. “The burn went really well and we have three people patrolling its perimeter today,” the district ranger said on April 25. The district ranger said the Saturday prescribed burn met the Forest Service’s target for intentional burning of underbrush in the Greene County portion of the Cherokee National Forest. “We’re done for the year,” the district ranger added. The U.S. Forest Service normally ends prescribed burning of National Forest woodlands by May 1. In addition, on April 26, Forest Service personnel were still dealing with 16 fires set by arsonists in the Flatwoods Road section of the Cherokee National Forest in Sullivan County.
Source: <http://www.greenevillesun.com/story/>

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

Dams Sector

38. *April 27, Clarion-Ledger* – (National) **JSU awarded \$1M grant to study levees.** Jackson State University (JSU), in collaboration with Oak Ridge National Laboratory in Tennessee, has been awarded a \$1 million grant from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to study levee strengthening systems. “This is a major research project and it involves innovations in levee strengthening systems during full-scale, unstudied conditions for the first time,” a JSU engineering professor said in a news release. The research will focus on overtopping, which can occur when floodwaters exceed the lowest crest of a levee system or when high winds generate ocean swells that bring waves crashing over the levee. Reports on the New Orleans levee failures during Hurricane Katrina have identified overtopping and seepage as one of the main reasons for the failure. The professor, who chairs Jackson State’s Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, will be the principle investigator on the project.
Source: <http://www.clarionledger.com/article/20090427/NEWS/90427013>
39. *April 27, Times-Picayune* – (Louisiana) **Leak near Metairie levee to get scientific scrutiny.** Engineers looking for the source of water that sporadically wets a grassy section of Lake Pontchartrain levee in Metairie have decided to sink scientific instruments into the ground to help answer the riddle. In the next few weeks, five piezometers will be strategically buried to measure groundwater and other conditions in a fairly large area that ranges as far as a half-mile from the wet spots near the Suburban Canal drainage pumping station, the Army Corps of Engineers said. Corps and regional levee authority engineers have agreed that the limited amount of seepage, whatever its source, has not undermined the stability of the levee in that area of Levee Reach No. 4. But levee officials want to know definitively where the water comes from, and why, and the corps is assisting in the hunt for an answer. Engineers at the corps engineers have decided to install skinny, tube-shaped piezometers that can aid in identifying seepage by

mapping groundwater flows and other characteristics of the aquifer. The corps anticipates seeking a right-of-entry permit this week with the East Jefferson Levee District. If granted without delay, the instruments could be installed as early as mid-May, a corps project manager said. In January, the damp areas were excavated. But after several weeks of observation and evaluation failed to identify a culprit and the sites dried up, they were filled in.

Source:

http://www.nola.com/news/index.ssf/2009/04/leak_near_metairie_levee_to_ge.html

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

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