



Homeland Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 30 April 2009

Current Nationwide Threat Level

ELEVATED



Significant Risk of Terrorist Attacks

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

Top Stories

- Amid growing concern over the vulnerability of the U.S. electric grid to cyberattacks, two lawmakers are preparing to introduce new legislation aimed at bolstering the industry’s responsiveness to such threats. (See item [3](#).)
- Due to swine flu concerns, Russia, China and Ukraine began banning pork products that come from some U.S. states — a move that a U.S. trade representative said could “do extraordinary damage” to the U.S. economy and other countries. (See item [19](#).)

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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 29, Reuters* – (Washington) **Shell says Anacortes refinery due at normal ops Wed.** Shell Oil Co. expects its 145,000 barrel per day (bpd) Anacortes, Washington, refinery to return to normal operations by the afternoon of April 29 as it completes a plant-wide restart following an April 23 power outage, a company spokeswoman. Two units were restarting on April 28 and another unit was expected to restart on April 29, said a Shell employee. “One unit did have minor damage, which is why it will not be

restarted until [April 29],” she said. Repairs on the unit had to be completed before it could be restarted. Electrical power to the two refineries and 100,000 other customers was knocked when a car struck a power pole on the evening of April 23. The accident happened at the same time utility Puget Sound Energy was servicing equipment that could have rerouted power to the refineries through another route.

Source: <http://uk.reuters.com/article/oilRpt/idUKN2836075520090428>

2. *April 29, Reuters* – (Illinois) **Conoco Illinois FCC shut for unplanned work.** ConocoPhillips has shut a gasoline-making fluid catalytic cracker at its 306,000 barrel per day Wood River refinery in Illinois for unplanned maintenance, trade sources said on April 29. Conoco officials were not available for comment.
Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssEnergyNews/idUSN2941426020090429>
3. *April 28, Computerworld* – (National) **New cybersecurity bill for electric grid readied.** Amid growing concern over the vulnerability of the U.S. electric grid to cyberattacks, two lawmakers are preparing to introduce new legislation aimed at bolstering the industry’s responsiveness to such threats. The Critical Electric Infrastructure Protection Act is scheduled to be introduced on April 30. A brief statement issued by the house committee today described the proposed legislation as one that would primarily empower the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, an independent agency that regulates the interstate transmission of gas, oil and electricity, to issue “emergency rules or orders” if a cyberthreat is imminent. The rules or orders may be issued if the Secretary of Homeland Security determines that a national security threat exists, the statement said. It did not, however, clarify what kind of rules and orders the proposed bill is specifically referring to. In addition, the bill would require the commission to assess existing cybersecurity standards within the electric sector and establish new standards, as needed, for dealing with cyberthreats. It would also require the Department of Homeland Security to conduct an investigation to determine if the electric infrastructure has been compromised by outsiders.
Source:
http://www.computerworld.com/action/article.do?command=viewArticleBasic&taxonomyName=security&articleId=9132288&taxonomyId=17&intsrc=kc_top
4. *April 28, Reuters* – (Delaware) **Valero restarting Delaware City refinery.** Valero Energy Corp Chief Executive said on April 28 that the company’s 210,000 barrel per day (bpd) Delaware City, Delaware, refinery was restarting after a plantwide shutdown that began with an overhaul in March. “We had a problem with the coker in February,” he said in a morning call with analysts to discuss Valero’s first-quarter earnings. “We could not get (the coker) restarted when it came down,” he said. “Thus, we wound up shutting down the entire refinery. We have had that refinery down here for the month of March and frankly for April. We’ve done the repair work on the coker. We fixed our steam system because we took some of that down,” he continued. “Things that you never fix. We have lost a boiler due to regulations in Delaware and we’ve had to bring in temporary boilers. We’ve decided we don’t have enough steam. So we’ve been doing things like this. The plant is scheduled to start up and we are in the process of starting back up.” He also criticized the company’s operation of the refinery.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/rbssEnergyNews/idUSN2831945420090428>

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Chemical Industry Sector

5. *April 28, Wayne Independent* – (Pennsylvania) **State police probe chemical spill.** Pennsylvania State Police are investigating a chemical spill that occurred on Interstate 84 at the west bound rest area at mile maker 26 in Pike County. A liquid was discovered at 8:45 a.m. on April 28 leaking from a Roadway truck as Troopers and Motor Carrier Enforcement Officers were conducting truck inspections. The rest area was evacuated and secured when a Trooper on scene began experiencing adverse effects after his contact with the liquid. He was life-flighted to Lehigh Valley Hospital for evaluation. It was determined that the chemical was Potassium Metallic Cyanide. It is a common chemical used in industrial applications. The hazmat cleanup crew on scene expected a short clean up time. The hazmat crew did not expect any effects on the environment or people after the cleanup was complete. The incident is still under investigation.

Source: <http://www.wayneindependent.com/news/x1092988237/State-Police-probe-chemical-spill>

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials, and Waste Sector

Nothing to Report

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Critical Manufacturing

6. *April 28, Associated Press* – (Arkansas) **New \$150M pipe manufacturing plant at Port of Little Rock dedicated by India-based Welspun.** A pipe manufacturer is dedicating its new \$150 million facility at the Port of Little Rock. The facility built by India-based Welspun produces pipe for the oil and gas industry. The event marks the opening of Welspun's first factory outside of India, though the company has a presence in more than 50 countries. The plant employs more than 300 people. It has the capacity to produce 350,000 tons of spiral pipe per year. Welspun is not alone at the port on the Arkansas River. Another India-based company, Man Industries, is also spending \$100 million on a pipe plant.

Source: <http://www.kfsm.com/sns-bc-ar--welspun-ark,0,504442.story>

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

7. *April 28, United Press International* – (Washington) **Todd Pacific to repair USS Abraham Lincoln.** The U.S. Navy has modified a contract with Todd Shipyards Corp.

for maintenance and repair work on the USS Abraham Lincoln CVN-72 aircraft carrier. Todd Shipyards said its Todd Pacific Shipyards subsidiary was awarded the contact from the Navy. Under the approximately \$15.5 million modification, Todd Pacific will perform maintenance work on the USS Abraham Lincoln CVN-72, a Nimitz-class super carrier, at the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard in Washington state. According to a news release, the exercised contract option, part of an initiative by the Navy to overhaul the Nimitz-class ships, will include “pier-side maintenance, repairs and alterations.” Officials said the maintenance work on the Abraham Lincoln is expected to be completed before December.

Source: http://www.upi.com/Security_Industry/2009/04/28/Todd-Pacific-to-repair-USS-Abraham-Lincoln/UPI-74271240928373/

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Banking and Finance Sector

8. *April 28, MarketWatch* – (National) **Senate OKs \$490 million to fight mortgage scams.** The Senate voted on April 28 to give federal investigators more tools to combat mortgage fraud and other scams. The bipartisan legislation would authorize \$490 million over two years to hire fraud prosecutors, increase enforcement actions and add funds to the Secret Service and Housing and Urban Development Inspector General. It also allocates funds to the Postal Inspection Service. It also sets up a commission of outside experts with subpoena power to examine the financial crisis and make recommendations. Of those funds, \$165 million is being allocated to hire fraud prosecutors and investigators at the Justice Department and \$140 million goes to increase the number of Federal Bureau of Investigation officials for the agency’s mortgage-fraud task forces. It also provides \$50 million a year to expand the staff of the U.S. Attorney’s office and \$40 million to expand the Justice Department’s criminal, civil, and tax divisions. The legislation, known as the Fraud Enforcement and Recovery Act, extends federal fraud laws to include mortgage loan companies that are not regulated or insured by the government. This expanded fraud statute would only have an impact on future crimes.
Source: <http://www.marketwatch.com/news/story/senate-approves-490-mln-fight/story.aspx?guid=5EAB0934-6896-46C0-8D34-401C8F5D50FC>
9. *April 28, WTOC 11 Savannah* – (Georgia) **New text message scam involves bank fraud.** Beware if you get a text message claiming to be from your bank. The latest texting scam involves con artists texting your cell phone claiming to be from a variety of banks. One WTOC viewer warned about a text message pretending to be Suntrust Bank. The phone number is not associated with Suntrust and the bank does not send out text message alerts. Experts warn to take down the number and immediately report the text to the bank’s fraud department. Do not respond and do not give any information.
Source: <http://www.wtoctv.com/Global/story.asp?S=10263225>
10. *April 28, Associated Press* – (Maryland) **5 charged in ‘nightmare’ \$70M mortgage scheme.** More than 1,000 people were defrauded out of about \$70 million by a group advertising the dream of homeownership in what turned out to be a nightmare Ponzi

scheme, federal and Maryland officials said on April 27. Five officers for Laurel, Md.-based Metro Dream Homes company are accused of tricking homeowners into pouring money into the business with the promise that the revenue would be used to pay off their mortgages. The scheme ran from 2005 until October 2007, authorities said. The newly confirmed Assistant U.S. Attorney General said the charges should send a message to those engaging in mortgage fraud. "Our resolve as a group is great," he said at a news conference in Washington. "We will find you. We will prosecute you, and we are going to put you in prison." "Some people hope to get rich quickly just by dreaming, without the hard work," said the U.S. attorney for Maryland. "Usually, people can achieve that only by breaking the rules." Prosecutors say the company marketed the mortgage program in seminars at luxury hotels in Maryland, Washington and Beverly Hills, California. An investor had to put up a minimum of \$50,000 for each home. The company was then supposed to pay off their mortgages within five to seven years. Source: <http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5gB7--kEDtgOugiNfRih85sahLr7gD97R2HG02>

11. *April 27, Los Angeles Business Journal* – (California) **FDIC pays out deposits from First Bank of Beverly Hills.** First Bank of Beverly Hills was shut down by the California Department of Financial Institutions on April 24, and the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. will pay out the deposits of the bank. As of December 31, 2008, First Bank of Beverly Hills, which was actually based in Calabasas, had total assets of \$1.5 billion and total deposits of \$1 billion, of which an estimated \$179,000 was uninsured, according to a statement from the FDIC. According to a statement from the DFI, the bank was ordered it to increase its capital reserves, but efforts by the bank to do so were unsuccessful. The FDIC will begin mailing customers checks for their insured money starting on April 27. First Bank of Beverly Hills is the 28th FDIC-insured institution to fail this year and the fourth in California. Source: <http://www.bizjournals.com/losangeles/stories/2009/04/27/daily4.html>

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Transportation Sector

12. *April 29, WBBH 2 Fort Meyers* – (Florida) **Road closures from brush fires.** Several well-traveled roads are still affected by brush fires burning in Babcock Ranch and the Big Cypress National Preserve. Both Alligator Alley and State Road 29 were closed overnight because of a 27,000 acre brush fire in the Big Cypress National Preserve. Alligator Alley opened Wednesday morning, at 8 a.m., according to the Florida Highway Patrol. State Road 29 also opened at 8 a.m. south of Alligator Alley, but remains closed north of the interstate to Oil Well Road. The roads could close again if smoke reduces visibility. State Road 31 is closed from Tuckers Grade to State Road 74 (Bermont Road) because of a fire at Babcock Ranch. Source: <http://www.nbc-2.com/articles/readarticle.asp?articleid=28903&z=3>
13. *April 29, Great Falls Tribune* – (Montana) **Airport seeks ground radar equipment under FAA pilot program.** The Great Falls Airport Authority on April 28 supported an effort to get the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to install an experimental

ground radar system at the airport. The FAA air traffic manager is pitching the Great Falls airport for the pilot ground radar, which he said would improve flight controllers' ability to detect snowplows and planes moving on the airfield in low visibility and snowy weather. It also could be programmed to give flight controllers an oral alarm when low-flying geese approach the airport, so they could warn pilots. Birds flying up to the airport from the Missouri River are hard to spot, he said. The spokesman said the ground radar system used now at some airports is expensive — \$20 million — so the FAA wants to try newer high-tech systems that cost far less. He said the occasional snow that Great Falls gets would make it a good place to test the new system.

Source: <http://www.greatfallsribune.com/article/20090429/BUSINESS/904290306>

14. *April 28, Associated Press* – (California) **Concrete falls from crumbling freeway overpass.** Tennis ball-sized chunks of concrete falling from a crumbling span of Interstate Highway 5 forced the California Highway Patrol (CHP) to shut down freeway lanes for hours. The incident on April 27 marked the third time this year that falling concrete tied up traffic in Oceanside. There have not been any injuries. The CHP closed three northbound freeway lanes for more than two hours, saying the crumbling overpass posed a danger to motorists and pedestrians below on Oceanside Boulevard. California Department of Transportation officials say engineers are confident in the bridge integrity. Caltrans says the interstate overpass was not designed to handle the amount of big-rig traffic using the span.

Source: http://www.mercurynews.com/breakingnews/ci_12244934?nclick_check=1

15. *April 28, Justice News Flash* – (Florida) **NTSB releases preliminary Oakland Park (Florida) plane crash report.** The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) released preliminary findings of the Cessna 421 plane that crashed into an Oakland Park, Florida, neighborhood on April 17 shortly after take-off. The 80 year-old pilot, left Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport, en route to Fernandina Beach, outside of Jacksonville, to sell the 35-year-old Cessna 421 airplane. According to the NTSB's investigation, the pilot was experiencing engine trouble before, during, and after take-off causing the plane to crash into a house on the 5200 block of Northwest First Avenue, in Oakland Park at about 11:15 a.m. According to airport ground crews, at the Fort Lauderdale Executive Airport, the pilot ran both engines, full power, for over 20 minutes before shutting down, adding oil, and then restarting the engines again. The pilot took off approximately five minutes after throttling the engines to full power again. Aviation accident experts claim this is an unusual procedure for any pilot, especially a seasoned flyer like the pilot. Pilots typically check engines for about five minutes before taxiing down the runway and taking off.

Source: http://www.justicenewsflash.com/2009/04/28/ntsb-releases-preliminary-oakland-parkfloridaplane-crash-report_200904281182.html

16. *April 28, Anchorage Daily News* – (Alaska) **Occupants walk away from airplane crash.** A single-engine aircraft on a training run lost power and landed hard at the Birchwood Airport April 28 according to the National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB). Neither the pilot nor the instructor aboard was injured in the crash just after 3 p.m., an NTSB investigator said. The man flying was undergoing a biennial flight

review, a required recertification exam, with an instructor in a PA-24 Comanche when the accident took place. It began when the instructor told the pilot to put the plane into idle to simulate a loss of power and make an emergency landing. After the landing gear was lowered and the craft was coming in to landing strip 1L, a paved strip, it became clear they were not going to make it, and the instructor told the pilot to end the simulation and reengage the throttle. The pilot did so, but, for reasons not immediately known, did not get any power, he said. Based on preliminary reports, it appeared a real mechanical issue may have arisen. Unable to pull back up, the pilot landed the airplane short of the runway, smashing through a perimeter airport fence on the way down. The aircraft struck down on grass and did not cause further damage on the ground.
Source: <http://www.adn.com/news/alaska/aviation/story/776589.html>

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Postal and Shipping Sector

17. *April 28, KTVB 7 Boise* – (Idaho) **Mail disrupted in downtown Boise by white powder.** The Boise Fire Department's Hazardous Materials Team was called to a downtown Boise building just before noon on April 28 to investigate a white powdery substance found on an unopened envelope. The investigation lasted for more than three and a half hours and led to the delay of mail delivery to some downtown businesses. This after a mail carrier was detained as a safety precaution while experts determined if the substance posed a danger to humans. The envelope was mailed to an insurance company at 9th and Idaho streets. No one was evacuated from the building and employees were asked to remain there. The substance tested negative for any threatening material. The scene was cleared around 3:30 p.m.
Source: http://www.ktvb.com/news/localnews/stories/ktvbn-apr2809-white_powder_boise.11da419bc.html

18. *April 28, Orange County Register* – (California) **Bomb squad called to Children's Services building in Santa Ana.** A suspicious package sent to a building on April 28 prompted the response of the bomb squad, police officers, a hazardous-materials team and the FBI. Authorities were called shortly after 11 a.m. to a California Children's Services building regarding a suspicious package. A Santa Ana fire hazmat team and the sheriff's bomb squad did a threat assessment on a Fed-Ex package delivered to the building that had suspicious powder, said a Santa Ana fire captain. The fire captain said they were being very cautious, and the first floor of the building was evacuated. The powder turned out to be nonthreatening and the scene was cleared just after 2 p.m.
Source: <http://www.ocregister.com/articles/building-santa-package-2380205-suspicious-powder>

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Agriculture and Food Sector

19. *April 29, USA Today* – (National) **Agriculture chief to public: U.S. pork products are safe.** Federal officials moved on April 28 to bolster the \$15 billion U.S. pork industry

and reassure consumers that eating pork is safe amid the swine-flu outbreak. The effort comes after countries such as Russia, China and Ukraine began banning pork products that come from some U.S. states. The bans led to lower prices of pork, as well as for soybeans and corn, used as hog feed. “The livelihoods of a lot of people are at stake here,” U.S. Agriculture Secretary said, referring to the country’s 67,000 pork producers as well as soybean and corn farmers. “It is perfectly safe to consume pork and pork products from America.” He also said people should stop using the term “swine flu” and should call the disease H1N1 virus, which refers to the subtype of influenza virus causing the outbreak. “This really is not swine flu,” he said. A U.S. Trade Representative said he will talk to officials in countries that are restricting U.S. pork products. “That could do extraordinary damage” to the U.S. economy and other countries, he said.

Source: http://www.usatoday.com/news/health/2009-04-29-agriculture-pork-swine-flu_N.htm

20. *April 29, Associated Press* – (New York) **Criminals, drugs are not the only threats to the Homeland.** At the Port of Buffalo, authorities say they are intercepting more harmful pests than ever before. They credit better awareness by officers, along with the increased staffing and experience of agriculture specialists. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) plans to increase the ranks of its 2,277 agriculture specialists by about 100 this year, according to a spokesman who said Buffalo will add about eight to its staff of 30. Part of the effort includes inspecting the commercial shipments of beef, potted plants, potatoes and corn that enter from Canada, the country’s largest trading partner. But the bigger challenge comes from the passenger vehicles and buses and their sometimes microscopic stowaways. On a typical day, CBP officers seize an average of 4,125 agricultural items and 435 pests at all 327 ports of entry, the agency said, based on 2008 data. On the same day, officers might find about 7,600 pounds of narcotics. Buffalo’s field office intercepted 1,957 pests in fiscal 2008, more than double the previous year’s number. Among them were 162 “pests of concern” or those that are either not found or not established in the U.S.

Source:

http://www.chiefengineer.org/content/content_display.cfm/seqnumber_content/3826.htm

21. *April 28, Associated Press* – (International) **US slams Russian moves to block meat imports.** Russia widened a ban on meat imports from Mexico and some U.S. states, prompting objections from the U.S., which noted that eating meat has nothing to do with getting swine flu. Rosselkhodnadzor, Russia’s veterinary watchdog, added New York and Ohio to the list of U.S. states barred from exporting meat into Russia. Recently, Russia banned meat products from Mexico and three U.S. states, Texas, Kansas and California, as the number of swine flu cases escalated and crossed international borders. Russia has also suspended pork imports that are not heat-treated from several Latin American countries and eight other U.S. states. The World Health Organization has said the virus does not spread through eating infected pork. Under international trade laws, countries are allowed to block imports on health and safety grounds if there is scientific evidence of potential risks. Russia remains an important market for U.S. meat producers.

Last year, the U.S. imported \$836 million worth of poultry to Russia, \$436 million worth of pork products and \$75 million worth of beef. So far, Russia has no reported cases of swine flu.

Source: http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5iiWqsyAHSAGfsV-my3aY8J52_wdQD97RHOS00

22. *April 28, Times* – (International) **Mexico outbreak traced to ‘manure lagoons’ at pig farm.** The first known case of swine flu emerged a fortnight earlier than previously thought in a village where residents have long complained about the smell and flies from a nearby pig farm, partly owned by Smithfield Foods, a Virginia-based U.S. company. The Mexican government said it initially thought that the victim, a 4 year-old boy, was suffering from ordinary flu but laboratory testing has since shown that he had contracted swine flu. The boy went on to make a full recovery, although it is thought that at least 148 others in Mexico have died from the disease, and the number is expected to rise. Residents of La Gloria have reportedly complained about the clouds of flies that are drawn to the “manure lagoons” created by such mega-farms, known in the agriculture business as Confined Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs). It is now known that there was a widespread outbreak of a powerful respiratory disease in the La Gloria area earlier this month, with some of the town’s residents falling ill in February. Health workers soon intervened, sealing off the town and spraying chemicals to kill the flies that were reportedly swarming through people’s homes. A spokeswoman for Smithfield said that the company had found no clinical signs or symptoms of the presence of swine influenza in its swine herd or its employees working at its joint ventures anywhere in Mexico.
- Source: http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/life_and_style/health/article6182789.ece

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Water Sector

23. *April 29, Baltimore Sun* – (Maryland) **Downtown water main repairs continue for 2nd day.** Twenty-four hours after a major water main break, downtown Baltimore has dried out but infrastructure repairs are keeping part of Lombard Street closed. The 20-inch water main break at Lombard and Gay streets happened at 6:25 a.m. on April 28, flooding the area, stalling traffic and closing many offices and businesses. On the morning of April 29, fire officials said that if a building had water problems on the 28, workers should call before heading downtown. By 10 a.m. on April 28, the mayor had ordered all city office buildings closed. On April 28, some buildings had no water, while others had low pressure or discolored water. The William Donald Schaefer Tower at 6 St. Paul Street will reopen on April 29, the state Department of General Services said. More than 1,100 state workers were affected by the tower’s closure April 28. A four-block span of Lombard, two blocks west and two blocks east of the break, is closed as crews work. Fayette and Baltimore streets are open. A spokesman for the Department of Public Works, said businesses in the immediate area of Lombard and Gay may be disrupted because of heavy equipment in the area. Additionally, water in that area may carry sediment; the water is safe for hand washing and flushing toilets, but it should not be consumed.
- Source: <http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/traffic/bal-watermain0429,0,3210144.story>

See also: <http://www.baltimoresun.com/news/traffic/bal-te.md.watermain29apr29,0,5898525.story?page=1>

24. *April 29, Modesto Bee* – (California) **Dead fish floating in MID canal.** Residents along a street in Modesto’s college neighborhood reported dead fish floating in a Modesto Irrigation District (MID) canal on April 28, fire officials said. Residents along the 1000 block of Wright Street also reported a burning smell from the canal and that a dog had become sick after drinking canal water, said the Modesto Fire Department battalion chief. “I observed hundreds and hundreds of dead fish,” he said, adding that the Fire Department was dispatched to the scene about 7:10 p.m. He said the Department of Fish and Game and the county’s Department of Environmental Resources were notified and will follow up with the MID on April 29. He said MID officials said they had applied the herbicide Magnacide H to kill algae in the canal. “They kept assuring us they do this twice a year,” he said, “that they are allowed to do this and [they] use less than allowable limits.” A MID spokeswoman said this was the first application of the herbicide in Modesto this year and MID officials are investigating. She said MID workers applied the herbicide at three locations in the city April 28.
Source: <http://www.modbee.com/local/story/683586.html>

25. *April 28, U.S. Geological Survey* – (Wyoming) **Ammonia from natural gas production found in Wyoming’s Powder River.** New U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) research indicates that ammonia from water used in the production of natural gas from underground coal beds in Wyoming is entering the Powder River. “High concentrations of ammonia are toxic, particularly at some of the higher pH values found in these discharged waters,” said a USGS scientist. “Even low concentrations of ammonia can fertilize pristine rivers as added nitrogen, causing unwanted plant and algal growth.” Natural gas can be brought to the surface by pumping groundwater from gas-containing coal beds, an economically viable method of energy production. However, in addition to natural gas, this groundwater drawn from wells contains ammonia, which is often subsequently released back into the natural drainage. While the USGS research showed that relatively high concentrations of ammonia are draining into some areas of the Powder River as a result of this process, the research also determined that the concentrations vary according to disposal methods and natural processes occurring within the stream channel.
Source: <http://www.usgs.gov/newsroom/article.asp?ID=2207>

26. *April 28, Environmental Protection Agency* – (Puerto Rico) **EPA Fines Construction Companies in Culebra, Puerto Rico for Ignoring Federal Water Quality Laws.** The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) levied fines against eight construction companies in Culebra, Puerto Rico for their failure to follow federal regulations for handling storm water run off from construction sites. Another company was also fined for similar violations related to the installation of a sewer line. “The failure to implement adequate storm water and sewage controls at these construction sites was harming Culebra’s fragile coastal ecosystems” said the EPA acting regional administrator. “Storm water runoff carries sediments and other pollutants that endanger sea grasses and coral ecosystems, which in turn can impact threatened and endangered sea turtles.” The

eight companies failed to obtain permits under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES), a program under the Federal Clean Water Act that regulates storm water discharges associated with sewer systems, and industrial and construction activities. NPDES requires owners and operators of construction sites larger than one acre to obtain a permit and to develop and implement a storm water pollution prevention plan, including best management practices to minimize the amount of pollutants reaching waterways.

Source:

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/opa/admpress.nsf/0/56B5946251525283852575A60058B548>

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

27. *April 29, Florence Times Daily* – (Alabama; National) **Flu-fighting medicines in short supply.** As concern about a swine influenza outbreak grows, some local Alabama pharmacies are finding it difficult to stock antiviral treatments. “Our supplier was limiting how much we could order and now they are out,” said a pharmacist at Leighton Pharmacy. “Our secondary supplier is out, too. We’re working hard to try and build up a supply in case there is an outbreak of swine flu in our area.” Swine flu is being blamed for more than 140 deaths in Mexico where the virus has sickened at least 1,000 people. More than 60 cases of the illness have been reported in the U.S. Sheffield Pharmacy expects the shortages of the anti-viral drugs to be short lived. Wholesalers may be out of flu-fighting drugs such as Tamiflu and Relenza today, but have both available for shipment tomorrow. The Alabama Department of Public Health has more than 500,000 doses of anti-viral medications stockpiled and has ordered more than 100,000 additional doses. Local hospital officials report they are prepared to respond to a flu outbreak.

Source:

<http://www.timesdaily.com/article/20090429/ARTICLES/904295019/1011/NEWS?Title=Flu-fighting-medicines-in-short-supply>

28. *April 29, CNN* – (Texas) **First swine flu death in U.S. reported.** A 2 year old child in Texas has become the first fatality from swine flu in the U.S., the acting director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said Wednesday. Six of the 64 confirmed swine flu cases in the U.S. have been reported in Texas, according to the CDC. The only other confirmed swine flu deaths have been seven in Mexico, out of more than 112 confirmed swine flu cases worldwide. He said more deaths were to be expected but that people should maintain perspective. “Seasonal flu each year causes tens of thousands of deaths in this country — on average, about 36,000 deaths,” he said. “And so this flu virus in the United States, as we’re looking at it, is not acting very differently from what we saw during the flu season.”

Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2009/HEALTH/04/29/swine.flu/index.html>

29. *April 28, Fort Worth Star Telegram* – (Texas) **Bulldozer used to break into Dallas pharmacy.** A bulldozer was used early Tuesday to bash the front of a pharmacy and breach an automatic teller machine in southwest Dallas. The incident was reported shortly after 4 a.m. at the Walgreens pharmacy near the intersection with East Colorado

Boulevard, according to a police report. Police arrived to find the bulldozer crashed through the building, but whoever used it was gone.

Source: <http://www.star-telegram.com/189/story/1344166.html>

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Government Facilities Sector

30. *April 28, Military.Com* – (National) **Air Force won't let drones land alone.** The outgoing Pentagon acquisition czar sharply criticized the Air Force on April 27 in his last meeting with reporters, saying the service had refused to budget for an autonomous landing capability for Predator UAVs even though the Air Force has lost a substantial portion of these to landing accidents. The new undersecretary of defense for acquisition, technology and logistics, was sworn in April 28. The former acquisition czar said the Air Force has lost one-third of the 183 Predators it has bought, and one third of those have crashed because of ground control issues. The spokesman added that of the 65 mishaps, 36 percent are due to human error and “many of those attributable to ground station problems.” About 15 percent of the total were destroyed during the landing phase, the spokesman clarified in his email. The former acquisition said he told the Air Force to “move as fast as possible to auto-land.” A clearly irritated undersecretary of defense for acquisition, technology and logistics told reporters “it will not surprise you that the Air Force is resisting this.” No cost estimates are available yet for equipping the Predator fleet with automatic landing capability.
Source: <http://www.military.com/news/article/April-2009/air-force-wont-let-drones-land-alone.html?ESRC=topstories.RSS>

31. *April 28, KOCO 5 Oklahoma City* – (Oklahoma) **Found package forces City Hall evacuation.** Part of City Hall in downtown Oklahoma City was evacuated on April 28 because of a suspicious package, police said. The package was found in a trash can, and evacuations were a precaution, police said. The Oklahoma City bomb squad was called to do an X-ray on the package, and by 9:45 a.m., an all-clear was given. There is no word as to what might have been in the package.
Source: <http://www.koco.com/news/19311049/detail.html>

32. *April 28, Associated Press* – (New York) **Albany man lied to FBI about terror threats.** A 22-year-old Albany man says he lied to FBI agents when he told them a Cornell University student was planning terrorist attacks on the Ivy League campus. The suspect says the target of his misinformation was a romantic rival who was dating his estranged girlfriend. The suspect pleaded guilty on April 27 to making false statements to a federal law enforcement agency. He faces a maximum sentence of 5 years in federal prison and fines of up to \$250,000. Sentencing is scheduled for August 26 in U.S. District Court. Prosecutors say the suspect was a student at Siena College when he sent e-mails to the FBI in February 2008 saying the Cornell student was learning how to make bombs, threatening to kill faculty and had joked about sending anthrax to the White House.
Source: <http://www.wcax.com/Global/story.asp?S=10262390>

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Emergency Services Sector

33. *April 29, Fort Myers News-Press* – (Florida) **Cape Coral firefighters get new station.** Starting on April 29, firefighters will be moving into Cape Coral’s newest station, a month before the start of hurricane season. The station should be operational by the evening of April 29, said the operations chief for the Cape Coral Fire Department. The station is built to withstand Category 5 hurricane winds of more than 155 mph. The old station was built to withstand winds of only 110 mph. During Hurricane Charley in August 2004, firefighters had to abandon the station on Chester Street and relocate to Cape Coral High School and Cape Coral Hospital. If need be, firefighters and other emergency personnel can evacuate to the second floor of the new building, which is 21 feet above sea level. He said the old one-story station is only about 8.2 feet above sea level. If the first floor of the new station is flooded, the station’s second floor would remain operational because it would be powered with backup generators.

Source: <http://www.news-press.com/article/20090429/NEWS0101/904290380/1003/ACC>

34. *April 28, WILX 10 Lansing* – (Michigan) **State Emergency Operations Center up and running.** While there have been no confirmed cases of the Swine Flu in Michigan, the state has opened its State Emergency Operations Center for the first time since 2005. About a dozen state agencies are represented in the room that’s become the epicenter for all things Swine Flu related. The state emergency operations center is only partially activated because officials said they are simply monitoring the situation at this point. For the Operations Center to be fully activated, the governor would have to call a state of emergency. And those at the center say that is unlikely at this point.

Source: <http://www.wilx.com/news/headlines/43932397.html>

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Information Technology

35. *April 27, Cnet News* – (International) **Puerto Rico sites redirected in DNS attack.** An attack on the main domain name system registrar in Puerto Rico led to the local Web sites of Google, Microsoft, Yahoo, Coca-Cola, and other big companies being redirected for a few hours on April 26 to sites that were defaced, according to security firm Imperva. Those sites and others including PayPal, Nike, Dell, and Nokia, were redirected to sites that were black except for messages in hacker lingo saying that the sites had been hacked. However, the sites themselves were not hacked, the chief technology officer at Imperva, said on April 27. A group calling itself the “Peace Crew” claimed that they used a SQL injection attack to break into the Puerto Rico registrar’s management system, he said. “We are seeing more and more of these DNS-related attacks and seeing them scale up,” he added. While the sites that visitors were redirected to were obviously not the legitimate sites, DNS redirects could be used to send unsuspecting Web surfers to phishing sites pretending to be banks where they would be prompted to provide sensitive information. People should use the SSL (Secure Sockets

Layer) protocol for encrypting communications with sensitive sites and use anti-phishing technology in the browser that colors part of the URL address bar green or red based on the safety level of the site being visited.

Source: http://news.cnet.com/8301-1009_3-10228436-83.html

36. *April 27, IDG News Service* – (International) **Bitlocker, TPM won't defend all PCs against VBootkit 2.0.** Trusted Platform Modules and BitLocker Drive Encryption can protect Windows 7 computers against a bootkit attack unveiled recently but these technologies will not be available on a large portion of computers, leaving millions of users unprotected when Microsoft releases its next version of Windows. VBootkit 2.0 is proof-of-concept code that was unveiled by security researchers of NVLabs, at the Hack In The Box (HITB) security conference held in Dubai recently. The code, which is just 3KB in size, allows an attacker to take control of a Windows 7 computer by patching files as they are loaded into the system's main memory. Because no software is modified on the computer's hard disk, the attack is nearly undetectable. VBootkit 2.0 is an updated version of an earlier tool, called VBootkit 1.0, that can take control of a Windows Vista computer by a similar method. With VBootkit 2.0, once an attacker has taken control of the Windows 7 computer during the boot process they are able to get system-level access to the computer, the highest level possible. They can also remove user passwords to gain access to protected files and strip DRM (digital rights management) protection from multimedia files. The passwords can then be restored, hiding any evidence that it was compromised. "There is no fix for this. It cannot be fixed. It is a design problem," one of the program designers said during his presentation last week, referring to Windows 7's assumption that the boot process is safe from attack. In response, a Microsoft representative said Windows 7's support for Trusted Platform Module (TPM) and BitLocker Drive Encryption (BDE) means the attack is "void," downplaying the threat to users.

Source:

http://www.pcworld.com/businesscenter/article/163949/bitlocker_tpm_wont_defend_all_pcs_against_vbootkit_20.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/>.

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Communications Sector

Nothing to Report

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Commercial Facilities Sector

37. *April 29, CBS 2 Los Angeles* – (California) **Fire destroys commercial building in Signal Hill.** A two-alarm fire destroyed a large two-story commercial building in Signal Hill on April 28, authorities said. The blaze at the Tristar Risk Management facility at 2835 Temple Ave. was reported about 10 p.m. Firefighters declared a knockdown about 11:20 p.m., a Los Angeles County Fire Department captain said. The fire quickly burned through the 155- by 115-foot structure's roof, causing it to collapse and forcing firefighters to go into defensive mode, battling the blaze from the building's exterior, he said. He also said the building was a complete loss, but firefighters were able to prevent the flames from spreading to buildings surrounding three sides of the structure. There were no injuries. Hazmat crews determined that there was no hazardous material burning inside the building, the captain added. Arson investigators were looking into the cause of the fire.

Source: <http://cbs2.com/local/Fire.Signal.Hill.2.997037.html>

38. *April 27, Tribune-Review* – (Pennsylvania) **Fumes at Mt. Lebanon nursing home sicken 2 employees.** Fumes at Mt. Lebanon nursing home sicken 2 employees. A toxic vapor cloud at a Mt. Lebanon senior citizens home sickened two employees who had to be hospitalized on April 26, according to the municipal fire department. No residents were harmed by the vapors, which were contained in a laundry room in Baptist Homes' assisted-living wing, a deputy fire chief said. The two employees had "moderate to severe exposure" to fumes that came from mixing bleach and ammonia, he said. They were taken to UPMC Presbyterian, Oakland, and may have needed treatment in a hyperbaric chamber, but their injuries were not life-threatening, he added. A third employee had light exposure, authorities said. Local fire, police, medical and Allegheny County hazardous materials crews spent several hours at the center on Castle Shannon Boulevard after the call came in about 3 p.m. Fire officials and medics arrived within 10 minutes of the initial call and contained what could have developed into a life-threatening situation. The incident started when an employee, likely by accident, mixed two commercial-strength cleaners. He said there will likely be no long-term effects for the center. The center houses almost 300 residents, according to its Web site.

Source: http://www.pittsburghlive.com/x/pittsburghtrib/news/pittsburgh/s_622459.html

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National Monuments & Icons Sector

Nothing to Report

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Dams Sector

39. *April 28, KCRG 9 Cedar Rapids* – (Iowa) **Army Corps Studies Cedar Rapids Flood Protection Options.** The Army Corps of Engineers is about to begin a feasibility study to figure out how to build flood walls and levees that are both affordable and

environmentally friendly. Cedar Rapids needs the Corps' permission to move forward with its own plan to prevent a future flood. Before construction can begin on the flood prevention system, the Corps has to approve it and the project needs funding. The Corps estimates construction work will not start until 2012. The water looks calm and peaceful now, but everyone knows the Cedar River could rise up again. It will take the Corps several years to study the best way to prevent another flood. Some homeowners who live near the river have already rebuilt and they are worried the City's proposed combination of flood walls, green space and levees could force them to move. The Corps' main concerns are the economics and the environmental effects of any flood walls or levees.

Source: <http://www.kcrg.com/news/local/43929377.html>

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