

Part II:

Pipeline Bursts:

Their *Causations*,

and the

Deaths, Bodily Injuries,

& Economic *and* Ecological Damages

they Inflicted

2011 – 2012

As recorded by the U.S. Department of Transportation's
Pipeline & Hazardous Materials Safety Administration

(www.phmsa.dot.gov/staticfiles/PHMSA/PipelineFailureReports)

Other sources cited, where applicable.

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2011

- On January 11, personnel from Millennium Pipeline Company, L.L.C.¹ noticed that **a gas transmission pipeline was leaking** in Tioga County, New York. This **30-inch diameter** pipeline was built only 3 years earlier in 2008. **A pinhole in a rejected girth weld was found to be the cause of the failure.** It appears that **during the course of the construction project for the line, the subject pipe section was inadvertently picked up and subsequently installed in the pipeline.** PHMSA ordered testing of this pipeline for similar flaws.²
- **A 12-inch cast iron gas main leaking in Philadelphia explodes, killing a repair crew member and injuring six others** on January 18.³
- **Multiple gas pressure regulators failed, & caused a gas pressure surge** in Fairport Harbor, Ohio, on January 24, **causing gas fires in 11 houses, and one apartment.** 150 gas appliances were damaged or destroyed. Gas company Dominion East Ohio⁴ says it found **fluids & debris in a failed regulator.** A year after the explosion, the Public Utilities Commission of Ohio recommended a \$500,000 fine for Dominion.⁵
- **Five people were killed, & eight houses were destroyed, in a gas explosion and fire** in Allentown, Pennsylvania on February 9. The NTSB had warned UGI about **cast iron gas mains needing replacement** after the 1990 gas explosion in that city. **Between 1976 and the date of the letter, July 10, 1992, two more gas explosions occurred. Three people were killed, 23 injured and 11 houses were destroyed or damaged in those explosions.** UGI was cited in 2012 for **several safety violations, including a lack of valves on their gas system.**⁶

¹ Millennium Pipeline Company, L.L.C.: <http://www.millenniumpipeline.com/>

² U.S. Department of Transportation, Pipeline & Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, July 6th, 2011 report: http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/comm/reports/enforce/documents/120111013S/120111013S_NOPSO_07062011.pdf

³ U.S. Department of Transportation, Pipeline & Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, "Pipeline Replacement Updates": http://opsweb.phmsa.dot.gov/pipeline_replacement/

⁴ <https://www.dom.com/residential/dominion-east-ohio>

⁵ "Fairport Harbor blasts probed". *news-herald.com*. February 2, 2011. Retrieved April 2, 2013: <http://www.news-herald.com/general-news/20110202/fairport-harbor-blasts-probed?viewmode=fullstory>

⁶ "UGI cited for multiple safety violations leading to Allentown gas explosion | Regional: Lehigh Valley – Home". *Wfmz.com*. June 11, 2012: <http://www.wfmz.com/news/news-regional-lehighvalley/Local/UGI-cited-for-multiple-safety-violations-leading-to-Allentown-gas-explosion/14773532>



PHOTO: “Firefighter crews fight the aftermath of a pipeline explosion in Allentown, Pennsylvania, in which 5 people were killed and 8 houses were destroyed – February 9, 2011”:
http://www.lehighvalleylive.com/allentown/index.ssf/2013/02/ugi_agrees_to_pay_500000_fine.html

- Late on February 10, a Tennessee Gas Pipeline **36-inch gas transmission pipeline exploded & burned** near Lisbon, Ohio. **The cause was from stress on a girth weld on the pipeline.**⁷
- On March 1, a Tennessee Gas Pipeline **gas transmission pipeline failed** near Cumberland, Ohio. A **material or weld defect was the cause.**⁸
- Early on March 17, **a 20-inch steel natural gas line** running through a Minneapolis, Minnesota neighborhood **ruptured & gas from it ignited**, caused evacuations to buildings nearby, & Interstate 35W was closed from downtown Minneapolis to Highway 62. The Minnesota Office of Pipeline Safety⁹ later found **the pipe there wasn't designed to handle the weight of soil & passing cars pressing down on it, & efforts to shore up the pipeline were incorrectly carried out.**¹⁰
- A farmer & rancher near White Oak Township, Michigan smelled gasoline on April 13, & discovered **gasoline from a products pipeline leaking into a drainage ditch**. As of late September, **an estimated 460,000 gallons of gasoline contaminated the ecosystem.**¹¹
- On May 7, **a threaded connection failed on a** Keystone Pipeline¹² **pump** at a station in Sargent County, North Dakota, **spilling about 400 barrels of crude oil**. Due to **a number of other leaks on this pipeline system**, Keystone's owner, TransCanada Corporation¹³, was given a Corrective Action Order by PHMSA.¹⁴

7 "Cause of explosion in Hanover Township determined – 21 News Now, More Local News for Youngstown, Ohio": <http://www.wfmj.com/story/15677053/cause-of-explosion-in-hanover-township-determined>

8 U.S. DOT: http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/comm/reports/operator/OperatorIM_opid_19160.html

9 <https://dps.mn.gov/divisions/ops/Pages/default.aspx>

10 "Report ID's Cause of Windom Pipeline Explosion". *Southwest Minneapolis, Minnesota Patch*: <http://patch.com/minnesota/southwestminneapolis/report-id-s-cause-of-windom-pipeline-explosion>

11 Southern Illinoisians Against Fracturing the Environment, "List of pipeline accidents in the United States in the 21st century": <http://www.dontfractureillinois.net/2013/10/list-of-pipeline-accidents-in-the-united-states-in-the-21st-century/>

12 Keystone XL Pipeline: <http://www.keystone-xl.com/>

13 TransCanada Corporation: <http://www.transcanada.com/>

14 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION PIPELINE AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SAFETY ADMINISTRATION OFFICE OF PIPELINE SAFETY WASHINGTON, D.C.: http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/comm/reports/enforce/documents/320115006H/320115006H_Amended%20CAO_06282011_text.pdf



PHOTO: “March 17, 2011 - Gas line explosion in Minneapolis, Minnesota - the line was found to not have been constructed properly in order to hold the weight of soil and cars passing over it, and it ruptured while being shored up”: <http://finance-commerce.com/2011/03/natural-gas-explosion-hits-south-minneapolis/>

- **An 8-inch NGL pipeline failed** in Romeoville, Illinois on May 14, **leaking about 4200 gallons of butane. Corrosion inside a casing under a road was the cause of the failure.** Corrosion only 2.5 feet from the failure had been seen by a smart pig run in 2007, but was not within action limits at the time.¹⁵
- On May 19, **a 10-inch crude oil pipeline ruptured** near Maysville, Oklahoma. **Over 42,000 US gallons (160,000 L) of crude contaminated the ecosystem. Internal pipeline corrosion** was the cause.¹⁶
- **A 2-inch lateral on a crude oil pipeline ruptured** in Huntington Beach, California on July 1.¹⁷
- Late on July 1, **a 12-inch Exxon Mobil crude oil pipeline— also known as the Silvertip Pipeline— ruptured, & spilled about 63,000 gallons of oil into the Yellowstone River** in south-central Montana. **There was confusion in the pipeline control room, causing a delayed pipeline shutdown.**¹⁸ The break near Billings **fouled the riverbank & forced municipalities & irrigation districts to close intakes.**¹⁹ Speculation involves **high water flow in the Yellowstone River may have scoured the river bed & exposed the pipe.**²⁰
- On July 20, **a six-month-old, 30-inch natural gas pipeline exploded** near Gillette, Wyoming, **creating a 60-foot (18 m) crater. Construction or installation issues caused the failure.**^{21 22}

15 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION PIPELINE AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS SAFETY ADMINISTRATION OFFICE OF PIPELINE SAFETY CENTRAL REGION KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI: http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/comm/reports/enforce/documents/320115008S/320115008S_Notice%20of%20Proposed%20Safety%20Order_06152011_text.pdf

16 McGurty, Janet (January 20, 2011). "UPDATE 2-Sunoco shuts Oklahoma crude line after Weds. leak". Reuters: <http://uk.reuters.com/article/pipeline-outage-sunoco-oklahoma-idUKN2014891220110120>

17 KTLA.com, "Major Huntington Beach Street Closed After Oil Pipe Bursts": <https://web.archive.org/web/20120902094232/http://www.ktla.com/news/landing/ktla-southwest-oil-leak,0,7386337.story>

18 Cause of explosion in Hanover Township determined – 21 News Now, More Local News for Youngstown, Ohio": <http://www.wfmj.com/story/15677053/cause-of-explosion-in-hanover-township-determined>

19 "Exxon Oil Spill in Montana River Prompts Evacuations". *Fox News*. July 3, 2011: <http://www.foxnews.com/us/2011/07/03/exxon-oil-spill-in-montana-river-prompts-evacuations/#ixzz1R8GNrB2>

20 "Lawsuits against Exxon Mobil mount over big oil pipeline spills", *Dallas News*: <http://www.dallasnews.com/business/energy/20130914-lawsuits-against-exxon-mobil-mount-over-big-oil-pipeline-spills.ece>

21 United Press International, July 24th, 2011: http://www.upi.com/Business_News/2011/07/24/Wyoming-nat-gas-pipeline-out-of-commission/UPI-87131311487780/

22 Charles Rusnell Timothy Sawa and Joseph Loiero, of CBC News, October 24th, 2012: <http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/quality-concerns-arose-before-transcanada-pipeline-blast-1.1276144>



PHOTO: “63,000 gallons of oil spilled by ExxonMobil into the Yellowstone River on July 1, 2011”: <http://www.nytimes.com/2011/07/03/us/03oilspill.html>

- A **pipeline carrying jet fuel ruptured** in Mango, Florida on July 22. About **31,500 US gallons (119,000 L) of fuel spilled**.²³
- On August 13, **an 8-inch NGL pipeline ruptured** near Onawa, Iowa **at a Missouri River crossing, during flooding conditions**. About **818 barrels of Natural Gasoline contaminated the ecosystem**.^{24 25 26 27}
- On August 17, **Kinder Morgan's Natural Gas Pipeline Company of America had a flash fire and explosion at a plant** south of Herscher, Illinois. Five employees went to the hospital. Kinder Morgan was later cited for **pipeline and workplace safety violations**.^{28 29}
- **A pipeline carrying heating oil was hit by construction workers** in East Providence, Rhode Island on August 31, **spraying oil on roofs, trees, and pavement, and flowed into storm drains**. **At least 56,000 US gallons (210,000 L) of oil were spilled**.³⁰
- A **10-inch liquid petroleum gas (“LPG”) pipeline failed** on September 8 in Mitchell County, Texas. **The escaping gas ignited, starting a small brush fire**. **The cause of the failure was a crack in the weld of a repair sleeve from bending and heat hardening**.³¹

23 **Kevin Brady, of Brandon Patch, July 24th, 2011:**

<https://web.archive.org/web/20120328041114/http://brandon.patch.com/articles/officials-probe-leak-of-31500-gallons-of-jet-fuel-near-mango-cleanup-ongoing>

24 **U.S. DOT, Pipeline & Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, September 16th, 2011:**

http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/comm/reports/enforce/documents/320115010H/320115010H_CAO_09162011.pdf

25 **U.S. DOT, Pipeline & Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, August 19th, 2011:**

http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/comm/reports/enforce/documents/320115009H/320115009H_CAO_08192011.pdf

26 **The Associated Press, August 14th, 2011:**

http://www.wowt.com/home/headlines/Gas_Leaking_Into_Missouri_River_From_Pipeline_127693933.html

27 **The United States Department of Justice, Office of Public Affairs, May 29th, 2012:**

<https://www.justice.gov/opa/pr/mid-america-pipeline-company-and-enterprise-products-operating-pay-1-million-spills-iowa>

28 **Natural Gas Watch.org, August 17th, 2011:** <http://www.naturalgaswatch.org/?p=817>

29 **Hazardex, August 17th, 2011:**

<http://www.hazardexonthenet.net/article/44270/Gas-plant-explosion-injures-five.aspx?AreaID=2>

30 **Alisha A. Pina, of The Providence Journal, September 3rd, 2011:**

https://web.archive.org/web/20111016024958/http://www.projo.com/news/environment/content/OIL_SPILL_UPDATE_09-03-11_SKQ4BP2_v15.64660.html

31 **U.S. DOT, Pipeline & Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, April 19th, 2012:**

<http://www.phmsa.dot.gov/staticfiles/PHMSA/DownloadableFiles/Files/Pipeline/Failure%20Reports/Chevron%20HL%20TX%202011-09-08%20508.pdf>



PHOTO: “Pipeline explosion in Gillette, Wyoming”:

http://www.gillettenewsrecord.com/news/article_888580dc-4235-5cb8-b187-47b771963691.html

- On September 20, **a farmer digging to lay drainage tile hit a 10-inch gasoline pipeline** near Aurelius, New York, **spilling about 3,300 US gallons (12 m^3) of gasoline.**³²
- A **2-inch crude oil gathering pipeline failed** in Oklahoma on October 12, **spilling about 120 barrels of oil.**³³
- Early on November 3, **an explosion and fire hit a gas** Columbia Gas Transmission **pipeline**³⁴ **compressor station** at Artemas in Mann Township, Bedford County, Pennsylvania. **The cause was internal corrosion.**^{35 36}
- On November 8, **a contractor** for Vectren Corp.³⁷ **working on a bare gas main replacement project broke a "short stub" on the main**, then failed to notify New Albany, Indiana authorities about the leak. **Gas migrated through the soil, and built up in a nearby house, then exploded. Five people had to be hospitalized.**³⁸
- **A crew working on a waterline hit a gas distribution pipeline** in Fairborn, Ohio on November 12, **leading to a gas explosion that killed one man, and injured five others, including children.**³⁹
- On November 16, a Tennessee Gas Pipeline **36-inch gas transmission pipeline exploded and burned** near Glouster, Ohio. **Two people were injured, with three houses and a barn destroyed, and a barn damaged. The pipeline failed at a girth weld, with landsliding causing more stress on the weld.**⁴⁰

32 **Scott Rapp, of The Post-Standard, September 23rd, 2011:**

http://www.syracuse.com/news/index.ssf/2011/09/ruptured_gasoline_pipeline_fix.html

33 **Reuters, Oil Report, October 24th, 2011:**

<http://uk.reuters.com/article/pipeline-operations-blueknight-idUKN1E79N0V720111024>

34 **Columbia Gas Transmission pipeline:** <http://www.columbiapipeinfo.com/infopost/>

35 **Steve Bittner, of the Cumberland Times-News, November 3rd, 2011:**

http://www.times-news.com/news/local_news/link-to-video-of-artemas-gas-explosion-at-bottom-of/article_55f5bbab-5bbf-5082-91a7-1a53441ea878.html

36 **U.S. DOT, Pipeline & Hazardous Materials Safety Administration:**

http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/comm/reports/operator/OperatorIM_opid_2616.html?nocache=7677#_Incidents_tab_4

37 **Vectron Corps. Website:** <https://www.vectren.com/>

38 **Daniel Suddeath, of News and Tribune, September 25th, 2012:**

http://www.newsandtribune.com/news/business/vectren-agrees-to-settlement-in-gas-explosion/article_a54ecf8e-5bc6-56ed-aeb3-2a7242a1c58c.html

39 **Fox News U.S., November 13th, 2011:**

<http://www.foxnews.com/us/2011/11/12/ohio-house-explosion-injures-6-1-missing-officials-say.html?test=latestnews>

40 **U.S. DOT, Pipeline & Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, November 17th, 2011:**

http://www.phmsa.dot.gov/staticfiles/PHMSA/DownloadableFiles/320111018H_CAO_11172011%20-%20Tennessee%20Gas.pdf



PHOTO: “Aftermath of a gas line explosion in Fariborn, Ohio which resulted in the death of a 75 year old man”: <http://www.foxnews.com/us/2011/11/12/ohio-house-explosion-injures-6-1-missing-officials-say.html>

- Late on November 21, a Tennessee Gas Pipeline **24-inch gas transmission pipeline exploded and burned** near Batesville, Mississippi. **The pipeline failed at a sleeve over a wrinkle bend.**⁴¹
- On December 3, a Williams Companies⁴² **gas transmission pipeline exploded and burned** in Marengo County, Alabama. **A 47-foot section of the pipe was hurled more than 200 feet from the failure area. The gas burned for several hours, and a nearby pipeline was damaged. External corrosion was the cause of the failure, due to issues with the pipeline coating, the cathodic protection level, and the local soil corrosiveness.**^{43 44}
- On December 6, **explosions and fire erupted at a natural gas pipeline compressor station** in Sublette County, Wyoming. Two workers were injured.⁴⁵
- On December 10, **a landowner using a bulldozer hit an 8-inch and a 12-inch petroleum pipelines** near Nemaha, Nebraska, **rupturing both lines. The spill size was estimated to be 119,000 gallons of gasoline, jet fuel, and Diesel fuel. Some of the fuels flowed into a creek leading into Jasper Creek.** There were questions about the depth of soil coverage for this pipeline.^{46 47 48}

41 **U.S. DOT, Pipeline & Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, November 28th, 2011:**
http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/comm/reports/enforce/documents/220111010H/220111010H_CAO_11282011.pdf

42 **Williams Company:** <http://co.williams.com/>

43 **WSFA 12 News, 2011:**
<http://www.wsfa.com/story/16181245/pipeline-explodes-in-marengo-county-causes-massive-fire>

44 **Jason Cannon, of the Demopolis Times, February 21st, 2012:**
<http://www.demopolistimes.com/2012/02/21/corrosion-cited-in-pipeline-explosion/>

45 **Jeremy Fugleberg of Star-Tribune, December 6th, 2011:**
http://trib.com/news/state-and-regional/two-injured-in-fire-explosions-at-wyoming-natural-gas-site/article_1e7e73ac-e3a0-563a-bff1-0b6a716457da.html

46 **Lincoln Journal Star, December 12th, 2011:**
http://journalstar.com/business/local/magellan-pipeline-fixed-near-nemaha-fuel-pumping-to-resume/article_a9db6a3a-2ddb-5d7c-af11-3b329c4576b0.html

47 **Algis J. Laukaitis, of the Lincoln Journal Star, December 12th, 2011:**
http://journalstar.com/news/local/clean-up-begins-on-pipeline-spill-in-nemaha-county/article_97ce305c-051f-5e9f-a93a-34f7ab9e00c2.html

48 **Paul Burkhardt, of the Bloomberg Business Week, December 13th, 2011:**
<https://web.archive.org/web/20131028144724/http://www.businessweek.com/news/2011-12-13/magellan-reduces-nebraska-line-spill-estimate-to-2-834-barrels.html>

- A **42-inch natural gas transmission pipeline failed and ignited at a valve** on December 10 in Cache County, Utah.^{49 50}
- On December 27, controllers for Enterprise Pipeline received an alarm for **a leak on an LPG pipeline**, a leak found in Loving County, Texas. **The cause was a full girth weld failure. During the pipeline repair, a flash fire involving residual pipeline product in the soil occurred, injuring 3 employees. The rupture was attributed to the complete circumferential separation of an acetylene girth weld dating to 1928, and the flash fire was attributed to operator error.**⁵¹



*PHOTO: “Pipeline explosion in Batesville, Mississippi caused by faulty construction”:
http://fuelfix.com/files/2011/11/Gas-Line-Explosion_Coha-306x229.jpg*

⁴⁹ **Bloomberg News, December 12th, 2011:**

<http://www.denverpost.com/2011/12/12/el-paso-says-no-estimate-for-return-of-ruby-gas-line-in-utah/>

⁵⁰ **Ruby Pipeline LLC, December 11th, 2011:**

<http://ebb.cigco.com/ebbmasterpage/Notices/NoticesAutoTable.aspx?>

⁵¹ **U.S. DOT, Pipeline & Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, September 12th, 2013:**

[http://www.phmsa.dot.gov/staticfiles//PHMSA/PipelineFailureReports/Failure_Investigation_Report_Enterpr
ise_Rio_Grande_Final.pdf](http://www.phmsa.dot.gov/staticfiles//PHMSA/PipelineFailureReports/Failure_Investigation_Report_Enterprise_Rio_Grande_Final.pdf)

2012

- A **30-inch gas pipeline exploded and burned**, in Estill County, Kentucky, on the evening of January 2. The **rupture created a crater approximately 86 feet long by 22 feet wide, and expelled a number of pieces of pipe as far as 800 feet from the rupture center. Flames were reported reaching over 1,000 feet high.** Residents up to a mile away from the failure were evacuated. **The cause was overstress from land movement.**⁵²
- A **forest fire caused a gas pipeline to explode and burn** in Floyd County, Kentucky on January 7.⁵³
- On January 9, a man was killed, and another person injured, in **a fiery house explosion from a leaking 4-inch cast iron gas main** installed in 1950 in Austin, Texas. Gas had been smelled in the area for several weeks prior to this. Gas company crews had looked along the affected property for a leak, but were unable to find it.^{54 55}
- A Sunoco **pipeline ruptured and spilled about 117,000 gallons of gasoline**, in Wellington, Ohio, late on January 12.⁵⁶
- On January 13, **an 8-inch gas pipeline exploded and burned, in a vacant agricultural field**, in Rio Vista, California, *contaminating the ecosystem*.⁵⁷
- A Tennessee Gas Pipeline **gas compressor had a major leak** "that sounded like a rocket" in Powell County, Kentucky, forcing evacuations of nearby residents on January 14.⁵⁸

52 **WYMT News, January 2nd, 2012:**

<https://web.archive.org/web/20120106210254/http://www.wkyt.com/wymtnews/headlines/136548983.html>

53 **Maryland Citizens for Safe Gas Pipelines:** <http://www.ceds.org/gas.html>

54 **U.S. DOT, Pipeline & Hazardous Materials Safety Administration:**

http://opsweb.phmsa.dot.gov/pipeline_replacement/

55 **Statesman, January 11th, 2012:**

<http://www.statesman.com/news/news/local/man-feared-dead-in-home-explosion-had-hoped-to-m-1/nRjcb/>

56 **Michael Baldwin of News Channel 5, January 21st, 2012:**

https://web.archive.org/web/20131027232258/http://www.newsnet5.com/dpp/news/local_news/oh_lorain/welington-may-have-answers-in-the-coming-weeks

57 **Rick Hurd, of The Mercury News, January 13th, 2012:**

<http://www.mercurynews.com/2012/01/13/no-injuries-damage-after-gas-line-explodes-in-rio-vista/>

58 **Lex18.com, January 14th, 2012:**

<https://web.archive.org/web/20120119085823/http://www.lex18.com/news/gas-leak-in-powell-county>

- **A contractor excavating for a communications company caused a massive gas explosion and fire at a condominium complex** on January 16 in West Haverstraw, New York, injuring two firefighters and two utility workers. **Afterwards, it was found that the excavator's insurance will be insufficient to cover all of the property damage of the incident.**⁵⁹
- On January 18, the original Colonial Pipeline **mainline failed** in Belton, South Carolina, **spilling about 13,500 gallons of petroleum product into the ecosystem. The failure was caused by internal corrosion.**⁶⁰



PHOTO: “Pipeline rupture in Estill County, Kentucky which was caused by overstress from land movement”: <http://www.kentucky.com/news/local/crime/article44148285.html>

59 Akiko Matsuda, of The Journal News, January 20th, 2012:
<https://web.archive.org/web/20150223060211/http://www.lohud.com/article/20120121/NEWS03/301200069/Cortlandt-contractor-gas-explosion-may-lack-enough-insurance-lawyer-homeowners-says>

60 Pipeline Safety Tracker by Pro Publica, January 18th, 2012:
<http://projects.propublica.org/pipelines/incidents/273705>

- **Workers** in Topeka, Kansas **were installing a yard sprinkler system** on January 30, **hit a gas line. Gas from the leak later on exploded in a nearby house, burning a 73-year-old woman, who died several weeks later.**⁶¹
- On January 31, a Shell Oil Company **fuel pipeline** to the Milwaukee, Wisconsin Mitchell International Airport was **found to be leaking**. Jet fuel had been smelled for about two weeks in the area, and was found in runoff water in the area. **The cause was from external corrosion.** About **9,000 gallons of fuel were spilled**. In 2014, **a Shell employee was scheduled to plead guilty to charges of falsifying records of the pipeline.**⁶²
- A Florida Gas Transmission Company **30-inch gas transmission pipeline burst** near Baton Rouge, Louisiana on February 13.^{63 64}
- On February 15th, 2012 in Arenac County, Michigan, oil was discovered in the soil around a 30-inch Enbridge crude oil pipeline. **About 800 gallons of crude oil was spilled.**⁶⁵

61 **Giang Nguyen and Marques White of WIBW 13, January 31st, 2012:**
http://www.wibw.com/home/headlines/Building_Explosion_138335069.html

62 **Bruce Vielmetti of the Journal Sentinel, November 17th, 2014:**
<http://archive.jsonline.com/news/milwaukee/ex-shell-pipeline-monitor-to-plead-guilty-in-airport-leak-b99392450z1-282987621.html>

63 **U.S. DOT, Pipeline & Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, June 24th, 2013:**
http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/comm/reports/enforce/documents/420131014H/420131014H_Corrective%20Action%20Order_06242013.pdf

64 **U.S. DOT, Pipeline & Hazardous Materials Safety Administration:**
http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/comm/reports/operator/OperatorIM_opid_31174.html?nocache=2826#_Incidents_tab_3

65 **U.S. DOT, Pipeline & Hazardous Materials Safety Administration:**
http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/comm/reports/operator/OperatorIM_opid_11169.html?nocache=3470#_Incidents_tab_3



PHOTO: “The remnant of a pipeline explosion in Topeka, Kansas which resulted in the death of a 73 year old woman”: <https://www.greatbendpost.com/2012/02/06/topeka-woman-dies-in-house-explosion/>)

- **Two cars that were drag racing went off the road they were on, and crash through a fence and into a crude oil pipeline** in New Lenox, Illinois on March 3. **The pipeline was ruptured, and the crude oil ignited.** Two men from the vehicles were killed, and three others seriously burned.^{66 67}
- **A crude oil pipeline leaked** near Grand Isle, Louisiana on March 17, **spilling as much as 8,400 gallons of crude oil.**⁶⁸
- On March 29, **an employee accidentally left a valve open during maintenance work** on a Williams Companies gas compressor station near Springville Township, Pennsylvania. **Later, gas leaked through the valve,** causing alarms to evacuate workers in the compressor building. **Later, the gas exploded and burned. It was found there were no agencies enforcing rules on rural gas facilities in Pennsylvania at the time.**^{69 70}
- On April 2, Transcontinental Gas Pipeline Company, reported **a leak on their 72nd Street Interstate Transmission Lateral** located in North Bergen, New Jersey. **Workers discovered a rock in contact with the bottom of the pipe. Upon removing the rock, the pipeline began to leak.**⁷¹
- **A 12-inch gas pipeline exploded and burned for five hours** near Gary, Texas on April 4. **The rupture site was only 200 feet from that pipeline's compressor station.**⁷²

66 **Brian Stanley and Steve Metsch of The Chicago Sun-Times, March 6th, 2012:**

<http://www.firerescue1.com/fire-attack/articles/1247826-2-killed-by-Ill-oil-pipeline-explosion/>

67 **K.T. Arasu of Reuters, March 7th, 2012:**

<http://af.reuters.com/article/energyOilNews/idAFL2E8E7FYA20120307?sp=true>

68 **Paul Purpura of The Times-Picayune, March 21st, 2012:**

http://www.nola.com/environment/index.ssf/2012/03/officials_finish_cleaning_crud.html

69 **Joseph Tanfani of the Inquirer, April 8th, 2012:**

http://articles.philly.com/2012-04-08/news/31308559_1_gas-safety-gas-explosion-natural-gas

70 **Laura Legere of The Times-Tribune, March 30th, 2012:**

<http://thetimes-tribune.com/news/explosion-rocks-natural-gas-compressor-station-1.1292502#axzz1qWyVU1UF>

71 **U.S. DOT, Pipeline & Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, July 12th, 2013:**

[http://www.phmsa.dot.gov/staticfiles/PHMSA/PipelineFailureReports/139107_Williams_Gas_Pipeline_North_Bergen_NJ_2012\[Redacted_for_Internet\].pdf](http://www.phmsa.dot.gov/staticfiles/PHMSA/PipelineFailureReports/139107_Williams_Gas_Pipeline_North_Bergen_NJ_2012[Redacted_for_Internet].pdf)

72 **KSLA, April 4th, 2012:**

<http://apmobile.worldnow.com/story/17329411/early-morning-pipeline-explosion-rocks-homes-in-carthage-area>

Pipeline Bursts: Deaths, Injuries, & Ecological & Economic Damages they Inflicted; 2011 – 2012

- On April 6, **two gas company workers were mildly burned when attempting to fix a leak on a 4-inch gas pipeline** in DeSoto County, Mississippi. **The pipeline exploded and burned during the repairs.**⁷³
- **A gas pipeline exploded and burned** in Terrebonne Parish, Louisiana, on April 9.⁷⁴
- **Two men escaped with only minor burns after a bulldozer they were using hit a 24-inch gas pipeline** near Hinton, Iowa on April 25th. **Authorities later announced the men did not call 811 for an underground utility locate.**⁷⁵



PHOTO: “The aftermath of the fiery car wreck of New Lenox, Illinois. While the men may have been drag racing, it was the pipeline that caused them to burst into flames - the two men died”:
<http://www.triblocal.com/new-lenox/2012/03/05/accident-shuts-down-new-lenox-pipeline/>

73 **Natural Gas Watch.org, April 9th, 2012:** <http://www.naturalgaswatch.org/?p=1332>

74 **Rebecca Mowbray of The Times-Picayune, April 11th, 2012:**
http://www.nola.com/business/index.ssf/2012/04/natural_gas_pipeline_ruptures.html

75 **Siouxland’s News Channel 4 KTIV, April 26th, 2012:**
<http://www.ktiv.com/story/17797831/northern-natural-gas-men-did-not-check-for-line>

- On April 28, an ExxonMobil **20/22-inch-diameter pipeline ruptured** near Torbert in Pointe Coupee Parish, Louisiana, about 20 miles west of Baton Rouge, and **crude oil spilled into the surrounding area, and flowed into an unnamed tributary connected to Bayou Cholpe. About 117,000 gallons of crude were spilled**, with about 37,000 gallons permanently contaminating the water & surrounding ecosystem. **The pipeline failed due to a manufacturing defect.**^{76 77}
- **A 26-inch gas transmission pipeline ruptured** on June 6 **in a compressor station** near Laketon in northeastern Gray County, Texas. **Gas escaped from the 50-foot-long rupture, igniting, leaving a crater 30 feet in diameter, burning two acres of agricultural area and telephone poles.**⁷⁸
- On June 8, near Canadian, Texas, **a trackhoe operator suffered burns, after a fire from leaking 4-inch gas-gathering pipeline that was undergoing maintenance. Fumes entered the engine of the trackhoe and ignited.**⁷⁹
- **A contractor was killed and two others injured after an explosion at a BP gas compressor station** in Durango, Colorado on June 25. **BP, Halliburton, and the other contractors were fined \$7,000 each for safety violations** in that work.^{80 81}

76 **U.S. DOT, Pipeline & Hazardous Materials Safety Administration:**

http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/comm/reports/operator/OperatorIM_opid_4906.html?nocache=4538#_Incidents_tab_4

77 **US Environmental Protection Agency, August 26th, 2014:**

<http://www.wateronline.com/doc/exxonmobil-pipeline-company-resolves-clean-water-act-violation-stemming-spill-0001>

78 **NH Pipeline Awareness:** <http://nhpipelineawareness.org/violations/>

79 **News West 9:** <http://www.newswest9.com/story/18740938/man-injured-in-pipeline-explosion-in-hemphill-county>

80 **Hazardex, June 26th, 2012:**

<http://www.hazardexonthenet.net/article/51303/BP-gas-compressor-station-explosion-in-Colorado-kills-one.aspx>

81 **KCFR-FM, January 24th, 2013:**

https://web.archive.org/web/20130201232344/http://www.krqe.com/dpp/news/colorado/ap_colorado/BP-Halliburton-fined-in-fatal-pipeline-explosion_54659132

- A West Shore Pipe Line **petroleum products pipeline burst** near Jackson, Wisconsin on July 17, **contaminating the surrounding ecosystem with approximately 54,000 gallons of gasoline**. At least one family self evacuated due to the leak. **At least 44 water wells nearby were contaminated from benzene in the gasoline, including a municipal well. A LF-ERW seam failure was suspected as the cause. Further testing revealed that at least 26 other areas on this pipeline needed repairs, with 22 within the Jackson Marsh Wildlife Area.**⁸² □ □ □ □
- **A 14-inch gas gathering pipeline exploded and burned** on July 18 near Intracoastal City, Louisiana.⁸⁶



PHOTO: “ExxonMobil's Oil Spill in Louisiana”:

<https://eponline.com/articles/2014/08/27/exxonmobil-to-pay-large-fine-for-2012-oil-spill-in-louisiana.aspx>

82 **Don Behm of the Journal Sentinel, July 4th, 2013:**

<http://archive.jsonline.com/news/ozwash/tests-reveal-chemicals-in-23-more-jackson-wells-b9946404z1-214289551.html>

83 **Don Behm of the Journal Sentinel, July 26th, 2013:**

<http://archive.jsonline.com/news/ozwash/fuel-company-seeks-to-divert-cedar-creek-for-pipeline-fixes-b9960569z1-217100831.html>

84 **Don Behm of the Journal Sentinel, September 15th, 2013:**

<http://archive.jsonline.com/news/fuel-pipeline-repairs-force-closure-of-parts-of-jackson-marsh-b9997333z1-223827051.html>

85 **Don Behm of the Journal Sentinel, October 8th, 2013:**

<http://archive.jsonline.com/news/ozwash/large-gasoline-spill-linked-to-benzene-detected-in-village-of-jackson-well-b99115765z1-226939341.html>

86 **The Eunice News, October 3rd, 2016:**

https://web.archive.org/web/20120815051857/http://www.eunicetoday.com/view/full_story/19367444/article-Gas-line-blows-in-Intracoastal-City--no-one-hurt?instance=secondary_news_left_column

- On July 23, **a compressor station** operated by Williams Companies in Windsor, New York **was venting gas in a "routine procedure" — during a lightning storm — when the vent was ignited by lightning, causing a fireball "hundreds of feet into the air"**.⁸⁷ □□
- An Enbridge **crude oil pipeline ruptured** in Grand Marsh, Wisconsin, **releasing an estimated 1,200 barrels of crude oil. The pipeline had been installed in 1998 (6 years earlier). Flaws in the longitudinal welds had been seen during X-ray checks of girth welds.**⁸⁹
- **Four contract workers were injured during a flash fire at a Wyoming gas processing plant** on August 22.⁹⁰
- **A jet fuel pipeline**^{near Chicago} **began leaking** on August 27. **The burst pipeline spilled an estimated 42,000 gallons of jet fuel into a ditch that empties into the Calumet Sag Channel in Palos Heights, Illinois. External corrosion was the cause of the pipeline failure**.⁹¹ ⁹²

87 **Natural Gas Watch, July 31st, 2012:** <http://www.naturalgaswatch.org/?p=1459>

88 **Erica Mahoney of WBNG 12 Action News, July 23rd 2012:**
<http://www.wbng.com/news/local/Lightning-Causes-Compressor-Explosion-163497506.html>

89 **Brendan O'Brien, Reuters, July 9th, 2012:**
<http://www.reuters.com/article/enbridge-pipeline-idUSL2E8IT1AL20120729>

90 **Jeremy Fugleberg of Star-Tribune, August 23rd, 2012:**
http://trib.com/business/energy/burned-in-lost-cabin-gas-plant-explosion/article_3f7c4b8a-f89a-5de1-9afe-ea88e8bf25f9.html

91 **Environment News Service, August 28th, 2012:**
<http://ens-newswire.com/2012/08/28/jet-fuel-spill-near-chicago-closes-canal-highway/>

92 **Nick Swedberg of Palos Patch, November 21st, 2012:**
<http://patch.com/illinois/palos/pipeline-in-palos-park-was-corroded-company-rep>



PHOTO: “In Windsor, New York, a Williams Company was venting a pipeline during a lightning storm - lightning struck the pipe and ignited the gas”:

<http://www.pressconnects.com/story/news/2016/02/05/fracking-natural-gas-pipeline-growth-feeds-demand-rattles-neighbors/79137962/>

- On August 28, a Atmos Energy **repair crew struck an 8-inch gas main** in McKinney, Texas, **causing a fire**. Four Atmos workers were treated for injuries.^{93 94}
- On September 6, a **10-inch gas gathering pipeline exploded & burned** near Alice, Texas. **Flames reached 100 feet high, and caused a 10-acre brush fire**.⁹⁵
- **An explosion and fire hit a Crestwood Midstream Partners gas compressor station** in Hood County, Texas on September 6. Heavy damage to a sheet metal building resulted.⁹⁶
- A Colorado Interstate Gas **gas compressor** in Rio Blanco County, Colorado **caught fire** on September 11.⁹⁷
- On September 24, **an excavator struck a 4-inch natural gas line** on Route 416 in Montgomery, New York. **Escaping gas ignited, and it took 90 minutes before the gas was shut off**.⁹⁸
- **The operator of an excavator machine narrowly escaped serious injury** in Lewiston, Idaho on November 19, **when his machine hit a gas pipeline during road work**. The resulting fire destroyed a railroad signal, along with several telephone poles, and road construction equipment. **The depth of the pipeline has been misjudged at that location**.⁹⁹
- On November 20, **about 38,000 gallons of crude oil spilled from an Enbridge pipeline at a tank farm** in Mokena, Illinois.¹⁰¹

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93 **Frank Heinz of NBC 10, August 28th, 2012:**

<http://www.nbcphiladelphia.com/news/national-international/Gas-Line-Explodes-in-McKinney-167677095.html>

94 **Travis Hudson, The Dallas Morning News, august 2012:**

<http://www.dallasnews.com/news/news/2012/08/28/gas-line-explodes-in-mckinney>

95 **Luke Johnson, Upstream, September 7th 2012:** <http://www.upstreamonline.com/live/article1265011.ece>

96 **Hood County News, September 14th, 2012:**

<http://hcnews.com/pages/archive/updates-archived/cause-of-sept-6-explosion-at-gas-plant-still-being-investigated/>

97 **Reuters, September 12th, 2012:**

<http://in.reuters.com/article/kindermorgan-cig-fire-idINL1E8KC7PZ20120912>

98 **James Nani, Times Herald-Record, 9-24-2012**

<http://www.recordonline.com/article/20120924/NEWS/120929866>

99 **Idaho Press-Tribune, 11-19-2012:**

http://www.idahopress.com/news/state/gas-explosion-lights-the-sky-in-downtown-lewiston/article_64ad1772-32d5-11e2-9ddc-0019bb2963f4.html

100 **Claims Journal, 6-6-2013:**

<http://www.claimsjournal.com/news/west/2013/06/06/230308.htm>

101 **Aaron Clark, Bloomberg News, 11-21-2012**

<https://web.archive.org/web/20131028143734/http://www.businessweek.com/news/2012-11-21/bp-chicag-pipe-spilled-oil-at-illinois-tank-farm-filing-shows>

Pipeline Bursts: Deaths, Injuries, & Ecological & Economic Damages they Inflicted; 2011 – 2012

- Two men were injured in **an explosion and fire at a natural gas production facility** east of Price, Utah on November 20.¹⁰²



A ruptured gas line that caught fire and sent flames 50-feet into the air Tuesday morning in McKinney is now out. (Published Tuesday, Aug. 28, 2012)

PHOTO: “Fire from a pipeline explosion in McKinney, Texas in which four workers were injured”: <http://www.nbcdfw.com/news/local/Gas-Line-Explodes-in-McKinney-167677095.html>

¹⁰² **The Oklahoman, 12-20-2012:** <http://newsok.com/2-workers-hurt-in-natural-gas-explosion-near-price/article/feed/465555>

Pipeline Bursts: Deaths, Injuries, & Ecological & Economic Damages they Inflicted; 2011 – 2012

- On November 23, **a gas company worker looking for the source of a reported gas leak** in a Springfield, Massachusetts strip club **pierced a gas line. The gas later exploded, injuring 21,** devastating the strip club, and **damaging numerous nearby buildings.**¹⁰³
- On November 30, **a heavy equipment operator punctured a 12-inch gas transmission pipeline,** near the city of Madera, California. The adjacent highway, along with several rural roads, was shut down for hours, while houses and businesses in the area were evacuated.¹⁰⁴
- **A malfunction in a gas compressor caused a fire** on December 4, north of Fort Worth, Texas.¹⁰⁵
- On December 5, **a 16-inch gas pipeline at 500 psi of pressure exploded and burned** near a natural gas plant in Goldsmith, Texas. **A fireball 250 feet high was created after the explosion, destroying 12 to 15 utility poles, and caliche and rocks the size of bowling balls damaged a road.**¹⁰⁶
- On December 11, **a 20-inch gas pipeline** owned by NiSource Inc., parent of Columbia Gas, **exploded** along I-77 between Sissonville and Pocatalico, West Virginia. Several people suffered minor injuries, four houses were destroyed, and other buildings were damaged. Early reports announced the NTSB was investigating as to why **alarms in the control room for this pipeline did not sound for this failure.**^{107 108 109}
- On December 26, a **20-inch Florida Gas Transmission Company pipeline ruptured** near Melbourne, Florida, **ejecting a 20-foot section of the pipeline.**¹¹⁰

103 **Peter Goonan, Mass Live, 12-27-2012:**

http://www.masslive.com/news/index.ssf/2012/11/claims_for_losses_continue_to.html

104 **Sara Sandrik, ABC 30 Action News, 12-30-2012:** <http://abc30.com/archive/8904603/>

105 **Justin Hill, Hill Law Firm, 01-22-2013:** <http://www.rhlawgroup.com/blog/pipeline-safety-and-injuries-death/>

106 **Mark Sterkel, OA Online, 12-6-2012:** http://www.oaoa.com/news/fire_and_rescue/article_834541cc-3f60-11e2-9c44-001a4bcf6878.html

107 **The State Journal, 12-12-2012:** <http://www.statejournal.com/story/20328434/explosion-highlights-pipeline-safety>

108 **John Raby and Vicki Smith, Huff Post Green, 12-11-2012:**

https://web.archive.org/web/20121212045355/http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2012/12/11/sissonville-west-virginia-explosion_n_2279577.html?ir=Green

109 **John Raby and Vicki Smith, The Register-Herald 12-11-2012:** http://www.register-herald.com/news/updated-gas-line-explodes-burns-homes-and-roads/article_adb166e8-26f5-5684-84f9-87b4a1836095.html

110 **Space Coast Daily, 12-26-2012:** <http://spacecoastdaily.com/2012/12/natural-gas-pipeline-fails-in-west-melbourne/>



PHOTO: “The aftermath of a pipeline explosion in Springfield, Massachusetts - 21 people were injured”: <https://www.bostonglobe.com/metro/2012/11/24/springfield-explosion-injures-least-levels-strip-club/SX7MmBHvdfPUBkpyCgG6L/story.html>