

**Part IV:**

**Pipeline Bursts:**

**Their *Causations*,**

**and the**

**Deaths, Bodily Injuries,**

**& Economic *and* Ecological Damages**

**they Inflicted**

**2015 – 2016**

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

([www.phmsa.dot.gov/staticfiles/PHMSA/PipelineFailureReports](http://www.phmsa.dot.gov/staticfiles/PHMSA/PipelineFailureReports))

**Other sources cited, where applicable.**

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([www.WildWillpower.org](http://www.WildWillpower.org))

## 2015

- On January 14, **during work to free a trapped inline inspection unit, a leak was discovered on the Evangeline Pipeline**, near Cameron Parish, Louisiana. **This pipeline had been given a Corrective Action Order in October 2014, due to a number of leaks.**<sup>1 2 3</sup>
- Also on January 14, **a gas pipeline exploded near the Ross Barnett Reservoir** in Brandon, Mississippi, **creating a sizable crater in the ground and burning 6 acres of vegetation before the fire was extinguished. The failure was due to a "hard spot" from manufacturing, that already had a repair sleeve on it.** There are 788 sleeves on the Index 129 pipeline from Edna, Texas, to Sterlington, Louisiana; and, 726 sleeves on the Index 130 pipeline from Marchand Junction, Louisiana to Kosciusko, Mississippi. Both were built from pipe made in 1952.<sup>4 5 6</sup>
- On January 16, **a transmission pipeline** operated by Kinder Morgan subsidiary Southern Natural Gas **had an equipment malfunction** in Walthall County, Mississippi.<sup>7</sup>
- On January 17, **oil from a broken pipeline seeped into the Yellowstone River, and contaminated the water supply** 10 miles south of Glendive, Montana. The release was from Bridger Pipeline LLC's 12-inch Poplar line, which can carry 42,000 barrels a day of crude from the Bakken formation & runs from Canada south to Baker, Montana. Bridger Pipeline is a subsidiary of True Cos., a privately held Wyoming-based company. **The company said in a statement that the pipeline was shut down within an hour of the leak. About 30,000 gallons of crude was spilled, with about 28,000 gallons of crude being lost.**<sup>8 9 10</sup>

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1 **ICIS News, 1-14-2015:** <http://www.icis.com/resources/news/2015/01/14/9853014/us-evangeline-pipeline-shuts-down-after-leak-discovered/>

2 **Argus Media, 1-14-2015:** <http://www.argusmedia.com/News/Article/?id=976846>

3 **U.S. DOT, Pipeline & Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, 10-20-2014:** [http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/comm/reports/enforce/documents/420145027H/420145027H\\_Corrective%20Action%20Order\\_10202014\\_text.pdf](http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/comm/reports/enforce/documents/420145027H/420145027H_Corrective%20Action%20Order_10202014_text.pdf)

4 **Allie Ware, WAPT 16 News, 1-14-2015:** <http://www.wapt.com/article/gas-line-explodes-burns-near-reservoir/2091806>

5 **Therese Apel, The Clarion-Ledger, 1-14-2015:** <http://www.clarionledger.com/story/news/2015/01/14/reservoir-explosion/21740325/>

6 **U.S. DOT, Pipeline & Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, 3-27-2015:** [http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/comm/reports/enforce/documents/220151001S/220151001S\\_nopso\\_03272015\\_text.pdf](http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/comm/reports/enforce/documents/220151001S/220151001S_nopso_03272015_text.pdf)

7 **U.S. DOT, Pipeline & Hazardous Materials Safety Administration:** <http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/>

8 **Alison Sider, The Wall Street Journal, 1-19-2015:** <http://www.wsj.com/articles/oil-spills-into-yellowstone-river-after-pipeline-leak-1421688172>

9 **Tom Lutey, Billings Gazette, 1-21-2015:** <http://www.inforum.com/news/accidents/3661267-clean-water-likely-be-restored-glendive-thursday-after-oil-spill-along>

10 **U.S. DOT, Pipeline & Hazardous Materials Safety Administration:** [http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/comm/reports/operator/OperatorIM\\_opid\\_31878.html?nocache=4750#\\_Incidents\\_tab\\_3](http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/comm/reports/operator/OperatorIM_opid_31878.html?nocache=4750#_Incidents_tab_3)

- On January 21, **a petroleum products pipeline** in Honolulu, Hawaii **ruptured, due to external corrosion, spilling about 42,000 gallons of petroleum product, of which about 22,000 gallons was lost.**<sup>11</sup>
- On January 21, a **crude oil pipeline pump station caught fire** northwest of Texas City, Texas. Texas City fire officials said that company **officials reported that there had been issues with the pump station over the weekend.**<sup>12</sup>



***PHOTO: 1-14-2015: “Metropolitan Engineering Consulting & Forensics - Expert Engineers”RANKIN COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI NATURAL GAS LINE EXPLOSION AND FIRE. GULF SOUTH PIPELINE IS THE OPERATOR, RANKIN COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI NATURAL GAS LINE EXPLOSION AND FIRE”:***

*<http://metroforensics.blogspot.com/2015/01/rankin-county-mississippi-natural-gas.html>*

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<sup>11</sup> **U.S. DOT, Pipeline & Hazardous Materials Safety Administration:**

[http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/comm/reports/operator/OperatorIM\\_opid\\_31056.html?nocache=5782#\\_Incidents\\_tab\\_3](http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/comm/reports/operator/OperatorIM_opid_31056.html?nocache=5782#_Incidents_tab_3)

<sup>12</sup> **T.J. Aulds & Shannon Daughtry, Galveston County The Daily News, 1-14-2015:**

[http://www.galvnews.com/free/article\\_699f91e8-9c22-11e4-97c3-63576ec5ef16.html](http://www.galvnews.com/free/article_699f91e8-9c22-11e4-97c3-63576ec5ef16.html)

*Pipeline Bursts: Causations & Deaths, Injuries, & Damages they Inflicted; 2015 – 2016*

- On January 26, **a 20-inch ATEX pipeline carrying ethane exploded & burned** in Brooke County, West Virginia. **Despite snow in the area, five acres of woodlands burned, and 24,000 gallons of ethane were consumed. The fireball melted siding on nearby homes and damaged power lines;** it is believed that day's snowy weather lessened the damage. **Initial reports suspect a girth weld failure, with the pipeline being less than two years old.**<sup>13 14</sup>
- On January 29, near Bowling Green, Missouri, **a rupture in a Rockies Express 42-inch natural gas pipeline blew a 20 by 20-foot crater and forced a six-hour evacuation of 50 families.** The rupture occurred in a vacant field a few yards east of Pike County Road 43. Strong winds helped dissipate gas until a temporary cap was put in place.<sup>15 16</sup> **This explosion caused \$2,672,345 in property damage and was due to a fault in the pipe's fabrication or construction.**<sup>17</sup>
- On February 10 in Hopkinton, Massachusetts, **the temperature caused "natural force (rupture) damage" to a Kinder Morgan Tennessee Gas Pipeline, causing \$55,150 worth of property damage.**<sup>18</sup>
- On February 17, a **suspected electrical arc made a hole in a Marathon Petroleum pipeline** in Shively, Kentucky, **spilling about 6,700 gallons of jet fuel. More than 2,500 tons of soil were removed to clean up the area.**<sup>19 20</sup>
- On February 25, **a 26-inch crude oil pipeline** in Navarro County near the Town of Dawson, Texas, **failed, spilling about 50 barrels of crude oil.** Near the failure, **investigation showed that the pipe had lost about 80% of its thickness, due to external corrosion. This anomaly was not seen in a 2011 test of this pipeline.**<sup>21</sup>
- On March 2, a Kinder Morgan Tennessee Gas **Pipeline leaked due to equipment failure, causing \$281,890 of property damage** in Marshall, Mississippi.<sup>22</sup>

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13 **The Intelligencer. Wheeling News-Register:** <http://www.theintelligencer.net/news/top-headlines/2015/01/24-000-ethane-barrels-burned/>

14 **Renee Lewis, Aljazeera America, 1-31-2015:** <http://america.aljazeera.com/blogs/scrutineer/2015/1/31/january-sees-five-major-pipeline-leaks.html>

15 **April M. Fronick, The People's Tribune, 2-3-2015:** <http://thepeopletribune.com/?p=25397>

16 **Ross Green, KHQA 7 News, 1-29-2015:** <http://khqa.com/news/local/emergency-crews-respond-to-pipeline-break?id=1156557>

17 **U.S. DOT, Pipeline & Hazardous Materials Safety Administration:** <http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/>

18 **U.S. DOT, Pipeline & Hazardous Materials Safety Administration:** <http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/>

19 **Marcus Green, WDRB, 4-8-2015:** <http://www.wdrb.com/story/28752694/jet-fuel-remains-in-shively-soil-months-after-pipeline-spill>

20 **Marcus Green, WDRB, 11-4-2015:** <http://www.wdrb.com/story/30439304/more-than-2500-tons-of-soil-removed-from-shively-neighborhood-after-pipeline-spill>

21 **Sunoco Logistics, 5-22-2015:** [https://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/comm/reports/enforce/documents/420155012/420155012\\_Operator%20Response%20and%20Request%20for%20Hearing\\_05222015.pdf](https://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/comm/reports/enforce/documents/420155012/420155012_Operator%20Response%20and%20Request%20for%20Hearing_05222015.pdf)

22 **U.S. DOT, Pipeline & Hazardous Materials Safety Administration:** <http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/>



*Pipeline Bursts: Causations & Deaths, Injuries, & Damages they Inflicted; 2015 – 2016*

- On March 13 **a pipeline Patrol pilot identified an oil sheen on a pond near Tehuacana Creek, Texas which was then linked to a leaking 10 inch petroleum products pipeline. About 50 barrels of diesel fuel were spilled.**<sup>23</sup>
- On March 20, **a pipe** owned by Kinder Morgan subsidiary Southern Natural Gas **failed** in Rolling Fork, Mississippi, **& on March 23, another of that subsidiary's pipes failed due to equipment malfunction in Augusta, Georgia, causing \$311,785 in property damage.**<sup>24</sup>
- On April 9, 2 **Williams Companies pipelines broke within hours of each other** in Marshall County, West Virginia. **A 4-inch condensate pipeline broke at 8 pm local time, spilling about 132 barrels of condensate into a creek. Around 10:50 pm local time, a 12-inch gas pipeline ruptured. Heavy rains were said to be the cause of the failures.**<sup>25</sup>



□□ □□□ □ “Emergency crews respond to pipeline break by Ross Green  
Thursday, January 29th 2015”: □□□□□□□□□□ □□□ □□□□□□□□ □□□□□□□□□□  
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23 **J.B. Smith, Wacotrib, 3-13-2015:** [http://www.wacotrib.com/news/environment/cleanup-begins-on-diesel-pipeline-spill-near-tehuacana-creek/article\\_20e9cb1d-75ad-5b17-90a5-374c35f6876a.html](http://www.wacotrib.com/news/environment/cleanup-begins-on-diesel-pipeline-spill-near-tehuacana-creek/article_20e9cb1d-75ad-5b17-90a5-374c35f6876a.html)

24 **U.S. DOT, Pipeline & Hazardous Materials Safety Administration:** <http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/>

25 **The Intelligencer. Wheeling News-Register:** <http://www.theintelligencer.net/news/top-headlines/2015/04/dep-132-barrels-spilled-into-marshall-county-creek/>

*Pipeline Bursts: Causations & Deaths, Injuries, & Damages they Inflicted; 2015 – 2016*

- On April 13, a Kinder Morgan/Natural Gas Pipeline Co. of America **pipeline exploded & burned** near Borger, Texas. **The explosion, caused by equipment failure due to environmental cracking, caused \$455,000 in property damage.**<sup>26</sup>
- On April 17, **a 12-inch natural gas pipeline** near Fresno, California operated by Pacific Gas and Electric Corp **was ruptured by a backhoe. The resulting explosion killed 1 person and injured 12 others.**<sup>27</sup>
- On May 15, Kinder Morgan's Tennessee **Gas Pipeline leaked** in Powell County, Kentucky **causing \$23,400 in property damage.**<sup>28</sup>



**Borger, Texas incident. PHOTO: News Channel 10, “Natural gas pipeline fire near Borger extinguished”:** <http://www.newschannel10.com/story/28788786/natural-gas-pipeline-fire-near-borger-extinguished>

<sup>26</sup> **News Channel 10, 4-13-2015:** <http://www.newschannel10.com/story/28788786/natural-gas-pipeline-fire-near-borger-extinguished>

<sup>27</sup> **The Fresno Bee, 7-6-2015:** <http://www.fresnobee.com/news/local/article26618077.html>

<sup>28</sup> **U.S. DOT, Pipeline & Hazardous Materials Safety Administration:** <http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/>



*Pipeline Bursts: Causations & Deaths, Injuries, & Damages they Inflicted; 2015 – 2016*

- On May 19, a Plains All American **Pipeline oil pipeline ruptured near Refugio State Beach**, near Goleta, California, **spilling about 124,000 gallons of crude oil**. It is referred to as the Refugio Oil Spill.<sup>29</sup>
- On May 31, **a 24-inch natural gas back-up pipeline that runs under the Arkansas River in Little Rock, Arkansas ruptured releasing 3.9 million cubic feet of natural gas. The pipeline was not currently in use. A tugboat was damaged & the ecosystem was heavily damaged.**<sup>30 31</sup>



**Refugio Beach Oil Spill. PHOTO: “Channel 7 Eyewitness News, PIPELINE COMPANY INDICTED IN REFUGIO OIL SPILL”:**

<http://abc7.com/news/pipeline-company-indicted-in-refugio-oil-spill/1342313/>

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<sup>29</sup> **Paul Vercammen & Pat St. Claire, CNN, 5-21-2015:** <http://edition.cnn.com/2015/05/20/us/california-oil-spill/>

<sup>30</sup> **Benjamin Hardy, Arkansas Times, 6-3-2015:**  
<http://www.arktimes.com/ArkansasBlog/archives/2015/06/03/arkansas-river-pipeline-blowout-occurred-on-sunday-morning-cause-still-unknown>

<sup>31</sup> **Benjamin Hardy, Arkansas Times, 6-2-2015:**  
<http://www.arktimes.com/ArkansasBlog/archives/2015/06/02/natural-gas-pipeline-ruptures-east-of-i-30-bridge-closing-two-miles-of-arkansas-river>

- On June 9 in Moorehouse Parish, Louisiana, Kinder Morgan's Tennessee Gas **Pipeline equipment failed, due to environmental cracking, and leaked, causing \$73,395 in property damage.**<sup>32</sup>
- On June 9, **a 24-inch natural gas pipeline ruptured** in Lycoming County, Pennsylvania. About 130 individuals were evacuated from their homes. **The cause was Stress corrosion cracking.**<sup>33 34</sup>
- On June 10, Kinder Morgan's El Paso **Natural Gas control/relief equipment failed and leaked** in Gray County, Texas.<sup>35</sup>
- On June 13, **a 42-inch gas gathering pipeline exploded & burned** near Cuero, Texas.<sup>36</sup>
- On June 15, Kinder Morgan's Natural Gas Pipeline Co. of America **equipment failed for unknown causes, with \$260,555 of property damage** in Marshall, Texas (that area's third documented Kinder Morgan leak).<sup>37</sup>
- On June 18, in Victoria Texas, Kinder Morgan's Tennessee **Gas Pipeline pipe failed due to external corrosion and caused \$159,346 in property damage.**<sup>38</sup>
- On June 22, **a truck driver was killed when his rig veered off a highway and broke above ground facilities for a propylene pipeline** in Houston, Texas. The highway was closed for several hours while the gas dissipated.<sup>39</sup>
- **Four workers were hurt on June 25, when a 4-inch gas pipeline exploded at a gas pipeline facility**, near White Deer, Texas. **2 of the workers were critically injured.** The cause of the explosion was not known.<sup>40</sup>

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32 U.S. DOT, Pipeline & Hazardous Materials Safety Administration: <http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/>

33 Reuters Global Energy News, 6-11-2015: <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-natgas-williams-transco-idUSKBN0OR1R720150611>

34 U.S. DOT, Pipeline & Hazardous Materials Safety Administration: [http://www.phmsa.dot.gov/staticfiles/PHMSA/PipelineFailureReports/150663\\_Transcontinental\\_Unityville\\_PA\\_June\\_9\\_2015.pdf](http://www.phmsa.dot.gov/staticfiles/PHMSA/PipelineFailureReports/150663_Transcontinental_Unityville_PA_June_9_2015.pdf)

35 U.S. DOT, Pipeline & Hazardous Materials Safety Administration: <http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/>

36 Sara Sneath, Victoria Advocate, 6-17-2015: <https://www.victoriaadvocate.com/news/2015/jun/17/pipeline-rupture-released-thousands-of-pounds-of-g/>

37 U.S. DOT, Pipeline & Hazardous Materials Safety Administration: <http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/>

38 U.S. DOT, Pipeline & Hazardous Materials Safety Administration: <http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/>

39 Houston Chronicle, 6-23-2015: <http://www.chron.com/houston/article/Truck-collision-with-pipeline-backs-up-traffic-on-6342233.php>

40 NBCDFW 5 Texas News, 6-27-2015: <http://www.nbcdfw.com/news/local/4-Injured-in-White-Deer-Gas-Line-Explosion-310324841.html>



- On July 10, **a fitting on a 20-inch Plains All American Pipeline crude oil pipeline broke, spilling 4200 gallons of crude oil** near Grantfork, Illinois. **Much of the crude contaminated a nearby creek..**<sup>41</sup>



*PHOTO: “Workers cleaning oil spilled from Plains All American pump station near St. Louis. Posted by Jennifer A. Dlouhy Date: July 13, 2015”: <http://fuelfix.com/blog/2015/07/13/workers-cleaning-oil-spilled-from-plains-all-american-pump-station-near-st-louis/#photo-663276>*

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<sup>41</sup> Elizabeth Donald, Belleville News-Democrat, 7-16-2015:

<http://www.bnd.com/news/local/community/highland-news-leader/article27426022.html>

*Pipeline Bursts: Causations & Deaths, Injuries, & Damages they Inflicted; 2015 – 2016*

- On July 15, **two workers were hurt by an explosion, when a bulldozer hit a 4-inch gas pipeline**, at an EQT gas compressor station in Worthington, Pennsylvania.<sup>42</sup>
- On August 3, **two individuals were injured in Falfurrias, Texas when a natural gas pipeline operated by Kinder Morgan ruptured and exploded due to external corrosion, with \$191.498 in property damage. Later investigation showed that the pipe split along an ERW seam.**<sup>43 44</sup>
- On August 7, **a natural gas liquids pipeline** in Weld County, Colorado **burned, after being struck by a third party.**<sup>45</sup>
- On August 13, **crew working for Colonial Pipeline damaged one of Colonial's lines in Kannapolis, North Carolina, spilling about 6,000 gallons of petroleum product. About 1,000 gallons of product was lost & contaminated the ecosystem.**<sup>46</sup>
- On August 13, **a natural gas pipeline** in Cypress, Texas **ruptured and leaked while a contract crew worked in the area.** The pipeline was owned by GULFSOUTH Pipeline.<sup>47</sup>
- On August 26, **two maintenance divers were injured while working on a pipeline** owned by Boardwalk/Gulf South Pipeline Co. 25 miles offshore of Louisiana **when the pipeline ruptured, & the gas ignited.**<sup>48</sup>
- On September 21, **a Colonial Pipeline 32 inch main line was discovered to be leaking** in Centreville, Virginia. **At least 7,000 gallons of gasoline were spilled, forcing several nearby businesses to close.**<sup>49 50</sup>
- On October 8, **an explosion occurred at a Williams Companies pipeline** facility in Gibson, Louisiana. **4 employees were killed, and, one other injured. The cause of the explosion was from procedure not being followed during welding work.**<sup>51 52 53</sup>

42 **Sheldon Ingram, WTAE Pittsburg, 7-15-2015:** <http://www.wtae.com/news/worker-injured-in-pipeline-accident/34188004>

43 **Nicole Hickl, Valley Central 4, 8-4-2015:** <http://valleycentral.com/news/local/sheriffs-office-natural-gas-pipeline-explosion-forced-150-falfurrias-families-from-their-homes?id=1239109>

44 **U.S. DOT, Pipeline & Hazardous Materials Safety Administration:**  
[http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/comm/reports/enforce/documents/420151009H/420151009H\\_Corrective%20Action%20Order\\_08062015.pdf](http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/comm/reports/enforce/documents/420151009H/420151009H_Corrective%20Action%20Order_08062015.pdf)

45 **Reuters, Upstream, 8-7-2015:** <http://www.upstreamonline.com/live/1408027/fire-on-williams-pipeline>

46 **U.S. DOT, Pipeline & Hazardous Materials Safety Administration:**  
[http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/comm/reports/operator/OperatorIM\\_opid\\_2552.html?nocache=7343#\\_Incidents\\_tab\\_3](http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/comm/reports/operator/OperatorIM_opid_2552.html?nocache=7343#_Incidents_tab_3)

47 **Keith Garvin, KPRC Houston, 8-13-2015:** [http://www.click2houston.com/news/all-clear-given-to-cypress-residents-evacuated-after-gas-leak\\_20151123152931429](http://www.click2houston.com/news/all-clear-given-to-cypress-residents-evacuated-after-gas-leak_20151123152931429)

48 **The Maritime Executive, 8-27-2015:** <http://maritime-executive.com/article/two-injured-in-louisiana-pipeline-fire>

49 **John Aaron, WTOP, 9-24-2015:** <http://wtop.com/fairfax-county/2015/09/gas-leak-forces-fairfax-co-business-closures/slide/1/>

50 **The Connection to your community, 10-5-2015:**  
<http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/news/2015/oct/07/centreville-brief-colonial-issues-cleanup-update/>

51 **Clint Durrett, WDSU 6 News, 10-8-2015:** <http://www.wdsu.com/article/police-3-dead-2-in-serious-condition-after-gibson-plant-explosion/3380374>

52 **U.S. DOT, Pipeline & Hazardous Materials Safety Administration:**  
[http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/comm/reports/operator/OperatorIM\\_opid\\_19570.html?nocache=8429#\\_Incidents\\_tab\\_4](http://primis.phmsa.dot.gov/comm/reports/operator/OperatorIM_opid_19570.html?nocache=8429#_Incidents_tab_4)

53 **U.S. DOT, Pipeline & Hazardous Materials Safety Administration:**  
[http://www.phmsa.dot.gov/staticfiles/PHMSA/DownloadableFiles/Files/Pipeline/420161008\\_NOPV\\_PCP\\_PCO\\_07292016.pdf](http://www.phmsa.dot.gov/staticfiles/PHMSA/DownloadableFiles/Files/Pipeline/420161008_NOPV_PCP_PCO_07292016.pdf)

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- On November 30, **about 11,000 gallons of gasoline, butane & propane leaked from a pipeline** in eastern Summit County, Utah.<sup>54</sup>
- On December 8, **a contractor drilled into an 8-inch buried oil line (200 mm) that transports oil from a holding station** in Ventura to a Wilmington refinery near Long Beach while setting new poles for Southern California Edison along State Route 118 near Somis that **spilled about 7,980 U.S. gallons (190 barrels)**.<sup>55</sup>



**Worthington, PA.** PHOTO: “News: WPXI, “2 workers hurt in gas line explosion in Armstrong County”: <http://www.wpxi.com/news/local/crews-rush-reported-gas-line-explosion-armstrong-c/32124124>)

<sup>54</sup> **Desert News Utah, 11-30-2015:** <http://www.deseretnews.com/article/865642766/11000-gallons-of-gasoline-butane-and-propane-leak-from-pipeline-in-Summit-County.html?pg=all>

<sup>55</sup> **Cindy Von Quednow & Cheri Carlson, Ventura County Star:** <http://archive.vcstar.com/topstories/Oil-spill-reported-in-Somis-360929811.html>



## 2016

- On January 2, **3 people were injured, & numerous homes were damaged** in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, when **a leak gas from a gas main entered a home**. Preliminary results indicate that **a leak occurred at a weld seam on the gas main**.<sup>56</sup>
- On January 9, **a 30-inch Atmos Energy gas transmission pipeline exploded & burned** in Robertson County, Texas. 4 families nearby were evacuated.<sup>57</sup>
- On January 11, **butane leaking from a pipeline storage facility**, in Conway, Kansas, forced a closure of a nearby highway for a time.<sup>58</sup>
- On February 14, **a 6-inch crude oil pipeline broke** near Rozet, Wyoming, **spilling about 1,500 gallons of crude oil into a creek bed**.<sup>59</sup>
- On February 16, **an explosion and fire occurred at a gas plant** in Frio County, Texas. **2 employees at the plant were injured**.<sup>60</sup>
- On February 24, **a 10-inch propane pipeline exploded & burned**, near Sulphur, Louisiana. **About 208,000 gallons of propane contaminated the local ecosystem & was not recovered, and, the cause of the failure was not found**.<sup>61 62</sup>
- On March 11, **about 30,000 gallons of gasoline spilled from a leaking plug on a pipeline**, at a tank farm in Sioux City, Iowa.<sup>63</sup>
- On March 22, **about 4,000 gallons of gasoline spilled from a 6-inch petroleum products pipeline** in Harwood, North Dakota.<sup>64</sup>
- On April 2, the TransCanada Corporation Keystone **Pipeline was observed by a local resident to be leaking**, near Freeman, South Dakota. **The cause was a crack in a girth weld, & amount of tar sands spill was about 16,800 gallons**.<sup>65 66</sup>

<sup>56</sup> Sarah Stewart, KFOR News Channel 4, 8-10-2016: <http://kfor.com/2016/08/10/oklahoma-corporation-commission-releases-report-on-house-explosion/>

<sup>57</sup> KBTX 3, 1-9-2016: <http://www.kbtx.com/content/news/Gas-line-explosion-in-Leon-County--364750381.html>

<sup>58</sup> KSN TV, 1-11-2016: <http://ksn.com/2016/01/11/gas-leak-closes-highway-56-west-of-mcpherson/>

<sup>59</sup> Scott Hansen, Gillette News Record, 2-16-2016:

[http://www.gillettenewsrecord.com/news/local/article\\_a584a743-70fa-52f9-b82c-00816a698e0d.html](http://www.gillettenewsrecord.com/news/local/article_a584a743-70fa-52f9-b82c-00816a698e0d.html)

<sup>60</sup> NBCDFW 5, 2-16-2016: [http://www.nbcdfw.com/news/local/Officials-2-Hurt-After-Gas-Plant-Blast-Fire-in-South-Texas-368983581.html?\\_osource=SocialFlowFB\\_DFWBrand](http://www.nbcdfw.com/news/local/Officials-2-Hurt-After-Gas-Plant-Blast-Fire-in-South-Texas-368983581.html?_osource=SocialFlowFB_DFWBrand)

<sup>61</sup> Shireen Santhanasamy, KPLC 7, 2-24-2016: <http://www.kplctv.com/story/31300076/breaking-authorities-have-confirmed-a-pipeline-fire-seen-north-of-sulphur>

<sup>62</sup> U.S. DOT, Pipeline & Hazardous Materials Safety Administration:

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<sup>64</sup> Al Aamodt, Valley News, 3-22-2016: <http://www.valleynewslive.com/home/headlines/Pipeline-leak-being-repaired-near-Harwood-373097491.html>

<sup>65</sup> Mike De Souza, National Observer, 4-4-2016: <http://www.nationalobserver.com/2016/04/04/news/transcanada-shuts-down-keystone-after-oil-seeps-surface>

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- On April 12, **a pipeline at a gas plant** in Woodsboro, Texas **exploded, killing 2 men, & injured another worker**.<sup>67</sup>
- On April 17, **a 10 petroleum products pipeline failed** in Wabash County, Illinois, **resulting in a sheen on the Wabash River. About 48,000 gallons of diesel fuel was spilled & contaminated the local ecosystem, killing wildlife**.<sup>68</sup>
- On April 29, **a 30-inch Texas Eastern/Spectra Energy pipeline exploded, injuring one man, destroying his home & damaging several others**. The incident was reported at 8:17 a.m., near the intersection of Routes 819 and 22 in Salem Township, Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania. **Later, Spectra Energy Corp. announced plans to dig up and assess 263 miles of that pipeline, from Pennsylvania to New Jersey. Corrosion had been detected at the failed seam 4 years before the rupture**.<sup>69 70 71</sup>
- On May 20, **a Shell Oil Company pipeline leaked** near Tracy, California, **spilling & contaminating the local ecosystem with approximately 21,000 gallons of crude oil**.<sup>72</sup>
- On June 23, a Crimson **Pipeline crude oil line leaked** in Ventura County, California. **Initial reports said the spill size was from 25,200 gallons to 29,000 gallons, but, later reports estimate 45,000 gallons of crude were spilled, contaminating the local ecosystem**.<sup>73 74</sup>
- On July 6, a Plantation **Pipeline line was noticed to be leaking** in Goochland County, Virginia.<sup>75</sup>

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67 **Jonathan Munson, KIII 3 TV South Texas, 4-18-2016:** <http://www.kiiitv.com/news/two-killed-one-injured-in-gas-plant-explosion-near-woodsboro/270491830>

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69 **The Tribune Review, 4-29-2016:** [http://triblive.com/news/westmoreland/10391146-74/819-fire-gas?fb\\_comment\\_id=fbc\\_1010377968997980\\_1010524192316691\\_1010524192316691#f1324664a15cc3c](http://triblive.com/news/westmoreland/10391146-74/819-fire-gas?fb_comment_id=fbc_1010377968997980_1010524192316691_1010524192316691#f1324664a15cc3c)

70 **Patty Tascarella, Pittsburgh Business Times, 6-27-2016:** <http://www.bizjournals.com/pittsburgh/blog/morning-edition/2016/06/energy-company-assessing-pipeline.html>

71 **Anya Litvak, Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, 9-13-2016:** <http://powersource.post-gazette.com/powersource/companies/2016/09/13/Pipe-that-burst-showed-defect-four-years-ago-Spectra-investigation-found/stories/201609130202>

72 **Kurtis Alexander, SF Gate, 5-23-2016:** <http://www.sfgate.com/bayarea/article/Oil-pipeline-near-Tracy-spills-thousands-of-7940489.php>

73 **Ada Carr, The Weather Channel, 6-24-2016:** <https://weather.com/news/news/ventura-county-california-pipeline-oil-spill-pacific-ocean-crimson-pipeline>

74 **Arlene Martinez, Ventura County Star, 7-8-2016:** <http://archive.vcstar.com/news/local/ventura/more-oil-spilled-in-ventura-barranca-than-initially-believed-3728a273-59cc-1271-e053-0100007f587a-386083421.html>

75 **Elliott Robinson, Richmond Times-Dispatch, 7-7-2016:** [http://www.richmond.com/news/local/central-virginia/goochland/article\\_d75750d5-424f-591c-8da6-1c9b8673423e.html](http://www.richmond.com/news/local/central-virginia/goochland/article_d75750d5-424f-591c-8da6-1c9b8673423e.html)

- On August 12, **contractors were working on one of the main lines in Sunoco Pipeline LP's Nederland, Texas terminal when crude oil burst through a plug that was supposed to hold the oil back in the pipeline & ignited. The contractors were knocked off the platform to the ground, suffering injuries from the fall and severe burns. 7 contractors were injured.**<sup>76</sup>
- On September 4, **a pipeline broke** in Kern County, California, **spilling reclaimed water & oil.**<sup>77</sup>
- On September 5, **a pipeline** in Bay Long, Louisiana **was hit by dredging operations, resulting in a spill of about 5,300 gallons of crude oil into the water.**<sup>78</sup>
- On September 9, **a Colonial Pipeline mainline leak was noticed by workers on another project**, in Shelby County, Alabama. **At least 252,000 gallons of gasoline leaked from line. One person was killed & five were injured in an explosion that occurred one month later.**<sup>79 80 81</sup>
- On September 10, **a Sunoco pipeline ruptured** near Sweetwater, Texas. **About 33,000 gallons of crude oil were spilled. The pipeline was just over a year old.**<sup>82</sup>

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76 **Dianna Wray, Houston Press, 9-2-2016:** <http://www.houstonpress.com/news/sunoco-sued-after-august-pipeline-fire-has-a-history-of-safety-violations-8721539>

77 **Bakersfield, 9-4-2016:** <http://www.bakersfield.com/news/2016/09/04/pipeline-break-spews-oil-over-highway-33.html>

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79 **CNN Wire, KFOR News Channel 4, 9-16-2016:** <http://kfor.com/2016/09/16/state-of-emergency-declared-after-crucial-oil-pipeline-leaks-250000-gallons-in-alabama/>

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81 **NBC News, The Associated Press, Phil Helsel, 11-1-2016:** <http://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/1-dead-colonial-gas-pipeline-explosion-alabama-n676046>

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