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Judge G Paul Belluck III  
Atomic Safety Licensing Board Panel  
Mail Stop T-3F23  
US Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 22555-0001

OPEN TO PUBLIC  
FILED  
ADJUTANT GENERAL STAFF

SERVED FEB - 3 2000

Dear Judge Belluck,

I oppose Carolina Power & Light Companies plan to double its storage capacity for high level nuclear waste in the triangle.

Increasing shipments & transportation, waste pools & controls, amount of storage, obviously increases the potential for an accident.

The outcome of an accident could far surpass the catastrophe of Three Mile Island & Chernobyl. We know that this imposes an unprecedented risk on the people of North Carolina. I urge you to say "No expansion" to CP&L.

I have cut out & attached some articles that appeared in the newspapers over the last few months.

DS02

Examples of accidents & catastrophes  
that happened despite obvious safety  
procedures & intention to avoid accidents:

- The Challenger
- Exxon-Valdese
- Bhopal

Accordingly, CP & I should not be  
granted the option of doubling their  
storage capacity at Steam Harris.

Very Truly yours,  
Mr. & Mrs. Irving M. Freedman

# Cleanup continues as oil slicks wash ashore along French coast

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**LE CROISIC, France** — Volunteers young and old lined up with their own shovels alongside teams of professionals Wednesday in a massive bid to scoop gummy oil and wildlife off hundreds of miles of once-pristine beaches on France's western coast.

So many people have turned up here to help that authorities turn away 150 each day because of lack of supplies and storage facilities. Many have curtailed holiday or vacation plans to join the effort.

Concern that the oil might make its way into the Loire River, where thousands of migratory birds spend the winter, prompted authorities to erect floating barriers at the wide mouth of France's longest river.

A 24-year-old tanker, Erika, poured 3 million gallons of oil into the sea when it broke in two Dec. 12 and sank into the waves. It was carrying refined heavy oil from the Netherlands to Italy.

The fierce gales that have killed at least 123 people in Western Europe since Sunday, including 74 in France, broke up the slick and accelerated its course toward the coast complicating cleanup efforts.



Soldiers and volunteers use shovels to scoop up oil along the beach at Le Croisic, Brittany, as slicks wash ashore from the tanker Erika, which broke up in a storm off the coast of France on Dec. 12.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

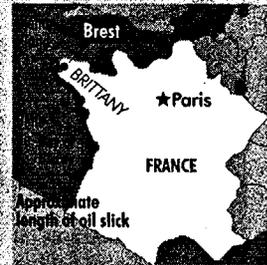
The slick was hitting the beaches at a time when authorities were also struggling to cope with other fallout from the storms.

The French government announced Wednesday it will free up \$6 million to aid the cleanup effort. The environmental group

Greenpeace, which sent 220 containers to hold collected oil to Le Croisic on Wednesday, again lashed out at TotalFina, the Franco-

## Oil spill spreads

The French government will seek stricter regulation on oil tankers to prevent future spills. This is the area affected by the current disaster.



The Associated Press

Belgian oil company that hired the vessel to transport the oil, accusing the firm of insufficient efforts to help with the cleanup.

TotalFina has said it is not legally responsible for the accident, but said it will help pay for the cleanup, although without naming a sum.

The 250-mile length of blackened

shore, stretching from northwestern Brittany to the Vendee region, is a popular tourist destination known for its fishing trade, busy ports, oyster beds and crisp sea air. Its beaches are among the best in France.

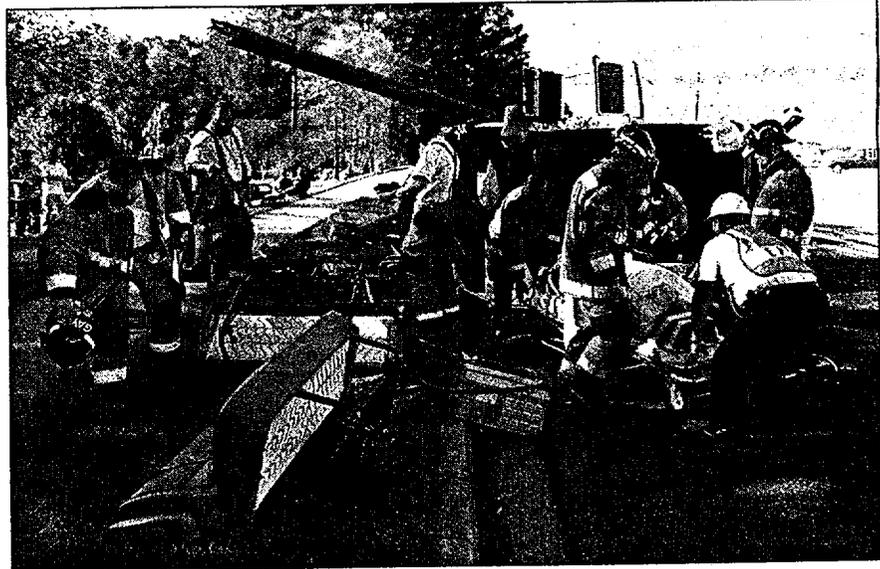
The leak is an economic disaster for Le Croisic. Oystermen have seen orders plummet during the peak holiday season. Hotels and restaurants are empty, with few customers choosing to dine with a view of oil-soaked beaches.

Clots of sticky black oil continue to drift at sea, the slicks now almost entirely broken up on the waves. Underwater cameras maneuvered by robots were to check on the state of the broken tanker, which still contains large amounts of oil.

Sea birds have been severely affected by the spill. By Tuesday night, about 16,000 sick or dead oil-drenched birds had washed up along the coast, their feathers matted and their throats clogged with goo.

Birds which survive the trauma are taken to veterinary centers in France and the Netherlands, where they are washed by hand or in special machines.

TO THE RESCUE IN RALEIGH



Rescue personnel prepare a woman for transport to a hospital after an accident knocked down a utility pole and cut power to 600 CP&L customers for 40 minutes. The woman, extricated after being trapped in the van's wreckage for 45 minutes, was treated for minor injuries and released, police Sgt. M.R. Sansom said. The woman, whose name was not made available immediately, lost control of the van in rush-hour traffic at Brentwood Road and Lake Woodward Drive. She was cited for a safe-movement violation.

STAFF PHOTO BY GARY ALLEN

THE NEWS & OBSERVER  
FRIDAY, JANUARY 14, 2000

CABARRUS COUNTY  
12-14-99  
**Liquid oxygen tanker  
overturns in Kannapolis**

KANNAPOLIS — A tanker carrying 4,500 gallons of liquid oxygen overturned near a Kannapolis shopping center Monday.

At 1 p.m., the driver of the California-based Logex tanker, German Segura, was turning into Market Square at 1706 S. Cannon Blvd. when one of the tanker's wheels fell into a ditch, causing the tractor to overturn, said Danny Scott, assistant chief of the Kannapolis Fire Department.

The driver was making a delivery to Carolina Home Oxygen and Medical Supplies.

The oxygen did not spill, but as a precaution, more than 200 people were evacuated from the shopping center and nearby stores, said Sgt. Rick Towell of the Kannapolis Police Department. No one was injured.

By Monday evening, workers from the Kannapolis Fire Department and the Charlotte Fire Department's hazardous materials unit had turned the tanker back over, Scott said.

SAN 1, 2000 RALEIGH  
QUEBEC NEWS OBSERVER  
**Train derails, topples  
another in fiery crash**

MONT-ST-HILAIRE — Two train workers were presumed dead Friday after a fiery crash that set off explosions and forced 700 people from their homes east of Montreal.

The Thursday night crash and subsequent explosions lit up the night sky and kept rescuers more than 100 yards away because of the heat, said Gilles Dubuc, head of public security in Mont-St-Hilaire.

More than 300 homes were evacuated after tank cars exploded and the sky filled with thick smoke. Dubuc said the fire produced no toxic gases or liquids, and the evacuations were a precaution.

The two trains were traveling in opposite directions on different tracks when they collided 30 miles east of Montreal. Officials believe one derailed and tipped over the other.

OHIO

**Crash of spy plane  
laid to test signal**

DAYTON — A test signal inadvertently received by the military's \$45 million Global Hawk unmanned spy plane caused it to crash in March in the California desert, Air Force officials said Monday.

The high-altitude reconnaissance aircraft was at 41,000 feet when it went into a rolling vertical dive and crashed 20 minutes after takeoff from Edwards Air Force Base.

FROM WIRE REPORTS

12-28-99  
Raleigh News +  
Observer

**BRIEFLY**

LIBYA

**Oil company plane  
crashes; 41 aboard**

A twin-engine plane carrying employees of a Libyan oil company to a refinery crashed Thursday in the Mediterranean Sea with 41 people aboard. There were unconfirmed reports of fatalities.

Eighteen people on board the Swiss plane were rescued, according to state-run Libyan television, monitored in Cairo, and search-and-rescue efforts were continuing.

"The plane hit the water just off the Libyan coast and sank," said Hugo Schittenhelm of the Swiss Transportation Ministry. "A search for survivors and for the aircraft is under way. Nothing can yet be said about the exact number of victims."

All 38 passengers on board were employees of a Libyan oil company, said Franz Fassbind, chairman of Avisto AG air services company, which is based near Zurich and owns the plane. There were also three crew members, he said.

Schittenhelm earlier said the ministry had unconfirmed reports that 15 people were killed.

# Oil spill blackens ecological preserve

**A broken pipeline has caused a slick that continues to spread toward the ocean.**

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil** — Biologist Mario Moscatelli sat on the bank of the Surui River and cried. Black scum from a massive oil spill covered the rocks, sand and mangrove roots of an ecological preserve deep in Rio de Janeiro's Guanabara Bay.

"The Surui River is practically dead," said Moscatelli, who works for the Rio de Janeiro state Environmental Affairs Department. "If this isn't an environmental crime, I tear up my biologist's certificate."

Three days after a pipeline at the Reduc refinery belonging to federal petroleum giant Petrobras spilled more than 300,000 gallons of crude oil into the bay, the ecological disaster continues to grow.

By Friday, the oil slick spread through the Guapimirim mangrove swamp, a protected area and an important spawning ground for fish, birds and crustaceans. The swamp is home to endangered species such as the yellow-throated alligator and the blue egret. Moscatelli said it would take decades for nature to undo the damage.

Dead sea birds coated in oil floated in the tide. Many of them were diving cormorants, but the carcasses also included a rare marabu egret.

The company could face a fine of up to \$2,750 per animal killed, according to the Environment Ministry.

State environmental officials said the leak was caused because the pipeline was old and poorly maintained. They are investigating the exact cause of the accident.

Winds and tides also carried the oil toward the mouth of the bay and the open sea. The beaches of Paqueta



Biologists clean oil from the feathers of a gray heron that was contaminated from spilled oil in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. More than 300,000 gallons has spewed from a broken pipeline.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Island, a popular tourist resort, were covered in black muck. Despite the drift seaward, the state environmental office said it was unlikely the oil would reach ocean beaches such as Copacabana or Ipanema.

As the spill widened over 16 square miles, hundreds of workers with rakes and pitchforks took to the beaches of Mage, hit directly by the spill, and other affected areas. They mopped up the oil with hay and dumped it into steel drums, while biologists washed off oil-blackened birds and crabs.

Petrobras published an ad in major newspapers Friday admitting its responsibility for the disaster. The company also admitted Friday that 338,000 gallons of oil had spilled — not 130,000 gallons, as it had been saying since the disaster occurred. "Petrobras has no excuse," the

ad read over a picture of an agonizing, oil-covered egret. "It has an obligation to recover the confidence of Brazilian society."

Environment Minister Jose Sarney Filho, who flew over the bay with Petrobras President Henri Philippe Reichstul on Friday, said the company could be fined up to \$27.5 million.

"We will be rigorous," Filho said. "As a state company, [Petrobras] should set an example. They will be punished in exemplary fashion."

Rio state authorities said the Reduc refinery had presented a similar leak in 1997 and was operating without a required license.

The Inter-American Development Bank reportedly offered to provide money and a U.S. specialist in environmental disasters to help in the cleanup.

# Ruptured pipe spills oil into Gulf of Mexico

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**NEW ORLEANS** — A crude oil slick floated on the Gulf of Mexico on Saturday after an underwater pipeline was ruptured by an 8-ton anchor dropped accidentally from a drilling rig.

The slick was floating slowly westward, about 115 miles south of New Orleans and 75 miles south of the closest land. It posed no immediate threat to coastal areas, said Coast Guard spokesman Jason Neubauer.

No dead birds or fish had been spotted.

Airplanes were used to spread a chemical to disperse the oil, and five oil recovery boats were sent to the area, Neubauer said.

About 94,000 gallons of oil poured into the water Friday, creating a slick two miles long and two miles wide. On Saturday, the slick was roughly the same width but had stretched to seven miles long, Neubauer said.

The drill rig was being towed to a new location Friday when the anchor dropped into water 440 feet deep and snagged the pipeline, dragging it and causing several breaks, Neubauer said.

The pipeline, owned by Equilon Pipeline Co. of New Orleans, was shut down after monitoring systems detected a pressure drop, said Mary Dokianos, a spokesman for Shell, which is a partial owner of Equilon.

# Shearon Harris reactor shut down

**An electrical problem caused the plant's third unplanned shutdown this year.**

By KARIN SCHILL  
STAFF WRITER

**NEW HILL** — Workers at the Shearon Harris nuclear plant halted reactor operations early Tuesday after an electrical problem caused a pump failure. The unplanned shutdown was the third this year at the power station.

Repairs got under way immediately, and the reactor was expect-

ed to be back on line early today, said Jeanne Bonds, a spokeswoman for the plant in southwestern Wake County.

"This isn't anything associated with the reactor. The problem was with the steam generation in the turbine," she said. "It was a ground-fault problem in the electrical system. It's an electrical part that could have been at any plant, not just a nuclear plant."

In January, two technicians accidentally cut the power to two of the reactor's three coolant pumps, causing the reactor to

automatically shut down. Two months later, the plant was down again after the water in a steam generator unexpectedly started to rise and automatic safety systems again killed the nuclear chain reaction inside the reactor.

That snag came within days of a steam generator snag that forced Shearon Harris to reduce power.

Three unplanned outages and a near-outage are unusual for a plant that has had a record of operating well. Each time a reactor trips, CP&L stands to lose revenue, depending on electricity

demand at the time.

"Our goal is to have no reactor trips, obviously, but this is also a reflection of the fact that the plant's safety systems work as they're supposed to," CP&L spokesman Mike Hughes said.

The Shearon Harris plant, which is owned by CP&L and the N.C. Eastern Municipal Power Agency, has produced electricity since 1987.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION

In the Matter of

CAROLINA POWER & LIGHT COMPANY

(Shearon Harris Nuclear Power Plant)

Docket No.(s) 50-400-LA

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that copies of the foregoing LIMITED APPEARANCE STATEMENT have been served upon the following persons by U.S. mail, first class, except as otherwise noted and in accordance with the requirements of 10 CFR Sec. 2.712.

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Washington, DC 20555

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U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555

Administrative Judge  
Frederick J. Shon  
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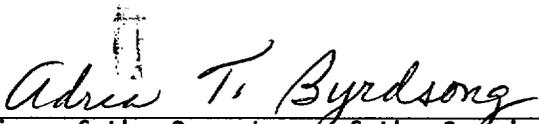
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Docket No.(s)50-400-LA  
LIMITED APPEARANCE STATEMENT

Dated at Rockville, Md. this  
3 day of February 2000

  
Office of the Secretary of the Commission