March 2019

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Spring is coming!

GSHMM Spring Meeting Schedule

• **Thursday, April 11** - Megan Sexton of Republic Services will be presenting on recycling issues at the Engineer’s Club.

• **Thursday May 9** - Spring Seminar at the Engineer’s Club. The luncheon speaker will be David Cozad, Regional Counsel, USEPA Region 7, speaking on USEPA Updates and Priorities. See inside for seminar details.

Registration for chapter meetings starts at 11:30, followed by lunch and presentation at 12:00 noon.

To register for a GSHMM chapter meeting, use the following link:


Or email Meredith Springs at meredith.springs.gshmm@gmail.com.

If you register on-line, please also follow up with an RSVP to Meredith.
THANK YOU TO OUR 2019 “GOLD” SPONSORS, SHOWN BELOW. If you’d like to see your company’s name here, contact us!

Here’s How to Contact Your Local Board Members or AHMP National Offices:

**GSHMM Officers:**
- President - Donna Ratkowski
donna.ratkowski@aftonchemical.com
 president@gshmm.org
- President-Elect - Jonathan Eckles
 jonathan.eckles@mnk.com
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- Treasurer - Shana Lawson
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**GSHMM Directors**
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**National Contacts:**
- Alliance of Hazardous Materials Professionals (AHMP)
 www.ahmpnet.org
- AHMP Contact Email- info@ahmpnet.org
 AHMP President -
 president@ahmpnet.org
 Institute of Hazardous Materials Management (IHMM)
 www.ihmm.org
- IHMM Executive Director -
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- IHMM General Information
 Info@IHMM.org
ATTENTION PAYPAL USERS

While we love having the ability to pre-pay for meetings via PayPal, we don't always receive notification of your payment prior to the meeting.

Please be prepared to show your payment receipt (on your mobile device or a hardcopy) when you arrive at the meeting – especially if you have
Board Openings Available for Next Year!

The Gateway Society of Hazardous Materials Managers currently has four openings on its board of directors for the 2019-2020 chapter year. The chapter year is July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020. The open positions are listed below, along with a brief description of duties:

**President-Elect**  
Presides over Chapter meetings in the absence of the President and organizes the Annual Seminar. The President-Elect is expected to serve as President and Immediate Past-President the following years. Attend monthly board meetings to participate in board discussions, assist with board decisions, and take part in voting. This position is required to be held by a Certified Member.

**Meetings**  
Organize the monthly meetings including securing speakers and meeting facilities, sending meeting notifications, and processing RSVPs. Attend monthly board meetings to participate in board discussions, assist with board decisions, and take part in voting.

**Communications**  
Write and issue monthly electronic newsletters to the chapter and assist with any other board communications to membership as required. Attend monthly board meetings to participate in board discussions, assist with board decisions, and take part in voting.

**Special Projects**  
Plan, organize and assist with execution of chapter community volunteer/outreach events and group professional enrichment site tours and outings. Attend monthly board meetings to participate in board discussions, assist with board decisions, and take part in voting.

If you’ve ever thought there was room for improvement in our chapter or would like to help with decision making that affects professional development opportunities for yourself and others, NOW IS YOUR CHANCE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE! The benefits of board participation are many, starting with the personal and professional development that comes along with active participation in leadership and chapter activities.

If you are interested, please contact Lynn Taber at LTaber@AmericanRailcar.com no later than Wednesday, April 10th at noon.
GATEWAY SOCIETY OF HAZARDOUS MATERIALS MANAGERS
2019 REGULATORY UPDATE SEMINAR

Thursday, May 9, 2019
Registration / breakfast 7:30 a.m.
Seminar starts 8:00 a.m.

Engineers’ Club of St. Louis, 4359 Lindell Blvd, St. Louis MO

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Keeping it Fresh – Updates & Auditing

Speakers and Topics Include:

The regulatory updates and forecasts:
Dave Cozad, U.S. EPA Region 7
Roger Walker and Kevin Perry, Missouri REGFORM
Alec Davis, IL Environmental Regulatory Group (IERG)
St. Louis Local Emergency Planning Commission

Auditing & the Audit Experience:
PSM/RMP Auditing
Environmental Compliance Audits & Due Diligence
Waste Inspection Experience
Do I Need A Lawyer
Surviving the Inspector

The $100 seminar fee will include continental breakfast and lunch.
Early Bird discount applies if $75 online payment is received by midnight, April 23.
A special $50 fee is available for students and GSHMM members who are between jobs.
No refunds after noon on May 2.

Seminar fee can be paid by mail or online through GSHMM’s website (by credit card or PayPal) at http://www.gshmm.org/merchandise.aspx

Please send this registration form to Jonathan Eckles
c/o Mallinckrodt, 3600 N. 2nd Street, St. Louis, MO 63147
or email to jonathan.eckles@mnk.com
2018 GSHMM REGULATORY UPDATE SEMINAR
Registration Form

Complete the registration below and mail it with your check (payable to GSHMM) to
Jonathan Eckles, c/o Mallinckrodt, 3600 N. 2nd Street, St. Louis, MO 63147

Payment can also be made online (by credit card or PayPal) at http://www.gshmm.org/merchandise.aspx

Registration is $100.00 for both members and non-members; $50 for Students and Member in Transition*

*A reduced rate for “Member in Transition” is available to GSHMM members who are between jobs.
Include notation in the “Company” section below.

A $25 Early Bird Discount applies if payment ($75) is received by midnight, April 23, 2019.

No refunds for no-shows or cancellations after Noon on May 2.

Name: [ ]
Company: [ ]
Address: [ ]
Phone: [ ]
Email: [ ]
Fax: [ ]

In an effort to conserve our natural resources, GSHMM will not distribute copies of speaker notes unless specifically requested by attendee. Notepaper will be available at the seminar. Requests for paper copies to be available at the time of the seminar must be made in advance by the attendees.

Please check below your attendance status below.

____ I PLAN TO ATTEND
____ I PLAN TO ATTEND, and I’d like a paper copy of the presentations
____ I PLAN TO ATTEND, and I’d like you to send me an electronic copy of the presentations (following the seminar)

If you can’t attend the seminar, but would like a copy of the proceedings, you may purchase an electronic copy for $15 or a paper copy for $25.

____ I CAN’T MAKE IT, but I’d like an electronic copy of the proceedings. Enclosed is $15 for the electronic copy.
____ I CAN’T MAKE IT, but I’d like a paper copy of the proceedings. Enclosed is $25 for the paper copy.

If you have any questions or have special needs (including dietary restrictions), please email Jonathan Eckles at jonathan.eckles@mnk.com
Welcome to GSHMM’s 2019 Spring Compliance Seminar
Inspections, Audits, and Regulatory Updates
Thursday, May 9, 2019

Agenda:

Morning Session – The Regulatory World:

- 7:30-8:00 a.m. – Registration & Breakfast
- 8:00 a.m. – Welcome and Introductions
- 8:10-8:55 a.m. – LEPC Update – TBD, St. Louis LEPC
- 8:55-9:40 a.m. – Missouri Regulatory Update - Kevin Perry and Roger Walker, Missouri REGFORM
- 9:40-9:55 a.m. – COFFEE BREAK
- 9:55-10:40 a.m. – Illinois Regulatory Update - Alec Davis, IL Environmental Regulatory Group (IERG)
- 10:45-11:30 a.m. – Environmental Compliance Audits & Due Diligence – Bill Witts, Environmental Operations, and Jennifer Martin, HeplerBroom

Luncheon Speaker / GSHMM Luncheon Meeting

- 11:30 a.m. – Noon - LUNCH
- 12:00-12:45 p.m. – U.S. EPA Updates and Priorities - Dave Cozad, Regional Counsel, U.S. EPA Region 7

Afternoon Session – Audits & Inspections:

- 1:00-1:40 p.m. – PSM/RMP Auditing – Todd Schmidt, TRC
- 1:40-2:30 p.m. – Waste Inspection Experience – Scott Lemmons, Lighthouse for the Blind
- 2:30-2:45 p.m. – Afternoon Break w/ COOKIES
- 2:45-3:30 p.m. – Do I need a Lawyer? – TBD, Bryan Cave LLP
- 3:30-4:15 p.m. – Billy Goats & Lambs: Surviving the Inspector – Jonathan Eckles, Mallinckrodt
Spire, Inc. is seeking an Environmental Engineer II to work in our St. Louis operation. This position will assist the Manager, Environmental Compliance providing professional technical services so that Company activities, locations, equipment, and records are compliant with federal, state, and local environmental regulations, as well as Department of Transportation (DOT) and OSHA regulations where there is overlap.

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Maintain knowledge of applicable environmental regulations and applicable DOT, Corps of Engineers and OSHA regulations having direct and/or potential impact on Company operations
- Secure environmental permits and complete required regulatory submittals needed for the Company to conduct operations in an environmentally compliant manner
- Manage and arrange disposal of hazardous, non-hazardous and universal wastes generated by the Company
- Manage environmental projects including research, design, scheduling, construction oversight and preparing requests for bid proposals.
- Manage and/or conduct evaluation and remediation of former manufactured gas plant sites
- Inspect Company facilities for compliance of environmental and related regulations; provide recommendations for needed corrective or preventive actions.
- Manage environmental incidents
- Research and interpret proposed new environmental regulations and/or modifications to existing environmental regulations for their potential impact on Company operations. Provide appropriate input to governmental agencies and industry groups
- Participate in stakeholder workgroups involved with promulgation of environmental regulations
- Maintain central file system for environmental activities required by regulations
- Attend trade association meetings to maintain current knowledge of existing and proposed environmental regulations at the federal, state, and local level
- Manage environmental concerns of Company employees, develop and conduct training as necessary
- Point of contact for environmental regulatory entities
- Other duties assigned

Required Education and (may include certifications, licenses and registrations)

- Bachelor’s degree in Engineering or similar technical degree in environmental sciences. 3 years of prior engineering work experience
- Respirator protection qualification preferred
- 40-hour HAZWOPER training cert preferred
- DOT HAZMAT training cert preferred
- Engineer in Training (EIT) cert preferred
- Certified Hazardous Material Manager (CHMM) cert preferred

Required Knowledge, Skill and Abilities:

- Knowledge of and ability to apply PHMSA Pipeline Safety, EPA, OSHA and applicable state regulations
- Knowledge of applicable environmental regulations and permitting requirements and procedures at the federal, state and local level, including but not limited to: air, water (wastewater, storm water (including other local requirements), and NPDES), above and underground storage tanks, waste management (hazardous, non-hazardous and universal) and TSCA
- Ability to interpret Safety Data Sheets (SDS) for chemicals used by the Company to assess potential, associated risk to employees and recommend appropriate protective measures to be taken

Spire accepts online applications through our career site at jobs.spireenergy.com

See the posting at: https://jobs.spireenergy.com/job/Saint-Louis-Environmental-Engineer-II-MO-63101/538429400/
Regulatory Update, Guidance, and Enforcement News

Senate Confirms Andrew Wheeler to Lead EPA

The former coal lobbyist had been serving as acting administrator of the agency.

By Alan Neuhauser, Staff Writer  Feb. 28, 2019, at 1:49 p.m./U.S. News & World Report

THE SENATE ON THURSDAY confirmed former coal lobbyist Andrew Wheeler as administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency.

The 52-47 vote largely fell along party lines. Senate Democrats had vigorously opposed Wheeler’s selection to lead the federal agency most responsible for enforcing environmental laws and regulating pollution, citing his previous work on behalf of the coal sector, which in 2017 was the largest source of greenhouse gas emissions.

When asked during his confirmation hearing last month whether he accepted urgent warnings from scientists about climate change, Wheeler responded, "I would not call it the greatest crisis."

Sen. Joe Manchin, D-W.Va., and Sen. Susan Collins, R-Maine, were the only lawmakers to break party ranks.

Wheeler had served as the agency's acting administrator since the departure of former Administrator Scott Pruitt, whose tenure was mired in scandal. At more than 200 days, Wheeler was the longest-serving acting administrator in the agency's history. He was also reportedly confirmed with the largest share of "no" votes in EPA history, beating his predecessor by one vote.

Environmental and liberal advocacy groups were quick to denounce Wheeler's confirmation.

"This is a bad day for anyone who depends on clean air, safe water, and a stable climate," Christy Goldfuss, senior vice president for Energy and Environmental Policy at the Center for American Progress, a left-leaning think tank, said in a statement. "There is no question that Andrew Wheeler will continue to do the dirty work of polluters at the expense of communities across the country, as shown already by his attempts to undo policies that protect us from the devastating health impacts of mercury, toxic chemicals, and carbon pollution."

Conservative lawmakers, meanwhile, cheered the results of the vote.

"The Senate has taken decisive action to confirm Andrew Wheeler as administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency," Sen. John Barrasso, R-Wyo., and chairman of the Environment and Public Works Committee, said in a statement. "As acting administrator of EPA, he has prioritized common-sense policies that protect our air and water, while allowing our economy to grow. I look forward to working with Administrator Wheeler in his new role."

Wheeler, in a statement posted shortly after the vote, said "It is truly humbling to serve the American public as EPA Administrator."
Regulatory Update, Guidance, and Enforcement News

EPA defends enforcement record, despite drop in penalties

By MATTHEW DALY, Associated Press | Updated: Tue 4:02 PM, Feb 26, 2019

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Environmental Protection Agency’s enforcement chief on Tuesday defended the Trump administration’s work, despite a report by her own agency showing that civil and criminal crackdowns on polluters have dropped sharply in the past two years.

Assistant administrator Susan Bodine, who heads the office of enforcement, said the idea that EPA is soft on enforcement is "absolutely not true," adding that the agency is giving states a greater role in regulation and enforcement and stressing education and voluntary compliance by companies. Bodine told a House subcommittee that a media "narrative" about lax enforcement "discredits the tremendous work of the compliance and assurance staff" at EPA.

"A strong environment program doesn't mean we have to collect a particular dollar amount or pick up a number of penalties," Bodine said.

But Rep. Diana DeGette, D-Colo., said EPA's own statistics show an agency that's "sitting on its hands" and "giving polluters a free pass. And it's putting our health and environment at risk."

When EPA enforcement activities go down, "pollution goes up. That's a fact," said DeGette, who chairs an Energy and Commerce subcommittee on oversight and investigations. The EPA has been one of the most active agencies in carrying out President Donald Trump's deregulatory goals. Environmental and public-health groups say the business-friendly rollbacks place public health and the environment at greater risk, a claim Democrats repeatedly made at Tuesday's hearing.

The hearing was the first oversight hearing on EPA since Democrats reclaimed the House majority last month. Congress has enacted a series of laws to protect health and the environment, "and this panel will not sit back and allow this administration to simply ignore those laws," DeGette said. "We expect the EPA to do its job."

The latest numbers from EPA show its overall enforcement activities for 2018 were at historically low levels, according to an agency report earlier this month. The EPA assessed polluters a total of $69 million in civil penalties in the fiscal year that ended Sept. 30, the lowest dollar amount since EPA created the enforcement office in 1994, the report showed.

Inspections and evaluations dropped to about 10,600, half the number EPA conducted at its peak in 2010. Civil investigations carried out by the agency declined to 22 last year, down from 40 in 2017 and 125 in 2016, the last year of the Obama administration. Criminal fines and restitution tumbled, from $207 million in 2016 and $3 billion in 2017, which includes a $2.8 billion fine against Volkswagen over emissions-rigging in a case initiated under the Obama administration — to $86 million last year.

Read the article at: EPA Enforcement
Here's what the Green New Deal actually says

Analysis by Zachary B. Wolf, CNN, Updated 7:01 AM ET, Thu February 14, 2019

“Green New Deal” fits perfectly on a bumper sticker.
But the proposal, which is on its way to becoming a litmus test for the Democratic Party's many 2020 contenders, isn't a simple fix for what ails the US. It would equal taking American society back to the drawing board and rebuilding it from the safety net up.
President Donald Trump and Republicans like Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell want to use the proposal to paint Democrats as trying to mandate a socialist utopia on the country, which is probably why House Speaker Nancy Pelosi has been publicly skeptical -- even though most Democrats running for president have signed on, at least conceptually.

The Green New Deal is more a list of ideas and ideals than an actual proposal, although the new climate change regulations it suggests could run to $1 trillion.
What was entered as official legislative language on Capitol Hill declares the government should take a stronger position on everything from cutting carbon emissions to giving every American a job to working with family farmers to retrofitting every building in the country.
Here's a look at some passages that stuck out in the 14-page resolution, and what they might mean for the country:

Renewable energy
"meeting 100 percent of the power demand in the United States through clean, renewable, and zero-emission energy sources"
This would be a wholesale turnaround in US energy. Renewables -- including hydroelectric, wind, biomass, solar and geothermal -- currently account for about 20% of US energy production, about on par with nuclear energy as outlined by the US Energy Information Agency. Natural gas accounts for the largest share -- about 32% -- and coal isn't far behind, at 30%. The current projection is for renewable energy to account for about 31% of US energy generation by 2050, with steep drops for nuclear and coal.

Smart grid
"building or upgrading to energy-efficient, distributed, and 'smart' power grids, and working to ensure affordable access to electricity"
Improving the nation's patchwork electrical system is an enormous undertaking that Congress has been grappling with for more than a decade. It provided funds toward a smart grid -- a reimagined electrical grid that makes use of technology to improve reliability and efficiency -- as part of the 2009 economic stimulus, but not explicitly since then. The Department of Energy has provided some funds since then, according to the Congressional Research Service, putting $3.6 billion each year toward the smart grid -- not nearly enough to implement it nationwide by 2030. It'll cost hundreds of billions of dollars over 20 years, according to estimates, but greatly improve the country's electrical infrastructure.

Energy efficiency
"upgrading all existing buildings in the United States and building new buildings to achieve maximal energy efficiency, water efficiency, safety, affordability, comfort, and durability, including through electrification"
Without having to Google, we know there are a LOT of buildings in the US. Upgrading all of them would certainly make the green building industry explode. Would it be done through tax credits? Grants? Large-scale building upgrades have been tried before, including in the 2009 stimulus, which put $4.5 billion toward retrofitting federal buildings and $3 billion toward retrofitting public housing projects. Here's a HUD report on the public housing effort, which argues that savings on electricity and water costs were achieved. However, to repeat, there are a LOT of buildings in the US, and no one knows what it would cost to make them all "green."

Read more at [CNN Green Deal](https://www.cnn.com/2019/02/14/politics/green-new-deal-basic/index.html)
On February 2014, 2019, the USEPA proposed to approve certain elements of the Illinois State Implementation Plan (IL SIP) regarding the infrastructure requirements for the 2012 annual PM2.5 National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS). The action specifically pertains to infrastructure requirements concerning interstate transport. It focuses on two of the four provisions (commonly referred to as "prongs") that were addressed by the IL SIP as follows:

1. Prohibiting any source or other type of emissions activity in one state from contributing significantly to non-attainment of the NAAQS in another state.
2. Prohibiting any source or other type of emissions activity in one state from interfering with maintenance of the NAAQS in another state.

The USEPA then evaluated whether the interstate transport provisions in the IL SIP met the two prongs above. They did this based on a basic 4 step process which includes (1) identifying the downwind receptors that are expected to cause an issue with NAAQS compliance, (2) identifying which upwind states contribute to these identified issues, (3) identifying the upwind emissions reductions necessary in an upwind state contributing to the issues downwind and (4) reducing the identified upwind emissions. The most relevant document the USEPA used as guidance in its analysis is a memorandum published on March 17, 2016, titled "Information on the Interstate Transport 'Good Neighbor' Provision for the 2-12 Fine Particulate Matter National Ambient Air Quality Standards under Clean Air Act Section 110(a)(2)(D)(i)(I)".

The IEPA's submittal contained a technical analysis which concluded that no further measures were necessary beyond its analysis to satisfy the responsibilities under the CAA Section 110(a)(2)(D)(i)(l). This is because the analysis found that Illinois does not contribute to projected nonattainment or maintenance issues at any relevant NAAQS receptors in other states. The USEPA completed an expanded review of IEPA's submittal and found a conclusion consistent with the IEPA. Therefore, the USEPA is proposing that the two prongs mentioned above of the interstate pollution transport elements of Illinois' infrastructure SIP are approvable. Public comment period on this proposal is open until March 18, 2019.

Approval of Illinois' Ozone NNSR SIP

The USEPA is approving the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency's (Illinois EPA's) SIP revision submitted on May 23, 2018, addressing nonattainment new source review (NNSR) of the Clean Air Act (CAA) for areas designated as nonattainment for the 2008 8-hour ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS). This submittal by the Illinois EPA was in response to the USEPA's February 3 and December 11, 2017 findings that Illinois failed to submit an NNSR plan for the Illinois portion of the Chicago-Naperville, Illinois-Indiana-Wisconson area (Chicago Nonattainment Area) with regards to the 2008 8-hour ozone NAAQS.

Upon review, the USEPA found that Illinois' SIP-approved NNSR program at 35 Illinois Administrative Code Part 203 (35 IAC 203) contains the minimum required NNSR elements as specified in 40 CFR 51.165 for Illinois' ozone non-attainment areas. The USEPA issued a notice of proposed rulemaking indicating their conclusion. One comment was received regarding the USEPA’s finding and it has been addressed in the federal register (84 FR 2063).

The approval of this rule permanently stops the Federal Implementation Plan (FIP) clocks triggered by USEPA’s February 3 and December 11, 2017 findings. This final rule is effective on March 8, 2019.

Article can be found at [IL SIP](https://www.epa.gov).
Regulatory Update, Guidance, and Enforcement News

Red Tape Reduction for Gasoline Dispensing Facilities Goes into Effect

Trinity Consultants—Environmental Regulatory Update
February 2019

Under the 2018 Red Tape Reduction efforts, the Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MDNR) amended requirements for Gasoline Facilities in Kansas City (10 CSR 10-2.260) and St. Louis (10 CSR 10-5.220). These amendments will go into effect on February 28th and March 30th, respectively.

The amendments better align the two rules with each other and remove permitting requirements for vapor recovery systems in Kansas City. The applicability threshold for gasoline storage tanks has been increased to 550 gallons in both locations. In St. Louis County, the state will now provide oversight for vapor recovery requirements instead of the county. In general, the amendment will reduce regulatory burden on gasoline dispensing facilities as several other testing and notification requirements have been removed as well. If you have questions about how these changes will affect your facility, please contact us.

Approval of Illinois' Ozone NNSR SIP

EPA Seeking Public Comment on the National Compliance Initiatives for FY 2020-2023

The USEPA is approving the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency’s (Illinois EPA’s) SIP revision submitted on May 23, 2018, addressing nonattainment new source review (NNSR) of the Clean Air Act (CAA) for areas designated as nonattainment for the 2008 8-hour ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS). This submittal by the Illinois EPA was in response to the USEPA’s February 3 and December 11, 2017 findings that Illinois failed to submit an NNSR plan for the Illinois portion of the Chicago-Naperville, Illinois-Indiana-Wisconsin area (Chicago Nonattainment Area) with regards to the 2008 8-hour ozone NAAQS.

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Article at Red Tape Reduction
In the predawn hours of December 3, 1984, a toxic cloud of methyl isocyanate gas escaped from the Union Carbide pesticide plant in Bhopal, India, and quickly spread throughout the city. Vomiting and gasping for air, those who didn’t die in their sleep poured into unprepared area hospitals or desperately attempted to outrun the fumes. Dog, bird, cow and water buffalo corpses reportedly lined the streets. Investigations later uncovered a slew of safety violations at the plant, including broken and outdated equipment. Lax management also played a role; a supervisor, for example, allegedly broke for tea at the moment of crisis, believing it was only a water leak. Though estimates vary, roughly 15,000 Bhopal residents are believed to have died in what’s often referred to as history’s worst industrial accident. Hundreds of thousands of additional inhabitants suffered afflictions ranging from memory loss and nerve damage to blindness and organ failure. To this day, the site of the plant, now owned by Dow Chemical Company, remains highly contaminated.

On April 26, 1986, a turbine test on one of the reactors at the Chernobyl nuclear power station went horribly awry, leading to a series of explosions that spewed massive amounts of radioactive material into the atmosphere. The accident, which the Soviet authorities attempted to cover up, initially claimed only 31 lives: two plant workers who died in the blasts, a third who reportedly keeled over of a heart attack and 28 first responders who contracted acute radiation syndrome during the frantic early stages of the cleanup. However, Chernobyl also unleashed a thyroid cancer epidemic and likely caused additional cancer cases as well. In 2005, a United Nations-backed panel calculated the eventual death toll at up to 4,000, whereas other organizations put this number significantly higher. For perhaps centuries to come, an exclusion zone, set up around the plant following the forced evacuation of tens of thousands of area residents, will be off limits to human habitation.