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Inside C2

# Southern DAILY

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## Tesla's electric motor shift to spur demand for rare earth neodymium

LONDON (Reuters) - Tesla's shift to a magnetic motor using neodymium in its Model 3 Long Range car adds to pressure on already strained supplies of a rare earth metal that had for years been shunned because of an export ban by top producer China.

Efforts by governments around the world to cut noxious emissions produced by fossil fuel-powered cars is driving demand for electric vehicles and the metals used to make them, such as lithium and cobalt which are key ingredients for batteries.

Now the spotlight is on neodymium. Several auto makers already use permanent magnet motors that rely on the metal because they are generally lighter, stronger and more efficient than induction motors that are based on copper coils.

But it is the switch to neodymium by Tesla, an auto maker that has staked its future solely on the electric vehicle, that is showing the way the industry is moving and the direction of demand for the rare earth metal.

"Some electric car motors use the permanent magnet technology, probably the most famous is the Tesla Model 3 Long Range. All the other Tesla models — Model X and Model 3 standard — use induction motors," said David Merriman, a senior analyst at metals consultancy Roskill.

Global demand of 31,700 tonnes for neodymium last year already outstripped supply by 3,300 tonnes, he said. Demand was expected to climb to 34,200 tonnes this year and 38,800 tonnes in 2018,

leaving larger deficits.

"Tesla's decision to switch to permanent magnets has completely changed the dynamics of the market," said a source at a fund manager that specializes in metals.

The price of neodymium is now about \$70 a kg, well below the \$500 hit after China held back shipments to Japan in 2010 during a row over disputed islands but it is still 40 percent higher than at the start of 2017.

China, which resumed neodymium exports in 2015, imposed strict export quotas across a range of rare earth metal in 2010, saying it wanted to curtail pollution and preserve resources.

"People seem to have forgotten China's export ban. It could happen again. China is really the main producer, no one else has invested as much in rare earths," a rare earth trader said.

Despite their name, rare earths are found in many places around the world, but the process of extraction is difficult and expensive, as it requires separating multiple different metals from a single deposit. This is unlike the much simpler process, for example, of recovering copper from ore. (For a graphic of Rare Earth Producers click reut.rs/2Fu5HnE) China has invested heavily in the rare earth metals process but its crackdown on mining, smelting and other polluting industries is forecast to slow supply. It already helped push the neodymium price to a two-year high of \$96 in September.

"Rare earth production is as bad as you can get in terms of environmental damage," the trader said. "China used its dominant position before, what's to stop it doing so again?" Such supply concerns are encouraging au-



A Tesla Model 3 is seen in a showroom in Los Angeles

tomakers to search for ways of cutting down neodymium use. Toyota Motor Corp (7203.T) said last month it had found a way to cut use of the metal in electric motors by about a fifth. The Japanese firm said it had developed a magnet which replaced some of the neodymium with more abundant and cheaper rare earths — lanthanum and cerium. Toyota aims to use the magnets in electric vehicle motors within the next 10 years. Other manufacturers of electric vehicles that use permanent magnets include BMW BMWG, Nissan (7201.T) and Geely (0175.HK).

Several companies produce rare earth metals outside China, including London-listed Rainbow Rare Earths (RBWR.L), Canada-listed Namibia Rare Earths (NRE.V) and Australia's Spectrum Rare Earths (SPX.AX).

But, for now, auto makers making permanent magnet motors remain heavily reliant on China, which according to Roskill accounted for 85 percent of global output of rare earth oxide estimated at 161,700 tonnes in 2017.

Morgan Stanley analysts estimate electric vehicles will total 50,000 units in 2020 or 2.3 percent of the total, rising to 400,000 in 2025 or 17.4 percent, and 975,000 in 2030 or 40.9 percent.

## Oil down 1 percent on continued concerns over U.S. output

NEW YORK (Reuters) - Oil prices fell on Monday as investors grappled with ongoing concerns over rising U.S. output and tight OPEC supply, while last week's data showing speculators cut bets on oil suggested more selling could be seen.

Brent crude futures LCOc1 were down 63 cents, or 1 percent, by 1:32 p.m. EDT (1732 GMT), to \$64.86 per barrel. U.S. West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude futures CLc1 fell 80 cents, or 1.3 percent, to \$61.24 per barrel.

Hedge funds and money managers have pared their bullish wagers on U.S. crude oil, with long positions falling last week for the first time in three weeks. Gross short positions on the New York Mercantile Exchange 3067651MSHT climbed to their highest level in nearly a month.

That has undercut some of the enthusiasm for oil, as investors weigh increased U.S. supply against the likelihood that the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries and non-OPEC producers will maintain supply cuts that have been in effect for more than a year. "The market continues to flip back and forth on the idea that increased global demand and a production cut is going to support prices... but U.S. production, and North American production levels in general, is going to negate a lot of the impact of that," said Gene McGillian, director of market research at Tradition Energy.

Energy services firm Baker Hughes said on Friday that energy companies last week cut oil rigs for the first time in almost two months. RIG-OL-USA-BHI Still, the United States is now the world's no. 2 crude oil producer, ahead of top exporter

Saudi Arabia.

On Sunday, Iranian oil minister Bijan Zanganeh said OPEC could agree in June to begin easing current oil production curbs in 2019, the Wall Street Journal reported.

Also on Sunday, Saudi officials told their British counterparts that they would be delaying the initial public offering of Saudi Aramco until 2019. This week's Consumer Price Index (CPI) release, given its potential impact on the dollar, could end up being critical, said Bill Baruch, president of Blue Line Futures in Chicago. The dollar tends to have an inverse relationship with the price of oil, as a weaker greenback makes dollar-denominated commodities cheaper for holders of other currencies.



FILE PHOTO: An oil pump operating in the Permian Basin near Midland

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# Liberty County sues Arkema for \$1 million over Harvey disaster

By Keri Blakinger

Liberty County jumped into an ongoing legal fray Friday when it filed a \$1 million lawsuit against Arkema over the chemical fires that wreaked havoc at its Crosby plant in the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey.

The legal claim comes months after first responders and Harris County also filed high-dollar suits against the chemical company. The latest claim alleges air and water contamination spilled over into neighboring Liberty County, violating the Texas Clean Air Act, Texas Water Code, health and safety codes, and creating a public nuisance.

“Arkema caused an unreasonable interference with rights common to the Liberty County general public,” says the suit filed by attorneys Mo Aziz and Earnest Wotring. Specifically, the suit faults the company for overflowing wastewater tanks that may have mingled with floodwaters.

“Rainwater accumulated in two wastewater tanks at the Site until the tanks overflowed into their containment dikes, which subsequently also exceeded their capacity,”

the suit says. “The wastewater contents thus mingled with floodwaters on the rest of the property, contaminating water in Liberty County.”

With the wastewater overflow came unpermitted air releases, including “thousands of pounds of chemicals,” lawyers claim. “These included releases of ethylbenzene, mineral spirit, naphtha, naphthalene, organic peroxide, 1,2,4-trimethylbenzene, tertbutyl alcohol, and unspecified volatile organic compounds.”

About 300 homes were evacuated and more than 30 people hospitalized — including law enforcement — when trailers of volatile chemicals erupted into flames after the plant lost power and generators in the subdivision in the aftermath of Tropical Storm Harvey on Wednesday, Aug. 30, 2017, in Houston.

The first of nine trailers of organic peroxides exploded on the morning of Aug. 31, leaving a 40-foot plume of black smoke trailing over the northeast Harris County town. The fires came days after the French company’s Crosby Eastgate plant lost power when six feet of floodwaters drenched the facility.

The loss of power knocked out the cooling system needed to keep the heat-sensitive organic peroxides



Arkema's Hurricane Harvey ride out crew take one last look of the flooded facility as they evacuate the Crosby site on Aug. 29, 2017.

from exploding. Authorities ordered evacuations within a 1.5-mile radius of the plant starting on Aug. 29. Two days later, the first fire broke out. In the following days, more trailers exploded

and finally, on Sept. 3, the Houston Police Department's bomb squad detonated the remaining six trailers of chemicals. Afterward, a number of first responders and local homeowners filed suit, as did Harris County.

# 16 families homeless after fire damages north Houston apartment complex

At least 16 families are homeless after a fire destroyed a north Houston apartment complex Monday.

The Houston Fire Department responded to the blaze at the Sago Palms Apartments complex on Northborough near Rankin around 3:45 a.m., Deputy Chief Douglas Harrison said.

Department officials said they believe everyone got out safely, although one person was treated for cuts he got while breaking

through a window trying to get out of the apartment, the deputy chief said. Resident Denesha Bagent said her 1-year-old dog named Gucci died in the fire.

About 16 apartment units on Northborough near Rankin were destroyed Monday, March 12, 2018.

About 16 units are completely uninhabitable from the two-alarm fire, Harrison said.

Division is investigating the cause of the fire, woman said.



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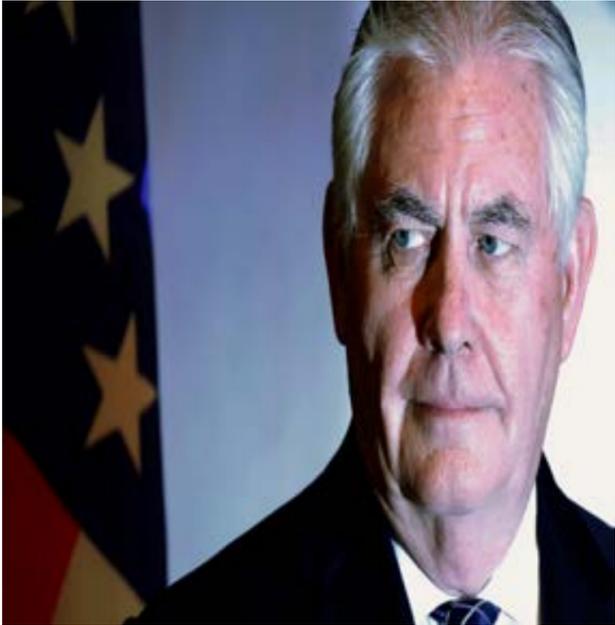
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# A Snapshot Of The World



U.S. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson participates in a news conference with Nigeria's Foreign Minister Geoffrey Onyeama (not pictured) in Abuja, Nigeria, March 12, 2018.



Israeli ultra-Orthodox Jewish men clash with police as they block a main road during a protest against the detention of a member of their community who refuses to serve in the Israeli army, in Bnei Brak



An Israeli ultra-Orthodox Jew is being carried away by police after blocking a main road in Israel during a protest against the detention of a member of his community who refuses to serve in the Israeli army, in Bnei Brak



U.S. President Donald Trump poses for a portrait with Josh Reddick of the Houston Astros, and the rest of the 2017 World Series Champions after having been gifted a custom jersey in the East Room at the White House in Washington



Opposition supporters gather in front of the United Nations offices in Caracas



Members of the emergency services wearing protective suits work at a site in Winterslow, near Salisbury



FILE PHOTO: An activist wearing a mask of Forza Italia party leader Silvio Berlusconi poses during a tour, the day after Italy's parliamentary elections, in Rome



A prototype of an e.Go Mover minibus for local transport is assembled at the production line in Aachen



Britain's Prince William and Catherine, the Duchess of Cambridge, greet children after attending the Commonwealth Service at Westminster Abbey in London

A rural school district has joined nearly 200 other Texas school districts in arming their employees to protect students under a "Guardian" program.

Last Monday, the Fayetteville Independent School District announced its new safety plan. Signs went up that read: "Please be aware that the staff at Fayetteville ISD may be armed and will use whatever force is necessary to protect our children."

The school district, which claims less than 250 enrolled students, houses all grades K-12 on one campus. Fayetteville is situated almost halfway between Austin and Houston and is so tiny it does not have a local police force, only a county sheriff. It also does not employ school resource officers.

In a letter to Fayetteville families, Superintendent Jeff Harvey wrote that, in light of the many recent events, schools are "being forced to prepare for the unthinkable — the potential of a school shooting." Harvey cited the Parkland, Florida, massacre but also clarified their Guardian program was already in the works. In fact, Fayetteville ISD school board records show trustees discussed this issue at their January 15, 2018, meeting. They changed local board policy allowing them to implement the program.



"We have gone through this process since it became a discussion at our school board about eight-and-a-half months ago," said Harvey. He told KVUE: "We came back in January, put it up as an action item and the board agreed to unanimously begin our 'Guardian' program."

In his letter, Harvey noted that these guardians, undisclosed staff members who volunteer for the program, will have "the right to carry a concealed handgun on school grounds." He emphasized that these "hand-selected" school board approved guardians must hold a License to Carry (LTC) permit and undergo rigorous vetting. They must pass a series of requirements including police grade psychological testing, qualify annually with the specific handgun they carry, comply with and pass random drug testing, and be trained in tactics that deny intruder entry into a classroom or facility.

"So, may you carry a concealed handgun or open carry?", wrote Harvey, who made clear that other than approved guardians, Fayetteville ISD will remain a gun free zone. "No. No students, parents, nor most staff will be allowed to carry. Only those who have met all the requirements will be allowed to carry."

The superintendent also told KVUE the goal of the program was not to create vigilante teachers. He called the guardians "a protection for each and every student in this school district." Fayetteville ISD intends to utilize guardians as back up to their normal lockdown procedure. He said this will empower certain teachers and staff to fight back in a worst-case situation.

# Another Texas School District Arms Employees To 'Protect Our Children'

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern News Editor



Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor

"We have numerous folks on staff that have military backgrounds," Harvey said. "Everyone here believes in that sense of protectiveness of their kids. Each one of these kids is ours. We treat them like they're our own and we want to make sure we're prepared to do whatever it takes to protect them."



Breitbart Texas reported that Harrold ISD was the state's first school district to institute the Guardian program in 2007. It permits trained and approved school personnel with a Texas Concealed Handgun License (CHL) to carry a weapon on campus to protect students. The Guardian program is authorized under Texas Government Code 411.1901. This program appeals to small, rural school districts that do not have a police force or are not close to local law enforcement. A similar Marshal plan was as the result of the 2013 Protection of Texas Children Act. It allows concealed handguns on otherwise "gun free" public school campuses; however, the Marshal program does not apply to schools with less than 400 students.

KVUE spoke to several parents, all of whom agreed with arming campus guardians. One mother said: "This is the only campus. We're

really small. So when we call 9-1-1...we're not going to have the law enforcement that we need here in five minutes."

Conversely, the Texas American Federation of Teachers (AFT), a chapter of the second largest teachers union in the nation, the American Federation of Teachers, opposes Guardian and Marshal programs. (Courtesy <http://www.breitbart.com/texas>)

**Related**

**Arming Teachers Unsettling To Some Minorities**

**The latest school safety proposals have been met with fear in black and brown communities**

The recent school shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School has renewed the debate about high national rates of gun violence and what to do about it. But as the debate has settled along the typical partisan divisions, one idea has emerged: Arming teachers could make schools safer.



"If you had a teacher who was adept with the firearm, they could end the attack very quickly," President Trump said during a February 21 listening session with students and parents affected by school shootings. He also proposed paying armed teachers "a little bit of a bonus."

Shifting the conversation away from gun control to focus on arming teachers and staff is arguably a distraction from confronting the causes of school shootings and gun violence. "In any other country in the world, the idea of arming teachers with guns in classrooms to protect children would be seen as the policy equivalent to random screaming," Vox's German Lopez wrote recently. "Yet in the United States, it's an idea that now has support."

Tweet From President Trump



Donald J. Trump

Armed Educators (and trusted people who work within a school) love our students and will protect them. Very smart people. Must be firearms adept & have annual training. Should get yearly bonus. Shootings will not happen again - a big & very inexpensive deterrent. Up to States.

12:54 PM - Feb 24, 2018

Still, allowing teachers and other school employees to carry guns in schools isn't entirely new —several school districts in Texas, for example, already allow teachers with concealed carry permits to bring guns into schools, and similar policies have been considered or implemented in school districts in Ohio, Indiana, and California in recent years.

But legislation is currently under consideration in states like Florida, Tennessee, and in a school district in Kentucky, raising a discussion about how arming teachers could actually play out in America's classrooms, especially for teachers and students of color.



"It's another layer to the conversation about how racialized the debate around gun violence can be," the Washington Post's Eugene Scott noted last week. "The current conversation about school safety appears to have more black Americans drawing attention to the consequences arming teachers could have in schools where implicit biases exist."

There's a broader issue magnified by the intensity of reactions to the Parkland shooting: When it comes to gun violence, race and the unique needs of communities of color are still

being overlooked in the national conversation.

**For teachers of color, arming themselves could come with risk**

The concerns that come with arming teachers are twofold. First, how would such a measure affect black students, a group that is already much more likely to face disproportionately harsh discipline in schools? And second, how would it affect teachers of color, especially black teachers, given the rates of black men and women wounded or killed in officer-involved shootings?

There's isn't any data out there that gives a clear picture of how people of color would be affected by arming teachers. But given broader trends, it is possible to make some reasonable guesses.



**Teachers have been signing up for gun classes across the country.**

For example, research from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, has shown that when participants were asked are asked to offer split-second reactions to images of weapons or tools after being shown a black or white face, people identify a weapon faster when shown a black face first.

A 2005 University of Colorado study, replicating an experiment that has been conducted by other researchers, found that forcing subjects to react in a split-second to a potentially armed person meant participants would move to shoot armed black individuals faster and more often than armed whites and take more time to determine to not shoot an unarmed black person than an unarmed white person.

These examples, and others, suggest that race influences how people identify the presence of a weapon, even if said weapon isn't actually there. In a scenario involving an armed teacher of color, these factors would likely be at play: A teacher could, in a split second, look like a shooter, instead of a protector of the students in their care.

When discussing how arming teachers could affect educators of color, many have noted the case of Philando Castile, a Minnesota school cafeteria worker and licensed gun owner who was shot and killed by a police officer during a police stop in July 2016. The officer said that he shot Castile, who had already informed the officer that he was carrying a legal weapon, because he believed Castile was reaching for his gun.

Teachers of color have expressed concern that instances like this, or ones where they would be mistaken for an active shooter, would only become more likely if they carried a weapon inside schools.

It isn't wrong to want schools and classrooms to be safe for students. But it requires an acknowledgement that for many students, schools have never been safe. (Courtesy <https://www.vox.com/identities/>)

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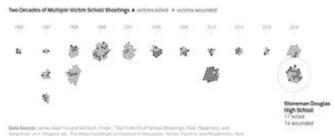
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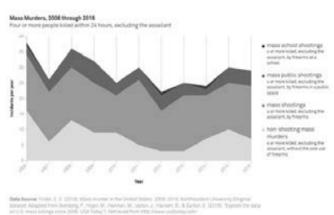
The deadly school shooting this month in Parkland, Florida, has ignited national outrage and calls for action on gun reform. But while certain policies may help decrease gun violence in general, it's unlikely that any of them will prevent mass school shootings, according to James Alan Fox, the Lipman Family Professor of Criminology, Law, and Public Policy at Northeastern.

Of these, 8 are mass shootings, or inci-



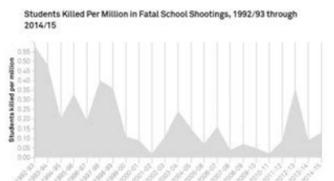
dents involving 4 or more deaths, excluding the assailant. "This is not an epidemic"

Mass school shootings are incredibly rare events. In research published later this year, Fox and doctoral student Emma Fridel found that on average, mass murders occur between 20 and 30



times per year, and about one of those incidents on average takes place at a school.

Fridel and Fox used data collected by USA Today, the FBI's Supplementary Homicide Report, Congressional Research Service, Gun Violence Archive, Stanford Geospatial Center and Stan-



Data Source: James Alan Fox and Emma E. Fridel, "The Three Rs of School Shootings: Risk, Readiness, and Response," in H. Shapiro, ed., The Wiley Handbook on Violence in Education: Forms, Factors, and Prevention, New York: Wiley/Blackwell Publishers, June 2018.

School Shootings Are Not More Common Than They Used To Be Research Shows Schools Are Safer Than They Were In The 90s

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor



ford Libraries, Mother Jones, Everytown for Gun Safety, and a NYPD report on active shooters.

Their research also finds that shooting incidents involving students have been declining since the 1990s.

Four times the number of children were killed in schools in the early 1990s than today, Fox said.

"There is not an epidemic of school

shootings," he said, adding that more kids are killed each year from pool drownings or bicycle accidents. There are around 55 million school children in the United States, and on average over the past 25 years, about 10 students per year were killed by gunfire at school, according to Fox and Fridel's research. Fox said, however, some policy changes aimed at decreasing school shootings

and gun violence in general certainly have merit. Banning bump stocks and raising the age of purchase for assault rifles from 18 to 21 are good ideas, and may lead to a decrease in overall gun violence, he said. But he doesn't believe these measures will prevent school shootings. "The thing to remember is that these are extremely rare events, and no matter what you can come up with to prevent it, the shooter will have a work-around," Fox said, adding that over the past 35 years, there have been only five cases in which someone ages 18 to 20 used an assault rifle in a mass shooting.

Fridel pointed to a few examples.



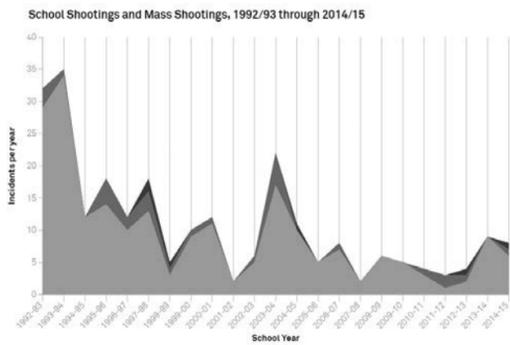
In 1989, a shooter killed five and injured 32 elementary school children in Stockton, California, by targeting them on the playground.



In 2005, a 16-year-old killed seven people at his Minnesota high school by walking through the front door metal detector and fatally shooting a guard.



In a 1998 shooting in Jonesboro, Arkansas, two students pulled a fire alarm and began sniping people as they filed out to the parking lot, killing five and wounding 10 others.



- mass school shootings 4 or more killed, excluding the assailant, by firearms at a school.
multiple-victim school shootings 4 or more victims and at least 2 killed, excluding the assailant, by firearms at a school.
fatal school shootings At least 1 individual killed by firearms at a school.

Data Source: James Alan Fox and Emma E. Fridel, "The Three Rs of School Shootings: Risk, Readiness, and Response," in H. Shapiro, ed., The Wiley Handbook on Violence in Education: Forms, Factors, and Prevention, New York: Wiley/Blackwell Publishers, June 2018.

15.3 美南國際電視15.3頻道 KVVU STV 美南國際電視

- 免費高清頻道
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中国远征军

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海峽兩岸 明星加油站 Preserve Health

美南電視本周節目單

Table with columns for days of the week (MON-SUN) and time slots (00:00-00:30, 00:30-01:00, etc.), listing various TV programs such as news, movies, and entertainment shows.