

Safety Advice

In the event of a Major Incident, information and advice messages will be issued by the emergency services.

Potential Danger to the Public

Should the event pose a potential danger to the public, the Runcorn Site Emergency Response Team will activate the emergency sirens in accordance with Halton Borough Council's Emergency Plan.

Householders and responsible persons in business/community premises must ensure that all occupants are familiar with the safety advice and the action to be taken.

Site Siren

During a Major Incident the sirens will be sounded as follows:

THE WARNING SYSTEM:

3 short blasts on the sirens periodically (approximately every 15 minutes) throughout an incident.

ALL CLEAR:

Single long blast on the sirens.

[The sirens are tested with one short blast at 13:00 hrs every Monday]

The external emergency services will request local radio stations to broadcast safety advice. The external emergency services will provide further emergency information through the media, where required.



Remember the simple rule

GO IN,
STAY IN
AND
TUNE IN

WHAT YOU NEED TO DO

On activation of the site sirens the public should cooperate with the instructions of the emergency services and follow the below steps:

GO IN: Go into a house or building, close all external doors and windows and switch off any fresh air conditioning systems. Stay in a room away from the industrial area and if possible, go to an upper floor.

STAY IN: Avoid using the telephone or mobile telephones until the emergency is over to ensure that lines are free for the emergency services. Co-operate fully with the instructions given by the emergency services. Remain indoors until the emergency is over, when doors and windows should be opened to restore ventilation.

TUNE IN: Tune in to Radio Merseyside (95.8MHz FM) or Radio City (96.7 MHz FM), which will be used to broadcast emergency information or instructions.

DO NOT: Go out to collect children from school or early years setting because this could lead to you being exposed to the emergency; children will be properly cared for throughout the emergency.

1. Nature of Major Accident Hazards

FIRE

Ranges from an intense fire lasting several seconds to large fires lasting several minutes or hours. Potential for fire damage to people and the environment and fires may spread to other areas, a drifting cloud of flammable gas may ignite. Fires may generate smoke clouds which may lead to breathing difficulties and deposition of soot on property and vegetation.

EXPLOSION

Levels of blast over pressure which may be harmful to humans and animals and damage buildings. Projectiles travelling at high speeds may also spread from the explosion presenting a risk to people, animals and damage buildings. Explosions may also initiate fires.

TOXIC GAS OR SMOKE

A gas cloud or smoke plume contains dangerous substances. These can be acutely toxic by inhalation and may cause serious breathing difficulties.

ACCIDENTAL RELEASE OF A DANGEROUS SUBSTANCE ENCOMPASSES:

Liquid release—liquid flowing on sites and offsite to sewer, controlled waters, land or groundwater.

Release of contaminated fire water containing dangerous substances—to sewer, controlled waters, land or groundwater.

Release of oxidising substances flowing on site and off site to sewer, controlled waters or groundwater.

These risk damage to people and can be acutely and/or chronically toxic to the aquatic environment, environmental pollution and potential for contamination of drinking water supplies.

2. Control of Major Hazards

All Operators on Runcorn Site have defined and implemented a set of control measures to reduce the risk of significant incident. Each Operator is required to prepare a safety report which is reviewed and updated on a 5-year frequency, its purpose being to show that arrangements have been put in place to control major accident hazards to limit the consequences to people and the environment of any that do occur.

These control measures are audited and inspected periodically by the Joint Competent Authority (HSE/EA), featuring a range of hardware and software controls to afford sufficient layers of protection to reduce the risk to an acceptably low level.

All Operators are adequately rehearsed to handle emergency incidents should they arise, with interaction with the local emergency services and the regulatory agencies to ensure appropriate preparedness.



Industrial safety plans for the Runcorn Site

Important Public Safety Information

Control of Major Accident Hazards Regulations 2015

To: All owners and occupiers of properties in the Runcorn/Frodsham Public Information Zone

Dear Neighbour

This public information leaflet has been produced by the listed site operators who have an establishment subject to the Control of Major Accident Hazards Regulations 2015 (COMAH) on the Runcorn Site.

You are receiving this leaflet because your household or premises is located within the Public Information Zone. This forms part of a continuing process of keeping you informed as required by COMAH, and its re-issue on a 5-year frequency does not imply any increased risk to the public from the activities on Runcorn Site. Please read carefully all of the information provided. Make sure you and others in your household or business are familiar with the instructions and keep this leaflet in a place where you can find it quickly in the event of a major accident.

If you vacate this property, please leave this information for the new occupant.

COMAH operators who process or store more than specified quantities of certain dangerous substances are required to provide public information on safety measures to people likely to be affected by a major accident occurring at their facilities. These establishments can be split into two categories: upper and lower tier. ‘Upper Tier’ establishments are required to submit safety reports to the Health and Safety Executive and the Environment Agency.

These safety reports examine the systems used by the companies to ensure their processes are operated safely at all times. They also ensure that adequate steps are taken, as far as reasonably practicable, to prevent major accidents, or in the event of such accidents, to limit the effects on people and the environment.

The Runcorn Site establishments are fully committed to ensuring operations at Runcorn Site are carried out safely and with respect for their employees, the local community and the environment, collaborating with the emergency services to fulfil the requirements of the COMAH Regulations for emergency plans, namely:

- Containing and controlling incidents to minimise the effects and to limit damage to persons, the environment and property.
- Implementing the measures necessary to protect persons and the environment from the effects of major accidents.
- Communicating the necessary information to the public, emergency services and relevant authorities.
- Assisting with the restoration and clean-up of the environment following a major accident.

Integrated emergency plans exist, which aim to reduce the effects of any major accidents at these establishments. These are reviewed and exercised regularly; and involve ongoing training to effectively respond to such major accidents.

UPPER TIER OPERATORS:





(NOTE: INEOS Inovyn's legal entity is INOVYN ChlorVinyls Limited. Koura is the trade name of Mexichem Ltd.)

Runcorn Site Establishments	INEOS Inovyn	Runcorn MCP	Vynova Runcorn	Koura	Packed Chlorine
Site Activities	Distribution of flammable ethylene; Chlorination of paraffin; production of hydrogen chloride; and hydrogen production.	Manufacture of chlorine, hydrogen and sodium hypochlorite.	Consumption of ethylene and chlorine to manufacture ethylene dichloride.	Consumption of chlorine and hydrogen fluoride to manufacture 2 Chloro 5 Trifluoromethyl pyridine. Production of medical propellant and refrigerants.	Packaging of liquid chlorine into drums and cylinders.
Dangerous Substances	Flammable liquids and gases; Toxic/Oxidising liquids and gases; Hazardous to the aquatic environment.	Flammable gas; Toxic/Oxidising liquids and gases; Hazardous to the aquatic environment.	Flammable liquids and gases; Toxic/Oxidising liquids and gas.	Flammable liquids and gases; Toxic/Oxidising liquids and gases; Hazardous to the aquatic environment.	Toxic/Oxidising liquids and gas.
Nature of Major Accident Hazards	Fire/explosion—risk of thermal burns. Toxic liquid/gas—exposure to low levels can affect the respiratory and gastrointestinal tract and cause eye irritation. At higher levels, exposure may result in changes to breathing rate, coughing, and damage to the lungs. Symptoms of exposure can be severe in extreme circumstances and may result in harm to people, fatal in the worst case. Toxic to aquatic life.	Fire/explosion—risk of thermal burns. Toxic liquid/gas—exposure to low levels can affect the respiratory and gastrointestinal tract and cause eye irritation. At higher levels, exposure may result in changes to breathing rate, coughing, and damage to the lungs. Symptoms of exposure can be severe in extreme circumstances and may result in harm to people, fatal in the worst case. Toxic to aquatic life.	Fire/explosion—risk of thermal burns. Toxic liquid/gas—exposure to low levels can affect the respiratory and gastrointestinal tract and cause eye irritation. At higher levels, exposure may result in changes to breathing rate, coughing, and damage to the lungs. Symptoms of exposure can be severe in extreme circumstances and may result in harm to people, fatal in the worst case.	Fire/explosion—risk of thermal burns. Toxic liquid/gas—exposure to low levels can affect the respiratory and gastrointestinal tract and cause eye irritation. At higher levels, exposure may result in changes to breathing rate, coughing, and damage to the lungs. Symptoms of exposure can be severe in extreme circumstances and may result in harm to people, fatal in the worst case. Toxic to aquatic life.	Fire/explosion—risk of thermal burns. Toxic liquid/gas—exposure to low levels can affect the respiratory and gastrointestinal tract and cause eye irritation. At higher levels, exposure may result in changes to breathing rate, coughing, and damage to the lungs. Symptoms of exposure can be severe in extreme circumstances and may result in harm to people, fatal in the worst case. Toxic to aquatic life.