

Public Information on an upper-tier establishment as required by Regulation 25

Information on upper-tier establishments

All establishments subject to the *COMAH Regulations 2015* have submitted a notification in a standard form to the Authority. This includes information on their location, the hazard categories of the dangerous substances present with an indication of their dangers, emergency action information and sources of additional relevant information.

Additional information has been provided by upper-tier establishments, including details on the possible major accidents arising in the establishment and the action to take in the event of an emergency.

General Duties on Operators

Operators have a general duty to identify all the major accident hazards in their establishment, take all necessary measures to prevent major accidents and to limit the consequences of such accidents to human health and the environment.

Operators of upper-tier establishments are also specifically required to ensure that 'all persons likely to be affected' by a major accident originating at the establishment receive clear and intelligible information on safety measures and on what they should do in the event of a major accident. This information must be directly supplied to all buildings and areas of public use, including schools and hospitals and, in the case of domino groups, to all neighbouring establishments.

Information on emergency plans

Information on external emergency plans may also be available from the Local Authority, the Gardaí and the Health Services Executive.

Public information for an upper-tier establishment

This establishment is subject to the COMAH Regulations 2015 and has submitted a notification to the Authority.

The following information, which has been extracted from the notification, fulfils the requirements of Regulation 25(3)(a).

The date of the most recent COMAH inspection (added by the Central Competent Authority) can also be found in the table below.

Notification History

The National Oil Reserves Agency Ltd.

Version	Reason	Date
1.0	Mandatory notification	31/05/2016
2.0	Information update	30/11/2017
3.0	Information update	17/07/2018
4.0	Information update	13/11/2019
5.0	Information update	29/09/2020
6.0	Information update	06/01/2022
7.0	Information update	02/03/2023
8.0	Information update	30/06/2023

Regulation 25 information for The National Oil Reserves Agency Ltd.

Operator Name	Registered Name	The National Oil Reserves Agency Ltd.
	Trade Name	National Oil Reserves Agency (NORA)
Establishment Address	Address	Shellybanks Road (off Pigeon House Road), Ringsend, Dublin 4
	County	Dublin
	Eircode	D04 V8C0
Notification Details	Tier	Upper-tier
	Activity	Fuel storage (including heating, retail sale etc.)
Dangerous Substance information	Hazard Categories / Named Substances	E2 Hazardous to the Aquatic Environment, P5c Flammable Liquids, Petroleum Products (Gas Oil)
	Dangerous Characteristics / Hazard Statements	H226, H411
Emergency Information	How the public will be warned	Not necessary to inform the public as there are no off-site consequences.
	Behaviour to take in event of major accident	Not necessary as there are no off-site consequences.
	Additional Information	Under the previous Regulations, there was no specified area for the site as it is a Class III petroleum storage facility. NORA have exchanged information with Synergen Dublin Bay Power Station, as a member of its domino group.
Inspection	Most recent COMAH Inspection (updated quarterly):	8 th May 2024
	Where more detailed information on inspection available	More detailed information about the inspection and the related inspection plan can be obtained upon request, subject to the requirements of Regulation 26, from: CCPS unit, Health & Safety Authority, Metropolitan Building, James Joyce Street, Dublin 1.
Information	Where further relevant information available	Further information about this establishment may be obtained, in the first instance, from the operator. http://nora.ie/ Subject to Regulation 26 ('Access to information and confidentiality') information may also be available from the Health and Safety Authority, on request, under the Access to Information on the Environment Regulations.

Nature of major hazards (1)	Nature of major accident	Release of dangerous substances with potential for adverse environmental effects.
	Potential human health effects	
	Potential environmental effects	Dangerous substances contaminating groundwater if containment fails. Dangerous substances entering freshwater or estuarine waters and causing harm to the aquatic environment.
	Scenario details	Catastrophic failure of storage tank, resulting in loss of containment of diesel off site with environmental consequences. Due to the design of the tank farm, the quantity of oil that could escape off site in this scenario is low.
	Control measures	All of the establishments storage tanks, process vessels, pipework and control systems are designed and maintained to an appropriate standard to prevent major accidents. Containment systems are in place for relevant work areas to minimise the loss of spilled material to the environment. Detectors are in place to alert staff to any loss of containment. Emergency response systems & procedures are in place. Inspections of the tanks (periodic inspections of externals and for internals, in accordance with EEMUA 159); visual external inspections of tanks (every year); tanks are included on safety critical equipment list; tanks were refurbished to applicable BS EN and API standards; daily visual inspection of site. Bunds are designed to minimise the potential for overtopping (tertiary containment and deflector plates on bund wall sections); storm water in bund is only pumped out under operator supervision (no drainage from bund); emergency response plan in place for oil releases off site; trained personnel; emergency exercises are carried out with the external emergency responders on a 3-yearly cycle; Dublin Port oil spill response equipment.
	Onsite response	This establishment has prepared an internal emergency plan for major accidents which is tested at least every 3 years, has liaised with the emergency services and agreed on the actions and arrangements to deal with major accidents and minimise their effects.
	Offsite effects/action	A publicly available external emergency plan has been drawn up by the local authority, Gardaí and HSE to respond to any consequences outside this establishment as a result of a major accident. You should cooperate with the instructions of the emergency services.

Nature of major hazards (2)	Nature of major accident	Release of dangerous substances with potential for adverse environmental effects.
	Potential human health effects	
	Potential environmental effects	Dangerous substances entering freshwater or estuarine waters and causing harm to the aquatic environment..Deposition of dangerous substances on protected habitats.
	Scenario details	Loss of containment following guillotine failure of transfer hose at jetty. This could release of up to 225 m3 to the environment, based on a maximum response time to shut down the transfer pump of 10 minutes. The scenario has a low probability of occurring, due to the pre-delivery checks that are carried out and also the infrequent usage of the jetty because the site is a strategic storage facility.
	Control measures	All of the establishments storage tanks, process vessels, pipework and control systems are designed and maintained to an appropriate standard to prevent major accidents. Access to the site is strictly controlled. Procedures in place to identify and manage deviations from normal operating conditions. Emergency response systems & procedures are in place. Low level of activity at site (tank contents are turned over every c.10 years); covered storage for hoses when not in use; pressure testing of hoses prior to use; earth continuity testing of hoses prior to use; continuous supervision of transfers - personnel at jetty, conducting line walks and in terminal, as well as one at rest; radio contact with vessel operator; back up communication system in place should radio system fail; covered storage for hoses when not in use; shipping procedure - training is provided to all personnel involved in the shipping process; ship-to-shore checklist as vessel arrives at jetty - includes instruction on flow rates and pressures; vehicle movements are restricted at the jetty; emergency response plan; spill response measures - spill kits on site; access to Dublin Port resources to assist with larger releases; shipping procedure includes checks for windspeed; vessels secured at the jetty using heavy duty ropes; ship operator periodically monitors the ropes to check for signs of excessive slackness or tension and adjusts accordingly; terminal personnel supervision of transfer, including person at jetty.
	Onsite response	This establishment has prepared an internal emergency plan for major accidents which is tested at least every 3 years, has liaised with the emergency services and agreed on the actions and arrangements to deal with major accidents and minimise their effects.
	Offsite effects/action	A publicly available external emergency plan has been drawn up by the local authority, Gardaí and HSE to respond to any consequences outside this establishment as a result of a major accident. You should cooperate with the instructions of the emergency services.

Nature of major hazards (3)	Nature of major accident	Fire and Release of dangerous substances with potential for adverse environmental effects.
	Potential human health effects	Potential for burns to body. Very dense smoke may cause irritation of the lining of the air passages (nose, throat and lungs) the skin and the eyes.
	Potential environmental effects	Dangerous substances contaminating groundwater if containment fails. Dangerous substances entering freshwater or estuarine waters and causing harm to the aquatic environment.
	Scenario details	Pool fire: catastrophic failure of a storage tank, resulting in gas oil overflowing secondary & tertiary containment and escaping off site with ignition resulting in a pool fire. It has been conservatively assumed that a fire could occur if a release of gas oil escaped from the site. This scenario has an extremely remote probability of occurring however, due to the low probability of catastrophic tank failure and also the high flashpoint of the material. The potential effects to human health described above are those that could be expected in the vicinity of a release/fire.
	Control measures	All of the establishments storage tanks, process vessels, pipework and control systems are designed and maintained to an appropriate standard to prevent major accidents. Containment systems are in place for relevant work areas to minimise the loss of spilled material to the environment. Potential ignition sources are eliminated in accordance with the ATEX Directive to protect against the ignition of flammable material. Detectors are in place to alert staff to any loss of containment. Inspections of the tanks (periodic inspections of externals and for internals, in accordance with EEMUA 159); visual external inspections of tanks (every year); tanks are included on safety critical equipment list; tanks were refurbished to applicable BS EN and API standards; daily visual inspection of site. Bunds are designed to minimise the potential for overflowing (tertiary containment and deflector plates on bund wall sections); storm water in bund is only pumped out under operator supervision (no drainage from bund); emergency response plan in place for oil releases off site; trained personnel; emergency exercises are carried out with the external emergency responders on a 3-yearly cycle; fire monitors on ring main on site; 500m ³ fire fighting water tank; 40m ³ of foam concentrate. This establishment has prepared an internal emergency plan for major accidents which is tested at least every 3 years, has liaised with the emergency services and agreed on the actions and arrangements to deal with major accidents and minimise their effects.
	Onsite response	A publicly available external emergency plan has been drawn up by the local authority, Gardaí and HSE to respond to any consequences outside this establishment as a result of a major accident.
Offsite effects/action	You should cooperate with the instructions of the emergency services.	