

Dear Neighbour,

Argent Energy Limited, owns and operates Argent Oil Terminal (AOT) which stores 'Petroleum products and alternative fuels'. Under the COMAH Regulations 2015, AOT is classed as an Upper Tier COMAH establishment due to the quantity of hazardous substances it can store on site. For further information please refer to the HSE website for COMAH 2015 Public information. <https://www.hse.gov.uk/comah/comah-establishments.htm>

As a COMAH site we must inform all business and households in our local community of our safety procedures in the event of emergency. Due to the hazardous substances on site, they are capable of causing, fires, toxic effects and environmental pollution. Please do not be alarmed by this information, as we are bound by the regulations to keep you informed.

We understand the risks involved in working with these substances and have in place the appropriate processes to prevent and control incidents. The Health and Safety Executive also carry out regular, pre-planned, intervention visits to verify that we take all measures necessary to prevent a major incident on the site. The site have notified the Competent Authority under Regulation 6 and have submitted a Safety Report as required by Regulation 9.

We are also required to advise you that AOT is a designated COMAH domino group. A COMAH domino group is the identification of groups of establishments where the risk or consequence of a major accident may be increased because of the location of the establishments, the proximity of establishments to each other or the inventories of dangerous substances held by the establishments.

We have emergency plans to minimise the effects of any incident and have 24hr emergency response services in place. The specialist teams are equipped with an extensive range of equipment and where necessary, the local County Emergency Services would provide additional support.

It is important that our neighbours understand what to do in the extremely unlikely event of an incident occurring. In the extremely unlikely event of a major incident involving these substances, the effect would be contained within the terminals boundary in the majority of cases. Effects that could potentially breach the sites boundary could include loss of containment of environmentally hazardous material, heat radiation and smoke concentration from fires. AOTs operations are conducted with the specific aim of preventing such an event and measures preventing such releases are taken into account during the design, construction, maintenance and operation of equipment with the highest of industry standards applied throughout.

The site has a number of trained staff on site 24 / 7 who are able to carry out basic emergency duties such as fighting of minor fires, spill isolation and clean-up. The site's first response to a major accident would be to sound the site alarm and call out specialist spill and emergency teams in order to attend the site. In addition the local County Emergency Services would provide additional support.

The site has a main site alarm (a continuous 2 toned style siren) which is tested every Monday at 10:00 am. If the alarm sounds for longer than 30 seconds at this time then it should be treated as a genuine incident. Action expected from persons off-site would be to keep personnel indoors with windows and ventilation closed. You should not contact the site as the lines will need to be kept clear for the Emergency Services. Information will be communicated via the local radio and social media.

The site does not have an 'all clear' sire – this message will be communicated via media and direct contact with neighbours sites.

Thank you for taking the time to read this letter, if you have any queries please contact info@argentenergy.com

Kind Regards

Bryn Jones

UK Head of Safety, Health and Environment
25th of June 2024