

INDIVIDUAL RISK ASSESSMENT

Hazard/threat category	Sub-category
Industrial accidents and environmental pollution	Localised explosion at a natural gas pipeline
Hazard and threat description, plus scale	Risk reference number
Up to 1km from site causing up to 100 fatalities and up to 100 casualties	HL30
Author	Royal Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service
Version	2
Date of revision	Next review
May 07	May 08

1. Overview of hazard or threat

This type of incident has not to date occurred in the UK. However gas explosions on natural gas pipelines have occurred and cause short term impact to community caused by smoke or fumes.

However the planning assumption for this one is large numbers of fatalities and injuries.

May lead to road closures, small-scale evacuation, and pollution of watercourses and air pollution.

There are natural gas pipelines within the Thames Valley but it is not anticipated that an incident of this significance is likely to occur within Thames Valley area

2. Key historical evidence

There have been a few incidents of gas pipeline explosions in the UK and Thames Valley but none causing very large numbers of casualties.

3. Likelihood

Hazard	Outcome description	Likelihood
Industrial explosions and major fires	Up to 1km from site causing up to 100 Fatalities and up to 100 casualties.	Negligible (1)

4. Impact

Summary

Hazard	Outcome description	Impact
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		Health	Social	Env	Econ
Industrial explosions and major fires	Up to 1km from site causing up to 100 Fatalities and up to 100 casualties.	2	2	2	2

Details

Impacts
Primary
Significant number of fatalities & casualties
Secondary fires
Closure of surrounding roads
Localised short term evacuation of community
Possible environmental pollution
Infrastructure damage up to 1Km away including hydrant damage
Secondary
Safety Assessment – possible demolition of damaged buildings.

5. Vulnerability and resilience

Any vulnerable sites already have site-specific planning arrangements in place.

6. Overall assessment

Category	Sub-category		
Industrial accidents and environmental pollution	Industrial explosions and major fires		
Outcome description	Impact	Likelihood	Risk
Up to 1km from site causing up to 100 fatalities and up to 100 casualties.	2	1	Low
Controls in place COMAH Site specific plans Emergency services joint exercises Berkshire Joint Major incident Plan			
Additional risk treatment required			

