

Major Accident Hazard Pipelines Emergency Plan For the County of Shropshire

Emergency Planning Unit
Resources Directorate



Emergency Planning Unit, Resources Directorate

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Partners to this Plan:

Shropshire County Council¹
District & Borough Councils of Shropshire
Wales & West Utilities
National Grid
West Mercia Constabulary
Shropshire Fire & Rescue Service
West Midlands Ambulance Service

¹ Please note that as of 1st April 2009 Shropshire County Council and the District and Borough Councils of Shropshire will become Shropshire Council.

IMMEDIATE ACTIONS

If you have received notification that a major pipeline incident has been declared

Please refer to the Action Cards

starting on Page 10

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1. Plan Activation

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Plan Activation

General

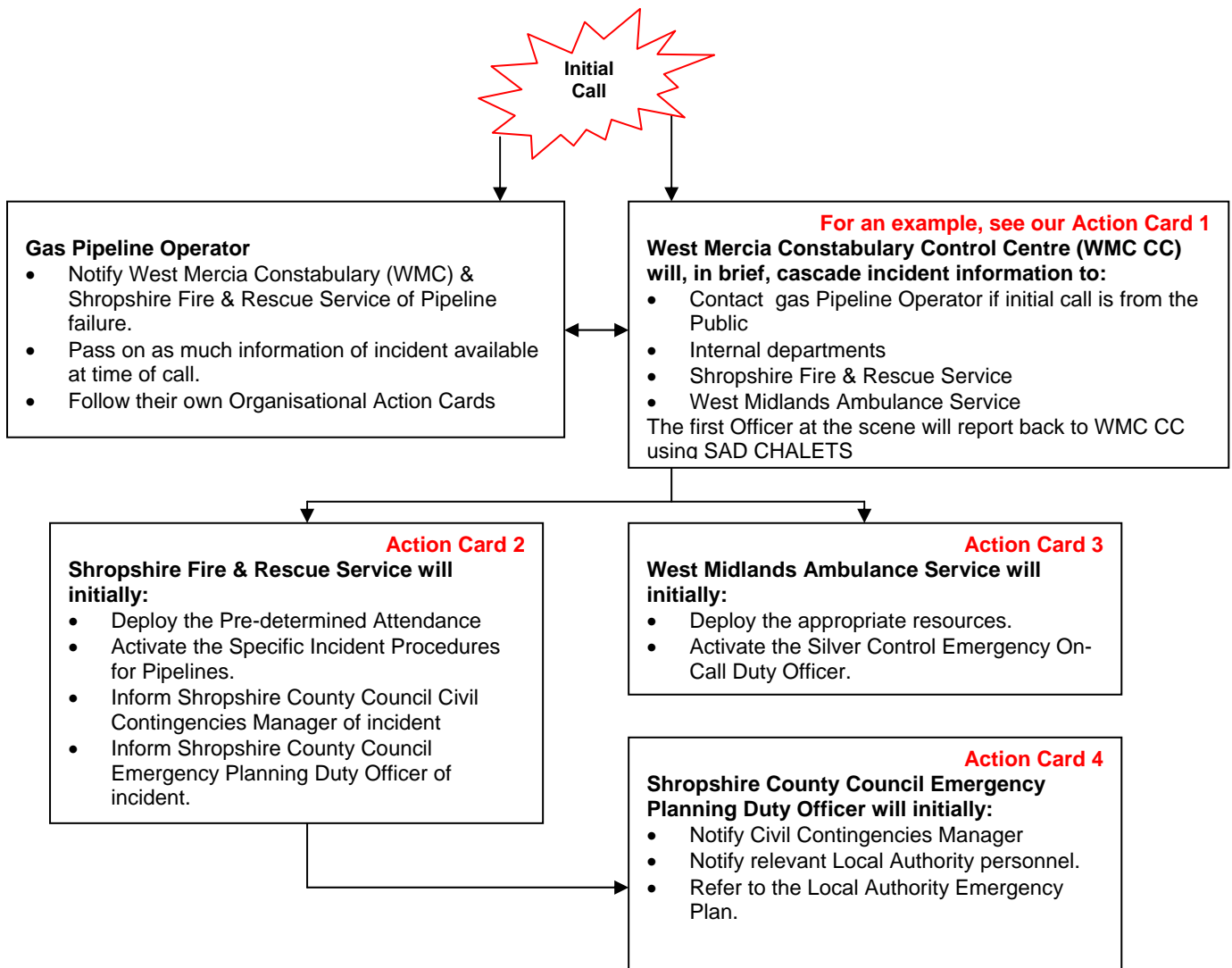
This plan will be activated when it becomes known that a gas operators pipeline has failed, or is deemed likely to fail, to such a degree as to warrant the activation and implementation of the relevant Operators Emergency Plan for Major Accident Hazard Pipelines.

In this context 'plan activation' means the implementation of the contingency arrangements set out in this document and supporting gas Pipeline Operator documents. Such action will be undertaken in a manner that will ensure the prompt notification and involvement of all the relevant agencies including National Grid, Wales & West Utilities, the Emergency Services and the Local Authorities.

Activation

For a slow release/leak it is likely that the gas Pipeline Operator will be the first agency to become aware through its alarm systems in their Control Room(s). A sudden rupture or 'big bang, is more likely to be witnessed by a member of the public.

The following flow diagram indicates the initial responses for each organisation:



Command, Control & Liaison

In the event of an incident involving a major accident hazard pipeline, the following command structure will be used:

Incident Ground

Initially access to the immediate vicinity of the incident will be restricted by the Fire Service inner cordon, to the emergency services and pipeline operatives involved in possible fire and rescue operations and securing the close down of the pipeline.

Communications from within the cordon area will be only by 'intrinsically safe' radios.

Cellular telephones ARE NOT 'intrinsically safe' and must not be used from the Incident Ground.

Operational/Bronze Control

As near as is practical and safe to the scene, the police will establish an Incident Control Point. It will be in this vicinity that the emergency services, pipeline operator and other appropriate organisations will locate their respective operational control vehicles.

Each control vehicle will be sufficiently distanced from other control vehicles so as not to cause (or suffer) radio interference

Each control vehicle shall be identified by a flashing roof light of a colour suitable to the service/ authority/ utility in question. All other vehicles parked in the vicinity of the Incident Control Point should turn off their roof lights, but may for safety and visibility reasons have hazard-warning lights on.

Each organisation's operational control vehicle shall be suitably equipped to maintain contact with both its respective operatives at the incident ground and separately with its respective organisations network communications centre or other appropriate control centre.

NOTE: The Incident Control Point may be referred to as Bronze or Operational Command by some of the services in attendance.

Tactical/Silver Control

Each organisation responding to the incident will already have a suitably equipped command centre from where tactical support can be provided to its operatives at the scene of the incident. All such command centres must have secure communications to its forward control vehicle at the scene of incident.

Strategic/Gold Control(s)

Depending on the size and nature of the incident, the Police may convene a multi-agency Strategic Coordination Group (Gold Control) to manage the strategic response to the incident. This will normally be at Police Headquarters, Hindlip Hall, Worcester. Responders may also have their own Gold Controls dealing with their own organisational strategic issues. Multi-agency Strategic Coordination Group will liaise with these organisational Gold Controls to manage the strategic coordination of the response.

Action Card 1: West Mercia Constabulary

The first officer at the scene must follow SAD CHALETS and report back to Force Control Room.

		✓
S	Survey: The scene	
A	Assess: The Situation	
D	Disseminate: The following information to the Control Room	
C	Casualties: Approximate numbers dead, injured and uninjured	
H	Hazards: Present and potential	
A	Access: Best access routes for emergency vehicles	
L	Location: The exact location of the incident	
E	Emergency: Emergency services present and required	
T	Type: Type of incident , numbers of persons and properties involved	
S	Safety: Consider health and safety issues for all responders	

Action Card 2: Shropshire Fire & Rescue Service

SPECIFIC INCIDENT PROCEDURES : PIPELINES

Consult Contingency Plans – if available

Individual ACTIONS		TIME
Upon arrival		
1.	Contact/Request the attendance of responsible person.	
2.	Carry out DYNAMIC RISK ASSESSMENT.	
3.	Maintain communication with Pipeline Owner through Brigade Control.	
4.	See SIP LPG.	
Safety Considerations		
5.	Appoint a Safety Officer.	
6.	Consider difficult access.	
7.	P.P.E. TO BE WORN.	
8.	Consider poor radio reception in remote areas.	
9.	Consider wind direction and velocity.	
10.	Cordon off area to reduce risk of ignition.	
11.	Maintain SAFE egress for personnel and appliances.	
12.	If NO fire but leakage of product appliances should not approach within 15M of pipeline.	
13.	If involved in fire protect surrounding area until outflow has been stopped by closing valves.	
14.	Premature closing of valve system may prevent drainage of affected pipeline section.	
Main Risk		
15.	EXPLOSION * CONTAMINATION * POLLUTION	
16.	Operational Considerations DYNAMIC RISK ASSESSMENT	
17.	Water/Foam Supplies	
18.	F.S. Personnel may be required to stand by at isolating Valves above and below affected length of Pipeline.	
19.	May be desirable to maintain flow in adjacent line to the affected line for cooling purposes.	
20.	If large liquid leakage prevent from entering water courses. (ENVIRONMENTAL UNIT).	
21.	Inform Environment Agency.	
References: <i>Operational Risk Assessment Guide.; M of F Bk 6c</i> <i>Esso Pipeline Emergency Procedure.; Brigade Order Operational No14 part 2.</i>		

NB: This Procedure applies to both Gas and Oil Pipelines

Action Card 3: West Midlands Ambulance Service

SILVER CONTROL - EOC DUTY MANAGER

Overall Role:

To ensure that the WMAS core response functions continue to be met during a major incident. To work closely with the SILVER Co-ordinator in resource procurement and deployment for the incident and to be aware of the impact it has on day-to-day operations. To be in CONTROL of resources to the incident.

Location: EOC (Locality or HQ dependent on incident)

Individual ACTIONS		TIME
1.	COMMENCE PERSONAL LOG.	
2.	Confirm on call Gold (Locality Director) and On call SILVER/s have responded.	
3.	Activate on call Medical Pager.	
4.	<u>Inform: Senior Managers</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regional Head of Emergency Preparedness or Emergency Preparedness Manager on call • Regional Head of Communications • Regional Head of Performance and EOC • Capacity Manager on call • Press Officer on call • IT manager on call • Fleet Manager 	
5.	Complete Risk Assessment matrix (subsequent to METHANE) report (specific hazards/updates).	
6.	Monitor the maintenance of business continuity ensuring core responsibilities and standards within WMAS Trust are achieved.	
7.	Mobilise resources to scene based on information.	
8.	Inform the most appropriate receiving and supporting hospitals.	
9.	Notify EOCs in other localities, arranging mutual support as appropriate.	
10.	Mobilise specialist Incident Support Units.	
11.	Activation of PODS if requested.	
12.	Mobilise an officer to the receiving and supporting hospitals to act as Ambulance Liaison Officer (ALO).	
13.	Inform NHS Direct.	
14.	Maintain an overview of air support capabilities, which may include Police and Military assets, in addition to HEMS/Air Ambulance.	

Action Card 4: Local Authority, Emergency Planning

Emergency Planning Duty Officer

Individual ACTIONS		TIME
1.	COMMENCE PERSONAL LOG.	
2.	Confirm that this plan has been activated.	
3.	Confirm and verify the scope, scale, nature and location of the incident.	
4.	Notify and brief the Civil Contingencies Manager.	
5.	Notify the District and or Borough Council within whose administrative area(s) the event has occurred.	
6.	Brief the Chief Executive as to the circumstances and status of the event.	
7.	Advise the Chief Executive that activation of the Shropshire County Council, Emergency Plan should be authorised.	
8.	Notify the EPU staff and/or Duty Officer of those relevant "adjacent" local authorities that the event has occurred.	
9.	Advise all other Shropshire County Council EPU staff of the event and direct them to undertake specific incident response related duties.	
10.	Upon consultation with the Civil Contingencies Manager activate the Emergency Centre.	
11.	Notify Shropshire County Council Communications Team.	
12.	Identify any vulnerable people/premises.	
13.	Establish and maintain liaison links with all lead agencies and authorities engaged in the containment and resolution of the event.	
14.	Contact, call and brief appropriate numbers of volunteer staff for incident management functions.	
15.	Consider the need to place the Voluntary Aid Societies (VAS) and other agencies on standby.	
16.	Brief Local Authority Incident and Liaison Officers.	
17.	Upon request activate the Emergency Response Vehicle (ERV) and deploy to an appropriate Incident Control Post.	
18.	Ensure effective co-ordination of the response of Shropshire County Council at "strategic", "tactical" and "operational" levels.	
19.	At the conclusion of the incident assist in the recovery and return of all deployed resources.	
20.	Participate in and contribute to a full multi-agency debriefing meeting at the containment and resolution of the event and support the production of a post incident report.	

Declaring 'End of the Major Incident'

When the 'emergency phase' of the incident is over, the Police, in consultation with the other emergency services and pipeline operator, have the responsibility for formally declaring the 'end of the major incident' and will advise all other organisations previously informed of the incident.

2. Introduction & Background

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Introduction

Within the terms of the Pipelines Safety Regulations 1996, local authorities are charged with the responsibility for the design, production and validation of an Emergency Plan for Major Accident Hazard Pipelines (MAHP) within their administrative boundaries. The prescribed pipelines are those within which natural gas is transported at pressures in excess of 7 bar (100 psi approx).

Local Authorities must also ensure that when prescribed pipelines cross administrative boundaries, within and at the limits of their jurisdiction, collective cross border incident management arrangements are in place and, in the event of a gas pipeline failure, are capable of being implemented in a cohesive and co-ordinated manner.

The gas pipeline operator is required to establish emergency response procedures to ensure effective incident response arrangements in the event of a gas pipeline failure. In addition, gas pipeline operators have responsibilities in relation to the design, construction, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of designated gas pipelines.

The operator must also provide the local authority with relevant information to enable the local authority to satisfy the requirements of the Pipeline Safety Regulations 1996. It shall be clearly understood that these regulations are specifically drafted to protect and save life and not to protect the environment.

Photocopying the document is not permitted.

This document has been issued as a control copy to named individuals in the relative response organisations. Further copies may be obtained from Shropshire County Council Emergency Planning Unit.

To request further copies or submit alterations to be considered when the document is reviewed, please forward details to:-

Shropshire County Council
Emergency Planning Unit
Shirehall
Abbey Foregate
Shrewsbury SY2 6ND

or epu.admin@shropshire.gov.uk

Aims & Objectives

Aim

To ensure that should an event occur in Shropshire in connection with a prescribed gas pipeline, resulting in a pipeline failure, a prompt and effective response will be mounted by the Pipeline Operator, the Emergency Services and the Local Authority.

Objectives

This Emergency Plan for Major Accident Hazard Pipelines has been written to ensure:-

- The provision of an effective and comprehensive incident alerting system.
- The implementation of service and agency specific, incident response strategies.
- The activation and implementation of relevant and co-ordinated public warning and information schemes.
- The structured deployment of appropriate human and material resources.
- The implementation of appropriate public safety measures.
- The application of incident containment and resolution initiatives.
- The application of measures to limit and mitigate adverse environmental impacts but note that this plan has been designed to save life rather than to protect the environment.

Community Risk Register

The West Mercia Local Resilience Forum has assessed the potential impact and likelihood of a Major Accident Hazard Pipelines (MAHP) emergency as a **LOW** risk.

Hazard / Threat Category	Sub- category
Industrial Accidents and Environmental Pollution	Explosion at a natural gas pipeline
Hazard and Threat description, including scale	Risk reference no
<p>Whatever the cause of a pipeline failure, the same hazards will exist, although the hazard ranges will vary with pipeline diameter and size of leak.</p> <p>The scale of any emergency event will be dependent on the pipeline size, delivery pressure and the distance from the point of failure to the nearest isolation valves. Detailed plans of vulnerable areas have been surveyed and are listed in the Gas Transmission Pipeline Emergency Plans for the Local Authority areas within West Mercia.</p>	H7
Date of revision:	Next review date
October 2007	October 2008

Source: West Mercia LRF Community Risk Register (www.westmerciaprepared.org)

A full copy of the Community Risk Register Risk Assessment H7 is provided at Appendix 4.

Definitions

Emergencies

The command structure in any declared emergency is a national model adopted by the emergency services, recognised by all agencies including the military, giving a clear and appropriate structure at all levels.

There are three defined levels: Gold, Silver and Bronze Control, all with specific tasks. Each has a specific role and remit; further information is provided in the glossary section at the back of this Plan.

All Category 1 and Category 2 Responders adopt these nationally identified controls for their response. A definition of both Category 1 and Category 2 Responders is defined in the Glossary.

Civil Emergencies

The Civil Contingencies Act 2004 defines an Emergency as:

‘An event or situation that threatens serious damage to human welfare in a place in the UK or to the environment of a place in the UK, or war or terrorism which threatens serious damage to the security of the UK.’

In addition, government guidance stipulates that:

‘To constitute an emergency, this event or situation must require the implementation of special arrangements by one or more Category 1 responder.’

This means that an incident must be of significance that it cannot be dealt with by the relevant organisation under normal service provision, but requires an integrated response from more than one responder.

Legislation & Guidance

Regulation 18 (1) of the **Pipelines Safety Regulations 1996**, defines pipelines with the potential to cause a major accident hazard (major accident hazard pipelines) which attract the additional duties under these regulations and **Regulation 18 (2)** refers to Schedule 2 of the regulations for a list of dangerous fluids.

Regulation 25 (1) of the **Pipelines Safety Regulations 1996**, requires a local authority to prepare an adequate plan detailing how an emergency relating to a possible major accident in its area will be dealt with. Paragraph 134 of "A guide to Pipelines Safety Regulations 1996 - Guidance on Regulations" states the requirement is for emergency plans that should specifically relate to the protection of the health and safety of people, not environmental damage.

Regulation 25 (2) requires the local authority to consult with the Health and Safety Executive, the operator and others as appropriate (Paragraph 136 of "A guide to Pipelines Safety Regulations 1996 - Guidance on Regulations") Police, Fire, Ambulance, hospitals and possibly the Environment Agency, water authorities and government departments.

Regulation 25 (3) requires the local authority to review and revise the plan as often as is appropriate, and in any case at intervals not exceeding three years.

Regulation 25 (4) requires the operator to provide the local authority with sufficient information for the plan to be prepared. This should include the type and consequences of possible major accidents and the likely effects, the route, the liquid conveyed, the operating conditions, location of shut off valves and emergency control arrangements. (Paragraph 138 of Pipelines Safety Regulations 1996).

Regulation 26 (1) permits a local authority to make a charge in respect of the preparation, review and revision of such plans (subject to some further guidance).

Background

Planning Assumptions – Corridors of Potential Risk

"Thermal Hazard Distances" within Shropshire will be adopted as determining the corridors of potential risk in relation to gas pipelines. It is in accordance with these figures that this plan has been produced and it is within these parameters that incident response strategies will be formulated and applied.

Description of Potential Hazards

- Significant damage to a Major Accident Hazard Pipeline that results in a pipeline puncture or rupture will lead to a pressurised release of natural gas.

- This may give rise to a thermal radiation hazard to individuals in the vicinity of the pipeline if the gas subsequently ignites.
- People indoors will be shielded from the effects of the thermal radiation, but depending on the magnitude of the release, the radiation levels may be sufficiently large to cause buildings to catch fire.
- The rate of gas release and the consequences of an ignited gas release will reduce with time as the pipeline depressurises.
- Gas is lighter than air and the majority of failures are expected to lead to gas jets that are orientated vertically upwards.
- Not all of the Pipeline Operators Major Accident Hazard Pipelines contain gas that is odorised.
- An explosion would not normally be expected to occur as a result of a pipeline failure

Hazard Planning Distances

Two categories of hazard range are provided within this document for emergency planning purposes, these are:

The Emergency Hazard Planning Distance
and
The Maximum Thermal Hazard Range

The Emergency Hazard Planning Distance, based on a leak of pressured gas, which is deemed most likely incident in Shropshire results in the distances below

Table 'A.1' - Emergency Hazard Planning Distances For Shropshire (ie Pipeline leak)

Pipeline Diameter (mm)	SUBURBAN Above 19 to 75 bar g (metres)
168	60
324	60
914	60
1067	60

Note:- for buried pipelines.

In a worst case scenario, an ignited full bore rupture, the maximum Thermal Hazard Range shown in Table A2, below, would apply.

**TABLE 'A.2': Maximum Thermal Hazard Range for Shropshire
(‘S’ AND ‘R’ TYPE AREA DESIGN PIPELINES OPERATING UP TO 85 BAR G)**

Type of Event	Pipeline Diameter (mm)	Maximum Thermal Hazard Range
		40 - 75 bar g pressure range (metres)
0 - 25 mm equivalent leak diameter	All	5
25- 75 mm equivalent leak diameter	All	29
75 - 150 mm equivalent leak diameter	All	90
Rupture	168	140
Rupture	324	230
Rupture	914	560
Rupture	1,067	665

Note: For buried pipelines.

The maps shown in Appendix 1 and Appendix 2 use the worst case scenario figures, ie, the rupture of a pipe diameter 1067mm, giving 665m maximum Thermal Hazard Range.

Emergency control points set up, should initially be located at a distance greater than twice the maximum thermal hazard range. The Pipeline Operator personnel on site will be able to advise whether it is appropriate to reduce this distance.

Vulnerable Locations & Above Ground Pipelines

At potentially vulnerable locations such as road or rail crossings or pipeline crossings of other pipelines or services precautions include increased wall thickness and protective concrete rafts and as such these crossings do not require special consideration in this Plan.

Major Accident Hazard Pipelines for Shropshire County

Major Accident Hazard Pipelines for North Shropshire

HSE Pipeline Index	Pipeline No.	Pipeline Identification	Start Grid Ref	End Grid Ref	Diameter mm	Length km	Stress Factor

HSE Pipeline Index	Pipeline No.	Pipeline Identification	Start Grid ref	End Grid Ref	Diameter mm	Length km	Stress Factor

Major Accident Hazard Pipelines for Oswestry

HSE Pipeline Index	Pipeline No.	Pipeline Identification	Start Grid Ref	End Grid Ref	Diameter mm	Length km	Stress Factor

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Roles & Responsibilities of Adjoining Local Authorities & Other Organisations

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Roles and Responsibilities

General

Rescue will most frequently be the prime function required of the emergency services. The Ambulance and Fire Service jointly manage the rescue of survivors, whereas the extinction of the fire and rescue of casualties from hazardous substances is the responsibility of the Fire & Rescue Service. The care and transportation of casualties to hospital is the responsibility of the Ambulance Service. Police will facilitate these operations by co-ordinating the responses of the emergency services, local authorities for welfare of non-injured survivors, and other agencies.

The following actions are generic for all those involved in emergency response:

- Establish an appropriate level of preparedness;
- Establish liaison with other relevant agencies as appropriate;
- Maintain a financial record of emergency expenditure for inclusion in the overall total expenditure;
- Maintain a record of actions and taken both during and post incident - for subsequent debriefing and enquiries.
- Sub post incident for inclusion in the final report;
- Ensure health and safety assessments are undertaken in conjunction with all operational requirements.

National Grid

EMERGENCY RESPONSE

RESPONSIBILITIES WITHIN NATIONALGRID FOR MANAGING PIPELINE INCIDENTS.

The Nationalgrid response to emergencies would normally involve the following 3 areas of the company:-

NATIONALGRID EMERGENCY CALL CENTRE (NECC)

A call to the Nationalgrid emergency number should be received by the NECC. The Nationalgrid NECC is responsible for taking action to deal with the incoming reports and passing on the appropriate information to the relevant Nationalgrid personnel.

NATIONALGRID GAS OPERATIONS

The Nationalgrid National Pipeline Network is controlled remotely from the Gas National Control Centre and the Distribution National Control Centre. Following a major incident the appropriate Network Control Centre would take steps to mitigate the incident for example by closing remotely operable shut off valves. The Control Centre would also be in communication with, and assist the NECC and Nationalgrid personnel. In the event of a major incident that could result in a Network gas supply emergency the nominated Network Emergency Co-ordinator (Nationalgrid) would take control of the gas supply Network to ensure where possible that gas supplies to end users is maintained.

FRONT LINE RESPONSE

The Managers within the local Nationalgrid area in which the incident occurs are responsible for assessing the scale of the incident in conjunction with the relevant Nationalgrid Control Centre. If appropriate, depending upon the scale of the incident, Incident Management Team would be set up. This team would be responsible for managing the emergency. An Incident Controller would be appointed. The Incident Controller would be responsible for co-ordinating the Nationalgrid response to the incident including liaison with Local Authorities and emergency services and welfare organisations (to ensure that adequate provision is made for vulnerable members of the community).

NATIONALGRID INCIDENT CONTROL

ON-SITE CONTROL

Where a serious incident has occurred a Local Incident Control Point should be set up (e.g. Nationalgrid caravan or community hall), this should be as close as possible to the Public Emergency Services Incident Control Room.

The incident will normally be managed on site on behalf of Nationalgrid by Nationalgrid Operational Staff.

OVERALL CONTROL

Overall control of the incident by Nationalgrid must be from an Incident Control Room at the appropriate Nationalgrid office. The Nationalgrid Incident Controller and the Incident Management Team must be based in the Incident Control Room.

ASSISTANCE THAT MAY BE REQUIRED BY NATIONALGRID

It is important that ignited gas is **not** extinguished unless specifically requested by the Nationalgrid on site Controller.

The Nationalgrid Incident Control procedure assumes the following services will be provided by Local Authorities or by the Public Emergency Services:

- Public announcements;
- Road and/or rail traffic and pedestrian control;
- Escort of personnel and/or equipment to site to avoid traffic congestion;
- Evacuation and care of persons at risk;
- Location of suitable rendezvous points and reception centre;
- Control of secondary fires;
- First aid and evacuation of injured.

SPECIAL EQUIPMENT

The Local Authority emergency plan should not rely on special equipment being provided to them by Nationalgrid in order for them to respond to a pipeline incident.

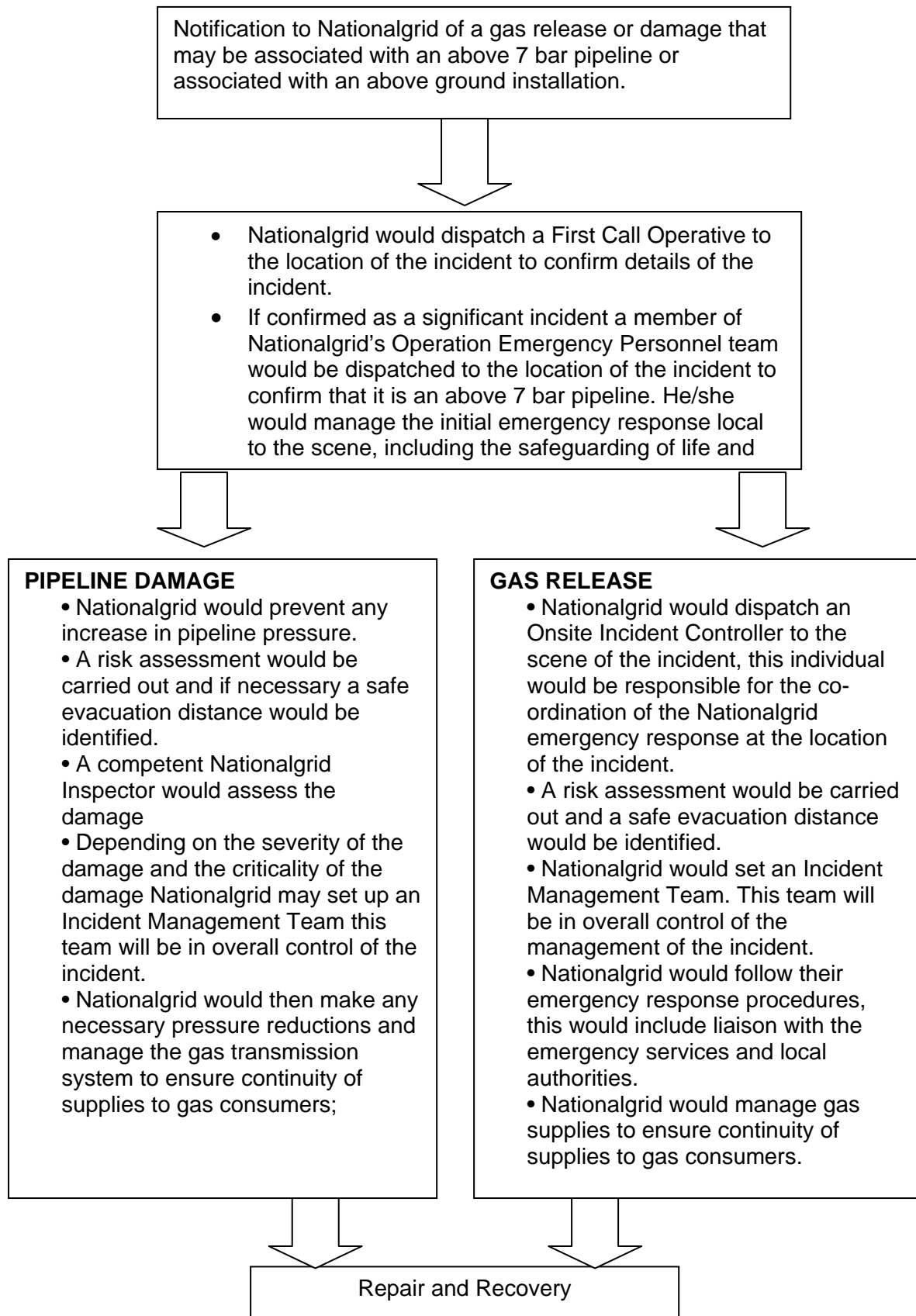
COMMUNICATION

There is a single gas emergency telephone number: **Tel No. 0800 111 999**

Additionally Local Authorities should use the contact telephone numbers provided to them by Nationalgrid. In the event of an incident, the Local Authority must be put into contact with the Nationalgrid Incident Control Room. During an incident, a member of the Nationalgrid Incident Management Team (IMT) must be nominated as a single point of contact for Local Authorities and Public Emergency Services. Once this individual has been nominated and made known to the Local Authority all further communications must be through this individual.

Contact between the media and Nationalgrid should be channelled through Nationalgrid Communications.

OVERVIEW OF NATIONALGRID EMERGENCY RESPONSE TO MAHP INCIDENTS



NATIONALGRID

Incident Response Arrangements

In the event of a major pipeline emergency the Nationalgrid incident management initiative will rely upon three discrete but complementary systems as the basis of its pipeline failure response strategy.

The component parts of that strategy are:-

a. Nationalgrid Emergency Call Centre (NECC)

This complex accepts and processes notifications of pipeline failures and forwards relevant incident data to the appropriate Nationalgrid Network staff.

b. Nationalgrid Network

Nationalgrid Network Operation Managers have the responsibility to determine the scale of the incident in association with the Nationalgrid Control Centre. Network Operation Managers will, if appropriate, instigate the Nationalgrid Network Incident Control Team. The Team, acting under the control of the Network Incident Controller will establish links with the emergency services and the local authorities and co-ordinate the Nationalgrid incident containment strategy and procedures.

c. Nationalgrid Distribution Network Control Centre (DNCC)

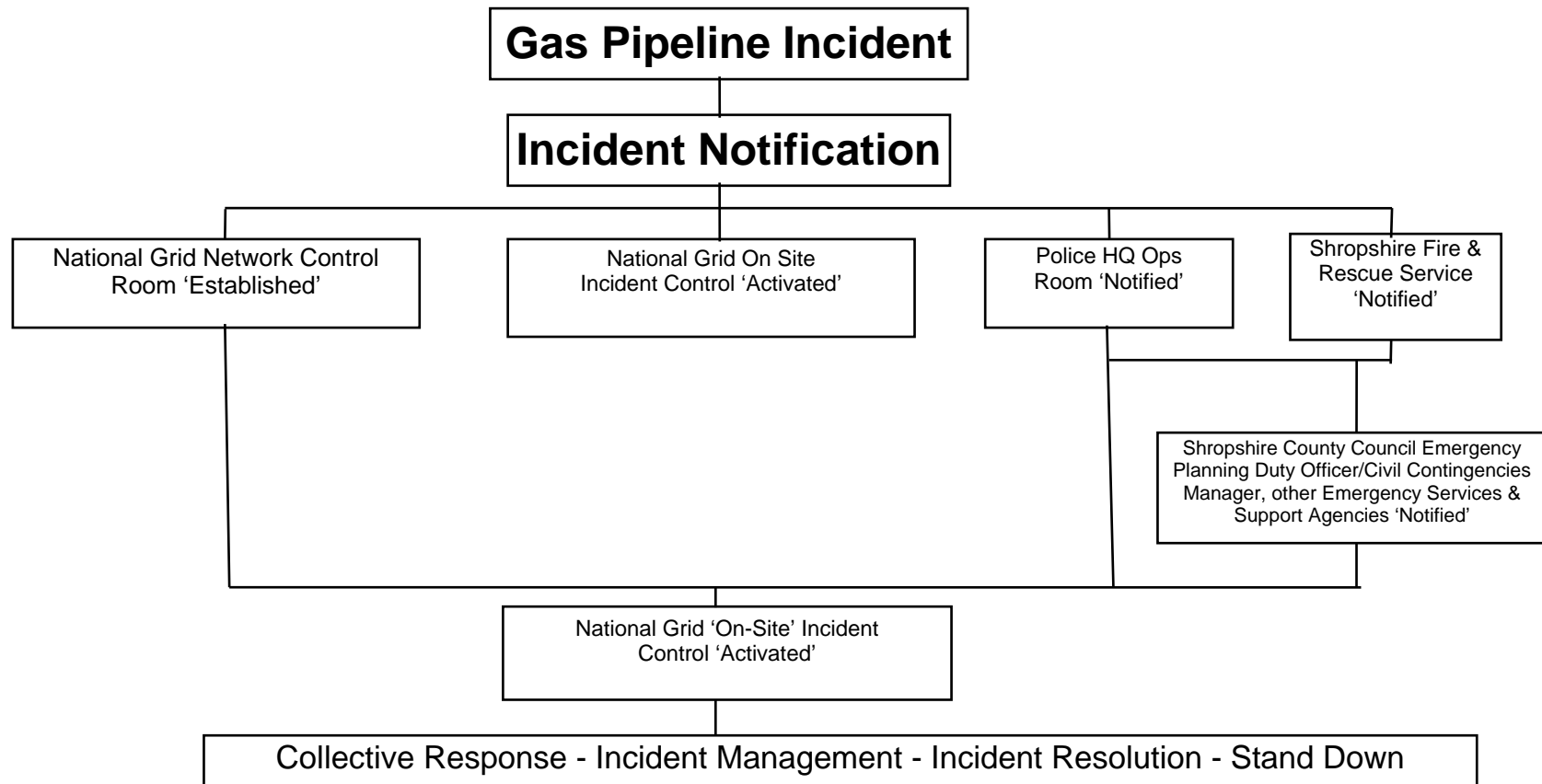
During an incident DNCC would operate in concert with the Nationalgrid Network and NECC. DNCC operate from a National Control Centre and four subsidiary Area Control Centres. DNCC have the capacity to remotely control gas flow in the Nationalgrid National Pipeline Network.

d. Nationalgrid Incident Management

Following a serious pipeline failure a Local Incident Control Point will be set up on a site adjacent to the Emergency Services Incident Control Point. Both the Nationalgrid Network Incident Controller and the Network Incident Team will operate from the Network Incident Control Room, which will be in the Nationalgrid Network Office at Hinckley or Birmingham.

A schematic diagram illustrating the primary notification cascade and the subsequent response initiatives that will be implemented by Nationalgrid, the Police, the Fire and Rescue and Ambulance Services, the Local Authorities and other supporting agencies, in the event of a pipeline failure.

NATIONAL GRID MAJOR INCIDENT RESPONSE ARRANGEMENTS



WALES AND WEST UTILITIES LIMITED

Incident Response Arrangements

The managers within the Wales and West Utilities Ltd (WWU) are responsible for assessing the scale of the incident in conjunction with the System Control Centre. If appropriate, depending on the scale of the incident, WWU will activate the Major Incident Team. This team is then responsible for managing the emergency.

An Incident Controller will be appointed, and is responsible for co-ordinating the WWU response to the incident including liaison with local authorities, emergency services and welfare organisations.

Where a serious incident has occurred a Local Incident Control Point may be set up this will be as close as possible to the Public Emergency Services Incident Control. The incident will normally be managed on site on behalf of WWU by WWU Operations staff.

Overall control of the incident by WWU will be from the WWU Incident Control Room at the Newport Head Office. The WWU District Incident Controller and the Major Incident Control Team will be based in the Incident Control Room at Newport. An alternative control room is available in Bristol if the main control room is not available.

WEST MERCIA CONSTABULARY

Pipeline Incidents Response Arrangements

On receipt of notification that a prescribed gas pipeline failure has occurred, the West Mercia Constabulary will respond in the following manner.

Force Operations Room

- Inform the appropriate Police Division, who will provide the initial response.
- Inform the Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service Control Room as a matter of priority.
- Inform the Shropshire Ambulance Service Control Room as a matter of priority.
- Alert the County Emergency Planning Duty Officer in accordance with current procedures.
- Consider information to local radio and television of the progress of the incident so that the public are informed.
- Consider escalating the matter and declaring a Major Incident if appropriate. If a Major Incident is declared, emergency procedures in line with the ACPO Emergencies Procedures Manual should be implemented.

Divisional Communications Room

- Immediately despatch an Officer to the appropriate Rendezvous Point.

- Dispatch a Supervisor to the Rendezvous Point, if the first officer on the scene's report indicates this is needed.

First Officer at the Scene

- Carry out a brief reconnaissance and make an incident report to Divisional Communications Room.
- This report should contain:

S Survey	- The scene
A Assess	- The situation and describe what is required
D Disseminate	- The following information to the Control Room
C Casualties	- approx: no: of fatalities, injured, uninjured
H Hazards	- present and potential
A Access	- best routes, routes blocked, direction of approach
L Location	- exact road junctions, landmarks
E Emergency Services	- present and required
T Type	- types and numbers of vehicles, aircraft, trains, etc.
S Safety	- Consider health and safety issues for all responders.

At all times think safety.

- Brief the Police Supervisor when he arrives at the scene.
- Hand over control to the next senior officer and act as Staff Officer.

Supervisor at the Scene

- Take briefing from the first officer at the scene.
- Establish liaison with the Fire and Rescue Service and other technical experts at the prescribed Rendezvous Point.
- Report to Divisional Communications Room/Force Operations Room with a comprehensive assessment of the situation.
- If necessary, activate procedures laid down in the Major Incident Emergency Procedures Manual.
- Hand over control to the next senior officer to arrive and act as a Staff Officer.

SHROPSHIRE FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICE

Pipeline Incident Response Arrangements

On receipt of notification from the Pipeline Operator or West Mercia Constabulary, that a prescribed gas pipeline has failed, the Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service will operate in accordance with the procedures set out in this document. In addition, the following incident management arrangements will be initiated and implemented.

General Considerations

This Emergency Plan for Major Accident Hazard Pipelines will be activated by the pipeline operator (National Grid) or West Mercia Constabulary. A copy of this plan is available at the following locations:-

- Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service Control
- Shropshire Fire and Rescue Service Incident Command Vehicle

Rendezvous Points

The actual location of rendezvous points will be determined by the location, nature and scale of the incident. Guidance on this matter will be provided by the Pipeline Operator in consultation with West Mercia Constabulary.

Fire and Rescue Service Control Points

The location of control points will be determined by the 'Level 1 Incident Commander' on first attendance following consultation with the other services in attendance.

Fire and Rescue Service Control

On receipt of notification from the pipeline Operator or West Mercia Constabulary that this 'Plan' is to be activated, Fire Control will confirm the following:-

- That the procedures set out in this 'Plan' are to be implemented.
- The location of the incident.
- The location of designated rendezvous point(s).
- The direction and speed of the wind.

Fire Service Control will also mobilise the following pre-determined attendance to the designated rendezvous point(s), giving due regard to the route to be taken to the incident.

- Two major pumping appliances.
- A Level 2 Incident Commander.
- HAZMAT Officer

In addition, Fire Service Control will also inform the following services/organisations as a matter of priority.

- Shropshire County Council Emergency Planning Unit Duty Officer (Pager via Fire Service Control).

- Civil Contingencies Manager

The following information should be passed:-

- The Emergency Plan for Major Accident Hazard Pipelines has been implemented.
- The location of the pipeline failure including a site grid reference.
- The location of the rendezvous point(s) including grid reference(s).
- The wind speed is -----mph.
- The wind direction is from ----- to -----.

Fire Control will also:-

- Provide information using Firemet.
- Direct fire crews to remain at the rendezvous point(s) until clearance is given to proceed to the incident site.
- Authorise, when applicable, the deployment of appliances and personnel to the incident reminding them of the need to continue to exercise caution.

Fire and Rescue Service - Personnel Attending

On receipt of mobilising instructions to attend a major accident hazard pipeline incident, all personnel will :-

- Confirm the location and route of approach to the rendezvous point(s) they have been mobilised to attend.
- Remain in attendance at the nominated rendezvous point(s) until instructed to proceed to the incident.
- On receipt of authorisation, proceed to the incident and continue to exercise extreme caution in respect of wind speed and direction and any additional advice provided by Fire Service Control.
- Establish a safe working area making use of expert advice prior to committing personnel to the incident.

WEST MIDLANDS AMBULANCE SERVICE

Pipeline Incident Response Arrangements

On receipt of notification from West Mercia Constabulary Force Operations Room, that a prescribed gas pipeline has failed the Duty Control Manager of Shropshire Ambulance Control will:-

- From the information received determine the location of an appropriate rendezvous point(s) and the most suitable route for ambulances to travel to that location(s).
- Despatch one ambulance and an Ambulance Officer to the nominated rendezvous point. That Ambulance Officer will act as the Incident Officer until relieved by a senior colleague.
- Place the Accident and Emergency (A & E) Departments of the nearest general hospitals on 'standby'.
- Advise EOC at Millenium Point that an incident is occurring.
- Notify the Duty EOC Manager at Shrewsbury
- Notify On-Call Silver Team
- Notify the consultant for Communicable Disease Control of the Shropshire Health Authority, that a major pipeline incident has occurred, via the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital switchboard.
- When advised by the Incident Officer at the scene, inform appropriate A&E Departments to 'activate' their major incident plan and if it is deemed necessary prepare to mobilise their Medical Incident Officer (MIO) and the Mobile Medical Team (MMT) to the incident location to assist with the care, management and hospitalisation of casualties.
- The Ambulance Incident Officer will consult and liaise with the other emergency service, the pipeline operator, local authority representatives etc for the duration of the emergency.

THE LOCAL AUTHORITY

The Local Authority (LA), as the Pipelines Safety Regulations 1996 state, are responsible for preparing, reviewing, testing 'from time to time' and updating an emergency plan detailing how an emergency relating to a possible major accident in its area will be dealt with. Within the L.A. this role is facilitated by the Shropshire County Council Emergency Planning Unit (SCC EPU).

During a major incident the LA will take responsibility for;

- Support of the Emergency Services and other agencies involved in the incident
- Provision of support and services to the wider community

- To oversee, in conjunction with the operator, the rehabilitation of the area
- To coordinate the response, if necessary, of the voluntary organisations
- Collating information pertaining to the incident from all agencies involved
- On request, will send an Incident Officer to the scene

The LA is able to provide or help to coordinate the following services

1. Evacuee transport
2. Rest centre facilities
3. Temporary mortuaries
4. Psychological care and support

Co-ordination of Local Authority Services

If the incident warrants SCC EPU will set up a Local Authority Silver Control to manage and co-ordinate local authority support services, the voluntary organisations and act as a liaison point between those services and other public utilities.

For individual responsibilities of Local Authority directorates and the Voluntary Organisations see the Shropshire County Council Emergency Plan which is produced by the EPU.

Warning & Informing

It is the responsibility of the West Mercia Constabulary (WMC) in conjunction with the other Emergency Services and agencies providing safety advice, to make the decision on whether to advise the public to stay-put and take shelter, or to evacuate.

Shelter

Generally, initial advice to the public will be:-

Go or stay in-doors, close all windows and doors, move to rooms furthest away from the incident site.
Switch off all fans and ventilation systems, as these could draw fumes into the house.
Listen to the local media who will broadcast news and advice
If passers-by are at risk please invite them indoors.
Do not telephone the Police and Emergency Services for advice, in order that lines can be kept clear, unless of course, a separate home emergency occurs or someone is being seriously affected by the incident.

The public will be advised by the media and the WMC when the incident has been rendered safe.

Information will also be posted to websites of responding agencies and the Local Resilience Forum (<http://www.westmerciaprepared.org>).

The Local Media who have agreed to broadcast public information messages are BBC Midlands, Central TV and the following radio stations:

Name of Organisation	Service Area
Radio Shropshire	County-wide, except for parts of SW Shropshire
The Severn Radio	Shrewsbury & Oswestry
Radio Hereford & Worcester	S Shropshire
Radio Stoke	NE Shropshire
Beacon FM WABC	County-wide
Signal Radio	E Shropshire
Marcher Sound	N Shropshire
BRMB	SE Shropshire
Sunshine Radio	Ludlow & surrounding area
Radio Wyvern	S Shropshire
Radio Maldwyn	W Shropshire
Telford FM	Telford

Evacuation

The WMC Incident Officer will consult with the Incident Officers of the other emergency services, specialists and management of the Pipeline Operator, prior to making the decision to evacuate.

If it is decided that evacuation is the best means of protecting the public from the effects of the incident, then WMC will co-ordinate the evacuation in liaison with the Local Authority.

In making the decision to evacuate the following will have been given consideration:-

- The possibility of risk of injury to residents and/or destruction or severe damage to property.

- The removal of residents from the threatened area without there being unnecessary risk.
- Whether the nature of the hazard is such that sufficient time is available to move the number of people involved.

Transportation of Evacuees

The provision of emergency transport for local inhabitants to be taken to short term emergency accommodation is the responsibility of the Local Authority Passenger Transport Services. Subject to operational demands ambulances may be available to assist with the evacuation of residents.

Rest Centres

In the case of a decision to evacuate, it is anticipated that evacuees will prefer to be able to arrange accommodation with family or friends. Workers from any surrounding firms would also be able to return to their homes outside of the hazard area. For the remaining inhabitants Rest Centres will be set up.

Contact numbers are available through the Emergency Planning Duty Officer.

For a more complete guide to Rest Centres and their role, reference should be made to the Rest Centre in Shropshire Plan, produced by the SCC EPU.

Longer Term Accommodation

Longer term accommodation may be needed by those made homeless, either permanently or for a lengthy period. Arrangements for such long term accommodation will be undertaken by the Local Authority Housing Department under the terms of the Housing Act 1996.

Temporary Mortuaries

The Coroner is responsible for all bodies and personal effects of persons suffering sudden or unnatural death, until such time as the Coroner gives instruction for removal of the deceased. In the event of a major incident resulting in a large number of fatalities, the Coroner in consultation with WMC and Supervisory Pathologist will decide if a temporary mortuary should be opened.

Full procedural details can be found in the "Temporary Mortuary Plan for the County of Shropshire", produced jointly by Shropshire County Council Emergency Planning Unit and Telford & Wrekin Civil Resilience Team

Liaison With The Media

All services should be prepared to receive direct enquiries and attention from the press and media, however WMC will take the initial lead in media handling as part of their role in managing the co-ordination of the response.

The main point of reference, however, would be from a Combined Media Briefing Centre, which would normally be set up at Shrewsbury Town Football Club. From here basic information will be gathered and co-ordinated, official statements released and regular press conferences held. The Media Centre would be staffed by information officers from the Emergency Services, other responding agencies and the Local Authority.

The press should be notified of an incident as soon as is practicable. In this way it is hoped that their co-operation will be gained and they can be used as an effective means of

channelling advice to the public. On the declaration of a MAJOR INCIDENT WMC will inform the Media of the incident and action the announcement of Public Information Messages by the Media.

This will be followed by a standardised response from the Combined Media Briefing Centre, which will relay more information on the incident to the Media.

Information regarding the cause of the incident will only be given by a representative from the operator who will be available at the Media Centre at agreed briefing times.

Visits to the scene of the incident, if allowed, will be arranged through the Media Centre, in consultation with the SFRS and WMC Officers in charge of the incident.

Roles & Responsibilities of Adjoining Local Authorities & Other Organisations

Telford & Wrekin Council

On receipt of notification that a prescribed pipeline has failed in the vicinity of the common border of the administrative County of Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin Council; representatives of that authority's Civil Resilience Team will:-

- Activate the Telford & Wrekin Council's Major Accident Hazard Pipeline Emergency Plan.
- Activate appropriate elements of the Telford & Wrekin Council's Emergency Plan

Powys County Council

On receipt of notification that a prescribed pipeline has failed in the vicinity of the common border of the administrative County of Shropshire and Powys County Council; representatives of that authority's Emergency Planning Unit may:-

- Initiate measures to confirm the scope, scale and location of the incident.
- Activate all appropriate internal notification cascades and operational alerting mechanisms.
- Activate appropriate elements of the Powys County Council's Major Incident Plan and this document.
- Make contact with the Shropshire County Council Emergency Planning Unit and agree a common strategy and mutual aid arrangements.

Wrexham County Borough Council

On receipt of notification that a prescribed pipeline has failed in the vicinity of the common border of the administrative County of Shropshire and Wrexham County Borough Council; representatives of that authority's Emergency Management Team will:-

- Initiate measures to confirm the scope, scale and location of the incident.
- Activate all appropriate internal notification cascades and operational alerting mechanisms.
- Activate appropriate elements of the Wrexham County Borough Council's Emergency Managements & Response Team and this document.
- Make contact with the Shropshire County Council Emergency Planning Unit and agree a common strategy and mutual aid arrangements.

Staffordshire County Council County Chief Executive

Upon receipt of information declaring a major incident involving a Major Accident Hazard Pipeline the County Chief Executive's Department will carry out the following actions:

- Activate the Staffordshire Integrated Emergency Management Plan.
- Notify the members of the Major Incident Management Team as detailed in Supporting Document No 1 – the Emergency Contact List.
- Consider opening the County Council Emergency Control Room.
- Consider activating the County Council's Helpline.
- Notify the County Council's Public Relations Officer
- Consider the assistance which may be necessary from other County Council Departments
- Advise the Emergency Service's Controls when the County Council's Incident Management Team is set up and operational.
- Liaise with the Director of Civil Contingencies on the Local Authority's response.
- Liaise with neighbouring Local Authorities who are likely to become involved in the incident.
- Liaise with the Emergency Services, the Pipeline Operators and other agencies as necessary.

Government Office for the West Midlands (GOWM) Regional Resilience Team

In any incident the Regional Resilience Team's primary role is to assist the flow of information between local responders and Central Government. In extreme situations, particularly those which impact on a wide area and could overwhelm local responders, the Team forms a Regional Operations Centre (ROC) and could also facilitate preparation for, and implementation of, a regional response. These roles will involve:

- Advising Central Government Departments on likely consequences/wider implications of an event and the availability of support within the region and more widely.
- Supporting / providing the Government Liaison Officer at Gold Command disseminating information, advice and instructions from Central Government to local partners.
- Providing local intelligence and appropriate briefing to the Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG), the Cabinet Office Civil Contingencies Secretariat and Lead Government Department officials and press officers. Providing support to the Regional Civil Contingencies Committee (RCCC), if established, and Regional Nominated Co-ordinator (RNC) if appointed.

- Liaising with the Regional Civil Contingencies Committee (RCCC) to ensure that support requirements are quickly communicated and acted upon, and shortfalls identified.

Regional Civil Contingencies Committee (RCCC)

The RCCC, at Level 1 or 2, would be convened at the request of one or more SCGs or an RRF member, both in agreement with the LGD and GOWM. At Level 3 the West Midlands Regional Generic Response Plan implies that once a formal declaration of a decision to take special legislative measures under Part 2 of the CCA is made – the RCCC will automatically meet. The responsibilities of the Regional Civil Contingencies Committee, convened by the Government Office for the Region, are to:

- Collate and maintain a strategic picture of evolving situations within the region with a particular focus on consequence management and recovery issues
- Coordinate central Government activities within the region and ensure that national input is coordinated with local and regional efforts.
- Facilitate mutual aid arrangements within and between regions
- Ensure an efficient flow of communications between local, regional and national levels.

The Regional Civil Contingencies Committee will meet at 3 levels.

Level 1	Meetings would be convened in the period prior to an emergency, on the basis of a threat assessment or a local incident that could escalate.
Level 2	Meetings would be convened in the event of a wide area disruptive challenge in the region or if a national response or coordination of an event is required such as during a fuel distribution crisis. The meetings would seek to agree coordination of resources across the region, according to regional and national priorities.
Level 3	Meetings should only be called following the formal declaration of a state of emergency, which allows special powers under the Civil Contingencies Act 2004.

Regional Nominated Coordinator (RNC)

The Regional Nominated Coordinator would only be appointed in the event of special legislative measures being taken, which require a Secretary of State to appoint a Regional Nominated Coordinator in relation to each region to which the measures were to be applied. Those measures would set out the functions to be given to the Regional Nominated Coordinator for the purpose of coordinating activities to prevent, control or mitigate an aspect or effect of the emergency.

Regional Resilience Forum (RRF)

This forum is a process by which organisations with an interest in regional civil protection issues co-operate with each other. It is not a statutory body as such, nor does it have powers to direct its members.

The purpose of the RRF is to ensure effective delivery of those elements of regional civil protection that need to be delivered in a multi-agency environment.

West Mercia Local Resilience Forum (WMLRF)

The WMLRF is a multi-agency group comprising bodies within West Mercia, such as local authorities, national and local health agencies, the three emergency services and the Environment Agency. A complete list of current partners can be found on www.westmerciaprepared.org

The purpose of the LRF is to ensure effective delivery of the duties of the Civil Contingencies Act. This requires the partner agencies to co-ordinate resources so they can respond effectively when incidents do occur, to ensure West Mercia remains a safe place. The WMLRF also exists to warn, inform, advise and educate the public about developments in the area of civil protection.

This forum is a process by which organisations with an interest in regional civil protection issues co-operate with each other. It is not a statutory body as such, nor does it have powers to direct its members.

The WMLRF delivers its responsibilities by the partners being structured into groups with individuals contributing towards the work according to their roles, skills and competence.

Environment Agency (EA)

The Environment Agency (EA) has primary responsibilities for the environment protection of land, water and air in England and Wales.

- Advise and assist in the prevention and/or mitigation of the effects of pollution arising from an incident.
- Advise on the disposal of hazardous substances and waste.
- Advise and assist in the restoration and monitoring of the environment following an incident.
- Gather evidence to support any prosecution or enquiry.
- Continue to provide core business services.

Scientific & Technical Advisory Cell (STAC)

The STAC is a strategic group that is chaired by the NHS, normally a Director of Public Health. It is composed of representatives a range of organisations and specialists who are able to give co-ordinated authoritative advice on the health aspects to the Police Gold Commander, the NHS and other agencies.

STAC is activated at the request of the Police Gold Commander through the Regional Director of Public Health.

The STAC should bring together technical experts from those agencies involved in the response and who would provide scientific and technical advice to the Gold Commander. The purpose of the cell would be to ensure that, as far as possible, scientific and technical debate was contained within the cell so that the Strategic Coordinating Group (and others involved in the response) received the best possible advice based on the available information in a timely, and understandable way.

Utilities

The involvement of the major utility services (gas, water, electricity and telephone companies) is expected in almost all major emergencies. Other organisations such as Network Rail and transport companies will often be drawn into the management of the emergency. Each organisation has its own procedures for managing both its own response and for integrating with the emergency services and appropriate local authorities. The Councils Emergency Contacts Directory holds the numbers for each organisation.

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4. Plan Maintenance & References

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PLAN MAINTENANCE

Assessment

To ensure that the Plan will prove to be adequate in the event of a major incident, checking and testing of various components of the plan will be carried out following its publication. The Plan will be reviewed after any incident or exercise in addition to annual review to ensure that it fulfils its objectives. Following an incident investigations and debriefs will be held to ensure that all lessons learnt will be used to inform this plan.

Reviewing the Plan

All persons and organisations who are party or a recipient of the Plan should ensure that Shropshire County Council Emergency Planning Unit are informed of any changes to their roles and responsibilities, organisation or contact telephone numbers, which will affect the contents of the Plan. Shropshire County Council Emergency Planning Unit will annually review the Plan as a whole. If appropriate any amendments will be issued.

Amendments should be sent to Shropshire County Council Emergency Planning Unit to: epu.admin@shropshire.gov.uk

Once the Plan has been agreed by all organisations concerned, in-house or joint training of personnel in their roles and responsibilities under the Plan will be given. The role and responsibilities of other organisations who would attend an incident will be highlighted in order that all those participating know their duties as well as the duties of others.

Plan Validation

Full records of training and exercises held will be maintained by Shropshire County Council Emergency Planning Unit. Following training the efficiency and effectiveness of the Plan will be validated through exercise. The type of exercise will be agreed by all parties in advance.

Post Incident Investigation

Under the Health & Safety at Work Act 1974 as amended, it is the duty of operators to investigate all incidents and accidents that occur on their pipelines. This will provide information which can be used to prevent a re-occurrence by highlighting any problems or deficiencies in procedures or training. Following any emergency this procedure for investigation would be implemented as soon as possible, but depending on the severity of the damage caused, it may be a protracted task.

The HSE as the enforcement authority of the Health and Safety at Work Act and under RIDDOR should be informed of any deaths, serious injuries, accidents and dangerous occurrences on the pipelines. Depending on the seriousness of the case in question an Inspector may investigate the causes and from their findings produce a report, to include recommendation to prevent a re-occurrence. In some cases the Inspector may decide that prosecution should be undertaken. The HSE is also the enforcement authority for the Pipeline Safety Regulations and as such should be informed of any pipeline emergency. In this case an inspector would respond to investigate the cause of the incident and produce a report detailing their recommendations.

De-Brief

It is essential that all agencies involved in the incident are involved in the debrief phase. All responding agencies will debrief their personnel and then feed that information to a multi-agency debrief. This will be used to revise amend and update this Plan and organisation specific procedures.

Plan Amendments

Following any incident this Plan will be reviewed by contributing agencies and amended by Shropshire County Council Emergency Planning Unit to incorporate lessons learned.

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

(The) Act	The Civil Contingencies Act 2004. This Act sets the framework for civil protection at the local level in the UK.
Ambulance Control	The main mobilising control of the Ambulance Service.
Ambulance Incident Officer	The officer of the ambulance service with overall responsibility for the work of that service at the scene of a major incident.
Bronze Control	Operational level. Usually located at the scene of the incident, from which on-scene management is coordinated.
Cabinet Office	The Cabinet Office – Civil Contingencies Secretariat is the Government Department responsible for emergency planning.
Category 1 Responder	“The Council”; defined under part 1 of Schedule 1 to the Civil Contingencies Act. Acts as the core of the response in most emergencies, as such, governed by a full range of civil protection duties.
Category 2 Responder	A local responder organisation (although it may not be locally based) listed in Schedule 1 Part 3 of the Civil Contingencies Act and are likely to be involved in some emergencies or in preparedness for them.
Civil Contingencies Act 2004	Act of Parliament concerning the provision of Civil Contingencies amongst category 1 & 2 responders
Civil Contingencies Manager	Manager of Shropshire County Councils’ Emergency Planning Unit.
Community Risk Register (CRR)	An assessment of the risks within a local resilience area agreed by the Local Resilience Forum as a basis for supporting the preparation of emergency plans.
Control Room	Centre for the control of the movements and activities of each emergency service’s personnel and equipment. Liaises with the other services control rooms.
Cordon-Inner	Surrounds the immediate scene and provides security for it.
Cordon-Outer	Seals off the controlled area to which unauthorised persons are not allowed access.
Duty Officer	A member of Shropshire County Council staff trained to deal with enquiries relating to emergencies, and is available 24/7.
Emergency Centre	Local authority operations centre from which the management and co-ordination incident support is carried out.

Emergency Management Team (EMT)	The co-ordinating team comprising of senior managers, managing the Shropshire County Council response to the emergency.
Emergency Response Vehicle Also known as IRU (Incident Response Vehicle)	A vehicle managed by the Emergency Planning Unit which will be deployed to a multi agency command post equipped with communications and plans for the use by an Incident Officer.
Firemet	A metrological service for the Fire Service giving up to the minute details on wind speed and direction as well as forecasts for up to 12 hours.
Gold Control	The location from which the strategic management of the incident is coordinated and where policy frameworks are established within which the tactical response will be delivered.
Health and Safety Executive (HSE)	A government department with responsibility for enforcing the Control of Major Accident Hazards (COMAH) Regulations 1999 and Pipeline Safety Regulations planning requirements.
Incident Officers	The officers at the scene who command their respective services, e.g. Local Authority Incident Officer (LAIO).
Incident Control Point (police and fire services)	The point from which the management of the incident is controlled and co-ordinated. The central point of contact for all specialist emergency services engaged on the site.
Incident Log	A legal document that details events, decisions and outcomes during an incident.
Lead Authority	The local authority taking the lead in the decision making process when more than one authority is involved in an incident.
Lead Government Department	For each type of emergency incident of major proportions there is a government department which will lead on the response. www.ukresilience.info/handling.htm
Liaison Officer	A representative from an organisation which is deployed to convey information between one organisation to an other.
Local Resilience Forum (LRF)	A process for bringing together all Category 1 and 2 responders within a local police area for the purpose of facilitating co-operation in fulfilment of their duties under the Act.
Major Incident	A major incident is any emergency that requires the implementation of special arrangements by one or more of the emergency services, the NHS or the local authority.
Major Incident Declared	A major incident has occurred and requires the prompt response of Shropshire County Council.

METHANE

A guide to creating a comprehensive situation report.
(Also see SAD CHALETS)

M	Major Incident Declared
E	Exact location Including 6 fig grid reference
T	Type
H	Hazards
A	Access and egress
N	Number of Casualties
E	Emergency Services at the scene

Operations Room

An area in the Emergency Centre designated for the use in coordinating operational resources and activities.

Pipelines Safety Regulations 1996 (PSR)

Pipeline Safety Regulations 1996 are government Regulations which require emergency plans for certain high risk pipelines nationally.

Pre Determined Attendance (PDA)

Each of the three emergency services has operational procedures that define their services attendance at a particular type of incident.

Regional Civil Contingencies Committee (RCCC)

Regional body which meets during an emergency when a regional response, or other action at regional level, is required.

Regional Resilience Forum

A forum established by a Government office to discuss civil protection issues from the regional perspective and to create a stronger link between local and central government on resilience issues.

Rendezvous Point (RVP)

Point to which all resources arriving at the outer cordon are directed for logging, briefing, equipment issue and deployment.

Rest Centre

Building taken over by local authority for the temporary accommodation of evacuees. It is staffed by British Red Cross Society and WRVS personnel working to a trained local authority manager.

Scientific and Technical Advise Cell (STAC)

To provide health & scientific advice within the multi-agency Strategic Co-ordination centre.

SAD CHALETS

A guide to creating a comprehensive situation report. (Also see METHANE)

S	Survey: The scene
A	Assess: The Situation
D	Disseminate: The following information to the Control Room
C	Casualties: Approximate numbers dead, injured and uninjured
H	Hazards: Present and potential
A	Access: Best access routes for emergency vehicles
L	Location: The exact location of the incident
E	Emergency: Emergency services present and required
T	Type: Type of incident , numbers of persons and properties involved
S	Safety: Consider healthy and safety issues for all responders

Silver Control	The tactical level management of the incident is coordinated through a multi-agency Silver Control, usually located away from, but close to, the scene of the incident. The point from which resources and additional assets are acquired, prioritised and deployed to support the emergency response.
Temporary Mortuary	The mortuary facilities provided in the aftermath of a major incident that has resulted in a large number of fatalities when existing mortuary facilities are likely to prove inadequate.
Utilities	Companies providing essential services e.g. gas, water, electricity, telephones and public transport.
Voluntary Aid Societies	The collective word used to describe agencies registered as charities that will deploy their resources to assist in the management of a Major incident.
West Mercia Local Resilience Forum	A forum of multi agency partners brought together under the Civil Contingencies Act 2004 within the area covered by the West Mercia Constabulary who provide Integrated Emergency Management to the area

ABBREVIATIONS

<u>ABBREVIATION</u>	<u>MEANING</u>
A&E	Accident & Emergency
ACPO	Association of Chief Police Officers
DNCC	Distribution Network Control Centre
EA	Environment Agency
EMT	Emergency Management Team
EOC	Emergency Operations Centre
EPDO	Emergency Planning Duty Officer
EPO	Emergency Planning Officer
EPU	Emergency Planning Unit
ERV	Emergency Response Vehicle
GOWM	Government Office for the West Midlands
HAZMAT	Hazardous Materials
HEMS	Helicopter Emergency Medical Service
LA	Local Authority
LGD	Lead Government Department
LRF	Local Resilience Forum
MAHP	Major Accident Hazard Pipelines
MIO	Medical Incident Officer
MMT	Mobile Medical Team
NECC	National Grid Emergency Call Centre
RIDDOR	Reporting of Injuries, Diseases & Dangerous Occurrences Regulations 1995
ROC	Regional Operations Centre
SFRS	Shropshire Fire & Rescue Service
SCC	Shropshire County Council
SCC EPU	Shropshire County Council Emergency Planning Unit
STAC	Scientific & Technical Advisory Cell
VAS	Voluntary Aid Societies
WMAS	West Midlands Ambulance Service
WMC	West Mercia Constabulary
WRVS	Women's Royal Voluntary Service
WWU	Wales & West Utilities Ltd

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Further Guidance on Emergency Plans for Major Accident Hazard Pipelines, HSE Books 1997, (ISBN 0 7176 1393 3)

MAPS & MAPPING DETAIL

Due to the perceived security implications associated with the placing of detailed pipeline maps in the public domain, the following strategy in respect of map provision, availability and security will apply.

In accordance with the policy outlined above detailed 'master maps' will be held by the SCCEPU. These will be available for 'authorised' use by the emergency services and local authorities should the situation demand. The Site Operators have access to their own pipeline mapping system and will, in relation to pipeline incident management activities, furnish pipeline mapping data.

OS Maps

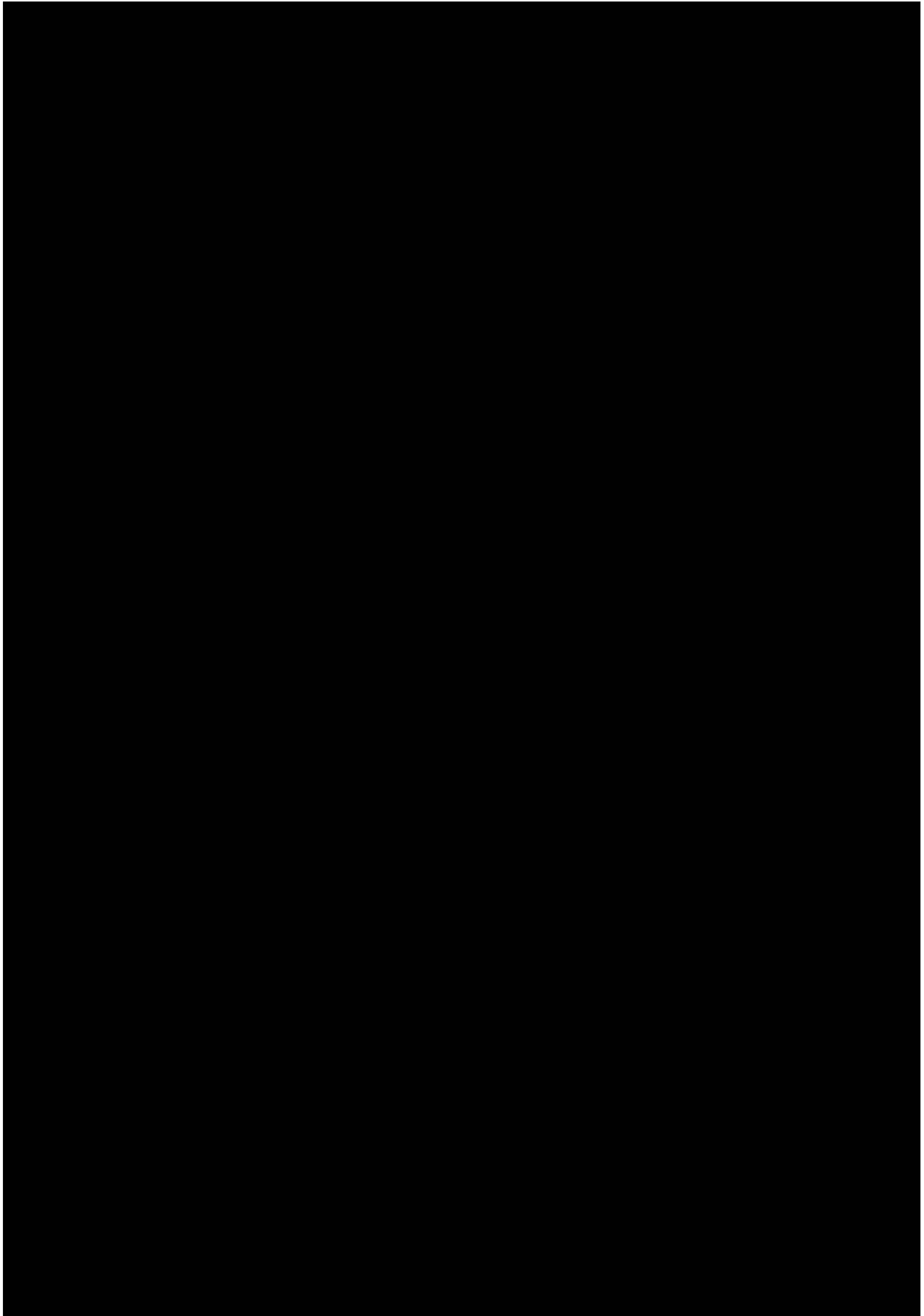
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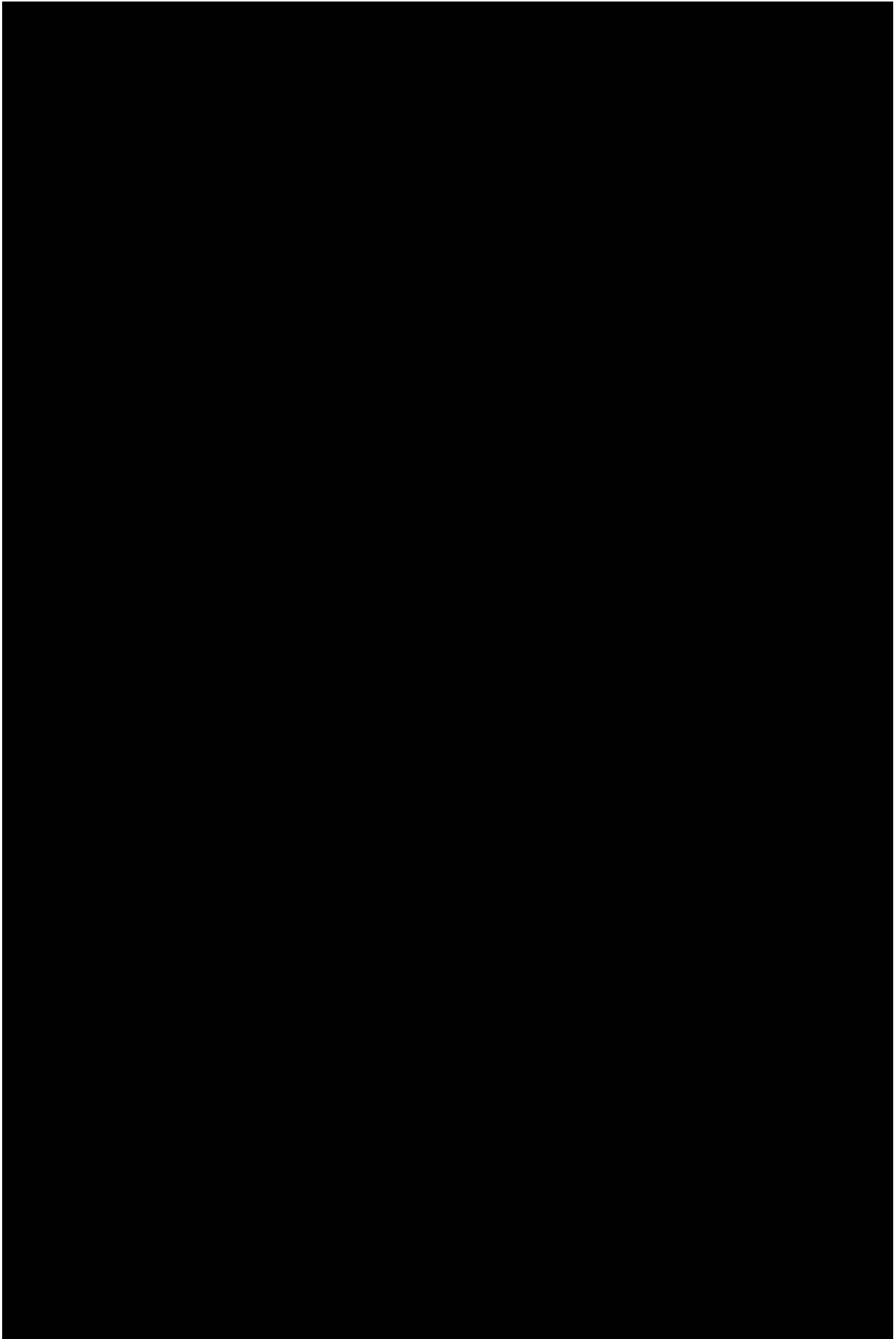
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5. Appendices

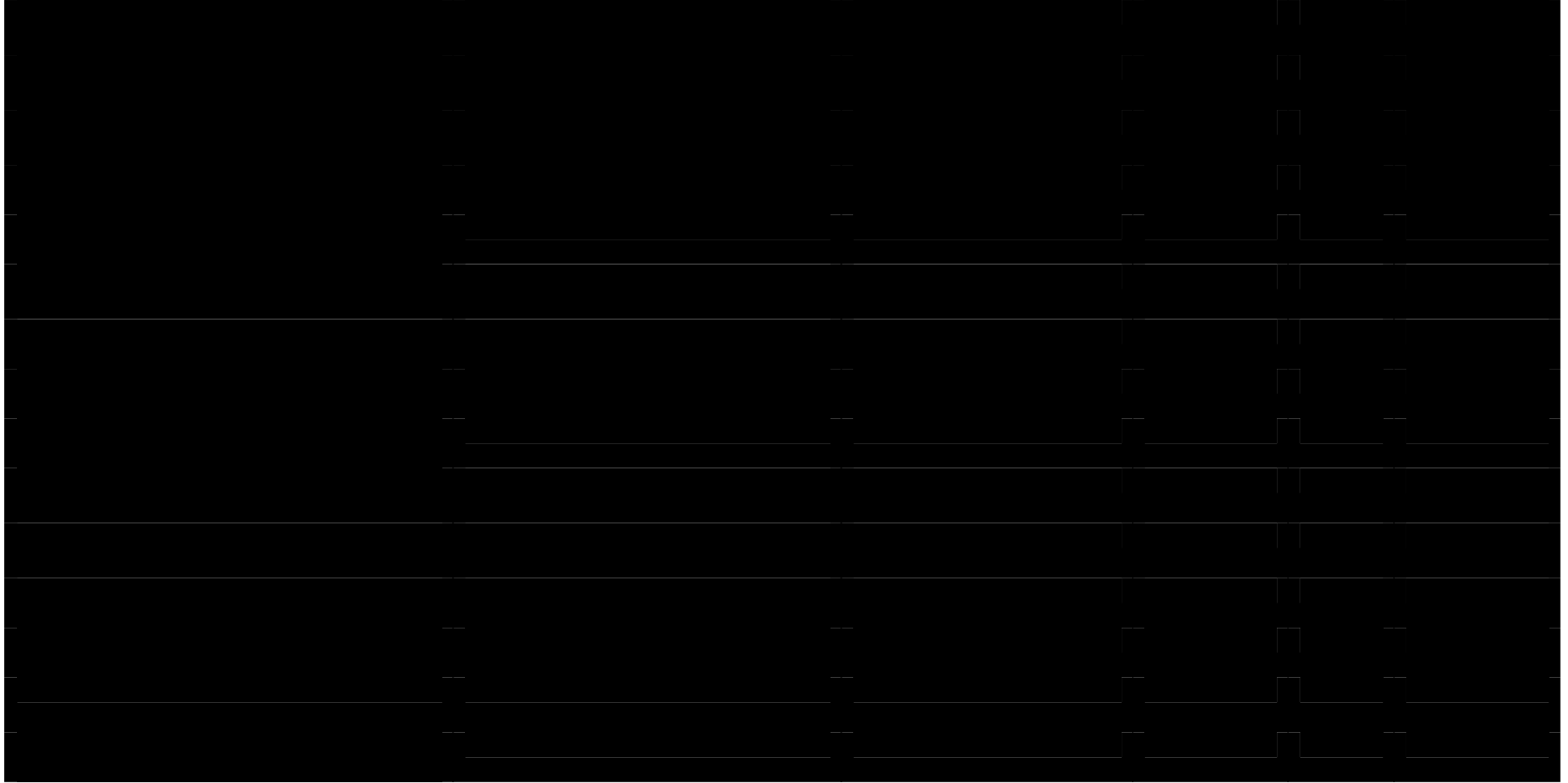
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Type of property	Name	Address	Postcode	HSE Pipeline Index	Pipeline Identification
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Type of property	Name	Address	Postcode	HSE Pipeline Index	Pipeline Identification
[Redacted data]					

Note: This list is not exhaustive, and the reliability of the data cannot be guaranteed

Appendix 4

H7 Risk Assessment as published on the West Mercia LRF Website (www.westmerciaprepared.org)

Hazard / Threat Category	Sub- category
Industrial Accidents and Environmental Pollution	Explosion at a natural gas pipeline
Hazard and Threat description, including scale	Risk reference no
<p>Whatever the cause of a pipeline failure, the same hazards will exist, although the hazard ranges will vary with pipeline diameter and size of leak.</p> <p>The scale of any emergency event will be dependent on the pipeline size, delivery pressure and the distance from the point of failure to the nearest isolation valves. Detailed plans of vulnerable areas have been surveyed and are listed in the Gas Transmission Pipeline Emergency Plans for the Local Authority areas within West Mercia.</p>	H7
Date of revision:	Next review date
October 2007	October 2008

Overview of Hazard or Threat

The pipelines under consideration carry large amounts of natural gas throughout the country and are distinct from the small diameter pipelines carrying gas supplies to domestic premises. Significant damage to a Major Accident Hazard Pipeline that results in pipeline puncture or rupture will lead to a pressurised release of natural gas. Dependent upon the magnitude of the release there may be injuries to individuals out of doors in the vicinity of the pipeline. Pipeline failure could lead to a range of hazards, the principal ones being debris, noise, overpressure and thermal radiation should the gas subsequently ignite.

Emergency Plans should be based on the distances relating to the effects as detailed in the tables below.

PIPELINE LEAK: EMERGENCY HAZARD PLANNING DISTANCES

Pipeline Diameter (mm)	RURAL Up to 75 bar (metres)	SUBURBAN 19 bar g & below (metres)	SUBURBAN Above 19 to 75 bar g (metres)
168	85	25	60
324	105	25	60
457	117	33	60
610	170	30	70
762	260	30	70
914	265	30	70
1067	275	30	70
1219	340 (390 metres for 95 bar pipelines)	30	70

Note 1: The Rural hazard planning distances and 19 bar g to 75 bar g Suburban hazard planning distances for 914 mm pipelines and above can be used for pressures up to 85 bar g.

FULL BORE PIPELINE RUPTURE: MAXIMUM THERMAL HAZARD RANGE

Type of Event	Pipeline Diameter (mm)	Maximum Thermal Hazard Range			
		0 - 19 bar g pressure range (metres)	19 - 40 bar g pressure range (metres)	40 - 75 bar g pressure range (metres)	75 - 85 bar g pressure range (metres)
0 - 25 mm equivalent leak diameter	All	5	5	5	6
25- 75 mm equivalent leak diameter	All	11	18	29	32
75 - 150 mm equivalent leak diameter	All	25	33	90	100
Rupture	168	25	55	140	151
	324	50	70	230	249
	457	72	90	290	312
	610	110	130	365	393
	762	133	190	455	482
	914	168	205	560	609
	1,067	190	215	665	711
	1,219	204	225	812	872 ^(see note1)

Notes:

1. For 1,219 mm diameter pipelines the maximum thermal hazard range for 75 bar to 85 bar pressure range can be applied for pipelines operating up to 95 bar.
2. For 'S' type areas full bore pipelines ruptures are not credible events and therefore the maximum thermal hazard range should be taken as the hazard range for the largest puncture (i.e. 150 mm equivalent diameter) for the relevant pressure range.

Key Historical Evidence

August 1991 On 21 August approximately 8.5 million litres of chemicals burned following an explosion caused by lightning striking a storage tank at Victoria's largest toxic chemical storage facility at Coode Island, Melbourne (Vic). Over 250 people were evacuated from nearby factories and ships. Two firefighters were injured. A total of 14 storage tanks containing about 600,000 litres of chemical each were destroyed and 230,000 litres of fire-suppressing foam were used against the blaze (at a cost of \$1.5 m alone). Damage to the facility and clean-up costs were estimated at over \$20m (1991 values).

New Mexico, August 19, 2000 On Saturday, August 19, 2000, a 30-inch-diameter natural gas transmission pipeline operated by El Paso Natural Gas Company ruptured adjacent to the Pecos River near Carlsbad, New Mexico. The released gas ignited and burned for 55 minutes. Twelve persons who were camping near the pipeline were killed. Two nearby steel suspension bridges for gas pipelines crossing the river were extensively damaged. According to El Paso Natural Gas Company, property and other damages or losses totalled \$998,296.

13 December, 2003 The Williams 26-inch line ruptured near Toledo Washington. The pipeline company that supplies most of Washington's natural gas was ordered on 19 December 2003 to all but shut down its trunk line from Canada to Oregon after federal safety inspectors determined frailties in the 268-mile pipe would 'likely result in serious harm to life, property and the environment.

July 2004 Gas explosion following leak in gas pipeline at industrial park outside Ath, near Brussels killed 15 and injured 120.

Wednesday, August 31, 2005 Eleven persons missing and aquatic life completely destroyed when a 28-inch Liquefied Natural Gas underground pipeline exploded at Kalakama, an Ogoloma fishing community in Okrika Local Government Area of Rivers State. The incident resulted in an inferno which engulfed an estimated 27 square kilometers.

Likelihood

The Likelihood of an explosion in a natural gas pipeline in the UK is low. Installation and construction processes are effectively managed and regulated. Additional design and operational precautions are taken at potentially vulnerable locations. Computerised product delivery systems monitor distribution with good command and control procedures in place should an emergency occur. Command and control procedures are regularly tested.

H7 Explosion at a natural gas pipeline	
	Outcome Description
1	Local to site causing up to 200 fatalities and hospitalising up to 200 people.

Impact

Impacts Explosion at a natural gas pipeline

Primary:

- Death and injuries to human and animals within immediate vicinity of event
- Structural damage to property from debris
- Fire spread to properties , trees and grassland over a large geographical area
- Reputation/Long term impact on gas supply industry

Secondary:

- Public loss of confidence in the overall safety of gas pipelines
 - Public need for information and advice
- Isolations where insufficient gas is available to the network, and arrangements for subsequent safe restoration of gas supplies in a controlled manner after the emergency is over.

Industrial Accidents and Environmental Pollution H26 Explosion at a natural gas pipeline		
Impact Scoring		
Health	2	Overall Impact Score 2
Social	1	
Economic	2	
Environmental	1	

Vulnerability and Resilience

The distribution network of natural gas pipelines in the West Mercia area is mainly concentrated in rural areas which limits the exposure risk should a natural gas pipeline explosion occur.

The Major Accident Hazard Pipelines Emergency Plans for each Local Authority area within West Mercia contains details of the actions that responding agencies should take when called to an emergency event.

Currently, the only major accident pipelines within the counties are medium and high pressure pipelines carrying distributed Natural Gas in pipelines of both the National and Regional Transmission systems. Responding agencies have established Major Emergency Planning Arrangements that complement the details set out in Major Accident Hazard Pipelines Emergency Plans. West Mercia Joint Emergency Response Arrangements provide the strategic overview of the response to major incidents occurring within the West Mercia area.

Overall assessment

Category		Sub -category	
Industrial Accidents and Environmental Pollution		Explosion at a natural gas pipeline	
Outcome description	Impact	Likelihood	Risk
Local to site causing up to 200 fatalities and hospitalisation of up to 200 people.	2	1	Low
Controls in place:			
Major Accident Hazard Pipelines Emergency Plan for the counties of Worcestershire, Herefordshire, Shropshire and Telford and Wrekin. Major Emergency Plans for West Mercia Area West Mercia Joint Emergency Response Arrangements			
Legislation			
The Gas Safety (Management) Regulations 1996 [GSMR] apply to the conveyance of natural gas (methane) through pipes to domestic and other consumers While GSMR deals with the safe management of the flow of gas through the network, <i>The Pipelines (Safety) Regulations 1996 [PSR]</i> deal principally with pipeline integrity and are aimed at securing safety in the design, construction, installation, operation, maintenance, and decommissioning of pipelines. They impose general duties in relation to all relevant pipelines and additional duties with regard to major accident hazard pipelines [e.g. for the gas transportation and distribution network, major accident hazard pipelines are defined as those operating at pressures in excess of 7 barg]. Both PSR and GSMR cover management systems and emergency procedures.			
Author: Worcestershire County Council; updated by Shropshire County Council			
Lead Authority: Health and Safety Executive			