



# INFORMATION STATEMENT REGARDING IGAS ENERGY PLC'S HOLYBOURNE SITE -ASSIGNMENT TO COMAH STATUS UNDER THE CONTROL OF MAJOR ACCIDENT HAZARDS (COMAH) REGULATIONS 2015

The purpose of this information statement is to provide an overview of our Holybourne site and operations. We are doing this because, due to recent changes, the site now falls under the scope of COMAH regulations.

This statement provides information about IGas Energy plc and its subsidiaries ("IGas"), the type of operations that take place at the Holybourne site and the controls that we have put in place to minimise the risk of any incident occurring.

To this end, we adhere to a wide range of strict regulations (now including COMAH 2015) which are designed to minimise risks to both those working on the site and residents living around it. As part of these efforts, we implement a range of design, control, mitigation and emergency procedures.

Star Energy Weald Basin Ltd, an IGas Energy Plc (IGas) subsidiary, is listed on the public register for COMAH establishments. You can obtain this information on the HSE website at:

www.hse.gov.uk/comah/comahestablishments.htm

Further information about the COMAH regime: http://www.hse.gov.uk/comah/index.htm

For definitions of Hazard and Risk, please see FAQs at http://www.hse.gov.uk/risk/faq.htm

### Control of Major Accident Hazard (COMAH) Regulations 2015

'COMAH' Regulations were first introduced in Great Britain in 1999, replacing the Control of Industrial Major Accident Hazards Regulations 1984 (COMAH). COMAH 1999 have since been superseded by COMAH 2015.

COMAH Regulations are designed to fulfil two key functions:

- prevent major incidents involving dangerous substances
- limit the consequences to people and the environment of any that could occur

## The Company

IGas is a leading British onshore oil and gas exploration and production business with licences to explore for oil and gas in a number of locations, including the North West, East Midlands and the Weald Basin in southern England.

The business has more than thirty years' experience of safely and environmentally responsibly extracting oil and gas onshore in the UK, which has one of the most stringent regulatory regimes in the world.

We are a British business and employ around 150 staff at over 100 sites around the country, who largely live and work in the areas in which we operate.

IGas is committed to the environment and the communities in which we operate. We have a long track record of engaging with local residents.

Issued: 17/02/2017

Rev: 01





#### **Our Activities**

One of our key operational areas is the Weald Basin where we have sites across Surrey, Hampshire and West Sussex. We derive approximately 50 per cent of our current production from this basin. The area under licence is inclusive of 11 fields within which there are 18 production sites. We own a 100 percent interest in all but three of the licences held in this area.

# The Site - Holybourne Terminal

Our Holybourne Terminal and oil storage facility imports oil by road tanker from IGas sites around the Weald Basin and also directly by pipeline from a third party supplier.

The oil is then stored in two large tanks, each with a capacity of 1,500 m3 (10,000 bbl) before being transferred from the storage tanks onto road tankers for onward shipment. The Terminal does have a railcar loading facility which is currently suspended due to lack of operational demand.

# **Products at Holybourne**

Crude oil is the only recovered hydrocarbon product handled at the Holybourne Terminal. We also hold a range of substances in small quantities on site for operational use i.e. diesel. All these products including Crude Oil are flammable. In the extremely unlikely event of a major incident involving our product, the effects would, in the vast majority of cases, be contained within the site boundary. These effects could include heat from fires, pressure waves from explosions or harmful levels of toxic smoke but only in the most adverse of circumstances might an incident represent a hazard to the community. This has never happened at the Holybourne site since it was built in 1985.

## **Our Operations**

As you would expect, the safety of our operations is our highest priority. We work tirelessly to ensure systems and equipment are in place to prevent any incidents taking place, as demonstrated by our recent awarding of the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA) President's Award given to companies who have achieved ten consecutive years of Gold Awards for health and safety performance. We continue to invest in training for all our staff and ensure that we are working to safe procedures.

If a fire or release does occur, we have the means of controlling it through a combination of fire and spill equipment on site, via third party response services and the emergency services. In handling oil and related products, we recognise the potential impact that a large spill could have on the environment. Our operating procedures and arrangements are designed to minimise the possibility of this occurring. We continue to work closely with the regulatory bodies to ensure that our policies and procedures are checked to ensure they remain suitable and sufficient.

We constantly review and "test" the procedures we have in place to address any incident should one occur and, in the unlikely event that one does, that it is contained within the site boundary. Only in the most unlikely of circumstances will an incident affect anyone living nearby.

#### **Emergency Instructions**

None-the-less, working closely with both the Emergency Services and Hampshire County Council (HCC), we have in place a response plan to deal with such a situation. The HCC Emergency Planning

Issued: 17/02/2017





Unit has developed a Contingency plan for any potential event of an incident having an impact outside the site boundary.

In the event of a fire that could impact on the neighbouring residents, the emergency response procedure would trigger an immediate contact with the relevant emergency services who would in turn contact residents in proximity, either by telephone or in person and provide advice on any action(s) that were deemed necessary. In the event where an evacuation is required, the emergency services and the local authority will seek to identify a refugee point for the Community. A useful guide (Community Risk Register) is available for local residents on how to provide your information for emergency service support is available via the Hampshire County Council and Isle of Wright Resilience Forum - <a href="https://www.hiow-localresilienceforum.org.uk">www.hiow-localresilienceforum.org.uk</a>.

An electronic copy of this information statement along with any relevant updates and other such sources relating to COMAH is available on our IGas website, for COMAH Safety information (<a href="http://www.igasplc.com/community-environment/comah">http://www.igasplc.com/community-environment/comah</a>).

# **Key Contacts:**

**IGas Community & Information Line:** 

020 3675 6058

Email IGas: enquiries@igasplc.com

Website: <a href="http://www.igasplc.com/community-">http://www.igasplc.com/community-</a>

environment/comah

Hampshire County Council's Emergency Planning and Resilience Team:

01962 846846 or epoffice@hants.gov.uk