



Runcorn MCP INEOS Enterprises  
An INOVYN - VYNOVA Joint Venture



Mexichem.



July 2016

Dear Neighbour

### **Important Safety Information to Read and Retain**

This information is sent out at least every five years to people who live and work within a set distance from INOVYN ChlorVinyls Limited, VYNOVA Runcorn Limited, Runcorn MCP Limited, INEOS Enterprises Group Limited, Packed Chlorine Limited and Mexichem UK Limited operations at Runcorn Site - this area is known as the Public Information Zone. These companies are known as 'Runcorn Site COMAH Operators' and are designated as a 'domino group' by the Health and Safety Executive for emergency planning. This means that, in some circumstances, an incident at one COMAH site might be triggered by an incident at another. You are receiving this letter because your household or premises is located within the Public Information Zone.

The information provided includes Safety Information and a Safety Advice Card. The Safety Information provides you with information about the chemical manufacturing operations and the products made, handled or stored at Runcorn Site, whilst the Safety Advice Card explains what you should do in the unlikely event of a major emergency involving the Runcorn Site COMAH Operators. Copies of this information are available on the Halton Borough Council website [www.halton.gov.uk/comah](http://www.halton.gov.uk/comah).

Please read carefully all of the information provided. Make sure you and others in your household or business are familiar with the instructions. You should put the Safety Advice Card in a place where you can find it quickly in the event of a major emergency. **If you vacate this property, please leave this information for the new occupant.**

We hope that this information is easy to follow but if the instructions on the Safety Advice Card are not clear, or you have any questions, please call INOVYN ChlorVinyls on FREEPHONE **0800 052 1190** (an answer service is available outside of normal office hours) or Mexichem Fluor on **01928 518805**. Alternatively you can write to us at one of the following addresses:

Janet Ward  
INOVYN ChlorVinyls Limited  
Runcorn Site HQ  
South Parade, PO Box 9  
Runcorn, Cheshire WA7 4JE

Alida Lloyd  
Mexichem  
The Heath Business &  
Technical Park  
Runcorn, Cheshire WA7 4QX

Yours sincerely



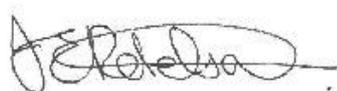
Hiong Leong Tan  
UK Operations Manager  
INOVYN ChlorVinyls



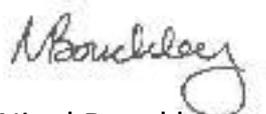
Dawn Christensen  
Sulphur Chemicals  
European Operations Manager  
INEOS Enterprises Group



Tipu Salahuddin  
Runcorn Site Manager  
Mexichem



Irene Robertson  
Runcorn Site Manager  
VYNOVA Runcorn



Nigel Bouckley  
Asset Manager  
Runcorn MCP



David Dalton  
Compliance Director  
Packed Chlorine



David Parr  
Chief Executive  
Halton Borough Council

Enclosed:  
COMAH Information/ Safety Advice Card



**Important Safety Information to Read and Retain**

By law, we have to notify the HSE & EA of site hazards, submit a safety report to them and provide people who live or work near to Runcorn Site with information about the Site’s safety and emergency procedures. This is because Runcorn Site is regulated under the Control of Major Accident Hazards (COMAH) Regulations. These Regulations apply across the country to sites that make, handle or store hazardous substances.

Your household or premises falls into an area defined by the Health & Safety Executive as being appropriate for communicating safety and emergency advice – this area is known as the Public Information Zone.

The following information will tell you about:

- the chemicals we make, handle or store on our site
- the steps we take to prevent a major emergency
- what action you must take in the unlikely event of a major emergency

## **What do we make?**

INOVYN ChlorVinyls and Runcorn MCP manufacture chlorine and related products that are used in many different applications including to purify drinking water and to make a wide range of everyday items such as antiseptics, adhesives, pharmaceuticals and plastics.

Packed Chlorine packages chlorine into drums and cylinders for use throughout the UK.

VYNOVA Runcorn manufactures ethylene dichloride, the main raw material for making PVC (polyvinyl chloride) plastic that is used to make a wide range of everyday products from energy-saving building products to life-saving medical devices.

INEOS Enterprises Group manufactures sulphur chemicals for a wide range of industries including the food, beverage and beer industry and for a wide range of applications including plastics, agricultural products, detergents, soaps and paper.

Mexichem's Fluor Business Group manufactures a range of fluorine-based products that are used in a variety of applications such as propellants for asthma inhalers; raw materials for polymers used for non-stick coatings and for weed killers.

### ***Our commitment to safety***

The Runcorn Site COMAH Operators are fully committed to ensuring that operations at Runcorn Site are carried out safely and with respect for their employees, the local community and the environment. Strict safety procedures cover the entire operations at Runcorn Site and we are fully committed to working with external regulators including the Health & Safety Executive and the Environment Agency.

### **What dangerous materials do we use?**

We make, store and handle many different materials at the Runcorn Site.

At INOVYN ChlorVinyls the main chemicals we make and use that are classed as 'dangerous substances' in the COMAH Regulations are classified as :

- Acutely toxic by inhalation, and/ or
- Acutely and/or chronically toxic to the aquatic environment, and/ or
- Flammable gas, and/ or
- Flammable liquid

At Runcorn MCP the main chemicals we make and use that are classed as 'dangerous substances' in the COMAH Regulations are classified as

- Acutely toxic by inhalation or ingestion, and/ or
- Acutely and/or chronically toxic to the aquatic environment, and/ or
- Flammable gas

At VYNOVA Runcorn the main chemicals we make and use that are classed as 'dangerous substances' in the COMAH Regulations are classified as:

- Flammable liquid, and/ or
- Acutely toxic by inhalation or
- Flammable gas

At INEOS Enterprises Group the main chemicals we make and use that are classed as 'dangerous substances' in the COMAH regulations are classified as:

- Acutely toxic by inhalation, or
- Named substance - reactive with water

At Mexichem the main chemicals that we make and use that are classed as 'dangerous substances' in the COMAH Regulations are:

- Acutely toxic by inhalation, or
- Flammable gas, or
- Reacts adversely with water

At Packed Chlorine the main chemical that main chemicals we make and use that are classed as 'dangerous substances' in the COMAH Regulations are classified as:

- acutely toxic by inhalation and
- acutely and/or chronically toxic to the aquatic environment

## **What would happen if we had a major emergency on our site?**

Smoke from a fire or toxic gas released during a major emergency could cause eye irritation, coughing and breathing difficulty. Fire or explosion damage would generally be only within the site, but could exceptionally damage windows and roof tiles of properties in the area outside our site.

We have comprehensive procedures to deal with major emergencies at Runcorn Site and we have worked closely with Halton Borough Council and the external emergency services to develop our internal Site Emergency Plan. The Plan shows the measures we would take to protect people and property and to control the emergency. Our on-site Emergency Response Team would act immediately and would work alongside, and fully co-operate with, the external emergency services.

In addition to our internal Site Emergency Plan, Halton Borough Council's Risk and Emergency Planning Division has prepared an Off-Site Emergency Plan to deal with chemical emergencies that could affect the area outside our site. This plan gives details of the actions that the Council, the emergency services and other agencies would take to protect you and your property. The Plan was prepared using information supplied by all the companies.

## **What do we do to prevent major emergencies?**

To reduce the risk of an emergency we build in safety measures at every stage of our operations. We also carry out training programmes to make sure our employees are competent in the duties they have to perform.

Inspectors from the Health & Safety Executive and the Environment Agency regularly visit the Runcorn Site to make sure we are working safely and with respect for the environment. In addition to external regulation we also regularly audit (check) our facilities and our safety management systems.

## **How will I know if there is an emergency?**

In the event of a major emergency, priority is given to notifying people who live and work nearest to our site and who could be more quickly affected.

If there is a major emergency at Runcorn Site we will sound our emergency sirens in accordance with Halton Borough Council's Emergency Plan. The sirens are tested with one short blast at 13:00 hours every Monday.

During a major emergency the sirens will be sounded as follows:

WARNING	3 short blasts on the sirens periodically (approximately every 15 minutes) throughout an incident
ALL CLEAR	Single long blast

The companies will request local radio stations to broadcast safety advice (as included in this letter). The external emergency services will provide further emergency information through the media, where required.

### **What should I do if there is an emergency?**

If you hear the sirens or other warnings you should co-operate with the instructions of the emergency services and follow the steps on the Safety Advice Card that came with this information.

DO NOT telephone the emergency services for information, as they will be busy. Try to leave the telephone lines free for the emergency services to use.

DO NOT go out to collect children from school or early years setting because this could lead to you being exposed to the emergency; children will be properly cared for throughout the emergency.

### **What effect could an incident have on the environment?**

In the event of a toxic gas release, fire or explosion the materials released would not have a long-term effect on the environment. Gas would quickly become less concentrated so any possible effect on local flora and fauna would be temporary.

We have designed our spillage containment and effluent treatment systems to prevent or reduce the risk of liquid chemicals spilling into the Weston Canal or River Weaver. However a major emergency could result in toxic liquids entering these waterways.

### **How do I get more information?**

If you are concerned or have questions please contact one of the Runcorn Site COMAH Operators at the addresses in the covering letter. If you prefer, you can contact your local council using the following address:

Risk and Emergency Planning Division  
Halton Borough Council  
Municipal Building  
Kingsway  
Widnes  
Cheshire  
WA8 7QF  
Telephone: 0151 511 7918

The Health and Safety Executive and the Environment Agency regularly inspect our sites to make sure that they are operating safely and to prevent damage to the environment. Information on site operations and particulars of their most recent inspections for each company are listed on the HSE web site. See:

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/comah/comah-establishments.htm#public-information>