

Public information

pursuant to Section 8a, in conjunction with Annex V, of the German Major Incidents Ordinance (12. BImSchV)



Background information

Industrial incidents may give rise to a serious threat to the human population and the environment

By application of the Major Incidents Ordinance (12. BImSchV in its current version) incidents should be prevented as far as possible, or the hazard potential reduced to a minimum by means of suitable measures.

What is an “incident”?

An incident is an event, such as a major fire, which results from a malfunction in the intended operation of plant, and which leads (immediately or later) to serious danger or property damage inside or outside the operating area or plant.

This includes possible impacts on the human population and the environment.

What are the obligations for operations which may be subject to incidents?

The obligations for lower-classified companies as per the Major Incidents Ordinance apply to Fürstenberg-THP GmbH in Hüfingen. This includes the provision of information to the public as per Section 8a, in conjunction with Annex V, as well as the preparation of a concept for the prevention of incidents pursuant to Section 8 of the Major Incidents Ordinance.

Legal basis

Fürstenberg-THP GmbH, due to the wood preservatives stored and used in the impregnation plants, is subject to the Major Incidents Ordinance.

About this information

With this information, we would like to inform you about the possible dangers that may arise from our plant, so that you can react accordingly in the event of an incident.

Overview of the impregnating plant

As a company in the Fürstenberg-Holz Group, Fürstenberg-THP GmbH has worked with large infrastructure companies in the fields of rail transport, telecommunications and energy supply for decades, supplying them with permanently impregnated wood. The main segments are wooden masts, wooden sleepers, timber for gardening and landscaping purposes, and noise protection systems.

Operations

Three impregnation plants are operated at the Hüfingen site.

For the impregnation of the wood, Fürstenberg-THP GmbH uses the boiler vacuum-pressure method, the alternating-pressure method and other vacuum-pressure methods, such as the Rüping method.

In two plants, aqueous wood protection solutions are used at ambient temperatures; on an impregnating plant, a water-free wood protection agent based on a natural oil is used at temperatures of 50 - 70 °C.

Site safety precautions

Various site safety precautions are taken. They are regularly verified. The safety management system is reflected in the following exemplary points:

- creation of an incident plan and introduction of a safety-management process, with measures that help to avoid incidents or limit their effects
- delimitation of the safety areas
- specialist personnel with appropriate qualifications and experience


Due to the quantities of hazardous substances at the site (heating oil and wood-based protective agents), the operations area was reported to the Freiburg Regional Council (as the responsible supervisory authority) in accordance with Section 7_(1) of the Major Incidents Ordinance.

for the site
Fürstenberg-THP GmbH
Hochstrasse 2, 78183 Hüfingen

As of: September 2020

Hazardous substances

Below, you will find an overview of the hazardous substances (according to the Major Incidents Ordinance) present at our plant, along with their properties:

Pictogram/meaning	Substance/hazardous properties
 Environmental hazards	Wood preservatives, heating oil EL Very toxic to aquatic organisms Very toxic to aquatic organisms with long-term effect Toxic for aquatic organisms with long-term effect

The protection measures and recommended conduct in an incident involving these substances can be found under "Conduct in an emergency".

Incident

In principle, all plant and associated components are designed and operated for the expected stresses in the intended operation in accordance with the legal requirements, and in accordance with the respective technical regulations.

The likelihood of an incident is low thanks to the safe design of our impregnation systems and the methods used.

We assume, on the basis of the incident scenarios considered, that in the event of an incident none of the substances listed above will pose a hazard beyond the plant's limits.

However, in the case of fire, substances such as flue gas may be released.

Information concerning the operating area

Address/operator:

Fürstenberg-THP GmbH
 Hochstrasse 2
 78183 Hüfingen
 Tel.: +49 771 89 78 28 0
 Internet: www.fuerstenberg-thp.de

Further information

For more information, please contact the responsible supervisory authority:
 Regierungspräsidium Freiburg, Abteilung 5
 Bissierstrasse 7
 79114 Freiburg
 Email: abteilung5@rpf.bwl.de

The Freiburg Regional Council regularly conducts site inspections. The last site inspection by the supervisory authority took place on 10 December 2019.

Conduct in an emergency

How is the alarm raised? How is information provided?

- Via announcements on site over the tannoy
- By police and fire service vehicles
- Via radio and/or television announcements
- By sirens
- Warnings are given by the authorities

What are indications of possible danger?

- Visible smoke or fire
- Odour
- Respiratory irritation

What should be done?

Immediately go to closed rooms and keep windows and doors closed

Switch off air-conditioning and ventilation systems in homes and motor vehicles

Ensure that persons outside are brought into the house

Help the disabled and the elderly

If there are unusual odours, move to an upper floor. Reasons:

Gases are usually heavier than air and remain at ground level

Hold a wet cloth to your nose and face. In this way, substances harmful to health may be partially repressed

Stay away from the scene of the accident

What else should be done?

- Listen to announcements over the tannoy by authorities such as the police or fire brigade
- Switch on the radio and listen for announcements from regional radio stations

You should in no event:

- Make unnecessary telephone calls – the lines may be required by the emergency services
- Leave the house without being prompted to do so. Wait until there has been an official warning to do so.