

Part A Response

Part A – to be submitted within 24 hours of the incident.

Permit Number	BU5453IY
Name Of Operator	AGC Chemicals Europe Ltd
Location Of Installation	Hillhouse International, Thornton Cleveleys, Lancashire
Time and date of the detection	19/07/2023 19:30 to 23:30

(a) Notification requirements for any malfunction, breakdown or failure of equipment or techniques, accident or fugitive emission of a substance not controlled by an emission limit which has caused, is causing or may cause significant pollution	
To be notified within 24 hours of detection	
Date and time of event	19/07/2023 19:30 to 23:30
Reference or description of the location of the event	W3 Discharge to Royles Brook
Description of where any release into the environment took place	W3 Discharge to Royles Brook and subsequently River Wyre Estuary.
Substance(s) potentially released	Untreated AGCCE Effluent was discharged via Royles Brook.
Best estimate of the quantity or rate of release of substance(s)	To be detailed in Part B Response.
Measures taken, or intended to be taken, to stop any emission	P30 was investigated and faults identified included blockages and damage to the pump impellor. A spare pump from stores was installed. This was online around 23.30 and has enabled normal effluent flow to be restored.
Description of the failure or accident	There have been ongoing issues within the AGCCE effluent plant which has meant normal effluent flows cannot be achieved. This resulted in high water levels within the drainage system. P30 (transfer pump from large clarifier to final effluent tank) failed at approx. 19.30. The alternative smaller clarifier was not available due to awaiting maintenance. It was therefore not possible to transfer or treat effluent being generated from the AGCCE production process or rainwater. The intervention on P30 was initially expected to take less than 30 minutes, however as additional emergent issues with the pump were identified the reinstatement of the pump took 4 hours and was reinstated around 23.30.

	During the 4 hour period, water levels in the below ground level RCW pump house, which could have led to inundation of critical electrical equipment posing a safety risk to individuals working on site. To protect the electrical equipment for total of 2 hours the AGCCE drainage system containing a mix of untreated effluent and rainwater was pumped into the Hillhouse wider site drainage system which drains into Royles Brook. Due to the planned short intervention time the decision was taken not stop to AGCCE processes, at 21.00 this decision was reviewed and given the existing water levels, expected time to re-instate P30 and that to shutdown the AGCCE plant effluent would continue to be produced for a further 3 to 4 hours, it was not believed necessary to stop operation.
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Name*	██████████
Post	██████████████████
Signature	██
Date	20/07/2023

*authorised to sign on behalf of AGC Chemicals Europe