

**PROTECTING PEOPLE  
AND PLACES FOR**




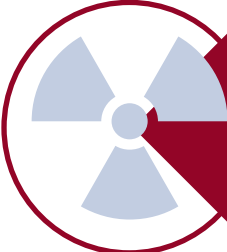



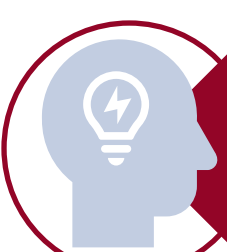
## **HSE Future Outlook for Regulation**

### **Tank Storage Association 19 September 2024**

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Interim Director of Chemicals, Explosive and Microbiological Hazards Division  
Health and Safety Executive

## **This presentation will cover**

-  A Safe Transition to Net Zero
-  Existing Regulatory Framework for Onshore Major Hazards
-  Net Zero - Regulatory Expectations
-  Competence
-  Legacy Plants – Regulatory Expectations
-  Challenges for Regulators

## A Safe Transition to Net Zero

UK law requires the country to bring all greenhouse gas emissions to net zero by 2050.

Government's mission to:

- Make Britain a clean energy superpower

As a national regulator, HSE expect that:

- Existing major hazard sites will undergo some changes.
- New businesses and technologies will enter the COMAH sector.



## Existing Regulatory Framework for Onshore Major Hazards

### Experience

- Upholding industry standards, gives the public confidence in management of major hazards

### Collaboration

- Working with COMAH relevant bodies ensures cohesive regulation

### Technology

- Net Zero technologies repurpose existing technology for new uses, businesses & environments.

### Benchmarks

- Industry leadership and regulator collaboration is needed for new technology benchmarks

### Consultation

- Evidence-based regulatory changes with stakeholder consultation.

## Net Zero - Regulatory Expectations

### HSE

- Learn about new technologies, your plans and stakeholder views.
- Work with industry as they develop benchmarks in areas of greatest benefit.
- Assess capacity and capability needed for a regulatory response to the energy transition.

### You

- Tell us about your plans for change.
- Develop knowledge, share learning with each other and with regulators.
- Properly maintain your current assets and processes.

### Public

- Preventing major accidents maintains confidence in the energy transition and gives assurance that new technologies are safe.

## Competence

A competent workforce is the basis for ensuring safety and profitability

### **Competent workforce at all levels will ensure:**

- COMAH operators understand site processes, hazards, risks and controls
- They have good procedures, that are followed
- Change is properly designed and managed
- Intelligent selection of contractors
- That money is spent wisely

### **Energy transition to Net Zero**

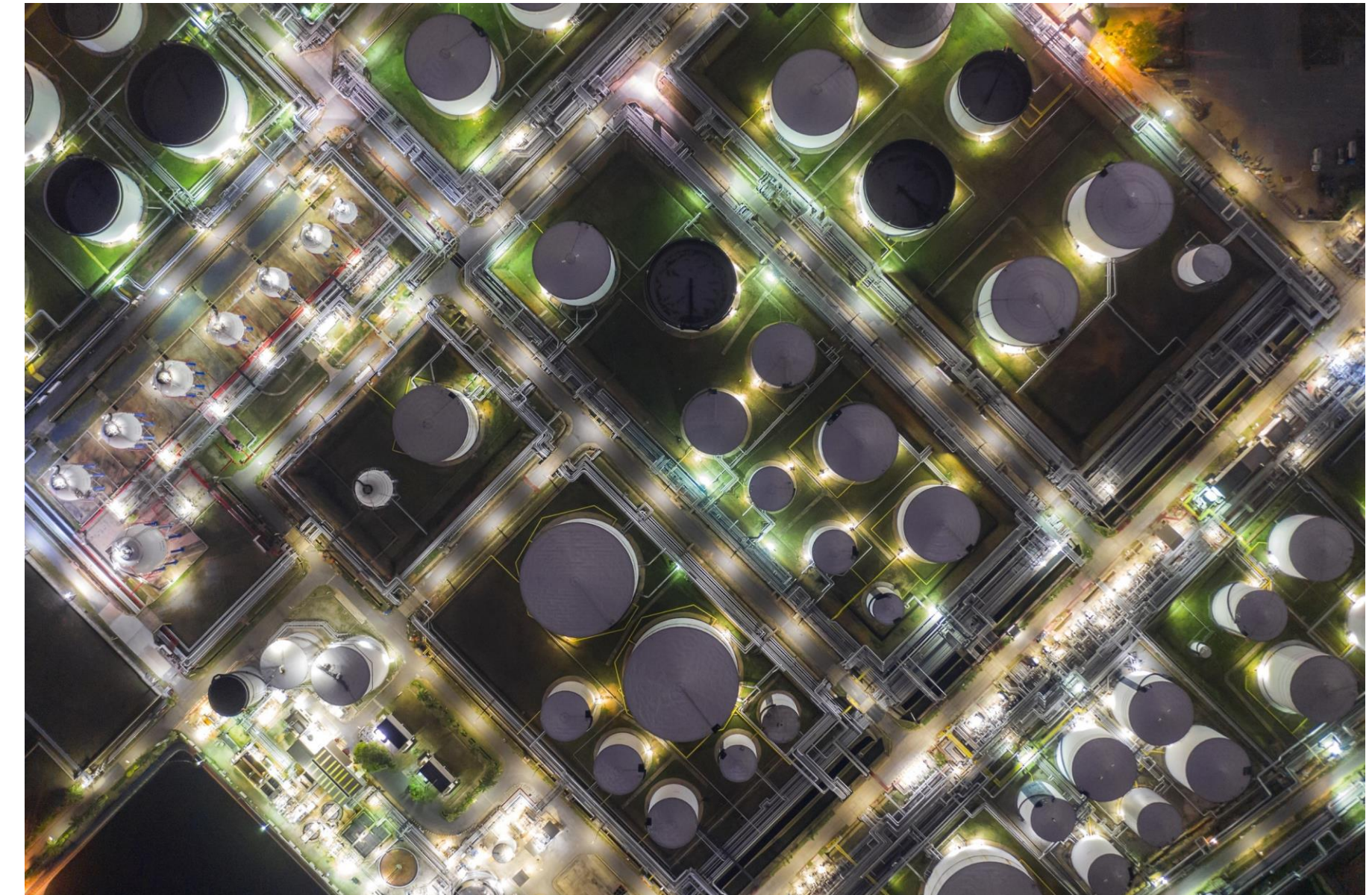
- Competent staff operate and maintain existing assets and manage change as new plant is designed and built.



## Legacy Plants

### What HSE expects from you:

- Business as Usual - invest in proper maintenance and operation of existing plants
- Forward Planning - address supply chain pressures for materials, contractors, and consultants
- Observed Behaviours - rescheduling or reducing the scope of turnarounds, extending intervals between vessel examinations or control system testing.



### What to expect from HSE:

- We will evaluate the competence behind decision-making and consider its impact on the Major Accident Hazard Risk Assessment for the process.

## Regulatory Challenges



### Emergency Response Arrangements

- The right equipment, in the right place with the right capacity?
- Are you maintaining it?
- Are your plans up to date?



### Maintenance

- Regular maintenance of basic infrastructure such as ancillary equipment and electrical items.



### Plant Integrity and safety critical equipment

- You rely upon these for safe operation, keep on top of inspection and maintenance.



## Reminder - Hazardous Substances Consents

- **Plan Early:** Initiate project planning at least a year in advance if HSC approval is required.
- **Novel Scenarios:** For new substances, temperatures, or pressures where no accepted model exists, plan even further ahead.
- **Research:** In novel circumstances, collaborative scientific efforts may be necessary to establish baseline data to support HSE's advice.



# Questions

