



4 February 2021

Dear Community Representative

I wanted to provide you with further background on Tuesday's short period of flaring at Fife Ethylene Plant.

Visible elevated flaring lasted just over one hour, and we are sorry if this caused any frustration or concern among local residents. Again, I do want to provide assurance that plant operations remained safe as per its design.

In using our flare for this short period, we safely diverted gas while we shut down a specific piece of equipment. This action avoided the potential for greater community disturbance that could have occurred had we shut down all remaining equipment – such a move would require flaring for a minimum of 72 hours during shut down and re-start.

This need came from instrumentation in the distillation and chill sections indicating our systems had moved out of their normal parameters.

You may also be aware that the flare itself was smoky for a period, which we addressed following the introduction of additional steam. We appreciate that this has visual impact, with the dark colour being soot from incomplete combustion. Independent analysis confirms that smoky flaring has no impact on local air quality because of the heat lifting and dispersing into the atmosphere – the attached study by global environmental specialists WOOD provides such analysis.

While we never want to flare, our procedures worked as intended by allowing us to address a technical issue and return to normal operations safely and quickly with minimum community disruption.

I hope this provides helpful insight, but should you have any questions please let me know.

Regards

Martin Burrell
Plant Manager
Fife Ethylene Plant