



HARTLEPOOL POWER STATION



Information for those living in the 30km
Outline Emergency Planning Zone.

Does this apply to me?

This leaflet provides awareness of radiation emergency arrangements for people who lived beyond the Hartlepool Power Stations Detailed Emergency Planning Zone (DEPZ) and within the 30km Outline Emergency Planning Zone. It is unlikely that you will be asked to take immediate actions in the event of a radiation emergency but this leaflet provides information on steps that might be taken in the unlikely event of a severe radiation emergency.

Information about what to do in the event of a radiation emergency at the Hartlepool Power Station nuclear site is routinely provided by Hartlepool Borough Council to people who live within the Hartlepool DEPZ. This is an area set by Radiation (Emergency Preparedness & Public Information) Regulations 2019.

What is the Outline Planning Zone?

Over many years the UK has developed, and refined, detailed plans for how the response to a nuclear emergency should be managed. There has never been a nuclear incident in the UK that required the activation of these plans, but it's important they exist and are reviewed.

Councils with nuclear facilities in their areas, and nearby, have recently been required to review these plans and create additional strategic level plans for wider areas around these sites. These are known as Outline Planning Zones.

Protective arrangements for people in the Outline Planning Zone would only be activated if it was determined the risk from the event extended beyond the area for which detailed emergency plans already exist. If the plan for the wider area was activated it would be a decision based on the best available information as opposed to previously developed planning assumptions.

The Outline Planning Zone surrounding Hartlepool Power Station is 30km. Outline Planning Zones are always circles around specific sites and defining the zone this way allows those who will have to respond to such an event, such as police, fire and other emergency services, to draft public protection plans ready to be put into operation.

How will I know if there is a radiation emergency?

The emergency services will alert people of a radiation emergency at Hartlepool Power Station through all the channels available to them, including the news media (local TV and radio), web and social media.

Will I be affected and what should I do?

If radiation is released from the site, weather conditions are an important factor in determining which areas are affected, as the radioactive material is carried on the wind and dispersed and deposited further afield.

People can be exposed by breathing in radioactive material; being directly exposed to radioactive material in the air or deposited on surfaces; and/or eating and drinking food contaminated by radioactive material.

You may be advised to go indoors or stay indoors, with windows and doors closed, to reduce the risk of breathing in or coming into direct contact with any radioactive material which may be deposited.

The emergency services will issue information, advice and instructions on what action (if any) you should take through local media. Therefore, it is important that you 'stay in' and tune in.

However, it is only people who are within the DEPZ of the site who would immediately be advised to stay indoors and to take pre-issued stable iodine tablets.

Where can I eat and drink?

If there are any restrictions on food and drink during an emergency at Hartlepool, they will be communicated by local TV and radio. Prior to any announcement of any food or drink restrictions, you should avoid eating uncovered food, such as fresh vegetables from the garden. It should be safe to drink/ use fresh tap water and to consume covered food and drink that you already have within your house.

Should I leave the area?

It is unlikely that anyone who lives around the Hartlepool Power Station nuclear site will be advised to evacuate immediately. After assessing the hazard and weather conditions, the emergency services may subsequently advise people to evacuate or to take shelter.

If a wider evacuation is necessary, you will be told which routes to use to leave the area via local TV and radio, or by door to door visits by the emergency services. Rest Centres will be set up to care for people unable to make their own arrangements.

Stable Iodine Tablets

Stable iodine tablets are pre-issued to people located within DEPZ of the Hartlepool Power Station to help to reduce the amount of radioactive iodine the body retains if exposed to radioactive material. As with any protective actions, the use of stable iodine must be balanced against the risk of taking the medicine. Additional stocks of tablets are available and will be distributed if needed.

During any Hartlepool Power Station Radiation Emergency

Any Hartlepool Power Station radiation emergency response will be co-ordinated by Cleveland's emergency services, local authorities, health authorities and the Environment Agency, supported by the site operators and national agencies.

Keep updated

You can keep up to date with advice during an emergency at Hartlepool by tuning into BBC RadioTees 95.5 FM and visiting your local BBC News website.

Follow us on social media for regular updates:

twitter.com/@HpoolCouncil

facebook.com/HartlepoolBC

Further Information

For further information on specifically about the emergency plans and the planning arrangement for Hartlepool Power Station please Cleveland Emergency Planning Unit.

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