



Flooding, and its impact on pipelines and above ground installations

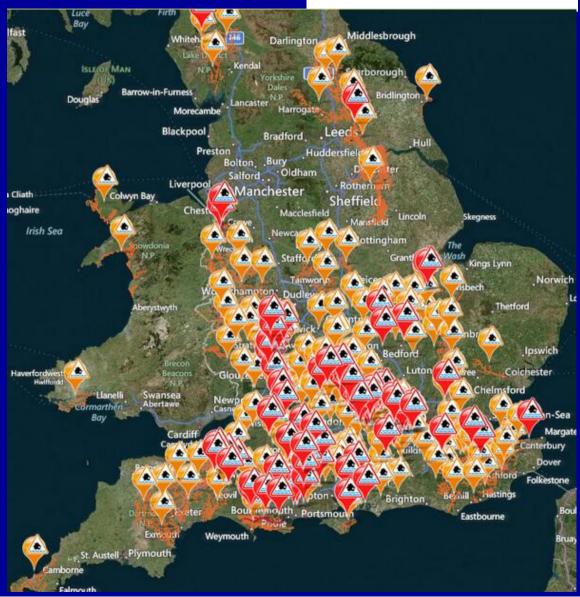
Stephen Humphrey
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Government Pipeline and Storage System

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UK Environment Agency Flood Warning Map, February 2014



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Background The Oil And Pipelines Agency:

Operates and manages The Government Pipeline and Storage System (GPSS) in the UK

265 Underground Storage Tanks, with a total capacity of 1.4 million m³.

2,500km of Cross Country Pipelines

Transporting approximately 40% of the aviation fuel used in the UK.





Background The GPSS:

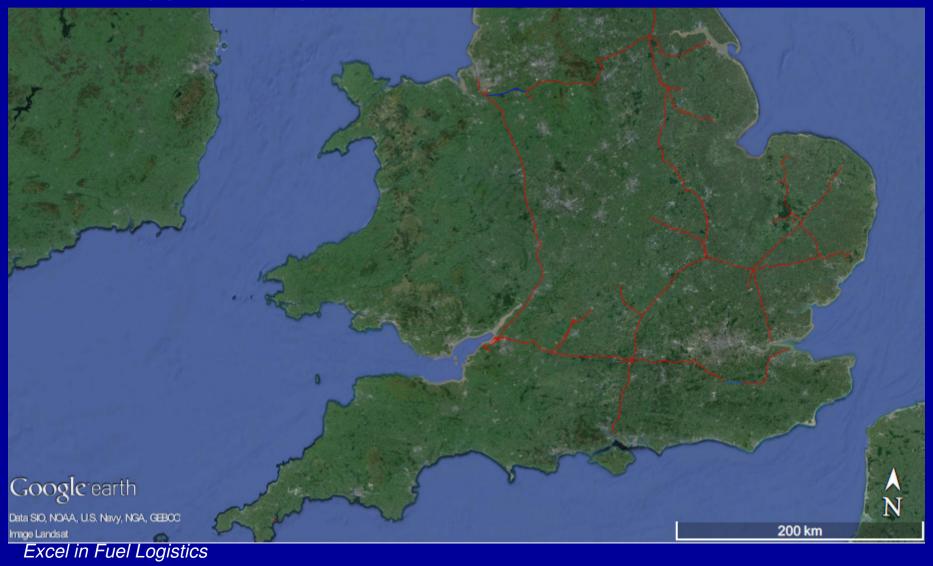
Primarily built to service military requirements (*RAF* and *NATO*).

Pipelines and storage sites form a ring-main around the UK, linking major import and refining facilities with strategic storage sites, and military and commercial end-users.

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What happens if you have an empty underground storage tank, and flooding raises the water table?

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Its not just tanks that are affected by flooding...

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Assessing and managing Flood Risks

- 1. Define specific Flood Risk Warning Levels
- 2. Identify and understand the Flood Risk Receptors
- 3. Plan and implement risk reduction and mitigation actions linked to each Flood Risk Warning Level.





Flood Risk Warning Levels

In England and Wales, the *Environment Agency* provides detailed Flood Risk Guidance to the public

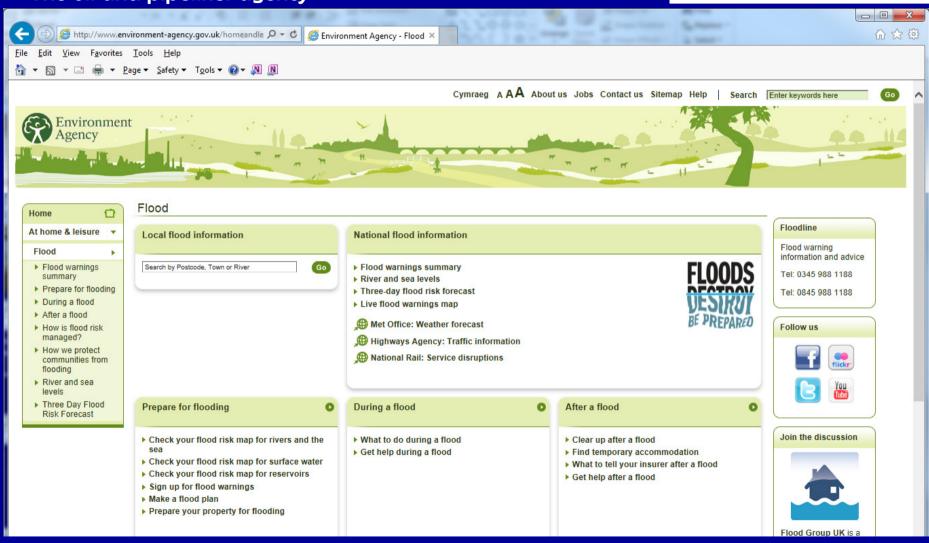
- Flood Risk Zone Identification
- Flood Incident Mapping
- Flood Warnings

Additionally, the Met Office provides alerts and warnings for severe weather events

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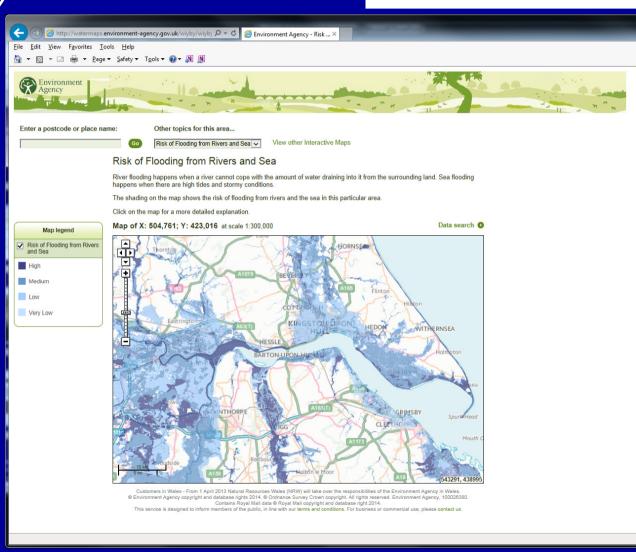
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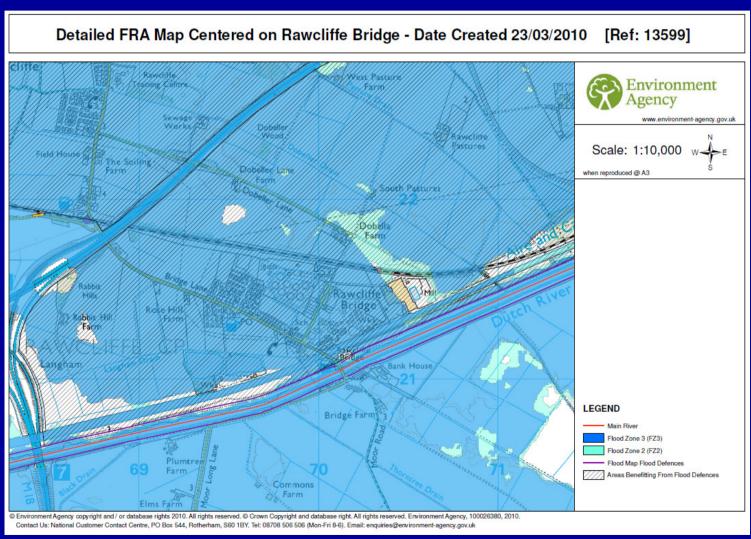
- Identify GPSS sites that lie within a flood risk zone
 - overlay the site locations on the risk map.
- Prioritise sites according to risk level.



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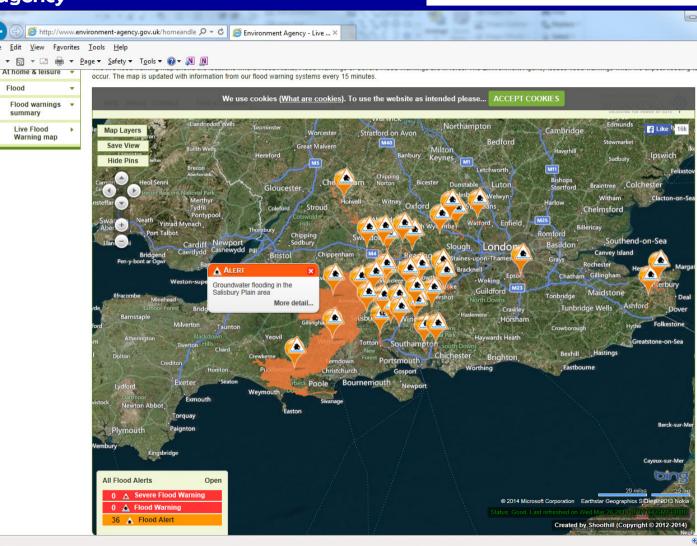
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During a flooding or severe weather event;

Controller receives automated text or email alerts.

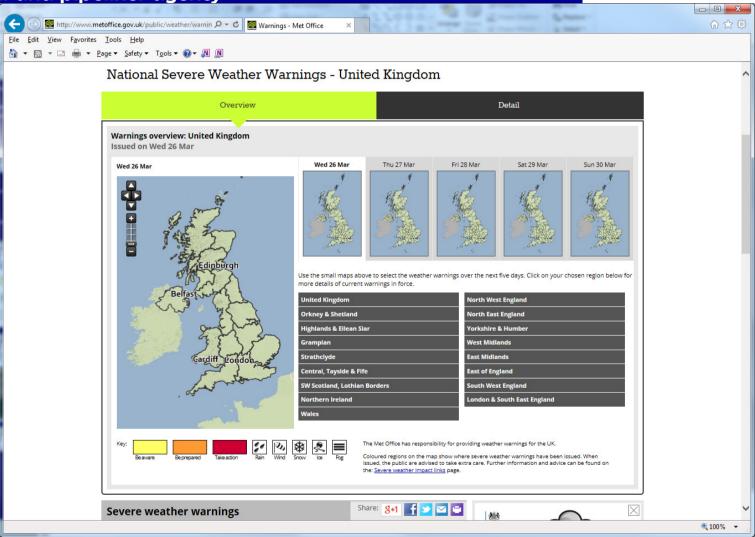
Controller
escalates the
incident
according to an
approved plan.



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Flood Risk Receptors

- Site Interceptors and drains
- Underground tanks, pumps, piping, and electrical equipment
- Buried and above-ground piping and equipment, subject to undermining, subsidence, floating, etc.
- Buildings
- Staff

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Implement risk reduction and mitigation actions linked to each Flood Risk Warning Level

Alert Level	Description	Actions
1	EA Flood Alert;	Monitor the situation.
	Met Office Very Low or Low Weather Warning	Document actions in Incident Log.
2	Met Office Medium or High Weather Warning;	Level 1 actions, plus;
	Flooding visible on site	Check Interceptors.
		Prepare and deploy site-specific flood defences.
3	EA Severe Flood Warning	Level 1 & 2 actions, plus;
		Cease operations.
		Evacuate site.



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Flood Incident Closeout

Alert Level	Description	Actions
0	EA "Warning No Longer In Force" message Met Office "No Warnings Have Been Issued"	If site was evacuated, check that site is safe prior to returning
		Check equipment, infrastructure & pipeline routes for damage
		Retrieve any deployed flood protection equipment, and check for damage
		Close Incident log
		Review and document lessons learned. Update Flood action plan as required.





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