

INCIDENT TYPE:

SECURITY OF VEHICLES – RISK OF POLLUTION



What happened

As the result of a security incident at a water treatment works during which intruders gained access to the site, vehicles and treatment works buildings, this safety bulletin is issued to raise awareness of the pollution risk from the use & parking of vehicles (both SW & contractors) in areas which are associated with the treatment process.

During the incident two vehicles belonging to contractors were 'hot-wired' and then used to cause extensive damage to temporary buildings and other vehicles.

This incident raises concerns over the possible pollution of raw water storage from vehicles entering the water themselves or causing the release of diesel etc through criminal damage/vandalism to on-site storage tanks.

Even small quantities of diesel entering the water supply system will result in a major emergency incident. The following steps can help avoid such an eventuality.



Recommendations

- 'Double-isolating' all mobile plant machinery on SW sites (both SW and Contractors), especially where their unauthorised use could lead to water quality concerns. Removal of key and battery isolator switch/battery for example, or fitting vehicles with a gear/wheel lockable device.
- Securing temporary mobile (e.g. trailer-mounted) diesel/fuel stores used by contractors against their unauthorised movement..
- Ensuring that fuel access points; for filling & taps are secured with lockable devices requiring keys, to prevent opportunistic opening.
- Secure sites, preventing access in proportion to the asset risk.



**If you have any questions
or queries, please contact
your local Area Adviser**