

# Upgrading our operations



// We are upgrading our plant to improve reliability and reduce flaring."

Martin Burrell, Plant Manager, Fife Ethylene Plant

## What are we doing?

**£140m**

We are investing £140m to upgrade our facility, the improvements will support our reliability and reduce flaring. This work begins next month.

We will service existing machines, install thousands of new parts and introduce the very latest technology.

## Why are we doing it?

Each year we spend over £20m on maintenance but this is a major routine investment and upgrade made every few years.

This additional investment will improve our operational reliability.



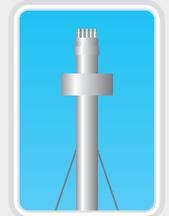
## How will we do this?

**300,000 WORKHOURS**  
**1000 WORKERS**

1000 skilled workers will deliver over 300,000 hours of work (the same as building over 200 houses).

## What are we doing to address noise and vibration?

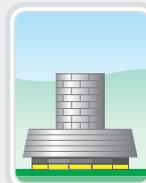
By improving our reliability, we will reduce the need to use our flare. We will also install a new flare tip, which will reduce noise and vibration on the occasions when we do need to flare.



## Will the plant need to shut down to do the work?

Yes, to safely complete the project we will shut our plant for a few weeks from early April. To do this, we will need to use our flare but we will ensure you are fully informed ahead of us starting this work.

### IN ADDITION



We are installing an Enclosed Ground Flare next year, which means if we ever need to use our flare it will be much quieter and much less visible. This new unit will reduce the use of the elevated flare by 98%.

## Operating safely



// Safety is a core value for everyone at Fife Ethylene Plant. Operating safely comes before anything else."

John McGuffin, Process Manager,  
Fife Ethylene Plant

Our Process Manager, John McGuffin, shares the multiple ways we keep our plant and people safe.

Here are the four questions we get asked the most.

### ■ If FEP flares does it mean the plant is unsafe?

No, while our flare is one of the hundreds of safety mechanisms located throughout the plant, it is mainly used to protect machinery.

We sometimes get a light on our control dashboard that tells us to park up and take a look, and we use the flare to do this. Applying the breaks avoids the need to shut the plant down – as that would need flaring over a number of days – something neither we nor our communities want.

### ■ If the plant is safe, why are you spending so much on this investment?

Like any machinery our equipment undergoes regular servicing, with around £20m spent every year on routine maintenance. But this £140m upgrade investment is similar to a major service that your car needs every few years.

### ■ When FEP talks about a 'process upset' is there a safety issue?

The term 'process upset' is just a way for us to describe that a machine or piece of equipment is telling us it needs an inspection, has gone offline or is not operating as normal – this means we can't produce pure ethylene. So we park up and use our flare while we check what is needed and do the work required.

### ■ Is ethylene safe?



Yes, it is a non-toxic gas. In fact, it is emitted by bananas in your home.

### Our Approach to Safety

- Industry-leading safety procedures
- Hundreds of safety devices including shut-off valves, temperature controls, pressure and level gauges
- Operations monitored 24/7 365 days a year
- Inspection programmes for equipment
- Staff trained and accredited
- Safety assessments before tasks
- Mandatory work permits
- Independent regulation by HSE and SEPA

For more information on safety: [exxonmobil.com](http://exxonmobil.com)