



## HSEQ RED Alert Part 1

### *Sulphuric Acid Pipeline Leak*

**Location:** Killingholme Power Station  
**myHSE Event ID:** 167417  
**Date Created:** 21/03/2014  
**Author:** Paul Scott  
**Distribution:** Thermal Power



### Details

During a routine plant inspection at Killingholme Power Station, the stainless steel pipework which contained 96% sulphuric acid was found to have a leak on the bend prior to entry into the Cooling Water system.

The pipework was located above a non-restricted part of the Turbine Hall, and was at a height of approximately 8m. The spray from the hole resulted in a 'steady drizzle' cone approximately 1m in diameter.

This could have resulted in contamination of exposed areas of skin, light eye protection would be insufficient to prevent the acid entering eyes, and there could also have been a risk of inhalation of droplets/mist.

The pipework material was Stainless Steel 316L, 10mm o/d and 1.5mm wall thickness.

### Key learning points:

1. Full investigation to be undertaken into the cause of the failure.
2. Area washed down thoroughly to neutralise acid
3. System shut down and area segregated until further notice
4. System pipeline to be replaced until further engineering changes can be implemented.

### Summary

Failure (pinhole leak) of stainless steel tubing that was used to inject 96% sulphuric acid in the Main cooling water system at Killingholme Power station.

### Further information

For more information, please contact: [Paul.Scott@centrica.com](mailto:Paul.Scott@centrica.com)  
Part two will be issued to share findings once the investigation is complete.