How does the industry keep the environment safe during weather events?

We live in the community too and we want to protect it

We understand the threat that storms can pose. We take our commitment to safe and responsible operations seriously, continuously challenging ourselves to improve upon our own records. With every storm we re-evaluate and adjust our scenario plans to mitigate risk and minimize the impact on the environment.

When it comes to environmental safety, we cover all the bases

We've taken measures like building and elevating new refinery control rooms, electrical equipment, pumps and compressors to avoid flooding. We've added redundant power supplies and generators. We've developed, executed, and we continuously refine comprehensive hurricane preparedness plans. And we've increased on-site containment facilities and developed additional operating procedures for startup and shutdown events.

Containment is our highest priority

If a weather event creates the risk of substances being released into the environment, we have several containment measures in place. Facilities have booms that absorb chemicals that might leak and float to the surface. We can setup dams to contain substances that might sink to the bottom of the floodwater. Plants are also prepared to bring in heavy equipment and portable diking systems.

We take our lessons learned seriously

Following Hurricanes Katrina and Rita we shared best practices and invested heavily in the standards and infrastructure needed to better protect surrounding ecosystems. Our response to Hurricanes Harvey and Irma and their aftermath demonstrates our industry's preparedness, even in the worst cases. By investing in cutting-edge technology and advanced processes, we reduced emissions and minimized our impact on the environment in compliance with Texas' stringent mandates.

Did you know?

As a refining and petrochemical hub, Texas has led the way in evaluating and controlling both criteria pollutants and air toxics emissions to protect the environment. For example, it was one of the first states that mandated facilities permit emissions from startup and shutdown operations and ensure emissions during these operations comply with strict standards.

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