

How does the Israeli regulator fail in assessing the impact of major ammonia incidents?

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In the early eighties of the previous century, the first risk assessments of ammonia in Israel were published. Since then, almost four decades later, risk assessments of ammonia continue to be probably the most controversial risk-assessments. The almost unique combination of lighter-than-air substance that is stored as a liquefied gas causes many models and many regulators to fail in the risk assessment of ammonia, mainly because of the tendency to simplify things and to ignore the characteristics of this widely-used substance. This review goes over some milestones that have led eventually the Israeli regulators to the current situation where conflicts regarding aerial planning between the regulators, risk assessors and other stakeholders has become an unavoidable and endless battle.