

EN
E-000642/2026
Answer given by Ms Roswall
on behalf of the European Commission
(23.3.2026)

The establishments mentioned in the question are covered¹ by the Seveso Directive² (SD). The decision to relocate or remove storage tanks is within the remit of national authorities. However, the SD emphasises the need for strict land-use planning, prioritising human health and environmental protection³. Member States must ensure appropriate consultation when planning the siting or modification of establishments⁴ next to residential areas. They must conduct regular inspections⁴ and prohibit the use of facilities where serious safety deficiencies are detected⁵.

The SD requires operators to take necessary measures to prevent accidents and limit their consequences⁶. It requires that safety information and measures be communicated to local authorities⁷ and the public⁸. It stresses the importance of preparing and implementing major-accident prevention policies⁹.

Following a major accident, competent authorities must¹⁰ take necessary measures, conduct investigations, compel operators towards remedial actions, and inform affected individuals about the incident and mitigation efforts.

Without further information, the Commission cannot assess if the above-mentioned provisions of the SD have been correctly implemented and will contact the Greek authorities to investigate this further.

Regarding air quality, based on the report provided by Greece under the Ambient Air Quality Directive¹¹, only exceedances of the nitrogen dioxide limit value were recorded in 2024, in air quality zone ZON-EL0003, which includes the municipality of Perama. These exceedances are mainly linked to traffic-related sources. Data for 2025 is not available yet and will be reported in September 2026.

¹ As lower tier establishments, except for Coral which is upper tier;
<https://industry.eea.europa.eu/seveso/establishments>.

² Directive 2012/18/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 4 July 2012 on the control of major-accident hazards involving dangerous substances, amending and subsequently repealing Council Directive 96/82/EC, OJ L 197, 24.7.2012, p. 1–37.

³ Article 13(1) and (2).

⁴ Article 20.

⁵ Article 19.

⁶ Article 5.

⁷ Article 8 and 11.

⁸ Article 14.

⁹ Article 8.

¹⁰ Article 17.

¹¹ Directive 2008/50/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 May 2008 on ambient air quality and cleaner air for Europe, OJ L 152, 11.6.2008, p. 1–44.