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96 died, 486 injured in gas explosions between 2007 and 2015

July 7, 2015 today

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Today's investigations show that about ninety-six (96) persons died while 486 sustained various degree of injuries in 19 reported cases involving Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) explosions between 2007 and 2015.



This paper discovered that out of the 19 cases, nine involved industrial settings—gas stations, fuel stations and a fuel dump— while six were gas tanker crashes, with the remaining four being domestic accidents.

Today's findings further showed that more incidents were recorded in industrial settings than domestic for which reason majority of Ghanaians are calling on the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Ghana National Fire Service (GNFS), National Petroleum Authority (NPA), Town and Country Planning Department (TCPD) Ghana Atomic Energy Commission (GAEC) and Ghana Standards Authority (GSA) to take a second look at the zoning areas for LPG and fuel stations in the country.

By law, *Today* was informed that safety standards are the basic requirements for the granting of permit in siting LPG filling stations.

Our investigations further revealed that the approval for building fuel and LPG stations, required permits from the state regulatory agencies including the EPA, the Town and TCPD, the NPA and the assemblies.

For instance, *Today* observed that on the Circle-Achimota road alone, there were three LPG stations located within communities and close to fitting shops, houses, drinking spots and chop bars.

These LPG stations are Trinity Gas at Alajo, Nedrap Gas and Amoh Gas at Tesano and Apenkwa.

In the case of Nedrap Gas, *Today* observed that it was right in the middle of a chain of houses and a carpentry shop.

Also worrying were a number of fuelling stations on the Abeka-Kwashieman stretch of the N1 Highway.

And these were Universal Oil, Goil and Trinity- all sited in the middle of shopping centres and close to homes.

On the Kwashieman-Santa Maria road, Star Oil, Benab Oil and Nasoma Oil were located very close to houses, drinking spots and a church.

The guidelines for building an LPG station required that the station renewed their permits every 18 months.

That, some senior officials of EPA in Greater Accra region told *Today*, was one of the means through which the EPA used to ensure that public safety was guaranteed.

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Meanwhile, *Today* has established that the most recent action taken by the EPA in dealing with the zoning of the land size of the LPG and fueling stations were in 2011 and 2013.

In November 2011, 10 fuel filling stations in the Eastern region were closed down by the EPA for failing to obtain permits and not meeting safety requirements.

In July, 2013, the Agency closed down two gas filling stations in Kumasi in the Ashanti region because they posed a threat to the residents in the area.

The stations—Natomy Gas at Duase and Quarrtan Gas, near Mampongten—were surrounded by houses, which situation could cause havoc.

Today can report that, there has been a growing public concern in recent times over the siting of LPG and fuel stations in residential areas in Accra.

This followed the GOIL filling station explosion which occurred at Kwame Nkrumah Circle in Accra, a little over a month ago killing over 200 people and injured more others.

Source: Ghana/todaygh.com/FREEMAN KORYEKPOR AWLESU

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[Humanitarian Aid: additional €50 million to tackle drought in the Horn of Africa](#)

Language: en | Date: 2019-08-07 11:25:16

In addition, EU aid will contribute to assisting humanitarian agencies in the region to pre-emptively scale up their actions in the hardest hit areas



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Rugby – Rwanda: Resilience keen to knock out Lions de Fer in Rugby league playoffs

Language: en | Date: 2019-08-07 11:16:29

Rusizi-based Resilience RFC will throw everything they have at Lion de Fer in this year's National Rugby League semi-final playoffs on Saturday



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