**Thornhaugh Landfill Site and Cooks Hole Quarry Fact Sheet**

**Augean**

* Augean is a leader in the specialist waste management sector and delivers a broad spectrum of services for the sustainable management of hard to handle wastes. Since the acquisition of Future Industrial Services in March 2023, the Augean Group now operate 23 waste management, treatment and disposal facilities across the country, employing about 700 people at the sites and Head Office in Wetherby. The company is committed to meeting part of the UK’s waste infrastructure needs by providing environmentally sustainable and safe solutions for hazardous wastes.
* We are committed to conducting site operations in a responsible manner and are dedicated to improving services by adopting best practice to minimise the impact of the business on the environment in which we work. Standards of health, safety, environmental and quality management have been certified by the British Standards Institution. Operational performance and objectives are set out in an annual ESG Report which is available on our website. We aim to promote transparency and understanding of what we do through newsletters, regular residents’ meetings and by hosting site visits.

**Thornhaugh Landfill Site**

* Augean has owned and operated Thornhaugh Landfill Site since 2004. The 31-hectare site has planning permissions and an Environmental Permit for the disposal of stable non-reactive hazardous waste including asbestos and non- hazardous waste. Additionally, the site has planning permission and an Environmental Permit for temporary storage of Hi-pod waste containers that can accept a wide variety of separated hazardous waste streams.
* The site is an important facility for local and regional industry to dispose of stable non-reactive hazardous wastes and non-hazardous waste. It is the only landfill site in the local area that is capable of receiving these wastes.
* Stable non-reactive hazardous wastes arise principally from construction and demolition sites and land remediation. These types of waste do not change in character in the long term either by decaying or reacting with air, water or changes in temperature. They have low polluting potential. Wastes accepted for disposal at the site are deposited into landfill cells which are engineered to ensure that wastes are contained, and any occurring by-products are prevented from migrating to safeguard against any harm to human health or the environment.
* Site operations are subject to strict health and safety, environmental and quality procedures which are independently accredited and regularly audited. The site is monitored in accordance with the requirements of the Environmental Permit to ensure that the site is operated in compliance with all relevant environmental legislation. Augean reports to the EA on environmental performance in respect of landfill gas, air emissions, leachate, surface water, groundwater, dust and noise.
* Augean is not seeking planning permission for any additional landfill cells at the site or in any increase in the area of the landfill site.

**Cooks Hole Quarry**

* Adjacent to Thornhaugh Landfill Site is Cooks Hole Quarry which has also been within Augean’s ownership since 2004.
* The boundary of Cooks Hole Quarry adjoins Thornhaugh Landfill Site to the northwest and Thornhaugh II Quarry, outside Augean’s ownership, is on the southern boundary. Bedford Purlieus which is an ancient woodland designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and a National Nature Reserve (NNR) is on the western boundary of the site.
* The site has been used for mineral extraction since the 1950’s, and since the grant of planning permission to resume working the quarry in 2011, the site was leased by Augean to extract further mineral. These operations are now complete, and no further mineral will be extracted from the site.
* Cooks Hole Farmhouse, which is Grade II Listed, and its outbuildings, are in the centre of Cooks Hole Quarry, near to Thornhaugh Brook which runs through the site.
* There is a network of Public Rights of Way in the area, one of which is stopped up and another diverted until the restoration of Cooks Hole Quarry.

**The Proposed Application**

* Augean are proposing that there should be an amendment to the current separate restoration profiles for Thornhaugh Landfill Site and Cooks Hole to form one integrated, coherent landform scheme across both sites.
* The restoration of the sites will be to nature conservation interest and would extend the existing consented restoration habitats from Thornhaugh Landfill Site through to Cooks Hole so that a wider mix of habitats is available across both sites.. It is anticipated that the revised restoration scheme for Cooks Hole will deliver biodiversity net gain.
* In order to achieve the revised landform, Augean are proposing to import approximately 1 million m³ of clean, naturally occurring material such as soils and sub-soils which have been extracted as part of the existing landfill construction operations and will be extracted as part of the future construction operations for the landfill at the East Northants Resource Management Facility (ENRMF) in Kings Cliffe and as part of the landfill construction operations at Thornhaugh.
* The creation of the proposed landform will facilitate the continued operation of ENRMF, which is a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project, by utilising the material that arises during the construction of the landfill cells and without moving the material a long distance.
* There are potential community use options for Cooks Hole Farmhouse once the landfill and quarry sites are restored and options for new footpaths.
* There will be no new landfill cells in addition to those that are already permitted. The landfill will still be subject to an Environmental Permit which specifies the types waste which are permitted for deposition at the site as well as the detailed measures necessary for the containment, management and monitoring of the wastes and the surrounding environment.
* Mineral will still be excavated at Thornhaugh Landfill Site so that the landfill cells can be constructed, and stockpiling of materials brought into the site for use in landfill engineering operations will continue. Material imported for use in landfill engineering may be stockpiled on Cooks Hole Quarry.
* It will still be necessary to excavate historically deposited waste from Phases 1 and 2 at Thornhaugh Landfill Site and place it within modern engineered landfill cells in accordance with the current planning permissions and Environmental Permit.
* At Cooks Hole Quarry materials from the mineral stockpiles currently on site will be processed for use as will materials imported from construction operations at Thornhaugh.
* The single access to both sites will remain in the same location on the A47. No changes are proposed to the HGV traffic numbers already consented to use the access to the sites.
* It is anticipated that operations at both sites will be complete by early 2042.

**Community Funds**

* Many communities within a 10 mile radius of ENRMF in Northamptonshire and Thornhaugh Landfill near Peterborough have benefitted from funding from the Augean Community Fund. Since the creation of the Community Fund, more than £4.8 million worth of grants have been allocated. The ENRMF Fund was set up as part of the planning consent to accept Low Level Radioactive Waste at the site. The responsibility for the fund has been transferred to North Northamptonshire Council and has been renamed and rebranded as the Augean Revenue and Small Capital Grants Fund.