



**PRELIMINARY ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION
REPORT
NON TECHNICAL SUMMARY**

**FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER
APPLICATION FOR THE ALTERATION AND
CONSTRUCTION OF HAZARDOUS WASTE AND LOW
LEVEL RADIOACTIVE WASTE FACILITIES AT THE EAST
NORTHANTS RESOURCE MANAGEMENT FACILITY,
STAMFORD ROAD, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE**

PINS project reference: WS010005

**Report Reference: AU/KCW/LZH/1724/01/PEIRNTS
October 2020**



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Introduction

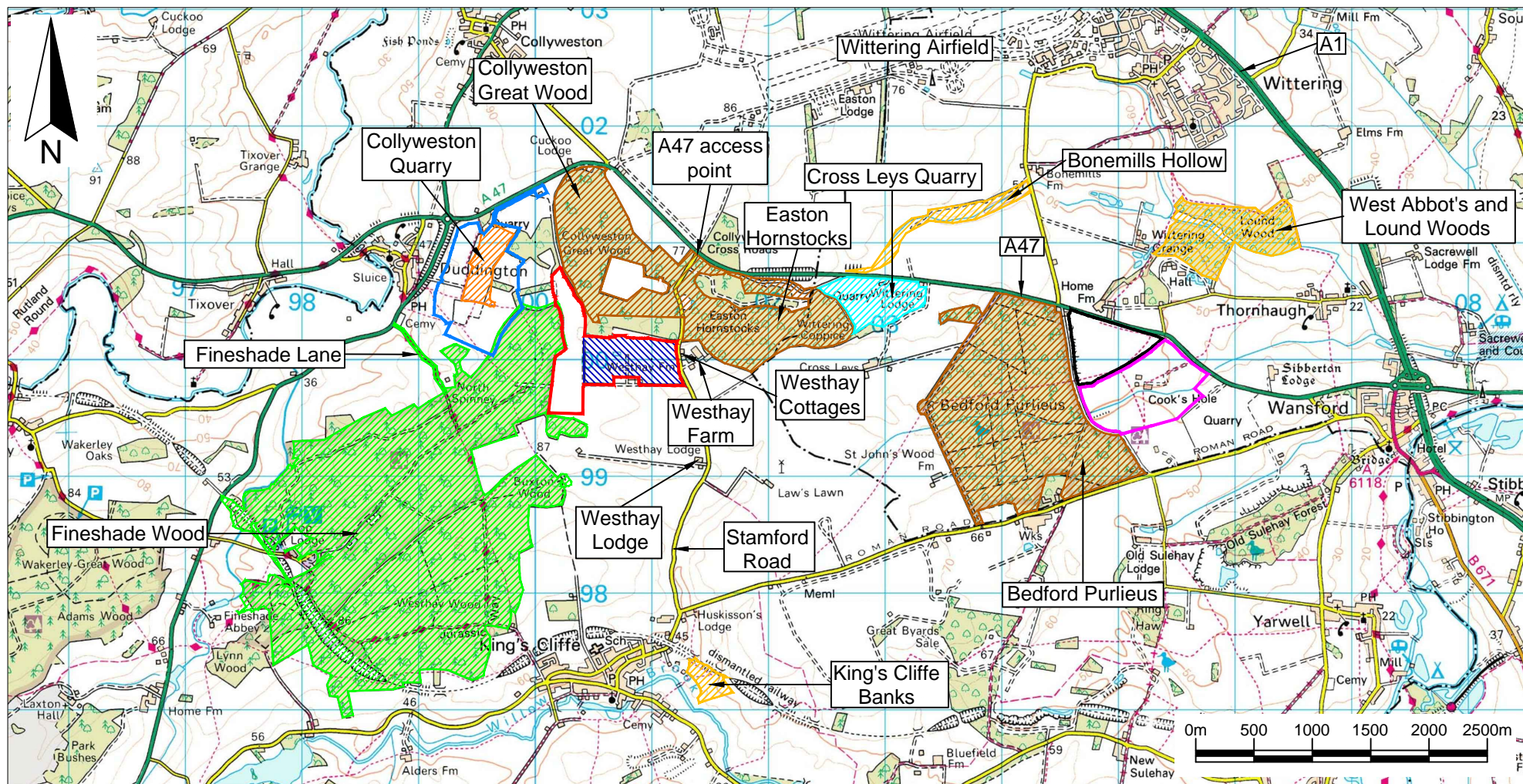
Augean South Ltd (Augean) is the operator of the East Northants Resource Management Facility (ENRMF) in Northamptonshire (Figure NTS1). The ENRMF site is an established operational landfill site which accepts hazardous waste and low level radioactive waste (LLW). The site also includes an established waste treatment and recovery facility (Figure NTS2).

The facilities at ENRMF are an acknowledged part of the nationally significant infrastructure for the management of hazardous waste and LLW and as such it serves more than just a local need. The site receives wastes generated primarily in the centre and south of the UK. The need for specialist facilities to serve these areas of the country will continue beyond the currently consented operational period for the site which extends to 2026. The overarching purpose of this application and the proposed development is to continue to meet that established need beyond the consented life of the current site. It is important that the proposals satisfy all relevant legal, policy and regulatory considerations and that they make sure that people and the environment are properly protected in the short, medium and long term. The proposals also must be commercially viable and provide business security.

The ENRMF site is the subject of a Development Consent Order (DCO) which was granted in July 2013 and amended in June 2018. In order to secure continuity of its operations beyond the end date for the current consent of 31 December 2026, Augean is proposing to submit an application for a new DCO for an extension in the area and timescales for the operation of the site including an extension to the west of the existing site and increasing the throughput of the waste treatment and recovery facility. This document is part of a number of documents which are being provided to inform a consultation process before the application is finalised and submitted. It is anticipated that the application for the DCO will be finalised and submitted in late Spring 2021.

Augean is a leader in the specialist waste management sector. The company delivers a broad range of services across many nationally important areas for the safe and sustainable management of waste. The company specialises in the management of the UK's more difficult to manage wastes including hazardous waste and low level radioactive waste.

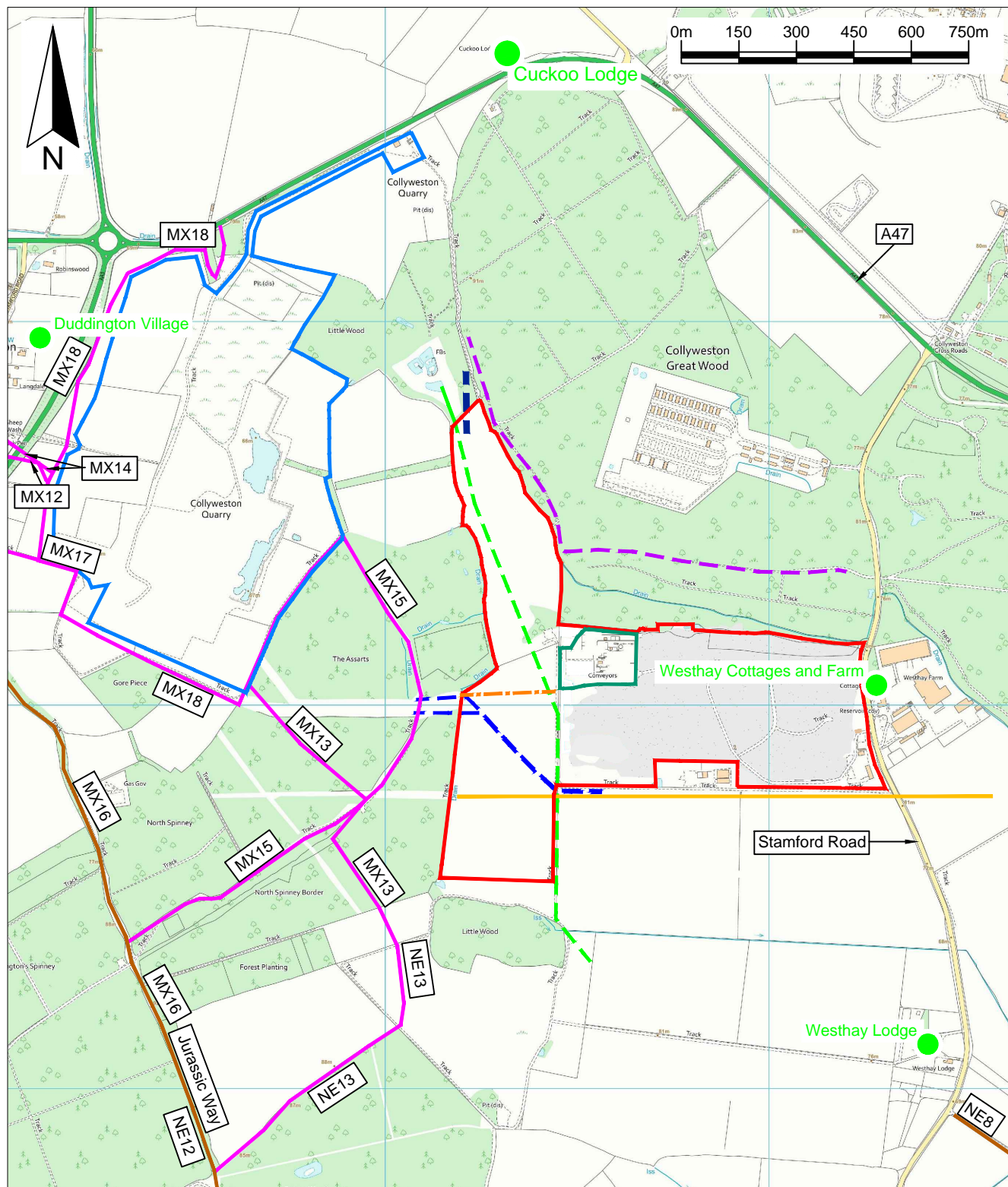
Augean is carrying out an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) of the proposal. As part of this pre-application consultation a Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) has been prepared to explain the potentially significant



Key / Notes

	Approximate boundary of the area the subject of the application for the Development Consent Order		Boundary of Thornhaugh Landfill Site		Approximate location of a Local Geological site		Approximate location of a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and a National Nature Reserve (NNR)
	Area of the existing East Northants Resource Management Facility		Approximate boundary of Collyweston Quarry		Approximate location of a Local Wildlife Site		Approximate location of a Regionally Important Geological Site
	Boundary of Cooks Hole Quarry		Approximate location of a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)				

Figure NTS 1 : The site location and designated sites in the vicinity of ENRMF



Key / Notes













- | | | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|---|--|
|  | Approximate boundary of the area the subject of the application for the Development Consent Order |  | Approximate route of water pipelines |  | Approximate location of a high pressure gas pipeline |
|  | Approximate boundary of Collyweston Quarry |  | Approximate route of an oil pipeline |  | Bridleways |
|  | The approximate area of the proposed extended waste treatment and recovery facility and storage area |  | Approximate route of overhead electricity cables |  | Footpaths |
| | |  | Redundant and closed MOD pipeline |  | Approximate route of a disused water pipeline |
| | | | |  | Approximate location of noise monitoring points |

Figure NTS 2: The proposed western extension area

impacts and benefits of the proposed development. The purpose of this consultation is to seek views on this information from the local community as well as prescribed statutory consultees. The PEIR presents the environmental information collected to date and provides an initial assessment of the likely significant environmental effects.

Once the assessment work is complete Augean will submit an Environmental Statement (ES) with the DCO application. The ES will report on the likely significant environmental effects of the proposals identified in the EIA, the appropriate mitigation measures to be put in place where necessary and any residual effects. There will be further opportunities for reviewing and commenting on the development proposals once the application has been submitted.

Augean has been operating at ENRMF for 16 years and has well established means of ongoing communication and consultation with the community local to the site through a site Liaison Group, circulation of periodic newsletters and regular open days. The company values the relationships that have been built with the local community and sees consultation and public engagement as a constant process. Augean intends for this pre-application consultation to be transparent, inclusive and accessible. The consultation details are set out in a Statement of Community Consultation

which is available for review here <https://www.augeanplc.com/enrmf-planning/>

This document summarises in non-technical language the information in the PEIR. The details of where a copy of the complete report can be reviewed is provided at the end of this summary.

In the relevant sections of the PEIR the options and alternatives that have been considered during the process which led to the selection of the western extension area and the development of the current extension proposals are explained. This includes assessment of the suitability of the site location and the identification of the constraints which affect the design of the development. The consequent choices that have been made with respect to the design of the proposed operations, the containment engineering design, the restoration profile hence the void generated, the operational and management proposals and the design of the restored site are explained. The design parameters which are fixed at this stage are identified in the relevant sections of the report as are those which are subject to further refinement and where options are still being considered.

This consultation will provide an important opportunity for all consultees including the local community to engage and help inform aspects of the

design of the proposed development. Responses to the consultation will be taken into account before finalising the proposals and submitting an application for a DCO to the Secretary of State.

Site location and description

The application boundary for the development lies approximately 1.1km east south east of Duddington village and approximately 2km north north west of Kings Cliffe village at its closest points (Figure NTS1). The setting is generally rural with the majority of the land surrounding the site comprising open farmland or woodland.

The established ENRMF site comprises the active landfill site including restored and partially restored landfill areas together with the waste treatment and recovery facility and material stockpiles. A consented area for surface water management and a gas management compound including a flare stack is located in the north western corner of the current site. Site infrastructure including the site access, weighbridge and waste reception facilities, car parking areas, site offices, welfare facilities, storage areas, laboratories and wheel and vehicle body washing facilities are located in the south east area of the site (Figure NTS2). The site access and infrastructure will be retained for continued use with the proposed development.

The existing highway access to the ENRMF site is from Stamford Road which runs adjacent to the eastern boundary of the site from the A47 to the north. Waste delivery and collection vehicles using the site access are not permitted to travel to the south of the site access on Stamford Road towards the village of Kings Cliffe unless they are collecting wastes generated locally. Consented improvements to widen the site access are being implemented currently and will be in place within the next few months. The existing highway access to ENRMF will continue to be used for the proposed development.

The current landfill comprises 11 phases of landfilling which are being progressively extracted, engineered, filled, capped and restored. The waste treatment and recovery facility is located in the north western corner of the site and will be removed from the site prior to the development of the final phases of landfilling. The waste treatment and recovery facility comprises a series of storage silos, material feed hoppers, transfer conveyors and closed mixing vessels as well as storage areas for wastes awaiting treatment and for treated wastes awaiting removal.

The extension area lies to the west of the current landfill as shown on Figure NTS1 and Figure NTS3. The proposed western extension area currently comprises agricultural land with grassy margins. A hedgerow crosses the area



Key / Notes

— Approximate boundary of the area the subject of the application for the Development Consent Order

Figure NTS 3: Aerial photograph of the site and surrounding area in 2019

dividing it into two and there is a small area of young scrubby woodland in the south east corner of the northern area. The western extension is bordered by woodland and arable fields.

There are scattered properties within 1km of the application area. The closest properties to the application area are the properties at Westhay Cottages located approximately 25m to the east of the application boundary and 815m east of the proposed new landfill area. Westhay Farm is located approximately 75m east of the application boundary and is operated as a haulage yard and a farm with associated agricultural and commercial buildings. A cleared area in the centre of the woodlands located to the north of the existing site was used formerly by the Ministry of Defence for storage associated with the Wittering Airfield and now has permission for development as a storage and transport facility. The boundary of the operational training airfield at RAF Wittering and associated buildings and accommodation is located approximately 840m to the north north east of the application boundary at its closest point.

To the south of the application boundary is open agricultural land and the nearest property is Westhay Lodge located approximately 650m to the south of the current site boundary. The area of agricultural land to the south of the extension area is bordered to the south by woodland known as Little

Wood (Figure NTS 3). To the west of the majority of the application boundary is woodland known as Fineshade Wood part of which is known as The Assarts and which is a Local Wildlife Site (Figure NTS2). A short length of the western boundary of the northern area is adjacent to agricultural fields. The northern boundary of the western extension area is formed of woodland with a field beyond in which a number of ponds have been created. The eastern boundary of the northern section of the western extension area is adjacent to Collyweston Great Wood. To the east and north east of the application area beyond Collyweston Great Wood and east of Stamford Road is an area of woodland known as Easton Hornstocks. Parts of the Collyweston Great Wood and Easton Hornstocks comprise a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and a National Nature Reserve (NNR) (Figure NTS1).

Based on the Environment Agency Flood Map the application site is located in Flood Zone 1 which is defined as land having a less than 1 in 1,000 (ie low) annual probability of river or sea flooding.

No public rights of way cross the application area (Figure NTS2). Footpath MX15 which is located approximately 100m to the west of the boundary of the application area at its closest point runs in a north westerly and south westerly direction through The Assarts woodland and connects

into the wider public rights of way network. The Jurassic Way bridleway (NE12) is located approximately 845m to the west of the application area at its closest point (Figure NTS2).

There are a number of services in the vicinity of the western extension area including some which cross the site as shown on Figure NTS2. A mains gas pipeline runs parallel to the southern boundary of the existing ENRMF site and crosses the western extension area in an east to west direction. Overhead power lines run along the western boundary of the current landfill area before turning in a north westerly direction across the northern section of the western extension area. Two water pipelines cross the northern part of the southern section of the western extension area. There are also sections of redundant, closed out pipelines present in some parts of the site. An oil pipeline is located in the woodland to the east of the eastern boundary of the northern section of the western extension area.

The proposals

The main elements of the proposed development are summarised below:

- The construction of new landfill void for the continued disposal of hazardous wastes and low level radioactive waste (LLW) with a total additional void of approximately 2 million cubic metres.
- A proposal for a coherent landform for the restoration of the existing landfill and the proposed extension.
- The winning and working of minerals in the western extension area in order to create the new landfill void and provide extracted materials for use on site as well as the exportation of clay and overburden for use in engineering, restoration and general fill at other sites.
- The temporary stockpiling of clay, overburden and soils for use in the construction of the engineered containment system at the site and restoration of the site.
- The direct input of waste into the landfill will continue at a rate of up to 150,000 tonnes per annum (tpa).
- An increase to the waste throughput of the waste treatment and recovery facility to 250,000tpa which is an increase of 50,000tpa compared with the currently consented rate.
- A total waste importation rate limit to the site for both the landfill and the waste treatment and recovery facility and landfill of 300,000tpa which is an increase of 50,000tpa compared with the currently consented total input rate.
- The LLW which will continue to be disposed of at the ENRMF will be limited to that which typically has a level of radioactivity of up to 200 Bq/g.
- The diversion of some of the services that cross the western extension to alternative routes within the application area.

- The operational hours of the site will not change from those already permitted.
- Restoration of the whole site to generally domed profiles to create a coherent restored landform. The restored site will be planted with wildflower grassland interspersed with areas of scrub and trees. (Figure NTS4).
- Completion of the landfilling and restoration operations by December 2046. This is a provisional completion date that will be updated as part of the ongoing detailed design works and confirmed in the DCO application.

Need for the proposals

The site lies in the south eastern corner of the East Midlands region and is geographically close to the West Midlands, East of England, Greater London and South Eastern regions. Over 80% of the waste accepted at the waste treatment plant and over 95% of the waste accepted at the site for landfill disposal over the last five years originates from these five regions. The majority of the waste deposited in the landfill comprises residues from the on site treatment plant.

No new hazardous waste landfill facilities have been developed in the south of the country since the proposals for the currently consented activities was authorised. Based on the data on waste arisings there is a continuing

need for the provision of a waste management facility for the treatment and disposal of hazardous waste able to serve the wastes arising in the West Midlands, East Midlands, East of England, South East and Greater London.

The ENRMF is centrally located for the wastes arising at the locations of the major LLW waste producers in the south and east of the country. The location of the site is well placed to serve the producers of LLW from the nuclear and non-nuclear industries. ENRMF will continue to provide a closer and more convenient alternative for the disposal arisings than the more distant alternative facilities in the north west. The need for a fit-for-purpose site for the landfill disposal of LLW from both the nuclear and non-nuclear industries in a central location that will contribute to the national need for capacity to address the identified shortfall. The site also serves to conserve the capacity of the highly specialised facility in the north west of the country which is designed to accept much higher activity LLW than that accepted at ENRMF.

There is a clear need also for the provision of continuity of waste treatment and recovery facilities to serve the West Midlands, East Midlands, East of England, South East and Greater London.



- KEY**
- 80m
 - PROPOSED RESTORATION CONTOURS (At 1m AOD intervals)
 - EXISTING FOOTPATH
 - PROPOSED FOOTPATH
 - PROPOSED 4m WIDE TRACK FOR SITE AFTERCARE/MAINTENANCE
 - PROPOSED LOCALLY NATIVE BROADLEAVED WOODLAND
 - PROPOSED SCRUB/NATURAL REGENERATION BROADLEAVED WOODLAND WITHIN GRASSLAND AREAS
 - PROPOSED INDIVIDUAL TREE OR SMALL TREE GROUP
 - EXISTING HEDGEROW REINFORCED WITH TREES/SHRUBS
 - PROPOSED HEDGEROW
 - PROPOSED HEDGEROW WITH TREES
 - EXISTING AGRICULTURAL LAND TO REMAIN AS UNDISTURBED STANDOFF, TO PROVIDE A NUMBER OF ECOLOGICAL FUNCTIONS
 - EXISTING SPECIES-RICH NEUTRAL/CALCAREOUS GRASSLAND TO BE RETAINED
 - PROPOSED NEUTRAL/CALCAREOUS GRASSLAND (Depending on soil type)
 - EXISTING POND TO BE RETAINED
 - PROPOSED POND (With surrounding marshy vegetation where possible)

Figure NTS 4

Client **Augean SOUTH LTD**

Site **EAST NORTHANTS RESOURCE MANAGEMENT FACILITY**

Project **PROPOSED WESTERN EXTENSION**

Drawing Title **THE PRELIMINARY PROPOSALS FOR THE RESTORATION SCHEME FOR THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT**

Date **SEPTEMBER 2020** Drawing No. **Figure NTS4**

Scale **NTS @ A4**

File Ref **2009_008_006 Figure NTS4** Revision **0**

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The continuing implementation of the hierarchy of waste management options means that the need for capacity for the treatment of hazardous and non-hazardous waste increases over time while the need for capacity for the direct landfill of waste is likely to decrease although the need for the landfill of residues will remain. The 2010 Strategy for Hazardous Waste Management and the NPS for Hazardous Waste recognise that for waste where there is no better recovery or treatment option landfill is the final end point.

The Government LLW policy recognises that for wastes that cannot be prevented, further minimised, diverted for recycling or re-used, final disposal is the end point for all LLW. The disposal of LLW is therefore the last option available to LLW producers where no other options are viable. There is a continuing need for LLW wastes which cannot be managed at a point higher in the waste hierarchy to be consigned for landfill disposal.

Environmental issues

Detailed investigations and assessments are being carried out of the potential effects of the development on people and the environment by technical specialists in a number of different areas. The preliminary results of the assessments are reported in the Preliminary Environmental Information

Report (PEIR) and a summary of those findings is presented here.

The extensive control measures that form an important and integral part of the proposals to prevent or minimise the effects of the proposed development on the environment and people are described in the PEIR. In addition to a DCO, the operations at the site will be controlled through Environmental Permits which are regulated by the Environment Agency.

The Environment Agency is the regulator with responsibility for pollution control and for ensuring the safety of the public and the environment as a result of the proposed development, the Health and Safety Executive is responsible for overseeing the safety of the site workers and the Department for Transport is responsible for safety during transportation.

Potential impacts on human health

The potential for direct and indirect effects on the health of people living and working around the site has been assessed.

The nature of the activities and the wastes accepted at the site will not change significantly and, while they will take place over a larger area overall, the active area and intensity of operations at any one time will not be significantly different to the currently consented activities.

The potential impacts of non-radiological and radiological effects on people and the environment have been assessed as part of the process for granting the current DCO and Environmental Permits for the current hazardous waste and LLW landfill site and the waste treatment and recovery facility. The acceptability of the impacts associated with the non-radiological and radiological effects of the current activities at the current locations has been confirmed by the granting of these consents. The detailed risk assessments will be reviewed and extended as part of the applications for variations to the Environmental Permits for the site to extend them to include the western extension area and the proposed changes to the activities if a DCO is granted for the proposed development.

The principles of the design of the engineered containment and the leachate and gas management infrastructure of the landfill site will remain and will be extended to the proposed western extension area. The principles of the phasing of the landfilling and restoration activities will remain and will be extended to the western extension area. The methods of operation and control of the waste treatment and recovery facility will remain the same.

There are three essential elements to assessing risk associated with emissions:

- a contaminant source which has the potential to cause harm to human health or the environment;
- a receptor which in general terms is something that could be affected adversely by the contaminant such as people, a water body or an ecological system; and
- a pathway or route by which a receptor can be exposed to and affected by the contaminant.

Each of the elements can exist independently but a risk can be present only where they are linked together so that a contaminant can affect a receptor by a pathway. The identification of risk in this way is referred to as the source-pathway- receptor methodology and the linked combination of contaminant-pathway-receptor is referred to as a pollutant linkage or exposure pathway. In order to understand and assess the potential risks associated with a proposed development it is necessary to identify the potential exposure pathways associated with emissions from the facility and to assess the effects that may result from the identified exposures.

A number of possible pathways which might have the potential to expose people to contaminants which might affect their health have been identified and are assessed through risk assessments including for routine as well as unexpected events (accidents). The risk assessments demonstrate that the potential exposure pathways can be

controlled such that emissions remain below threshold limits that are set for the protection of people and the environment. The full and detailed risk assessments that will be provided with the Environmental Permit applications will be scrutinised robustly by the Environment Agency and Environmental Permits will not be issued unless the Environment Agency is satisfied that the site can be operated safely and that the health of those living and working at or near the site is protected.

The potential impacts associated with the continuation of the operation of the consented and extended landfill and waste treatment and recovery facility to 2046 are similar to those for the current site operations but will be present over a longer time.

The ENRMF will continue to be monitored and regulated through Environmental Permits to confirm that it is operating in compliance with all appropriate standards. The results of the monitoring will continue to be made available on the company web site to provide confidence that the site is being managed effectively.

Ecology and biodiversity

Numerous ecological surveys have been carried out at the site and further ecological surveys are currently being undertaken. The following aspects of the proposed western extension area

have been identified as being ecologically important features:

- The habitats and plant communities that provide habitat for important species including amphibians, reptiles, badgers and invertebrates.
- The amphibian and reptile populations.
- Bats, particularly in the adjacent woodlands.
- Badgers.
- The invertebrate populations particularly species using the interface between the site and the woodland at the site margins.

The detailed design of the extension area is currently being developed taking into account the findings from the ecology surveys and initial consideration of effects. Measures to protect the ecology on site will be included in the detailed design of the development. The majority of the extension site area is agricultural land which typically has a low level of biodiversity. The restoration of the site is being designed to provide significant biodiversity gain.

The preliminary design of the proposed restoration is shown on Figure NTS4 and incorporates neutral/calcareous wildflower grassland interspersed with areas of scrub and trees which in time will extend naturally to provide more extensive woodland cover with glades and rides. The scheme also incorporates an extensive network of hedgerows with occasional trees, which would link areas of vegetation and mark field boundaries as well as delineating the route of a maintenance track along

which a new footpath would extend. Other footpath routes would provide circular walks and would link with other public rights of way in the local area.

Waterbodies will be incorporated into the design at locations at the base of the raised landfill areas once the site drainage scheme has been developed. The restoration scheme principles follow those agreed for the current site which were designed in discussion with the Northants Wildlife Trust in order to match their requirements for adoption as a Local Wildlife Site and to meet several of the Northamptonshire Biodiversity Action Plan habitat creation targets.

With the planned avoidance, protection and mitigation measures in place it is considered that there will be no significant adverse impacts on biodiversity throughout the operational stage of the proposed development and there will be a large positive net gain in biodiversity on completion of restoration.

Landscape and visual impacts

A landscape and visual impact assessment has been carried out. The existing visibility of the site has been determined and the effects on landscape features, landscape character and visual receptors at different stages of the proposed development have been assessed.

The assessment concludes that there will be no significant impacts on landscape features and character as a result of the proposed development during the mineral extraction, cell construction and infilling stages. The assessment concludes that there will be significant beneficial impacts as a result of the proposed restoration of the site.

The site location is generally visually enclosed. There may be partial distant views of the infilling operations in the southern part of the western extension area which might result in effects on the visual amenity of the residents of Westhay Lodge. After the restoration stage the significance of any visual effects will be beneficial due to the restoration of the site and the establishment of woodland and scrub vegetation which will merge well with the adjacent woodland.

Soil resources and agriculture

An assessment of the impacts on soil resources has been prepared. A survey has been undertaken to establish the quality of the soil. The soils in the main part of the western extension area are classified as Grade 3b whilst the soils in the northern part of the western extension area are classified as Grade 3a which is considered as best and most versatile agricultural land.

As the site will be restored to nature conservation habitats and it is not

proposed to return the site to agricultural land there will be a permanent loss of approximately 6 hectares of best and most versatile agricultural land and a loss of approximately 20 hectares of lower quality agricultural land although this will be given over to nature conservation. All the soils will be stripped and retained on site using procedures designed to protect the soil structure and all the soils will be replaced and reused in the site restoration.

Archaeology and cultural heritage

A desk based study including an assessment of archaeological potential and the potential impacts on the setting of cultural heritage assets has been undertaken. A geophysical survey has been undertaken of the proposed western extension area to identify any features of potential archaeological interest. The geophysical survey found little that can be described as of archaeological interest with any certainty. Trial trenching is currently being undertaken in the western extension area to verify the findings of the geophysical survey and identify any features of archaeological interest which may be present below ground.

There is no surviving archaeology within the existing ENRMF site as all areas of the site have been disturbed and were subject to previous investigation and recording.

The preliminary conclusion is that the proposed development will have neutral, negligible or no significant effects on cultural heritage and archaeology.

Water resources

An initial assessment of potential impacts on geology, hydrology and hydrogeology has been carried out. A detailed site investigation has been carried out with the drilling of numerous site investigation and monitoring boreholes to establish the geology and hydrogeology of the western extension area. A swallow hole is present to the north west of the current landfill site and there is evidence of other solution features in the limestone geology (dolines). The area of the dolines has been investigated using geophysical surveys. Subject to further investigations into these areas, the extent of the proposed landfill will be adjusted to make sure that the engineered base and sides of the containment landfill will be suitably stable and that the containment system will provide suitable protection to the quality of the groundwater underlying the site. Consistent with the principles of the current site design, at least 2m of natural low permeability strata will be left in place below the base of the engineered landfill and above the limestone strata underlying the site.

Based on the proposed measures for the design of the containment engineering and the control measures that will be incorporated into the design, it is concluded that there will be no significant impact on groundwater quality or flow beneath the site or at receptors nearby as a consequence of the proposed void extension. The quality of the groundwater will be monitored routinely to confirm that the landfill is functioning as predicted by the risk assessments which will be carried out as part of the Environmental Permit application.

Surface water from areas around the site will be collected in and channelled away from and around the landfill areas in a series of ditches. During the operational period all water on site which is in contact with wastes and which has the potential to be contaminated is retained on site. Collected site surface water is used for dust suppression, in wheel washes and in the waste treatment plant in place of mains water.

Following restoration of the site the runoff from the filled, capped and restored areas will be integrated with the surrounding ditches and additional ponds will be provided in accordance with a restoration surface water management plan which will be prepared and agreed with the Environment Agency.

Flood risk assessment

A preliminary assessment of the potential impacts of the proposed development on surface water flow and flood risk near to the site has been carried out. The site is located in an area which is not considered to be at a significant risk of flooding from rivers or the sea.

The design of the proposed surface water management scheme for the site will include the necessary provisions for climate change in particular the predicted increase in frequency and intensity of rainfall storm events. It is considered that based on the implementation of an effective surface water management plan the proposed development can be undertaken without increasing the risk of flooding at or in the vicinity of the site.

Transport and traffic

The traffic numbers associated with the currently consented activities at the site are being reviewed to confirm whether there will be any significant changes in the estimated average numbers of HGVs using the site as a result of the proposed development. In the assessment for the current site activities which was carried out to support the application for the current DCO, it was estimated that the average number of HGV vehicle movements associated with the combined activities that was assessed was 196 per day (98 movements in and 98 movements out).

The combined activities include the importation of waste, the exportation of some treated wastes and the exportation of overburden and clay during the periods of mineral excavation and landfill cell development. The assumed probable number of movements is unlikely to change significantly as a result of this application but the final assessment will be based on the detailed design of the phasing of the mineral excavation works which is being carried out currently. It was concluded in the current DCO application that there would be no adverse impact on highway safety or capacity as a result of the operation of the landfill and treatment facility. It is considered that provided the number of vehicle movements do not change significantly, this conclusion remains valid.

Noise

A preliminary assessment of the noise impact of the proposed operations at the nearest sensitive receptors has been carried out. Due to the coronavirus pandemic it has not yet been possible to carry out representative background noise monitoring as activities in the vicinity have not yet returned to normal. In the meantime, it has been agreed with the Local Authority that background noise monitoring data obtained during 2011 can be used as an estimate of current background noise levels.

Noise predictions have been made using calculations. The results of the preliminary assessment suggest that there will be no significant or unacceptable adverse impacts at noise-sensitive premises in the vicinity as a result of the proposed operations.

Air quality

The potential impacts of the proposed development on local air quality which have the potential to affect human health have been assessed. The potential impacts as a result of odour associated with the proposed development have also been assessed.

The site is not located in an air quality management area which means that national air quality objectives are being met.

The monitoring of air quality and gas in the ground at the site is undertaken routinely in accordance with the Environmental Permit to confirm that there are no significant adverse impacts. This will continue for the proposed western extension area.

Based on the control measures which will continue to be implemented it is considered that the generation of fine airborne particulates as a result of the extraction and stockpiling of soils, clay and overburden will have no significant impact on air quality in the locality. It is considered that the proposed time extension and increase in throughput of the waste treatment and recovery

facility will have negligible impact on air quality in the locality. It is considered that the restoration of the site will have a negligible impact on air quality at the site.

The wastes that are accepted at the site for landfill and treatment have a low level of organic carbon which means they have a limited potential for biodegradation hence a limited potential for the generation of gases or vapours. The wastes have a limited potential to generate odour. Based on the proposed continuation of the current controls including those that will be specified and implemented through the Environmental Permits, and based on the nature of the current and proposed wastes accepted at the site it is considered that there will be no significant impacts on air quality including impacts associated with odour as a result of the site activities.

Amenity

The potential effects on amenity of dust, mud on the road and lighting have been assessed.

If no dust control measures were implemented there would be the potential for a negligible to moderate adverse effects associated with impacts from dust on nearby receptors. However dust emissions will continue to be controlled effectively as part of the proposed development using a range of control measures. The effectiveness of dust control will be confirmed through

regular dust monitoring at locations on the boundary of the site as specified in the Environmental Permit.

Based on the wheel cleaning facilities and the proposed cleaning and maintenance regime on the site and the adjacent Stamford Road, the risk of nuisance from the proposed development associated with mud and debris on the local road network is low.

The lighting at the site is located in key areas at the main reception and office areas as well as the treatment facility for both security and health and safety considerations. Mobile lighting is used on the operational landfill area when needed. With the exception of security lighting the lighting will only be used during periods of low light and darkness when the site is operational and all lighting will be directed downwards to minimise the impact.

It is considered that there will not be an unacceptable impact on amenity as a result of the continued use of lighting as part of the proposed development.

Socio economic impacts

An assessment of the socio economic impacts of the proposed development has been carried out.

The proposed development provides the continued opportunity for a significant national and regional socio-economic benefit by supporting the

need of businesses and other activities for the safe treatment of wastes and the safe disposal of hazardous wastes and LLW. In addition the continuation of activities at the site will result in a further significant positive contribution to the local economy and provide substantial support to the function of the local villages and to local community and educational activities.

Based on the absence of evidence of adverse socio economic impacts and the evident beneficial impacts of the existing operations at ENRMF as set out in the PEIR, it is concluded that the proposed development will not give rise to any adverse socio-economic impacts on the local community.

The continued provision of safe, sustainable and cost effective waste management facilities will provide a beneficial socio-economic impact to local, regional and national businesses. The presence of the site and the Augean business will continue to support and make contributions to the local community.

Conclusions

The cumulative impacts of all the aspects of the collective proposals have been taken into account in the assessments of impacts on people and the environment. Based on the assessments carried out to date the findings indicate that there will be no unacceptable adverse effects on

human health or the environment in the short, medium or long term.

Availability of the full reports and consultation information

The statutory consultation will take place between 26 October and 14 December 2020. Copies of the documents, plans and maps will be available from 26 October 2020 online at <https://www.augeanplc.com/enrmf-planning/>

A consultation pack can also be provided in hard copy on request from ENRMF@augeanconsultation.co.uk or the telephone helpline 01904 654989. Hard copies of the full PEIR document are available for review at the site by arrangement. A reasonable copying charge of £150 for the full suite of documents will apply for hard copies and £5 for an electronic copy on a memory stick.

Any representations on the Proposed Application should be made by 14 December 2020 in writing to the ENRMF Project Office, 52 The Tannery, Lawrence Street, York YO10 3WH or by email:

ENRMF@augeanconsultation.co.uk

Comments can also be submitted via the website or the telephone helpline 01904 654989.