ENVIRONMENTAL PERMIT VARIATION APPLICATION
HYDROGEOLOGICAL RISK ASSESSMENT

SKELBROOKE QUARRY EXTENSION
STRAIGHT LANE
SKELBROOKE
DONCASTER
SOUTH YORKSHIRE
DN6 8LY

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SKELBROOKE QUARRY EXTENSION, STRAIGHT LANE, SKELBROOKE, DONCASTER

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ENVIRONMENTAL PERMIT (REF.: CP3994ZR) VARIATION APPLICATION

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CONTENTS

LIST OF DRAWINGS

WR7640/10/ESSD5	Skelbrooke Quarry Extension Area, Restoration Plan
WR7640/10/HRA1	Skelbrooke Quarry Extension Area, Hydrogeological Conceptual Site Model
WR7640/10/HRA2	Skelbrooke Quarry Extension Area, Proposed Environmental Monitoring Plan

LIST OF APPENDICES

LIST OF TABLES

LIST OF FIGURES

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Scope & Background

1.1.1 Sirius Environmental Limited (Sirius) has been commissioned by Darrington Quarries Limited ('DQL'), part of the FCC group of companies, to prepare an Environmental Permit Variation Application for the Environmental Permit: EPR/CP3994ZR to support a revised scheme of restoration for the former quarry at Skelbrooke Landfill Extension, Skelbrooke, Doncaster. DQL are seeking to commence an alternative restoration scheme for the extension area (primarily in response to safety concerns) which will bring the ground levels within the flooded area to above that of current water levels within the void. This will also aid in surface water management for the wider restored quarry and landfill.

1.1.2 The original Hydrogeological Conceptual Model and Risk Assessment were prepared in April 2000 (SLR, 2000) and consisted of a Hydrogeological (Regulation 15) Risk Assessment. Subsequent to the 2000 Hydrogeological Risk Assessment (HRA), a separate HRA was prepared in June 2003 (SLR, 2003) to support the original PPC application for the adjacent Skelbrooke Landfill facility (Cells 1-6).

1.1.3 Due to the fact that infilling operations never commenced in the Skelbrooke Landfill Site Extension Area, that authorisation to accept material for deposition in the Skelbrooke Extension Area was removed in 2007 and that the Skelbrooke Quarry Extension Area was varied into Closure in 2015 no subsequent Hydrogeological Risk Assessment Reviews (HRARs) have been undertaken. However, periodical reviews of the HRA have also been carried in August 2007 (SLR, 2007), 2013 (FCC, 2013) and September 2019 (TerraConsult, 2019). All periodic HRA reviews were supported by a detailed review of the hydrogeological regime surrounding the Skelbrooke Landfill Site (including the Skelbrooke Extension Area), the assessment of leachate, groundwater and surface water quality, and the derivation of new/revised groundwater compliance points and leachate levels (where appropriate).

1.1.4 This HRAR builds upon the existing conceptual model to incorporate the proposed deposit of selected suitable wastes within the quarry void. The wastes to be deposited within the void will be of a quality in which there is sufficient dilution within the aquifer to prevent the discernible discharge of hazardous substances and limit the discharge of non-hazardous pollutants to prevent pollution. The primary source of material to be deposited will be non-hazardous materials with a low pollution potential, including soils from local greenfield or low-risk brownfield development sites will also be considered. In order protect local ground water quality, site specific waste acceptance criteria (WAC) has been derived for wastes to be placed below the water table and up to 2m form final levels, with acceptance criteria for restoration soils to be deposited within the final 2m based on Soil Screening Values (SSVs) derived using ATRISK Guidance prepare by Atkins.

2.0 UPDATE AND REVIEW OF CONCEPTUAL SITE MODEL

2.1 Source

Site Design and Construction

2.1.1 The Skelbrooke Landfill Extension is located in an area in which extensive mineral extraction has taken place. It is developed within a historic Permian Magnesian Limestone quarry approximately 7.5km northwest of Doncaster and approximately 1km to the west of the A1(T). Extraction operations in the area extend through the Magnesian Limestone and into the Permian Marl with basal void elevations ranging from 16mAOD to 20mAOD.

2.1.2 Planning consent for mineral extraction and restoration of the Skelbrooke Extension Area was originally granted by Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council in 1998 (Ref.: 96/50/1641/9/MIN). The original scheme of restoration allowed for the landfilling of "controlled wastes, but excluding special wastes", and allowed for 25% settlement.

2.1.3 In 2005, planning consent (Ref.: 03/7149/P) was issued approving a revised scheme of restoration for the extension area. This revised scheme incorporated a low-level restoration profile that would be completed with suitable non-degradable fill materials.

2.1.4 Following the issuing of planning consent in 1998, the Skelbrooke Extension Area obtained authorisation for the disposal of biodegradable wastes in engineered cells under the Waste Management Licensing Regulations 1994 in July 2001 (Licence Ref.: EAWML65052) which was subsequently updated to Environmental Permit EPR/CP3994ZR. However, no cells have been engineered within the Skelbrooke Extension area to date and therefore no wastes have been deposited.

2.1.5 In 2007, the permit/licence was modified to remove conditions allowing the acceptance of waste at the site, with the exception of waste to support landfill restoration activities (where appropriate), subject to prior written agreement with the Environment Agency. No such agreements were requested, and no wastes were therefore deposited at the site.

2.1.6 In January 2015, an EA initiated variation to the permit was determined to close the facility since when no wastes have been permitted for disposal at the site. A Closure Plan (Doc. Ref.: 1776/R/025/1) dated October 2014 was incorporated into the permit as part of this variation.

2.1.7 Due to the absence of waste deposition activities and the associated development of engineered cells within the Skelbrooke Extension Area, it is considered that the base and sidewall of the Skelbrooke Extension Area consists of exposures of the surrounding country rock which consist of Magnesian Limestone and Permian Marl and that no leachate collection infrastructure or capping system has been installed.

2.1.8 Furthermore, the material for deposition within the Skelbrooke Extension area is to be of a nature that presents a pollution potential that is less than, or equal to, the natural quality of the surrounding geology/groundwater, it is considered that pollution containment engineering (including basal/sidewall lining systems, leachate collection infrastructure and capping systems are not required.

Leachate Management

2.1.9 As previously indicated, no waste deposition activities have been undertaken in the Skelbrooke Quarry Extension Area between the issuing of EAWML65052 (subsequently EPR/CP3994ZR) in 2001 and the definite closure of the landfill operations that were previously permitted at the Skelbrooke Quarry Extension Area in January 2015. Accordingly, there is no leachate to manage within the flooded quarry void or an existing leachate source term to consider against background groundwater quality.

2.1.10 Under the revised development proposals, the infilling of the Skelbrooke Quarry Extension Area will now be achieved by means of the deposit of suitable inert wastes with a large portion tipped directly into the flooded quarry void without the installation of a geological barrier. Full details of the wastes to be deposited to achieve final levels are presented in **Appendix SS1** to the Supporting Statement (*Doc. Ref.: WR7640/04.R2*) submitted in support of the application.

2.1.11 For deposits that will sit below the water table DQL propose to limit the wastes to those with a relatively low pollution potential, including quarry materials (overburden, fines etc), soils from local greenfield or low-risk brownfield development sites which meet the requirements of site-specific Waste Acceptance Criteria (WAC), with all waste sources subjected to verification testing to minimise the risk of the deposit of a rogue load.

2.1.12 Site specific waste acceptance criteria has been derived for wastes materials to be tipped directly into the flooded quarry and which accounts for the dilution available within the limestone aquifer in order to prevent the discernible discharge of hazardous substances and limit the input of non-hazardous pollutants to prevent pollution, taking into to account baseline groundwater quality of the aquifer.

2.1.13 It is important to highlight that hazardous wastes are excluded from the list of permitted wastes and that infill materials shall consist of a small list of materials that would always qualify as non-hazardous under the Waste Framework Directive. Moreover the waste will also be deemed to be inert in nature on the following criteria:-

- Does not undergo any significant physical, chemical or biological transformations;
- Does not dissolve, burn or otherwise physically or chemically react, biodegrade or adversely affect other matter with which it comes into contact in a way likely to give rise to environmental pollution or harm to human health; and
- The total leachability, pollutant content and the ecotoxicity of its leachate are insignificant and, in particular, do not endanger the quality of any surface water or groundwater.

2.1.14 The proposed waste for recovery within the Skelbrooke Quarry Extension Area have been adopted from the list of wastes which the waste producer may not need to test presented in the Environment Agency's Waste Acceptance Procedures for Deposits for Recovery[1]. However, it is appreciated that as the proposed infilling operations involves the deposition of material into the flooded quarry void without the presence of an engineered lining system between the infill materials and aquifer unit a set of WAC stating the upper threshold of materials which can be accepted for use in the proposed recovery operation

[1] https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/deposit-for-recovery-operators-environmental-permits/waste-acceptance-procedures-for-deposit-for-recovery

has been determined accounting for the dilution available in the aquifer and baseline groundwater concentrations of key substances.

2.1.15 The aforementioned review and comparison of existing groundwater quality data recorded as part of ongoing monitoring of the adjacent Skelbrooke Landfill Site (Cells 1-6) and the published regional Upper Magnesian Limestone groundwater geochemistry presented in Bearcock and Smedley (2009) and identified both the key parameters for consideration and appropriate Liquid Equivalent WAC values.

2.1.16 To ensure that the derived Liquid Equivalent WAC values did not result in the degradation of the surrounding groundwater quality, these values were also compared to their corresponding Environment Assessment Levels, as derived in **Section 2.3.**

2.1.17 The leachate thresholds of hazardous substance will therefore be below the limit of detection, except for arsenic which will be set one order of magnitude below the inert WAC limit, whereby the equivalent leachable concentration will correspond to the Limit of Quantification of 5µg/l set in UKTAG (2016).

2.1.18 As discussed within **Section 2.3** of the accompanying ESSD (*Doc. Ref.: WR7640/05*), it is considered that the proposed Liquid Equivalent WAC values represent the worst-case pollution source term for the proposed waste recovery activity. Accordingly, the pollution source term associated with the proposed waste recovery operations is presented in **Table HRA1.**

Table HRA1: Pollution Source Term Data for Proposed Restoration Materials for Skelbrooke Extension Area Quarry Void

Parameter	Proposed Waste Acceptance Criteria (L/S 10:1 mg/kg)	Worst-Case Pollution Concentration (mg/l)	EAL (mg/l)	Risk Factor
Arsenic	0.05	0.005	0.005	1
Cadmium	0.04	0.004	0.0005	8
Chromium	0.5	0.05	0.0047	10.6
Copper	2	0.2	0.015	13
Lead	<LoD	N/A	0.0002	N/A
Mercury	<LoD	N/A	0.00001	N/A
Nickel	0.4	0.04	0.009	4.4
Phenol	1	0.1	0.0077	13
Zinc	4	0.4	0.076	5
Chloride	800	80	250	1.6
Fluoride	15	1.5	1.5	1
Sulphate	3,000	300	1,910	<1

2.1.19 The WAC listed in **Table HRA1** are largely set at the inert landfill threshold specified in the Council Decision of 19th December 2002. The thresholds for fluoride and sulphate is set at 1.5 and 3 times the standard WAC threshold respectively to account for the lower risk factors associated with these non-hazardous pollutants.

2.2 Pathways

2.2.1 A Hydrogeological (Regulation 15) Risk Assessment was prepared and submitted in support of the 1999 Waste Management Licence Application and identified two potential pollution pathways; leakage through the proposed sidewall seals and basal leakage through the underlying Permian Marl (Edlington Formation). The sidewall leakage pathway considered the migration of leachate generated by the then proposed waste inventory (domestic, industrial and commercial) through a substantial thickness of Permian Marl (proven to be approximately 35m thick) prior to reaching the underlying Lower Magnesian Limestone; identified as a possible receptor. The side wall leakage pathway considered the lateral diffusion of generated leachate into the adjacent Upper Magnesian Limestone during the operational and post-operational periods of Skelbrooke Quarry Extension Area. The 1999 Hydrogeological (Regulation 15) Risk Assessment concluded that the risk posed by the fully developed 1999 Skelbrooke Quarry Extension Area proposal to surrounding water resources were negligible.

2.2.2 As previously discussed, the landfill development proposal presented in the 1999 Waste Management Licence Application and discussed in the accompanying Hydrogeological (Regulation 15) Risk Assessment was never developed and the Skelbrooke Landfill Area has remained undeveloped. Accordingly, there has been no requirement to undertake periodic review of the original Hydrogeological Risk Assessment to confirm it validity. However, the development of the adjacent Skelbrooke Landfill Site (Cells 1-6); which was subject to a PPC Permit Application in 2003, has proceeded and as such a contemporary account of the current hydrogeological conceptual site setting is available for review.

2.2.3 The Hydrogeological Risk Assessment Review which accompanied the 2003 PPC Permit Application for the adjacent Skelbrooke Landfill Site (Cells 1-6); subsequently authorised under EPR/BV1470IE, examined the location of the proposed development in relation

2.2.4 As previously discussed, in light of the revised development proposals for the Skelbrooke Quarry Extension Area, and the deposition of selected materials which will be of a quality that will not result in the degradation of the surrounding hydrogeological environment, it was proposed that the Conceptual Site Model (CSM) for the Skelbrooke Quarry Extension Area be revised. It was considered that this revision examined the potential pathways through which the surrounding hydrogeology and the proposed infill material could interact. In order to visually depict this, a CSM section line transecting previously infilled (and permanently capped) Skelbrooke Landfill Site (Cells 1-6) and the proposed void to be infilled within the Skelbrooke Quarry Extension Area. This CSM Section Line and its corresponding route are both presented in **Drawing No. WR7640/10/HRA1**.

2.2.5 To ensure that a complete picture of the surrounding hydrogeological environment could be obtained and the potential interactions between the proposed Skelbrooke Quarry Extension Area development and the existing environment could be identified, the current leachate compliance levels within the adjacent Skelbrooke Landfill Site (Cells 1-6) and recorded groundwater range within the adjacent Upper Magnesian Limestone were incorporated into **Drawing No. WR7640/10/HRA1**.

2.2.6 This revised CSM indicated that the same potential pollutant pathways identified in the 1999 Hydrogeological (Regulation 15) Risk Assessment and the

subsequent Hydrogeological Risk Assessment; and Risk Assessment Reviews, of the adjacent Skelbrooke Landfill Site still exist for the revised infilling proposals. It was identified that the primary interaction between the proposed infilling material with the surrounding hydrogeological environment is the lateral migration of groundwater through the void sidewall (particularly the Upper Magnesian Limestone). A second potential interaction pathway was also observed and consists of the basal migration of liquid through the low permeability Permian Marl (Edlington Formation), however, due to the proven vertical thickness of this lithological unit (35m) it is considered that the potential of basal leakage from the void area into the underlying Lower Magnesian Limestone is severely limited.

2.2.7 The base levels of the extensions will continue to be located within the underlying low-permeability Permian Marl, which will provide adequate attention to the downward movement of any potential pollutants that could leach from the waste deposits to deeper aquifer systems.

2.2.8 It is further identified that the proposal to infill the proposed quarry void without the installation of an engineered lining system or dewatering of the void means that a large portion of the restoration waste materials will be tipped directly into groundwater. Wastes placed above the upper boundary fo the Permian Marl will subsequently be in direct contact with the saturated zone associated with the overlying Magnesian Limestone aquifer. However, as indicated in **Section 2.1**, in order to ensure that the infilling operations do not result in the degradation of the surrounding groundwater quality the Waste Acceptance Criteria for the development proposal have been derived to prevent the discernible discharge of hazardous substances and limit the discharge of non-hazardous pollutants to groundwater, taking into account the dilution factors and baseline quality of the limestone aquifer.

2.2.9 For waste deposits to be placed above the groundwater table, the initial waste deposits will subsequently form an attenuating barrier that prevent the direct contact between the subsequent deposits of and groundwater. Whilst the underlying waste are likely to be saturated, they will be offer very limited groundwater resources potential. Consequently, the deposits will offer attenuation to any pollutants that leach from the waste deposits above the water table.

2.2.10 Due to the potential for lateral interactions between the infill material and the Upper Magnesian Limestone aquifer it is considered prudent to examine potential pollution pathways associated with the Magnesian Limestone Aquifer.

<u>Geology</u>

2.2.11 The geology of Skelbrooke Landfill Extension is taken from:

- British Geological Survey 1:50,000, Sheet No. 87 Barnsley Solid and Drift (1976);
- British Geological Survey 1:50,000, Sheet No. 78 Wakefield Solid and Drift (1978);
- British Geological Survey 1: 63,360, Sheet No. 88 Doncaster Solid and Drift (1969);
- British Geological Survey 1:63,360, Sheet No. 79 Goole Solid and Drift (1971);
- British Geological Survey 1:50,000, Sheet No. 87 Barnsley (2008);
- Institute of Geological Sciences 1:100,000 Hydrogeological Map of Southern Yorkshire and Adjoining Areas (1982); and

- National Rivers Authority (now the Environment Agency), Policy and Practice for the Protection of Groundwater - Regional Appendix Yorkshire Region. 1991.

2.2.12 These geological maps have been supplemented by site specific information, details of which include:

- Logs of fifteen boreholes advanced in 1991 within the extension area as part of a mineral evaluation exercise; and
- Logs of three boreholes (SB Series) advanced by SECOR (now SLR) in March 1998 to further characterise the nature of the deposits in the extension area and provide permanent groundwater monitoring installations.

2.2.13 Borehole logs from both these investigations are presented in **Appendix ESSD2** and **Appendix ESSD3** of the accompanying ESSD *(Doc. Ref.: WR7640/05).*

2.2.14 The BGS Onshore Viewer and BGS Map Sheet 87 (1:50 000, Barnsley, 2008) indicates only limited superficial deposits are present in the area. Where present, they are confined to local drainage channels. It was reported in the 2007 HRAR that there were no superficial deposits at the existing Skelbrooke Landfill.

2.2.15 From review of British Geological Survey 1:50,000 scale geology maps, publicly available borehole records and borehole logs prepared following site investigations undertaken at and around the Skelbrooke Landfill Site and the installation of monitoring infrastructure, the underlying geological succession in the vicinity of the site can be determined and summarised. A summary of this geological succession (including unit thicknesses) is presented in **Table HRA2**.

Table HRA2: Geological Sequence at Skelbrooke Landfill Complex

Geological Unit	Thickness	Description
Upper Permian Marl (Roxby Formation)	<6	Red shaley clays and mudstones with gypsum and anhydrite seams
Upper Magnesian Limestone (Brotherton Formation)	<20	Compact and flaggy dolomitic limestone with thin beds of mudstone
Middle Marl (Edlington Formation)	<35	Red brown and grey green mudstone with interbedded sulphates (gypsum and, at depth, anhydrite)
Lower Magnesian Limestone (Cadeby Formation)	N/A	Composed of two lithological groups. The upper division contains minutely cellular and highly porous dolomite, characterised at or near surface by solutional features. The lower division comprises regularly bedded dolomitic and oolitic limestones.
Basal Permian Sands and Breccia	N/A	Outcrops as a discontinuous layer of loosely cemented sand succession, resting unconformably on the Carboniferous rocks.

2.2.16 The base of the Skelbrooke Quarry Extension Area extends to a elevation of ~17mAOD. Borehole logs for installation located along the western edge of the quarry confirm that the Upper Permian Marl is not present around the extension area, with quarry extension extending through ~10m of the Upper Magnesium Limestone (Brotherton Formation) and a ~5m thickness of the underlying Middle Permian Marl (Edlington Formation).

Hydrogeology

Physical Characteristics

2.2.17 The Environment Agency classifies the Upper Magnesian Limestone (Brotherton Formation) and Permian Middle Marl (Edlington Formation) as aquifer units with the following paragraphs summarising their assigned aquifer classifications and the physical characteristics of each lithology.

2.2.18 The Upper Magnesian Limestone (Brotherton Formation) is classified by the Environment Agency as a Primary aquifer unit which consists of compact and flaggy dolomitic limestones. This lithological fabric results in a relatively low primary intergranular porosity and permeability; indicated by Allen et al., (1997) to be in the region of $5.5x10^{-4}$m/d, however, the Upper Magnesian Limestone has a the potential for a high secondary permeability due to the presence of macro and micro fractures which have been enhanced by subsequent karstic weathering. The total porosity of this lithological unit is estimated by Allen et al., (1997) be vary between 6 to 30% with an interquartile range of 9.4% to 16%. Groundwater flow through this unit it predominantly achieved through fracture flow, with a permeability range of between ~0.01 and ~165m/d (a mean of ~37m/d was confirmed by SLR (2004) from rising head tests performed in various boreholes installed around the periphery of the main Skelbrooke landfill facility. The lowest permeability value was deemed to be influenced by the proximity of the landfill sidewall which impinged on the cone of depressions. Excluding this permeability value, the mean permeability equates to ~41 m/d. These compare to estimated permeability ranges of between 10 and 100 m/d specified by Allen et al., (1997).

2.2.19 The Permian Middle Marl (Edlington Formation) is classified by the Environment Agency as a as a Secondary B lithology primarily consists of red brown and grey green mudstone with interbedded sulphates (gypsum and, at depth, anhydrite); as indicated in **Table HRA2**. Site specific hydrogeological data for both the engineered and in-situ Permian Marl were identified as part of the 2003 HRA completed for the adjacent Skelbrooke Landfill Site with a permeability range between $1x10^{-10}$m/s (min) and $1x10^{-9}$m/s (max) with a mode of $1x10^{-9}$m/s. These permeability values were derived using CQA testing and characterisation information obtained during the construction of landfill cells (including packer tests in the marl and triaxial permeability test results on remoulded and compacted clay samples).

Groundwater Flow

2.2.20 Groundwater levels have been monitored around the perimeter of the adjacent Skelbrooke Landfill Site since 1996 through a total of 15 monitoring boreholes, all of which monitoring groundwater within the underlying Magnesian Limestone and remain active.

2.2.21 A statistical summary of the recorded groundwater levels in the Magnesian Limestone Lincolnshire between November 1996 and December 2023 in the vicinity of the Skelbrooke Quarry and landfill complex is presented in **Table HRA3**, whilst groundwater hydrographs are presented in **Appendix HRA1**.

Table HRA3: Statistical summary of monitored groundwater levels in the vicinity of the Skelbrooke quarry and landfill complex

BH ID	1996 – 2023 Groundwater Levels (mAOD)			
	Minimum	Mean	Maximum	95%ile
Upgradient (of Skelbrooke Landfill)				
SK06	33.96	36.34	40.64	37.87
SK07	32.26	36.75	40.15	38.25
SK09	34.82	37.09	38.50	37.91
SK10	35.81	37.53	38.93	38.32
SK11	34.87	37.24	40.99	38.71
SK12	40.51	42.15	42.73	42.56
Cross-Gradient (of Skelbrooke Landfill)				
SK04	30.42	33.06	34.70	34.14
SK05	27.74	34.37	37.43	35.38
SK08	27.76	32.99	42.59	37.93
SK21	27.95	29.62	34.92	31.24
Downgradient (of Skelbrooke Landfill)				
SK01	21.83	24.68	31.58	29.10
SK02	23.57	26.09	31.05	27.61
SK03	23.12	27.99	30.31	29.02

2.2.22 A review of the groundwater timeseries plots presented in **Appendix HRA1** and the statistical analysis presented in **Table HRA3** demonstrate that groundwater levels in the vicinity of the south-western edge of Skelbrooke Quarry Extension Area have shown some high groundwater range, which has largely been influence by groundwater management practices operated at the site to support the development of the adjacent landfill facility. This influence can also be observed in SK01, where water levels were largely maintained below 22mAOD to support landfill operations within Cell 6 until 2012. Post-2012 groundwater levels have been typically managed above ~23.5mAOD.

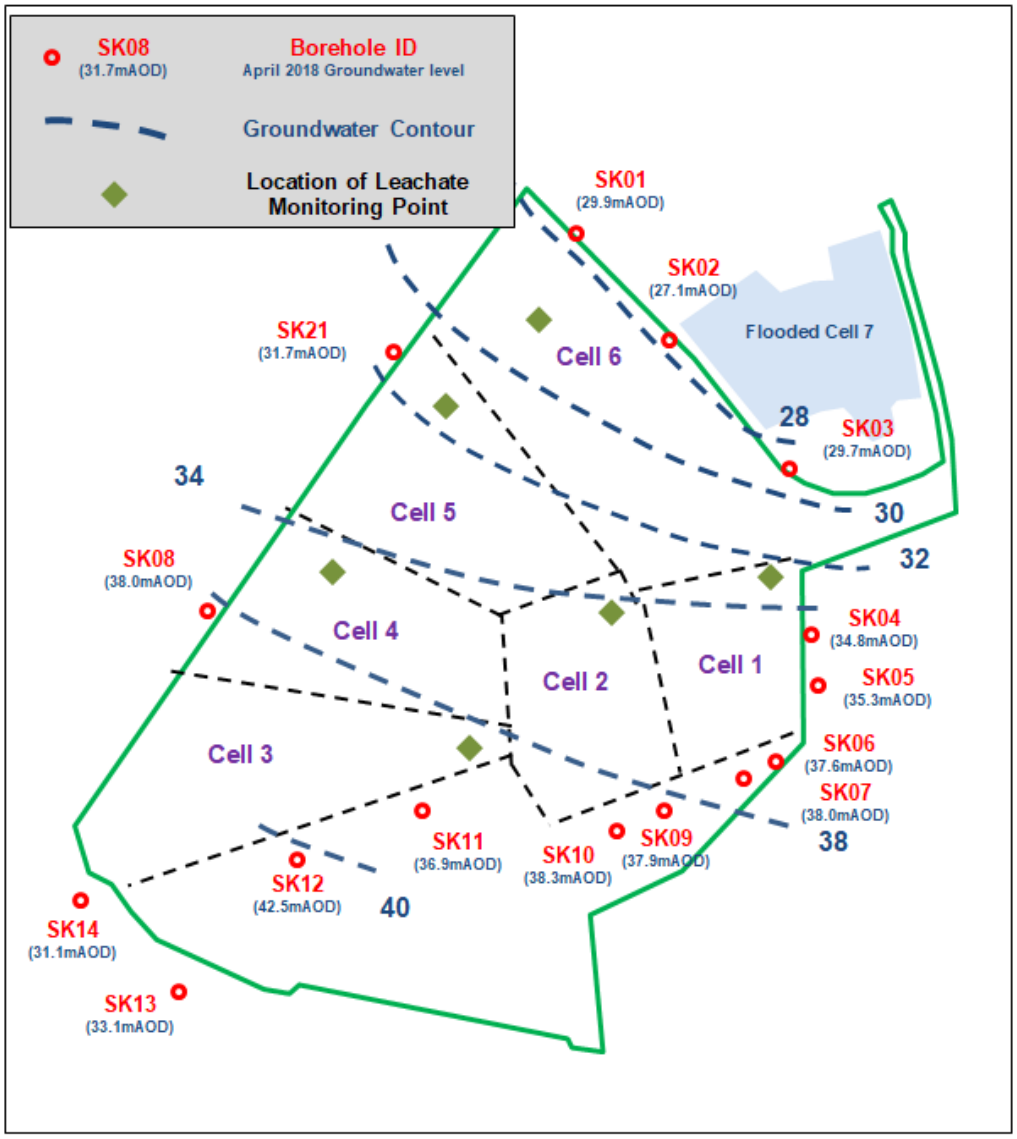
2.2.23 Groundwater levels in SK02 are significantly influenced by water levels within the flooded quarry extension area, which are actively managed in lieu of the extension areas use to support the management of surface run-off from the adjacent capped landfill. Since 1996 water levels have largely varied between ~25mAOD and ~28mAOD with intermittent short lived spikes Water levels have largely attributed to flash responses to storm events, in between which the water levels are general managed below the invert level of the outfall from the landfill drainage network into the extension area, which is currently set at ~26.5mAOD. Since 2021 water levels in the extension area have largely been managed between ~23.5mAOD and ~25mAOD. As part of the restoration scheme the inflow network will be redesigned so that the surface waters from the adjacent landfill flow through open ditch networks constructed across the restored surface to the constructed attenuation pond/wetland. The lagoon will act as an flood attenuation system with a outlet limiting discharge to the drain network to the north of the site (at discharge point SKSW04) to greenfield rates. The wetland area/lagoon that will provide the required attenuation volumes has been designed to be dry the majority of the time, and will only contain water after storm events. The lagoon is not designed as an infiltration lagoon, with the

waste deposits principally comprising low permeability, cohesive materials. Similarly, the base of the lagoon will be compacted to minimise its permeability. The waste will also prevent the flow through of groundwater through the infilled void post-restoration, inducing flows around the edge of the wastes. The high water level for the lagoon has been set at a maximum level of 27.700mAOD to give a minimum free board of 300mm with the low water level being set at 25.000mAOD.

2.2.24 **Figure HRA1** presents groundwater contours plotted based on water levels monitored around the periphery of the adjacent landfill and the extension area (identified as Cell 7). The relatively steep hydraulic gradient between SK03 and SK04 would suggest ongoing effects draw down influence from the groundwater management operations being carried out in the extension void.

2.2.25 Based on a peak groundwater level recorded at SK12 (42.46mAOD) and the elevation of the spring (~24.1mAOD) located ~320m northeast of the extension area returns a hydraulic gradient of 0.0017. Based on this hydraulic gradient the peak rebound groundwater level at the western edge of the extension area is estimated at ~32.8mAOD, reducing to ~29.7mAOD along the eastern edge. This would place peak groundwater levels close to surface level at the edges of the void. Moreover, this would place groundwater levels within the limestone higher than designed flood levels within the attenuation lagoon (i.e. 27.7mAOD) even whilst accounting for local seasonal variations in groundwater levels, typically in the region of 1-1.5m. These levels would effectively result in hydraulic containment of the wastes, restricting the advective movement of any water out of the waste mass into the limestone aquifer.

Figure HRA1: Groundwater Contour Plot of Skelbrooke Landfill Site



(Reproduced from 2019 Hydrogeological Risk Assessment Review (Report No. 4485/R/01/01))

2.2.26 It was noted in the 2019 HRAR for Skelbrooke Landfill Site that a variance in recorded groundwater levels is observed in SK12, SK13 and SK14. A review of the relevant Ordnance Survey Maps indicate the presence of a topographical divide (~52mAOD) near to southern boundary of Cell 3, this in conjunction with the in-situ (up-thrown Middle Permian Marl) and/or presence of quarry fines may be responsible for variance in groundwater levels expressed at SK12 and to the southwest at SK13 and SK14.

2.2.27 Alternatively, the juxtaposed relative positions of the stratigraphically older Cadeby Limestone against the younger Brotherton Formation along the north-westerly facing site boundary (and or presence of the quarry 350m to the southwest) may also explain the lower water table on the southwest corner of Cell 3.

2.2.28 Based on the current understanding of groundwater levels surrounding the site, there is a single aquifer system adjacent to the sidewall of Skelbrooke Quarry Extension Area, the Upper Magnesian Limestone (Brotherton Formation) Aquifer.

2.3 Receptor

2.3.1 The Site is not located within a Source Protection Zone, however, the Environment Agency classifies the Upper Magnesian (Brotherton Formation) Limestone Aquifer strata adjacent to the site as a Principal Aquifer; which is capable of supporting water supplies on strategic scale, and the Permian Middle Marl (Edlington Formation) as a Secondary B Aquifer (a lower permeability layer which may store and yield limited amounts of groundwater due to localised features such as fissures, thin permeable horizons and weathering).

2.3.2 Due to the absence of superficial deposits in the vicinity of the proposed Skelbrooke Quarry Extension Area Development, the primary receptor to the proposed infilling activity has been identified to be the Upper Magnesian Limestone.

2.3.3 Springs and hydraulically connected fluvial networks associated with The Skell are located ~250m to north/northeast of the application site, to which the limestone aquifer is the source of baseflow to these features. These surface water features are Secondary Receptors to the proposed waste recovery activity.

Compliance Points

2.3.4 The primary receptor to the discharge of pollutants from the landfill relate to groundwaters in the immediately surrounding Upper Magnesian Limestone (Brotherton Formation).

2.3.5 The following compliance points have been identified:

Hazardous Substances

2.3.6 In line with current EA guidance, the point of compliance for Hazardous Substances is the down-gradient boundary of the site relative to the direction of groundwater flow within the vertical mixing depth of limestone aquifer surrounding the site.

Non-Hazardous Pollutants

2.3.7 As with previous HRAs examining the adjacent Skelbrooke Landfill Site (Cells 1-6), the compliance point for Non-Hazardous Pollutants remains groundwater in the aquifer horizon at the down-gradient boundary of the site.

Groundwater Quality

2.3.8 Due to the absence of infilling activities and subsequent closure of the Skelbrooke Quarry Extension Area in 2015 no dedicated groundwater monitoring schedule has been developed for the Skelbrooke Quarry Extension Area. However, groundwater monitoring schedules specified to the adjacent Skelbrooke Landfill Site (Cells 1-6) have allowed for a review of local groundwater quality.

2.3.9 Groundwater quality in the vicinity of Skelbrooke Landfill Site (Cells 1-6) is currently monitored routinely around the perimeter of the site in a total of 13 perimeter monitoring boreholes (SK01, SK02, SK03, SK04, SK05, SK06, SK07, SK08, SK09, SK10, SK11, SK12, SK21) and two monitoring points, SKSW01 and SKSW03 record the quality of groundwater in the backwall drainage sump and the backwall drainage discharge point to the surface water lagoon

respectively. As discussed previously, each groundwater monitoring borehole monitors the Upper Magnesian Limestone (Brotherton Formation).

2.3.10 These monitoring boreholes provide an indication of downgradient (SK01, SK02 and SK03), cross-gradient (SK04, SK05, SK08 and SK21) and upgradient (SK06, SK07, SK09, SK10, SK11 and SK12) groundwater quality.

2.3.11 Statistical analysis of all the background groundwater quality monitoring data recorded in all monitoring boreholes between 1996 and 2023 has been undertaken as part of this HRA in order to identify the baseline concentrations of the matrix and metallic ions within the surrounding groundwater which have been identified as the main parameters of inert waste 'leachate' quality, which corresponds to the type of materials proposed for deposition within the Skelbrooke Quarry Extension Area. A summary of monitored groundwater quality around the periphery of the existing Skelbrooke Landfill Site for these determinands is presented in both **Table HRA4** and **Table HRA5** with individual datasets and associated timeseries plots presented in **Appendix HRAR2.**

2.3.12 Examination of the timeseries charts and analysed monitoring data (presented in **Table HRA4**) from the upgradient boreholes indicate that background concentrations of all matrix and metallic indicator species do not show any increasing trends since 1996. Furthermore, with concentrations for all determinands remaining stable of improving throughout the monitoring period. This stability in background groundwater quality is depicted in the timeseries plots prepared for all metallic indicator species which visually demonstrate consistent concentrations the monitoring period.

2.3.13 Two additional up-gradient monitoring boreholes have been installed during the operational lifecycle of Skelbrooke Landfill Site (Cells 1-6), namely SK11 and SK12 which commenced monitoring in 2004 and 2007 respectively. Review of the groundwater monitoring records for these more recent up-gradient monitoring boreholes strongly correlate to the pre-existing monitoring boreholes.

2.3.14 Examination of the peripheral boreholes monitoring the cross-gradient groundwater regime also in indicate that the concentrations of groundwater quality indications have has remained at consistently low concentrations throughout the monitoring window. As with upgradient groundwater monitoring records, further statistical analysis demonstrated that apart from rare elevated concentrations (subsequently identified as statistical outliers) concentrations of all determinands have either remained stable or demonstrate a decreasing trend throughout the monitoring period. This stability of groundwater quality depicted for this borehole in the timeseries plots is further represented in the datasets contained within the statistical summary presented in. Review of the analysed datasets indicated that the mean and most frequent recorded values for all parameters strongly correlate to one another, further indicating that concentrations within these boreholes have remained stable throughout the monitoring period.

2.3.15 It is noticed that chloride concentrations recorded in SK08 and the additional cross-gradient monitoring borehole SK21 installed in 2003 are higher relative to SK04 and SK05, with chloride concentrations within SK08 and SK21 recorded at approximately ~60-140mg/l compared to the ~30-60mg/l within SK04 and SK05.

2.3.16 A review of groundwater quality records for monitoring boreholes located downgradient of Colsterworth Landfill Site indicate that groundwater quality

downgradient of the Site strongly correlates to recorded groundwater quality upgradient for the site. This strong correlation is depicted in **Table HRA4** where there is a visible similarity between the mean determinands concentrations including chloride cadmium, copper and zinc with a significant number of detections either at or below corresponding limit of detection values.

2.3.17 Upon review of all groundwater monitoring boreholes, it is noted that sulphate concentrations are noticeably higher than the other determinands discussed above. Due to the presence of relatively elevated sulphate concentrations upgradient, cross-gradient and downgradient of the existing Skelbrooke Landfill Site (Cells 1-6), it is considered that the recorded sulphate concentrations are representative of natural background conditions. Subsequent, review of published information relating to the Upper Magnesian Limestone including Bearcock and Smedley (2009) confirmed that the groundwater contained within the Upper Magnesian Limestone is naturally elevated in sulphate due to the presence of sulphate compounds (e.g. ZnSO4).

2.3.18 Additionally, it was noted that groundwater concentrations for cadmium, chromium, nickel and lead all indicated periods of relatively elevated concentrations during the monitoring periods (i.e. between 1996 and 2021). Upon closer inspection, it was identified that these periods of elevated concentrations were not limited to a single monitoring borehole or direction from the existing Skelbrooke Landfill Site (Cells 1-6). Short-lived elevated concentrations of similar values were recorded in the same rounds of monitoring for all upgradient, cross-gradient and downgradient boreholes for cadmium, nickel and lead. Visual depictions of these events are presented in **Appendix HRA2.** It considered that these events either reflect short lived changes in natural background groundwater chemistry due to changes in Redox conditions or are indicators of subsequent contamination of the samples following abstraction. Whilst it is important that a full groundwater monitoring history is reviewed as part of this Hydrogeological Risk Assessment, it is considered prudent that the Environmental Assessment Levels (and by definition site-specific WACs) are derived from a period of the where such irregularities are not observed. Accordingly, the derivation of conservative Environmental Assessment Levels for these determinands will be undertaken from the point that the monitoring records no longer display these short-lived elevated concentrations (i.e. from July 2011 onwards).

2.3.19 It is appreciated that whilst cadmium, nickel and lead display a number of short-lived (one round of monitoring) elevated concentrations during the monitoring period, the monitoring records for chromium indicate a sustained period of elevated concentrations around the Skelbrooke Landfill Site (Phases 1-6). As observed in the cadmium, nickel and lead monitoring records the elevated concentrations of similar magnitudes were recorded in all monitoring boreholes (upgradient, cross-gradient and downgradient). As depicted in the chromium time-series plot presented in **Appendix HRA2**. However, unlike the short-lived pollution events observed for cadmium, nickel and lead, the elevated chromium concentrations appeared suddenly and persisted for an extended period until January 2016. Due to all perimeter groundwater monitoring boreholes at Skelbrooke Landfill Site recording this elevated chromium concentration it is considered that the recorded chromium concentrations were released from an external source and migrated to the Skelbrooke Landfill (where it was subsequently detected). It is considered that the release of these chromium concentrations continued until approximately January 2016 at which point the source was removed. Subsequently recorded chromium concentrations around the perimeter of the Skelbrooke Landfill Site immediately responded and reduced to Limit of Detection Levels, where they have remained. To ensure that

a conservative EAL (and associated WAC value) is selected for the site, it is considered prudent to derive these values from groundwater chromium concentrations recorded from January 2016 onwards.

2.3.20 To summarise, the recorded concentrations of the key matrix and metallic determinands relating to the proposed material for deposition recording within the groundwater upgradient, cross-gradient and downgradient of the existing Skelbrooke Landfill Site (Cells 1-6) strongly correlate to one another. This indicates that the pollution prevention measures employed at the existing Skelbrooke Landfill Site (Cells 1-6) are operating appropriately and it can be considered that the recorded determinand concentrations are representative of natural baseline conditions.

2.3.21 Further verification that the recorded groundwater concentrations are indicative of natural geochemical baseline conditions is obtained upon comparison of the recorded perimeter groundwater concentrations against published regional groundwater quality data as presented in Bearcock and Smedley (2009) which presented a statistical summary of the key major and minor constituent geochemical species within the Magnesian Limestone of County Durham and North Yorkshire. **Table HRA6** includes a reduced summary table of this this statistical data, focussing on the determinands identified in **Section 2.1**.

2.3.22 Comparison of this published regional dataset against the site-specific geochemical record for Skelbrooke Landfill Site (Cells 1-6) indicates that the recorded upgradient background concentrations (mean + 2σ) recorded at the Skelbrooke Landfill Site correlate favourably to the concentrations of the corresponding parameter presented in **Table HRA6**.

Table HRA4: Summary of Monitored Groundwater Quality in Upgradient and Cross Gradient Monitoring Boreholes around Skelbrooke Landfill Site (Cells 1 – 6) between 1996 – 2023

Parameter	Statistic	Upgradient Monitoring Boreholes					Cross-Gradient Monitoring Boreholes				
		SK06	SK07	SK09	SK10	SK11	SK12	SK04	SK05	SK08	SK21
Ammoniacal Nitrogen (mgN/l)	Minimum	<0.01	<0.01	<0.01	<0.01	<0.01	<0.01	<0.01	<0.01	<0.01	<0.01
	Mean	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.13	0.11	0.38	0.06
	Maximum	2.70	0.90	1.20	1.20	1.14	1.40	1.30	1.10	13.1	0.55
	St Dev	0.4	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2	1.5	0.1
	Count	166	219	216	218	180	143	217	216	197	196
Cadmium (mg/l)	Minimum	<0.00002	<0.00002	<0.00002	<0.00002	<0.00002	<0.00002	<0.00002	<0.00002	<0.00002	<0.00002
	Mean	0.0003	0.0003	0.0003	0.0004	0.0003	0.0002	0.0003	0.0003	0.0003	0.0003
	Maximum	0.001	0.001	0.0013	0.0021	0.0022	0.0014	0.0012	0.0014	0.0018	0.0014
	St Dev	0.0003	0.0002	0.0003	0.0003	0.0003	0.0002	0.0003	0.0003	0.0003	0.0003
	Count	70	88	86	88	81	66	88	87	84	85
Chloride (mg/l)	Minimum	6	2	13	17	22	17	28	19	26	73
	Mean	34.5	30.8	30.9	48.6	51.3	40.9	44.9	35.3	94.9	100
	Maximum	106	87	101	123	80	58	84	77	200	140
	St Dev	19.5	14.3	14.2	18.1	14.2	11.7	11.5	9.5	24.4	12.3
	Count	163	219	218	218	181	143	218	217	196	197
Chromium (mg/l)	Minimum	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001
	Mean	0.0033	0.0037	0.0039	0.0042	0.0035	0.0029	0.0038	0.0037	0.0033	0.0037
	Maximum	0.0112	0.0241	0.0205	0.0245	0.0214	0.0189	0.0239	0.0162	0.0145	0.0274
	St Dev	0.0025	0.0037	0.0039	0.0046	0.0040	0.0034	0.0040	0.0031	0.0029	0.0044
	Count	70	88	85	86	80	66	88	87	84	84
Copper (mg/l)	Minimum	<0.001	<0.003	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001
	Mean	0.0075	0.0068	0.0055	0.0062	0.0039	0.0043	0.0047	0.0038	0.0036	0.0028
	Maximum	0.029999999	0.029999999	0.0387	0.02	0.009	0.009	0.02	0.02	0.013	0.009
	St Dev	0.0056	0.0048	0.0054	0.0036	0.0019	0.0018	0.0040	0.0037	0.0030	0.0019

Parameter	Statistic	Upgradient Monitoring Boreholes					Cross-Gradient Monitoring Boreholes				
		SK06	SK07	SK09	SK10	SK11	SK12	SK04	SK05	SK08	SK21
	Count	70	87	85	85	81	66	88	87	83	83
Lead (mg/l)	Minimum	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001	<0.0001	0.000037	0.000032	0.000044	0.00002	0.000039	0.000052
	Mean	0.0029	0.0029	0.0032	0.0025	0.002587	0.001855	0.003169	0.00236	0.002900	0.002788
	Maximum	0.0200	0.043	0.0545	0.033	0.030000	0.010000	0.049000	0.01300	0.044000	0.030000
	St Dev	0.0034	0.0053	0.0069	0.0040	0.003948	0.001759	0.006498	0.00245	0.005920	0.004721
	Count	58	75	73	74	76	66	76	75	76	76
Nickel (mg/l)	Minimum	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	0.0009	0.0009	<0.001	<0.001
	Mean	0.0039	0.0041	0.0034	0.0050	0.0041	0.0032	0.0044	0.0036	0.0032	0.0026
	Maximum	0.018	0.038	0.02	0.025	0.0211	0.0142	0.014	0.0171	0.025	0.0222
	St Dev	0.0028	0.0053	0.0035	0.0051	0.0035	0.0025	0.0023	0.0030	0.0034	0.0030
	Count	60	79	77	78	76	67	78	77	76	76
Sulphate (mg/l)	Minimum	90	96	238	364	379	260	300	165	176	120
	Mean	312	276	356	683	989	697	478	1136	293	190
	Maximum	857	669	547	1510	1910	1140	940	2040	462	330
	St Dev	163	127	72	235	377	236	110	376	56	43
	Count	59	78	75	77	76	67	76	77	76	76
Zinc (mg/l)	Minimum	<0.002	<0.002	<0.002	0.002	0.00128	<0.002	<0.002	<0.002	<0.002	0.0013
	Mean	0.016	0.016	0.010	0.012	0.00671	0.017	0.009	0.010	0.0063	0.0061
	Maximum	0.160	0.080	0.063	0.062	0.04300	0.106	0.049	0.089	0.033	0.0486
	St Dev	0.022	0.013	0.010	0.013	0.00706	0.017	0.009	0.013	0.0055	0.0065
	Count	70	87	85	86	80	67	88	86	82	83

[1] - Where concentrations are below the laboratory reporting limit, a value equal to 100% the reporting limit has been used for statistical analysis
[2] - Statistical outliers for period removed

Table HRA5: Summary of Monitored Groundwater Quality in Downgradient Monitoring Boreholes around Skelbrooke Landfill Site (Cells 1 – 6) between 1996 - 2023

Parameter	Statistic	Downgradient Boreholes		
		SK01	SK02	SK03
Ammoniacal Nitrogen (mgN/l)	Minimum	<0.01	<0.01	<0.01
	Mean	0.87	0.11	1.00
	Maximum	7.97	1.10	32.8
	St Dev	1.5	0.2	3.8
	Count	124	160	201
Cadmium (mg/l)	Minimum	<0.00002	<0.00002	<0.00002
	Mean	0.0002	0.0003	0.0003
	Maximum	0.0011	0.001	0.0029
	St Dev	0.0002	0.0002	0.0004
	Count	57	68	88
Chloride (mg/l)	Minimum	37	51.8	33
	Mean	83.1	115.7	58.5
	Maximum	166	378	365
	St Dev	26.4	53.9	47.8
	Count	127	163	201
Chromium (mg/l)	Minimum	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001
	Mean	0.0027	0.0036	0.0033
	Maximum	0.01	0.0163	0.0208
	St Dev	0.0024	0.0028	0.0031
	Count	57	68	87
Copper (mg/l)	Minimum	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001
	Mean	0.0145	0.0044	0.0038
	Maximum	0.138	0.016	0.029
	St Dev	0.0245	0.0026	0.0046

Parameter	Statistic	Downgradient Boreholes		
		SK01	SK02	SK03
	Count	57	68	87
Lead (mg/l)	Minimum	<0.001	0.00036	0.000041
	Mean	0.0020	0.0026	0.0029
	Maximum	0.016	0.015	0.033
	St Dev	0.0025	0.0024	0.0047
	Count	55	61	75
Nickel (mg/l)	Minimum	<0.001	<0.0009	<0.0009
	Mean	0.0056	0.0042	0.0054
	Maximum	0.017	0.016	0.023
	St Dev	0.004	0.002	0.004
	Count	55	61	78
Sulphate (mg/l)	Minimum	234	285	1050
	Mean	600	462	1555
	Maximum	1400	902	2180
	St Dev	312	115	187
	Count	54	61	75
Zinc (mg/l)	Minimum	<0.002	<0.002	<0.002
	Mean	0.029	0.0099	0.0208
	Maximum	0.257	0.08	0.27
	St Dev	0.037	0.0098	0.0408
	Count	98	117	164

[1] - Where concentrations are below the laboratory reporting limit, a value equal to 100% the reporting limit has been used

[2] - Statistical outliers for period removed

Table HRA6: Statistical Summary of Regional Groundwater Quality Data for Magnesian Limestone (County Durham and North Yorkshire) – Adapted from Bearcock and Smedley, 2009.

Parameter	Units	n	n (c)	Min	Mean	Max	0th Percentile Value	5th Percentile Value	25th Percentile Value	50th Percentile Value	75th Percentile Value	90th Percentile Value	95th Percentile Value
Arsenic	µg/l	36	17	<0.05	0.249	2.96	-	-	-	0.05	0.15	0.61	1.46
Cadmium	µg/l	104	87	<0.005	-	0.193	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chromium	µg/l	103	51	<0.2	0.044	222	-	-	-	0.2	1.39	2.77	4.9
Copper	µg/l	104	35	<0.5	-	12.5	-	-	-	0.786	1.34	3.6	5.69
Mercury	***No Records Available***												
Nickel	µg/l	104	93	<0.5	-	112	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lead	µg/l	104	63	<0.01	0.56	45	0.00165	0.005	0.02	0.059	0.152	0.324	0.48
Zinc	µg/l	104	36	<5	21.7	372	-	1.2	2.6	6.2	19.3	44.6	77.2
Chloride	mg/l	109	1	<2	138	9250	-	14.8	23.1	38.3	53.8	111	235
Fluoride	mg/l	36	0	0.033	0.444	2.09	-	0.271	0.409	0.824	1.39	1.57	1.69
Sulphate	mg/l	107	0	1.18	160	1610	-	21.8	49.5	89.1	153	400	461

Environmental Assessment Levels

2.3.23 The setting of Environmental Assessment Levels (EALs) is necessary in order to determine if the requirements of Schedule 22 to the Environmental Permitting Regulations 2016 will be met.

2.3.24 As previously indicated, the development proposal for the Skelbrooke Quarry Extension Area seeks to infill the existing flooded quarry void with selected non-hazardous materials.

2.3.25 To ensure that EALs representative to the Site are selected and that the subsequent Hydrogeological Risk Assessment provides a site assessment of groundwater pollution potential, the following selection criteria shall be employed.

- For Hazardous Substances, the EALs have been derived at the EAs published Minimum Reporting Values (MRV) of Limit of Quantification (LoQ) values as defined in UK Technical Advisory Group on the Water Framework Directive Report "Technical Report on Groundwater Hazardous Substances", 2016. Where higher, EALs have been set at the maximum recorded baseline concentration from site-specific datasets, or where such data is not available the baseline concentration is set at the 50th percentile concentration from (Beacock and Smedley, 2009).
- For Non-Hazardous Pollutants, the EALs have been derived at either:-
  - *Where the baseline concentration is 50% or less than the environmental standards, the EAL is set at ~25% above the maximum recorded baseline concentration*
  - *Where the baseline concentration more than 50% of the environmental standard the EAL is set at the standard value;*
  - *Where the baseline concentration is greater than the EQS or DWS, the EAL is set at the baseline concentration.*

2.3.26 For parameters that are routinely monitored at the site, the baseline concentration is set at the maximum recorded concentration recorded from 2018 onwards to account for the stabilised concentration ranges exhibited in many boreholes since the cessation of groundwater management activities at the adjacent landfill facility. A separate spreadsheet is presented in Appendix HRA2 that focuses on the analysis of shorter monitoring period. Chloride also exhibited declining concentrations in upgradient boreholes until approximately mid-2022. Consequently the EAL for chloride has been derived from datasets post-September 2022.

2.3.27 For parameters that are not routinely monitored at the site the baseline is set at the 75th percentile concentration listed in Beacock and Smedley (2009), as reproduced in **Table HRA6.**

2.3.28 Details of the EALs to be taken forward for consideration are presented in **Table HRA7**.

Table HRA7: Proposed Environmental Assessment Levels (mg/l)

Substance	MRV/LoQ[1]	Laboratory Limits of Detection	EQS / DWS	Baseline Concentration[2]	Proposed EAL
Hazardous Substances					
Arsenic	0.005	(0.001)	-	0.00015	0.005
Lead	0.0002	0.001	-	<0.001	0.0002
Mercury	0.00001	(0.00001)	0.00007 / 0.001	NS	0.00001

Substance	MRV/LoQ[1]	Laboratory Limits of Detection	EQS / DWS	Baseline Concentration[2]	Proposed EAL
Non-Hazardous Pollutants					
Ammoniacal Nitrogen	-	0.04	0.3/0.39	0.04	0.05[4]
Cadmium	-	0.0001	0.00025 / 0.005	0.00045	0.0005[4]
Chloride	-	2	250 / 250	38	48[5]
Chromium	-	0.001	0.0047 / 0.005	<0.001	0.0047
Copper	-	0.001	(0.001[3]) / 2	0.011	0.015[4]
Fluoride	-	(0.03)	5 / 1.5	1.39	1.5
Nickel	-	0.001	(0.004[3]) / 0.02	0.007	0.009[4]
Phenols	-	(0.0005)	0.0077 / -	NS	0.0077
Sulphate	-	3	400 / 250	1,910	1,910
Zinc	-	0.002	(0.0109[3])	0.061	0.076[4]

[1] - applies to hazardous substances only
[2] - either maximum recorded concentration recorded in upgradient boreholes from 2019 onwards or the 75th percentile concentration published in Beacock and Smedley (2009).
[3] - bioavailable
[4] - 25% above baseline concentration
NS – Not sampled

3.0 HYDROGEOLOGICAL RISK ASSESSMENT

3.1 Risk Screening

3.1.1 The quarry restoration proposals will involve the direct deposit of inert wastes into groundwater flooded void in the absence of a geological barrier.

3.1.2 Waste Acceptance Criteria (WAC) have been derived for the site with the limits for hazardous substances will be undiscernible. The concentrations for non-hazardous pollutants will also be limited to the Waste Acceptance Criteria (WAC) leaching limit values for inert waste set out in Section 2.1.2.1 of the annex to the Council Decision of 19th December 2002. The exceptions are for fluoride and sulphate, where by the WAC limits for the site have been increased to account for the elevated baseline groundwater concentrations within the limestone.

3.1.3 The wastes will be subjected to stringent wastes acceptance procedures to minimise the risk of a rogue load being deposited at the site.

3.1.4 Based on the implementation of the above limits and acceptance procedures the there is a low risk for the discharge of hazardous substances to groundwater whilst the input of non-hazardous pollutants will be limited to prevent pollution.

3.2 Review of Technical Precautions

Leachate Management

3.2.1 Due to the proposed infilling strategy and the non-hazardous, non-biodegradable nature of the proposed materials for deposition, it is considered that the potential for leachate generation is absent. Accordingly, it is proposed that active leachate abstraction or monitoring activities are not required.

3.2.2 Due to the absence of any geological barrier to prevent the direct discharge of hazardous pollutants to groundwater within the limestone aquifer, waste acceptance procedures have been developed to provide further verification of the wastes streams prior to deposit into flooded sections of the quarry void.

Groundwater Management

3.2.3 As discussed earlier within this section, the adjacent engineered Skelbrooke Landfill Site (Cells 1-6); which operates under the principle of hydraulic containment, and the restored Doncaster Metropolitan Borough “dilute and attenuate” landfill are located immediately west and east of the Skelbrooke Quarry Extension Area respectively.

3.2.4 In order to ensure that the hydraulic containment conditions under which the main Skelbrooke Landfill Site (Cells 1-6) operates and to prevent the ingress of contaminated groundwaters from the neighbouring Doncaster MBC landfill it is proposed that groundwater management operations do not seek to draw down water levels significantly below the invert level of the existing inlet associated with the surface water management network for the adjacent landfill to ensure that hydraulic containment conditions are maintained in the adjacent Skelbrooke Landfill.

3.2.5 During periods when waste is actively tipping into the void their will be a suspension of pumping and discharge of waters from the flooded void to surface waters at discharge point ‘SKSW04’.

3.2.6 Further discharges will be reinitiated following collection of a suitable sample at least 1m below the water surface on which colorimetric testing will be carried out using a appropriate calibrated instrument. Pumping will resume when the suspended solids content is less than 100mg/l.

3.2.7 If suspension periods are insufficient to allow for adequate settlement times, consideration will be given to implementing silt treatment techniques widely used in the construction industry e.g. Siltbuster treatment systems.

Surface Water Management

3.2.8 Due to the nature of proposed site operations which involve the tipping of material which satisfies the site-specific Waste Acceptance Criteria and Procedures into the flooded landfill void it is proposed that surface water management will not be required.

3.2.9 During the infilling of the Skelbrooke Quarry Extension Area, surface water from the adjacent Skelbrooke Landfill Site will continue to be discharged into Skelbrooke Extension Area Void, further enhancing the dilution available during active tipping phase of the activity.

3.2.10 Upon restoration of the Skelbrooke Quarry Extension Area, a wetland area will be established within the footprint of the Skelbrooke Quarry Extension Area void to act as an flood attenuation lagoon for the wider Skelbrooke Quarry and Landfill complex (**Drawing No. WR7640/10/ESSD5**). Surface water contained within this quarry area will subsequently discharge by gravity via the existing discharge point (SKSW04) to the River Skell, as shown in **Drawing No. WR7640/10/HRA2**.

3.3 Accidents and their Consequences

3.3.1 Details of accidental occurrences at the site that could present a potential risk to groundwater adjacent to the site are provided in **Table HRA8**.

Table HRA8: Qualitative Accident Risk Assessment

Hazard	Risk to Groundwater	Likelihood	Mitigation and Corrective Measures
Spillage of fuels from storage tanks or vehicles	Release of hydrocarbons (Hazardous Substances) into the ground and migration into groundwater	**Low** – fuel stores will be bunded in accordance with regulation requirements. A traffic management system and speed limit will be imposed at the site to reduce both the risk of accidents and the likelihood of spillage occurring.	Any spillage will be cleaned up immediately and any resulting contaminated soils removed to a suitable installation.

4.0 REQUISITE SURVEILLANCE

4.1 Leachate Monitoring

4.1.1 Leachate testing will be limited to that required as part of the waste acceptance requirements as detailed in **Section 2.2** of the accompanying Supporting Statement (**Doc. Ref.: WR7640/04**).

4.1.2 Due to the non-hazardous, non-biodegradable nature of the proposed wastes for deposition it is considered that no in-waste water quality or level monitoring is undertaken following the cessation of infilling operations.

4.2 Groundwater Monitoring

4.2.1 The groundwater monitoring schedule during the operational phase of the infilling activities of the Skelbrooke Quarry Extension Area it presented in **Table HRA9**. The location of the proposed groundwater monitoring points for the Skelbrooke Quarry Extension Area are presented in **Drawing No. WR7640/10/HRA2**.

4.2.2 It is noted that the proposed Skelbrooke Quarry Extension Area and the adjacent Skelbrooke Landfill Site (Cells 1-6) will share three groundwater monitoring boreholes (SK01, SK02 and SK03). In order to streamline the monitoring process and reduce the costs associated with monitoring the same borehole twice, it is proposed to synchronise the monitoring schedules of the existing Skelbrooke Landfill Site and the proposed Skelbrooke Quarry Extension Area so that all common monitoring requirements can be undertaken in a single site visit.

4.2.3 Additionally, it is important to highlight that although the proposed groundwater monitoring points of SK15, SK16, SK17, SK18 and SK19 are currently identified as unmonitored landfill gas monitoring boreholes, the basal elevations of these boreholes place the within the Upper Magnesian Limestone and DQL has confirmed that they screen the Magnesian Limestone and can be converted to combined gas/groundwater monitoring boreholes.

Table HRA9: Groundwater Monitoring Schedule

Monitoring Point Reference	Parameter	Monitoring Frequency
Upgradient (SK01, SK02, SK03 & any replacement monitoring boreholes)	Water Level, ammoniacal nitrogen, arsenic, chloride, chromium, copper, nickel, electrical conductivity, pH, sulphate	Monthly during operational phase, reducing to quarterly during aftercare
	cadmium, calcium, iron, lead, magnesium, manganese, mercury, potassium, sodium, total alkalinity, PAHs, zinc.	Annually
Cross-Gradient (SK17, SK18, SK19 & any replacement monitoring boreholes) Or Downgradient (SK15, SK16 & any replacement monitoring boreholes)	Water Level, ammoniacal nitrogen, arsenic, chloride, chromium, copper, nickel, electrical conductivity, pH, sulphate	Monthly during operational phase, reducing to quarterly during aftercare
	cadmium, calcium, iron, lead, magnesium, manganese, mercury, potassium, sodium, total alkalinity, PAHs, zinc	Annually

Monitoring Point Reference	Parameter	Monitoring Frequency
All Monitoring Points	Base of Monitoring Point (mAOD)	Annually

4.2.4 Groundwater compliance levels will be derived for downgradient monitoring boreholes SK15 and SK16 following the collection of at least 6 months of background data.

4.2.5 Details of the post-closure groundwater monitoring requirements are presented in **Section 7.0** of the accompanying Support Statement (**Doc. Ref.: WR7640/04**).

4.3 Surface Water Monitoring

4.3.1 During the operational phase of the infilling activities, surface water monitoring will be undertaken on both the water contained within the Skelbrooke Quarry Extension Area void. This monitoring will entail monthly chemical analysis of selected parameters and visual inspections for hydrocarbon contamination.

4.3.2 In addition to monitoring the water contained within the Skelbrooke Quarry Extension Area void, the monitoring point SKSW04; which is also included within the monitoring schedule for the adjacent Skelbrooke Landfill Site (EPR/BV1470IE) will be incorporated into the surface water monitoring schedule for the extension area. As the waters being discharged will come into contact with the waste deposits being used to restore the extension area the range of parameters will be adapt for the extension area permit to include those linked to the waste characteristics.

4.3.3 The proposed surface water monitoring schedule for the extension area is present in **Table HRA10.**

Table HRA10: Surface Water Monitoring Schedule

Monitoring Point Reference	Parameter	Reference Period	Monitoring Frequency
SKLAGOON	Suspended solids	Spot Sample	Immediately before pumping is resumed
SKSW04 & SKSW07 SKLAGOON	Ammoniacal Nitrogen, arsenic, chloride, chromium, electrical conductivity, pH, suspended solids, visual oil and grease, COD, BOD, total sulphates, zinc	Spot Sample	Monthly
	Total alkalinity, magnesium, potassium, lead, zinc, copper, cadmium, nickel, iron, chromium, calcium, manganese, sodium, TOC, TON.		Quarterly

Note – all metal and metalloid parameters to be tested for dissolved fractions only

4.3.4 An Action Level is proposed are also proposed at 'SKLAGOON' (see **Table HRA11**) to ensure that the sediment loading of quality of any waters that need to be discharged from the site during the active tipping phase do not present a significant risk to surface water quality in The Skell River. Discharge will only

be initiated when the suspended solid contents below the Action Level. Compliance limits are based on those currently specified on Environmental Permit EPR/BV1470IE for the main landfill.

Table HRA11: Proposed surface water action levels and compliance limits

Monitoring Point Reference	Parameter	Source	Action Level	Limit	Reference Period	Monitoring Frequency
SKLAGOON	Suspended Solids	Surface water and groundwater	100mg/l	-	Spot Sample	Immediately before pumping is resumed
SKLAGOON and SKSW04	Ammoniacal Nitrogen			1.2 mg/l		Monthly
	Chloride			250 mg/l		Quarterly
	Zinc			0.075 mg/l		
	Visible Oil and Grease			None visible		

5.0 CONCLUSIONS

5.1 Compliance with the Schedule 22 of the EPR2016

5.1.1 The results of this risk assessment have established the revisions to the landfill development will continue to comply with the relevant requirements of Schedule 22 of EPR2016 as follows:

- The restoration of the quarry with wastes pose a potential hazard to ground and surface water quality. Consequently, it continues to fall within the scope of the Schedule 22 of the EPR2016;
- This assessment forms a review of the “prior investigation” that must be carried out for this type of development;
- The proposed technical precautions are considered appropriate and reasonable to prevent the discernible entry of hazardous substances into groundwater throughout the lifecycle of the facility
- The proposed technical precautions will limit the introduction of non-hazardous pollutants into groundwater to avoid pollution throughout the lifecycle of the facility; and
- Groundwater and surface water monitored schedules will be used in accordance with the requisite surveillance requirements of Schedule 22 to the EPR2016.

6.0 REFERENCES

Allen, D J, Brewerton, L J, Coleby, L M, Gibbs, B R, Lewis, M A, MacDonald, A M, Wagstaff, S J, and Williams, A T. (1997). *The physical properties of major aquifers in England and Wales. British Geological Survey Technical Report WD/97/34*. 312pp. Environment Agency R&D Publication 8.

Bearcock, J. and Smedley, P.L. (2009). *Baseline groundwater chemistry: the Magnesian Limestone of County Durham and North Yorkshire*. British Geological Survey Open Report, OR/09/030. 63 pp.

Environment Agency (2003). *Guidance on the Monitoring of Landfill Leachate, Groundwater, and Surface Water*. Doc. Ref.: LFTGN02.

SECOR Limited (1999). *Skelbrooke Landfill Extension - Hydrogeological Risk Assessment.* Ref: 4D-038-006-02

TerraConsult Limited (2019). Skelbrooke Landfill Site – *Hydrogeological Risk Assessment Review.* Ref: 4485/R/01/01

DRAWINGS

KEY

- ENVIRONMENTAL PERMIT BOUNDARY
- EXTENT OF WASTE DEPOSITS
- 99 SITE SURVEY CONTOURS
- PROPOSED RESTORATION CONTOURS
- EXISTING WOODLAND / SCRUB PLANTING
- PROPOSED NATIVE WOODLAND PLANTING
- PROPOSED NATIVE SCRUB PLANTING
- PROPOSED NATIVE HEDGEROW
- PROPOSED WETLAND AREA TO PROVIDE SURFACE WATER ATTENUATION VOLUME FOR STORM EVENTS
- SURFACE WATER DITCH
- FENCE
- TUSSOCK GRASSLAND & RESTORATION CONTOURS
- CALCAREOUS GRASSLAND & RESTORATION CONTOURS
- EXISTING PUBLIC RIGHT OF WAY

REV	DESCRIPTION	DATE	BY
1	Updates to approved restoration plan	13/12/23	D.R

CLIENT

FCC Environment

sirius Environmental
The Beacon Centre for Enterprise, Dafen, Llanelli. SA14 8LQ. 01554 780 544

JOB TITLE

ENVIRONMENTAL PERMIT VARIATION APPLICATION - SKELBROOKE QUARRY EXTENSION AREA

DRAWING TITLE

RESTORATION

DRAWN	DATE	APPROVED	DATE
L.E	05/03/2020	D.T	05/03/2020

SCALE	SHEET	DRAWING NUMBER	REVISION
1:2000	A3L	WR7640/10/ESSD5	1

NOTES

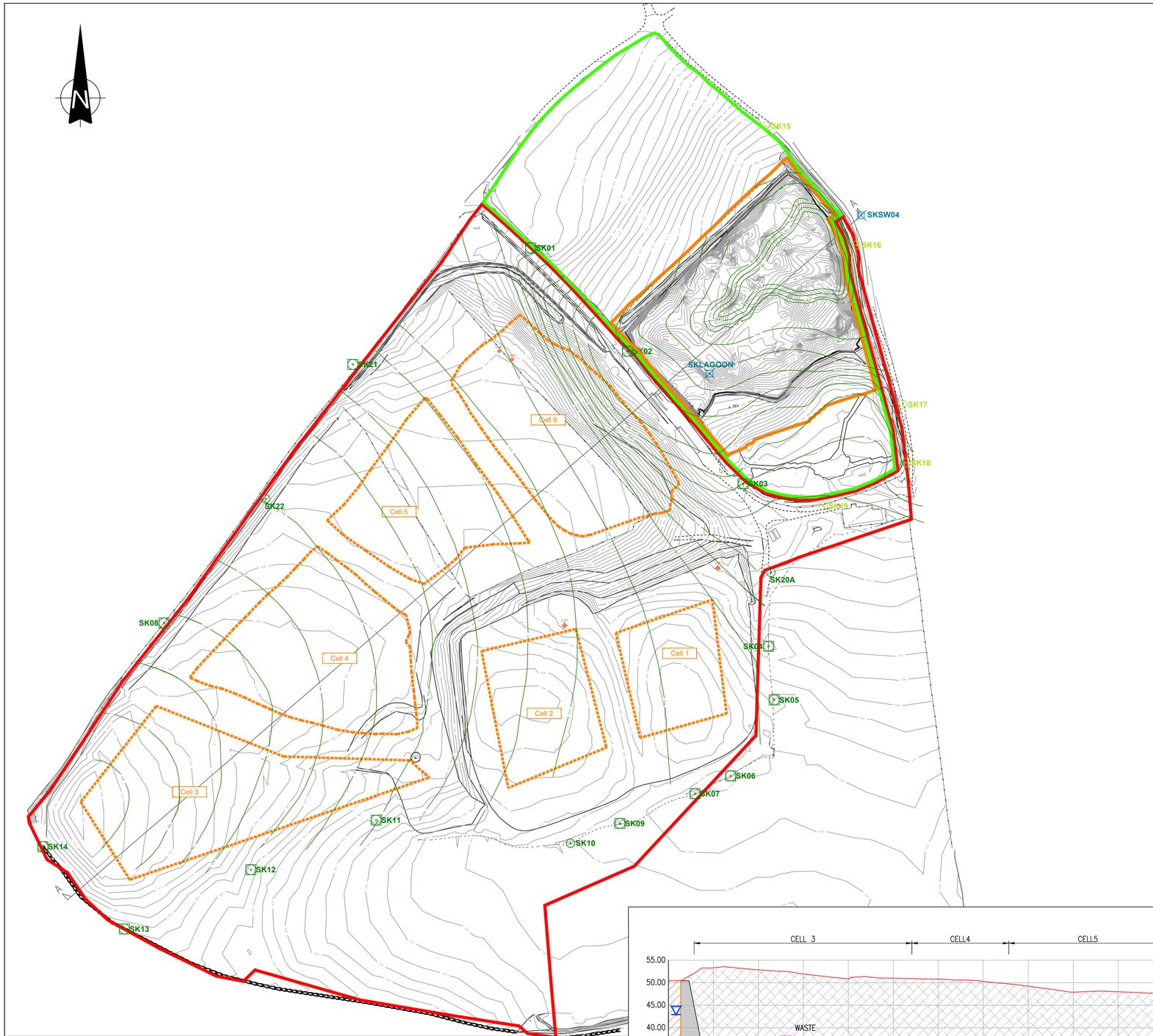
1. ALL DIMENSIONS IN MILLIMETRES AND ALL LEVELS IN METRES ABOVE ORDNANCE DATUM.

2. DO NOT SCALE FROM THIS DRAWING.

3. ANY ANOMALIES IDENTIFIED WITH THE DETAILS SHOWN ON THIS DRAWING ARE TO BE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF SIRIUS ENVIRONMENTAL PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION WORKS COMMENCING.

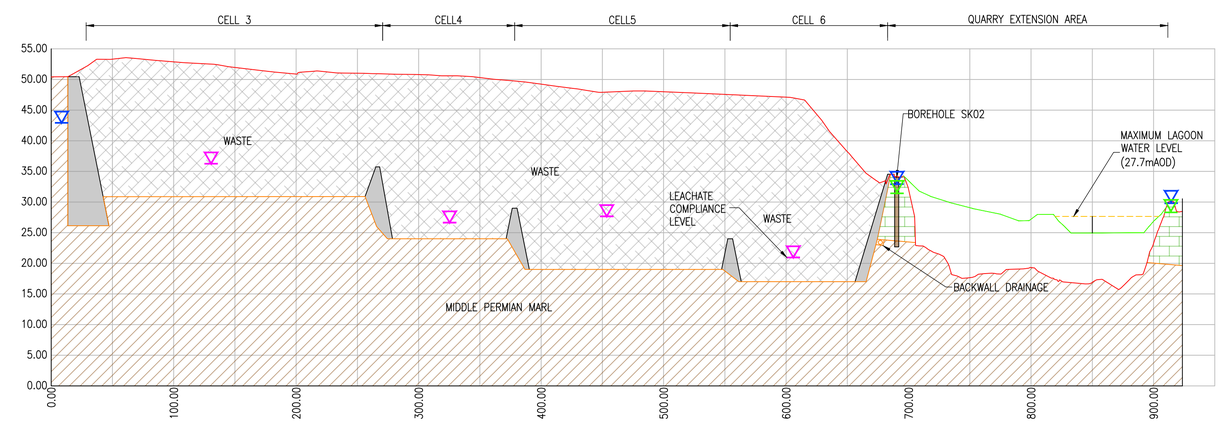
KEY

- ENVIRONMENTAL PERMIT BOUNDARY - REF.: EPR/CP3994ZR (EXTENSION AREA)
- ENVIRONMENTAL PERMIT BOUNDARY - REF: EPR/BV1470IE
- EXISTING CELL BASAL FOOTPRINT
- DEGRADABLE NON-HAZARDOUS WASTE
- MIDDLE PERMIAN MARL
- UPPER MAGNESIAN LIMESTONE
- PEAK RECORDED GROUNDWATER LEVELS: MAGNESIAN LIMESTONE
- PREDICTED SEASONAL PEAK GROUNDWATER REBOUND LEVEL
- PREDICTED SEASONAL LOW GROUNDWATER REBOUND LEVEL
- LEACHATE LEVEL (WITH MANAGEMENT)
- LANDFILL GAS MONITORING BH
- LANDFILL GAS MONITORING BH (UNMONITORED)
- COMBINED GAS/ GROUNDWATER MONITORING POINT
- SURFACE WATER MONITORING POINT
- EXTENT OF WASTE DEPOSITS
- 18.5 SITE SURVEY
- 19.0 PROPOSED RESTORATION CONTOURS



PLAN SHOWING SECTION LOCATION

SCALE 1:2000



SECTION A–A

SCALE: H – 1:2500, V – 1:1000

REV	DESCRIPTION	DATE	BY
3	UPDATES TO CSM SECTION	19/06/24	D.R
2	UPDATES TO CSM SECTION	13/12/23	D.R
1	REVISION OF RESTORATION CONTOUR	14/06/22	R.C

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JOB TITLE

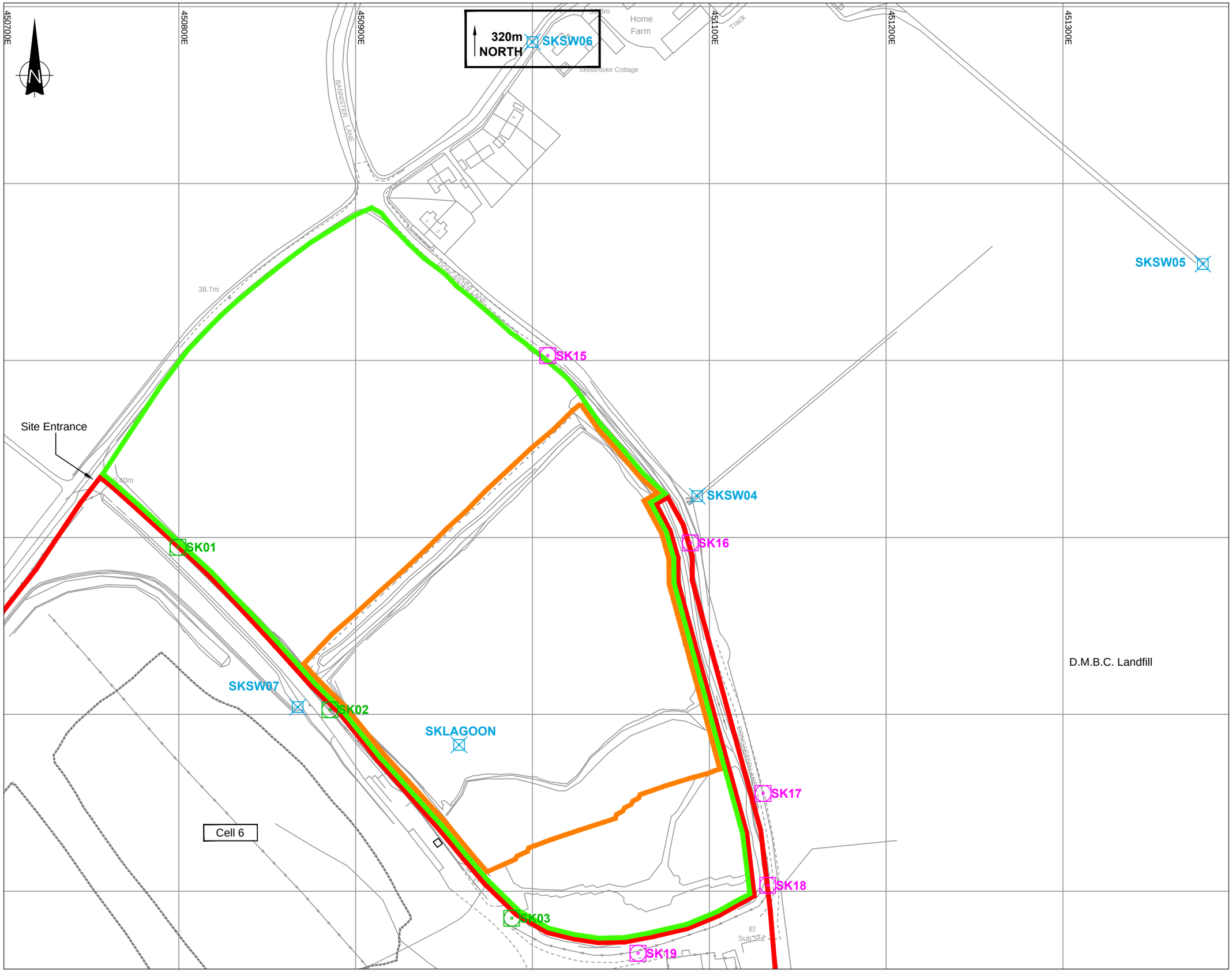
ENVIRONMENTAL PERMIT VARIATION APPLICATION
SKELBROOKE QUARRY EXTENSION AREA

DRAWING TITLE

HYDROGEOLOGICAL CROSS SECTION

DRAWN	DATE	APPROVED	DATE
L.E.	11/03/2020	D.T	11/03/2020

SCALE	SHEET	DRAWING NUMBER	REVISION
As shown	A1L	WR7640/10/HRA1	3



LEGEND

- Environmental Permit Boundary - Ref.: EPR/CP3994ZR (Extension Area)
- Extent of Waste Deposits
- Environmental Permit Boundary - Ref.: EPR/BV1470IE
- Current Combined Gas/Groundwater Monitoring Point
- Proposed Combined Gas/Groundwater Monitoring Point
- Surface Water Monitoring Point

REV	DESCRIPTION	DATE	BY

D.M.B.C. Landfill

CLIENT: FCC Environment

Sirius Environmental
Office Suite 2, The Beacon Centre for Enterprise, Dafen, Llanelli, SA14 8LQ, 01554 780 544

JOB TITLE: ENVIRONMENTAL PERMIT VARIATION APPLICATION - SKELBROOKE QUARRY EXTENSION AREA

DRAWING TITLE: PROPOSED ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING PLAN

DRAWN	DATE	APPROVED	DATE
M.K	10/03/2020	D.T	10/03/2020

SCALE	SHEET	DRAWING NUMBER	REVISION
1:2,000	A3L	WR7640/10/HRA2	0

APPENDICES

APPENDIX HRA1

Skelbrooke Ext GWLs 1996-2023

(Refer to Excel Spreadsheet *File Ref: WR7640/06/A1.R0*)

APPENDIX HRA2a

Skelbrooke Ext GWQ 2002-2023

(Refer to Excel Spreadsheet *File Ref: WR7640/06/A2a.R2*)

APPENDIX HRA2b

Skelbrooke Ext GWQ 2018-2023

(Refer to Excel Spreadsheet *File Ref: WR7640/06/A2b.R0*)