

**From:** [Murray, Alicia](#)  
**To:** [Michael Knott](#)  
**Subject:** RE: URGENT: Skelbrooke Quarry Extension Area Planning Queries  
**Date:** 10 July 2020 09:36:43

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Hi Michael,

The definition of inert material can be both waste and non-waste material and the Council could accept this providing all the necessary agreements and permits have been approved by the Environment Agency.

I believe both types of inert material would require permits from the Environment Agency.

Kind Regards,  
Alicia.

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**From:** Murray, Alicia  
**Sent:** 10 July 2020 07:35  
**To:** Michael Knott <[Michael.Knott@thesiriusgroup.com](mailto:Michael.Knott@thesiriusgroup.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: URGENT: Skelbrooke Quarry Extension Area Planning Queries

Hi Michael,

I cannot say much more on what material we would accept, all I can say is the LPA would accept inert material and the permitting is out of our hands (EA outline what is acceptable) and we will work with the EA where needed.

Kind Regards,  
Alicia.

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**From:** Michael Knott <[Michael.Knott@thesiriusgroup.com](mailto:Michael.Knott@thesiriusgroup.com)>  
**Sent:** 09 July 2020 15:50  
**To:** Murray, Alicia <[Alicia.Murray@doncaster.gov.uk](mailto:Alicia.Murray@doncaster.gov.uk)>  
**Subject:** RE: URGENT: Skelbrooke Quarry Extension Area Planning Queries  
**Importance:** High

Good Afternoon Alicia,

Many thanks for your email and for the response to our queries. With regards to your response to Question 1 thank you for confirming that the Council would be happy for the restoration of the void to be achieved using inert material. Would you be able to clarify the definition of Inert Material and confirm whether this definition encompasses both inert non-waste material and inert waste materials.

Kind Regards

Michael



**Michael Knott** | Environmental Consultant | Environmental

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**From:** Murray, Alicia <[Alicia.Murray@doncaster.gov.uk](mailto:Alicia.Murray@doncaster.gov.uk)>  
**Sent:** 09 July 2020 15:27  
**To:** Michael Knott <[Michael.Knott@thesiriusgroup.com](mailto:Michael.Knott@thesiriusgroup.com)>  
**Subject:** RE: URGENT: Skelbrooke Quarry Extension Area Planning Queries

Good Afternoon Michael,

Thank you for the email and outlining some of the background information regarding the proposed restoration works.

You have asked two questions and I will respond to them below:

Q1: Are you able to confirm whether non-waste material could be used to support quarry restoration?

A: The Council would be happy to accept inert materials to be used to restore this void, subject to the agreement with the Environment Agency.

Q2: subject to the submission of a new planning application, are you able to confirm if the Planning Authority are still minded to seek that the quarry void is restored?

A: The Council still want to see this void restored, as you may be aware there have been incidents on this site due to this void and the Council would like to see the whole site restored. This would require a new permission, as there has already been a Section 73 to extend these time periods previously which have now lapsed. Please see the below link, which is the Councils' good practise guide for the submission of minerals applications.

<https://dmbcwebstolive01.blob.core.windows.net/media/Default/Planning/Documents/DM%20Planning/Minerals%20Document.pdf>

If you would like further advice regarding the submission of an application, we would require further information from yourselves preferably by way of a pre-app. We would need to know the type of materials which have been agreed by the EA and the associated vehicle movement to bring the material in, the time frames for restoration, the dust and noise mitigation measures you would propose... this can then help the relevant stakeholders make a judgement on the acceptability of the proposal and to ensure the neighbouring community are not significantly harmed during these works.

I hope this is of assistance, if you do require anything further please do not hesitate to email me again.

Kind Regards,  
Alicia.

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**From:** Michael Knott <[Michael.Knott@thesiriusgroup.com](mailto:Michael.Knott@thesiriusgroup.com)>  
**Sent:** 06 July 2020 16:30  
**To:** Murray, Alicia <[Alicia.Murray@doncaster.gov.uk](mailto:Alicia.Murray@doncaster.gov.uk)>  
**Cc:** TSI - External address <[TSI@doncaster.gov.uk](mailto:TSI@doncaster.gov.uk)>; James Cook <[james.cook@fccenvironment.co.uk](mailto:james.cook@fccenvironment.co.uk)>; Dylan Thomas <[Dylan.Thomas@thesiriusgroup.com](mailto:Dylan.Thomas@thesiriusgroup.com)>  
**Subject:** URGENT: Skelbrooke Quarry Extension Area Planning Queries

**Importance:** High

Dear Alicia,

Further to our phone conversation, Sirius Environmental has been appointed by the operator of Skelbrooke Quarry and Landfill Complex (Darrington Quarries Limited [DQL]) to seek an alternative option to support the restoration of the northern extension area to the previously approved levels/profile. The north-western and south-eastern sections of the site have already been restored using site-won materials, with the central area being the only part of the site still needing to be restored. Whilst the site has been non-operational in terms of active mineral extraction and restoration operations for a number of years, in light of more recent publicised incidents at the site the operator are now seeking to prioritise the restoration of the site to ensure that further incidents of this nature don't occur.

Currently, the Environmental Permit held for restoration of the remaining void supports the development of an inert landfill facility. In light of the void's current flooded status, under the current permitted restoration option DQL are required to dewater the void and engineer the sidewalls in accordance with the Landfill Directive. It is considered that dewatering the quarry has the potential to influence groundwater levels around the edge of the adjacent non-hazardous landfill managed by DQL, whilst also potentially drawing in contaminated groundwater from the neighbouring historical and unlined DMBC landfill.

To avoid the need to dewater and engineer the void it is alternatively proposed to seek to restore the site through the direct tipping of suitably uncontaminated materials into the flooded void. Under these proposals, the contaminative nature of these wastes will be need to account for the baseline hydrogeological environment. As such, in order to comply with the requirements of the Groundwater Directive, the leachable concentration thresholds of the wastes is likely to be reduced relative to the standard inert landfill acceptance criteria required by the Landfill Directive and specified in the Council Decision of 19th December 2002. Consequently, we are in the process of seeking approval with the Environment Agency (EA) that the scheme is deemed as 'waste recovery' as defined by the Waste Framework Directive. To support their assessment the EA have raised two queries which essentially seek to determine if the waste materials are replacing a non-waste material and if there remains an obligation to restore the remaining void given that the expiration of the existing planning permission (Ref.: 03/7149/P). The specifics of these queries are discussed in more detail below.

The first query raised by the Environment Agency relates to the type of material which could be utilised in the restoration of the quarry extension area. Planning permission (Ref.: 03/7149/P) specifies the use of imported waste materials to support its restoration. However, in order to demonstrate that the use of wastes is replacing the use of non-waste materials the EA are seeking confirmation if the Planning Authority would also consider the use of non-waste materials to support restoration of the site. Such materials could include low grade quarry products (e.g. quarry dust). Are you able to confirm whether non-waste material could be used to support quarry restoration?

The second query raised by the EA is to clarify if there remains an obligation to restore the site given that planning permission (Ref.: 03/7149/P) has expired in terms of the timescales specified in Condition 04. Therefore, subject to the submission of a new planning application, are you able to confirm if the Planning Authority are still minded to seek that the quarry void is restored?

I hope the above provides you with a clear summary of the queries raised by the EA and the information required to support the case for waste recovery. Should you have any queries or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact me. Additionally, the operator has indicated that if it would prove beneficial to hold further discussions on this topic then they would be willing to participate in a conference call.

As discussed this is a time sensitive request; the Environment Agency has set a response deadline of 16/07/20, accordingly we would be most grateful if a response could be provided as soon as practicably possible. Additionally, if a conference call would be beneficial is it possible for this to also be undertaken this week.

Kind Regards

Michael



**Michael Knott** | Environmental Consultant | Environmental

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