

It is necessary to bury the cables with at least 1.2 metres of soil cover to avoid compromising the adjacent field drainage presently or impacting any future field drainage scheme. This depth ensures that the cables will not interfere with the existing drainage systems, which are crucial for maintaining the productivity of the fields. Additionally, this precaution helps to prevent any potential damage to the cables from agricultural activities or machinery that might be used on the surface. If the cable is placed less than 1.2 meters deep, I am also concerned about the potential effects of cable depth on soil ecology. Whilst I have not found specific studies addressing this issue within the environmental statements issued by Dalfour McLaren, it is important to consider that burying cables at less than 1.2 metre depth could influence soil temperature and moisture levels. These changes might affect the microbial communities and soil fauna, which play a vital role in soil health and fertility. Therefore, further research and monitoring would be beneficial to fully understand and mitigate any ecological impacts.