



Meeting note

Project name	Proposed East Northants Resource Management Facility Extension
File reference	WS010005
Status	Final
Author	The Planning Inspectorate
Date	1 June 2020
Meeting with	Augean plc (the Applicant)
Venue	Telecon
Meeting objectives	Project Inception Meeting
Circulation	All attendees

Summary of key points discussed and advice given

The Planning Inspectorate (the Inspectorate) advised that a note of the meeting would be taken and published on its website in accordance with section 51 of the Planning Act 2008 (the PA2008). Any advice given under section 51 would not constitute legal advice upon which applicants (or others) could rely.

Project Update

The Applicant presented details on the proposed project, including work in relation to environmental permits and land required for the project (order limits).

The Applicant set out the new project will include changes to the existing site already granted consent under the existing Development Consent Order (DCO) for East Northants Resource Management Facility (ENRMF). The order limits will include both the existing ENRMF site and an area to the west and is not anticipated to require any land outside of the Applicant's control, save for the potential for rights over land in order to re-route assets, such as pipelines, where prior agreement cannot be reached with asset owners.

The Applicant advised the project will constitute a new Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP), as opposed to an amendment to the existing DCO, as in the Applicant's view the project meets the thresholds as set out in section 30 of the PA2008 and the National Policy Statement for Hazardous Waste (i.e. the disposal of hazardous waste by landfill or in a deep storage facility, to increase by more than 100,000 tonnes per year the capacity of the facility).

The Applicant stated the application also includes the increase in capacity of the existing hazardous waste treatment facility of more than 30,000tpa which in itself would constitute a new NSIP.

The Applicant advised a new access to Stamford Road is being considered, consent for widening of the existing access has already been granted.

Environmental Impact Assessment

The Applicant confirmed that the project would require an Environmental Impact Assessment and anticipates requesting a scoping opinion around the end of June 2020. The Applicant intends to submit its Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) in September / October 2020 with the intention to go out for consultation in November 2020.

The Inspectorate advised the Applicant it will need to provide a GIS shapefile 10 working days in advance of the Scoping Report being submitted. The Inspectorate stated that due to the impacts of Covid-19, the scoping request, including Scoping Report, should be submitted electronically. The Applicant's attention was directed to the Inspectorate's [Advice Note 7](#), which includes practical advice at Sections 5, 6 and 7 with regards to the submission of the GIS shapefile and the scoping request.

The Inspectorate enquired on how impacts on geological receptors, alternative sites and flexibility would be assessed. The Applicant stated that the underlying geology was relevant to a number of aspects in the ES. Design flexibility would be achieved by assessing the worst-case scenario (i.e. closest to receptors) using applicable design parameters and other details.

Habitats Regulations were not discussed in detail, but the Applicant explained that their approach would be explained in subsequent meetings and documentation.

Consultation

The Applicant highlighted that it has been engaging in consultation on a range of different environmental aspects with Local Authorities (LA) and statutory bodies such as Natural England and the Environment Agency.

The Applicant stated that the LA structure is due to be reformed in the near future and to be replaced by two unitary authorities. Work is ongoing to ensure that consultation is carried out across both structures and the Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) is expected to be published during July 2020.

The Inspectorate explained whilst it was aware of the current difficulties Applicants are experiencing in seeking to discharge some of their duties, particularly in relation to making documents (hard copy and electronic) available at public deposit locations, the Regulations remain in force and the Applicant was advised to take reasonable and proportionate steps to make documents available to members of the public.

The Inspectorate advised the Applicant it hopes to be able to provide more detailed advice as the situation develops and encouraged the Applicant to continue with its current approach exploring ways to support this and engaging with relevant parties. The Inspectorate reminded the Applicant to regularly check the guidance on the

Inspectorate's website in relation to Covid-19:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-planning-inspectorate-guidance>.

Anticipated submission date

The Applicant anticipates that the project will be submitted to the Inspectorate in April 2021. The Inspectorate asked the Applicant to consider whether it is likely to request any draft document review and if so, to ensure this is included in its programme.

Next steps

- Applicant to consider programme for future engagement with the Inspectorate
- Applicant to send a copy of its draft SoCC to the Inspectorate
- The Inspectorate to send the Applicant details of the information required to set up a project webpage and email mailbox



Specialist services focused on
managing hazardous wastes

Application for the East Northants Resource Management Facility

Inception meeting
1 June 2020

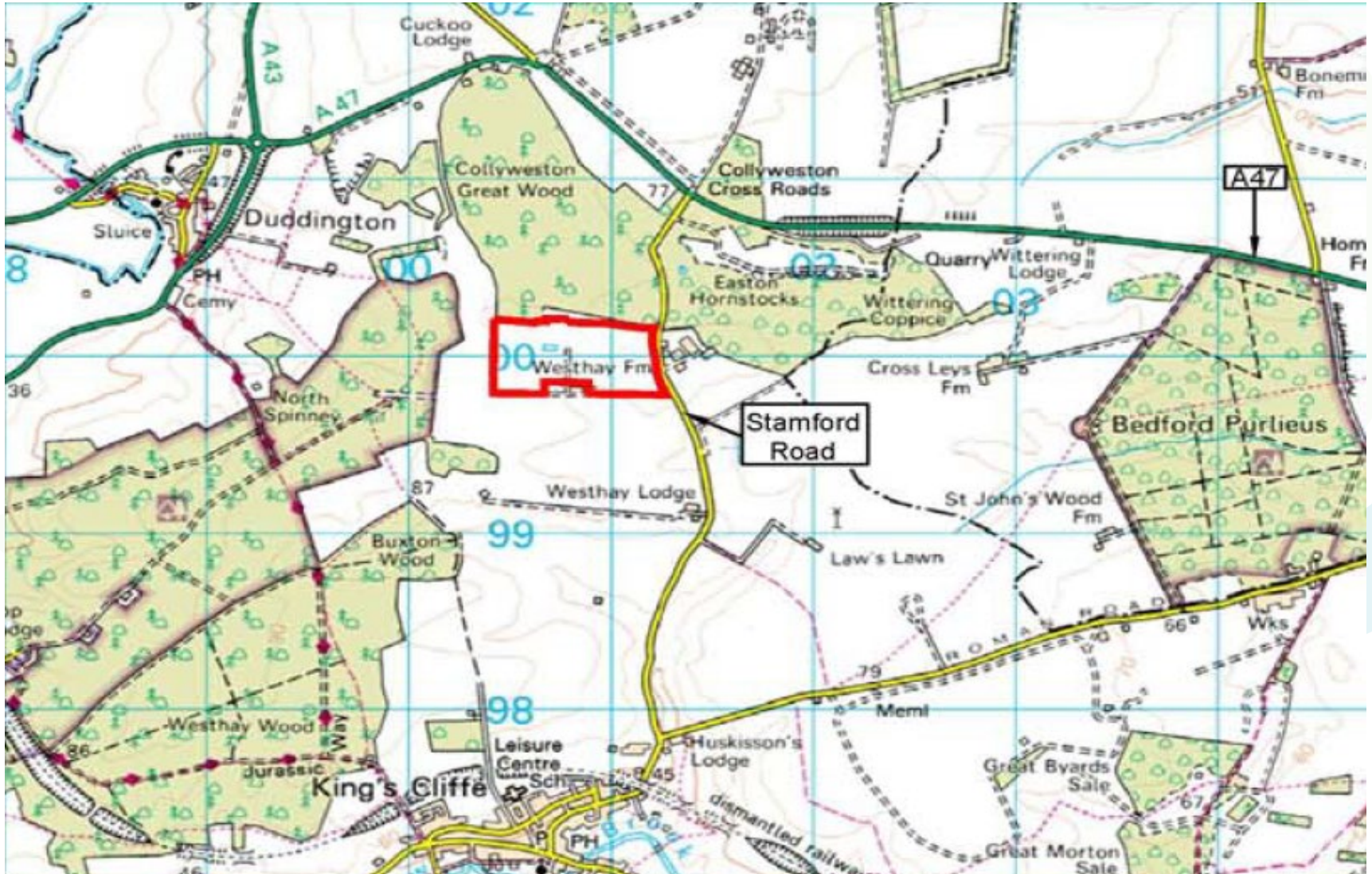
- Public listed company specialising in the management of the UK's more difficult to manage wastes.
- Augean operate specialist landfill sites, treatment facilities, transfer stations, industrial services centres, analytical laboratory facilities.

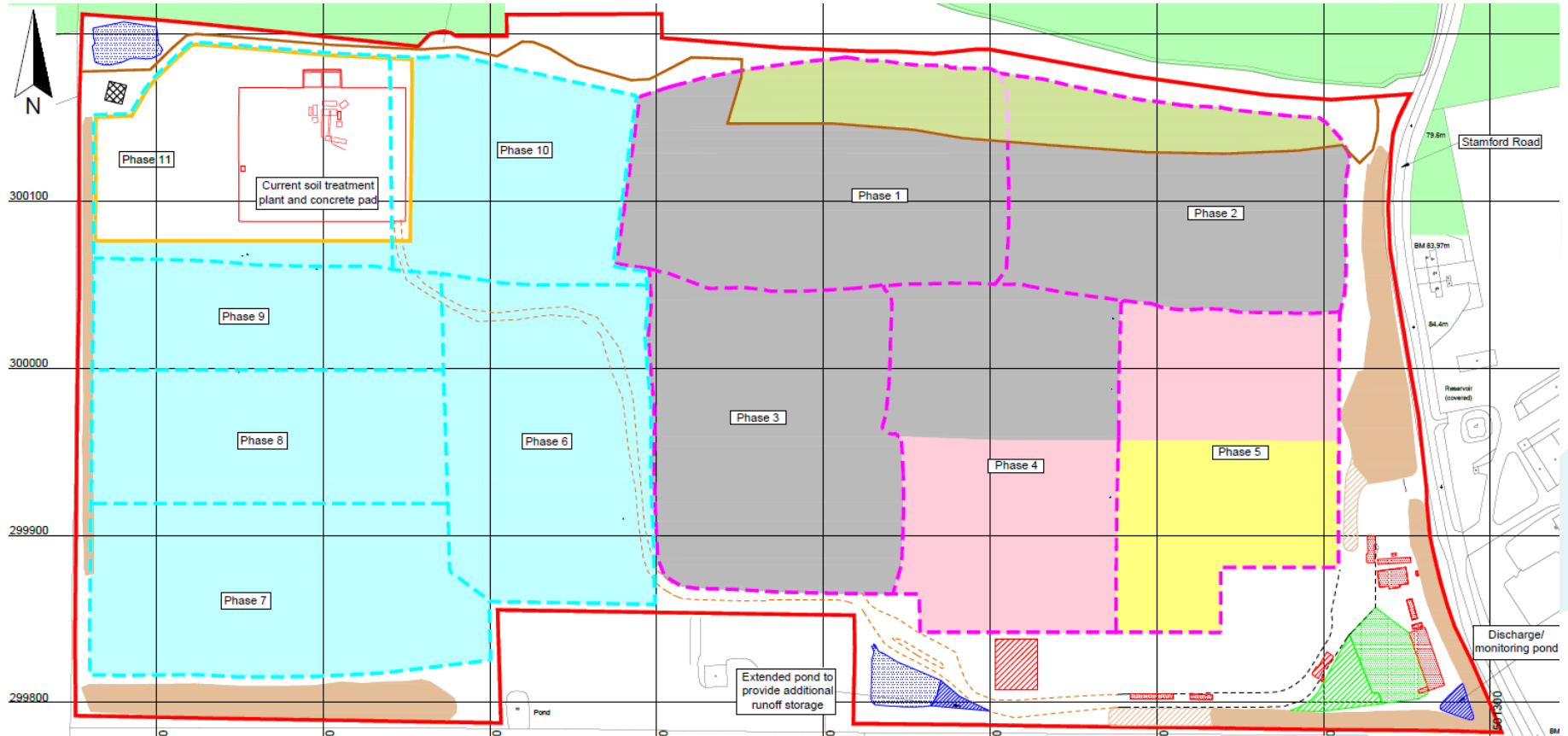


EAST NORTHANTS RESOURCE MANAGEMENT FACILITY (ENRMF)

- Current landfill site for the disposal of hazardous waste and low level radioactive waste.
- Current treatment facility for the treatment of a wide range of wastes.
- Current clay extraction, use and export.
- Ancillary facilities including wheel wash, weighbridge, offices, laboratory, gas management, leachate storage.
- Integrated facility operated by Augean since 2005.

CURRENT SITE LOCATION







ENRMF DCO

- Granted a DCO in July 2013 (No 1752).
 - Works No 1. Landfill with direct input rate up to 150,000tpa of hazardous waste and low level radioactive waste (LLW), extraction, stockpiling and exportation of clay and other suitable materials, other associated engineering works.
 - Works No 2. Waste treatment facility with an input rate of 150,000tpa and associated modular plant and equipment, reagent storage units, silos and tanks, stocking areas.
 - Ancillary activities including site offices, laboratory, canteen, wheel wash, weighbridge etc.
 - Combined total site input rate limited to 250,000tpa.
 - Total quantity of LLW input limited to 448,000 tonnes.
 - Site to be restored by 31 December 2026.

ENRMF AMENDMENT ORDER

- Granted an Amendment Order in June 2018 (No 742)
 - Non-material change.
 - Treatment plant throughput increased to 200,000tpa.
 - No other changes.

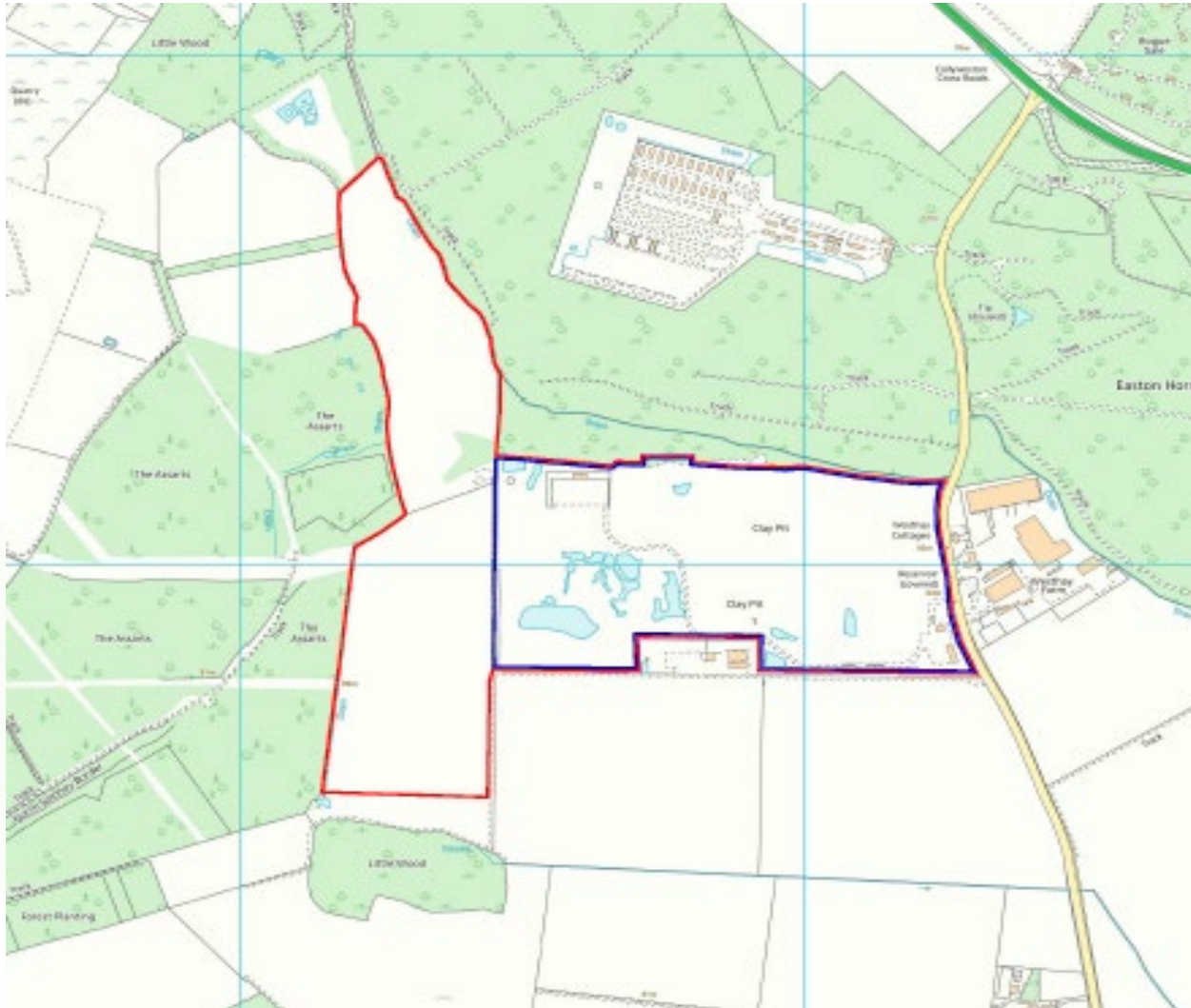
THE PROJECT (1)

- An extension in the landfill void to the west of the current landfill creating additional void which would extend the life of the site to 2046 (provisional date). The creation of additional void in the current landfill site to tie in with the restoration profile for the new western void.
- Filling of the void with hazardous waste and low level radioactive waste.
- Alteration of the existing treatment plant to increase the throughput to 240,000tpa [to be confirmed] and increase the operational area.
- Increase the combined total site input rate [annual tonnage to be determined].

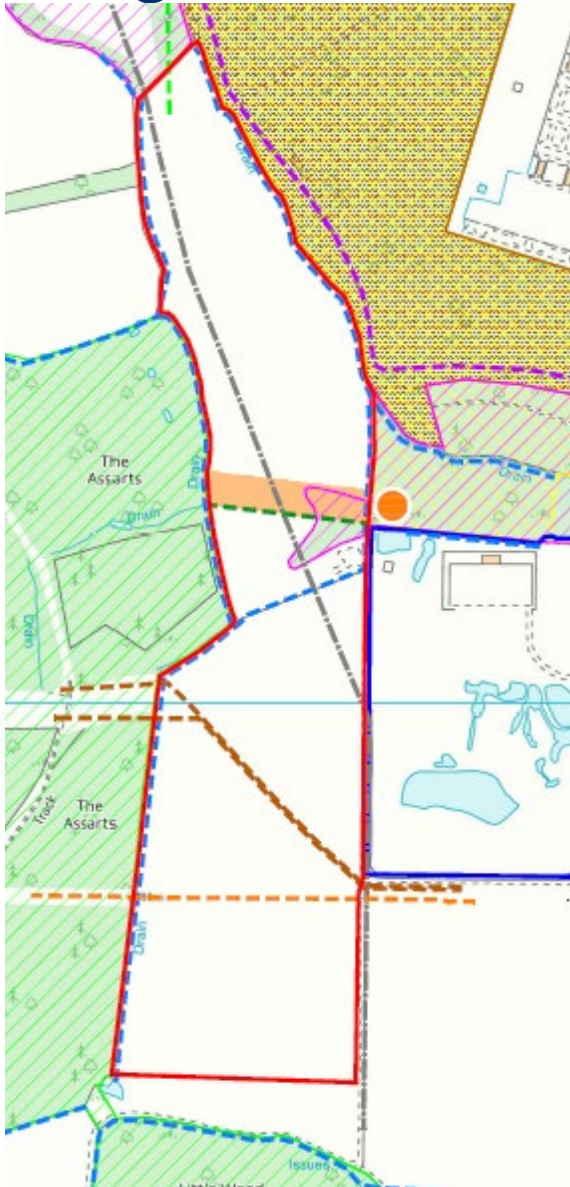
THE PROJECT (2)















- Diversion of services to allow creation of the landfill void.
- The creation of a new, second access point is under consideration.
- Winning and working of minerals including the extraction, stockpiling, use and exportation of clay and other suitable materials.
- Continuation and extension to the new area of associated and ancillary activities as in the current DCO.
- The restoration of the site to woodland, grassland and a mosaic of habitats to achieve enhanced biodiversity. Restoration by the end of December 2046 (provisional date).
- The activities will continue to be the subject of Environmental Permits.

PROPOSED EXTENSION AREA



EXTENSION AREA PHYSICAL CONSTRAINTS



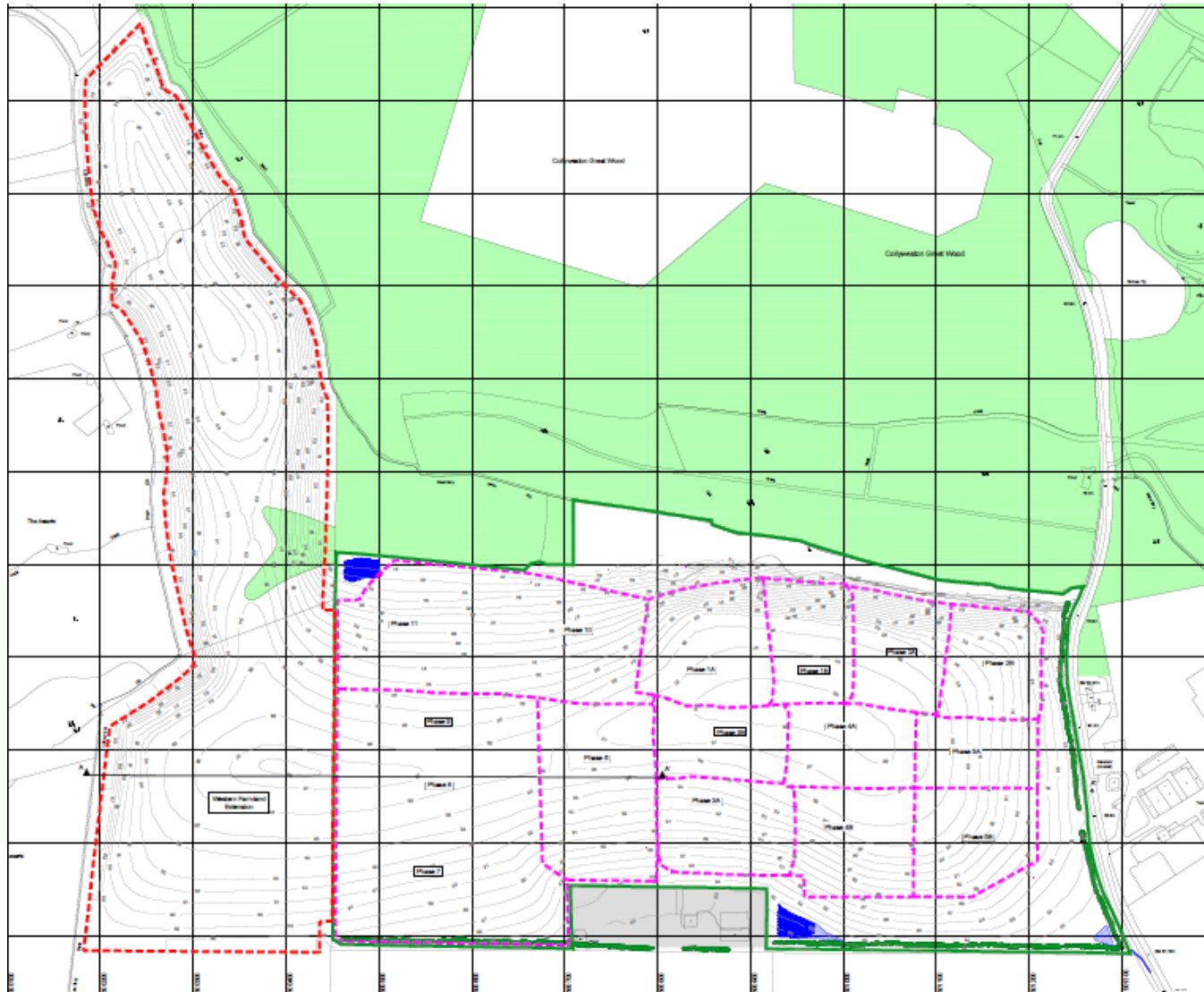
- | | | | |
|---|--|---|--|
|  | Boundary of the current ENRMF site |  | Route of the oil pipeline |
|  | Approximate location of the potential landfill extension |  | Route of the overhead electricity cables |
|  | Approximate location of ditches |  | Redundant MOD pipeline |
|  | Approximate location of water bodies |  | Area to be investigated for possible doline/further swallow holes |
|  | Approximate location of swallow hole |  | Approximate location of a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and a National Nature Reserve (NNR) |
|  | Route of the gas pipeline |  | Approximate location of an Ancient Woodland |
|  | Route of the water pipeline | | |
|  | Route of the drainage pipe | | |

UNCERTAINTIES IN THE LANDFILL DESIGN AT THIS STAGE

- The design is developing and the detail of the landfill technical design will be the subject of agreement with the Environment Agency prior to construction.
- The diversion routes for the services are the subject of discussions with the utility companies. The outcome will affect the detail of the landfill design.
- The design of the area around the doline investigation has still to be determined.
- There is a need for flexibility in the precise locations and arrangements for the treatment plant components. This reflects changing operational needs which respond to developing policies and techniques for treatment.

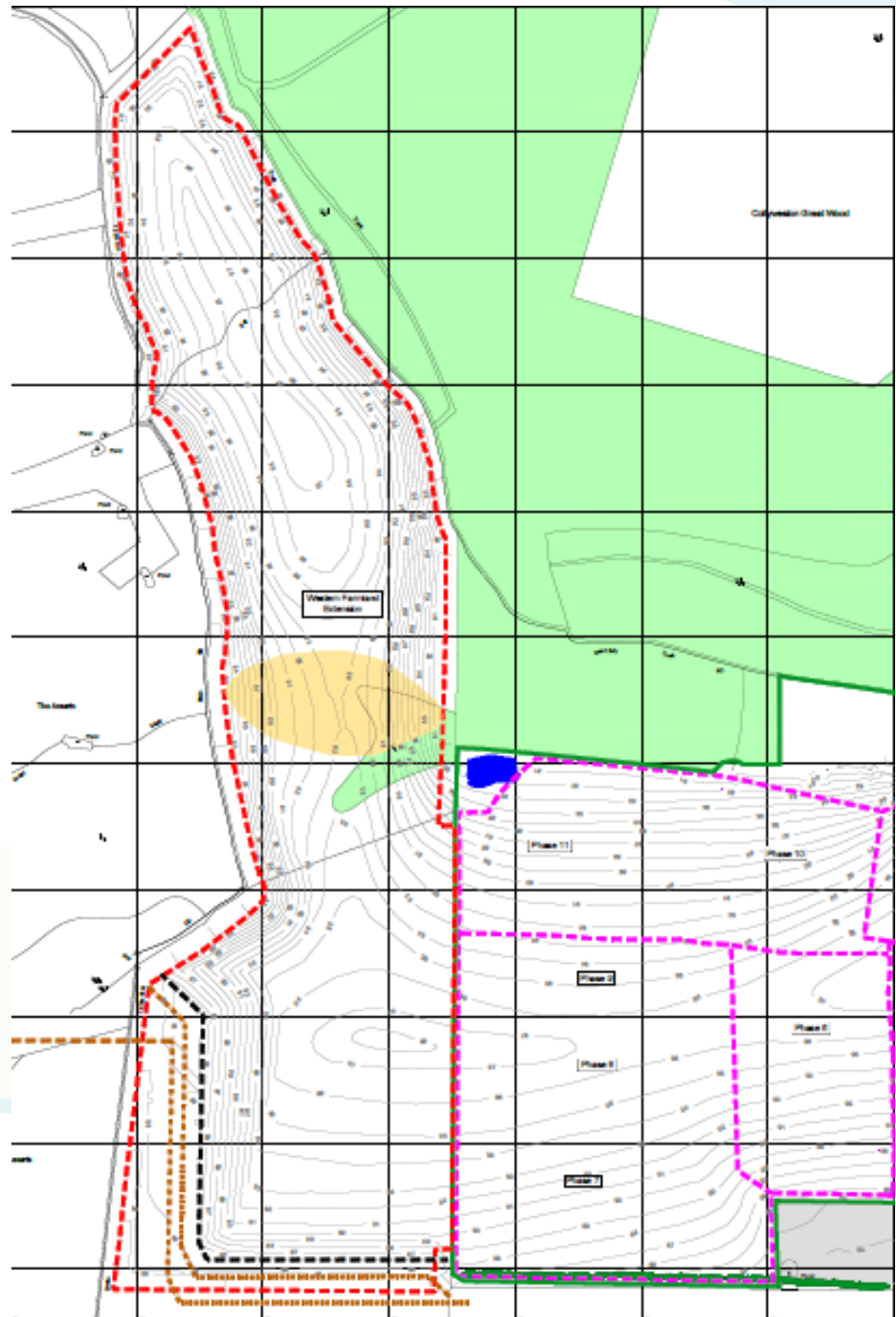
LANDFILL RESTORATION PROFILE OPTION (1)

THE SOUTHERN AREA IS NOT SHOWN HERE



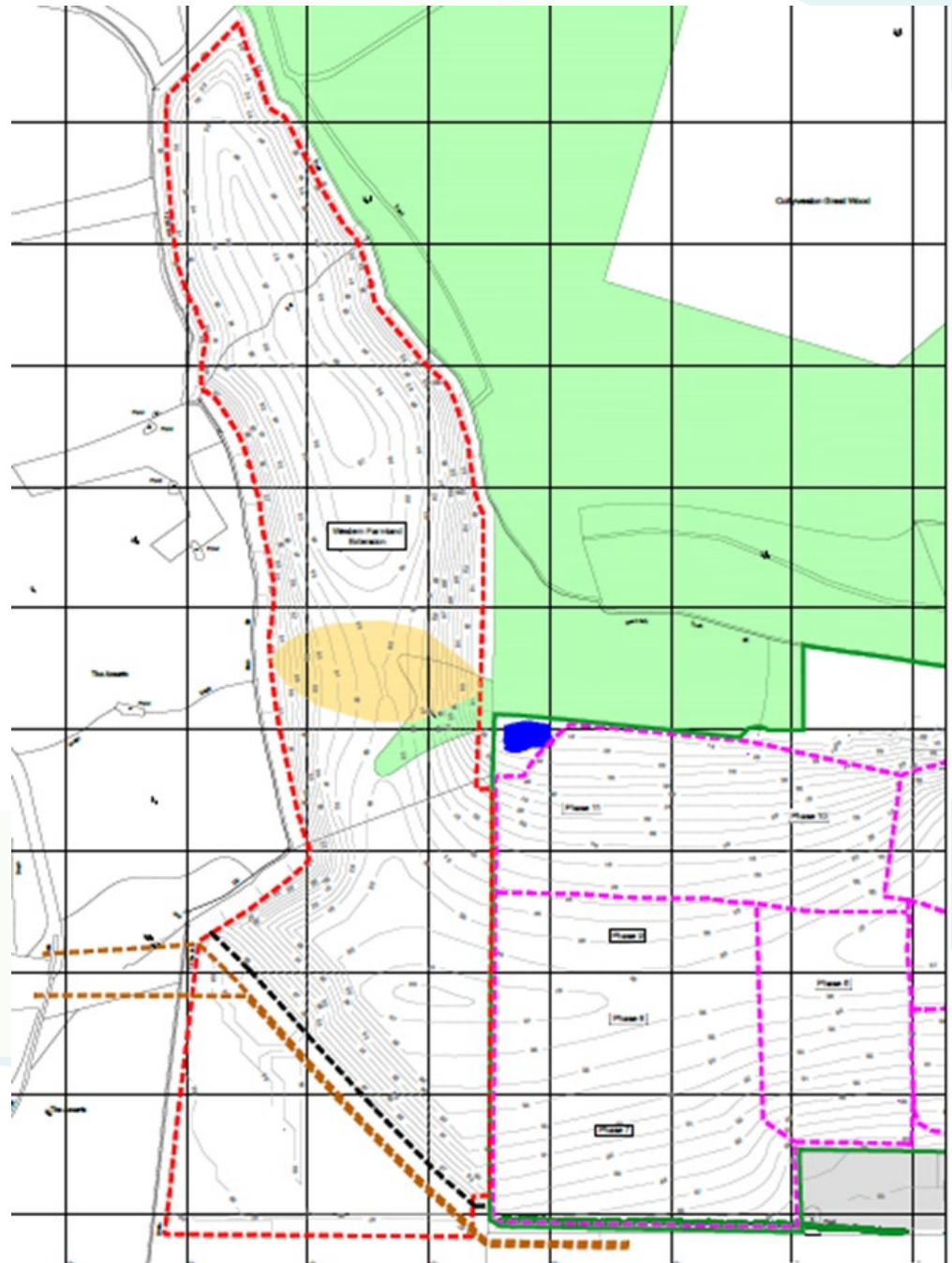
LANDFILL RESTORATION PROFILE OPTION (2)

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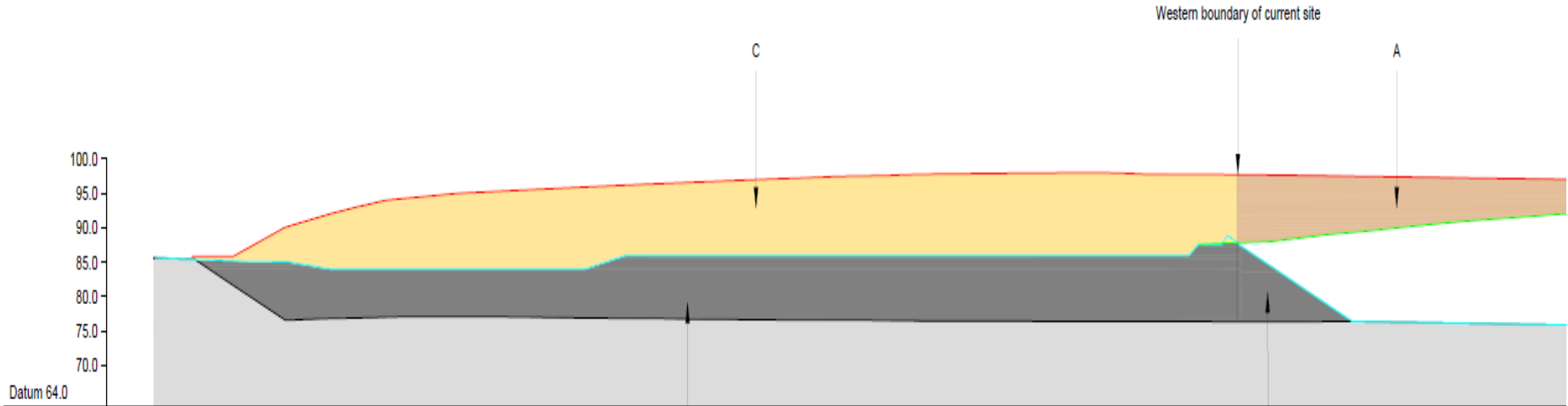



LANDFILL RESTORATION PROFILE (3)


THE SOUTHERN AREA IS
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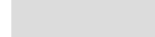
LANDFILL RESTORATION – ILLUSTRATIVE CROSS SECTION



 Western Farmland Extension void space above current ground levels

 Additional void space created on the current landfill by the Western Farmland Extension

 Material to be excavated to create the Western Farmland Extension

 Underlying geology

The assessments will include:

- The establishment of baseline conditions
- Impacts on people in particular human health
- Air quality (gases, dust and fibres)
- Ecology and biodiversity
- Water resources (surface water, groundwater)
- Flood risk assessment
- Landscape and visual impacts
- Noise
- Traffic and transport
- Soil resources and agricultural land classification
- Nuisance (odour and dust)
- Cultural heritage
- Climate change
- Material assets
- Socio economic impacts
- Alternatives
- Major accidents
- Transboundary impacts
- Cumulative impacts

THE EIA APPROACH (1)

- Design variability/uncertainty will be addressed by assessing the worst case aspects of the proposed development for each environmental aspect.
- The scope of the assessments are being discussed and agreed with the local authorities. Baseline data which cannot be gathered currently (noise, traffic) are being extrapolated from existing data. Baseline surveys will be scheduled for late 2020.
- The PEIR may be prepared based on extrapolated baseline data.

THE EIA APPROACH (2)

- The detail of the assessments of the impacts on human health and on water resources will be the subject of the Environmental Permit applications to the Environment Agency.
- It is not anticipated that the Environmental Permits will be issued by the time that the DCO application is submitted and examined.

LOCAL AUTHORITY

- The LPA is Northamptonshire County Council who are going through changes as part of Local Government Reform. The County, District and Borough Councils will be replaced by two new unitary authorities.
- The timetable has been disrupted by Covid-19. Elections scheduled for May 2020 have been cancelled.
- As a result it has been agreed that Councillors from NCC and the BCs/DCs will form shadow administrations for North Northamptonshire and West Northamptonshire and will sit until 1 April 2021. Elections for the new authorities now will be held on 6 May 2021.

CONSULTATION (1)

- Initial consultation has been on a confidential basis. There are a number of important details to be finalised before the final commercial decision is taken to submit the application. The application process is starting now because of the associated timescales.
- Augean want to make sure that all stakeholders are informed in a sensitive, timely and ordered way.
 - Kings Cliffe Liaison Committee
 - Individual residents and stakeholders
 - Local Parish Councils
 - Community newsletter
- EIA scoping consultation has commenced with Northamptonshire County Council (landscape, archaeology, traffic), East Northamptonshire District Council (noise), Natural England (ecology) and the Environment Agency.

CONSULTATION (2)

- Statutory consultees – current approach to derivation of the lists?
- Additional consultees such as BEIS and Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA).
- Approach to consultation, Advertisement and Notices as a result of Covid-19 restrictions.

ANTICIPATED TIMETABLE

- Formal notification to PINS June 2020
- Submit scoping report June 2020
- Prepare and agree SoCC June/July 2020
- PEIR Sept/Oct 2020
- Consultation Oct/Nov 2020
- **Submission April 2021**
- Examination August 2021 to January 2022
- Inspectorate report April 2022
- Secretary of State Decision July 2022