

Preliminary Environmental Information Report

Volume 3 Part B Section Specific Assessments

Section 1 New Grimsby West Substation

Chapter 7 Geology and Hydrogeology

Appendix 7A Initial Contamination Risk Classification

June 2025



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Grimsby to Walpole

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7A. Initial Contamination Risk Classification

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7A.1 Introduction

- 7A.1.1 The assessment methodology for the Geology and Hydrogeology Chapter follows the approach as outlined within the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Scoping Report (Ref 1) and within **PEI Report Volume 3 Part A Appendix 4B Environmental Impact Assessment Methodologies and Scope**.
- 7A.1.2 Given the size and length of the Study Area for the Grimsby to Walpole Project (the Project) and in order to provide a comprehensive but proportionate assessment, when considering the potential effects relating to the risk of encountering and mobilising pre-existing ground or groundwater contamination, it was proposed in the EIA Scoping Report (Ref 1) to first undertake a preliminary screening assessment to determine locations where the previous land use necessitated further assessment of the risks from pre-existing contamination. The criteria used in this assessment has been developed using guidance within Land Contamination Risk Management (LCRM) (Ref 2).
- 7A.1.3 The assessment is based on the classification system in **Table 7A.1** below. The results of applying this system to the potential contamination source areas in the New Grimsby West Substation Section (Section 1) are provided in **Table 7A.2**. The sources with a moderate, high or very high potential risk of notable contamination being present have then been taken forward for assessment as detailed within **PEI Report Volume 2 Part B Section 1 Chapter 7 Geology and Hydrogeology**. Where a low, very low or negligible risk of notable contamination being present is identified, these sites/areas have not been taken further for assessment on the basis that significant results are unlikely.

Table 7A.1 Initial Contamination Screening Assessment Criteria

Risk Classification	Potential for Generating Contamination
Very Low	Contamination that could be of note in the context of an electricity infrastructure construction project is very unlikely – e.g. residential, retail or offices, agriculture.
Low	Some potential for contamination, but previous and current uses are of low risk and unlikely to be of note in the context of an electricity infrastructure construction project e.g. low risk commercial uses, such as depots or warehouses.
Moderate	Some potential for contamination, with previous and current processes that are considered a risk of generating widespread slightly elevated contamination levels and/or more localised areas of more severe contamination – e.g. railways, railway yards, collieries, scrap yards, inert landfills.

Risk Classification	Potential for Generating Contamination
High	Previous and current uses that are commonly associated with widespread elevated contamination potential – e.g. major industry, non-hazardous landfills.
Very High	Previous and current uses that are associated with the highest risk of elevated contamination – e.g. hazardous landfills, gas works, chemical works.

Table 7A.2 Initial Contamination Screening Assessment for Section 1

Feature	Location	Distance from draft Order Limits (m)	Risk Classification
Existing Grimsby West Substation	North east of Laceby, underneath pylons, east of pylons GL1 to GL3	0 m (within/directly adjacent to the draft Order Limits	Moderate
Storage of sludge	North east of Laceby, south of pylon GL3	0 m (within), directly adjacent to substation footprint	Low (process has two registered waste exemptions, ref. WEX268968 and WEX092407, indicating environmental compliance)

References

- Ref 1 National Grid Electricity Transmission (2024). Grimsby to Walpole Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report [online]. Available at: <https://nsip-documents.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/published-documents/EN020036-000004-EN020036%20-%20Scoping%20Report%20Volume%201%20Main%20Report.pdf> [Accessed 14 March 2025]
- Ref 2 Environmental Agency (2023) Land contamination risk management (LRCM) [online]. Available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/land-contamination-risk-management-lcrm> [Accessed 14 March 2025]

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