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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 Refined Weston Marsh Substation Siting Zone Section (Section 5) 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 5 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 5

Feature	Location	Distance from Refined Siting Zone boundary (m)	Risk Classification
Historical tank	North of Weston, off Hall Gate, north of St Lambert's Hall	0 m (within)	Moderate (unknown what this relates to, i.e. water, fuel, chemicals)
Surface ground workings – pond (historical)	North east of Surfleet Seas End, south east of the River Welland	0 m (within)	Low (feature contains water)
Plant Nursery with above ground tanks	South east of Surfleet Seas End, off Marsh Road	0 m (just beyond the extent of the Refined Siting Zone boundary)	Moderate (unknown what the tanks relate to, i.e. water, fuel, chemicals)
Scrap yard	North of Weston, off Wiseman's Gate	0 m (just beyond the extent of the Refined Siting Zone boundary)	Moderate
Warehouses and storage yard	West of Weston, off Cross Gate	Approximately 40 m south west	Low
Auto centre	North west of Weston, off Wiseman's Gate	Approximately 50 m (within a circular area excluded from the Refined Siting Zone boundary)	Moderate
Warehouses and storage areas	North of Weston, north of A151	Approximately 60 m east	Low
Miscellaneous scrap/storage area	South of Fosdyke Bridge, off Carrington Road	Approximately 140 m east	Moderate

Feature	Location	Distance from Refined Siting Zone boundary (m)	Risk Classification
Historical tanks	North of Weston, off Hall Gate, at St Lambert's Hall	Approximately 210 m east	Moderate (unknown what these relates to, i.e. water, fuel, chemicals)

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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