

Preliminary Environmental Information Report

Volume 3 Part B Section Specific Assessments

Section 7 Walpole B Substation

Chapter 7 Geology and Hydrogeology

Appendix 7A Initial Contamination Risk Classification

June 2025



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Grimsby to Walpole

Document control

Document Properties	
Organisation	Arup AECOM
Approved by	National Grid
Title	Preliminary Environmental Information Report Volume 3 Part B Section Specific Assessments Section 7 New Walpole B Substation Chapter 7 Geology and Hydrogeology Appendix 7A Initial Contamination Risk Classification
Document Register ID	GWNC-ARUP(AEC)-ENV-REP-0002
Data Classification	Public

Version History			
Date	Version	Status	Description / Changes
June 2025	1.0	Final	First Issue

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 Walpole B Substation Section (Section 7) 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 in **PEI Report Volume 2 Part B Section 7 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.
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 7

Feature	Location	Distance from draft Order Limits (m)	Risk Classification
Nursery	Northeast of Walton Highway, within the draft Order Limits off Lynn Road	0 m (within)	Very Low
Solar Farm	North of Walton Highway, south of Mill Road	0 m (on the boundary/directly adjacent to the draft Order Limits)	Very Low
Unspecified mound	North west of Walton Highway off Salts Road	0 m (directly adjacent to the draft Order Limits)	Low
Tank supplier and repairs/servicing contractor	North west of Walton Highway, at 135 Salts Road	0 m (directly adjacent to the draft Order Limits)	Low
Plant and machinery hire contractor	North of Walton Highway, off West Drove North	0 m (directly adjacent to the draft Order Limits)	Low

Feature	Location	Distance from draft Order Limits (m)	Risk Classification
Commercial facilities (including a construction contractor and trucking company)	Off King John Bank, north east of Walpole Marsh	0 m (just beyond the draft Order Limits at an area of road widening)	Low
Timber merchants and historical factory	Within Walton Highway, off Lynn Road	Approximately 270 m south	Low
Former petroleum license for JT Ward	North west of Walton Highway, off Salts Road	Approximately 500 m south	Moderate
Waste Management contractor	Off Marsh Road, south east of Walpole Marsh	Approximately 50 m south (adjacent to an area of road widening)	Low

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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