

# Supplementary Preliminary Environmental Information Report: Section 5 New Weston Marsh Substations A and B

Volume 3 Part B Section Specific Assessment

Chapter 7 Geology and Hydrogeology

Appendix 7A Initial Contamination Risk Classification

November 2025

# Contents

<b>7A.</b>	<b>Initial Contamination Risk Classification</b>	<b>1</b>
7A.1	Introduction	1
	Table 7A.1 Initial contamination screening assessment criteria	2
	Table 7A.2 Initial contamination screening assessment for Section 5	2
	References	4

# Grimsby to Walpole

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# **7A. Initial Contamination Risk Classification**

# 7A. Initial Contamination Risk Classification

## 7A.1 Introduction

- 7A.1.1 This appendix presents an update to the Initial Contamination Risk Classification for Section 5 included within the previously published June 2025 Preliminary Environmental Information (PEI) Report for the Grimsby to Walpole Project (the Project) (Ref 1), which formed part of the Stage 2 Consultation completed between 11 June 2025 and 6 August 2025. This update reflects the fact that since the launch of the Stage 2 Consultation, further design development work has been completed to confirm the requirement for two substations within Section 5, the preferred locations of the new Weston Marsh Substation A and new Weston Marsh Substation B and the associated overhead line and underground cable connections. The draft Order Limits for Section 5 have also now been defined, whereas the June 2025 PEI Report was based upon a wider 'Refined Weston Marsh Substation Siting Zone' which covered a greater total area than the Section 5 draft Order Limits. This report forms an appendix to the **Supplementary PEI Report Volume 2 Part B Chapter 7 Geology and Hydrogeology**.
- 7A.1.2 The assessment methodology for the Geology and Hydrogeology chapter follows the approach as outlined within the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Scoping Report (Ref 2) and within the **Supplementary PEI Report Volume 3 Part A Appendix 4B Environmental Impact Assessment Methodologies and Scope**.
- 7A.1.3 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 2) 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 3).
- 7A.1.4 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 Weston Marsh Substations A and B 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 the **Supplementary 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.
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 <sup>1</sup>	Location	Distance from draft Order Limits (m)	Risk Classification
Historical tank	North of Weston, off Hall Gate, north of St Lambert's Hall, 390 m south east of pylon RJ6	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, 140 m south east of pylon LW200	0 m (within)	Low (feature contains water)
Plant Nursery with above ground tanks	South east of Surfleet Seas End, off Marsh Road, 200 m north of New Weston Marsh Substation B	0 m (just beyond the extent of the draft Order Limits)	Moderate (unknown what the tanks relate to, i.e. water, fuel, chemicals)



<b>Feature<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Distance from draft Order Limits (m)</b>	<b>Risk Classification</b>
Scrap yard	North of Weston, off Wiseman's Gate, 250 m south east of pylon RJ12	Approximately 50 m east	Moderate
Auto centre	North west of Weston, off Wiseman's Gate, 290 m south east of pylon RJ14	Approximately 50 m east	Moderate
Warehouses and storage areas	North of Weston, north of A151, 690 m south east of pylon RJ13	Approximately 100 m south	Low
Warehouses	Off B1180 and A16, north of Spalding, 2.1 km west of pylon RJ15	Approximately 140 m west	Low
Various industrial uses <sup>2</sup>	Off Elsoms Way and B1180, north of Spalding, 2.2 km west of pylon RJ15	Approximately 250 m west and south	N/A <sup>2</sup> .
Warehouses and storage yard	West of Weston, off Cross Gate, 480 m south west of pylon RJ15	Approximately 330 m west	Low
Historical sewage works	North of Weston, off Hall Gate, at St Lambert's Hall, 800 m east of pylon RJ9	Approximately 440 m south	High

<sup>1</sup> For brevity, historical pollution incidents to land or water are only included in this table that have an impact classification of Category 2 (major) or greater within the Study Area.

<sup>2</sup> This area contains a substantial industrial and commercial development including an auto centre, various warehouses, a household waste recycling centre, a sewage treatment works, and part of Spalding Power Station. However, this area only falls within the Study Area due to its proximity to an existing permanent access road (located around 250m north) that will be used to access a proposed environmental mitigation area 1.2km to the north of the location of industrial / commercial use. As such, the land use in the industrial / commercial area is of minimal relevance to the effects of the Project, given that there will be minimal ground disturbance or construction activities within 1km of it. Therefore, to avoid unnecessarily listing and classifying the uses in this area exhaustively, they are instead discounted from classification on the basis that they have minimal potential to affect the Project.

# References

- Ref 1      National Grid Electricity Transmission (2025). Grimsby to Walpole Preliminary Environmental Information Report [online]. Available at: <https://www.nationalgrid.com/the-great-grid-upgrade/grimsby-to-walpole/document-library#4257225834-3023854277> [Accessed 12 September 2025].
- Ref 2      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 3      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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