



RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT HISTORICAL RAIL DEPOT, ASHFORD, KENT

THE PROJECT

A major housing development located at a historical railway depot in Ashford, Kent, resulted in the generation of a large volume of waste soil that was placed in a series of stockpiles.

During an initial phase of site investigation, carried out by a third party, several of the stockpiles had been classified as hazardous waste due to the recorded concentrations of contaminants such as metals, poly aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) and asbestos.

The financial implications for the “muck away” process were significant and would impact on project timelines and profitability.

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CET'S APPROACH

Our main challenge on this project was to reduce the volume of soil leaving the site that was classified as hazardous waste.

By reducing the volume of hazardous waste we could make some significant cost savings for the client, so here's what we did:

- Reinterpretation of the existing chemical data in accordance with the Environment Agency (EA) guidance that was current at the time of reporting (WM2 Ver.3, August 2013);
- A supplementary phase of site investigation by a CET Environmental Scientist to inspect the stockpiles and recover supplementary samples for laboratory chemical analysis
- Management of the laboratory testing procedure and issue of chain of custody information
- Provision of a detailed Hazard Assessment report that utilised an online waste classification model
- Established which soils leaving the site would be classified as inert, non-hazardous or hazardous by receiving landfill or waste management facilities
- Provision of an appropriate European Waste Catalogue (EWC) references for the re-classified waste

KEY BENEFITS

Detailed laboratory analysis allowed CET to refine the waste classification model input parameters and the chemical properties of many of the determinants that had initially rendered the soils as Hazardous waste.

By gaining a better understanding of the chemical composition of the waste soils CET were able to use our specialist knowledge to reclassify many of the waste soil stockpiles as Non Hazardous waste, thus resulting in significant savings in disposal costs.

Our works also enabled the Client to comply with their 'duty of care' as a waste producer.