

GEA PROJECT FACTSHEET

Project Name: Starlings Bridge

Site Location: Hitchin

Overview: Redevelopment of old town gasworks through the construction of an apartment block with basement car park. The basement excavation required removal of a significant volume of soil, which previous investigations carried out by others had indicated was at least in part significantly contaminated.



The Technical Challenges:

Waste Disposal - GEA was approached by the client to investigate ways of minimising waste disposal costs in the light of significant increases in the cost of the disposal of contaminated soil following implementation of the Landfill Directive. GEA reviewed the extensive investigations that had been carried out and concluded that there was a potential for the soil from the basement excavation to be categorised into different waste classifications.

The Approach to the Problem

One of our Principal Geoenvironmental Engineers spent a morning on site and excavated a number of trial pits to confirm our views on the existing data. These allowed us to confirm that the soil represented by the different concentrations of contaminants was clearly recognisable; our proposed method of separating the different classes of contamination was therefore considered to be appropriate.

We prepared a method statement and agreed it with the licensed landfill operator that the ground worker had selected for receiving the waste.

The Solution

One of our Geoenvironmental Engineers provided full-time supervision of all of the excavations on site and advised on the classification of the waste and selected samples for validation testing; this approach has allowed our client to avoid very significant landfill costs. As is often the case when we are involved on remediation projects, our presence on site was also utilised for solving geotechnical problems and we organised the drilling of boreholes and provided a solution for foundations placed over the existing gas holder.

For further information regarding this or any other ground related issues contact:

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