

# A12.2 Peat Assessment

# 1 Introduction

# Background

1.1 Following on from the 2016 Preliminary Ground Investigation (GI) for the A96 Dualling, Inverness to Nairn (including Nairn Bypass), data from the GI has been used to identify areas within CPO boundaries which will be affected by peat deposits that may require to be excavated and replaced with suitable fill. This is due to the extra land required for the working area and slopes that will be formed during the construction works. The following assessment considers the estimated volume of peat affecting the proposed Scheme.

# Peat Assessment - Gollanfield

#### Background

1.2 The following peat assessment considers the estimated volume of peat within pre-determined areas of peat in the Gollanfield area that were identified from geological maps prior to the ground investigation works. All other localised peat encountered during the preliminary GI are considered in the Localised Peat Areas Assessment section below.

# Ground Investigation Data

- 1.3 A peat probing survey was carried out during the 2016 GI to obtain information on the thickness of peat in the vicinity of the proposed Scheme. The peat probing was carried out in seven areas (A to G) where peat deposits, identified on the geological map, are within close proximity to the proposed Scheme. Peat probe areas were further refined based on possible peat identified from aerial photography and where peat was identified during the site walkover inspection. The peat probes were undertaken on a 20m grid as defined in the GI Contract Drawings (Appendix A).
- 1.4 The results of the peat probing survey (Appendix B) indicate that the greatest thickness of peat (4.43m) is located in Area D. In some areas, particularly in Area F and Area G, negligible thicknesses of peat were recorded with average probe penetration only 0.08m and 0.02m respectively. Although 2.24m of peat was recorded in one probe in Area F, due to the surrounding probes encountering less than 0.1m of peat and the fact that the probe is located 42m away from the proposed Scheme footprint, this is considered to be an irrelevant result. Furthermore, this probe is located at a lower level than the proposed Scheme adjacent to a large pond and is not consistent with the ground conditions encountered in the vicinity of the proposed Scheme footprint. Due to the factors noted above, this single probe has been discounted from the average thickness calculations for Area F. A probe depth of 0.90m was recorded in Area G. This probe is also considered to be irrelevant due to its excessive distance (approximately 80m) from the proposed Scheme footprint. As such, this probe has been excluded from the average depth calculation for Area G. Consequently, Area F and Area G have been excluded from the remainder of the assessment. A summary of the thickness of peat encountered in each area is provided in Table 1.
- 1.5 Further information in relation to the thickness of peat in the vicinity of the peat probing areas was obtained from the exploratory hole logs. A summary of the boreholes and trial pits that recorded peat is given in Table 2. The locations of the exploratory holes are indicated on the contract drawings in Appendix A. The majority of the boreholes encountering Peat are located at Gollanfield, however, localised peat was encountered at Culblair (BHP0905) and at Milton of Boath (BHP2107). Note that the thicknesses of peat recorded in Table 2 include the surface topsoil layer which has a typical thickness of 0.4-0.6m.



Peat Probing Area	Number of Probes Undertaken	Max Probe Penetration <sup>1</sup> (m)	Min Probe Penetration (m)	Average Probe Penetration (m)		
A	41	0.48	0.00	0.20		
В	38	0.45	0.00	0.20		
С	27	3.20	0.20	1.00		
D	102	4.43	0.05	1.07		
E	24	1.12	0.12	0.48		
F	123	0.47 (discounting irrelevant result of 2.24m)	0.00	0.08 (discounting irrelevant result of 2.24m)		
G	133	0.36 (discounting irrelevant result of 0.90m)	0.00	0.02 (discounting irrelevant result of 0.90m)		
	Notes: <sup>1</sup> Assumed to be the base of the Peat deposits					

# Table 1 : Summary of Peat thickness in each Peat probing area

Table 2 : Details of Peat recorded in exploratory holes

Exploratory Hole No. (Peat probing Area if relevant)	Depth to base of Peat (m)	Thickne ss of Peat (m)	Groundwater Details <sup>1</sup>	Description of Peat
TPP1408 (Area D)	2.50	2.10	Strike at 1.60mbgl (heavy ingress noted)	Pseudofibrous plastic PEAT with occasional fragments of timber and medium root content (From 0.4m to 1.3m, reworked Peat)
TPP1409 (Area D)	2.60	2.00	Strike at 2.80mbgl	Fibrous plastic and spongy PEAT with pockets of sand and high root content
TPP1410 (Area D)	2.90	2.30	Strike at 2.85mbgl (heavy ingress noted)	Fibrous plastic PEAT with high root content
TPP1501 (Area D)	3.70	3.25	Strike at 3.80mbgl	Fibrous plastic PEAT with high root content and boulder sized fragments of wood
BHP1405 (Area C)	2.20	1.3	Unknown – Installation damaged	Gravelly pseudo-fibrous PEAT with occasional rootlets
BHP1408 (Area D)	2.70	2.45	Strike at 1.10mbgl. Artesian in rock (head <1.0m above GL)	Pseudofibrous PEAT with medium root and wood content
BHP1409 (Area D)	3.90	3.9	Strike at 2.66mbgl. Monitoring recorded 0.12- 0.37mbgl	Slightly gravelly slightly sandy PEAT with occasional vegetation
Notes:				



# Peat Thickness Contouring

- 1.6 Depths recorded during peat probing along with the peat thickness information from exploratory hole logs has been plotted using GIS. The peat thickness information has been contoured to show the anticipated thickness of the peat in the vicinity of the proposed Scheme footprint. Due to the low probe penetrations achieved in areas F and G (see Appendix B), it is considered that there is no peat or very small thicknesses of peat in these areas. As such, this material will be treated as topsoil. Any small areas of Peat encountered can likely be mixed with topsoil and re-used as landscaping fill or for top-soiling earthworks. As such, the material to be excavated and disposed of in areas F and G is considered to be negligible and the peat probe data for these areas has not been contoured. The contoured peat depths for Areas A to E are shown on Figure 12.3 (Environmental Statement Volume 3: Figures).
- 1.7 As shown on the contoured plans, the deposits of peat appear to be relatively shallow in areas A, B and E whereas pockets of thicker Peat are recorded in areas C and D. This is consistent with the areas of Peat indicated on the published geological maps. The localised deposits of thicker peat in Areas C and D are likely due to the formation of peat within localised depressions formed within the underlying glacial deposits. Furthermore, it was intimated by a local farmer (Mr MacKintosh, Blackcastle Farm), that when the existing A96 was constructed, the peat was excavated beneath the alignment and is understood to have been deposited locally which may potentially explain the thicker deposits encountered in this area as well as the re-worked peat encountered in TPP1408.

# **Peat Volume Assessment**

- 1.8 At present, it is assumed that the majority of the Peat will be excavated and the resulting excavation will be infilled with engineered fill. An exception to this is proposed at Gollanfield Railway Bridge where a piled load transfer platform could be considered to support the eastern embankment. This would negate the requirement to excavate beneath a 100m length of the proposed Scheme footprint between the northern railway bridge abutment and a portion of the proposed Scheme to the north and east. This area is located at approximate ch16290 to 16390 as indicated on Diagram 1.1. This design solution could be used to eliminate the requirement to excavate peat in the immediate vicinity of the railway, which is anticipated to have been constructed directly over the peat deposits. Excavation of peat in this area could therefore have the potential to drain the peat beneath the railway track leading to settlement. However, further assessment and investigation is required in this area. The peat appears to be very localised beneath the southern railway bridge abutment and embankment, and no special measures are proposed in this area at present.
- 1.9 In order to facilitate the excavation of the peat in the remaining areas, it has been assumed that permanent slopes will be formed at 1V:2H and temporary working slopes will be formed at 1V:1H as shown in the schematic diagram in Diagram 1.2. The estimated peat volumes within the peat probing areas have been calculated using the GIS contoured surfaces as shown in Figure 12.3 (Environmental Statement Volume 3: Figures).
- 1.10 The volumes of Peat requiring excavation have been estimated using GIS using the assumptions noted above, and are presented in Table 3. Details of the methodology used in the assessment is provided in Appendix C.



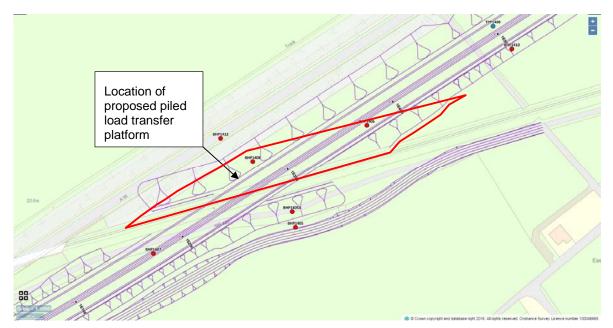


Diagram 1.1: Location of proposed Load Transfer Platform

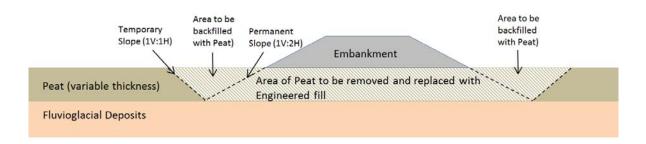


Diagram 1.2: Schematic diagram showing area beneath earthwork where Peat will be dug-out and replaced



#### Table 3: Volumes of Peat requiring excavation

Peat location	Estimated volume under design footprint (m <sup>3</sup> )	Estimated volume saved by design solutions (m <sup>3</sup> )	Estimated total Peat dig-out required (m³)				
Area A	1,500	0	1,500				
Area B	2,500	0	2,500				
Area C	6,500	0	6,500				
Area D	53,000	-29,500 <sup>1</sup>	23,500				
Area E	5,000	0	5,000				
Total	68,500	-29,500	39,000				
Notes: <sup>1</sup> Piled load transfer platform							

# 2 Localised Peat Assessment

2.1 This assessment considers the localised areas of peat that were encountered in exploratory holes located outside of the main peat probing areas (Areas A to F) near Gollanfield. These localised areas of peat may also require excavation and replacement during construction works due to their poor engineering properties.

#### **Ground Investigation Data**

2.2 Two localised areas of buried peat were identified during the 2016 GI. These areas are located at Culblair and Milton of Boath. Details of the peat encountered in these areas are given in Table 4 below. The locations of these exploratory holes are shown on the GI Contract drawings provided in Appendix A.

Exploratory Hole No.	Depth (mbgl)	Groundwater	Soil Description
BHP0905 (Culblair)	1.00-1.60	Monitoring Results: 0.37- 1.97mbgl	Dark brown PEAT with some vegetation
BHP2107 (Milton of	1.20-2.00	Monitoring Results: 0.50- 0.69mbgl	Dark greyish brown to black sandy PEAT with some vegetation
Boath)	2.00-2.50		Dark greyish brown to black very sandy gravelly PEAT with some vegetation

Table 4: Localised Peat deposits encountered during the preliminary GI

#### **Peat Volume Assessment**

2.3 The estimated extents of the localised peat deposits at Culblair and Milton of Boath are shown on Diagrams 1.3 and 1.4 respectively and an estimate of the volume of peat in each area is presented in Table 5. Calculations indicate that an estimated 1,500m3 of peat will have to be considered for removal in these localised areas. It should be noted that the peat in these localised areas has been found within alluvial material and as such it likely that the peat will be removed along with the soft alluvial material and not as a distinct horizon.



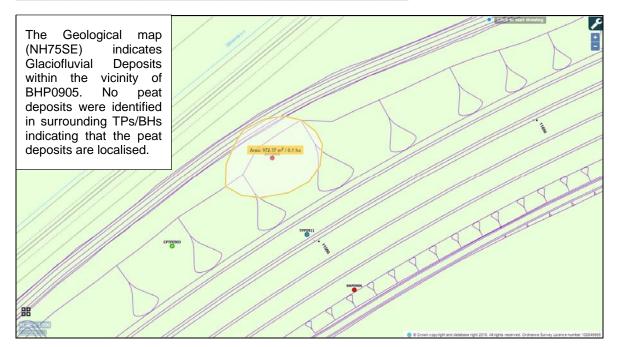


Diagram 1.3: Estimated area of soft deposits to be addressed at Culblair

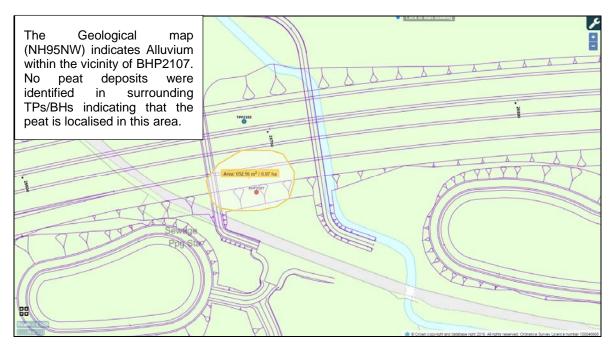


Diagram 1.4: Estimated area of peat deposits to be addressed at Milton of Boath



# Table 5: Results of localised peat volume assessment

Chainage (location)	Relevant exploratory holes	Estimated Thickness of localised peat deposits (m)	Estimated area of peat deposits (m²)	Estimated volume of peat deposits potentially requiring dig-out (m <sup>3</sup> )
ch11500 (Cublair)	BHP0905	0.6m	1,000	600
ch26650-26720 (Milton of Boath)	TPP2107 (Milton of Boath)	1.3m	700	910
			Total Volume:	1,510



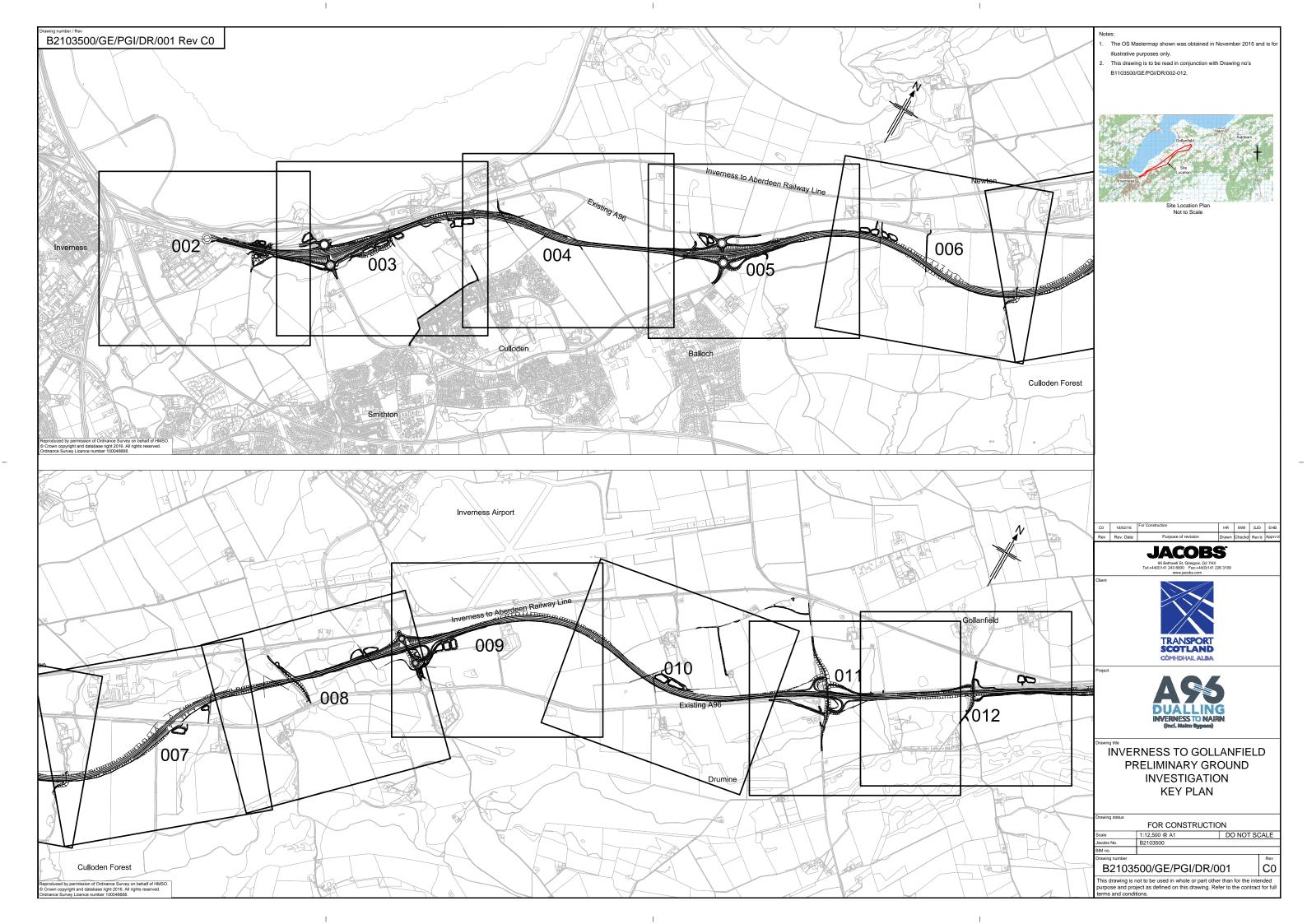
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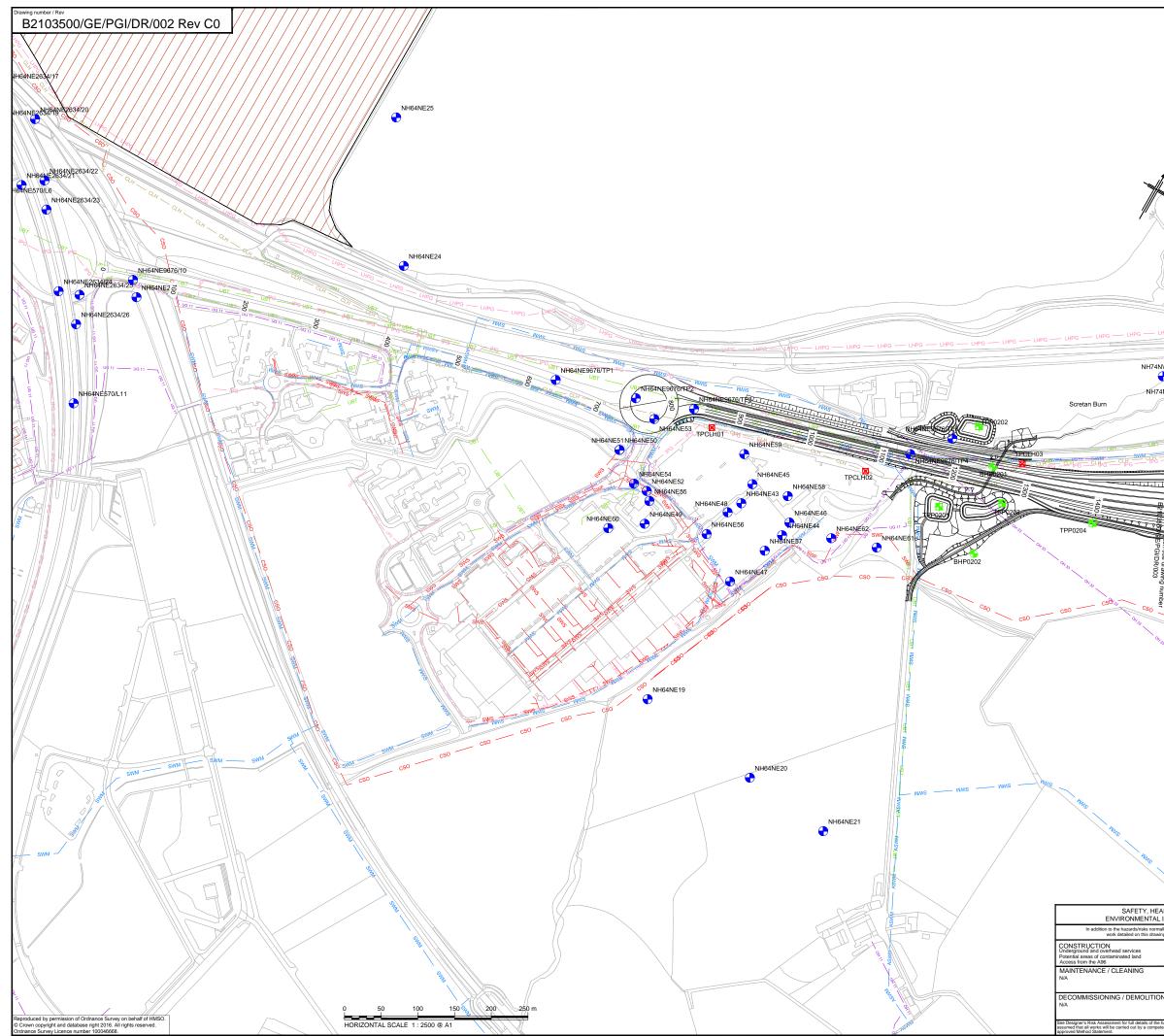


# Appendix A: Relevant GI Drawings showing Peat Probe Locations



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- Notes:
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   The OS Mastermap shown was obtained in November 2015 and is for illustrative purposes only.
   All positions are to be agreed with the Engineer and the Contractor's Ecological Clerk of Works on site prior to commencement.
   Drawings to be read in conjunction with A96 Dualling Invernees to Naim (including Naim Bypass) Preliminary Ground Investigation Contract Documents, Jacobs UK Ltd and the Transport Scotland Multi-Supplier Framework Argement for Ground Investigation Work and the Ground Framework Agreement for Ground Investigation Work and the Ground Investigation Environmental Assessment, Environmental Report, Jacob
- LIK I td UK Ltd. . The Contractor shall not take access to exploratory holes until the relevant Schedule 6 Landowner Agreement has been signed by all parties. . Supply of the services information does not relieve the Contractor of the responsibility to undertake his own search with regard to services. It is the responsibility of the Contractor to ensure that all services have been cleared and protected and are not damaged as a result of the site constraints.
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- Boundaries of areas of worked and made ground are conjectural. eaend:
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- Proposed Borehole Location
- Proposed Machine Excavated Trial Pit Location Proposed Static Cone Penetration Test Location
- Existing Information Historical Exploratory Hole Location
- Area of Made Ground

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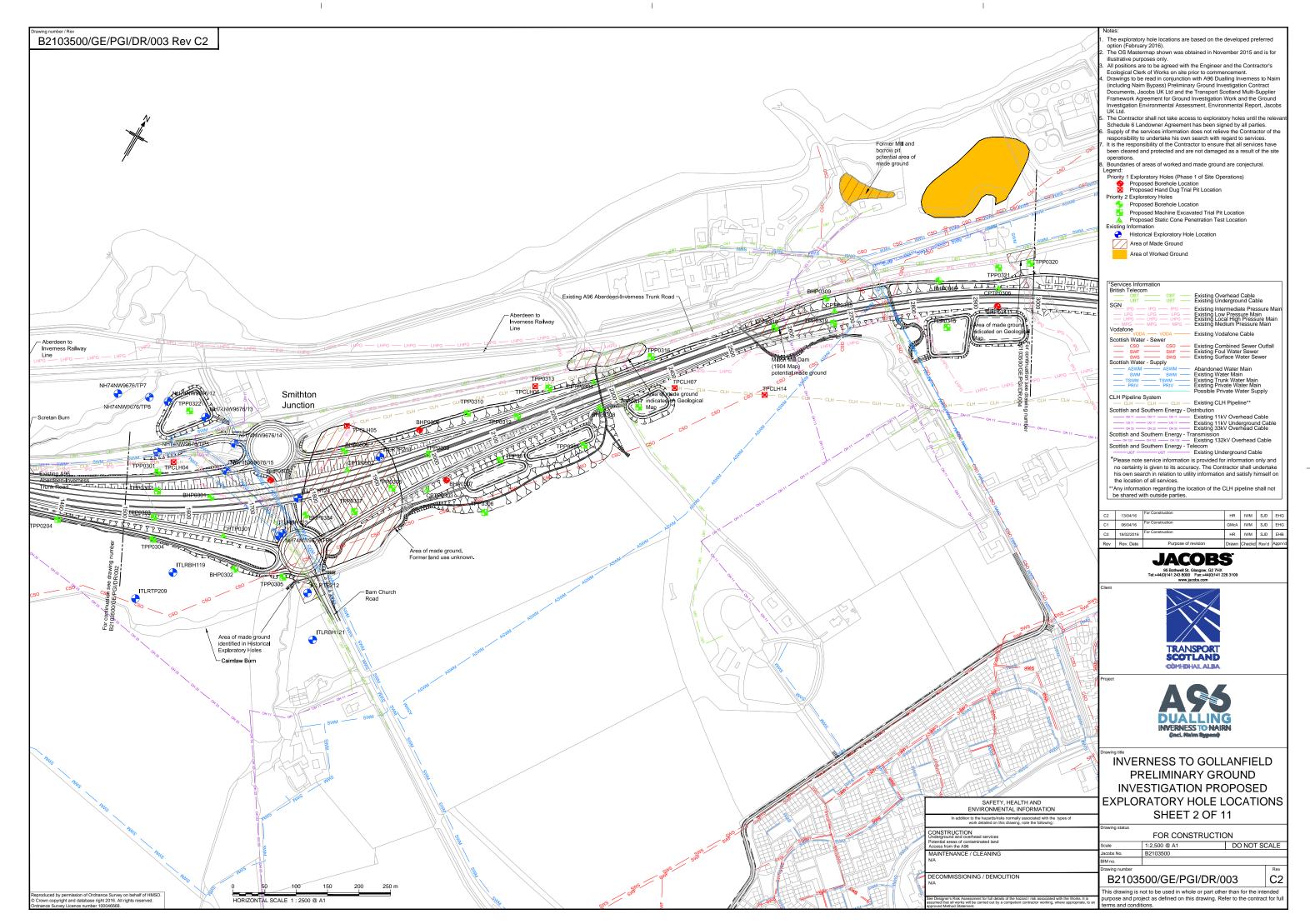
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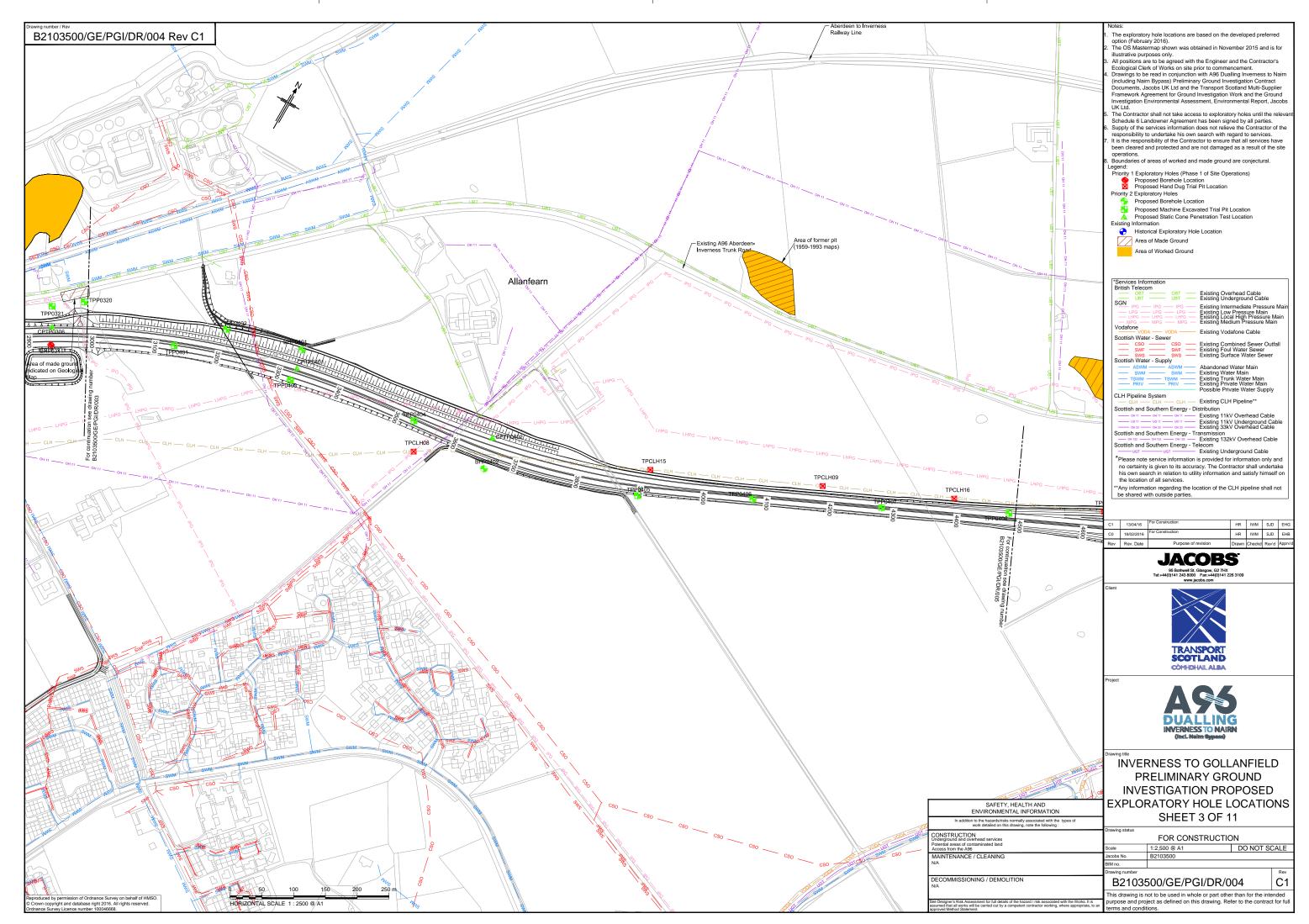
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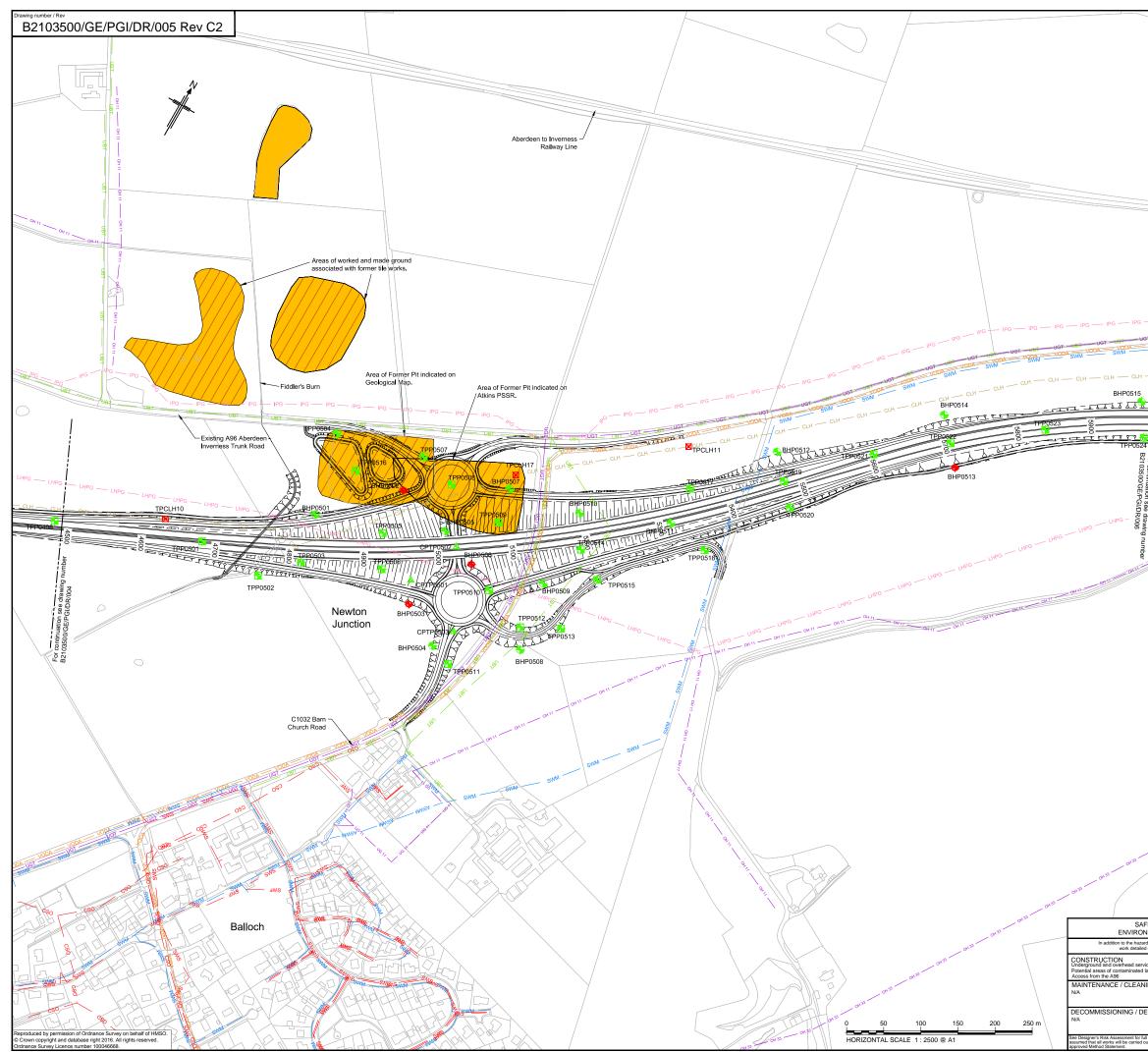
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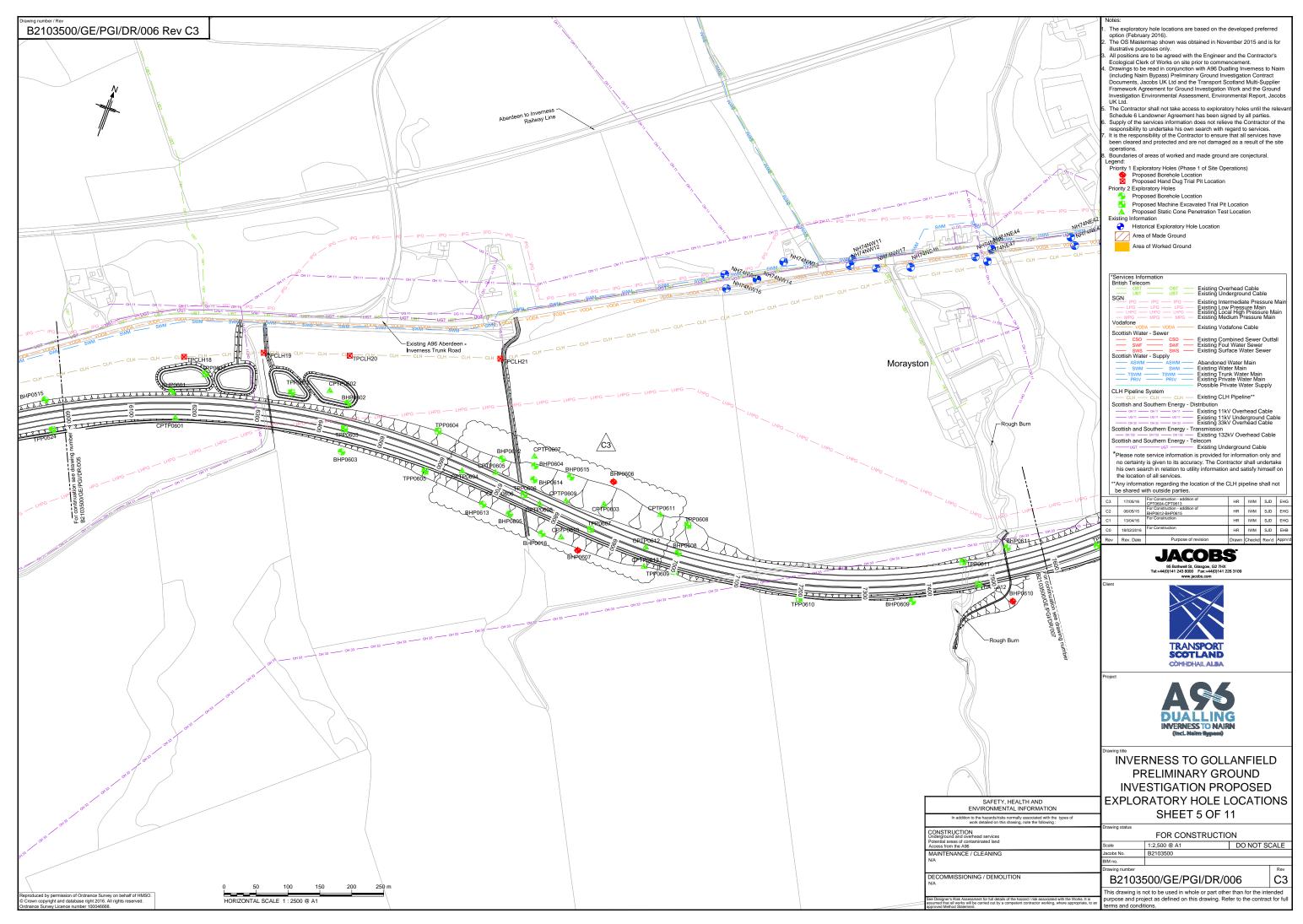
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- \*\*Any information regarding the location of the CLH pipeline shall not be shared with outside parties.
- drawir R/003 HR IWM SJD EHB Drawn Checkd Rev'd Apprv C0 18/02/2016 Rev Rev. Date TLRTP209 **JACOBS** 95 Bothwell St, Glasgow, G2 7HX Tel:+44(0)141 243 8000 Fax:+44(0)141 226 3109 TRANSPORT SCOTLAND COMHDHAIL ALBA DUALLING INVERNESS TO NAIRN (incl. Naim Byp **INVERNESS TO GOLLANFIELD** PRELIMINARY GROUND INVESTIGATION PROPOSED EXPLORATORY HOLE LOCATIONS SAFETY, HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION SHEET 1 OF 11 In addition to the hazards/risks normally associated with the types of work detailed on this drawing, note the following : FOR CONSTRUCTION 1:2,500 @ A1 DO NOT SCALE cobs No B2103500 B2103500/GE/PGI/DR/002 C0
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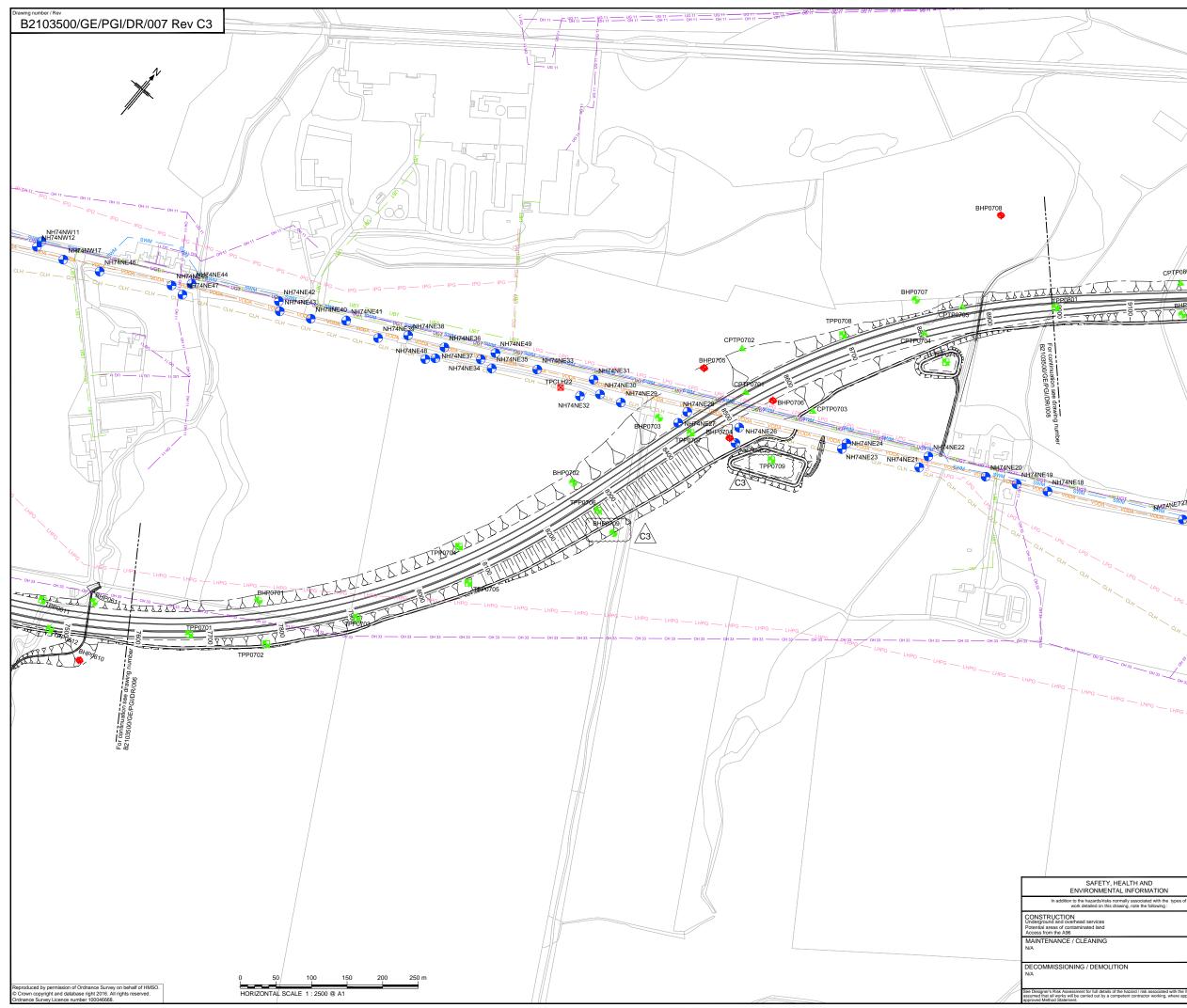






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UK Ltd. . The Contractor shall not take access to exploratory holes until the relevant Schedule 6 Landowner Agreement has been signed by all parties. . Supply of the services information does not relieve the Contractor of the responsibility to undertake his own search with regard to services. It is the responsibility of the Contractor to ensure that all services have been cleared and protected and are not damaged as a result of the site constraints. operations.

Boundaries of areas of worked and made ground are conjectural. eaend

Legend: Priority 1 Exploratory Holes (Phase 1 of Site Operations) Proposed Borehole Location Proposed Hand Dug Trial Pit Location Priority 2 Exploratory Holes

- Proposed Borehole Location

Proposed Machine Excavated Trial Pit Location Proposed Static Cone Penetration Test Location Ť.

- Existing Information
- + Historical Exploratory Hole Location Area of Made Ground

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Area of Worked Ground

#### Services Information ritish Telecom

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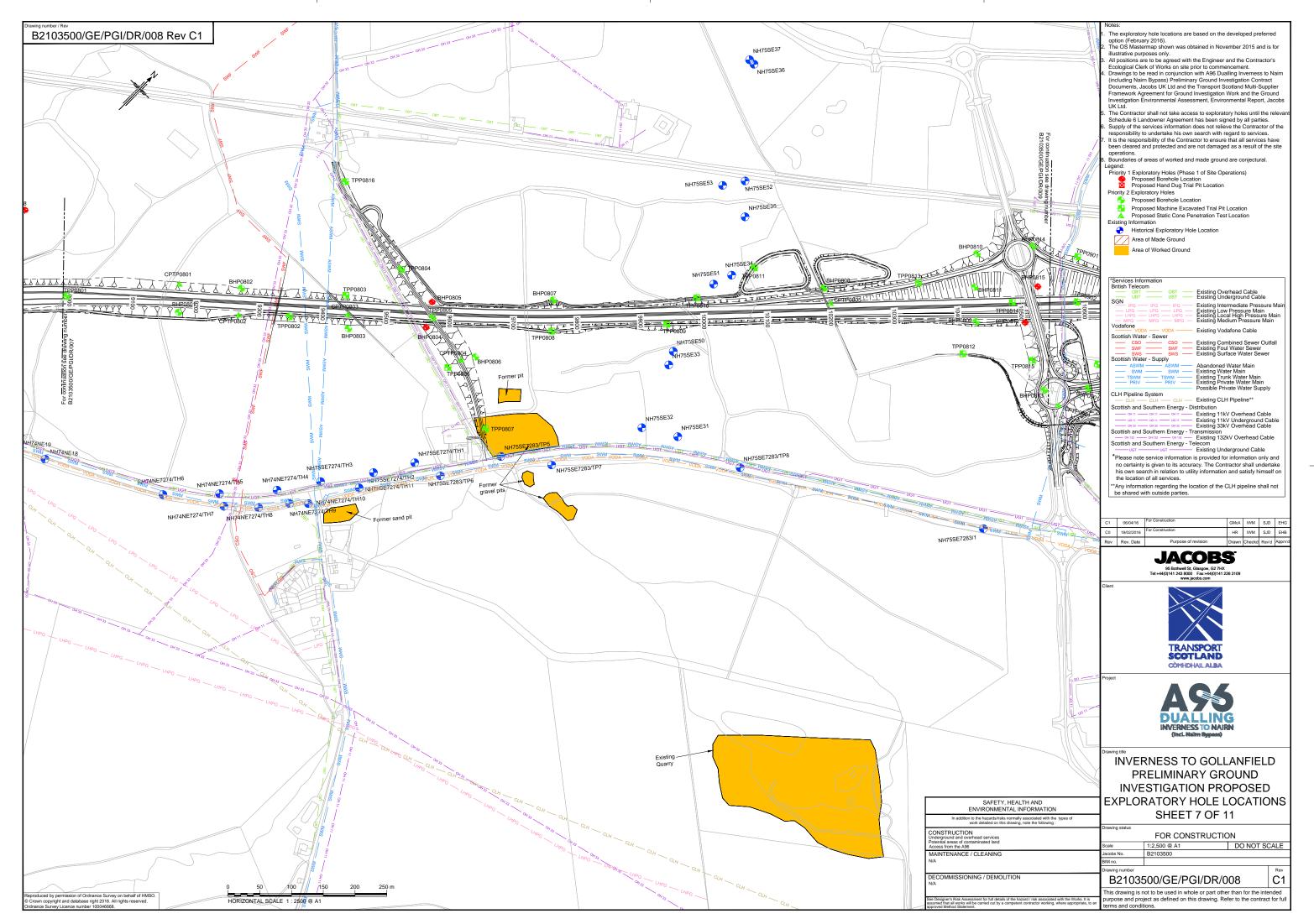
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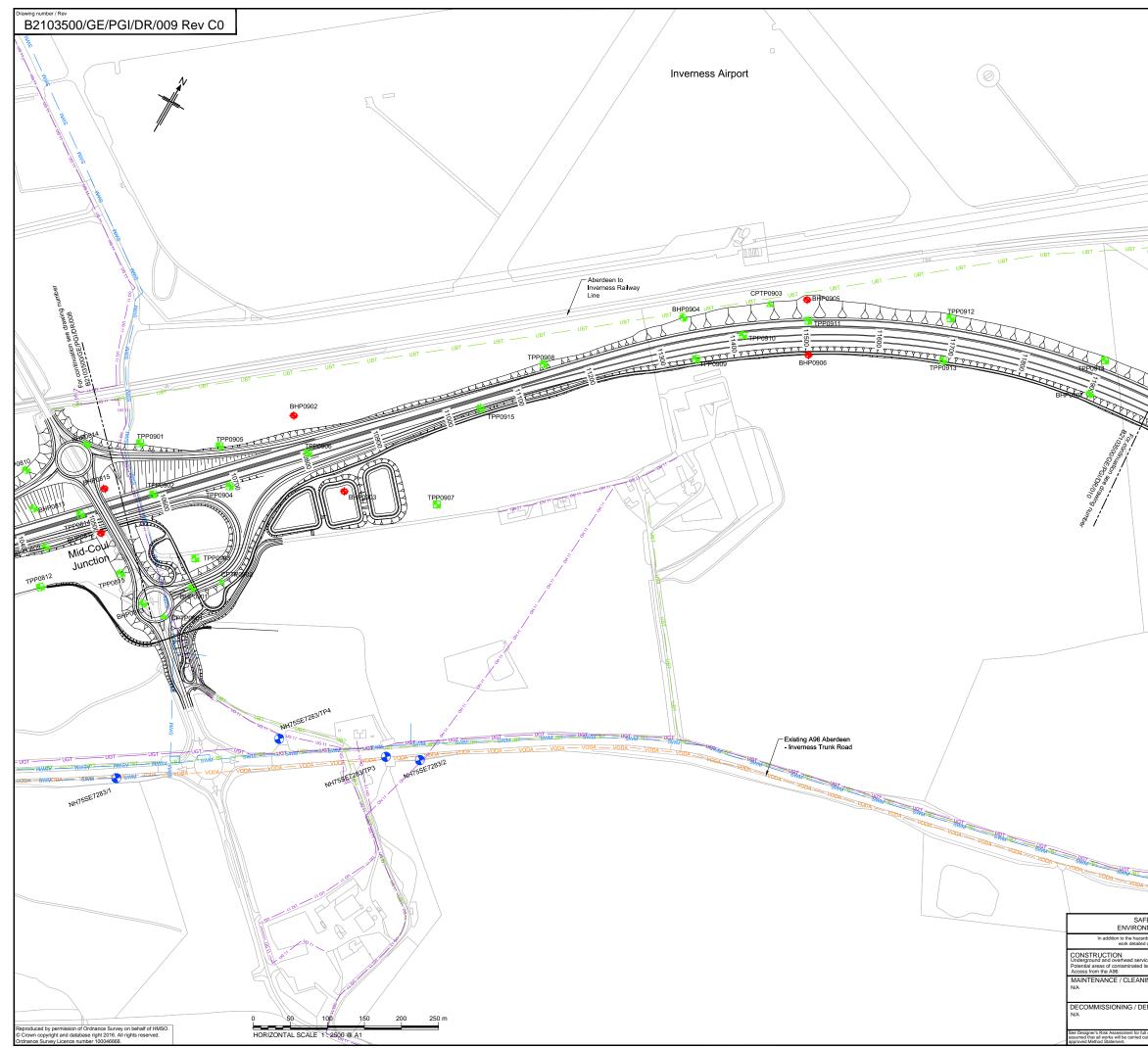




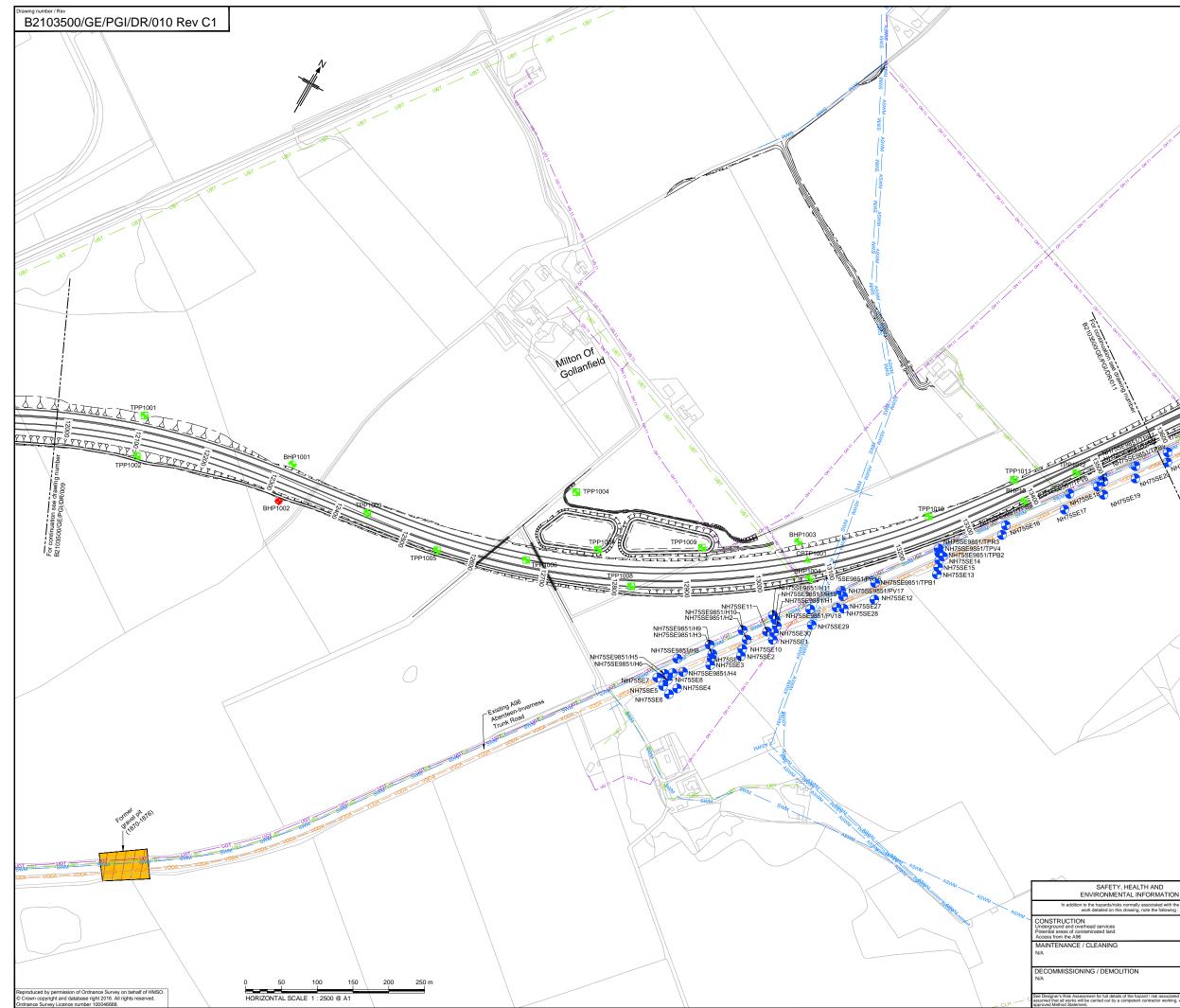
# **INVERNESS TO GOLLANFIELD** PRELIMINARY GROUND INVESTIGATION PROPOSED EXPLORATORY HOLE LOCATIONS SHEET 6 OF 11 FOR CONSTRUCTION DO NOT SCALE 1:2,500 @ A1

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- Proposed Borehole Location Proposed Machine Excavated

Proposed Machine Excavated Trial Pit Location Proposed Static Cone Penetration Test Location

Existing Information Historical Exploratory Hole Location

- Area of Made Ground

Area of Worked Ground

# \*Services Information British Telecom

 British Telecom	
OBT OBT OBT SGN	Existing Overhead Cable Existing Underground Cable
IPG         IPG         IPG           —         LPG         LPG         LPG           —         LHPG         LHPG         LHPG           —         MPG         MPG         MPG	Existing Local High Pressure Main
Vodafone VODA	Existing Vodafone Cable
Scottish Water - Sewer	
CSO CSO SWF SWF SWS SWS	Existing Combined Sewer Outfall Existing Foul Water Sewer Existing Surface Water Sewer
Scottish Water - Supply	
ASWM — ASWM — ASWM — ASWM — SWM — SWM — SWM — SWM — SWM — SWM — PRIV — ASWM ASWM — ASWM — ASWM ~ ASWM	Existing Water Main Existing Trunk Water Main
CLH Pipeline System	
— CLH — CLH — CLH —	Existing CLH Pipeline**
Scottish and Southern Energy - Di	stribution
OH 11 OH 11 OH 11	Existing 11kV Overhead Cable
	Existing 11kV Underground Cable
—— ОН 33 —— ОН 33 —— ОН 33 ——	
Scottish and Southern Energy - Tr	ansmission
	Existing 132kV Overhead Cable

OH122 OH122 OH122 Existing 132kV Overhead Cat
Scottish and Southern Energy - Telecom
 Ugr Ugr Existing Underground Cable

\*Please note service information is provided for information only and ne certainty is given to its accuracy. The Contractor shall undertake his own search in relation to utility information and satisfy himself on the location of all services.

\*\*Any information regarding the location of the CLH pipeline shall not be shared with outside parties.

C1	06/04/16	For Construction	GMcA	IWM	SJD	EHG
C0	18/02/2016	For Construction	HR	IWM	SJD	EHB
Rev	Rev. Date	Purpose of revision	Drawn	Checkd	Rev'd	Apprv'd

# **JACOBS**



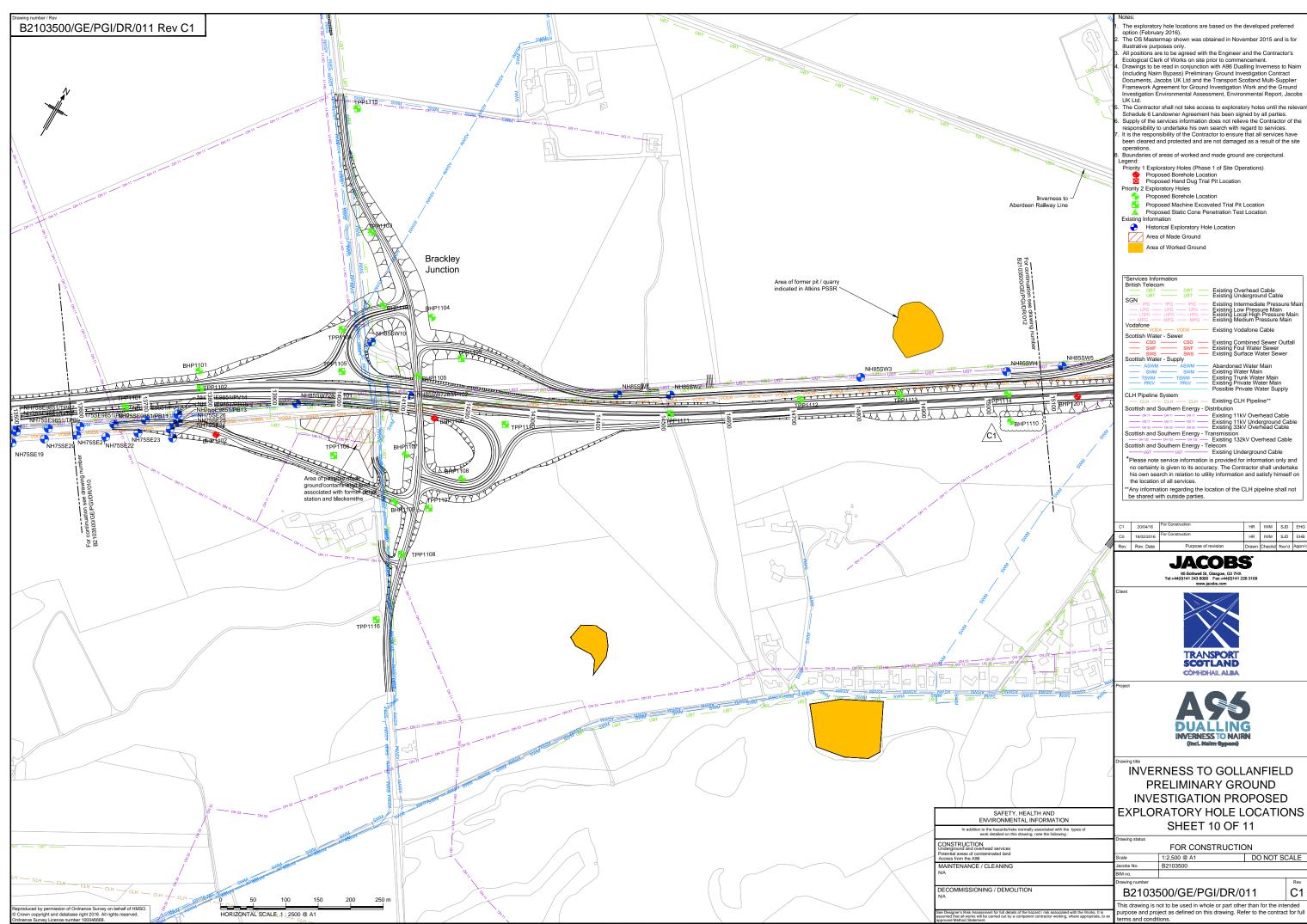


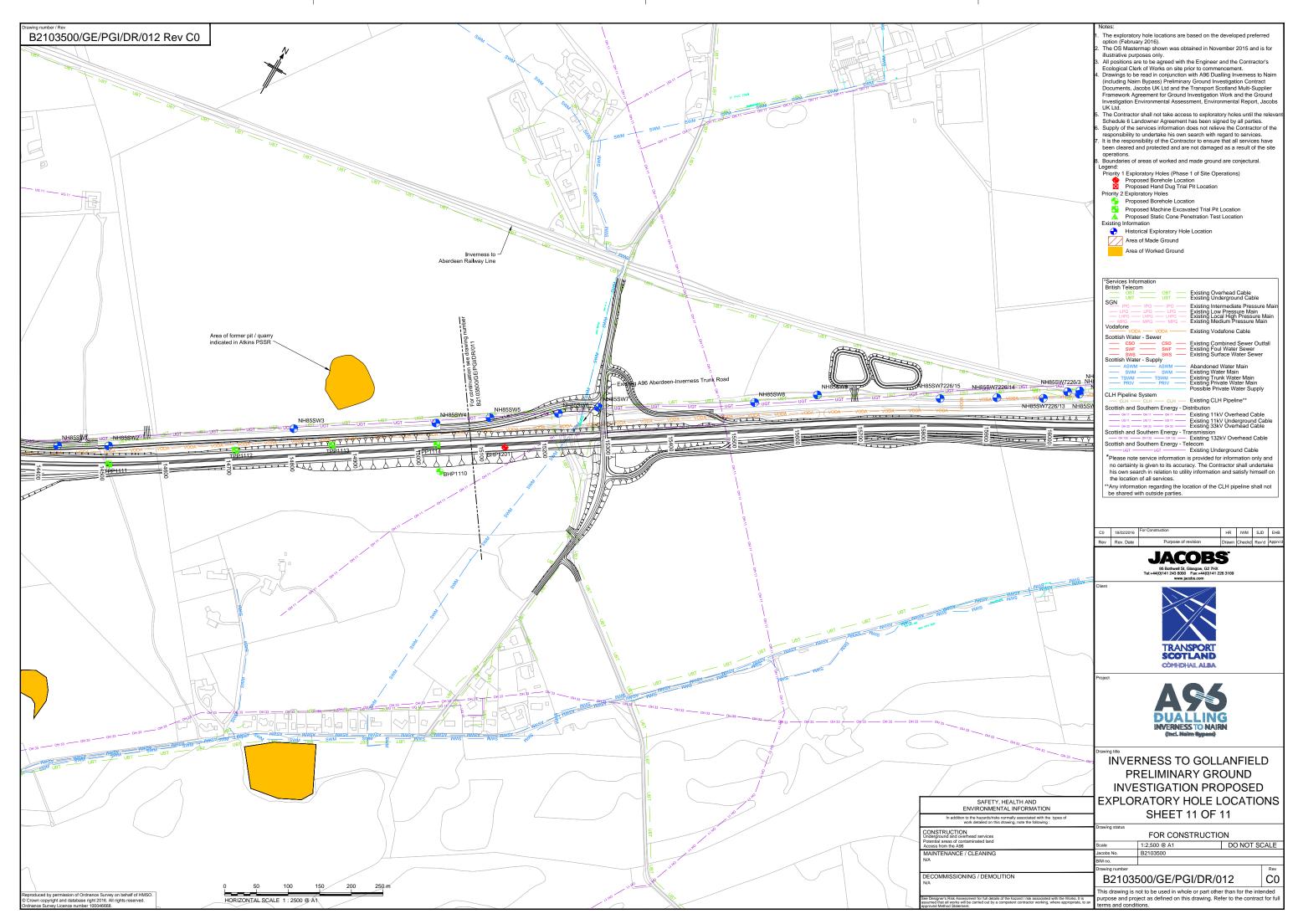


**INVERNESS TO GOLLANFIELD** PRELIMINARY GROUND INVESTIGATION PROPOSED EXPLORATORY HOLE LOCATIONS SHEET 9 OF 11

ition to the hazards/risks normally associated with the type work detailed on this drawing, note the following : FOR CONSTRUCTION 1:2,500 @ A1 DO NOT SCALE cobs No B2103500 B2103500/GE/PGI/DR/010 C1 This drawing is not to be used in whole or part other than for the intended purpose and project as defined on this drawing. Refer to the contract for full

ms and conditions.







# **Appendix B: Peat Probing Results**



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Peat Prok	oing (Area A	4)			Undertake	n 17/04/2016	at 1100			Weather - Ov	vercast/Sunny					
Notes:												Area A Total	(m)	8.09		
- Refer t	Diagram :	for Peat Pro	be layout									No. of Probe		41		
- GPS rea	adings are a	ccurate to 5r	n.									Max. depth (		0.48		
	Т	ransect 1			Tra	nsect 2			Т	ransect 3						_
	N1 11 1	Transect CH	Probe Depth	<b>F</b> .::	N1.1	Transect CH	Probe Depth		N1.	Transect CH	Probe Depth	A3	F		A4	
Easting	Northing	(m)	(m)	Easting	Northing	(m)	(m)	Easting	Northing	(m)	(m)		East			il in the second
81571	53156	0	0.00	81586	53144	0	0.30	81616	53144	0	0.10	1	2	3		il
81555	53142	20	0.22	81575	53136	20	0.05	81578	53111	20	0.30	•	→ ▲			i
81539	53129	40	0.00	81556	53117	40	0.13	81557	53101	40	0.33	<b>≜</b> :	20m Ţ	10m		1
81522	53123	60	0.02	81529	53104	60	0.37	81539	53096	60	0.30	20m	Ò			1
81511	53111	80	0.05	81513	53094	80	0.25	81520	53086	80	0.00					1
81491	53098	100	0.07	81498	53084	100	0.03	81504	53076	100	0.12			C	)	I
81476	53088	120	0.25	81481	53071	120	0.19	81490	53065	120	0.24					
81423	53062	140	0.24	81465	53064	140	0.19	81475	53055	140	0.09					I
81446	53071	160	0.15	81450	53053	160	0.36	81457	53047	160	0.27					I
81431	53061	180	0.00	81438	53041	180	0.32	81443	53036	180	0.25				,	i
81416	53054	200	0.17	81425	53033	200	0.23	81429	53024	200	0.05					1
81402	53045	220	0.05	81411	53023	220	0.30	81422	53013	220	0.39		-			I
81389	53034	240	0.05	81380	53006	240	0.41	81404	53005	240	0.48					
81373	53025	260	0.42					81390	52996	260	0.35	A1	West		A2	i
		Total (m)	1.69			Total (m)	3.13			Total (m)	3.27					
		Max (m)	0.42			Max (m)	0.41			Max (m)	0.48	Diagram 1 - P	Peat Probe La	yout. A1-A4		
		Min (m)	0.00			Min (m)	0.03			Min (m)	0.00	refer to corne	er co-ordinat	es of peat p	probing	
		Average (m)	0.12			Average (m)	0.24			Average (m)	0.23	area.				
		Total Probes	14			Total Probes	13			Total Probes	14					

Peat Prob	ing (Area E	3)			Undertake	n 17/04/2016	at 1400			Weather - O	vercast/Sunny					
																<u> </u>
Notes:																<u> </u>
		for layout of														<u> </u>
- GPS rea	idings are a	ccurate to 5n	۱.													<u> </u>
																<u> </u>
	T	ransect 1			T	ransect 2			1	ransect 3						<u> </u>
		Transect CH	Probe Depth			Transect CH	Probe Depth			Transect CH	Probe Depth	В3			В4	
Easting	Northing	(m)	(m)	Easting	Northing	(m)	(m)	Easting	Northing	(m)	(m)		East			
01050	52205	. ,	ξ, γ	01050	52260	, ,	. ,	01001	52255	, ,	. ,					<u> </u>
81958 81941	53385 53379	0	0.45	81958 81940	53369 53354	0 20	0.35	81981 81967	53355 53343	0 20	0.31	1	2	3	ŀ	<u> </u>
81941 81930	53379	20 40	0.10	81940 81927	53354	20 40	0.41	81967 81949	53343	20 40	0.26	———   • •	←→ ,		)	
81930	53369	40 60	0.04	81927	53341	40 60	0.21	81949 81931	53338	40 60	0.10	Ă	20m 👖	10m 🔍	-	<u> </u>
81895	53354	80	0.05	81912	53329	80 80	0.23	81931 81915	53317	80 80	0.26	20m			ŀ	<u> </u>
81874	53344	100	0.05	81895	53317	100	0.24	81915	53309	100	0.28					
81853	53330	100	0.08	81865	53317	100	0.20	81899	53298	100	0.27	— <b>—</b>			-	<u> </u>
81842	53320	140	0.02	81848	53296	120	0.20	81864	53288	120	0.28				'	<u> </u>
81826	53312	140	0.02	81831	53285	140	0.25	81847	53280	140	0.37				-	<u> </u>
81807	53305	180	0.15	81812	53285	180	0.12	81831	53269	180	0.29				ŀ	
81780	53285	200	0.21	81788	53271	200	0.05	81812	53258	200	0.32				-	<u> </u>
81775	53277	220	0.00	81778	53260	220	0.10	81801	53242	220	0.28				-	<u> </u>
81764	53270	240	0.15					81778	53233	240.00	0.09				-	
		Total (m)	1.43			Total (m)	2.61			Total (m)	3.40				-	
		Max (m)	0.45			Max (m)	0.41			Max (m)	0.37					
		Min (m)	0.00			Min (m)	0.05			Min (m)	0.09	В1	Wes		В2	
		Average (m)	0.11			Average (m)	0.22			Average (m)	0.26			·•		
		<b>Total Probes</b>	13			Total Probes	12			Total Probes	13	Diagram 1	- Peat Probe	Layout. B1-	B4	
												refer to co	orner co-ordir	nates of pea	t probing	
	Area B Tota	al (m)	7.44									area.				
	No. of Prot		38													
	Max. dept	ו (m)	0.45													1

	Peat Prob	oing (Area	C)			Undertake	n 08/05/201	5			Weather - O	vercast/foggy,	cloudy					
Notes																		
	0	-	rout of peat p	robes.														
- GPS	readings a	re accurate	e to 5m.															
		٦T	ransect 1			T	ransect 2			Т	ransect 3							
	Easting	Northing	Transect CH (m)	Probe Depth (m)	Easting	Northing	Transect CH (m)	Probe Depth (m)	Easting	Northing	Transect CH (m)	Probe Depth (m)		С3	East	C4		
	82095	53433	0	0.31	82120	53402	0	0.50	82111	53368	0	0.35		•	⊷.			
	82114	53436	20	0.41	82137	53413	20	1.53	82132	53370	20	0.22		1	20 10	)		
	82134	53435	40	0.40	82159	53417	40	1.00	82152	53375	40	0.20		20	•			
	82134	53435	60	0.40	82177	53424	60	1.36	82174	53381	60	0.72				_		
	82152	53440	80	1.70	82195	53427	80	2.24	82196	53386	80	0.51						
	82174	53447	100	2.00	82214	53435	100	1.00	82216	53392	100	0.45						
	82191	53453	120	2.68	82233	53443	120	0.60	82239	53399	120	0.25						
	82211	53460	140	3.20	82250	53451	140	0.87	82259	53406	140	0.33		•				
	82228	53468	160	1.70					82284	53415	160	0.34		_				
	82251	53476	180	1.68											•			
			Total (m)	14.48			Total (m)	9.10			Total (m)	3.37						
			Max (m)	3.20			Max (m)	2.24			Max (m)	0.72		C1		• C2		
			Min (m)	0.31			Min (m)	0.50			Min (m)			<sup>C1</sup> 1	2	3 22		
			Average (m)	1.45			Average (m)	1.14			Average (m)	0.37			West			
			Total Probes	10			Total Probes	8			Total Probes	9		Diagram	1 - Peat Prob	e Layout. C1	-C4	
														refer to c	orner co-oro	linates of pe	at probing	i
		Area C Tot		26.95										area.				
		No. of Prol		27														
		Max. dept	h (m)	3.20														

Peat Prob	ng (Area D)				Undertaken	07/05/2016 a	nd 08/05/2016			Weather - Ov	ercast/Sunny a	nd foggy, c	loudy			
	T	ransect 1			T	ransect 2			T	ransect 3		Notes:				
Easting	Northing	Transect CH (m)	Probe Depth (m)	Easting	Northing	Transect CH (m)	Probe Depth (m)	Easting	Northing	Transect CH (m)	Probe Depth (m)	- Refer	to Diagram eadings are	,		probes.
82062	53462	0	1.20	82114	53471	0	1.19	82279	53546	0	0.31	- GF 3 R	eaulings are	accurate	0.JIII.	
82081	53469	20	0.21	82132	53483	20	1.23	82263	53533	20	1.28					
82096	53485	40	2.15	82151	53493	40	1.70	82243	53521	40	2.94					
82112	53495	60	0.24	82169	53506	60	3.33	82227	53511	60	0.51		Area D Tot	al (m)	108.96	
82129	53507	80	2.90	82185	53516	80	3.65	82320	53573	80	0.10		No. of Pro		102	
82145	53513	100	0.30	82202	53526	100	1.12	82335	53583	100	0.01		Max. dept	h (m)	4.43	
82163	53527	120	3.00	82220	53538	120	1.83	82352	53591	120	0.05					
82179	53539	140	0.29	82237	53549	140	2.14	82367	53601	140	0.28					
82197	53550	160	0.62	82252	53562	160	1.49	82382	53612	160	0.05					
82215	53563	180	2.85	82269	53573	180	0.39	82398	53623	180	0.05					
82232	53573	200	2.84	82297	53590	200	0.45	82413	53636	200	0.13					
82256	53589	220	2.80	82313	53601	220	1.36	82429	53647	220	0.12					
82291	53618	240	0.34	82331	53615	240	1.00	82444	53660	240	0.15					
82310	53633	260	0.40	82348	53628	260	1.00	82458	53673	260	0.14					
82329	53646	280	0.28	82362	53636	280	1.60	82473	53686	280	0.20					
82346	53659	300	0.37	82378	53646	300	0.93	82486	53695	300	0.15					
82365	53671	320	3.00	82393	53653	320	0.36	82500	53709	320	0.35		-			<u> </u>
82384	53686	340	1.27	82407	53667	340	0.50	82515	53719	340	0.18		D3	East	D4	
82398	53701	360	3.43 3.67	82423	53679	360	0.25	82529	53731	360 380	0.14			<b>→</b> .		
82415 82433	53715 53730	380 400	3.67	82436 82451	53693 53703	380 400	0.05	82544 82559	53741 53752	400	0.15		- <b>→</b> 2	20 🚺 10		
82433	53730	400	3.90	82451	53703	400	0.05	82559	53752	400	0.12		20	ŏ		
82447	53743	420	3.07	82466	53715	420	0.05	82575	53764	420	0.20					
82482	53767	440	0.38	82480	53720	440	0.20	82591	53784	440	0.18		Ó		$\bigcirc$	-
82506	53787	480	0.38	82498	53746	480	0.09	82606	53794	480	0.30		-	-		-
82519	53794	500	0.05	82528	53760	500	0.32	82640	53804	500	0.27		-			
82536	53806	520	0.20	82545	53767	520	0.17	82656	53815	520	0.20					
82554	53819	540	0.65	82559	53777	540	0.28	82670	53826	540	1.00		1			
82571	53831	560	0.84	82568	53782	560	0.17	82686	53837	560	3.52		1			
82590	53844	580	0.38	82581	53791	580	0.06	82698	53850	580	4.43		1			
82606	53856	600	0.50	82598	53805	600	0.10	82709	53862	600	3.69				•	
82624	53868	620	1.16	82619	53824	620	0.60						D1	West	D2	
82640	53878	640	1.15	82638	53832	640	2.45						1	2	3	
82658	53890	660	0.45	82655	53844	660	3.65						<u> </u>			
82680	53903	680	0.52	82671	53856	680	4.00						Diagram 1	- Peat Prob	e Layout. D	1-D4
				82687	53869	700	0.35						refer to co	rner co-ord	inates of pe	at
		Total (m)	49.29			Total (m)	38.21			Total (m)	21.46		probing ar	ea		
		Max (m)	3.90			Max (m)	4.00			Max (m)	4.43					
		Min (m)	0.05			Min (m)	0.05			Min (m)	0.01					
		Average (m)	1.41			Average (m)	1.06			Average (m)	0.69					
		<b>Total Probes</b>	35			<b>Total Probes</b>	36			Total Probes	31					

Peat Prob	ing (Area E	)			Undertake	n 08/05/2016				Weather - O	vercast/foggy, clo	udy			
Notes:															
		for layout of						-							
- GPS rea	dings are a	ccurate to 5n	1					-							
												E3	East	E4	
	Т	ransect 1			Tı	ransect 2			T	ransect 3			<b>→</b> .		
Easting	Northing	Transect CH (m)	Probe Depth (m)	Easting	Northing	Transect CH (m)	Probe Depth (m)	Easting	Northing	Transect CH (m)	Probe Depth (m)	20	20 10		
83605	54132	0	0.42	83621	54119	0	0.23	83628	54082	0	0.33			•	
83628	54158	20	0.37	83634	54129	20	0.55	83655	54102	20	0.24				
83651	54176	40	0.33	83654	54138	40	0.37	83671	54115	40	0.23				
83668	54190	60	0.55	83673	54147	60	0.83	83693	54121	60	0.15		•		
83684	54201	80	0.25	83683	54155	80	1.12	83706	54131	80	0.37			$\bigcirc$	
83694	54209	100	0.17	83699	54167	100	0.83	83719	54135	100	0.40		_		
83721	54215	120	0.12	83709	54175	120	0.87	83729	54143	120	0.50				
				83719	54177	140	0.92	83748	54148	140	0.51				
				83735	54180	160	0.90					E1 _1	2	E2	
													∠ West	3	
		Total (m)	2.21			Total (m)	6.62			Total (m)	2.73		west		
		Max (m)	0.55			Max (m)	1.12			Max (m)	0.51	×	1 - Peat Probe La	,	
		Min (m)	0.12			Min (m)	0.23			Min (m)	0.15		orner co-ordinat	tes of peat	
		Average (m)	0.32			Average (m)	0.74			Average (m)	0.34	probing a	irea		
		Total Probes	7			Total Probes	9			Total Probes	8				
	Area E Tota	al (m)	11.56												
	No. of Prol	pes	24												
	Max. deptl	h (m)	1.12												

Peat P	Probing (Ar	a F)		Undertak	en 14/06/20	016							Area F Total (m)	11.93				
													No. of Probes	123	Notes:			
		Transect 1			Т	ransect 2			Ti	ransect 3			Max. depth (m)	2.24	- Refer to	Diagram 1 for layo	out of peat pro	obes.
Eastin	ng North	ng Transect CH (m)	Probe Depth (m)	Easting	Northing	Transect CH (m)	Probe Depth (m)	Easting	Northing	Transect CH (m)	Probe Depth (m)		Average Probe Depth	0.09695122	- GPS rea	idings are accurate	to 5m.	
8412	29 5444	5	0.03	84130	54362		0.01	84240	54448		0.03							-
8413	34 5446	2	0.02	84151	54364		0.01	84242	54426		0.01							
8412			0.06	84131	54375		0.01	84242	54405		0.08		Excluding result of 2.24m					
8413			0.02	84131	54394		0.01	84245	54386		0.14		Area F Total (m)	9.69				
8414			0.02	84148	54388		0.00	84254	54366		0.26		No. of Probes	122				
8415			0.01	84150	54375		0.10	84262	54451		0.00		Max. depth (m)	0.47				
8415		-	0.01	84149	54362		0.01	84264	54427		0.14		Average	0.079385246				
8415			0.02	84170	54388		0.03	84265	54407		0.00							
8417			0.02	84173	54360		0.03	84269	54388		0.00							
8417 8418			0.02	84187 84187	54401 54379		0.00	84274 84277	54368 54346		0.11 0.13							
8418			0.21	84187	54379		0.11	84277	54546		0.13							
8420			0.01	84206	54410		0.18	84281	54434		0.00							
8420			0.16	84207	54388		0.10	84287	54413		0.00			1 1				+
8422			0.05	84210	54366		0.07	84293	54391		0.00							-+
8422			0.08	84220	54421		0.10	84294	54369		0.10							-
8423	38 5446	9	0.15	84224	54402		0.01	84297	54351		0.12			1 1				
				84229	54385		0.10											
				84231	54360		0.12											
		Total (m				Total (m)	1.01			Total (m)	1.12							
		Max (m				Max (m)	0.16			Max (m)	0.26							
		Min (m	) 0.01			Min (m)	0.00			Min (m)	0.00							
		Average (m				Average (m)	0.05			Average (m)								
		Total probe Transect 4	5 1/		т	Total probes ransect 5	19		T	Total probes ansect 6	17		Transect 7					
		Transect 4	Probe Depth		1	Transect CH	Probe Depth		1	Transect CH	Probe Depth		Transect	Probe				
Eastin	ng North	ng (m)	(m)	Easting	Northing	(m)	(m)	Easting	Northing	(m)	(m)	Easting	Northing CH (m)	Depth (m)				
8430	02 5444		0.00	84383	54461	()	0.00	84453	54363	(,	0.16	84492	0	0.01				
8430			0.00	84387	54438		0.00	84452	54383		0.20	84493		0.02				
8430	07 5440	6	0.00	84389	54416		0.17	84451	54408		0.31	84492	2 54417	0.02	F3	E	F4	
8431	10 5438	5	0.00	84390	54396		0.35	84451	54430		0.16	84487	7 54436	0		East	14	-
8431	13 5436	3	0.16	84392	54373		0.32	84451	54451		0.20	84488		0		20 10	•	
8432			0.00	84392	54357		0.01	84449	54471		0.02	84491		0	20			
8432			0.00	84401	54463		0.00	84471	54476		0.28	84508		0		´↓		
8432			0.00	84405	54443		0.03	84475	54455		0.02	84508		0		•	•	
8432			0.00	84410	54424		0.36	84476	54436		0.01	84509		0				
8433 8433			0.12	84409 84408	54402 54380		0.20	84476 84476	54415 54397		0.01	84511 84513		0		-		
8433			0.00	84408 84411	54380		0.24	84476	54397		0.02	84513		0		•	•	
8434			0.00	84411	54505		0.41	84492	54372		0.03	84513		0		•		+
8434			0.12	84430	54435		0.33	84474	54345		2.24	84496		0		•	-	
8434			0.39	84434	54416		0.36	84469	54354		0.00	84495		0		•	• F2	-
8435			0.14	84438	54400		0.47							1	F1	1 2	3 +2	-
8436	52 5446	1	0.00	84437	54378		0.30							1		West		
8436			0.01	84433	54359		0.27								Dia	gram 1 - Peat Probe L	ayout. F1-F4	
8436			0.01													r to corner co-ordina	tes of peat	
8436			0.00												pro	bing area		
8436			0.28	I														
8437	72 5436		0.01	l													-	
		Total (m		I		Total (m)	3.87			Total (m)	3.66		Total (m)	0.05				
		Max (m	) 0.39			Max (m)	0.47			Max (m)	2.24		Max (m)	0.02				_
			0.00															
		Min (m	0.00			Min (m)	0.00			Min (m)	0.00		Min (m)	0				
			) 0.06			Min (m) Average (m) Total probes	0.00 0.22 18			Min (m) Average (m) Total probes	0.00 0.24 15		Min (m) Average (m) Total probes	0.003				$\pm$

Peat Probi	ng (Area G)			Undertake	n 16/06/201	6		Weather -	Overcast an	d raining						
	Tr	ansect 1			TI	ransect 2			T	ransect 3			Area G Tot	:al (m)		4.04
Easting	Northing	Transect CH (m)	Probe Depth (m)	Easting	Northing	Transect CH (m)	Probe Depth (m)	Easting	Northing	Transect CH (m)	Probe Depth (m)		No. of Pro	bes		133
85237	54311	0	0.14	85425	54440	0	0.03	85218	54344	0	0.06		Max. Dept	h		0.90
85254	54322	20	0.11	85409	54428	20	0.36	85237	54352	20	0.05					
85273	54332	40	0.15	85390	54418	40	0.04	85255	54359	40	0.03					
85291	54345	60	0.15	85377	54408	60	0.05	85272	54369	60	0.05					
85308	54352	80	0.14	85361	54396	80	0.07	85290	54379	80	0.06		Discountin	g irrelevant p	probe of 0.9	m
85332	54362	100	0.16	85341	54387	100	0.03	85308	54387	100	0.06		Area G Tot	al (m)		3.1
85339	54374	120	0.18	85322	54376	120	0.04	85326	54396	120	0.06		No. of Prot			13
85358	54382	140	0.05	85305	54364	140	0.07	85343	54407	140	0.07		Max. Dept			0.3
85375	54392	160	0.08	85288	54354	160	0.08	85360	54417	160	0.05		Average fo	r Area G		0.02378787
85392	54404	180	0.09	85272	54343	180	0.10	85376	54426	180	0.04					
85409	54412	200	0.00	85256	54333	200	0.04	85394	54438	200	0.01	Notes:				
85425	54422	220	0.90	85236	54324	220	0.07	85411	54449	220	0.03	- Refer	to Diagram	1 for layou	t of peat pr	obes.
85444	54432	240	0.00	85220	54315	240	0.07	85427	54460	240	0.03	- GPS re	adings are	accurate to	5m.	
		Total (m)				Total (m)	1.05			Total (m)	0.60					
		Max (m)	0.90			Max (m)	0.36			Max (m)	0.07					1
		Min (m)				Min (m)	0.03 13			Min (m)	0.01		G3	East	G4	
	т	Total probes	13		т	Total probes	13			Total probes	13			_		
	Ir	ansect 4			11	ransect 5			1	ransect 6			<b>▲</b> 2	0 10	ightarrow	
Easting	Northing	Transect CH (m)	Probe Depth (m)	Easting	Northing	Transect CH (m)	Probe Depth (m)	Easting	Northing	Transect CH (m)	Probe Depth (m)		20	Ò		
85295	54201	0	0.00	85273	54210	0	0.00	85275	54235	0	0.00				•	
85315	54211	20	0.00	85292	54221	20	0.00	85297	54246	20	0.00					
85331	54222	40	0.00	85311	54233	40	0.00	85307	54258	40	0.00			•		
85348	54233	60	0.00	85326	54242	60	0.00	85324	54269	60	0.00					
85365	54245	80	0.00	85343	54254	80	0.00	85342	54282	80	0.00					
85380	54259	100	0.00	85360	54267	100	0.00	85352	54289	100	0.00			•		
 85402	54269	120	0.00	85376	54276	120	0.00	85369	54300	120	0.00				•	
 85418	54278	140	0.00	85394	54286	140	0.00	85387	54307	140	0.00		G1 1	2	G2	
85436	54285	160	0.00	85414	54293	160	0.00	85406	54317	160	0.00		1	∠ West	3 02	
85454	54294	180	0.00	85433	54303	180	0.00	85424	54325	180	0.00					J
85473	54302	200	0.00	85450	54312	200	0.00	85441	54333	200	0.00		U	- Peat Probe		
85490	54310	220	0.00	85467	54321	220	0.00	85460	54343	220	0.00			rner co-ordir	ates of pea	t
85507	54321	240	0.00	85486	54330	240	0.00	85479	54350	240	0.00		probing ar	ea		
				85503	54341	260	0.00	85497	54367	260	0.00					
								<u> </u>								
		Total (m)				Total (m)	0.00			Total (m)	0.00					
 		Max (m)				Max (m)	0.00			Max (m)	0.00				_	
		Min (m)				Min (m)	0.00			Min (m)	0.00				_	
		Total probes	13			Total probes	14	1		Total probes	14	I				

	Tr	ansect 7			Т	ransect 8			Ti	ransect 9				
		Transect CH	Probe Depth			Transect CH	Probe Depth			Transect CH	Probe Depth			
Easting	Northing	(m)	(m)	Easting	Northing	(m)	(m)	Easting	Northing	(m)	(m)			
85329	54297	0	0.00	85258	54271	0	0.00	85241	54285	0	0.00			
85312	54285	20	0.00	85278	54283	20	0.13	85256	54299	20	0.00			
85296	54273	40	0.00	85292	54296	40	0.07	85273	54308	40	0.00			
85281	54263	60	0.00	85308	54307	60	0.00	85293	54322	60	0.00			
85267	54252	80	0.00	85324	54317	80	0.00	85310	54332	80	0.00			
 85339	54305	100	0.00	85342	54328	100	0.00	85319	54338	100	0.00			
 85348	54308	120	0.00	85358	54336	120	0.00	85336	54346	120	0.00			
85364	54319	140	0.00	85376	54346	140	0.00	85354	54355	140	0.00			
85383	54326	160	0.00	85395	54356	160	0.00	85373	54367	160	0.00			
85402	54339	180	0.00	85413	54366	180	0.00	85391	54375	180	0.00			
85420	54345	200	0.00	85431	54375	200	0.00	85407	54385	200	0.00			
85438	54353	220	0.00	85450	54384	220	0.00	85427	54394	220	0.00			
85457 85475	54362	240 260	0.00	85468 85484	54392	240 260	0.00	85448 85464	54405	240 260	0.04			
 85475	54371	260	0.00	85484	54397	260	0.00	85464	54413	260	0.00			
		Total (m)	0.00			Total (m)	0.20			Total (m)	0.04		-	
		Total (m) Max (m)				Total (m) Max (m)				Total (m) Max (m)				
		Min (m)				Min (m)				Min (m)				
		Total probes				Total probes				Total probes				
	Tra	ansect 10	14			Total probes	14			Total probes	14			
	110		Probe Depth											
Easting	Northing	(m)	(m)											
 85246	54300	0	0.00											
85267	54314	20	0.00											
85282	54324	40	0.00											
85308	54336	60	0.00											
85354	54365	80	0.00											
85371	54376	100	0.00											
85387	54387	120	0.00											
85405	54399	140	0.00											
85422	54408	160	0.00									-		
85456	54430	180	0.00											
85465	54414	200	0.00											
		Total (m)	0.00											
		Max (m)	0.00											
		Min (m)	0.00											
		Total probes	11											
						ļ								
						ļ								
													-	



# Appendix C: Peat thickness contouring methodology



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This document serves as guidance on how to create appropriate contours based on a raster dataset (including those interpolated from initial point data). The ArcGIS 'Spatial Analyst' extension is needed to complete this process.

- 1. Load the point elevation dataset into ArcMap and identify the field that contains the elevation values OR if the raster has already been created, skip to Step 4.
- 2. To create the elevation raster you will need to choose an appropriate interpolation method (ArcToolbox/Spatial Analyst Tools/Interpolation).
  - a. There are various options which have benefits and drawbacks depending on the input data. For instance a low-density point dataset will produce a less accurate raster and so *Natural Neighbour* may be the best interpolation method to use as it will not create raster cell values beyond the range of those specified in the point data.
- 3. Run the interpolation with the elevation field selected in the '*Z* value field' menu and the '*Output cell size*' left as the default value unless there is a need to change this.
- 4. Once the raster has been created or loaded in, it is helpful to symbolise it according to the contours that you are wanting to create (i.e. 0.5m colour bands for 0.5m contour intervals).
- 5. To create the contour dataset select the '*Contour*' tool (ArcToolbox/Spatial Analyst Tools/Surface/Contour).
- 6. Select the relevant raster and specify the contour interval according to your needs. The visualisation of the data should be taken into account at this point because whilst the data may be detailed enough to produce dense contours this may produce a cluttered and unhelpful output. '*Base contour*' and '*Z* factor' options should be left as the default values unless otherwise specified. Run the contour tool.
- 7. The contour polyline dataset should have been created and should now match up with the raster as symbolised in Step 4.



This methodology document details how various volume calculations were carried out for peat probing survey data for the A96 Dualling- Inverness to Nairn. It directly follows the document **'A96\_Contour\_Creation\_Guidance.pdf**' which can be found at the directory- O:\GIS\_Team\02 Guidance Notes\Methodologies\Geotechnical.

# Deliverables

Following the creation of a peat depth raster (and associated contours) as detailed in the document A96\_Contour\_Creation\_Guidance.pdf the following volumetric calculations were asked for:

- a. Total volume of peat for study areas A-E
- b. Volume of peat up to a depth of 0.5m for study areas A-E (including 12m buffered CPO boundary)
- c. Volume of peat below a depth of 0.5m for study areas A-E (including 12m buffered CPO boundary)
- d. Volume of peat up to a depth of 0.5m for study areas A-E that is covered by the May 2016 design footprint
- e. Volume of peat below a depth of 0.5m for study areas A-E that is covered by the May 2016 design footprint

# Inputs and Procedures

The initial data used for both the raster/contour creation and volume calculations was an excel spreadsheet containing the locations of peat probing points and associated peat depths as well as boundary co-ordinates for the study areas A-G- A96\_Peat\_Probing\_20160531.xlsx located at

N:\GIS\_Projects\B2103500\_A96\_Dualling\_INVNN\_Stage3\ArcGIS\001\_Surveys\004D\_GeolHydrContam\006\_ Peat\_Probing

Later the instances of peat found at GI locations (i.e. boreholes and trial pits) were provided as an Excel spreadsheet (*GI\_locations\_encountering\_peat.xlsx* at same location as above) and merged with the initial peat probing data; as well as this the creation of two 'dummy points' with associated peat depths was requested. Both the GI locations encountering peat and the dummy points were included in the data at the request of Joanna Thomson.

The Excel spreadsheet data referenced above was converted into shapefile format using ArcGIS. These point shapefiles were then used to create elevation rasters for each of the study areas. The interpolation method chosen for this process was *Topo to Raster*. This method was chosen as the input point data was not sufficiently dense to allow for the use of a more advanced interpolation method such as IDW or Kriging. During processing of the rasters the output cell size values were left at the default values for the different study areas (shorter of the width or height of the extent of the input point features divided by 250). This was decided as being appropriate due to the limited nature of the input data.

# **Calculations**

These are in reference to the deliverables stated above:



- a. The total volume for each study area was calculated by multiplying the known area by the mean peat depth specified in the statistics for each raster.
- b. This was calculated by taking away the values of c. from the total volumes (a.) for each study area.
- c. The volumes of peat below at a depth of greater than 0.5m were calculated by first converting the rasters to point shapefiles using the tool *Raster to Point*. Then selecting the points with a depth greater than 0.5m, taking away 0.5m from these values (as this data would be applicable to deliverable b.) and multiplying the mean depth of these points by their area (known by multiplying the number of selected points by the cell size of the associated raster).
- d. These values were calculated by using the same methods specified for deliverables c and d but selecting relevant raster points that intersected the May 2016 design footprint shapefile using the tool *Select by Location*.
- e. See above.

# **Conclusions**

It was made known to those asking for the calculations and contours that the limitations of the input data would result in low-accuracy outputs. Different volume values would have been calculated had a different interpolation method been used. The conversion of rasters to points could have been eliminated through the use of the *Raster Calculator* however, the rasters themselves were calculated using low-accuracy data and so it would be difficult to say which method would have been more accurate.