

005/4056/ASw

2nd March 2021

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Dear Laura & Adam

Dungworth Green, Sheffield - Mining risk assessment

Further to your recent instruction, Lithos Consulting have completed a mining risk assessment in accordance with Coal Authority requirements, in order to provide the Local Planning Authority with information on coal mining and an assessment of its impact on land stability.

It is understood that the site is to be redeveloped with a single dwelling with an associated garden and car parking. A proposed site layout has been provided (Paul Testa Architecture Drawing PT320-PTA-00-ZZ-DR-A-00102 Revision P2, dated 6th January 2021) which is copied as Drawing 4056/2 in Appendix A to this letter report.

As of July 2011, the Coal Authority (CA) formalised their requirements in relation to planning applications and introduced some new terminology relating to Coal Mining Development Areas.

The CA have defined specific Coal Mining Development High Risk and Low Risk Areas. The former are areas, based upon CA records, where potential land stability and other safety risks associated with former coal mining activities are likely to be greatest. They include, for example, areas of known or suspected shallow coal mining, recorded mine entries and areas of former surface mining. The CA is now a statutory consultee for any planning application within a High Risk Area. Areas of land that lie within the coalfield, but are considered lesser risk, are now described as Low Risk areas.

Introduction

The site is situated at Dungworth Green, about 7.5km northwest of Sheffield city centre (NGR SK 28274 90082) and is shown on Drawing 4056/1 in Appendix A.

The site comprises a rough grassed field of approximately 480m² with a number of small sheds/garages and trees.

The purpose of this Coal Mining Risk Assessment Report is to:

- Present a desk-based review of all available information on the coal mining issues which are relevant to the application site;
- Use that information to identify and assess the risks to the proposed development from coal mining legacy, including the cumulative impact of issues;
- Set out appropriate mitigation measures to address the coal mining legacy issues affecting the site, including any necessary remedial works and/or demonstrate how coal mining issues have influenced the proposed development; and
- Demonstrate to the Local Planning Authority that the application site is, or can be made, safe and stable to meet the requirements of national planning policy with regard to development on unstable land.



Sources of information

This risk assessment is based on a review of the following:

- A review of the CA's interactive viewer, including Development Areas
- The 1:10,000 BGS geological maps (SK 29 SE & SK 28 NE)
- BGS Memoir, Geology of the Country around Sheffield
- A CA Mining Report
- CA Abandonment Plans (ref OM 15304 Sections 1 & 2)

Data review

It is apparent from review of the CA interactive viewer that this site is located within a Coal Mining Development **High Risk Area** - an area with specific mining legacy risks to the surface, including mine entries; shallow coal workings etc).

The 1:10,000 BGS geological map shows the site to be underlain by Pennine Lower Coal Measures (undifferentiated sandstones, siltstones & mudstones). The geological map suggest that coal seams underlie the site, including the:

- Hard Bed coal, also known as the Ganister or Halifax Hard, (0.2m thick) outcropping c. 10m to the east.
- Soft Bed coal, also known as the Halifax Soft (0.7m thick) underlies the Hard Bed by around 33m and outcrops c. 180m to the northeast.

Given dip and topography, both these seams are expected to underlie the entire site at shallow, <10m, depth (Hard Bed) and around 40m depth (Soft bed). It should be noted that seam outcrops plotted on geological maps have been known to be inaccurate by distances in excess of 100m.

The next shallowest significant seam is the Pot Clay Coal (<0.25m thick) which underlies the Soft Bed by around 45m and outcrops c. 500m to the northeast and east.

No published borehole logs are available from the BGS website in the vicinity of site. However, given the absence of drift deposits, rockhead is likely to lie at relatively shallow depth.

Local published geology is shown on Drawing 4056/3 in Appendix A to this letter report.

A CA mining report and plan states that:

- *There are **known mineworkings** in the Pot Clay seam to the northeast of the site at 65m depth.*
- *There are **probable shallow mineworkings** beneath the site.*
- *The Hard Bed (Halifax Hard) coal outcrops 10m to the north and east and the seam is workable.*
- *There are no spine roadways recorded at shallow depth.*
- *No mine entries are recorded within 100m of the site boundary.*
- *There are no faults, fissures or breaklines recorded beneath the site.*
- *There are no open cast mines or coal authority managed tips within 500m of the site boundary.*
- *The Coal Authority has not received a damage notice or claim for the site, or any area within 50m of the site boundaries since 31st October 1994.*
- *There are no recorded incidences of mine gas within 500m of the site boundary.*
- *The site is not in an area where notice to withdraw support has been given.*

Within the Pot Clay seam the coal is very thin or absent. However, the seat earth (Pot Clay) was considered to be of significant economic importance and was mined as a refractory bed, much worked north of Stannington.

The mining report states that the extraction thickness of the Pot Clay here is around 1.82m with the seam at around 65m depth. Boreholes shown on the abandonment plans record the Pot Clay seam between around 0.4m and 1.7m thick.

A copy of the mining report is included in Appendix B to this letter report.

The following abandonment plan has been obtained from the Coal Authority and shows workings in the Pot Clay coal:

- T Marshall & Co Ltd, Storrs Bridge Mines No's 1 & 2 (Pot Clay Seam), Catalogue No OM 15304 Sections 1 & 2.

Workings are shown to extend to within around 40m northeast and east of the site with former roadway extending to within around 20m of the site boundary. No workings in the Pot Clay coal are shown below the site on the abandonment plans.

Simple borehole logs showing ground level and the depth to each seam are shown on the abandonment plans. Borehole D2, approximately 40m to the north records the Pot Clay coal (0.6m thick) at around 64m. As such, any workings within the Pot Clay are highly unlikely to pose a potential subsidence risk to the site.

Borehole logs shown on the abandonment plans typically show the Soft Bed between around 20m and 30m below the Hard Bed, with the Pot Clay around 50m to 60m below the Soft Bed.

There are no abandonment plans available for the Hard Bed and Soft Bed coals. However, unrecorded workings may be present in these seams.

Three 'old shafts' are shown on the abandonment plans from around 170m north and northwest of the site, each of which reference the Soft Bed coal (from around 2.5m to 7m depth). No further detail is provided though these shafts likely access unrecorded shallow workings in the Soft Bed coal.

Based on the geological plan section and depths to the Pot Clay coal recorded in BH D2 on abandonment plans, the Soft Bed Coal is anticipated to underlie the from around 30m to 40m depth.

The Hard Bed coal is recorded in an 'old shaft' 320m to the west at around 17m depth. Furthermore, the Hard Bed coal was recorded at around 20m depth as 'old workings', 1.5m thick, in BH28 around 400m to the southwest and in two further boreholes (BHs 26 & 30) over 500m to the southwest on the abandonment plans.

This would suggest that there are unrecorded workings in the Hard Bed Coal which is conjectured to underlie the site at <10m depth. Although the coal is likely to be highly weathered and of poor quality near outcrop the possibility of shallow bell pits cannot be discounted.

Identification and assessment of site specific coal mining risks

The table below summarises the potential risks associated with coal mining legacy for the proposed development site, identified from list sources of information.

Coal mining issue	Yes	No	Risk assessment
Underground coal mining (recorded at shallow depths)		No	Shallowest recorded worked seam is the Pot Clay (1.8m thick) at 65m depth to the northeast and east of the site (i.e. not beneath the site).
Underground coal mining (probable at shallow depths)	Yes		Shallowest recorded seam is the Hard Bed Coal outcropping c.10m to the east with the Soft Bed coal around 20m to 30m below the Hard Bed. Workings in the Hard Bed Coal identified in boreholes to the west of the site.
Mine entries (shafts and adits)		No	No mine entries recorded at or within 100m of the site.
Coal mining geology (fissures)		No	None recorded by CA.
Record of past mine gas emissions or potential		No	No incidences of mine gas recorded by CA. However, given the presence of historical workings there is potential for hazardous ground gas generation.
Recorded coal mining surface hazard		No	No damage notices or subsidence claims have been received by the coal authority.
Surface mining (opencast workings)		No	No opencast mines or coal authority managed tips are recorded within 500m of the site boundary.

For those issues identified as “yes” a more detailed discussion and assessment of the risks, both individually and cumulatively, to the application site and the proposed development is provided below.

Risk assessment

Any unrecorded workings within the shallower Hard Bed or Soft Bed coals was likely by ‘pillar and stall’ methods or through bell pitting. Ground stability problems above pillar and stall workings can arise as the roof collapses, pillars fail and/or the floor heaves. Progressive deterioration means that there may be a subsidence delay of over 100 years. The mechanism of roof collapse involves progressive upward migration of a void until it is either choked by the spalled roof debris, or reaches the surface as a crown hole.

CIRIA SP32:1984¹ suggests voids resulting from mineral extraction are unlikely to migrate more than 10 times the seam thickness through competent bedrock. CIRIA C758D² notes that the use of this 10 times ‘rule-of-thumb’, as the design basis for treatment depth, has been observed to be successful over many years for a wide range of mine workings and overlying rock/soil strata scenarios. However, consideration must always be given to site specifics such as nature of roof strata, strata dip, groundwater, extraction ratio etc.

The succession here is likely to predominantly comprise sandstones and mudstones and it is therefore considered appropriate to use a figure of 10 times the seam thickness for void migration calculations; i.e around 7m (10 x 0.7m) for the Soft Bed Coal.

Consequently, there should be sufficient competent rock cover above any unrecorded workings in the Soft Bed coal even if worked.

However, given that the Hard Bed Coal is likely to lie at <10m depth it is plausible that collapse could occur at surface should the seam be worked. Although extensive extraction through pillar and stall methods is unlikely, bell pitting may have taken place near outcrop.

¹ CIRIA SP32 (1984) - Construction over abandoned mine workings

² CIRIA C758D (2019) – Abandoned mine workings manual

Although the Hard Bed coal is recorded as 0.2m thick on BGS plans, borehole records on the abandonment plans record seam thicknesses between 0.4m & 1.5m. Often the underlying fireclay (seatearth) associated with the Hard Bed coal is also extracted where the seam is worked.

As such, depending on extraction thickness and the thickness of competent cover it is possible that unrecorded workings in the Hard Bed coal could affect the surface stability of the site.


Mitigation strategy & conclusions

Risks posed by the potential for collapse of recorded shallow mineworkings in the Pot Clay seam should not require mitigation (e.g. grouting or coal extraction) prior to construction of the proposed dwelling.

Unrecorded workings in the Soft Bed coal are unlikely to affect surface stability, however, unrecorded workings in the shallower Hard Bed coal have the potential to migrate to surface where there is insufficient competent cover.

There is always some uncertainty associated with a risk assessment such as this, which is based wholly on 'desk study' data (cf the findings of boreholes drilled on site). Uncertainties arise from: potential inaccuracies associated with the geological map; the potential for variation in strata dip; variation in seam/extraction thickness; possible effects of faulting etc.

Given the residual uncertainties, and the fact that the site lies within a High Risk Area, intrusive investigation (rotary probeholes) is recommended to determine the actual depth of any unrecorded mineworkings in the Hard Bed and, to a lesser extent, Soft Bed coals beneath the site.



Furthermore, if the investigation found evidence of mineworkings, and concluded that it were necessary to consolidate these (by drilling holes on a 4.5m grid and injecting grout), such work would probably cost in the region of £20,000.

Should you require any further information, please contact the undersigned.

Yours sincerely



Alan Swales
Associate Director
for and on behalf of
LITHOS CONSULTING LIMITED

Appendix A
Drawings



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CLIENT
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ADAM WINSON

JOB TITLE
DUNGWORTH
GREEN,
SHEFFIELD

DRAWING TITLE
SITE LOCATION
PLAN

DRAWN	AP	DATE	18/02/2021
CHECKED	ASw	DATE	19/02/2021
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	FOR APPROVAL <input type="checkbox"/>	FINAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SCALE	1:25,000	SHEET	A4
		DRAWING NO.	4056/1
		REVISION	



NOTES

— APPROXIMATE SITE BOUNDARY

REPRODUCED FROM PAUL TESTA
ARCHITECTURE DRAWING REFERENCE
PT320-PTA-00-ZZ-DR-A-00102 REVISION P2,
DATED 6th JANUARY 2021

REV.	DESCRIPTION	DATE



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CLIENT

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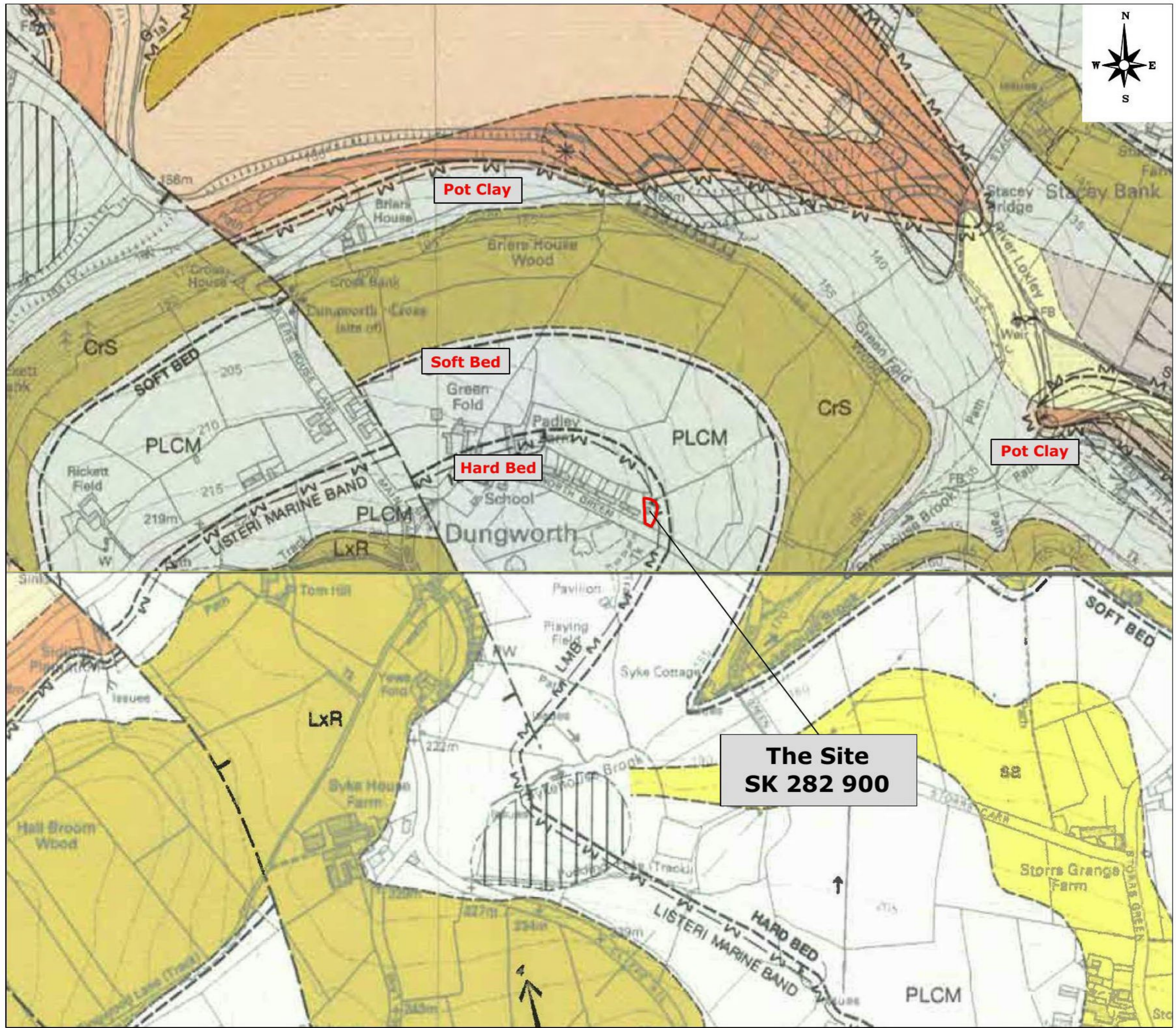
JOB TITLE

DUNGWORTH
GREEN,
SHEFFIELD

DRAWING TITLE

PROPOSED SITE LAYOUT

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					FINAL <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SCALE	1:200	SHEET	A3	DRAWING NO.	4056/2
				REVISION	



NOTES

- APPROXIMATE SITE BOUNDARY
- REPRODUCED FROM 1:10,000 SCALE BGS PLANS, SHEETS SK 29 SE & SK 28 NE
- - - APPROXIMATE COAL OUTCROP
- LXR LOXLEY EDGE ROCK SANDSTONE
- PLCM PENNINE LOWER COAL MEASURES
- CrS CRAWSHAW SANDSTONE
- POT CLAY NAME OF COAL SEAM

REV.	DESCRIPTION	DATE

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CLIENT

Laura Johnson & Adam Winson

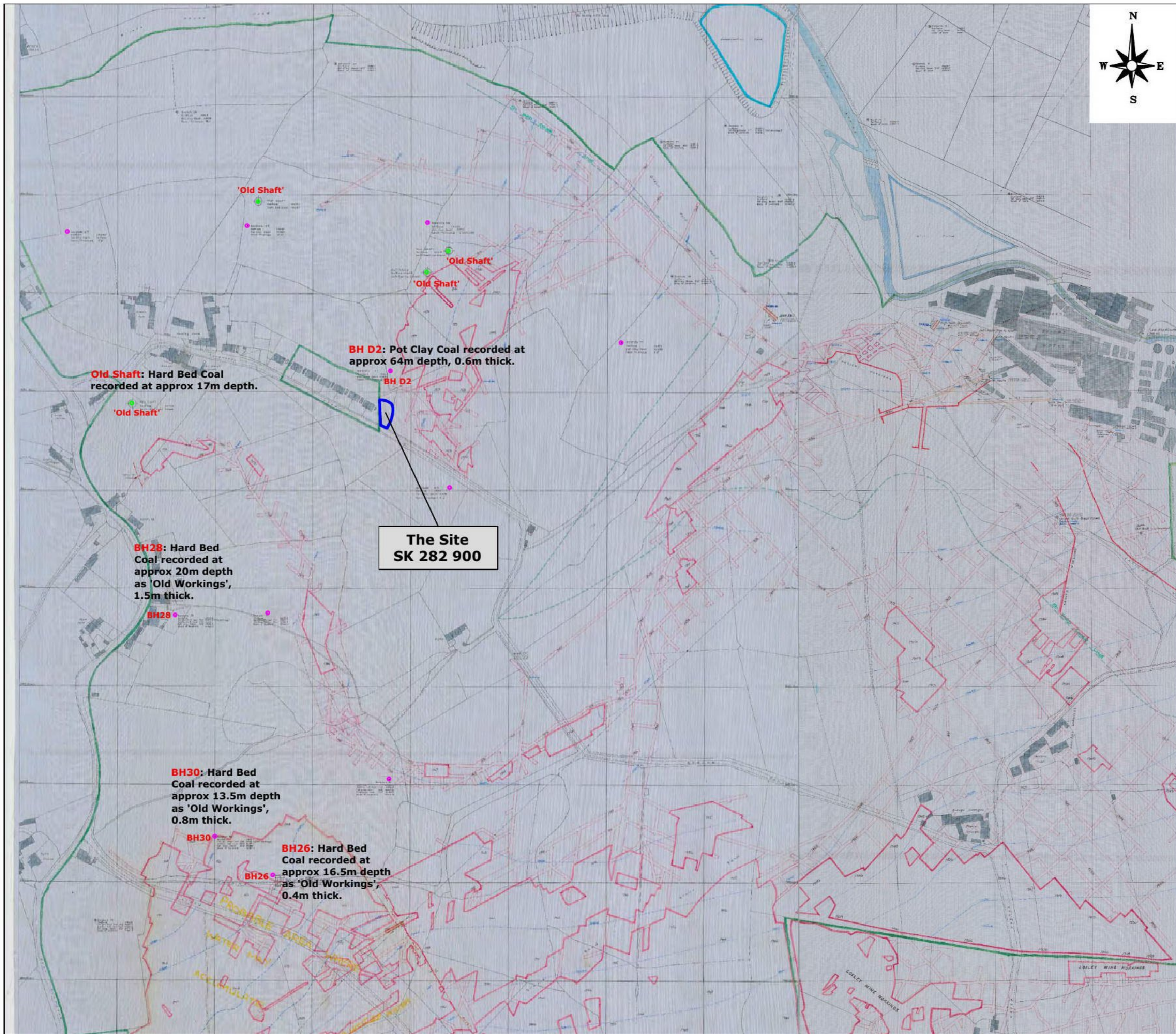
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DUNGWORTH GREEN, SHEFFIELD

DRAWING TITLE

PUBLISHED GEOLOGY

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					FINAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SCALE	1:5,000	SHEET	A3	DRAWING NO.	4056/3	REVISION



NOTES

- APPROXIMATE SITE BOUNDARY
- REPRODUCED FROM COAL AUTHORITY ABANDONMENT PLANS REF OM 15304 SECTIONS 1 & 2. T MARSHALL & Co LTD, STORRS BRIDGE MINES No's 1 & 2 (POT CLAY SEAM)
- APPROXIMATE EXTENT OF RECORDED WORKINGS IN POT CLAY COAL
- BOREHOLE LOCATION
- SHAFT LOCATION

REV.	DESCRIPTION	DATE



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Tel 01937 545330

**The Site
SK 282 900**

Old Shaft: Hard Bed Coal recorded at approx 17m depth.

BH D2: Pot Clay Coal recorded at approx 64m depth, 0.6m thick.

BH28: Hard Bed Coal recorded at approx 20m depth as 'Old Workings', 1.5m thick.

BH30: Hard Bed Coal recorded at approx 13.5m depth as 'Old Workings', 0.8m thick.

BH26: Hard Bed Coal recorded at approx 16.5m depth as 'Old Workings', 0.4m thick.

CLIENT

**Laura
Johnson &
Adam Winson**

JOB TITLE

**DUNGWORTH
GREEN,
SHEFFIELD**

DRAWING TITLE

PUBLISHED GEOLOGY

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				FOR APPROVAL	<input type="checkbox"/>
				DRAFT	<input type="checkbox"/>
				FINAL	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SCALE	1:5,000	SHEET	A3	DRAWING NO.	4056/4
				REVISION	

Appendix B

Search Responses & other Correspondence



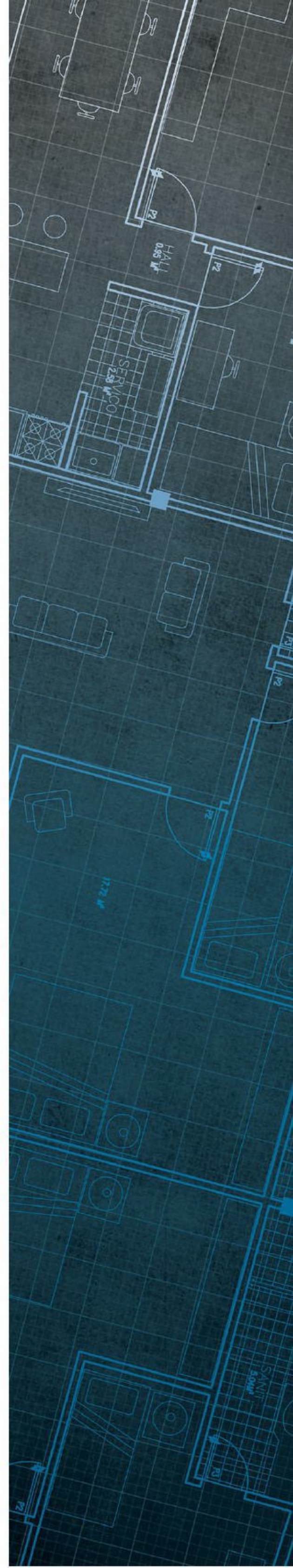
The Coal
Authority

Consultants Coal Mining Report

75 Dungworth Green
Sheffield
S6 6HE

Date of enquiry: 18 February 2021
Date enquiry received: 18 February 2021
Issue date: 18 February 2021

Our reference: 51002383612001
Your reference: PO17112/4056/AP



Consultants

Coal Mining Report

This report is based on and limited to the records held by the Coal Authority at the time the report was produced.

Client name

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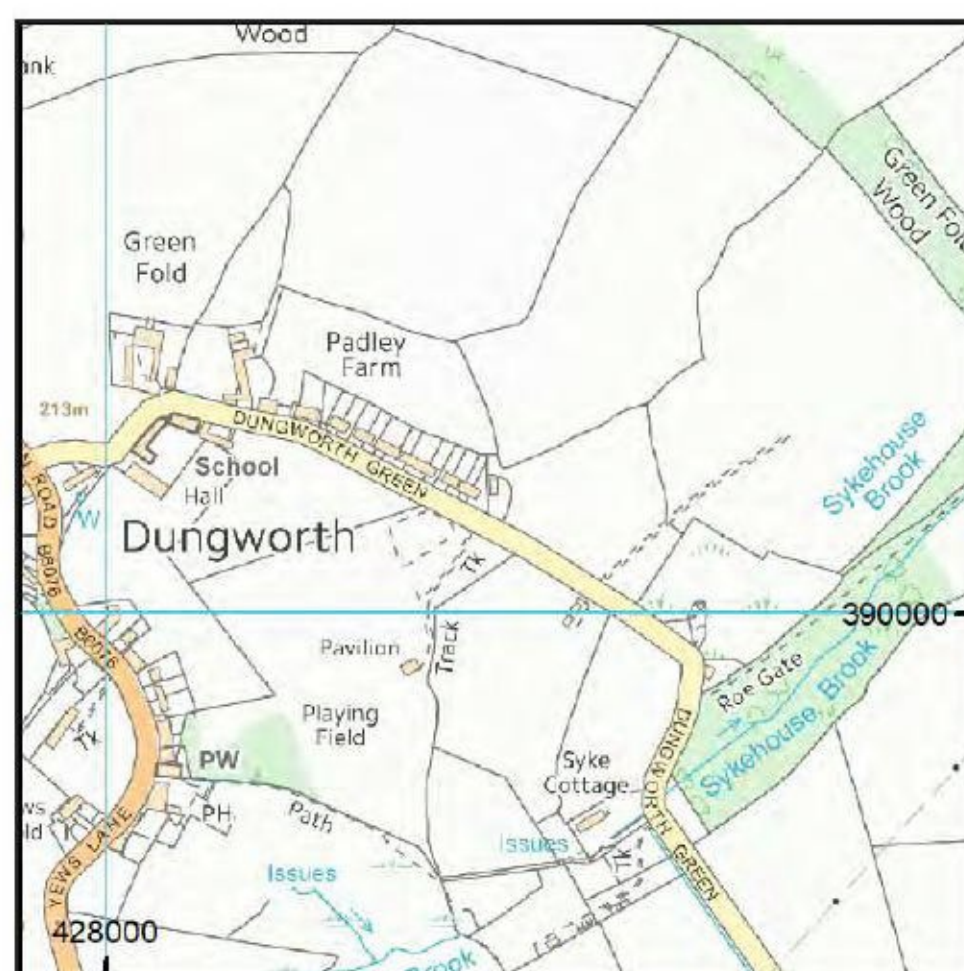
www.groundstability.com

 @coalauthority

 /company/the-coal-authority

 /thecoalauthority

 /thecoalauthority



Approximate position of property



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Section 1 – Mining activity and geology

Past underground mining

Colliery	Seam	Mineral	Coal Authority reference	Depth (m)	Direction to working	Dipping rate of seam worked (degrees)	Dipped direction of seam worked	Extraction thickness (cm)	Year last mined
STORRS BRIDGE	POT CLAY	Fireclay	A0G1	65	North-East			182	1977

Probable unrecorded shallow workings

Yes.

Spine roadways at shallow depth

No spine roadway recorded at shallow depth.

Mine entries

None recorded within 100 metres of the enquiry boundary.

Abandoned mine plan catalogue numbers

The following abandoned mine plan catalogue numbers intersect with some, or all, of the enquiry boundary:

M254	OM15304	
------	---------	--

Please contact us on 0345 762 6848 to determine the exact abandoned mine plans you require based on your needs.

Outcrops

Seam name	Mineral	Seam workable	Distance to outcrop (m)	Direction to outcrop	Bearing of outcrop
HALIFAX HARD	Coal	Yes	10.2	East	164

Geological faults, fissures and breaklines

No faults, fissures or breaklines recorded.

Opencast mines

None recorded within 500 metres of the enquiry boundary.

Coal Authority managed tips

None recorded within 500 metres of the enquiry boundary.

Section 2 – Investigative or remedial activity

Please refer to the 'Summary of findings' map (on separate sheet) for details of any activity within the area of the site boundary.

Site investigations

None recorded within 50 metres of the enquiry boundary.

Remediated sites

None recorded within 50 metres of the enquiry boundary.

Coal mining subsidence

The Coal Authority has not received a damage notice or claim for the subject property, or any property within 50 metres of the enquiry boundary, since 31 October 1994.

There is no current Stop Notice delaying the start of remedial works or repairs to the property.

The Coal Authority is not aware of any request having been made to carry out preventive works before coal is worked under section 33 of the Coal Mining Subsidence Act 1991.

Mine gas

None recorded within 500 metres of the enquiry boundary.

Mine water treatment schemes

None recorded within 500 metres of the enquiry boundary.

Section 3 – Licensing and future mining activity

Future underground mining

None recorded.

Coal mining licensing

None recorded within 200 metres of the enquiry boundary.

Court orders

None recorded.

Section 46 notices

No notices have been given, under section 46 of the Coal Mining Subsidence Act 1991, stating that the land is at risk of subsidence.

Withdrawal of support notices

The property is not in an area where a notice to withdraw support has been given.

The property is not in an area where a notice has been given under section 41 of the Coal Industry Act 1994, cancelling the entitlement to withdraw support.

Payments to owners of former copyhold land

The property is not in an area where a relevant notice has been published under the Coal Industry Act 1975/Coal Industry Act 1994.

Section 4 – Further information

The following potential risks have been identified and as part of your risk assessment should be investigated further.

Development advice

The site is within an area of historical coal mining activity. Should you require advice and/or support on understanding the mining legacy, its risks to your development or what next steps you need to take, please contact us.

For further information on specific site or ground investigations in relation to any issues raised in Section 4, please call us on 0345 762 6848 or email us at groundstability@coal.gov.uk.

Section 5 – Data definitions

The datasets used in this report have limitations and assumptions within their results. For more guidance on the data and the results specific to the enquiry boundary, please **call us on 0345 762 6848** or **email us at groundstability@coal.gov.uk**.

Past underground coal mining

Details of all recorded underground mining relative to the enquiry boundary. Only past underground workings where the enquiry boundary is within 0.7 times the depth of the workings (zone of likely physical influence) allowing for seam inclination, will be included.

Probable unrecorded shallow workings

Areas where the Coal Authority believes there to be unrecorded coal workings that exist at or close to the surface (less than 30 metres deep).

Spine roadways at shallow depth

Connecting roadways either, working to working, or, surface to working, both in-seam and cross measures that exist at or close to the surface (less than 30 metres deep), either within or within 10 metres of the enquiry boundary.

Mine entries

Details of any shaft or adit either within, or within 100 metres of the enquiry boundary including approximate location, brief treatment details where known, the mineral worked from the mine entry and conveyance details where the mine entry has previously been sold by the Authority or its predecessors British Coal or the National Coal Board.

Abandoned mine plan catalogue numbers

Plan numbers extracted from the abandoned mines catalogue containing details of coal and other mineral abandonment plans deposited via the Mines Inspectorate in accordance with the Coal Mines Regulation Act and Metalliferous Mines Regulation Act 1872. A maximum of 9 plan extents that intersect with the enquiry boundary will be included. This does not infer that the workings and/or mine entries shown on the abandonment plan will be relevant to the site/property boundary.

Outcrops

Details of seam outcrops will be included where the enquiry boundary intersects with a conjectured or actual seam outcrop location (derived by either the British Geological Survey or the Coal Authority) or intersects with a defined 50 metres buffer on the coal (dip) side of the outcrop. An indication of whether the Coal Authority believes the seam to be of sufficient thickness and/or quality to have been worked will also be included.

Geological faults, fissures and breaklines

Geological disturbances or fractures in the bedrock. Surface fault lines (British Geological Survey derived data) and fissures and breaklines (Coal Authority derived data) intersecting with the enquiry boundary will be included. In some circumstances faults, fissures or breaklines have been known to contribute to surface subsidence damage as a consequence of underground coal mining.

Opencast mines

Opencast coal sites from which coal has been removed in the past by opencast (surface) methods and where the enquiry boundary is within 500 metres of either the licence area, site boundary, excavation area (high wall) or coaling area.

Coal Authority managed tips

Locations of disused colliery tip sites owned and managed by the Coal Authority, located within 500 metres of the enquiry boundary.

Site investigations

Details of site investigations within 50 metres of the enquiry boundary where the Coal Authority has received information relating to coal mining risk investigation and/or remediation by third parties.

Remediated sites

Sites where the Coal Authority has undertaken remedial works either within or within 50 metres of the enquiry boundary following report of a hazard relating to coal mining under the Coal Authority's Emergency Surface Hazard Call Out procedures.

Coal mining subsidence

Details of alleged coal mining subsidence claims made since 31 October 1994 either within or within 50 metres of the enquiry boundary. Where the claim relates to the enquiry boundary confirmation of whether the claim was accepted, rejected or whether liability is still being determined will be given. Where the claim has been discharged, whether this was by repair, payment of compensation or a combination of both, the value of the claim, where known, will also be given.

Details of any current 'Stop Notice' deferring remedial works or repairs affecting the property/site, and if so the date of the notice.

Details of any request made to execute preventative works before coal is worked under section 33 of the Coal Mining Subsidence Act 1991. If yes, whether any person withheld consent or failed to comply with any request to execute preventative works.

Mine gas

Reports of alleged mine gas emissions received by the Coal Authority, either within or within 500 metres of the enquiry boundary that subsequently required investigation and action by the Coal Authority to mitigate the effects of the mine gas emission.

Mine water treatment schemes

Locations where the Coal Authority has constructed or operates assets that remove pollutants from mine water prior to the treated mine water being discharged into the receiving water body.

These schemes are part of the UK's strategy to meet the requirements of the Water Framework Directive. Schemes fall into 2 basic categories: Remedial – mitigating the impact of existing pollution or Preventative – preventing a future pollution incident.

Mine water treatment schemes generally consist of one or more primary settlement lagoons and one or more reed beds for secondary treatment. A small number are more specialised process treatment plants.

Future underground mining

Details of all planned underground mining relative to the enquiry boundary. Only those future workings where the enquiry boundary is within 0.7 times the depth of the workings (zone of likely physical influence) allowing for seam inclination will be included.

Coal mining licensing

Details of all licenses issued by the Coal Authority either within or within 200 metres of the enquiry boundary in relation to the under taking of surface coal mining, underground coal mining or underground coal gasification.

Court orders

Orders in respect of the working of coal under the Mines (Working Facilities and Support) Acts of 1923 and 1966 or any statutory modification or amendment thereof.

Section 46 notices

Notice of proposals relating to underground coal mining operations that have been given under section 46 of the Coal Mining Subsidence Act 1991.

Withdrawal of support notices



Published notices of entitlement to withdraw support and the date of the notice. Details of any revocation notice withdrawing the entitlement to withdraw support given under Section 41 of the Coal Industry Act 1994.

Payment to owners of former copyhold land

Relevant notices which may affect the property and any subsequent notice of retained interests in coal and coal mines, acceptance or rejection notices and whether any compensation has been paid to a claimant.

The map highlights any specific surface or subsurface features within or near to the boundary of the site.

Key

- Approximate position of the enquiry boundary shown 
- Outcrop (Conjectured) 

How to contact us
 0345 762 6848 (UK)
 +44 (0)1623 637 000 (International)
 www.groundstability.com

