

Geoenvironmental Conference Overview

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When it goes wrong



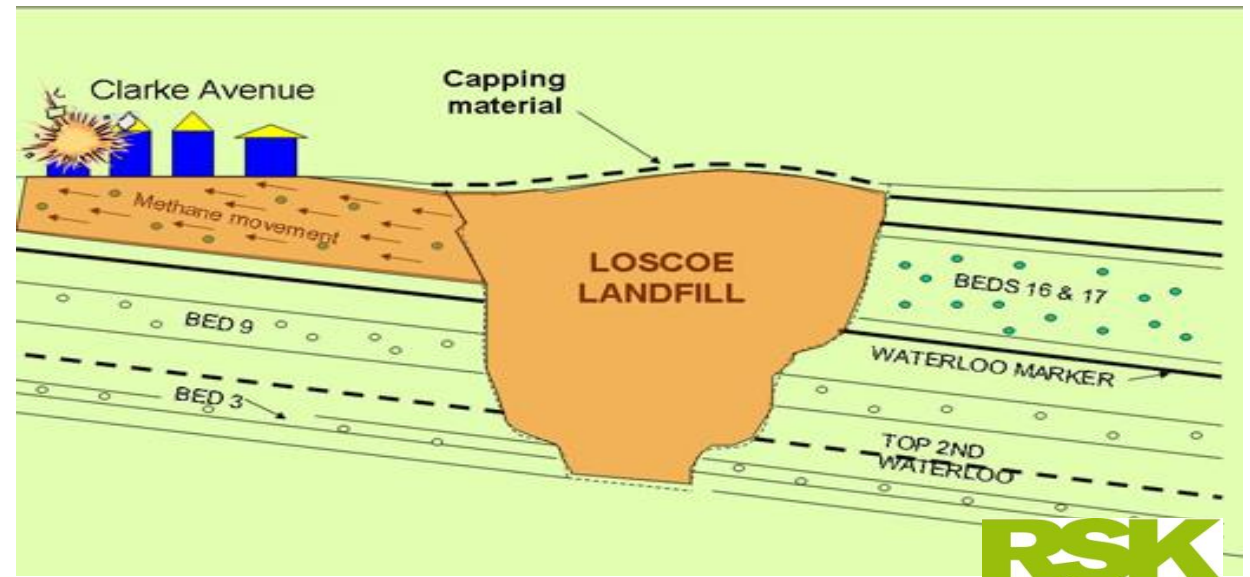
- Hazardous waste had been deposited at the steelworks
- Remedial contractors had little experience in dealing with hazardous waste
- 18 pregnant mothers came into contact with contaminants resulting in birth defects
- Families reached out of court settlement with Corby Borough Council

The screenshot shows a BBC News article from April 16, 2010. The article title is "Corby birth defects case made legal history". The author is Colette McBeth. The article text states: "It is a case that has made legal history in the UK with a proven link between 19 children born with deformities and the clean-up of toxic waste on the site of a former steelworks in the Northamptonshire town of Corby." A photo of Mandy Wright is included with a caption: "Mandy Wright said the battle was about 'finding answers'". The article continues: "Their lawyer claimed that process was so badly handled that it exposed pregnant mothers to toxins which harmed their unborn children. Now those families have reached an out-of-court settlement with Corby Borough Council but the amount of compensation will remain a secret. When Mandy Wright's son Curtis was born with no fingers on one hand". The page also features a sidebar with navigation links, a "SEE ALSO" section with related stories, and a "MOST POPULAR STORIES NOW" section.

When It Goes Wrong



- Dramatic drop in Atmospheric pressure
- Migration from landfill via permeable strata
- Accumulation within property
- Explosion when methane met ignited boiler



When it goes wrong

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Society

Something in the water

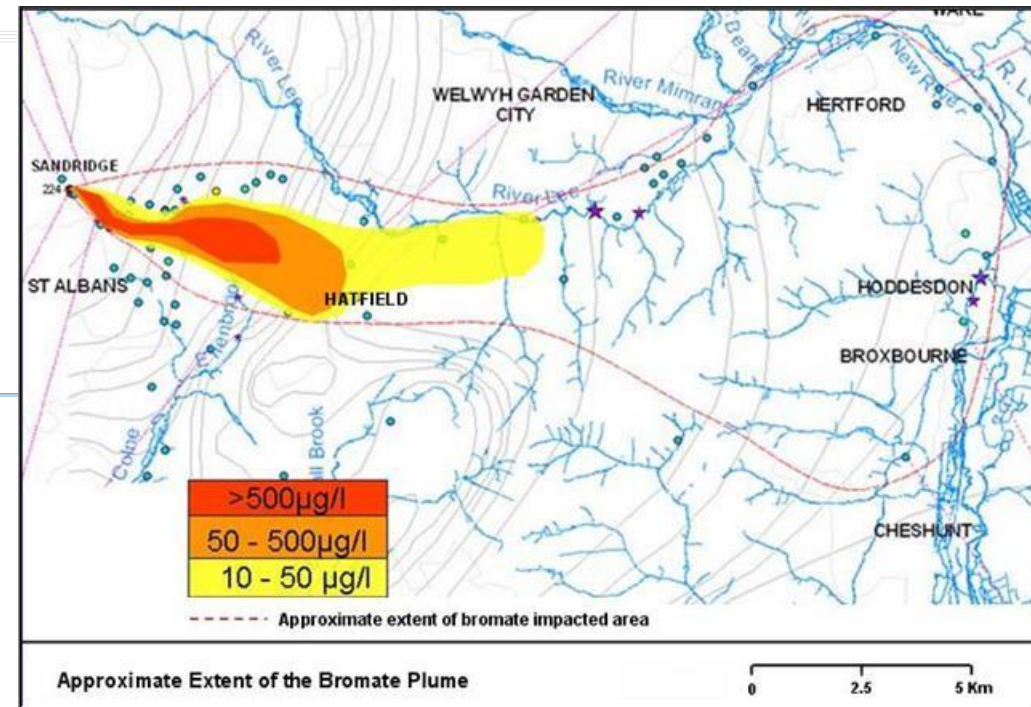
Contamination has closed more than 40 groundwater sources in the past five years. So who's going to pay the clean-up costs?

In a drab meeting room on a Hertfordshire business park, five barristers last month put their final cases in a controversy that has dragged on for seven years. But the mundane setting of the public inquiry belied its importance. Thousands of people's water supply and millions of pounds rest on the outcome, which the government should announce later this year.

Roz Bulleid
Wed 27 Jun 2007 23:51 BST

The problem was a 20km-wide band of bromate - a known carcinogen - found in the drinking water supplies beneath Hatfield's business park. There was no doubt that the pollution came from a former chemical factory in the village of Sandridge, near St Albans, but the question was who should pay for its removal: should it be Redland Minerals, which bought the factory's

- 2001: Bromate plume encountered at 2 public water supply boreholes in Hatfield
- Site investigation identifies the source as a former chemical works (redeveloped as residential housing) in Sandridge, 10km up hydraulic gradient
- June 2002: Site designated contaminated land under Part IIA



Source: Groundwater forum

Ground Risk: How do we manage it?

The collage features several key documents:

- Guidance on investigations for ground gas – Permanent gases and Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs)** (BS 8576:2013)
- Model Procedures for the Management of Land Contamination** (Contaminated Land Report 11)
- Hazardous waste: the definition and classification** (3rd Edition 2002)
- Environmental Protection Act 1990: Part 2A Contaminated Land Statutory Guidance** (April 2012)
- Investigation of potentially contaminated sites – Code of Practice** (BS 10175:2011+A2:2017)
- Gas works, coke works and other coal carbonisation plants** (BS 8485:2015)
- The Water Framework Directive (Standards and Classification) Directions (England and Wales) 2015**
- An Illustrated Handbook of LNAPL Transport and Fate in the Subsurface** (CLEAIRE)

Logos of various organizations are visible, including the Environment Agency, DEFRA, SEPA, Cyfoeth Naturiol Cymru, and HM Government.

Uncertainty

At all stages of Risk Assessment CLR 11 requires all information to be reviewed with the following criteria

Relevant?

Sufficient?

Reliable?

Transparent?



**Keep these four criteria in
mind throughout your site
assessment**

The role of the AGS CLWG

- A working group comprising consultants, contractors, laboratories and representatives of industry groups such as SiLC, the NHBC, SoBRA, British Geological Survey and the EA;
- Our remit is to provide an authoritative voice on contaminated land to outside bodies and to provide a forum for the exchange of information and experience on issues related to contaminated land;
- To promote good practice and high professionalism and prepare position papers on current issues and events;
- We are currently updating our asbestos guidance and our cover system guidance and we are close to issuing the AGS Guidance on the Description of Anthropogenic Soils and Waste Classification of Soils.

Ground Risk – Geoenvironmental Session

The presentations cover aspects human health, controlled waters, ground gas and waste assessment. Subjects commonly encountered during a geo environmental investigation.

- An overview of legal developments under Part IIA and Contaminated Land
Stephen Tromans, QC, 39 Essex Chambers
- Ground gas risk – The risk from incorrect characterisation
Gavin Allsopp, NHBC
- Waste classification for soils – An AGS practitioners' guide
Mike Plimmer, Geotechnical and Environmental Associates
- Creosote-tar seepage Portslade beach
George Flower, Arcadis

Ground Risk – Geoenvironmental Session

Stephen Tromans, QC, 39 Essex chambers

An overview of Legal Developments under Part IIA and
Contaminated Land