

Consultation



South
Cambridgeshire
District Council

South Cambridgeshire District Council (SCDC) has received an application to alter the frequency of groundwater level monitoring at the remediation site.

Representations are invited and should be made in writing to:

Nigel Blazeby

South Cambridgeshire District Council,
South Cambridgeshire Hall,
Cambourne Business Park,
Cambourne,
Cambridge, CB23 6EA

or email nigel.blazeby@scambs.gov.uk.

The application

The planning application has the reference S/2269/10 and is now available to view at www.scambs.gov.uk or at our offices or at your parish council office.

- The application seeks to reduce the frequency of groundwater level monitoring to twice weekly, unless more than 6mm of rain falls within 24 hours, in which case the levels will be monitored twice within the following three days.
- It also seeks to change the format the groundwater levels data is presented to the regulators (SCDC and the Environment Agency) from a contour map to a line graph.

Background

Water levels on the site are currently monitored daily, as set out in the approved Remediation Method Statement (RMS) – a document describing how the clean-up will be carried out and what checks are carried out to monitor what's happening on site.

When the RMS was prepared, prior investigations indicated there may be a significant quantity of groundwater on site requiring monitoring to ensure the clean up did not affect the adjacent watercourses.

Works undertaken so far have shown there is only a relatively small amount of groundwater on the site and that less frequent monitoring would not adversely affect the adjacent watercourses.

The terms of the RMS also require regular contour maps of the groundwater levels to be produced for the regulators to assess. However, the maps are proving to be of little value.

SCDC environmental health officers and the Environment Agency have agreed that presenting the data graphically, in a line graph, would allow a more meaningful way of comparing the groundwater levels.

The consultation expires on 16 February 2011