

1.2 DESCRIPTION OF THE SITE

The East Tip is approximately 9 ha in area and comprises various wastesthat largely originated from the steel making processes on Haulbowline Island. The primary component is slag but lesser quantities of refractory, millscale, sludge, flue dust and construction/demolition wastes are also present. The Tip forms the eastern part of Haulbowline Island which is approximately 34.9ha in total. The Headquarters of the Irish Naval Service is situated on the western portion of the Island with the Naval Dockyard to the east adjoining the East Tip. Separating these is the site of the former Irish Ispat Steelworks. The island is connected to the mainland at Ringaskiddy via a bridge which transverses RockyIsland.

It is thought that the deposition of steel making waste on the East Tip of the Islandstarted in the 1960's but this intensified in the late 1970's and continued until 2001 when steel production ceased on Haulbowline.

Part of the site along the western perimeter of the East Tip was reclaimed by the Navy as a football pitch in 1984.

The remainder of the site is currently a derelict, open and undulating landscape with stockpiles of processed slag and other wastes exposed on the surface. There are a number of structures including offices, a shed and various abandoned steel structures including a gantry crane present on the site. The boundary of the site has been exposed to the tidal regime within Cork Harbour and erosion has taken place to varying degrees leaving an uneven perimeter. The perimeter of the site is generally exposed during high tides.

The site also includes an access road to the East Tip from the public road on the mainland.

A plan of the site is shown in Figure 2.