APPROPRIATE ASSESSMENT SCREENING REPORT

Huntstown South Quarry Soil Intake Infrastructure S34 Planning Application

Prepared for: Roadstone Ltd.



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CONTENTS

1.0	INTRODUCTION
1.1.	Background2
1.2.	General Description of the Site 2
1.3.	Purpose of the Report 2
1.4.	Evidence of Technical Competence and Experience 2
1.5.	Relevant Legislation
1.5.1.	European Nature Directives (Habitats and Birds)
1.5.2.	European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011
1.5.3.	Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended) 4
1.6.	Methodology
1.6.1	General Approach
1.6.2	Stage One: Screening
1.6.3	Stage Two: Appropriate Assessment
1.6.4	Sources of Information
2.0	STAGE 1: SCREENING
2.1.	Step 1 - Part 1: Management of Natura 2000 Sites
2.2.	Step 1 - Part 2: Brief Project Description
2.3.	Step 1 - Part 3: Potential Impact Factors
2.4.	Step 2: Identification of Natura 2000 Sites
2.5.	Step 3 – Part 1: Like Significant Effects
2.5.1.	South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA (004024)
2.5.2.	Assessment of Likely Significant Effects
2.6.	Step 3 – Part 2 In-combination Effects 10
2.7.	Step 4: Screening Determination and Consideration of Findings
3.0	REFERENCES

FIGURES

Figure 1	Site Location
Figure 2	Site Layout
Figure 3	Location of Project and Natura 2000 Sites

1.0 INTRODUCTION

SLR Consulting Ireland (SLR) was commissioned by Roadstone Ltd. to prepare an Appropriate Assessment (AA) screening report in support of a planning application to Fingal County Council for the construction of soil intake infrastructure w at Huntstown South Quarry Co. Dublin.

1.1. Background

This AA Screening report has been prepared in support of a Section 34 planning application for the construction and operation of 3 No weighbridges (each with a dedicated weighbridge office), and a 670m² soil waste inspection and quarantine shed and use of existing site office (previously approved for the Retail Centre) as waste facility offices. The development is required to facilitate internal routing of soil intake for the future backfilling and restoration of Huntstown South Quarry (previously approved under planning permission Ref. FW12A/0022), at the Huntstown Quarry Complex, North Road, Finglas, Dublin 11.

1.2. General Description of the Site

The proposed waste licence extension area ("the Site") is centred at approximate Irish Transverse Mercator (ITM) grid coordinates 711122, 741132 and straddles the townlands of Huntstown, Cappoge and Grange, Co. Dublin.

The Site is located approximately 2.5 km north-west of Finglas and 1km west of the interchange between the N2 Dual Carriageway and the M50 Motorway. The Huntstown quarry complex forms the lands immediately north of the Site. The lands immediately south and east of the Site remain in use as agricultural grassland, while those to the west and north-west of it comprise neighbouring light industry and science and technology parks along the Cappagh Road (including Stadium Business Park, Huntstown Business Park and Millennium Business Park).

1.3. Purpose of the Report

The purpose of this report is to provide supporting information to assist the competent authority, in this case Fingal County Council, to carry out screening for likely significant effects on Natura 2000 sites as a result of the proposed infrastructure development at the Huntstown Quarry Complex.

1.4. Evidence of Technical Competence and Experience

SLR Associate Ecologist Michael Bailey prepared this report and SLR Technical Director Richard Arnold carried out the technical review of this report.

Michael Bailey MCIEEM holds a BSc. in Biology and Ecology from the University of Ulster and an MSc. in Quantitative Conservation Biology from the University of the Witwatersrand in Johannesburg. He has extensive experience in ecological studies and assessments across a range of sectors including agricultural, minerals and mining, and renewable energy projects in Ireland, the UK and across Africa. He is a member of the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (MCIEEM).

Richard Arnold BSc(Hons) MRes MCIEEM CEnv is a Technical Director – Ecology, with responsibilities for a team of ecologists based in Cork, Ireland and a second team based in London. He has 23 years of ecological consultancy experience encompassing the UK and Ireland. His recent work has included assisting An Bord Pleanála on several major development projects, including the Seven Hills Windfarm in Co. Roscommon. Richard is a botanist and habitat specialist with expertise in Annex I habitats and the EIA and AA processes as they are practised in Ireland.

1.5. Relevant Legislation

1.5.1. European Nature Directives (Habitats and Birds)

The Habitats Directive (Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora) forms the basis for the designation of Special Areas of Conservation (SAC). Similarly, Special Protection

Areas (SPA) are classified under the Birds Directive (Council Directive 2009/147/EEC on the Conservation of Wild Birds). Collectively, SACs and SPAs are referred to as the Natura 2000 network. The Natura 2000 Network is the minimum required to conserve certain habitats and species which are listed in the Directives.

Under Article 6(3) of the Habitats Directive, an Appropriate Assessment (AA) must be undertaken for any plan or project that is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of a Natura 2000 site but is likely to have a significant effect thereon, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects. An AA is an evaluation of the potential impacts of a plan or project on the conservation objectives of a Natura 2000 site, and the identification, where necessary, of mitigation or avoidance measures to preclude adverse effects on the integrity of the site.

Article 6, paragraph 3 of the European Commission Habitats Directive 92/43/EEC ("the Habitats Directive") states that:

"Any plan or project not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site but likely to have a significant effect thereon, either individually or in combination with other plans or projects, shall be subject to appropriate assessment of its implications for the site in view of the site's conservation objectives. In the light of the conclusions of the assessment of the implications for the site and subject to the provisions of paragraph 4, the competent national authorities shall agree to the plan or project only after having ascertained that it will not adversely affect the integrity of the site concerned and, if appropriate, after having obtained the opinion of the general public".

1.5.2. European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011

Pursuant to the Habitats Directive, Part 5 of the European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations 2011, as amended, similarly sets out the requirements for screening assessments and the circumstances under which an AA is required.

Regulation 42(1) requires that 'a screening for Appropriate Assessment of a plan or project for which an application for consent is received, or which a public authority wishes to undertake or adopt, and which is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site as a European Site, shall be carried out by the public authority to assess, in view of best scientific knowledge and in view of the conservation objectives of the site, if that plan or project, individually or in combination with other plans or projects is likely to have a significant effect on the European site.' Regulation 42(2) expands on this, stipulating that a public authority must carry out a screening for AA before consent for a plan or project is given, or a decision to undertake or adopt a plan or project is taken.

Regulation 42(6) requires that 'the public authority shall determine that an Appropriate Assessment of a plan or project is required where the plan or project is not directly connected with or necessary to the management of the site as a European Site and if it cannot be excluded, on the basis of objective scientific information following screening under this Regulation, that the plan or project, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, will have a significant effect on a European site'.

Regulation 42(3)(a) gives the public authority the power to direct a third party to provide a Natura Impact Statement (NIS) and Regulation 42(3)(b) allows it to request any additional information that it needs to complete the screening assessment or AA. Regulation 42(5) goes on to make clear that the NIS should include such information as the public authority considers necessary to enable it to undertake the AA and to ascertain if a project or plan will affect the integrity of a Natura 2000 site. In addition to the information, Regulation 2(1) provides a definition of a Natura Impact Statement as 'a report comprising the scientific examination of a plan or project and the relevant European Site or European Sites, to identify and characterise any possible implications of the plan or project individually or in combination with other plans or projects in view of the conservation objectives of the site or sites, and any further information including, but not limited to, any plans, maps or drawings, scientific information or data required to enable the carrying out of an Appropriate Assessment'.

Regulation 42(11) makes clear that the AA must be carried out by the public authority and that it must include its conclusion as to whether the project or plan would adversely affect the integrity of a Natura 2000 site, and that this must be done prior to consenting the project.

1.5.3. Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended)

These processes have been further enshrined in the Planning and Development Act 2000 (as amended), in sections 177T, 177U and 177V, which are as follows:

s177T(1)(b) A Natura impact statement means a statement, for the purposes of Article 6 of the Habitats Directive, of the implications of a proposed development, on its own or in combination with other plans or projects, for one or more than one European site, in view of the conservation objectives of the site or sites.

(2) Without prejudice to the generality of subsection (1), a Natura impact report or a Natura impact statement, as the case may be, shall include a report of a scientific examination of evidence and data, carried out by competent persons to identify and classify any implications for one or more than one European site in view of the conservation objectives of the site or sites.

177U. - (1) A screening for appropriate assessment of a draft Land use plan or application for consent for proposed development shall be carried out by the competent authority to assess, in view of best scientific knowledge, if that Land use plan or proposed development, individually or in combination with another plan or project is likely to have a significant effect on the European site.

(4) The competent authority shall determine that an appropriate assessment of a draft Land use plan or a proposed development, as the case may be, is required if it cannot be excluded, on the basis of objective information, that the draft Land use plan or proposed development, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, will have a significant effect on a European site.

177V. — (1) An appropriate assessment carried out under this Part shall include a determination by the competent authority under Article 6.3 of the Habitats Directive as to whether or not a draft Land use plan or proposed development would adversely affect the integrity of a European site and an appropriate assessment shall be carried out by the competent authority, in each case where it has made a determination under section 177U(4) that an appropriate assessment is required, before — ... (b) consent is given for the proposed development.

1.6. Methodology

1.6.1. General Approach

The methodology used in this report is based on guidance provided by the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS, 2010), the Office of the Planning Regulator (OPR, 2021) and EC Guidance (EC, 2018) (EC, 2020) (EC, 2021) on the application of Article 6 of the Habitats Directive. The 2021 EC guidance describes a series of stages and steps which should be completed when carrying out the assessment and these are followed here with minor modifications. The assessment applies only to Natura 2000 sites (SPAs and SACs). More specifically, it only applies to the qualifying interest features of such sites i.e. the features which are the reason that the site was designated.

1.6.2. Stage One: Screening

Stage One is a screening assessment, the purpose of which is to determine whether a plan or project requires more detailed assessment. There are two principal tests. The first considers whether the plan or project is needed for the management of a European site for the purpose of maintaining or restoring its conservation interest. Any such plans or projects can usually be screened out of further assessment. The second test considers whether the plan or project, without specific mitigation measures, would be likely to have a significant effect on any European Site. This requires consideration of the project on its own and in combination with other plans or projects. A project can only be screened out of further assessment if it is certain (beyond reasonable scientific doubt and on

the basis of the best scientific knowledge) that there would be no significant effects on any Natura 2000 site without mitigation designed specifically to address potential impacts on the qualifying interest of such sites. Significant effects in this assessment are those which could undermine the conservation objectives of a qualifying interest feature. The process is used to determine which Natura 2000 Sites should be included in the later stages of the assessment. It can also be used to determine which qualifying interest features require further assessment.

1.6.3. Stage Two: Appropriate Assessment

Stage Two is a more detailed assessment, known as an "Appropriate Assessment" due to the terminology in the legislation. This essentially repeats the second test of the screening assessment but in more detail and considering mitigation measures before reaching a conclusion. At this stage, the test is whether the project or plan will have an adverse effect on the integrity of any European site. This must be done in the light of the conservation objectives for each of the sites and qualifying interest features that have been 'screened in' by the earlier stage of assessment. Any effect which could undermine the conservation objectives is considered an adverse effect on the integrity of the site, and vice versa. If the project is predicted to lead to adverse effects upon the integrity of the site, further stages of assessment are required before the project can be authorised.

1.6.4. Sources of Information

Sources of information for the assessment of the Project 'alone' include:

- Article 17 and Article 12 reports completed by the National Parks and Wildlife Service¹;
- Site Synopses, Conservation Objectives and Standard Data Forms for the Natura 2000 sites²;
- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Maps³.
- Relevant chapters of the EIAR written for the quarry restoration and backfilling scheme planning application for the Huntstown South Quarry, in particular Chapter 7 Hydrology and Hydrogeology, were also reviewed.

Sources of information for the plans and projects for the 'in combination' assessment were as above and also include:

- Fingal County Development Plan 2017 2023
- Fingal County Council planning portal⁴ and myplan.ie⁵ were accessed for information on other projects and plans.

¹ <u>https://www.npws.ie/publications/article-17-reports?msclkid=0c19d260b00a11ecaf5a935da63f219b</u> (last accessed 03 July 2022)

² https://www.npws.ie/protected-sites (last accessed 03 July 2022)

³ <u>http://gis.epa.ie/</u>(last accessed 03 July 2022)

⁴ <u>http://www.fingal.ie/view-or-search-planning-application</u> (last accessed 03 July 2022)

⁵ <u>https://myplan.ie/</u> (last accessed 03 July 2022)

2.0 STAGE 1: SCREENING

2.1. Step 1 - Part 1: Management of Natura 2000 Sites

The proposed project consists of the installation of new soil waste infrastructure within the Huntstown Quarry Complex. This infrastructure will comprise 3 No weighbridges (each with a dedicated weighbridge office) and a soil waste inspection and quarantine shed and use of existing site office as waste facility offices. Therefore, it is not connected with, or necessary for, the management of a Natura 2000 site.

2.2. Step 1 - Part 2: Brief Project Description

The proposed development at the Site comprises of the construction and operation of new infrastructure which will comprise of the following and shown in Figure 1:

- Development of a new waste inspection shed (measuring 22m x 30m), closed on three sides, open on one.
- Drainage system for roof storm water downpipes, piped drainage system to an outfall within a swale behind (east of) shed, and thereafter to a piped drain running on northern side of road, before it goes beneath the road to the existing drainage channel / tributary which flows to the Finglas Stream upstream of a hydrocarbon interceptor. The discharge point is shown in Figure 2.
- Three weighbridges along the side of established haul routes.
- Three portacabin offices.
- Designated parking area.
- Levelled, hardstanding area (unsealed) will be established around the entire infrastructure area (shaded grey on drawing, Figure 1).
- Rainwater falling on the hardstanding area will infiltrate to ground and will then flow as groundwater to
 the quarry floor where it is captured with other quarry waters. This water will be pumped directly to
 existing settlement ponds which run in series and are located beyond the north-western corner of the
 quarry. Treated water from the settlement lagoons is also discharged to the existing drainage channel /
 tributary which flows to the Finglas Stream.
- The existing Local Authority discharge licence will remain in force (see Appendix A).

2.3. Step 1 - Part 3: Potential Impact Factors

The proposed extension of the sand and gravel pit has the potential to result in the following impacts:

- loss of habitat (construction phase)
- water discharge resulting in pollution (construction and operation phases)
- dust resulting in pollution or smothering of vegetation (construction and operation phases)
- noise and vibration resulting in disturbance of wildlife (construction and operation phases)

The habitats and species listed as features of interest of any Natura 2000 sites must therefore be accessed for affects from loss of habitat, water discharge, noise and vibration, and dust from the proposed development project, and these effects are considered further below.

2.4. Step 2: Identification of relevant Natura 2000 Sites

The first step in identification of relevant Natura 2000 sites for further assessment is to identify those that will be at risk from likely significant effects where a Source-Pathway-Receptor links exists between the proposed development and the European site.

The relevant Natura 2000 sites are identified through a review of the nature and scale of the project, the project location relative to Natura 2000 sites, presence of ecological (including mobile and migratory species) and landscape connectivity, such as along waterways, hedgerows and treelines between the Site and the Natura 2000 sites, known impacts and effects likely to arise as a result of this type of project, distance from Natura 2000 sites and the qualifying interests of the Natura 2000 sites.

The closest Natura 2000 site is South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA (Site Code 004024) is located 8.8km south-east of the Site⁶ (Figure 3). The Site is indirectly linked via surface water pathways with South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA and is considered further in this report – see Table 2.1 below.

Malahide Estuary SAC [000205] and Malahide Estuary SPA [004025] are the next nearest and both approximately 10km north-east of the Site; however, there is no landscape or ecological connectivity with either SAC or SPA, they are beyond the distance at which noise, vibration and dust arising from the project site would be perceptible, and so likely significant effects can be excluded without further consideration.

All other Natura 2000 sites are considered to be sufficiently distant from, and unconnected with, the Site and are therefore not likely to be affected by the project.

⁶ Measured in a straight line between the Site boundary and the Natura 2000 site boundary.

Natura 2000 Site	Distance ⁷	Qualifying Interests ⁸	Conservation Objective	Brief Description	Connections (Source- Pathway-Receptor)
South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA [004024]	8.8 km	 Light-bellied Brent Goose (<i>Branta bernicla hrota</i>) [A046] Oystercatcher (<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>) [A130] Ringed Plover (<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>) [A137] Grey Plover* (<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>) [A141] Knot (<i>Calidris canutus</i>) [A143] Sanderling (<i>Calidris alba</i>) [A144] Dunlin (<i>Calidris alpina</i>) [A149] Bar-tailed Godwit (<i>Limosa lapponica</i>) [A157] Redshank (<i>Tringa totanus</i>) [A162] Black-headed Gull (<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>) [A179] Roseate Tern (<i>Sterna dougallii</i>) [A192] Common Tern (<i>Sterna hirundo</i>) [A193] Arctic Tern (<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>) [A194] Wetland and Waterbirds [A999] 	To maintain the favourable conservation condition of all the bird species listed as Special Conservation Interests within South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA, and, To maintain the favourable conservation condition of the wetland habitat in South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA as a resource for the regularly occurring migratory waterbirds that utilise it.	The South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA comprises a substantial part of Dublin Bay. It includes the intertidal area between the River Liffey and Dun Laoghaire, and the estuary of the River Tolka to the north of the River Liffey, as well as Booterstown Marsh. The site is designated for the following species: Light-bellied Brent Goose, Oystercatcher, Ringed Plover, Grey Plover, Knot, Sanderling, Dunlin, Bar-tailed Godwit, Redshank, Black-headed Gull, Roseate Tern, Common Tern and Arctic Tern. Particular attention is also drawn to the wetlands, and as these form part of the SPA, the site and its associated waterbirds are of special conservation interest for Wetland & Waterbirds. The site is an important site for wintering waterfowl and is a significant site for wintering gulls, with a nationally important population of Black-headed Gull, but also Common Gull and Herring Gull. Mediterranean Gull is also recorded from here, occurring through much of the year, but especially in late winter/spring and again in late summer into winter. Both Common Tern and Arctic Tern breed in Dublin Docks, on a man-made mooring structure known as the E.S.B. dolphin, which is also an important staging/passage site for a number of tern species (late July to September). The origin of many of the birds is likely to be the Dublin breeding sites (Rockabill and the Dublin Docks) though numbers suggest that the site is also used by birds from other sites. This site is selected for designation for its autumn tern populations: Roseate Tern, Common Tern and Arctic Tern. Furthermore, the site supports a nationally important colony of breeding Common Tern. Four of the species that regularly occur at this site are listed on Annex I of the E.U. Birds Directive, i.e. Bar-tailed Godwit, Common Tern, Arctic Tern and Roseate Tern."	Loss of habitat (construction phase), no pathway as habitat loss is on site and the habitat is not suitable for any of the SPA SCI birds Water discharge resulting in pollution (construction and operation phases), pathway via River Tolka, receptor is bird habitat, although the pathway is very weak due to distance and the habitats important to birds are not sensitive. Dust resulting in pollution or smothering of vegetation (construction and operation phases), pathway via air transport and receptor is bird habitat, although the pathway is very weak due to distance and the habitats important to birds are not sensitive. Noise and vibration resulting in disturbance of wildlife (construction and operation phases), no pathway as SPA is too distant from project site.

Table 2.1: Designated Sites within the Zone of Influence of the project

⁷ When measured in a straight line over the shortest distance between the quarry site and Natura 2000 site.

⁸ For SPAs, the bird species that are the reason for the site's designation are Species of Conservation Interest (SCIs) and for SACs the habitats and species that are the reasons for its designation are the Qualifying Interests (QIs) - for convenience, the term qualifying interest or QI is used here for both SPAs and SACs.

2.5. Step 3 – Part 1: Like Significant Effects

There are four potential sources of impact identified as a result of the proposed infrastructure development for the new soil waste infrastructure within the Huntstown Quarry Complex which could potentially affect the features of interest of the South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA: loss of habitat, pollution of surface and ground waters from water discharge, noise & vibration, and generation of dust from the construction and operation phases of the project.

2.5.1. South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA (004024)

The South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA lies 8.8km from the project site. The features of interest for the site, mainly wintering waterbirds, are reliant on important local habitats such shallow marine waters and intertidal flats in the south of Dublin Bay where the flats can extend for almost 3km at their widest, enclosed areas of saltmarsh and muds, small sandy beaches, soft thixotrophic muds with a high organic content and well-aerated sands. These habitats make the site a European important site for wintering waterfowl.

The main threats and pressures with notable effects on, or potential to cause disturbance of, the waterbird populations within the SPA have been listed as habitat loss and modification, water quality, fisheries and aquaculture and recreational activities. However, it has been shown from recent disturbance studies that recreational activities including walkers, joggers and dogs accounted for the greatest majority of disturbance events on waterbirds and these recreational activities at this site occur to such a level that are likely to effect waterbird survival (Phalan & Nairn 2007 and NPWS 2014). Recent water quality improvements such as the cessation of WWTP discharge from Ringsend have brought about beneficial changes to the estuarine system.

Water quality (EPA Q-values) in the Tolka River have not changed between 1994 and 2020 where three samples points between the Fingal Stream and the South Dublin Bay and Tolka River Estuary SPA have remained at 2-3 or 3 (poor).

2.5.2. Assessment of Likely Significant Effects

Loss of Habitat

The proposed infrastructure development will be undertaken within the current Huntstown quarry complex on a piece of land (ca. 1.1ha) which has already been cleared and has previously been used for quarry related activities (Figure 1). Therefore there will be no loss of habitat of any ecological value, nor are any of the habitats within the proposed development site considered important for or are likely to be utilised as foraging grounds by any of the bird species listed as species of conservation interest of the South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA.

Therefore, significant effects on South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA, or any other Natura 2000 sites, are not likely as a result of habitat loss from the project alone.

Emissions to Water

Surface water run-off from the site during periods of rainfall will percolate to ground and will then flow as groundwater to the quarry floor where it is captured with other quarry waters. This water will be pumped directly to existing settlement ponds which run in series and are located beyond the north-western corner of the quarry. Treated water from the settlement lagoons is also discharged to the existing drainage channel / tributary which flows to the Finglas Stream.

The drainage system for roof storm water will consist of downpipes and a piped drainage system to an outfall within a swale behind (east of) shed, and thereafter to a piped drain running on northern side of road, before it goes beneath the road to the existing drainage channel / tributary which flows to the Finglas Stream as it flows southwards along the eastern property boundary of the quarry and upstream of a hydrocarbon interceptor. The discharge/outfall point is shown in Figure 2. The Finglas Stream ultimately flows ca. 4km into the River Tolka at

Glasnevin that outflows into the South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA another 4.5km down-stream before entering the South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA. This SPA is considered to be sufficiently distant from the Site to not be affected by any surface water emissions discharged from the project site.

Therefore, significant effects on South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA, or any other Natura 2000 sites, are not likely as a result of emissions to water from the project alone.

Emissions to Air

Low levels of dust may arise during the construction phase of the development and again during the operational phase negligible levels of dust may arise from trucks travelling over the unsealed hard standing area.

A study by the Institute of Air Quality Management (IAQM, 2016) has indicated that fugitive dust is typically deposited within 100 to 200 m of the source, the greatest proportion of which, comprising larger particles (greater than 30 microns) is deposited within 100 m. Where large amounts of dust are deposited on vegetation over a long time-scale (a full growing season for example) there may be some adverse effects upon plants restricting photosynthesis, respiration, and transpiration.

As the South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA lies almost 9km from the proposed development site there is no potential for dust to affect any of the foraging habitats utilised by the species of conservation interest of the SPA.

Therefore, significant effects on South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA, or any other Natura 2000 sites, are not likely as a result of fugitive dust and emissions to air.

Noise and Vibration to Air

The construction and operation of the new soil intake infrastructure will create minimal noise and will not add to the overall noise and vibration currently emanating from the Huntstown quarry complex. In addition, the South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA is ca. 9km from the site and the species of conservation interest of the SPA are sufficiently distant from the proposed housing development site so as to remain unaffected by any construction or operational noise. The species of conservation concern of the SPA will not be found within the development Site or in the immediate area as the bird species are dependent on the estuarine habitats associated with the SPA for feeding and roosting.

Therefore, significant effects on South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA, or any other Natura 2000 sites, are not likely as a result of construction and/or operational noise and vibration.

2.6. Step 3 – Part 2 In-combination Effects

Cumulative effects can result from individually insignificant but collectively significant actions taking place over a period of time or concentrated in a location. Cumulative effects can occur where a proposed development results in individually insignificant impacts that, when considered in-combination with impacts of other proposed or permitted plans and projects, can result in significant effects (CIEEM, 2018).

There are no effects on Natura 2000 sites predicted to occur as a result of the proposed development alone.

Therefore, there is no potential for the development to act in-combination with other plans or projects. Cumulative effects on the South Dublin Bay and River Tolka Estuary SPA will not occur as a result of the proposed soil intake infrastructure at the Huntstown quarry complex Co. Dublin.

2.7. Step 4: Screening Determination and Consideration of Findings

This screening report, based on the available information and project details, demonstrates that there will be no likely significant effects on Natura 2000 sites as a result of the proposed development.

We therefore submit that the competent authority, in this case Fingal County Council, can determine that appropriate assessment is not required, as the proposed project, individually or in combination with other plans or projects, will not have a significant effect on any Natura 2000 sites.

3.0 REFERENCES

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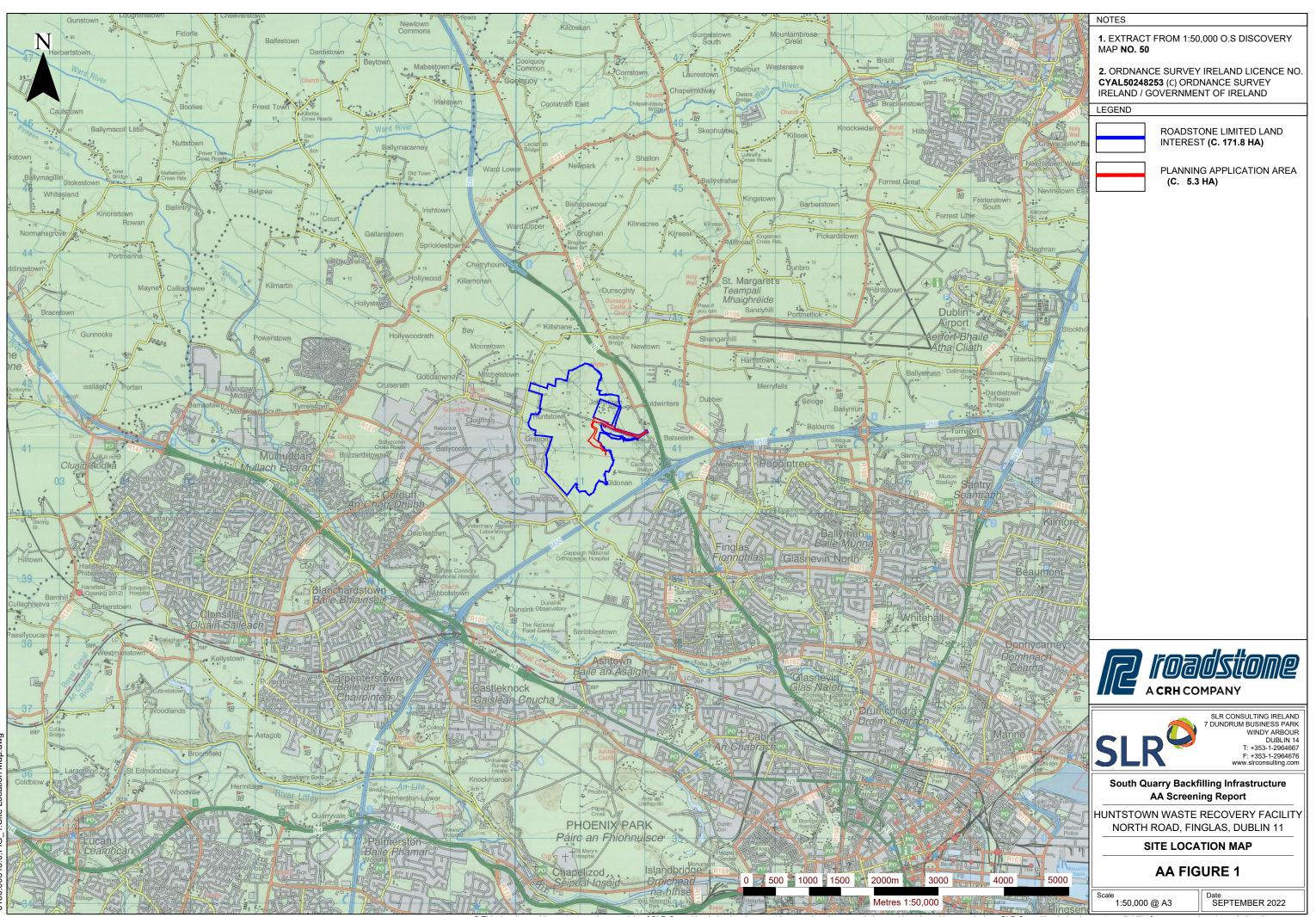
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FIGURES

FIGURE 1

Site Location

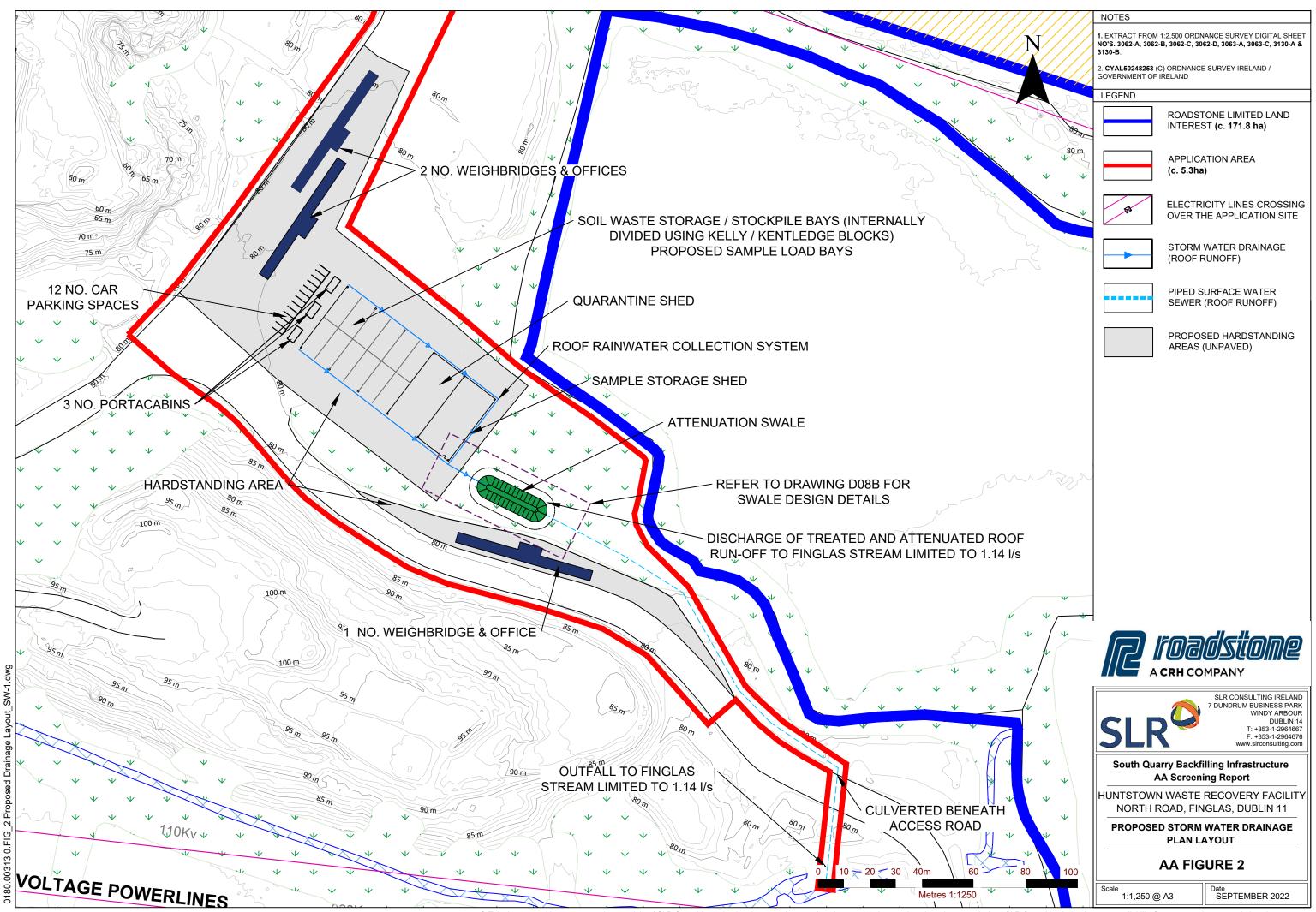


dwb. Map. <u>6</u> .003 80

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FIGURE 2

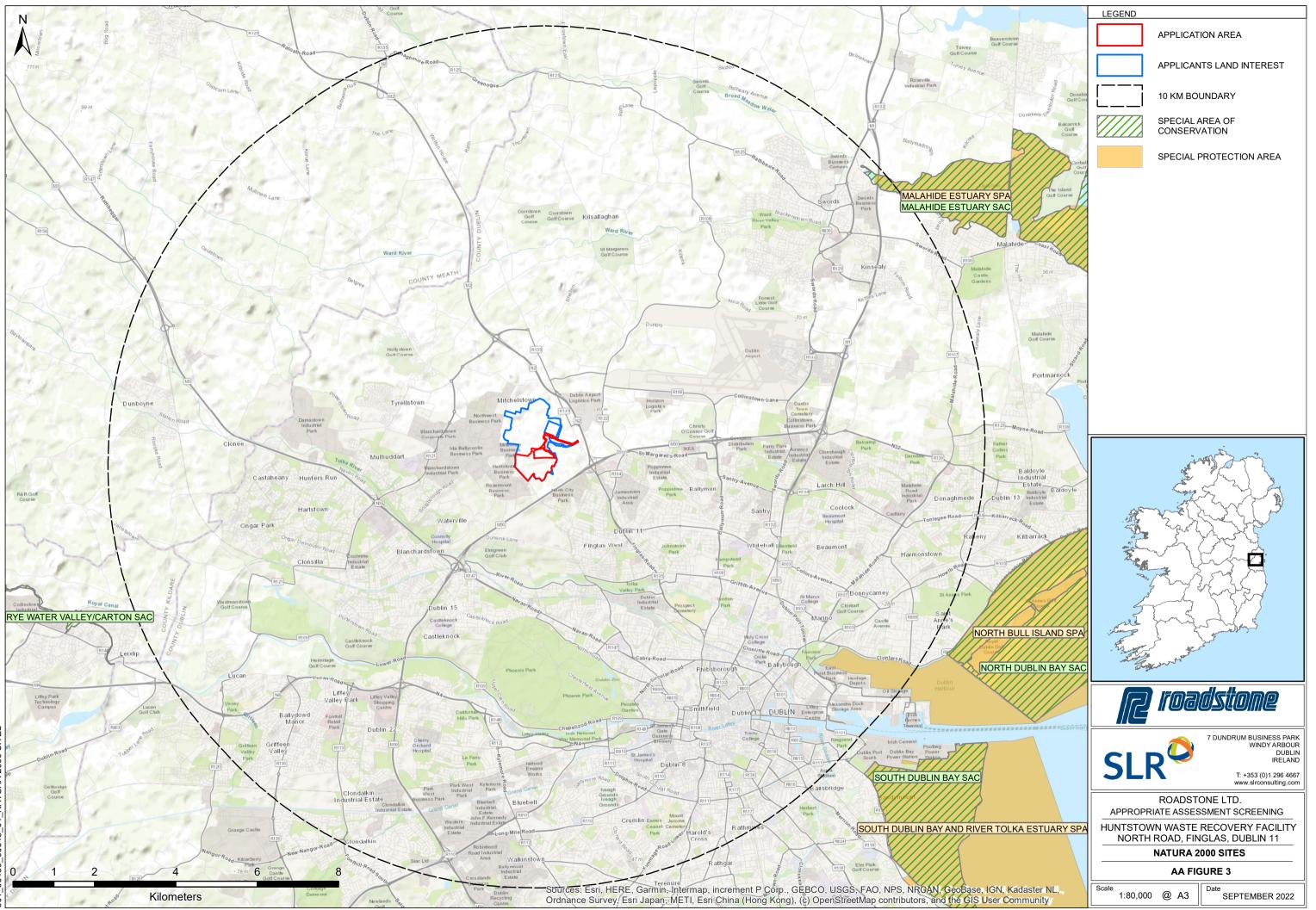
Site Layout



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FIGURE 3

Location of Project and Natura 2000 Sites



501_00180_00313_01_NATURA 2000 SITES

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United Kingdom

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BELFAST belfast@slrconsulting.com

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CHELMSFORD T: +44 (0)1245 392170

EDINBURGH T: +44 (0)131 335 6830

EXETER T: + 44 (0)1392 490152

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GUILDFORD guildford@slrconsulting.com

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SHREWSBURY

LONDON

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MANCHESTER (Denton)

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