

Planning Statement (Rev 0)

This document contains supporting information regard to AOC Resins Ltd planning application for the installation of a new fire water retention lagoon at their Haverhill site.

AOC Resins Ltd

AOC is a global supplier of resin and solutions to allow the production of composites. AOC Resins Ltd (AOC) are currently engaged in the redevelopment of their Haverhill site.

The project involves the creation of a new 2,500m³ fire water retention lagoon.

The new fire water retention lagoon is essential for the safe operation of the site and is part of the site's overall environmental and fire systems upgrades.

The installation is lagoon has been reviewed by a number of 3rd party and regulatory bodies and as such is considered a mandatory requirement of AOC insurers FM Global and the Health and Safety Executive and the Environment Agency.

Site History

Resin manufacture at the Haverhill site goes back a long way.

In the 1960's a US company called Cargill entered a joint venture with a company called Blagden and purchased the Haverhill site as a joint venture. Subsequently the Haverhill resin plant was opened in 1970 to exploit a range of new technologies developed jointly by Cargill and Blagden.

In 1981 Cargill sold its interest to Blagden, following which there were several transfers of the business from company to company within the Blagden group ending in 1999 when Borden Chemicals bought Blagden and carried on the manufacture of resins at Haverhill.

In 2000 Cray bought the Borden coating and structural resin business and entered a toll manufacturing arrangement under which Borden would continue to manufacture resins at Haverhill for a short period before the site was to be closed. However, before the site closed Deltech brought the site from Borden as a going concern, and the site continued to operate under Deltech's ownership until late 2022 at which time the site and associated business was purchased by AOC Resins Ltd, the current owners.

In summary, the site has been in operation since the early 1970's under a range of different names, therefore it should be noted that only limited historical data remains and much of the site's infrastructure dates to this time.

Area Selected

The location selected for the new fire water lagoon has been reviewed in detailed and discussed and agreed with both AOC insurers (FM Global) and with the UK Health & Safety Executive and Environment Agency. As the best position of the site's new fire water tanks and pumps.

The detailed selection process looked at all areas of the site as potential locations but following several engineering and compliance reviews the proposed location was selected for a number of key reasons, these being:

1. The are selected is at the lowest point on the site, therefore ensuring that even in the event of a loss of power any fire water run-off will flow (under gravity) to the new lagoon, preventing any run-off and subsequent flooding or environmental contamination.

2. The location of the lagoon is close to the site's existing effluent / rainwater discharge to sewer point, making the works involved to create the lagoon and connecting pipework as simple, as low a risk and the least invasive as possible (see Figure 1). **Note: The now demolished Suffolk Transmissions Building is still show under the blue lagoon location square.**
3. The site is old and much of the ground is subject to historical contamination and the lagoon will require significant ground works to be undertaken. Therefore, based on various ground investigation works and previous discussions with West Suffolk Planners (Amy Murry) and West Suffolk Environmental Team (Terence Stocks) the area selected is deemed to be the preferred location.

Figure 1 – Overview of site showing relative position of key of lagoon etc...

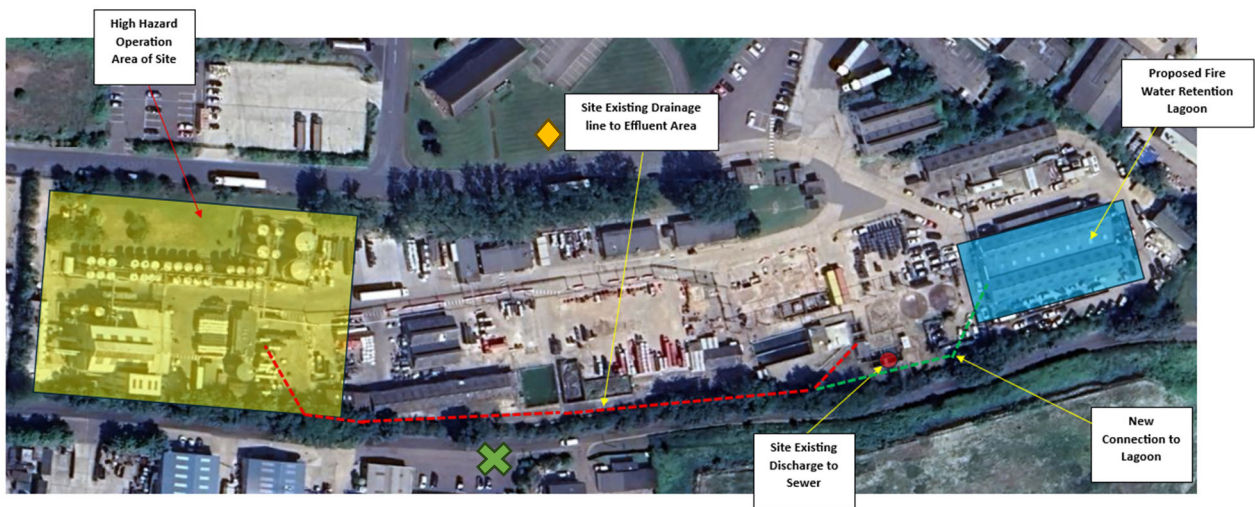
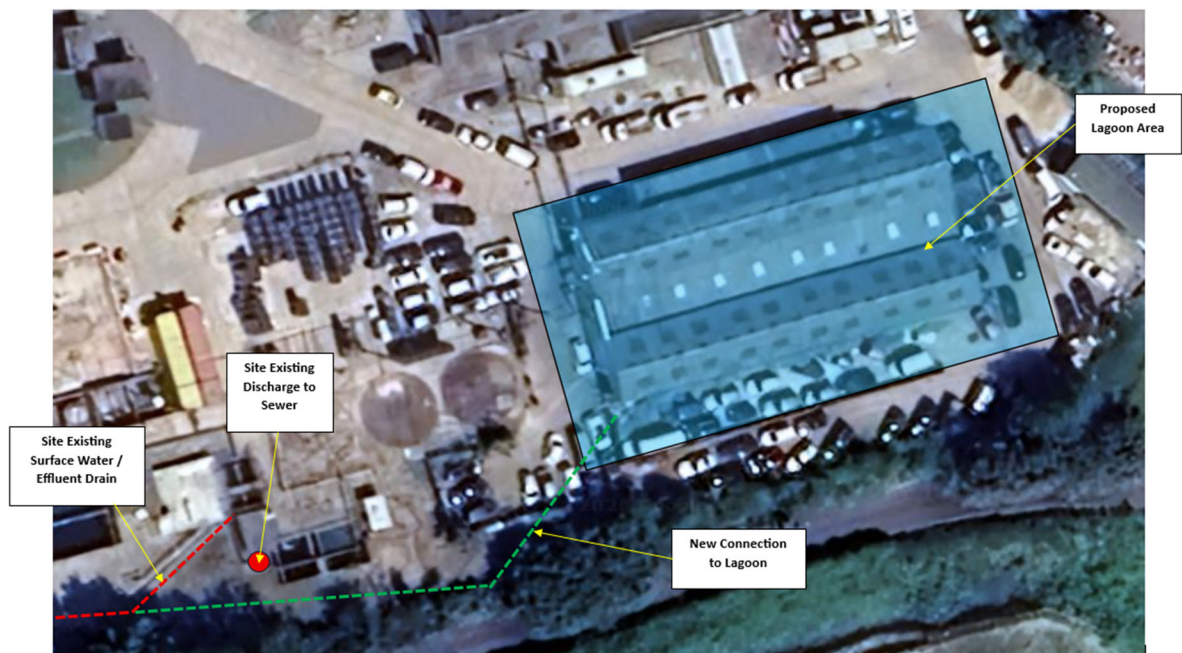


Figure 2 – Close up view of Lagoon area



Therefore, considering all of the engineering, compliance factors and feedback for external bodies the location selected for the new fire water retention lagoon was agreed to be the best possible location.

Lagoon

The new fire water retention lagoon will be constructed by forming a shallow basin maximum depth 3m at the lowest point in the sump, average depth to base of retention lagoon to the top of the surround bank is 2.1m (see Appendix A – Lagoon Sections drawing).

The lagoon will occupy an area of approximately 62m x 32m, having an overall retention volume of 2,500m³ (design), increasing to 3,000m³ (max). The system is capable of retaining 200% of the fire water held on site in the site’s two new fire water tanks.

Fire water run-off liquors will be retained within the lagoon until they are sampled and classified, and a suitable environmental disposal route is found.

The lagoon will be lined with a multi layered proprietary Geotex membrane into which leak detection will be incorporated (see Figure 3), with the inlet being constructed using Aquablock pre-fabricated pipe collar, (see Figure 4).

The underlying material below the Geotex membrane is density clay and as such is impervious.

Figure 3 – Lagoon pipework penetration

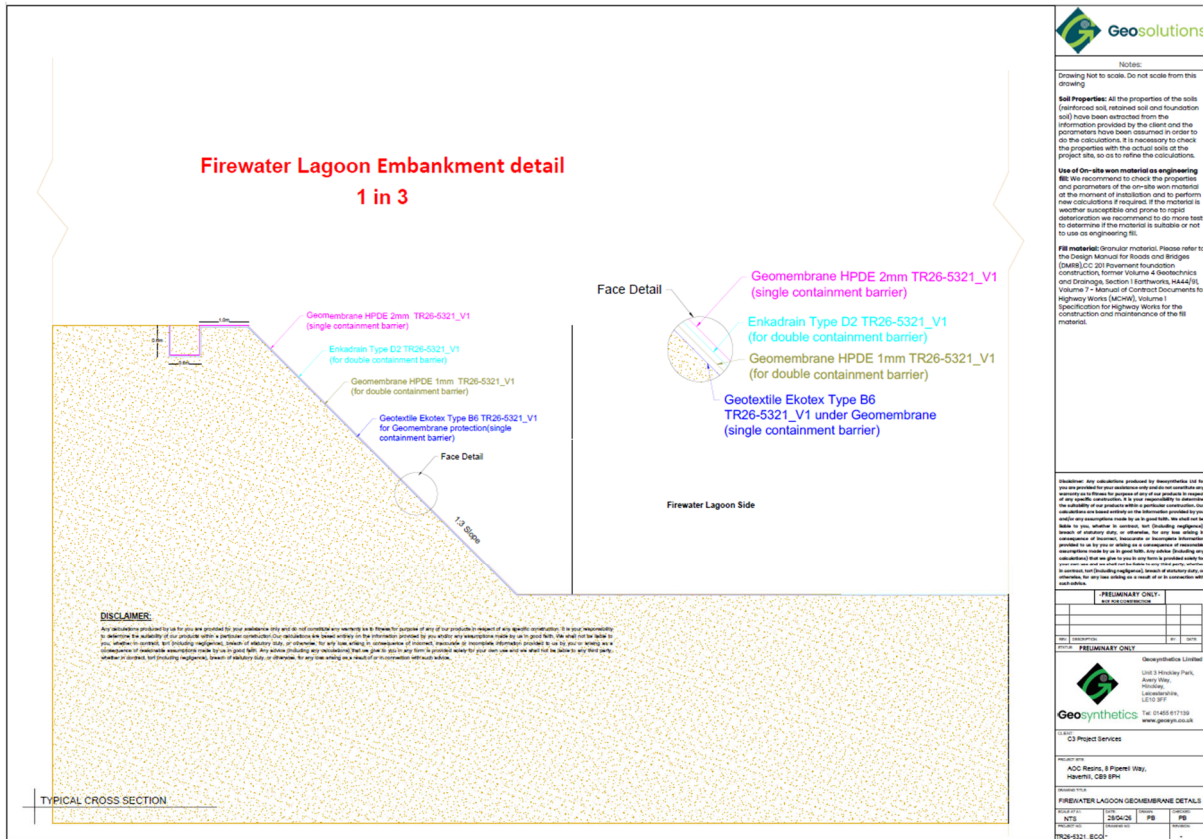
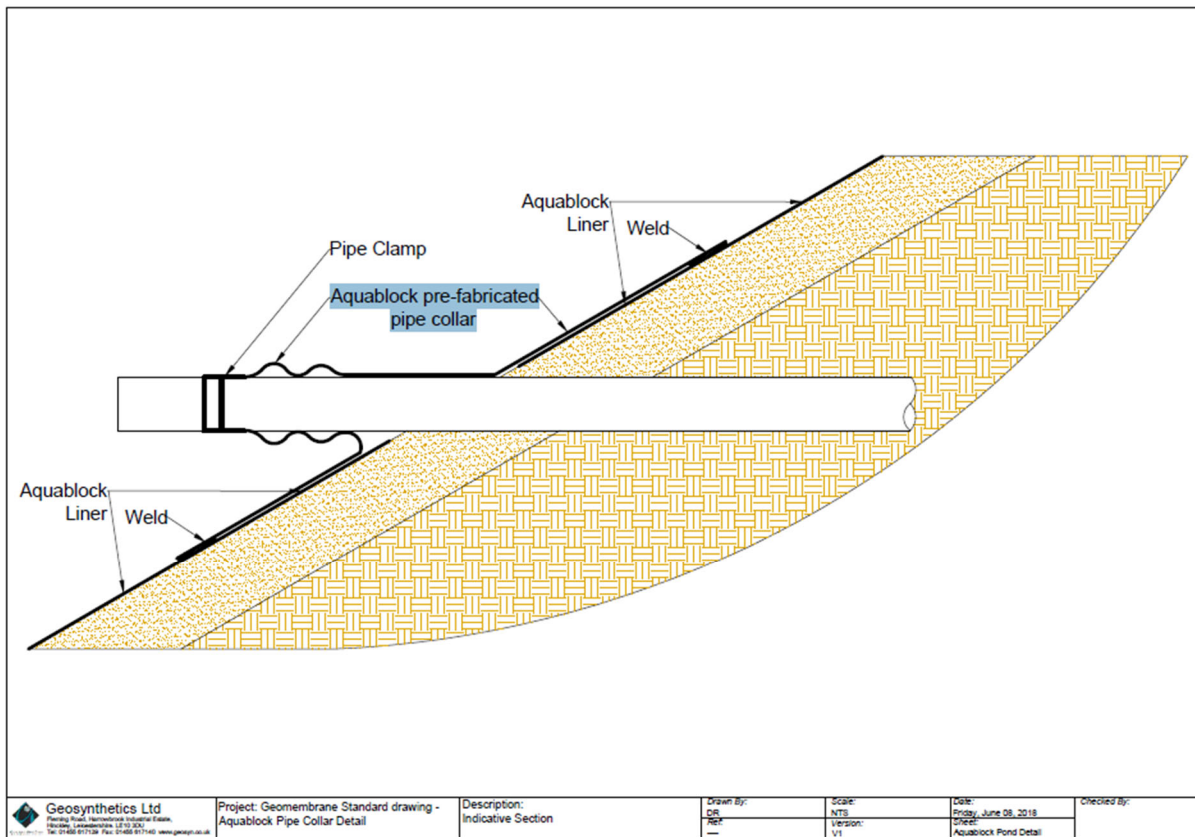


Figure 4 – Lagoon pipework penetration



Lagoon Discharge Chamber

The new fire water retention lagoon will have a discharge chamber constructed from reinforced concrete and equipment with two (long shaft / down hole) centrifugal discharge pumps.

Visual Impact & Lighting

As stated, the location has been the subject of detailed review and discussion with several external agencies.

Whilst the lagoon will be close to the site’s southeastern boundary, it will have little if any visual impact on the site’s neighbours. The nature of the area as the site is surrounded by significant industrial installations.

The area surrounding the lagoon will be laid to grass / and have addition planting incorporated to increase the local biodiversity.

Furthermore, as the site sits towards the lowest point of the Haverhill Industrial area the lagoon will not be visible from any domestic dwellings and will have far less visual impact than the recently installed solar farm between Piperell Way and Rookwood Way.

Lighting around the lagoon will be at low level and present little if any offsite impact. The light pollution from the nearby McDonalds and Culina installation dominate the area.

Noise

There will be no noise associated with the lagoon.

Business Case

The proposed multi-million-pound investment is necessary to secure the future of AOC's manufacturing at their Haverhill site, as it further strengthens the site's overall position as the Company's primary UK manufacturing site.

If the planning application for the new fire water retention lagoon were to be refused, then the future safety of the site would be in question.

The location of the lagoon has been subject to detailed and in depth discussion and review with both the site's operational teams and the HSE and EA and the location finally chosen is the best location in terms of topography, underlying ground and proximity to the site existing drainage and

Water Supply

None required.

Traffic

The project has no impact on traffic flow to or from the site.

Fire

There is no fire risk associated with the development.

The site operates under the Control of Major Accident Hazards (COMAH) Regulations and as such the proposed modifications have been discussed with the UK Health and Safety Executive (HSE) and Environment Agency (EA) working together as the COMAH Competent Authority, and the Company's insurers FM Global.

As a Lower tier COMAH site, the site already has an on-site emergency response team.

The new fire water retention lagoon is being installed in order to further mitigate the risk of environmental damage or flooding as a result of the activation of the site's high pressure fire main running around the site designed to supply both fixed fire protection systems (sprinklers) and a number of strategically located fire hydrants.

Rainwater Management

The redevelopment of the site does not introduce any new rainwater catchment, as the fire water retention lagoon replaces a previous building (Suffolk Transmission) which had a roof and surrounding hardstanding catchment area in excess of the new proposed lagoon.

Flooding Risk

The lagoon presents no flood risk as its sole purpose is to mitigate fire water run-off (flooding)

Waste

The works to redevelop the site will not lead to the creation of additional waste stream, all excavation materials (if clean) will be reused on site for landscaping

Foul Sewage

The new fire water retention lagoon has no connection to the site's existing foul sewer connection and so impose no additional loading.

Employment

The new fire water retention lagoon does not directly result in the requirement to increase the level of employment at the site however, their installation provides increased security of employment, an increased and would enable AOC to consider further investment in the site at a future time.

Hazardous Substances

The new fire water retention lagoon does not impact on the site's inventory of hazardous substances.

Energy Statement.

The creation of the proposed fire water retention lagoon introduces little additional energy demands on the site, as the pumps will only be used in the event of an activation of the site fixed fire protection systems.

Flows in the system have been designed to utilise gravity as far as possible.

Lighting around the lagoon will be minimal (for safe operation only) high efficiency LED units mounted at will be at low level and present little if any offsite impact.