

Landfill Capping using Clay sourced under the CL:AIRE protocol

MJCA have recently completed the design, specification and supervision of the placement of a low hydraulic conductivity clay cap at a former landfill at Hithermoor Quarry in Surrey. Site works began in July 2011, with the construction of the 120,000m² clay cap, together with the placement of overlying protection restoration soils, and was completed in mid 2012. Throughout the works MJCA were on site to verify that the works were undertaken in accordance with the Specification and Construction Quality Assurance Plan agreed with the Environment Agency prior to the works commencing.

The material used in the construction of the clay cap and the restoration of the site was comprised of London Clay from excavations carried out as part of the construction of Terminal 2B at nearby Heathrow Airport. In total over 300,000m³ of material from Heathrow has been used in the capping of Hithermoor and was delivered to site at a rate of up to 400 wagons per day. Use of the excavated material from the Heathrow site as a construction material at Hithermoor was confirmed by MJCA under the Contaminated Land: Applications in Real Environments (CL:AIRE) Code of Practice on the Definition of waste for the Development Industry. In order to complete the restoration of the site MJCA is continuing to work to identify additional local sources of waste materials that can be imported to the site under the CL:AIRE protocol. On completion of the restoration of the site it is anticipated that approximately 400,000m³ of material that may otherwise have been defined as waste and disposed of in landfill will have been used to cap and restore the former landfill at Hithermoor.