

**Appendix VIII**  
**Record of site excavations**



## Memorandum

**To** Brian Calkin: Inspectorate Manager  
**From** Bruce Pope: Investigating Officer  
**File** FO2/2 UIR400  
**Date** 15 August 2001

### Further investigation into 2 sites- Alleged Historical Dioxin Disposal- Stage Two

1. On Tuesday the 14 August 2001 further investigation of two suspected dump sites was undertaken.
2. The purpose of this excavation was to ascertain what was the cause of diffractions detected on sites C, Pylon 3 and Ze, Tank 3500 in the report on Ground Penetrating Radar investigations undertaken by GPR Geotechnical Services.
3. The following are the results of the exploratory digging.
4. The works involved using a back-hoe type digger to excavate several exploratory holes.
5. **Site C, Pylon 3** - One exploratory hole was excavated at GPS 2598459E-6237492N in the western corner of this site. The hole was approximately 1m wide x 4m long x 3m deep. The soils excavated consisted of 300mm of sandy clay top soil, 1 metre of soft sand, 300mm of hard impermeable iron pan followed by insitu sand that was reasonably soft, permeable and easy to excavate.  
No sign of any foreign objects, which would cause the unusual radar readings, were found during this work.

**Conclusion** – The unusual readings found by GPR at this site were due to hard iron pan and were apparently natural

6. **Site Ze, Tank 3500** - Three exploratory holes were excavated on this site. They were as follows:

#### Hole 1

This hole was excavated at GPS 2597893E-6235964N approximately 100 metres back from the Centennial Drive and 5 metres from the fence next to the Methanex tank farm (Omata 1). The hole was 1.5 metres wide x 4.0 long and 3.0 metres deep.

The soils excavated consisted of 100mm of sandy clay top soil, 1 metre of hard clay, followed by sand which was reasonably soft, permeable and easy to excavate. At the bottom of the hole at 3 metres deep a bed of old native logs were found.

#### Hole 2

This hole was excavated at GPS 2597898E-6235945N 10 metres south west of the first hole and showed the same results as hole 1.

The soils excavated consisted of 100mm of sandy clay top soil, 1 metre of hard clay, followed by sand which was reasonably soft, permeable and easy to excavate. At the bottom of the hole at 3 metres deep a bed of old native logs were found.

**Hole 3.**

This hole was excavated at GPS 2597881E-6235976N 30 metres north of the original exploratory hole and although the consistency of the soil was different to the first two holes the results of the investigation was the same as the previous two dug.

**7. Conclusion**

This site showed that the irregular readings were due to a significant quantity of old logs being buried, probably in a pit or depression, then covered some years ago.

8. Both sites were reinstated at the conclusion of the works.

B E Pope  
Investigating Officer