Design Refinement 5 – Pipeline Section D

Where is the proposed change?

Section D of the proposed pipeline route between Havant Thicket Reservoir and Otterbourne Water Supply Works is located between the proposed Water Recycling Plant site and Portsdown Hill, southwest of Widley. Section D extends across the administrative areas of Havant Borough Council and Portsmouth City Council. Section D would be entirely constructed as an underground tunnel, with the only above ground works taking place at the intermediate tunnel shaft construction compound. Section D would pass to the north of Farlington and Drayton, following part of the alignment of Portsdown Hill Road (B2177).

The design presented at the Summer 2024 Consultation is shown in Figure 11.

What is changing and why?

Ongoing design development since the Summer 2024 Consultation has led to some changes to the tunnelling route.

At the east of Section D, the draft Order Limits have been reduced and towards the west of Section D, the draft Order Limits have been widened slightly. These changes have been made to ensure that there is sufficient space to accommodate different angles of curvature for the tunnel boring machine. We have retained flexibility to allow for efficiencies to be identified during the detailed design of the tunnel.

Located centrally to Section D is a construction compound for an intermediate tunnel shaft that may be required during construction. The construction compound is situated to the south of Portsdown Hill Road (B2177) and west of Gillman Road. The construction compound isn't proposed to change but the draft Order Limits in the vicinity of the compound have reduced slightly. We have also reduced the draft Order Limits in other areas of Section D. These reductions have been made to remove tunnel settlement areas, which are do not need to be included within the draft Order Limits. Although these areas have been removed, we will continue to engage with all residents and stakeholders in the proximity of tunnelling works to communicate any potential impacts.

The proposed design refinement can be seen in Figure 12.

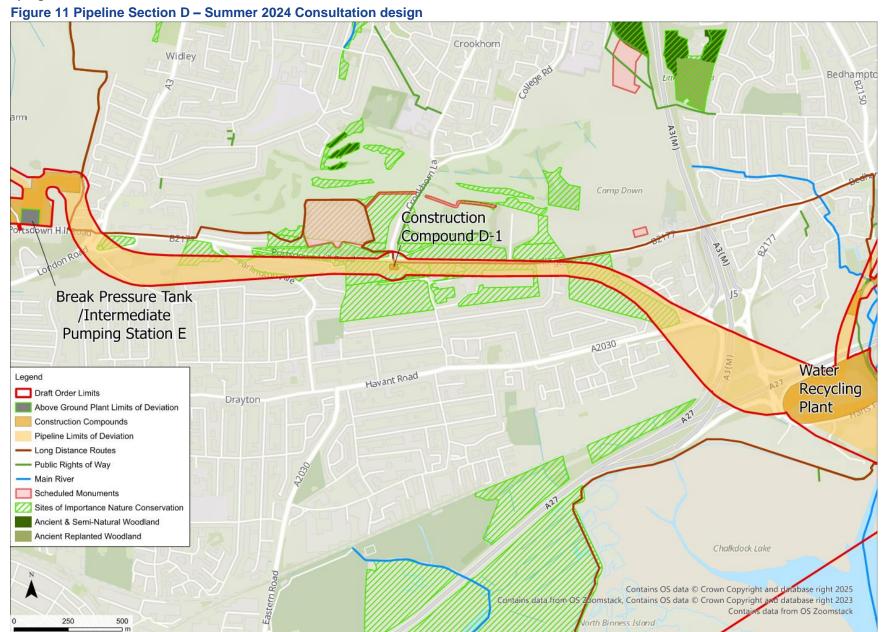
How might the change affect you or the environment?

The proposed design refinements to the tunnel are not considered to result in any new or different environmental effects compared to those set out in our Preliminary Environmental Information Report presented at the Summer 2024 Consultation. This is because there would be no change to the construction works undertaken at surface level. As the tunnel will be at least 40 metres deep and up to 80 metres deep in this location, it is expected that the tunnelling works would not be noticeable, however we will undertake further assessments as part of our Development Consent Order application to confirm this.



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