

CLARECASTLE SITE DECOMMISSIONING

Project Update No. 5 / Summer 2023

Welcome

to the fifth edition of 'Project Update'.

With work now underway on the final phase of the Roche Clarecastle Site Decommissioning Project, it is timely to give you an overview of the project and the current status of the work underway.

As explained in a previous newsletter, this phase will involve the remediation of the three areas on-site where work needs to be carried out. This work will involve the excavation of the contaminated soil and waste from these areas and the transportation of it off-site in sealed containers for thermal treatment.

A large multidisciplinary team from Roche, and the main contractor, Indaver, has been meticulously planning the design of this complex project, the largest remediation project of this nature ever undertaken in Ireland. Their focus is on ensuring that all aspects of the work will be carried out effectively and efficiently whilst conforming to the highest environmental and safety standards, and compliant with all regulatory requirements.

The level of activity on-site has increased over the past few months primarily linked to the preparation of the layout of the site for the remediation works. These works include ground preparation for the construction of an enclosure in the first area where remediation will take place, and the preparation of the container laydown area. This area will temporarily store the sealed waste containers prior to their dispatch off-site.

This activity has resulted in an increase in traffic levels to and from the site through the village, which is being proactively managed by the newly appointed traffic marshals who are stationed on Clarehill and on Patrick Street. Further detail on the management of traffic from the site through the village to the M18 at Junction 11 is provided on Page 4.

Current truck movements are linked to the transportation of materials and equipment to the site. This includes the delivery of new site offices for the increasing number of contractors on-site, as well as steel components for the construction of an enclosure at the first area for remediation, known as AEC1. As outlined on Page 2, this enclosure is now being constructed.

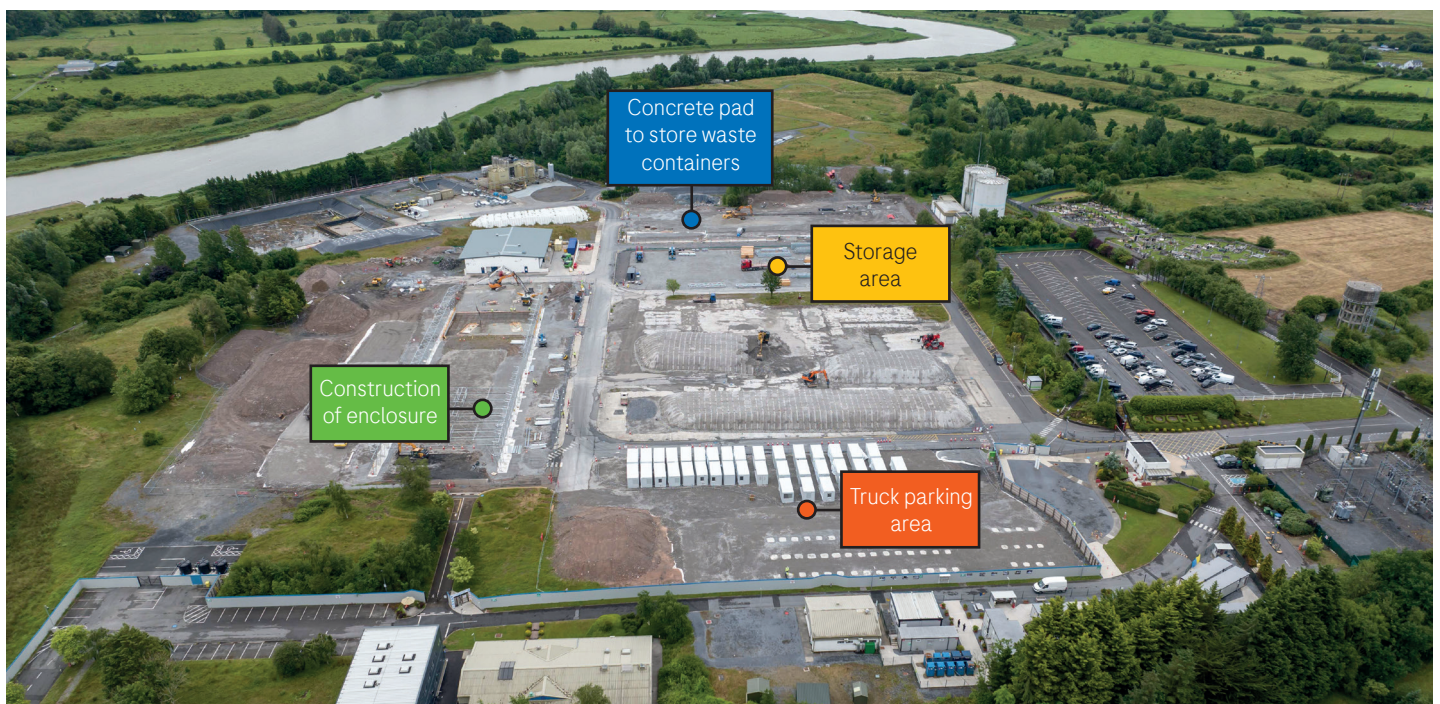
The high-specification technical fit-out within the enclosure, required to enable the excavation works to commence, will be complete by the end of August. The excavation of waste from AEC1 is scheduled to commence in September 2023.

The skyline view of the site will change as the enclosure at AEC1, which is 100m long, 26m wide and 13m high, will be visible from the R458 on the outskirts of Clarecastle village. This enclosure will remain in place for the duration of the remediation of AEC1, which is scheduled to be complete by the end of the year. It will then be disassembled and moved to the landfill area to enable the next phase of the remediation works to begin.

Further updates on the status of the remediation works will be provided to the community via our website www.rocheclarecastle.ie, via our linkages with the community groups and via further editions of this 'Project Update' newsletter.



Joe Murphy
Project Owner



An aerial view of the site, June 2023, with the commencement of the 'Remediation' phase.

Construction of enclosure to facilitate the remediation of AEC1

As mentioned in previous editions of 'Project Update', minimising the impact on the community is a key consideration in undertaking the remediation works on-site, hence the decision to undertake all bulk excavation within temporary negative pressure enclosures. Dust, odour and vapour emissions will be contained within the enclosure during excavation and all emissions will be purified using a charcoal scrubber system.

The enclosure has been designed to operate under typical Irish conditions which, as we all know, involves high wind speed. Strong foundations have been built to ensure that the enclosure frame (even though a temporary construction) will be securely attached to the foundations and will operate safely and efficiently even when wind speeds are at their highest.

The image below shows Stage 1 - the establishment of a foundation for the enclosure. Significant use is being made of the crushed concrete which was recycled from the 'Demolition' phase of this project. Stage 2 involves the assembly and build of the enclosure's steel superstructure, as shown below.



Stage 1: The preparation of the ground and the foundations. The enclosures have been designed to operate under high wind conditions and this has been reflected in the specification of the foundations installed.



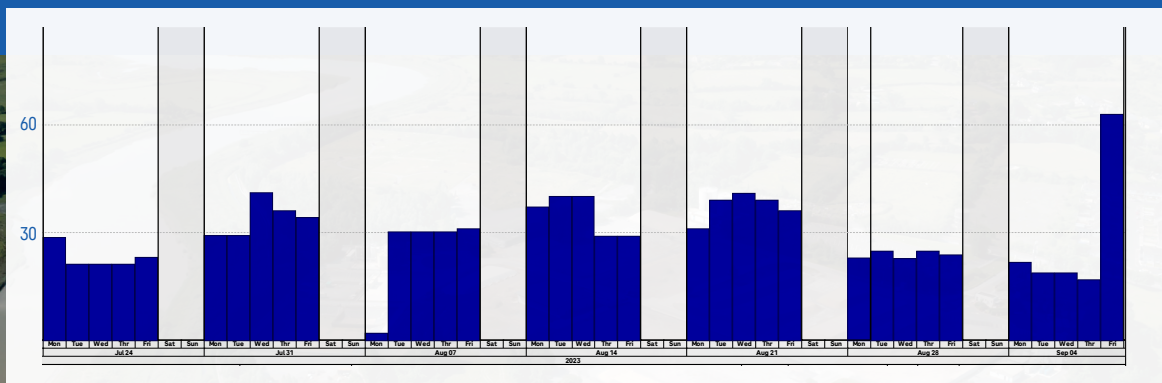
Stage 2: The building of the steel frame that will support the enclosure cover.

Stage 3 will involve the installation of the cover across the enclosure frame to ensure that the facility is completely sealed. The final stage, Stage 4, will involve the installation of the ventilation and charcoal scrubbers on all the exhaust points from the sealed enclosure.

Proactively managing traffic levels



Projected truck movements - 6-week period July - September 2023



All key elements of the 'Traffic Management Plan' previously communicated are implemented at this stage. Central to its successful execution is the careful planning of all movements to and from the site. A bespoke computer software system is being used to ensure the smooth operation of HGV movements. This system will generate weekly projected traffic movements.

The flow of HGV traffic to and from the site during May and July did not exceed 60 truck movements per day and on many days, the movements were as low as 20 per day. This pattern will continue through to September 2023, when the levels are set to increase when the excavation works in AEC1 commence. Details of traffic levels will be constantly updated on the home page of our website www.rocheclarecastle.ie



Safe transportation of waste material off-site

All waste material excavated within the enclosure at AEC1 will be placed into specialist sealed containers, which will be cleaned prior to exit from the enclosure. The containers will be conveyed to a dedicated on-site storage area for collection by HGVs to be taken off-site.

With the movement of waste material off-site scheduled to commence in September, a fleet of high-specification trucks, trailers and containers (as shown here) to transport this waste has been secured by the main contractor, Indaver. Some of these machines are already on-site.

Trucks will be inspected prior to exiting the site. Any additional cleaning deemed necessary will be carried out.



Trucks transporting the sealed waste containers to Foynes for shipment to Europe will be new and have 'Euro 6' engines.

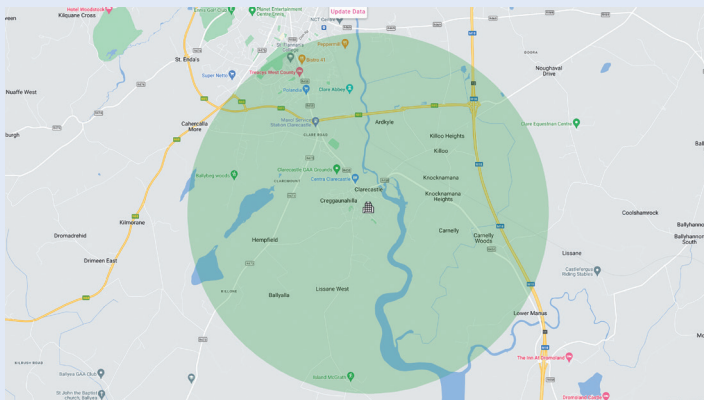


Managing project-related traffic through Clarecastle

As outlined in the detailed Traffic Management leaflet distributed in the community in March, a dedicated logistics management team, comprising a Logistics Manager and a Logistics Coordinator, has been assigned to this critical aspect of the project. A 'Traffic Management Plan' has been developed to ensure that disruption to the community due to project-related traffic movements will be kept to an absolute minimum.

An online booking system will be used for all trucks entering the site and the number of slots per hour will be controlled. All HGVs will be fitted with tracking devices so that the Logistics Coordinator can monitor and communicate in real time with the HGV drivers.

A Geofence has been established, creating a virtual geographic boundary, to ensure that all trucks use the permitted route to and from the site - from the M18 /J11 via the R458 to the site and vice versa. Any deviation from this route will be detected by this software and the driver requested to reroute.



A geofence has been set up to enable real-time monitoring of all HGV traffic associated with the project.

Traffic marshals in situ

Traffic marshals have been employed to ensure that HGV movements through the village are carefully managed. This team, pictured below, are already in situ on Clarehill and Patrick Street and have been welcomed by the community for their friendliness and approachable manner. Their focus is on all aspects of safety and assisting in the smooth flow of HGVs to and from the site, through the village to the R458.



Traffic marshals Ruslan Oxinte, Alexandra Necula and Delvis Balakauskas pictured on Patrick Street with Logistics Coordinator Diarmuid O'Leary, Indaver.

The future

With the first two phases of the remediation of the 88-acre site complete and the final phase, the remediation of the three identified areas on the site, now underway, Roche Ireland has commenced discussions with key stakeholders on the potential future for this prime site in Co. Clare.

The first step in this transition process was undertaken at an event held at Roche's Clarecastle site on Wednesday, 26 July 2023 with the signing and presentation of a letter by Roche senior management to Clare County Council offering the Council 'the benefit of a right of first refusal in respect of the Roche site in Clarecastle after the remediation works are complete'.

The remediation works are scheduled to be complete, with EPA licence surrender, by 2029, at which stage the final decision as to the acquisition of the site will be made by Clare County Council.

Representatives from Roche Basel, Roche Products Dublin, Clare County Council, the community, IDA Ireland, the Environmental Protection Agency, and Ennis 2040, attended the on-site event. This is very much the beginning of a consultation process with all stakeholders over the next years while the remediation phase of the project is being executed.

Recognised as a key strategic site in the Ennis 2040 Economic and Spatial Strategy, the redevelopment of the Roche site is expected to play a key role in the economic development of County Clare in the years ahead.

The Roche remediation project is one of the largest projects in the country and represents a significant investment by Roche to leave a site that can create sustainable employment. Roche's objectives in decommissioning the 88-acre site are twofold, to deliver a site suitable for the creation of sustainable jobs into the future and to leave a positive legacy for the local community, Clare, and Ireland.

With this process now well underway, the event held on 26 July was the beginning of planning a future for the site. Roche's link to the site will cease once the decommissioning is complete.

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