

26-Nov-2023

TO: HS2 FOI requests & Enquiries
CC: Sarah Green MP, Cllr Martin Tett

EVENTS ADVERSELY AFFECTING THE CHILTERN AQUIFER

Dear HS2,

We have recently been notified of events connected with construction of the Chiltern Tunnel, with potentially adverse effects on the Chiltern aquifer and waterbodies. These give rise to the following questions, which obviously fall within the scope of the Environmental Information Regulations.

A. Subsidence affecting the River Misbourne, May 2022

“additional concern over a sudden drop in water level within the Misbourne river on the 3rd May, following which a possible subsidence location was identified within the river bed.”¹

1. Where did this event occur
2. What materials were used to repair the river bed
3. Please supply any reports relating to this incident

B. Subsidence event, November 2021

“It was noted in November 2021 that a subsidence event revealed an unmapped historical landfill nearby (approx. 100 m away from the tunnel alignment)”²

1. Where did this event occur
2. How was the subsidence detected
3. Please supply any reports relating to this incident

C. Unreported ground movements

In relation to the (non)-announcement of the recent Hyde Heath sinkhole, Darielle Proctor replied (for Align) “HS2 and Align do not publicly announce these matters as we do not want to create further safety issues with people trying to access the area.” That being the case, would you please supply a list of all ground movements (or similar occurrences), the date and time of the event

¹ C1 Monthly Water Monitoring Overview, May 2022
1MC05-ALJ-EV-REP-C001-000203

² Borehole ML032-RC009, 1MC05-ALJ-EV-NOT-C001-000006 Conclusions, p11

being observed, and the location, for all such events in the Misbourne valley (since the TBMs passed beyond the Ch St Giles vent shaft)

D. Known Geological Faults

In a statement regarding the Hyde Heath sinkhole, HS2 stated that there is a known geological fault in the area, which indicated the need for additional monitoring

1. How many such anticipated faults have the TBMs encountered (since the Ch St Peter vent shaft)

Also, “ Through ... the live data from the TBM we identified the potential for ground movement” –

2. How many times has the live data indicated such potential ? (again, since Ch St Peter)

An early acknowledgement of your receipt of these requests, together with the FOI reference number(s), would be appreciated.

Regards,

Dr Jim Conboy
The Chiltern Society

