

Appendix 6.B: Impact Definitions

The following impact defining tables were taken in part from NRA Guidelines (2009).

CRITERIA FOR ASSESSING IMPORTANCE OF SITE ATTRIBUTE

Table 6.A.1 Estimation of Importance of Sensitive Geological Attributes

Importance of Attribute	Criteria	Example
Very High	Attribute has a high quality, significance or value on a regional or national scale	Large quarry or designated area
High	Attribute has a high quality, significance or value on a local scale	High value soils, county geological site, heavily contaminated soil on brownfield site
Medium	Attribute has a medium quality, significance or value on a local scale	Small existing quarry, moderately drained soils, small landfill site, lightly contaminated soil
Low	Attribute has a low quality, significance or value on a local scale	Site for C & D waste, uneconomically extractable mineral resource, poor quality soils

CRITERIA FOR ASSESSING MAGNITUDE OF IMPACT

Table 6.A.2 Estimation of the Magnitude of a Potential Impact on an Attribute

Impact Type	Magnitude of Impact	Example
Adverse	Negligible	No measurable changes in attributes
	Small	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Loss of small proportion of future quarry or pit reserves - Removal of small part of geological heritage feature - Irreversible loss of small proportion of local high fertility soils and/or high proportion of local low fertility soils - Requirement to excavate/remediate small proportion of waste site - Requirement to excavate and replace small proportion of peat, organic soils and/or soft mineral soils beneath alignment
	Moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Loss of moderate proportion of future quarry or pit reserves

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Removal of part of geological heritage feature - Irreversible loss of moderate proportion of local high fertility soils - Requirement to excavate and replace moderate proportion of peat, organic soils and/or soft mineral soils beneath alignment
	Large	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Loss of high proportion of future quarry or pit reserves - Irreversible loss of high proportion of local high fertility soils - Removal of entirety of geological heritage feature - Requirement to excavate/remediate entire waste site - Requirement to excavate and replace high proportion of peat, organic soils and/or soft mineral soils beneath alignment
Beneficial	Minor	Minor enhancement of geological heritage feature
	Moderate	Moderate enhancement of geological heritage feature
	Major	Major enhancement of geological heritage feature

CRITERIA FOR RATING SITE ATTRIBUTES

Table 6.A.3 – Estimation of the Significance of a Potential Impact on an Attribute

Importance of attribute	Magnitude of impact			
	Negligible	Small	Moderate	Large
Extremely High	Imperceptible	Significant	Profound	Profound
Very High	Imperceptible	Significant/moderate	Profound/significant	Profound
High	Imperceptible	Moderate/slight	Significant/moderate	Severe/significant
Medium	Imperceptible	Slight	Moderate	Significant
Low	Imperceptible	Imperceptible	Slight	Slight/moderate