Case Study

|T| +44 (0) 870 710 7560 |W| www.catalyst-commercial.co.uk/

Chemical Storage Environmental Impact Assessment

The Challenge

To prepare the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Scoping Study for proposed chemical storage facilities at a large commercial dockyard, in order to provide information before the submission of the planning application to the local authority. The site occupies approximately 7.25 hectares (18 acres) of rough grassland and was formerly an extensive complex of rail lines and sidings.

The Solution

The proposed terminal facilities had a storage capacity of 60,000m3 and so was classed as a ‘Schedule 2’ project, where an Environmental Impact Assessment is required only if it is considered to be in an environmentally sensitive location. Chemicals proposed to be stored at the site included benzene, acids, solvent and acrylates. The operations come under Control Of Major Accident Hazards regulations as a top-tier site and an health & safety risk assessment was undertaken.

A baseline site investigation was carried out to identify the ground and groundwater conditions and also to investigate the geotechnical characteristics in order to determine foundation design options.

The Outcome

The Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Study was to identify the potential environmental impacts of the proposed development, taking into account the characteristics of the development and the local environment. The study included consultation with relevant consultees and considered a range of topics including an examination of the baseline conditions and assessment of potential impacts during the construction, operational and decommissioning stages. The report considered alternative locations for the development and suggested mitigation measures and further monitoring of the development.