



CASE STUDY Ref: 6410
Gas Holder Restoration —St Anthony’s & Elswick 2016
VALUE—Nil Cost to Client
CLIENT—Northern Gas Networks (NGN)
DURATION 20 Weeks (3,385 Hours)



Thompsons were appointed Principal Contractor by NGN to undertake the remediation and restoration of underground tanks which remained following the demolition of the former St Anthony’s Gas Holder located off Windhill Road in Walker, and the former Gas Holder at Elswick, Newcastle upon Tyne.

Thompsons undertook a series of preparatory works to enable safe access to site and safe movement around the gas holders without risk to buried services or supplies, site personnel, the public and local stakeholders. Temporary protection measures were installed to protect above and below ground pipework and existing buildings. Heras fence panels were brought to sites and used to secure the working area.

Thompsons were contracted to regrade existing material in the underground tanks, import and spread suitable material to backfill the underground tanks. The material was compacted in layers no greater than 600mm and in accordance with the contract specification. All works were undertaken within an exclusion zone and adhering to pre-planned sequencing and the site-specific Material Management Plan to ensure the safety of the public and all third parties and to reduce dust, noise and vibration to a minimum. All compaction was recorded through the operation. All infill material was particularly sourced and tested prior to delivery to site to ensure that it met the contract specification. Works were undertaken by 3 SCO qualified Operatives and a Supervisor, using a tracked loading shovel, self-propelled roller and 360o excavator machine.

Due to the nature of the works there were other NGN assets in the immediate vicinity of the tanks and particular traffic and access routes for the HGVs delivering the material to the sites were pre-agreed with NGN and enforced. All access roads were kept clear for emergency vehicles at all times and the sites’ accesses were maintained throughout the operation.

Project Goals were agreed as follows:
 To ensure that there are sufficient considerations and controls to prevent harm to those carrying out the construction work or affected by it;
 To ensure that existing Northern Gas Network plant or other plant is not damaged by the works;
 To ensure that no pollution or disruption is made within the site and adjacent locality
 Deliver a safe and healthy workplace for those working on the site after handover.

The remediation and restoration of St Anthony’s holder was completed in just under 5 months, requiring 50,000te of import material, without accident and all the Project Goals achieved. The Elswick holder restoration is on-going and currently estimated at requiring 15,000te of sourced compliant material.

