

NOTICE OF PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

Notice is hereby given that an application has been made for planning approval for the following development:

SITE: 5 Inverness Street, Midway Point

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT: DWELLING

The relevant plans and documents can be inspected at the Council Offices at 47 Cole Street, Sorell during normal office hours, or the plans may be viewed on Council's website at <u>www.sorell.tas.gov.au</u> until **Monday 28th April 2025.**

Any person may make representation in relation to the proposal by letter or electronic mail (<u>sorell.council@sorell.tas.gov.au</u>) addressed to the General Manager. Representations must be received no later than **Monday 28th April 2025.**

APPLICANT: Play Co Pty Ltd

 APPLICATION NO:
 DA 2024 / 312 1

 DATE:
 04 April 2025

Part B: Please note that Part B of this form is publicly exhibited.

Full description of Proposal:	Use: single dwelling						
	Development: Single storey dwelling with double garage						
	Large or complex proposals should be	e described in a letter or planning report.					
Design and cons	truction cost of proposal:	\$ 650,000+gst					

Is all, or some the work already constructed:

No: 🗹 🛛 Yes: 🗖

Location of	Street address 5 Inverness Street
proposed works:	Suburb: Midway Point Postcode: TAS 7171
	Certificate of Title(s) Volume: Folio:

Current Use of	residential
Site	

Current Owner/s: Name(s).....Rowville Warehouse Pty Ltd

Name(3).....

Is the Property on the Tasmanian Heritage Register?	No: 🗹 Yes: 🗖	lf yes, please provide written advice from Heritage Tasmania
Is the proposal to be carried out in more than one stage?	No: 🗹 Yes: 🗖	If yes, please clearly describe in plans
Have any potentially contaminating uses been undertaken on the site?	No: 🗹 Yes: 🗖	If yes, please complete the Additional Information for Non-Residential Use
Is any vegetation proposed to be removed?	No: 🗹 Yes: 🗖	If yes, please ensure plans clearly show area to be impacted
Does the proposal involve land administered or owned by either the Crown or Council?	No: 🗹 Yes: 🗖	If yes, please complete the Council or Crown land section on page 3
If a new or upgraded vehicular crossing is requi	red from Council t	o the front boundary please
complete the Vehicular Crossing (and Association	ted Works) applic	ation form

https://www.sorell.tas.gov.au/services/engineering/

Development Application: 5.2024.312.1 -Development Application - 5 Inverness Street, Midway Point - P1.pdf Plans Reference:P1 Date Received: 26/11/2024

Page 2 of 4

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Part B continued: Please note that Part B of this form is publicly exhibited

Declarations and acknowledgements

- I/we confirm that the application does not contradict any easement, covenant or restriction specified in the Certificate of Title, Schedule of Easements or Part 5 Agreement for the land.
- I/we consent to Council employees or consultants entering the site and have arranged permission and/or access for Council's representatives to enter the land at any time during normal business hours.
- I/we authorise the provision of a copy of any documents relating to this application to any person for the purposes of assessment or public consultation and have permission of the copyright owner for such copies.
- I/we declare that, in accordance with s52(1) of the Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993, that I have notified the owner(s) of the intention to make this application.
- I/we declare that the information in this application is true and correct.

Details of how the Council manages personal information and how you can request access or corrections to it is outlined in Council's Privacy Policy available on the Council website.

- I/we acknowledge that the documentation submitted in support of my application will become a public record held by Council and may be reproduced by Council in both electronic and hard copy format in order to facilitate the assessment process, for display purposes during public exhibition, and to fulfil its statutory obligations. I further acknowledge that following determination of my application, Council will store documentation relating to my application in electronic format only.
- Where the General Manager's consent is also required under s.14 of the Urban Drainage Act 2013, by making this application I/we also apply for that consent.

Applicant Signature:

Crown or General Manager Land Owner Consent

Signature: ...

If the land that is the subject of this application is owned or administered by either the Crown or Sorell Council, the consent of the relevant Minister or the Council General Manager whichever is applicable, must be included here. This consent should be completed and signed by either the General Manager, the Minister, or a delegate (as specified in s52 (1D-1G) of the Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993).

Please note:

- If General Manager consent if required, please first complete the General Manager consent application form available on our website <u>www.sorell.tas.gov.au</u>
- If the application involves Crown land you will also need a letter of consent.
- Any consent is for the purposes of making this application only and is not consent to undertaken work or take any other action with respect to the proposed use or development.

l		being responsible for the
administration of land at declare that I have given permise	ion for the making of this application for	Sorell Council Development Application: 5.2024.312.1 - Development Application - 5 Inverness Street, Midway Point - P1.pdf Plans Reference:P1 Date Received: 26/11/2024
Signature of General Manager, Minister or Delegate:	Signature:	Date:

20.11.2024



Development Application: 5.2024.312.1 -Response to Request For Information - 5 Inverness Street, Midway Point - P5 .pdf Plans Reference: P5 Date Received: 26/03/2025

ireneinc Planning & urban design

13th February 2024

Sorell Council

Email: sorell.council@sorell.tas.gov.au

Dear Planning Officer

RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR FURTHER INFORMATION - 5 INVERNESS STREET

The following has been prepared in response to the further information request.

GENERAL RESIDENTIAL ZONE

The following response is provided to the General Residential Zone development standards.

8.4.1 Residential density for multiple dwellings

Objectives: That the density of multiple dwellings:

(a) makes efficient use of land for housing; and

(b) optimises the use of infrastructure and community services.

PLANNING SCHEME REQUIREMENTS

A1

Multiple dwellings must have a site area per dwelling of not less than $325m^2$.

COMMENTS

A1

No multiple dwellings are proposed.

8.4.2 Setbacks and building envelope for all dwellings

Objectives: The siting and scale of dwellings:

(a) provides reasonably consistent separation between dwellings and their frontage within a street;

(b) provides consistency in the apparent scale, bulk, massing and proportion of dwellings;

(c) provides separation between dwellings on adjoining properties to allow reasonable opportunity for daylight and sunlight to enter habitable rooms and private open space; and

(d) provides reasonable access to sunlight for existing solar energy installations.

PLANNING SCHEME REQUIREMENTS

A1

Unless within a building area on a sealed plan, a dwelling, excluding garages, carports and protrusions that extend not more than 0.9m into the frontage setback, must have a setback from a frontage that is:

(a) if the frontage is a primary frontage, not less than 4.5m, or, if the setback from the primary frontage is less than 4.5m, not less than the setback, from the primary frontage, of any existing dwelling on the site;

(b) if the frontage is not a primary frontage, not less than 3m, or, if the setback from the frontage is less than 3m, not less than the setback, from a frontage that is not a primary frontage, of any existing dwelling on the site;

(c) if for a vacant site and there are existing dwellings on adjoining properties on the same street, not more than the greater, or less than the lesser, setback for the equivalent frontage of the dwellings on the adjoining sites on the same street; or

(d) if located above a non-residential use at ground floor level, not less than the setback from the frontage of the ground floor level.

Ρ1

A dwelling must have a setback from a frontage that is compatible with the streetscape, having regard to any topographical constraints.

COMMENTS

a) The dwelling is set back 4.5m from the frontage.

b) There is only one primary frontage to the site, therefore this provision is not applicable.

c) The site is vacant, however there are no other existing dwellings on adjoining properties.

d) The proposal is for a single-story dwelling, therefore this provision is not applicable.

A2

A garage or carport for a dwelling must have a setback from a primary frontage of not less than:

(a) 5.5m, or alternatively 1m behind the building line;

(b) the same as the building line, if a portion of the dwelling gross floor area is located above the garage or carport; or

(c) 1m, if the existing ground level slopes up or down at a gradient steeper than 1 in 5 for a distance of 10m from the frontage.

COMMENTS

A2

a) The proposal includes a garage that is sited 1m behind the building line, thereby complying with (a).

A3

A dwelling, excluding outbuildings with a building height of not more than 2.4m and protrusions that extend not more than 0.9m horizontally beyond the building envelope, must:

(a) be contained within a building envelope (refer to Figures 8.1, 8.2 and 8.3) determined by:

(i) a distance equal to the frontage setback or, for an internal lot, a distance of 4.5m from the rear boundary of a property with an adjoining frontage; and

(ii) projecting a line at an angle of 45 degrees from the horizontal at a height of 3m above existing ground level at the side and rear boundaries to a building height of not more than 8.5m above existing ground level; and

(b) only have a setback of less than 1.5m from a side or rear boundary if the dwelling:

(i) does not extend beyond an existing building built on or within 0.2m of the boundary of the adjoining property; or

(ii) does not exceed a total length of 9m or one third the length of the side boundary (whichever is the lesser).

Р3

The siting and scale of a dwelling must:

(a) not cause an unreasonable loss of amenity to adjoining properties, having regard to:

(i) reduction in sunlight to a habitable room (other than a bedroom) of a dwelling on an adjoining property;

(ii) overshadowing the private open space of a dwelling on an adjoining property;

(iii) overshadowing of an adjoining vacant property; and

(iv) visual impacts caused by the apparent scale, bulk or proportions of the dwelling when viewed from an adjoining property;

(b) provide separation between dwellings on adjoining properties that is consistent with that existing on established properties in the area; and

(c) not cause an unreasonable reduction in sunlight to an existing solar energy installation on:

(i) an adjoining property; or

(ii) another dwelling on the same site.

COMMENTS

A3

A very small portion of the house extends beyond the building envelope, thereby requiring assessment against the performance criteria.

Ρ3

a)

i) There are no adjoining dwellings, therefore this provision is not applicable.

ii) There are no adjoining dwellings, therefore this provision is not applicable

iii) As shown in the attached shadow diagrams, minor overshadowing will occur on the adjacent vacant property at 7 Inverness Street. However, the property will still receive more than 3 hours of sunlight between 9am and 3pm on June 21st.

iv) The proposed single-storey dwelling will not result in adverse visual impacts due to its scale, bulk, or proportions. Most of the lots in the subdivision are relatively small, averaging between 450-500m² in size. As such, it is typical for dwellings to occupy a larger proportion of the site, given the limited lot area.

The dwelling reaches a maximum height of 7m, which is within the height requirements of the acceptable solutions. Single storey dwellings are not unusual in the context of the area.

The only deviation from the building envelope is a marginal extension due to the roofline, which does not significantly alter the overall massing or visual appearance of the dwelling when viewed from surrounding properties or the street.

The dwelling also maintains the required setbacks, with a 1.5m side setback and 4.5m setback from the frontage, which allows for adequate separation from neighbouring properties. This ensures the building does not overwhelm or overshadow adjoining lots, helping to preserve both visual amenity and privacy.

b) Although there are no established properties adjoining the site, the proposal adheres to the required setbacks of 1.5m from the side boundaries and 4.5m from the frontage, as specified by the scheme. These setbacks naturally ensure appropriate separation between future dwellings, fitting within the context of the development.

c) There are no adjoining dwellings or additional dwellings onsite, and as such, there is no reduction in sunlight to any existing solar energy installations.

8.4.3 Site coverage and private open space for all dwellings

Objectives:

That dwellings are compatible with the amenity and character of the area and provide:

- (a) for outdoor recreation and the operational needs of the residents;
- (b) opportunities for the planting of gardens and landscaping; and

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(c) private open space that is conveniently located and has access to sunlight.
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PLANNING SCHEME REQUIREMENTS

A1

Dwellings must have:

(a) a site coverage of not more than 50% (excluding eaves up to 0.6m wide); and

(b) for multiple dwellings, a total area of private open space of not less than 60m² associated with each dwelling, unless the dwelling has a finished floor level that is entirely more than 1.8m above the finished ground level (excluding a garage, carport or entry foyer).

P1

Dwellings must have:

(a) site coverage consistent with that existing on established properties in the area;

(b) private open space that is of a size and with dimensions that are appropriate for the size of the dwelling and is able to accommodate:

(i) outdoor recreational space consistent with the projected requirements of the occupants and, for multiple dwellings, take into account any common open space provided for this purpose within the development; and

(ii) operational needs, such as clothes drying and storage; and

(c) reasonable space for the planting of gardens and landscaping.

COMMENTS

A1

The total site area is $446.7m^2$, with the site coverage (including the roofed area over the deck but not including eaves up to 0.6m wide) is $228.76m^2$, equating to 51%.

As the site coverage exceeds the acceptable solutions, assessment against the performance criteria is required.

Ρ1

a) The area immediately surrounding the site is currently vacant, following a recent subdivision. As per ESRI imagery, there is one completed property located at 3 Oakmont Road. The site measures 551m², with a built area of approximately 297.5m², representing a 53% site coverage. Based on this, the proposal aligns with the established properties in the area.

b) The proposal includes adequate private open space in the form of a 45m² deck, providing ample room for outdoor dining, clothes drying, and storage. Additionally, the site retains a minimum of 0.9m of landscaping at the rear, along with sufficient plantings along the frontage.

A2

A dwelling must have private open space that:

(a) is in one location and is not less than:

(i) 24m²; or

(ii) $12m^2$, if the dwelling is a multiple dwelling with a finished floor level that is entirely more than 1.8m above the finished ground level (excluding a garage, carport or entry foyer);

(b) has a minimum horizontal dimension of not less than:

(i) 4m; or

(ii) 2m, if the dwelling is a multiple dwelling with a finished floor level that is entirely more than 1.8m above the finished ground level (excluding a garage, carport or entry foyer);

(c) is located between the dwelling and the frontage only if the frontage is orientated between 30 degrees west of true north and 30 degrees east of true north; and

(d) has a gradient not steeper than 1 in 10.

COMMENTS

A2

The proposal has a single area of private open space at the rear of the dwelling, totalling $45m^2$. Of this, $24m^2$ maintains a horizontal dimension of 4m, is not situated between the dwelling and the frontage, and retains a flat gradient. As such, the proposal complies with the acceptable solutions.

8.4.4 Sunlight to private open space of multiple dwellings

Objectives: That the separation between multiple dwellings provides reasonable opportunity for sunlight to private open space for dwellings on the same site.

PLANNING SCHEME REQUIREMENTS

A1

A multiple dwelling, that is to the north of the private open space of another dwelling on the same site, required to satisfy A2 or P2 of clause 8.4.3, must satisfy (a) or (b), unless excluded by (c):

(a) the multiple dwelling is contained within a line projecting (see Figure 8.4):

(i) at a distance of 3m from the northern edge of the private open space; and

(ii) vertically to a height of 3m above existing ground level and then at an angle of 45 degrees from the horizontal;

(b) the multiple dwelling does not cause 50% of the private open space to receive less than 3 hours of sunlight between 9.00am and 3.00pm on 21st June; and

- (c) this Acceptable Solution excludes that part of a multiple dwelling consisting of:
- (i) an outbuilding with a building height not more than 2.4m; or
- (ii) protrusions that extend not more than 0.9m horizontally from the multiple dwelling.

COMMENTS

A1

No multiple dwellings are proposed, therefore, this provision is not applicable.

8.4.5 Width of openings for garages and carports for all dwellings

Objectives: To reduce the potential for garage or carport openings to dominate the primary frontage.

PLANNING SCHEME REQUIREMENTS

A1

A garage or carport for a dwelling within 12m of a primary frontage, whether the garage or carport is free-standing or part of the dwelling, must have a total width of openings facing the primary frontage of not more than 6m or half the width of the frontage (whichever is the lesser).

COMMENTS

A1

The garage opening has a width of less than 5m, thereby complying.

8.4.6 Privacy for all dwellings

Objectives: To provide a reasonable opportunity for privacy for dwellings.

PLANNING SCHEME REQUIREMENTS

A1

A balcony, deck, roof terrace, parking space, or carport for a dwelling (whether freestanding or part of the dwelling), that has a finished surface or floor level more than 1m above existing ground level must have a permanently fixed screen to a height of not less than 1.7m above the finished surface or floor level, with a uniform transparency of not more than 25%, along the sides facing a:

(a) side boundary, unless the balcony, deck, roof terrace, parking space, or carport has a setback of not less than 3m from the side boundary;

(b) rear boundary, unless the balcony, deck, roof terrace, parking space, or carport has a setback of not less than 4m from the rear boundary; and

(c) dwelling on the same site, unless the balcony, deck, roof terrace, parking space, or carport is not less than 6m:

(i) from a window or glazed door, to a habitable room of the other dwelling on the same site; or

(ii) from a balcony, deck, roof terrace or the private open space of the other dwelling on the same site.

COMMENTS

A1

The rear deck is situated less than 1m from the Natural Ground Level (NGL), so no assessment of this deck is required.

Regarding the portico entryway, while the term "balcony" is not specifically defined by the scheme, it aligns with the ordinary dictionary definition:

a balustraded or raised platform projecting from the wall of a building.¹

As the entryway is more than 1 meter above NGL, it is classified as a balcony, and therefore requires further assessment.

a) A screen is provided along the southern side of the balcony with a transparency of 25%.

b) The balcony is located more than 4m from the rear boundary, and as such, this provision is not applicable.

c) No other dwelling is situated on the site, therefore this provision is not applicable.

A2

¹ Macquarie Dictionary, 2025

A window or glazed door to a habitable room of a dwelling, that has a floor level more than 1m above existing ground level, must satisfy (a), unless it satisfies (b):

(a) the window or glazed door:

(i) is to have a setback of not less than 3m from a side boundary;

(ii) is to have a setback of not less than 4m from a rear boundary;

(iii) if the dwelling is a multiple dwelling, is to be not less than 6m from a window or glazed door, to a habitable room, of another dwelling on the same site; and

(iv) if the dwelling is a multiple dwelling, is to be not less than 6m from the private open space of another dwelling on the same site.

(b) the window or glazed door:

(i) is to be offset, in the horizontal plane, not less than 1.5m from the edge of a window or glazed door, to a habitable room of another dwelling;

(ii) is to have a sill height of not less than 1.7m above the floor level or have fixed obscure glazing extending to a height of not less than 1.7m above the floor level; or

(iii) is to have a permanently fixed external screen for the full length of the window or glazed door, to a height of not less than 1.7m above floor level, with a uniform transparency of not more than 25%.

COMMENTS

a) The FFL is less than 1m above existing NGL for most of the house. The only habitable window with a FFL greater than 1m is the living room window facing the frontage. This window is set back more than 3m from the side boundary and 4m from the rear boundary, with no other multiple dwellings onsite. Therefore, the window satisfies (a).

A3

A shared driveway or parking space (excluding a parking space allocated to that dwelling) must be separated from a window, or glazed door, to a habitable room of a multiple dwelling by a horizontal distance of not less than:

- (a) 2.5m; or
- (b) 1m if:
- (i) it is separated by a screen of not less than 1.7m in height; or

(ii) the window, or glazed door, to a habitable room has a sill height of not less than 1.7m above the shared driveway or parking space, or has fixed obscure glazing extending to a height of not less than 1.7m above the floor level.

COMMENTS

Α3

This provision is not applicable as the proposal is for a single dwelling.

8.4.7 Frontage fences for all dwellings

Ireneinc Planning & Urban Design

Objectives: The height and transparency of frontage fences:

(a) provides adequate privacy and security for residents;

(b) allows the potential for mutual passive surveillance between the road and the dwelling; and

(c) is reasonably consistent with that on adjoining means next to, or having a common boundary with properties.

PLANNING SCHEME REQUIREMENTS

A1

No Acceptable Solution.

Ρ1

A fence (including a free-standing wall) for a dwelling within 4.5m of a frontage must:

- (a) provide for security and privacy while allowing for passive surveillance of the road; and
- (b) be compatible with the height and transparency of fences in the street, having regard to:
- (i) the topography of the site; and
- (ii) traffic volumes on the adjoining road.

COMMENTS

The fence has a height of 1.4m and a transparency of greater than 30% above 1.2m, thereby meeting the requirements of exemption 4.6.3.

8.4.8 Waste storage for multiple dwellings

Objectives: To provide for the storage of waste and recycling bins for multiple dwellings.

PLANNING SCHEME REQUIREMENTS

A1

A multiple dwelling must have a storage area, for waste and recycling bins, that is not less than 1.5m² per dwelling and is within one of the following locations:

- (a) an area for the exclusive use of each dwelling, excluding the area in front of the dwelling; or
- (b) a common storage area with an impervious surface that:
- (i) has a setback of not less than 4.5m from a frontage;
- (ii) is not less than 5.5m from any dwelling; and

(iii) is screened from the frontage and any dwelling by a wall to a height not less than 1.2m above the finished surface level of the storage area.

COMMENTS

The proposal is for a single residential dwelling, therefore, this provision is not applicable.

Should you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the office on (03) 6234 9281.

Kind regards,

Michela Fortini PLANNER IRENEINC PLANNING & URBAN DESIGN



Statewide Geotechnics ABN 93 844 683 471

> 55 Leonard Avenue Moonah TAS 7009

Telephone: 0499 498 337 Email: statewidegeo@gmail.com

SITE CLASSIFICATION & DISPERSIVE SOIL ASSESSMENT REPORT Proposed Residential Development

5 Inverness Street, Midway Point

Prepared for: Stronghold Engineers Pty Ltd

Date of investigation: 5th January 2025

Date of report: 27th January 2025

Prepared by: Drew Bedelph, Engineering Geologist



Table of Contents

1.	Introdu	uction	1
2.	Site Co	onditions	2
3.	Field Ir	nvestigation	2
4.	Disper	sive Soil Assessment	3
5.	Site Cl	assification	3
6.	Discus	sion and Recommendations	3
	6.1	Dispersive Soil Management	3
	6.2	Foundation Design	4
7.	Wind C	Classification	5

Figures

1. Figure 1 – Site Layout and Test Location Plan

Appendices

- 1. Appendix A Borehole Logs and Descriptive Terms
- 2. Appendix B Form 55 Certificate of Qualified Person
- 3. Appendix C DPIPWE Technical Reference Manual '*Dispersive Soils and their Management*'

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1. Introduction

At the request of Jeremy Lin of Stronghold Engineers Pty Ltd, Statewide Geotechnics have undertaken a geotechnical investigation at the site of a proposed residential development at 5 Inverness Street, Midway Point (Title Reference 185905/97, Property ID 9375746). The investigation has been conducted for the purposes of assessing general subsurface conditions at the site and consequently assigning a Site Classification in accordance with AS2870-2011: '*Residential Slabs and Footings*', assigning a Wind Classification in accordance with AS4055-2012: '*Wind Loads for Housing*', and providing an assessment and management plan for dispersive soils to satisfy the *Tasmanian Planning Scheme – Sorell Local Provisions Schedule*, specifically Clause SOR-S1.8 'Development Standards for Subdivision', the objective of which is to ensure that subdivision within an area of potentially dispersive soils minimises the potential for development to cause:

- (a) erosion; and
- (b) risk to property and the environment.

There is no acceptable solution. Performance Criteria P1 presecribes that "Each lot, or a lot proposed in a plan of subdivision, must minimise the risks associated with dispersive soil to property and the environment, having regard to:

- the dispersive potential of soils in the vicinity of proposed building areas, driveways, services and the development area generally;
- (b) the potential of the subdivision to affect or be affected by erosion, including gully and tunnel erosion;
- (c) the dispersive potential of soils in the vicinity of water drainage lines, infiltration areas and trenches, water storages, ponds, dams and disposal areas;
- (d) the level of risk and potential consequences for property and the environment from potential erosion, including gully and tunnel erosion;
- (e) management measures that would reduce risk to an acceptable level; and
- (f) the advice contained in a dispersive soil management plan".

2. Site Conditions

The subject property comprises an approximately 450m2 vacant allotment within a newlydeveloped subdivision and is situated on the eastern, upslope side of Inverness Street just south of the intersection of Oakmont Road. The site slopes at a gentle angle of up to 5° towards the west and, at the time the investigation was undertaken, was noted to be devoid of vegetation.

The 1:250,000 scale regional geology map of SE Tasmania, published by Mineral Resources Tasmania ('MRT'), shows the geology of the site and surrounds to be underlain by a surface covering of Quaternary age sand overlying insitu Triassic age quartz sandstone rock.

The Tasmanian State Government's interactive planning scheme map viewer, 'iPlan', indicates that the site and surrounds is underlain by "*potentially dispersive soil*" as a consequence of the prevailing Triassic age sandstone and derived soils.

Examination of the 1:25,000 scale MRT Landslide Hazard Band map of the Midway Point area indicates that the site is situated within an 'Unclassified' area which is deemed acceptable for building without further investigation.

3. Field Investigation

The field investigation was conducted on the 5th January 2025 and involved a detailed site inspection followed by the drilling of two boreholes to a refusal depth of 1.50m using a Proline drilling rig. The strength of subsurface materials encountered within the investigation boreholes were assessed down-hole, where possible, using a hand shear vane.

The locations of the boreholes are shown on attached Figure 1, whilst copies of the borehole logs and descriptive terms used are provided in Appendix A.

The boreholes encountered uniform subsurface conditions at the site, comprising a surface layer of loose to moderately dense sandy topsoil to 0.30m underlain by stiff to very stiff medium plasticity residual clay, coloured brown. Weathered sandstone rock, presenting as dense to very dense clayey sand was encountered in the lowermost 0.30m of both holes, with refusal being met on hard material interpreted to be MW or better insitu sandstone at a depth of 1.50m in both boreholes. The boreholes were both noted to be dry on completion.

These findings are in general agreement with both the 1:25,000 scale geological map of the area and the findings of investigations conducted on nearby allotments.

4. Dispersive Soil Assessment

Two samples of residual clay encountered in the field investigation were subjected to Emerson Class Number dispersion testing to determine the dispersiveness of the on-site materials.

Both samples yielded an Emerson Class 2 (2), indicating slightly dispersive material. The results are consistent with the visual analysis of the materials made at the time the field in investigation was undertaken.

The findings of the field and laboratory tests indicate that there is a low risk associated with dispersive soils and potential erosion on the site. On this basis it is assessed that the development will not negatively impact the site and surrounds and is therefore deemed to satisfy conditions (a) – (d) of section E21.7.1 P1 of the *Sorell Interim Planning Scheme* (2015), provided the recommendations provided in Section 6 below are adhered to.

5. Site Classification

After considering the site geology, drainage, soil conditions and plasticity characteristics of the subsurface materials encountered, the site has been classified as follows:

CLASS M (AS2870-2011)

Notwithstanding this, and in the instance that deeper footings are designed to found on or in the insitu sandstone rock layer encountered at 1.20m-1.40m depth below existing ground level, footings may be proportioned for a **CLASS A** site.

Foundation designs in accordance with this classification are to be subject to the overriding conditions of Section 6 below.

This classification is applicable only for ground conditions as encountered at the time of this investigation. If cut or fill earthworks are undertaken, or other works that alter the conditions of the site, then the Site Classification may need to be reassessed.

6. Discussion and Recommendations

6.1 Dispersive Soil Management

The following management measures are recommended for development on the site:

- As far as possible, minimise soil disturbance and avoid leaving areas of bare soil exposed during and after construction;
- As far as possible, use alternatives to 'cut and fill' construction, such as pier and post foundations;
- Where possible, avoid the use of trenches for the supply of services i.e. water & power.
 If trenches must be used, ensure that repacked spoil is properly compacted, treated with gypsum at rate of 1Kg/m² and topsoiled. Where possible, trenches to be placed shallow in the surface soil layer and mounded over to achieve the required cover depth.
 If buried, the trench must be backfilled in layers of no more than 200mm with clay with 5% by weight gypsum added. The trench must be finished with at least 150mm depth of non-dispersive suitable topsoil and finished to a level at least 75mm above natural ground to allow for possible settlement;
- All stormwater runoff from the dwelling to be directed to Council mains;
- Ensure runoff from hard areas is adequately captured and not allowed to flow across the ground surface or pond in low areas of the site;
- Drainage of any site cut must not employ conventional rock drain construction; it must adhere to recommendations for dispersive soils, unless founded entirely in rock;
- Establish and maintain vegetation cover on exposed areas of ground, and if any bare area of soil develops then it must be top-dressed with suitable topsoil and additional vegetation planted; and
- Ensure that excavated spoils are not reused on site in landscaping unless the material is appropriately treated with gypsum, compacted, and capped with natural soil and gypsum.

The client's attention is drawn to the Tasmanian Department of Primary Industries, Water and Environment technical reference manual '*Dispersive Soils and their Management*' (2009) as a guide to undertaking works on the site, a copy of which is attached herein in Appendix C.

6.2 Foundation Design

Specific attention and consideration should be given to the design of footings as required by AS2870-2011.

In addition to the normal founding requirements arising from the above classification, particular conditions at the site determine that the founding medium for all footings should be as follows:

Silty CLAY, medium plasticity, trace gravel, brown,

encountered between 0.30m below existing ground level.

An allowable bearing pressure of 100kPa is available for edge beams, strips and pads founded as above, provided the site is prepared as follows:

- 1. Earthworks should be carried out in accordance with AS3798-2007 '*Earthworks for Residential and Commercial Developments*';
- Any organics or other deleterious materials should be removed from the building footprint;
- Any floating boulders encroaching on the building footprint and preventing a uniform founding medium from being established should be removed and replaced with leanmix concrete; and
- 4. Any sands or granular materials disturbed in bases of footing excavations should be compacted.

The Site Classification in Section 5 assumes that the natural drainage and infiltration conditions at the site will not be significantly affected for the proposed development work on the site. The client must take care to ensure that surface water is not permitted to collect adjacent to the structure and that significant changes to seasonal soil moisture equilibria do not develop as a result of service trench construction or tree root action.

The client's attention is drawn to Appendix B of AS2870 and CSIRO Building Technical File BTF18-2011 '*Foundation Maintenance and Footing Performance: A Homeowner's Guide*' as a guide to maintenance requirements for the proposed structure on the Site.

Although the auger hole data indicates that the site conditions are relatively uniform, variations in soil conditions may occur in areas of the site not specifically covered by the field investigation. The base of all footings should therefore be inspected to ensure that the founding medium meets the requirements referenced herein with respect to type and strength of founding material.

7. Wind Classification

After considering the terrain, shielding and topography of the site, the site has been classified as follows:

N2 (AS4055-2012)

FIGURE 1

Site Layout and Test Location Plan



BH1	
	Approximate borehole location

Drawn	DB		Client:	Stronghold Eng	gineers Pty Ltd			
Approved			Project: Dispersive soil assessment and					
Date	27/01/2025	geotechnics	Midway Point					
Scale	Not to scale	_	Title: Site I	Layout and Test	Location Plan			
Original size	A4		Project no:	SC856	Figure no: Figure 1			

APPENDIX A

Borehole Logs and Descriptive Terms



						Boreh	ole no:		BH1							
Eng	in	e	er	ing	; Lo	g - Bo	oreh	ole	:			Sheet		1	of 1	
Client: Stronghold Engineers Pty Ltd Project Name: Site Classification - 5 Inverness Street, Midway Point Project No: SC856 Hole Location: Refer site layout and test location plan Drill Model and Mounting: Proline rig Slope: deg. R.L. Surface								l Eng catio yout	gineers n - 5 Inv : and tes	vint	Hole commenced:5/01/2025Hole completed:5/01/2025Hole logged by:DGBLog checked by:DGB					
Drill Model and Mounting: Hole Diameter: 100				Proline rig Slope: deg. R.L. Surface mm Bearing: deg. Datum					Operator: DGB							
		Dri	llin	g Inj	form	ation				Rock Su	bstance				Observations	
Method	1	2 Penetration	3	Support	Water	Sample Tests	Depth meters	Graphic Log	Classification symbol	Material plasticity or particle characteristics, co minor componen	Soil type: Jour, secondary and t	Moisture condition	Consistency, density index	100 Pocket 200 Pocket 300 Penetrometer 400 500	Structure and additional observations	
AS									SM	Silty SAND, fine to medium grained, gree	/	D/M	L/MD		Topsoil	
						D	0.50		СН	sand, brown	to medium	M	St		Residual soil	
													VSt			
					-	D	1.00									
									SC	Clayey SAND, fine to medium, trace grav	/el, yellow-	М	D		XW/HW Triassic sandstone	
						D	1.50			brown			VD			
										Auger refusal - borehole terminated at 1	1.50m depth				Dry on completion	
															- · ; - · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
							2.00									
							2.50									
							3.00									
							3.50									
							4.00									
			M	etho	<u>d</u>			Sup C - Cas M - Mu Penet No Graph	port ing ind tration Resistance anginf to Refusal nic Log Inflow	Samples and Tests U60 Undisturbed Sample U50 S0mm Diameter D Disturbed Sample N Standard Penetration N* SPT + Sample NC Cone Penetrometer		Disture D M W Plasti	Condit	ion Dry Moist Wet PL	Consistency/ relative rock density VS - Very Soft S - Soft F - Firm St - Stiff VSt - Very Stiff H - Hard Fb - Friable VL - Very Loose L - Loose MD - Moderately Dense	ty
							•	V	Outflow Water Level	Description - Based on Unified Soil Classification Systsem		= >		PL PL	vD - Very Dense	



	Borehole no: BH2				
Engineering Log - Borehole	Sheet 1 of 1				
Client:Stronghold Engineers Pty LtdProject Name:Site Classification - 5 Inverness Street, Midway PointProject No:SC856Hole Location:Refer site layout and test location plan	Hole commenced:5/01/2025Hole completed:5/01/2025Hole logged by:DGBLog checked by:DGB				
Drill Model and Mounting: Proline rig Slope: deg. R.L. Surl Hole Diameter: 100 mm Bearing: deg. Da	ace um Operator: DGB				
Drilling Information Rock Substance	Observations	_			
Method A contraction Method Method Method Method Material plasticitic on bound minor combonent minor combonent minor combonent Material plasticition minor combonent minor combonen	here and the second structure and addition and the second structure and the second structur				
AS SM Silty SAND, fine to medium grained, grey	D/M L/MD Topsoil				
CH Silty CLAY medium plasticity, some fine to medium	M St Besidual soil				
D 0.50 sand, brown		_			
SC Clayey SAND, fine to medium, trace gravel, yellow-	M D XW/HW Triassic sandstone				
brown					
		=			
Auger refusal - borehole terminated at 1.50m depth	Dry on completion				
		_			
		—			
3.00					
		_			
		_			
		_			
4.00 4.00 Method Sunnort Samples and Tests	Maisture Condition Consistency/ relative rock density	_			
C - Casing M - Mud Penetration No Resistance Graphic Log Inflow Outflow Water Level C - Casing M - Mud U60 Undisturbed Sample U50 S0mm Diameter D Disturbed Sample N Standard Penetration N* SPT + Sample Nc Cone Penetrometer Classification Symbols and Soil Description - Based on Unified Soil Classification System	D Dry S - Soft M Moist F - Firm W Wet St - Stiff H - Hard Fb - Friable VL - Very Stiff H - Hard Fb - Friable VL - Very Loose L - Loose L - Loose = PL VD - Very Dense > PL VD - Very Dense	•			

D	ESCRIPTIV	/E TERMS	- BOREHO	LE/EXCA\	ATION LO	G	
Method S auger so D auger dr R roller/tric	rewing illing cone	W washbo N natural e E existing	ore exposure excavation		B blade bu C cable too H hammer	cket ol drill	
Water		_					
Notes, sar	R mples, tests U45 D N*	not observ observed v observed v observed v refer repor s, etc undisturbe disturbed s Standard F	red water level water inflow water outflor t for details d sample, 4 Sample Penetration	w 5mm diam Test	neter		
		N indicates	s SPT value) 			
	V	vane snea	r test, figure	indicates	soll strengtr	Г (КГа)	
Soil profil	V DCP e	dynamic co increment.	one penetro	ometer test	, figure indic	cates blows	/depth
Soil profil	V DCP e known b	vane snea dynamic c increment.	probable	boundary	possible h	boundary	s/depth
Soil profil	V DCP e known b	vane snea dynamic c increment.	probable	boundary	possible h	boundary	s/depth
Soil profil	V DCP e known b	vane snea dynamic c increment.		boundary	possible h	boundary	s/depth
Soil profil Moisture o dry	v DCP known b condition (D)	vane snea dynamic co increment. oundary (based on ap Looks and	probable probable pearance and feels dry, c	boundary feel)	possible h	boundary _??	s/depth
Soil profil Moisture o dry moist	e known b condition (D) (M)	(based on ap Looks and friable, gra Soils feel of by moistur	probable probable pearance and feels dry, c unular soils i cool, darker	feel) feel) feel) feel) feel) fun freely the following for the following following following for the following following for the following following for the	ils usually h possible f possible	boundary -?? hard powde ingers. bils usually o free wate	/depth
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Soil profil Moisture o dry moist wet	v DCP e known b condition (D) (M) (W)	(based on ap Looks and friable, gra Soils feel of by moistur Soils feel of granular so remoulding	probable probable pearance and feels dry, c nular soils i cool, darker e, granular cool, darker oils tend to g.	feel) ohesive sc un freely th in colour. (soils tend t in colour. (cohere, fre	possible f possible f ?? bils usually h hrough the f Cohesive so to cohere, no Cohesive so	boundary _?? hard powde ingers. bils usually o free wate bils usually ects on har	ery or weaken er on har weaken hds whe
Soil profil Moisture o dry moist wet Consisten	v DCP e known b condition (D) (M) (W) (W)	vane snea dynamic co increment. oundary (based on ap Looks and friable, gra Soils feel o granular so remoulding don undrained Soft S	probable probable pearance and feels dry, c inular soils i cool, darker e, granular cool, darker oils tend to g. d shear strengt F	feel) ohesive sc un freely th in colour. (soils tend t in colour. (cohere, fre	possible f possible f possible f possible f poly for the f pohesive so to cohere, no cohesive so to cohesive so	boundary _?? hard powde ingers. bils usually o free wate bils usually ects on har ured by vane s hard H	s/depth
Soil profil Moisture o dry moist wet Consisten C _u (kPa)	v DCP e known b condition (D) (M) (W) (W) (W) very soft vs very soft vs very soft	vane snea dynamic co increment. ooundary (based on ap Looks and friable, gra Soils feel o granular so remoulding d on undrained soft S 25 (generally es	probable probable pearance and feels dry, c unular soils r cool, darker e, granular cool, darker oils tend to g. d shear strengt firm F	feel) ohesive sc un freely th in colour. (soils tend t in colour. (cohere, fre h (Cu), estim stiff St 100 ed on penetri	possible f possible f	boundary _?? hard powde ingers. bils usually o free wate bils usually ects on har ured by vane s hard H	s/depth ry or weaken weaken nds whe
Soil profil Moisture o dry moist wet Consisten C _u (kPa) Density In	v DCP e known b condition (D) (M) (W) (W) (W) (W) (W) (W) (V) (V) (V) (V) (V) (V) (V) (V) (V) (V	vane snea dynamic co increment. oundary (based on ap Looks and friable, gra Soils feel o granular so remoulding d on undrained soft S (generally es loose L	probable probable pearance and feels dry, c unular soils r cool, darker e, granular cool, darker e, granular cool, darker g. d shear strengt firm F 50 timated or bas nedium dense MD	feel) ohesive sc un freely tl in colour. (soils tend t in colour. (cohere, fre h (Cu), estim stiff St 100 ed on penetro dense D	soil strengtr , figure indic possible f ?? vils usually h hrough the f Cohesive so to cohere, ne Cohesive so e water colle ated, or measu very stiff VSt 200 ometer results) very dense VD	boundary _?? hard powde ingers. bils usually o free wate bils usually ects on har ured by vane s hard H	s/depth ry or weakend r on har weakend nds when shear test;

Statewide Geotechnics

APPENDIX B

Form 55 Certificate of Qualified Person

CERTIFICATE OF QUALIFIED PERSON – ASSESSABLE ITEM

١

Section 321

To:	Jeremy Lin	s Ptv I td		Owner /Agent	Form	55	
		Suburb/postcod					
Qualified perso	on details:						
Qualified person:	Drew Bedelph T/A St Geotechnics						
Address:	55 Leonard Avenue				Phone No:	04	199498337
	MOONAH TAS		70	09	Fax No:	-	
Licence No:	n/a	Email	address:	stat	ewidegeo@@	gmail.c	om
Qualifications and Insurance details:	BSc (Hons) with major Professional Indemni (AIG Australia Ltd, po 1023401768, \$1,000	or in Geo ity Insura olicy num ,000 cove	(descri Directo Detern	iption from Column or of Building Contr nination)	3 of the ol's		
Speciality area of expertise:	Engineering Geology	1		(descr Directo Deterr	iption from Columr or of Building Conti nination)	a 4 of the rol's	
Details of work	:						
Address:	5 Inverness Street]	Lot No:	97
	MIDWAY POINT TA	S	71	71	Certificate of	title No:	185905
The assessable item related to this certificate:	Dispersive soil assessme classification for propose accordance with AS2870	ent and fou d buildings -2011		(description of th certified) Assessable item - a material; - a design - a form of co. - a document - testing of a c system or pl - an inspectio performed	e assessa includes - nstruction componen umbing sy n, or asse	ble item being - t, building stem ssment,	
Certificate deta	ils:						
Certificate type:	Foundation classificati	on		(descript Schedule Building	ion from Column 1 > 1 of the Director o Control's Determin	of of ation)	
This certificate is in	relation to the above asse building work, pl	essable iter umbing wo	n, at an ork or plu	y stage umbing	e, as part of - <i>(ti</i> installation or	<i>ck one)</i> demolitie	on work: 🖌
	or	a building	, tempo	orary st	ructure or plum	bina ins	allation:
n issuing this certifica	te the following matters are	e relevant -	_	,	•	5	L

Neteralizable
Not applicable
As per the assessment and site classification report dated 27 th January 2025 Appendix B of AS2870-2011 CSIRO Building Technical File BTF-18-2011 'Foundation Maintenance and Footing Performance: A Homeowner's Guide'
A 20 A C ai

An investigation was conducted for the purposes of assessing dispersive soils and general geological conditions at the site and consequently assigning a Site Classification in accordance with AS2870-2011: 'Residential Slabs and Footings'.

Scope and/or Limitations

The classification is applicable only for ground conditions encountered at the time of the investigation. If cut/fill earthworks are undertaken, or the structure/s moved from the site/s assessed, then further investigation and reclassification will be required.

I certify the matters described in this certificate.

Qualified person:

Bedelp

Signed:

Certificate No:

Date: 27/01/2025

APPENDIX C

DPIPWE Technical Reference Manual -

'Dispersive Soils and their Management'

DISPERSIVE SOILS and their MANAGEMENT





Sorell Counci

Development Application: 5.2024.312.1 -Response to Request For Information - 5 Inverness Street, Midway Point - P5 .pdf Plans Reference: P5 Date Received: 26/03/2025

Technical Reference Manual



Marcus Hardie Land Management Officer DPIW

With contributions from:

Richard Doyle - TIAR, UTAS, Hobart Bill Cotching - TIAR, UTAS, Burnie Tim Duckett - LMRS, Hobart Peter Zund - NRM South, Hobart

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.0	Introduction: Why dispersive soils and tunnel erosion are an issue		
	1.1	Environments in which dispersive soils and tunnel erosion occur	7
	1.2	Tunnel erosion hazard mapping	8
2.0	Understanding dispersion and the erosion process		
	2.1	Sodicity and dispersion	
	2.2	Tunnel erosion	12
3.0	Identifying dispersive soils		
	3.1	Field techniques	
	3.2	Simple field test for identifying dispersive soils	
	3.3	Laboratory techniques for identifying dispersive soils	
4.0	Approaches for minimising erosion risk in dispersive soils		
	4.1	Management options for tunnel erosion	17
	4.2	Identification and avoidance of dispersive soils	17
	4.3	Compaction	17
	4.4	Chemical amelioration	
	4.5	Sand blocks and sand barriers	
	4.6	Use of topsoil / burial and revegetation	20
5.0	Activities that increase the risk of erosion on dispersive soils		21
	5.I	Activities that promote tunnel erosion	22
	5.2	Removal of topsoil	22
	5.3	Cut and fill	22
	5.4	Trenches and supply of services	23
	5.5	Storm water and runoff	25
	5.6	Roads and culverts	25
	5.7	Sewage and grey water	27
	5.8	Dam construction	28
6.0	Repa	ir and rehabilitation of tunnel erosion	30
7.0	Refe	rences	32
8.0	Арре	endix I: Analysis and classification of dispersive soils	35
9.0	Appendix II: Amendment to existing codes of practice & guidelines		
	9.1	Soil and Water Management Code of Practice for Hobart Regional Councils (1999b)	
	9.2	Guidelines for Soil and Water Management (Anon 1999c)	38

•

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure I.	Exceptions always exist. (a). Tunnel erosion in shallow stony ground located on a side slope away from drainage nes. (b). Tunnel erosion in mature forest, Middleton. Tunnel erosion existed prior to felling of trees in the preground		
Figure 2.	Location of tunnel erosion prone dispersive soils (sodosols) in Southern Tasmania	9	
Figure 3.	Map of land systems containing areas of tunnel erosion on private freehold land in Southern Tasmania (based on Grice 1995)	0	
Figure 4.	I:10000 Brighton Land Use Suitability Mapping (Cumming 2003)	8	
Figure 5.	Behaviour of non sodic and sodic soils in water. (Anon 1999a)	2	
Figure 6.	Sidewall collapse due to mechanical scouring and undercutting sidewalls	2	
Figure 7.	Surface water entering an existing tunnel system, increasing the mechanical erosion and scoring		
Figure 8.	Collapse of tunnel roof, following loss of dispersive soil horizon leading to formation of a stable depression		
Figure 9	(a) Example of dribble pattern on an exposed subsoil, the photograph was taken from within an actively eroding tunnel system. (b) Dribble patterns on sodic soil ped	3	
Figure 10.	'Pitting or pocketing', resulting from topsoil removal, surface water has dissolved through the soil surface	4	
Figure 11.	Sediment fans or 'spew holes' are often the first obvious sign of tunnel erosion (a) Honeywood, (b).Woodbridge (c) Campania (d) Dunalley	4	
Figure 12.	Field test for aggregate dispersion (Sorensen 1995)	5	
Figure 13.	The severity and depth of dispersive subsoils (or sodium content) can vary considerably over short distances. (a Highly dispersive subsoils (orange) meters away from (b) non-dispersive soils (brown)		
Figure 14.	Modified sand block design. (a) plan view, (b) cross section view. The depth of the sand block is determined by the depth of dispersive clays or tunnel erosion. The span length of the structure is determined by the width of th tunnelling		
Figure 15.	(a) Installation of sandblock perpendicular to a service trench. Note securing of geotextile to the optical fibre cable to prevent water flowing past the sand block. (b) Sandblock before final topsoiling	9	
Figure 16.	Initiation of tunnel erosion caused by scalping or removing topsoil. Note that even a very thin layer of topsoil was able to prevent widespread tunnel erosion	; 2	
Figure 17.	Extensive tunnel and rill erosion initiated by excavating a cut & fill pad for a large building on sodic soils	2	
Figure 18.	Tunnel erosion in footings intended for a winery. Erosion resulted from ponding of rainwater on highly dispersive fill. (a). The fill contains a number of narrow slots (up to 1.2 meters deep) caused by surface water dissolving through the footing	2	
Figure 19.	Pier or post style construction has considerably lower risk of initiating tunnel erosion than cut and fill techniques 2	 3	
Figure 20.	Hydrological barrier to isolate foundations from surface and groundwater (Duckett pers. comm.)	3	
Figure 21.	(a) Tunnel erosion initiated by installation of an optical fibre cable into a dispersive soil. (b) Subsidence and early stages of tunnelling resulting from inappropriate installation of power pole in a backfilled trench	4	

Figure 22.	Cable and pipe installation techniques. (a). Good technique, surface burial of pipe or cable ensuring that ponding cannot collect on or behind the mound. (b) Average technique, simple surface burial, however ponding can occur behind the mound. (c) Good technique, where topsoil depth allows partial burial
Figure 23.	Improved trench design. (a). Traditional Trench. Note surface sinks allowing water to pond above trench. (b) Improved trench with individually compacted clay layers. The surface is finished above the ground surface to prevent ponding on top of the trench
Figure 24.	Tunnel erosion resulting from construction of a stormwater culvert in dispersive clay, Brighton. 25
Figure 25.	Road surface breaking up due to construction on dispersive clays. This section of road is repaired 2-3 times a year.
Figure 26.	Undercutting and collapse of roadside batter due to construction of a table drain in dispersive clay. Note the failure of the rock rap (blue) to prevent further erosion
Figure 27.	Table drain constructed in dispersive subsoil. The concentration of runoff in the culvert is greatly adding to the erosion problem, resulting in slumping and undercutting of the road and the adjacent batter slope. This photo was taken 18 months after the driveway was constructed
Figure 28.	Rill and tunnel erosion caused by excavation of sodic soils for road construction. Dunalley
Figure 29.	Alternative road design using road bars and diversion mounds to shed water into stable areas
Figure 30.	Ozzi Kleen single tank (Aerated Wastewater Treatment System) for treatment and disposal of sewage and grey water, Raised – mulched area in foreground is being used for effluent disposal from the house in background 27
Figure 31.	Example of a composting toilet system. (source: www.nature-loo.com.au)
Figure 32.	The dam in the foreground has been constructed from dispersive clays. Note the cloudy brown colour of water in foreground, compared to the blue colour of the dam constructed from non-dispersive soils in the background 28
Figure 33.	Typical small dam failure. Note piping through earth bank
Figure 34.	Piping failure of a dam constructed from soils derived from Permian mudstone. This dam is known to have failed on first filling. The image was taken from the dam floor, note the dam wall (background) has been completely breached
Figure 35.	Failure of Blackman Creek dam (source: Davies Brothers). In October 2005 the Blackman creek dam failed, resulting in the evacuation of Tunbridge and loss of 3000 ML irrigation water. Doyle and Cumming (unpublished 2005) indicate the cause of the failure to be associated with a variably compacted - moderately dispersive soil layer
Figure 36.	Examples of tunnel erosion control (a). Poor technique. Rock rap is usually an inappropriate erosion control technique for dispersive soils. Normally rock barriers work well to trap sediment and reduce erosion. However in dispersive soils, hard surfaces such as rock are quickly bypassed. Note (upper area) of the rock structure (b). Excellent technique. Note the entire repaired area is fenced, and the whole length of the repaired tunnel is covered with topsoil and jute cloth. Sand barrier have been construct every 20 meters down the slope
Figure 37.	Good technique. Topsoil mounding, reclaimed tunnel erosion, Brighton. Note the width of earthworks required to fix a 50cm wide tunnel, and the raised profile to shed surface water. Jute Cloth would prevent surface erosion until vegetation has established
Figure 38.	Emerson dispersion test procedure (AS 1289.3.8.1-1997) (Raine and Loch 2003). Soils with an Emerson ration of I or 2 are highly susceptible to tunnel erosion (Vacher <i>et al.</i> 2004)
Figure 39.	Pinhole test for compacted soils & fill. (Photo, Raine & Loch 2003)

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PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT

Currently, there is little locally relevant or available information on the management of dispersive soils in urban and peri-urban environments. Issues associated with dispersive soils and their management are not adequately addressed in planning schemes, building codes or the development approval process. This document seeks to provide a summary of the available science and experience gained with the management of dispersive soils and tunnel erosion in Tasmania. It is expected this document will have relevance for a range of stakeholders including, professionals in the building and construction industry, local government, affected landholders and natural resource managers. It is important to acknowledge that advice provided in this document results from a process of expert opinion and field observation, rather than rigorous scientific study or an established body of locally relevant literature. This document will require updating as new information becomes available.

The purpose of this document is to,

- » Raise awareness of the risks associated with development and construction on dispersive soils.
- » Reduce the incidence of tunnel erosion and environmental harm resulting from disturbance of dispersive soils in Tasmania.
- » Indicate the types of environments in which tunnel erosion and dispersive soils occur.
- » Review chemical and physical analytical techniques used for identifying dispersive soils.
- » Identify risks associated with traditional construction techniques on dispersive soils.
- » Outline low-risk options for construction and development on dispersive soils.
- » Review methods for repairing tunnel erosion in peri-urban environments.

This document aims to reduce rather than eliminate risk associated with construction and development on dispersive soils. The advice presented in this document needs to be carefully considered together with other expert opinion in relation to specific sites on a case by case basis. Erosion processes in dispersive soils are complex and difficult to predict. No responsibility is taken for advice provided in this document.

The Crown in the right of the State of Tasmania does not accept responsibility for any loss or damage which may result to any person arising from reliance on all or any part of this information, whether or not that loss or damage has resulted from negligence or any other cause.
I.0 INTRODUCTION: WHY DISPERSIVE SOILS AND TUNNEL EROSION ARE AN ISSUE

- » Dispersive soils and tunnel erosion have been found in all municipalities in southern Tasmania, and several locations in northern Tasmania.
- » In recent years, urban expansion has occurred in areas known to contain dispersive soils.
- » Tunnel erosion in dispersive or sodic soils mostly occurs in areas with
 - Soils derived from Triassic sandstone or Permian mudstone.
 - Deep sedimentary soils.
 - North facing slopes.
 - Slopes over 10 degrees.
 - Drainage lines.
 - Areas in which vegetation, soils or local hydrology have been disturbed.
- » Tunnel erosion has the potential to result in considerable damage to infrastructure (including dwellings) and the environment.
- » The location or extent of dispersive soils has not been specifically mapped in Tasmania.
- » Existing soil maps and tunnel erosion hazard maps are unsuitable for land use planning and infrastructure development.

Dispersive soils and tunnel erosion occur in all municipalities in southern Tasmania, as well as parts of the Northern Midlands, Tamar Valley and Break O'Day municipalities. In recent years, urban expansion on dispersive soils has increased the incidence of infrastructure damage and environmental harm resulting from tunnel erosion. Unlike other forms of erosion, tunnel erosion results from a combination of both chemical and physical processes, which makes its control and repair difficult. Management of tunnel erosion is focused on both the prevention of further tunnel erosion and improved repair and management of existing tunnel affected land.

I.I ENVIRONMENTS IN WHICH DISPERSIVE SOILS AND TUNNEL EROSION OCCUR

Crouch (1976) identified that landscapes which were predisposed to tunnel erosion had;

- » A seasonal or highly variable rainfall combined with high summer temperature.
- » Cracking of surface soils due to desiccation.
- » A reduction or detrimental change in vegetative cover.
- » A relatively impermeable layer in the soil profile.
- » Sufficient slope to create sub-surface flow.
- » A dispersible soil layer.

In Tasmania, tunnel erosion is commonly associated with dispersive subsoils derived from Triassic sandstone, or Permian mudstone (Colclough 1978, Doyle and Habraken 1993). However tunnel erosion is also known to occur on dispersive soils derived from Jurassic Dolerite (Bruny Island, Dunalley and Orielton) and Lower Carboniferous – Upper Devonian granites (Elephant Pass). Tunnel erosion mostly occurs on moderately steep (>10°) north or north-east facing slopes in areas with less than 650 mm annual rainfall. Tunnel erosion is less common in shallow soils or soils containing a high proportion of stones (exceptions exist, Figure 1a) and areas with greater than 800mm rainfall.



Figure 1a & b. Exceptions always exist. (a) Tunnel erosion in shallow stony ground located on a side slope away from drainage lines, Brighton. (b)Tunnel erosion in a mature forest, on dispersive soils derived from Triassic Sandstone, Middleton. Tunnel erosion existed prior to felling of trees in the foreground.

The nature and extent of tunnel erosion appears to differ between soil types. In soils derived from Permian sediments, tunnel erosion is usually confined to a single narrow 'slot' often within a drainage line. In soils derived from Triassic sediments, tunnels often have multiple branches and frequently occur on hillslopes as well as drainage lines. While tunnel erosion usually results from some form of disturbance, in a few instances tunnel erosion has occurred in otherwise undisturbed environments (Figure 1b).

1.2 TUNNEL EROSION HAZARD MAPPING

The location and extent of tunnel erosion in Tasmania has not been specifically mapped or investigated, however land system mapping indicates that approximately 103,000 ha of private freehold land has a tunnel erosion hazard (Grice 1995). Figure 2, the 'Location of tunnel erosion prone dispersive soils (sodic soils or sodosols) in Southern Tasmania (DPIWE 2004)' map has been created by modifying the Soil Orders Map of Tasmania 1: 500,000, (DPIWE 2004) to reveal the location of sodosols (soils with more than 6% sodium in the subsoil) as a predictor of dispersive soils. Figure 3 the 'Map of land systems containing areas of tunnel erosion on private freehold land in Southern Tasmania' has been generated from state-wide land systems mapping in which combinations of soil, geology and climate have been inferred to reveal areas which have an elevated likelihood that tunnel erosion may occur (Grice 1995). Note: neither of these maps indicate the actual location or extent of dispersive soils or tunnel erosion.

Tunnel erosion hazard maps in Figures 2 and 3 (pages 9-10) cannot be used for land use planning or making decisions on soil suitability for sub-division. Note that some areas indicated to have a dispersive soil or tunnel erosion hazard differ between the two maps. These discrepancies are expected, and result from differences in how the two maps were produced. Landuse planning, sub-division works and site development require field inspections and large scale soil mapping at 1:5,000 – 1:10,000 scale.

A local example of larger scale land suitability mapping for residential development was conducted in the Brighton municipality to identify soils which were unsuitable for urban development (Figure 4) (Cumming 2003). Similar landuse and erosion surveys have been used to quantify risk associated with urban development on erosion prone loess soils in the Port Hills, Christchurch, New Zealand (Trangmar 2003).



Cumming (2003) notes 'The map is reliable only at the scale published, and must not be enlarged.....'





Figure 3. Map of land systems containing areas of tunnel erosion on private freehold land in Southern Tasmania (based on Grice 1995).

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2.0 UNDERSTANDING DISPERSION AND THE EROSION PROCESS

SODIC SOILS AND DISPERSION

- » Dispersion results from the presence exchangeable sodium between clay platelets.
- » Dispersion results in the swelling of clay platelets and collapse of clay aggregates.
- » Dispersion is often seen as 'muddy' or 'milky' water in dams and surface water.
- » Dispersion only occurs in non-saline water or rainwater.

TUNNEL EROSION RESULTS FROM

- » Both chemical and physical processes.
- » Dispersion of clay subsoils.
- » Sodic or dispersive subsoils coming into contact with fresh water (rain, runoff etc).
- » Soil cracks and pores which enable runoff and dispersed clays to flow through the soil.
- » Intense rainfall events on dry cracked soil, usually at the end of summer.
- » Loss of topsoil through erosion or excavation which exposes dispersive soils to rainfall.
- » Hydraulic disturbance such as vegetation removal or creation of runoff.

2.1 SODICITY AND DISPERSION

Tunnel erosion mostly occurs in dispersive soils (Vacher et al. 2004) which typically contain greater than 6.0 % exchangeable sodium (ESP). These soils are known as sodic soils or Sodosols (Isbell 2002), or in the past may have been referred to as Solodic, Solonetz or Solodized – solonetz (Doyle and Habraken 1993). Other soils such as Vertosols, Kurosols and Kandosols may also contain sodic or dispersive soil layers.

When a sodic soil comes into contact with non-saline water, water molecules are drawn in-between the clay platelets causing the clay to swell to such an extent that individual clay platelets are separated from the aggregate, this process is known as dispersion (Figure 5, van de Graaff & Patterson 2001, Nelson 2000). When small aggregates are placed in a dish of distilled water they appear to 'dissolve' into a milky ring or halo. This milky ring is the ejected clay platelets are often so small that they remain forever in suspension, which explains why dams constructed from dispersive clays never settle and always appear 'muddy' or 'milky'.

While sodic soils are generally dispersive, it is important to acknowledge that not all sodic soils disperse, and that not all dispersive soils are sodic (Sumner 1993). Factors such as silt and high magnesium content may induce non-sodic soils (ESP <6%) to disperse, while organic matter, clay mineralogy, acidity, and high iron content may prevent sodic soils (ESP >6%) from dispersing (Raine and Loch 2003, Rengasamy 2002). In southern Tasmania degraded Kurosols are known to be dispersive despite having less than 6.0 % ESP (Doyle pers. comm.). In addition, soils which are both saline and sodic do not disperse or behave like sodic soils until the salt is leached from the soil profile, usually following subsurface drainage (Rengasamy and Olsson 1991).

In slightly saline water, or water with a moderate electrolyte (salt) concentration, sodic soils swell, but generally don't disperse. The clay platelets remain intact. The presence of salts within the soil water reduces the osmotic gradient between the outside and inside of the clay platelets preventing the ultimate stage of swelling leading to dispersion (Nelson 2000). Maintenance of salts within the soil water is one of the most important mechanisms by which sodic soils are protected from dispersion and development of tunnel erosion.

Non-sodic clay

non-sodic soil



In a non-sodic soil calcium is adsorbed onto the surface of the clay. This is a small sized ion with a strong charge.

Sodic clay

sodic clay (high RSP)



In a sodic soil; sodium, Na* a adsorbed onto the surface of the clay. It is a large ion with a weak charge. The positive ions hind the negatively charged clay particles together.



Water can enter between the platelets in a non-sodie soil, which leads to swelling. However, the binding forces between the particles by calcium ions are never completely overcome. The soil does not disperse.



As water is added to a sodic soil the water is attracted to the sodium. The ions hydrate, forcing the plates apart. The ions' role in binding the clay platelets is overcome, and the clay swells then disperses with water.

Figure 5. Behaviour of non sodic and sodic soils in water. (Anon 1999a).

2.2 TUNNEL EROSION

Tunnel erosion results from a complex interaction of chemical and physical processes associated with clay dispersion, mechanical scouring, entrainment and mass wasting. Observation indicates that in Tasmania, tunnel erosion usually starts as a result of rainfall coming into contact with dispersive subsoil following,

- » Loss of topsoil ie excavation or erosion.
- » Surface soil cracking due to desiccation (drying).
- » A change in hydrology or generation of runoff.
- » And occasionally formation of rabbit burrows or old root holes.

Once subsoil clays have dispersed the development of tunnel erosion depends on whether the soil matrix has sufficient permeability to enable dispersed soil material to move downslope through soil cracks and pores. This movement of dispersed clays leaves behind a small cavity. Further rainfall events, entrain more dispersed soil material, resulting in both the headward and tailward expansion of the cavity (Zhu 2003, Vacher *et al.* 2004, Laffan and Cutler 1977). Eventually cavities link-up to form a continuous tunnel system in which water flowing at the tunnel base, further scours the sidewalls resulting in slumping and tunnel enlargement (Figure 6) (Laffan and Cutler 1977, Zhu 2003). Eventually undermining reaches an extent where complete roof collapse occurs and either gully erosion forms (Figure 24) (Laffan and Cutler 1977), or the topsoil collapses back over the tunnel to form a stable depression (Figure 8).



Figure 6. Sidewall collapse due to mechanical scouring and undercutting sidewalls. Dolerite derived soils, Dunalley.

Tunnel erosion tends to be a sporadic phenomenon (Pickard 1999). Tunnel eroded areas may appear to be stable for periods up to a decade or more before a single runoff event re-initiates the erosion process (Zhu 2003). There may also be a significant time-lag between disturbance and the first observation of tunnelling. At one site in Kingborough, tunnel development only became apparent 10-15 years after the site was disturbed presumably as a result of dwelling construction. At a property on Bruny Island, a single summer storm in 2003 increased the section of a hillslope affected by tunnel erosion by around 30%. Observation indicates that tunnel initiation tends to occur late in summer when vegetation has died off and soils are desiccated and cracked (Floyd 1974, Vacher et al. 2004). Sudden downpours generate large amounts of surface runoff which enter the subsoil directly through soil cracks (Figure 7), dispersing sodic soil horizons and initiating the tunnel erosion process. Although greater rainfall generally falls over winter, tunnel initiation is uncommon during the winter months as clays tend to have swelled, sealing surface cracks and reducing the presence of void spaces within the soil (Floyd 1974).



Figure 7. Surface water entering an existing tunnel system, increasing the mechanical erosion and scoring.



Figure 8. Collapse of tunnel roof, following loss of dispersive soil horizon leading to formation of a stable depression, Cygnet.

3.0 IDENTIFYING DISPERSIVE SOILS

IDENTIFICATION OF DISPERSIVE SOILS

- » Dispersive soils can be identified by dribble patterns and pitting.
- » Early stages of tunnel erosion can be identified by the development of spew holes.
- » Simple field tests can be used to identify the presence of dispersive soils.
- » For engineering works or infrastructure development, a combination of analytical and physical tests should be used. Consult an appropriately qualified and experienced soil specialist or civil engineer.

3.1 FIELD TECHNIQUES

Dispersive soils may be readily identified by distinctive dribble patterns that form following exposure to rain or low electrolyte runoff. The presence of the distinctive 'dribble' patterns or 'worm channels' is considered to be a reliable indicator of moderately to highly dispersive soils (Figure 9) and is nearly always observed on the sidewalls of tunnel erosion cavities. Where topsoil has been removed by erosion or excavation, pitting and pocketing can occur in subsoils exposed to rainfall (Figure 10).



Figure 9. (a) Example of dribble pattern on an exposed subsoil, the photograph was taken from within an actively eroding tunnel system. (b) Dribble patterns on sodic soil ped.



Figure 10. 'Pitting & pocketing', resulting from topsoil removal, surface water has dissolved through the soil surface. Soils derived from Triassic Sandstone.



Figure 11. 'Sediment fans or 'spew holes' are often the first sign of tunnel erosion (a) Honeywood, (b). Woodbridge (c) Campania (d) Dunalley.

Early signs of tunnel erosion include the presence of sediment fans or 'spew holes' which result from the ejection of fine sediments and dispersed clays from the downslope end of a tunnel erosion system (Figure 11). It is however important to note that by the time a spew hole has developed, considerable sub-surface erosion may have already occurred.

3.2 SIMPLE FIELD TEST FOR IDENTIFYING DISPERSIVE SOILS

Field testing for dispersive soils can be conducted by observing the behaviour of air dried aggregates in distilled water or rainwater. This analysis is a simplification of the Emerson crumb test (Emerson 2002).

- Collect soil aggregates (1-2 cm diameter) from each layer in the soil profile.
- 2) If moist, dry the aggregates in the sun for a few hours until air-dried.
- 3) Place the aggregates in a shallow glass jar or dish of distilled water or rain water. It may help to place the jar on black card or a dark surface (distilled water can be purchased at most supermarkets).
- Leave the aggregates in water without shaking or disturbing them for 2 hours.
- 5) Observe and record if you can see a milky ring around the aggregates. Don't worry if the soil collapses or bubbles (Figure 12).



Caution: Aggregates may not disperse when they should if they haven't been sufficiently dried. While the presence of a milky halo indicates the presence of dispersion, the absence of a milky halo does not necessarily mean that soil will not disperse. Some soils only disperse after they have been disturbed or remoulded. Further testing using an approved Australian Standard technique may be required.

3.3 LABORATORY TECHNIQUES FOR IDENTIFYING DISPERSIVE SOILS

Although a number of tests have been used to identify dispersive soils, no single test has been developed that can reliably identify all dispersive soils under all conditions (Bell and Maud 1994, Bell and Walker 2000). For civil engineering works or infrastructure development, it's suggested that a range of chemical and physical tests be employed rather than relying on interpretation of a single analysis (McDonald et al. 1981, Bell and Maud 1994, Bell and Walker 2000). McDonald et al. (1981) note that "there is urgent need for an agreed standard test or tests to identify dispersive soil. In the meanwhile, engineers should use a large number of inexpensive tests for screening, and confirm these as needed by more elaborate tests, adopting the most conservative evaluation." A review of analytical procedures for identifying dispersive behaviour in soils is presented by Bell and Maud (1994) and Bell and Walker (2000). It should also be noted that identification of soil dispersion does not necessarily imply that tunnel erosion will occur, as other factors such as water chemistry, site hydrology and soil porosity also influence the development of tunnel erosion.

CHEMICAL TESTS.

Chemical analyses such as ESP and SAR attempt to relate the relative abundance of exchangeable cations to aggregate stability and dispersion. Relationships between soil dispersion and chemical properties such as Exchangeable Sodium Percent (ESP), Cation Exchange Capacity (CEC), Sodium Absorption Ratio (SAR), and Electrical Conductivity (EC) have been developed for a limited range of soils (Elgers, 1985, Sherard *et al.* 1976, Gerber and Harmse 1987, Rengasamy *et al.* 1984). Use of chemical techniques for the prediction of soil dispersion have not been established for most Tasmanian soils. It should be noted that threshold levels for dispersion are arbitrarily defined (Sumner 1993) and that dispersion can occur in soils with ESP below 6 or SAR below 3 (further details and discussion of test procedures are provided in Appendix I).

Figure 12. Field test for aggregate dispersion (Sorensen 1995).

PHYSICAL TESTS

The physical tests of soil dispersion such as the pinhole test and the Emerson crumb test rely on observation and ranking of soil dispersion in distilled water and / or dispersant. The performance of a range of analytical procedures for the prediction of soil dispersion has been conducted by a number of authors including; Bell and Maud (1994), Bell and Walker (2000), Sherard *et al.* (1976), Moore *et al.* (1985) and Elges (1985). Review of these studies generally indicate that the Emerson crumb test (Emerson 2002) and the pinhole test to be the most reliable tests for predicting dispersive behaviour of soils, while the pinhole test (AS 1289.3.8.3 – 1997) was rated the most reliable single test for identification of soil dispersion associated with earth works such as dams or embankments, (further details and discussion of test procedures is provided in Appendix I).

4.0 APPROACHES FOR MINIMISING EROSION RISK IN DISPERSIVE SOILS

MINIMISE RISK OF TUNNEL EROSION BY;

- » Identifying and avoiding disturbance to areas with dispersive subsoils.
- » Minimising excavation of dispersive soils.
- » Not allowing water to pond on the soil surface, or exposed subsoils.
- » Keeping sodic sub-soils buried under topsoil.
- » Maintaining vegetation cover.

UNDERSTAND THAT;

- » The presence and severity of dispersive soils may vary enormously over short distances.
- » Past efforts to control field tunnel erosion have often failed.

STRATEGIES FOR REDUCING THE RISK OF TUNNEL DEVELOPMENT IN PERI-URBAN AREAS INCLUDE;

- » Soil testing and avoidance.
- » Precise compaction.
- » Chemical amelioration.
- » Sand filters and sand blocks.
- » Topsoiling and revegetation.

4.1 MANAGEMENT OPTIONS FOR TUNNEL EROSION

Past efforts to repair tunnel erosion in agricultural landscapes have relied on mechanical destruction of the tunnel system by deep ripping, contour furrowing, and contour ripping. Unfortunately many of these techniques either failed or resulted in tunnel re-emergence in an adjacent areas (Floyd 1974, Boucher 1995). The use of these 'agricultural' techniques is inappropriate in peri-urban areas where tunnel repair requires a low incidence of re-failure due to the potential for damage to infrastructure. Experience with the construction of earth dams using dispersive clays, demonstrates that repair and prevention of tunnel erosion in urban and peri-urban environments is best achieved using a combination of,

- » Identification and avoidance of dispersive soils.
- » Precise re-compaction.
- » Chemical amelioration.
- » Sand blocks and barriers.
- » Topsoil, burial and revegetation.

4.2 IDENTIFICATION AND AVOIDANCE OF DISPERSIVE SOILS

The risk of tunnel erosion resulting from construction activities on dispersive soils can often be reduced or eliminated by identifying and avoiding areas containing dispersive soils. The presence and severity of dispersive soils can vary enormously over short distances (Figure 13). In many instances, large scale (ie 10×10 or 20×20 meter grid) soil survey and screening of soils for dispersion, (using the Emerson crumb test - section 3, Appendix I) can be used to site dwellings and infrastructure away from dispersive soils. Advice should be sought from a suitably qualified and experienced engineer or soil professional.

4.3 COMPACTION

Ritchie (1965) demonstrated that the degree of compaction within the dam wall was the single most important factor in reducing dam failure from piping (tunnel erosion). A high degree of compaction reduces soil permeability, restricting the movement of water and dispersed clay through the soil matrix, which decreases the severity of dispersion and restricts tunnel development (Vacher *et al.* 2004). However, dispersive soils can be difficult to compact as they lose strength rapidly at or above optimum moisture content, and thus may require greater compactive force than other soils (McDonald *et al.* 1981). Bell & Bryun (1997) and Bell and Maud (1994) suggest that dispersive clays must be compacted at a moisture content 1.5 -2% above the optimum moisture content in order to achieve suficent density to prevent piping (Elges 1985).

Construction of structures such as earth dams and footings for buildings with dispersive soils require geotechnical assessment and advice from a qualified and experienced engineer, in order to determine compaction measures such as the optimal moisture content, number of passes, and maximum thickness of compacted layers.

Normal earth moving machinery including bull-dozers, excavators and graders do not provide sufficient compactive force to reduce void spaces or achieve adequate compaction in dispersive soils. A sheepsfoot roller of appropriate weight is usually required to compact dispersive soils. By comparison a D6 dozer applies only 0.6 kg/cm² pressure compared to 9.3 kg/cm² for a sheepsfoot roller (Sorensen 1995).



Figure 13. The severity (or sodium content) and depth of dispersive subsoils can vary considerably over short distances. (a). At this site highly dispersive subsoils exist meters away from (b) non-dispersive soils.

4.4 CHEMICAL AMELIORATION

Initiation of tunnel erosion is predominantly a chemical process, so it makes sense to use chemical amelioration strategies when attempting to prevent or repair tunnel erosion in dispersive soils. Despite the widespread use of gypsum and lime to treat sodic soils in agriculture, the use of gypsum and lime to treat tunnel affected areas has been relatively rare (Boucher 1990).

Hydrated lime (calcium hydroxide) has been widely used to prevent piping in earth dams. Rates of application have varied depending on soils and degree of compaction used in construction. Laboratory testing usually indicates that only around 0.5 - 1.0% hydrated lime is required to prevent dispersion, however difficulties with application and mixing necessitate higher rates of application (Moore et al. 1985). Moore et al. (1985) cite examples of the use of hydrated lime to control piping in earth dams at rates between 0.35% (N.S.W. Australia) and 4% (New Mexico). Elgers (1985), and McElroy (1987) recommend no less than 2% hydrated lime (by weight of the total soil material) to prevent dispersion within dam embankments, while Bell and Maud (1994) suggest that 3% - 4% by mass of hydrated lime should be added to a depth of 0.3m on the upper face of embankments. In alkaline (pH >7.0) soils (most sodic subsoils in Tasmania are neutral or alkaline) the effectiveness of hydrated lime is reduced by the formation of insoluble calcium carbonate (Moore et al. 1985), such that gypsum is preferred to hydrated lime. It is important to note that agricultural lime (calcium carbonate) is not a suitable substitute for hydrated lime due to its low solubility (McElroy 1987). Also note that excessive applications of lime may raise soil pH above levels required to sustain vigorous plant growth.

Gypsum (calcium sulphate) is more effective than lime for the treatment of dispersive soils as it increases the electrolyte concentration in the soil solution as well as displacing sodium with calcium within the clay structure (Raine and Loch 2003). Gypsum is less commonly used than hydrated lime in dam construction and other works due to its lower solubility, and higher cost. Elges (1985) recommends that in construction, a minimum of 2% by mass of gypsum be used. Bell and Maud (1994) present a means of calculating the amount of gypsum required to displace excess sodium and bring ESP values within desired limits (normally < 5). Be aware that application of excessive amounts of gypsum may cause soil salinity to temporarily rise beyond the desired level for plant growth.

NOTE:

- » Use of gypsum in Tasmania is covered under the Fertiliser Act 1993, which has established the allowable limit for cadmium and lead at 10 mg/kg and 5 mg/kg for mercury.
- » Gypsum is usually imported into Tasmania from Victoria or South Australia, which have different standards for allowable heavy metal content.
- » Purchasers of gypsum should check with suppliers to ensure that gypsum imported into Tasmania is compliant with current regulations.

Alum (aluminium sulphate) has been effectively used to prevent dam failure and protect embankments from erosion. Application rates are not well established. Limited data suggests mixtures of 0.6 - 1.0% (25% solution of aluminium sulphate) (Bell and Bruyn 1997, McElroy 1987) to 1.5% (Ouhadi, and Goodarzi 2006) of the total dry weight of soil may be appropriate. Alum is however highly acidic (pH 4-5), and thus alum treated soils will need to be capped with topsoil in order to establish vegetation (Ryker 1987). Soil testing is required to establish appropriate application rates for Tasmanian soils.

Long chain polyacrylamides have been shown to increase aggregate stability, reduce dispersion and maintain infiltration rates in dispersive soils (Levy *et al.* 1992, Raine and Loch 2003). However the effect is highly variable between various polyacrylamide products and the chemical and physical properties of the soil. The benefit of polyacrylamides is generally short due to their rapid degradation (Raine and Loch 2003). Further advice and laboratory testing should be conducted before using polyacrylamides to protect earth dams from piping failure.

Note that appropriate application rates for gypsum, hydrated lime, alum and polyacrylamides have not been established for dispersive soils in Tasmania. Extensive laboratory assessment of materials used for the construction of dams or embankments is required before locally relevant 'rules of thumb' can be established for the use of these products.

4.5 SAND BLOCKS AND SAND BARRIERS

Sand filters were first developed to prevent piping in earth dams. Sand filters prevent dam failure by trapping entrained sand and silt, blocking the exit of the tunnel and preventing further tunnel development (Sherard *et al.* 1977). Following the work of Sherard *et al.* (1977), Richley (1992 and 2000) developed the use of sand blocks to prevent tunnel erosion during installation of an optical fibre cable in highly dispersive soils near Campania, Tasmania. The sand blocks work slightly differently to the sand filters in that they allow the free water to rise to the surface through the sand. The use of sand blocks has recently been modified by Hardie *et al.*, (2007) to prevent re-initiation of tunnel erosion along an optical fibre cable near Dunalley. Modifications to the original technique developed by Richley (1992 and 2000) include (Figure 14 &15);

- » Upslope curved extremities to prevent the structure from being by-passed.
- » Geotextile on the downslope wall to prevent collapse or removal of sand following settlement or erosion.
- » Application of gypsum (around 5% by weight) to ensure infiltrating water contains sufficiently electrolyte to prevent further dispersion.
- » Earth mound upslope of the structure to prevent runon entering the sand blocks.



Figure 15. (a) Installation of sandblock perpendicular to a service trench. Note securing of geotextile to the optical fibre cable to prevent water flowing past the sand block. (b) Sandblock before final topsoiling.



Figure 14. Modified sand block design. (a) plan view, (b) cross section view. The depth of the sand block is determined by the depth of dispersive soils or tunnel erosion. The span length of the structure is determined by the width of the tunnelling.

4.6 USE OF TOPSOIL / BURIAL AND REVEGETATION

Topsoil or burial of exposed dispersive soils reduces the likelihood of subsoil dispersion and initiation of tunnel erosion by;

- » Providing a source of salt to increase the electrolyte content of infiltration water.
- » Preventing desiccation and subsoil cracking.
- » Promoting even infiltration.
- » Providing a protective cover from raindrop impact.
- » Providing a suitable medium for revegetation.

Topsoil minimises the interaction between water and dispersive clays by providing both a physical and chemical barrier. Topsoil also reduces soil desiccation and development of surface cracks (Sorensen 1995). It is suggested that exposed dispersive subsoils be covered with at least 150mm of non dispersive topsoil and sown with an appropriate mix of grass species. In some cases it will be necessary to protect the topsoil from erosion with 'jute' cloth or similar product.

The suitability of planting trees in tunnel affected areas is influenced by the amount of annual rainfall and frequency of soil cracking resulting from desiccation. Boucher (1995) recommends the preferred option for revegetation of reclaimed tunnel erosion is a widely spaced tree cover in association with a combination of perennial and annual pastures, rather than a dense stand of trees or pasture alone. Experience in Tasmania suggests that in low rainfall areas, or areas in which existing trees or shrubs cause soil drying and cracking, the preferred option for revegetating tunnel affected land is a dense healthy pasture. In high rainfall areas, dense plantings of trees have been successfully used to repair or stabilise tunnel erosion for example Colclough (1973) successfully used Pinus radiata to stabilise tunnelgully affected land in a moderate rainfall area near Tea Tree, Tasmania.

5.0 ACTIVITIES THAT INCREASE THE RISK OF EROSION ON DISPERSIVE SOILS

ACTIVITIES THAT INCREASE RISK OF INITIATING TUNNEL EROSION, INCLUDE;

- » Removal of topsoil.
- » Soil excavation or expose of subsoils to rainfall.
- » Supply of services via trenches.
- » Construction of roads and culverts in dispersive subsoils.
- » Installation of sewage and grey water disposal systems in dispersive subsoils.
- » Dam construction from dispersive soils.

OPTIONS FOR REDUCING THE RISK OF TUNNEL EROSION DURING CONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT WORKS ON DISPERSIVE SOILS INCLUDE,

- » Where possible do not remove or disturb topsoil or vegetation.
- » Ensure that dispersive subsoils are covered with an adequate layer of topsoil.
- » Avoid construction techniques that result in exposure of dispersive subsoils.
- » Use alternatives to 'cut and fill' construction such as pier and post foundations.
- » Where possible avoid the use of trenches for the supply of services ie water & power.
- » If trenches must be used, ensure that repacked spoil is properly compacted, treated with gypsum and topsoiled.
- » Consider alternative trenching techniques that do not expose dispersive subsoils.
- » Ensure runoff from hard areas is not discharged into areas with dispersive soils.
- » If necessary create safe areas for discharge of runoff.
- » If possible do not excavate culverts and drains in dispersive soils.
- » Consider carting non-sodic soil to create appropriate road surfaces and drains without the need for excavation.
- » Ensure that culverts and drains excavated into dispersive subsoils are capped with non-dispersive clays mixed with gypsum, topsoiled and vegetated.
- » Avoid use of septic trench waste disposal systems; consult your local council about the use of alternative above ground treatment systems.
- » Where possible do not construct dams with dispersive soils, or in areas containing dispersive soils.
- » If dams are to be constructed from dispersive clays, ensure you consult an experienced, qualified civil engineer to conduct soil tests before commencing construction.
- » Construction of dams from dispersive soils is usually possible, using one or a combination of: precise compaction, chemical amelioration, capping with non-dispersive clays, sand filters and adequate topsoiling.

With all forms of construction on dispersive soils, ensure you obtain advice and support from a suitably experienced and qualified engineer or soil professional before commencing work.

5.1 ACTIVITIES THAT PROMOTE TUNNEL EROSION

In almost all cases tunnel erosion results from some form of disturbance resulting in rainwater or water with very low salt content coming into contact with dispersible subsoil. Changes to hydrology, such as concentration of flow in culverts, runoff from hardened areas and ponding of rainfall all increase risks of tunnel erosion. Typical activities that increase the risk of exposing dispersive subsoils to rainfall include;

- » Removal of topsoil.
- » Soil excavations.
- » Trenches and supply of services.
- » Roads and culverts.
- » Sewage and grey water disposal.
- » Dam construction.

5.2 REMOVAL OF TOPSOIL.

Topsoil provides both a physical and chemical barrier to infiltrating water (see section 4.6). Removal or stockpiling of topsoil for even relatively short periods can result in the initiation of tunnel erosion (Figure 16). If dispersive subsoils are exposed during construction, ensure they are covered with topsoil or dusted with gypsum and that rainfall does not have the opportunity to collect and pond.



Figure 16. Initiation of tunnel erosion caused by scalping or removing topsoil. Note that even a very thin layer of topsoil was able to prevent widespread tunnel erosion

5.3 CUT AND FILL

The use of 'cut and fill' excavation techniques (road cuttings, housing pads etc.) should be avoided in areas containing dispersive soils. Excavation can lead to the development of 'outlet initiated' tunnel erosion resulting from the removal of overburden (Figures 17 and 28) (Crouch *et al.* 1986, Vacher *et al.* 2004). While this form of tunnel erosion is rarely as extensive or deep as other forms of tunnelling, outlet initiated tunnelling can be difficult to repair and results in the deposition of sand and 'spewey' clays around the back of dwellings or in culverts.



Figure 17. Extensive 'outlet initiated' tunnel and rill erosion caused by excavating a cut and fill pad for a large building in a dispersive soil. Triassic sandstone parent material.

Although less commonly observed than the outlet initiated tunnelling, development of tunnel erosion in footings constructed from dispersive soils can occur as a result of rainfall ponding on dispersive fill. Note that in Figure 18 tunnelling has developed on a flat area without the need for a slope to generate water movement.



Figure 18. (Same site as Figure 17) Tunnel erosion in footings intended for a large building. Erosion resulted from ponding of rainwater on highly dispersive fill. The fill contains a number of narrow slots (up to 1.2 meters deep) caused by surface water 'dissolving' through the footing.

Seek experienced and qualified geotechnical advice from a suitably qualified civil engineer or appropriate soil specialist if a structural fill or footing is to be constructed from or into dispersive soils.

In areas with dispersive soils, pier or post style construction (Figure 19) is a low risk option for the construction of footings. Footings will need be excavated beneath any sodic layers and / or pinned to the basement rock. Post holes should be completely filled and capped with concrete above the soil surface, rather than backfilled with spoil. Runoff and surface water must be safely directed away from the building, or prevented from flowing near the foundations.



Figure 19. Pier or post style construction has considerably lower risk of initiating tunnel erosion than cut and fill techniques.

5.4 TRENCHES AND SUPPLY OF SERVICES

Services such as electricity, telecommunications and water are usually supplied to dwellings via trenches from mains outside the property. In areas with dispersive subsoils, supply of services by trenches increases the risk of initiating tunnel erosion (Figure 21b) (Richley 1995 & 2000, Hardie et al. 2007). Unfortunately most service providers are unfamiliar with the issues associated with dispersive soils, and may need assistance to understand why alternative supply options may need to be considered. Electricity and telecommunications can be supplied by private power poles resulting in minimal soil disturbance, provided that the poles are installed using augurs rather than excavated trenches (Figure 21a) and that the hole is completely filled with concrete above the soil surface or repacked with a mixture of gypsum and soil, with a high level of compaction. Spoil should be removed from the site.

EMERGING TECHNIQUE: HYDROLOGICAL BARRIER

This technique for diverting surface and subsurface water away from footings has been proposed as an alternative, or an addition to pier or post foundations. The hydrological barrier technique involves construction of a sand and gypsum filled trench to the depth of the foundations around the upslope area of the dwelling (Figure 20). The sand – gypsum mixture acts to trap the dispersed silts pugging up the developing tunnel while allowing the water to come into contact with the gypsum and rise through the sand and away from the footings. An earth mound immediately above the sand filled trench acts to prevent surface runoff entering the trench. The hydrological barrier can be installed either during construction or fitted to existing dwellings after construction. While the hydrological barrier technique has only been trialled once in Tasmania (Ducket pers. comm.) the design principles result from successful use of sand blocks (Figures 14 & 15) for the prevention of tunnel erosion resulting from the installation of optical fibre cables in dispersive soils (Richley 1995 & 2000, Hardie et al., 2007).

Figure 20. Hydrological barrier to isolate foundations from surface and groundwater (Duckett pers. comm.), (a) cross section view, (b) plan view.





Figure 21 (a) Tunnel erosion initiated by installation of an optical fibre cable into a dispersive soil. (b) Subsidence and early stages of tunnelling resulting from inappropriate installation of power pole in a backfilled trench.

Alternatives to the use of trenches for the supply of potable water and other services will need to be approved by your local council. Examples include laying cable or pipe in the thin topsoil then carting more topsoil to the site to ensure adequate burial depth (Figure 22c). Alternatively the cable may need to be laid in hard conduit on the soil surface and buried with non-dispersive soil (Figure 22a). Any earthworks on the site must ensure that rainwater is not able to collect and pond on the soil surface, such that additional soil may be required to ensue that any buried cable or pipe is level with the land surface (Figure 22b). The remaining mound can be landscaped into the surrounding garden provided that trees and large shrubs are not planted in such a way as to prevent future access to the pipe.



Figure 22. Cable and pipe installation techniques. (a) Good technique, surface burial of pipe or cable ensuring that ponding cannot collect on or behind the mound. (b) Average technique, simple surface burial, however ponding can occur behind the mound. (c) Good technique, where topsoil depth allows partial burial. Trenches may be used to supply services such as water and electricity, however in dispersive soils, the increased porosity of repacked spoil within the trench can lead to tunnel erosion and damage to pipes and cables (Figures 6 & 21b). If a trench must be used, then use of chemical amelioration, sand blocks and precise compaction can lower the risk of tunnel formation. Richley (1992) used sand blocks to prevent development of tunnel erosion along an optical fibre cable installed in highly dispersive soil near Campania, and Hardie *et al.* (2007) used a combination of chemical amelioration, compaction and sand blocks to prevent re-initiation of tunnel erosion following repair of a 380m long tunnel erosion system near Dunalley.



5.5 STORM WATER AND RUNOFF

Storm water and runoff from hard surfaces such as driveways and courtyards, need to be managed to prevent initiation of tunnel erosion (Trangmar 2003, Vacher *et al.* 2004). Stormwater and runoff should not be allowed to collect or pond on dispersive soils. Runoff should be directed away from susceptible areas (exposed dispersive soils) through the use of pipes or diversion mounds created from imported non-dispersive clays rather than trenches or culverts which risk excavation and exposure of dispersive subsoils (Figure 24). Captured runoff should be dissipated and spread over as wide an area as possible, not concentrated in drainage lines. Where possible dispose of captured water in 'safe' areas such as;

- » Garden beds mixed with gypsum.
- » Existing well vegetated areas with ample topsoil.
- » Stony elevated areas (Trangmar 2003).

If no other options exist, then a garden bed with ample topsoil and gypsum (around 2 -5 % of total soil volume) may need to be created away from dwellings or infrastructure. Wherever possible use rainwater tanks to capture runoff from roofs and buildings, but note that overflows will also need to be piped to 'safe' areas.



Figure 24. Tunnel erosion resulting from construction of a stormwater culvert in dispersive clay derived from Triassic sandstone, Brighton.

5.6 ROADS AND CULVERTS

Construction of roads or driveways on dispersive soils is difficult due to their low bearing capacity when wet (Figure 25). Concentrating water in roadside culverts and drains which have been excavated into dispersive soils often leads to erosion and collapse of the road batter adjacent embankments (Figures 26-28). Soil surveys may assist landholders / councils to locate roads in areas containing non-dispersive soils, however in most cases managing runoff without excavating culverts is the best means of reducing the erosion risk.



Figure 25. Road surface breaking up due to construction on dispersive clays. This section of road is repaired 2-3 times a year.



Figure 26. Undercutting and collapse of roadside batter due to construction of a table drain in dispersive clay. Note the failure of the blue rock rap to prevent further erosion.



Figure 27. Table drain constructed in dispersive subsoil. The concentration of runoff in the culvert is greatly adding to the erosion problem, resulting in slumping and undercutting of the road and the adjacent batter slope. This photo was taken 18 months after the driveway was constructed.



Figure 28. Rill and tunnel erosion caused by excavation of sodic soils for road construction. Dunalley.

Table drains should not be constructed in dispersive soils (Figure 26 & 27). If topsoil depth is insufficient to allow table drains to be constructed without exposing dispersive soils, then alternative forms of road construction and drainage need to be considered. Road design needs to ensure runoff is spread out and dissipated over wide, well vegetated areas. On steep slopes, minor roads are best constructed straight up and down the slope with speed hump like barriers across the road surface to shed water to the sides (Figure 29 - Duckett *pers. comm.*). Consideration should be given to spreading topsoil, applying gypsum and re-vegetating either side of the roadway to ensure runoff doesn't initiate further tunnelling.



Figure 29. Alternative road design using road bars and diversion mounds to shed water into stable areas.

Where it is necessary to excavate drains and culverts in dispersive soils, it is suggested that the exposed subsoil is treated with gypsum or hydrated lime then capped with a thick layer (i.e. 200-300mm) of non-dispersive clay (test for dispersion using procedure in section 3) preferably also mixed with either gypsum or hydrated lime. The clay capping should be covered with topsoil and revegetated if appropriate. Alternatives to the use of clay capping include the use of bitumen spraying and hydro-mulching, however few details of these techniques are available.

5.7 SEWAGE AND GREY WATER

Experience from the Brighton municipality has demonstrated that septic tank systems do not perform adequately in dispersive soils. Installation of septic systems in dispersive soils have resulted in the initiation of tunnel erosion resulting in health risks associated with uncontrolled discharge of effluent (Parkinson pers. comm.).

Brighton council have tested five different domestic wastewater treatment and disposal systems for use in dispersive or shallow soils (Parkinson & Palmer unpublished). Three systems were found to be viable: Recirculating Sand Filter (RSF), Pulse Dosed Aerobic Sand Filter (PDASF) and Effluent Landscape Mound (ELM), table 1). Of the three systems, the Pulse Dosed Aerobic Sand Filter (PDASF) produced the highest level of treatment however at the time of the study the Effluent Landscape Mound (ELM) was the only system to be accredited by Australian Standards (ASI 547, 2000). Other systems with similar or better performance have been developed since the original study. Check with your local council or a suitably qualified and experienced consultant to determine which operating systems meet current standards and would be best suited to your soils and level of occupancy.



Figure 30. Ozzi Kleen single tank (Aerated Wastewater Treatment System) for treatment and disposal of sewage and grey water. Raised – mulched area in foreground is being used for effluent disposal from the house in background.

 Table 1: Alternative sewage and grey water treatment systems for dispersive or shallow soils.

 (Parkinson & Palmer unpublished).

	Sand Bed Size (meters)	Tank Requirement	Suitability for Above Ground Spray	Final Quality (cfu / 100mL)	Australian Standard
Recirculating Sand Filter	2 x 6 x1	2.4 meter diameter, and filter & effluent pump wells.	Yes	0-10	No
Pulse Dosed Aerobic Sand Filter	10 x 4 x1 and rock filter 12 x 1.5 m x 0.4	2 x 3000L and filter & effluent pump wells	Yes	0-10	No
Effluent Landscape Mound	18 x 6.5 x 1	4500L, Dosing And effluent pump wells.	Required additional disinfection or subsoil application.	<50	Yes AS 1547, 2000

Alternatively composting toilets provide a no-water, zero tunnelling risk option for the treatment of sewage in areas with dispersive soils (Figure 31). Composting toilets offer a practical low risk and environmentally sustainable alternative to standard flushing toilets.



Figure 31. Example of a composting toilet system. (Source www.nature-loo.com.au)

5.8 DAM CONSTRUCTION

Dispersive soils are inherently unsuited to dam construction. A survey by Foster *et al.* (2000) found that 48% of dam failures resulted from piping (internal tunnelling) and that 42% of these failures occurred on first filling. Dams constructed from dispersive clays are always 'muddy' and are rarely suitable for swimming. Small farm and amenity dams are particularly prone to tunnel failure as they are frequently built without regulation, soil testing, or engineering advice. Serious consideration should be given to whether constructing a dam is necessary, and the potential consequences of dam failure before building a dam in an area containing dispersive soils.

Tunnel erosion or piping in dam walls results from fresh water dispersing sodic clays within the embankment. The dispersed clays flow into void spaces created by insufficient compaction during construction. Movement of dispersed clays creates increasingly larger cavities until a continuous tunnel or pipe is formed between the inner and outer wall, at which point dam failure occurs (Figures 33-35). The likelihood of failure of dams built with dispersive soils depends on a number of factors (Vacher *et al.* 2004) including,

- » The rate of first filling.
- » The degree of compaction during construction.
- » The dispersibility of materials used to construct the dam.
- » The electrolyte content of the soil solution.
- » The electrolyte concentration of the stored water.



Figure 32. The dam in the foreground has been constructed from dispersive clays. Note the rill erosion and cloudy brown colour of water in foreground, compared to the blue colour of the dam constructed from non-dispersive soils in the background.



Figure 33.Typical small dam failure. Note piping through the side wall of the dam.This dam was constructed using dispersive clays derived from Triassic sandstone.



Figure 34. Piping failure of a dam constructed from soils derived from Permian mudstone, Penna area. This dam is known to have failed on first filling. The image was taken from the dam floor, looking at the inside of the dam wall.



Figure 35. Failure of Blackman Creek dam (source: Davies Brothers). In 2005 the Blackman creek dam failed, resulting in the evacuation of Tunbridge. Doyle and Cumming (unpublished 2005) indicate the cause of the failure to be variability in the compaction of a slightly to a moderately dispersive soil layer, combined with rapid filling of the dam with low electrolyte water.

The risk of tunnel or piping failure in small earth dams can be minimised by a combination of control measures including;

- i) Adequate compaction
- ii) Chemical ameliorants e.g. gypsum, hydrated lime etc.
- iii) Sand filters.
- iv) Construction with non-dispersive clay.
- v) Topsoiling.

Construction of earth dams with dispersive soils is usually possible if adequate compaction can be achieved (Bell and Maud 1994). Ritchie (1965) demonstrated that the degree of compaction within the dam wall is the single most important factor in reducing dam failure. The importance of other factors such as batter angle, rate of filling or moisture content during construction were all secondary to that of compaction. Dispersive soils can be difficult to compact as they lose strength rapidly at or above optimum moisture content, and thus may require greater compactive force if moisture contents are just dry of optimum (McDonald *et al.* 1981). A sheeps foot roller is required to adequately compact dispersive soils as normal earth moving machinery cannot provide enough compactive force. (Refer section 4.3).

Chemical ameliorants such as hydrated lime (calcium hydroxide), gypsum (calcium sulphate), alum (aluminium sulphate) and long chain polyacrylamides have been used to prevent dispersion and piping in earth dams. Hydrated lime is the most commonly applied product with the rate varying between 0.5 to 4.0 % by weight, depending on

soil chemistry and level of dispersion (Moore *et al.* 1985, McElroy 1987, Elgers 1985, Bell and Maud (1994). Gypsum may also be used but its lower solubility and higher cost may limit its use. Gypsum is more effective than lime due to its higher electrolyte content which prevents dispersion as well as improves clay structure. Gypsum may also be added to the dam water to artificially increase the electrolyte (salt) concentration of the dam water, to minimise the risk of failure upon first filling (McDonald *et al.* 1981). (Refer section 4.4).

CASE STUDY: BEN BOYD DAM, NSW.

The Ben Boyd dam in New South Wales was protected from tunnel erosion or piping failure through a combination of chemical amelioration, precise compaction and increasing the electrolyte content of the inflowing waters.

The earth dam was successfully constructed with dispersive clays with ESP values as high as 20.7, (average 7.5) in an area known to contain very low electrolyte stream flow. Gypsum was applied to the dam structure at a rate of 1% by weight or 27 tonnes per hectare over the storage area. The gypsum was cultivated into the inner wall of the dam to a depth of 150cm and then compacted with a vibrating sheepsfoot roller. The infilling water was dosed with gypsum and alum to raise the electrolyte concentration from around 70 mg/l to 300-600 mg/l (McDonald *et al.* 1981).

Sand filters can effectively seal and safely control leaks in dispersive clays. While sand filters are unable to 'trap' dispersed clays, the sands and silts are effectively 'trapped' sealing the exit of the tunnel and preventing further tunnel development (Sherard *et al.* 1977). (Refer section 4.5).

Dams constructed with low to moderately dispersive clays can often be protected from piping by capping the upper dam wall with a thick layer of compacted non dispersive clay, usually mixed with either hydrated lime or gypsum. Topsoiling and re-establishment of vegetation minimises the interaction between water and dispersive clays by providing both physical and chemical barrier to infiltrating water. Topsoil also reduces soil desiccation and development of surface cracks. (Refer section 4.6).

6.0 REPAIR AND REHABILITATION OF TUNNEL EROSION

While the techniques outlined in this document represent the best available knowledge at the time of writing, it should be recognised that repair and rehabilitation works are prone to re-failure and that the techniques outlined below (and in the wider literature) have not been validated by replicated field trials or adequate long term monitoring. Differences between field sites, erosion processes and long term landuse of the reclaimed area may affect the success of repair works.

- » Repair of tunnel erosion is expensive, difficult and prone to re-failure.
- » Existing literature is focused on repair of field tunnel erosion in agricultural landscapes rather than urban or peri-urban areas.
- » A combination of chemical, physical and vegetative measures are required to repair tunnel erosion.
- » Repair of tunnel erosion in peri-urban areas should consider use of controlled compaction, chemical amelioration, sandblocks, and topsoiling.
- » Revegetate repaired areas with fast growing locally appropriate pasture species and trees in higher rainfall areas.
- » Seek professional assistance.

Repairing tunnel erosion is expensive, difficult and prone to re-failure. Every effort must be made to prevent the formation of tunnel erosion before intervention is required. Literature on the repair and rehabilitation of tunnel erosion is scarce and focused on agricultural landscapes rather than protection of infrastructure in urban environments. The history of tunnel erosion control and repair has been reviewed by Boucher (1990), and Ford *et al.* (1993). Boucher (1990) identified the need for a combination of mechanical, vegetative and chemical measures to control and repair tunnel erosion, however Boucher (1990) and Boucher (1995) also note that many past attempts to repair tunnel erosion have failed or been responsible for initiating further tunnelling.

In Tasmania, Colclough (1965, 1967, 1971, 1973 and 1978) pioneered early techniques for controlling tunnel erosion and Richley (1992 and 2000) demonstrated the use of sand blocks to prevent the development of tunnel erosion following installation of an optical fibre cable. Hardie *et al.*, (2007) detailed advances in repair and rehabilitation techniques resulting from experience gained with the rehabilitation of a 380 meter long tunnel erosion system in Dunalley, Tasmania.

It is strongly recommended that a suitably qualified soil professional, with first hand experience in dispersive soil management be consulted before embarking on any repair or rehabilitation works. The approach outlined below has been developed following, extensive review of literature, expert opinion from erosion consultants and first hand experience of repairing tunnel erosion.

GENERAL RECOMMENDATIONS FOR REPAIR OF TUNNEL EROSION IN PERI-URBAN AREAS.

- 1) Where possible cut off or divert surface water away from the tunnel system using diversion mounds rather than drains. Earthworks must be conducted without exposing dispersive subsoils. Experience has sown that identification of 'safe' areas is rare and usually dependant on there being a change in soil type or geology. If there is any doubt that a disposal area is 'safe' then works to divert flow from the head of the tunnel system should be abandoned.
- Identify the true head of the tunnel system to determine the scale of intervention work required. This usually requires chasing tunnels with an excavator and use of coloured dye to trace water movement.
- If tunnels are shallow and reappearance of tunnel erosion is not likely to impact on critical infrastructure, then deep ripping and cultivation techniques may be used to destroy the tunnel system (see Floyd 1974, Colclough 1965 & 1971).
- 4) If tunnels extend below the maximum depth of deep ripping, or if critical infrastructure is at risk from tunnel reappearance, then control and repair options will require a higher level of intervention to lower the risk of re-failure.

- 5) Tunnel systems will need to be dug out along their entire path using an excavator.
- 6) If soils have a low to moderate risk of dispersion (ESP 6 - 15), or if the consequences of tunnel reappearance is low, then the dispersive soils excavated from the trench can be treated with gypsum and repacked back into the excavated area.
- 7) If soils are highly dispersive (ESP> 15) or the risk of tunnel reappearance may cause damage to infrastructure, then non- dispersive clays will need to be carted to the site and repacked in the trench. Repacked soils should also be mixed with gypsum as an additional measure against future dispersion.
- All material repacked into the trench needs to be compacted to at least 95% of proctor maximum. Compaction is best achieved using a sheepsfoot roller. Track rolling with an excavator or back hoe is not adequate. Alternative compaction techniques may be available.
- 9) The surface of the repacked material should be finished with a convex shape to ensure runoff is not able to pond on top of the reclaimed area. The upper surface of the repaired work should be treated with gypsum to act as an electrolyte source for water infiltrating into the repacked spoil.
- 10) Treated areas and exposed subsoils should be covered with topsoil and revegetated with fast growing, locally appropriate species such as cocksfoot, ryegrass, and clovers. Fertiliser may also need to be applied to ensure adequate establishment.
- II) Bare areas above the tunnel head may need to be treated to minimise runoff through use of scarifying, topsoil, fertiliser and sowing locally appropriate pasture species.
- 12) Consideration should be given to applying gypsum over the whole area at a rate of approximately 1.0 -2.5 t/ha every 3 to 5 years.
- Fence off all reclaimed areas, and allow only minimal grazing over time.
- 14) Control rabbits and maintain vegetative ground cover.



Figure 36. Examples of tunnel erosion control (a) Poor technique. Rock rap is usually an inappropriate erosion control technique for dispersive soils. Normally rock barriers work well to trap sediment and reduce erosion. However in dispersive soils, hard surfaces such as rock are quickly bypassed i.e. upper corner of the rock structure (b) Excellent technique. Note the entire repaired area is fenced, and the whole length of the repaired tunnel is covered with topsoil and jute cloth. Sand barriers have been constructed every 20 meters down the slope.



Figure 37. Good technique. Topsoil mounding, reclaimed tunnel erosion, Brighton. Note the width of earthworks required to fix a 50cm wide tunnel, and the raised profile to shed surface water. Jute cloth would prevent surface erosion until vegetation has established.

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8.0 APPENDIX I: ANALYSIS AND CLASSIFICATION OF DISPERSIVE SOILS

(I). EXCHANGEABLE SODIUM PERCENT (ESP)

The Exchangeable Sodium Percent (ESP) is the most common analytical technique used to identify sodic or potentially dispersive soils. The ESP is determined from the ratio of exchangeable cations and is measured as method ISNI (Rayment and Higginson 1992),

$$ESP = \frac{Na+}{Na^{+} + Mg^{2+} + K^{+} + Ca^{2+}} \times 100$$

In Australia, soils with an ESP greater than 6 are classed sodic (Isbell 2002) due to their likelihood to undergo dispersion in fresh water. Highly sodic soils are classed as having an ESP greater than 15. Most North American literature however classifies soils as being sodic when the ESP exceeds 15 (Rengasamy & Churchman 1999).

(II). SODIUM ABSORPTION RATIO (SAR)

Sodium absorption ratio (SAR) is commonly used as a measure of soil sodicity in North America. In Australia it is more commonly used as a measure of sodicity in water, however its use for soil on either a saturated paste or 1:5 basis is considered useful, especially in acid soils, in which the presence of exchangeable AI+3 effects measurement of CEC (Rengasamy & Churchman 1999). Rengasamy and Olsson (1991) found that SAR of a 1:5 extract is better at predicting soil dispersion than ESP. Dispersion thresholds based on SAR1:5 are not as well established as those for ESP however if SAR1:5 is greater than 3, soils are considered sodic (Rengasamy and Olsson 1991).

SAR =
$$\frac{Na+}{((Mg^{2+} + Ca^{2+})/2)^{1/2}}$$

(III). EMERSON SOIL CRUMB TEST (AS 1289.3.8.1-1997)

The Emerson soil crumb test (AS 1289.3.8.1-1997) is an Australian Standard for the prediction of dispersive behaviour of clay soils. The Emerson test is quick and simple and can be used to assist in the rapid identification of dispersive soils. The test has three levels,

- (i) Spontaneous dispersion of an air dried aggregate in deionised water,
- (ii) Remoulding at near maximum field capacity and re-immersion in deionised water,
- (iii) Remoulded soil is shaken in deionised water.

A number of modifications and variations to the Emerson test have sought to add subclasses to either Class 2 and Class 3 aggregates (Craze *et al.* 2003). The history and interpretation of the Emerson crumb test is discussed in Emerson (2002).



pinhole is measured and the shape of the pinhole inspected for erosion.

(V). DISPERSION INDEX OR DOUBLE HYDROMETER TEST

The Dispersion Index has been widely used in Australia to identify soils at risk of tunnelling. Soil is shaken end over end in two separate operations, firstly in distilled water and secondly in dispersant to ensure complete dispersion. The difference between the amount of dispersion (measured as the % particles <2 microns) between the two tests is used to infer dispersion risk (Raine & Loch 2003). The dispersion index is very similar to the Double Hydrometer test (ASTM D 4211-83, 1986) routinely used in America for predicting dispersive behaviour of soils.



Figure 39. Pinhole test for compacted soils & fill. (Photo, Raine & Loch 2003).

(VI) MEASUREMENT OF CLAY DISPERSION (514.01) (RENGASAMY 2002).

The clay dispersion technique is based on the threshold electrolyte concept which takes into account the electro - osmotic pressures between clay platelets and at the soil solution. The percent of dispersed clay is determined by pipette extraction and weighing following 16 hours spontaneous dispersion and after 16 hours mechanical dispersion. The soil solution is also measured for SAR, EC and pH and the results reported as the percentage dispersed clay and the predicted dispersion class based on EC and SAR.

(VII) MEASUREMENT OF DISPERSIVE

% Particles $< 2 \mu m$ in dispersant & water Dispersive if

= < 3.0% Particles $< 2 \mu m$ in

distilled water

POTENTIAL (514.03) (RENGASAMY 2002).

The mechanical dispersive potential is calculated as the difference in osmotic pressure between the threshold electrolyte concentration required to flocculate clays and the ambient solution concentration. The electrolyte concentration required to flocculate the clays is determined by sequentially lowering the SAR of the solution until no clay dispersion occurs.

9.0 APPENDIX II: AMENDMENT TO EXISTING CODES OF PRACTICE & GUIDELINES

9.1 SOIL AND WATER MANAGEMENT CODE OF PRACTICE FOR HOBART REGIONAL COUNCILS (1999B).

The Soil and Water Management Code of Practice for Hobart Regional Councils (Anon 1999b) and Guidelines for Soil and Water Management (Anon 1999c) were written without an awareness of the specific issues associated with dispersive soils. Amendments (in italics) are proposed to the Water Management Code of Practice for Hobart Regional Councils (Anon 1999b) and Guidelines for Soil and Water Management (Anon 1999c).

Soil and Water Management Code of Practice for Hobart Regional Councils (Anon 1999b).

I.0 BUILDING SITES AND SMALL SUBDIVISIONS.

1.1.1 Soil and water management plans (SWMPs) are required for all developments where 250 square meters or more of ground will be disturbed. Council may vary this requirement where there is:

(iii) High likelihood that dispersive soils will be exposed or disturbed, in which case it may require a SWMP even though less than 250 square meters of ground will be disturbed.

- 1.1.4 Where development consent is not required, earthworks should only be undertaken without an SWMP if:
 - (ii) The land on which this work is undertaken is not:
 - » Geotechnically unstable; if soils are dispersive; and
 - (iv) Work will not disturb or expose dispersive soils.
- 1.2.1 On all sites, identify;
 - » Location of areas with dispersive soils or subsoils.
- 1.3.8 Table drains and culverts should not be constructed in locations or ways which expose dispersive soils
- 1.5.6 Exposed or disturbed dispersive soils will immediately be capped with 150mm topsoil.

- 1.5.7 Alternatives to the use of trenches for the supply of services should be considered in areas containing dispersive soils.
- 1.6.2 Stormwater should not be conveyed in trenches which expose dispersive soils.
- 1.6.3 Stormwater should not be disposed in areas which contain dispersive soils.

2.0 SUB-DIVISION CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES.

2.1.1 Soil and water management plans (SWMPs) are required for all developments where 250 square meters or more of ground will be disturbed. Council may vary this requirement where there is:

(iii) High likelihood that dispersive soils will be exposed or disturbed, in which case it may require a SWMP even though less than 250 square meters of ground will be disturbed.

- 2.1.4 Where development consent is not required, earthworks should only be undertaken without an SVVMP if:
 - (ii) The land on which this work is undertaken is not:
 - » Geotechnically unstable; if soils are dispersive; and
 - (iv) Work will not disturb or expose dispersive soils.
- 2.2.3 On the map/plan identify;
 - » Location of areas with dispersive soils or subsoils.
- 2.3.4 Table drains and culverts should not be constructed in locations or ways which expose dispersive soils
- 2.5.6 Exposed or disturbed dispersive soils will immediately be capped with 150mm topsoil.
- 2.6.4 Stormwater should not be conveyed in trenches which expose dispersive soils.
- 2.6.5 Stormwater should not be disposed in areas which contain dispersive soils.

2.8.5 Table drains and culverts should not be constructed in locations or ways which expose dispersive soils.

3.0 CIVIL INFRASTRUCTURE WORKS.

3.1.1 Soil and water management plans (SWMPs) are required for all developments where 250 square meters or more of ground will be disturbed. Council may vary this requirement where there is:

(iii) High likelihood that dispersive soils will be exposed or disturbed, in which case it may require a SWMP even though less than 250 square meters of ground will be disturbed.

3.1.6 Where development consent is not required, earthworks should only be undertaken without an SWMP if:

(iv) Work will not disturb or expose dispersive soils.

- 3.2.3 On the map/plan identify;
 - » Location of areas with dispersive soils or subsoils.
- 3.3.4 Table drains and culverts should not be constructed in locations or ways which expose dispersive soils
- 3.5.11 Exposed or disturbed dispersive soils will immediately be capped with 150mm topsoil.
- 3.5.12 Alternatives to the use of trenches for the supply of services should be considered in areas containing dispersive soils.
- 3.6.4 Stormwater should not be conveyed in trenches which expose dispersive soils.
- 3.6.5 Stormwater should not be disposed in areas which contain dispersive soils.
- 3.8.4 Table drains and culverts should not be constructed in locations or ways which expose dispersive soils.

9.2 GUIDELINES FOR SOIL AND WATER MANAGEMENT (ANON 1999C)

The following section on dispersive soils should be appended to the guidelines.

What are Dispersive Soils.

- » Dispersive soils disperse or appear to 'dissolve' in water, forming a cloudy ring or halo of detached soil particles.
- » Dispersive soils are usually sodic, containing greater than 6% sodium within the clay structure.
- » Dispersive soils are usually derived from sedimentary rocks.
- » Dispersive soils occur in all municipalities in southern Tasmania.

Issues with Dispersive Soils

- » Result in tunnel erosion.
- » Result in damage to infrastructure including foundations, roads and septic systems.
- » Often responsible for dam collapse.
- » Impact on environment including considerable turbidity in waterways.
- » Usually considerable damage has occurred before tunnel erosion is detected.
- » Potential liability risk.

Management of Dispersive Soils

Should Do

- » Apply gypsum to potentially dispersive soils.
- » Cover exposed dispersive soils with topsoil.
- » Vegetate all bare areas with vigorous pasture.
- » Seek profession geotechnical advice before commencing construction works including dam construction, roads and building foundations.

Should Not Do.

- » Expose dispersive subsoils to rain.
- » Allow water to pond on dispersive soils.
- » Concentrate stormwater in drainage lines containing dispersive soils.
- » Use table drains, trenches or cut and fill construction techniques in areas containing dispersive soils.
- » Scalp or extract topsoil from areas with dispersive subsoils.



CONTACT DETAILS

Sustainable Land Use Department of Primary Industries and Water

GPO Box 44 HOBART TAS 7001 Ph. 03 6233 6212 Fax. 03 6223 8603 www.dpiw.tas.gov.au

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CERTIFICATE OF THE RESPONSIBLE DESIGNER

Section 94 Section 106 Section 129 Section 155

To:	Play Co Architect	Owner name	25	
	5 Inverness St	Address	Form JJ	
	Midway Point TAS 7171	Suburb/postco	de	
Designer detail	S:			
Name:	Terry (Jiuwei) Wu	Category	Civil Engineer	
Business name:	Stronghold Engineers Pty Ltd	Phone No	0422657288	
Business address:	Suite 65/ 89-97 Jones St			
	Ultimo, NSW 2007	Fax No		
Licence No:	DEP0000252 Email address: terry.w@sh	ens.com.au		
Details of the p	roposed work:			
Owner/Applicant	Play Co Architect	Designer's pro	iect P538	
Owner/Applicant		reference No.	1 3 3 0	
Address:	5 Inverness St	Lot N	lo:	
	Midway Point TAS 7171			
Type of work:	Building work x	Plumbing wor	k 🔄 (X all applicable)	
Description of work:				
Stormwater design	of new single dwelling.	((new building / alteration /	
			adution / repair / removal / re-erection water / sewerage / stormwater / on-site wastewater management system /	

Description of the Design Work (Scope, limitations or exclusions): (X all applicable certificates)

Certificate Type:	Certificate		Responsible Practitioner	
	Building design		Architect or Building Designer	
	□ Structural design		Engineer or Civil Designer	
	☐ Fire Safety design		Fire Engineer	
	⊠ Civil design		Civil Engineer or Civil Designer	
	Hydraulic design		Building Services Designer	
	☐ Fire service design		Building Services Designer	
	Electrical design		Building Services Designer	
	Mechanical design		Building Service Designer	
	Plumbing design		Plumber-Certifier; Architect, Building Designer or Engineer	
	□ Other (specify)			
Deemed-to-Satisfy:		Performance Solution: (X the appropriate box)		
Other details: Stormwater design of new single dwelling.				

Design documents provided:

The following documents are provided with this Certificate -

	Deere eneral les a Terres (l'ansai) M/a	Data:00/00/0005
Drawing numbers: 5101-5102	Prepared by: Terry (Jiuwei) Wu	Date:28/02/2025
Schedules:	Prepared by:	Date:
Specifications:	Prepared by:	Date:
Computations:	Prepared by:	Date:
Performance solution proposals:	Prepared by:	Date:
Test reports:	Prepared by:	Date:

Standards, codes of process:	or guidelines relied on in design
AS/NZS 3500.3:2021	Plumbing and drainage - Part 3: Stormwater drainage
Sorell Council	Stormwater in New Development Policy

Any other relevant documentation:	

Attribution as designer:

I Terry (Jiuwei) Wu am responsible for the design of that part of the work as described in this certificate;

The documentation relating to the design includes sufficient information for the assessment of the work in accordance with the *Building Act 2016* and sufficient detail for the builder or plumber to carry out the work in accordance with the documents and the Act;

This certificate confirms compliance and is evidence of suitability of this design with the requirements of the National Construction Code.

	Name: (print)	Signed	Date
Designer:	Terry (Jiuwei) Wu	By Mt	30/01/2025
		adi	
Licence No:	DEP0000252		
Assessment of Certifiable Works: ((TasWater)		
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Note: single residential dwellings and outbuildings on a lot with an existing sewer connection are not considered to increase demand and are not certifiable.

If you cannot check ALL of these boxes, LEAVE THIS SECTION BLANK.

TasWater must then be contacted to determine if the proposed works are Certifiable Works.

I confirm that the proposed works are not Certifiable Works, in accordance with the Guidelines for TasWater CCW Assessments, by virtue that all of the following are satisfied:

X	The works will not increase the demand for water supplied by TasWater
X	The works will not increase or decrease the amount of sewage or toxins that is to be removed by, or discharged into, TasWater's sewerage infrastructure
X	The works will not require a new connection, or a modification to an existing connection, to be made to TasWater's infrastructure
x	The works will not damage or interfere with TasWater's works
x	The works will not adversely affect TasWater's operations
x	The work are not within 2m of TasWater's infrastructure and are outside any TasWater easement
x	I have checked the LISTMap to confirm the location of TasWater infrastructure
x	If the property is connected to TasWater's water system, a water meter is in place, or has been applied for to TasWater.

Certification:

ITerry (Jiuwei) Wu......being responsible for the proposed work, am satisfied that the works described above are not Certifiable Works, as defined within the *Water and Sewerage Industry Act 2008,* that I have answered the above questions with all due diligence and have read and understood the Guidelines for TasWater CCW Assessments. Note: the Guidelines for TasWater Certification of Certifiable Works Assessments are available at: <u>www.taswater.com.au</u>

Designer:

Jiuwei Wu

Name: (print)

Signed

Date

28/02/25



A1

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DRAWING SCHEDULE					
Sheet Number	Sheet Name	Current Revision	Current Revision Date		
A0000	Cover Sheet	С	2025.02.10		
A0100	Site Plan	С	2025.02.10		
A0120	Wall Type Details	С	2025.02.10		
A1102	Ground Floor Plan	С	2025.02.10		
A1103	Roof Plan	С	2025.02.10		
A2001	North Elevation	С	2025.02.10		
A2003	West Elevation	С	2025.02.10		
A2004	South Elevation	С	2025.02.10		
A2005	East Elevation	С	2025.02.10		
A3001	Section A	С	2025.02.10		
A3002	Section B	С	2025.02.10		
A4001	Door Schedule	С	2025.02.10		
A4002	Window Schedule	С	2025.02.10		
A4003	Material and Finish Schedule	С	2025.02.10		
A8001	Shadow Diagrams	A	2025.02.10		
A9001	Perspectives	С	2025.02.10		

SORELL COUNCIL **Sorell Council**

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5 Inverness Street, Midway Point, TAS 7171

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Cover Sheet

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LANDSCAPED AREA CALCULATION:

TOTAL PROPOSED LANDSCAPED AREA:

MAX. SITE COVERAGE (50%):

TOTAL PROPOSED SITE COVERAGE AREA:

DRAWING TITLE	Site Pla	n		NORTH
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BR1 - EXTERNAL WALL - BRICK WALL

TS1 - INTERNAL PARTITIONS





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Wall Type Details

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PROJECT ADDRESS	5 Inverness Str	reet, Midway	Point, TAS 7171
DRAWING TITLE	Roof Plan		
PAPER SIZE	A3	REVISION	С
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DRAWING TITLE	East Ele	vation				
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C 2025.02.10 Issued for coordination

PROJECT

STREET

Point, TAS 7171

ARCHITECT

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PROJECT NUMBER P538 DRAWING NUMBER A3001 1:100

SCALE DRAWN BY SH

5 INVERNESS

5 Inverness Street, Midway

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PROJECT ADDRESS	5 Inverness St	reet, Midway	Point, TAS 7171		
DRAWING TITLE	Section A				
PAPER SIZE	A3	REVISION	С		
REVIEWED BY	RN	STATUS	Preliminary		



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PROJECT NUMBER P538 DRAWING NUMBER A3002 SCALE 1:100 DRAWN BY SH

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DRAWING TITLE	Section B			
PAPER SIZE	A3	REVISION	С	
REVIEWED BY	RN	STATUS	Preliminary	

PROJECT ADDRESS 5 Inverness Street, Midway Point, TAS 7171



Door Schedule								
Type Mark	Mark	Height (H)	Width (W)	Description	Comments	Count		
D01	06	2700	4800	Panel Lift Garage Door		1		
D02	07	2700	950	Single Panel Swing Door (External)		1		
D02	08	2700	950	Single Panel Swing Door (External)		1		
D03	03	2400	900	Single Panel Swing Door (Internal)		1		
D03	04	2400	900	Single Panel Swing Door (Internal)		1		
D03	05	2400	900	Single Panel Swing Door (Internal)		1		
D03	10	2400	900	Single Panel Swing Door (Internal)		1		
D03	11	2400	900	Single Panel Swing Door (Internal)		1		
D04	01	2200	800	Single Panel Sliding Door		1		
D05	01	2400	900	Single Panel Swing Door (Wet Area)		1		
D05	02	2400	900	Single Panel Swing Door (Wet Area)		1		
D06	01	2700	950	Single Panel Swing Glazing Door		1		
D06	09	2700	950	Single Panel Swing Glazing Door		1		

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PROJECT

5 INVERNESS STREET

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PROJECT NUMBER P538 DRAWING NUMBER A4001

SCALE 1:50 DRAWN BY SH

PROJECT ADDRESS	5 Inverness Street, Midway Point, TAS 7171				
DRAWING TITLE	Door Schedule				
PAPER SIZE	A3	REVISION	С		
REVIEWED BY	RN	STATUS	Preliminary		



Window Schedule								
Type Mark	Type Mark Mark Sill Height (S) Height (H) Width (W) Description Comments							
W01	09	900	900	3000	Single Panel Fixed Window		1	
W01	16	1500	600	2400	Single Panel Fixed Window		1	
W02	01	0	2700	2400	2-Panel Sliding Glazing Door		1	
W02	02	0	2700	2400	2-Panel Sliding Glazing Door		1	
W02	03	0	2700	2800	2-Panel Sliding Glazing Door		1	
W03	01	1800	900	900	Single Panel Awning Window	Frosted Glass Panel	1	
W03	02	1800	900	2000	Single Panel Awning Window		1	
W03	04	1800	900	1800	Single Panel Awning Window	Frosted Glass Panel	1	
W03	08	1800	900	2000	Single Panel Awning Window		1	
W04	01	900	1800	2400	2-Panel Sliding Window		1	
W04	05	900	1800	2800	2-Panel Sliding Window		1	
W04	10	900	1800	2400	2-Panel Sliding Window		1	

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PROJECT NUMBER P538 DRAWING NUMBER A4002

SCALE

1:50 DRAWN BY SH

PROJECT ADDRESS 5 Inverness Street, Midway Point, TAS 7171

DRAWING TITLE Window Schedule

PAPER SIZE	A3	REVISION	С
REVIEWED BY	RN	STATUS	Preliminary



AL01



BR01 BRICK FINISH TO EXTERIOR WALLS



CF01 EXPOSED AGGREGATE CONCRETE FLOOR PAVEMENT



CF02 POLISHED CONCRETE FLOOR



ALUMINIUM POWERCOATED FINISH TO WINDOWS AND WINDOW SHROUD

TF02 WEATHER-TREATED TIMBER DECKING



MR01 COLORBOND ROOF SHEETS



RW01 RENDER WALL FINISH



TL01 TILE FINISH TO WET AREAS



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PROJECT NUMBER P538 DRAWING NUMBER A4003 SCALE 1:10

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TF01 TIMBER FINISH FLOORING

PROJECT ADDRESS	5 Inverness Street, Midway Point, TAS 7171					
DRAWING TITLE	Material and Finish Schedule					
PAPER SIZE	A3	REVISION	С			
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PROJECT NUMBER	P538
DRAWING NUMBER	A8001
SCALE	1:500

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SCALE	1:500
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DRAWING TITLE

Shadow Diagrams

PAPER SIZE	A3	REVISION	A
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PROJECT

5 INVERNESS STREET

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PROJECT NUMBER P538 DRAWING NUMBER A9001

SCALE DRAWN BY SH

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PROJECT ADDRESS	5 Inverness Street, Midway Point, TAS 7171		
DRAWING TITLE	Perspec	tives	
PAPER SIZE	A3	REVISION	С
REVIEWED BY	RN	STATUS	Preliminary