

Southern Landfill Extension Piggyback Option (SLEPO) - An innovative 'cradle' landfill design

Absolutely Positively
Wellington City Council
Me Heke Ki Pōneke



Outline

TOPIC	Speaker
Project Background	Darren Hoskins
Alternative Assessment	
Piggyback Option (SLEPO)	
Innovative ‘cradle’ landfill design	Daniel Tan
Challenges of a piggyback landfill	
‘Cradle’ design	
Investigations, field trials and numerical analysis	

What's the issue?

June 2026:

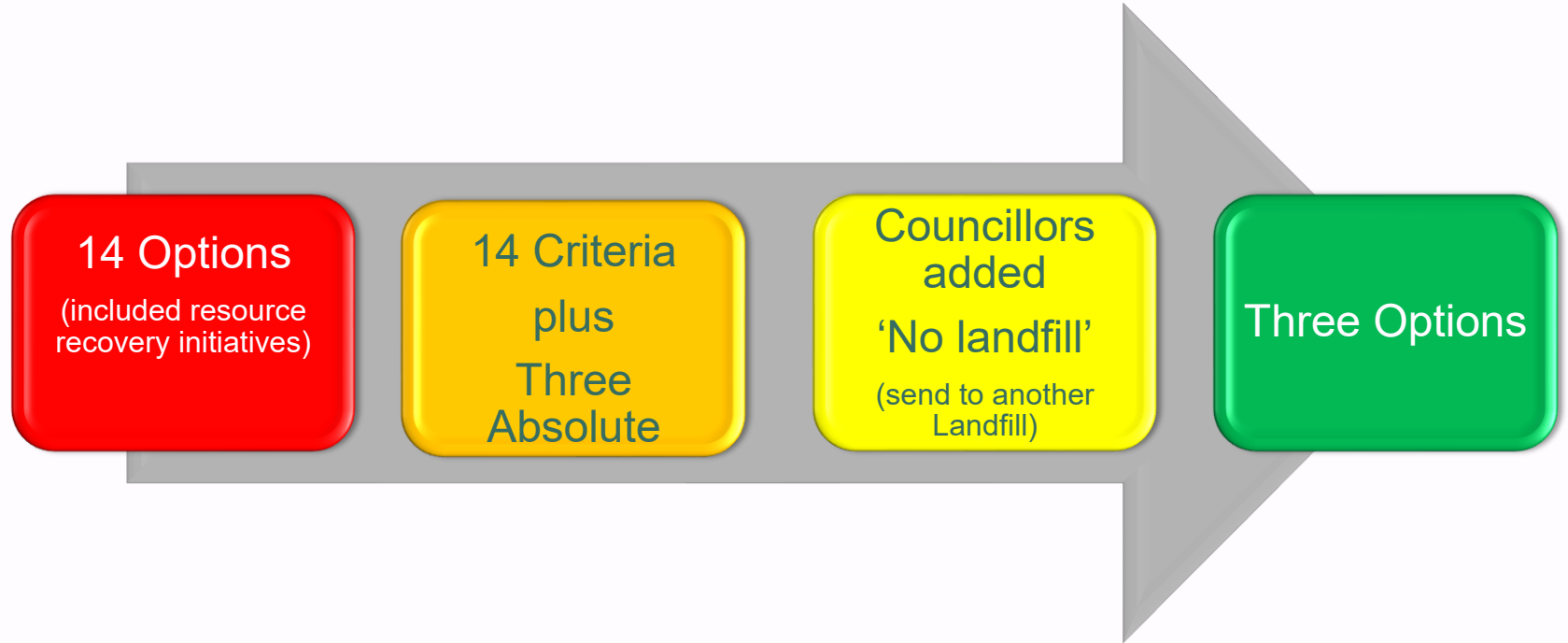
- Landfill capacity and consents expire
- Need a solution for residual waste by this date



Timeline



Selecting a preferred option - MCA



Criteria

Te Ao Māori alignment

1. Input from mana whenua for all criteria and Te Ao Maori alignment is still ongoing

Impact

2. Emission Levels
3. Environmental effects (waste, land and air)

Planning

4. Level of consent and planning risk
5. Size - ability to fit on existing site
6. Scalability (to support waste minimisation), 
7. Timeframe for the solution 

Community

8. Local community effects
9. Community connection
10. Resilience in cases of emergency

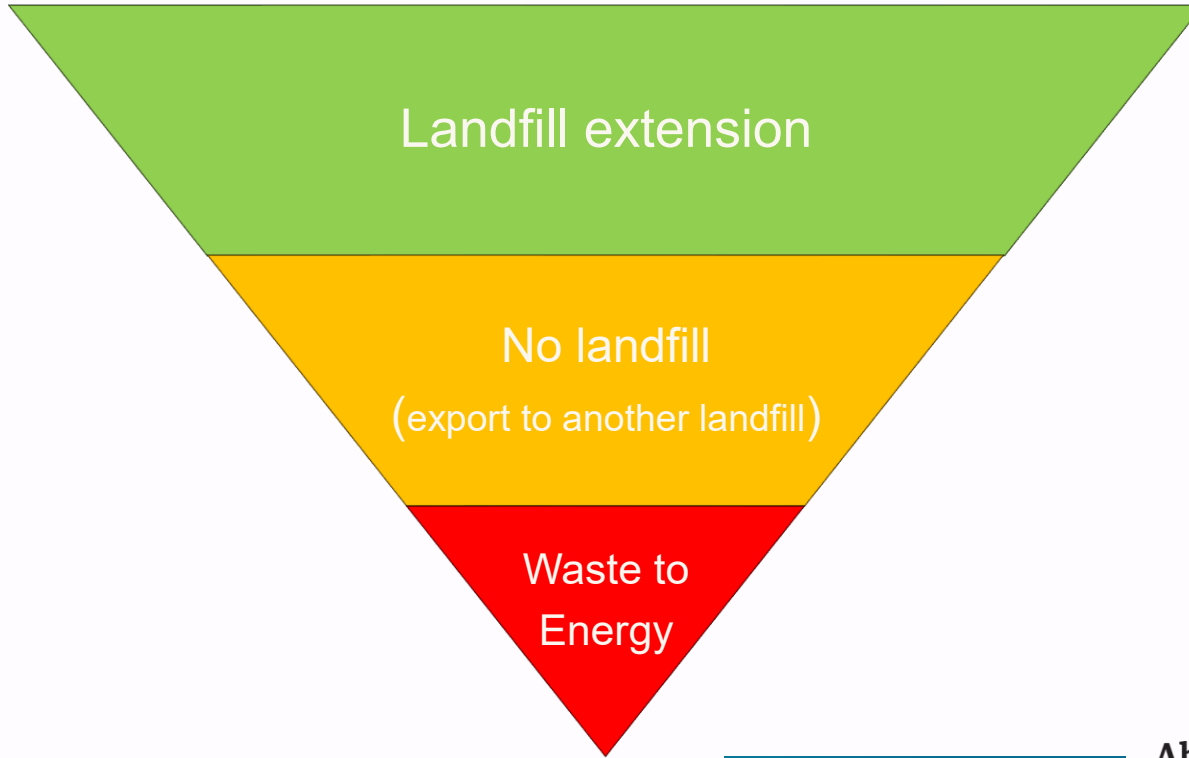
Technical

11. Technical maturity
12. Robustness/reliability of solution 

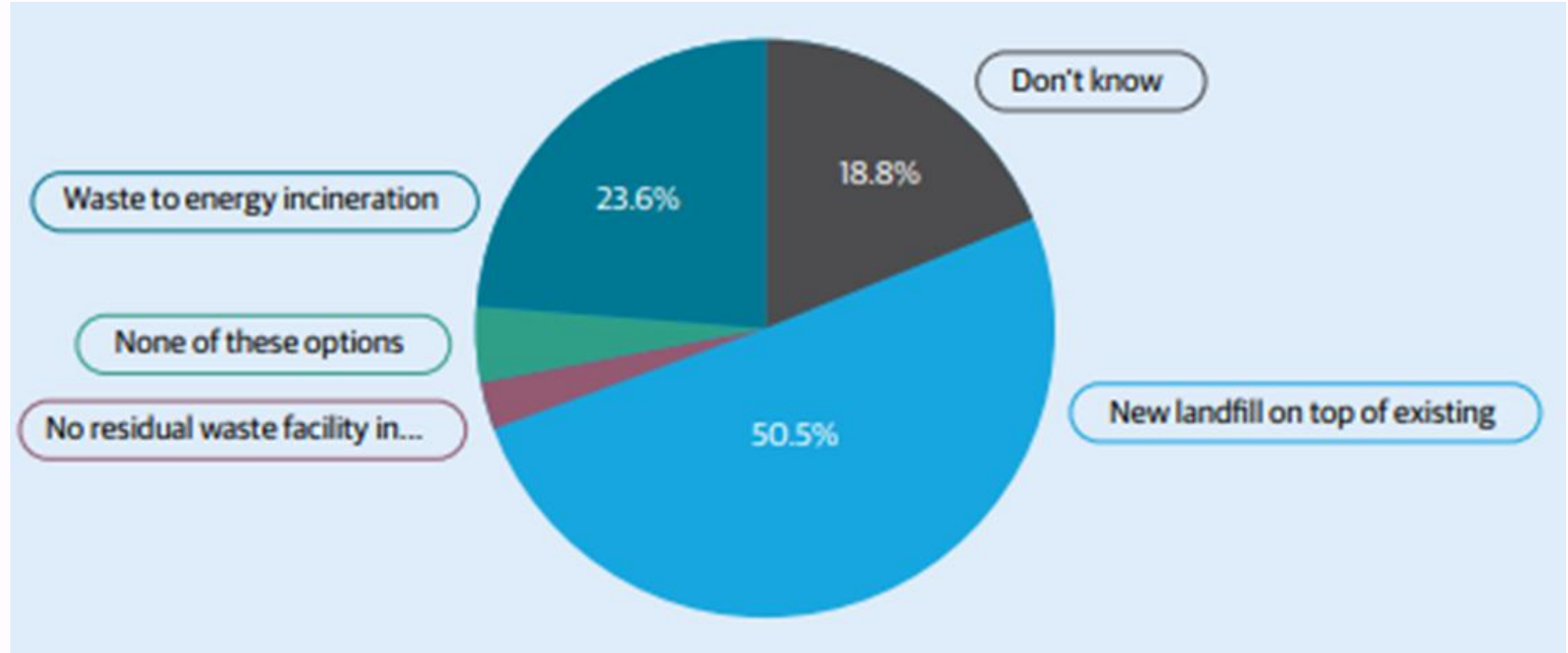
Financial

13. Support for a circular economy
14. Value for money

How the options stacked up

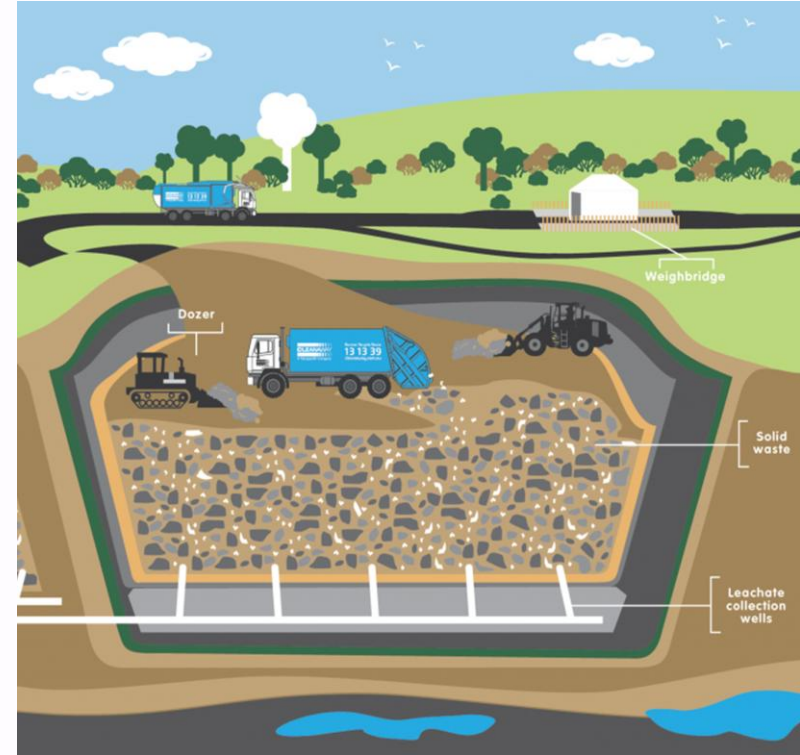


Annual Plan Public Consultation - outcome



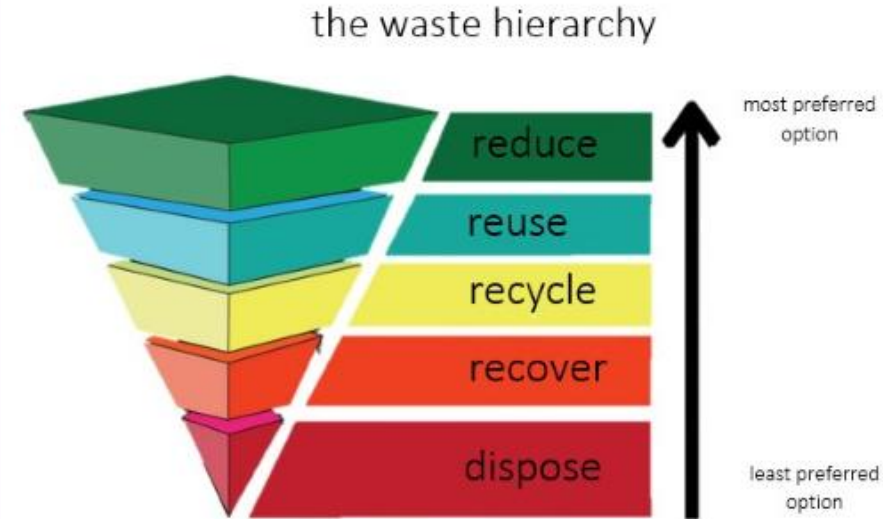
Sludge

- 15,000 tonnes per year
- Mixed 1:4 with waste
- New Moa Point Sludge Minimisation Facility
- Enables resource recovery



Waste Minimisation

- Reduce waste to landfill
- Resource Recovery initiatives



Source: Zero Waste

Residual Waste Working Group

- Community representatives
- Building trust & integrity
- Supported resource consent



Resource consent

- 35-year consent granted
- 200 conditions
- Community Advisory Group established
- Construction underway



Construction of SLEPO



Construction of SLEPO

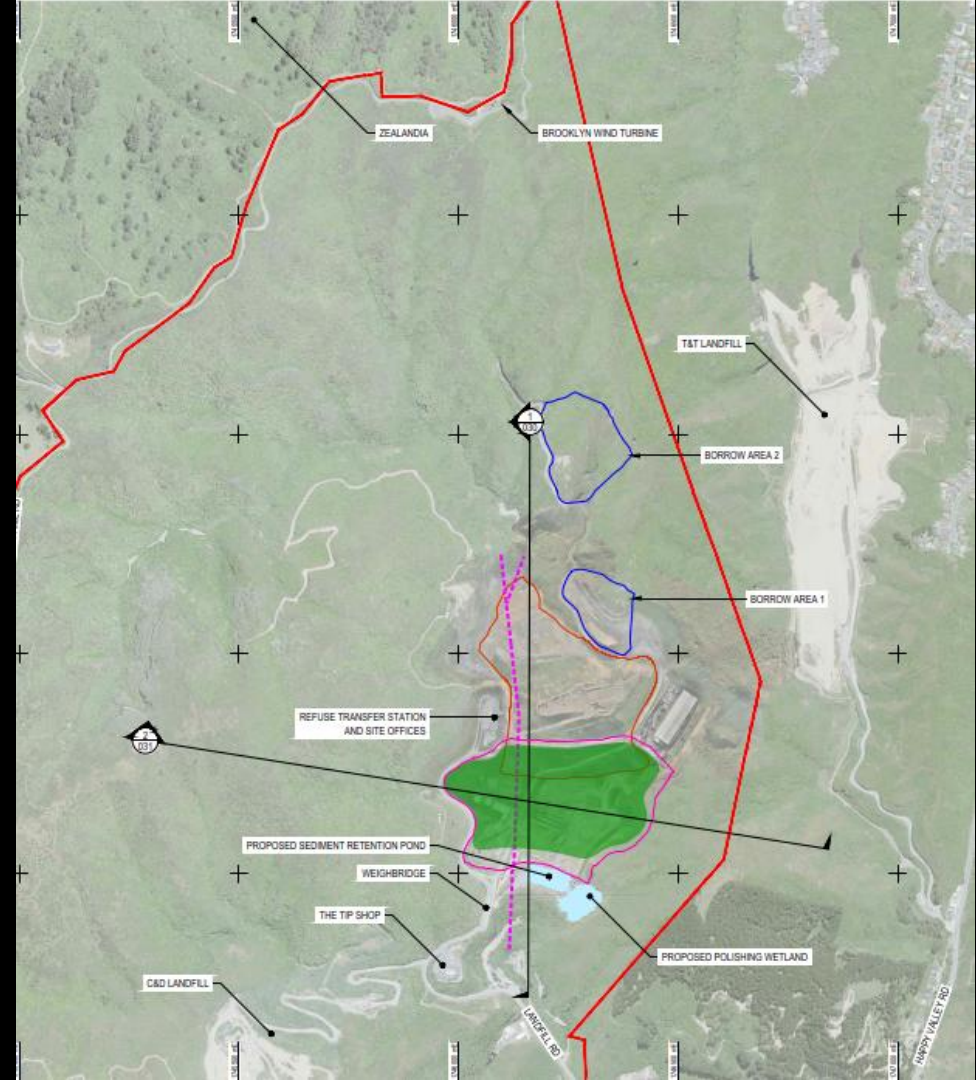




Note: Green shows the landform only
and not the final use.

Innovative 'Cradle' Landfill Design

Daniel Tan,
Tonkin & Taylor



Challenges

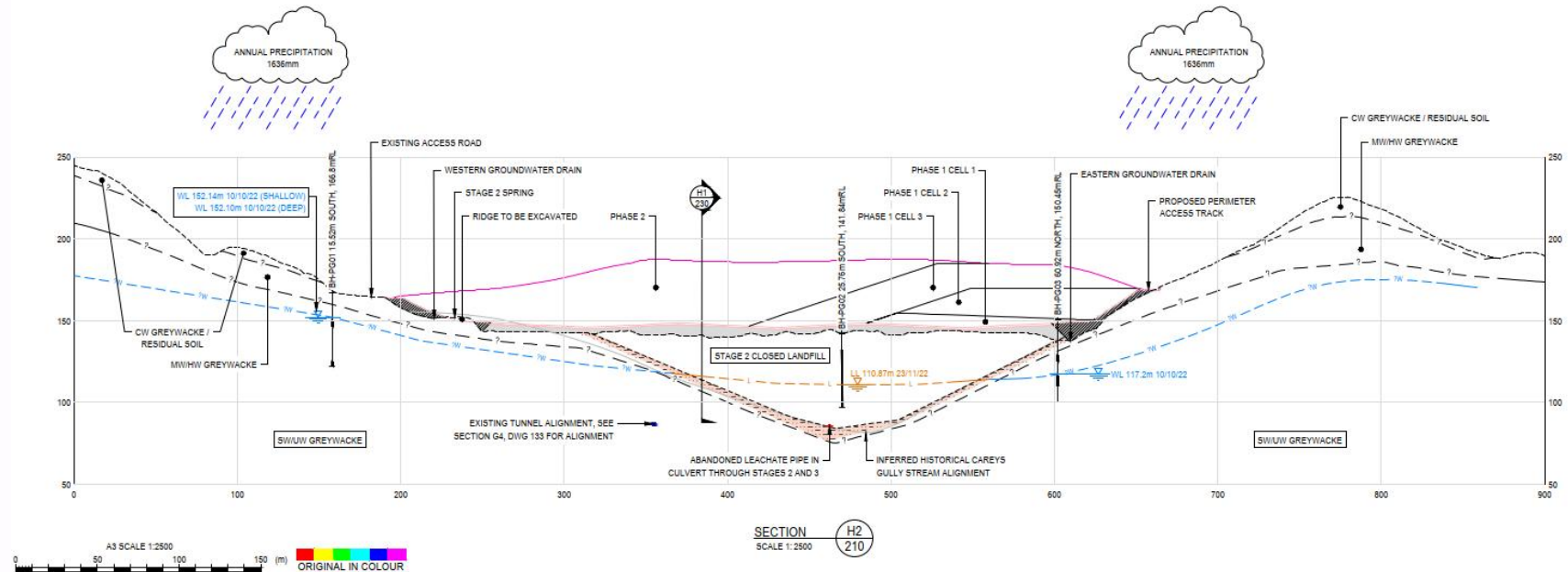
- “Piggyback” Over existing closed landfill

i. Old unlined landfill

ii. Complex hydrogeology

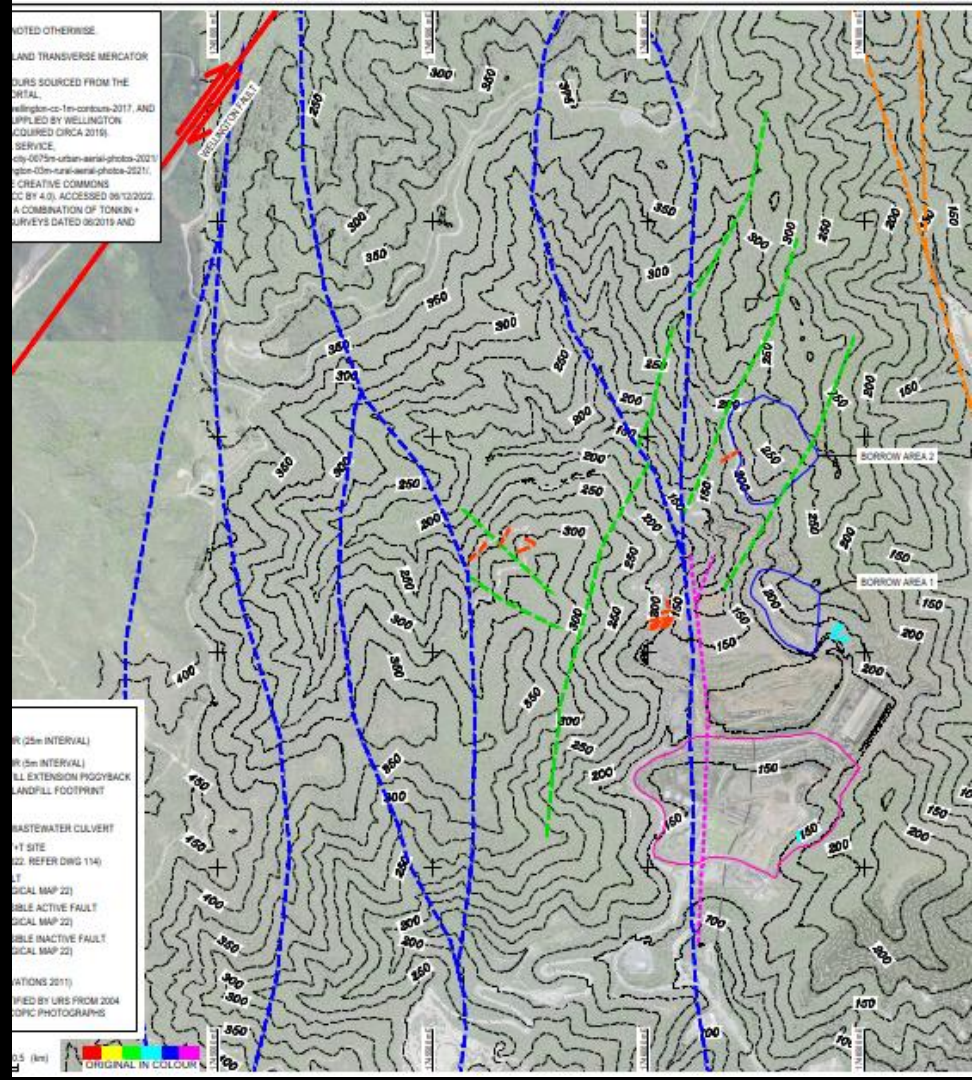
iii. Settlement of old waste

iv. Landfill gas from old landfill

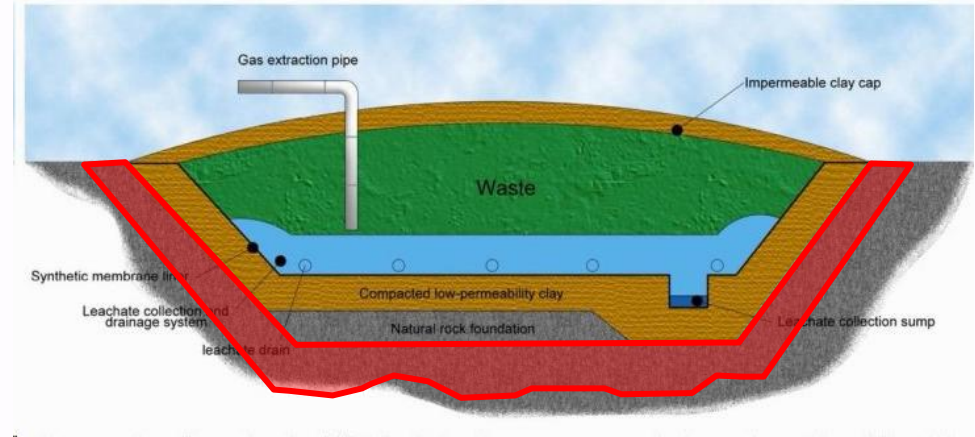


Challenges

- 2km from Wellington Fault
 - i. Seismic consideration
 - ii. Landfill stability

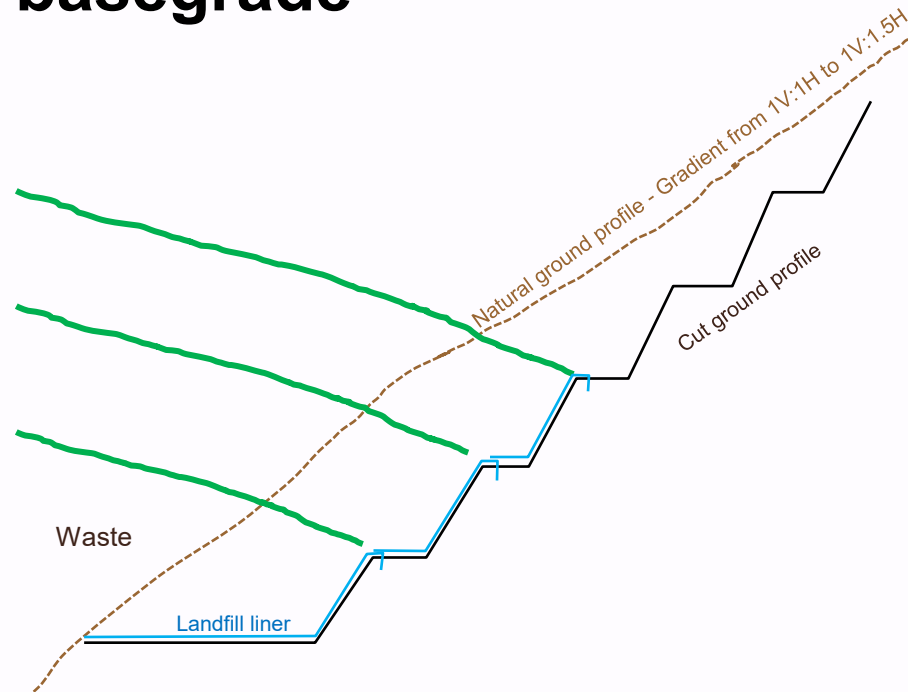


Innovative 'Cradle' Landfill Design



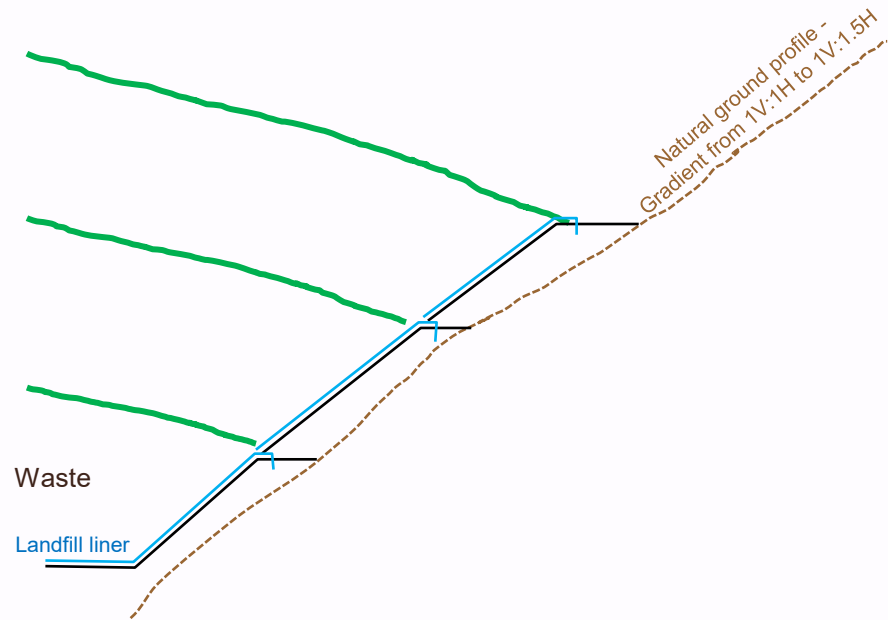
Earthworks to form landfill basegrade

Conventional	'Cradle' Design
Cut to form basegrade	Fill to form basegrade
Excavation of whole slope required from top to bottom	Fill from bottom up. Does not require unnecessary vegetation clearance and exposure of soil
Fix slope and bench height is required	Slope and bench height is flexible and can be varied subject to time, air space requirement and budget
Require significant vegetation clearance and soil exposure beyond landfill footprint.	Limited vegetation clearance and soil exposure beyond landfill footprint.



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Protect landfill lining from seismic impact

Conventional	‘Cradle’ Design
Landfill liner sits directly on natural ground	There is a soil layer between the landfill liner and natural ground
Ground movement from secondary fault rupture or seismic shaking will have direct impact on the landfill liner	The soil layer acts as a buffer between ground movement and reduce the impact on the landfill liner limiting the strain on the HDPE liner to less than 3%



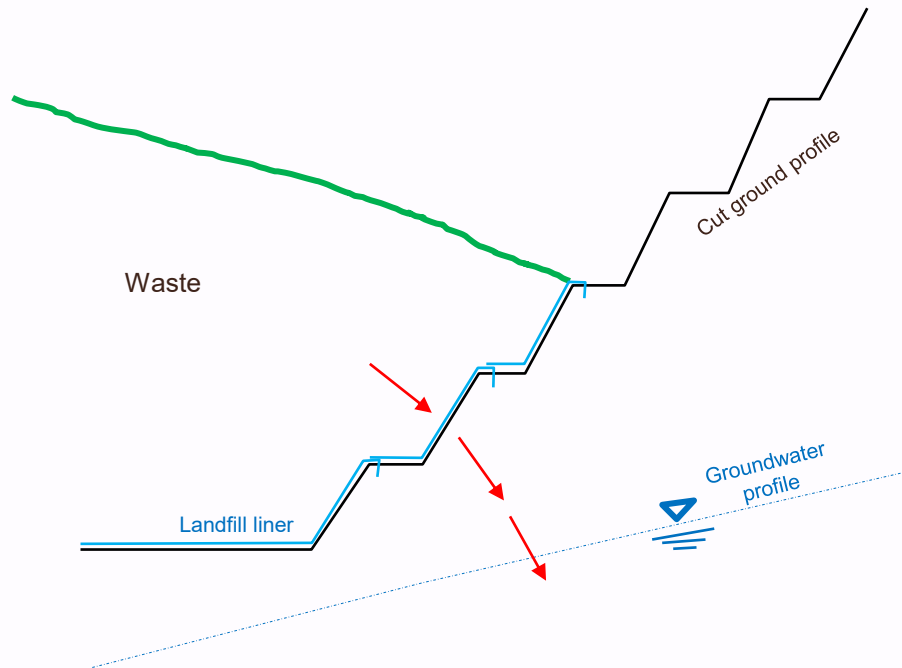
Leachate leak detection, collection and removal

Conventional

Any potential leakage through the landfill liner will come into direct contact with natural ground and subsequently groundwater

'Cradle' Design

The soil layer between the landfill liner and natural ground forms a preferential flow path for any potential leakage through the landfill liner, making its way downslope and collected in a groundwater drainage system that doubles as a leachate leak detection, collection and removal system



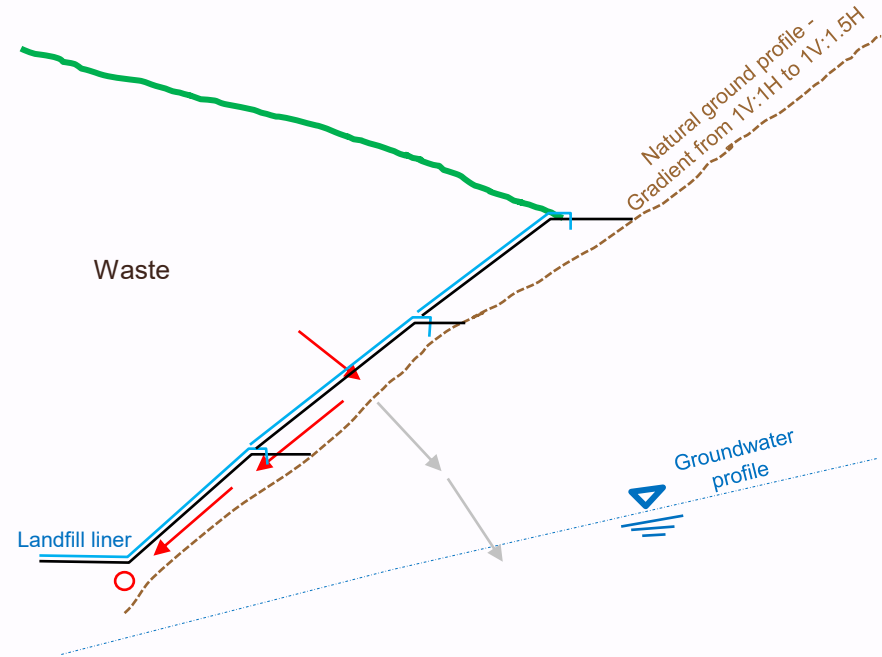
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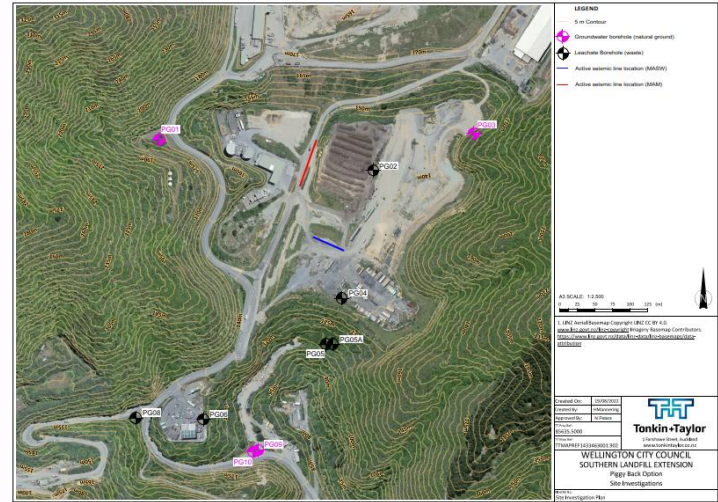
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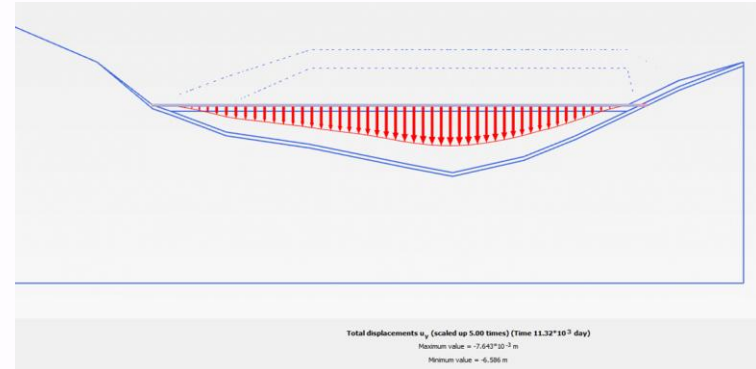
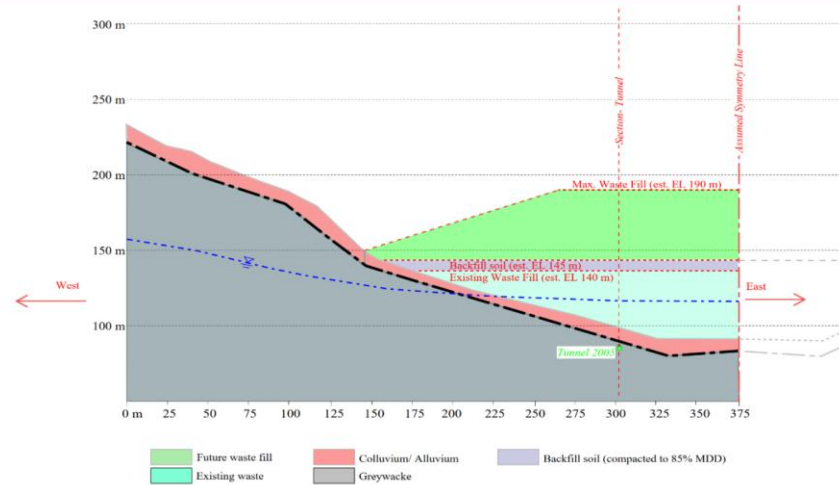
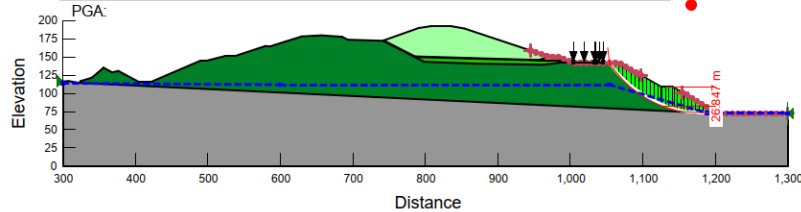
 Tonkin+Taylor		CORE PHOTOS		BOROHOLE No.: PG03 Date Uploaded: Stage 2 Final
PROJECT: WCC Southern Landfill		LOCATION: Stage 4		JOB No.: BRES-500-1000
COORDINATOR: ALAN W. BROWN PROJECT MGR: TAE-023-002 DATE: 10B-004		SMPL TYPE: Fossil Ns 15/70 SMPL METHOD: JCS		FIELD STRATIG: 10B-004 FIELD #/PROBES: 14333332 LAB #/PROBES: 14333332
DEPTH: NDC0310				LOGGED BY: E.A.M. CHECKED: MCF





Overall Piggyback Landfill Stability Assessment - Numerical analysis

Color	Name	Slope Stability Material Model	Unit Weight (kN/m ³)	Effective Cohesion (kPa)	Phi 1 (°)	Phi 2 (°)	Bilinear Normal (kPa)	Effective Friction Angle (°)	Phi-B (°)	Piezometric Line
Blue	Base liner - peak	Mohr-Coulomb	13	8				25	0	1
Light Blue	Base liner - residual	Mohr-Coulomb	13	0				17	0	1
Grey	Bedrock (Impenetrable)	Bedrock (Impenetrable)								1
Orange	Engineered fill (new)	Mohr-Coulomb	21	11				38	0	1
Light Orange	Engineered fill (old)	Mohr-Coulomb	18	1				36	0	1
Dark Green	Lower (old) waste	Bilinear	13	6	35	30	200		0	1
Light Green	Waste	Bilinear	13	6	35	30	200		0	1
Dark Green	Waste (soil)	Mohr-Coulomb	18	5				30	0	1

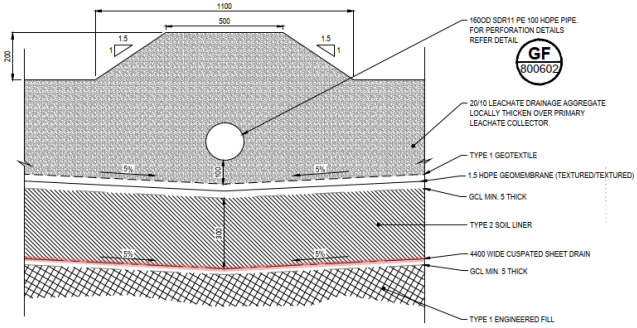


Overall Piggyback Landfill Stability Assessment - Leachate pumping trial

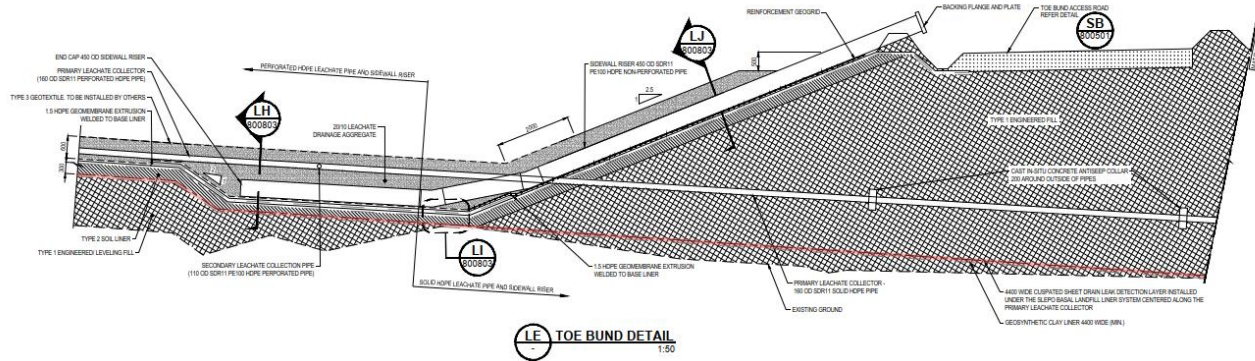
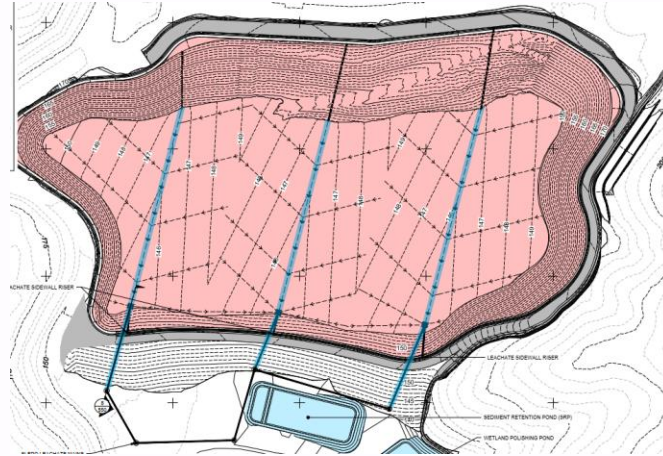
- 5 wells drilled for pumping trial
- Assess viability of leachate pumping of old / closed landfill
- Control leachate level within Stage 2 closed landfill
- Contingency plan to pump leachate if required (due to leakage or for stability requirement)
- Dual function as gas collection



Redundancy in leachate leak detection, collection and removal system



LL PRIMARY LEACHATE COLLECTION DRAIN 1:10



LE TOE BUND DETAIL 1:50

Q&A?

