Chapter B3 Soils, Groundwater and Waste

Summary of key findings:

There are some areas of the M3R footprint where soil and groundwater have been contaminated as a result of past activities. Assessment of soil and groundwater has been undertaken to identify potentially contaminated areas so they can be managed appropriately during M3R construction.

The key contamination issue requiring management in the M3R footprint is PFAS (both source and diffuse impacts). A project-specific PFAS management strategy will be prepared. Confirmation of management and remediation options, including detailed feasibility, will be completed as part of detailed design works. A project-specific human health and ecological risk assessment will also be prepared to support the management and remediation options assessment, and PFAS management strategy.

Minor occurrences of asbestos-containing material, isolated occurrences of metals and hydrocarbons, and other potential impacts from historic landfilling activities have been identified in isolated areas of the project footprint. A Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) will be developed to provide specific details regarding how these impacts will be mitigated and managed in accordance with applicable regulations.

Waste generated during the construction and operation of M3R will be managed proactively to limit potential environmental impacts. The CEMP will be developed to include specific details on the waste management controls that will be applied to mitigate potential risks to the environment from these wastes.