

STOPThink! Hoarding Stability



January 2024

Undesigned Hoarding on OIL site.

What happened?

A timber hoarding was erected on an Octavius project without a temporary works design. It was subsequently undermined by excavations in the area, which further reduced the stability of the hoarding.

Impacts

- Risk of hoarding instability with the potential to harm both the public and our workforce.
- Additional cost/delay of retrofitting additional strengthening members.
- Potential to destabilise nearby excavation.

Immediate action

1. A short-term management plan to mitigate the risks to the public and our workforce was agreed between the Engineering Team and the TWC until an as built design assessment could be undertaken.
2. Design assessment found that the hoarding was over designed (inefficient) in some areas, but crucially under designed in others and could have potentially blown over if exposed to a worst case 2-year storm event.
3. Additional intermediate posts are now being installed to stabilise the hoarding.

Octavius staff and our suppliers must confirm that they:

- Appoint an approved Temporary Works Coordinator
- Identify requirements for Temporary Works and list on TW Register
- Prepare a Temporary Works Brief for any hoardings, which are required on the project putting in a request to the Engineering Team (or a competent supplier) for a design
- Ensure all temporary (or permanent) hoardings are not constructed until a design is completed
- Seek advice from the hoarding designer if they think there is a risk of the hoarding being undermined by any nearby earthworks.
- Take note of the guidance by the [Temporary Works Forum for Hoarding Stability](#)

If in doubt or you would like some general advice, please contact the OIL Engineering Team.



Case Study: 2019 Site Hoarding Collapse
Member of the public suffered major injury resulting in a £250,000 fine.



Case Study: 2008 Site Hoarding Collapse
Family suffering fortunately only minor injuries

