The Taranaki Landfarms

are they

"Fit for Purpose"

A report

Commissioned by Taranaki Regional Council

Undertaken by

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. Waste products (rock cuttings and drilling muds) from the oil exploration industry in Taranaki are being incorporated into re-contoured formed sand dunes and re-sown back to pasture (a process referred to as Landfarming). This process is controlled by resource consents issued by the Taranaki Regional Council. Three Landfarms have been completed to date and are now being farmed commercially (2 under irrigation).

2. The drilling muds contain potential contaminants: petrochemical residues, barium, heavy metals and salts. The question arises: are these reformed soils 'fit-for-purpose' - in this case pastoral farming and especially dairy farming.

3. As required by the consents regular soil samples were collected and analysed during the disposal process. These results were summarised and examined relative to the permitted limits for the various potential contaminants.

4. The completed sites were visited and the pasture and soils inspected. Soil and pasture samples were collected and analysed for all potential contaminants. These results were compared to the properties of normal New Zealand pastorals soils.

5. It is concluded from this body of evidence that these modified soils are 'fit –for-purpose". The concentrations of: nutrients (macro and micro), heavy metals and soluble salts in these soils and pasture are similar to normal New Zealand soils. The form of barium present is as environmentally benign barite, and there is no evidence of accumulation of petrochemical residues.

6. The process of Landfarming these otherwise very poor soils, together with appropriate management (irrigation, fertiliser and improved pastures) has increased the agronomic value of the land from about $3-5000/ha to $30-40,000/ha.

BRIEF

1. The Taranaki Regional Council (TRC) has consented several oil exploration companies to dispose of 'drilling muds' at several sites on coastal sands around the region.

2. The drilling muds are initially stored at the sites and, after the sand dunes have been levelled, this material is applied to the surface (at < 100mm thick) and then incorporated into the re-contoured sandy soils (at a minimum depth of 250mm depth). Once this process is completed the modified soils are fertilised (not more the 200 kg N/ha) and sown down to clover–based pasture. This whole process is controlled by criteria set out in resource consents.

3. Three sites (referred to as landfarms) have been completed to date and are currently being used for pastoral farming. One site (Browns, commenced 2006, completed 2011) is not irrigated and runs dry stock. The other 2 sites (Schrider, commenced 2004, completed 2010, and Geary, commenced 2001, completed 2006) are under pivot irrigation and used for dairy farming. Note there is a small area at the Geary site, which is not irrigated.

4. The TRC has retained agKnowledge Ltd to determine whether these landfarms are "fit for purpose", in this case fit for pastoral farming and in particular dairying.

5. Specifically this brief excludes any consideration as to the off-site effects of the landfarms (possible movement of contaminants via runoff or leaching) and does not consider whether the compliance criteria set out in the consents were met or otherwise.

METHODOLOGY

6. Drilling muds consist of a) the cuttings (mainly solid) of the underlying strata of rocks from the drill bit b) drilling fluids (bentonite based mud and slurry including proprietary additives used to either lubricate the drilling process or to control the in-well pressure and conditions. This includes barium sulphate which is used as a wetting and weighting agent and c) drilling wastes (liquid) containing well water and petrochemical residues. There are 3 classes of drilling fluids: water-based, (WBM), oil based (OBM) and synthetic (SBM) (Taranaki Regional Council, undated, ref: PCDOCS\FRODO\98943\1).

7. Given the general composition of the drilling muds, this report investigates the following aspects of the completed landfarms:

    a. What is the current soil fertility of the modified soils with respect to growing clover-based pasture for ruminants and in particular dairy cows?

b. What are the heavy metal and barium concentrations in the soils and pastures and are there any implications for soil, pasture and animal health and production?
c. Are there any petrochemical residues in the soils and pasture, which may affect soil, plant and animal health?

8. Two sites, Geary and Schrider, were visited on July 4 2013 and soils samples (0-75mm – the standard depth for determining soil fertility) and mixed-pasture samples were collected for an initial investigation, using the standard sampling protocols.

9. The 3 completed landfarms were visited on 5 August 2013 and on this occasion two sets of soil (0-75mm) and mixed pasture samples were collected from the following sites: Schrider (irrigated), Geary (irrigated and non-irrigated) and Brown (non-irrigated). One set were sealed in clip-tight plastic bags for analysis of petroleum hydrocarbon (PCH) residues and the other set were used to determine the concentrations of the full suit of elements including the macro, micro and heavy metals plus barium.

10. The TRC provided the full records of the soil tests (0-250mm) undertaken as per the consents, during the process of disposal of the drilling muds, at each site. This data was summarized.

11. Throughout this the report the criteria for the safe disposal of heavy metals, barium and petroleum hydrocarbons (as set down by a number of authorities) are used as part (other matters are also considered) of the assessment process. In applying these criteria it is assumed that they have been set at levels to ensure the protection of soil, pasture, animal and human health.

RESULTS

Pasture Assessment

At the time of the second site visit (5 August 2013) the pastures were assessed as follows:

Table 1: Visual assessment of the pastures at the three sites.

Site	Assessment	Rating
Schrider (irrigated)	Ryegrass dominant pasture, vigorous. Very little clover some showing signs of potassium deficiency. Excreta patches obvious. Some flats weeds and poor pasture grasses.	6/10
Geary (irrigated)	Vigorous ryegrass pasture with about 20% clover. Excreta patches not apparent. Very few weeds.	8/10
Geary (non-irrigated)	Assorted weeds abundant, excreta patches prominent, Some low value browntop and Yorkshire fog. Ryegrass and clover only in excreta patches.	2/10
Brown (non-irrigated)	Assorted weeds abundant, excreta patches prominent, Ryegrass and clover only in excreta patches.	2/10

Importantly, there were abundant earthworm casts on all sites indicating considerable soil biological activity. The earthworm can be regarded as the 'canary in the mine' with respect to soil biological activity.

Soil Properties

The general properties of the modified soils (0-75mm, the standard depth for soil fertility assessment) are given in Table 2 and indicate low levels of cation exchange capacity (CEC), anion storage capacity (ASC), organic matter (OM) and organic nitrogen (ON), reflecting their sandy nature and past history (low quality pasture). The amounts of soluble salts (SS) and the exchangeable sodium percentage (referred to in the documentation incorrectly as the sodium absorption, SAR) are low and the soil calcium (Ca) and sodium (Na) levels are consistent with the normal levels found in pastoral soils.

Table 2: Soil chemical properties (0-75mm) at the three landfarms sites.

Site	CEC (me/100 gm)	ASC (%)	OM (%)	ON (%)	SS (%)	Ca (MAF units)	Na (MAF units)	SAR (%)
Schrider	9	11	2.6	0.13	0.01	7	7	1.1
Geary Irrigated	7	11	2.2	0.16	0.02	5	10	2.0
Geary Non irrigated	9	16	3.5	0.21	0.02	6	7	1.2
Brown	9	34	3.4	0.14	0.01	6	4	0.6
Typical	*10-30*	*20-80*	*5-20*	*0.1-0.4*	*0.05-0.30*	*5-20*	*3-10*	*1-2*

As required by the consent agreements, routine soil testing (0-250mm) was undertaken on all three sites during the process of disposal of the drilling muds. The results for each site are summarized in Tables 3 a,b,c:

Table 3a. Chemical characteristics of the soil (0-250mm) at the Schrider site during disposal.

Soil Property	No. samples	Average	Max	Min	Limit[1] & units	No. over limit
Conductivity (disposal)	51	32 <0.02	0.13	<0.02	400 mS/m	0
Conductivity (expiry)	53	44 < 0.02	1.3	<0.02	290 mS/m	0
Soluble salts	53	43 <0.05	0.46	<0.05	0.25 %	2
SAR	47	1.1	3.1	0.3	18	0
Sodium	31	482	790	310	460 g/m3	14
Chloride	50	145	1360	4	700g/m3	3

Note 1) Taranaki Regional Council, undated, ref: PCDOCS\FRODO\98943\1.

Table 3b. Chemical characteristics of the soil (0-250mm) at the Geary site during disposal.

Soil Property	No. samples	Average	Max	Min	Limit[1]& units	No. over limit
Conductivity (disposal)	33	30 <0.02	0.37	<0.02	400 mS/m	0
Conductivity (expiry)	33	29 <0.02	0.37	<0.02	290 mS/m	0
Soluble salts	33	32 <0.05	0.13	<0.05	0.25 %	0
SAR	38	1.0	3.7	0.1	18	0

Sodium	13	481	600	310	460 g/m3	7
Chloride	36	28	356	4	700 g/m3	0

Note 1) Taranaki Regional Council, undated, ref: PCDOCS\FRODO\98943\1.

Table 3c. Chemical characteristics of the soil (0-250mm) at the Brown site during disposal.

Soil Property	No. samples	Average	Max	Min	Limit[1]& units	No. over limit
Conductivity (disposal)		No given			400 mS/m	0
Conductivity (expiry)		No given			290 mS/m	0
Soluble salts	5	all < 0.05	<0.05	-	0.25 %	0
SAR	17	2.4	18	0.3	18	0
Sodium	17	80	530	7	460 g/m3	7?
Chloride	31	98	550	5.9	700 g/m3	0

Note 1) Taranaki Regional Council, undated, ref: PCDOCS\FRODO\98943\1.

The soil property which most frequently exceeded the limit was the soil Na concentrations. The limit of 460 gm/m^3 soil, is (assuming a soil bulk density of about 1) equivalent to a MAF soil Na reading of about 20. Thus, while some elevated soil Na levels were recorded during the disposal process the current levels (0-75 mm) are normal (Table 2). This is also apparent in the SAR levels. The likely reason for this is that Na (and the same applies to chloride) are very mobile and will readily leach out of soils, especially sandy soils with a good rainfall and under irrigation, noting that in the New Zealand situation Na and Cl are environmentally benign.

In any case note that the problems that occur when soil Na levels are elevated (loss of soil structure and impeded drainage together with plant sensitivity to salinity) normally arise on heavy soils in arid climates. Furthermore, higher than normal soil Na levels and hence better than normal pasture Na concentration (see later) can only be beneficial to animal health in the New Zealand setting.

Soil Fertility

Soils

The soil tests (Table 4) indicate that, in terms of optimizing production from clover-based pastures, the sites are deficient with respect to potassium (K) and sulphur (S). The site with the best overall soil fertility is 'Geary irrigated' and this is reflected in the superior pasture on this site (Table 1). The poor pasture on the 2 non-irrigated sites (Brown, Geary non-irrigated) can be explained by the lack of irrigation resulting in moisture stress together with the poor underlying soil fertility.

Table 4: Soil nutrient levels (0-75mm) at the three landfarms sites (units are as used in the standard MAF soil testing protocol)

Site	pH	Olsen P	K	Sulphate S	Organic S	Mg
Schrider	6.0	24	2	4	3	23
Geary Irrigated	6.3	28	5	12	3	37
Geary Non irrigated	6.2	38	7	6	3	22

Brown	6.6	22	2	8	4	13
Optimal[1]	*5.8-6.0*	*35-40*	*7-10*	*10-12*	*10-12*	*8-10*

Notes 1) assuming a high producing dairy farm

Pasture

The concentrations of macro (Table 5a) and micro (Table 5b) nutrients in the mixed-pasture samples from the 4 sites are given below. Mixed-pasture analysis provides information relating to the nutrient value of the pastures for, in this case, ruminants.

Table 5a: Macronutrient concentrations (%) in mixed-pasture from the three sites for samples collected 5 August 2013 (Figures in parenthesis are from samples collected 4 July 2013).

Site	**Pasture macronutrient concentration (%)**						
	N	**P**	**K**	**S**	**Mg**	**Ca**	**Na**
Schrider	4.43 (2.66)	0.44 (0.43)	2.51 (1.69	0.37 (0.40)	0.29 (0.38)	0.57 (0.64)	0.79 (1.11)
Geary Irrigated	4.44	0.47	3.59	0.40	0.33	0.38	0.55
Geary non-irrigated	3.92 (4.11)	0.46 (0.45)	3.62 (2.73)	0.37 (0.41)	0.30 (0.31)	0.39 (0.39)	0.54 (0.45)
Brown	4.15	0.40	3.51	0.36	0.24	0.64	0.47
Typical	*4.5-5.5*	*0.30-0.40*	*2.0-4.00*	*0.25-0.35*	*0.15-0.22*	*0.25-0.50*	*0.1-0.3*

Table 5b: Micronutrient concentrations (ppm) in mixed-pasture from the three sites for samples collected 5 August 2013 (Figures in parenthesis are from samples collected 4 July 2013).

Site	**Pasture micronutrient concentrations (ppm)**							
	Mn	**Zn**	**Cu**	**Fe**	**Co**	**Mo**	**Se**	**B**
Schrider	54 (58)	31 (33)	6.4 (6.3)	230 (818)	0.16 (0.27)	0.34 (<0.05)	0.31 (0.48)	6.0 (7.3
Geary Irrigated	86	32	7.6	2057	0.87	0.59	0.14	9.7
Geary non-irrigated	79 (84)	28 (34)	9.2 (10.9)	1124 (930)	0.46 (0.23)	0.46 (0.41)	0.02 (0.02)	7.7 (7.5)
Brown	65	31	9.3	351	0.18	2.38	<0.01	6.9
Typical	*20-50*	*10-20*	*5-10*	*45-65*	*0.04-0.10*	*0.1-1.0*	*>0.03*	*13-16*

These results indicate that the nutrient levels in the pastures from these landfarm sites are typical of New Zealand pastures except that:

a) The pasture sodium (Na) levels are elevated due to enrichment from the soils either from sea sprays or from the drilling muds. Either way this is of no consequence and can only be a benefit to animal health.
b) The manganese (Mn) and zinc (Zn) levels appear to the greater than normal but are nevertheless not sufficiently high to give rise to animal health problems.
c) The iron (Fe) levels are elevated. This is most likely due to contamination from the soil as frequently occurs on 'normal' soils and in any case is of little practical consequence.
d) The cobalt (Co) and molybdenum (Mo) are above the minimum levels for optimal health.

e) The selenium (Se) levels on 2 sites are below the minimum level for optimal animal production as is frequently the case for many New Zealand soils. This can be readily corrected with fertiliser Se.

The combined soil and pasture results suggest that there is nothing unusual about the soils and pastures at these landfarms, relative to normal conditions, which occur routinely throughout New Zealand. Furthermore, they indicate that providing the soil fertility is optimised and there is little moisture stress (i.e. they are irrigated), high quality productive and healthy clover-based pastures can be grown on these landfarms.

If the constraints (soil fertility and moisture) were removed it should be possible to grow at least 15 tonnes DM/ha annually, and assuming they are used for dairying, would put the value of the landfarms at about $30-40,000/ha. In their natural state (i.e. before land farming) they were growing low-quality feed and used for dry-stock farming only. There original value would be about $3-4000/ha.

Heavy Metals

Soil (Routine Sampling 0-250mm)

The results from the monitoring of the soils (0-250mm) during the process of disposal of the drilling muds, as required under the consents, are summarized for each site in Table 6 a, b, c:

In all cases the heavy metal concentrations were well below the guideline limits set by the Ministry for the Environment (2003) for the disposal of biosolids.

Table 6a: Summary of heavy metal concentrations (ppm) in the soil (0-250mm) at the Schrider site.

Element	No. samples	Average	Max.	Min.	Limit[1]
As	47	46 < 2[2]	4	< 2	20
Cd	47	all < 0.10[2]	< 0.10	-	1
Cr	50	15	23	8	600
Cu	50	13	25	9	100
Pb	50	3	23	1	300
Ni	50	8	11	5	60
Zn	50	71	100	33	300
Hg	41	all < 0.01[2]	< 0.10	-	1

Note 1) from the Ministry for the Environment 2003
2) for some elements and on some occasions the results were reported at being less than a given limit. It is not realistic in such cases to give an arithmetic mean and hence some indication of the distribution of the results is recorded.

Table 6b: Summary of heavy metal concentrations (ppm) in the soil (0-250mm) at the Geary site.

Element	No. samples	Average	Max.	Min.	Limit[1]
As	33	all < 2[2]	<2	-	20
Cd	33	all < 0.1[2]	<0.10	-	1
Cr	33	15	20	8	600
Cu	33	17	32	7	100
Pb	33	14	48	1	300
Ni	33	7	11	5	60
Zn	33	72	113	33	300
Hg	33	all < 0.1[2]	<0.10	-	1

Note 1) from the Ministry for the Environment 2003
2) for some elements and on some occasions the results were reported at being less than a given limit. It is not realistic in such cases to give an arithmetic mean and hence some indication of the distribution of the results is recorded.

Table 6c: Summary of heavy metal concentrations (ppm) in the soil (0-250mm) at the Brown site.

Element	No. samples	Average	Max.	Min.	Limit[1]
As	24	17 < 2[2]	5	< 2	20
Cd	24	22 < 0.10[2]	0.27	< 0.10	1
Cr	24	11	19	7	600
Cu	24	21	41	15	100
Pb	24	3	8	1	300
Ni	24	6	10	4	60
Zn	24	74	120	49	300
Hg	24	all < 0.01[2]	<0.10	-	1

Note 1) from the Ministry for the Environment 2003
2) for some elements and on some occasions the results were reported at being less than a given limit. It is not realistic in such cases to give an arithmetic mean and hence some indication of the distribution of the results is recorded.

The heavy metal concentrations in the soils (0-250mm), as measured during the process of disposal, were all much less than the set limits, at all three sites.

Soil (normal pastoral soil levels)

The heavy metal concentrations in soils (0-100mm) from surveys conducted from various regions of New Zealand under pasture and non-farmed land uses are summarized in Appendix 1. The Table below (Table 7) compares these typical concentrations (0-100mm) with those found at the three landfarm sites (0-75mm).

Table 7: Comparison of the heavy metal concentrations (ppm) in typical New Zealand pastoral and non-farmed soils (0-100mm) and in the soils (0-75mm) at the three sites; Schrider, Geary and Brown.

Element	Range in mean/median values in NZ farmed or (non-farmed) soils)[1]	Site					
		Schrider		Geary			Brown[2]
				Sample 1[2]	Sample 2[2]		
		Sample 1[2]	Sample 2[2]	Non-irrigated	Non irrigated	Irrigated	Sample 1
Arsenic (As)	3-9 (3-5)	<2	<2	<2	<2	<2	2
Cadmium (Cd)	0.1-0.8 (0.1-0.14)	<0.1	0.11	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1
Chromium (Cr)	8-18 (12-18)	nd	11	nd	11	11	8
Copper (Cu)	10-20 (10-16)	nd	11	nd	20	13	21
Lead (Pb)	6-16 (9-16)	1.6	1.8	3.2	3	1.4	3.6
Nickel (Ni)	4-14 (4-14)	nd	5	nd	5	5	4
Zinc (Zn)	7-79 (28-66)	nd	55	nd	53	57	57
Mercury (Hg)	0.07-0.20 (0.11-0.19)	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1	<0.1

Notes 1) from Appendix 1.
2) samples 1 collected 4 July 2013, samples 2 collected 8 August 2013.

The samples collected on the three landfarms (Schrider, Geary and Brown), were from the depth 0-75mm (the normal depth for testing soil nutrients). The range in the median and mean above, from the surveys, are for soils to a depth of 0-100mm. Data from Waikato survey (Waikato Regional Council 2011) shows that top-soils (0-100mm) are enriched relative to the sub-soils (100-200mm) for Cd, Cr, Cu, Ni but not for the other heavy metals. Thus, the results above for the landfarms (0-75mm) are likely to be elevated to some extend relative to the typical ranges given in Table 7.

These results indicate that the soil heavy metal concentrations are at the low end of the ranges for both farmed (dairying) and non-farmed soils (referred to in the respective reports as either native, indigenous and background).

Pasture (normal levels)

The available information on the heavy metal concentrations in pastures in New Zealand is summarized in Appendix 2.

Table 8: Heavy metal concentrations (ppm) in mixed-pasture from the three sites for samples collected 5 August 2013 (Figures in parenthesis are from samples collected 4 July 2013).

Site	Pasture heavy metal and barium concentrations (ppm)						
	As	**Cd**	**Hg**	**Pb**	**Cr**	**Ni**	**Ba**
Schrider	<0.1 (<0.1)	0.022 (0.033)	0.013 (0.028)	0.039 (0.079)	0.460 (<0.1)	<1 (<1)	42 (33)
Geary Irrigated	<0.1	0.011	<0.01	0.072	0.750	<1	74
Geary non-irrigated	<0.1 (<0.10)	0.025 (0.027)	0.011 (0.029)	0.102 (0.112)	0.600 (0.160)	<1 (<1)	>100 (97)
Brown	<0.1	0.073	0.011	0.104	0.520	<1	71
***Typical*[1]**	*0.07-0.24*	*0.03-0.29*	*na*	*0.10-1.8*	*0.31-0.49*	*0.10-0.20*	*na*

Note 1) see Appendix 2

Consistent with the soil data, these results indicate that there is nothing unusual about the heavy metal concentrations in the pastures from these landfarms relative to normal levels reported for New Zealand pastures.

Barium

Barium sulphate (Barite) is used during the drilling process (Alberta Environment 2009), as noted. This chemical form of barium is practically insoluble and therefore environmentally benign, unlike other barium salts (e.g. barium chloride and nitrate) (Menzies et al 2008). There are currently no guidelines in New Zealand for the disposal of biosolids containing barite. The Canadian Authorities (Alberta Environment 2009) have set remediation guidelines for agricultural land at 10,000 ppm (Barite containing sites) and 750 ppm (non-barite sites).

Table 9 summarizes the soil barium (Ba) data (0-250mm) collected during the disposal phase for the three sites.

Table 9: Total barium (Ba) concentrations (ppm) in the soils (0-250mm) at the three sites during the disposal phase.

Site	No. samples	Average	Max	Min	Limit[1]	No. over limit
Schrider	54	528	5500	17	750 ppm	6
Geary	39	1265	5400	90	750 ppm	11
Brown	15	1860	3200	40	750 ppm	13

Note 1) Taranaki Regional Council, undated, ref: PCDOCS\FRODO\98943\1.

This data suggests that the Ba limit (assuming a non-barite source of Ba) was exceeded at some times, however none of the sites reached levels of 10,000 ppm the guideline for barite sites.

The Alberta Environment (2009) guidelines specify a simple procedure to determine whether barite is present at a specific site. If the extractable Ba (in 0.1M Calcium chloride at a 1:10 ratio) exceeds 250 ppm then it is assumed it is a non-barite site. The results below show that the extractable Ba levels are well below the 250-ppm limit leading to the conclusion that the only source of Ba at these sites is the environmentally benign barite form.

Table 10. The concentrations of extractable and total barium (Ba) in soils and in pastures at the 3 landfarm sites

Site	Extractable Ba (ppm)	Total Ba (ppm)	Pasture Ba (ppm)
Schrider	24	7800	42 (33)
Geary (irrigated)	36	760	74
Geary (non-irrigated)	46	2400	>100 (97)
Brown	31	930	71

This being so, the limit for safe disposal (viz. < 10,000 ppm) applies and this was never exceeded during the disposal process. This is consistent with the measured Ba concentrations in the pastures (Table 8) which indicate levels in the ppm range and not in the percent (%) range as might be expected for a divalent cation such as calcium (Ca) or magnesium (Mg) (c.f. table 5a and 8). This is consistent with the view that barite is not considered bioavailable (Alberta Environment 2009).

Petroleum Hydrocarbons

Soils

The guidelines for the management of petrochemical hydrocarbons (PHC) (Ministry for the Environment 2011) require the monitoring of 3 representative types of PHCs:

a) TPH (Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons) in three classes: C7-C9, C10-C14 and C15-36.
b) BTEX: which includes benzene, toluene, ethyl-benzene and xylene.
c) PAH (Polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons).

Levels of each PHC are set for screening purposes, meaning that if these levels are exceeded, further investigation is recommended.

The measured concentrations of these classes of PHC in the soil (0-250mm) collected during the disposal process for each site are given in tables 11a,b,c below:

Table 11a. Concentrations of various petroleum hydrocarbons (PHC) in the soils (0-250mm) at the Schrider site.

PHC		No. samples	Average	Max.	Min	Limit[1]	No. over limit
TPH	C7-C9	55	50< 8	12	<8	120	0
	C10-C14	55	44< 20	5020	<10	58	3
	C15-C36	55	21<30	19000	<30	4000	4
BTEX	Benzene	43	13<0.05	0.26	<0.03	1.1	0
	Toluene	43	35<0.06	3.23	<0.03	68	0
	Ethylbenzene	43	35<0.05	1.93	<0.03	53	0
	o-xylene	43	23<0.05	4.68	<0.03	48	0
	m&p-xylene	43	31<0.09	13	<0.05	48	0
PAH	Benzo[a]pyrene	37	12<0.02	0.07	<0.02	0.027	1
	Napthelene	37	13<0.10	7.1	<0.10	7.2	0
	Pyrene	37	30<0.09	0.72	<0.02	160	0

Note 1) screening limit set by Ministry for the Environment 2011

Table 11b. Concentrations of various petroleum hydrocarbons (PHC) in the soils (0-250mm) at the Geary site.

PHC		No. samples	Average	Max.	Min	Limit[1]	No. over limit
TPH	C7-C9	32	all<8	<8	-	120	0
	C10-C14	32	29<20	49	<10	58	0
	C15-C36	32	17<30	1400	<30	4000	0
BTEX	Benzene	28	25<0.05	0.20	<0.05	1.1	0
	Toluene	28	25<0.06	0.20	<0.05	68	0
	Ethylbenzene	28	25<0.05	0.20	<0.05	53	0
	o-xylene	28	21<0.05	0.13	<0.02	48	0
	m&p-xylene	28	25<0.09	<0.20	<0.05	48	0
PAH	Benzo[a]pyrene	19	16<0.02	0.40	<0.02	0.027	1
	Napthelene	19	18<0.10	0.12	<0.02	7.2	1
	Pyrene	19	18<0.09	0.19	<0.02	160	0

Note 1) screening limit set by Ministry for the Environment 2011

Table 11c. Concentrations of various petroleum hydrocarbons (PHC) in the soils (0-250mm) at the Brown site.

PHC		No. samples	Average	Max.	Min	Limit[1]	No. over limit
TPH	C7-C9	57	36<8	16	<8	120	0
	C10-C14	57	28<20	5500	<20	58	23
	C15-C36	57	5<30	13500	<30	4000	14
BTEX	Benzene	26	16<0.05	0.08	<0.05	1.1	0
	Toluene	26	16<0.06	0.08	<0.05	68	0
	Ethylbenzene	26	16<0.05	0.16	<0.05	53	0
	xylene	26	14<0.10	0.24	<0.10	48	0
PAH	Benzo[a]pyrene	26	8<0.025	0.028	<0.025	0.027	2
	Napthelene	26	8<0.12	0.30	<0.12	7.2	0
	Pyrene	26	23<0.09	0.28	<0.09	160	0

Note 1) screening limit set by Ministry for the Environment 2011

During the process of disposal there were some occasions when the limits, particularly of TPHs, and particularly on the Brown site, were exceeded. Despite this the BTEX and PAH screening limits were rarely exceeded.

Petrochemical hydrocarbons are biodegradable (Ministry for the Environment 2011) under aerobic soil conditions (as is the case on these sandy soils) and it is likely that the higher rate of exceedances on the Brown site is because this is the most recently completed site. It is anticipated that with time these levels will decline noting that the numerous earthworm casts at all sites indicated an active biomass. This is confirmed by the fact that the TPH concentrations (0-75mm) measured in August 2013 (Table 12) were below the levels of detection on all sites (Table 12).

Table 12: Concentrations of total petrochemical hydrocarbons (TPH) in the soils (0-75mm) at the three landfarm sites (samples collected 5 Aug 2013).

Site	Total Petrochemical Hydrocarbon[1] (TPH) (ppm)			
	C7-C9	C10-C14	C15-C36	Total (C7-C36)
Schrider	<8	<20	<40	<70
Geary Irrigated	<10	<20	<40	<70
Geary non-irrigated	<8	<20	<40	<70
Brown	<8	<20	<40	<70

Note 1) see Appendix 3 for the full results including BTEX and PAH.

The possibility that the TPH levels in these topsoils (0-75mm) underestimate the concentrations in the full profile (i.e. 0-250mm), either due to uneven placement of the drilling wastes in the profile, or their movement down the profile, can be set aside because of the method of disposal required under the consents (surface applied not more than 100mm and incorporated to a depth > 250 mm) and the fact that TPHs are not water soluble.

Pasture

The measured concentrations of these classes of PHCs in the pasture from each site are given in table 13 below:

Table 13: Concentrations of total petrochemical hydrocarbons (TPH) in the pastures at the three landfarm sites (samples collected 5 Aug 2013).

Site	Total Petrochemical Hydrocarbon[1] (TPH) (ppm)			
	C7-C9	C10-C14	C15-C36	Total (C7-C36)
Schrider	<8	<20	58	58
Geary Irrigated	<8	<20	86	86
Geary non-irrigated	<8	<20	71	71
Brown	<8	<20	81	81

1) see Appendix 3 for the full results including BTEX and PAH.

Once again the levels of C7-C9 and C10-C14 TPHs are below the detection limits, as for the soils, but there are higher order TPHs (C15-C36) in the pasture, which

are not present in the soil. The likely explanation for this is that plants manufacture waxes, which are represented in the C15-C36 group of TPH (*pers. comm*. Jo Cavanagh, Landcare Research Ltd)

The concentrations of individual PAHs in the pasture are given in Appendix 3 and for most, the levels are below the detection limit. Plants do not manufacture these compounds and hence any levels above the limit of detection are likely due to plant uptake. However the levels are so low that it is unlikely they would cause a problem in terms of pasture growth, animal health or food quality.

This is consistent with the results from monitoring the concentrations of these compounds in milk from these farms. None have been found (*pers. com*. Mr Andy Fowler, Fonterra, Hamilton).

CONCLUSIONS

Based on the available evidence it is concluded that the Taranaki 'Landfarms' are 'fit for purpose' in terms of pastoral farming and particular dairy farming. This conclusion is based on considering the concentrations of nutrients (both macro and micro), heavy metals, barium and petrochemical hydrocarbons residues in both the soils and pastures at 3 sites.

The re-contoured sand dunes, after the inclusion of the drilling wastes (as per the consents), and with the addition of appropriate fertilisers and water (irrigation) are capable of producing high quality clover-based pastures and thus increasing the value of the land from about $3-4000/ha to $30-40,000/ha.

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Appendix 1a: Heavy metal concentrations (ppm) in non-farmed soils (0-100mm).

Heavy metal	Source of data			
	Rural Auckland[1] (indigenous)	Waikato[2] (background)	Wellington[3] (native)	Range in mean/median values
Arsenic (As)	3.3	5.1 (1-25)	3 (<2-10)	3-5
Cadmium (Cd)	0.14	0.11 (0.03-0.30)	0.10 (<0.1-0.30)	0.10-0.14
Chromium (Cr)	12.5	18 (1-50)	12 (6-18)	12-18
Copper (Cu)	10.1	16 (4-55)	12 (6-22)	10-16
Lead (Pb)	15.8	11 (3-32)	9 (3-15)	9-16
Nickel (Ni)	4.8	3.9 (0.56-21)	14 (16-2-22)	4-14
Zinc (Zn)	40.2	28 (11-58)	66 (40-104)	28-66
Mercury (Hg)	0.11	0.19 (0.19-0.5)	ng	0.11-0.19

Notes 1) Concentrations of Selected Trace Elements for Various Land Uses and Soil Orders within Rural Auckland. Auckland Council Technical Report 2012/021

2) Soil Quality and Trace Element Monitoring in the Waikato Region. Waikato Regional Council Technical Report 2011/13

3) Soil quality and stability in the Wellington Region. State and Trends. Great Wellington Regional Council. 2012

Appendix 1b: Heavy metal concentrations (ppm) in dairy or farmed soils (0-100mm).

Heavy metal	Source of data					
	Auckland (dairying) [1]	Bay of Plenty (dairying) [2]	Waikato[3] (farmed)	Wellington[4] (dairying)	Malborough [6] (dairying)	Range in mean/ median values
Arsenic (As)	3.3	4.9 (SE 1.2)	8.6 (0.70-94)	4 (<2-30)	5.1	3-9
Cadmium (Cd)	0.59	0.75 (SE 0.09)	0.71 (0.10-2.0)	0.5 (0.23-1.3)	0.42	0.1-0.8
Chromium (Cr)	13.1	7.6 (SE 0.8)	14 (1-220)	17 (9.8 – 50)	27	8-18
Copper (Cu)	16	16.1 (SE 3.7)	24 (3-250)	13 (6.8-35)	20	10-20
Lead (Pb)	14.7	5.6 (SE 0.6)	16 (3-95)	16 (7.3-32)	15	6-16
Nickel (Ni)	5.5	6.1 (SE 1.0)	6 (1-34)	12 (4-24)	13	4-14
Zinc (Zn)	43.1	72 (SE 17.8)	62 (1-258)	79 (33-120)	81	7-79
Mercury (Hg)	0.2	0.07 (SE 0.01)	0.16 (0.03-0.5)	ng	ng	0.07-0.20

Appendix 2: Heavy metal concentrations (ppm) in pasture reported in the literature and the Maximum Permissible Levels (MPL) in complete rations.

Heavy metal	**Longhurst[1]**	**Quin[2]**	**Typical**	**MPL[3]**
As	0.07-0.24	ng[4]	0.07-0.24	2
Cd	0.03-0.29	0.05 – 0.08	0.03-0.29	1
Cr	ng	0.34-0.46	0.31-0.49	ng
Cu	9-14	5.4-11.7	5.4-14	ng
Pb	0.10-0.35	0.76-1.80	0.10-1.8	5
Ni	ng	< 0.10-0.20	0.10-0.20	ng
Zn	6.5-40	22-37	6.5-37	ng
Hg	ng	ng	ng	0.10

Notes
1) Longhurst et. al. 2004. Range in mean concentrations across soil groups and plant species
2) Quin and Syers 1978. Range in values for control treatment
3) Maximum permitted levels in complete rations for ruminants (Suttle N. F. 2010)
4) ng = not given

Appendix 3: Laboratory results showing the concentrations of all petrochemical hydrocarbons in 4 soils samples and 4 pasture samples.

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Web www.hill-labs.co.nz

ANALYSIS REPORT

Client:	Eurofins NZ Laboratory Services Ltd	**Lab No:**	1168389	SPv2
Contact:	S Stiles-Jones	**Date Registered:**	17-Aug-2013	
	C/- Eurofins NZ Laboratory Services Ltd	**Date Reported:**	29-Aug-2013	
	PO Box 281	**Quote No:**	56330	
	HAMILTON 3240	**Order No:**	168833HM	
		Client Reference:	3256047	
		Submitted By:	S Stiles-Jones	

Amended Report

This report replaces an earlier report issued on the 26 Aug 2013 at 1:33 pm
Sample IDs have been amended at the client's request.

Sample Type: Soil

		Sample Name:	13508240 (Brown) 09-Aug-2013	13508241 (Geary Unirrig) 09-Aug-2013	13508242 (Geary irrig) 09-Aug-2013	13508243 (Schrider) 09-Aug-2013	
		Lab Number:	1168389.1	1168389.2	1168389.3	1168389.4	
Individual Tests							
Dry Matter	g/100g as rcvd		80	84	75	84	-
BTEX in Soil by Headspace GC-MS							
Benzene	mg/kg dry wt		< 0.05	< 0.05	< 0.06	< 0.05	-
Toluene	mg/kg dry wt		< 0.05	< 0.05	< 0.06	< 0.05	-
Ethylbenzene	mg/kg dry wt		< 0.05	< 0.05	< 0.06	< 0.05	-
m&p-Xylene	mg/kg dry wt		< 0.10	< 0.10	< 0.12	< 0.10	-
o-Xylene	mg/kg dry wt		< 0.05	< 0.05	< 0.06	< 0.05	-
Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons Screening in Soil							
Acenaphthene	mg/kg dry wt		< 0.03	< 0.03	< 0.04	< 0.03	-
Acenaphthylene	mg/kg dry wt		< 0.03	< 0.03	< 0.04	< 0.03	-
Anthracene	mg/kg dry wt		< 0.03	< 0.03	< 0.04	< 0.03	-
Benzo[a]anthracene	mg/kg dry wt		< 0.03	< 0.03	< 0.04	< 0.03	-
Benzo[a]pyrene (BAP)	mg/kg dry wt		< 0.03	< 0.03	< 0.04	< 0.03	-
Benzo[b]fluoranthene + Benzo[j] fluoranthene	mg/kg dry wt		< 0.03	< 0.03	< 0.04	< 0.03	-
Benzo[g,h,i]perylene	mg/kg dry wt		< 0.03	< 0.03	< 0.04	< 0.03	-
Benzo[k]fluoranthene	mg/kg dry wt		< 0.03	< 0.03	< 0.04	< 0.03	-
Chrysene	mg/kg dry wt		< 0.03	< 0.03	< 0.04	< 0.03	-
Dibenzo[a,h]anthracene	mg/kg dry wt		< 0.03	< 0.03	< 0.04	< 0.03	-
Fluoranthene	mg/kg dry wt		< 0.03	< 0.03	< 0.04	< 0.03	-
Fluorene	mg/kg dry wt		< 0.03	< 0.03	< 0.04	< 0.03	-
Indeno(1,2,3-c,d)pyrene	mg/kg dry wt		< 0.03	< 0.03	< 0.04	< 0.03	-
Naphthalene	mg/kg dry wt		< 0.14	< 0.14	< 0.16	< 0.13	-
Phenanthrene	mg/kg dry wt		< 0.03	< 0.03	< 0.04	< 0.03	-
Pyrene	mg/kg dry wt		< 0.03	< 0.03	< 0.04	< 0.03	-
Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons in Soil							
C7 - C9	mg/kg dry wt		< 8	< 8	< 10	< 8	-
C10 - C14	mg/kg dry wt		< 20	< 20	< 20	< 20	-
C15 - C36	mg/kg dry wt		< 40	< 40	< 40	< 40	-
Total hydrocarbons (C7 - C36)	mg/kg dry wt		< 70	< 70	< 70	< 70	-

SUMMARY OF METHODS

The following table(s) gives a brief description of the methods used to conduct the analyses for this job. The detection limits given below are those attainable in a relatively clean matrix. Detection limits may be higher for individual samples should insufficient sample be available, or if the matrix requires that dilutions be performed during analysis.

Sample Type: Soil			
Test	**Method Description**	**Default Detection Limit**	**Samples**
TPH + PAH + BTEX profile	Sonication extraction, SPE cleanup, GC & GC-MS analysis	-	1-4
Dry Matter (Env)	Dried at 103°C for 4-22hr (removes 3-5% more water than air dry) , gravimetry. US EPA 3550. (Free water removed before analysis).	0.10 g/100g as rcvd	1-4

These samples were collected by yourselves (or your agent) and analysed as received at the laboratory.

Samples are held at the laboratory after reporting for a length of time depending on the preservation used and the stability of the analytes being tested. Once the storage period is completed the samples are discarded unless otherwise advised by the client.

Peter Robinson MSc (Hons), PhD, FNZIC
Client Services Manager - Environmental Division

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ANALYSIS REPORT

Client:	Eurofins NZ Laboratory Services Ltd	**Lab No:**	1165426	SPv1
Contact:	K Rhodes	**Date Registered:**	09-Aug-2013	
	C/- Eurofins NZ Laboratory Services Ltd	**Date Reported:**	23-Aug-2013	
	PO Box 281	**Quote No:**		
	HAMILTON 3240	**Order No:**	168833HM	
		Client Reference:	9640618	
		Submitted By:	K Rhodes	

Sample Type: Plant Material

Sample Name:		13P02588	13P02589	13P02590	13P02591	
Lab Number:		1165426.1	1165426.2	1165426.3	1165426.4	
Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons in Biomatter						
Acenaphthene	mg/kg	0.0009	0.0007	0.0006	0.0010	-
Acenaphthylene	mg/kg	< 0.0005	< 0.0005	< 0.0005	0.0006	-
Anthracene	mg/kg	0.0009	0.0023	0.0005	0.0014	-
Benzo[a]anthracene	mg/kg	< 0.0002	< 0.0002	< 0.0002	< 0.0002	-
Benzo[a]pyrene (BAP)	mg/kg	0.0003	< 0.0002	0.0003	< 0.0002	-
Benzo[b]fluoranthene + Benzo[j] fluoranthene	mg/kg	0.0004	0.0003	0.0003	0.0002	-
Benzo[g,h,i]perylene	mg/kg	< 0.0002	< 0.0002	< 0.0002	< 0.0002	-
Benzo[k]fluoranthene	mg/kg	< 0.0002	< 0.0002	< 0.0002	< 0.0002	-
Chrysene	mg/kg	< 0.0002	< 0.0002	< 0.0002	< 0.0002	-
Dibenzo[a,h]anthracene	mg/kg	< 0.0002	< 0.0002	< 0.0002	< 0.0002	-
Fluoranthene	mg/kg	0.0008	0.0004	0.0004	0.0004	-
Fluorene	mg/kg	0.0014	0.0013	0.0010	0.0015	-
Indeno(1,2,3-c,d)pyrene	mg/kg	< 0.0002	< 0.0002	< 0.0002	< 0.0002	-
Naphthalene	mg/kg	0.006	0.007	0.005	0.011	-
Phenanthrene	mg/kg	0.0028	0.0021	0.0016	0.0018	-
Pyrene	mg/kg	< 0.0005	< 0.0005	< 0.0005	< 0.0005	-
Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons in Biota						
C7 - C9	mg/kg as rcvd	< 8	< 8	< 8	< 8	-
C10 - C14	mg/kg as rcvd	< 20	< 20	< 20	< 20	-
C15 - C36	mg/kg as rcvd	81	71	86	58	-
Total hydrocarbons (C7 - C36)	mg/kg as rcvd	81	71	86	< 60	-

Analyst's Comments

Appendix No.1 - Total Petroleum Hydrocarbon Chromatograms

Appendix No.2 - Total Petroleum Hydrocarbon Chromatograms

SUMMARY OF METHODS

The following table(s) gives a brief description of the methods used to conduct the analyses for this job. The detection limits given below are those attainable in a relatively clean matrix. Detection limits may be higher for individual samples should insufficient sample be available, or if the matrix requires that dilutions be performed during analysis.

Sample Type: Plant Material

Test	Method Description	Default Detection Limit	Samples
Homogenisation of Biological samples for Organics Tests	Mincing, chopping, or blending of sample to form homogenous sample fraction.	-	1-4
Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons in Biomatter		-	1-4
Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons in Biota	Sonication extraction, Alumina cleanup, GC-FID analysis	-	1-4

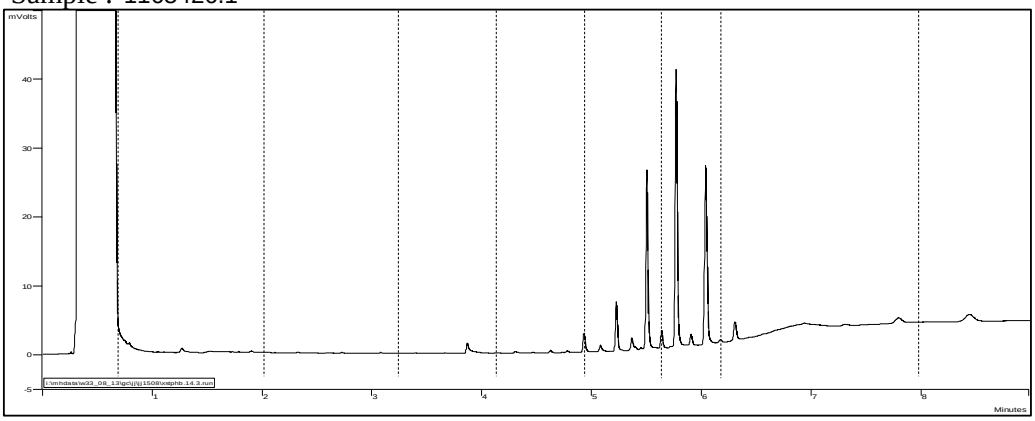
Sample Type: Plant Material			
Test	**Method Description**	**Default Detection Limit**	**Samples**
TPH in Biota extraction by Sonication (Instrument Vial)	Sonication extraction, Silica cleanup, GC-FID analysis.	-	1-4
TPH in Biota extraction by Sonication (Storage Vial)	Sonication extraction, Silica cleanup, GC-FID analysis.	-	1-4

These samples were collected by yourselves (or your agent) and analysed as received at the laboratory.

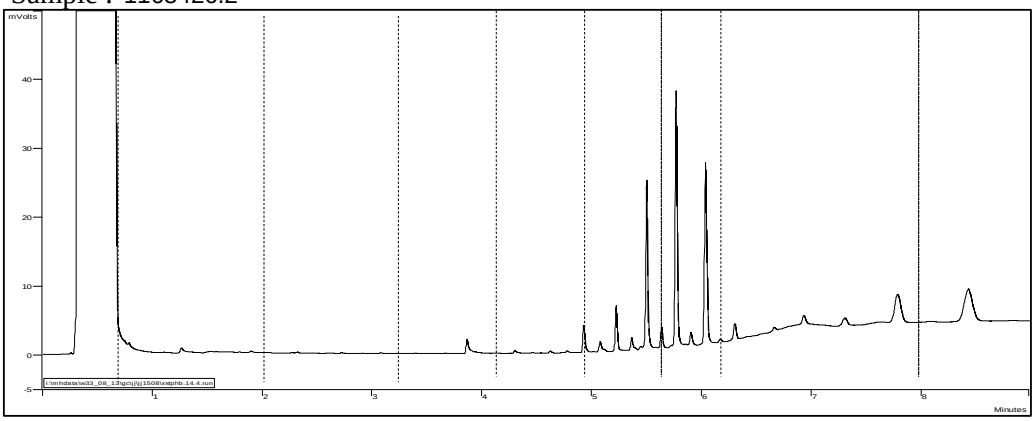
Samples are held at the laboratory after reporting for a length of time depending on the preservation used and the stability of the analytes being tested. Once the storage period is completed the samples are discarded unless otherwise advised by the client.

Ara Heron BSc (Tech)
Client Services Manager - Environmental Division

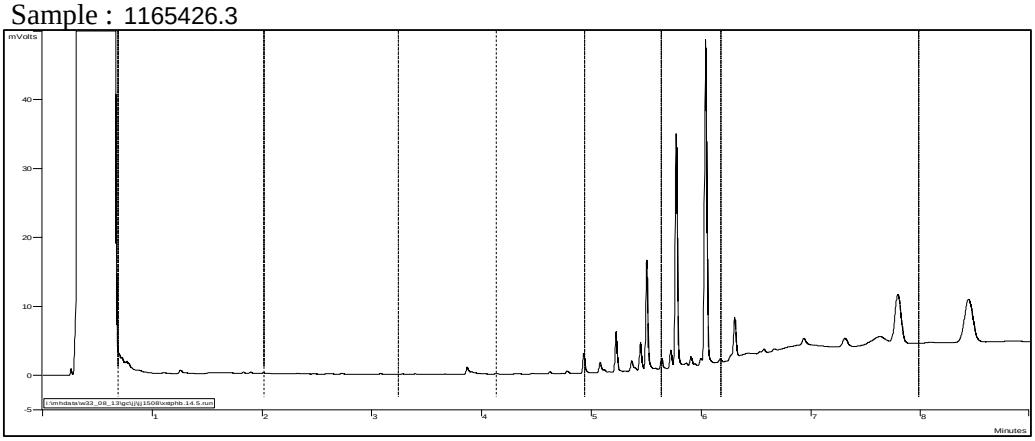
Sample : 1165426.1



Sample : 1165426.2

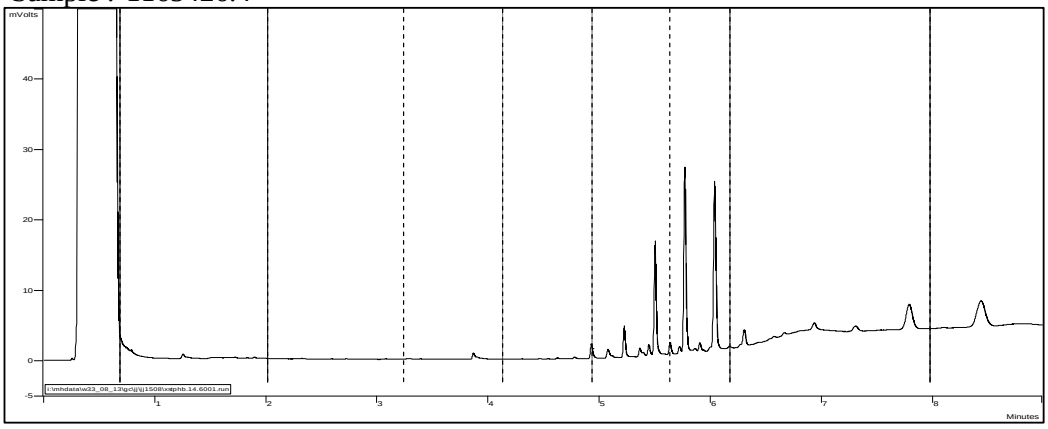


Sample : 1165426.3



C7 C10 C15 C20 C25 C30 C34 C44

Sample : 1165426.4



C7 C10 C15 C20 C25 C30 C34 C44