

Notice: WS14 9PT, Horsley Brook Farms Ltd: environmental permit application advertisement

The Environment Agency consults the public on certain applications for waste operations, mining waste operations, installations, water discharge and groundwater activities. The arrangements are explained in its [Public Participation Statement](#)

These notices explain:

- what the application is about
- how you can view the application documents
- when you need to comment by

The Environment Agency will decide:

- whether to grant or refuse the application
- what conditions to include in the permit (if granted)

Statutory guidance: The Margate and Long Sands European Marine Site (Specified Areas) Bottom Towed Fishing Gear Byelaw

The byelaw was made by the Marine Management Organisation on 2 August 2017, confirmed by the Secretary of State on 1 February 2018 and will come in to force on 1 March 2018.

The purpose of the byelaw is to protect two specified areas of sandbank in Margate and Long Sands Special Area of conservation from the impacts of bottom towed fishing gear.

More information on the site from [Joint Nature Conservation Committee](#).

A signed copy of the byelaw will be provided for inspection by emailing conservation@marinemanagement.org.uk

Consultation outcome: The future for food, farming and the environment

Updated: Summary of responses added.

Leaving the European Union and the Common Agricultural Policy will give us the chance for reform. We want to know your thoughts on the future of agricultural policy in England.

Notice: WV16 6TW, Oakridge Farm Limited: environmental permit application advertisement

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News story: Drone rises to the challenge

The lightweight RISER drone uses lasers to self-navigate deep inside

hazardous facilities where GPS signals cannot reach, and has already been used successfully at Sellafield.

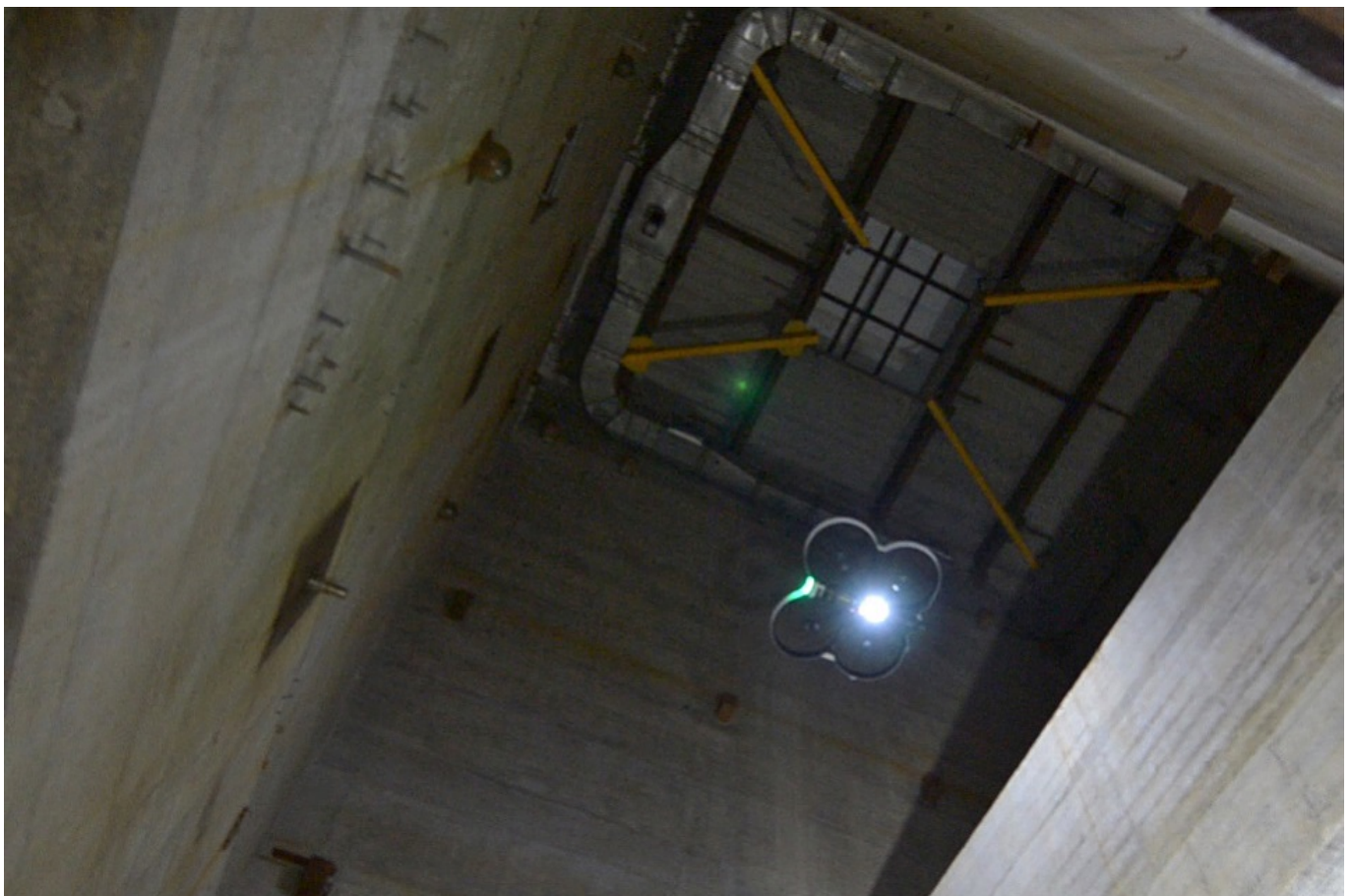
RISER carries a sophisticated radiation detection and mapping system which has been collecting vital information about conditions in the remaining Windscale Pile chimney. More than 60 years after the 1957 fire, the chimney remains highly contaminated.

Using remotely operated equipment is the only way to establish how the chimney can be cleaned out and finally dismantled.

RISER – Remote Intelligence Survey Equipment for Radiation – combines two separate pieces of cutting-edge technology: drones and radiation-mapping software. Each received Research and Development funding through the NDA and fellow government agency, Innovate UK.

In 2009, Createc's N-Visage™ radiation mapping software project was boosted during its critical early stages by a £50,000 investment from the NDA's R&D portfolio.

Three years later, the NDA joined other government organisations to invest further funds in a wide range of innovative nuclear projects. This led to the collaboration between Cockermouth-based Createc and aerial systems specialist Blue Bear, from Bedford. After a series of on-site trials at Sellafield, RISER was put into decommissioning action.



In action at Sellafield

The NDA's Head of Technology, Prof Melanie Brownridge, said:

We are thrilled to see RISER put to work in Japan, and delighted that our early-stage support for the N-Visage system enabled Createc to develop its potential further.

The subsequent collaboration with Blue Bear, again funded by the NDA through an initiative with Innovate UK, led to RISER. This shows the importance of funding innovative ideas through their journey from the drawing board to the market – not just for the NDA's decommissioning mission but for the wider UK and overseas economy.

The N-Visage™ tailor-made technology maps radiation with pinpoint accuracy, producing a high-definition 3D picture of contamination, quickly and safely. Developed and exhaustively tested over a number of years, it was first used inside one of the reactor buildings at Japan's Fukushima-Daiichi plant several years ago, and is now set to return, mounted on the drone. The system can be deployed through small openings, in tight spaces and high-dose environments. Dose to operators is reduced as the technology is remotely deployed.

The drone, or unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV), is less than one metre in diameter and navigates using its own internal 'collision avoidance' capability. Able to manoeuvre accurately inside complex industrial spaces, data is transmitted to the mapping system and clearly displayed, highlighting areas of contamination.