



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **CLARET BRINGS IN ADDITIONAL £235,000** *Wharf Road clean up: state-of-the-art trial in Stamford*

A world-first research project between VHE Group (site regeneration specialists), Interkonsult Ltd (engineering consultants), the British Geological Survey (subsurface imaging specialists) and SKDC will start at Wharf Road car park in Stamford.

The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) Technology Programme has awarded £235,000 from its Contaminated Land Remediation Technologies competition for the trial of new monitoring technology at Wharf Road. This work, known as the CLARET project (Contaminated Land: Assessment of Remediation by Electrical Tomography) will allow real-time monitoring of sites long after the decontamination work has been completed. Electrical probes will be buried in the ground to feed data back to an automated remote control monitoring system.

Pete Rogers from SKDC's environmental health team says: "We're delighted that we have been awarded the maximum grant to undertake our work in Stamford. To simultaneously use the site for the CLARET research project is an incredible opportunity to combine our statutory duty to clean up contaminated land and participate in an innovative, state of the art research project. The CLARET project has the capability of revolutionising how contaminated land is investigated."

SKDC has also secured over half a million pounds to clean up Wharf Road car park. This is the largest sum of money paid to any local authority by the Department of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) in their 2006/07 grant awards. This work has to be done to prevent contamination of the River Welland.

The car park will close on Tuesday 10 April 2007 to allow the decontamination work to begin. Residents who use the car park at night and permit holders have been written to informing them of the closure. One hundred extra spaces will be available at the Cattle Market car park. Signs have been put up giving people this information.

Paul Stokes, SKDC's assets and facilities manager says: "The bi-remediation work has to take place between April and September as this will limit the volume of material which has to be taken off site for treatment."  
SKDC received a further boost recently when it was listed as one of the top twenty local authorities in England for its contaminated land investigation work.

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