Environmental Permit

Environment Protection Act (CAP. 549)

Permit Number:
EP 00154/26

Approved Document:
EP 00154/26/DOC45A

The Environment and Resources Authority (hereinafter the Authority; or ERA) in exercise of its powers under the Environment Protection Act (CAP. 549) and its subsidiary legislation, hereby authorises:

Mr. Antoine Vella (hereinafter "the Permit Holder"),
ID Number: [redacted]

For the operation of a hardstone quarry at:

Quarry exHM09,
Magħlaq Quarry,
Triq il-Panorama,
Qrendi, Malta

This Permit is valid for **two (2) years** from the permit granted date below and subject to the conditions overleaf.

Signed	Date
[redacted] Perit Vincent Cassar Chairperson	Permit Granted: 31.10.2026

Authorised to sign on behalf of the Competent Authority

This permit is being issued solely for the works as per Table 1.1.1 and shall not be construed as an implied commitment for other interventions or for any after-use of the site that is not specifically approved therein, and is being issued strictly without prejudice to any permit, assessment or limitation that may be relevant to any eventual after-use and ancillary works.

Conditions

1 General

The Permitted Installation shall, subject to the conditions of this Permit, be managed, controlled and operated in line with these conditions and shall not extend beyond the site area indicated in the approved site plan.

1.1 Permitted Operations

1.1.1 The Permit Holder is authorised to carry out the operations and the associated operations specified in Table 1.1.1.

Table 1.1.1

Operation	Description of specified operation	Limits of specified operation
Category 1.5 of S.L. 549.172: Backfilling of excavation voids as defined by the Waste Management (Management of Waste from Extractive Industries and Backfilling) Regulations (S.L. 549.50.)	*Deposit, backfilling and stockpiling of inert waste* Backfilling of excavation void with inert waste for final restoration purpose.	From receipt of permitted inert waste to backfilling of excavation void.
	Storage and stockpiling of soil	From receipt of soil used for final restoration of the backfilling of the same excavation void as set out in Schedule 3C

1.1.2 This permit is issued in accordance with Regulation 18(2) of the Flora, Fauna and Natural Habitats Protection Regulations (S.L. 549.44), hereinafter referred to as the said Regulations, for the purpose of exempting the Permit Holder from the prohibitions on Regulation 18(1) of the said Regulations for the operations to be carried out within the Special Area of Conservation of Rdumijiet ta' Malta: Ir-Ramla taċ-Ċirkewwa sal-Ponta ta' Bengħisa (MT0000024).

1.1.3 The quarry is to be restored during the validity of this permit. Failure to completely restore the quarry within this timeframe will result in the forfeiture of the bank guarantee. The permit may not be renewed further to ensure the complete restoration and closure of this quarry.

1.2 Pre-Operational Condition

1.2.1 Prior to any backfilling operations all vegetation, waste and scrap material within the quarry void shall be removed and managed/ disposed of in accordance with the legal provisions laid down in S.L. 549.63 – the Waste Regulations. Moreover, any soil present on site shall be stockpiled and reused for reinstatement purposes. Backfilling of soil is strictly prohibited.

1.3 Improvement Programme (IP) Items

1.3.1 The Permit Holder shall complete the improvements specified in Table 1.3.1 by the date specified in that table and shall send communication of completion on ceu.notifications.era@era.org.mt.

Table 1.3.1

IP Number	Requirement	Deadline
1.	Dismantling and removal of crusher as per approved document **EP 00154/26/DOC45A**	As per approved timeframes in the decommissioning plan.

2 Site Infrastructure and Equipment

2.1 Control of dust, mud and debris

2.1.1 The Permit Holder shall ensure that the entrance and exit of the Permitted Site are constructed with compacted gravel and kept clean and maintained to prevent the transfer of dust, debris, or waste onto public roads. If any dust or debris is observed outside the site, the Authority may take appropriate action.

2.1.2 In the event of windy conditions and/or in the case of failure of the dust mitigation measures leading to abnormal emissions within and beyond the site boundary, the Permit Holder shall cease all operations until the cause is identified, and corrective action taken. The Authority may also direct the suspension of operations where abnormal emissions are observed, notwithstanding the dust mitigation measures being employed at the time.

2.1.3 Should the Authority note that the dust mitigation measures are not effective, the permit may be suspended and/or fines are issued.

2.1.4 All equipment is to be installed and operated in accordance with the manufacturer recommendations, so as to minimise the release of dust to air, land and water. The Authority may also request implementation of further dust abatement measures as deemed necessary.

2.1.5 The Permit Holder shall prevent or where that is not practical, reduce fugitive emissions of substances to air from the Permitted Installation. Particular areas of the operation which may generate dust should be regularly wetted down to mitigate dust emissions onto the surroundings.

2.1.6 Unless otherwise agreed with Authority, all stockpiles of inert material are to be located and managed in such a way as to avoid spillages through wind and run off.

2.2 General Site Infrastructure

2.2.1 The site must be well secured at all times. During non-operating hours the site shall be securely closed and totally inaccessible to third parties, both by vehicle and on foot.

2.2.2 The designated and labelled quarantine area shall be kept within the site boundary to temporarily hold unpermitted wastes that may inadvertently enter the site and shall consist of a non-leaking skip or similar containment. The quantity of waste in the quarantine area shall not exceed the capacity of said containment at any time.

2.2.3 Access to site for backfilling operations shall be limited to existing access roads, avoiding any widening or modification of such roads. Vehicles and machinery using this site as a backfilling facility are to access the site only from the main gate.

2.3 Equipment on Site

2.3.1 All plant equipment and technical means used in operating the Permitted Installation shall be maintained in a good operating condition and without causing polluting emissions, leaks and spillages. Maintenance records of the above shall be kept by the Permit Holder and shall be made available to officers of the Authority for review upon request.

3 Operational Procedures

3.1 Waste Acceptance

3.1.1 This site is authorised to accept inert waste that originates from excavation activities, the construction industry and from the demolition of constructed structures as per Table 3.1.1 below and Schedule 1. **Tarmac or bitumen products originating from road works, scrap, sludges or dredged material are prohibited from entry.**

Table 3.1.1

Waste Type	Description of Waste
Excavation Waste	Waste that originates from rock excavation. This waste shall be free of soil, trees, vegetation or agricultural material
Demolition Waste	Waste that originates from the demolition of structures. This waste **shall not** contain any other waste type such as metal or wood apertures, pieces of clothing, furniture, household goods, mattresses or any other waste. **This waste is to be separated at source and not at the backfilling site of quarry.**
Extractive Waste	Inert waste generated from the extraction of mineral.

Excavated Soil	Soil resulting from construction (excavation) and demolition works. This waste is to consist of soil and stone that is not contaminated with dangerous substances. Such waste shall only be accepted and stored on site for reuse. **Backfilling of such material is strictly prohibited.**

3.1.2 Any mixed waste inadvertently entering the site is to be separated from inert waste prior to being backfilled on site.

3.1.3 Upon visual inspection, the permit holder/staff on site shall refuse the entry of any truck loads whose content is not specified or is uncertain.

3.1.4 The loaded trucks are to proceed to the backfilling area upon clearance from the site entrance/weighbridge operator and start unloading the waste in the locations indicated by the staff.

3.1.5 The vehicles are to tip the waste at the backfilling area and are to exit the site once staff on site give clearance.

3.1.6 Staff shall refuse entry and disposal of waste from contaminated sites (e.g., petrol stations, fuel depots). If such cases arise, measures in Conditions 3.1.7 and 3.1.8 shall be followed. These also apply if oil-stained debris or fuel odours are detected in the tipped waste.

3.1.7 If a truckload contains heavily mixed waste or waste that cannot be backfilled, staff shall reload it onto the delivering truck and direct it to a licensed facility authorized to accept it.

3.1.8 The Permit Holder may refuse the entry of vehicles that repeatedly deliver unacceptable waste loads on site after notifying the Authority of his/her intention to take such action.

3.1.9 For events outline in conditions 3.1.8 and 3.1.9, the following records are to be kept:

3.1.9.1 Delivering truck's registration number and waste carrier permit
3.1.9.2 Transfer truck's registration number and waste carrier permit
3.1.9.3 Disposal receipt (showing date and time) from of the authorised facility

3.1.10 The Permit Holder shall at no time refuse entry to any vehicle registered with the Authority to transport inert and Construction and Demolition waste, unless such waste is not fit for disposal in a facility permitted to accept inert material. This is without prejudice to other ancillary permitted operations onsite.

3.1.11 In the event that staff cannot reload unaccepted waste onto the delivering truck, the waste shall be temporarily stored in the quarantine area and transferred at the Permit Holder's expense to an authorised facility.

3.2 Waste Management

3.2.1 All waste generated on site shall be stored in one designated area on impervious ground. Should there be any kind of waste tyres, these are to be segregated from other waste. At any time, waste tyres shall not exceed a skipload. The area also is to be equipped with properly serviced fire extinguishers.

3.2.2 Records shall be kept for the disposal of all hazardous waste generated from the processes and operations on site, including EWC Code, description, quantities, date of removal, contractor name (including for transport), consignment note number and place of disposal / recovery. Disposal and/or recovery certificates shall be kept on record and made available for inspection for a period of at least 5 years from date of their issue.

3.2.3 Off-site disposal of wastes may only take place at a facility licensed for that purpose.

3.2.4 Disposal certificates shall be kept on record and made available for inspection for a period of five (5) years from their date of issue and shall be made available, upon request, by the Authority.

3.2.5 The incineration of any type of waste or any other material on site is strictly prohibited. On-site disposal of unpermitted wastes by any means including disposal to drain, groundwater or surface water, burying or deposition on land is prohibited.

3.2.6 The Permit Holder shall make use of the services of a registered waste carrier for the transport of waste from the site in accordance with S.L. 549.45. Where the company removes wastes using its own transport the vehicle(s) must also be registered as a waste carrier in accordance with S.L. 549.45. All hazardous waste transferred off the site shall be done via a valid consignment permit.

3.3 Emissions to Air & Effluent Discharges

3.3.1 Should the Permit Holder intend to install equipment, which could lead to additional emissions to air (e.g. generator, etc.), a modification of this Permit must be secured prior to installation and operation of this equipment

3.3.2 No discharges to surface or ground water shall take place from the Permitted installation.

3.3.3 The Permit Holder shall be responsible for ensuring that spillages of oils, fuel and other pollutants into the ground is duly avoided at source through appropriate preventive measures that do not involve any physical modifications to the site. An adequate supply of appropriate spill kits shall be maintained and be readily accessible at designated critical areas.

4. Site Management

4.1 Staff Obligations and Responsibilities

4.1.1 All employees authorised by the Permit Holder to undertake waste management operations on his/her behalf, shall be fully conversant with the obligations of this permit and shall be individually aware of their responsibilities and liabilities in observing the conditions of this permit. They shall be provided with adequate professional technical development and training and written operating instructions to enable them to effectively carry out duties.

4.1.2 One member of the staff shall be nominated as the Technically Competent Person (TCP) of the site, whereby this person is to physically represent the Permit Holder during the times when the Permit Holder will not be available.

4.2 Site Records, Archive & Reporting

4.2.1 A site daily operations log shall be made in a legible manner and kept on site and be made available for inspection by the Authority at any reasonable time. The following information shall be recorded on a daily basis and retained for 5 years:

a. Total amount of waste in tonnes accepted on site;
b. Total amount of waste in tonnes refused entry on site;
c. Total amount in tonnes and specific waste stream transferred from site;
d. Any incidents that took place on site such as mechanical faults in the machinery or equipment used on site, any spills, fires, etc and the remedial action taken;
e. Records related to this Section;
f. Any complaints related to the operations at the site.

Each record shall be compiled within 24 hours of the relevant event and shall be made available for inspection by the Authority upon request.

4.2.2 A full record is to be kept of all the vehicles entering the site carrying waste to be backfilled, their registration plate, date and time of entrance and the tonnage of each vehicle.

4.2.3 Any incident including accidental release of liquid, solid or gaseous materials from the site that could be regarded as causing environmental damage, or as posing a threat of environmental damage, shall be reported not later than within 24 hours to ERA.

4.2.4 The Permit Holder shall ensure that all records required to be kept by this Permit and any other records required by it in relation to the operation of the Permitted Installation shall:

a. Be made available for inspection by the Authority upon request;
b. Be supplied to the Authority on demand and in the format requested;
c. Be legible;
d. Indicate any amendments which have been made and shall include the original record; and
e. Be retained at the Permitted Installation, or other location agreed by the Authority in writing, for a minimum period of 5 years from the date when the records were made, unless otherwise agreed in writing.

5. Cessation of Operations

5.1 The Permit Holder shall notify the Authority prior to ceasing operations permanently in part or in full, whereby an application for cessation of operations shall be made to the Authority and shall include a decommissioning plan.

5.2 In the event that the permitted operations cease unexpectedly and the Permit Holder is no longer interested in pursuing them, the Permit Holder is to notify the Authority within seven (7) days.

5.3 When the Authority deems it necessary, prior to the cessation/closure of the site, the Permit Holder shall carry out any monitoring tests or waste mass stability as indicated by the Authority, which will determine whether the Permit Holder can be released from the obligation of this permit.

5.4 All obligations of this permit shall subsist until such time that the Authority notifies the Permit Holder in writing that all obligations and conditions of the permit have been fulfilled to its satisfaction.

Upon receiving official documentation from the Authority that confirms the site's closure, the Permit Holder is automatically responsible for fulfilment of post-operational requirements, including but not limited to the assurance that the site is properly secured and that it cannot in any possible way be used as an illegal dumpsite or be accessed for fly tipping.

6. General Conditions

6.1 This permit is granted saving third party rights and without prejudice to any other legislation or regulations or authorisations required from any other competent authorities, landowners or site managers.

6.2 The Authority may carry out pre-set or unannounced compliance or monitoring compliance checks and take any actions necessary in line with CAP 549 at the Permit Holder's expense; during which any part of the site can be accessed and photographed and may request any documentation as necessary. Any checks or audits carried out by the Authority may be made at the Permit Holder's financial expense at a rate and arrangement communicated by ERA.

6.3 The Authority may amend any of the conditions of this permit.

6.4 The Permitted Installation shall be managed, controlled, supervised and operated by staff that are aware of the importance of environmental protection and suitably trained on the requirements of this Permit.

6.5 Upon the joint application of a Permit Holder and a proposed transferee, the Permit Holder may request to transfer an environment permit. The permit shall not be transferred from the Permit Holder without prior approval from the Authority. Upon the Authority's decision to transfer the permit to the transferee, all rights, obligations, liabilities shall subsist onto the transferee.

6.6 This permit is issued against a bank guarantee of **€10,000** which shall be renewed annually. This guarantee shall be maintained throughout the validity of the permit and may require amendments following renewal and/or modifications and/or variation.

6.7 The Authority may withdraw funds from the bank guarantee for any breach of permit conditions, instructions or any other non-compliance. This does not preclude further enforcement action by ERA. If funds are withdrawn, the Permit Holder shall replenish the guarantee within two (2) months. Release of the Bank Guarantee is subject to the Authority's confirmation of full compliance.

6.8 Further to condition 6.7, the Authority shall withdraw the entirety of the bank guarantee value stipulated in condition 6.6 if the site is not fully restored as per original contours within two (2) years from the granting of this Permit, as stipulated in condition 1.1.3.

6.9 In cases where the bank guarantee does not cover the expenses incurred by the Authority to take remedial action on the Permit Holder's behalf, the Permit Holder is to financially reimburse the Authority for such expenses incurred.

6.10 A copy of this permit shall be available at all times at the site office, including any Modification Notices or amendments to it.

6.11 The Authority may request monitoring and/or review of operational practices and commission any audits/reports as deemed necessary to address any circumstances that may affect the quality of the surrounding environment, at the expense of the Permit Holder.

6.12 Without prejudice to Condition 6.10, the Authority may take any action deemed necessary, including the suspension of any activity or operation, pending the outcome of investigations or where non-compliance with permit conditions is identified.

6.13 Whenever there is a conflict between the conditions of this Permit and approved documents, the conditions of the Permit shall prevail.

6.14 The Permit Holder may apply for a modification in permit and shall seek the Authority's written agreement prior to any operational changes, by sending to the Authority:

a. Written notice of the details of the proposed change, including an assessment of its possible effects (including changes in emissions and waste production) on the environment from the Permitted Installation;
b. Any relevant supporting information (e.g. chemical/fuel consumption, technical details, changes in the type/use of substances/mixtures, etc.);
c. Assessments and drawings, and;
d. The proposed implementation date.

Any such change shall only be implemented following the issue of a modification/variation of the permit by the Authority.

6.15 Permit Holder shall notify the following matters to the Authority in writing at least 10 working days prior to their occurrence:

a. Any change in the Permit Holder's trading name, registered name or registered office address;
b. Any change to particulars of the Permit Holder's corporate identity.

6.16 The permitted operation shall at no time exceed the original site levels and be contiguous with surrounding contours and shall be restored in line with the Natura 2000 Management Plan for Rdumijiet ta' Malta - ix-Xaqqa to Bengħisa Management Plan. The closure of the site shall begin when the Permit Holder notifies the Authority that the site is nearing its closure and the site is being prepared for its final levels.

7. Submissions

7.1 All reports and submissions required by this Permit shall be made and sent to the Authority addressed to the Compliance and Enforcement Unit on ceu.notifications.era@era.org.m.

7.2 The weighbridge shall be maintained, calibrated and certified by a warranted engineer or by the manufacturing company annually. The certificate is to be submitted to the Authority annually as part of the Annual Environment Report as per condition 7.3.

7.3 The Permit Holder shall also submit to the Authority an Annual Environmental Report (AER) of the previous year by not later than end of March of each year, providing the information listed in Schedule 2 of this Permit and in the format specified therein. It shall also be ensured that all certification and documentation as per Schedule 2 are submitted according to the relevant timeframes therein.

7.4 As part of the Annual Environment Report in Schedule 2, the Permit Holder shall include an Annual Declaration (template of which is found in Schedule 4) by an independent body (an independent warranted architect, engineer or environment consultant) confirming that waste used for backfilling was suitable inert waste substituting non-waste materials. Such declaration is to be supported by a concise report carried out also by an independent body and shall include:

a. A Quarterly review of the data on waste collected by the Permit Holder at acceptance stage on site, and
b. Details of associated site visits carried out by the independent body on a quarterly basis.

In cases where during the reporting year, no backfilled material was accepted within the facility from outside sources, a declaration by the permit holder shall suffice.

7.5 The Permit Holder shall within one (1) month from the date of this permit provide details to the Authority via ceu.notifications.era@era.org.mt for approval of the appointed independent body that shall be responsible for the carrying out of the site visits, quarterly review and the provision of the Annual declaration. Should the Permit Holder for any reason require to appoint a different independent body other than the one originally notified to the Authority, the Authority is to be informed immediately about such change.

Schedule 1

Complete List of Permitted Waste on Site

01 01 02	Waste from mineral non metalliferous excavation
01 04 08	Waste gravel and crushed rocks except those mentioned in 01 04 07 (wastes containing dangerous substances from physical or chemical processing of non-metalliferous minerals)
01 04 09	Waste sand and clays
01 04 13	Wastes from stone cutting and sawing except those mentioned in 01 04 07
17 01 01	Concrete except that mentioned in 17 01 06 (mixtures of, or separate fractions of concrete, bricks, tiles and ceramics containing dangerous substances.)
17 01 02	Bricks
17 01 03	Tiles and ceramics
17 01 07	Mixtures of concrete, bricks, tiles and ceramics other those mentioned in 17 01 06
17 02 02	Glass
17 05 04	Soil and stones (excluding soil and stones from contaminated sites)

Schedule 2

Annual Environment Report and Submissions

Important note
By this submission, you confirm that you give your consent for the entire contents of this Annual Environment Report to be made available on the Authority's public website.

S2.1 Introduction

Environmental Permit Number	
Reporting Year (Calendar Year: 1 January to 31 December)	
Name and locality of Site	
Brief description of operations at the site	

S2.2 Waste Records

S2.2.1 Mineral Waste Records

Mineral waste treatment sites				
Site I.D _____				
			Amount in Tonnes	**Specification**
Section 1	Waste Input	Mineral waste from Construction & Demolition (including civil engineering)		
		Excavation waste		
		Asphalt or tarmac waste		
		Soil		
		Sub-Total		
Section 2	Waste Treatment	Backfilling of Construction & Demolition waste (in own quarry site)		
		Backfilling of Excavation waste (in own quarry site)		
		Back-filling (e.g. crushing)		
		Other (please specify type)		
		Sub-Total		
Section 3	Material Output (after waste treatment of C&D waste)	Aggregates for concrete		
		Aggregates for roadworks		
		Crushed material as torba		
		Crushed material for backfilling		
		Other (please specify type)		
		Sub-Total		
	Material Output (after waste treatment of Excavation waste)	Aggregates for concrete		
		Aggregates for roadworks		
		Crushed material as torba		
		Crushed material for backfilling		
		Sub-Total		

			Amount in Tonnes	Specification
Section 4	Waste Output (resulting after treatment) - *Ex: Wood, plastic, metals*	Total amount (please specify destination)		

S2.2.2 Waste Records (waste removed from site)

Waste Type		Amount (tonnes / number)		Location of Disposal
Tyres				
Scrap metal				
Others (please specify):				
Hazardous waste type	**EWC Code[1]**	**Consignment note number**	**Destination**	**Quantity (tonnes)**
Off-site transfers of hazardous waste (please specify, eg: Waste Oils, Batteries):				

The Permit Holder or TCP is also obliged to send to the Authority on a report on the following information:

a. Vehicles refused entry
b. Registration plates and Company name of vehicles who brought in unacceptable waste loads

S2.3 Fuel Consumption Data

Equipment (boiler, generator, non-road mobile machinery, crushers etc)	**Fuel type**	**Fuel Consumption**	**Units**
			Litres
			Litres
			Litres
			Litres

[1] European Waste Codes Catalogue
https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:02000D0532-20150601&qid=1475495799963&from=EN

S2.4 Incidents and Complaints

S2.4.1 Non-Compliance Incidents during Reporting Year

Date of incident	Brief description of Incident	Cause	Corrective action

Total number of non-compliance incidents for the previous reporting period:	
Total number of non-compliance incidents for the current reporting period:	

S2.4.2 Complaints made by the public or through Authority

Date of complaint	Description of complaint	Actions taken

Total number of complaints for previous reporting year: [i]	
Total number of complaints for current reporting period:	

S2.5 Submission of Certifications and Documentation

Please attach supporting documents with the following:

Documentation	Submission Date	Tick (✓)
Weighbridge calibration certification as per condition 7.2.	Every year	☐
Submission of Annual Declaration annually as per condition 7.4.	Every year	☐

Permit Holder's declaration

I declare that, to the best of my knowledge, all the above information is correct and substantiated.

……. ……. ……

Name *(in block letters)* **ID Card Number** **on behalf of / in my own name** *(in block letters)*

……. …….

Signature **Date**

Schedule 3A

Site Map

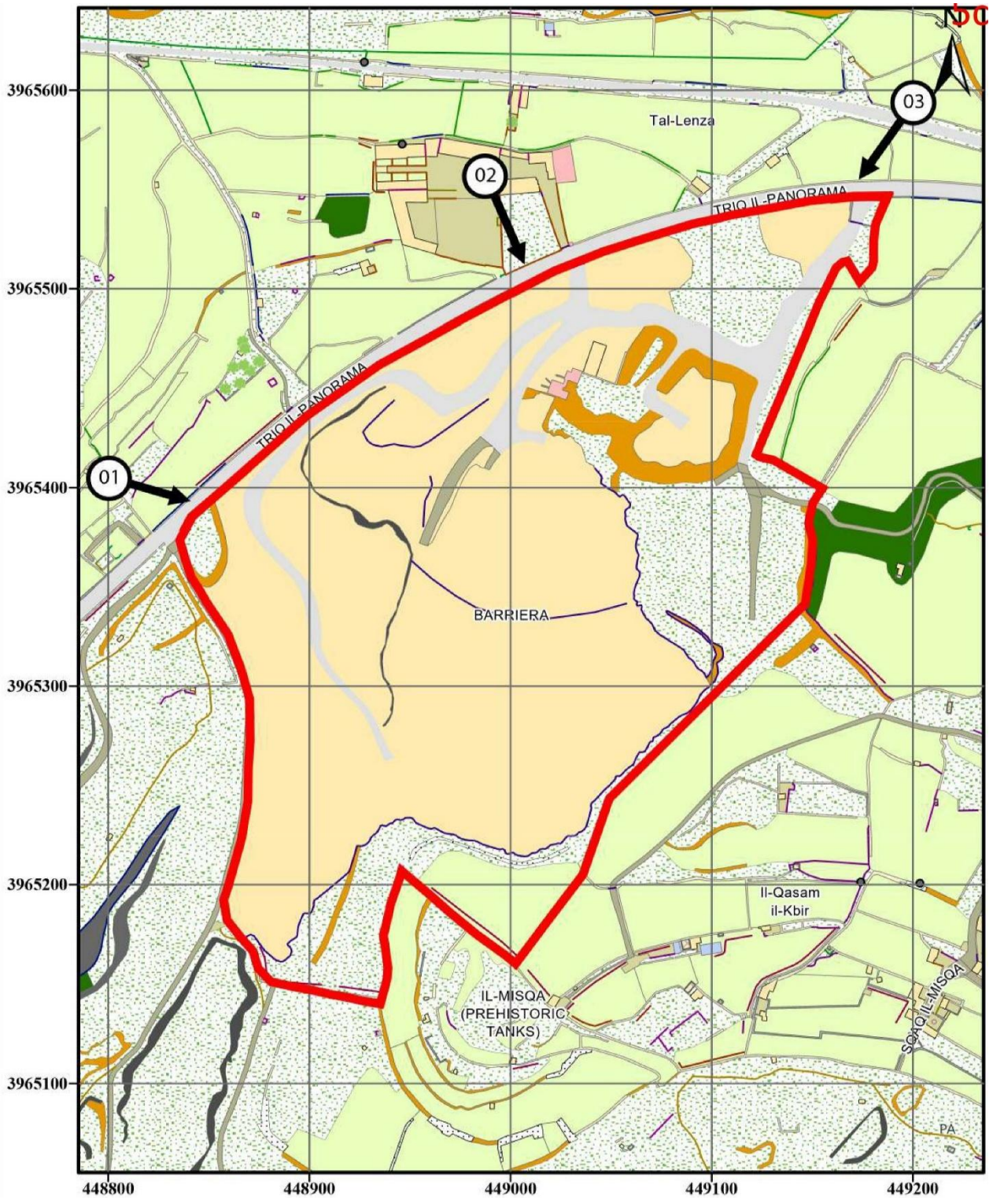


Fig. 3.1: Site of installation outlined in red, showing extent of area authorised for operation for the carrying out of the operations specified in Condition 1.1.1. The extent of the site boundary shall not be used for interpretation purposes

Schedule 3B

Site Layout Plan

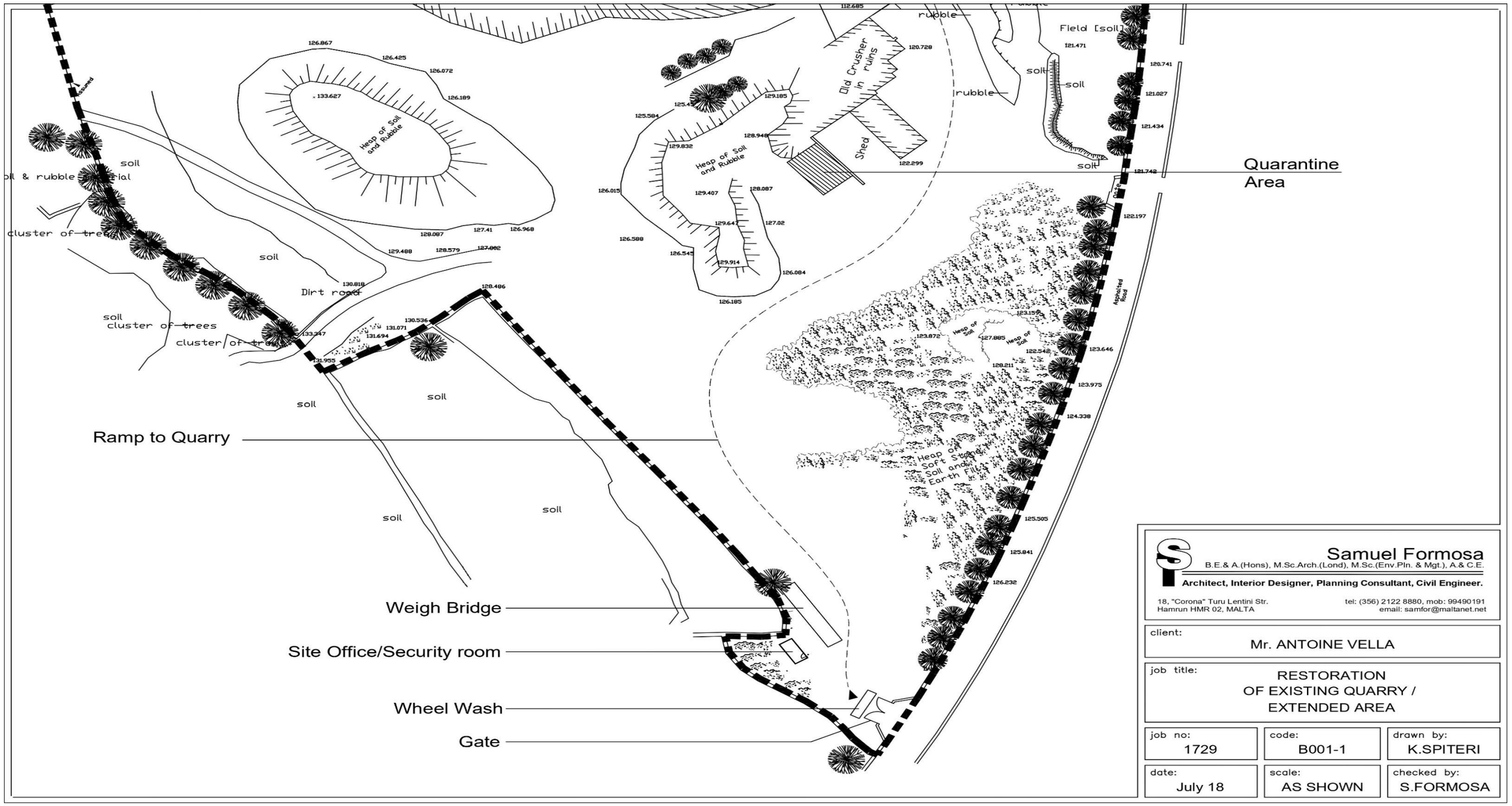


Fig. 3.2: Site of installation, showing extent of area authorised for operation for the carrying out of the operations specified in Condition 1.1.1. The extent of the site boundary shall not be used for interpretation purposes

Schedule 3C

Site Layout Plan showcasing void where backfilling will take place (1)

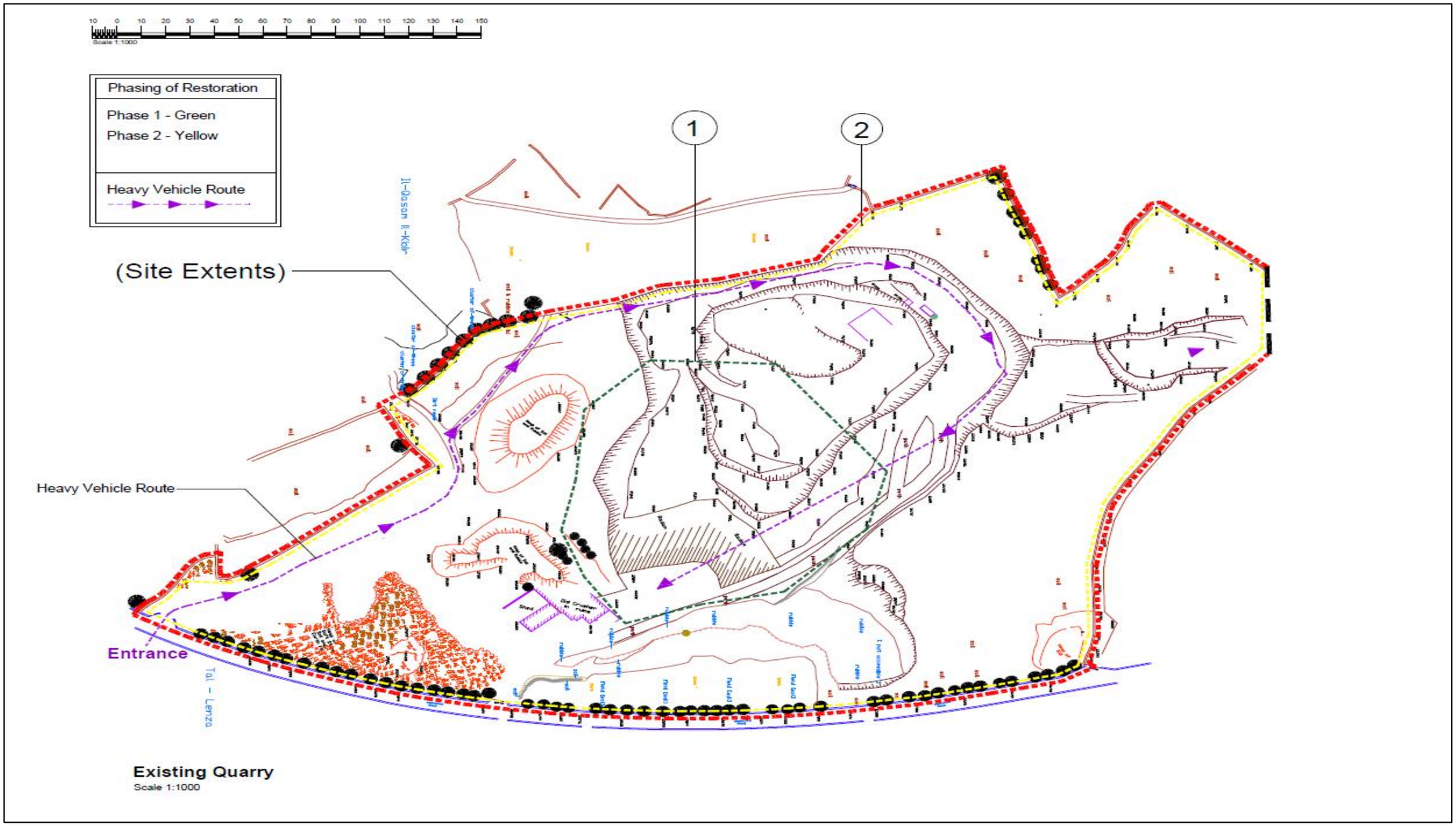


Fig. 3.3: Site of installation, showing extent of area authorised for operation for the carrying out of the operations specified in Condition 1.1.1. The extent of the site boundary shall not be used for interpretation purposes

Schedule 4

Annual Declaration Template

I, the undersigned, appointed by _____ as an independent body hereby declare that the waste used for backfilling at _____ during the year _____ was suitable non-hazardous waste substituting non-waste materials.

I hereby also attach a report substantiating the above as per condition 7.4.

I certify that the above information is complete, correct and to my best knowledge:

Name: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____

END OF PERMIT