

CASE STUDY

Brownfield application: Restoration of former colliery sites

Background

UK Coal (formerly RJB Mining), needed to restore and landscape colliery sites at Askern and Rossington, near Doncaster and the Thoresby colliery at Mansfield. Their objective was to develop sustainable green cover, in the form of grassland and combined grassland/woodland planting.

Soil-forming material was required as the inert colliery materials that form the basis of site landscapes have little or no ability to sustain plant growth.

LimeX was chosen to fulfil this task as it is a high-quality liming material, with excellent soil-forming properties; due to its pH-ameliorating characteristics and integral nutrient content.

Application

1. Availability of LimeX

LimeX was supplied from the Newark Sugar Factory, one of the four production sites serving the UK. The nature of the product allowed quick, fuss-free loading.

The delivery schedule was arranged around the precise requirements of UK Coal's restoration team and utilised the cost-efficiency of bulk-load articulated vehicles.



2. Colliery site before LimeX application

The extensive sites at Askern and Rossington had been resistant to natural recovery and were barren to plant life.



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0870 240 2314 or visit limex.co.uk

3. Application of LimeX

The site received the LimeX over a period of c.18 months, aligned to the restoration programme.

The product was applied to the existing material using a bulldozer, followed by deep cultivation, to a depth of 25-30cm.



4. Restored site

LimeX's integral nutrients naturally accelerated the development of the planting scheme, and a low-maintenance green landscape was achieved within the same growing season as the remedial application.

Since then, the site has become fully integrated into its surrounding area.



UK Coal's Civil Engineer, Martin Brumby, was delighted with the results, saying "The nutrient content of LimeX, along with its ease of use and rapid action, provided us with a perfect base for grass, clover, trees and shrubs; it solved a difficult problem in a remarkably quick timeframe."

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LIMEX