

Borders Railway Project Edinburgh, Midlothian and Borders

In May 2013, Hydracrat Ltd were employed by Cementation Skanska as part of a BAM lead project team to undertake the Mining Investigation on a large infrastructure project South of Edinburgh for the new Borders Railway Project, to recommence rail journeys from the Borders region to the capital.



The project entailed the deployment, daily management and planning of multiple rotary drilling units and crews over a linear route spanning several miles of new and historic railway route. Each borehole was specifically targeted to investigate risks to the construction of the railway line.

Hydracrat were originally tasked with completing 31 boreholes with a total project meterage of over 1100m. A mixture of flush types and drilling techniques were used with the primary goal to obtaining high quality rock cores for the mitigation and subsequent grouting of abandoned mining workings. Several call-back projects were also been completed by Hydracrat after the initial phase of works.

Health and safety was a major focus during the works and Hydracrat worked closely with our clients in order to achieve the best, safest outcome for the project.

“Over a period of 18 months, Hydracrat successfully provided a number of services including Rotary Coring, installation of Water Monitoring Boreholes and associated testing/monitoring to Cementation Skanska on the prestigious Borders Railway contract. They were always able to accommodate the tight programme requirements and provided an efficient and professional service, meeting the high safety standards demanded by BAM Nuttall and Network Rail.”

Jonathan Proctor, Operations Manager for Cementation Skanska