



South Caucasus Pipeline

Written Scheme of
Investigation
Archaeological Excavation

Contract No: C.03.BTC-55942
Contract Amendment No: 01 Attachment 2
WSI Item No. KP 318 SCP

This represents the scope of work to be conducted at the above site agreed between COMPANY and CONTRACTOR. Any deviation from this work needs to be prepared in writing and signed by COMPANY REPRESENTATIVE (R Kingham) and CONTRACTOR REPRESENTATIVE (G. Goshchar).

Payment will be made for work completed in accordance with the following formula from the start date.

Comencement Date:
Completion Date

This represents the scope of work to be conducted at the above site agreed between COMPANY and CONTRACTOR. Any deviation from this work needs to be prepared in writing and signed by COMPANY REPRESENTATIVE (R Kingham) and CONTRACTOR REPRESENTATIVE (G. Goshchar).

Payment will be made for work completed in accordance with the following formula from the start date.

Comencement Date:
Completion Date

Wayne Wheeler, BTC Project Manager

Date:

Goshchar Goscharli, IoAE Project
Manager

Date:

Site: xxx, xxx Region KP333
Coordinates 8595208 4527376
Height 260m

The site is at KP333 is on level ground on the river terrace on the west side of the Shamkirchai river. The area is arable land.

The site was identified in May 2005 following topsoil stripping for the SCP pipeline. A roughly circular spread of large stones was very clearly visible in the stripped surface. This area had a diameter of approximately 25m, occupying most of the working width, from just inside the northern edge-of-easement, to the topsoil-stack side of the running track. The area of stones forms a slight mound. There was a considerable quantity of stones on the topsoil stack, indicating that the upper layers of the feature had been disturbed during topsoil stripping. There were no prior indications of the presence of this feature, and it was not seen during the construction of the BTC pipeline.

Significance

This site appears to be the remains of a *kurgan* or burial mound. Typically, these would have a central underground burial chamber, covered by a mound of stones and earth. This form of burial is particularly associated with the Bronze Age, but earlier and later examples are known.

Project Aims and Objectives

- 1 Identification of the nature and extent of the mound.
- 2 Recovery of material to allow accurate dating of the use of the site, both through stylist study of artefactual material, or use of organic material for radiocarbon dating
- 3

Methodology

Topsoil has already been removed from the site by CCIC machinery to a depth of 15cm. Archaeological excavation will be conducted using hand labour.

The site appears to be a single monument, with visible remains on the exposed surface. Because of this, full excavation of the feature is appropriate. This poses problems for access for construction traffic during excavation, and the method of excavation will have to take this into account.

A 60m length of the pipe has been stacked away from the site, to create a working area and to allow vehicle access to the subsoil side of the spread. It is proposed that half of the feature to the north of the running track should be excavated first. This side of the site will then be backfilled and consolidated to allow the running track to be diverted over it. The half of the site beneath the present running track, alongside the topsoil stack can then be excavated.

If, at any stage, it becomes clear that the feature is not a burial mound, any further excavation will be limited to a 4m wide strip along the pipe centreline.

The area of excavation will be decided on site, by the archaeological representative of the Company in consultation with IoAE personnel, and will initially extend no more than 1m beyond the visible limit of the stone spread.

Recording

Layers of stones will be carefully cleaned, planned and photographed, before removal. Soil layers will be removed in spits, carefully cleaning the exposed surface after each spit is removed in order to detect any features which may be present.

The photographic record will be both in film and digital format, and will include both record shots and photographs of the work in progress. All record shots will include a suitable scale, a north arrow and a

board showing the Project Code, Site Code and Layer or Feature Number.

Plans, based on measurements from a baseline to 1cm accuracy, will be drawn at a sufficiently large scale to show all significant detail. The Project Code and Site Code, a north arrow, and an indication of the scale will be included on all plans.

Written records will be made of all parts of the work. Features, such as graves, pits, postholes or ditches, will be given numbers. Finds will be identified to the feature from which they came using this numbering system, allowing correct stratigraphic relationships to be determined. To avoid any confusion, numbers will on no account be changed once they have been assigned; if the interpretation of a particular feature is altered, the original number will become void.

Finds

All artefacts will be retained and examined on site. Artefacts will be identified by Project code, Site Code and Feature Number (SCP05, KP333, Q__). A selection of the most diagnostic sherds will be retained for study at the IoAE offices in Baku. The remainder of the pottery will be discarded.

Diagnostic material will be retained.

Environmental

Material with environmental potential will be retained for analysis.

Programme and Resources

According to the latest archaeological programme, the work is scheduled to start on 3rd July 2005, although this is subject to change.

Staff allocated to the site will be

- 1 One BTC archaeologist
- 2 Two IoAE archaeologists
- 3 One CCIC Driver.
- 4 15 site labourers

Resources will consist of

- 1 Ganja Guesthouse
- 2 Site tent
- 3 CCIC Vehicle
- 4 Digital camera
- 5 Total station, as required
- 6 Drawing equipment
- 7 Drawing film
- 8 Plastic bags
- 9 Other equipment as needed

Area of Investigation

A drawing will be prepared showing the area to be excavated. In addition, the area of the trench will be marked out on the ground.