

Media Release

Unique All-in-One Property Environmental Report Goes Live

The Coal Authority has today launched a unique all-in-one residential property environmental report to provide conveyancers with quick, easy and cost-effective access to the information necessary to assist them in progressing property transactions.

Enviro All-in-One is available exclusively at www.groundstability.com and provides homebuyers and their legal advisers with everything they need to know to ensure their home has been built on safe ground.

The comprehensive report combines the Coal Authority's coal and brine mining report with a specialist environmental screening report from GroundSure, which covers historical land use, flood risk in England and Wales, natural subsidence hazards and risk from contaminated land.

Enviro All-in-One also brings together authoritative information from a number of official sources including natural subsidence hazard data from British Geological Survey, flood data from the Environment Agency, as well as the Authority's extensive information on past, current and future underground and surface coal mining activity.

Philip Lawrence, Coal Authority Chief Executive, said "We're aware that conveyancing solicitors are facing challenging times, with margins being squeezed and the ongoing pressure to complete transactions quickly. The Coal Authority is delighted to be launching Enviro All-in-One with GroundSure to provide fast and cost-effective access to all the authoritative information necessary to allow buyers and their legal advisers make a more informed choice in their property transactions. Ground stability, flood and contaminated land risk are serious issues for homebuyers and Enviro All-in-One offers an exceptional level of easy-to-interpret information."

Implementation of Part IIA of the Environmental Protection Act (1990) placed potential liability for the cleaning up of contaminated land on the current owner or occupier where a "past polluter" cannot be traced. The GroundSure section of Enviro All-in-One is a fully-interpreted and risk-rated environmental screening report, with a "Passed / In Need of Further Assessment" certificate.

Unlike many other environmental searches, Groundsure environmental consultants review on an individual basis any reports that identify potential ground contamination issues before issuing them to the client. Enviro All-in-One also includes a flood screening assessment to give clear guidance on fluvial and tidal flood risk.

Conveyancers have a duty of care to make buyers aware of the risk of subsidence and contaminated land. Enviro All-in-One is a cost-effective way to satisfy the Law Society's due diligence requirements in respect of these issues. The report is also accepted by all major UK mortgage lenders.

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Note for Editors

The Coal Authority is located at Mansfield, Nottinghamshire, was established under the Coal Industry Act 1994 and is sponsored by the Department of Energy and Climate Change. We work to protect the public and the environment in coal mining areas and manage the effects of past coal mining by: working to protect old coal mines from affecting people and property, and dealing with any emergencies; helping to clean up water from coal mines; and providing information about coal mining. We also licence companies to mine coal in Britain.

GroundSure

GroundSure is a leading geo-spatial environmental property intelligence company and a leading provider of environmental data solutions, search reports and associated environmental consultancy services across the UK. GroundSure is based in Brighton and was formed in 2001. In 2007 GroundSure was acquired in its entirety by Emap, the business to business, multi platform media group.

Media contact:

John Delaney
Corporate Affairs Manager

200 Lichfield Lane
Mansfield
Nottinghamshire
NG18 4RG

Tel: 01623 637000
Fax: 01623 427316
Email: [johndelaney@coal.gov.uk](mailto: johndelaney@coal.gov.uk)