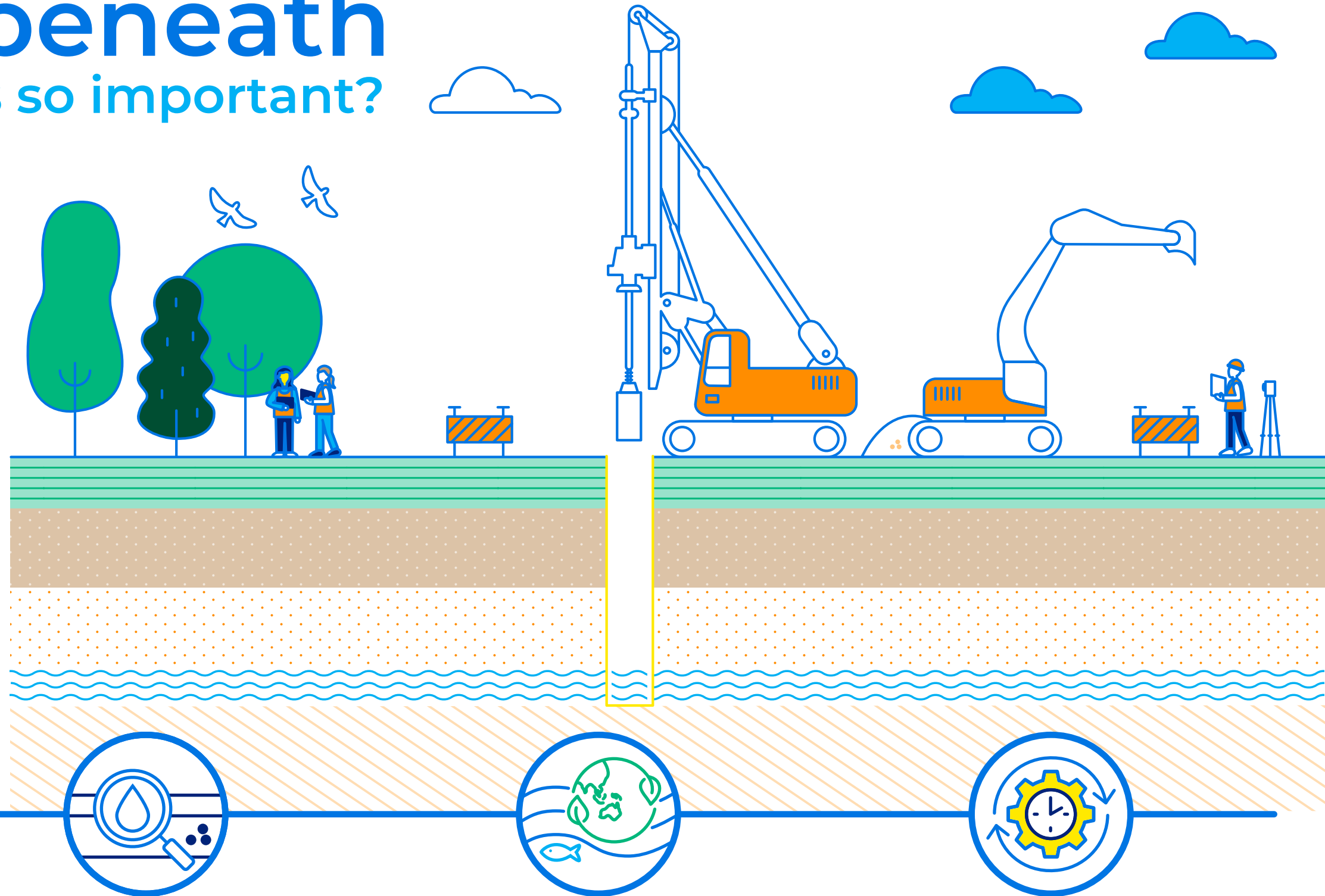


# What lies beneath

## Why are early works so important?

Early investigation works help us design the best outcome to provide healthy water for life for our customers, community and environment while complying with regulations. Further benefits include:



### Risk mitigation

Early works help identify potential risks and challenges early in the project. Understanding the site's geological and environmental conditions helps inform the design, identify any safety risks including troublesome ground conditions, and mitigation measures to manage these risks. This approach can save money and time during construction.

### Design optimisation

Our team use information from geotechnical investigations to design the asset that is best for the specific soil type. This ensures that our new assets are installed using the best construction method to reduce the risk of issues such as sinking and the chance of failures.

### Environmental protection

Ecological surveys identify and document plant and animal species at the construction site to help us understand the site's biodiversity. The surveys also assess the condition of existing habitats, including wetlands, forests, meadows, and aquatic ecosystems. This approach is essential for evaluating the potential impact of construction on these habitats. Contamination investigations help identify any hazardous materials, chemicals or pollutants on the site so we can safeguard the environment and address potential issues before construction begins.

### Project scheduling

Having a clear understanding of site conditions allows our project team to create better schedules. They can plan the time and resources needed for tasks such as excavation, construction, and soil remediation, reducing the risk of schedule delays.