6. Aqueous composition according to any of the previous claims, wherein the said talc is a microcrystalline talc having a d_{50} of 10 µm or lower, such as 5 µm or lower, such as ranging from 0.5 to 3.0 µm, such as about 1.0 µm, or about 2.0 µm.

7. Aqueous composition according to any of the previous claims, wherein the ratio of surfactant to water is in the range of 0.05 to 5 wt.-%.

8. Aqueous composition according to any of the previous claims, wherein the ratio of particulate inorganic powder to water is in the range of 1 to 60 wt.-%.

9. Aqueous composition according to any of the previous claims, wherein the particulate inorganic material is a mixture of perlite and talc.

10. Aqueous composition according to any of the previous claims, wherein the composition further comprises a contaminant, such as for example clay.

11. Use of a particulate inorganic material in the preparation of a foam used in tunnel excavation, wherein the said particulate inorganic material is talc or a combination of talc and a particulate inorganic material selected from the group consisting of perlite, bentonite, wollastonite, an alkaline earth metal carbonate or sulphate, such as calcium carbonate, for example, natural calcium carbonate and/or precipitated calcium carbonate, magnesium carbonate, dolomite, gypsum, aluminosilicate such as kaolin, mica, diatomaceous earth, vermiculite, pumice, magnesium hydroxide, aluminium trihydrate, or zinc oxide, and wherein the foam comprises a surfactant and the weight ratio of particulate inorganic powder to surfactant is in the range of from 500:1 to 1:1.

12. Method for preventing the clogging of a wide boring apparatus in tunnel boring by excavated spoil, comprising the use of an inorganic particulate material in an aqueous composition, such as an aqueous suspension or an aqueous foam, wherein the said particulate inorganic material is talc or a combination of talc and a particulate inorganic material selected from the group consisting of perlite, bentonite, wollastonite, an alkaline earth metal carbonate or sulphate, such as calcium carbonate, for example, natural calcium carbonate and/or precipitated calcium carbonate, magnesium carbonate, dolomite, gypsum, aluminosilicate