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The London Resort Development Consent Order (BC080001)

As you are very aware the London Resort DCO application was accepted by the Secretary of State on 28th January 2021 and, subsequent to this decision, Natural England served their Notification on 11th March 2021. The Notification is inevitably relevant to the London Resort DCO application as a large part of the land within the Order Limits is now proposed to be designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).

At this stage, we anticipate that the SSSI Notification should not necessitate any material change to the London Resort DCO application. This assessment is made by reference to the Order Limits, description of development and the parameters of the application submission.

The Notification clearly changes the ecological status of the Kent site, the relevant policy context in determination of the DCO application and, in turn, will require revision to a series of application submissions. We would, at present, anticipate that this should include:

- 1. Part 4: Compulsory Acquisition information (Funding Statement and Statement of Reasons);
- 2. Part 6: Environmental Impact Assessment and habitats regulations information (including Environmental Mitigation Statement; Habitat Protection Plan; Transport Assessment) and;
- 3. Part 7: Other documents (including Planning Statement; Economic & Regeneration Statement and Lighting Statement).

The Applicant has also now had sight of Natural England's Relevant Representations and intend to respond comprehensively to the identified requirements and to further engage in order to deliver an effective and robust on-site and off-site mitigation strategy in acknowledgment of the SSSI Notification. This will require a process of positive engagement with Natural England (and other stakeholders) which has commenced but will take time and commitment by all parties.







We are satisfied that the publication of the SSSI Notification by Natural England six weeks following the Acceptance of the London Resort DCO application presents an exceptional set of circumstances and justifies a proportionate response in the further programming of the Examination. We are also very mindful of the need to progress with the DCO timeline and, as far as possible, to ensure that the revisions to the submissions prepared in support of the application are addressed during the pre-Examination phase.

We continue to review and audit the application submissions in response to the Notification and will keep you informed of those submissions which will, and will not, be updated in response. However, we consider from this point in time that it will be necessary to secure an additional four months prior to the start of an Examination to allow for any necessary update to the application submissions.

We are, in this context, aware that the DCO programme has not yet been published, and we make this request now to limit the impact of any programme changes upon the Examining Authority and any Interested Parties.

I look forward to receiving your early response.

Yours sincerely

Christopher Potts

Director