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Ms McKay
The Planning Inspectorate
National Infrastructure Planning
Temple Quay House
2 The Square
Bristol BS1 6PN

10 March 2021

Copied to Ms Gregory, Case Manager (sizewellc@planninginspectorate.gov.uk)

Dear Ms McKay

Application EN010012 for The Sizewell C Project by NNB Generation Company (SZC) Limited (“SZC Co.”)

We write further to your letter, dated 25 February 2021, regarding your request for further information from SZC Co. [\[PD-012\]](#).

Request for plans and viewpoints

The 25 February 2021 letter requested the submission of a series of plans in relation to Change Number 2 (Enhancement of the permanent beach landing facility (“BLF”) and temporary BLF), Change Number 6 (Change to the SSSI crossing design to a single span bridge with embankments) and the original Application submitted in May 2020. These plans are provided in a package entitled the “*Main Development Site Permanent and Temporary Beach Landing Facility and SSSI Crossing Plans*” (Doc Ref. 2.5) submitted with this letter. The package includes the following plans:

Drawing Number	Drawing Title	Plan applies to proposals as submitted in May 2020 or proposed changes submitted in January 2021
SZC-SZ0100-XX-000-DRW-100200	Key Plan - Rule 17 Request for Further Information	Not applicable
SZC-SZ0100-XX-000-DRW-100201	Permanent BLF Typical Plans and Sections (May 2020) - Rule 17 Request for Further Information	Relates to DCO submission May 2020
SZC-SZ0100-XX-000-DRW-100202	Permanent BLF Typical Plans and Sections (Jan 2021) - Rule 17 Request for Further Information	Relates to DCO change submission January 2021
SZC-SZ0100-XX-000-DRW-100203	Temporary BLF Typical Plans and Sections (Jan 2021) - Rule 17 Request for Further Information	Relates to DCO change submission January 2021
SZC-SZ0100-XX-000-DRW-100204	Operational SSSI Crossing Typical Plans and Sections (May 2020) - Rule 17 Request for Further Information	Relates to DCO submission May 2020
SZC-SZ0100-XX-000-DRW-100205	Operational SSSI Crossing Typical Plans and Sections (Jan 2021) - Rule 17 Request for Further Information	Relates to DCO change submission January 2021
SZC-SZ0100-XX-000-DRW-100206	Construction SSSI Crossing Typical Plans and Sections (May 2020) - Rule 17 Request for Further Information	Relates to DCO submission May 2020

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SZC-SZ0100-XX-000-DRW-100207	Construction SSSI Crossing Typical Plans and Sections (Jan 2021) - Rule 17 Request for Further Information	Relates to DCO change submission January 2021
SZC-SZ0100-XX-000-DRW-100208	Bailey Bridge Stage SSSI Crossing Typical Plans and Sections (May 2020) - Rule 17 Request for Further Information	Relates to DCO submission May 2020
SZC-SZ0100-XX-000-DRW-100209	Bailey Bridge Stage SSSI Crossing Typical Plans and Sections (Jan 2021) - Rule 17 Request for Further Information	Relates to DCO change submission January 2021
SZC-SZ0100-XX-000-DRW-100210	Main Development Site General Arrangement Extract - Rule 17 Request for Further Information	Relates to DCO change submission January 2021

Please note that no lighting is proposed on the permanent SSSI crossing and therefore no further information is provided beyond that already provided in SZC Co.'s January 2021 submission.

The 25 February 2021 letter also requested the submission of a representative view/elevation of the SSSI crossing from the west side looking east. This is provided in the "Illustrative View of the Proposed Change to SSSI Crossing Western Viewpoint" (Doc Ref. 6.15) submitted with this letter.

In addition to the plans requested by the ExA, submitted with this letter are revised construction parameter plans for the Main Development Site (Doc Ref. 2.5(C)), which amend minor errors that have come to light since these plans were submitted to the ExA in January 2021 in respect of the BLF parameter zones shown on the plans. The changes only affect the key plan and sheets 1 of 4 and 3 of 4, however the complete set of construction parameter plans for the BLF have been submitted for ease of reference. These plans are for approval.

Change Number 2: Enhancement of the permanent BLF and temporary BLF

The design change to the marine infrastructure is explained in detail in the **ES Addendum** (Doc Ref. 6.14) and is summarised below:

Enhancing the permanent BLF

- Adding a temporary grounding platform to allow the facility to receive more regular Abnormal Indivisible Load deliveries by sea.
- Extending the length of the pier to better align the barge deck with the platform, making deliveries safer and more efficient.

New temporary BLF

- Providing an approximately 505m long temporary BLF, to allow the delivery of predominantly bulk construction materials by sea.
- Installing a covered conveyor on the deck of the BLF, to bring the bulk materials ashore without the need for dumper trucks.

This change would bring the benefit of reducing HGV movements on the public highway. It received in-principle support from a number of respondents at public consultation and responds to the strong policy support for marine transport.

Change Number 6, Change to the SSSI crossing design to a single span bridge with embankments

The design change to the SSSI crossing is explained in detail in the **ES Addendum** (Doc Ref. 6.14) and is summarised below:

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- Replacing a culvert over Leiston Drawn with a bridge, to bring several improvements for ecology and resilience to flooding.
- Reducing the angle of the eastern (seaward) embankment, to allow for more substantial planting and to help integrate the crossing into the wider landscape.
- Increasing the angle of the western (landward) embankment, which is generally less visible from public viewpoints, to avoid taking land from Sizewell Marshes SSSI unnecessarily. The amount of land take from Sizewell Marshes SSSI would be reduced by Change Number 6 by 0.08ha.

Consultation responses show that the change is widely recognised to be beneficial.

Approach to flexibility

PINS' Advice Note Nine "Using the Rochdale Envelope" (July 2018) recognises that large scale infrastructure projects may require an element of flexibility within clearly defined parameters.

The Sizewell C Project, like most other nationally significant infrastructure projects consented through the development consent process, is a complex development that must satisfy a wide range of operational and regulatory requirements. The design process is lengthy, subject to extensive consultation and requires continuous refinement. That refinement process extends beyond the granting of the DCO. In addition, experience at Hinkley Point C has been that even the most carefully prepared application can require revision through the process of contracting and detailed design for project implementation if too much detail is committed to prematurely. The scale and intensity of the project once construction begins is such that unnecessary long delays through formal DCO change applications must be avoided if possible.

The proposed changes to the application continue to apply a parameter-based approach to the SSSI crossing and marine transport infrastructure, which is consistent with the Advice Note. The submission continues to establish a likely worst-case scenario to assess the likely significant environmental effects and then consistently applies that approach across all relevant application documents. Care has been taken to ensure that sufficient detail is provided to enable a proper and robust assessment process in accordance with Advice Note Nine.

The **draft DCO** [\[AS-143\]](#) will secure delivery of the infrastructure within the boundaries set by the parameters and other relevant certified documents.

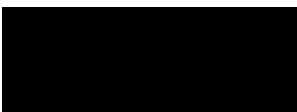
Navigation Document

Attached is a revised version of the **Navigation Document** (Doc Ref. 1.3(F)).

Taking matters forward

We trust that the provision of the above information addresses the requests made in your letter, dated 25 February 2021 [\[PD-012\]](#). Please do not hesitate to contact me if I can help in any way to further clarify any matters associated with this letter.

Yours sincerely



Carly Vince

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Chief Planning Officer

List of supporting documents:

- Navigation Document (Doc Ref. 1.3(F))
- Main Development Site Permanent and Temporary Beach Landing Facility and SSSI Crossing Plans – Plans Not For Approval (Doc Ref. 2.5) Part 1 of 2
- Main Development Site Permanent and Temporary Beach Landing Facility and SSSI Crossing Plans – Plans Not For Approval (Doc Ref. 2.5) Part 2 of 2
- Main Development Site Construction Parameter Plans (Doc Ref. 2.5(C))
- Illustrative View of the Proposed Change to SSSI Crossing Western Viewpoint Figure 1.1 (Doc Ref. 6.15)