Submission ID: 26416

Plots subject to Compulsory Acquisition.

Subsequent to the applicant's submission of the DCO, trees or posts adjacent to a number of small plots of land had affixed to them notices proposing ".....to compulsorily acquire land and/or interests in land of which the ownership is currently unknown." One such notice applied to Plot No 32/13 for the Acquisition of Rights by the Creation of New Rights or the Imposition of Restrictive Covenants over approximately 11 square metres of land being private road and verge (King [sic] Lane), and public Bridleway (COW/I73013) lying west of King's Barn Farm and south east of Taintfield Farm in the parish of Cowfold CP.

It was only by chance that a Kent Street resident saw this notice and brought it to the attention of those potentially affected. i.e. the residents of King's Lane. The applicant has listed in the Book of Reference (Document No. APP-026), all interested parties who have existing rights related to this plot and other similar plots. This plot is referenced but the applicant nor its agents made any attempt to contact those affected parties directly; just relying on a randomly placed notice. This is another example of the Applicant's inadequate attempt to consult with affected persons.

Once we were aware of this notice, we took steps to tour the area to identify other similar notices, of which were there several, and inform the locally potentially affected people; most of whom had no idea that these notices were being posted. This is not consultation nor did the applicant take any steps to find out whether its assumption that this small piece of land has no registered owner is correct or not. Plot 32/13 is contiguous with the end of King's Lane and should be identified as part of plot 32/12, especially when one considers the vagueness of some land registry maps and the thickness of lines indicating boundaries between plots of land.

Notwithstanding the above, those who have existing rights over these pieces of land, which Rampion's agents claim have no known owner, need to know what the applicant's intentions are for these pieces of land, on whom acquisition orders would be placed and what it intended to do with these pieces of land once its direct interests have passed. I request the right to be heard at any forthcoming compulsory acquisition hearings.