

From: [REDACTED]@southdowns.gov.uk>
Sent: 28 November 2024 13:04
To: Rampion2
Subject: Request by SoS for Further Information - EN010117

Categories: EO

Good morning,

Further to the letter dated 25 November from John Wheadon - Head of Energy Infrastructure Planning Delivery (DESNZ), the South Downs National Park Authority provide the following response to the further information requested from them.

Securing trenchless crossings underneath Irreplaceable Habitats and SSSIs

The Applicant, NE, and SDNPA should provide views on the following possible drafting for a new Requirement 46 'Crossing Schedule', of the DCO:

“(1) No stage of the authorised development shall commence until a trenchless crossing plan showing the final locations and extent of each trenchless crossing in that stage and its compound has been submitted to and approved by the relevant planning authority. (2) The trenchless crossings in the relevant stages shall be undertaken in accordance with the approved details.”

SDNPA Response: The Examining Authority (ExA) proposed an additional requirement in the Schedule of Proposed Changes to the draft Development Consent Order [PD-013], which required trenchless crossing plans showing the final locations and extent of each trenchless crossing and its compound to be submitted to the relevant planning authority, prior to any stage of the authorised development commencing. SDNPA confirmed in our response to the Further Written Questions as Deadline 5 [REP5-I43] that such a requirement would help overcome our concerns relating to trenchless crossings within the South Downs National Park. Therefore, we welcome the inclusion of a new Requirement 46 'Crossing Schedule'.

The SDNPA would respectfully request that the original wording of the Requirement, as originally suggested by the ExA, is considered as an alternative to the wording proposed above. The ExA's original wording in PD-013 required the details to be submitted before any stage of the authorised development rather than for each trenchless crossing in the respective stages. The trenchless crossings, particularly those at Michelgrove Park and Sullington Hill, are substantive works that would likely be scheduled midway in the construction programme. Should any matters arise that indicate either crossing could not be delivered via trenchless means, could result in much wider impacts on the proposed development.

If you require any further information, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,

Vicki Colwell [REDACTED]
Principal Planning Officer
South Downs National Park Authority
[REDACTED]

