THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (EXAMINATIONS PROCEDURE) RULES 2010 THE CORY DECARBONISATION PROJECT DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER PINS REFERENCE EN10128

DEADLINE 3: PORT OF LONDON
AUTHORITY'S RESPONSE TO EXAMINING
AUTHORITY'S WRITTEN QUESTIONS



Set out below are the Port of London Authority's comments on the Examining Authority's written questions and requests for information issued on 20 December 2024 directed at the Port of London Authority.

ExQ1	Question to:	Question	Port of London Authority Response
Q1.8.1.1	PLA	Article 7 - Disapplication of legislative provisions The PLA's comments are sought on the Applicant's Response to Interested Parties' Deadline 1 Submissions document [REP2-019], in respect of the PLA's observations regarding the drafting of Article 7	As highlighted in the Applicant's response [REP2-019] this now relates to Article 8 (Interaction with the 1968 Act) rather than Article 7 (Disapplication of legislative provisions). The PLA has no concerns with Article 7. The drafting needs to capture/deal with a number of different scenarios (relating to different works in different locations and possible variations or removals to those works). The PLA and the Applicant have had to exchange numerous iterations of the drafting and to meet to go through some of the points. The PLA believes that agreement has now been reached on the drafting of Article 8 and that the Applicant will include the agreed drafting in the updated dDCO to be submitted at deadline 3. The PLA will confirm if this is the case at deadline 4.

Q1.10.05	PLA	Removal and/or dispersive dredging Would the provisions in Article 27 of the dDCO [REP2-004] and the proposal in paragraph 6.2.5 of the CoCP Revision C [REP2-008] that any alternative to backhoe dredging would be agreed with the PLA, MMO and EA address the PLA's concerns [REP2-026]? Please explain why, or why not, and advise whether any additional measures would need to be put in place.	The provisions and proposals referenced do not address the significant concerns of the PLA. The PLA notes that the Mitigation Schedule [REP1-011] includes removal dredging by backhoe as an embedded mitigation. The Environmental Statement concludes that with this embedded mitigation there would be a moderate adverse (significant) impact to water quality and therefore additional controls are proposed including sediment sampling. Depending on the results of the sediment sampling further controls such as using a closed grab for dredging are then set out (see Environmental Statement Chapter 22 Summary of Effects pages 32-43 [APP-071]).
			Given how fundamental removal dredging and sediment sampling are to the conclusions of the Environmental Statement, if the Applicant is contemplating dispersive dredging as an alternative to backhoe dredging then this should be assessed as a worse case in the Environmental Statement now so that the ExA and IP's have the opportunity to review it and comment on it.
			Whilst the reference to the PLA and the cross reference to the protective provisions in paragraph 6.2.5 is helpful, the words "unless other agreed" introduces possible alternative methodologies in the Code of Construction Practice ("CoCP") without the necessary assessment being carried out. This is of concern given the comments above and on this basis the CoCP as currently drafted does not address the PLA concerns.