Department for Energy Security & Net Zero

3-8 Whitehall Place London SW1A 2AW

Web: <u>https://www.gov.uk/desnz</u>

To: SSE Slough Multifuel Limited Our Ref: EN010129

06 October 2023

Dear Sir or Madam,

Planning Act 2008 and the Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010

Application by SSE Slough Multifuel Limited ("the Applicant") for an Order granting Development Consent for the proposed Slough Multifuel Extension ("the Proposed Development")

## POINTS OF CLARIFICATION

- 1. Following the completion of the Examination on 26 June 2023, the Examining Authority submitted a Report and Recommendation in respect of its findings and conclusions on the above Application to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero ("the Secretary of State") on 11 September 2023. The statutory deadline for taking a decision on the application for development consent is 11 December 2023.
- 2. The Secretary of State would be grateful if the Applicant could provide clarification on the matter set out below.

## **Biosecurity measures – the Applicant**

- 3. The Secretary of State notes that the Environmental Statement [APP-035] (10.8.17) concludes that there would be no effect from the Proposed Development on the spread of Invasive Non-Native Species (INNS), partly on the basis of biosecurity measures being secured and employed. In response to the Examining Authority's First Written Questions (ExQ1), the **Applicant** stated [REP2-020] that biosecurity measures are addressed in the existing Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) to prevent the spread of INNS.
- 4. However, the Secretary of State can see no reference to INNS or relevant biosecurity measures in the existing CEMP [APP-062]. The Secretary of State notes that biosecurity measures are specified in your supporting Environmental Statement (10.8.15 10.8.17). The Applicant is invited to clarify how biosecurity

measures to prevent the spread of INNS will be secured as part of the Proposed Development, to include any updated documents as required.

- 5. Responses to the requested information should be submitted by email only to <u>SloughMultifuelProject@planninginspectorate.gov.uk</u> by 23.59 on 13 October 2023.
- Responses will be published on the Slough Multifuel Extension project page of the National Infrastructure Planning website as soon as possible after 13 October 2023:

https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/south-east/sloughmultifuel-project/

7. This letter is without prejudice to the Secretary of State's consideration of whether to grant or withhold development consent for the Slough Multifuel Extension or any part of the project. Nothing in this letter is to be taken to imply what the eventual decision might be or what final conclusions the Secretary of State may reach on any particular issue which is relevant to the determination of the application.

Yours sincerely,



John Wheadon Head of Energy Infrastructure Planning Delivery Department for Energy Security and Net Zero