

Gate Burton Energy Park

EN010131

Written Summary of the Applicant's Oral Submissions at Issue Specific Hearing 4 (ISH4), Compulsory Acquisition Hearing 2 (CAH2) and Open Floor Hearing (OFH3) on 14 December 2023
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1. Introduction

- 1.1.1 An Issue Specific Hearing, Compulsory Acquisition Hearing and Open Floor Hearing were held concurrently at 10:00am on 14 December 2023 using the virtual platform of Microsoft Teams, in relation to the Applicant's Change Request [**CR1-042**] and in accordance with Regulations 14, 15 and 16 of the Infrastructure Planning (Compulsory Acquisition) Regulations 2010 respectively.
- 1.1.2 The Examining Authority ("**ExA**") and representatives of the Applicant were the only attendees at the virtual meeting. Ms Amy Stirling (Senior Associate Solicitor at Pinsent Masons LLP – the Applicant's legal advisers for the Application) and James Dewey (Director and Head of Compulsory Purchase at Gateley Hamer – the Applicant's land agents for the Application) provided responses to questions from the ExA. It is Ms Stirling's and Mr Dewey's oral submissions that are summarised in this document.

2. Overview of Oral Submissions by the Applicant

- 2.1.1 The ExA noted that the Change Request seeks compulsory acquisition powers over additional land and asked for an update on the ongoing discussions with Knightwood Trust Farms Limited ("**Knightwood**") regarding the voluntary acquisition of rights over its land.
- 2.1.2 Mr Dewey, on behalf of the Applicant, summarised that the Applicant has responded to Knightwood's concerns and continues to negotiate with Knightwood on the commercial terms that will enable the cable easement to pass through its land. The latest correspondence from Knightwood was received on 13 December 2023 and Mr Dewey confirmed that there is a good prospect of agreement being reached in advance of Deadline 6.
- Post-hearing submission:** the Applicant continues to engage with Knightwood and is hopeful that an agreement will be reached before the end of Examination.
- 2.1.3 The ExA then asked for an update on the status of the Statement of Common Ground ("**SoCG**") that is being negotiated between the Applicant and Trent Valley Internal Drainage Board ("**IDB**").
- 2.1.4 Ms Stirling, on behalf of the Applicant, confirmed that her understanding was an almost final version has been circulated to Trent Valley IDB for agreement so there is a high prospect of the SoCG being agreed by Deadline 6.

Post-hearing submission: The Applicant has submitted the Final Statement of Common with Trent Valley IDB at Deadline 6.

- 2.1.5 More broadly, Ms Stirling confirmed that the Applicant is aware that Deadline 6 is the final substantive deadline and is on track to submitting all documents it considers necessary, including the final draft development consent order and anything outstanding SoCGs.