

Our reference ROGEJC/HENSM/43283-4279

9 January 2024

National Infrastructure Planning Temple Quay House 2 The Square Bristol BS1 6PN

Dear Sirs

DCO Scheme: West Burton Solar (EN010132)

Our Client: Network Rail Infrastructure Limited

Applicant: West Burton Solar Limited

Subject: Network Rail Infrastructure Limited's Response to the First Written Questions dated 15 December 2023

This Firm is instructed by Network Rail Infrastructure Limited (**NR**) in relation to the DCO Scheme and we write in response to the First Written Questions dated 15 December 2023.

1. <u>Q1.4.6. – Compulsory Acquisition, Temporary Possession and Other Land or Rights Considerations</u>

Noting the update set out in the Schedule of Progress regarding Protective Provisions and Statutory Undertakers [REP1-046] and the content of the draft Statement of Common Ground [REP1-066] both provided at Deadline 1, Network Rail is asked to please:

- a) Explain how the proposed acquisition of new rights/restrictive covenants over plots 06-068, 06-069, 06-070, 06-071, 06-072, 06-073, 06-074 and 06-083 would affect Network Rail's undertaking.
- b) Comment on the additional inclusion of plots 05-063, 05-063a and 06-077 as relating and relating to Network Rail interests.
- c) Comment further on the status of negotiations over protective provisions and to identify any likely obstacles to reaching an agreement before the close of the Examination.

NR Response:

(a) The proposed acquisition of the new rights/ restrictive covenants over plots 06-068, 06-069, 06-070, 06-071, 06-072, 06-073, 06-074 and 06-083 may adversely impact the ability of Network Rail to provide a safe and efficient operational railway without the necessary protections and provisions in place.

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- (b) NR are in the process of conducting internal investigations as to the likely impacts that the scheme will have on the rights held in respect of plots 05-063, 05-63a and 06-077, and will provide a more comprehensive response to this part (b) as soon as they are able.
- (c) The Protective Provisions are currently under negotiation and Network Rail have not received comments back, and so hope that the obstacles to reaching agreement will be minimal.

Should you have any queries, please don't hesitate to contact us on the details below.

Yours faithfully



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