



# Pinsent Masons

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Our Ref 63078622.1\te06\648978.07002

FAO Nicholas Coombes  
Case Manager  
Planning Inspectorate  
3/18 Eagle Wing  
Temple Quay House  
2 The Square  
Bristol

DDI +44 20 7418 8198

E thomas.edwards@pinsentmasons.com

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Dear Sirs

**SP MANWEB PLC: NORTH WALES WIND FARMS CONNECTION ORDER  
AMENDMENTS TO THE APPLICATION FOR DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER  
PINS REFERENCE EN010014**

1. On 20 March 2015 SP Manweb PLC ("SP Manweb") submitted to the Secretary of State for Energy and Climate Change ("Secretary of State") its application for development consent ("Application") for a 132 kV Overhead Line together with required pedestrian and vehicular access, temporary construction compound, construction lay down areas, mitigation planting and other integral works ("Proposed Development")
2. The Application includes provisions to acquire rights in land compulsorily to enable SP Manweb to construct, install, keep installed and maintain the Proposed Development. In accordance with good practice as well as the requirements of compulsory acquisition guidance, SP Manweb has engaged with interested parties, including affected landowners, to seek to obtain these rights by private treaty rather than relying on the proposed powers of compulsory acquisition which are included in the Application.
3. During the course of these discussions, SP Manweb has been asked by various affected landowners to consider a series of amendments to the Application that was made in March 2015. The amendments fall within three broad categories:
  - 3.1 Amendments to the illustrative locations of the poles within the existing limits of deviation. This change would not require an amendment to the Application;
  - 3.2 An amendment to the limits of deviation which will result in changes to the land rights and the land in which they will be acquired. The extent of the Order limits and the Order land would be unchanged; and
  - 3.3 An amendment necessitating changes to the Order limits/Order land.



4. SP Manweb is currently considering these requests. It is necessary for SP Manweb to take a holistic view and ensure that a suggested amendment can be accommodated within the overhead line design and with other suggested amendments, given that each amendment has the potential to have knock-on effects further down the overhead line. Each amendment also has to be considered from a technical, environmental, planning and landowner perspective. SP Manweb has been working hard to consider these amendments and is now at an advanced stage.
5. SP Manweb is currently expecting to make an application to amend its application for development consent to accommodate those landowner suggestions that are acceptable from a technical/engineering, environmental, planning and landowner perspective. The application will be presented such that two options will be available to the Secretary of State:
  - 5.1 to make the development consent contained in the Application, as it was made in March 2015, and this option will be known as Option A; or
  - 5.2 to make the development consent contained in the Application as amended to accommodate landowner suggestions. The landowner suggested amendments to the Application will form Option B. Option B is likely to require an amendment to the Order land over which powers of compulsory acquisition are sought and therefore the provisions of the Infrastructure Planning (Compulsory Acquisition) Regulations 2010 are likely to be engaged. It is important to note that the amendments are not, in our view, significant and will not constitute a material change to the Application.
6. It is expected that the application to amend the Application will be made as soon as possible in August. We are writing at this stage to ensure that the Examining Authority is aware of this proposal. As the application will be made within month 1 of the examination, we do not expect that it will affect the timetable which is currently proposed, as amended by us in our letter of 22 July 2015.

Yours faithfully

*Pinsent Masons LLP*

**Pinsent Masons LLP**