



24th November 2015

Mr M Broderick
Planning Inspectorate
3/18 Eagle Wing
Temple Quay House
2 The Square
BRISTOL BS1 6PN

Your Ref: BFC-AFP182

Our Ref: EN020016

For the attention of Mrs Catherine King

Dear Mrs King

Re: Brechfa Forest Connection

We are writing to Mr Broderick as landowner / property owner because we have serious misgivings about the process that is taking place between Western Power Distribution (WPD) / Freedom Group and us and would like to express these for the Inspector to consider with regards to a fair and equal process to the planning decision.

We wish to make it absolutely clear we have never had any objection to the lines being installed underground but have a continuing and ongoing objections to the line being constructed over ground.

We experience that the interest of us as property / landowner has been very much disregarded and not acknowledged by WPD / Freedom Group.

Communication between the parties is not taking place and if there is any, it is vague and lacking details and consequences.

Only on the 13th November 2015, we received the Head of Terms, after requesting them often also through our land agent. We have now received these Head of Terms and we are in the process of organising a meeting between WPD / Freedom Group, and our land agent and ourselves.

The Head of Terms themselves are very vague and are only a summary of the Deed of Grant. There is no mention of injurious affection and despite request of including information about injurious affection WPD / Freedom Group have not been forthcoming in including this in the Head of Terms. The Head of Terms do not reflect what we have originally been told.

There have also been changes to the route alignment and numbers of poles and stays without us knowing.

Meetings are at present being organised between WPD / Freedom Group and land / property owners and the pressure that WPD is putting on land / property owners in signing these Head of Terms is considerable as they need to have the negotiations organised before the next Planning Inspectorate Meeting. There is a clause in the Head of Terms that says when we sign this document, we will not be able to voice our objection in the planning process.

Does this sound like blackmail to you?

At this stage we are not aware of the full implication of what we are signing.

The process of WPD / Freedom Group is following, amounts to unfair pressure as you are still deliberating on the whole process and Head of Terms should only be presented to land / property owners after you have made a decision. We have not been allowed time to discuss the consequences with our solicitor (as this is only a summary and we need the Deed of Grant). We feel that WPD are steamrolling this process forward without being transparent of all the implication of all implication for land / property owners. This is confounded by the fact that, despite numerous request, WPD / Freedom Group have failed to discuss the injurious affection within the Head of Terms. This lack of transparency makes the process not equal.

We are also grievously concerned at the lack of transparency by the WPD / Freedom Group in failing to undertake any discussion about injurious affection, despite several requests for this to happen. There is still no reply to this whole issue. The wordings in the original document that WPD / Freedom Group presented to all the land / property owners differs from the wording in the current Head of Terms with regards to injurious affection and will affect land / property owners in a negative way. Decisions are being taken over our heads and we are expected to comply with this without any objection or knowledge of what is happening.

WPD / Freedom Group is a large organisation with numerous resources to their disposal. Although it might not seem important to them, to land / property owners the framework of how to proceed and the different consequences of this framework need to be explained. WPD / Freedom Group does not seem to be wanting to exchange communication and tends to brush these subjects under the carpet. As land / property owners we feel very disenfranchised by the whole process.

We would like you to take all the above into account and wanted to make you aware that as land / property owners we feel very disenfranchised with the whole process and the way WPD / Freedom Group is trying to hasten procedures. WE would like to ask you to make sure that this process is conducted in a fair equal manner, as we feel that at present this is not happening.

With sincerely

E James

G JAMES & Sons