

PLANNING ACT 2008

INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (EXAMINATION PROCEDURE) RULES 2010

SUBMISSIONS OF THE NATIONAL FARMERS UNION (NFU) AND THE LINCOLNSHIRE ASSOCIATION OF AGRICULTURAL VALUERS (LAAV) REGARDING THE TRITON KNOLL ELECTRICAL SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER 201 [...]

PLANNING INSPECTORATE REFERENCE NO EN020019

SUBMISSIONS OF THE NFU & LAAV IN ANSWER TO REQUESTS FOR FURTHER INFORMATION FROM THE EXAMINING AUTHORITY.

DATE 29th February 2016

1) SE 3.1 NFU/LAAV

At paragraph 5 of the Applicant's response to our question CA 2.18 [REP4-027] the Applicant estimates crop loss to be approximately £4million, assuming a 3.5 year occupation of the cable easement; with full crop loss for the first year after construction; 50% loss for the second year after construction; and 25% loss for the third year after construction, saying that the figures are a worst case to provide a robust estimation.

In paragraph 3.3 of your joint CA submission [REP5-054] you state that TKES has estimated the private loss to be £4M and highlight that "the crop loss is for up to 5 years during construction and for numerous years after reinstatement ... over approximately 360ha (900 acres)".

a) How many years is "numerous"?

b) Do you agree with the figure of £4M and the underlying assumptions?

c) If you do not agree with the figure of £4M and the underlying assumptions, state your assumptions and explain what you think the figure should be.

The NFU/LAAV believes that the construction is likely to take the full 5 years even if some partial reinstatement is carried out. It will then take over 3 years for the soil to re-establish. Below are two examples with figures highlighting the cost of crop loss if the whole area had been planted with wheat or potatoes. The NFU/LAAV believe that part of the route does go across land which will be under multiple/specialist cropping and therefore the figure of £4M or £3M could be too low. Also land will be affected outside of the working strip which is severed during construction and it will not be practical to farm and grow crops on these areas. Therefore the area in question is likely to be greater than the 900 acres.

Wheat: - 9 tonnes per hectare x 360 hectares = 3240 tonnes.

Price £120 per tonne = £388,800.

Over 7.5 years = **£2,916,000**

*****The average price for wheat in January 2015 was £129.3 per tonne and in December 2015 was £106.6 per tonne.**

Potatoes: 40 tonnes per hectare x 360 hectares = 14400 tonnes.

Price £150 per tonne = £2,160,000.

Over 7.5 years = **£16,200,000**

***** The average price for potatoes in 2014 was £150 per tonne and in 2013 was £206 per tonne.**

2) Restrictive Covenants

The NFU/LAAV are concerned that the time limit of 24 hours to provide consent to a farmer has not been included within the wording under “Restrictive Covenants” in relation to mole draining under the latest draft of the DCO at Schedule 5. It has though been stated in the Soil Management Plan in Section 2 paragraph 2.8 –third bullet point. The NFU/LAAV would like clarification that the 24 hour time limit will be met or will the wording under Restrictive Covenants in the DCO override the wording in the Soil Management Plan.?