

SP MANWEB



Reinforcement to the North Shropshire Electricity Distribution Network

Deadline 2 Submission

Application Reference: EN020021

**Position Statement on Statements of Common Ground
(V2)**

SP MANWEB

**Reinforcement to the North Shropshire Electricity
Distribution Network**

**Position Statement on Statements of Common
Ground (V2)**

**April 2019
PINS Reference EN020021**

QA Box

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|--|----------------|------------------|---|
| Author | | SP Manweb | |
| Planning Inspectorate Application Reference | | EN020021 | |
| | | | |
| Date | Version | Status | Description/Changes |
| 28/03/2019 | 1 | Final | Submitted to PINS (Deadline 1) |
| 24/04/2019 | 2 | Final | Submitted to PINS (Deadline 2) Updated draft SoCGs with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Highways England - Canal and River Trust - Severn Trent Water |
| | | | |
| | | | |

SP Manweb plc, Registered Office: 3 Prenton Way Prenton CH43 3ET. Registered in England No. 02366937

CONTENTS

1 Executive Summary..... 4

2 Completed STATEMENTS OF COMMON GROUND 4

3 Draft Statements of Common Ground 5

4 Summary 8

Appendix A: Draft SoCG with Highways England..... 9

Appendix B: Draft SoGC with Canal and River Trust..... 10

Appendix C: Draft SoCG with Severn Trent Water 11

1 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1.1 This document sets out the updated position of the Statements of Common Ground ("SoCG") as requested by the Examining Authority ("ExA") in its letter dated 27th March 2019 sent pursuant to rule 8 of the Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Regulations 2010 ("Rule 8 Letter").
- 1.1.2 The position of the SoCGs with the interested parties fall within the following categories:
- 1.1.3 Completed SoCGs; these are submitted as separate submissions to assist the Planning Inspectorate to display the completed documents on its website;
- 1.1.4 Draft SoCGs where SP Manweb remains in discussion with them interested party or is awaiting feedback from the interested party on the draft. These are appended to this document.

2 COMPLETED STATEMENTS OF COMMON GROUND

- 2.1.1 In addition to the agreed SoCG with the Environment Agency, SP Manweb Plc has also agreed a SoCG with Shropshire Council and as set out above this has been submitted separately.
- 2.1.2 The agreed SoCG follows recent discussions between the two parties following a first draft issued 20th February 2019 and the receipt of comments followed by the issuing of two further amended versions in March 2019.

3 DRAFT STATEMENTS OF COMMON GROUND

- 3.1.1 SoCGs have continued to be discussed between SP Manweb and various interested parties as requested by the ExA in Annex F of the Rule 8 Letter. This section set out the current position of the SoCGs with each interested party at the Deadline 2 Submission, 24 April 2019.
- 3.1.2 SP Manweb will continue to work with these interested parties to conclude completed SoCGs as soon as possible.
- 3.1.3 The updated progress on draft SoCGs submitted for Deadline 2 is listed in Table 1.
- 3.1.4 The drafts SoCGs have been prepared on the basis that the parties agree with the matters SP Manweb is seeking to agree in the relevant SoCG. However, in a number of the SoCGs feedback has not been received from the interested party on the draft and therefore it may not necessarily represent the position of that interested party.

| Party | Draft issued | SOCG status | Appendix |
|------------------|-----------------------------------|--|-----------------|
| Highways England | First draft issued 21 Feb 2019 | HE response received 8 March 2019 with suggested changes | |
| | Second draft issued 26 March 2019 | Further revised draft to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Above amendments provided by HE b) Reference to SPM signage strategy for access off A5(T) as ongoing c) Reference to HE letter 25 March 2019 regarding powers provided in Article 9(3) in the draft DCO | |

| Table 1 Draft Statements of Common Ground | | | |
|--|---|---|-----------------|
| Party | Draft issued | SOCG status | Appendix |
| | | d) Clarification that HE also agree with Article 37 | |
| | Third draft issued 18/04/19 | Further revised draft to include: a) Reference to A5(T) access and signage strategy to include reference to managing HGVs at this location b) Reference to A5(T) crossing and SPM drafting a construction method statement for this work c) Reference to a) and b) above being subject to a new Requirement in the draft DCO and to require consultation with HE before any approval to the requirement from LPA | A |
| | | | |
| National Grid | First draft issued 27 Feb 2019 Second draft issued 12 March 2019 | Revised draft to include ref to ES matters noted in ExAs Rule 6 letter dated 20 Feb 2019 | |
| | Requested response to above draft 25 March 2019 | | |
| | | Discussions on 2 nd draft still ongoing – as at 16/04/19 SPM awaiting response from NG re Protective Provisions | |

| Table 1 Draft Statements of Common Ground | | | |
|--|---|--|-----------------|
| Party | Draft issued | SOCG status | Appendix |
| Network Rail | First draft issued 25 Feb 2019 Second draft issued 12 March 2019 | Revised draft to include ref to ES matters noted in ExAs Rule 6 letter dated 20 Feb 2019 | |
| | Requested response to above draft 25 March 2019 | | |
| | | Discussions on 2 nd draft still ongoing - as at 16/04/19 SPM awaiting response from NR re Protective Provisions | |
| Natural England | First draft issued 13 March 2019 | No response received | |
| | Second draft issued 26 March 2019 | Revised draft to include ref to ES matters noted in ExAs Rule 6 letter dated 20 Feb 2019 | |
| | | Discussions on 2 nd draft still ongoing - as at 16/04/19 SPM awaiting response from NE | |
| Canal and River Trust | First draft issued 18 March 2019 | No response received | |
| | Second draft issued 26 March 2019 | Response received 29/03/19 | |
| | Third draft issued 16/04/19 | Further changes including CRT and SPM inputs | B |
| Severn Trent Water | First draft issued 18 March 2019 | No response received | |

| Table 1 Draft Statements of Common Ground | | | |
|--|---|--|-----------------|
| Party | Draft issued | SOCG status | Appendix |
| | Requested response to above draft 26 March 2019 | | |
| | Third draft issued 15 April 2019 | Following SPM approval to meet STW's agents cost and STW response regarding need to refer to documents other than the draft DCO, | C |

4 SUMMARY

4.1.1 SP Manweb remains in discussion with the relevant interested parties on the draft SoCGs. SP Manweb will continue to work with these interested parties to conclude SoCGs as soon as possible and by the date specified in the Rule 8 letter i.e. 27th June 2019.

APPENDIX A: DRAFT SOCG WITH HIGHWAYS ENGLAND

SP MANWEB

**Reinforcement to the North Shropshire
Electricity Distribution Network**

**Statement of Common Ground
Between SP Manweb PLC and Highways
England**

**April 2019
PINS Reference EN020021**

QA Box

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|--|----------------|------------------|--|
| Author | | SP Manweb | |
| Planning Inspectorate Application Reference | | | |
| | | | |
| Date | Version | Status | Description/Changes |
| 21/02/19 | 1 | Live | New document for discussion with Highways England |
| <u>27/03/19</u> | <u>2</u> | | <u>Revised document following comments from Highways England</u> |
| <u>18/04/19</u> | <u>3</u> | | <u>Revised document for discussion with Highways England</u> |
| | | | |

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CONTENTS

| | | |
|-----|--|------------------|
| 1.1 | PURPOSE OF DOCUMENT | 4 |
| 1.2 | PARTIES TO THE SOCG | 5 |
| 1.3 | THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT..... | 565 |
| 1.4 | CONSULTATION | 7 |
| 1.5 | DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED WITHIN THIS SOCG | 98 |
| 1.6 | MATTERS AGREED AND MATTERS NOT AGREED..... | 9 |
| 1.7 | RECORD OF MATTERS STILL UNDER DISCUSSION | 119+0 |
| 1.8 | AGREEMENT ON THIS SOCG | 12+0 |

STATEMENT OF COMMON GROUND

1.1 PURPOSE OF DOCUMENT

- 1.1.1 This document is submitted to the Secretary of State through the Planning Inspectorate (as responsible agency) in relation to the application by SPManweb Plc ("**SP Manweb**") for an Order granting development consent for the Reinforcement to the North Shropshire Electricity Distribution Network (the 'DCO'). The DCO would grant powers to construct, operate and maintain a new 22.5 kilometre 132,000 volt (132kV) connection between the existing Oswestry Substation and Wem Substation within the administrative boundary of Shropshire County.
- 1.1.2 This statement of common ground (SoCG) has been prepared in respect of the Proposed Development. Guidance about the purpose and possible content of SoCGs is given in paragraphs 58-65 of the Department for Communities and Local Government's "Planning Act 2008: Guidance for the examination of applications for development consent" (March 2015). Paragraph 58, confirms the basic function of SoCGs:
- "A statement of common ground is a written statement prepared jointly by the applicant and another party or parties, setting out any matters on which they agree. As well as identifying matters which are not in real dispute, it is also useful if a statement identifies those areas where agreement has not been reached. The statement should include references to show where those matters are dealt with in the written representations or other documentary evidence."

1.1.3 SoCGs are a useful and established means of ensuring that the evidence at the examination focuses on the material differences between the main parties, and so aims to help facilitate a more efficient examination process.

1.2 PARTIES TO THE SOCG

1.2.1 This SOCG has been prepared in respect of the Proposed Development, by SP Manweb, as the applicant and Highways England.

1.2.2 To supply and distribute electricity within an area an operator is required to hold an Electricity Distribution Licence. SP Manweb, as the holder of a Distribution Licence for the Cheshire, Merseyside, Shropshire, North and Mid Wales areas and, as the Distribution Network Operator (or DNO) for these areas, must comply with various statutory and licence duties and obligations.

1.2.3 Highways England (formerly the Highways Agency) is the government-owned company charged with operating, maintaining and improving England's motorways and major A roads [under licence from the Secretary of State for Transport](#).

1.2.4 Section 1.3 provides an overview of the Proposed Development.

1.2.5 Section 1.4 provides a summary of the relevant consultation between SP Manweb and Highways England.

1.2.6 Section 1.5 provides a summary of the relevant documents that relate to the information considered in this SoCG.

1.2.7 Section 1.6 provides a summary of areas that have been agreed, and areas that have not been agreed.

1.2.8 Section 1.7 provides a record of areas still under discussion.

1.3 THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

1.3.1 The Proposed Development comprises a new 22.5 km 132kV electrical circuit between the existing SP Manweb Substations at Oswestry and Wem in North

Shropshire, together with associated temporary construction works. The circuit would be a combination of underground cables and overhead line. Works are also required at the existing Oswestry and Wem Substations to accommodate the new circuit.

1.3.2 The Proposed Development includes the following elements:

- Works within the boundary of the existing SP Manweb Substation at Oswestry including underground cable and the installation of electrical switchgear and associated equipment;
- Approx. 1.2km of 132kV underground cable between Oswestry Substation and a 132kV terminal structure at Long Wood (SJ 31132 29877);
- Approx. 21.3km of 132kV of overhead line supported by Trident wood poles from the terminal structure at Long Wood (SJ 31132 29877) to the existing SP Manweb Substation at Wem; and
- Works within the existing SP Manweb Substation at Wem including the installation of a new 132kV to 33kV transformer.

1.3.3 The Proposed Development also includes work to facilitate the new electrical circuit including:

- Undergrounding six short sections of existing SP Manweb lower voltage overhead lines in order to ensure safe electrical clearance for the new overhead line; and
- Temporary works required for the construction of the new overhead line including seven temporary laydown areas, welfare unit, security cabin, access tracks, vegetation clearance and reinstatement planting.

1.4 CONSULTATION

1.4.1 Highways England submitted comments in response to the statutory consultation. A summary of the correspondence that has taken place between SP Manweb and Highways England in relation to the Proposed Development since the close of statutory consultation is outlined in the table below:

| Ref | Date | Form of contact or type of correspondence | Summary of that contact and key outcomes and points of discussion |
|-----|----------|---|---|
| | 16/02/18 | HE Email | Confirming that low level of construction traffic and duration of activities would not have an adverse impact on traffic flows along the A5(T) |
| | 21/03/18 | HE Email | Provide signage along the A5(T) - these should be included in the Construction Traffic Management Plan. |
| | 12/09/18 | HE Email and letter | Advising of HE requirements to be included in the DCO in relation to temporary works access being temporary only along the A5 trunk road and the cable under the A5 trunk road being a matter for the Order with other outline matters to be included in protective provisions. |
| | 24/10/18 | HE Email and letter | Notes principal of temporary access off the A5(T) has been agreed provided additional signage of |

| | | | |
|--|----------------------------|---------------------------|--|
| | | | construction works ahead in place and agreed with HE and that the access is clearly shown in the DCO as temporary works only. In terms of the cable under the A5(T), HE require certain matters to be included in the Order. |
| | 08/11/18 | HE Email and letter | Broadly agree principals of using temporary access and drilling under the A5(T) |
| | 17/01/2019 | HE Email | Noting submitted DCO documents and providing copy of response to be sent to PINs. |
| | 08/03/2019 | HE Email | HE comments on Draft SOCG V1 |
| | 18/03/19 | SPM Email | Details of signage strategy provided |
| | 25/03/19 | HE Email | HE confirming for both parties to have powers to conduct street works |
| | 27/03/19 | SPM Email | Amended SOCG V2 |
| | 05/04/19 | HE Email | HE comments on A5 Access and Signage Strategy |

1.4.2 It is agreed that this is an accurate record of the key correspondence between SP Manweb and Highways England in relation to the matters recorded in Section 4.

1.4.3 There is ongoing discussion between the parties in relation to land agreements [for the cabling under the A5 trunk road](#).

1.5 DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED WITHIN THIS SOCG

1.5.1 The following documents have been considered with this SOCG:

- Construction Report (**DCO Document 7.2¹**);
- Draft Construction Environmental Management Plan (**DCO Document 6.3.2²**);
- Revised Transport and Highway Technical Note (**DCO Document 6.1.1³**); and
- Draft Development Consent Order (**DCO Document 3.1⁴**).

1.6 MATTERS AGREED AND MATTERS NOT AGREED

Content of the Revised Traffic and Transport Note, the Construction Report, the Draft CEMP and the Draft DCO Order

1.6.1 Matters agreed:

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| 1 | SP Manweb and Highways England AGREE the conclusions of the Revised Traffic and Transport Note (DCO Document 6.1.1) | Agreed through dialogue on this SoCG. |
| | <u>SP Manweb and Highways England AGREE that in respect of Article 37 of the draft DCO (deemed consent) that the insertion of a new</u> | <u>Agreed through dialogue on this SoCG.</u> |

¹<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/ipc/uploads/projects/EN020021/EN020021-000262-7.2%20Construction%20Report.pdf>

² <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/ipc/uploads/projects/EN020021/EN020021-000228-6.3.2%20ES%20Appendix%203.2%20-%20Draft%20Construction%20Environmental%20Management%20Plan.pdf>

³ <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/ipc/uploads/projects/EN020021/EN020021-000226-6.1.1%20ES%20Appendix%201.1%20-%20Transport%20and%20Highways%20Technical%20Note.pdf>

⁴ <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/ipc/uploads/projects/EN020021/EN020021-000185-3.1%20Draft%20Development%20Consent%20Order.pdf>

| | | |
|--|---|---|
| | <p><u>requirement in the draft DCO to a separate construction method statement document to be agreed with HE and approved by the LPA will enable SPM and HE to work together to agree detailed design proposals for the A5(T) crossing prior to submitting such details under Article 37.</u></p> <p><u>On this basis, HE agrees to Article 37 in the draft DCO</u></p> | |
| | <p><u>SP Manweb and Highways England AGREE there are no proposals for SPM to widen the existing access off the A5(T).</u></p> | <p><u>Agreed through dialogue on this SoCG.</u></p> |
| | <p><u>SP Manweb and Highways England AGREE in respect of the draft DCO that a new requirement in the draft DCO relating to details of how the temporary use of the A5(T) access will be managed during construction (by banksmen operating at both the A5 access and Maesbury Road depot locations to synchronise HGV vehicle movements between the two locations) is a suitable approach to resolving this matter.</u></p> | <p><u>Agreed through dialogue on this SoCG.</u></p> |

| | | |
|--|---|--|
| | <u>On this basis, HE agrees to temporary use of the A5(T) access and wording of Article 26 in the draft DCO</u> | |
|--|---|--|

1.6.2 There are no matters not agreed.

1.7 RECORD OF MATTERS STILL UNDER DISCUSSION

1.7.1 Matters still under discussion include:

| | | |
|---|--|--|
| 1 | SP Manweb and Highways England YET TO AGREE the approach to the <u>provision, signage and removal of the temporary access</u> off the A5(T) as set out in the Construction Report (DCO Document 7.2). | |
| 2 | SP Manweb and Highways England YET TO AGREE the approach <u>(including civil engineering)</u> to the crossing under the A5(T) as set out in the Draft DCO Order (DCO Document 3.1). | |
| 3 | <u>SP Manweb and Highways England YET TO AGREE the detail of the Protective Provisions (Schedule 6 Part 6) as they apply to Highways England</u> | |
| | | |

Commented [SJE1]: Intend to remove this section as now propose to include a new requirement 9requirement 11) which will require details of the temporary use of the A5(T) access to avoid this being a Matter to be Agreed

Commented [SJE2]: Intend to remove this section as now propose to include a new requirement 9requirement 11) which will require details of the temporary use of the A5(T) access to avoid this being a Matter to be Agreed

1.8 AGREEMENT ON THIS SOCG

This Statement of Common Ground has been jointly prepared and agreed by:

Name: Steven Edwards

Signature:

Position: Senior Environmental Planner

On behalf of: SP Manweb Plc

Date:

Name:

Signature:

Position:

On behalf of: [Highways England](#)

Date:

APPENDIX B: DRAFT SOGC WITH CANAL AND RIVER TRUST

SP MANWEB

**Reinforcement to the North Shropshire
Electricity Distribution Network**

**Statement of Common Ground
Between SP Manweb PLC and Canal and River
Trust**

**April 2019
PINS Reference EN020021**

QA Box

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|--|----------------|------------------|--|
| Author | | SP Manweb | |
| Planning Inspectorate Application Reference | | | |
| | | | |
| Date | Version | Status | Description/Changes |
| 15/03/2019 | 1 | Live | New document for discussion with Canal and River Trust |
| 26/03/19 | 2 | Live | New document for discussion with Canal and River Trust |
| 16/04/19 | 2.1 | Live | Revised document for discussion with Canal and River Trust |
| 24/04/19 | 3 | Live | Revised document for discussion with Canal and River Trust |

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England No. 02366937

Contents

1 STATEMENT OF COMMON GROUND 4

 1.1 Purpose of document 4

 1.2 Parties to the SOCG 4

 1.3 The proposed development..... 9

 1.4 Consultation 10

 1.5 Documents considered within this SOCG 11

2 MATTERS AGREED AND MATTERS NOT AGREED 11

 2.1 Content of the Environmental Statement 11

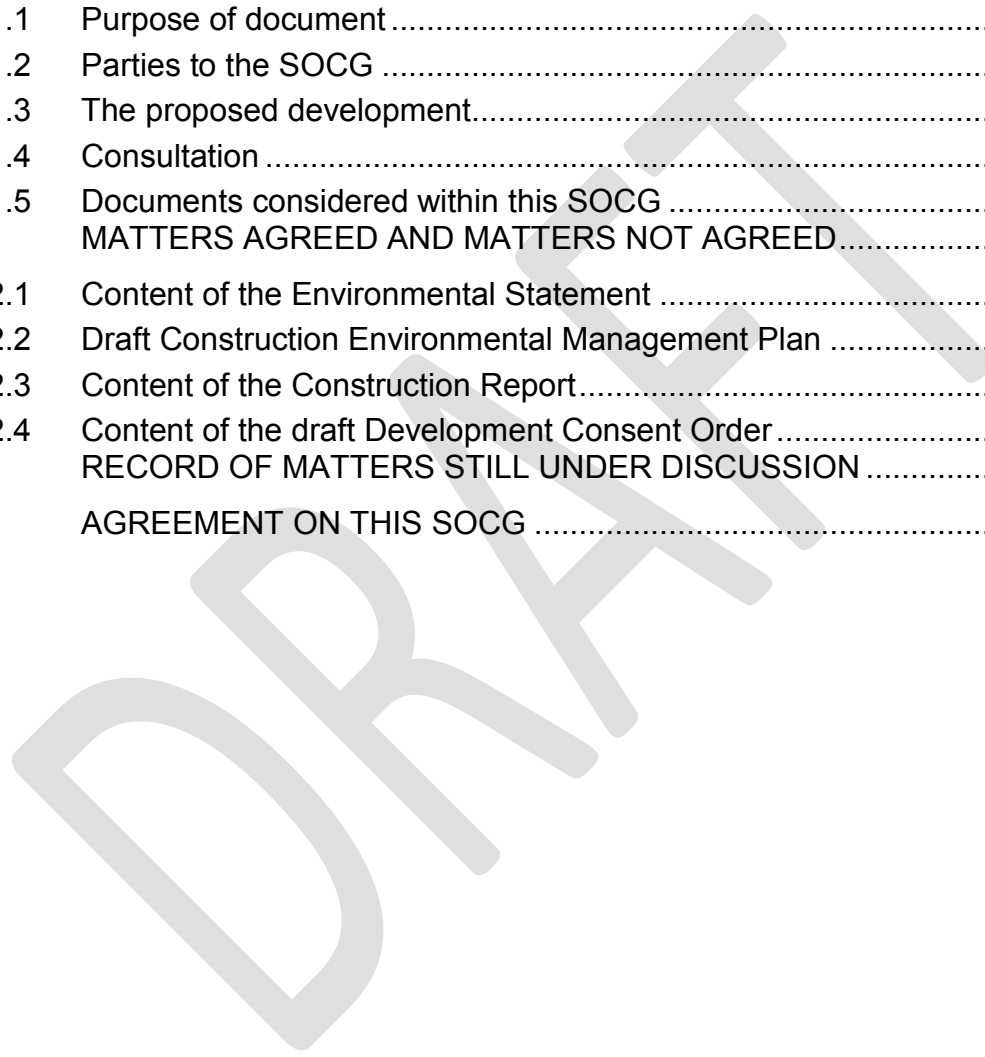
 2.2 Draft Construction Environmental Management Plan 18

 2.3 Content of the Construction Report..... 19

 2.4 Content of the draft Development Consent Order 19

3 RECORD OF MATTERS STILL UNDER DISCUSSION 19

4 AGREEMENT ON THIS SOCG 22



1 STATEMENT OF COMMON GROUND

1.1 PURPOSE OF DOCUMENT

1.1.1 This document is submitted to the Secretary of State through the Planning Inspectorate (as responsible agency) in relation to the application by SP Manweb Plc ("**SP Manweb**") for an Order granting development consent for the Reinforcement to the North Shropshire Electricity Distribution Network (the 'DCO'). The DCO would grant powers to construct, operate and maintain a new 22.5 kilometre, 132,000 volt (132kV), connection between the existing Oswestry Substation and Wem Substation within the administrative boundary of Shropshire County.

1.1.2 This statement of common ground (SoCG) has been prepared in respect of the Proposed Development. Guidance about the purpose and possible content of SoCGs is given in paragraphs 58-65 of the Department for Communities and Local Government's 'Planning Act 2008: Guidance for the examination of applications for development consent' (March 2015).

Paragraph 58, confirms the basic function of SoCGs:

'A statement of common ground is a written statement prepared jointly by the applicant and another party or parties, setting out any matters on which they agree. As well as identifying matters which are not in real dispute, it is also useful if a statement identifies those areas where agreement has not been reached. The statement should include references to show where those matters are dealt with in the written representations or other documentary evidence.'

1.1.3 SoCGs are a useful and established means of ensuring that the evidence at the examination focuses on the material differences between the main parties, and so aims to help facilitate a more efficient examination process.

1.2 PARTIES TO THE SOCG

1.2.1 This SoCG has been prepared in respect of the Proposed Development, by SP Manweb, as the applicant, and the Canal and River Trust.

DRAFT

- 1.2.2 To supply and distribute electricity within an area an operator is required to hold an Electricity Distribution Licence. SP Manweb, as the holder of a Distribution Licence for the Cheshire, Merseyside, Shropshire, North and Mid Wales areas and, as the Distribution Network Operator (or DNO) for these areas, must comply with various statutory and licence duties and obligations.
- 1.2.3 The Trust is a charity responsible for 2000 miles of waterways which contribute to the health and wellbeing of local communities and economies, creating attractive and connected places to live, work, volunteer and spend leisure time. The Trust is also a statutory undertaker for the purposes of S127 Planning Act 2008 and a statutory party for the purposes of S.88(3)(c). In addition, the Trust are also a landowner of interests affected by the proposed development.
- 1.2.4 The Canal and River Trust is responsible for the ownership and maintenance of canals and rivers which contribute to the health and well being of local communities and economies, creating attractive places to live, work and enjoy.
- 1.2.5 This SoCG has been prepared in the context of the crossing of the Montgomery Canal by the Proposed Development (by overhead conductors) to the south of Rednal.
- 1.2.6 Section 1.4 provides an overview of consultation to date between SP Manweb and the Canal and River Trust.
- 1.2.7 Section 1.5 provides a summary of the relevant documents that relate to the information considered in this SOCG.
- 1.2.8 Section 2 provides a summary of areas that have been agreed and areas that have not been agreed.
- 1.2.9 Section 3 provides a record of areas still under discussion.
- 1.2.10 This SOCG has been structured to reflect matters and topics of interest to the Canal and River Trust in relation to the Proposed Development. The Canal and River Trust is a party to this SOCG as a Statutory and Interested Party for the purposes of the Application.

1.2.11 This SOCG relates to the following topics:

- Content of the Environmental Statement (ES)
 - Ecology and Biodiversity
 - Landscape and Visual
 - Historic Environment
 - Flood Risk and Water Quality
 - Socio-economics and Tourism
 - Content of the draft Construction Environmental Management Plan
 - Content of the Construction Report
 - Content of the draft Development Consent Order
 - Planning Statement
- 

1.2.12 This SOCG sets out the matters agreed between the Parties and those that are still outstanding.

1.2.13 Throughout this SOCG:

1.2.14 The “Parties” for the purposes of this SOCG means SP Manweb and the Canal and River Trust.

1.2.15 Where a sentence begins “It is agreed”, this signifies a matter that has been specifically stated as agreed by SP Manweb and the Canal and River Trust.

1.2.16 Where a sentence begins “It is not agreed”, this signifies a matter that has been specifically stated as not agreed by SP Manweb and the Canal and River Trust.

1.2.17 Where a sentence begins “It is under discussion”, this signifies a matter is not yet agreed however is still under discussion by SP Manweb and the Canal and River Trust.

1.2.18 Reference in this SOCG to DCO means the draft DCO as submitted (**DCO Document 3.1**, November 2018).

1.3 THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

1.3.1 The Proposed Development comprises a new 22.5 km 132kV electrical circuit between the existing SP Manweb Substations at Oswestry and Wem in North Shropshire, together with associated temporary construction works. The circuit would be a combination of underground cables and overhead line. Works are also required at the existing Oswestry and Wem Substations to accommodate the new circuit.

1.3.2 The Proposed Development **as set out in the DCO application in Section 1.2 of the Construction Report DCO** includes the following elements:

- Works within the boundary of the existing SP Manweb Substation at Oswestry including underground cable and the installation of electrical switchgear and associated equipment;
- Approx. 1.2km of 132kV underground cable between Oswestry Substation and a 132kV terminal structure at Long Wood (SJ 31132 29877);
- Approx. 21.3km of 132kV of overhead line supported by Trident wood poles from the terminal structure at Long Wood (SJ 31132 29877) to the existing SP Manweb Substation at Wem; and
- Works within the existing SP Manweb Substation at Wem including the installation of a new 132kV to 33kV transformer.

1.3.3 The Proposed Development **as set out in the DCO application in Section 1.2 of the Construction Report DCO** also includes work to facilitate the new electrical circuit including:

- Undergrounding six short sections of existing SP Manweb lower voltage overhead lines in order to ensure safe electrical clearance for the new overhead line; and
- Temporary works required for the construction of the new overhead line including seven temporary laydown areas, welfare unit, security cabin, access tracks, vegetation clearance and reinstatement planting.

1.4 CONSULTATION

1.4.1 A summary of the correspondence that has taken place between SP Manweb and the Canal and River Trust in relation to the Proposed Development since the close of statutory consultation is outlined in the table below:

| Ref | Date | Form of contact or type of correspondence | Summary of that contact and key outcomes and points of discussion |
|-----|----------|---|---|
| 1 | 02/02/18 | CRT Email | Enclosed an example of Protective Provisions that were negotiated for another DCO |
| 2 | 18/06/18 | CRT Email | Enclosed plan of Trust ownership |
| 3 | 19/08/18 | SPM Email | Confirming Pole 38 is outside Trust ownership |
| 4 | 17/09/18 | SPM Email | Enclosed copies of extracts from draft Consultation Report referring to SPMs response to Trust comments |
| 5 | 25/09/18 | CRT Email | Enclosed letter from Trust solicitors Ward Hadaway raising concerns with SPMs approach. |
| 6 | 02/11/18 | SPM Email | SPM response from solicitors Squires Patton Boggs to Trust letter with enclosures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Viewpoints/photomontage - Works plan extract showing canal crossing |
| 7 | 25/2/19 | CRT email | Trust's solicitors enclosed proposed amendments to draft protective provisions and draft DCO |
| 8 | 26/03/19 | SPM Email | SPM response including x-section plan showing height of |

| | | | |
|---|----------|-----------|---|
| | | | overhead line over the canal and towpath, references in CEMP to bird diverters and installation of fishing signs and agreement in principle to landscape planting/environmental improvement along the canal |
| 8 | 29/03/19 | CRT Email | Comments on SOCG V1 |
| 9 | 16/04/19 | SPM Email | SPM response including CRT changes and reference to matters discussed following the previous draft SOCG |

1.4.2 It is agreed that this is an accurate record of the correspondence between SP Manweb and the Canal and River Trust in relation to the matters recorded in Sections 1.6 – 1.8 **since February 2018**.

1.4.3 There is ongoing discussion between the parties.

1.5 DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED WITHIN THIS SOCG

1.5.1 The following documents have been considered with this SOCG:

- Environmental Statement (**DCO Document 6.1 to 6.28**)
- Draft Development Consent Order (**DCO Document 3.1**);
- Environmental Statement, Appendix 3.2 Construction Environmental Management Plan (**DCO Document 6.3.2**);
- Construction Report (**DCO Document 7.2**); and
- Planning Statement (**DCO Document 7.1**)¹.

2 MATTERS AGREED AND MATTERS NOT AGREED

2.1 Content of the Environmental Statement

2.1.1 Matters agreed:

Approach and methodology

1

| Ref | Matters agreed |
|-----|---|
| | <p>SP Manweb and the Canal and River Trust AGREE the following in respect of SP Manweb’s approach and methodology:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) approach to the assessment methodology (see ES Chapter 4 (DCO Document 6.4)); b) data collection, baseline data, statistical modelling (see section 4.5 of the ES (DCO document 6.4)) <p>and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> c) no outstanding issues that need to be addressed at any issue specific hearing. |
| | |

2.1.2 Matters not agreed

- a. SP Manweb have raised in a number of discussions with the Canal and River Trust the proposal to provide mitigation for the Canal and its immediate setting together with off-site mitigation. The Canal and River Trust are seeking clarity from SP Manweb of the proposals and how the mitigation will be secured

Ecology and Biodiversity

2.1.3 Matters agreed

| Ref | Matters agreed |
|-----|---|
| | <p>SP Manweb and the Canal and River Trust AGREE the following in respect of ecology and biodiversity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) approach to the assessment methodology and significance criteria for ecology and biodiversity impacts (see ES Chapter 4 (DCO Document 6.4) and Chapter 7 (DCO Document 6.7)); |

| | |
|--|--|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> b) data collection, baseline data, statistical modelling (see section 7.5 of the ES (DCO document 6.7)) c) identification and sensitivity of relevant features and conclusion on assessment of significance (alone and cumulatively) (see sections 7.6 (DCO document 6.7) and 7.7(DCO document 6.7) of the ES); d) deliverable mitigation (see section 7.8 of the ES (DCO document 6.7)); and e) no outstanding issues that need to be addressed at any issue specific hearing. |
| | |

2.1.4 Matters not agreed

- b. None to report

Landscape and Visual

2.1.5 Matters agreed

| Ref | Matters agreed |
|-----|---|
| | <p>SP Manweb and the Canal and River Trust AGREE the following in respect of landscape and visual impacts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) approach to the assessment methodology and significance criteria for landscape and visual impacts (see ES Chapter 4 (DCO Document 6.4) and Chapter 6 (DCO Document 6.6)); b) data collection, baseline data, statistical modelling (see section 6.5 of the ES (DCO document 6.6)) c) identification and sensitivity of relevant features and conclusion on assessment of significance (alone and cumulatively) (see sections 6.6 (DCO document 6.6) and 6.7(DCO document 6.6) of the ES); d) deliverable mitigation (see section 6.8 of the ES (DCO document 6.6)); and e) no outstanding issues that need to be addressed at any issue specific hearing. |

2.1.6 Matters not agreed

- c. None to report

Historic Environment

2.1.7 Matters agreed

| Ref | Matters agreed |
|-----|--|
| | <p>SP Manweb and the Canal and River Trust AGREE the following in respect of historic environment impacts:</p> |

| | |
|--|--|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) approach to the assessment methodology and significance criteria for historic environment (see ES Chapter 4 (DCO Document 6.4) and Chapter 8 (DCO Document 6.8)); b) data collection, baseline data, statistical modelling (see section 8.5 of the ES (DCO document 6.8)) c) identification and sensitivity of relevant features and conclusion on assessment of significance (alone and cumulatively) (see sections 8.6 (DCO document 6.8) and 8.7(DCO document 6.8) of the ES); d) deliverable mitigation (see section 8.8 of the ES (DCO document 6.8)); and e) no outstanding issues that need to be addressed at any issue specific hearing. |
|--|--|

2.1.8 Matters not agreed

- d. None to report

Flood Risk and Water Quality

2.1.9 Matters agreed

| Ref | Matters agreed |
|-----|---|
| | <p>SP Manweb and the Canal and River Trust AGREE the following in respect of flood risk and water quality:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) approach to the assessment methodology and significance criteria for flood risk and water quality (see ES Chapter 4 (DCO Document 6.4) and Chapter 9 (DCO Document 6.9)); b) data collection, baseline data, statistical modelling (see section 9.5 of the ES (DCO document 6.9)) c) identification and sensitivity of relevant features and conclusion on assessment of significance (alone and cumulatively) (see sections 9.6 (DCO document 6.9) and 9.7(DCO document 6.9) of the ES); d) deliverable mitigation (see section 9.8 of the ES (DCO document 6.9)); and e) no outstanding issues that need to be addressed at any issue specific hearing. |

2.1.10 Matters not agreed

- e. None to report

Socio-economic and Tourism

2.1.11 Matters agreed

| Ref | Matters agreed |
|-----|---|
| | <p>SP Manweb and the Canal and River Trust AGREE the following in respect of socio-economic and tourism:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) approach to the assessment methodology and significance criteria for socio-economic and tourism (see ES Chapter 4 (DCO Document 6.4) and Chapter 10 (DCO Document 6.10)); |

| | |
|--|---|
| | <p>b) data collection, baseline data, statistical modelling (see section 10.5 of the ES (DCO document 6.10))</p> <p>c) identification and sensitivity of relevant features and conclusion on assessment of significance (alone and cumulatively) (see sections 10.6 (DCO document 6.10) and 10.7(DCO document 6.10) of the ES);</p> <p>d) deliverable mitigation (see section 10.8 of the ES (DCO document 6.10)); and</p> <p>e) no outstanding issues that need to be addressed at any issue specific hearing.</p> |
| | <p>SP Manweb and the Canal and River Trust AGREE that the assessment of the effect of the Proposed Development on the Public Right of Way (Shropshire Way Trail) was appropriate and the conclusions in respect of the level of significance of effect was acceptable.</p> |

2.1.12 Matters not agreed
f. None to report

| Table 2.1 – Matters agreed | |
|----------------------------|--|
| Ref | Matters agreed |
| 1 | <p>SP Manweb and the Canal and River Trust AGREE the following in respect of assessments undertaken for the Environmental Statement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the baseline; b) approach to the assessment methodology; c) conclusion on assessment of significance (alone and cumulatively); d) mitigation; and e) there are no impacts which are of more than local significance that need to be addressed at any issue specific hearing. |

2.1.13 Matters not agreed

- a. None to report

2.2 Draft Construction Environmental Management Plan

| Ref | Matters agreed |
|-----|--|
| 1 | SP Manweb and the Canal and River Trust AGREE the content of the Draft Construction Environmental Management Plan including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Reference in para. 1.16.9 to agreeing to placing signage across the canal to warn anglers of proximity of overhead lines and bird diverters along overhead lines where it crosses the canal b) Reference in section 1.14 to the Hedgerow Management Plan and provision of reinstatement and newly planted hedgerows |

2.2.1 Matters not agreed

- b. The Trust is still considering the content of the draft CEMP following its submission and will put its case on the document to the applicants and the ExA as soon as possible. Some amendments to it have already been sought via the changes requested to be made to the draft DCO by the solicitors.

2.3 Content of the Construction Report

2.3.1 Matters agreed:

| Ref | Matters agreed |
|-----|--|
| 1 | |
| 2 | SP Manweb and the Canal and River Trust AGREE the proposed design of the overhead line across the canal and canal towpath exceeds the stated minimum clearance distances for this type of overhead line design, as shown on the x-section drawing. |

2.3.2 Matters not agreed

- a. The design of the proposed development and any required mitigation remains to be justified as per our representations of 29 March.
- c.

2.4 Content of the draft Development Consent Order

2.4.1 Matters agreed:

| Ref | Matters agreed |
|-----|----------------|
| | |

2.4.2 Matters not agreed

The Canal and River Trust do not agree to the inclusion of powers of compulsory acquisition in respect of the Canal and River Trust's land. The inclusion of these powers is neither necessary, fair nor proportionate.

The Canal and River Trust do not agree the protective provisions in Schedule 6 Part 4.

The Canal and River Trust have suggested an amendment to Requirement 9 of Schedule 2 of the draft DCO to include the Canal and River Trust as a consultee in relation to the Construction Environmental Management Plan. This amendment has not yet been reflected in the draft DCO.

- d.

3 RECORD OF MATTERS STILL UNDER DISCUSSION

3.1.1 The table below provides a 'tracker' for each issue currently under discussion between SP Manweb and the Canal and River Trust:

Table 3.1 – Matters still under discussion

| Ref | Issue | SP Manweb response | Canal and River Trust response |
|--|----------------------------------|--|---|
| DCO Document 7.1 Planning Statement | Appendix 1 Undergrounding | Providing additional information relating to SPMs assessment of undergrounding option across the canal | |
| DCO Document 3.1 draft DCO Schedule 6 Part 4 | Protective Provisions | Currently considering NR proposed amendments | |
| | Mitigation | | The Canal and River Trust are awaiting further clarity from SP Manweb as to what mitigation is proposed and how this will be delivered. |
| | Omnibus Agreement | | The Canal and River Trust have provided a contact for SP Manweb to liaise with to discuss whether the proposed lines could be included in an Omnibus Agreement. |
| DCO document 3.1 draft DCO article 18 | Compulsory acquisition of rights | | The Trust do not consider that it is necessary, proportionate nor in the public interest for rights |

| | | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| | | | to be acquired from the Trust by compulsory acquisition. |
|--|--|--|--|

DRAFT

4 AGREEMENT ON THIS SOCG

This Statement of Common Ground has been jointly prepared and agreed by:

Name: Steven Edwards

Signature:

Position: Senior Environmental Planner

On behalf of: SP Manweb Plc

Date:

Name:

Signature:

Position:

On behalf of: Canal and River Trust

Date:

APPENDIX C: DRAFT SOCG WITH SEVERN TRENT WATER

SP MANWEB

**Reinforcement to the North Shropshire
Electricity Distribution Network**

**Statement of Common Ground
Between SP Manweb PLC and Severn Trent
Water**

**April 2019
PINS Reference EN020021**

QA Box

| | | | |
|--|----------------|------------------|---|
| Author | | SP Manweb | |
| Planning Inspectorate Application Reference | | EN020021 | |
| | | | |
| Date | Version | Status | Description/Changes |
| 18/03/2019 | 1 | Live | Document for discussion with Severn Trent Water |
| 15/04/2019 | 2 | | Document for discussion with Severn Trent Water |
| | | | |
| | | | |

SP Manweb plc, Registered Office: 3 Prenton Way Prenton CH43 3ET. Registered in England No. 02366937

CONTENTS

| | | |
|-----|--|---------------------|
| 1.1 | PURPOSE OF DOCUMENT | 4 |
| 1.2 | PARTIES TO THE SOCG | 5 |
| 1.3 | THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT | 65 |
| 1.4 | CONSULTATION | 7 |
| 1.5 | DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED WITHIN THIS SOCG | 98 |
| 1.6 | MATTERS AGREED AND MATTERS NOT AGREED | 9 |
| 1.7 | RECORD OF MATTERS STILL UNDER DISCUSSION | 940 |
| 1.8 | AGREEMENT ON THIS SOCG | 10 |

STATEMENT OF COMMON GROUND

1.1 PURPOSE OF DOCUMENT

1.1.1 This document is submitted to the Secretary of State through the Planning Inspectorate (as responsible agency) in relation to the application by SPManweb Plc ("**SP Manweb**") for an Order granting Development Consent for the Reinforcement to the North Shropshire Electricity Distribution Network (the 'DCO'). The DCO would grant powers to construct, operate and maintain a new 22.5 kilometre 132,000 volt (132kV) connection between the existing Oswestry Substation and Wem Substation within the administrative boundary of Shropshire County.

1.1.2 This Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) has been prepared in respect of the Proposed Development. Guidance about the purpose and possible content of SoCGs is given in paragraphs 58-65 of the Department for Communities and Local Government's "Planning Act 2008: Guidance for the examination of applications for development consent" (March 2015). Paragraph 58, confirms the basic function of SoCGs:

- *"A statement of common ground is a written statement prepared jointly by the applicant and another party or parties, setting out any matters on which they agree. As well as identifying matters which are not in real dispute, it is also useful if a statement identifies those areas where agreement has not been reached. The statement should include references to show where those matters are dealt with in the written representations or other documentary evidence."*

1.1.3 SoCGs are a useful and established means of ensuring that the evidence at the Examination focuses on the material differences between the main parties, and so aims to help facilitate a more efficient examination process.

1.2 PARTIES TO THE SOCG

This SOCG has been prepared in respect of the Proposed Development, by SP Manweb, as the applicant and Severn Trent Water.

1.2.1 To supply and distribute electricity within an area an operator is required to hold an Electricity Distribution Licence. SP Manweb, as the holder of a

1.2.2 Distribution Licence for the Cheshire, Merseyside, Shropshire, North and Mid Wales areas and, as the Distribution Network Operator (or DNO) for these areas, must comply with various statutory and licence duties and obligations.

1.2.3 Severn Trent plc is a water company based in the United Kingdom, employing more than 15,000 people across the United Kingdom, United States and mainland Europe, with some involvement in the Middle East. As with all water companies in the United Kingdom, Severn Trent is regulated under the Water Industry Act 1991.

1.2.4 This SoCG has been prepared in the context of Severn Trents' assets which
1.2.5 are potentially affected by the Proposed Development.

1.2.6 Section 1.3 provides an overview of the Proposed Development.

1.2.7 Section 1.4 provides a summary of the relevant consultation between SP
Manweb and Severn Trent Water.

1.2.8 Section 1.5 provides a summary of the relevant documents that relate to the
1.2.9 information considered in this SoCG.

Section 1.6 provides a summary of areas that have been agreed, and areas that have not been agreed.

Section 1.7 provides a record of areas still under discussion.

1.3 THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

The Proposed Development comprises a new 22.5 km 132kV electrical circuit between the existing SP Manweb Substations at Oswestry and Wem in North Shropshire, together with associated temporary construction works. The circuit would be a combination of underground cables and overhead line. Works are also required at the existing Oswestry and Wem Substations to accommodate the new circuit.

1.3.1

The Proposed Development includes the following elements:

1.3.2

- Works within the boundary of the existing SP Manweb Substation at Oswestry including underground cable and the installation of electrical switchgear and associated equipment;
- Approx. 1.2km of 132kV underground cable between Oswestry Substation and a 132kV terminal structure at Long Wood (SJ 31132 29877);
- Approx. 21.3km of 132kV of overhead line supported by Trident wood poles from the terminal structure at Long Wood (SJ 31132 29877) to the existing SP Manweb Substation at Wem; and
- Works within the existing SP Manweb Substation at Wem including the installation of a new 132kV to 33kV transformer.

1.3.3

The Proposed Development also includes work to facilitate the new electrical circuit including:

- Undergrounding six short sections of existing SP Manweb lower voltage overhead lines in order to ensure safe electrical clearance for the new overhead line; and
- Temporary works required for the construction of the new overhead line including seven temporary laydown areas, welfare unit, security

cabin, access tracks, vegetation clearance and reinstatement planting.

1.4 CONSULTATION

Severn Trent Water submitted comments in response to the statutory consultation. A summary of the correspondence that has taken place between SP Manweb and Severn Trent Water in relation to the Proposed Development since the close of statutory consultation is outlined in the table below:

1.4.1

| Ref | Date | Form of contact or type of correspondence | Summary of that contact and key outcomes and points of discussion |
|------------|---------------|--|--|
| | 06/07/18 | SPM Email | Providing link to project website and series of plans showing Severn Trent apparatus with draft DCO order limits marked and draft protective provisions. |
| | July-Aug 2018 | SPM/STW Emails | Regarding cost undertaking. |
| | 08/11/18 | STW Email | STW response referring to matters of interest to STW. |
| | 20/11/18 | SPM Email | Providing response to matters in above email with plan showing STW assets marked. |
| | 01/02/19 | SPM /STW Emails | Noting SPMs action following SPM/STW meeting on 17 th Jan 2019 to review STW assets affected by the Order limits and STWs |

| | | | |
|--|-----------------|------------------|--|
| | | | progress on reviewing draft PPs and fees. |
| | 04/03/19 | SPM Email | Progress email following SPM/STW phone call on 01/03/19 referring to (i) revised plan showing STW assets affected by the SPM scheme in relation to plot nos. from the SPM Land Plans and (ii) references for proposed standards in the draft CEMP and draft DCO documents for working with STW assets, (iii) progressing legal and STW agents engagement including fee recovery and (iv) a draft of this SOCG. |
| | <u>05/04/19</u> | <u>STW email</u> | <u>Enquiry regarding need for STW to comment on ES and other documents referred to in the SoCG</u> |
| | <u>15/04/19</u> | <u>SPM email</u> | <u>Updated draft SoCG following STW email above to delete reference to ES and other documents.</u> |

1.4.2

1.4.3 It is agreed that this is an accurate record of the key correspondence between SP Manweb and Severn Trent Water in relation to the matters recorded in Section 4.

A copy of the plan showing the STW assets in relation to the draft Order limits is included in Appendix A to this SOCG.

There is ongoing discussion between the parties in relation to working standards where there are STW assets in the draft protective provisions included in the draft DCO document.

1.4.4 **1.5 DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED WITHIN THIS SOCG**

The following documents have been considered with this SoCG:

- 1.5.1 ~~• Construction Report (DCO Document 7.2¹);~~
- ~~• Draft Construction Environmental Management Plan (DCO Document 6.3.2²);~~
- Draft Development Consent Order (DCO Document 3.1³).
- ~~• Environmental Statement (DCO Document 6.1 to 6.28).~~

1.6 MATTERS AGREED AND MATTERS NOT AGREED

There is ongoing discussion between the parties in relation to working standards

1.6.1 Matters agreed

~~1.6.2 Given STW representations do not refer to any matters relating to the Construction Report, the draft Construction Environmental Management Plan and the Environmental Statement, there is no reference to these documents~~

~~1.6.3 in this SoCG.~~

There are no matters not agreed

1.7.1

1.7 RECORD OF MATTERS STILL UNDER DISCUSSION

The following matters are still under discussion.

¹<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/ipc/uploads/projects/EN020021/EN020021-000262-7.2%20Construction%20Report.pdf>

²<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/ipc/uploads/projects/EN020021/EN020021-000228-6.3.2%20ES%20Appendix%203.2%20%20Draft%20Construction%20Environmental%20Management%20Plan.pdf>

³ <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/ipc/uploads/projects/EN020021/EN020021-000185-3.1%20Draft%20Development%20Consent%20Order.pdf>

| Ref | Issue | SPM response | STW response |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|--|---|
| Draft CEMP | Draft 1 | Appendix B covers working standards in relation to STW assets | Currently under review and will advise |
| Draft DCO Schedule 6 Part 2 | Draft 1 | Protective provisions adequately deal with STW requirements | Currently under review and will advise |

1.8 AGREEMENT ON THIS SOCG

This Statement of Common Ground has been jointly prepared and agreed by:

Name: Steven Edwards

Signature:

Position: Senior Environmental Planner

On behalf of: SP Manweb Plc

Date:

Name:

Signature:

Position:

On behalf of: Severn Trent Water

Date: