



**Canal &  
River Trust**

Making life better by water

NorthShropshireReinforcement@  
planninginspectorate.gov.uk

Your Ref EN020021

Our Ref IPP - 36

Monday 1<sup>st</sup> July 2019

Dear Mr Hudson,

**Application by SP Manweb for an Order Granting Development Consent for the Reinforcement to the North Shropshire Electricity Distribution Network**

**Canal & River Trust Response on the Issue Specific Hearings.**

#### Issue Specific Hearings

In our Deadline 3 response we notified the Examiner of our wish to speak at the Compulsory Acquisition Hearing; Open Floor Hearing and Issue Specific Hearing 2 (draft DCO).

Good progress has since been made on the protective provisions and this progress is continuing. As such the Trust do not intend to attend nor do we require legal representation at the upcoming hearing in relation to the DCO. The protective provisions are critically important to the Trust and are a key element of the DCO and therefore we are keen to ensure that all efforts are made to resolve these in advance of the Examination closing.

In terms of the land agreement and Compulsory Acquisition Hearing, as stated throughout this process, the Trust object to the use of compulsory acquisition powers in relation to the Trust's interests. The Trust consider that s.127 Planning Act 2008 will apply in relation to the right/interests the applicant intends to acquire from the Trust.

The Trust have made an effort to undertake meaningful negotiations with the applicant. However, this has only progressed since mid-June 2019 and therefore there is a short timescale in which to pursue a separate agreement. A meeting is to be arranged shortly to progress this and we are seeking to agree with the applicant that such discussions will continued beyond the closing of the Examination. Given this progress the Trust will no longer be attending the hearing.

In summary, the Trust will not be attending the hearings.

#### Statement of Common Ground (SoCG)

By way of an update to the ExA, the Trust have today signed the Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) with SPManweb and have returned this to the applicant for signature and submission to the ExA.

#### **Canal & River Trust**

Fradley Junction, Alrewas, Burton-upon-Trent, Staffordshire, DE13 7DN

T 0303 040 4040 E [canalrivertrust.org.uk/contact-us](http://canalrivertrust.org.uk/contact-us) W [canalrivertrust.org.uk](http://canalrivertrust.org.uk)

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any queries you may have.

Yours sincerely,

**Tim Bettany-Simmons MRTPI**  
Area Planner

tim.bettany-simmons@canalrivertrust.org.uk



<https://canalrivertrust.org.uk/specialist-teams/planning-and-design>

**Canal & River Trust**

Fradley Junction, Alrewas, Burton-upon-Trent, Staffordshire, DE13 7DN

T 0303 040 4040 E [canalrivertrust.org.uk/contact-us](https://canalrivertrust.org.uk/contact-us) W [canalrivertrust.org.uk](https://canalrivertrust.org.uk)