

28<sup>th</sup> July 2020

Andrew Mahon, David Wallis & Stephen Roscoe  
Planning Inspector  
Via email

[aquind@planninginspectorate.gov.uk](mailto:aquind@planninginspectorate.gov.uk)

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**M** [REDACTED]

Dear Mr Mahon, Wallis & Roscoe,

**Re: Application by AQUIND Limited for an Order Granting Development Consent for the  
AQUIND Interconnector Project**

**Ref: EN020022**

I write in response to your letter to our client Sainsbury's Supermarkets Limited ('SSL') on 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2020 in respect of the above Development Consent Order ('DCO'). By way of introduction, Newsteer Real Estate Advisors ('Newsteer') have been instructed on behalf of SSL to advise on all compensation and land acquisition matters relating to their interests affected by the AQUIND Interconnector Project. With this considered, I hereby set-out our written response.

In the first instance, we wish to confirm SSL's approval of the Draft Examination Timetable (Annex C) inclusive of the proposed dates for the Preliminary Meeting on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> August and resumption of the Preliminary Meeting on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> September. Additionally, SSL confirm approval of the agenda items for both meetings with no further comment.

Secondly, we wish to bring to your attention our client's concerns in regards to the proposed acquisition of rights over land which will be permitted under the DCO if made. SSL have a number of queries relating to the extent of the acquisition of rights over land in relation to the proposed cabling route and how the impacts on SSL's current operation are being managed. The cabling route as proposed runs along a significant portion of the car park at Sainsbury's Faringdon and has the potential to cause considerable disruption. It is considered that there are alternative cabling routes which should be adopted which would minimise the need to acquire extensive rights over private land and in turn cause business disruption.

With regard to these concerns, our client wishes to request that SSL are able to make oral submissions on their behalf during the Examination, specifically in respect of hearings focused on the principle issue of 'compulsory acquisition' as our client's main concerns relate to the requirement for land and the selection of cabling routes (including the availability of alternatives). The opportunity to ask questions of the applicant's experts and allow the Planning Inspector to ask questions of SSL's expert will provide the opportunity for further exploration of the concerns presently held by our client, and therefore wish to make this request.

I trust that this letters provides a sufficient written response to the latest correspondence addressed to our client and its submission falls within Procedural Deadline A (28<sup>th</sup> July 2020). I look forward to hearing from you in further in regard to the above and progress with the Examination.

Yours sincerely



**David Conboy**

Director

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