Southampton to London Pipeline Project

Deadline 4

Responses to ExA's Further Written Questions - General Questions (GQ)

Application Document: 8.34

Planning Inspectorate Reference Number: EN070005

Revision No. 1.0

January 2020





Contents

| 1 | Response to the Examining Authority's Further Written Questions – General Questions (GQ)2 |
|-------|---|
| 2 | Appendix |
| Appen | dix GQ.2.9.1: Access and Right of Way Plan - Sheet 36 |



1 Response to the Examining Authority's Further Written Questions – General Questions (GQ)

Table 1.1: Applicant response to Question

| ExQ2 | Question: | Applicant response to Question: |
|--------|--|---|
| GQ.2.1 | | 1.1 In answer to i) and ii), the Applicant has prepared construction methodologies that explain how works would be undertaken in woodland, schools and other land use types (Document Reference 6.4 Appendix 16.1 (3)). These are applicable for the whole of the proposed pipeline route and provide details on how construction would occur in each of these locations. These would be secured through the Code of Construction Practice (CoCP) with the latest version provided at Deadline 4, (Document Reference 6.4 Appendix 16.1 (3)). 1.2 In addition, the Applicant has prepared Site Specific Plans for 'hotspot' areas (Document Reference 8.57 – 8.63). These have been prepared for sites where there are a number of sensitive features and receptors present that would need to be taken into account when determining the final alignment of the pipeline and deciding on specific construction working arrangements at that |
| | Heath Borough Council, Spelthorne Borough Council and Runnymede Borough Council in their joint D3 response [REP3-044] state that a Construction Method Statement (CMS) would need to be submitted for their specific "hotspot" sites in their respective | 1.3 In answer to iii), the Applicant has reviewed the response from Rushmoor Borough Council (REP3-039). The sensitive sites listed in the introduction are covered by either a construction methodology (Document Reference 6.4 Appendix 16.1 (3)) for example for schools and playing fields or a Site Specific Plan (Document Reference 8.57 and 8.60), for Queen Elizabeth Park and Southwood Country Park. The content list set out in (REP3-039) has been considered by the Applicant when developing the Site Specific Plans. In relation to the specific sections set out in (REP3-039): Introduction: The Site Specific Plans describe the location and the proposed areas of works. The Site Specific Plans do not include a description of the ecological impacts, as these are documented in Environmental Statement Chapter 7 (Application Document APP-047). The |



| ExQ2 | Question: | Applicant response to Question: |
|------|--|---|
| | areas which would need to deal with a number of | ES concluded that the project is not likely to result re would be no significant effects on ecology (see Table 7.48). |
| | matters. This document, they say, could be a standalone document or be appended to the | Programme: The Site Specific Plans contain details about programme phases that would be expected to occur. It also talks about the other constraints that would be considered when developing the programme, for example ecological seasonal constraints. |
| | updated Outline CEMP or CoCP to be submitted at D4. | Design: In addition to the narrow working locations being shown on the works plans and described within the CoCP, the Site Specific Plans contain details about the narrow working at the site specific locations. The Outline CEMP contains details of the further surveys that would be undertaken on the project as a whole. The Applicant considers that as the builders. |
| | i) Confirm that CMS(s) will be submitted and if so, for some or all of the proposed pipeline route. | would be undertaken on the project as a whole. The Applicant considers that as the builder and operator of the proposed pipeline, it needs to be responsible for the final alignment of the pipeline at each location. The final routing will need to take into account safe construction methods and operational requirements, for example distance from the existing pipeline or other services. However, the Applicant will continue its engagement with the relevant |
| | ii) If not, how will those matters be addressed in the updated Outline CEMP or CoCP. | planning authorities to explain the chosen construction methodology and how the refinement of the final route will be chosen. The Applicant is not intending to seek agreement from the relevant planning authorities on the final alignment due to the liability associated with this decision. |
| | iii) Explain whether the updated Outline CEMP will cover the matters raised by Rushmoor Borough Council in its D3 submission [REP3-039]. | Drainage and hydrology: The Outline Water Management Plan (WMP) sets out the measures that the Applicant proposes for managing temporary construction drainage; hydrological flow; pollution risks; and silt egress during construction. The Outline WMP includes the installation of stanks to reduce the risk of changes to groundwater flow as a result of the pipeline construction and operation and also setting buffers around watercourses taking into account sensitive features. The Site Specific Plans with waterbodies contain details as to how these would be managed. |
| | iv) Provide a response to Surrey Heath | |



| ExQ2 Question: | Applica | nt response to Question: |
|---|---|---|
| submission that the Ou should also Soil Managemen Pollution Control Plan v) Confirm an Outlin | Handling t Plan and Incident n or provide ne Noise t Plan (NMP) the Outline | Implementation: The CEMP and associated appendices set out how general commitments made in Esso's Register of Environmental Actions and Commitments (REAC) will apply across the project. Enforcement: The CoCP will be certified during the examination process (requirement 5). The Outline CEMP (including associated appendices) and Outline LEMP will also be certified during examination (requirement 6 and 12 respectively). The final CEMP and LEMP will need to be in accordance with the Outline CEMP and LEMP and would be issued to the relevant planning authorities for approval. Supporting provisions: The Applicant has reviewed the supporting provisions proposed within (REP3-039) and has the following responses: A new DCO Requirement on tree and hedgerow protection: The Applicant considers this to be addressed by the Outline LEMP. Additional provisions in Requirement 7: Construction traffic: The Applicant has amended the requirement to include wording about the highways authorities consulting the relevant planning authorities on the Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP). The Outline CTMP sets out the proposed measures to reduce impacts on local roads during the works. New DCO Requirement on the Provision of Suitable Alternative Natural Green Space (SANG). The Applicant considers the project to have a short term temporary impact on SANG (Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA) Report (Application Documents APP-130 and APP-131) therefore it does not consider the need to provide new or alternative SANG as part of the project. A new requirement to secure investigation protection, mitigation and short medium and long term management to alleviate impacts on protected and priority habitats and species: The Applicant considers the measures set out and secured within the CoCP and the relevant European Protected Species (EPS) licences cover the scope of this requirement. |



| ExQ2 | Question: | Applicant response to Question: |
|------|-----------|---|
| | | The ES has concluded that with the measures set out in the CoCP and within the EPS licences that there would be no significant effects on priority habitats and species. |
| | | A new requirement to secure migration for and long term management of sporting facilities. The Applicant is in discussion with the relevant landowners over the reinstatement of sporting facilities through the negotiations on the land agreements. Measures for reinstatement of sporting facilities are also set out within the Outline LEMP. Therefore, the Applicant does not consider a new requirement to be required. |
| | | 1.4 In answer to iv), the Outline CEMP (Application Document APP-129) contained a list of appendices that would be prepared prior to construction. These included a Soil Management Plan and an Emergency Action Plan. In response to the comments raised during Examination, the Applicant has further populated the Outline CEMP (Document Reference 8.51) and associated appendices. |
| | | 1.5 The Applicant has produced an Outline Soil Management (Document Reference Appendix F 8.51), which contains details of how soil would be handled during construction, in line with Surrey Heath Borough Council's suggestion of producing a Soil Handling Plan. The Applicant has called it an Outline Soil Management Plan, as the scope is broader than just handling soil and includes how soil would be stored and managed. |
| | | 1.6 The Applicant has produced an Emergency Action Plan (Document Reference Appendix A 8.51) to document how a pollution event would be managed if it was to occur. The Applicant considers this document to cover the same function as the Pollution Incident Control Plan referenced in the Surrey Heath Brough Council's submission (REP3-047). |
| | | 1.7 In answer to v) and Outline Noise and Vibration Management Plan has been prepared by the Applicant and is submitted at Deadline 4 (Document Reference Appendix E 8.51). |



| ExQ2 | Question: | Applicant response to Question: |
|--------|---|---|
| GQ.2.2 | Chapter 10 of the Environmental Statement (ES) [APP-050], and as illustrated by the Applicant in its response to ExA WQs [REP2-045] and [REP2-046], states that as a worst-case scenario, all trees and vegetation would be removed within the Order limits except where the good practice measures set out in Table 10.13 and reduced working widths identified within the Register of Environmental Actions and Commitments | First, the Applicant would note that its "worst-case scenario" approach to environmental impact assessment is appropriate and in accordance with standard practice. In this regard, the Annex to the Inspectorate's Advice Note 7 confirms that: "The Applicant should ensure that a parameter-based assessment considers the worst case scenario which the Proposed Development could have (in terms of environmental impacts) to ensure that it is robustly assessed. This approach is generally consistent with the Rochdale Envelope principle (see R v Rochdale MBC ex parte Tew (1999) and R v Rochdale MBC ex parte Milne (2000)) which is a way of dealing with uncertainty in preparing development applications." The Applicant therefore stands by its approach to the assessment and considers that there is a fundamental distinction between the assessment of effects, on the one hand, and mitigation for those effects, on the other. The Landscape Ecological Management Pan (LEMP) is concerned with the latter. In response to i), the Applicant has produced an Outline LEMP (Document Reference 8.50)) to provide further detail about the commitments it has made with regards to vegetation retention, protection and reinstatement. The Outline LEMP provides samples of the reinstatement figures (Appendix B) at two locations based on an indicative pipeline alignment, to show the level of detail that would be included in the final LEMP. The final LEMP including the final reinstatement figures, would be submitted to the relevant planning authorities for approval. The Applicant has also provided examples of the retention and removal figures (Document Reference 8.66), which would be submitted to the relevant planning authorities for information. |
| | (REAC), which is contained within Chapter 16 of the ES [APP-056] dictates otherwise. At the ISH on Tuesday 3 December 2019 [EV-009a] and [EV- | 1.3 The sample figures, using the indicative alignment of the pipeline route, demonstrate the Applicant's intention that not all vegetation within the Order Limits would need to be removed. However, until a final pipeline alignment is developed, the Applicant cannot confirm exactly which vegetation and trees would be affected. The Applicant requires the flexibility to determine the final pipeline alignment and has sought appropriate powers (article 6: limits of deviation) to reflect this. 1.4 In response to i and ii), the Applicant has responded to the concerns raised at the ISH about |



| ExQ2 | Question: | Applicant response to Question: |
|------|---|---|
| | 009b], the ExA stated that it considered this approach too general and vague, and it failed to acknowledge that the proposed pipeline route | Southwood Country Park and Cove Brook, Queen Elizabeth Country Park, Turf Hill and Fordbridge Park. The Applicant is also preparing a Site Specific plan for Ashford Town Centre at the request of Spelthorne Borough Council, in a meeting on 14 January 2020. This will be submitted to the Examing Authority at Deadline 5 in the examination timetable. The Site Specific Plans will include key constraints relevant to the design and construction of each site, using information obtained through site surveys. |
| | deviated through some sensitive locations, which the Applicant described as "hotspot" sites. Rushmoor | 1.5 The Site Specific Plans set out in more detail how the Applicant intends to install the pipeline at each of these locations. The Site Specific Plans also show the vegetation and trees that are likely to be affected during installation and how the Applicant is proposing to reinstate each site. The Site Specific Plan have been submitted at Deadline 4 (Document Reference 8.57 to 8.63) |
| | Borough Council's position as expressed at the Hearing considers that the worst-case scenario particularly at | 1.6 The Outline LEMP (Document Reference 8.50) is structured so that it sits alongside the Code of Construction Practice (Document Reference 6.4 Appendix 16.1 (3)) and the Outline CEMP (Document Reference 8.51), as shown on Illustration 1.1 in the CoCP. The CoCP contains the commitments for the embedded design measures, narrow working and trenchless crossings, all of which would avoid or reduce the impacts of construction on natural habitats and open spaces. |
| | the "hotspot" sites would be unacceptable in planning terms. "Hotspot" sites were identified as being: | 1.7 The Outline LEMP structure is based on the proposed contents list provided by South Downs National Park Authority (SDNPA) in REP3-061 . The Applicant considers that most of the items in the contents list have been set out in the Outline LEMP at this stage. Where details cannot be provided at this stage, a note is added to explain that this information would be provided in the final LEMP submitted to the relevant planning authorities for approval. |
| | Tweseldown Racecourse; Southwood Country Park and Cove Brook; Queen Elizabeth Country Park; Frith Hill; | 1.8 The only part of the contents list provided by the SDNPA (REP3-061) that the Applicant has not addressed in the Outline LEMP is Section 7, covering operational mitigation measures and the appendix containing the vegetation retention and removal drawings. In terms of the operational mitigation measures, good practice measures in relation to light, noise, dust, spoil and soil storage (set out in Section 7 of (REP3-061)) are all covered within the Outline CEMP (Document Reference 8.51) and are therefore not duplicated in the Outline LEMP. Commitments in relation |



| ExQ2 | Question: | Applicant response to Question: |
|------|---|--|
| | Turf Hill; Fordbridge Park and Chobham Common. | to invasive non-native species are included in the Outline LEMP. Samples of the Vegetation Retention and Removal Plans are provided as a separate document to the Outline LEMP, as these would be submitted to the relevant planning authority for information only. |
| | Accordingly, the ExA stated that the submission of a | 1.9 The Outline LEMP contains the good practice measures that the Applicant has made in relation to vegetation (including trees) retention, protection, removal and reinstatement. It also outlines how the measures would be secured and funded. |
| | comprehensive and detailed Outline LEMP was necessary to assess the specific effects and mitigation necessary specifically for the identified | 1.10 Rushmoor Borough Council (REP3-042) requests the Outline LEMP to contain an assessment of the impacts on the project on sensitive ecological sites and open spaces. The Applicant does not consider this to be the purpose of the LEMP as this would duplicate the purpose of the Environmental Statement and Habitats Regulation Assessment Report, which perform that function. The purpose of the LEMP is to provide details about how measures identified within the ES would be implemented. |
| | "hotspot" areas. The Applicant stated that it would comply with this | 1.11 <u>REP3-042</u> provides a list of ecological and recreational hotspots proposed by the local authorities and these have been considered when developing the list of both the construction methodologies and the Site Specific Plan. |
| | request and would submit such documents at D4, 30 January 2020. In anticipation of the submission of the Outline LEMP: | 1.12 REP3-042 suggests that additional surveys should help inform the findings of the LEMP. The Applicant agrees with this suggestion and a series of surveys are planned prior to construction using methodologies set out in the survey methodology set out in the Scoping Report (Additional Submission AS-019). The ecological survey methodologies have been discussed with Natural England, who has confirmed in the Statement of Common Ground with the Applicant (REP1-005) 'that the scope and methods of the ecological surveys are appropriate'. |
| | i) Indicate here briefly, how the Outline LEMP will address the concerns raised by the Examining Authority | 1.13 The Outline CEMP (Document Reference 8.51) provides a list of the locations where the Applicant is intending to undertake further surveys and the results of these surveys would be considered as part of developing both the final CEMP and the final LEMP. |



| ExQ2 | Question: | Applicant response to Question: |
|------|---|--|
| | (ExA) and Interested Parties (IPs). ii) Explain whether the Outline LEMP will undertake site specific surveys for those sites identified by the | 1.14 REP3-042 also suggests that the LEMP should outline how land is secured and measures would be funded. Temporary possession of the land in order to undertake the measures set out within the Outline LEMP would be obtained through the dDCO (article 29). The planting and reinstatement would be funded and undertaken by the Applicant in accordance with the Outline LEMP. The Applicant has also committed to undertaking five-years of aftercare in relation to the planting (Commitment G92 secured within the CoCP and Requirement 8 of the dDCO). At the end of the five years, when planting would be established, it would be handed back to the relevant |
| | Applicant at ISH as "hotspots", namely: Queen Elizabeth Country Park; Fordbridge Park; Turf Hill; Chobham Common and Southwood Country | 1.15 <u>REP3-042</u> states that the Outline LEMP should provide further details on the Natura 2000 and SSSI network. The Applicant does not agree with this suggestion, as the assessment of impacts on Natura 2000 sites is already provided within the HRA Report (Application Documents <u>APP-130</u> and <u>APP-131</u>) and the impact on SSSIs is provided in ES Chapter 7 (Application Document <u>APP-047</u>). Both of these documents set out the good practice measures in relation to habitat sites and these are secured as commitments within the CoCP is (Document Reference 6.4 Appendix 16.1 (3)), and are also set out within the Outline LEMP (Document Reference 8.50). |
| | Park. If not, why not. iii) Explain whether the Outline LEMP will also undertake site specific | 1.16 <u>REP3-042</u> suggests that the Outline LEMP will require a site specific assessment of the impacts on SANGs, including paragraphs 5.8.8 to 5.8.29. The Applicant does not agree with this approach, as the impact assessment on SANGs is covered within the HRA Report (Application Document APP-130). 1.17 <u>REP3-042</u> provides further details as to what the Local Authorities would expect to see in the Site. |
| | surveys for Tweseldown Racecourse and Frith Hill, both of which are extensively tree covered and where open trenching is proposed. If not, why not. | 1.17 REP3-042 provides further details as to what the Local Authorities would expect to see in the Site Specific Plan. These details have been considered by the Applicant when developing the Site Specific Plan. 1.18 The Applicant has met with some of relevant planning authorities to discuss the contents of the LEMP and will undertake further discussions once the relevant planning authorities have had an |



| ExQ2 | Question: | Applicant response to Question: |
|------|--|--|
| | iv) Explain whether the Outline LEMP will cover | opportunity to fully review and comment on the Outline LEMP and other documents submitted by the Applicant at Deadline 4. |
| | the matters and sites specifically raised by Rushmoor Borough Council, Spelthorne | 1.19 The Applicant is not intending to produce a Site Specific Plan for Chobham Common, as the information about the construction method and reinstatement is provided within the Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA) Report (Application Document APP-130 and APP-131). |
| | Borough Council, Surrey Heath Borough Council and Runnymede Borough Council in their joint response at D3 [REP3- | |
| | 042] and by SDNPA [REP3-061] in respect to the Outline LEMP. | 1.21 The Applicant is not intending to undertake site specific surveys for Frith Hill, a military training ground owned and operated by the Ministry of Defence, as the Order Limits are subject to Narrow Working and the Applicant has committed to utilising the existing Frith Hill Road within its working area. The Applicant has also reached agreement with the MOD's ecology and forestry advisers on reinstatement which would include a number of measures to improve the biodiversity and training value of the woodland. This is being taken forward as part of the separate Environmental Improvement Programme. |
| | | 1.22 In response to iv, the answers provided above explain whether the Outline LEMP covers the matters and sites raised by Rushmoor Borough Council, Spelthorne Borough Council, Surrey Heath Borough Council and Runnymede Borough Council in their joint response at D3 (REP3-042) and by SDNPA (REP3-061) in respect to the Outline LEMP. As stated above, the Outline LEMP based on the contents list provided by SDNPA at Deadline 3 (REP3-061) and has broadly covered the scope that they suggested should be included. |



| ExQ2 | Question: | Applicant response to Question: |
|--------|---|--|
| | | 1.23 As outlined above, <u>REP3-042</u> provides a list of ecological and recreational hotspots proposed by the local authorities and these have been considered when developing the list of both the construction methodologies and the site-specific plans. |
| GQ.2.3 | It is clear from ExA WQ TT.1.2 [PD-008] and the various relevant responses that there is concern over the lack of | (CTMP) as part of the Deadline 4 submission (Document Reference 8.49). At this stage, it is important to acknowledge the outline nature of the CTMP, recognising that it would be finalised in detail prior to construction of the project commencing and in agreement with the local highway authorities. |
| | a detailed Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP). In addition, at the Issue | traffic and management of general traffic and Public Rights of Way that may be impacted by the |
| | Specific Hearings on 27 November [EV-006b], 3 December [EV-009a] and [EV-009b] and 4 December [EV-010a] and [EV-010b], the ExA | 1.3 In response to ii), the Outline CTMP addresses the concerns raised by Spelthorne Borough Council and Highways England. It was developed in such a way as to be the basis for a finalised CTMP, once one or more contractors are appointed. This will enable the document to reflect the agreed approach with highway authorities and detailed construction methods. While it does not set out assumptions used for the project, it identifies where project assumptions used to date can be found. |
| | stated that it considered that the REAC [APP-056] and [REP2-010], is insufficient to understand the effects of the Proposed Development on traffic management and accordingly, an Outline | throughout the document to demonstrate where they are addressed and developed. The Outline CTMP includes how the Applicant would work to national standards and guidance to complete the construction of the project within the public highway, including outlining how this would include engagement with blue light services. In its Local Impact Report (REP1-021), Spelthorne Borough |



| ExQ2 | Question: | Applicant response to Question: |
|------|---|---------------------------------|
| | CTMP would be needed. The Applicant stated that it would comply with these requests and would submit such a document at D4, 30 January 2020. | |
| | i) Indicate here briefly, how the Outline CTMP addresses the concerns raised by the ExA and IPs. | |
| | ii) Respond to the comments made by Spelthorne Borough Council [REP3-045] and Highways England [REP3-034] in respect to the content of the Outline CTMP and also the wording of Requirement 7 of the dDCO [REP3-006]. | |



| ExQ2 | Question: | Applicant response to Question: |
|--------|--|--|
| GQ.2.4 | The ExA notes the submission at D3 of Alignment Sheets of Narrow Working Width(s) [REP3-023], [REP3-024] and [REP3-025] which are intended to illustrate areas within the Order Limits of where NWW be deployed. i) Confirm whether the watermark "PROVISIONAL" indicates that the shown NWW are preferred areas only, and it may ultimately be realigned elsewhere in the Order limits when constructed. ii) That being the case, | 7. In response to i), the Applicant confirms that all narrow working areas are only provisional (in terms of their position but not their width). Because the narrow working width could be located anywhere within the Order Limits it is difficult to visually represent the lateral extent of narrow working on the Alignment Sheets. Therefore the narrow working width is shown in an illustrative preferred location based upon a provisional pipeline alignment. The lateral location of this narrow working width could be located elsewhere and the definitive criteria for narrow working are set out in Annex A of the COCP. 1.2 In response to ii), the Applicant has provided the plans for information only, at a greater, more detailed scale than the DCO plans. The Applicant will be moving into the detail design phase of the works should the DCO be granted and the Alignment Sheets have been produced at this early stage to help inform the ExA and are also being used as part of the Invitation to Tender which the Applicant is the process of negotiating with the contracting industry. 1.3 In response to iii), the Applicant has not reduced the Limits of Deviation for the following reasons: There may be unknown buried obstructions which negate the ability to route the pipeline in the location assumed on the narrow working area. Ecological constraints such as badger setts may require the narrow working route to be revised. |
| | what is the purpose of the plans if they cannot be certified. | |



| ExQ2 | Question: | Applicant response to Question: |
|--------|---|--|
| | iii) If this is not the case, and the areas of NWW as shown in the Alignment Sheets of Narrow Working Width(s) document are precise, explain why the Limits of Deviation has not been narrowed to the NWW area. | |
| GQ.2.5 | The ExA notes the submission at Deadline 3 of Crossing Plans [REP3-026] which are intended to illustrate some provisional detail | 1.1 The draft DCO (Document Reference 3.1(5)) includes powers to construct a range of further works in connection with the numbered works described in Schedule 1 of the draft DCO (Document Reference 3.1(5)). This includes <i>inter alia</i> a power to carry out works to alter the layout of streets (Schedule 1, lettered work (e)) and to carry out "such other works as may be necessary or expedient for the purposes of, or for purposes associated with or ancillary to, the construction of the authorised development" (Schedule 1, lettered work (q)). |
| | of trenchless crossings. Explain how in the case of the plan relating to TC039 the possible | 1.2 Further, article 9 confers a power upon the Applicant, with the consent of the street authority, to temporarily alter the layout of streets within or outside the Order limits for the purposes of constructing the authorised development. Without limitation to the scope of that power, the Applicant is authorised <i>inter alia</i> to temporarily "alter the level of a street" (article 9(2)(b)). |
| | bailey bridge solution noted on the plans for the pre-welded pipe | 1.3 The Applicant therefore considers that this potential bridge solution is secured and is capable of being delivered within the current drafting of the draft DCO. |
| | • | 1.4 The Applicant does, however, recognise that this solution is also likely to require a permit from Surrey County Council under its permit scheme – in fact, article 9 of the draft DCO submitted at Deadline 4 now confirms that the power conferred by that article does not apply where the |



| ExQ2 | Question: | Applicant response to Question: |
|--------|---|---|
| | Bronzefield could be secured and delivered within the current drafting of the dDCO [REP3-006]. | Applicant is carrying out activities pursuant to a permit granted under the scheme – and would therefore seek to secure an appropriate permit from Surrey County Council at the relevant time. |
| GQ.2.6 | Explain, how the effect of the proposal on farming would be managed with particular reference to: i) Timing of construction works and how this would accommodate the needs | undertaken during the detailed design stage. The Applicant will be liaising very closely with all affected farmers and landowners regarding construction entry dates including detailed pre entry meetings, however, it is unlikely that conflict with seasonally dependent field scale operations or livestock husbandry can be avoided. The Voluntary agreement offered to all Landowners contains extensive compensation provisions in the event of a potential impact to farming activities. 1.2 In response to ii), The Applicant refers to the response provided at Deadline 2 (Application Document 8.6.06) FR1.16 and FR.1.26 and also the Code of Construction Practice (Document Reference 6.4 Appendix 16.1 (3)) commitments G82 ("drainage surveys would be undertaken |
| | of seasonally dependent agricultural operations such as harvesting, sowing, lambing and calving. | construction. Where supplies would be lost or access compromised by construction works, temporary alternative supplies would be provided. Water supplies would be re-instated following construction"). In addition, the voluntary agreement, offered to landowners, contains the following working methods that the applicant is required to follow: |
| | ii) Disruption to field drainage and water supplies which may require diversion or | "So far as is reasonably practicable, that the Applicant will ensure that the minimum of damage and disturbance to land drains and natural drainage is caused in the exercise of the Rights". |
| | repair would be managed. | "The Company will be responsible for reinstating all land drains existing immediately before the Construction Works or Maintenance Works and which have been damaged in the exercise of the Rights and in particular the Company will where the interest of the drainage |



| ExQ2 | Question: | Applicant response to Question: |
|------|--|---|
| | iii) The measures that would be proposed to minimise compaction of soil due to tracking of vehicles and where compaction would occur what reinstatement measures are proposed. iv) The measures that would be proposed to deal with the effect of the Proposed Development on commitments made by farmers/landowners etc with regard to agrienvironment schemes. v) The measures that would be proposed to reduce the risk of disease transmission | necessary to cross and of the existence of which the Company shall have knowledge. All land drains cut or disturbed during the excavation will be strawed and prominently and durably marked at suitable positions adjacent to the trench immediately following their location and their locations will be shown in a drainage log of which a copy will be furnished to the Grantor and copy to the occupier. The methods to be employed in reinstating the field drainage system will be agreed with the occupier or the Grantor (whichever may be the responsible party) and will include the laying of header drains in advance of the main works where agreed to be necessary or failing agreement where recommended by an expert |
| | and transfer of invasive weeds associated with vehicle movements | Where relevant, as part of any Construction Works or Maintenance Works, the top soil will be stripped from the area of the Working Strip except from such parts of the Working Strip as may be agreed with the occupier and such parts as will be used for the temporary storage of the topsoil itself. All topsoil excavated from any trench or Working Strip area will be kept apart from all other excavated material, suitably managed to suppress weeds and will not be |



| ExQ2 | Question: | Applicant response to Question: |
|------|--|--|
| | along access tracks and within the Order limits. vi) How would field boundaries be secured during construction. vii) Where in the dDCO | run over by any machinery. Unless otherwise agreed the top 305 millimetres or a greater depth not exceeding 610 millimetres as required by the occupier of subsoil will be loosened with an agricultural cultivator before the replacement of any top soil removed. Agricultural land will be reinstated to a condition as nearly as possible equivalent to that subsisting before the commencement of the works and free of introduced litter of any kind and reasonably practicable steps will be taken so that top soil will be left in a loose friable and workable condition to its original full depth over the whole Working Strip. |
| | [REP3-006] or control documents would these measures be secured. OR signpost where in the application documentation this | 1.5 In response to iv), The Applicant refers to its response provided at Deadline 2 (REP2-039) to GQ.1.25 Para 1.7 – 1.8. Further within the voluntary agreement offered to all landowners the Applicant identifies that; The Company will pay reasonable compensation for the loss suffered or repayment made of any grants, subsidies or area payments or payments under the Basic Payment Scheme (or any similar or analogous scheme established under domestic legislation) provided that the |
| | information can be found. | Grantor has taken all reasonable endeavours to maintain or retain (as appropriate) such grants, subsidies or payments. 1.6 In response to v), the Outline Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (Section 4.1) sets out the need for site specific requirements to be identified for works within areas identified with the potential presence of Schedule 9 plant species, other invasive species or of disease such as ash die back. This is accordance with Commitment G42 which states that "The contractor(s) would provide a suitable method statement to set out how identifiable areas with the potential presence of Schedule 9 plant species or other invasive species would be demarcated, and how any affected soils would be appropriately managed throughout the works". In addition, the voluntary agreement, offered to landowners, contains the following working methods that the applicant is required to follow; • "Whenever an area has been declared an infected area on account of foot-and-mouth disease fowl pest swine fever or other notifiable disease any work connected with the |



| ExQ2 | Question: | Applicant response to Question: |
|------|-----------|--|
| | | Pipeline involving entry on the land will be suspended unless there are exceptional circumstances in which case the approval of the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) (or successor department) will first be obtained. Nothing in this clause shall prevent the Company entering on the land forthwith and without giving notice or obtaining any approval in order to remedy a breach or leak in the Pipeline following which the Company will observe all Defra's spread-of-disease regulations in force at the time". |
| | | "The Company in conjunction with the owners and occupiers directly affected by the Pipeline operations will take such reasonable precautions as may be necessary to avoid the spreading of notifiable soil borne pests and diseases or other soil borne pests and diseases as may be notified to the Company by the occupier prior to entry. In particular the Company will abide by the guidelines from time to time issued by Defra for precautions against the spread of such pests and diseases". |
| | | 1.7 In response to vi), The Applicant refers to the response provided at Deadline 2 (REP2-050) SS.1.5. In addition, the voluntary agreement, offered to landowners, contains the following working methods that the applicant is required to follow; |
| | | "The Company will make suitable alternative arrangements for rights of way affected by the exercise of the Rights. Fences lights and barriers will be provided as necessary for the protection of members of the public and animals". |
| | | "unless otherwise agreed with the Grantor, the Working Strip and any gaps in the field boundary made by the Company in the exercise of the Rights will be closed by temporary fencing which shall be suitable fencing adequate for the purpose and, if stock is kept in the adjoining field, will be a stock-proof fence". |
| | | • "unless otherwise agreed with the Grantor, •the Working Strip and any gaps in the field boundary made by the Company in the exercise of the Rights will be closed by temporary |



| Question: | Applicant response to Question: | | |
|--|--|--|--|
| | | fencing which shall be suitable fencing adjoining field, will be a stock-proof fenc | adequate for the purpose and, if stock is kept in the ce". |
| | 1.8 | In response to vii), The Applicant refers to the and also how these same issues are mitigate | e signposting set out above to the previous responses ed in the terms of the Voluntary Agreements |
| on the progress on other consents, licences and agreements (other than s106) and an indicative | 1.2 | required for the project. As mentioned in the impediment have been obtained from Natural for a bat licence, which cannot be prepared a Natural England endorses). In answer to (i), the Applicant does not agree are needed. The dDCO and protective provided in the impedimental project. | ment on other consents, agreements and licences ne table appended to answer GQ.1.11, letters of no al England for all licences required from them except until detailed design is undertaken (an approach that with National Grid that separate crossing agreements visions schedule it contains provide a framework for essing agreements are unnecessary. The Applicant e. |
| i) Crossing Agreements referred to in National | | In answer to (ii), the Applicant has received a | all the necessary technical clearances, as follows: |
| Grids D2 response [REP2- 072/073]. | | Trenchless crossing reference and location | Clearance obtained on |
| ii) the technical and | | TC008 Alton | 29 Aug 2019 |
| referred to in Network | | TC015 Nash Close | 12 Sep 2019 |
| • | | TC020 Blackwater (two crossings) | 12 Sep 2019 |
| - | | TC031 Chertsey | 12 Sep 2019 |
| | Provide a brief update on the progress on other consents, licences and agreements (other than s106) and an indicative timescale for when the Applicant hopes to have these agreed. Including but not limited to: i) Crossing Agreements referred to in National Grids D2 response [REP2-072/073]. ii) the technical and business clearances referred to in Network | Provide a brief update on the progress on other consents, licences and agreements (other than s106) and an indicative timescale for when the Applicant hopes to have these agreed. Including but not limited to: i) Crossing Agreements referred to in National Grids D2 response [REP2-072/073]. ii) the technical and business clearances referred to in Network Rails D2 response | Provide a brief update on the progress on other consents, licences and agreements (other than \$106) and an indicative timescale for when the Applicant hopes to have these agreed. Including but not limited to: i) Crossing Agreements referred to in National Grids D2 response [REP2-072/073]. iii) the technical and business clearances referred to in Network Rails D2 response [REP2-075]. In neck provide a brief update and adjoining field, will be a stock-proof fend adjoining field, will be a stock-proof fend and also how these same issues are mitigate required for the project. As mentioned in the impediment have been obtained from Natural England endorses). In answer to (i), the Applicant does not agree are needed. The dDCO and protective providealing with interactions and so further croawaits National Grid's response on this issue and business clearances referred to in Network Rails D2 response [REP2-075]. |



| ExQ2 | Question: | App | licant response to Question: | |
|--------|--|-----|--|--|
| | iii) the Environment Agency in their D2 | | TC041 Ashford | 12 Sep 2019 |
| | response [REP2-065]. | | TC016, TC017, TC018 Farnborough | 3 Dec 2019 |
| | | | Trial trenching at Station Road, Ashford | 3 Dec 2019 |
| | | 1.4 | In answer to (iii), the status of the issues liste in its D2 response are: | ed at the Environment Agency's Executive Summary |
| | | | Cove Brook Flood Storage Area – this i | s confirmed; |
| | | | River Thames Scheme – discussions on going; | |
| | | | DCO – discussions on going with the air | m of reaching acceptable protective provisions; |
| | | | • Flood Risk concerns – the Applicant be | lieves these to be resolved; |
| | | | • Fisheries issue – site meeting taking pla | ace on 30 January; |
| | | | Water Framework Directive – data rec 2020 being assessed; and | eived from the Environment Agency on 27 January |
| | | | Groundwater, hydrology, contamination | - discussions on going. |
| GQ.2.8 | The draft Statement of Common Ground | 1.1 | The Applicant has been working with Surre Statement of Common Ground (SOCG). | y Heath Borough Council to complete and agree a |
| | (dSoCG) submitted by the Applicant [REP2- 035] is different from the dSoCG submitted by Surrey Heath Borough | 1.2 | In the run up to Deadline 2, the Applicant sha 2019 with its lead contact at the council. | ared an updated draft of the SOCG on 14 November |



| ExQ2 | Question: | Applicant response to Question: |
|--------|---|---|
| | Council [REP2-094]. It is assumed work is in progress to sign a final SoCG. The ExA requests an explanation as to why these documents dated the same month are different and which one represents the current position. | 1.3 However, later that day the council responded to say that they were not in agreement that this reflected their understanding of the position. The council provided a revised draft of the SOCG, based on a previous version, but unfortunately this was not acceptable to the Applicant. 1.4 The Applicant explained to the council that, in this instance, the Applicant would make it clear in the Statement of Commonality that the draft SOCG reflected its understanding only and that the Applicant would continue to work on the SOCG to resolve the concerns that the council have. 1.5 The Council clearly wanted the Examining Authority to be aware of its view on the document and submitted it directly. 1.6 The Applicant has met the Council on two occasions since the Examination Hearings – on the 9 December 2019 and 23 January 2020 – to progress an agreed draft of the SOCG which the Applicant aims to submit at Deadline 5. |
| GQ.2.9 | The Access and Public Rights of Way Plans [AS-055] sheet 36 appears to be missing from the submitted set. Submit sheet 36. | 1.1 Sheet 36 is provided as an Appendix below (Appendix GQ.2.9.1). |



| ExQ2 | Question: | Applicant response to Question: |
|---------|--|---|
| GQ.2.10 | At the ISH held on Tuesday 3 December [EV-009a] and [EV-009b], the Applicant confirmed that site works, and the temporary construction compounds were required for a period of up to two years. The Applicant's response to Action Point 18 [REP3-013] also confirmed that work within SANGs and within Queen Elizabeth Country Park would not extend for more than two years. Signpost and confirm where and how this is secured in the dDCO [REP3-006]. | Natural Greenspaces and Queen Elizabeth Country Park. It is not a general limitation which applies to construction works across the whole of the route of the authorised development. 1.3 The Applicant proposes that this two-year limitation would be contained in the Code of Construction Practice (CoCP) and this has now been added to the revised version of the CoCP submitted at Deadline 4, (Document Reference 6.4 Appendix 16.1 (3)). 1.4 Compliance with the CoCP is secured by Requirement 5 of the draft DCO (Document Reference 3.1 (5)). |



2 Appendix

Appendix GQ.2.9.1: Access and Right of Way Plan - Sheet 36

