#### Southampton to London Pipeline Project

#### Deadline 4

Responses to ExA's Further Written Questions - Queen Elizabeth Country Park (QE)

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#### Contents

1	Response to the Examining Authority's Further Written Questions – Queen Elizabeth Country Park (QE)2
2	Appendix15
Appen	dix QE.2.7.1: Works Plans - Addition of Queen Elizabeth Park Access (Sheet 35 & 106)15
Appen	dix QE.2.7.2: Access and Right of Way - Addition of Queen Elizabeth Park Access (Sheet 35 & 106)16



#### 1 Response to the Examining Authority's Further Written Questions – Queen Elizabeth Country Park (QE)

**Table 1.1: Applicant response to Question** 

ExQ2	Question:	Applicant response to Question:
QE.2.1	At the ISH held on Tuesday 3 December 2019 [EV-009a] and [EV- 009b], the Applicant	Queen Elizabeth Park. This included clearly setting out how the 15m narrow working area would be split-in-two for the two distinct installation activities (10m Open Cut and 5m stringing). It has clearly stated that this work would be unlikely to take place at the same time, thus the working area (of 10m or 5m) would not practically 'spread over the entire 36m width of the Order Limits'. Access would be available to all areas of the park not within active working areas.
	confirmed that the NWW for Queen Elizabeth Country Park would be 15m. However, and on further examination, the Applicant confirmed in [REP3-020] that	limits of deviation in a 10m wide reduced working width incorporating the existing cycle/pedestrian path. This alignment is to mitigate impacts and encroachment within the park as discussed with Rushmoor BC on the site visits in November 2018 and October 2019. When using a horizontal directional drilling (HDD) technique, the HDD pipe string needs to be welded to its correct length (the full length of the proposed HDD) and laid out on rollers in as straight a line as possible matching the alignment of the below ground section of the HDD. This is to allow it to be pulled back into the HDD bore. There can be some bending incorporated in the pipe string – the Applicant has calculated that a bending radius of approximately 400m can be achieved given the diameter and thickness of the steel pipe
	the 15m width would comprise a 10m working width	1.3 It would not be possible for the stringing area to lie adjacent to the Open Cut alignment as the acute bends could not be achieved. Equally, if the Open Cut section was moved to be adjacent to the stringing area this would result in a need to remove an excessive number of trees.
	for the proposed pipeline route itself, and a further 5m for the	pipe with minimal loss of trees and the stringing of the pipe with no further loss of trees.



ExQ2	Question:	Applicant response to Question:
ExQ2	stringing out area for trenchless crossing TCO018. The Applicant further confirmed that the 5m route would not necessarily run adjacent to the 10m working width of the proposed pipeline, and as such it is feasible that the NWW could in fact spread over the entire 36m width of the Order limits and be constructed at a different time. This is illustrated in	1.5 In response to (ii), the Applicant can confirm that the Environmental Impact Assessment assessed the loss of all the trees within the Order Limits on a precautionary approach but made reference to the stringing area for trenchless crossing TC018 as requiring limited vegetation removal in commitment G175. The current intended stringing alignment requires no tree removal but some vegetation removal, principally rhododendron. Volume 6 Environmental Statement (Volume B), Chapter 10: Landscape and Visual 10.4.7 (Application Document APP-050).  G175 For trenchless crossings TC001 to TC015, TC019, TC021 to TC028, TC030 to TC040, vegetation would be retained except where emergency access is required to trenchless equipment or ecological works have been proposed. At TC029 vegetation would be retained to the east of Hardwick Lane but not to the west side due to the requirement for access. At TC016, TC017 and TC018, there would be limited removal of vegetation along the alignment of the existing pathway to allow for pipe stringing.
	Figure 1.2 in [REP3-013] and general work plans Sheets 34, 35,105 and 106 [AS-009].	



ExQ2	Question:	Applicant response to Question:
	i) Justify the reason for not including the stringing out area adjacent to the 10m NWW, and the reasons for the proposed route as depicted in Figure 1.2 within [REP3-013].  ii) Signpost in the	
	Application where an assessment of the effects of the stringing out area has been undertaken and assessed.	
QE.2.2	At the ISH held on Tuesday 3 December 2019 [EV-009a and EV-009b], the Neighbours and Users of Queen	<ul> <li>1.1 The Applicant can confirm that it is technically feasible to HDD beneath QEP, but doing so would, in the Applicant's view, transfer effects versus the Open Cut in QEP. As outlined in the detail covered below, considerations include:</li> <li>greater level of engineering risk and uncertainty;</li> <li>larger land footprint;</li> </ul>



<ul> <li>Elizabeth Park (NUQEP) gave their view that it would be possible to install the proposed pipeline at Queen Elizabeth Country Park using trenchless</li> <li>works at Farnborough Hill School during term-time, or that would be much longer if term-time we avoided;</li> <li>encroachment on a residential property near the school; and</li> <li>loss of at least one tree which outweighs the effects of Open Cut, particularly now that it has been confirmed that the tree loss from Open Cut in QEP has been minimised.</li> <li>Further details on the feasibility of a trenchless crossing are set out below. In assessing this propose the Applicant has determined that it is necessary to increase the scale of the area at the northern end.</li> </ul>
techniques. It was said that by undertaking this as a separate project, as opposed to extension of TCO018, it would be possible to string out those sections of the pipeline in the school grounds of Farnborough Hill School. The



ExQ2 Question:	Applicant response to Question:
NUQEP subsequently submitted such a proposal at D3 [REP3-059] and a specific trenchless proposal was submitted in REP3-067.  However, in the response to Action Point 15 [REP3- 013], the Applicant considers that in fact undertaking a trenchless crossing would not be feasible, citing principally issues concerning the use of Farnborough Hill School for stringing out operations. As pointed out by the NUQEP in its D3	Illustration 1: HDD from play area in QEP to Farnborough School  **CORRECTION**  **CORRECTION*



ExQ2	Question:	Applicant response to Question:
	response [REP3-059], the response given by the Applicant appears to differ from a previous response given at 1.3 of the response to ExA WQ QE.1.5[PD-008] at D2 [REP2-048], in which it was cited that the trenchless techniques would have no greater benefit than open trenching.  The sketches provided in the response to Action Point 15 would however seem to indicate it may be possible at least with option 1 utilising the	Trees will be removed to the boundary to facilitate stringing area - 5m wide  1.4 The proposed stringing out of the pipe through the school outfield would not be able to follow the line
	maximum radius	of the Open Cut which hugs the school boundary. This is due to the maximum radius of curvature of



ExQ2	Question:	Applicant response to Question:
	of curvature of 400m that with some modification to the receptor pit location that the whole stringing out length required	400m that the string is able to achieve. The works to the Open Cut and the stringing would all have to take place at the same time, as the project has committed to undertake the works within the school grounds only outside of term times. This would result in two separate work fronts and a larger working footprint being needed. This would impact on the availability of the area for the school to undertake its out-of-term-time activities. As identified in Action Point 15 (REP3-013), HDD does introduce additional risk from engineering risk and uncertainty, which would make it harder to meet the commitment to only work in out-of-term-time.
	could be accommodated within the Farnborough School site or potentially utilising the end of Woodstocks off	1.5 In response to the comment regarding realigning the reception pit, the Applicant has endeavoured to show the impact that a reception pit in this area would have on the local trees in the sketch below. There is limited open space in the southeast corner of the school grounds, and any reorientation has the potential to require further trees to be removed. In the area where the reception pit would be located, there are a number of complications and obstructions which the Applicant has to take account of: there are trees within the Conservation Area (two are recorded as veteran trees), the existing fuel lines and the school's access road. The assumed location is derived from the following limitations listed below:
	Ship Lane for the end of the	<ul> <li>Addressing the trees in the first instance, Tree T101 would have to be removed, along with the veteran tree. Tree T100 should be able to be retained but may require some lopping or trimming.</li> </ul>
	stringing section.  Provide a more detailed feasibility	<ul> <li>The existing fuel lines can be avoided if the reception pit remains as shown on the sketch below.</li> <li>There is limited potential to expand this worksite due to the proximity of the existing lines without additional protection being installed.</li> </ul>
	assessment of the potential for stringing out to be	<ul> <li>A new access would need to be installed off the existing school entrance road to afford direct access into the reception pit area.</li> </ul>
	undertaken in Farnborough School.	<ul> <li>The location of the reception pit would dictate how long the stringing out length of the pipe needs to be. Therefore, the closer the reception pit could be located to the A325, the shorter the length of string in the school fields. However, the reception pit cannot be moved any closer to the A325</li> </ul>



ExQ2	Question:	Applicant response to Question:
ExQ2	Question:	Applicant response to Question:  - 45m at present – due to the depth and the bending radius that the pipe needs to be for the pipe to be routed beneath the A325.  HDD receiving compound  Tree T101  QUEEN  ELIZABETH  PARK
		Potential Veteran Tree



ExQ2	Question:	Applicant response to Question:
		1.6 While a trenchless crossing of Queen Elizabeth Park is physically possible, the Applicant maintains that its adverse impacts would be greater than the current proposal for Open Cut.
QE.2.3	Explain why there is need for such an enlarged drive site shown in response to Action Point 15 [REP3-013], when at Stakes Lane the drive site is contained within a much smaller footprint.	limited footprint available between the residential properties and railway embankment, and it would require a bespoke set up for this location with restrictive methodologies being applied.
QE.2.6	At the Accompanied Site Inspection held on Tuesday 26 November 2019 [EV-008], the ExA noted a raised brick structure near to the boundary with Farnborough Road with in what appeared to be	Thames Water has confirmed that the structure houses an air valve located on its 525mm diameter pumped foul sewer rising main and is located at this location as it is a 'high' point in the system.  1.2 In response to (ii), the Applicant can confirm that the pipeline alignment would be routed to the north of this structure, and the structure would have no bearing or impact on the Applicant's development.



ExQ2	Question:	Applicant response to Question:
	within the alignment of the proposed pipeline. The Applicant's representatives and IPs were unable to explain what this was.  i) Clarify what this structure is.  ii) Explain whether this has any bearing on the Proposed Development.	



ExQ2	Question:	Applicant response to Question:
QE.2.7	Figure 1.5 of the Applicant's responses to Other Parties submitted at D3 [REP3-017] indicates the proposed temporary access from Farnborough Road to the auger drill compound in Queen Elizabeth Country Park. This proposed temporary works access has been added to the dDCO [REP3-006] but is not shown on the relevant Access and Public Rights of Way or Works Plans.	



ExQ2	Question:	Applicant response to Question:
	Amend all relevant submission documents.	
QE.2.9	The proposal would require the temporary removal of the play area at Queen Elizabeth	has provided a secured commitment within the Code of Construction Practice for full reinstatement (G94). The specific detail regarding the play equipment has clarified with Rushmoor Borough Council – that reinstatement of the existing playground would be undertaken with new equipment. The Applicant considers that this is appropriately secured.
	Country Park. The existing play area is a Neighbourhood Equipped Area for Play (NEAP).	out of commission (OP05). The Applicant has stated this could be provided within the Order Limits or provided in collaboration with Rushmoor Borough Council in accordance with details agreed (OP05).  The Applicant has been seeking agreement with Rushmoor Borough Council to locate a temporary play
	For the Applicant: Rushmoor Borough Council	1.3 The Applicant is amending the commitment to replace the word 'seek' with 'will' to avoid any doubt
	in its D3 response [REP3-041] suggest that the relocation of the NEAP must be secured by a legal mechanism, and the appropriate	1.4 The Applicant met with Rushmoor Borough Council (RBC) on 15 January 2020 and presented its potential supplier for the alternative play equipment. The supplier has experience of installing play equipment in root protection areas, works with nationally known organisations and has experience installing equipment in woodland settings. The Applicant is now seeking the Council's agreement to the principle of installing play equipment within the park before engaging its potential supplier to design and provide alternative provision.

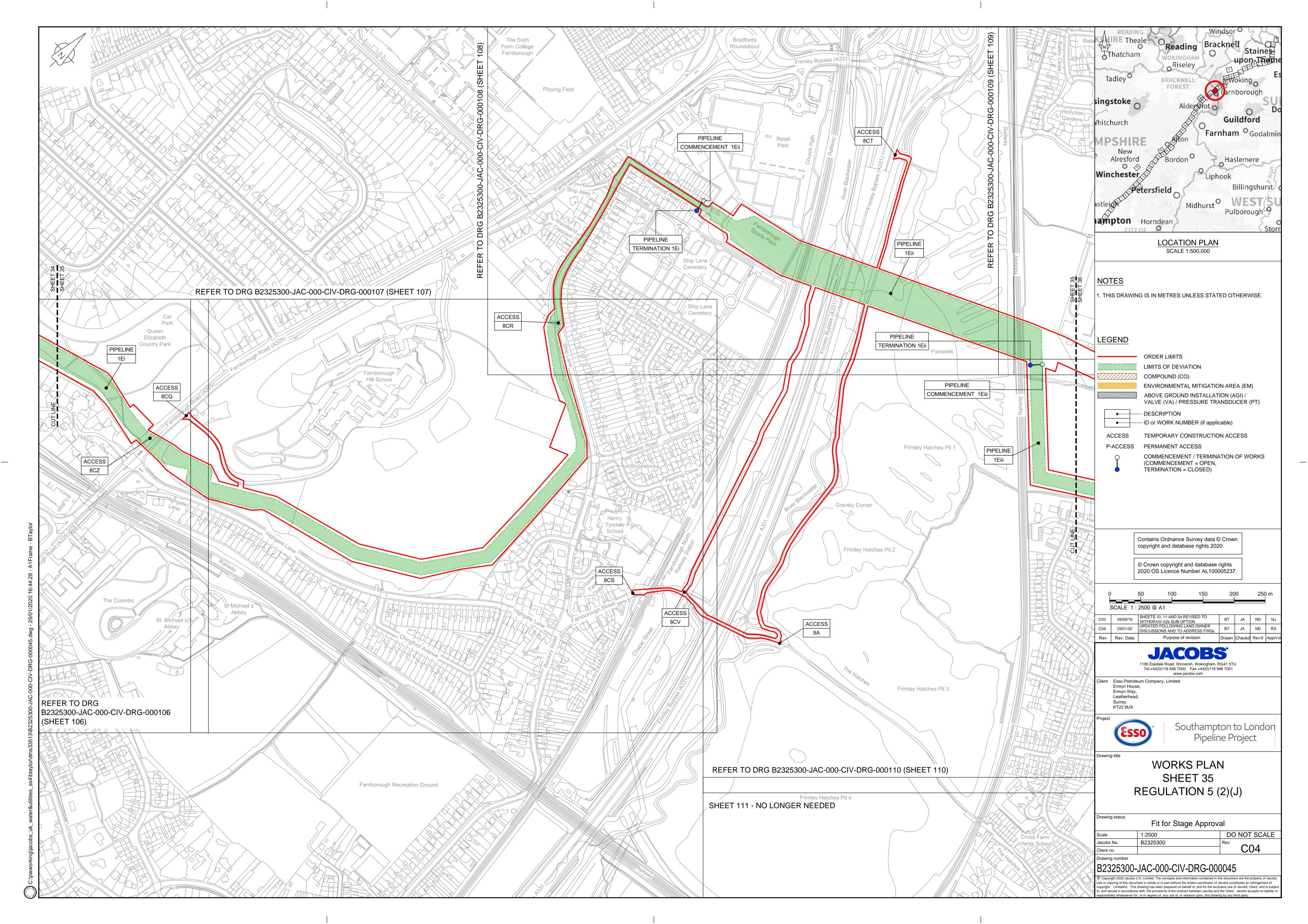


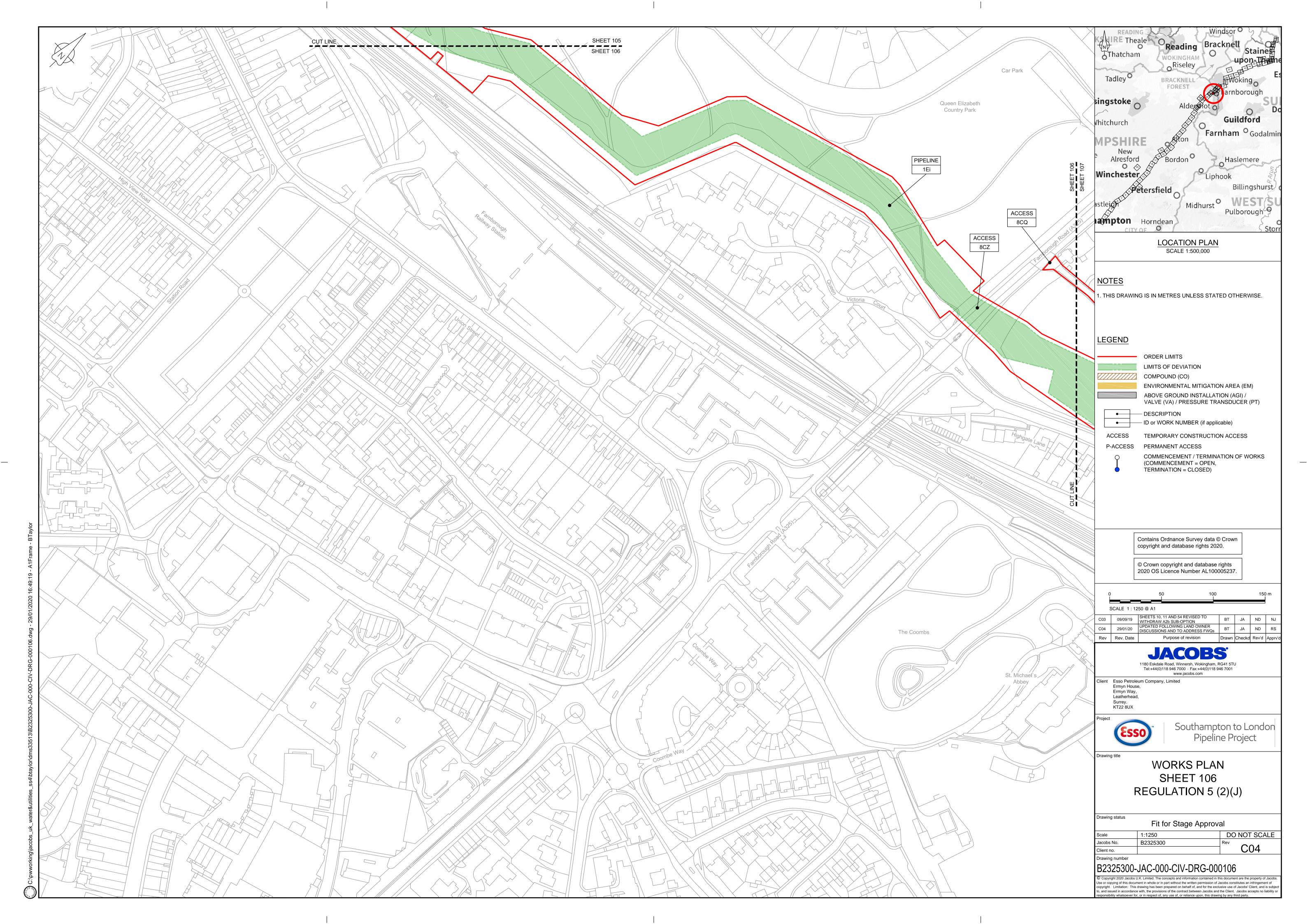
ExQ2	Question:	Applicant response to Question:
	one is s106 of the TCPA1990. The reason cited by Rushmoor Borough Council is that the reprovision would need to be outside of the Order limits.	details of reinstatement in this legal agreement. Given the necessity of a land agreement between both
	Provide a response and advise the ExA whether the SoS should withhold the Order if they determined the reprovision of the NEAP had not been adequately secured by means of an appropriate measure.	



#### 2 Appendix

Appendix QE.2.7.1: Works Plans - Addition of Queen Elizabeth Park Access (Sheet 35 & 106)







Appendix QE.2.7.2: Access and Right of Way - Addition of Queen Elizabeth Park Access (Sheet 35 & 106)

