

# Southampton to London Pipeline Project

## Deadline 6

Signed SoCG with London Borough of Hounslow  
Application Document: 8.4.25

Planning Inspectorate Reference Number: EN070005

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March 2020





## **Southampton to London Pipeline Project**

### **Statement of Common Ground**

**Between:**

**Esso Petroleum Company, Limited**


**and**

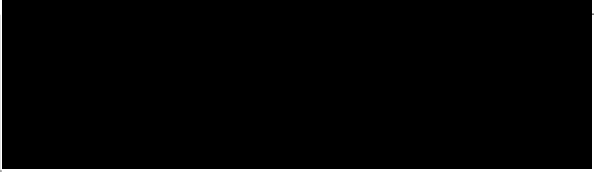
**London Borough of Hounslow**

Date: March 2020

Application Document Reference: B2325300-JAC-000-COE-REP-000276



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On behalf of	Esso Petroleum Company, Limited
Date	<b>5 March 2020</b>

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Date	5 March 2020



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# 1. Introduction

## 1.1 Purpose of Document

- 1.1.1 A Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) is a written statement produced as part of the Application process for a Development Consent Order (DCO) and is prepared jointly between the applicant for a DCO and another party. It sets out matters of agreement between both parties, as well as matters where there is not an agreement. It also details matters that are under discussion.
- 1.1.2 The aim of a SoCG is to help the Examining Authority manage the Examination Phase of a DCO application. Understanding the status of the matters at hand will allow the Examining Authority to focus their questioning, and provide greater predictability for all participants in examination. A SoCG may be submitted prior to the start of or during Examination, and then updated as necessary or as requested during the Examination Phase.

## 1.2 Description of the Project

- 1.2.1 Esso Petroleum Company, Limited (Esso) launched its Southampton to London Pipeline Project in December 2017. The project proposes to replace 90km of its 105km aviation fuel pipeline that runs from the Fawley Refinery near Southampton, to the West London Terminal storage facility in Hounslow. In spring 2018, Esso held a non-statutory consultation which helped it to select the preferred corridor for the replacement pipeline. In autumn 2018, it held a statutory consultation on the preferred route for the replacement pipeline. In early 2019, it held a second phase of statutory consultation on design refinements.

## 1.3 This Statement of Common Ground

- 1.3.1 This SoCG has been prepared jointly by Esso as the applicant and London Borough of Hounslow as a prescribed consultee and Local Authority as defined in the Local Government Act 2000. London Borough of Hounslow has interests in the SLP Project, both as Local Planning Authority and as service provider to its businesses and residents.
- 1.3.2 For the purpose of this SoCG, Esso and London Borough of Hounslow will jointly be referred to as the “Parties”. When referencing London Borough of Hounslow alone, they will be referred to as “the Authority”.
- 1.3.3 Throughout this SoCG:
- Where a section begins ‘matters agreed’, this sets out matters that have been agreed between the Parties.
  - Where a section begins ‘matters not agreed’, this sets out matters that are not agreed between the Parties.

- Where a section begins 'matters subject to ongoing discussion', this sets out matters that are subject to further negotiation between the Parties.

#### **1.4 Structure of the Statement of Common Ground**

**1.4.1** This SoCG has been structured to reflect matters and topics of relevance to the Authority in respect of Esso's Southampton to London Pipeline Project.

- Section 2 provides an overview of the engagement to date between the Parties.
- Section 3 provides a summary of areas that have been agreed.
- Section 4 provides a record of areas that have not yet been agreed.
- Section 5 provides a list of ongoing matters (if any) that will be agreed or not agreed by the Parties during examination.
- Section 6 provides a record of relevant documents and drawings

## 2. Record of Engagement Undertaken to Date

### 2.1 Pre-application Engagement and Consultation

2.1.1 The table below sets out the consultation and engagement that has been undertaken between the Parties prior to the submission of the DCO application.

Date	Format	Topic	Discussion Points
04/12/2017	Correspondence	Launch Letter	Initial project briefing letter sent to the Leader of the Council and copied to the Executive Director - Regeneration, Economic Development and Environment of the Authority.
08/12/2017	Correspondence	Launch Letter	Email attaching the initial project briefing letter sent to Officers at the Authority.
03/01/2018	Correspondence	Invitation	Invitation to the Authority to attend a Forum.
15/01/2018	Forum	Invitation	Email to Leader of the Authority regarding attendance to the Forum.
January 2018	Forum	Invitation	Confirmation from the Authority that the Planning Manager would be attending the Forum on behalf of the Chief Planning Officer.
19/01/2018	Forum	Invitation	Invitations sent to the Authority to attend the January 2018 Surrey Members Forum and Surrey Officers Forum meetings in Kingston.  The Authority attended this Forum.
25/01/2018	Correspondence	Invitation	Invitation for the Planning Manager at the Authority to attend the Environment Workshop on 7 February 2018.
02/03/2018	Correspondence	Data request	Liaison with the Authority over GIS and other data requested for the project.
19/03/2018	Letter	Launch of non-statutory (Corridor) consultation	The Authority was sent information regarding the launch of the non-statutory consultation.  The Authority did not respond to the consultation.
05/05/2018	Forum	Invitation	Invitations sent to the Authority to attend the May 2018 Surrey Members Forum and Surrey Officers Forum meetings in Kingston. The Authority attended this Forum.
30/05/2018	Letter	Preferred corridor announcement	The Project wrote to the Authority to announce the preferred corridor.



Date	Format	Topic	Discussion Points
27/06/2018	Letter	Initial Working Route	Project update regarding Initial Working Route.
27/06/2018	Correspondence	Data request	A higher resolution of the initial working route sent to the Authority.
16/07/2018	Correspondence	Email	The Project sent the Authority a higher resolution version of the Initial Working Route. The initial working route follows the preferred corridor and has been developed by reviewing the available local technical data.
July 2018	Scoping Report	Consultation	<p>PINS consulted the Authority on the EIA Scoping Opinion request.</p> <p>The Authority did not respond to the Planning Inspectorate on the Scoping Report.</p>
August 2018	Forums	Invitation	<p>Invitations sent to the Authority to attend the August 2018 Surrey Members Forum and Surrey Officers Forum meetings in Kingston.</p> <p>The Authority did not attend the Forums.</p>
06/09/2018	Correspondence	Launch of first statutory (Preferred Route) consultation	<p>Letter sent to the Authority to inform it of the launch of statutory consultation in line with Section 42 of Planning Act 2008.</p> <p>The Authority did not respond to the consultation.</p>
04/01/2019	Correspondence	Email	<p>The Project emailed the Authority with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reminder of engagement to date.</li> <li>• Reminder of scheme purpose and scope.</li> <li>• Update on the timetable and expected PINS engagement with the Authority post submission.</li> <li>• Suggestion of seeking to agree SoCG.</li> </ul>
18/01/2019	Correspondence	Launch of second statutory (Design Refinements) consultation	<p>The project sent the Authority a Notification of launch letter (as a statutory consultee), complying with the approach set out in the Statement of Community Consultation.</p> <p>The Authority did not respond to the consultation.</p>
25/04/2019	Correspondence	Submission of application for development consent	The Project emailed the Authority regarding the likely submission date of the application for development consent.

Date	Format	Topic	Discussion Points
16/05/2019	Correspondence	Submission of the application for development consent	The Project emailed the Authority informing them that the application for development consent had been submitted to The Planning Inspectorate.

## 2.2 Engagement Following Submission of Application

2.2.1 The table below sets out the consultation and engagement that has been undertaken between the Parties since the submission of the DCO application.

Date	Format	Topic	Discussion Points
28/05/2019	Correspondence	Email	Email from the Authority confirming that it does not raise any concerns or objections to the consultation process that was carried out.
30/05/2019	Correspondence	Email	The Project emailed the Authority a link to the Planning Inspectorate website as the Authority was unable to access the files sent to them.
06/06/2019	Correspondence	Safeguarding Direction	The Project emailed a letter to the Authority informing them of safeguarding and to request the project team be consulted on planning applications.
10/06/2019	Correspondence	Safeguarding Direction	The Project emailed a letter to the Authority informing them of the safeguarding direction.
25/09/2019	Telephone call	Statement of Common Ground	The Project contacted the Authority to discuss the SoCG process and agree process for approval.
28/02/2020	Correspondence	Statement of Common Ground	The Parties liaised regarding the updated SoCG for signing.

### 3. Matters Agreed

3.1.1 The table below sets out the matters agreed in relation to different topics.

Examining Authority's Suggested Theme	Topic	Matter agreed
Planning Policy	<p>National Policy Statements (NPSs)</p> <p>Development Plan</p>	<p>The relevant NPSs are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overarching National Policy Statement for Energy (EN-1)</li> <li>• National Policy Statement for Gas Supply Infrastructure and Gas and Oil Pipelines (EN-4)</li> </ul> <p>While the assessment of the application for development consent should be made against the NPSs, it is agreed that the Development Plan comprises:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Development Plan for the Borough comprises the Council's Local Plan (adopted by the Council on 15 September 2015), the West London Waste Plan and the London Plan Consolidated with Alterations since 2011.</li> <li>• The draft New London Plan has been through Examination in Public, but has not yet been adopted. The weight given to it remains a matter for the decision maker at this stage.</li> <li>• The Council are currently undertaking two Local Plan Reviews; the West of Borough Local Plan review and the Great West Corridor Local Plan review.</li> <li>• The adopted Local Plan and emerging Local Plan Review documents can be viewed on the Planning Policy pages of the Hounslow website</li> </ul>
The Need and Principle of the Proposed Development and Examination of Alternative Routes	General	It is agreed that the Authority accepts the need for the proposed development.
		It is agreed that the Authority has no objection to the proposed pipeline alignment in so far as it relates to land within the London Borough of Hounslow.

	Environmental Impact Assessment	<p>It is agreed that the scope of the Environmental Impact Assessment is proportionate to the scale and likely impacts of the project in so far as it relates to the London Borough of Hounslow.</p> <p>It is agreed that the list of allocations, commitments and other projects in Hounslow included in Appendix A to this SoCG comprises the basis of the assessment of potential cumulative effects.</p>
	SoCC	It is agreed that the Authority is satisfied that consultation and engagement with it and its residents has been robust and meaningful.
Biodiversity	Biodiversity	There will be no significant effects on biodiversity or specific ecological receptors in the Authority with the implementation of embedded and good practice measures.
Construction Effects on People and Communities	People and Communities	With the implementation of mitigation, there would be no significant residual effects on people and communities in the Authority, as a result of the construction of the project.
Flooding & Water	Hydrology	<p>During construction there will not be any significant effects on groundwater or flood risk in the Authority, following the implementation of mitigation measures.</p> <p>No significant construction effects are likely to occur on surface water quality and on fluvial geomorphological receptors in the Authority.</p> <p>There will be no significant effects during operation of the pipeline in the Authority.</p>
Historic Environment	Cultural Heritage	<p>With the implementation of good practice measures and mitigation there will not be any residual significant effects on the historic environment in the Authority during the construction phase.</p> <p>There will be no significant effects on the historic environment in the Authority during the operation of the pipeline.</p>
Security & Safety	Health and safety	There will be no security and safety issues for the Authority.

Highways & Transport	Highways	There will be no severe impacts, and no severe cumulative impacts for the Authority, arising from the construction and operation of the project.
Noise, air quality and disturbance during construction	Noise and Vibration	There are no receptors in the Authority which will be affected by noise or vibration. There will be no significant effects on air quality within Hounslow.
Construction Environmental Management Plan / Code of Construction Practice / Register of Environmental Actions and Commitments		The Authority has not raised any concerns regarding this theme.
	Property	The Authority does not have any property within the Order Limits affected by the Development Consent Order proposals.
	Development Land	It is agreed that the route of the proposed pipeline does not impact adversely on any strategic allocation identified in emerging or adopted local plans of the Authority.

## 4. Matters Not Agreed

4.1.1 The table below sets out the matters not agreed in relation to different topics.

Examining Authority's Suggested Theme	Topic	Matter not agreed

## 5. Matters Subject to On-going Discussion

5.1.1 The table below sets out the matters subject to ongoing discussion.

<b>Examining Authority's Suggested Theme</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Matter subject to ongoing discussion</b>
Landscape & Visual Impacts	Landscape and visual	<p>The Authority has requested information from Esso on the height of the development within the West London Terminal to determine whether there are any landscape or visual impacts resulting from the project in so far as it relates to this Borough.</p> <p>Esso provided the Authority with an indicative plan.</p> <p>The Parties will continue discussions as the design evolves.</p>

## 6. Relevant documents and drawings

### 6.1 List of relevant documents and drawings

6.1.1 The following is a list of documents and drawings upon which this SoCG is based.

Application Reference	Title	Content	Date
EN070005 Document 5.1	Consultation Report	Details the consultation and engagement that has been carried out and how the applicant has had regard to the feedback and how the feedback has influenced the proposed development.	June 2019
EN07005 Document 6.1	Environmental Statement Non-Technical Summary	Overview of the Environmental Statement.	14 May 2019
EN07005 Document 6.2	Environmental Statement	Report of the Environmental Impact Assessment.	14 May 2019
EN07005 Document 6.3	Environmental Statement Figures	Illustrative material to support the Environmental Statement.	14 May 2019
EN070005 Document 6.4	Environmental Statement Appendices	Additional data and evidence to support the Environmental Statement.	14 May 2019
EN070005 Document 7.1	Planning Statement	Assessment of the application against National Policy Statements EN-1 Energy and EN-4 Oil and Gas Pipelines.	14 May 2019





## 7. Appendix A

Table 7.1 Long list of DCO/Other Developments considered in the Cumulative Effects Assessment

ID_1	Name of Development	Description	Status	Long List	Tier	Distance from the Project	Temporal Scope / Overlap with Project Timescales	Scale and Nature of Development	Reason for Scoping In / Out	Short listed?
A1	Heathrow Expansion	Adding a northwest runway at Heathrow to increase air-traffic movement, in addition to supporting airfield, terminal and transport infrastructure, works to the M25, local roads and rivers.	Scoping Opinion received in June 2018	Yes	2	<1km to the north	Yes (Application for development consent due in 2019/2020; Construction starts from 2021).	Schedule 1 EIA development	Potential to have cumulative effects. Scoped into shortlist.	Yes
A2	Western Rail Link to Heathrow	Rail link from Reading Station to Heathrow Terminal 5 by building a new rail tunnel to link the Great Western Mainline to Heathrow Airport.	Scoping Opinion received in June 2015. Application to be submitted in Summer 2019.	Yes	2	3km	Possible (Planned construction 2020–2027)	Schedule 1 EIA development	Potential to have cumulative effects not anticipated due to the intervening distance between this scheme and the project	No
A3	Southern Rail Link to Heathrow	Southern rail connection between Chertsey, Virginia Water and	UK Government is expected to announce the next stage of	Yes	3	>500m	No published timetable. However, if operation is due	Schedule 1 EIA development	Potential to have cumulative effects.	Yes



		Staines with Heathrow Terminal 5.	the process for securing a private sector developer in early 2019. Expected to become operational between 2025-2027.				to commence in 2025, construction could overlap with the project construction timescale.		Scoped into shortlist.	
A4	Windsor Rail Link	Phase 1 connects the Great Western Rail Line from Slough and Windsor with the Windsor Waterloo line. Phase 2 connects Heathrow to western and southern parts.	Proposals for both phases of the project were submitted to the government on 31 July 2018. It was rejected by the government in December 2018.	Yes	3	This is 1.9 km at its closest point to the project.	No (Proposal rejected December 2018)	Schedule 1 EIA development	Rejected. Scoped out of shortlist	No
A5	Water infrastructure projects in Hampshire	This consists of a number of sewer improvements, flood protection schemes, upgrades to treatment works and projects to improve the quality of treated wastewater to meet European legislation.	<b>Otterbourne Water Supply Works:</b> To submit planning application in March 2019. Expected to start construction in winter 2019 and end in spring 2020. <b>Portsmouth Flood Alleviation:</b> Complete. <b>Woolston</b>	Yes	1	Nearest is Portswood WTW at 7km	Yes, Otterbourne WSW and South Hampshire and Portsmouth WTW could have overlapping construction timescales with the project.	Schedule 1 EIA development	No direct receptor source pathway identified due to distance from the project. Scoped out of shortlist	No



			<p><b>Wastewater Treatment Works:</b> In construction and due for completion in summer 2019.</p> <p><b>South Hampshire (The Itchen, Candover and Testwood Water Abstraction):</b> Public Inquiry has now concluded and further plans are being drawn up.</p> <p><b>Portswood Wastewater Treatment Works:</b> Construction activities are currently underway and due for completion in March 2025.</p>							
A6	River Thames Scheme	Flood relief channel from Datchet to Teddington Lock	A pre-planning application process was completed in August 2018. Subject to funding, a full planning application may	Yes	2	The scheme intersects the project near Chertsey	Yes (Planned construction 2020–2021)	Schedule 2 development	Potential to have cumulative effects. Scoped into shortlist.	Yes



			be submitted October 2019.							
A7	Heathrow Western Hub	Expansion of Heathrow Airport including new and reconfigured hub terminal facilities; supporting airfield and transport infrastructure; works to roads and rivers; temporary construction works; mitigation works and other associated and ancillary development.	A Scoping Report has been submitted to the Planning Inspectorate on February 2019	Yes	2	The scheme is located 2.6 km to the northwest from the northern extent of SLP project	Yes (Assuming that grant of DCO is obtained in late 2021, the scheme is expected to be fully completed by 2030)	Schedule 1 development	No direct receptor source pathway identified due to distance from the project. Scoped out of shortlist.	No