



# The Planning Inspectorate

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To: Esso Petroleum Company, Limited

Your Ref:

Our Ref: EN070005

Date: 12 March 2020

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Dear Sir/Madam

## **Planning Act 2008 (as amended)**

### **Rule 17 of the Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 (as amended)**

#### **Application for the Southampton to London Pipeline Project**

#### **Requests for further information**

The Examining Authority (ExA) has today published its Report on the Implications for European Sites (RIES). However, in our preparation of the RIES, the ExA has identified a number of matters that require clarification. Accordingly, the ExA writes to make a written request under Rule 17 of the Examination Procedure Rules for the Applicant to respond to our questions in relation to the RIES, which are set out in **Annex A** of this letter. The Applicant is asked to provide responses, alongside any accompanying comments it may wish to make on the RIES itself, by D7 **Thursday 2 April 2020**. Electronic submissions should be sent to: [SouthamptontoLondonPipeline@planninginspectorate.gov.uk](mailto:SouthamptontoLondonPipeline@planninginspectorate.gov.uk).

The majority of parties engage with the Planning Act 2008 process via the project page of the National Infrastructure website (<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/South%20East/Southampton-to-London-Pipeline-Project>), where all submissions are published. Parties are therefore asked to consider this when formatting the electronic copies of their submissions and to avoid submissions made up of large numbers of small files, or excessively large files, or which are otherwise not optimised or unnecessarily difficult to navigate.

Electronic attachments should be clearly labelled with a subject title and not exceed 12MB for each email. Timely submissions in advance of the deadlines set in the timetable are encouraged. Where an electronic submission exceeds 12MB, we will accept the postal submission of an electronic document on portable media (such as a

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk>



CD or USB flash drive). Providing links to websites where your submissions can be viewed is not normally acceptable, because it does not amount to submitting them.

Further advice relating to this matter can be found in Advice Note 6: How to submit your application (<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/05/Advice-note-6-version-71.pdf>).

Should you have any queries regarding the content of the letter, please contact the case team using the details at the top of this letter.

Yours faithfully

*Richard Allen*

**Lead Member of the Examining Authority**

## ANNEX A

### Questions for the Applicant which are to be read alongside the RIES

1. The Applicant proposes a number of mechanisms designed to secure a range of mitigation measures through a variety of controlling documents e.g. Code of Construction Practice (CoCP) and Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP). The Applicant should ensure that all relevant measures, particularly those necessary to support the findings of the HRA, are appropriately secured and will be implemented. In relation to this finding the Applicant is asked to address the following questions:
  - a. The ExA notes the conflicting response made by the Applicant regarding the appropriate mechanism for securing G38 e.g. within the CoCP or CEMP. Having regards to the conclusions reached in the HRA, can the Applicant confirm precisely how measure G38 for works within the Special Protection Area (SPA) will be secured and will robustly restrict construction activities to the four-month period between October to February?
  - b. Can the Applicant confirm whether the restrictions to works within the SPA relate to a single annual period during construction, for example, four months is the total maximum period of time construction within the SPA will take place and how such a measure will be secured?
  - c. Can the Applicant confirm that there are no other measures proposed within the controlling documents that would result in the ability to change the approach to construction activities within the SPA for example, at the discretion of an Ecological Clerk of Works (ECoW)?
  - d. Can the Applicant explain what measures are proposed to ensure 'natural regeneration', including those in relation to soil storage and handling, and how such measures are secured?
2. The Applicant has engaged in discussions with relevant bodies regarding the proposed approach to works within a number of SANG locations particularly St Catherine's Road and Southwood Country Park. Can the Applicant please provide an update regarding any agreements reached in this regard and how any agreed measures are to be secured with reference to relevant DCO requirements?
3. Can the Applicant provide an update on progress made to address the concerns raised by Eastleigh Borough Council in relation to impacts to water quality and drainage, including any specific measures required to control of run-off to the Solent European sites?