



# Department for Transport

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To the named Interested Parties

Date: 28 September 2017

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Dear Sir/ Madam

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

### **Application by Highways England (HE) ("the Applicant") for an Order granting Development Consent for the M20 Junction 10a.**

### **REQUEST FOR COMMENTS FROM THE APPLICANT, FRIENDS LIFE LIMITED (FLL), and SOUTHERN GAS NETWORKS (SGN).**

The Examining Authority submitted on 1 September 2017 a Report and Recommendations in respect of its findings on the above application to the Secretary of State for Transport ("the Secretary of State"). In accordance with section 107 of the Planning Act 2008, the Secretary of State has until 1 December 2017 to make a decision on the application. I am writing in relation to some outstanding matters at the end of Examination on which we would appreciate updated information before determining the application.

## **Agreements**

- 1 Please could the Applicant and SGN confirm to the Secretary of State that the side agreement dated 25 May 2017 referred to at Item I.05 (first row) of Examination Document [REP8-027](#) is in place (as neither the Examining Authority nor the Secretary of State have seen the agreement)? In the light of that agreement, is any amendment to the proposed Protective Provisions at Part 1 of Schedule 9 to the draft Order (last examination version at [OD-033](#)) required in relation to the protection of SGN's interests?
- 2 Please could the Applicant, SGN and FLL confirm whether arrangements satisfactory to all three parties have now been concluded in respect of a 9-metre strip of land outside the Order limits needed for access during the M20 Junction 10a works for the purpose of installing a diverted high pressure gas main? The last position statements available at present to the Examining

Authority and the Secretary of State are [REP8-027](#) Item I.05 (second row), and [OD-040](#).

**The deadline for any response is close of business on 12 October 2017.**

Responses to the matters outlined in this letter should be submitted by email to [M20Junction10a@pins.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:M20Junction10a@pins.gsi.gov.uk). Please send any hard copy response to M20 Junction 10a Case Team, The Planning Inspectorate, Eagle D, Temple Quay House, Temple Quay, Bristol, BS1 6PN. If you will have difficulty in submitting a response by the consultation deadline, please inform the Case Team.

Your response will be published on the project page for the M20 Junction 10a on the Planning Inspectorate website as soon as possible after the above deadline for response at:

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/south-east/m20-junction-10a/>

This letter is without prejudice to the Secretary of State's decision whether or not to grant development consent for the M20 Junction 10a scheme, and nothing in this letter is to be taken to imply what that decision might be.

Yours faithfully

Robert J Fox