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Your Ref:

Our Ref: TR010018

Date: 4 August 2015

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Dear Sir/Madam

**Planning Act 2008 (as amended) – sections 89 and 123 and the Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 – Rules 8(3), 9 and 13 and the Infrastructure Planning (Compulsory Acquisition) Regulations 2010 (as amended) – Regulation 6**

**Application by Highways England for an Order Granting Development Consent for the A14 Cambridge to Huntingdon Improvement Scheme**

**Changes to the application; notification of hearings and publication of second round questions**

Thank you to the many interested parties who made representations at our open floor hearings and accompanied us on our site last month. The Examining Authority (ExA) found these contributions helpful and informative.

This letter covers three matters:

- § Proposed changes to the application made by Highways England.
- § Details of hearings to be held in September.
- § Publication of the ExA's second written questions.

**1. Proposed changes to the application made by Highways England**

The ExA has received a request from Highways England to make changes to the scheme. These include changes to the Ellington junction; additional mitigation measures and changes to a private means of access. The ExA has reviewed the proposed changes to the application. In its view, the changes do not constitute a material change to the scheme for the reasons set out in its Procedural Decision dated 30 July 2015 and published on our website. As such, the ExA is content to consider the applicants proposed changes to the application as part its examination of the proposed scheme.

The proposed changes also affect the scope of the land for which Highways England wish to compulsory acquire. An amendment to provide for this proposed acquisition

and details of the changes sought (known as the 'proposed provision') is published on our website at:

<http://infrastructure.planningportal.gov.uk/document/3309170>

The ExA has accepted the proposed provision for the compulsory acquisition of additional land, pursuant to the Infrastructure Planning (Compulsory Acquisition Regulations) 2010.

Interested Parties are invited to comment on the changes to the application and to the scope of the Compulsory Acquisition. An additional deadline of 11.59pm on Thursday 10 September 2015 has been added for this purpose. The revised examination timetable is appended at Annex B. Please note the ExA has also included a request for receipt of final Statements of Common Ground at Deadline 8.

Please send your comments where practicable by email to [A14CambridgetoHuntingdon@pins.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:A14CambridgetoHuntingdon@pins.gsi.gov.uk). If posted, please mark your letter for the attention of Nicholas Coombes to the address at the top of this letter.

Individuals who are affected are also able to make relevant representations solely on the proposed provision for the compulsory acquisition of additional land and thus register as additional interested parties. This can be done by completing the registration form on our website before 11.59pm on Thursday 10 September 2015. Individuals making relevant representations should note that these can be provided instead of, or in addition to, making comments on the changes to the scheme as above. Our project website address is:

<http://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/A14>

## **2. Details of hearings to be held in September 2015**

Annex A provides details of the hearings the ExA will be holding in September. If you wish to participate in any of these hearings, please notify the Case Manager, Nicholas Coombes, by email at [A14CambridgetoHuntingdon@pins.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:A14CambridgetoHuntingdon@pins.gsi.gov.uk) or by writing to the address at the top of this letter.

Notifications to participate in the Compulsory Acquisition hearings and the Development Consent Order issue specific hearing should be received by noon on Wednesday 19 August 2015. If you wish to be heard at a Compulsory Acquisition hearing but are not available for any of the scheduled days please indicate. The ExA will endeavour to accommodate this, if possible.

Notifications to participate in the issue specific hearings from 15-18 September should be received by noon on Wednesday 2 September 2015. Please make clear which hearing day(s) you wish to participate in, and give an indication of the matters that you wish to speak on.

### **3. Publication of the ExA's second written questions**

The ExA published on 29 July 2015, in accordance with the examination timetable, their second written questions. These are on our website and can be accessed by following this link:

<http://infrastructure.planningportal.gov.uk/document/3323271>

Responses to these questions must be received by noon on Wednesday 19 August 2015. Please respond by email to [A14CambridgetoHuntingdon@pins.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:A14CambridgetoHuntingdon@pins.gsi.gov.uk), or in writing, to the address at the top of this letter.

Yours faithfully

*Frances Fernandes*

**Frances Fernandes**  
**Lead Member of the Panel of Examining Inspectors**

**Annexes:**

- A. Notification of hearings
- B. Revised examination timetable

Advice may be given about applying for an order granting development consent or making representations about an application (or a proposed application). This communication does not however constitute legal advice upon which you can rely and you should obtain your own legal advice and professional advice as required.

A record of the advice which is provided will be recorded on the Planning Inspectorate website together with the name of the person or organisation who asked for the advice. The privacy of any other personal information will be protected in accordance with our Information Charter which you should view before sending information to the Planning Inspectorate.

## Notification of hearings

As set out in the examination timetable, those interested parties who wish to speak at hearings should notify Nicholas Coombes at [A14CambridgetoHuntingdon@pins.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:A14CambridgetoHuntingdon@pins.gsi.gov.uk) or using the postal address on the front page of this letter.

It would assist with organisation of the hearing if you could tell us of any special needs you may have (eg disabled access, hearing loop etc). Please ensure that you include your interested party reference number in your correspondence, and make it clear which hearing day you wish to participate in, and give an indication of matters that you wish to speak on.

The Examining Authority (ExA) provides notice of the following hearings, in compliance with Rule 13 of The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 (as amended).

## Compulsory acquisition hearings

The purpose of a compulsory acquisition hearing is to consider the merits of the case for acquisition of individual plots. The hearings will be led by the ExA, with involvement from affected persons (landowners, tenants, etc) and the applicant. Affected persons should register in advance if they wish to participate (and which day they would prefer to attend) and indicate which specific plots they wish to discuss.

### 1. Compulsory Acquisition Hearing – general matters

Date of hearing: Tuesday 1 September 2015

Time of hearing: 2.00pm

Venue: Burgess Hall, Westwood Road, Saint Ives  
Cambridgeshire PE27 6WU

### 2. Compulsory Acquisition Hearing – specific plots

Date of hearing: Wednesday 2 September 2015

Time of hearing: 10.00am

Venue: Burgess Hall, Westwood Road, Saint Ives  
Cambridgeshire PE27 6WU

### 3. Compulsory Acquisition Hearing – specific plots

Date of hearing: Thursday 3 September 2015

Time of hearing: 10.00am

Venue: Burgess Hall, Westwood Road, Saint Ives  
Cambridgeshire PE27 6WU

## **Issue specific hearings**

The purpose of an issue specific hearing is for discussion on the relevant issues led by the ExA. Interested parties should expect to be questioned by the ExA and justify their statements.

The Issue Specific Hearings detailed below seek to provide advance notice of the topics for consideration at an Issue Specific Hearing. This list is indicative only and may be subject to change.

### **4. Issue specific hearing – draft Development Consent Order**

Date of hearing: Friday 4 September 2015

Time of hearing: 10.00am

Venue: Burgess Hall, Westwood Road, Saint Ives  
Cambridgeshire PE27 6WU

This hearing will concentrate on the specific issue of the draft Development Consent Order (DCO). This is the order which the Secretary of State would make if he/she wished to consent the application. Discussion at this hearing is 'without prejudice'; this means that parties may make contributions to improve the quality of the draft DCO without invalidating their own positions of support or objection to the scheme as a whole.

Irrespective of its recommendation, the ExA is required to present a draft DCO to the Secretary of State. Discussion about the specifics of the draft DCO does not indicate that the ExA has made up its mind about the application.

The hearing into the draft DCO is likely to be of a technical nature and will be based on the specific wording of the draft DCO.

**5. Issue specific hearing – noise and air quality**

Date of hearing: Tuesday 15 September 2015

Time of hearing: 10.00am

Venue: Huntingdon Racecourse, Brampton  
Cambridgeshire PE28 4NL

**6. Issue specific hearing – traffic and transportation**

Date of hearing: Wednesday 16 September 2015

Time of hearing: 10.00am

Venue: Huntingdon Racecourse, Brampton  
Cambridgeshire PE28 4NL

**7. Issue specific hearing – detailed design**

Date of hearing: Thursday 17 September 2015

Time of hearing: 10.00am

Venue: Huntingdon Racecourse, Brampton  
Cambridgeshire PE28 4NL

**8. Issue specific hearing – miscellaneous matters**

Date of hearing: Friday 18 September 2015

Time of hearing: 10.00am

Venue: Huntingdon Racecourse, Brampton  
Cambridgeshire PE28 4NL

For all hearings, the ExA will endeavour to publish an agenda approximately one week in advance on our website, at:

<http://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/A14>

**Timetable for examination of the application**

Item	Matters	Due Dates
16	<p><b>Deadline 7</b></p> <p>Deadline for receipt of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Responses to ExA's second written questions</li> <li>• Applicant's proposed changes to the scheme</li> <li>• Comments on the Applicant's report on local traffic impacts outside those in the Transport Assessment and Traffic Modelling Update Report</li> <li>• Applicant's revised draft DCO</li> <li>• Notification of wish to speak at a compulsory acquisition hearing</li> </ul>	<p><b>Noon Wednesday 19 August 2015</b></p>
17	<p><b>Deadline 8</b></p> <p>Deadline for receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comments on responses to ExA's second written questions</li> <li>• Final Statements of Common Ground</li> <li>• Any supplementary documents to update the joint LIR from local authorities. Any local authority that submits a supplementary document to the joint LIR to make clear its relationship to that joint LIR.</li> <li>• Notification of wish to make oral representations at the issue specific hearings</li> <li>• Any further information requested by the ExA</li> </ul>	<p><b>Noon Wednesday 2 September 2015</b></p>
18	<p>Compulsory acquisition hearings</p> <p>Note that the hearing on Tuesday 1 September 2015 will be in the afternoon only.</p>	<p><b>Tuesday 1, Wednesday 2, &amp; Thursday 3 September 2015</b></p>
19	<p>Issue specific hearing on the draft DCO</p>	<p><b>Friday 4 September 2015</b></p>
20	<p><b>Deadline 9</b></p> <p>Deadline for receipt of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comments on changes to the scheme</li> <li>• Comments on the proposed provision for compulsory acquisition of additional land</li> </ul>	<p><b>11.59pm Thursday 10 September 2015</b></p>

21	Issue specific hearings	<b>Tuesday 15, Wednesday 16, Thursday 17 &amp; Friday 18 September 2015</b>
22	<p><b>Deadline 10</b></p> <p>Deadline for receipt of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Summary of oral submissions put at hearings</li> <li>· Post-hearing documents</li> <li>· Comments on any supplementary joint LIR</li> <li>· Applicant's revised draft DCO and Explanatory Memorandum</li> <li>· Any further information requested by the ExA</li> </ul>	<b>Noon Monday 28 September 2015</b>
23	Publication of ExA's draft DCO and Report on the Implications for European Sites	<b>Friday 9 October 2015</b>
24	Reserved for issue specific, open floor or compulsory acquisition hearing(s) if needed	<b>Wednesday 21 October 2015</b>
25	Issue specific hearing on the draft DCO	<b>Thursday 22 October 2015</b>
26	<p><b>Deadline 11</b></p> <p>Deadline for receipt of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Comments on ExA's draft DCO</li> <li>· Comments on Report on the Implications for European Sites</li> <li>· Post hearing documents</li> <li>· Any further information requested by the ExA</li> </ul>	<b>Noon Friday 30 October 2015</b>
27	<p><b>Deadline 12</b></p> <p>Deadline for receipt of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Responses to comments on ExA's draft DCO</li> <li>· Any further information requested by the ExA</li> </ul>	<b>Noon Friday 6 November 2015</b>
28	The ExA is under a duty to complete the examination of the application by the end of the period of 6 months beginning with the day after the close of the Preliminary Meeting.	<b>Friday 13 November 2015</b>