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Dear Sirs

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

National Grid Gas Plc (National Grid) has reviewed the proposed changes to the application and provides the following comments on each change relevant to National Grid's gas apparatus and contained within document HE/A14/EX/99:

▪ **DR1.20a (NG01B)**

National Grid supports the proposed scheme change (requiring additional land over which powers of temporary possession are sought (Plot 10/9)) submitted by Highways England subject to confirmation from Highways England that the location shown accurately reflects the location shown on the design provided by National Grid.

▪ **DR1.20b (NG03)**

As per the Statement of Common Ground dated June 2015, National Grid's preference is to divert the intermediate pipeline to the north of the proposed pond and north of the existing unnamed watercourse, outside of the red line boundary so that the pipeline is installed at least 15 meters from the northern embankment of the pond. National Grid is also concerned that the additional land proposed within document HE/A14/EX/99, DR1.20b does not extend far enough to the East to provide sufficient room for the diversion of the pipeline at least 15 meters away from the proposed pond. Further discussion is required to understand the exact location of the pond subject to detailed design and its distance to National Grid's proposed diversion. However, in principle, National Grid supports the proposed scheme change, requiring additional land over which new rights are sought for the benefit of National Grid.

▪ **DR1.20c and DR1.20d (NG04)**

National Grid supports the proposed scheme changes which require the inclusion in the Order of additional land, over which rights for the benefit of National Grid are sought (including plots 15/18d, 16/3d, 16/3e, and 40/6e within DR1.20c). National Grid also supports

the inclusion of plots 40/6f and 16/3c within DR1.20d and acknowledges that the powers sought over these plots are currently shown as temporary possession only, to provide working space. National Grid notes that Highways England is currently seeking a further revision to DR1.20d, seeking powers to acquire new rights in respect of plot 16/3b (previously proposed to be subject only to powers of temporary possession). This amendment is requested to ensure that National Grid would have permanent land rights in relation to the diverted pipeline in this location. National Grid supports this proposed revision to scheme change DR1.20d.

- **DR1.20e (NG07)**

National Grid supports the proposed scheme changes to include additional land identified as plot 21/4h on land plan 21. National Grid notes that Highways England is currently seeking a further revision to DR1.20e, seeking powers to acquire new rights in respect of part of plot 21/4f and part of plot 21/10b (both of which were previously proposed to be subject only to powers of temporary possession). National Grid notes that this amendment is requested by Highways England to ensure that National Grid would have permanent rights in relation to its diverted apparatus in this location. National Grid therefore supports this proposed revision to scheme change DR1.20e.

- **DR1.20f (NG18)**

National Grid supports the proposed additional land change to include plot 34/5e. The inclusion of this land parcel will resolve National Grid's concerns in relation to this pipeline diversion.

### **Statement of Common Ground – Outstanding Concerns**

Further to the above, National Grid has outstanding concerns as listed within the Statement of Common Ground dated June 2015 in relation to other pipeline diversions not affected by the proposed amendments. These concerns are as follows:

#### **NGH02**

Confirmation is required from Highways England on the distance between the proposed New Mill Common Link (work number 36) and National Grid's high pressure spur pipeline located at approximate coordinates 523393, 271648. National Grid Gas requires a building proximity distance of greater than 14.2m. Alternatively further works to the pipeline may be required to facilitate the link road.

#### **NG06**

National Grid requests that plots 20/2b and 20/2a on land plan sheet 20 are amended to include powers to acquire permanent rights for the benefit of National Grid.

**NG10 & NG15**

Further information is required from Highways England confirming details on the distance between the proposed highways works and National Grid Gas' existing pipelines which have recently been diverted as part of the Cambridge Northern Bypass scheme.

**NG17**

National Grid requests that plots 22/6c, 22/7b, and 22/12b on land plan sheet 22 are amended to include powers to acquire permanent rights for the benefit of National Grid.

Yours Faithfully



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