

SILVERTOWN TUNNEL

Volume 8

Development Consent Order Application

Response to ExA's Second Written Questions:

8.96 Principal Issue: Geology, Soils and Contaminated
Land

The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure)

Rules 2010

Silvertown Tunnel

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Geology, soils and contaminated land


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Development Consent Order Application Response to ExA's Second Written Questions: Geology, soils and contaminated land

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Author: Transport for London

Rev.	Date	Approved By	Signature	Description
0	06/03/2017	David Rowe (TfL Lead Sponsor)		For Deadline 4

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GS GEOLOGY, SOILS AND CONTAMINATED LAND

GS2.1 Question not for the Applicant

GS2.2 Question

Further to the EA's D3 submission [REP3-050], please can the Applicant and the EA agree the draft wording for the proposed requirement for groundwater protection and contamination, including risk assessment, remediation plan and verification of any necessary remediation that has been carried out?

If this is not agreed by D4, please can the EA provide a copy of their preferred wording for this requirement? See also question DC2.9.

Response

- GS2.2.1 As mentioned in its response to SWQ DC2.13, the Applicant and the Environment Agency have submitted a joint position statement, updating that submitted at Deadline 3.
- GS2.2.2 In respect of contaminated land, please see the Applicant's response to SWQ DC2.9. In summary, the Applicant has updated the CoCP at Deadline 4 to provide for a risk assessment, remediation plan and verification. No separate requirement is therefore considered necessary. Discussions on the precise wording of the new provisions in the CoCP are on-going, but it is anticipated agreement will be reached by Deadline 5.
- GS2.2.3 In respect of groundwater protection, the Applicant and the Environment Agency have agreed that this is suitable to be dealt with under the protective provisions (and the Code of Construction Practice, at section 9.3) rather than through a DCO requirement.

GS2.3 Question

Regarding the Applicant's response to FWQ GS7 [REP1-155], in relation to "passive groundwater level management and drainage control measures", what are these and are they now secured in the protective provision in favour of the EA, to the satisfaction of the EA, (they do not appear in paragraph 9.3.9 of updated CoCP [REP2-028]). See also question DC2.9 and DC2.13

Response

- GS2.3.1 Passive groundwater level management and drainage control measures consist of mechanisms (e.g. drains, installation of permeable layers to allow groundwater flow) which control groundwater levels at a certain height without the use of active pumping. Management of the discharge maybe required in conjunction with these measures depending on the control measure implemented.
- GS2.3.2 Passive groundwater level management and drainage control measures do not need to be secured in favour of the EA at this stage. If they are deemed to be necessary, they would form a part of the Applicant's proposal for managing groundwater barrier effects and will be considered through detailed design. The EA currently have protective provisions which enable them to approve any works (and attach reasonable conditions to such approval) which "affect the flow, purity or quality of water in any main river or other surface waters or groundwater" and therefore have sufficient control of this matter already (dDCO, Schedule 13, Part 5). The update to the protective provisions currently being discussed between the EA and the Applicant retains this protection. Please see the joint position statement between the EA and the Applicant (submitted as an appendix to the Applicant's response to DC2.13) for an update on discussions on these.
- GS2.3.3 Further to this, groundwater levels will be monitored during construction and post construction as a requirement of the Groundwater Monitoring and Verification Plan secured within the CoCP (Section 9.1.2 and 9.3.9). The Groundwater Monitoring and Verification Plan outlines requirements for groundwater level monitoring to be carried out during preconstruction, construction and post construction phases and the results shared with the EA.