



Department for Transport

DIRECTION BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE UNDER SECTION 35 OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008 RELATING TO THE LAKE LOTHING THIRD CROSSING, LOWESTOFT.

By letter to the Secretary of State received on 24th February 2016, Suffolk County Council formally requested that the Secretary of State exercise the power vested in the Secretary of State under section 35 of the Planning Act 2008 ("the Act") to direct that the proposed scheme set out in the Suffolk County Council's letter and known as the Lake Lothing Third Crossing, as well as any associated matters, be treated as development for which development consent is required.

The Secretary of State is satisfied that:

- the development does not currently fall within the definition of a "nationally significant infrastructure project" and therefore it is appropriate to consider use of the power in section 35; and
- Suffolk County Council's request constitutes a "qualifying request" in accordance with section 35(10) of the Act.

The Secretary of State has made a decision within the primary deadline set out in section 35A(2) and wishes to convey that decision.

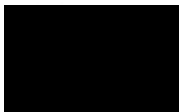
Having considered the details of the Lake Lothing Third Crossing set out in the request, the Secretary of State is of the view that this development by itself is nationally significant, for the reasons set out in the Annex below.

Accordingly, as the Secretary of State is satisfied that the proposed Lake Lothing Third Crossing is nationally significant, THE SECRETARY OF STATE DIRECTS that development, together with any matters associated with it, is to be treated as development for which development consent is required.

In addition, the Secretary of State further directs that any proposed application in relation to the Lake Lothing Third Crossing is to be treated as a proposed application for which development consent is required.

This direction is given without prejudice to the Secretary of State's consideration of any application for development consent which is made in relation to the Lake Lothing Third Crossing.

Signed by



Maureen Pullen
A Senior Civil Servant in the Department for Transport
For and On Behalf of the Secretary of State

22rd March 2016

ANNEX

REASONS FOR THE DECISION TO ISSUE THE DIRECTION

The Secretary of State is of the opinion that the Lake Lothing Third Crossing is of national significance for the following reasons:

- it provides a connection to/from Trans European Network–Transport (TEN-T) and the Strategic Road Network. The TEN-T link is to the A12/A47, one of only a limited number of routes in the East of England which is recognised as such; and
- would act as a tactical diversion route for the strategic road network, the A12/A47 when the Bascule Bridge, a nationally recognised pinch point, is closed thereby reducing delays and congestion on the SRN; and
- In addition, the scheme
 - supports national growth potential by directly delivering over 9000 jobs with a further 3,500 indirect jobs thus supporting the proposed employment growth; and
 - improves connection to/from the Great Yarmouth and Lowestoft Enterprise Zone; and
 - Delivers the Port of Lowestoft's role in being the hub for the off-shore wind farms that are part of the East Anglia Array, a major energy supplier for the UK.