



Maritime &
Coastguard
Agency

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10 May 2023

Dear Planning Inspectorate,

TR010032 RE: Lower Thames Crossing - Development Consent Order, Rule 6 Letter

Thank you for the Rule 6 Letter for the Lower Thames Crossing regarding a Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) with The Maritime and Coastguard Agency (MCA).

As stated in our relevant representation, the MCA has an interest in the works associated with the marine environment (below the Mean High-Water Level), and the potential impact on the safety of navigation, access to ports, harbours and marinas and any impact on our search and rescue obligations. The MCA would expect any works in the marine environment to be subject to the appropriate licensing and planning consents before carrying out any marine licensable works.

I note that the location of the works falls within the jurisdiction of a Statutory Harbour Authority and therefore they have responsibility to maintain the safety of navigation within their waters as this development progresses. The Port of London Authority, the Port of Tilbury and other relevant stakeholders have been consulted on the preliminary Navigation Risk Assessment and Statements of Common Ground are in place with the relevant navigation authorities.

The MCA has no concerns to raise at this time on the works "*affecting the River Thames, river traffic and access to ports and harbours and navigational risk and safety*", and would defer to the port authorities. The MCA is of course happy to provide any guidance and advice where necessary within our remit should this be required by any party.

Therefore, on this occasion, I can confirm that the MCA is content our remit will be suitably addressed through the marine licensing regime and that there is no need to progress with a Statement of Common Ground for this Development Consent Order.

Yours faithfully,

[Redacted signature]

Helen Croxson
Marine Licensing Lead - UK Technical Services Navigation