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c/o Ms Church (Case Manager)
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26 May 2023

Dear Mr Smith

A122 Lower Thames Crossing (Reference Number TR010032)

1 Response to Rule 6 Letter 25 April 2023 – Procedural Decision B

- 1.1.1 This submission is in response to the Rule 6 Letter [\[PD-013\]](#) issued by the Examining Authority on 25 April 2023. The table below identifies the documents that accompany this submission.

Document reference	Document title
TR010032/APP/8.4	Applicant's summary of oral submissions at the Programming Meeting held on the 16 May 2023
TR010032/APP/8.5	Joint Position Statement summarising status of Planning Performance Agreement (PPA) between the Applicant and Thurrock Council (26 May 2023)
TR010032/APP/8.6	Applicant's proposed Accompanied Site Inspection (ASI) itinerary
TR010032/APP/8.7	Junction Layout Plans
TR010032/APP/1.4	Navigation Document (Version 4)

1.2 Written submissions on oral comments made at the Programming Meeting

1.2.1 The Applicant refers the Examining Authority to the enclosed document: Applicant's summary of oral submissions at the Programming Meeting held on the 16 May 2023 [**Document Reference TR010032/APP/8.4**].

1.3 Written submissions on matters raised in the Programming Meeting

1.3.1 Further to the Programming Meeting on 16 May 2023, the Applicant refers the Examining Authority to the enclosed document: Joint Position Statement summarising status of Planning Performance Agreement between the Applicant and Thurrock Council (26 May 2023) [**Document Reference TR010032/APP/8.5**].

1.4 Written submissions on the Examination procedure and draft timetable

1.4.1 The Applicant wishes to make the following statements regarding the Examination procedures:

- a. The Applicant requests that detailed agendas for hearings are issued at least eight working days in advance to allow all parties sufficient time to prepare for the Issue Specific Hearings and Compulsory Acquisition Hearings. This will help ensure that the Examining Authority is provided with thorough information during the course of those hearings.
- b. The Applicant requests that, following its response (due at Deadline 8) to the Examining Authority's commentary on, or schedule of changes to, the draft Development Consent Order (due to be issued on 14 November 2023), that the Examining Authority provides an update on any outstanding matters relating to the draft Development Consent Order. The Applicant could then provide a further response to this by Deadline 9. Providing a 'second round' of commentary, taking into account the Applicant's first response, would enable the Examining Authority to address any matters which it considered were outstanding and ensure the Applicant has an opportunity to address any alternative drafting proposed.

1.4.2 The Applicant wishes to make the following statements regarding the draft Examination Timetable:

- a. The Applicant has reviewed the draft Examination Timetable and agrees with the Examining Authority's remarks at the Programming Meeting that, in order to reduce the number of written questions, these should be issued once the Examining Authority has had time to review further information provided by all parties. The current proposal sets out that the Written Representations and Local Impact Reports should be supplied by Deadline 1 on 18 July 2023. It further states that comments from the Applicant on these submissions should be supplied by Deadline 2 on 3 August 2023.

This allows a total of 16 calendar days to review and prepare responses. The Applicant considers that the scale and number of Local Impact Reports and Written Representations mean that, in order for the Applicant to fully consider and provide thorough responses to those documents, additional time will be required. The Applicant is therefore proposing to request at the Preliminary Meeting that a minimum of 21 calendar days is allowed between the publication of the Written Representations and Local Impact Reports and the provision of responses to these by the Applicant. In the Applicant's view, this additional time will ensure the Examining Authority is provided further information which will enable more targeted written questions.

1.5 Requests to be heard orally at Preliminary Meeting Part 1

- 1.5.1 The Applicant confirms its attendance and to be heard orally at Preliminary Meeting Part 1 on 6 June 2023. The Applicant will be in attendance at the venue of the Preliminary Meeting.
- 1.5.2 The Applicant has completed the Event Participation Form in respect of those who will be attending and speaking on behalf of the Applicant as requested in the Rule 6 letter dated 25 April 2023.

1.6 Applicant's proposed Accompanied Site Inspection (ASI) itinerary

- 1.6.1 The Applicant refers the Examining Authority to the enclosed document: Applicant's proposed Accompanied Site Inspection (ASI) Itinerary [**Document Reference TR010032/APP/8.6**].
- 1.6.2 This document has been prepared in response to procedural decision PD-013-15 within the Rule 6 Letter [[PD-013](#)].

1.7 Junction Layout Plans from Applicant

- 1.7.1 The Applicant refers the Examining Authority to the enclosed document: Junction Layout Plans [**Document Reference TR010032/APP/8.7**].
- 1.7.2 Junction Layout Plans have been produced as requested by procedural decision PD-013-19 within the Rule 6 Letter [[PD-013](#)] for the main junctions of the Project, which are as follows:
 - a. A2-M2-LTC at Thong
 - b. A13-A1089-LTC at Baker Street
 - c. M25-LTC at North Ockendon Sheet 1 and 2.
- 1.7.3 The M25-LTC at North Ockendon plan has been split into two sheets due to the overall length of this junction. The split allows the design to be visible at a suitable scale.

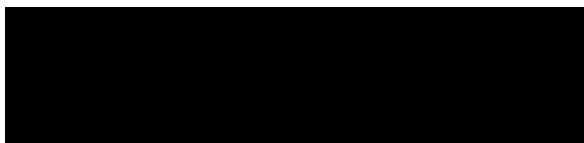
- 1.7.4 This is not presenting new information but presenting the same information currently shown in the Engineering drawings and sections [**Application Documents APP-030 to APP-037**].
- 1.7.5 These have been produced to be viewed on a screen and not formatted to print to a given paper size.
- 1.8 Applicant's submission of documents at Examination Deadlines**
- 1.8.1 The Applicant notes that procedural decision PD-013-17 within the Rule 6 Letter [**PD-013**] identifies seven documents which should be submitted at each Examination Deadline. Although the Applicant does not consider Procedural Deadline B to be an Examination Deadline, it has provided information on those documents which are being submitted with this submission or "nil return" for those that are not, for completeness.

Document reference	Document title	Status
TR010032/APP/1.4	Navigation Document (Version 4)	Enclosed with this submission
TR010032/APP/3.1	draft Development Consent Order	Nil return
TR010032/APP/4.2	Book of Reference	Nil return
TR010032/APP/5.3	Statement of Commonality	Nil return
TBC	Status of Negotiations / Compulsory Acquisition Schedule	Nil return
TBC	Status of Negotiations with Statutory Undertakers	Nil return
TBC	National Policy Statement Tracker	Nil return

2 Other matters

- 2.1.1 The Applicant has no other matters to raise at this time.

Yours sincerely



Dr Tim Wright
Head of Consents – Lower Thames Crossing