



Lower Thames Crossing Case Team
National Infrastructure Planning
Lowerthamescrossing@planninginspectorate.gov.uk
(By email only)

MMO Reference: DCO/2015/00001
National Infrastructure Planning Reference: TR010032

02 August 2023

Dear Sir or Madam,

Planning Act 2008 - Application by National Highways for an Order Granting Development Consent for the Lower Thames Crossing

Deadline 2 Submission

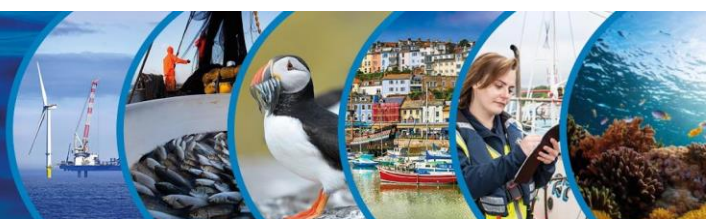
On the 28 November 2022, the Marine Management Organisation (“MMO”) received notice under Section 56 of the Planning Act 2008 (the “2008 Act”) that the Planning Inspectorate (“PINS”) had accepted an application made by National Highways (the “Applicant”) for determination of a Development Consent Order for the construction, operation and maintenance of the proposed Lower Thames Crossing (the “DCO Application”).

The MMO received the Rule 8 letter on 27 June 2023. In response to this letter, the MMO submits the following which can be viewed in Annex 1:

For receipt by the ExA of:

- Comments on Written Representations (WRs)
- Comments on Local Impact Reports (LIRs)
- Comments on Applicant’s amended draft Development Consent Order (dDCO)
- Comments on Applicant’s submissions at Deadline 1 (D1)

This written response is submitted without prejudice to any future representation the MMO may make about the Application throughout the examination process. This response is also submitted without prejudice to any decision the MMO may make on any associated application for consent, permission, approval or any other type of authorisation submitted to the MMO either for the works in the marine area or for any other authorisation relevant to the proposed development.



Yours faithfully,



Gregg Smith
Marine Licencing Case Officer



[\[redacted\]@marinemanagement.org.uk](mailto:[redacted]@marinemanagement.org.uk)



Annex 1

1 Written Representation

1.1 The MMO would like to state that the time between the publishing of the Deadline 1 responses (24 July 2023) and the Deadline 2 date of 03 August does not give the MMO sufficient time to review all of the submissions, consult where necessary and prepare a full response. As such the MMO will provide comments on written representations where needed at deadline 3.

Port of London deadline submission (REP1-269)

1.2 The MMO has reviewed the submission from the Port of London Authority (PLA) '*Deadline 1 Submission - PLA3 - Written Representation (WR)*' (REP1-269) and wish to make the following comments:

1.3 The MMO notes the PLA's concern in paragraph 5.12 regarding scour above the tunnel due to the dynamic nature of the River. While the applicant does not consider there to be a need for scour protection. The MMO would like to remind the applicant that the depositing/placing of any scour protection may constitute a licensable activity which would need to be included within the Deemed Marine Licence (DML).

1.4 The MMO notes the PLA's concern in section 21 (Sch.15 dDCO – Lighting) and that as currently drafted the PLA will not have the ability to comment or influence the lighting management plans. The MMO may consult on submissions made under Schedule 15 and as the project area is within the PLA jurisdiction they would be included on any consultation.

1.5 The MMO agrees that the PLA should be involved with this lighting plan. This could potentially reduce the amount of time the MMO would require discharging the return and avoid a series of "back and forth" consultation and requests from both parties to resolve any issues that may arise from the plans.

1.6 While the consultation process on submissions does provide a mechanism for the PLA to comment and influence the plans the MMO will maintain a watching brief on this issue and provide further comments if required.

1.7 The MMO notes the PLA comments at 22.19 to 22.21 regarding the PLA's position on dredging as part of the application. The MMO does not consider the excavation of the trench to allow a pipe to be laid before being reburied as dredging, the MMO will maintain a watching brief on this issue and provide comments were required.

2 Comments on LIRs

2.1 The MMO has undertaken a review of the LIRs submitted at deadline 1 and has no comments to make at this time.



3 Comments on Applicant's amended dDCO

3.1 The MMO is currently reviewing the changes made to the draft development consent order however due to the need to consult internally we have been unable to provide this in time for Deadline 2. The MMO will provide further comments at Deadline 3.

4 Comments on Applicant's submissions at D1

4.2 The MMO would like to reiterate our comments at section 1.1 regarding the timescale for reviewing submitted documents and preparing responses. We thank the applicant for engaging with the MMO in a proactive way and for sharing relevant documentation with the MMO when this is submitted. The MMO is currently reviewing the submitted documentation and will provide comments at Deadline 3 if needed.

