

Submission ID: 23022

Lower Thames Crossing DCO "Deadline 6

Comments on Issue Specific Hearing 8 (ISH8): Construction & Operational Effects

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Stifford Clays Road Compound East

I have included a map and photo of the construction compound to make it easier to visualise the size and close proximity of the compound to the Baker St area of Orsett.

1. Map Stifford Clays Road Compound East.jpg
2. Photo Stifford Clays Road Compound East.jpg

Stifford Clays Road Compound East

The Stifford Clays Road Compound East must be relocated.

In its current location this Construction Compound will have a deleterious and devastating effect on the residents, homes and community of the Baker St area of Orsett and will negatively affect their quality of life for 7 years.

Moving this Construction Compound to an alternative location would greatly reduce the impact of the construction of the LTC on the village of Orsett and lives of its residents.

In its current location the Compound has several issues:

1. It is sited very close to a residential area. Noise, light, odour and particulate pollution will have a huge negative effect on the health and quality of life of the residents.
2. Prevailing winds, being Westerlies, (90% of the time as a guesstimate) come from the west towards the east. This means that noise and particulate pollution will predominantly be carried towards the residential area.
3. In very close vicinity are several listed buildings. These will most certainly be negatively affected by particulate pollution which will be carried by the aforementioned winds.

Whitfields Barn. 17th century thatched barn. The thatch is of particular concern due to fire risk, and the stability (or lack thereof) of the structure should also be considered.

Whitfields Farmhouse, Stifford Clays Rd. 16th century.

Mill House, Stifford Clays Rd. 15th century

Orsett Windmill (Baker Street Mills), Stifford Clays Rd. 1674

The Old Rectory, Fen Lane. Not listed, but at over 300 years old it is an historic building of local interest.

4. A variety of birds and other wildlife are regularly seen in the trees and hedgerow along the west border of our land adjacent to the Compound. They use the surrounding area to hunt and nest.

Alternate Locations

There are a number of possible alternative locations to which the Construction Compound could be moved. This would keep the Compound away from any residential areas, seemingly without undue consequence to the Compound itself or to the building of the LTC.

Suggested alternative locations are:

1. Further to the west, on the other side of the proposed LTC.
2. Further down the field (north) towards or beyond Green Lane.

National Highways statement regarding Stifford Clays Road compound East
In REP1-182 National Highways stated:

Stifford Clays Road compound East would be located north of Stifford Clays Road, east of the A122. It would be approximately 6.7ha in size, with space for car parking, offices, welfare facilities and storage. Around half of the site would be set aside for earthworks stockpiling. Fencing would be put in place to provide noise and visual screening to nearby sensitive receptors.

It would be in place throughout the construction period. Construction compound facilities greater than 6m in height would be located as westerly as reasonably practicable, to maximise distance from residential properties on Stifford Clays Road and Fen Lane.

The compound is located over 150m from the residential properties to the east on Fen Lane and approximately 50m from the closest residential properties to be retained to the south. In recognition of these residential properties the compound has been slightly repositioned from its initial location and changed shape to move away from local residents at Fen Lane, Green Lane and Baker Street.

In addition, the commitment set out above to locate facilities greater than 6m in height as westerly as reasonably practicable would also seek to reduce any impacts upon these sensitive receptors during construction.

My response to the above statements

According to the above statement by National Highways, the residents of this part of Orsett will be subjected to living next a construction compound of 6.7 ha (50% of which contains massive earthworks) for the entire period of the construction of the LTC (7 years). It will be just 50m to 150m from their homes. The only "protection" from the various forms of pollution will be a fence!

Will this short distance from their homes and a fence be enough to prevent detrimental effects on the lives and health of residents in terms of air, noise and light pollution for 7 years?

Of course not.

This construction compound cannot be allowed to go ahead as planned. It MUST be moved to another location.

Conclusion

To the reader: Stop for a second and really imagine a construction site next to your house for the next 7 years. Imagine what an effect this would have on your health and quality of life. This will become reality for the residents of the Baker St area of Orsett if the LTC goes ahead. And it can be easily avoided by simply moving the compound slightly further away!

The Stifford Clays Road Compound East MUST be relocated.

