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Dear Team

With regard to the Secretary of State for Transport's letter to the Applicant dated 19<sup>th</sup> April, my comments are that I can only shake my head in disbelief at the fact that there are still unresolved issues within a project of this enormity at such a late stage in the DCO process. The Lower Thames Crossing Project has taken several long years to reach this stage and I would have expected all the issues to have been fully addressed and concluded way before now, after all it is by no means the first major road project to be proposed and submitted for DCO in England.

My further comments reiterate some of my previous objections to the proposal.

I still believe the proposed route was never good value for money and even less so now at its present estimated cost.

Other discarded routes would have been more beneficial.

It does not provide adequate links to and from other road networks in the East of England.

It will create more congestion on local road networks.

Traffic travelling northbound is only diverted away from the M25 Junction 2 (Darenth Interchange), Kent to rejoin the M25 at a new Junction 29 (currently the Cranham Interchange) in Essex, thereby doing nothing to ease the frequent congestion issues (in both directions) between Junctions 27 (and beyond) and Junction 30 on the Essex side of the River Thames.

I sincerely hope that the money allocated for this project will be put to better use elsewhere. Many UK roads are old and in urgent need of complete reconstruction to cope with modern day vehicles and movements. Focus should surely be directed on planning and investment to bring our roads up to European standard once again.

Many thanks for the opportunity to comment.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. Jackie Thacker