



National Infrastructure
Planning
Temple Quay House
2 The Square
Bristol, BS1 6PN

Customer
Services: 0303 444 5000
e-mail: a47wansfordtosutton@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

National Highways
Natural England
Peterborough City Council
Anglian Water Services Limited
Environment Agency
Western Power Distribution (East
Midlands) PLC

Your Ref:

Our Ref: TR010039

Date: 6 July 2022

Dear Sir/ Madam

The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 (as amended) – Rule 17

Application by National Highways for an Order Granting Development Consent for the A47 Wansford to Dualling Project

Request for further information

I write under Rule 17 of the Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 (as amended) to request further information before the Examination closes on 11 July 2022 in respect of outstanding matters.

For reasons which will become clear below this letter is addressed not only to the Applicant, but also to Natural England, Peterborough City Council, Anglian Water Services Limited, the Environment Agency and Western Power Distribution (East Midlands) PLC and I would ask that they too respond.

Letters of 'No Impediment' in respect of bats and great crested newts

At the Issue Specific Hearing 3 held on 16 March 2022 there was a discussion about 'shadow' applications made to Natural England in relation to necessary licences. Included at Annex C of the Applicant's Written Summary of Oral Submissions at Hearings [REP4-018] were 'Letters of No Impediment' from Natural England in respect of necessary licensing relating to water voles and badgers.

In this document at point 6.2 in the second column the following comment was made: "A letter of no impediment in respect of bats is expected soon and will be submitted to the Examination upon receipt."

I am not aware that such a letter has been submitted and would ask the Applicant and Natural England supply that. As I understand it, there was also a shadow application in

respect of great crested newts, and if this was made, I would be grateful for a copy of any letter of no impediment that has been issued.

If Natural England has been unable to issue either or both of these letters, I would be grateful if an explanation could be given for this, along with detail of what information, if any, would be required.

Statements of Common Ground

The Applicant has submitted a number of Statements of Common Ground, some of which have been signed and some remain in draft.

In looking at the Statement of Commonality for Statements of Common Ground submitted at Deadline (D) 10, I note that Statements of Common Ground with the following parties remain in draft:

- Peterborough City Council
- Natural England
- Anglian Water Services Limited

I would be grateful if final, signed versions could be submitted or an explanation as to why these have not progressed from versions previously submitted.

In addition, I note that in the Statement of Commonality for Statements of Common Ground that for two parties, the Environment Agency and Western Power Distribution (East Midlands) PLC, Statements of Common Ground are marked as 'not required'.

Draft Statements of Common Ground were submitted at D7 and D7a respectively, and I would be grateful to understand why these were not progressed further, and which party considered that they were "not required". A response would be appreciated from any party who would have been involved.

Outstanding matters in light of Made Development Consent Order relating to A47 Blofield to North Burlingham

In Annex B of the Applicant's cover letter to its D10 submission the Applicant set out its response to the Secretary of State's decision in respect of the A47 Blofield to North Burlingham Development Consent Order.

Understandably, there were a number of matters where the Applicant considered it had had insufficient time by D10 to fully consider any implications for the A47 Wansford to Sutton proposal. While appreciating that it may not be able to conclude on all of these matters by the end of the Examination, I would be grateful if the Applicant could provide me with an update as best as it is able.

If this involves further changes to the draft Development Consent Order submitted at D10 I would be grateful to receive that. Any submission should be made in .pdf ('clean' and 'tracked change') and .docx ('clean') formats.

Concluding Comment

As all parties will be aware, the Examination is due to close at **23:59 hours on Monday 11 July 2022** and therefore any representations need to be submitted before that time at Deadline 11.

Yours sincerely

Robert Jackson

Robert Jackson
Examining Authority

This communication does not constitute legal advice.
Please view our [Privacy Notice](#) before sending information to the Planning Inspectorate.