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By e-mail: A428.Blackcat@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

14 December 2021

Dear Sirs

**A428 Black Cat to Caxton Gibbet Road Improvement scheme ("the Scheme")
Protective Provisions
Our Client: Exolum Pipeline System Limited ("Exolum")**

We act for Exolum in this matter. We are writing to provide you with an update as to the negotiation of protective provisions between Exolum and National Highways ("the Promoter").

Exolum operates a network of fuel distribution pipelines that form a critical part of the UK's fuel supply system. Exolum has been engaging with the Promoter as the Scheme potentially impacts and interferes with Exolum's existing apparatus. Exolum requires protective provisions to be agreed with the Promoter to ensure its apparatus is adequately protected and to ensure the safe ongoing operation of its pipelines.

The draft DCO contains protective provisions relating to Exolum's apparatus at Schedule 9 Part 6. We have reviewed the draft protective provisions and proposed some amendments, which we provided to the Promoter's solicitors on 13 December 2021. The proposed amendments are intended to ensure the ongoing operation and safety of Exolum's apparatus.

Exolum will continue to collaborate with the Promoter to progress the protective provisions. Should it not be possible to reach agreement of the protective provisions with the Promoter, Exolum reserves its right to attend compulsory acquisition or issue specific hearings to address the required format of the protective provisions.

Exolum looks forward to updating the Planning Inspectorate regarding the state of negotiations.

Yours faithfully

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Veale Wasbrough Vizards LLP



Lawyers & Parliamentary Agents

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