



Department for Transport

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To: All interested Parties, The Applicant,
Cadent Gas Limited and Western Power
Distribution Limited

Date: 21 September 2021

Dear Sir/Madam

Planning Act 2008 (as amended) and the Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010

Application by Highways England (“the Applicant”) for an Order granting development consent for the proposed M54 to M6 Link Road.

REQUEST FOR COMMENTS FROM ALL INTERESTED PARTIES, THE APPLICANT, CADENT GAS LIMITED AND WESTERN POWER DISTRIBUTION LIMITED

1. UPDATE TO ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION

In response to questions 1(a) and 1(b) in the Secretary of State’s [letter of 9 August 2021](#) the Applicant provided [a response](#) dated 23 August 2021 and this has been published on the project page on the Planning Inspectorates website.

The Secretary of State would like to invite comments from all interested parties on the information provided by the Applicant.

2. UPDATE ON OUTSTANDING PROTECTIVE PROVISIONS

a. Cadent Gas Limited (“Cadent”) Protective Provisions

The Secretary of State notes that the Applicant confirmed in their letter of 23 August 2021 that an agreed position had been reached between the parties. The Applicant further set out that both parties would write to confirm the position on concluding the relevant documentation within the next 14 days of that letter. The Secretary of State does not appear to have received

this update and therefore requests that the Applicant and Cadent Gas Limited confirm their understanding of the latest position

b. Western Power Distribution Limited (“WPD”) Protective Provisions

The Secretary of State notes from the Applicant’s response of 23 August 2021 that the Protective Provisions within the DCO submitted by the Applicant on 7 April 2021 at Deadline 8 were approved by WPD.

Please can WPD confirm their agreement of this position.

The deadline for any response is 5 October 2021.

Responses to the matters outlined in this letter are best submitted by email to: M54toM6linkroad@planninginspectorate.gov.uk. Postal responses should be sent to The M54 to M6 Link Road Team, The Planning Inspectorate, Eagle Wing 3/18, Temple Quay House, Temple Quay, Bristol, BS1 6PN, however, please note that as a result of the ongoing Government guidance relating to Coronavirus (COVID-19) there are limited number of staff at Temple Quay House and therefore any submissions sent by post may be subject to delay. If you will have difficulty in submitting a response by the consultation deadline, or difficulty in submitting a response by email, please inform the Case Team.

The responses will be published on the project page for the M54 to M6 Link Road DCO on the Planning Inspectorate’s website as soon as possible after the above deadline at: <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/west-midlands/m54-to-m6-link-road/>

This letter is without prejudice to the Secretary of State’s decision whether or not to grant development consent for the M54 to M6 Link Road, and nothing in this letter is to be taken to imply what that decision might be.

Yours faithfully

Natasha Kopala
Head of the Transport Infrastructure Planning Unit