

A12 Chelmsford to A120 widening scheme

TR010060

8.13 Statement of Common Ground with CADENT GAS LIMITED

Rule 8 (1)(e)

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A12 Chelmsford to A120 widening scheme
Development Consent Order 202(X)

Statement of Common Ground with
CADENT GAS LIMITED

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P01.1	February 2023	DRAFT

STATEMENT OF COMMON GROUND

This Statement of Common Ground has been prepared and agreed by (1) National Highways Limited and (2) Cadent Gas Services Limited

Signed.....

[NAME]

[POSITION]

on behalf of National Highways

Date:

Signed.....

[NAME]

[POSITION]

on behalf of [Cadent Gas Services Limited]

Date: [DATE]

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1 Introduction

1.1 Purpose of this document

- 1.1.1 SoCGs are a useful and established means of ensuring that the evidence at the DCO examination focuses on the material differences between the main parties, and so aim to help facilitate a more efficient examination process.
- 1.1.2 The SoCG has been produced to confirm to the Examining Authority where agreement has been reached between the parties to it, and where agreement has not (yet) been reached. SoCGs are an established means in the planning process of allowing all parties to identify and so focus on specific issues that may need to be addressed during the examination.
- 1.1.3 The purpose of the SoCG is to set out agreed factual information about the proposed DCO application. It is intended that the SoCG should provide matters on which both parties agree. As well as identifying matters which are not in dispute, the SoCG may also identify areas where agreement has not been reached.
- 1.1.4 It is envisaged that this SoCG will evolve during the examination phase of the DCO application.
- 1.1.5 Any subsequent drafts will be agreed and issued, with the version numbers clearly recorded in the 'Document Control' table at the beginning of the document.
- 1.1.6 This Statement of Common Ground ("SoCG") relates to an application made by National Highways Limited ("the Applicant") to the Planning Inspectorate ("PINS") under Section 37 of the Planning Act 2008 ("PA 2008") for the A12 Chelmsford to A120 Widening Development Consent Order ("the DCO"). If made, the DCO would grant consent for the Applicant to undertake the A12 Chelmsford to A120 Widening Scheme ("the Scheme").
- 1.1.7 A detailed description of the Scheme can be found in the ES Chapter 2 "The Proposed Scheme" [[6.1 Environmental Statement - Chapter 2 The proposed scheme \(planninginspectorate.gov.uk\)](#)].
- 1.1.8 This SoCG does not seek to replicate information which is available elsewhere within the Application documents. All documents are available in the deposit locations and/or the Planning Inspectorate website:
[\[A12 Chelmsford to A120 Widening Scheme | National Infrastructure Planning \(planninginspectorate.gov.uk\)\]](#)

1.2 Parties to this Statement of Common Ground

- 1.2.1 This SoCG has been prepared by (1) the Applicant and (2) Cadent Gas Limited (Cadent Gas).
- 1.2.2 National Highways became the Government-owned Strategic Highways Company on 1 April 2015. It is the highway authority in England for the strategic road network and has the necessary powers and duties to operate, manage,

maintain and enhance the network. Regulatory powers remain with the Secretary of State.

- 1.2.3 Cadent Gas is the UK's largest gas distribution network and their assets are affected by the scheme.

2 Record of Engagement

- 2.1.1 A summary of the meetings and correspondence that has taken place between the Applicant and Cadent Gas in relation to the Application is outlined in table below

Table 2.1 Record of Engagement

Reference	Form of correspondence	Key Topic discussed and key outcomes (the topics should align with the Issues tables)
15/05/2020 - Gagent in receipt of draft gas drawings & latest alignment via public link.	Email	Cadent in receipt of draft gas drawings & latest alignment via public link.
13/11/2020 - C2 Search	Websearch Portal	C2 Search
29/01/2021 - Letter of Authority and C3 Budget Estimate request	Email	Letter of Authority and C3 Budget Estimate request
29/01/2021 - C3 Application	Email	C3 Application
21/06/2021 - LHP A12 Team pass Cadent Whetmead information	Email	LHP A12 Team pass Cadent information regarding Whetmead
22/06/2021 - LHP C3 Costing from Cadent	Email	LHP C3 Costing from Cadent
02/07/2021 - Cadent introduction re MP mains	Email	Cadent introduction re MP mains
13/10/2021 - LHP Cadent confirm FW as consultants	Email	LHP Cadent confirm FW as consultants
12/11/2021 - MP Diversion designs from Cadent	Email	MP Diversion designs from Cadent
09/12/2021 - LHP Meeting	Minutes	LHP Meeting
091221 Cadent Fingleton White LHP meeting minutes	Meeting	Progress Meeting discussion on initial proposals for diversions of HP assets
22/02/2022 - Progress Meeting	Meeting	Progress Meeting
18/03/2022 - LHP A12 Team send details of geophysical survey	Email	LHP A12 Team send details of geophysical survey
30/03/2022 - LHP Costain Whetmead information to Cadent	Email	LHP Costain Whetmead information to Cadent
11/07/2022 - NRSWA C1_1 appointment of Infraco consulting as agent for the A12 Chelmsford (junction 19) to A120 (junction 25) widening	Email	NRSWA C1_1 appointment of Infraco consulting as agent for the A12 Chelmsford (junction 19) to A120 (junction 25) widening

Reference	Form of correspondence	Key Topic discussed and key outcomes (the topics should align with the Issues tables)
260722 A12 Cadent HP Progress Meeting 220726	Meeting	Kick off meeting with Infraco Consulting to introduce new OOA, and understand the key topics and issues to date
010822 A12 Cadent MP Progress Meeting	Meeting	Kick-off meeting with Cadent Medium Pressure Team & Infraco Consulting to introduce new OOA, and understand the key topics and issues to date
180822 Meeting with Cadent	Meeting	Progress meeting to discuss progress to date, requirements for detail design and engagement and support required
19/08/2022 - C5 Stage Payments	Email	C5 Stage Payments
060922 A12 Cadent MP Progress Meeting	Meeting	Progress Meeting discussion on proposals for diversions of MP assets, programme and C3 costs
091221 Cadent Fingleton White LHP meeting minutes	Meeting	Design Kick Off Meeting
A12 Utilities Action Tracker - Cadent MP	Meeting	Progress Meeting discussion on proposals for diversions of MP assets, programme and C3 costs
A12 Utilities Action Tracker - Cadent MP	Meeting	Discuss the new proposals by Infraco diverting around heavy civil areas, implications and determine the settlement calculations required
A12 Utilities Action Tracker - Cadent HP	Meeting	Meeting with Cadent Gas at Hemel Hempstead to discuss advance works constraints, land constraints & design and programme management
A12 Utilities Action Tracker - Cadent MP	Meeting	Progress Meeting
03/11/2022 -Cadent early works @ Junction 22 - meeting notes _ actions	Meeting	Cadent early works @ Junction 22 - meeting notes _ actions
09/11/2022 - Information provided for design - Cadent HP	Email	information provided for design - Cadent HP
A12 Utilities Action Tracker - Cadent HP	Meeting	Progress Meeting
23/11/2022 - RE_A12 DCO Examination - Authoring Lead Assignment - Sub-Question_RR-038-004- Deadline_2022-11-25	Email	RE_A12 DCO Examination - Authoring Lead Assignment - Sub-Question_RR-038-004- Deadline_2022-11-25
13/12/2022 - Cadent HP RFI's	Email	Cadent HP RFI's
A12 Utilities Action Tracker - Cadent HP	Meeting	Progress Meeting
22/12/2022 - Cadent RFI responses information outstanding	Email	Cadent RFI responses information outstanding

Reference	Form of correspondence	Key Topic discussed and key outcomes (the topics should align with the Issues tables)
A12 Utilities Action Tracker - Cadent MP	Meeting	Progress Meeting
A12 Utilities Action Tracker - Cadent HP	Meeting	Progress Meeting
A12 Utilities Action Tracker - Cadent HP	Meeting	Progress Meeting
12/01/2023 - AIA2 route issues with Cadent	Email	AIA2 route issues with Cadent
17/01/2023 - AIA1 Access Route	Email	AIA1 Access Route
A12 Utilities Action Tracker - Cadent MP	Meeting	Progress Meeting
A12 Utilities Action Tracker - Cadent HP	Meeting	Progress Meeting
25/01/2023 - Utilities - High Pressure Gas Diversions - AIA2_ AIA3 & AIA4 (RE_ 1361 A12 RF19 and RF110)	Email	Utilities - High Pressure Gas Diversions - AIA2_ AIA3 & AIA4 (RE_ 1361 A12 RF19 and RF110)
25/01/2023 - DCO - Cadent Position Statement SoCG	Email	DCO - Cadent Position Statement SoCG
A12 Utilities Action Tracker - Cadent MP	Meeting	Progress Meeting
A12 Utilities Action Tracker - Cadent HP	Meeting	Progress Meeting

- 2.1.2 It is agreed that this is an accurate record of the key meetings and consultation undertaken between (1) the Applicant and (2) Cadent Gas in relation to the issues addressed in this SoCG.

2.2 Terminology

2.2.1 In the tables in the Issues chapter of this SoCG.

- “Agreed” indicates where the issue has been resolved;
- “Under discussion” indicates area(s) of current disagreement where resolution remains possible, and where the parties will continue to discuss the issue(s) to seek to reach agreement by the end of the examination; and
- “Not Agreed” indicates a final position for area(s) of disagreement where the resolution of divergent positions will not be possible, and parties agree on this point.

2.2.2 It can be taken that any matters not specifically referred to in the Issues chapter of this SoCG are not of material interest or relevance to Cadent Gas Services, and therefore have not been the subject of any discussion between the parties. As such, those matters can be read as agreed, only to the extent that they are either not of material interest or relevance to Cadent Gas Services.

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3 Issues

3.1 Issues agreed

Table 3.1 Issues agreed.

Ref	Issue	Doc Ref	Agreement	Date
1	Scope of works for High Pressure diversions		<p>Cadent's High-Pressure team and National Highways have been working together during the development phase to identify the solutions required to address the impact of the proposed works on Cadent assets.</p> <p>Cadent initially undertook design studies for the A12 project which Cadent Gas presented a proposed solution to the 5no. Asset Interaction Areas which are required due to the National Highways (NH) proposed scheme. The parties have since the development of this initial study been coordinating and progressing these proposals for the 5no. Asset interactions and are now engaged on the development of the detail design for these diversions.</p>	
2	Scope of works for Medium Pressure diversions		<p>Cadent's Medium-Pressure team and National Highways have been working together during the development phase of the project to develop the proposals to address the impact of the proposed works on Cadent medium pressure assets.</p> <p>This has resulted in the development of 13 outline proposals for the diversion of approximately 6,500m of medium pressure pipeline due to the impact of the proposed National Highways (NH) A12 road widening scheme.</p>	

3.2 Issues in discussion

Table 3.2 Issues in discussion.

Ref	Issue	Doc Reference	Agreement	Status	Date
1	Protective Provisions.		Protective provisions for the benefit of Cadent Gas are included within the draft Order Schedule 11 - Part 5 The Applicant and Cadent are putting in place legal arrangements which are expected to result in Cadent confirming that it has no objection to the proposed Scheme.	Under Discussion	
2	Cadent's rights to retain its apparatus in situ and rights of access to inspect, maintain, renew and repair such apparatus located within or in close proximity to the order limits should be maintained at all times and access to inspect such apparatus must not be restricted.		NH's position is that the PPs as included in Part 5 of Schedule 11 afford adequate protection for Cadent assets during and after the construction works planned for the A12 scheme.	Under Discussion	
3	Cadent is not yet satisfied that the DCO includes all land and rights required to accommodate diversions as detailed design studies will need to influence		NH believes that the land and rights required are sufficient to accommodate the diversions proposed for the scheme and sufficient contingency has been allowed to plan for variations of the proposed diversions along these corridors.	Under Discussion	

Ref	Issue	Doc Reference	Agreement	Status	Date
	these requirements.		NH acknowledges that although these corridors have provided the land required for the diversions the final alignment of these will depend on the completion of the detail design for these diversions which are now underway for both MP and HP assets.		
4	Cadent will require National Highways to obtain and grant to Cadent adequate rights to lay, access, protect and maintain apparatus on Cadent's standard easement terms or equivalent rights acquired by compulsion including the imposition of restrictive covenants to protect apparatus.		<p>This is noted, NH is aware that it will need to obtain and grant to Cadent adequate rights to lay, access, protect and maintain apparatus on Cadent's standard easement terms or equivalent rights acquired by compulsion including the imposition of restrictive covenants to protect apparatus.</p> <p>NH is active discussion with all landowners affected to ensure that it is able to agree with these landowners the agreements to provide the rights required for Cadent.</p>	Under Discussion	
5	Development of detail design for Cadent Gas High Pressure diversions		National Highways and Cadent are working jointly at present to progress and develop the detail design required for the 5 number Asset Interface Areas identified in the Design study phase.		
6	Development of detail design for Medium Pressure diversions		NH and Cadent are at the present moment in time working collaborative to present and progress the detail design required for the 13 diversions required for medium pressure assets affected by the works.		

- 3.2.2 The parties will update the Examining Authority as to progress in negotiations as the Examination proceeds and as requested by the Examining Authority. If agreement is not reached, then the Protective Provisions in Schedule 11 of the DCO will apply.

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Acronyms

Abbreviation	Term
AIA2	Diversion reference number assigned by Cadent Gas to one of their diversions
BEIS	Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy
CAD	Computer Aided Design
DCO	Development Consent Order
dDCO	Draft Development Consent Order
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
FW	Fingleton White (Cadent's HP and IP Designer)
HP	High Pressure
IP	Intermediate Pressure
LHP	Localised High Pressure
MP	Medium Pressure
NH	National Highways Limited
RFI's	Requests for Information
SHEQ	Safety, Health, Environment & Quality
SoCG	Statement Of Common Ground
Applicant	National Highways Limited