Date: 23 March 2023

Our ref: 426598 Your ref: TR010060



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Dear Ms Harvey

NSIP Reference Name / Code: A12 Chelmsford to A120 Widening Scheme / TR010060 User Code: 20032607

Natural England is a non-departmental public body. Our statutory purpose is to ensure that the natural environment is conserved, enhanced, and managed for the benefit of present and future generations, thereby contributing to sustainable development.

Response to the Examining Authority's second written questions.

Q2.3.2 Considering the Applicant's responses to ExQ1 - 3.0.9 and 3.0.10 [REP2-025], can NE confirm whether it remains content that the Proposed Development would not result in an LSE on any of the European sites considered in the assessment?

Based on the applicants response: '...although species recorded on Coleman's Reservoir are the same as some of the qualifying features of Abberton Reservoir SPA and Ramsar, they are unlikely to form part of the SPA and Ramsar populations because there is no evidence that birds from Abberton Reservoir would interchange with a smaller reservoir nearly 10km distant' NE can confirm we remain content with the conclusion of no Likely Significant Effect on any of the European sites considered in the assessment.

For any further advice on this consultation please contact the case officer Camilla Davidge and copy to consultations@naturalengland.org.uk.

Yours sincerely

Camilla Davidge Lead Advisor – Land Use Planning West Anglia Area Team