

NETWORK RAIL INFRASTRUCTURE LIMITED

A12 DCO – CAH 2 – 27 APRIL 2023

Written Submission

1. The Panel have stated that it may be helpful for Network Rail to attend the second CAH on 27 April 2023. However, in the interests of efficiency, Network Rail is providing this written statement rather than attending the hearing.
2. Network Rail's position remains as it was at the first CAH on 1 March 2023, in summary:
 - a. Network Rail (whilst supporting the principle of the project) has an outstanding objection, and that objection remains in place;
 - b. Network Rail's concerns are set out in detail in the written representation (Examination Library Reference REP2-092) and summarised in its CAH 1 submissions (Examination Library Reference REP3-074).
3. It remains the case that, currently, sufficient agreements/protections are not in place to ensure that the promoter will be responsible for mitigating the Network Rail concern's, and in particular, it is not yet agreed how the project will be redesigned to address safety concerns relating to signalling.
4. However, the parties are continuing to negotiate the terms of an agreement and amendments to the protective provision for Network Rail which could resolve Network Rail's concerns. It is intended that the draft SoCG (Examination Library Reference REP3-075) will be updated at Deadline 5 (10 May 2023) to reflect this, and the progress made by the technical teams in resolving Network Rail's concerns.
5. Network Rail respectfully requests that if the Panel has any specific queries for Network Rail which it intended to raise at the hearing, that these are instead included in the Panel's Third Written Questions to be issued by 22 May 2023, and Network Rail will respond accordingly.