



Our ref: AE/2022/127507/07-L01 & Interested Party Ref: 20033155
Your ref: TR010060

Date: 12 June 2023

Submitted via portal

**APPLICATION BY NATIONAL HIGHWAYS FOR AN ORDER GRANTING
DEVELOPMENT CONSENT FOR THE A12 CHELMSFORD TO A120 WIDENING**

Please find below comments from the Environment Agency on document **9.57 Pre-commencement Plan [REP5-016]**.

We note that paragraphs **2.3.31 & 3.8.1** both refer to Requirement 6 of the draft DCO submitted at Deadline 5. We would highlight that the text included in these paragraphs does not fully match the wording of that Requirement, most significantly in relation to part (2). These paragraphs should be amended.

We welcome the reference at paragraph **3.5.22** to the need to ensure that safe and unimpeded otter passage is maintained up and down riverbanks at all times during works to avoid harming or interfering with these protected species. Otters are protected under the 1981 Wildlife and Countryside Act (as amended).

With reference to paragraph **3.7.42**, we would highlight the need to consider any permitting requirements if there is a proposal to discharge treated foul water into the environment.

Advice and guidance can be obtained from the pre-application service at:
[Get advice before you apply for an environmental permit - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/get-advice-before-you-apply-for-an-environmental-permit)