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12 JULY 2023

Dear Ms Mandra

Dear Ms Mandra

Your client: National Highways Limited

Property: Plot 2/12a, 5/26a, 5/33a, 6/4a, 6/26a, 7/7a, 8/3a, 8/6m, 8/19a, 8/19b, 8/19d, 8/41a, 8/41b, 8/41d, 15/8a, 15/8b and 19/14a as shown on the Crown Land Plans attached to the Application in respect of the A12 Chelmsford Widening Scheme Development Consent Order Application

Application for consent pursuant to section 135 of the Planning Act 2008 ("the Application")

I understand that you are instructed on behalf of National Highways Limited in respect of the A12 Chelmsford Widening Scheme Development Consent Order Application ("the DCO").

I am instructed to respond on behalf of the Secretary of State for Transport (SoST) in respect of the Application.

The land required for the DCO includes the Property in which the SoST has an interest (as listed above) and therefore constitutes Crown land as defined in section 227 of the Planning Act 2008 ("the Act").

It is understood that National Highways is seeking to exercise rights of acquisition over land included within the Application.

I confirm that the appropriate Crown authority (as defined in section 227 of the Act) is the SoST. In relation to plot 19/14a, this crown interest has historically be held by the Secretary of State for the Environment. I am advised that it is likely that this interest has subsequently transferred to the SoST by virtue of the Transfer of Functions (Transport, Local Government & the Regions) Order 2002 (2002/2626). Accordingly, I have considered this crown interest as if it were an interest held by the SoST and this consent applies equally to that plot.

On the basis of the above, I am authorised to confirm the following:

- 1. The SoST hereby gives consent pursuant to section 135 (1) and 135(2) of the Act and Article 53 of the DCO as drafted to the inclusion of provisions within the DCO which would apply to the plots above (to the extent that they relate to the detail specified in the Application); and
- 2. The SoST hereby agrees to the wording of Article 53 of the DCO as drafted.

Yours sincerely,

Print Name: Nick Lambert

Position: Deputy Director, Head of Property Portfolio and Advisory

Contact details:

Authorised signatory for and on behalf of the Secretary of State for Transport