



Transport Infrastructure Planning Unit

Phil Davie
Project Director
National Highways
Woodlands
Manton Lane
Bedford MK41 7LW

8 December 2023

Dear Secretary of State for Transport

**A12 Chelmsford to A120 Widening Scheme (the Project)
DCO Application
Secretary of State's Request for Information – Updated Draft Order**

I write further to my letter of 1 December 2023.

You will find enclosed:

1. updated "clean" draft Development Consent Order (word);
2. updated "clean" draft Development Consent Order (PDF);
3. updated tracked changed PDF showing changes from the DCO submitted on 1 December – the changes are only to definitions and to Schedule 12 of the draft Order;
4. updated schedule of changes to the draft DCO;
5. Environmental Statement Figure 7.1 – Cultural Heritage Archaeological Remains - the plan set has been updated only to show the correct revision, which was not updated when the revised version was submitted following a request by Historic England for additional sites to be shown;
6. Environmental Statement Figure 7.2 – Cultural Heritage Built Heritage and Historic Landscape - the plan set has been updated only to show the correct revision when the revised version was submitted following a request by Historic England for additional sites to be shown;
7. Draft Bat Licence Revision 2 – the current PDF on the Inspectorate's website appears to be corrupted;
8. Updated Works plans document 2.2 – updated to provide for consistent use of the terminology used to refer to the utilities works plans in the application documentation. We have provided "clean" and tracked changed versions of the cover sheet to clearly identify the minor changes made.
9. Updated Highways Engineering Sections drawings document 2.11 (Part 1) – updated to provide consistent use of the terminology used to refer to the highways engineering sections drawings in the application documentation. We have provided "clean" and tracked changed versions of the cover sheet to clearly identify the single change made.

I explained in my letter of 1 December that Schedule 12 was to be updated to reflect the correct title for documentation listed in Schedule 12 of the Order. This exercise has now been concluded. We have aimed to have a single consistent nomenclature for documents in the Order, the certified documents schedule, Schedule 12, consistent with the title of the relevant documentation submitted, as well as indicating the final revision number. Where appropriate, the certified document titles provided to the Secretary of State if the Order is made will be amended to mirror the descriptions in Schedule 12.

The documents are being provided to you at the earliest possible opportunity. Validation is still proving difficult. We are working towards securing validation and will provide a validation report and validated word version of the amended order as soon as we can.

The other documents now being re-provided

Whilst undertaking this exercise it was noted that two plans submitted during examination were amended but the revision numbers recorded in the plans themselves were not indicated to show that they are the second revision of those plans. The plans were updated at the request of Historic England and submitted to the examining authority. Plans showing the correct revision numbers are enclosed. These plans are:

1. Cultural Heritage Archaeological Remains Figure 7.1 REP4 – 013 – Amended to reflect it being P02;
2. Cultural Heritage Built Heritage and Historic Landscape Figure 7.2 REP4 – 014 – Amended to reflect it being P02.

Draft EPS Licences – Bats

Again, in our review of the documentation required for certification we have noticed that the PDF version of the draft EPS Licence (Appendix 9.16 in the Applicant's documents list) is slightly corrupted. A cleaned-up version, otherwise unaltered, is enclosed. This document was submitted at Deadline 7.

Cadent

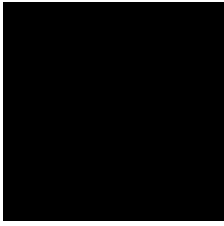
We also agreed to provide you with a further update in relation to Cadent

This response is made jointly and agreed with Cadent. Negotiations are ongoing with Cadent and excellent progress has been made over the last week to resolve outstanding issues. There are now only a few points between the parties.

We would intend to provide a further update on Friday 15 December.

If you have any further comments or queries, I can be contacted by email at A12chelmsfordA120wide@nationalhighways.co.uk

Yours sincerely



Phil Davie
Project Director
A12 Chelmsford to A120 Widening Scheme