



Ministry of Defence

The Planning Inspectorate
Major Applications & Plans
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Defence Infrastructure Organisation

Safeguarding Department
Statutory & Offshore
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02 September 2022

Your reference: TR010062
Our reference: DIO 10052518_Rev3

Dear Sir/Madam

MOD Safeguarding – Defence Training Estate Warcop

Proposal: A66 Northern Trans-Pennine Project-30km Single carriageway upgrade. Notice of Acceptance of an Application for a Development Consent Order to construct, operate and maintain the dualling of all the remaining single lengths of carriageway of the A66 to create a continuous 70mph dual carriageway (with the exception of a short length of 50mph dualling between M6 Junction 40 and east of Kemplay Bank) across the North Pennines, between the M6 motorway and A1(M) junctions, including improvement of these two junctions.

Location: A66 Northern Trans-Pennine between the A66 between the M6 at Penrith and the A1(M) at Scotch Corner.

Thank you for consulting the Ministry of Defence (MOD) on the above proposed development which was received by this office on the 27/07/2022.

The Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO) Safeguarding Team represents the Ministry of Defence (MOD) as a consultee in UK planning and energy consenting systems to ensure that development does not compromise or degrade the operation of defence sites such as aerodromes, explosives storage sites, air weapon ranges, and technical sites or training resources such as the Military Low Flying System.

The applicant is seeking development consent to construct, operate and maintain the dualling of all the remaining single lengths of carriageway of the A66 to create a continuous 70mph dual carriageway (with the exception of a short length of 50mph dualling between M6 Junction 40 and east of Kemplay Bank) across the North Pennines, between the M6 motorway and A1(M) junctions. The DCO would authorise the compulsory acquisition of land, interests in land and rights over land and the powers to use land permanently and temporarily for the construction, operation and maintenance of the scheme.

The application route occupies a statutory safeguarding zone relating to an explosive storage area at Defence Training Estate Warcop. The development proposed passes within approximately 70m of the boundary of the Training area.

Explosive Safeguarding Zone

The consultation zone occupies a part of the explosives safeguarding zone known as the Vulnerable Building Distance (VBD), shown as a purple line on the statutory safeguarding plan. Within this zone all buildings should be designed to be 'non vulnerable' that is of robust design and construction so that should an explosion occur at the MOD storage facility, buildings nearby will not collapse or sustain damage that could cause critical injury to the occupants.

The section of the route Grid References E377429, N515242 and E375972, N515387 pass through the safeguarding zone.


I have reviewed the documents within this consultation and can confirm that the MOD has no concerns with the proposed development.

This response only relates to the Safeguarding elements of this development. The DIO Safeguarding team are aware that our colleagues in the DIO Land Management Services (LMS) department will be submitting representations independently. This response is to be read in conjunction with, and does not replace, the response provided by Burges Salmon solicitors on behalf of MOD DIO LMS.

The MOD must emphasise that the advice provided within this letter is in response to the data and information detailed above and in the documentation email in support of the application named National Highways A66 NTP project – Section 56 notice dated 27/07/2022. Any variation of the parameters (which include the location, dimensions, form, and finishing materials) detailed may significantly alter how the development relates to MOD safeguarding requirements and cause adverse impacts to safeguarded defence assets or capabilities. In the event that any amendment, whether considered material or not by the determining authority, is submitted for approval, the MOD should be consulted and provided with adequate time to carry out assessments and provide a formal response.

I trust this is clear however should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely



Mr Chris Waldron
Assistant Safeguarding Manager