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National Infrastructure Planning
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Cumbria County Council Reference No. 20032142
Eden District Council Reference No. 20031846

24th January 2023

FAO: Mr Richard Allen, Lead Member of the Examining Authority

A66 NORTHERN TRANS PENNINE (NTP) PROJECT

JOINT SUBMISSION OF CUMBRIA COUNTY COUNCIL AND EDEN DISTRICT COUNCIL FOR EXAMINATION DEADLINE 3 (24TH JANUARY 2023)

Dear Mr Allen

In further response to your ('Rule 8') letter dated 8th December 2022 (reference TRO10062) setting out the Examination timetable, I am writing on behalf of Cumbria County Council and Eden District Council (together 'the Councils'), with our joint response for Deadline 3.

The Councils' submission for Deadline 3 comprises the following:

- The Applicant's Deadline 2 Response to the Councils' Local Impact Report (LIR)
- The Applicant's Deadline 2 response to the Councils' Written Representation (WR)
- Update to Cumbria County Council's Principal Areas of Disagreement Summary Statement
- Update to Eden District Council's Principal Areas of Disagreement Summary Statement

The Councils have commented on certain aspects of the Applicant's draft Development Consent Order (dDCO) (Deadline 2) submission, where these matters are linked to their WR.

The Councils' responses have been uploaded individually to the project website. When these are placed on the website by the Inspectorate team, please could you ensure that the documents are clearly labelled as coming from both Cumbria County Council and Eden District Council.

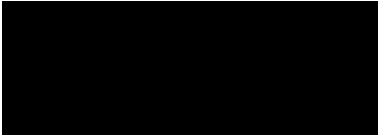
The Councils are grateful to the Applicant for its full response to their LIR and WR. We are pleased to see, following the Issue Specific Hearings held at the beginning of December, and following further consideration by the Applicant of representations by the Councils and others, that there have been important changes proposed by the Applicant to the dDCO and to the processes for approving and amending the Environmental Management Plan (EMP). Despite these proposed changes, the Councils still have concerns regarding elements of the approval and amendment processes which we understand are shared by the Statutory Environmental Bodies. Our position is that the EMP process

should not disadvantage the Councils in any way and their input to and influence over the matters contained within each iteration of the EMP should be no less than would have been the case had the approvals followed the normal DCO requirements process. The concerns of the Councils and our suggestions for how the EMP process should be further refined are contained in our response to the Applicant's comments on the Councils' WR.

There also remain several other important matters where further engagement between the Applicant and the Councils will be required to ensure that satisfactory and agreed positions can be reached. The revised Principal Areas of Disagreement Summary Statements set these out and the Councils are committed to working to resolve these matters in a constructive way during the Examination process. We would like to reiterate the need for improved levels of engagement outside the Examination process for this to be achieved.

The Councils have reviewed the Accompanied Site Visits itinerary and have no comments.

Yours sincerely



Alison Hatcher
Assistant Director of Growth and Infrastructure