

Highways Commissioning
Block 5, 6th Floor East
Shire Hall
Gloucester GL1 2TH
Telephone: 01454 662377

3rd September 2024

M5 Junction 10 Improvements Scheme

Dear Mr Maund,

Application by Gloucestershire County Council for an order granting Development Consent for the M5 Junction 10 Improvements Scheme

Planning Act 2008 – Section 89 and The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 – Rule 8 and 9, 13 and 16

Further to the Examining Authority's Rule 8 letter, dated 14 June 2024, I write in respect to the information requested from the Applicant at Deadline 4 (3 September 2024).

Documentation submitted at Deadline 4

Please find enclosed the following documents which have been requested from the Applicant at Deadline 4:

1. Written post hearing submissions including written summaries of oral cases made at hearings held during w/c 12 September 2024

The Applicant has provided written summaries of oral case for both Issue Specific Hearing 3 and Compulsory Acquisition Hearing 1. Unless otherwise stated the Applicant has provided all its responses to the Action Points within the relevant written summary.

- Applicant's Written Submissions of Oral Case for Issue Specific Hearing 3 (ISH3) (TR010063/APP/9.68)
- Applicant's Written Submissions of Oral Case for Compulsory Acquisition Hearing 1 (CAH1) (TR010063/APP/9.69)

Additional Submissions at Deadline 4

In addition, the Applicant has also sought to provide the following documents submitted at Deadline 4:

1. Responses to Examining Authority's First Written Questions:

The Applicant can confirm that the following document has been submitted at Deadline 4:

- Applicant's Response to Interested Parties Response to Examining Authority's First Written Questions (ExQ1) (TR010063/APP/9.66 – Rev 0)
- Biodiversity Net Gain Technical Note (TR010063/APP/9.71 – Rev 0) in response to Natural England's Response to ExQ1s (REP3-076 Q3.0.2)

Highways

In the response to the Examining Authority's First Written Question 10.0.4, the Applicant proposed to provide a plan showing the classification of agricultural land across the Scheme and the surrounding area. This plan will now be provided at Deadline 5.

2. Comments on submissions for Deadline 3

The Applicant can confirm that the following document has been submitted at Deadline 4:

- Applicant Response to Interested Parties Comments on Deadline 3 submission (TR010063/APP/9.67 – Rev 0)

It should be noted that in a change from previous deadlines the Applicant has only provided a response to points of note in order to provide as much brevity to its submissions as possible. This is reflected in the sequencing of response references where it should be noted that references relate to the equivalent paragraph number of the relevant interested party's comments.

In addition to the above, the Applicant has submitted the following documents as requested by the Examining Authority at Issue Specific Hearing 3 and Compulsory Acquisition Hearing 1:

- Transport Assessment (TR010063/APP/7.5 – Rev 3.0)
- Transport Assessment Appendix L – Traffic Forecasting Report (TR010063/APP/7.5 – Rev 1.0)
- Transport Assessment Appendix N – SRN Flow Difference Plots (TR010063/APP/9.57 – Rev 1.0)
- Transport Assessment Appendix O – SRN Volume over Capacity Plots (TR010063/APP/9.58 – Rev 1.0)
- Departures from Standard (TR010063/APP/9.76 – Rev 0)
- Sustainability Statement (TR010063/APP/9.64 – Rev 0)
- Design Principles Report (TR010063/APP/9.70 – Rev 0)
- Need for Scheme Technical Note (TR010063/APP/9.74 – Rev 0)
- Funding Technical Note (TR010063/APP/9.75 – Rev 0)

The Applicant has also provided the following updates to DCO Application documents to reflect any amendments made elsewhere:

3. Updated Book of Reference, Statement of Reasons and Schedule of Changes to the Book of Reference

The Applicant can confirm that the following documents have been submitted at Deadline 4:

- Book of Reference (TR010063/APP/4.3 – Rev 4.0): a tracked and clean version has been provided.
- Statements of Reasons (TR010063/APP/4.1 – Rev 4.0): a tracked and clean version has been provided.

Highways

- Combined Schedule of Changes to Book of Reference, Statement of Reasons and Land Plans (TR010063/APP/9.22 – Rev 3.0)

The reason for the changes to the Book of Reference and Statement of Reasons is set out in more detail in the Combined Schedule of Changes, however, of particular note is that the Applicant is proposing a number of demotion of rights as a result of further discussion and agreement with National Highways.

Of direct relevance to these changes are the following updated or new documents:

- Land Plans (TR010063/APP/2.2 – Rev 4.0)

4. Guide to the Application

The Guide to the Application (TR010063/APP/9.26 – Rev 3.0) charts the submission of DCO application documents to the Inspectorate, identifying the current revision for all documents submitted by the Applicant into Examination. This is a live document and will be updated throughout the Examination process and submitted, when updated, for each relevant deadline.

5. Draft Development Consent Order (dDCO) and Change Log

The Applicant has provided an explanation for all changes made to the dDCO (TR010063/APP3.1 – Rev 4.0 in its Change Log (TR010063/APP/9.21 – Rev 3.0). The Applicant has provided a clean Deadline 4 version of the dDCO as well as two tracked copies. The first tracked copy compares Deadline 4 against the Applicant's Deadline 3 submission. The second tracked copy compares Deadline 4 against the original submission version.

6. Statements of Common Ground

The following clean and tracked Statements of Common Ground have been updated:

- Joint Councils (TR010063/APP/8.2 – Rev 2.0); and
- Environment Agency (TR010063/APP/8.4 – Rev 2.0)

7. Updated Volume 2 Plans

The following updated Volume 2 plans have been issued together with a Schedule of Change summarising the changes. Please note that whilst changes have only been made to relevant Part 2 documents, Part 1 documents have also been submitted for version control and completeness:

- Schedule of Change to Volume 2 Plans at Deadline 4 (TR010063/APP/9.72 – Rev 0)
- Works Plans – Part 1 (TR010063/APP 2.4 – Rev 2.0)
- Works Plans – Part 2 (TR010063/APP 2.4 – Rev 2.0)

Highways

- Streets, Rights of Way and Access Plans – Part 1 (TR010063/APP 2.5 – Rev 2.0)
- Streets, Rights of Way and Access Plans – Part 2 (TR010063/APP 2.5 – Rev 1.0)
- General Arrangement Plans – Part 1 (TR010063/APP/2.9 – Rev 2.0)
- General Arrangement Plans – Part 2 (TR010063/APP/2.9 – Rev 2.0)
- Environmental Masterplans – Part 1 (TR010063/APP/2.13 – Rev 2.0)
- Environmental Masterplans – Part 2 (TR010063/APP/2.13 – Rev 2.0)

8. Cumulative Effects Assessment Technical Note

This has been issued to address the Examining Authority's (ExA) Deadline 3 Written Questions Q1.1.3. and Q.1.1.7. [REP3-043]. Cumulative Effects Assessment Technical Note (TR010063/APP/9.65 – Rev 0)

9. Project Design Report

The Project Design Report has been reissued as Appendix B has been updated to reflect information within the Sustainability Statement. Only a clean version of the Project Design Report document has been submitted:

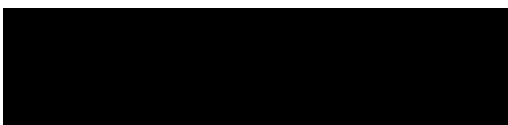
- Project Design Report – Part 1 (TR010063/APP/9.47 – Rev 1.0)
- Project Design Report – Part 2 (TR010063/APP/9.47 – Rev 1.0)

10. Register of Environmental Actions and Commitments

The Register of Environmental Actions and Commitments has been reissued in order to capture amendments made to other documents including the DCO (TR010063/APP/7.4 – Rev 4.0).

I trust this information provides assistance in considering the matters raised and addresses the Examining Authority's Rule 8 letter.

Yours sincerely,



Chris Beattie
Highways and Infrastructure
Gloucestershire County Council