

Planning Inspectorate
Major Applications and Plans
Temple Quay House
Temple Quay
Bristol
BS1 6PN

11th October 2024

M5 Junction 10 Improvements Scheme Ref. TR010063

Dear Mr Maund,

Proposed Changed to Development Consent Order – Change Application 2

This cover letter has been prepared by the Applicant to accompany the Applicant's Change Application 2.

The Notification of the Applicant's Intention to Submit Request for Proposed Changes to the DCO Application dated 12 August 2024 [AS-061] ("the Notification Letter") provided the details and background to the request for the proposed changes.

Further to this Notification Letter the Applicant confirmed in its cover letter for the submission of Change Application 1 [AS-062] its decision to split its proposed change application into two different applications:

1. **Change Application 1:** this application includes the proposed changes that relate exclusively to upgrades in the rights the Applicant is seeking and engage the Infrastructure Planning (Compulsory Acquisition) Regulations 2010 ("CA Regulations") and was submitted to PINS on the 4 September 2024 [AS-062 - AS-073]; and
2. **Change Application 2:** those that relate to changes in the design of the Scheme.

The Examining Authority (ExA) Rule 9 Letter dated 21 August 2024 [PD-011] acknowledged the Applicant's intention to submit a request for changes to the application and advised the Applicant to submit formal change request documents in accordance with the current Guidance "Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects: Changes to an application after it has been accepted for examination" (Changes Guidance).

In line with the ExA's recommendation in the Rule 9 Letter, the Applicant has carried out targeted non-statutory consultation in respect of Change Application 2 in the spirit of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 ("EIA Regulations"), despite our assessment showing none of the proposed changes generating new or different likely significant effects.

This submission is the Applicant's 'Change Application 2' and is to request for the following 7 design changes to be accepted for examination:

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Change 1	Link Road replacement of swales with filter drain
Change 2	Link Road replacement of culverts with bridges
Change 3	Link Road River Chelt bridge structural form
Change 4	Link Road alignment
Change 5	Relocation of existing NRTS transmission station
Change 6	Flood storage area reconfiguration
Change 7	Infill of existing northbound on-slip loop

The Applicant considers these changes to be relatively minor in nature, not altering the substance of the Scheme as applied for in December 2023.

Further information regarding this change application, together with the proposed timetable for consultation and examination, can be found in the following documents accompanying this application:

Application reference number	Planning Inspectorate reference	Document title
10.14	TBC	Change Application 2 Schedule of Changes to draft DCO (Change Application Version)
10.15	TBC	Covering letter for Change Application 2 (this document)
10.16	TBC	Change Application Summary report for Change Application 2
10.17	TBC	Schedule of Changes to DCO Application documents for Change Application 2
10.18	TBC	Change Application 2 Draft Development Consent Order (Clean)
10.19	TBC	Change Application 2 Draft Development Consent Order (Tracked Change Application vs Deadline 5)
10.20	TBC	Change Application 2 Explanatory Memorandum (Clean)
10.21	TBC	Change Application 2 Statement of Reasons (Tracked)
10.22	TBC	Change Application 2 Schedule of Changes to the Statement of Reasons
10.23	TBC	Change Application 2 Environmental Statement Addendum

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10.24	TBC	Change Application 2 Environmental Statement: Appendix 7.13 Habitats Regulations Assessment Screening Addendum
10.25	TBC	Change Application 2 Environmental Statement: Appendix 8.1 Flood Risk Assessment Addendum
10.26	TBC	Summary of Changes to Register of Environmental Actions and Commitments
10.27	TBC	Change Application 2 Location Plan
10.28	TBC	Change Application 2 General Arrangement Plans
10.29	TBC	Change Application 2 Works Plans
10.30	TBC	Change Application 2 Streets, Rights of Way and Access Plans
10.31	TBC	Change Application 2 Classification of Roads Plans
10.32	TBC	Change Application 2 Speed Limits and Traffic Regulations Plans
10.33	TBC	Change Application 2 Engineering Drawings and Sections
10.34	TBC	Change Application 2 Environmental Masterplans
10.35	TBC	Change Application 2 Historic Environment Sites and Features – Designated Receptors – Overview Plan
10.36	TBC	Change Application 2 Historic Environment Sites and Features – Non-Designated Receptors – Overview Plan
10.37	TBC	Change Application 2 Historic Environment Sites and Features – Ridge and Furrows – Overview Plan

In terms of those documents submitted in Volume 10 – Change Application Documents, which the Applicant considers require further explanation, these are explained below:

1. [TR010063/APP/10.17] Schedule of Changes to DCO Documents Required for DCO Change Application provides a list of all documents submitted with the M5 Junction 10 Improvements application in December 2023, detailing their latest revision

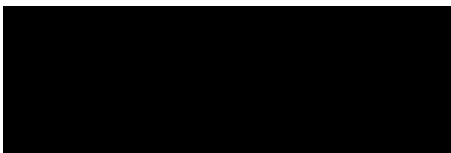
Highways

- number, whether they have been amended due to the Change Application 2 and an annotation to detail the need for their change/no change.
2. [TR010063/APP/10.13] Schedule of Changes to draft DCO (Change Application Version): This document will provide further information on how the proposed changes would be reflected in the draft Development Consent Order by way of amendments to the works descriptions and inclusion of new works in Schedule 1 and consequential amendments to Schedules 3 and 4 to reflect the new PROW diversion length.
 3. [TR010063/APP/10.20] Explanatory Memorandum: no changes are proposed to this document, but a clean version is submitted for completeness.
 4. [TR010063/APP/10.22] Schedule of Changes to the Statement of Reasons at Change application sets out the differences with the Statement of Reasons submitted at deadline 5 in relation to the new works descriptions included in the Change Application 2 draft DCO described.
 5. [TR010063/APP/10.26] The Summary of Changes to Register of Environmental Actions and Commitments provides the draft wording which will replace the current entries, where relevant, within the REAC [REP4-018] should this Change Application 2 be accepted.

We trust that the documents submitted in support of this request provide a clear explanation and justification for them.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully,



Chris Beattie
Highways and Infrastructure
Gloucestershire County Council