



The Coal  
Authority

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**For the attention of: Ms Melissa Whitlock – Case Officer**

The Planning Inspectorate

[By email: [M60SimisterIsland@planninginspectorate.gov.uk](mailto:M60SimisterIsland@planninginspectorate.gov.uk)]

31st October 2024

Dear Ms Whitlock

**Re: TR010064 - M60/M62/M66 Simister island Interchange; Section of the M60 M66 & M62, including Junction 18 of the M60, in the Metropolitan Borough of Bury, between Whitfield Prestwich Simister and Middleton**

Thank you for your notification of the 22nd October 2024 seeking the views of the Coal Authority on the above.

We last commented on this project in a letter to the Planning Inspectorate dated 10<sup>th</sup> June 2024. In this letter, following review of the submitted Ground Investigation Report, dated April 2024, and included in Appendix 9.3 of the ES, we noted that we had no objections to the scheme and no requirements for imposition of any conditions.

It is noted that in the Examining Authority's Written Questions, dated 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2024, EXQ1 GS. 1.3 seeks a response from the Coal Authority on land instability matters. Section 4.3.9 of Appendix 9.3, Ground Investigation Report, stated that the ground investigation undertaken did not encounter any coal seams and that the levels of core loss did not match with any anticipated seam levels. Section 4.7 of this same report stated that the desk study indicated that at Junction 17 the site is underlain by development high risk areas associated with the Worsley Four Feet Coal Seam. The report authors comment that the ground investigation undertaken between Junction 17 and Junction 18 has identified that there is sufficient thickness of superficial deposits above the overlying bedrock to mitigate against collapse of workings propagating to surface or foundation depth for any gantry construction.

On the basis of the conclusions reached by the report authors, in respect of risks posed to the project by past coal mining activity, the Planning team Coal Authority do not request the submission of a Coal Mining Risk Assessment or any additional information.

I hope this is helpful but please do not hesitate to contact me should you wish to discuss this further.

Yours sincerely



**Melanie Lindsley** BA (Hons), DipEH, DipURP, MA, PGCertUD, PGCertSP, MRTPI  
**Principal Planning & Development Manager**

### **Disclaimer**

The above consultation response is provided by the Coal Authority as a statutory consultee and is based upon the latest available data and the electronic consultation records held by the Coal Authority since 1 April 2013. The comments made are also based on the information provided to the Coal Authority by the Local Planning Authority and/or information that has been published on the Council's website for consultation purposed in relation to this specific planning application. The views and conclusions contained in this response may be subject to review and amendment by the Coal Authority if additional or new data/information (such as a revised Coal Mining Risk Assessment) is provided by the Local Planning Authority or the applicant for consultation purposes.

*In formulating this response the Coal Authority has taken full account of the professional conclusions reached by the competent person who has prepared the Coal Mining Risk Assessment or other similar report. In the event that any future claim for liability arises in relation to this development the Coal Authority will take full account of the views, conclusions and mitigation previously expressed by the professional advisors for this development in relation to ground conditions and the acceptability of development.*