SLAE Written Representation Submission for Deadline 10 - Rule-8_3-26-Jan-2024 letter

https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/ipc/uploads/projects/TR020001/TR020001-002930-LUTN-Rule-8_3-26-Jan-2024.pdf

SLAE Response

We support the spirit of this letter and in particular the paragraphs,

The ExA has considered this request and agree that it would be in the interests of the Examination to have as many of the documents/ agreements completed by the close of the Examination. However, in the interests of fairness and reasonableness the ExA also considers it appropriate that the Examination Timetable is amended to include a new deadline (Deadline 11) on Thursday 8 February 2024 to enable Interested Parties the opportunity to comment on the documents/ agreements submitted at Deadline 10, and for the Applicant to submit final copies of a number of other documents.

Several Interested Parties have enquired about the possibility of submitting closing statements/ submissions. As this is not a planning inquiry the ExA does not require closing statements and for this reason they are not in the timetable. However, should an Interested Party wish to submit one this should be by Deadline 11. Any statement must not introduce any new evidence to the Examination.

The ExA would like to take this opportunity to remind all parties of the importance of timely submissions in accordance with the revised Examination Timetable to enable a full and fair examination of the proposal. Please note that submissions received after a deadline are accepted at the discretion of the ExA and, in any event, any documents received after 23:59 on Saturday 10 February 2024 will not be available for consideration by the ExA when drafting its report to the Secretary of State

SLAE will not submit any new evidence following Deadline 10 and only comment in response to LR Deadline 10 submissions.

As already known from previous representations and submissions, SLAE is a voluntary group and does not have the resource levels and the £65 million funding that Luton Rising has for the expansion application, therefore any new or revised LR submissions submitted after Deadline 10 aimed to stretch that voluntary resource before 23:59 on Thursday 8 February 2024, will be seen as unfair, unspirited and opposed to the Rule 8 letter. Example being a complete set of revised documents. SLAE will contest any such submission by Luton Rising or Luton Borough Council.

Since the non-statutory consultation SLAE have learnt a lot about the legal tricks and games that are played.