



Preliminary Meeting Note

Application:	Immingham Eastern Ro-Ro Terminal Project
Reference:	TR030007
Time and date:	10:00am Tuesday 25 th July 2023
Venue:	Stallingborough Grange Hotel

This meeting note is not a full transcript of the Preliminary Meeting. It is a summary of the key points discussed.

1. Welcome and Introduction

Grahame Gould (GG) welcomed those present and introduced himself as the lead member of the Panel of Examining Inspectors, the Examining Authority (ExA) Stephen Bradley (SB) and Mark Harrison (MH) as panel members to examine the Immingham Eastern Ro-Ro Terminal application.

GG explained the appointment was made by delegation from the Secretary of State (SoS).

GG explained that the ExA would be examining the application made by Associated British Ports ('the Applicant') before making a recommendation to the Secretary of State for Transport who will decide whether an Order granting Development Consent for the proposed project, which is a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP), should be made.

GG explained the purpose of the Preliminary Meeting (PM) and noted that the Examination will commence after the PM closes.

The ExA confirmed that all documents and submissions received and accepted during the Examination will be published on the project-specific page of the National Infrastructure Planning website.

2. Audio recording

The video recording of this Preliminary Meeting is available on the National Infrastructure Planning website and can be accessed [here](#).

3. General Data Protection Regulation

The ExA outlined the Planning Inspectorate's duties under General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

Further info relating to the GDPR can be found in the Planning Inspectorate's [Privacy Note](#).

4. Examination Process

The ExA briefly explained the examination process under the Planning Act 2008 (PA2008), further info can be found in the [Advice Note 8.4](#)

5. Initial Assessment of Principal Issues (IAPI)

The ExA explained the purpose of the Initial Assessment of Principal Issues (section 88 of the PA2008), which can be found in [Annex B](#) of the [Rule 6](#) letter of 20 June 2023 and asked for any observations on them.

CLdN Ports Killingholme Limited (CLdN) referred to its suggested changes to the IAPI that it had raised in its PDA submissions [PDA-005]. GG advised that the ExA would consider CLdN's submissions and amend the IAPI should it decide that was necessary.

The Applicant queried whether landscape and visual effects could be removed from the list of IAPI identified by the ExA, given that this topic had been scoped out from inclusion in the Applicant's Environmental Statement. GG advised that the ExA would further consider the need for the inclusion of this issue in the IAPI following its undertaking of its Familiarisation Site Inspection on 26 July 2023.

There was a discussion about the inclusion and possible redaction of hyperlinks in submission documents¹.

6. Examination Timetable

The ExA noted the requests, already received in writing to amend the draft Examination Timetable contained in [Annex C](#) of Rule 6 letter and heard oral submissions from Interested Parties about their suggestions for amending the draft Examination Timetable.

All comments received were noted by the ExA and its decisions about making any amendments to the draft Examination Timetable will be addressed in the Rule 8 Letter.

CLdN raised a concern about the Monday deadlines for making written submissions included in the draft Examination Timetable Deadlines. CLdN being concerned that the setting of Monday deadlines would encourage weekend working by those involved in preparing written Examination submissions. CLdN therefore promoted the setting of deadlines at 23:59 on Tuesdays to minimise the potential for weekend working. CLdN also asked if Deadline 2 (D2) could be changed to 6th September to account for the August Bank Holiday.

DFDS submitted that it was supportive of the deadline timetable changes that had been promoted by CLdN.

The Applicant advised that it was content with the deadlines stated in the draft Examination Timetable. The Examining Authority asked whether the Applicant was

¹ Post-PM clarification from PINS was confirmed at ISH1 that hyperlinks to examination documents could be included in written deadline submissions.

sufficiently resourced to be able to work concurrently with all of the Interested Parties. The Applicant advised that it considered its team would be sufficiently resourced.

The ExA will consider the requests made to amend the draft Examination Timetable.

The Examination Timetable can be found in the [Rule 8 letter](#) published on 2 August 2023.

7. Hearings and Site Inspections

The ExA clarified the purpose of:

- Issue Specific Hearings
- Compulsory Acquisition Hearings
- Open Floor Hearings
- Accompanied Site Inspections
- Unaccompanied Site Inspections

The ExA sought comments on the arrangements for the above events. These were duly noted and considered by the ExA.

Further information relating to hearings and site inspections can be found in our [Advice Note 8.5](#)

8. Procedural decisions

The ExA clarified the procedural decisions made under section 89(3) of the PA2008 prior to the holding of the Preliminary Meeting and asked for any observations. Those Procedural decisions can be found in [Annex F](#) of the Rule 6 Letter.

The ExA explained why it considered there would be a need for the regular submission of draft Development Consent Orders during the Examination. The ExA advised that it wished to receive clean and tracked changed versions of any previously submitted documents so that it will be easy to find the amended parts of those documents.

In response to submissions made by DFDS the ExA advised that it expected there would be additional Issue Specific Hearings during the Examination.

The ExA explained that North Lincolnshire Council (NLC) had incorrectly been identified as not having submitted a Relevant Representation (RR). NLC had submitted a RR [\[RR-019\]](#) and therefore are an Interested Party.

The ExA confirmed that it had received the Applicant's initial notice regarding the intention to make a change request. The Applicant advised that it proposed to submit a change request in due course.