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The Applicant, All Relevant Local
Authorities, All Relevant Highway
Authorities.

Your Ref:

Our Ref: TR040011

Date: 22 December 2020

Dear Sir/ Madam

**Planning Act 2008 (as amended) Section 89
The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 (as
amended) – Rules 9 and 17**

**The Infrastructure Planning (Compulsory Acquisition) Regulations 2010
– Regulations 4 to 19**

**Application by North Somerset District Council for an Order granting
Development Consent for the Portishead branch line – MetroWest
Phase 1**

**Request to Make Changes to the Original Application as submitted at
Deadline 2 [REP2-001]**

I am writing to inform you of the Procedural Decision made by the Examining Authority (ExA) following the change request made by the Applicant at Deadline 2, Monday 23 November 2020 (Examination Library reference [[REP2-001](#)]).

The change requested by the Applicant was the removal of Work No 16D from the draft Development Consent Order (dDCO). Work No 16D would provide a flood mitigation area of 4078sqm in an area shown on sheet 5 of the works plans [[AS-013](#)], to the south side of the disused Portishead branch line and west of M5 special road, Easton in Gordano.

At the Compulsory Acquisition Hearing (CAH) held on the 4 December 2020 [[EV-008a](#)] and Issue Specific Hearing 1 (ISH1) on the draft Development Consent Order (dDCO) held on 7 December 2020 [[EV-007a](#)] the ExA sought additional information and asked a number of questions in relation to the change request. As a result of this examination action point 25 [[EV-007b](#)] required that the Applicant seek a separate letter from the Environment Agency (EA) confirming that they had no objection to the proposed change request.

The EA have confirmed that they find the proposed change to be acceptable in their Deadline 3 response dated 21 December 2020 [[REP3-043](#)].

The Bristol Port Company [[AS-052](#)] confirmed that they had no objection to the proposed change and at the CAH the owner of plot 05/85 was made aware of the proposed change and confirmed that they did not object to the change request but that they maintained their objection to the compulsory acquisition of their land.

Having reviewed all matters, the ExA concludes that the proposed changes would not have a significant bearing on the scope and assessment within the Environmental Statement and would not materially alter the conclusions reached within it. The changes can be deemed to be non-material and accordingly are accepted into the Examination.

The following updated documents are required from the Applicant in order for the ExA to accept the change into the Examination:

- Explanatory Memorandum;
- Statement of Reasons;
- Land plan;
- Works plan;
- Book of Reference;
- Environmental Statement; and
- Any other documents that the Applicant considers need to be amended to omit Work No 16D.

The Applicant is also asked to confirm that the environmental effects resulting from the changes associated with the deletion of Work No 16D have been cumulatively assessed with other chapters in the Environmental Statement.

The ExA requests the additional information sought and the changed documents as a result of the acceptance of this change are submitted at Deadline 4, **Tuesday 19 January 2021**.

Should you have any queries regarding the content of the letter, please contact the case team using the details at the top of this letter.

Yours faithfully

Jo Dowling

Lead Member of the Examining Authority

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