

**By Email**

to

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Our reference NPB/1108535/O53632901.2/NPB

Your reference TR040011

**16 February 2021**

Dear PINS team

**Portishead Branch Line – MetroWest Phase 1  
Responses on behalf of Western Power Distribution (South West) PLC (WPD)  
Registration ID 20023284**

In response to ExQ2 we respond on behalf of our client, WPD as follows:

**GC 2.8** Following WPD's appearance at the compulsory purchase hearing on 4<sup>th</sup> December, WPD met with the applicant on 15<sup>th</sup> December to discuss progressing, amongst other things, the Statement of Common Ground. The applicant indicated that a draft SoCG would be provided for WPD's review prior to the year end with the aim to having a draft for consideration by Deadline 4.

WPD have since the new year sought a draft SoCG from the applicant and on 29<sup>th</sup> January suggested we receive a skeleton for our input to progress in advance of deadline 5. We received a first draft SoCG from the applicant on 10<sup>th</sup> February. Due to half term and availability of the WPD team, we have only had two days to review the draft. At this stage the WPD team is not able to contribute any constructive comments on the draft SoCG other than to note that we acknowledge that the applicant has considered the issues raised at the CPO hearing and that concessions have been made but that other matters remain unresolved.

WPD have agreed with the applicant to a further meeting to discuss the draft SoCG and any outstanding matters and will seek to respond more fully on the outstanding issues as soon as it is able.

**CA 2.3** WPD note that the applicant has conceded the liability cap in paragraph 81(2)(b) of the protective provisions in its draft SoCG but that the new paragraph 83 is still suggested by the

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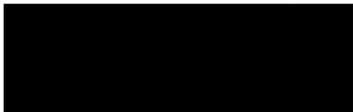
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applicant. The applicant has provided WPD with some information to support its position but WPD maintain its objection to this paragraph.

Yours faithfully



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