

Robert Ranger
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Date: 19 February 2019
Your ref: TR050005
Our ref: HUTTONL\303716-000001
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By Email only: WMInterchange@pins.gsi.gov.uk

Dear Mr Ranger

**Planning Act 2008
Four Ashes Limited**

Application pursuant to section 37 for a Development Consent Order in respect of the construction of a rail freight interchange and associated development (West Midlands Interchange)

I refer to the Rule 6 letter for the above application, issued by the Examining Authority on 23 January 2019.

The Applicant proposes to raise at the Preliminary Meeting a few items on the draft Examination timetable, and thought it would be helpful to mention these in advance:

1. It is noted that the Examining Authority proposes to issue the First Written Questions ("FWQ") as soon as practicable following the Preliminary Meeting. This is noted and the Deadline for responding to those questions (5 April) is also noted and generally considered to be reasonable, however this is fully dependent upon how quickly the FWQ are actually issued. The Applicant would request that the Deadline is re-considered if the FWQ cannot be issued by 4 March. This also has relevance for proposed Deadline 3 (see below).
2. It is also noted that proposed Deadline 3 (which, amongst other items, requires a response to other parties' response to FWQ) falls only 2.5 weeks after Deadline 2 and spans the Easter Bank Holiday. The Applicant would request that Deadline 3 is extended by at least one week. It is suggested that this would not need to have any impact on the proposed week reserved for further hearings, currently proposed as week/c 3 June.
3. Finally, the Applicant notes that there is currently a two week period allowed for responses to the Second Written Questions ("SWQ") (the issue of SWQ being expected 19 June and the Deadline for responses being 3 July. The Applicant would request that this Deadline is extended by a further week to ensure sufficient time to deal with any SWQ.

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I hope the above is helpful in advance of the Preliminary Meeting. If you would like to discuss anything further, please do not hesitate to contact Laura-Beth Hutton at laura-bethhutton@eversheds-sutherland.com or [REDACTED] or Morag Thomson at moragthomson@eversheds-sutherland.com or [REDACTED]

Yours sincerely

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Laura-Beth Hutton
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Planning and Infrastructure Consenting
Eversheds Sutherland (International) LLP