

From: Consultations (NE) [mailto:consultations@naturalengland.org.uk]
Sent: 20 September 2018 10:48
To: Danielle Dimeo
Subject: Northampton Gateway Rail Freight Interchange Meeting (TR050006) NE response
Importance: High

Our ref. 258457

Dear Danielle

Northampton Gateway Rail Freight Interchange (TR050006)

Thank you for your email inviting Natural England to attend the preliminary meeting for the Northampton Gateway Rail Freight Interchange. Natural England does not wish to attend the meeting.

Natural England are satisfied that the development is not likely to have an impact on the nearby Roade Cutting SSSI, provided that the CEMP references measures to safeguard Roade Cutting SSSI during construction, as stated in our Relevant Representation. All issues relating to European sites and protected species have also been addressed. We therefore have no major outstanding issues or concerns and do not envisage attending hearings. However, we would be happy to assist with further matters, including any changes to the proposed scheme, if required. We are willing to work with the applicant towards a brief Statement of Common Ground to this effect, as requested, if that would be helpful to you as far as our statutory remit extends. We anticipate that a draft SoCG will be prepared by the applicant for our review in due course.

Yours sincerely

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We are here to secure a healthy natural environment for people to enjoy, where wildlife is protected and England's traditional landscapes are safeguarded for future generations.

In an effort to reduce Natural England's carbon footprint, I will, wherever possible, avoid travelling to meetings and attend via audio, video or web conferencing.

Natural England offers two chargeable services - the Discretionary Advice Service, which provides pre-application and post-consent advice on planning/licensing proposals to developers and consultants, and the Pre-submission Screening Service for European Protected Species mitigation licence applications. These services help applicants take appropriate account of environmental considerations at an early stage of project development, reduce uncertainty, the risk of delay and added cost at a later stage, whilst securing good results for the natural environment.

For further information on the Discretionary Advice Service see [here](#)

For further information on the Pre-submission Screening Service see [here](#)