



The Planning Inspectorate
Room 3/21
Temple Quay House (2 The Square)
Temple Quay
Bristol
Avon
BS1 6PN

Our ref: AN/2018/128098/01-L01
Your ref: TR050006
Date: 05 November 2018

Dear Sir/Madam

**Draft Development Consent Order for The Northampton Gateway Strategic Rail Freight Interchange
Land West of the A508, South West Of M1 Junction 15 and East Of Northampton Loop Line**

Written Representation by the Environment Agency

Introduction

The Environment Agency is an executive non-departmental public body established under the Environment Act 1995. We are an adviser to Government with the principal aim to protect and improve the environment so as to contribute to sustainable development in line with Government advice. We play a central role in delivering the environmental priorities of central government. We are also an adviser to local decision makers in our role as a statutory consultee in respect of particular types of development, as listed in Schedule 5 of the Development Management Procedure Order 2015. For the purposes of this Development Consent Order (DCO) application, we are an interested party.

We take action to conserve and secure proper use of water resources, preserve and improve the quality of rivers, estuaries and coastal waters and groundwater's through pollution control powers, regulating discharge consents and through the delivery of the Water Framework Directive (WFD). We have regulatory powers in respect of waste management and remediation of contaminated land designated as special sites. We also encourage remediation of land contamination through the planning process.

We are the principal flood risk management operating authority. We have the power (but not the legal obligation) to manage flood risk from designated main rivers and the

Environment Agency
Nene House (Pynchley Lodge Industrial Estate),
Pynchley Lodge Road, Kettering, Northants, NN15 6JQ
Email: LNplanning@environment-agency.gov.uk

*Customer services line: 03708 506 506
Calls to 03 numbers cost the same as calls to standard
geographic numbers (i.e. numbers beginning with 01 or 02).*

Cont/d..

sea. We are also responsible for increasing public awareness of flood risk, flood forecasting and warning and have a general supervisory duty for flood risk management. As of 2008, we have a strategic overview role for all flood and coastal erosion risk management.

We have reviewed the DCO, Environmental Statement and supporting documents submitted as part of the above mentioned application.

At the request of the Inspector we have reached a Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) on the 02 November 2018 in respect of:

- Noise
- Air Quality
- Waste (ExQ 1.12.9)
- Drainage and Water Framework Directive
- Article 21 – Discharge of Water (ISH1:28)

At the request of the Inspector we have reached a SoCG in respect of Geology, Soils and Groundwater between the applicant, ourselves, South Northamptonshire District Council, NCC and Natural England in May 2018.

The comments above are given without prejudice to any future detailed representations that we may make throughout the examination process or future decisions we make regarding any applications subsequently made to us for our permits or consents for operations at the site. We may also have further representations to make when supplementary information becomes available in relation to the project.

Should you require any additional information, or to discuss matters further, please do not hesitate to contact me on the number below.

Yours faithfully

Mrs Sharon Nolan
Sustainable Places Planning Adviser

Direct dial 020302 53525

Direct e-mail sharon.nolan@environment-agency.gov.uk