

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Northampton Gateway](#)  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Northampton Gateway Rail Freight Interchange Project – Non Material Change TR050006  
**Date:** 24 September 2022 17:40:21

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Sirs

I write to oppose the proposed amendment requested by SERGO to the original Development Consent Order granted in October 2019 for Northampton Gateway.

My understanding is that the DCO was granted with the provision of the Rail Terminal to be ready for use before any warehousing would be occupied, along with a prohibition of any activity before the rail connection was operational.

The amendment is requesting 80% of the site to become operational before the rail connection is completed, this will mean the site is serviced completely by road, leading the way for the potential of the rail connection never being completed.

I fail to see how this 'Non Material' amendment is being considered as such and not as a material amendment, the already high traffic levels in the area, the strategic network regularly fails to cope with closures of the M1, resulting in local villages being inundated with unsuitable levels of vehicle movements, on roads not designed for such a volume, plus risking the safety of pedestrians, cyclists and other road users, not forgetting the environmental impact of such traffic volume, much of it stationary with vehicles still running.

This amendment questions the reliability of the traffic survey from 2019, I strongly urge consideration of a new traffic, noise, emissions and pollution survey prior to any decision being made.

It appears SERGO is seeking this change for its own financial benefit, they were fully aware of the DCO prior to the build commencing.

As the Planning Inspectorate I strongly oppose this amendment, and request you ensure the initial DCO is complied in full. It does appear a decision to approve the amendment would lead the way for other development companies to ignore original consents, bypass local planning and openly breach government policy.

I will also be writing to my MP Andrea Leadsom and the Transport Secretary MP Anne-Marie Trevelyan.

Kind Regards  
Nick Paul

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