From:
Subject:
Non Material changes to DCO at Northampton SRFI
Date:
26 September 2022 23:54:01

As a resident of Wootton, Northampton, I am writing in connection with my concerns regarding the 'Non-material changes' proposed to the DCO for the SRFI at Junction 15 of the M1.

I am a long term resident of this area and was disappointed that permission was given for this development due to the large scale destruction of the agricultural land. However I understand that there was an argument for the environmental benefits of moving road freight to rail even if the local area is impacted by increased traffic movement and pollution.

Now it seems that the likelihood of there actually being a link to the main line is in some doubt. Though Network Rail support the application and state they are working with SEGRO on the link, as far as I can see, it is possible that this may not ultimately occur, due to NR wishing to minimize disruption on the line and the construction works being delayed by at least a year.

It is possible that if the warehousing is occupied prior to the connection to the mainline, then the development may morph into a road based warehouse park with associated road traffic. In my area there is a narrow country road between Wootton and Quinton and another from Quinton and the A508, on which I have seen a great increase in traffic generally and this includes construction lorries which appear to be from the SRFI development. These roads have not been upgraded to deal with this level of traffic so any increase in traffic in the case of detours will increase congestion and pollution greatly.

In addition if it occurs that the link with the mainline does not happen then there may be a risk that another proposal for a vast warehouse area adjacent to the current Northampton Gateway will be submitted. Again I would be very disappointed to see this development happen as the area generally has seen a great deal of warehouse development at Grange Park, Swan valley, and junction 16 of the M1, causing a general change in the nature of the local environment.

I would therefore ask that these factors be considered when deciding whether to grant permission and to consider whether the companies involved can fulfil their promises.

Thank you.		
Sarah King,		

Sent from Mail for Windows