

**From:** Owen Coop [REDACTED]

**Sent:** 06 February 2023 18:32

**To:** Northampton Gateway <NorthamptonGateway@planninginspectorate.gov.uk>

**Subject:** Planning Act 2008 (as amended) Application For a Non-Material Change to the Northampton Gateway Rail Freight Interchange Development Consent Order 2019 I refer to the application made by SEGRO (Junction 15) Limited (previously Roxhill (Junction 15) Lim...

Dear Sir/Madam

I formerly reply to recent comments on the above matter.

As the former chairman of Collingtree Parish Council which is adjacent to the said site, I think the objectors to this development have not thought through this matter properly or are being vindictive by trying to put a spoke in the companies wheels, so to speak scoring petty points and doing nothing constructive.

Prior to this development being given the green light, I was opposed to the development as much as anybody. Loss of agricultural land, extra traffic on local roads, Air Quality etc.

Why, I changed my mind?

I, along with other Borough, County Councillors, M.P's and Council Officers, Parish Councillors, Forty to fifty in total were invited to the SEGRO site at their East Midlands site, which was similar to the one being built in Northampton, unfortunately only two out of the said number took the trouble to drive up to the East Midland site, I may add at my own personal expenditure.

During this visit, I understood more clearly the government strategy and equally the companies strategy. I could see for myself the benefits this would bring to the local community 11 miles of walk/cycling paths 60,000 trees.

Therefore, to me the sooner the development is finished the better for the community, who live in this area.

At present there is no benefit only disruption to the community.

I honestly believe it is not SEGRO's intention to mislead the community by seeking this variation.

Unfortunately my view will not find favour with many local politicians and objectors.

Nevertheless, I do not think this matters as, I genuinely believe this variation should be allowed, residents surely want to see the completion of this site in totality and one must accept to complete such a large development there will be issues along the way.

If the intention of the objectors is to stop or delay the development they should remember the fable of "King Canute", he carried out many things, but he couldn't stop the sea tide turning, similarly it would be ludicrous to procrastinate about the ongoing development. This development is not going away and if it takes longer for trains to be used to and from the site then so be it.

It seems common sense in allowing the variation and looking back in the future will be seen as just whims of a few and not for the benefit of many.

I have no vested interest in this development other, what is best for residents long term.

Knowing you will give this matter your esteemed consideration.

Owen Coop

(former chairman of Collingtree Parish Council)

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