



STONEY STANTON PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk - Miss R Ward,

Email: clerk@stoneystantonpc.gov.uk

Website: www.stoneystantonpc.gov.uk

5th July 2024

Louise Haigh MP
Secretary of State for Transport
Department for Transport
Great Minster House
33 Horseferry Road
London
SW1P 4DR

Dear Louise Haigh MP

Congratulations on your new position.

Hinckley National Rail Freight Infrastructure Project

1. Introduction

- Stoney Stanton Parish Council has reiterated extensive objections to the Tritax Symmetry submission, focusing on unresolved issues about highway modelling, air quality, and amenity impacts.
- Additional information provided does not adequately address these concerns, and Stoney Stanton Parish Council recommends refusal of the application.

2. Principle of Need and Site Selection

- The need for the facility at this location remains inadequately justified.
- The site selection process is criticized for limiting the search area to Leicestershire, not considering a national scope as required for national infrastructure projects.
- The proposal is deemed contrary to paragraphs 4.26 and 4.27 of the National Networks National Policy Statement (NNNPS).

3. Highways

- Updated Transport Assessment and additional modelling have not resolved concerns about highway impacts.

- Specific junctions in Stoney Stanton (J37 and J38) remain problematic, with J38 operating over capacity and no mitigation proposed.
- The updated HGV Management Plan now prohibits certain routes, which is a welcome change.
- Overall, the highway impact assessment remains unsatisfactory for the scale of the development.

4. Car Parking

- The illustrative masterplan shows parking levels below the maximum standards, which could lead to safety risks due to potential overflow onto nearby roads.
- The need for decked car parks to meet parking standards has not been reflected in the visual impact assessment (LVIA), leading to misleading conclusions about the project's visual impact.

5. Lighting

- The lighting proposal for M69 Junction 2 is extensive, expanding existing lighting into darker areas and adding to the overall visual and ecological impact.
- No additional assessment of this impact has been provided, which is concerning.

6. Energy

- The reliance on fossil fuels and limited exploration of green energy solutions, especially solar power, remains a significant concern.
- The updated Energy Statement offers minor changes without addressing key issues.
- The proposal does not comply with NNNPS requirements on climate change.

7. Noise

- Additional noise assessment data is provided but is still based on unconfirmed highway models, making it unreliable.
- Significant noise mitigation is required, underlining the site's inability to integrate without substantial harm.

Conclusion

The additional information provided does not sufficiently address the significant concerns raised by Stoney Stanton Parish Council. The application should be refused due to unresolved issues in highway impacts, car parking, lighting, energy use, and noise. The proposed facility's detrimental effects on the environment, local community, and compliance with national policy guidelines remain substantial.

Yours sincerely

Miss R Ward
Parish Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer
Stoney Stanton Parish Council
<https://www.stoneystantonpc.gov.uk>