

Lead Member of the Examining Authority
The Planning Inspectorate,
Temple Quay House,
2 The Square
Bristol,
BS1 6PN

PINS Ref: EN010164
Xlinks Ref: XLIN-APL001

Date: 12th June 2025

Delivered via email to:
Xlinks@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

Dear Mrs Mageean,

Xlinks Morocco UK Power Project Rule 17 Response

The Applicant, Xlinks 1 Limited, has requested a pause in the development consent order ('DCO') application process ahead of the Examination proceedings for Xlinks' Morocco-UK Power Project (the 'Project') and is responding to the Examining Authority's Rule 17 [\[letter\]](#).

The Project has been included in the UK's strategic vision in 2022 and was recognised in 2023 as a project of national significance. The Applicant has been working with the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero ('DESNZ') on the Project's request for a Contract for Difference ('CfD').

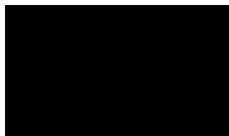
The Applicant continues to engage with DESNZ as the Secretary of State considers his decision in relation to the Project and until the Secretary of State has made his decision, the Applicant cannot confirm the implications for the DCO application. With this decision pending, the Applicant considers that a continued pause is reasonable in the exceptional circumstances that are beyond the control of either the Examining Authority or the Applicant.

The Applicant is seeking to ensure that all interested parties can consider changes if required, so the Examination is fair and reasonable for all. The Applicant believes that a pause would enable the Examination process to proceed in the most efficient and robust manner, while ensuring that the Project is able to then progress through the DCO process at pace, ensuring its contribution to net zero and the resilience of the UK's electricity supply can be realised at the earliest opportunity, post an update from DESNZ on the CfD process.

The Applicant proposes to continue regular contact with the Planning Inspectorate and interested parties during the pause to maintain the ongoing open and collaborative relationships that have been established to date.

The Applicant extends its appreciation of the support and positive engagement with the Planning Inspectorate and for your prompt review and consideration of this matter. The Applicant remains at your disposal for further discussion or provision of additional information.

Yours faithfully



Sam Mercer

Senior Project Manager - DCO