

The Planning Inspectorate  
Temple Quay House  
2 The Square  
Temple Quay  
Bristol  
BS1 6PN

Your Ref: EN020026  
Our Ref: EYW.NOR081.72  
Date: 08 October 2025

For electronic submission via Planning Inspectorate Project Webpage

Dear Sirs

**Sea Link Project - Application for Development Consent - Planning Act 2008**  
**Reference: EN020026**  
**Our Client: Northumbrian Water Limited**  
**Preliminary Meeting – Written Representation (Agenda Item 4 – Draft Examination Timetable)**

We are instructed by Northumbrian Water Limited (**NWL**) in relation to the application for a Development Consent Order (**DCO**) for the Sea Link Project (the **Project**).

On 14 May 2025, we submitted the enclosed letter on behalf of NWL objecting to the proposed DCO because no protective provisions/asset protection agreement had been agreed between the Applicant and NWL, posing a potential risk to any of NWL's assets that may be seriously affected by the Project. Although we note that certain protective provision have been included in the draft DCO we would be obliged if the ExA carefully note that these provision have not been the subject of any discussions or consultation with our client and are not agreed.

To date, there has been no meaningful engagement from the Applicant to agree protective provisions/an asset protection agreement with our client because NWL has not received all of the information that it requires to carry out an assessment on the impacts of the Project on its assets. Accordingly, NWL is concerned with its ability to engage in the examination process in accordance with the timescales in the draft examination timetable and in relation to how its concerns (if any) will be adequately addressed within the prescribed period.

NWL are eager to engage with the Applicant to agree any protections to its assets required of the Project and we will continue to attempt to reach an agreed position in respect of the above with the Applicant's representatives as soon as possible however, we respectfully request that this matter is also considered at Item 4 (Draft Examination Timetable) of the Preliminary Meeting.

Yours faithfully  
Ward Hadaway LLP

enc: Letter dated 14 May 2025

The Planning Inspectorate  
Temple Quay House  
2 The Square  
Temple Quay  
Bristol  
BS1 6PN

Your Ref:  
Our Ref: 48674124v1  
Date: 14 May 2025

For electronic submission via Planning Inspectorate Project Webpage

Dear Sirs

**Sea Link Project - Application for Development Consent - Planning Act 2008**  
**Reference: EN020026**  
**Our Client: Northumbrian Water Limited**  
**Letter of Objection**

We are instructed by Northumbrian Water Limited (**NWL**) in relation to the application for a Development Consent Order (**DCO**) in respect of the Sea Link Project (the **Project**).

NWL are landowner, statutory undertaker and a Statutory Party for the purposes of The Infrastructure Planning (Interested Parties and Miscellaneous Prescribed Provisions) Regulations 2015. For the avoidance of doubt, NWL hereby give notice that it wishes to be considered an Interested Party for the purposes of this matter pursuant to Section 89(2A)(b) of the Planning Act 2008.

At present, no protective provisions and/or asset protection agreements have been agreed with NWL, and as such NWL cannot confirm that it will not suffer serious detriment to the carrying on of its undertaking as a result of the compulsory acquisition of land or as a result of the acquisition of rights over land by the Applicant.

Accordingly, NWL is unable to agree the Protective Provisions set out in Schedule 15 to the Draft Order.

As a result of the above, NWL must register its objection to the proposed DCO pending the agreement of suitable protective provisions and/or asset protection agreement.

We will endeavour to reach agreement in respect of the above with the Applicant's representatives at the very earliest opportunity.

Yours faithfully

Ward Hadaway LLP

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