

Lower Thames Crossing

National Highways
Woodlands
Manton Lane
Bedford
MK41 7LW

The Planning Inspectorate

c/o QUADIENT
60 Buckingham Drive
Slough
SL1 4PN

By E-mail

Dear Sirs and Madam,

National Highways' (Lower Thames Crossing Project) Deadline 7 response in respect of the Norwich to Tilbury (NTT) Project

This letter constitutes a Deadline 7 submission on behalf of the National Highways Lower Thames Crossing ("NH LTC"). It responds to the Examining Authority's recent Rule 17 request and provides an update on proposed draft DCO amendments and the drafting of proposed protective provisions.

1. Rule 17 request

- a. Further to reference 1.7 of the Examining Authority's Rule 17 request dated 14 July 2026 [PD-031], NH LTC confirms that it submitted a draft of its preferred protective provisions into Examination at Deadline 6. These can be found in Appendix 2 of NH LTC's deadline 6 submission [REP6-153].

2. Draft DCO amendments

- a. NH LTC welcomes the amendments made by the Applicant to the draft DCO submitted at Deadline 6 [REP6-031], which broadly reflect the amendments proposed by NH LTC in Appendix 1 of its Deadline 6 submission [REP6-153].
- b. NH LTC has been in discussions with the Applicant and understands that its remaining proposed amendments to Article 59, as set out in its Deadline 6 response, are to be incorporated in the version of the draft DCO being submitted for Deadline 7.

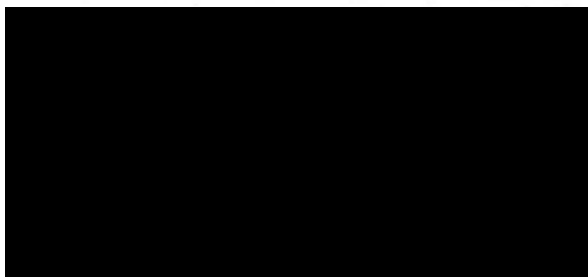
3. Protective provisions

- a. NH LTC and the Applicant are in ongoing discussions relating to the drafting of the protective provisions for the benefit of the Lower Thames Crossing project. NH LTC understands that the Applicant is due to submit

its preferred version into examination at Deadline 7 as part of its updated draft DCO.

- b. Whilst discussions are continuing, NH LTC anticipates that some differences between the parties will remain. An update on the position will be provided at Deadline 8.

Yours sincerely,



Lower Thames Crossing Roads North Project Director (Delivery)