

Southampton to London Pipeline Project

Deadline 2

Draft SoCG with Hampshire and Isle of Wight
Wildlife Trust

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Southampton to London
Pipeline Project



Southampton to London Pipeline Project

Statement of Common Ground

Between:

Esso Petroleum Company, Limited

and

Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust

Date: August 2019

Application Document Reference:





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Date	

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1. Introduction

1.1 Purpose of Document

- 1.1.1 A Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) is a written statement produced as part of the Application process for a Development Consent Order (DCO) and is prepared jointly between the applicant for a DCO and another party. It sets out matters of agreement between both parties, as well as matters where there is not an agreement. It also details matters that are under discussion.
- 1.1.2 The aim of a SoCG is to help the Examining Authority manage the Examination Phase of a DCO application. Understanding the status of the matters at hand will allow the Examining Authority to focus their questioning and provide greater predictability for all participants in examination. A SoCG may be submitted prior to the start of or during Examination, and then updated as necessary or as requested during the Examination Phase.

1.2 Description of the Project

- 1.1.1. Esso Petroleum Company, Limited (Esso) launched its Southampton to London Pipeline Project late in 2017. The project proposes to replace 90km of its 105km aviation fuel pipeline that runs from the Fawley Refinery near Southampton, to the West London Terminal storage facility in Hounslow. In spring 2018, Esso held a non-statutory consultation which helped it to select the preferred corridor for the replacement pipeline. In autumn 2018, it held a statutory consultation on the preferred route for the replacement pipeline. In early 2019, it held a second phase of statutory consultation on design refinements.

1.3 This Statement of Common Ground

- 1.3.1 This SoCG has been prepared jointly by Esso as the applicant and Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust as a consultee.
- 1.3.2 Hampshire & Isle of Wight Wildlife Trust is a Non-Government Organisation that provides advice on habitats and species. The Wildlife Trust manages Bourley and Long Valley Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), although the land is owned by the Ministry of Defence. Although a non-statutory consultee, the Wildlife Trust also provides wider conservation advice in relation to biodiversity matters within their geographical area. For the purpose of this SoCG, Esso and Hampshire & Isle of Wight Trust will jointly be referred to as the “Parties”. When referencing Hampshire & Isle of Wight Trust alone, they will be referred to as “the Consultee”.
- 1.3.3 Throughout this SoCG:
- Where a section begins ‘matters agreed’, this sets out matters that have been specifically agreed between the Parties.

- Where a section begins ‘matters not agreed’, this sets out matters that are not agreed between the Parties.
- Where a section begins ‘matters subject to ongoing discussion’, this sets out matters that are subject to further negotiation between the Parties.

1.4 Structure of the Statement of Common Ground

- 1.4.1 This SoCG has been structured to reflect matters and topics of relevance to the Consultee in respect of Esso’s Southampton to London Pipeline Project.
- Section 2 provides an overview of the engagement to date between the Parties.
 - Section 3 provides a summary of areas that have been agreed.
 - Section 4 provides a record of areas that have not yet been agreed
 - Section 5 provides a note of ongoing matters (if any) that will be agreed or not agreed by the Parties during examination.
 - Section 6 provides a record of relevant documents and drawings.

2. Record of Engagement Undertaken to Date

2.1 Pre-application Engagement and Consultation

2.1.1 The table below sets out the consultation that has been undertaken between Esso and the Consultee prior to the submission of the DCO application.

Date	Format	Topic	Discussion Points
11/12/2017	Correspondence	Project launch	Esso's Project Executive wrote to the Consultee to launch the project.
12/12/2017	Correspondence	Project launch	The Consultee's Senior Specialist for Planning & Development replied to the project launch to indicate that he should be the contact going forward.
19/03/2018	Correspondence	Non-statutory (Corridor) consultation launch	The project wrote to the Consultee to launch the non-statutory (Corridor) consultation. The Consultee did not respond to the consultation.
30/05/2018	Correspondence	Preferred corridor announcement	The project wrote to the Consultee to announce the preferred corridor.
27/06/2018	Correspondence	Initial Working Route announcement	The project wrote to the Consultee to provide a project update and introduce the Initial Working Route.
23/07/2018	Site Visit	Bourley and Long Valley SSSI	At this site visit, the following topics were covered: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Route options • Habitats • Construction methodology • Possible mitigation and opportunities
06/09/2018	Correspondence	Launch of the first statutory (Preferred Route) consultation	The project wrote to the Consultee to launch the first statutory (Preferred Route) consultation. The Consultee did not respond to the consultation.
14/09/2018	Site Visit	Bourley and Long Valley SSSI	Meeting with the Consultee's Reserves Manager and Assistant Director/Strategy Lead to discuss Bourley and Long Valley SSSI, which is managed by the Trust: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Route options • Possible mitigation and opportunities
21/01/2019	Correspondence	Launch of the second statutory	The project wrote to the Consultee to launch the second statutory (Design Refinements) consultation.

Date	Format	Topic	Discussion Points
		(Design Refinements) consultation	The Consultee did not respond to the consultation.
27/03/2019	Correspondence	Final route announcement	The project shared details with the Consultee about the final route for the replacement pipeline.
02/05/2019	Meeting	Bourley and Long Valley SSSI	Meeting with the Consultee's Reserves Manager and Assistant Director/Strategy Lead, to discuss: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Impacts and mitigation Environmental Investment Programme

2.2 Engagement Following Submission of Application

2.2.1 The table below sets out the consultation that has been undertaken between the Parties since the submission of the DCO application.

Date	Format	Topic	Discussion Points

2.2.2 Although not considered to be an examination issue, the Parties will continue to engage on the voluntary Environmental Investment Programme and intend for the broad scope of this programme to be agreed shortly.

3. Matters Agreed

3.1.1 The table below sets out the matters agreed in relation to different topics.

Topic	Matter agreed	Reference
General	It is agreed that the Consultee has no objection to the proposed pipeline alignment.	Meeting 02/05/2019
Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) approach and method	The Consultee is satisfied that the methodology used in the Environmental Statement for the prediction and assessment of effects on biodiversity assets is proportionate to the scale and likely impacts of the project.	Meeting 02/05/2019
EIA scope	That the scope of the assessment presented in the Environmental Statement is appropriate.	Meeting 02/05/2019
Route alignment	That, when considering all factors, the selection of the final pipeline route through Bourley and Long Valley SSSI is appropriate.	Site visit 14/09/2018, meeting 02/05/2019
Environmental Impact Assessment	That the identification and assessment of effects for Bourley and Long Valley SSSI are appropriate.	Site visit 14/09/2018, meeting 02/05/2019
Mitigation	That the mitigation for Bourley and Long Valley SSSI is appropriate.	Site visit 14/09/2018, meeting 02/05/2019
Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA)	That the Consultee supports the conclusion of the HRA, that there would be no adverse effects on the integrity of the Thames Basin Heaths Special Protection Area after implementation of appropriate mitigation and good practice measures.	Meeting 02/05/2019

4. Matters Not Agreed

4.1.1 The table below sets out the matters not agreed in relation to different topics.

Topic	Matter	Reference

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5. Matters Subject to On-going Discussion

5.1.1 The table below sets out the matters subject to ongoing discussion.

Topic	Matter	Reference

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6. Relevant documents and drawings

6.1.1 The following is a list of documents and drawings upon which this Statement of Common Ground is based.

Application Reference	Title	Content	Date
EN070005 Document 6.1	Environmental Statement Non-Technical Summary	Overview of the Environmental Statement	14 May 2019
EN070005 Document 6.2	Environmental Statement	Report of the Environmental Impact Assessment	14 May 2019
EN070005 Document 6.3	Environmental Statement Figures	Illustrative material to support the Environmental Statement	14 May 2019
EN070005 Document 6.4	Environmental Statement Appendices	Additional data and evidence to support the Environmental Statement	14 May 2019
EN070005 Document 6.5	Habitats Regulations Assessment report	Report summarising the findings of the studies in relation to the effects of the Project on European protected sites, to inform Stage 1 (Screening) and Stage 2 (Appropriate Assessment) of the Habitats Regulations Assessment process.	14 May 2019