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30 January 2025

Mr Bartkowiak (Case Manager)
The Planning Inspectorate
National Infrastructure Planning
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Email: lowerthamescrossing@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

Dear Sirs,

DCO Scheme - Lower Thames Crossing
Late response to SOS's letter dated 28 November 2024

As you are aware, we are a registered interested party and whilst we would like to believe that we share a common interest with other interested parties and stakeholders for the future development of the project, it seems that the Project is far from reaching any proper decision.

We make this late response to the above letter having reviewed the 7.5 Design Principles Consultation Letter, in particular we refer you to Para 2.16 of the document which we set out below for ease of reference.

"2.16 Land Required

2.16.1 *The Project would require land on a permanent basis for the road and tunnel, along with other operational infrastructure, and environmental mitigation and compensation.*

2.16.2 *On a temporary basis, land would be required for construction compounds, logistics areas and other construction activities. The utility installations and diversions, some environmental works and flood compensation requirements would require land to be taken on a temporary basis, and for permanent rights to be acquired for the operation and maintenance of any utility infrastructure, and to secure environmental works and flood compensation.*

2.16.3 *The full land requirement for the Project is shown on the Land Plans (Application Document 2.2) and set out in the Statement of Reasons (Application Document 4.1).*

2.16.4 The Project would also require both permanent acquisition and temporary use of areas of special category land, which includes common land and public open space. Replacement land would be provided for some of this special category land. In other cases, in accordance with the Planning Act 2008, replacement land has not been included, for example, because it is only proposed to install and divert utilities through the land and the land would not be permanently impacted. This means that its previous use can continue once the works are finished.

2.16.5 Consultation with relevant landowners, occupiers and agents remains an ongoing focus through the development of the Project. Compensation for affected parties follows the statutory Compensation Code “.

It appears there is presently insufficient land for the project given the concerns expressed by the above document and there are no track changes referring to the issues raised to include transport and excessive traffic during the construction.

I would urge SOST to avoid the consequences and associated problems connected to with making premature decisions without full knowledge and information.

Please consider this letter alongside the recent correspondence.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully,

Farrukh Khan-Sherwani.