

Our ref: 124526/L12

16 May 2022

National Infrastructure Planning  
Temple Quay House  
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Bristol  
BS1 6PN

By email only: [A417MissingLink@planninginspectorate.gov.uk](mailto:A417MissingLink@planninginspectorate.gov.uk)


Dear Sir/Madam,

**Application by National Highways (formerly Highways England) for an Order Granting Development Consent for the A417 Missing Link - TR010056**

Further to your letter dated 25th April, Severn Trent Water Ltd (STW) have been in discussion with the Applicant with regard to the engineering solutions for the diversions and the details of these are currently under discussion. As such, STW do not have an objection in principle with regard to works in respect of these specific assets. STW is content that the protective provisions within the draft DCO provide a reasonable degree of protection to STW's assets on the whole however the detail to some elements of the process and approach to cover provided to STW in respect of its potential liabilities are not in a form that fully reflects STW's requirements as a regulated body.

For this scheme, STW believe that the nature of the project works and risks to the specific assets are however such that these residual concerns can be mostly managed under the current form of protective provisions provided that the Applicant's approach and proposed works complies with and has regard to all relevant standards, policies and regulatory requirements governing STW's asset. By way of example, this is particularly important in relation to the point of connections with its existing assets on diversions where only STW or its contractors can lay works and to ensure that STW is complying with its duties in dealing with any third party landowner compensation claims that arise. STW therefore expects the Applicant to continue to engage with STW over coming days in dialogue to reach a final agreed position to cover the on-going approvals process for protection and diversion of STW's assets and to provide acceptable cover for STW's liabilities.

Yours faithfully,



**Richard Fisher MRICS FAAV**

for and on behalf of Fisher German LLP

