From: Plan Cons Area Team (Essex, Herts, Beds, Cambs, Northants) (NE) [mailto:PlanConsAreaTeamEssexHertsBedsCambsNorthants@defra.gsi.gov.uk]

Sent: 05 December 2018 10:57 **To:** Northampton Gateway

Subject: 266138 NSIP - Northampton Gateway Rail Freight Interchange hearings (TR050006)

Dear Sir/Madam,

Our Reference: 20011193

Thank you for your email inviting Natural England to attend the Hearings and an accompanied site inspection for the above NSIP. Natural England does not wish to attend the meeting or site visit. There are no European designated sites that could be impacted by the scheme and we are satisfied that it is not likely to have an impact on the nearby Roade Cutting SSSI, as stated under a condition in our agreed Statement of Common Ground between ourselves and Roxhill (Junction 15) Ltd. All issues relating to protected species are also being addressed, as stated in our Statement of Common Ground. We therefore have no outstanding issues or concerns and do not envisage attending hearings. However, we would be happy to assist with further matters, including any changes to the proposed scheme, if required.

Kind regards

Kayleigh Cheese
Planning Lead Adviser
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Essex, Herts, Beds, Cambs, Northants
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We are here to secure a healthy natural environment for people to enjoy, where wildlife is protected and England's traditional landscapes are safeguarded for future generations.

Natural England offers two chargeable services – The Discretionary Advice Service (<u>DAS</u>) provides pre-application, pre-determination and post-consent advice on proposals to developers and consultants as well as pre-licensing species advice and pre-assent and consent advice. The Pre-submission Screening Service (<u>PSS</u>) provides advice for protected species mitigation licence applications.