

To Whom it May Concern,

Following the receipt of the Rule 6 letter on the 10th February 2026, North West Leicestershire District Council (NWLDC) provides the following information in response to the requirements of Procedural Deadline A as outlined in the Rule 6 letter.

The matters raised at annex F of the Rule 6 letter include the following:

1. Alignment of examination and reporting periods

NWLDC has no concerns with the ExPs' alignment of the EMG 2 DCO and EMG 1 MCO in that the examination period for both will be six months and that the ExPs' decision will be three months.

2. Statements of common ground (SoCG)

Annex F of the Rule 6 letter outlines that the ExP requests the applicant to enter into SoCG with NWLDC on the following matters:

a) Principle of development;

b) Economic and social effects, including any implications for the local plan strategy and of transport effects on local communities;

c) Environmental impact assessment, including cumulative effects;

d) Landscape and visual effects, including lighting and visual effects of trees;

e) Any other potential effects, including on heritage assets, biodiversity, noise and vibration, air quality, emissions, contamination and emergency planning;

f) Good design;

g) Various environmental management plans, both during construction and operation; and

h) The dDCO and dMCO, including requirements and discharge mechanisms.

Presently the applicant has prepared draft SoCG with NWLDC, and whereby ongoing discussions are taking place, in relation to the following matters:

1) Planning policy (presently does not include any particular reference to the principle of development);

2) Built heritage;

3) Landscape and visual (does not currently include lighting or the visual effects of trees);

4) Noise and vibration;

5) Lighting (insofar as it relates to an environmental protection matter); and

6) Air quality.

Based on the request of the ExP the applicant therefore needs to draft SoCG to address points a) (unless this is to be incorporated into the submitted draft SoCG 1)), b), c), e) (insofar as emissions, contamination and emergency planning are concerned, f), g) and h). To date these SoCG have not been submitted to NWLDC by the applicant. The currently drafted SoCG 3) needs to be amended to incorporate lighting and the visual effect of trees.

Whilst biodiversity is referred to under e), advice to NWLDC on ecology, biodiversity and biodiversity net gain (BNG) matters is provided by Leicestershire County Council (LCC) as NWLDC does not have an ecological officer and consequently this SoCG would be better prepared with LCC.

3. Accompanied site inspection – suggested locations

NWLDC has commented separately on the suggested locations for the site inspections (accompanied or unaccompanied), including justification, for consideration by the ExP.

Should there be a requirement by the ExP for an accompanied site inspection to be undertaken then the Lead Officer at NWLDC, as well as our landscape and heritage consultants, would currently have availability on both the 17th and 18th June 2026 as outlined in the draft examination timetable at annex D of the Rule 6 letter.

4. Submissions

NWLDC has no issue with the ExPs' procedural decision that if a document relates to both the EMG 2 DCO and the EMG 1 MCO then it is simply submitted against the EMG 2 DCO, and if a document only specifically relates to the EMG 1 MCO then it is submitted against the EMG 1 MCO and not the EMG 2 DCO.

5. Revisions to and status of the applicants' examination documents

NWLDC agree with the ExPs' procedural decision that the applicants' revised documents should be provided in both 'clean' and 'tracked change' versions for the purposes of easy review and reference.

6. Land Rights Tracker

NWLDC has no comments on the ExPs' procedural decision in relation to the Land Rights Tracker.

7. Examination Issues Tracker

NWLDC agree with the ExPs' procedural decision that the applicant maintains, and updates, the Potential Main Issues for Examination (PMIE) tracker throughout the course of the examination and that NWLDC are afforded appropriate opportunities to comment on its contents as part of any deadlines.

8. Summary and signposting documents

NWLDC has no comments on this matter.

9. Additional submissions

NWLDC has no comments on this matter.