

Natural Englands' position in respect of the Highways Act Orders

Stansted Generation 2 Airport Access from M11 and A120
From: Sturges, Phil (NE) [Phil.Sturges@naturalengland.org.uk]

Sent: 13 October 2008 16:20

To: robert.gibson@highways.gsi.gov.uk; Stansted G2 Inquiry

Cc: Gibson, Chris (NE); Bustard, Jonathan (NE); Thomas, Shaun (NE);
Covill, Kathleen (NE); Jeremy Pine

Subject: Stansted Generation 2 Airport Access from M11 and A120

Attachments: Stansted Generation 2 - Airport Access from M11 and A120

Dear Mr Gibson

The Highways (Inquiries Procedures) Rules 1994, Rule 6

We refer to your letters of 21 July and 20 August 2008 alerting us to the opportunity to submit a Statement of Case for the Stansted G2 Junctions Project.

As explained in our email of 4 July 2008 (attached) we are not objecting per se to the G2 Junctions project, but have expressed concerns regarding elevated NOx levels and associated increased risk of damage to vegetation within nearby SSSIs (e.g. Hatfield Forest and Eastend Wood). In light of this position we are not intending to submit a formal Statement of Case to the Planning Inspectorate with respect to the Stansted G2 Junctions Project.

<<Stansted Generation 2 - Airport Access from M11 and A120>>

Natural England will be adopting the same approach as that taken at the Stansted G1 Inquiry, namely that we will be presenting evidence through Uttlesford DC's Counsel. As such we will not be directly submitting Outline Statements of Case or full Statements of Case to the Planning Inspectorate, as our case will be covered in liaison with UDC.

Yours sincerely

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Stansted Generation 2 - Airport Access from M11 and A120
From: Sturges, Phil (NE) [Phil.Sturges@naturalengland.org.uk]
Sent: 04 July 2008 17:12
To: Anna.Smyth@highways.gsi.gov.uk
Cc: Thomas, Shaun (NE); Rothera, Stephen (NE); Gibson, Chris (NE);
Covill, Kathleen (NE); Wyatt, Gordon (NE)
Subject: Stansted Generation 2 - Airport Access from M11 and A120

Attachments: Natural England acknowledgment letter.doc

Dear Anna

Your ref: HA 65/19/198

Without Prejudice

With reference to your letter (attached for information), we reiterate that Natural England has not lodged an objection to the HA consultation: "Stansted Generation 2 Airport Access From M11 And A120". The relevant wording in our letter (PS/EE1087/Stansted) states:

"Based on the information presented in the Environmental Statement accompanying the Stansted G2 Airport Access from M11 and A120 Project (part of the Stansted G2 Project known as the "G2 Junctions Project"), Natural England raises no objection to the proposed works, either on the grounds of potential adverse direct impacts on statutory sites (SSSIs) or in respect of potential effects on protected and notable species. However, we remain deeply concerned that, despite compliance with DMRB air quality assessment guidelines, there remains a risk that air quality effects of this scheme will contribute to the exceedence of nitrogen critical loads and NOx critical levels in part of Hatfield Forest SSSI/NNR."

However, as detailed within our letter there are a number of concerns, including potential air quality impacts, which remain outstanding.

Phil Sturges

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