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Dear Mr Bedson


I am writing to you in my capacity as the Director of Hybrid Bill Delivery at HS2 Ltd, which is acting on behalf of the Promoter of the High Speed Rail (West Midlands-Crewe) Bill (‘the Bill’) currently before Parliament. I understand that your client has a number of concerns about the impact of Phase 2A of HS2 (known as ‘the Proposed Scheme’) and has submitted a petition on that basis against the Bill in the House of Commons.

In addition to sharing with you, on behalf of your client, a number of written assurances offered to the National Farmers Union (NFU) on 21 June, and assurances yesterday addressing your client’s concerns around land take associated with ecological mitigation planting, I am pleased to offer your client the additional following assurance regarding the provision of a right of way over retained land:

“In this assurance:

“Petitioner’s Land” means that parcel of land owned by the Petitioner as shown edged in purple on the attached plan and identified on Map CT-06-216 in Volume 2 of the Environmental Statement accompanying the Bill for woodland and grassland habitat creation;

“Mitigation Works” mean those mitigation works authorised by the Bill for the Petitioner’s Land and proposed to include woodland and grassland habitat creation;

“Access Road” means that part of the access road from Hopton Lane comprised in Work No. 53A between points A and B on the attached plan;

“Work No. 53A” means the work identified as Work No. 53A in Schedule 1 to the Bill together with all necessary works and conveniences to be authorised to be constructed by the Bill.

1.1 Subject to the condition in paragraph 1.2, the Secretary of State, in exercising the powers of the Bill, will grant to the Petitioner a right of way with or without vehicles, post-construction of the Proposed Scheme, over the Access Road for the purpose of enabling the Petitioner to access the Petitioner’s Land from Hopton Lane.
1.2 This assurance is subject to the Petitioner being the freehold owner of the Petitioner’s Land at the date of the completion of the Mitigation Works or Work No. 53A (whichever is the later)."

This assurance will be included in a Register of Undertakings and Assurances, which is held by the Department for Transport. Drafts of the Register will be published regularly during the passage of the Bill and it will be finalised after Royal Assent. A Nominated Undertaker will be contractually obliged to comply with all relevant undertakings and assurances set out in the Register.

Further information on how the Secretary of State will ensure compliance with assurances made by HS2 Ltd is set out in HS2 Phase 2A Information Paper B5: Compliance with Undertakings and Assurances.

It is hoped that these further assurances will address the issues raised in your client's petition. In the meantime, if you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact Maya Williams-Orme, Senior Property Acquisition Manager, on Maya.Williams-Orme@hs2.org.uk.

Yours sincerely

Oliver Bayne
Director, Hybrid Bill Delivery
High Speed Two (HS2) Limited

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1 A copy can be found at https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/understanding-the-hybrid-bill-hs2-phase-2a-informationpapers