
The Norfolk County Council (Norwich Northern Distributor Road (A1067 to A47(T))) Order

6.2 Environmental Statement: Volume II: Chapter 1. Introduction

Planning Act 2008

Infrastructure Planning

The Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009


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Revision	Originator	Checked By	Approved By
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We accept no responsibility for the consequences of this document being relied upon by any other party, or being used for any other purpose, or containing any error or omission which is due to an error or omission in data supplied to us by other parties.

This document is submitted in relation to the application for a proposed development by Norfolk County Council to the Planning Inspectorate, under the Planning Act 2008.

The application is for the Norfolk County Council (Norwich Northern Distributor Road (A1067 to A47(T))) Order, to grant development consent for the construction of a new highway running west-east between the A1067 Fakenham Road and the A47 Trunk Road at Postwick, including improvements to the existing highway network to the north and north east of Norwich.

This document comprises part of the application documents and relates to Regulation 5(2)(a) of the Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009.

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A. Planning Inspectorate Response to Regulation 6(1)(b) Notification

A.1 Introduction

- A.1.1 Overleaf is the response to Norfolk County Council (NCC) from the Planning Inspectorate, in relation to NCC's notification of their intention to provide an Environmental Statement in respect of the project in accordance with Regulation 6(1)(b) of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2009.



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Jon Barnard NDR/NATS Manager Environment, Transport and Development Norfolk County Council County Hall Martineau Lane Norwich NR1 2SG	Your Ref: HI/R1C093/IDM/PI 003 Our Ref: 130225_TR010015_1658851 Date: 25 February 2013
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Dear Mr Barnard,

**INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT)
REGULATIONS 2009 SI 2263 (as amended) (the EIA Regulations)
PROPOSED NORWICH NORTHERN DISTRIBUTOR ROAD (the project)
PROPOSAL BY NORFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL (the applicant)**

We refer to your letter dated 21 February 2013 and received in hard copy by the Secretary of State on 22 February 2013 requesting a scoping opinion from the Secretary of State under Regulation 8(1) of the EIA Regulations. We are also accepting the letter as formal notification to the Secretary of State that the applicant proposes to provide an environmental statement in respect of the project in accordance with Regulation 6(1)(b) of the EIA Regulations.

The 42 day timescale set out in Regulation 8(6) commenced on 22 February 2013. Please also accept this letter as notification under Regulation 8(6) of the EIA Regulations of the Secretary of State's requirement to consult with the person who made the request. If you have any comments these should reach this office by **25 March 2013**.

Yours sincerely,

Hannah Nelson

Hannah Nelson
EIA and Land Rights Adviser
on behalf of the Secretary of State

Advice may be given about applying for an order granting development consent or making representations about an application (or a proposed application). This communication does not however constitute legal advice upon which you can rely and you should obtain your own legal advice and professional advice as required.

A record of the advice which is provided will be recorded on the Planning Inspectorate website together with the name of the person or organisation who asked for the advice. The privacy of any other personal information will be protected in accordance with our Information Charter which you should view before sending information to the Planning Inspectorate.



B. Planning Inspectorate Response to Section 35 Request

B.1 Introduction

- B.1.1 Overleaf is the response to Norfolk County Council (NCC) from the Planning Inspectorate, in relation to NCC's request that the Secretary of State exercises his powers under Section 35 of the Planning Act 2008 that the proposed Scheme, as well as any related matters, is treated as a development for which development consent is required.

Department for **Transport**

Mike Jackson
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9th August 2013

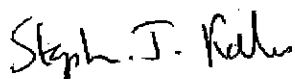
Dear Mr Jackson,

NORWICH NORTHERN DISTRIBUTOR ROAD

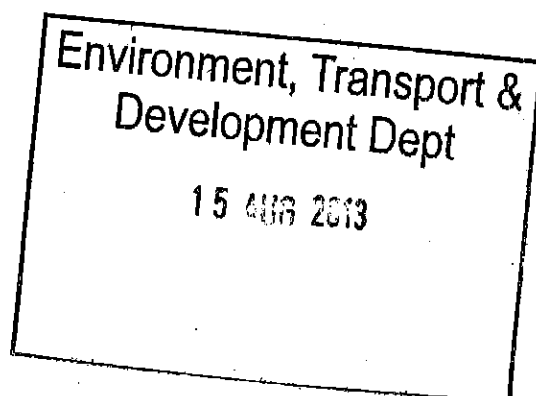
Thank you for your letter to the Secretary of State requesting him to exercise his powers under section 35 of the Planning Act 2008 to direct that the Norwich Northern Distributor Road be treated as development for which development consent is required

I am pleased to inform you that the Secretary of State has agreed to your request. A signed direction to that effect is attached.

Yours sincerely,



Stephen Fidler



**DIRECTION BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE UNDER SECTION 35 OF
THE PLANNING ACT 2008 RELATING TO THE NORWICH NORTHERN
DISTRIBUTOR ROAD**

By letter to the Secretary of State received on 29th July 2013, Norfolk County Council formally requested that the Secretary of State exercise the power vested in the Secretary of State under section 35 of the Planning Act 2008 ("the Act") to direct that the proposed scheme set out in the Norfolk County Council's letter and known as the Norwich Northern Distributor Road as well as any associated matters, be treated as development for which development consent is required.

The Secretary of State is satisfied that:

- the development does not currently fall within the definition of a "nationally significant infrastructure project" and therefore it is appropriate to consider use of the power in section 35; and
- Norfolk County Council's request constitutes a "qualifying request" in accordance with section 35(10) of the Act.

The Secretary of State has made a decision within the primary deadline set out in section 35A(2) and wishes to convey that decision.

Having considered the details of the Norwich Northern Distributor Road set out in the request, the Secretary of State is of the view that this development by itself is nationally significant, for the reasons set out in the Annex below.

Accordingly, as the Secretary of State is satisfied that the proposed Norwich Northern Distributor Road is nationally significant, THE SECRETARY OF STATE DIRECTS that development, together with any matters associated with it, is to be treated as development for which development consent is required.

In addition, the Secretary of State further directs that any proposed application in relation to the Norwich Northern Distributor Road is to be treated as a proposed application for which development consent is required.

This direction is given without prejudice to the Secretary of State's consideration of any application for development consent which is made in relation to the Norwich Northern Distributor Road.

Signed by



Stephen Fidler
A Senior Civil Servant in the Department for Transport
For and On Behalf of the Secretary of State

9th August 2013

ANNEX

REASONS FOR THE DECISION TO ISSUE THE DIRECTION

The Secretary of State is of the opinion that the Norwich Northern Distributor Road is of national significance for the following reasons:

- it provides a direct connection to/from an international airport to the Trans European Network–Transport (TEN-T) and the Strategic Road Network. The TEN-T link is to the A47, one of only a limited number of Roads in the East of England which is recognised as such; and
- in addition the scheme:
 - supports national growth potential including by directly supporting over 135ha of proposed employment growth; and
 - improves connection to/from the Great Yarmouth Enterprise Zone which supports the offshore energy industry and supply chain.