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The Company Secretary
Swynson Limited and
The Company Secretary
East Sussex National Limited
c/o James White
Savills
74 High Street
Sevenoaks
TN13 1JR

Date: 12th July 2022
Our ref: EDGEWOC/342777.000032
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By email only

Dear Sir/Madam

**The National Grid Electricity Transmission (Little Horsted Substation Connection)
Compulsory Purchase Order 2022 ("Order")**

We write further to our letter of 26 May 2022 in which we acknowledged receipt of your objection to the above mentioned Order ("**Objection**") and confirmed that we act for National Grid Electricity Transmission ("**NGET**") in this matter. We are now in a position to provide a substantive response to the concerns raised within your Objection.

Your interests in the land included in the Order

We understand that you own and/or occupy land comprising part of the East Sussex National Golf Course referred to as plots 7 and 8 in the Order.

NGET is seeking to acquire "Working Area Rights" over plot 7 to enable it to carry out works to the towers and "Construction Access Rights" over plot 8 to enable NGET to take access over land during and for the purposes of construction of the project.

Your concerns

Your Objection raises concerns about the perceived interference with the operation of the golf course and the disturbance of players in relation to:

- (a) the size of the working area on plot 7, particularly the area extending into the fairway, and the duration for which it will be used (objection 1); and
- (b) the location of the proposed construction access route across plot 8 and its proximity to a tee box and greens comprised in the golf course (objection 2).

The working area around pylon 071 is required to enable reconductoring of the overhead lines on the existing towers. This working area has been designed to enable the safest and most efficient method for the works to be carried out, whilst still allowing flexibility for the appointed contractor to utilise their preferred working methods. Key to the size and shape of the working area required, is the positions required for winches to pull conductors along the overhead line; one of the winch positions will need to be close to or on the course due to the minimum working distance (of the machines from the live wire) required by health and safety protocols. Once NGET's contractors enter on the land, they will identify the specific working methods that will be adopted and NGET will liaise with you further to discuss proposed mitigation measures.

NGET is committed to working with you now to alleviate your concerns regarding the impact of the working area and construction access route, upon the operation of the golf course. NGET is keen to discuss potential ways of mitigating the impact of the works through appropriate screening and (where possible) adjustments to the working area layout and access route. It is expected that the part of plot 7 overlapping the course will be required for a relatively short period of time, approximately 3 to 4 months.

It is proposed that NGET's engineers and appointed land agents, Fisher German, discuss all of this on site with you and your appointed land agent.

We understand that Fisher German spoke to your appointed land agent on 26 May 2022 with a view to arranging such a meeting, and have repeated their request for available dates. It would be most helpful if a meeting could be arranged as soon as possible.

We note that your Objection also raises concerns regarding engagement with Fisher German prior to the making of the Order. Fisher German have explained that the working area included in the Order has been designed to enable the safest and most efficient method for the requisite works to be carried out. The precise details of the layout and use of the working area, such as the duration of works and number and frequency of vehicles taking access to it, for example, will be finalised by the main works contractor, and that contractor has not yet been selected/appointed. While NGET cannot pre-empt the contractor's exact methods or requirements, we believe there is scope to discuss reasonable mitigation measures at this stage.

NGET remains committed to resolving your concerns regarding the construction of the project and to reaching a voluntary agreement with you in order to secure the rights it needs for the project and the withdrawal of your Objection to the Order.

Yours faithfully

Eversheds Sutherland (International) LLP

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