



John McKenna
Department for Energy Security & Net Zero
Level 3, Orchard 2
1 Victoria Street
Westminster
London
SW1H 0ET

Legal Services
National Highways Limited
The Cube
199 Wharfside Street
BIRMINGHAM
B1 1RN

10 October 2023

Dear Sir,

**The National Grid Electricity Transmission plc (Scotland to England Green Link 2)
Compulsory Purchase Order 2023**

The aforementioned CPO contains a number of interests of the Historical Railways Estate in relation to plots 1/16, 1/16a, 3/126, 3/126a, 3/139, 3/144, 3/145, 5/229, 5/230, 6/231, 6/232 and 7/253. These largely relate to rights of entry/access reserved to enable the maintenance of bridge assets. It is critical that these interests are retained to enable the Historical Railways Estate to carry out its functions.

The Historical Railways Estate is owned by the Secretary of State for Transport and managed by National Highways Limited under the terms of a protocol agreement. National Highways would have no choice but to object to this CPO on behalf of the Historical Railways Estate if it proposed the extinguishment of such interests. However, these interests are crown interests and are not capable of being acquired compulsorily. It is requested that for completeness the CPO is amended to make this clear.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "PB", with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Paul Bellingham, Senior Lawyer

Legal Services

07718 130 906

paul.bellingham@highwaysengland.co.uk