

Date: 17th March 2023
Our ref: RS/Thames Water

Chartered Surveyors

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Dear Sirs,

THE OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL (DIDCOT GARDEN TOWN HIGHWAYS INFRASTRUCTURE – A4130 IMPROVEMENT (MILTON GATE TO COLLETT ROUNDABOUT), A4197 DIDCOT TO CULHAM LINK ROAD, AND A415 CLIFTON HAMPDEN BYPASS) COMPULSORY PURCHASE ORDER 2022

OUR CLIENTS THAMES WATER UTILITIES LTD

Registered Plots: 17/11a, 17/11b, 17/11c, 17/11d, 17/11e, 17/11f, 17/11g, 17/11h, 17/11i, and 9/24
Unregistered : Plots 17/14a & 17/14b

We are instructed by Thames Water Utilities Limited to object to the above Compulsory Purchase Order.

Our client holds the freehold of plots 17/11a, 17/11b, 17/11c, 17/11d, 17/11e, 17/11f, 17/11g, 17/11h, 17/11i, and 9/24. These plots are registered.

Our client also holds the freehold of plots 17/14a & 17/14b. These plot are unregistered.

With the exception of plot 9/24 these plots are adjacent to important operational assets and include access to these assets, more specifically the assets comprise a treatment station within close proximity to Culham, Oxfordshire. Our clients are currently considering how the operational performance of this asset would respond to a significant increase in population.

The above CPO will confer both permanent and temporary rights to the acquiring authority to acquire this land from Thames Water Utilities Limited.

Some contact has been made by the acquiring authority with my clients in relation to the proposals although no discussions have been concluded.

My client's grounds for objection are:

1. Other more suitable land

This is a strategic asset for my client and its operational performance is likely an increase in the near future. The availability of existing land under its ownership will help to safeguard this requirement.



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My clients therefore believe that with reconsideration and redesign it is not necessary for the acquisition of the plots outlined above and that either the land is not required or more suitable land can be provided to accommodate the works.

2. Lack of consultation

The acquiring authority has not sought to negotiate the acquisition of my client's land and as such my client is lacking considerable detail in relation to the proposals. Any works must allow for the protection of my client's assets so that they remain fully operational during the construction works and in the longer term are not compromised by the works. My client is a statutory undertaker and without proper consultation and agreements in place they are concerned that they will be unable to fulfil their statutory obligations.

Thames Water Utilities Limited reserve the right to alter, enhance, amend, or provide further detail or amend objections or comments as the consultation process progresses and further details of the scheme emerge.

Unless and until my client has been engaged in meaningful negotiations and discussions my client's preference would be for a public inquiry to hear its objections to the Order.

My client is therefore a statutory objector.

Yours faithfully,



Robert F Smith MRICS