

Department of Transport Inquiry 28th November 2017

Transport and Works Act 1992: Application for the Proposed
Network Rail (Cambridgeshire Level Crossing Reduction) Order.

Proof of Evidence

Ref: C14 Eastrea Cross Drove.

OBJ/23/CAMB

Date:31 October 2017

Martin White
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TWA/17/APP/03/OBJ/23 Network Rail (Cambridgeshire Level Crossing Reduction) Order

Crossing number C14 Eastrea Cross Drove

I write to submit my Proof of Evidence with reference to crossing C14 Eastrea Cross Drove, and the impact the proposals will have on my property.

I attach my letter to you of April 2017 in which I objected to the proposal for this crossing. In addition to this, I question why is it necessary to create a new footpath as there already is a footpath which runs up Cross Drove to Lake Drove and on to Wype Road. Only one person was recorded using the existing footpath during the three day survey therefore the cost of creating the new footpath and taking land out of arable production is not necessary when there already is another perfectly useable footpath to the north.

No new footpath should be created as it is not proven to be necessary but if there are exceptional reasons as to why the new footpath has to be created then it should be located on the land that lies between the railway line and IDB drain and not on the field side of the drain.

I should also like to point out that I only received one Notice for C15 – Brickyard Drove Level Crossing when I should have received a Notice for C14 Eastrea Cross Drove as well. I have not been able to hold constructive discussions with Network Rail or their representatives to discuss what alternative options there might be.

Mr Martin White
On behalf of
Messrs M and N White

Annex 1 – Letter April 2017

Secretary of State for Transport c/o Transport and Works Act Orders Unit
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24 April 2017

Summited via email.

Dear Secretary of State

Network Rail (Cambridgeshire Level Crossing Reduction) Order – Crossing number C14 Eastrea Cross Drove

I write to respond to the consultation on the above Order, with particular reference to crossing C14 Eastrea Cross Drove, and the impact the proposals will have on my property.

I farm the land adjacent to the railway line along which a new footpath will be created to accommodate the closure of the crossing to the east. As indicated on the map prepared by Network Rail, a drainage channel runs between the railway line and the proposed footpath. In accordance with the statutory requirements as laid down by the byelaws, no construction is permitted within 9m of a drainage channel. If this proposal to create a footpath is implemented, it will leave my land severed between the footpath and drainage channel. This will be unworkable for modern agricultural practices.

I have not been able to hold constructive discussions with Network Rail or their representatives to discuss what alternative options there might be. I object to this loss of productive agricultural land in this manner and propose that the area between the drainage channel and footpath be purchased by Network Rail and maintained accordingly.

I hope you will give my views full consideration in your deliberation.

Yours sincerely

Mr Martin White
On behalf of Messrs M and N White