*Dear Leanne*

*It is clear following correspondence between the appellants, PINS and other main parties that either a fully updated Environmental Statement or a significant addendum is intended to be submitted by the appellants in support of this appeal. The Council has already raised its concerns about the consultation/publicity requirements associated with this having regard to the EIA Regulations 2011 (which are still applicable in this case given the transitional provisions contained within the EIA Regs 2017). The Council notes that the appellants intend to submit the updated ES/addendum at least three weeks prior to the deadline for submission of proofs of evidence (22/05/18). However, in the event that the updated ES contains significant new information covering a range of environmental factors the Council is highly concerned that this will leave insufficient time for it to prepare its proof(s) of evidence which would need to be informed by further consultation with its relevant officers as well as external consultants/bodies. The Council therefore wishes to draw its concerns to the Inspectorate’s attention and dependent upon the content/scale of the appellants’ submission it may seek either a postponement of the deadline for submission of proofs of evidence or a postponement of the inquiry to enable it and interested parties to properly consider the new environmental information in the interests of fairness, transparency and robust decision making. The Council would like these concerns made available to the Inspector so that she is aware of the potential requests for postponement.*

*Kind regards*

**Matthew Parry**

**Principal Planning Officer – Major Projects Planning Team**

Development Management Division

Place and Growth Directorate

Cherwell District Council