



Department
for Transport

Sent by email

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Our Ref: TWA/18/APP/02

15 January 2021

Dear Sir/Madam

Rother Valley Transport and Works Act (TWA) Order – Public Inquiry

Further to my letter of 22 April 2020, announcing a deferral of the Public Inquiry into the Rother Valley TWA Order Application, I am now writing to inform you that under Rule 13 of the Transport and Works (Inquiries Procedures Rules) 2004, the Secretary of State for Transport, following consultation with the Planning Inspectorate, the Applicant and a number of interested parties, has decided to commence the **Public Inquiry on Tuesday, 6 July 2021** and is expected to sit for 16 days. A further Pre-Inquiry Meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday, 12 May**, because of the current COVID situation this is highly likely to be held virtually and arrangements will be confirmed as soon as possible.

The form of the Public Inquiry (ie physical, virtual or a mixture of both) is still to be decided and parties will be informed closer to the start date. If physical, it will be held at:

Woodlands Enterprise Centre
Hastings Road
Flimwell
Wadhurst
East Sussex
TN5 7PR

Under Rule 17 (Further Information and Notices) of the Transport and Works (Applications and Objections Procedure) (England and Wales) Rules 2006, the Applicant is confident that it will submit further Environmental Information on 8 March 2021. This will be placed on the following website: <https://gateleyhamer-pi.com/en-gb/rother-valley-railway/> and you will be notified once it is available, for comment. Following this, the Applicant will review its Statement of Case, in light of any representations received and forward these to interested parties. This will allow for four weeks for preparation and submission of proofs of evidence and submissions. There will then be a period of a further four weeks before the start of the Public Inquiry.

The table below sets out the key dates.

Date	Action
8 March	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Applicant to provide further Environmental information as required under Rule 17 and publish notice in local newspaper.
19 April	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Deadline for further representations to be submitted to Secretary of State (in relation to the further environmental information)
10 May	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Deadline for Applicant to submit revised Statement of Case to the Secretary of State and interested parties
12 May	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Rule 8 Pre-Inquiry meeting, (arrangements to be confirmed)
7 June	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Deposit of Proofs and evidence to the Inspector
6 July	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Start of Inquiry

Yours faithfully



Colin Dunn