



National Farmers' Union  
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Mr Tim Sunderland  
SLP Project  
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Wokingham  
RG41 5TU

Your ref:  
Our ref: 2017 065 SLPP  
Email: tom.ormesher@nfu.org.uk  
Direct line: 01730 711 950  
Date: 11<sup>th</sup> December 2017

**By email only:** slppproject@fishergerman.co.uk  
info@slppproject.co.uk

Dear Mr Sunderland

### **Southampton to London Pipeline Project – Working with Landowners**

Thank you for contacting the NFU with reference to the Southampton to London Pipeline Project. We are an industry organisation, representing the majority of commercial farm businesses in England and Wales on matters relevant to the future of their business.

We are pleased that you have highlighted your intention to engage meaningfully with all stakeholders as part of the consultation next year. We believe it would also be valuable to all concerned if you allocate sufficient time to allow for proactive negotiation with all affected farmers and landowners from the very outset.

Our preference would be to see those directly affected by the scheme engaged as a matter of priority substantially in advance of the wider public consultation, so that their views can be incorporated into the overall scheme design, whilst it is easy to do so.

From this perspective I would be grateful if you could clarify the extent to which you have, or plan to have one to one meetings with the farming landowners and occupiers along the route. Where practical we can facilitate local group meetings in addition to your individual engagement activities.

Going forward I will be the relevant point of contact for response to consultations and other relevant correspondence.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T Ormesher'.

**Tom Ormesher**  
NFU South East  
Environment and Land Use Adviser