
From: Steven Bell
Sent: 27 August 2008 17:27
To: Richard.Walker@bilfinger.co.uk
Subject: FW: Slow progress

Importance: High
Sensitivity: Personal

Richard

Further to yesterday's meeting on Programme, my concerns regarding slow mobilisation have been reinforced and we need BSC's urgent focus on delivering works on the ground. I need you to help your team through this as there appears to be a major difficulty in unlocking your supply chain arrangements.

Frank met Colin and others in your team yesterday to progress the Design V26 -31 impact, together with the proposals to address slow mobilisation and the opportunities for integration in the programme to enable a coherent construction programme to be agreed.

To our great disappointment, there was very little progress on the works BSC committed to develop at the Principles meeting held with Willie in late July.

We shared our thinking on each of the three issues and were very numerate in sharing our assessment of the time impact of V26 – V31 and of the very significant potential impact of your slow mobilisation.

We committed to write to you with our interim assessment of the Design Programme impact and that is on its way to you. It currently equates to 5 days at Open for Revenue Service Sectional Completion D. We have offered to work through the logic of that at your earliest convenience with your programme team.

I had a very difficult Tram Project Board today where I found it impossible to demonstrate any practical construction work underway during the last 3 weeks and I had no firm proposals from BSC to address the slippage.

Nevertheless, we need to “stop the bleeding” by getting the main works properly underway now. I know we need to work together to do that as efficiently as we can. Can you give me a call to discuss at your earliest convenience.

Thank you.

Steven

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From: Steven Bell
Sent: 25 August 2008 18:12
To: 'Richard.Walker@bilfinger.co.uk'
Subject: Slow progress

Richard

Further to my brief note earlier, here are some of the specifics (arising from last Thursday's 12c week look-ahead) which are causing me significant concern.

This is undoubtedly a major issue and we need to stop the bleeding now.

I am most concerned about the failure to grasp the issues, particularly the energy to address issues to ensure we "do what we committed to do" for ourselves and our stakeholders.

I'll call you tomorrow after the programme meeting but I really need you and Colin to drive and focus on moving this forward urgently.

Notes from Meeting 21 August (Bob Bell / Jim Cumberton)

Roseburn Demolitions

We had previously agreed with Infraco that we would support the early approval of their Building Warrant applications for the demolitions required in Roseburn Street. The target date for approval was agreed at 15 August (a two week turnaround from CEC), WITH Infraco mobilising on the 18th August. Comments were received from CEC on the 12th August and responded to by Infraco on 14th August. Because of this hiccup we discussed and agreed at last week's meeting that Infraco's demolition subcontractor would mobilise and set up site around 21st August, to commence demolitions on 25th August.

Infraco advised at yesterday's meeting that this would now not happen and that they anticipate mobilising next Thursday / Friday 28th / 29th to commence demolitions on the 1st September. The reason given for the slippage was that Infraco had to change their WPP to reflect the fact that Graham's will now not be involved in the works.

The real disappointment was the attitude displayed i.e. No one from Infraco seemed to think it was important to progress this work as previously agreed. Initially, it was commented upon at the meeting without any reference to previous discussions and agreements.

A8 Underpass

Having advised Gordon Robertson who is preparing a Press Release, that we are installing Traffic Management wrt the A8 Underpass from 1st September as per Infraco's 12 week / 2 week look ahead from last week, we were advised yesterday that this has now slipped by a week to 8th September. Mobilisation for the works has slipped from W/C 18th August to 8th September also. After discussion with Infraco, it is apparent this will slip further as they have not yet appointed a piling contractor and are still inviting tenders for this to keep costs down.

Given we have no piling sub-contractor in place, we will not receive a Work Package Plan until this has been achieved. I am concerned that this work is likely to slip into mid-October.

I have put a hold on the Press Release until I am satisfied and confident in the programme.

BusyBee Demolition

BW Application was due in to CEC ON 18TH August, still not submitted, we are advised it should go in today.

Balgreen Road

Work should have commenced Forming Access at Balgreen Road on 18th August. Still not started, and no request for a Permit to Commence works has been received.

Leith Walk

Works reported on 12 WLA as starting on 22nd September, but infraco will confirm this or otherwise today as they still do not have a definite date from SDS on IFC. No notices have been sent out to residents. If confirmation isn't forthcoming today, this will slip by a further week.

In summary, after discussion at the meeting, most of the programme presented seems set to continue to slip to the right, with no attempts by Infraco to halt this. As mentioned earlier, it is the attitude that is most worrying insomuch as Infraco's guys do not appear to show any initiative to pro-actively progress matters,

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