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Birmingham
United Kingdom
B4 6EQ

Margret Haswell
Executive, Access and Licensing
4th Floor, 1 Atlantic Square
York Street
Glasgow
G2 8HS

RE: Freightliner Heavy Haul Ltd 28th Supplemental Agreement

Response to Network Rail Representations

Dear Margret,

Thank you for providing Freightliner Heavy Haul Ltd ('Freightliner') the opportunity to comment on Network Rail's representations to the proposed 28th Supplemental Agreement.

Freightliner note that, at the time of writing, owing to the unprecedented number of applications received, Network Rail have been unable to provide confirmation on the impact Freightliner's aspirations will have on the timetable, and that a plan has been devised which will see Network Rail undertake a study to understand the impact these additional rights will have.

Once this has been assessed, and feedback received from Network Rail, Freightliner will seek to address any concerns raised around capacity.

This 28th Supplemental Agreement covers aspirational Rights for new markets Freightliner seek to enter. The Firm Access Rights applied for in this application seek to address initial demand in what is a very large sector, the development of which will be crucial for the UK rail network to achieve the 75% growth target by 2050 included in UK law. Commercial contracts are still being developed for this traffic, and as such Freightliner are yet to enter into any Facilities Access Contracts specifically for these Train Slots, however no issues are foreseen in relation to this.

Freightliner would note that the majority of Network Rail's specific concerns around this application appear to be focussed on the aspiration to operate traffic not currently on rail, and present a series of 'issues' which have no real basis or evidence to support the concern. Freightliner expect Network Rail to work proactively with operators to make amendments to gauge clearance, engineering access and the like in order to support freight growth, rather than using these as reasons to push back against this application.

Freightliner will await further information from Network Rail regarding any capacity or operational concerns and respond to these in due course.

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Yours Sincerely



Chris Matthews
Timetable Strategy and Rail Industry Manager
Freightliner Group

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