

Stuart McNaughton
Project Proposer
Northumberland County Council
County Hall
Morpeth
NE61 2EF

Your Ref:
173726-PIO-SN06-ZZ-LET-EMG-
000001

Our Ref:
PRM-IOP-00400

IN Number
UK/61/2024/0015

Date: 12/12/2024

Robin Jenkins
On-Track Machine Engineer
Office of Rail and Road
23 Stephenson Street
Birmingham
B2 4BH

Dear Stuart

**THE RAILWAYS (INTEROPERABILITY) REGULATIONS 2011, AS AMENDED
NORTHUMBERLAND LINE PROJECT, ASHINGTON STATION AND RAIL CORRIDOR**

I refer to your application for authorisation received on the 14th November 2024. Following review of your application, I can confirm that ORR grants authorisation under regulation 4(1)(a) of the Railways (Interoperability) Regulations 2011, as amended.

This authorisation is for the placing in service of Ashington Station, located on Engineer's Line Reference (ELR) WVL route from 02 miles 1531 yards to 02 miles 1640 yards, and Rail Corridor, located on Engineers Line Reference (ELR) BNE, EJM, BWC, WSB with the following mileages noted in the attached table.

Limits of Authorisation

| Applicable NTSN | ELR | TID | Line | From | | To | |
|--|-----|------|---|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| | | | | Miles | Yards | Miles | Yards |
| PRM Ashington Station | BWC | 2600 | Ashington (non-operational walkway platform one) | 02 | 1531 | 02 | 1640 |
| INF Rail Corridor Track, Structures & Earthworks | BNE | 3100 | Blyth & Tyne single | 02 | 0734 | 02 | 1166 |
| | EJM | 3100 | Blyth & Tyne single | 07 | 0176 | 07 | 0291 |
| | EJM | 3100 | Blyth & Tyne single | 07 | 0923 | 07 | 0979 |
| | EJM | 2100 | Down Blyth & Tyne | 07 | 1075 | 08 | 1721 |
| | EJM | 1100 | Up Blyth & Tyne | 07 | 0979 | 07 | 1108 |
| | EJM | 1100 | Up Blyth & Tyne | 08 | 1686 | 09 | 0091 |
| | EJM | 3100 | Blyth & Tyne single | 11 | 0648 | 11 | 0667 |
| | EJM | 1100 | Up Newsham | 11 | 0763 | 12 | 0137 |
| | EJM | 1100 | Up Newsham | 12 | 0866 | 12 | 0979 |
| | EJM | 1100 | Up Newsham | 12 | 1556 | 12 | 1646 |
| | EJM | 2100 | Down Newsham | 11 | 0667 | 12 | 0975 |
| | EJM | 2100 | Down Newsham | 12 | 1593 | 12 | 1669 |
| | EJM | 1100 | Up Newsham | 15 | 1234 | 15 | 1671 |
| | EJM | 2100 | Down Newsham | 15 | 1148 | 15 | 1685 |
| | BWC | 1100 | Up Ashington | 00 | 1722 | 01 | 0100 |
| | BWC | 2100 | Down Ashington | 00 | 1722 | 01 | 0074 |
| | WSB | 2100 | Down Cambois | 00 | 0060 | 00 | 0097 |
| | BWC | 1100 | Up Ashington | 02 | 0304 | 02 | 1611 |
| | BWC | 2100 | Down Ashington | 02 | 1320 | 02 | 1486 |
| | BWC | 2600 | Bay Line | 02 | 1454 | 02 | 1685 |
| | BWC | 1100 | Up Ashington | 01 | 0772 | 01 | 0928 |
| | BWC | 2100 | Down Ashington | 01 | 0773 | 01 | 0924 |
| | EJM | 2100 | Down Newsham | 12 | 1593 | 12 | 1669 |
| | EJM | 1100 | Up Newsham | 15 | 1234 | 15 | 1671 |
| | EJM | 2100 | Down Newsham | 15 | 1148 | 15 | 1685 |
| | BWC | 1100 | Up Ashington | 00 | 1722 | 01 | 0100 |
| | BWC | 2100 | Down Ashington | 00 | 1722 | 01 | 0074 |
| | WSB | 2100 | Down Cambois | 00 | 0060 | 00 | 0097 |
| | BWC | 1100 | Up Ashington | 02 | 0304 | 02 | 1611 |
| | BWC | 2100 | Down Ashington | 02 | 1320 | 02 | 1486 |

The scope of the authorisation comprises of:

Ashington Station

- Car park and obstacle free routes
- Ticket vending machine and ticket validators
- New single face bay platform
- Waiting shelter, customer information screens, lighting, public address system, passenger help points, signage and furniture
- Platform gauging and structure gauge at the platform

Rail Corridor

- The provision of approximately 6 km of new plain line track
- The provision of 13 new switch and crossing (S&C) units
- Existing structures – retaining walls, earthwork embankments, underbridges and culverts with and without interventions, supporting the new and existing track.
- New structures – underbridges supporting the new track

There are no restrictions or limitations of use on the structural subsystem as described in the Declaration of Verification, reference: 173726-PIO-SN06-ZZ-REP-EMG-000002 Version P01 14/11/2024 and described in the Approved Body and Designated Body Technical File Reference Reports:

NCB_N05835_CAR_5971 v1.0 Approved Body / DeBo Conformity Assessment Report (CAR) and Technical File for Infrastructure Subsystem dated 08/11/2024

NCB_N05119_ISV_5371 v2.0 Approved Body / Designated Body Conformity Assessment Report (CAR) - PRM and INF dated 08/11/24

The Ashington Safety Assessment Report reference: NCB_N05119_SAR_5766 v1.0 dated 23/10/24, and Rail Corridor Safety Assessment reference: NCB_N05119_SAR_5757 v2.0 dated 04/04/24, and Rail Corridor Safety Assessment Report addendum reference NCB_N05519_SAR_5890 v1.0 dated 26/07/24 undertaken by the Assessment Body concludes your suitable application of CSM-RA.

The Eastern System Review Panel has endorsed this project (SRP endorsement letter dated 06/11/2024). SRP is satisfied that the recommendations listed in the Ashington Safety Assessment Report reference: NCB_N05119_SAR_5766 v1.0 dated 23/10/24, and Rail Corridor Safety Assessment reference: NCB_N05119_SAR_5757 v2.0 dated 04/04/23, and Rail Corridor Safety Assessment Report addendum reference NCB_N05519_SAR_5890 v1.0 dated 26/07/2024 are considered closed and managed in accordance with the Declaration of Control Risk reference: 173726-AEC-SN06-ZZ-REP-EMG-000002, P02, dated 06/11/2024.

The infrastructure subsystem(s) authorised by this letter must be operated and maintained in accordance with Regulation 20.



You should be aware that any future modifications to the authorised subsystem may constitute a 'renewal' or an 'upgrade' as defined in Regulation 2. If a project entity, in relation to the project, considers that the modification meets either of these definitions they may apply, in accordance with the provisions of Regulation 13, to the Department for Transport (DfT) for a decision on whether a new authorisation will be required. Should DfT decide that an authorisation is not required they must consult with ORR whether authorisation is required on safety grounds.

As the project entity you are responsible for retaining the technical file, keeping it up to date and making it available to the ORR in accordance with Regulations 18 and 19.

If you are not the owner of the authorised subsystem you shall within 60 days, in accordance with Regulation 19(3), transfer the technical file, certificate of verification and verification declaration to the owner of the subsystem and the owner shall then be regarded as the project entity. If the owner, in accordance with Regulation 19(4), disposes of his interest in the authorised subsystem, he shall within 60 days of the disposal transfer the technical file, certificate of verification and verification declaration to the person acquiring that interest and that person shall be regarded as the project entity.

Please note that the person who applied for the authorisation shall send particulars to the owner of the infrastructure to enable the owner of the infrastructure to enter the items on the Register of Infrastructure in accordance with Table 1 of Commission Implementing Decision 2019/777 as amended by Regulations 21 to 30 of The Railways (Interoperability) (Miscellaneous Amendments and Revocations) (EU Exit) Regulations 2020. This will include such further information as the registration entity may reasonably require set out in the relevant standard.

The person who applied for the authorisation to place in service may apply to the ORR for a determination of type. You will receive the type authorisation after providing the relevant data to the ORR.

If you are the operator, may I remind you of the need to have adequate arrangements within your Safety Management System to control the risks associated with this infrastructure subsystem(s).

This decision letter will be published on ORR's website.

Yours sincerely

Steve Fletcher
Deputy Director, Engineering & Asset Management

Cc



| | |
|----------------------|--|
| James Le Grice | Head of Interoperability, Safety and Standards DfT |
| David Galloway | Head of System Compatibility, Network Rail |
| Dermot Kelly | ORR Head of Civil Engineering |
| Giles Turner | ORR Head of Interoperability and Rail Vehicle Engineering |
| Wendy Garnett | ORR HM Principal Inspector of Railways |
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