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Dear Les,

**ORR's regulation of land disposals by Network Rail.**

Thank you for your letter of 30th November.

We would be interested to see what the scale and number of applications under LC7 has been - our perception is that fewer applications are being processed. We note that ORR considers its processes have been made efficient and effective, but it is important to remember that Network Rail, not ORR, now does all the necessary consultation.

In addition, it is our strong belief that Network Rail simply does not put forward any LC7 applications that might in anyway at all be deemed controversial. This seems to us to be key point in regulating land disposals; the result is that the opportunities for the industry identified by the McNulty review are simply not being addressed.

The process may in itself be more efficient, but that process is simply not helping to address the issues that result in an effective stalemate regarding the potential disposal of land for which there is no conceivable current or future rail requirement.

Please contact me if you would like any clarification or amplification of any of the points in this letter; we would, as usual, be happy to discuss this further and have no objection to the contents becoming public..

Yours sincerely,



**Nigel Jones**  
**Head of Planning & Strategy**