

David Reed
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Office of Rail Regulation
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Dear David

GNER Section 17 Applications Edinburgh and West Yorkshire/Cleethorpes

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the comments from Network Rail on GNER's applications for new services between London King's Cross and Edinburgh, and new services between London King's Cross and West Yorkshire and Cleethorpes.

Since these applications were submitted, there has been significant and improving dialogue between GNER and Network Rail, and these have culminated in a recent Section 18 application for GNWR on the West Coast Main Line. It is our intention on all further applications to try and reach agreement prior to submission.

GNER welcomes support from Network Rail on the need to significantly grow the service between London and Edinburgh, and we have now shared detailed information with Network Rail on the details of our plans. We continue to work closely with Network Rail on all aspects of the planned operation, and expect shortly to commission a study from Network Rail on the infrastructure interventions that might be required to enable the introduction of tilt, which would give rise to significant journey time reductions.

Constructive dialogue will continue to try and come to an agreed position on both the applications.

In respect of the detail within the contract, that will be further addressed as dialogue continues, so I do not propose to address items individually in this response.

Yours sincerely



Ian Yeowart
Managing Director