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27 March 2015

Dear Nigel,

RE: 51st Supplemental Agreement

Thank you for your letter dated 6th March. The purpose of this letter is to respond to your comments.

In terms of identifying capacity for new and amended freight services on the East Coast Main Line between Newcastle and Scotland, Virgin Trains East Coast (VTEC) notes your concerns. Clearly our proposal will require additional capacity but we do not believe that this would materially worsen the ability for Freight Operatos to secure freight paths over this route.

As Network Rail is assessing the impact, capacity, performance and safety risks associated with this proposal, VTEC would welcome any further comments once these assessments have been completed.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Phil Dawson', with a horizontal line underneath.

Phil Dawson
Regulation & Track Access Manager

cc Mark Garner, Network Rail
David Reed, ORR