



Tamzin Cloke
Track Access and Possession Strategy Manager
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East Coast Main Line Company Limited
East Coast House, 25 Skeldergate
York YO1 6DH

virgintrainseastcoast.com

01 May 2015

Dear Tamzin,

RE: 51st Supplemental Agreement (Edinburgh, Monday - Friday)

Thank you for your letter dated 06 March. The purpose of this letter is to respond to your comments.

Virgin Trains East Coast ("VTEC") are disappointed that Cross Country is unable to support this application at this time on the grounds that the paths are not sufficiently robust.

In terms of the specific points you raise, VTEC would like to make the following comments:

Timetable

VTEC does not agree that there are TOC-on-self conflicts at Edinburgh. Enclosed are F3 prints with detailed schedule information demonstrating the extended services follow Cross Country services and are kept apart.

No platforming work has been undertaken to date. However, given the expectation of changes to other operator's services and rolling stock workings for both May 2015 and December 2015 timetable changes, we do not believe that it would be reasonable to expect Network Rail to undertake work for May 2016 as an exclusive exercise at this stage. However, VTEC is extremely mindful of this and will be seeking to work with Network Rail and industry colleagues at the earliest possible opportunity, hopefully as soon after D-55 as possible.

In terms of the UP services, please accept my apologies for providing inaccurate timings. The actual timings are as follows:

Depart Edinburgh 09:00, arrive Newcastle 10:23, depart 10:26 (non-stop)
Depart Edinburgh 13:00, arrive Newcastle 14:23, depart 14:26 (non-stop)
Depart Edinburgh 16:00, arrive Newcastle 17:23, depart 17:26 (non-stop)
Depart Edinburgh 19:35, arrive Newcastle 21:12 ½, depart 21:15 ½

Performance

We are concerned that you believe there are concerns with power supply supplies between Newcastle and Edinburgh - Network Rail have not raised any concerns in relation to this proposal or our services generally. I have asked Network Rail to respond on this point. As you will be aware, for several years on Saturdays, East Coast has operated a full half hourly timetable between Edinburgh and Newcastle and Scotrail operates an increased



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frequency for its electric North Berwick services (half hourly). No power supply issues or concerns have been raised by this increase in demand.

VTEC is committed to working with the whole industry to improve performance. In terms of your concerns relating to 1Y38 and the impact this has on Cross Country's 1V91, VTEC are not aware of any specific issues - if Cross Country have specific evidence, VTEC would like to investigate. I understand that my colleague Richard Baker is working very closely with Matthew Gutteridge on initiatives to improve performance on the section between Newcastle and York. VTEC are not aware of any plans to change the current regulation policy at Newcastle but I would expect regulation policies to be kept under review and updated as appropriate through industry agreement.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Phil Dawson".

Phil Dawson
Regulation & Track Access Manager

cc Mark Garner, Network Rail
David Reed, ORR