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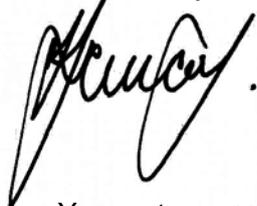
Dear Nigel,

Thank you for responding to this further period of consultation regarding Alliance Rail Holding's (Alliance) Section 17 proposal. Your comments are noted.

Network Rail has continued to work on the available capacity on the ECML post December 2016 and a draft report has been provided to the ORR.

I note your comment regarding the alteration to the date of commencement; however I am unable to find any reference to December 2017 in the original Form P. The Proposed commencement date remains, as stated in the original Form P, during the timetable that commences December 2016.

Yours sincerely,



Ian Yeowart
Managing Director