## Jonathan Rodgers Senior Executive, Access & Licensing

Telephone: 0207 282 3775

E-mail: jonathan.rodgers@orr.gov.uk

OFFICE OF RAIL AND ROAD

15 May 2020

Alistair Rusholme
Customer Manager
Network Rail Infrastructure Limited
One Stratford Place
12th Floor
1 Montfichet Road
London
E20 1EJ

Catherine Rowe
Track Access Manager
Abellio East Anglia Limited
One Stratford Place
11th Floor
1 Montfichet Road
London
E20 1EJ

Dear Alistair and Catherine

## Approval of the Seventy Seventh supplemental agreement to the track access contract between Network Rail Infrastructure Limited (Network Rail) and Abellio East Anglia Limited (AEA)

- 1. We have today approved the above supplemental agreement submitted to us formally on 14 May 2020 under section 22 of the Railways Act 1993 (the Act). This follows an earlier informal submission of a draft agreement for our consideration. This letter explains the reasons for our decision
- 2. The agreement amends Schedule 8 of the parties' contract to correspond with the access rights for the new Meridian Water station, which were approved by ORR in August 2019. The specific changes are as follows:
  - the inclusion of Meridian Water as a new Contractual Monitoring Point (CMP);
  - a weighting for the new CMP;
  - an associated reduction in the weighting of Stratford; and
  - an alteration to the Performance Points based on performance of the new services to date.
- 3. An industry consultation was not required for this type of application as it does not affect any other operator.

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- 4. Our review did not identify any issues.
- 5. When we consider access applications, we must do so in a way which we consider best fulfils our statutory duties which are set out in section 4 of the Railways Act 1993. We have concluded that approval of this agreement is consistent with our section 4 duties, in particular our duty relating to train service performance.
- 6. Under clause 18.2.4 of the track access contract, Network Rail is required to produce a conformed copy, within 28 days of any amendment being made, and send copies to ORR and the Train Operator. Please send the conformed copy to me at ORR.
- 7. Electronic copies of this letter, the approval notice and the agreement will be sent to Keith Merritt at Department for Transport and to Peter Craig at Network Rail. Copies of the approval notice and the agreement will be placed on ORR's public register and copies of this letter and the agreement will be placed on the ORR website.

Yours sincerely

**Jonathan Rodgers**