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Dear Brian

**Hull Trains 25<sup>th</sup> Supplemental Agreement**

This letter forms the National Express East Coast response to the above application

Unfortunately and despite our objection, the ECML RUS has been Established with a conclusion that, "Timetable analysis has shown that there is insufficient capacity on the main line between Peterborough and Doncaster to increase the level of off-peak LDHS service to 6tph and accommodate 1tph for today's level of freight services without worsening freight and passenger journey times and performance."

We are aware that you have requested Network Rail to undertake further analysis in this area and we look forward to seeing the results of this work. However, the current RUS statement has resulted in the SLC 2 timetable, for which we have a franchise obligation, being in conflict with the continuation of the Hull Trains services. The SLC 2 timetable is required to deliver the premia and also HLOS growth metrics for ECML and London Kings Cross.

National Express wishes to object to the granting of any access rights which would prevent delivery of the SLC 2 timetable by December 2010.

For the avoidance of doubt, we would not raise any objection if the Network Rail capacity analysis indicates that there is capacity both for SLC2, current freight and the continuation of Hull Trains services to Hull.

Yours sincerely

Adrian Caltieri  
Head of Operations Development