Michael Albon Executive, Access & Licensing Telephone: 0207 282 3660

E-mail: michael.albon@orr.gsi.gov.uk



20 December 2018

Mark Garner
Customer Manager
Network Rail Infrastructure Limited
Floor 4B, George Stephenson
Toft Green
York
YO1 6JT

Richard Mclean
Managing Director
Grand Central Railway Company Limited
3rd Floor
Northern House
Rougier St
York
YO1 6HZ

Dear Mark and Richard

Approval of the 10th supplemental agreement to the track access contract between Network Rail Infrastructure Limited and Grand Central Railway Company Limited

- 1. We have today approved the above supplemental agreement submitted to us formally on 19 December 2018 under section 22 of the Railways Act 1993 (the Act). This follows an earlier informal submission of a draft agreement for our consideration. The purpose of this letter is to explain the reasons for our decision.
- 2. Grand Central's track access contract dated 1 August 2014 contained a provision that the Expiry Date, the Principal Change Date 2026, would be brought forward to the Principal Change Date 2023 unless Grand Central obtained, by 31 December 2018, written notice from ORR that it had met the investment conditions which require specified investment in rolling stock and station facilities.
- 3. Grand Central has submitted some evidence but we require longer than the time left available to consider this and to request further information we may require. The parties therefore proposed, and we have agreed, to extend the date from 31 December 2018 to 30 June 2019.
- 4. As there are no changes to access rights, no consultation has been carried out. We are also satisfied that our approval is consistent with our section 4 duties, in particular those relating to protecting the interests of users of railway services (section 4(1)(a)), promoting the use of the railway network for the carriage of passengers (section 4(1)(b))

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and enabling persons providing railway services to plan their businesses with a reasonable degree of assurance (section 4(1)(g)).

- 5. 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.
- 6. 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 (website) and copies of this letter and the agreement will be placed on the ORR website.

Yours sincerely

Michael Albon