Approval of a Facility Access Contract between Govia Thameslink Railway Limited and Balfour Beatty Rail Limited under Section 18 of the Railways Act 1993

1. The Office of Rail Regulation ("ORR") has today approved the facility access contract submitted by Govia Thameslink Railway Limited ("GTR"), as facility owner at Three Bridges LMD, under section 18 of the Railways Act 1993 ("the Act") for Balfour Beatty Rail Limited. Please find enclosed a copy of the ORR’s direction notice, directing GTR to enter into the contract. The direction provides for modifications to be made to the submitted connection contract prior to entry into the contract by the parties and these modifications have been agreed by the parties.

2. Once the contract is signed, in accordance with section 72(5) of the Act, you must send a copy to the ORR within 14 days and in accordance with section 72(2)(b)(iii). This will be placed on the ORR’s public register.

3. In entering any provision on the register, the ORR is required to have regard to the need to exclude, as far as is practicable, the matters specified in section 71(2)(a) and (b) of the Act. These sections refer to:

(a) any matter which relates to the affairs of an individual, where publication of that matter would or might, in the opinion of the ORR, seriously and prejudicially affect the interests of that individual; and
(b) any matter which relates to the affairs of a particular body of persons, whether corporate or incorporate, where publication of that matter would or might, in the opinion of the ORR, seriously and prejudicially affect the interests of that body.

4. When submitting a copy of the signed contracts would you therefore please identify any matters which you would like the ORR to consider redacting from the library copy. You will need to give reasons for each request explaining why you consider that publication would seriously and prejudicially affect your interests.

5. Please do not hesitate to contact me to discuss any of the points I have raised in this letter.

Yours sincerely,

BILL HAMMILL