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Andriana Shiakallis
Customer Manager
Network Rail Infrastructure Limited
Cotton Centre
Tooley Street
London Bridge
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Tom Causebrook
Access Contract Manager
Govia Thameslink Railway Limited
1st and 2nd Floor Monument Place
24 Monument Place
London
EC3R 8AJ

Dear Andriana and Tom

## Eighth supplemental agreement to the track access contract between Network Rail Infrastructure Limited and Govia Thameslink Railway Limited (GTR)

- 1. We have today approved the above supplemental agreement submitted to us formally on 4 May 2017.
- 2. The purpose of this agreement is to extend the access rights approved under the 5th Supplemental Agreement on 20 December 2016 (1 SX London Victoria to Bognor Regis and 1 SX Eastbourne to London Victoria) for an additional timetable period.
- 3. Network Rail undertook a 28 day industry consultation ending on 7 April 2017. They received responses from Arriva Rail London, First Greater Western and Transport Focus with no concerns being raised.
- 4. Our own review identified no issues and we are satisfied that approval is in accordance with our statutory duties under section 4 of the Railways Act 1993.
- 5. In considering the agreement and in reaching our decision, we have had to weigh and strike the appropriate balance in discharging our statutory duties under section 4 of the Act. We have concluded that approval of this supplemental agreement is consistent with our section 4 duties, in particular those relating to protecting the interests of users of

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railway services (section 4(1)(a)), promoting the use of the railway network for the carriage of passengers (section 4(1)(b)) and enabling persons providing railway services to plan their businesses with a reasonable degree of assurance (section 4(1)(g)).

- 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. ORR's copy should be sent for my attention.
- 7. Electronic copies of this letter, the approval notice and the agreement will be sent to Keith Merritt at Department for Transport and 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