Dear Mr Coombs,

IL Ref A14C - 008
PL Ref TRO 10018

Thank you for your further letter of 4th inst.
As a non-motorist, it would be quite difficult to travel between Milton Keynes and Brackley by public transport, so it is extremely unlikely that I should be able to come to either of the specific hearing days:
15th Noise & 16th Traffic.

I would only make additional comments which the EA might wish to bear in mind when formulating their own questions:

1) Low frequency noise, generated in part by tyre contact with the microscopic unevenness of the road surface, can be audible up to approximately one mile distance. Some is transmitted as noise (air) and some by ground (vibration). The nuisance value can also depend upon wind speed, direction gustiness or otherwise.

2) The effect of exhaust pollution upon following drivers when they are fairly close together in a steady flow - at minimum NON "tail-gate" distance chart.

3) Overall future demand for the enhanced road surface space imposed by the ever-increasing container throughput at Felixstowe. If not already mentioned, it is to raise container-throughput from two million to three million annually. Also, the growing number of vessels carrying up to 19,000 each ship.
A few days ago, there was a TV programme (Channel More 4 perhaps) describing the docking of one of these huge vessels from the point of collecting the river pilot out at sea (seen him climbing the "pilot ladder") to its final berthing several hours later, Rotterdam. The pilot was using a satnav to an accuracy of "a few centimetres." Programme ended "11 hours later, ship taken out to sea by a different pilot."

4. Somewhere, I have seen a suggestion that, as there is less and less space for fully time-tabled freight trains imposed by ever-growing passenger demand, I invite the EA to comment, in the loosest (and vaguest) sense, upon the concept of a high-speed freight-only railway (i.e., electric to 90 mph) Felixstowe to West Midlands (Bescot) as an alternative to long-drawn-out road inquiries covering fairly short sections one at a time. How long has the present A14 Inquiry been going on? Going on? Going on? 10 years to my personal awareness.

Yours sincerely

P.S. I hope my writing of para 4 above is comprehensible, as it does not read well upon my re-reading of it.