

We act for Network Rail Infrastructure Limited (Network Rail) and have been instructed to submit relevant representations on its behalf. As a statutory undertaker affected by the proposed DCO we respectfully request the Examiner exercise its discretion and accept Network Rail as an interested party for the purposes of the Examination process. We note that other parties have been permitted to submit representations until 21 July 2023.

The draft DCO proposes the use of compulsory acquisition powers in relation to operational land of Network Rail and this poses significant issues for the safe operation of the railway. We also note that the DCO does not include any protective provisions for the protection of the railway which will be necessary given the proximate location of the works to the railway.

We reserve our client's position to expand on this representation.

yours sincerely

Michele Vas