

Alex Bartrum
RSS Department for Transport
Zone 4/26
Great Minster House
33 Horseferry Road
London SW1P 4DR

22 July 2016

Dear Alex

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the Department for Transport's consultation on the withdrawal of the UK's declaration not to apply Appendix E (CUI) to COFIF.

Application of Appendix E

In line with the minimal impacts anticipated, RDG can support the withdrawal of the UK's declaration not to apply Appendix E (CUI) to COTIF. We note, however, that since the consultation was launched, the UK government is exploring how it will leave the European Union (EU) in light of the recent referendum result. Given the close links between COTIF CUI and EU provisions, we would ask the DfT to consider this in the ongoing discussions following the referendum.

Assessment of impacts

RDG supports the DfT's assessment of the anticipated impact of withdrawing the declaration. We note that the changes to track access contracts required to comply with the provisions set out in the CUI are minor and only relate to international operators and the infrastructure manager. Furthermore, we welcome the approach of the Office of Rail and Road (ORR) not to incorporate amendments in the model contract as this would be unnecessary; model wording to be incorporated where appropriate is a proportionate way to ensure compliance.

Anticipated impacts

RDG and its members did not identify any additional impacts of the proposed action.

If RDG can provide any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



Laura Wright
Head of European Policy