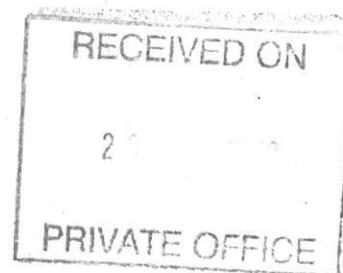


SOPP/77.

21st. May 2018

Secretary of State for Transport
c/o Transport & Works Act Order Unit
London SW1P 4DR

The Transport and Works Act 1992
RVR (Bodiam to Robertsbridge Junction) Order.



Dear Sir,

I am writing to support the application by Rother Valley Railway Ltd. For a TWA Order.

I have lived in East Sussex for most of my 75 years and have made frequent use of the north/south routes being the A21 and London Charring Cross/ Hastings railway line.

An east/west transport corridor through the Rother Valley would serve the needs of a growing tourist industry in this region. With the enthusiastic opening of the main line link at Robertsbridge by Sir Peter Hendy, chairman of Network Rail and support from national Trust (Bodiam castle) and other supporting bodies there appears to be a tourist industry case for re connecting to the present-day Kent & East Sussex Railway at Bodiam.

The TWAO documents prepared by RVR appear to be very professional. This and the work so far carried out by them is well managed and inspires confidence in the reinstatement of this railway. I have personal experience in working with RVR in conjunction with K&ESR, helping to lay track at Robertsbridge and Bodiam and found them to be experienced and workmanlike railway men.

I am a working member of the K&ESR and have been very impressed there by recent management changes that have resulted in a massive increase in business. As the RVR would hand over the completed railway to K&ESR to run, a strong business base will be essential. Current evidence suggests that they will be in a good position to do this.

I hope that this personal insight is helpful.

Yours sincerely,

Humphrey Atkinson

Building maintenance team member K&ESR