

25 Main Street Lyddington Oakham Rutland LE15 9LR

Tel: 07885 643341

Email: mike.holland@hollandlp.co.uk

19 December 2018

Joanna Vincent Inquiry Manager

By email only to: joannavincent@personaassociates.co.uk

Dear Joanna

CLIENT: E&K BENTON LIMITED
NETWORK RAIL LEVEL CROSSING PUBLIC INQUIRY

CLOSING STATEMENT

We write further to our client's appearance at the above Inquiry on 23 November and 4 December in respect of the proposals for the closure of the level crossing known as TO4 – Jefferies and the consequent proposals for additional footpaths.

For the sake of completeness, we attach a copy of our letters dated 16 November and 28 November which deal with points that arose prior to and during the Inquiry.

Furthermore, we also attach a copy of our client's letter to Thurrock Council, dated 11 December, in respect of the footpath proposals and our client's concerns that further access rights are being sought in addition to the Network Rail proposals, which our client has submitted to the Council following the oral evidence hearings on 23 November and 4 December.

Our client considers that they have demonstrated that there are sufficient alternatives should the decision be taken to close the level crossing and we refer the Inspector specifically to our letter of 28 November which records our client's further inspection of the existing and proposed footpath routes and their comments in that respect.

Specifically, there exists a suitable route via the Stanford Interchange which provides walkers with a satisfactory route if the level crossing is closed and we draw the Inspector's attention to the plan annexed to our client's letter to Thurrock Council attached which highlights this route.

For the avoidance of doubt, our client continues to object to the current proposals by Network Rail.

Yours sincerely

MfH. (

M R Holland MRICS

Director

HOLLAND LAND AND PROPERTY

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c.c. Tom Benton, E&K Benton Limited