From:

Sent:

27 July 2021 11:48

To:

TRANSPORTINFRASTRUCTURE

Subject:

Objection: Network Rail (Cambridge South Infrastructure Enhancements) Order

Dear Sir,

I would like to submit an objection to the abovementioned order.

My objection is not to the existence of the station, which is well-needed given the expansion of the biomedical campus and the likely routing of the East-West rail link via the Southern route into Cambridge. I am however concerned that Network Rail has drastically underestimated the required capacity for the station, and consequently the provision for transport links that serve it.

I'm sure you've heard from Smarter Cambridge Transport, and as is often the case, I agree with their opinion set out here [1] and question how Network Rail can disregard their detailed feedback [2] so sweepingly.

Although the IPPR considers the government's recently-published decarbonisation of transport strategy to be lacking in encouragement to switch transport modes [3], one would hope that travel by train will increase proportionately in coming years, so infrastructure investment like Cambridge South Station should err on the side of over-provision by current standards.

I urge you to challenge Network Rail to reconsider their usage estimates, or at least demonstrate the resilience of their design should usage exceed these estimates, before an Order can be granted.

- [1] https://www.smartertransport.uk/unchanged-design-for-cambridge-south-station-is-still-not-fit-for-purpose/
- [2] https://www.smartertransport.uk/response-to-cambridge-south-station-consultation-2/
- [3] https://www.ippr.org/news-and-media/press-releases/shifting-to-electric-vehicles-isn-t-enough-public-transport-walking-and-cycling-need-greater-role-in-uk-s-future-says-ippr

yours faithfully Chris Pointon

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