



OFFICE OF RAIL REGULATION

Geoff Jones
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HS1 Limited
73 Collier Street
London
N1 9BE

7 October 2011

Dear Geoff

HS1 Limited Consultation on Discount Policy

1. This letter forms ORR's response to HS1 Limited's industry stakeholder consultation of 3 October 2011 on its proposed policy on offering discounted access charges on High Speed 1.
2. We consider that having a general policy in place will provide operators and potential operators with greater clarity as to the circumstances when a discount may be offered and we welcome a transparent policy with clear principles.
3. We believe that the decision process to be applied by HS1 Limited is sufficiently clear and complies with the Railways Infrastructure (Access & Management) Regulations 2005.
4. As any agreed discounts will need to be reflected in framework track access agreements and approved by the ORR then we expect the supporting application form to state how the proposed discount satisfies the tests applied by HS1 Limited.
5. In order to support Principle 1; that a discount will be offered on a fair, transparent and non-discriminatory basis, reference to this discount policy should be made in the HS1 Network Statement. We recognise that HS1 Limited will be consulting on its Network Statement and this policy in parallel therefore we consider that for the current year, HS1 Limited explains that the discount policy consultation is being undertaken and provides the appropriate web link in its Network Statement. We would expect to make corresponding changes to the criteria and approvals document for HS1 once you have finalised your approach.

Yours sincerely


Kara Johnson

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