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The Rt Hon John Denham MP
Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government
Department for Communities and Local Government
Eland House
Bressenden Place
London SW1E 5DU

2 March 2010

Dear Secretary of State

STANSTED G2 PUBLIC INQUIRY

I refer to your letter of 10 February 2010 about the timetable for the Stansted G2 public inquiry.

You have invited BAA to advise you formally what our future intentions are, firstly regarding the planning applications and Orders, and secondly, if we are to pursue the proposal for a second runway, around the timescales we might envisage for the inquiry to open.

The planning applications and Orders were submitted in March and April 2008. In the context of the clear and continuing policy support for a second runway at Stansted, BAA and STAL do intend to pursue those applications and Orders and to seek a determination of them from the Secretary of State through the planning process.

The passage of time arising from the continuing uncertainty around the ownership of Stansted Airport means that it would be necessary to review the planning application and Orders material to establish what information would need to be updated. In doing this, we would need to take account of environmental assessment regulations as well as guidance in the Design Manual for Roads and Bridges regarding the provision of road traffic information. An appropriate time should be allowed for such updating as necessary to take place, and also for all parties to be consulted on any new information. Once the present uncertainty about ownership has been removed, BAA estimates that a period of some 12 to 18 months could be needed to review and update the material currently available.

In coming to this view, we have contacted the Highways Agency, who promoted the Roads Orders associated with the airport development, and the Department for Transport, whose Long Term East of England Capacity Plan for improvements to the West Anglia Main Line and M11 was reflected in the original applications.

Yours faithfully



Mike Forster
Infrastructure and Sustainability Director
BAA

cc: Lord Adonis, Secretary of State for Transport
cc: David O'Brien, Chairman, Stansted ACC
cc: Carol Barbone, Stop Stansted Expansion
cc: Roger Harborough, Uttlesford District Council
cc: Steve Bailes, Hertfordshire County Council
cc: David Dash, Essex County Council
cc: Chris Williams, CMS Cameron McKenna