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Franck David
Assistant Clerk to the Public Petitions
Committee
The Scottish Parliament
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EH99 1SP

17 March 2008

Dear Mr Franck

Re: Petition PE 115 - Blackford Station

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this petition. I apologise for the delay.

Network Rail is supportive of any transport project that delivers genuine benefit to the travelling public. During the Route Utilisation Strategy for Scotland's railway consultation we received a number of representations in support of this station. Currently, we consider that opening another station on this section of route would be difficult because there is no suitable train service which can call there. We do however, acknowledge if a new semi fast Glasgow/Dundee/Carnoustie/Arbroath service is ever introduced it could take additional calls at stations such as Blackford.

To progress this proposal a STAG study would be required to demonstrate a business case which we believe would be challenging. At this location a full 2- platform station would be required, probably with a fully DDA compliant footbridge.

I hope this information is useful.

Yours sincerely

Dave Boyce
Public Affairs Manager