



Please respond to:

**June Love
DSG Secretariat
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19 December 2017
Ref: DSG(2017)C042

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Mr Frank Roach
The Highlands and Islands Transport
Partnership (HITRANS)
2nd Floor, Rear
7 Ardross Terrace
Inverness
IV3 5NQ

Dear Mr Roach

DOUNREAY STAKEHOLDER GROUP: GEORGEMAS FACILITY

I am writing to you to ask if you could provide clarity on a statement that was provided to the Dounreay Stakeholder Group with regards the suitability of the Georgemas facility and commercial freight.

At our public meeting in September one of our members noted that he had received information from you indicating that the Georgemas Terminal facilities used by nuclear trains were not suitable for non-nuclear freight. Given this seemed to be contrary to HiTrans view at the Caithness Transport Forum we asked the member if he could share his correspondence with us.

We met again on 5th December and our member indicated that he had gone back to you to request approval to release the correspondence between you and our member and at the time of the meeting you had not responded. Therefore he had not been in a position to provide this to DSG until such times as you agreed that this could be released.

At the December meeting DRS provided an update presentation on the Georgemas facilities. Comments from members raised surprise that HiTrans would have indicated that the facility was not suitable for non-nuclear cargo given HiTrans involvement in the Caithness Transport Forum and the Far North Line Review Team. As far as we are aware this had not been raised by HiTrans or others as a barrier to commercial freight at these forums.

Given the confusion this has raised and the fact that there are now differing versions as to whether this terminal is fit for non-nuclear freight I am writing to you to ask for clarification.

I look forward to hearing from you in due course.

Yours sincerely

Sent electronically without signature

Roger Saxon
DSG Chairman

cc. Trudy Morris, Chair Caithness Transport Forum