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Chris Heaton-Harris MP  
House of Commons  
London  
SW1A 0AA

Our Ref:  
Date:

Northampton Gateway Rail  
Freight Interchange  
8 November 2018

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Dear Mr Heaton-Harris,

Thank you for your letter dated 29 October 2018, regarding the Northampton Gateway Rail Freight Interchange proposal.

I note your request that the above proposal is rejected. That decision is for the Secretary of State for Transport.

The Planning Inspectorate is currently undertaking an examination of the proposal. I am pleased that you have registered to participate in that examination. A panel of Inspectors (an "Examining Authority") have been appointed to conduct it, and they will make a recommendation to the Secretary of State in due course. Your letter has been seen the by the Examining Authority and will be considered before the report is made.

The Examining Authority has published a timetable for the examination, which can be found on our website and which has already been sent to you under separate cover. If you or your constituents would like more information about the examination process, please see our "Advice Note Eight: Overview of the nationally significant infrastructure planning process for members of the public and others" which can be found along with other advice and guidance on our website, here:

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/legislation-and-advice/advice-notes/>

The examination will take a statutory maximum of six months. There will then be a three month period for the Examining Authority to prepare their recommendation, and a three month period for the Secretary of State to make a decision. The Secretary of State has the power to extend the deadline for making a decision.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact my colleague, Kate Mignano, who is responsible for the administration of this application.

Yours sincerely,

Sarah Richards  
Chief Executive