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Your Reference  
  
Our Reference  
D/DE/JWOC  
Date  
17 January 2008

Dear Roger

**Joint Planning Inquiry (Steadings/Ray/Green Rigg)**

During the Special Procedural Meeting on 21 December 2007, William Norris QC said that AMEC was reasonably confident that it would satisfy Newcastle Airport and very confident that it would satisfy NATS as to a suitable condition and that that would result in the removal of their objections to AMEC's proposal. The purpose of his so telling the meeting was to make it appear that it was only the MOD's refusal to accept such a condition that was preventing a resolution of the aviation issue through the imposition of a condition.

I have spoken to representatives of both Newcastle Airport and NATS and I have been told that neither is confident that their concerns can be resolved through a condition.

I do not suggest that Mr Norris QC intentionally misled the meeting, but it is only right that the impression he created be corrected.

I am copying this letter to everyone who attended the meeting and also to Mr Mason and Mr Rogers at Newcastle Airport and to Mr Auld at NATS.

Yours sincerely

Julian Chafer FRICS

Head of Safeguarding  
Defence Estates

