



**NABO response to NR Consultations for
East West Rail Western Section Phase 2,
October 2016**

This response contains the comments and evidence provided by The National Association of Boat Owners (NABO) in October 2016 for the Network Rail Consultation on East West Rail Western Section Phase 2

The National Association of Boat Owners is dedicated to promoting the interests of private boaters on Britain's canals, rivers and lakes. NABO was formed in 1991 and represents over 3,000 boaters predominantly on the waterways operated by The Canal and Rivers Trust and the Environment Agency. Views of members are obtained through correspondence, Association publications, surveys, open meetings, and face to face contact with boaters at boat shows and on the waterways.

NABO wish to express their appreciation for the opportunity to contribute to the consultation.

General

NABO supports the principles of rejuvenation for the mothballed railway lines, the provision of new cross country passenger services between canal towns and centres, and the targets of reducing freight on the roads. We understand that the proposals do not come close to canal except in two places that we have identified. We comment on these alone.

Fenny Compton.

We note that the plan is to relay the second track on the route from Bedford to Bletchley over the existing iron bridge just south of Fenny Compton canal lock. There is no mention of changes to this bridge but it is important that the waterway air draft is maintained and towpath access not affected. We offer no objection on the understanding that there are no plans to change this. We note that the canal at Fenny Compton is an amenity with boaters sleeping overnight in the area. We ask that noise and light mitigation measures be put in place in this area during night working..

Wolverton

We note that the site of the carriage works is marked as part of the work area, but no scope of work is mentioned. We ask that this be clarified. However for the purpose of this note, we assume that the works will be used as a logistic centre. We note that the canal adjacent to the marked area is an amenity with boaters sleeping overnight moored on the canal towpath. We ask that noise and light mitigation measures be put in place in this area during any night working.

We are happy to further discuss any additional points or areas where the works cross or are near the canals, but that we have not identified.

National Association of Boat Owners

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