



# National Association of Boat Owners

As from 72 Main Road, Hackleton, Northampton, NN7 2AD

British Waterways  
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For the attention of Mr Robin Evans Chief Executive

4 March 2010

Dear Robin

## **NABO support for the 2020 vision.**

I write to state NABO's 'in principle' support for the current initiative to move British Waterways to the third sector.

We have carefully considered the suggestions made in the past months, separately and with other user groups, and we thank you for the opportunity to be involved in this process. We recognise that many details are still to be settled and commit to working with you in this endeavour.

Our reasoning is underpinned by the belief that the 3rd sector gives the best opportunity for all who love the waterways to engage with BW to support and influence the future. By working together we would be in a better position to understand and contribute to the priorities and ensure a sustainable future even in years of poor funding.

Furthermore we would wish to see a long term funding arrangement with Government away from politics and annual budget cycles and also create opportunities for contributions of time and money from other sources without the fear that it will be negated by reduced funding. We would wish to see the volunteer contribution to the waterways increasing without replacing the core expertise and work of BW staff involved in operations and maintenance, who are appreciated and highly valued by boaters.

I wish you success in your forthcoming discussions and decision making.

Yours sincerely

Chairman