In reply please quote: IF.766

National Rail

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Infrastructure and Access

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17 December 2001

Dr Ken Michael Acting Rail Access Regulator P O Box 7459, Cloister Square PERTH WA 6850

Dear Dr Michael

NOTICE OF INTENTION TO DETERMINE CERTAIN ROUTES

I refer to your request for public submissions to assist in considerations prior to determining ceiling prices on various rail routes in Western Australia.

National Rail Corporation Ltd is a substantial operator on the Midland to Kalgoorlie route.

National Rail submits that in determining the Gross Replacement Value of the railway infrastructure, pursuant to clause 2 of Schedule 4 of the Railways (Access) Code 2000, careful consideration needs to be given to assessing the type and scope of assets required to meet the actual and reasonably projected operational demand. The nature and extent of such assets may differ from those provided at present.

In particular:

- Operational demand between Midland and Avon Yard may not be optimally met by provision of a double track, dual gauge railway; and
- A safeworking system of lower capital cost than the present Centralised Traffic Control may by appropriate between Avon Yard and Kalgoorlie.

These aspects are noted for your consideration.

Yours sincerely

W D McLeod Manager Infrastructure and Access