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Our Ref: RFSPEC 16/23/2

11th February 2013

Dear Mr Edge

The Railways (Interoperability) Regulations 2011 – Eversholt Class 315 - 2020 accessibility deadline

Regulation 45 of the Railways (Interoperability) Regulations 2011¹ (RIR 2011) makes it unlawful for a passenger rail vehicle to be used in service on the trans-European rail system in the UK after 31 December 2019 unless it complies with the current or future versions of the Technical Specification for Interoperability - Persons with Reduced Mobility (PRM TSI) (and/or defined domestic accessibility standards²) except to the extent that:

- a. a derogation from part of the PRM TSI has been granted under Regulation 14 of RIR 2011;
- b. a determination that part of the PRM TSI does not apply has been made under Regulation 13(8) of RIR 2011; or
- c. a dispensation that part of the PRM TSI does not apply has been granted under Regulation 46 of RIR 2011.

This is a dispensation (effective from the date of this letter) made under Regulation 46(4) of the RIR 2011, granting that the vehicles listed in Annex A, collectively known as Class 315, need not comply after 31 December 2019 with those parts of the PRM TSI listed in Annex B. This follows consultation with DPTAC³.

¹ SI 3066/2011

² The Rail Vehicle Accessibility (Northern Ireland) Regulations 2001 or Part 1 of Schedule 1 to the Rail Vehicle Accessibility (Non-Interoperable Rail System) Regulations 2010

³ The Disabled Persons' Transport Advisory Committee

For the avoidance of doubt, a separate derogation or determination made under point a) or b) above would be required for any vehicle listed in Annex A that undergoes an upgrade or renewal that requires an authorisation under RIR 2011 after this dispensation. I have copied this dispensation to the ORR for their information.

Yours sincerely,



Robin Groth
signed by the authority of the Secretary of State

Annex A

Units	Vehicles
315 801 – 315 861 inclusive	64461 to 64582, 71281 to 71341, 71389 to 71449 inclusive

Annex B

4.2.2.3 para 11	Companion seating for wheelchair user
4.2.2.4.1 final para	Relative arrangement of door controls
4.2.2.4.2.1 para 11 & 12	Door alert tones
4.2.2.4.2.1 final para	Height of door controls
4.2.2.4.2.2 para 1	Timing of door control illumination
4.2.2.5	Illumination of step/floor threshold
4.2.2.8.2.1 para 1	Signage
4.2.2.8.3 paras 1	Lack of external bodyside PIS displays
4.2.2.8.3 paras 16	Volume of announcements
4.2.2.10 para 1	Clearance to handrails
4.2.2.10 para 4	Height of handrails in doorway
4.2.2.12.1	Platform/train gap & step
Annex N.3	Size of priority seat sign