



Cabinet Office

Caroline Nokes MP
Parliamentary Secretary
Cabinet Office
70 Whitehall
London
SW1A 2AS

Web www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk

Dr Ruth McKernan CBE
North Star House
North Star Avenue
Swindon
Wiltshire SN2 1UE
(SENT VIA EMAIL)

17 July 2017

Dear Dr McKernan

Re. Publication of 'Economic impact to the UK of a disruption to GNSS' report

I write to thank you for your letter of the 28th June highlighting the recent study from Innovate UK and others into the economic impact to the UK of a disruption to Global Navigation and Satellite Systems (GNSS), available on the GOV.UK website [here](#).

I share your interest and concern regarding this issue and thank you for pursuing this important work. As Minister with responsibility for the resilience of the UK's infrastructure, I am acutely aware that a disruption to satellite systems would affect the running of critical services. A broad range of sectors in the UK including the power grid, telecommunications networks, financial services, private and public transport including the maritime sector, emergency services and the military rely on this capability.

It is important to the UK Government therefore that an alternative to these satellite systems, which does not suffer from the same vulnerabilities, is established. Your letter and report notes that Enhanced Loran (eLoran), being a technologically dissimilar system, provides just such a resilient alternative to satellite systems. The UK Government is therefore supportive of any progress towards initiating and maintaining an operational eLoran network that can provide position, navigation and timing services and will lend support where appropriate to aid its establishment and continued use.

I understand that an in-depth UK Government review into the reliance of the UK's Critical National Infrastructure on satellite systems is due to be published shortly. This review will make an important contribution towards informing the UK Government's understanding of resilience to GNSS disruption.

I am copying this letter to the Government Chief Scientific Adviser and the Deputy National Security Adviser. A copy of this letter will also be published on the GOV.UK website.

Yours sincerely
Caroline Nokes

CAROLINE NOKES MP