



The Rt Hon John Denham MP
Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government

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Dear Sir/Madam

STANSTED G2 PUBLIC INQUIRY

I refer to my letter of 17 June 2009 about the G2 public inquiry timetable.

As you will know, on 21 December last year the Competition Appeals Tribunal (CAT) issued its Judgment on BAA's appeal to the Tribunal on two aspects of the Competition Commission's (CC) findings – as set out in their final report on BAA airports (*A report on the supply of airport services by BAA in the UK*).

Having read the CAT Judgment it is clear to me that the ownership issues around the airport will not be fully resolved for some time. Taken together with my previous commitment to a minimum of 8 weeks notice between a formal announcement and the start of the inquiry, I have concluded that the inquiry cannot reasonably start until after the next General Election (the latest date for which is Thursday 3 June).

Additionally, given that the planning applications, orders and associated documentation were originally submitted nearly 2 years ago, I consider there will clearly be a need for the applicant to re-visit some of this material. This being the case, I would like to invite BAA to advise me formally what their future intentions are, firstly regarding the planning applications and orders, and secondly, if they are to pursue the proposal for a second runway, around the timescales they might envisage for the inquiry to open, to ensure that any delay is minimised.

As mentioned above, I remain committed to ensuring that there will be a minimum of 8 weeks notice between my formal announcement and the start date of the inquiry. A copy of this letter will be posted on the Planning Inspectorate website and can be viewed at <http://www.planning-inspectorate.gov.uk/stanstedg2inquiry/index.htm>.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Denham".

JOHN DENHAM