



**National Union of Rail,  
Maritime & Transport Workers**

SS/16  
General Secretary: Bob Crow

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John Doyle,  
Inquiry Co-ordinator,  
Competition Commission,  
Victoria House,  
Southampton Row,  
LONDON,  
WC1B 4AD.

Dear Mr Doyle,

BRITTANY FERRIES/P&O FERRIES MERGER INQUIRY

Further to my letter of last week I wish to very briefly add to my comments on the Inquiry.

In my letter I stated that the acquisition should be allowed to proceed, one of the main reasons being that no other operator would be forthcoming on this route and it would make for a stronger ferry presence on the Western Channel.

I wish to emphasise this point further. It seems apparent that due to the losses incurred by P&O Ferries on these routes, Brittany Ferries are only in a position to take on these services due to the fact that they already operate on the Western Channel and they therefore have some scope for rationalisation or cost savings. A new company is of course not likely to enter the market in these circumstances. In addition P&O have made it quite clear that they will end their service on these routes even if the acquisition is not allowed to proceed.

I trust that you will be able to take into account these further comments.

Yours Sincerely

Bob Crow  
General Secretary.