

John Doyle Esq  
Inquiry Coordinator  
Competition Commission  
Victoria House  
Southampton Row  
LONDON  
WC1B 4AD

6<sup>th</sup> January 2005

Dear Mr Doyle

**Brittany Ferries and P&O ferries Merger Inquiry**

I am writing on behalf of the Road Haulage Association Ltd (RHA) to offer comments on the above inquiry. As you may know the RHA is the primary trade association representing the hire-or-reward sector of the road transport industry. We have some 10,000 members from major companies operating hundreds of vehicles to single vehicle owner-drivers.

In the limited time amount of time available the RHA has consulted with a few of our members who operate on the route affected. Whilst they have expressed no specific concerns on the proposal that would warrant an objection, there is nevertheless a more general concern that mergers of this type can lead to reduced services, increased prices or indeed both. Assurances from the parties concerned that this will not arise therefore would be welcome.

KAREN DEE  
Director of Policy