

12th July 2001

SRA Award £4.8 million in Freight Facility Grants

The SRA is awarding £4.8 million to eight rail schemes through its Freight Facilities Grant. The money, which is spread across seven companies, levers in over £2.4 million of private capital. Collectively, the schemes will save over 657,000 lorry journeys over the next ten years.

SRA Freight Director Julia Clarke said,

"I am pleased to announce the award of grants for a variety of schemes that will encourage the growth of rail freight. All are aimed at taking freight off road onto rail, and will make their own contribution towards the SRA's target of 80% rail freight growth over the next ten years".

Totalfina Elf Bitumen Ltd have been awarded a grant of £1.949 million for dedicated rail handling, unloading and storage facilities at their Preston plant. The grant will enable Totalfina's Preston plant to receive by rail, from Lindsay Oil Refinery (nr. Immingham), 110k tonnes of bituman per annum for the next ten years. The grant will remove over 95,000 lorry trips from the road.

Simsmetal (UK) Ltd have been awarded a grant of £809k towards the cost of rail track and handling equipment to enable them to transport 600k tonnes of shredded metals over a 10 year period from their Nottingham depot to Cardiff. It will remove over 52,000 lorry trips from our roads over the next 10 years.

DFDS Tor Line Ltd have accepted a grant offer of £795k for an intermodal gantry crane and associated facilities to handle steel traffic at the Nordic Terminal at Immingham. This will remove 250,000 lorry journeys from our roads over the next five years.

Grants have also been awarded to English, Welsh & Scottish Railway (£26k) for wagon refurbishment, two to the **Potter Group** at Selby (£264k) and **Knowsley** (£321k) for handling equipment, **Alcan Smelting & Power Ltd** (£400k) for the purchase and modification of 20 powder wagons and, lastly, **Day Aggregates** (£238k) for mobile handling equipment.

Details of Awards

Company	Freight Grant	Private Investment	Benefit
Simsmetal (UK) Ltd	£809,603	£539,735.96	52,170 lorry trips saved
Totalfina Bituman Ltd	£1,949,410	£632,590	96,920 lorry trips saved
EWS	£26,100	£8,700	39,955 lorry trips

DFDS Tor Line Ltd	£794,972	£794,971	saved 250,000 lorry trips saved
Alcan Smelting & Power Ltd	£400,000	£155,000	16,670 lorry trips saved
The Potter Group (Selby)	£263,693	£117,531	107,180 lorry trips saved
The Potter Group (Knowsley)	£321,080	£80,271	80,271 lorry trips saved
Day Aggregates	£238,037	£79,346	14,080 lorry trips saved
TOTALS	£4,802,895	£2,408,145	657,246 lorry trips saved

Note to Editors

Today's announcement brings to £4.9million the total awarded by the Strategic Rail Authority in Freight Facilities Grants. (An award of £100,000 was made to the Potter Group (Ely) in March).

Media Enquiries:

Simsmetal: 01789 720431

Totalfina Bituman: 01772 729302

EWS: 020 7713 2486

DFDS Tor Line: 01255 244201

Alcan Smelting & Power Ltd: 01572 755133

Potter Group: 01353 662345

Day Aggregates: 020 8380 9600