



Department  
for Transport

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Our Ref: TWA 2/2/0186  
Your Ref: FB/BS

22<sup>nd</sup> December 2021

Dear Brendan,

**Transport and Works Act 1992  
Transport and Works (Applications and Objections Procedure) (England and Wales)  
Rules 2006.**

**The River Tyne Tunnels (Modification) Order**

Thank you for your letter dated 3rd December 2021, in which you request a direction under rule 18 of the Transport and Works (Applications and Objections Procedure) (England and Wales) Rules 2006 (“the Rules”), regarding the above proposed application.

You are seeking a direction to disapply the requirement under rules 9, 10(1) & 10 (2) of the Rules to submit multiple hard copies of the application and associated documents to the Secretary of State. We note in your letter that you have stated that the reason for your waiver request is that the sending of physical, as opposed to electronic, documents would require the attendance of officers of North East Combined Authority (NECA), the Council (Gateshead Council) and the Department for Transport at workplaces while the Covid-19 pandemic continues and while working from home, where possible, continues to be recommended for public health reasons. We further note that you wish to submit your documentation in electronic form.

The Secretary of State is therefore content to make the direction that the above requirements under rules 9, 10(1) & 10(2) of the Rules are not to apply in relation to this application on the grounds that it is unnecessary to supply hard copy documents for this application. This direction is being made on the expectation that the required documents are submitted electronically, and that hard copies should be made immediately available to the Secretary of State upon request at any time before a decision on this application is issued, for example should a Public Inquiry be necessary.

Yours sincerely,

**Natasha Kopala  
Head of Transport Infrastructure Planning Unit**