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Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros yr Economi a Thrafnidiaeth  
Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Transport



Llywodraeth Cymru  
Welsh Government

Ein cyf/Our ref KS/02507/18

David John Rowlands AM  
Chair - Petitions committee.

government.committee.business@wales.gsi.gov.uk

*Dear David*

*18* September 2018

Thank you for your letter of 15 August regarding Petition P-05-838 in support of plans to build the M4 Relief Road along the proposed Black Route.

The M4 Corridor around Newport Project is, in collaboration with the Metro, Welsh Government's proposed long-term, sustainable, transport solution for south Wales. After more than a year, the public inquiry into this project finished in March. The inquiry facilitated open and robust scrutiny, by independent inspectors, into all aspects of the proposals. All parties have had their say, both for and against the scheme.

We now await the inspector's report, which, once received, will be given due consideration before the statutory decision making process is concluded.

In recognition of the importance of this matter to the whole of Wales, we have already committed to a debate in Government time in the Assembly before a final decision is made by the Welsh Ministers on whether to proceed to construction. The spirit of the petition is of course recognised and I am happy to provide further information on the project to the petitions committee if they wish. However I would suggest that appropriate and comprehensive processes are in place to both inform and scrutinise decision making around what would undoubtedly be a significant infrastructure investment for Wales.

Further general information on the project can be found at our website using the following link: <https://gov.wales/m4newport>. Should the committee have any specific questions please let me know.

*Ken Skates*

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.