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6th March 2013

Barbara Perata Smith
Civil Aviation Authority
CAA House
45-59 Kingsway
London
WC2B 6TE

Barbara.Peratasmith@caa.co.uk

Dear Ms Perata Smith,

Minded to Consultation on Market Power at Stansted Airport

This is the response of London Southend Airport to this consultation document, dated January 2013. We do not have any additional evidence to submit, however we would like to suggest that the weight given to the evidence is based on a starting point that economic regulation should be a matter of last resort, only if the market has shown itself incapable of achieving the desired objectives. It is also relevant to note that Stansted Airport will soon be under different ownership, meaning that all of London's ^{main} airports are now in separate ownership. It takes time for a new owner to establish new policies, as for example at Gatwick, and the effect of Stansted's ownership change will likewise take time to settle.

We would therefore suggest that you should consider the decision on whether Stansted meets the three tests on the basis of evidence that it is likely to abuse its position in the future, rather than an assumption that it will abuse its position unless there is regulation.

Yours sincerely


Alastair Welch
Managing Director