OBJECTION BY MR. EUGENE MOORE

Good afternoon Mr Chairman and members. I am Eugene Moore, Welcome Break’s Development Director and I wish to address you briefly on four points.

Firstly, this is the wrong location. This service area is proposed on the stretch of motorway at Junction 50 that bears 22,000 fewer vehicles per day than the much busier section less than 3 miles away south of Junction 49.

Secondly, it's too big. To service these lower levels of traffic, the scale of this development is extremely large and has at least two and a half acres more developed land than is needed, including a 31,000 square foot hotel, all of which exacerbates the significant landscape impacts of this scheme.

Thirdly, Moto has misled you on the quality of farmland at this site. This site has been surveyed in 1994, 2007 and 2010 and each time it was concluded that the whole area is best and most versatile land. Furthermore, two weeks ago we commissioned a Fellow of the British Institute of Agricultural Consultants to do another survey across identical land within 60 metres of the Moto site. Once again that survey concluded that the land quality in this locality is still best and most versatile. Moto’s assessment is flawed and their conclusions are not credible. This site is on best and most versatile farmland.

Fourthly and finally, the merits or otherwise of Moto’s proposal will be heard next month by a Planning Inspector at a Public Inquiry on 17th November. We respectfully request that, for fairness, consistency and transparency of due process, you let this be the forum for this scheme to be further examined and therefore refuse this application today.

Thank you.