



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR MOBILITY AND TRANSPORT

Directorate B - Investment, Innovative & Sustainable Transport
The Director

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Mr Priit Humal
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Email: toimkond@avalikulrailbalticust.ee

Subject: Your letter of 19 September 2017

Dear Mr Humal,

Thank you for your letter of 19 September 2017.

The updated CBA is an important component of the Rail Baltica project, confirming that the benefits of the project exceed the costs of the investment: 16.2 billion EUR of net socio-economic benefits in contrast to a total CAPEX of 5.8 billion EUR. Let me also recall that the CBA projects the modal shift of trucks from road to rail at 30-40%, and the CO₂ emissions and air pollution reduction benefits are expected to exceed 6 billion EUR over the period up to 2055. Modal shift would also enhance road safety: 400 lives could be saved over the period 2026-2055, thanks to Rail Baltica.

The updated CBA performed by Ernst&Young Baltic Ltd was presented publicly at the Rail Baltica Global Forum in Riga in April 2017 and to the best of my knowledge, RB RAIL as well as the contractor have made very clear that they are fully open to a constructive exchange of views with all stakeholders. The full report is publicly accessible¹, and was presented also to interested parties in Estonia.

The analysis used was fully in line with the Commission's guidelines for such CBAs and was reviewed by independent experts. I would also like to reassure you that neither of the experts is a DG MOVE official.

Finally, let me state very clearly that DG MOVE has no reason to doubt the methodological soundness of the analysis, which – once again – was conducted fully in line with Commission guidelines. In any case, it would be for the authors of the CBA to discuss the technical issues referred to in the annex of your letter but I also understand that RB Rail has published on its website replies to the technical questions raised in your letter.

I trust this answers your questions satisfactorily.

Yours sincerely,

Herald RUIJTERS

¹ http://www.railbaltica.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/04/RB_CBA_FINAL_REPORT_0405.pdf