

News Release



Docklands

Docklands Light Railway — The Beckton Extension

16 August 1989

DLR CONTRACTOR NAMED

A letter of intent has been issued to Balfour Beatty Construction Ltd by the Docklands Light Railway (DLR) and the London Docklands Development Corporation (LDDC) for the construction of the first phase of the 8km DLR extension to Beckton.

Balfour Beatty will be formally awarded the £20m contract, for construction of the railway between West India Dock Road and Prestons Road, following the signing of an operating agreement by LDDC and London Regional Transport. This will be the first building contract to be let for the £240m Beckton Extension which is scheduled for completion in late 1992 and is being funded by the LDDC.

Balfour Beatty was one of six companies invited to tender for construction of a new junction, to separate trains on the Beckton Extension from trains on the existing lines, and the remodelling of Poplar Station.

Detailed planning permission, for the railway between West India Dock Road and Prestons Road, as well as the reconstruction of Poplar Station, was granted by the LDDC yesterday. The railway has been designed to minimise noise emission by a combination of methods, including reinforced concrete structures and additional

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noise barriers in particularly sensitive areas. Properties with predicted noise levels above the reduced threshold of 65dBA, determined by the House of Lords, will qualify for noise insulation. Royal Assent for the Bill authorising construction of the railway was granted on 21 July 1989.

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Note to Editors

1. The initial 12km railway, linking Tower Gateway and Stratford with the Isle of Dogs, was opened in August 1987. Contracts are in progress to extend the railway 1.5km west, to Bank Station, and to upgrade the existing railway for the operation of double length trains.

2. In addition to Contract 1, the Beckton Extension is divided into three further contracts:

Contract 2: Construction of the railway between Prestons Road and Beckton. Tenders are due back in early September and it is hoped to award the contract in November.

Contract 3: Forty four vehicles for the Bank and Beckton Extensions on order from BN Constructions Ferroviaires et Metalliques SA of Belgium, with major sub systems from Hawker-Siddeley Rail Projects, Chippenham. Deliveries are planned to start at the end of 1990.

Contract 4: Automated fare collection equipment. Tenders have been received and are currently being assessed.

3. DLR currently operates 11 vehicles. Ten more vehicles are being built by British Railway Engineering Ltd in York, for delivery in the Spring of 1990.