

The CNMC demands Adif Alta Velocidad to respond to Ouigo about capacity on the Madrid-Valladolid and Madrid-Murcia lines within one month.

- Ouigo requested Adif Alta Velocidad (AV) to sign a framework agreement more than a year ago and reported the lack of response to the CNMC.
- Adif and Adif AV must draw up a procedure to process requests for framework capacity for their infrastructures.

Madrid, 1 August 2024 – The Spanish National Markets and Competition Commission (CNMC) has approved the Decision on the complaint filed by Ouigo España, S.A.U. concerning the request for a capacity reservation framework agreement on the Valladolid-Segovia-Madrid and Madrid-Elche-Murcia lines ([STP/DTSP/009/24](#)).

On 12 June 2023, Ouigo requested framework capacity on the Madrid-Segovia-Valladolid and Madrid-Elche-Murcia lines, for a minimum of 3 service timetables (3 years). Adif AV has still not replied despite its obligation to respond to framework agreement requests “promptly”. The CNMC has instructed it to do so within one month.

Framework agreements guarantee railway companies infrastructure capacity for more than one service timetable, which gives them investment certainty in assets, such as trains, which have long amortisation periods.

[European Regulation 2016/545](#) states that the infrastructure manager must respond “promptly” to requests for framework capacity from railway undertakings.

Framework capacity award procedure

Framework agreements have been a key tool for new operators on the Madrid-Barcelona, Madrid-Levante and Madrid-Sur corridors. The [CNMC Agreement of 25 November 2021](#) already urged Adif and Adif AV to establish a procedure for processing framework capacity applications.

According to this Decision, the CNMC requires them to establish this procedure as part of the next amendment of their network statement¹, which will last for a maximum of eight and a half months.

¹ A network statement is an annual document published by infrastructure managers which details the technical and economic conditions of access to the railway network and the procedures for requesting capacity.

Related content:

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