

IN PARLIAMENT  
HOUSE OF COMMONS  
SESSION 2005-06

CROSSRAIL BILL

Against – on Merits – Praying to be heard by Counsel, &c.

To the Honourable the Commons of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in Parliament assembled.

THE HUMBLE PETITION of     1. THE STAFFORD PARTNERSHIP &  
  2. MERCURY THEATRES LIMITED

SHEWETH as follows:-

- 1     A Bill (hereinafter referred to as “the bill”) has been introduced and is now pending in your honourable House intituled “A Bill to make provision for a railway transport system running from Maidenhead, in the County of Berkshire, and Heathrow Airport, in the London Borough of Hillingdon, through central London to Shenfield, in the County of Essex, and Abbey Wood, in the London Borough of Greenwich; and for connected purposes”.
- 2     The Bill is presented by Mr Secretary Darling, supported by The Prime Minister, Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, Secretary Margaret Beckett, Mr Secretary Hain, Secretary Alan Johnson, Secretary Tessa Jowell, and Derek Twigg.
- 3     Your humble petitioners are directly and specially affected by Sections 1-9 of the Bill which is objected to because it does not provide for adequate means of testing and monitoring to assess any potential loss from movement, sound/vibration and injurious affection caused by tunnelling and the operation of a railway system.
- 4     Your Petitioners are: The Stafford Partnership, owners of No. 15 Monmouth Street, London, WC2 and 65/67 Neal Street, London, WC2., buildings under which the proposed tunnel is being built and Mercury Theatres Ltd, tenants of 15 Monmouth Street London WC2.
- 5     Your Petitioners and their rights, interests and property are injuriously affected by the Bill, to which your Petitioners object for reasons amongst others, hereinafter appearing.
- 6     Your Petitioners object to the Bill in its present form and wish the Committee to consider the inclusion of provisions for the following safeguards at the Contractor’s/Franchisee’s cost.

A. Schedules of Condition before and after tunnelling.

(if requested by the owners or tenants). Prior to the commencement of tunnelling a detailed inspection and a Schedule of Condition to be drawn up by a qualified Chartered Surveyor including photographs of the affected premises. After construction is completed a further detailed inspection and Schedule of Condition be prepared these documents to be made

available to all interested parties as a true and fair record to establish any consequential loss or injurious affection and form the basis for repair and/or compensation.

**B. Monitoring/recording sound/vibration during construction and railway operation.**

The placement of sound and vibration sensors at the Contractor's/Franchisee's cost in the basement of the affected premises to monitor and record levels of sound and vibration the presence of which could injuriously affect the occupant's ability to operate as a sound recording studio and prohibit the owner's ability to re-let the premises. Any consequential loss by the occupants/owners to be adequately compensated for at the Contractor's or Franchisee's cost, such losses to be fairly estimated by a jointly nominated member of the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors whose final decision shall be legal and binding.

- 7 For the foregoing and connected reasons your Petitioners respectfully submit that, unless the Bill is amended as proposed above, the clauses affecting your Petitioners, should not be allowed to pass into law.
- 8 There are other clauses and provisions of the Bill which, if passed into law as they now stand will prejudicially affect your Petitioners and their rights, interests and property and for which no adequate provision is made to protect your Petitioners.

YOUR PETITIONERS therefore humbly pray your Honourable House that the Bill may not be allowed to pass into law as it now stands and that they may be heard by their Counsel, Agents and witnesses in support of the allegations of this Petition against so much of the Bill as affects the property, rights and interests of your Petitioners and in support of such other clauses and provisions as may be necessary or expedient for their protection, or that such other relief may be given to your Petitioner in the premises as your Honourable House shall deem meet.

AND your Petitioners will ever pray, &c.