

HOUSE OF COMMONS

SESSION 2005-6

CROSSRAIL

PETITION

Against the Bill – 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 A D SUTHERLAND AND R A SUTHERLAND

SHEWETH as follows:-

1. A Bill (hereinafter called "the Bill") has been introduced into and is now pending in your honourable House entitled "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 promoted by Crossrail (Cross London Rail Links Limited). Clauses 1 to 20 set out the Bill's objectives in relation to the construction and operation of the railway transport system mentioned in paragraph 1 above. They include provision for compulsory acquisition, planning permission, heritage issues, trees and noise. Clauses 21 to 44 of the Bill establish a regulatory regime for the railway transport system and clauses 45 to 59 of the Bill deal with miscellaneous and general provisions.

3. Your Petitioners object to Clause 1 of the Bill which gives authority to the "nominated undertaker" to construct the works specified in Schedule 1 to the Bill, listed in Schedule 1 to the Bill as Work No. 2/18A through to Work No. 2/18E in the Borough of Brentwood in the County of Essex.
4. Your Petitioners are A D Sutherland and R A Sutherland, of 95 Hunter Avenue, Shenfield, Brentwood, Essex CM15 8PG. They own and occupy, with two children who have special needs, the property at 95 Hunter Avenue, which is a small detached house backing on to the railway embankment, beyond a short back garden.
5. Your Petitioners are specially and directly affected by the Bill because their home backs onto the site of the proposed works at Shenfield station. According to the Environmental Statement deposited with the Bill, residents of our road, Hunter Avenue, number 95 among others being specifically listed as such, will be significantly affected by noise and visual impact, to the extent that residents are likely to be eligible for insulation or rehousing. Your Petitioners will be so affected.

Furthermore, your Petitioners' house is located on a road which will, according to the environmental statement deposited with the Bill, be used as a route for construction vehicles coming to and from the work sites at Shenfield Station and your Petitioners will therefore be affected by increased noise and traffic congestion outside their house.

6. Your Petitioners and their interests and property will be injuriously affected by the proposals in the Bill to which your Petitioners object, for the reasons, amongst others, hereinafter appearing.
7. Your Petitioners object to the Bill because they believe it is unnecessary for the railway transport system mentioned in paragraph 1 above to be built to Shenfield. This is because there is a widespread view that few people would use the service at Shenfield since, as the Promoters stated at a public meeting in Shenfield, the existing faster trains to and from Stratford and London Liverpool Street are to be continued. If unnecessary, therefore, the interests of your Petitioners can be protected by amending the route of the proposed railway to terminate where substantial customer demand is expected, such as at Stratford. Your Petitioners and others nearby and others between Stratford and Shenfield will suffer blight to

their property and lives from the construction in the form of substantially increased noise, dust, heat in the summer if windows must be kept closed, danger from heavy vehicles and the threat of having to move elsewhere for several months. Your Petitioners have children with a special need for routine and stability in their lives. Furthermore, your Petitioners' property value is likely to have fallen as a result of their home having been advertised on the Promoters' internet website as being likely to suffer the blight mentioned above, in addition to the problems local businesses may suffer. Your Petitioners will face difficulty in selling the property and consequent permanent financial loss should they need to move during the very long period from now until completion of the railway transport system mentioned above. For the foregoing and connected reasons your Petitioners respectfully submit that, unless the Bill is amended as proposed above, Clause 1, so far affecting your Petitioners, should not be allowed to pass into law.

8. There are other clauses and provisions in 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.