

HOUSE OF COMMONS
SESSION 2005-06

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 RIVERSIDE RESOURCE
RECOVERY LIMITED

SHEWETH as follows :-

1. A Bill (hereinafter called "the Bill") has been introduced into 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. 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. The works proposed to be authorised by the Bill are specified in Schedule 1 to the Bill and the scheduled works are defined in the Bill as the works specified in Schedule 1 to the Bill which are works authorised to be constructed by the nominated undertaker (defined in the Bill and hereinafter referred to as "the nominated undertaker").
4. Your Petitioners are Riverside Resource Recovery Limited. Your Petitioners are a subsidiary of a group of companies, known as Cory Environmental. Cory Environmental is one of the UK's leading recycling and waste management providers. They operate in over 30 locations throughout the country, providing services in the collection, recycling and disposal of waste and in municipal cleansing. Your Petitioners are the freehold owners and occupiers of certain land which lies within the limits of deviation for the works which may be constructed under the Bill. Your Petitioners' lands lie in the London Borough of Bexley.
5. The Bill would authorise the compulsory acquisition of your Petitioners' land, to which they object. Furthermore, your Petitioners interests will be injuriously affected by the proposals in the Bill and they object to the Bill insofar as it affects your Petitioners' interests, for the reasons, amongst others, hereinafter appearing.
6. Plots numbered 78 to 81, 83 to 87, 94, 96 to 98, 100 and 104 in the London Borough of Bexley, as shown on the deposited plans, are liable to compulsory acquisition under the Bill, and all of these plots are in your Petitioners' ownership, part ownership, occupation or part occupation. All of the said plots are liable to permanent compulsory acquisition except for plot number 80 which is listed in Schedule 5 to the Bill, and which may only be acquired temporarily for the purpose of use as a working site.
7. Under the powers contained in the Bill, the land to be acquired is intended to be used, first, in association with the construction and operation of a barge loading facility, achieved by way of the refurbishment of Manor Wharf in the River Thames and secondly, to provide access to the wharf for lorries bringing spoil from the Plumstead tunnel portal and the intervention shafts at Arsenal Way and Warren Lane. This is intended to be achieved in part by the alteration and improvement of Norman Road.

8. The land which is in the ownership of your Petitioners, and to which access is obtained by Norman Road, forms part of a larger site which is the subject of an application by your Petitioners for consent to construct and operate a major energy from waste plant. The application has been made to the Secretary of State for Energy under section 36 of the Electricity Act 1989, and was the subject of a three month long public inquiry in 2003. In January 2005, the inquiry inspector issued his report recommending approval for the scheme. The Secretary of State for Energy has not made a formal decision on the application because she considered that further information should be submitted by all parties in relation to certain government policies issued since the close of the inquiry. As a consequence, the inquiry was reopened on 6 September 2005 for a three week period.
9. The Crossrail proposals are in direct conflict with your Petitioners' proposals for their facility. If your Petitioners' scheme is approved, the Crossrail proposals for compulsory acquisition and use of the plots in question would, as they stand, prevent it from going ahead. Your Petitioners have been seeking an agreement with the promoter of the Bill such that their fears will be overcome, and they are optimistic that a solution will be forthcoming. In the absence of such an agreement, your Petitioners humbly request your Honourable House that the Bill should be amended so that your Petitioners' land is not subject to powers of compulsory acquisition under the Bill and that alternative clauses are substituted providing protection for your Petitioners and their development proposals, including provisions to ensure that access to their development site by their vehicles is maintained at all times during the construction and operation of the Crossrail works and that the construction and operation of the Crossrail works will not impede RRRL's ability to construct and operate its proposed development.
10. There are other clauses and provisions in the Bill which, if passed into law as they now stand, will prejudicially affect the rights and interest of your Petitioners and other clauses and provisions necessary for their protection and benefit are omitted therefrom.

YOUR PETITIONERS THEREFORE

HUMBLY PRAY

your Honourable House that the Bill may not pass into law as it now stands and that they be heard by themselves, 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 amendments as may be necessary and proper for their protection and benefit.

AND YOUR PETITIONERS will ever pray,
&c.

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of

RIVERSIDE RESOURCE RECOVERY LIMITED

AGAINST,

BY COUNSEL, &c.