

0238

IN PARLIAMENT

HOUSE OF COMMONS

SESSION 2013–14

HIGH SPEED RAIL (LONDON – WEST MIDLANDS) BILL

Against – on Merits – 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

SELCO TRADE CENTRES 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 between Euston in London and a junction with the West Coast Main Line at Handsacre in Staffordshire, with a spur from Old Oak Common in the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham to a junction with the Channel Tunnel Rail Link at York Way in the London Borough of Islington and a spur from Water Orton in Warwickshire to Curzon Street in Birmingham; and for connected purposes*".
2. The Bill is presented by Mr Secretary McLoughlin, supported by The Prime Minister, the Deputy Prime Minister, Mr Chancellor of the Exchequer, Secretary Theresa May, Secretary Vince Cable, Secretary Iain Duncan Smith, Secretary Eric Pickles, Secretary Edward Davey, and Mr Robert Goodwill.
3. Clauses 1 to 23 set out the Bill's objectives in relation to the construction and operation of the railway transport system set out in paragraph 1 above. They include compulsory acquisition and planning. Clauses 24 to 42 establish a regulatory regime for the railway transport system and clauses 43 to 65 deal with miscellaneous and general provisions. The works affecting your Petitioners are contained in Schedule 1 Scheduled Works numbers 1/1 and 1/15.
4. Your Petitioners are Selco Trade Centres Limited, a chain of builders merchants, who have a leasehold interests in and an operational business undertaking at Hangar Lane in the London Borough of Ealing (Parcels 452 and 453 on sheet number 1-20 ("the Selco Property")).

5. Your Petitioners and their rights, interests and property are injuriously affected by the Bill, to which your Petitioners object for the reasons, amongst others, set out below:
 - a. Your Petitioners' undertaking at the Selco Property is a key supplier of building materials to the local small and medium sized construction trade. It performs an important function in the local supply chain for construction materials. It is also a key active employment site, providing around 60 local jobs.
 - b. The Promoters propose to take a significant part of the Selco Property permanently in order to construct the Westgate vent shaft, and to take the remainder of the Selco Property temporarily to establish the Westgate vent shaft main compound. The proposed works will require the demolition of the warehouse building and clearance of the site.
 - c. The proposed works will entail the total extinguishment of your Petitioners' business undertaking at the Selco Property.
 - d. The Promoters have failed adequately to consider all the potential alternative locations for the Westgate vent shaft and main compound, in particular (but not only) the office building immediately to the east of the Selco Property or on and within the structure of the proposed reconstructed Hangar Lane gyratory.
 - e. The extinguishment of your Petitioners' undertaking at the Selco Property will both unnecessarily harm your Petitioners' legitimate business interests and affect local traders who will, at inconvenience and loss, be obliged to travel further afield for materials.
 - f. There is currently no other site in the locality to which your Petitioners' business could viably be located.
 - g. The Bill ought therefore to be amended to exclude the Selco Property as the location for the Westgate vent shaft and main compound.
 - h. While some loss of trade to existing businesses affected by construction impact is conceded, no firm and binding commitment is offered by the Promoters to compensate your Petitioners before the exercise of powers of entry.
6. For the foregoing and connected reasons your Petitioners respectfully submit that, unless the Bill is amended as proposed above, so far affecting your Petitioners, the Bill should not be allowed to pass into law.

7. 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.



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SELCO TRADE CENTRES LIMITED

AGAINST, By Counsel, &c.

Agent for the Petitioner:

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