

IN PARLIAMENT

HOUSE OF COMMONS

SESSION 2013–14

HIGH SPEED RAIL (LONDON - WEST MIDLANDS) BILL

PETITION

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 Valerie Ann Stevenson.

SHEWETH as follows:-

1. A Bill (hereinafter referred to as “the Bill”) has been introduced and is now pending in your honourable House entitled “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 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 Owen Paterson, Secretary Edward Davey, and Mr Robert Goodwill.

3. Clauses 1 to 36 set out the Bill's objectives in relation to the construction and operation of the railway mentioned in paragraph 1 above. They include provision for the construction of works, highways and road traffic matters, the compulsory acquisition of land and other provisions relating to the use of land, planning permission, heritage issues, trees and noise. They include clauses which would disapply and modify various enactments relating to special categories of land including burial grounds, consecrated land, commons and open spaces, and other matters, including overhead lines, water, building regulations and party walls, street works and the use of lorries.
4. Clauses 37 to 42 of the Bill deal with the regulatory regime for the railway.
5. Clauses 43 to 65 of the Bill set out a number of miscellaneous and general provisions, including provision for the appointment of a nominated undertaker ("the Nominated Undertaker") to exercise the powers under the Bill, transfer schemes, provisions relating to statutory undertakers and the Crown, provision about the compulsory acquisition of land for regeneration, reinstatement works and provision about further high speed railway works. Provision is also made about the application of Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations.
6. The works proposed to be authorised by the Bill are specified in clauses 1 and 2 of and Schedules 1 and 2 to the Bill. They consist of scheduled works, which are described in Schedule 1 to the Bill and other works, which are described in clause 2 of and Schedules 2 and 3 to the Bill.
7. Your petitioner is a retired art teacher and member of Bucks Art Society aged 71 and is a resident of 23A Little Hampden Close, Wendover HP22 6EH for 22 years, located approx 190 metres from the centre of the line.
8. Your Petitioner and their interests are injuriously affected by the Bill, during construction and afterwards, to which your Petitioner objects for reasons amongst others, hereinafter appearing.

9. The Bill includes powers for the Secretary of State and the nominated undertaker to construct a railway line close to the Historic market town of Wendover and through the centre of an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty with resulting environmental disruption, noise and pollution and which will be visible from a distance of up to 3 kilometres from the line. This peaceful countryside, woodlands and the far reaching views from the rolling hills that surround the area have inspired paintings which hang in national and local galleries, Aylesbury County Museum and private collections. Many art studios, art colleges and artists are sited near the route as they have been attracted to this beautiful part of Buckinghamshire. I would miss the joy of painting outside near Dunsmore, Great Missenden, Wendover, Bacombe Hill and surrounding villages and so will the next generation of artists who so love this area.

10. Your petitioner objects to the powers that are proposed by the bill and respectfully requests that before construction strategies are finalised and work commences that a fully bored tunnel in accordance with the plan proposed by Bucks County Council, Aylesbury Vale District Council, Chiltern District Council and the Chiltern Conservation Board and prepared by Peter Brett Associates is incorporated into the final plan for the construction of the line.

11. For the foregoing and connected reasons your Petitioner respectfully submit that, unless the Bill is amended as proposed above, so far affecting your Petitioner, should not be allowed to pass into law.

YOUR PETITIONER 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 Petitioner 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 Petitioner will ever pray, &c.

Signed

IN PARLIAMENT

HOUSE OF COMMONS

SESSION 2013-14

HIGH SPEED RAIL (LONDON - WEST MIDLANDS) BILL

PETITION OF Valerie Ann Stevenson

Against the Bill – On Merits – By Counsel &c

Name: Jennifer Irene WALLER (Acting as my agent)

Address: 'The Outlook' Dunsmore, Nr Wendover.

Post code: HP22 6QJ

Daytime telephone:

Mobile:

e-mail address