

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 Micheal Nicholas Wood and Anthony David Wood

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 petitioners are the freeholders of Shepherds Furze Farm, Steeple Claydon near Buckingham mk18 2hh and Portway Farm, Twyford near Buckingham mk18 4ea which are both in the farming business of Portway Farms.
8. 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.
9. Should the current HS2 plan stand it will make the ongoing viability of Portway Farms dairy herd unsustainable and put local jobs in jeopardy. Having already pledged to take 105 acres and demolish a house and buildings to make way for the construction of the line and part of the Infrastructure maintenance depot, they are also taking a further 150 acres for the sustainable placement of the tunnel borings from London. Due to the nature of this construction it will leave approximately 25 acres of land inaccessible to agriculture which could be put to some use such as balancing ponds and environmental mitigation.

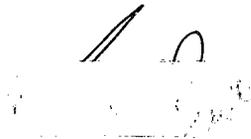
Your petitioners are also particularly concerned about the possibility of land being acquired permanently for a temporary purpose. Eg construction worksite or similar.

10. We wish to bring to your attention some other land nearby currently farmed by Portway Farms which is currently being taken for sustainable placement as a result of another infrastructure project, namely the Buckinghamshire incinerator. It is our conjecture that the HS2 tunnel borings could be spread on this already affected land to aid in its environmental mitigation. There is a rail head already in place at this site which is currently being used. This would allow the 150 acres at Shepherds Furze farm to continue supplying the Portway Farms dairy herd and safeguard the continued employment of 8 local people.
11. For the foregoing and connected reasons your Petitioners respectfully submit that, unless the Bill is amended as proposed above, so far affecting your Petitioners, should not be allowed to pass into law.
12. 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 Petitioners in the premises as your Honourable House shall deem meet.

AND your Petitioners will ever pray, &c.

Signed



Micheal Nicholas Wood



Anthony David Wood

IN PARLIAMENT

HOUSE OF COMMONS

SESSION 2013-14

HIGH SPEED RAIL (LONDON - WEST MIDLANDS) BILL

PETITION OF Micheal Nicholas Wood and Anthony David Wood

Against the Bill – On Merits – By Counsel &c

Micheal Nicholas Wood

[Faint, illegible text, likely a signature or address]

Anthony David Wood

[Faint, illegible text, likely a signature or address]