

IN PARLIAMENT
HOUSE OF COMMONS
SESSION 2013–14

HIGH SPEED RAIL (LONDON – WEST MIDLANDS) BILL

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 Mrs Natasha van Vredenburg

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 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 (“the Authorised Works”) are specified in clauses 1 and 2 of and Schedule 1 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 the Bill.

7 Your petitioner is the joint freehold owner of HYDE HOUSE, HYDE END, GREAT MISSENDEN, HP16 0RJ ("your petitioner's property").

8 Your Petitioner's rights, interests and property are injuriously affected by the Bill, to which your Petitioner objects for reasons amongst others, hereinafter appearing.

9.1 Your petitioner's property is near to the proposed railway cutting at Hyde End and will be deeply affected by the construction phase and the completion of the HS2 project. . Your petitioner's residential property will be subject to intolerable noise, dust, visual impairment and vibrations throughout the construction phase and following the completion of the works. I moved here 14 years ago specifically to enjoy all that an ANOB had to offer. Fresh air, open country spaces, and noise free.

The petitioner's solution to this issue is to preferably have a bored tunnel throughout the affected AONB in the Chiltern Hills. If not, we would propose a bored tunnel extension to Liberty Lane (as recommended by REPA). If not, I would like to ban construction traffic from unsuitable roads and have a dedicated new site access routes direct to A413. And world class sound barriers put in place for the operational phase and imposition of enforceable noise limits that preserve the tranquillity of the area and trains to go more slowly at night

9.2 Your petitioner's property is located on the B485 which is proposed to be used under the Bill as a route for construction traffic for up to 7.75 years by many vehicles throughout the construction phase. Your petitioner uses the B485 many times a day when accessing local amenities including schools, universities, shops, Great Missenden station and health and Emergency services. Services such as refuse collectors , delivery and maintenance vehicles needing to get to my property will be hindered. Therefore, the use of this road as a construction route will result in your petitioner being isolated from these essential services use of this road by construction vehicles will increase delays, and increase the time and cost taken for your petitioner to access facilities. The B485 (particularly at the junction of Hyde Heath Road, and also further towards Chesham) has a history of frequent motor accidents and adding more construction and diverted traffic to the road will increase the risk of more accidents happening. Detours in the area will be enforce for many years and it will mean changing familiar and fast routes for long and inefficient detours. I regularly use Hyde lane to get to the A413 and this is to close for 7 years.

The petitioner's solution to this issue is to preferably have a bored tunnel throughout the affected AONB in the Chiltern Hills. If not, we would propose a bored tunnel extension to Liberty Lane (as recommended by REPA). If not, I would like to ban construction traffic from unsuitable roads and have a dedicated new site access routes direct to A413 and request that roads are not used at night or during the weekend.

9.3 Your petitioner, and her family of 7, is a daily user of the footpath LMI/21/1 for recreational and exercise of dogs. The footpath is near to the petitioner's property. The footpath in Mantles Wood and Farthing Wood ancient woodlands will be permanently removed by the construction route. GMI/33/1, GMI/33/3, GMI/33/2 and GMI/33/4 are proposed under the Bill to be closed and the petitioner also uses these regularly. Therefore your petitioner will lose a vital recreational facility which is used both for pleasure and as a sports facility. The dogs will have to be driven to other open spaces adding to the traffic congestion and will make caring for them properly very difficult.

Views from both the petitioner's property and from the adjacent footpath will be destroyed by the proposed route, its construction sites and settlement areas. Your petitioner also cycles regularly along the surrounding roads and I am worried that large construction vehicles will make my routes much more dangerous to ride on.

9.4 From your petitioner's property, your petitioner enjoys views of the valley within the AONB looking towards Mantles Wood. The view will be which will be spoilt during the construction phase and part of the ancient woodland will be permanently destroyed once the railway authorised by the Bill is operational. The Environmental Statement accompanying the Bill states that the area will be permanently impacted from your petitioner's property which lies within the Zone of Theoretical Visibility as shown in the maps that accompany the Environmental Statement.

The petitioner's solution to this issue is to preferably have a bored tunnel throughout the affected AONB in the Chiltern Hills. If not, we would propose a bored tunnel extension to Liberty Lane (as recommended by REPA). There are no other methods to mitigate the visual damage caused by HS2 and its construction.

9.5 The Petitioners property lies in close proximity to the settlement area on Hyde Lane and I am worried about the lack of security to my house and family caused by the construction workers in their temporary accommodation.

The petitioner's solution to this issue is to preferably have a bored tunnel throughout the affected AONB in the Chiltern Hills. If not, we would propose a bored tunnel extension to Liberty Lane (as recommended by REPA). If not, we would propose a large number of security guards to help the local residents.

9.6 The petitioners property has a protected SSI pond in the grounds. This pond is the only one in South Buckinghamshire to be used as a breeding ground for three types of newt, great crested, palmate and smooth. These newts travel up to 1.5km from this site. So the increased heavy traffic and the digging of the cutting will seriously disturb them.

The petitioner's solution to this issue is to preferably have a bored tunnel throughout the affected AONB in the Chiltern Hills. If not, we would propose a bored tunnel extension to Liberty Lane (as recommended by REPA).

*The ZTV maps can be found in ES Volume 5 technical appendices and map books: Route wide appendix map books: Landscape and visual: Country

South

10 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 PETITIONER therefore humbly prays 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.

Signature of Petitioner in person,



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