

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 THE RT HON CAROLINE SPELMAN MP

*and
Others*

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.
- 3 Objection is made to Clause 18 of the Bill, at this stage, which relates to compensation for injurious affection.
- 4 Your Petitioners are a group of people directly and specifically affected by the construction works for HS2 for which there is no compensation available under the revised compensation package for HS2.
- 5 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.
- 6 Your Petitioners object to Clause 18 of the Bill, because no compensation has been made available for those injuriously affected by the exercise of powers conferred by the Bill in relation to construction works. For the duration of the construction of the line, and possibly thereafter, both residential and

commercial properties close to construction works and construction compounds are equally as blighted as those along the line of route, and yet there is presently no compensation available.

- 7 HS2 construction works are planned to cover a swathe of land in the green belt on either side of the proposed new interchange station at Birmingham International. On the section North of the Station towards the Chelmsley Wood estate, there will be satellite and viaduct construction compounds, temporary workers accommodation, balancing ponds and stockpiles of materials close to the Council estate. This will seriously affect residents.
- 8 Water Orton Road has been proposed as a haul route, which will have negative impacts for residents in the Castle Bromwich village.
- 9 On the section South of the new station, there are planned to be satellite and viaduct compounds, balancing ponds, materials stockpiles and temporary workers accommodation, affecting Hampton-in-Arden, Berkswell and Balsall Common.
- 10 Many farms are adversely affected, including Patricks Farm, Lincoln Farm, Lodge Farm, Park Farm and Little Beanit Farm. Their normal business practice will be severely disrupted.
- 11 Construction compounds will affect the operations of Birmingham Airport and the NEC, causing financial losses and a deterioration in the services provided to their customers.
- 12 A number of weekend and overnight closures of roads around Birmingham Airport and the NEC are expected to take place during the construction phase. This will require diversions and other temporary traffic management, which will result in reduced capacity and delays to road users.
- 13 For the foregoing and connected reasons, your Petitioners respectfully submit that, unless those clauses of the Bill referring to compensation are amended to include blight from construction works, then the Bill should not be allowed to pass into law.
- 14 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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