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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 JOSEPH GUY ALLSOP

DIANNE MARY ALLSOP

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 who live at Pool Farm, Lichfield Road, Riley Hill, Lichfield, Staffs WS13 8HP. Bought the property in 1986 (28years ago) as it had a two acre field, was ideal for a family home with two young daughters who had ponies and into horse riding. Your petitioners took out a large mortgage which stretched them at the time but has now been paid off. Your petitioners have also developed a cottage next door which is rented out to supplement the pension as the children/horse etc. have grown up and left home. HS2 is planning to be built some 200 metres alongside the property outside the compensation package, there is proposed construction traffic running along the main A515 and common lane so this construction will run alongside the three boundaries of this property it has always been our intention to downsize.
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. Pool Farm WS13 8HP Ref: CT-05-128-R1

Your Petitioners fear the blight on their property will severely effect the valuation and the rental income of the Cottage next door. It has always been our intention to downsize and at the age of 69, we will need to do this before the 10 years of construction is completed.

The perminate loss of beautiful countryside, views, natural wild life, peace and quiet will be intorable for the ten years of noise, dust, traffic chaos day and night, stress, loss of sleep during the construction.

9.1 North Spur Phase2 Ref:CT-05-128-R1

Concern is raised that the embankment of the line over Common Lane will act like a Giant dam, as we live on the edge of a flood plain stopping the natural flow of water To the river Trent, thus increasing the risk of flooding to properties in the area

9.2 Balancing Pond, Bourne Brook. Ref:CT-06-129

The proposed installation of a balancing pond linking into Bourne Brook is of great consequence as it only just copes with the volumes now, any more water will cause flooding your petitioners property and consequently the village of Kings Bromley.

9.3 Shaw Lane and Proposed Bridge Closure Ref: CT-05-129

The closure of Shaw Lane bridge at Hanch Hall and the proposed to divert traffic along Shaw Lane which is too narrow for modern farm machinery (not mention the canal/dog walkers and horse riders on the bridle path) to join the A515 at Riley Hill will create a very hazardous and dangerous crossing.

9.4 Common Lane Riley Hill Ref: CT-05-128-R1

The use of Common Lane as access to Wood End Common Farm for HS2 HGV Lorries and maintenance vehicles is objected to.

The North spur on phase 2 it is anticipated as HS2 crosses Common Lane that the lane will be closed. This is strongly objected to as all the traffic from two farms will have to pass through the village of Kings Bromley and its junior school.

MITIGATION

10. Ref: Item9 Pool Farm WS13 8HP CT-05-128-RL

Compensation is sought for the loss in value of the property and rental income, compensation is also sought for the noise, dust, vibration, stress and ill health caused by this project and construction.

10.1 Ref: Item 9.1 North Spur Phase 2 CT-05-128-R1

To provide adequate natural drainage and to put large enough culverts in where necessary.

10.2 Ref: item9.2 Balancing Pond, Bourne Brook. CT-06-129

Enlarge the culverts under Shaw lane and the A515 at Riley Hill. (CT-05-128-R1) Bourne brook needs to be dredged to take the extra water and will need to be maintained in the future.

10.3 Ref: Item 9.3 Shaw Lane and proposed bridge closure. CT-05-129

To make the haul road from Shaw lane to the A515 a perminate public high way, saving the cost of strengthening Shaw Lane bridge

10.4 Ref: Item 9.4 Common Lane Riley Hill CT-05-128-R1

Access can be sought via Wood End Lane ref CT-06-128 as the junction on the A515 will create a very dangerous area.

A bridge must be installed on Common Lane.

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.

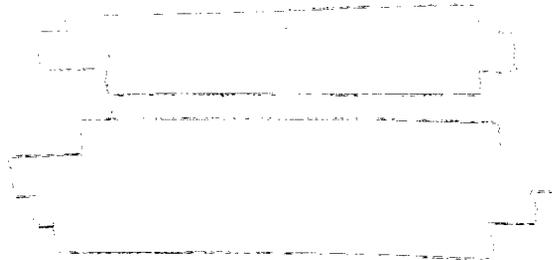
12. There are other clauses and provisions of the Bill which, if passed into law as they now stand will prejudicially affect your Petitioner and their rights, interests and property and for which no adequate provision is made to protect your Petitioners.

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 JOSEPH GUY ALLSOP

DIANNE MARY ALLSOP



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