

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 FRANK GOSS and KEVIN GOSS

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 Frank Goss and Kevin Goss. Frank Goss has been a tenant in grade II listed Upper South Farm house with his wife for over forty years and has worked extremely hard as a sole trader and latterly in partnership with his son (Kevin Goss) to transform a dilapidated farm in the late sixties into a productive and profitable SAJ Global farm assured beef and arable unit. Your petitioners also own and farm eighty acres of productive pasture, buildings and stocked carp pond to the North of the existing Aylesbury to Calvert Railway.
8. Your Petitioners are directly and special affected due to the loss of 20% of their productive tenanted land during the construction phase and the permanent loss of several acres of their owned productive pasture land to balancing ponds and drainage to the North side of the existing railway. Your Petitioners are directly and specially affected by the Bills significant impacts on the Roads, Land Public rights of way, Home location, Livelihood, Farming operations and the impact on surrounding pastures, arable land and the protection of the habitats and travel paths of a huge variety of wildlife in the surrounding area. The HS2 Route 3 works are within 60 Metres of the grade II listed Upper South Farm House and within 20 Metres of livestock housing buildings.

9. Your Petitioners request that this petition be considered with the petition from Christopher Prideaux and the petition from David Prideaux as Upper South Farm is part of Doddershall Estate being owned by the Prideaux family.

10.

Summary of works impacting your Petitioners

The works affecting Upper South Farm are listed CFA12, of particular concern is map sheet CT-05-050L1 This shows the disproportionate amount of land required from the holding during construction phase and shows the grade II listed farmhouse within 60 Metres of the area required for construction and within 125 Metres of the Actual HS2 rail corridor. There are also livestock housing buildings to the north of the existing railway that are shown within 15Metres of land required for construction and 45 metres of the actual HS2 rail corridor.

Your petitioners have concerns because.

Noise

Map SU-05-025 shows Upper South Farm house and buildings within the 50-65dB noise band and the house as having Major operational sound impact. Some of your Petitioners livestock housing buildings come into the >65dB noise band and this is totally unacceptable in respect of the stress on both livestock and workers alike. This refers to operational sound and there is no indication of sound levels during construction.

Dust

Upper South Farm house is within 60 Metres of land required for construction and your Petitioners have concerns about significant amounts of dust and airborne pollutants affecting the air quality for both persons and livestock in the vicinity of proposed works.

Access

Your Petitioners currently have the use of a level crossing across the existing Aylesbury to Calvert railway to access our land to the North of railway. Your Petitioners regularly walk cattle across this level crossing. Although the proposed HS2 route Bisects the farm, no provision for access across the railway has been incorporated in the plans. Your Petitioners also have access using approx. 300 Metres of public highway over the existing road bridge. The proposed Realigning of our existing farm access road and the proposed realigning of the existing public highway will create an unacceptably long route to drive on the public highway to cross the proposed railway at the new highway bridge near Quanton station to access our land to the north of the railway . It will be totally impossible to walk cattle from one side of the farm to the other.

Working Hours

Your petitioners object to any seven day and night time working on this portion of HS2 route

Drainage

Your Petitioners fear that the increased efficiency of new drains and run off from HS2 will lead to flooding of farmland further downstream

Your Petitioners propose

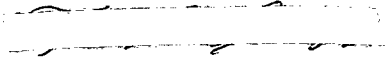
That the portion of HS2 line running between Quainton station and Doddershall House should be tunnelled underground this would address the issues regarding operational noise, farm access across the line, disruption to wildlife and to a certain extent Drainage issues. The access issue must be Solved, your Petitioners must have an adequate access to be able to move farm vehicles and livestock safely across the proposed HS2 route

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



FRANK GOSS

Signed



KEVIN GOSS

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