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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 Miss K J Alonso and Mr K J West

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 live at 162 Hoylake Crescent, Ickenham UB10 8JJ with their 3 children aged 18, 15, 6. They purchased the property in August 2010 and were not made aware of the HS2 proposals by previous owners, estate agents or the searches carried out by their solicitor. Your petitioners moved away from central London with their children for a more peaceful way of life, 1 month after moving in they were made aware of the HS2 proposals by parents at the school. Their property is 141 metres away from the proposed line, they would never have bought the house or in the area had they been aware of this HS2. Your petitioners have regretted the day they ever moved and their new beginnings have been disastrous, even affecting their marriage.
8. Your Petitioner(s) and their rights, interests & property are injuriously affected by the Bill, to which your Petitioner(s) object for reasons amongst others, hereinafter appearing.

9. What we petition against are the following points:

■ The 24 hour construction site will create constant noise and once the line is running there will be a train every 5 minutes, with added noise from the sonic boom at West Ruislip Portal. The trains will also run along the viaduct directly behind our house adding to the noise. Our quality of sleep will be severely disrupted. Mr West is an epileptic and anxiety and lack of sleep can bring on a seizure, not to mention the children's disrupted sleep which will affect their schooling.

■ Pollution is also a major factor as our children love to play in the garden and riverside walk. This will now be adjacent to a construction site. The air quality from dust, diesel particles and stone cutting etc will be detrimental to their health. Our beautiful garden will be out of bounds for them. Miss Alonso is an asthmatic and this is a real concern as poor air quality can bring on an asthma attack. Their youngest child attends the local primary school which will also be affected by this. All the local residents will be breathing in dreadfully polluted air.

■ Also the lose of value of our home, our biggest investment in life.

■ The lose of HOAC is extremely upsetting as both our older children have used their facilities on many holidays. If this HS2 goes ahead our younger son and hundreds of other young people will miss out on the opportunity to use these facilities. It keeps them fit, entertained and off the streets.

■ The construction site will bring terrible disruption to local roads. The area is gridlocked at particular times of the day, 100's of HGV's will increase the problem www.stophs2.org.petitioning/ Icknham will be one huge traffic jam.

10. Your petitioners would like the select committee to try and

remedy the above by the following:

The most important remedy would be to extend the tunnel from West Ruislip

to the Colne Valley. This would save the HOAC, stop the dreadful noise and air pollution during construction and the constant high speed noise of running trains. A tunnel would also stop the desecration of parts of the river walk but also, golf club and visual pollution.

The hours of work should also be reduced and HGV movements should be prohibited during certain hours. HS2 should be banned from using or closing certain roads.

Finally your petitioners feel that the compensation packages are still not enough and assurances cannot be trusted. Even the 120 metres distance from the home only qualifies if measured in a particular way; as our neighbour has informed us. Peoples whose homes are directly affected should all be offered the opportunity to sell their home to the government, it's only fair!

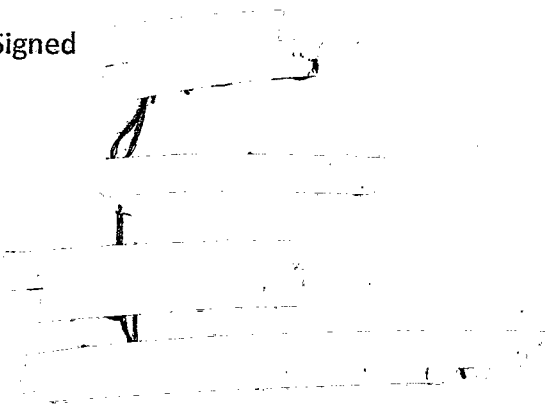
11. For the foregoing and connected reasons your Petitioner(s) respectfully submit that, unless the Bill is amended as proposed above, so far affecting your Petitioner(s), should not be allowed to pass into law.

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

YOUR PETITIONER(S) 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 Petitioner(s) 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(s) in the premises as your Honourable House shall deem meet.

AND your Petitioner(s) will ever pray, &c.

Signed



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PETITION OF MISS KJ ALONSO and MR KJ WEST

Against the Bill—On Merits—By Counsel &c

MISS KJ ALONSO and MR KJ WEST

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Home tel: [Redacted]

Mobile: [Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]