

IN PARLIAMENT

HOUSE OF COMMONS

SESSION 2013–14

1004

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 James Stacpoole

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. My wife, Elizabeth, and I along with our three young children live in Mulberry Wood, Little Missenden, Buckinghamshire, HP7 0RA. We have owned the property for two years and prior to this in Dellcroft, Stylecroft Road, Chalfont St Giles, HP8 4HX.

Our family home is not on the line itself but is approximately 100m from the main road due to carry the construction vehicles. We still own the house in Chalfont St Giles, and the route is very close, albeit underground.

8. Your Petitioner and their rights, interests and property are injuriously affected by the Bill, to which your Petitioner object for reasons amongst others, hereinafter appearing.
9. Although your petitioner is aware that the Select Committee of your honourable House is unable to consider cases which object to the principle of the Bill, your petitioner wishes to express its objection to the route chosen for HS2. Your petitioner is seriously concerned over the damage to the Chilterns AONB and the fact that HS2 Ltd, in proposing this route appear to have ignored the statutory duty of protection of an AONB as set out in Section 85 of the CROW Act.

Your petitioner is also of the opinion that a full strategic traffic management survey has not been sufficiently completed to take account of the proposed construction method and the effect this will have on the Chilterns and with forethought towards Little Missenden.

10. Your petitioner requests that the route of HS2 be realigned in order that it should avoid the Chilterns AONB.

If a revised route for HS2 is deemed unsuitable then your petitioner requests that that the present proposed route through the Chilterns AONB be amended so that the present so called 'Chilterns tunnel' be extended to a point North of Wendover. This mitigation would not avoid all the damage to the Chilterns AONB (for example: ventilations shafts would still be required), however it would massively reduce the damage to the heart of the AONB at Mantles Wood and much of the mitigation to minimise the impacts of both the construction and operation of HS2 would not be required.

11. For the foregoing and connected reasons your Petitioner respectfully submit that, unless the Bill is amended as proposed above, so far affecting your Petitioner, 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 Petitioner.

YOUR PETITIONER 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 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 Petitioner will ever pray, &c.

Signed

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Mulberry Wood