

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 MARTIN CRAIG NEAL

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 Petitioner lives at :-

Attwood Cottage, Ladbroke, Southam CV472BY. The property is approximately 25m from the Lod brook. Shortly after purchasing the property in 2007 a heavy thunderstorm accompanied by significant rain caused the brook to burst its banks and flooded our property along with about 10 other properties in the village demonstrating the limited capacity of the Brook.

8. **Your Petitioner and their property are injuriously affected by the Bill, to which your Petitioner object for reasons amongst others, hereinafter appearing.**
9. **During Local Forums, Roadshows and other meeting with HS2 the flood concerns were discussed in detail. The concerns were reiterated in the responses to the Environmental Statement by the Petitioner, Ladbroke Parish Council, Ladbroke Action Group and Warwickshire County Council.**

The works proposed, as described in the Environmental Statements, show a number of changes that impact both directly the brook and how water will flow to the brook from adjacent land and roads.

No attempt has been made by HS2 Limited to quantify the potential impacts of the changes on the level of risk of flooding in the village.

10. Your petitioner seeks that HS2 Limited be required to properly evaluate the impact of their proposed works on the flood risk for the village of Ladbroke.

Undertakings should be provided to ensure that HS2 Limited work with the relevant agency such as the Environmental Agency and implement the necessary works so that Ladbroke is rated in future as having a low risk of flooding.

In the event that a low risk rating is not feasible then an agreed design that reduces current risk will at least provide a level of certainty that HS2 works have not increased the exposure of the village to flooding.

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

MARTIN CRAIG NEAL

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PETITION OF [REDACTED]

Against the Bill – On Merits – By Counsel &c

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]