

IN PARLIAMENT  
HOUSE OF COMMONS  
SESSION 2013–14

**HIGH SPEED RAIL (LONDON – WEST MIDLANDS) BILL**

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 Rachel Crane SHEWETH as follows:-

- 1 A Bill (hereinafter referred to as “the Bill”) has been introduced and is now pending in your honourable House intituled “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 Old Oak Common in the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham to a junction with the Channel Tunnel Rail Link at York Way in the London Borough of Islington and 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 (“the Authorised Works”) are specified in clauses 1 and 2 of and Schedule 1 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 the Bill.

**Your Petitioner**

- 7 Your Petitioner is a resident in the Chilterns Area of Outstanding Beauty (AONB), who will be directly and specially affected by both the operation and construction of the proposed HS2 line.
- 8 Your Petitioner is a 7 year old girl who lives with her parents and brother in Ferndale Ballinger Road, South Heath, Buckinghamshire HP16 9QH. This property is in the South Heath area of Great Missenden parish, a community of over 300 homes that depends on

the facilities of Great Missenden and surrounding villages/towns, and will be permanently blighted by HS2.

- 9 Your Petitioner has lived in South Heath all of her life since her parents moved to the village from London 7 years ago.
- 10 Your Petitioner is in year 2 and goes to school in the nearby village of Lee Common to Lee Common C of E infant School.
- 11 Your Petitioner enjoys walking in the woods near her house (Sibleys Coppice) and likes making dens in the woods with her brother. Your Petitioner also likes playing with animals and bugs in the garden, fields and woods. Your Petitioner also enjoys horse riding on the roads and the fields and woods near to her home. Your Petitioner is worried that when she goes into the woods to play she will be able to hear a noisy train – at the moment when she goes into the woods it is lovely and peaceful and she can play there. If HS2 is being built it will mean that she can't horseride on the roads because of all the lorries – it will be too dangerous.
- 12 Your Petitioner's home is within 300 metres of the line of HS2 and she is worried that in her house when she tries to get to sleep she will not be able to because the trains will be coming through every few minutes. If she can't get to sleep she will be very tired when she goes to school and won't be able to learn very much because she will be too tired.
- 13 Your Petitioner loves animals and she is worried that when the train is built badgers, squirrels, pheasants and lots of other creatures will be run over by the train.
- 14 Your Petitioner suffers from asthma and is very worried that the dust and dirt in the air will make her asthma worse. When she has asthma she can't breathe properly and it makes her feel like she can't do anything and has to sit down quietly and she doesn't like doing that because it is boring and means she can't run around outside or play with her friends.
- 15 Your Petitioner does not think that the "green tunnel" in South Heath is very green and thinks that there is a better way to build HS2.
- 16 Your Petitioner would like that Hs2 is not built. But if it is built she would like it to be underground in a tunnel through South Heath. If it was in a tunnel it would be much quieter and would save the animals because it wouldn't run them over. It would mean that the woods wouldn't be knocked down and it would save the ancient woodlands near my house. My mummy and daddy really hate HS2 and they work very hard on it. It means that they can't play with me and my brother and do stuff with us. If HS2 wasn't there we would have a much better life.
- 17 Your Petitioner's rights interests and property are injuriously affected by the Bill, to which your Petitioner objects for reasons, amongst others, hereinafter appearing.

YOUR PETITIONER therefore humbly prays 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.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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PETITION OF

AGAINST, By Counsel, &c.