

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 Mrs Betty M Woodward

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. I am an 82 year old widow who has lived in Burton Green for 50 years enjoying gardening and many activities. My husband and I bought this plot of land in 1964/5 and helped design our home. This property is some 47 metres from the old railway fence or greenway.

The demolition of the village hall of which I am a trustee, the noise and vibration, dust as well as construction will affect me and many other WI members.

My husband and I grew up in Coventry during World War II. We moved to the village for a peaceful life and have enjoyed living here. It could still be peaceful if a deep bored tunnel was planned, instead of cutting through the middle of the village with HS2 which will disrupt everyone's life and make them ill with the concern.

Dennis my husband became a pilot when he was doing his 2 years national service. He was a Chartered Engineer and a member of the CBI but sadly died in 1999.

Both our children are married with their own families.

I am not ready for an old peoples home. In two years or so I may wish to live near my son his wife and 2 children, 15 years and 8 years old. They live in Nuneaton, or

my daughter her husband and 4 children 17, 15, 10 and 8 years old in Buckinghamshire where homes are more expensive.

I don't want to leave, but I don't want to live in a building site. Being in VP2 means if I do leave it will cost me both the heartache of leaving my home of 50 years and the costs of moving, stamp duty, etc. Proper compensation ought to be paid, or a bored tunnel to provide proper mitigation.

8. Your Petitioner(s) and their rights, interests and/or property are injuriously affected by the Bill, to which your Petitioner(s) object for reasons amongst others, hereinafter appearing.
9. Your petitioner objects to the bill for the reasons described in point 7 above. A deep bored tunnel would be preferable than the planned "cut and cover".
10. Your petitioner considers that the current Bill is not giving sufficient consideration to the impact that this construction will have on a rural area and its residents.
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

IN PARLIAMENT

HOUSE OF COMMONS
SESSION 2013-14

HIGH SPEED RAIL (LONDON - WEST MIDLANDS) BILL

PETITION OF MRS BETTY M WOODWARD

Against the Bill – On Merits – By Counsel &c

