

IN PARLIAMENT
HOUSE OF COMMONS
Session 2013-2014

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 Christopher Davis, Brian Bedford Shaw, Paul Roberts and Linda Harris who are all employees of Turville Valley Wines, The Firs, Potter Row, South Heath, Great Missenden HP16 9LT

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.
- 7 The petitioners are employees of Turville Valley Wines. Turville Valley Wines deals in the sale and purchase of fine and rare bottles of wine. These wines are traded on the international market. This is a highly specialised niche market. Christopher Davis and Brian Bedford Shaw have more than three decades of experience each in this industry. Your petitioners are gravely concerned how the construction of the Proposers scheme, as laid out in the Bill, will impact on their working lives. The difficulties of accessing the office will be huge due to the traffic congestion, diversion of roads, closure of roads, closures of PROW. The daily business of the office will be disrupted for the delivery drivers on whom your Petitioners rely for the quick, efficient delivery and dispatch of goods. Access in and out of the office will be made unsafe due to the proposed numbers of construction vehicles travelling along the narrow country lane. Your petitioners enjoy the quiet peaceful surrounding of working within the AONB and are fearful that the construction of the Proposers Scheme will make their jobs intolerable due to the noise, dirt, dust, vibrations, construction traffic and the influx of huge numbers of people accessing the construction zone. The office will be most severely and adversely affected. The office will be impacted by construction at the front, side and rear of the property. Your petitioners fear they will lose their jobs as the disruption becomes intolerable, and delivery drivers refuse, or increase their costs considerably, in order to get to the office. Your petitioners rely on the expertise of each other for the continued success of the business. As members of staff leave your Petitioners believe it will become impossible to replace them due to the inhospitable

working environment.

- 8 Your Petitioners rights and interests are injuriously affected by the Bill, to which your Petitioners object for reasons amongst others, hereinafter appearing.
- 9 Your petitioners object to the Bill as they believe it will ultimately lead to the closure of Turville Valley Wines and the loss of their jobs due to the huge upheaval brought about by the construction of the proposed High Speed Railway line which is due to run at the back of Potter Row and last for around 8 years. Your petitioners believe that the fully bored tunnel should be continued throughout the Chilterns AONB or failing that the tunnel should be continued to Leather Lane (known as the REPA tunnel and mentioned in the Environmental Statement as being feasible and offering better environmental protection).
- 10 There are other clauses and provisions of the Bill which, if passed into law as they now stand will prejudicially affect your Petitioners and their rights and interests and for which no adequate provision is made to protect your Petitioners.

YOUR PETITIONERS 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 Petitioners 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 Petitioners will ever pray, &c.

Signed _____

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HIGH SPEED RAIL
(LONDON - WEST MIDLANDS)
BILL

PETITION OF

18.07.2013

AGAINST, By Counsel, &c.

Mr. [Name]
Counsel for the Petitioners
[Address]
[City]