

IN PARLIAMENT  
HOUSE OF  
COMMONS  
SESSION 2013-14

HIGH SPEED RAIL (LONDON - WEST MIDLANDS)

BILL Against - on Merits - [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 Vivian Rowena Bailey

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.
- 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 Your Petitioner is the freehold property owner of Manchester House, Hare Lane, Little Kingshill, Great Missenden, Buckinghamshire, HP16 0EE.
- 8 Your Petitioner and her rights and interests are injuriously affected by the Bill, to which your Petitioner objects for reasons amongst others, hereinafter appearing.
- 9 Your Petitioner objects to the Bill because your Petitioner's property is located in close proximity to the A413 and the B485, roads which are regularly used by your Petitioner. Both these roads are proposed to be used under the Bill as routes for construction traffic. The Environmental Statement Volume 2 CFA9 predicts that:

*Construction of the Proposed Scheme will result in increased traffic flows from workers and construction vehicles accessing compounds and also temporary road closures and diversions. (12.4.12)*

and that:

*Increased traffic during the most intensive periods of construction will cause additional traffic congestion and delay at a number of junctions in the area including at the A413 London Road with A4128 Link Road; A413 London Road with B485 Frith Hill; B485 Frith Hill/Chesham Road with Frith Hill; King's Lane with Frith Hill/Ballinger Road and Potter Row; B485 Chesham Road with King's Lane and B485 Chesham Road with Hyde Heath Road. (12.4.29)*

Your Petitioner also uses roads which are identified in the Environmental Statement Non-technical Summary as being affected by traffic congestion: numerous junctions with the A413 in CFA8 around Amersham and in CFA10 (p.93) between Great Missenden and Wendover. In addition, in CFA11 (p.100) delays are predicted on the A4010 Risborough Road and A4010 Stoke Mandeville Bypass, resulting in difficulty accessing Stoke Mandeville Hospital.

Your Petitioner uses the aforementioned roads regularly to access shops and services in Great Missenden, Amersham, Chesham, Potter Row and Aylesbury, to visit friends and relatives and to get to work in Amersham.

In particular your Petitioner uses the A413 at least twice a week to visit her aunt and uncle in a Nursing Home in Aylesbury, who are suffering from Dementia and Parkinson's Disease and who rely upon your Petitioner's care and attention. Your Petitioner has to take her aunt and uncle to hospital appointments at Stoke Mandeville and Amersham as well as dental and optician appointments in Aylesbury.

In addition, your Petitioner has to care for her elderly parents in Gerrards Cross which necessitates frequent use of the A413.

Your Petitioner also travels along the A413 regularly to Beaconsfield, where she assists an eighty year-old widow whose husband has recently died.

The traffic congestion, estimated to last for the seven years of construction of the high-speed railway, will cause delays to your Petitioner, making it difficult to get to work, hospital and other appointments on time, and increasing the cost of journeys and the time taken to access services.

Your Petitioner is also concerned that the Bill does not guarantee that construction traffic will be kept out of Little Kingshill. If no such guarantee is given, your Petitioner will be subjected to the noise and increased air pollution associated with construction vehicles and other vehicles using the roads in the village as rat runs to escape traffic congestion on the A413. Such a development would cause annoyance, and compromise safety of those who use the village roads, such as cyclists, walkers and children going to school, either in the village or walking to catch their school bus.

In addition to traffic congestion, your Petitioner notes that Public Rights of Way will also be impacted by the Bill. The Environmental Statement Volume 2 CFA9 states that:

*There will be minor adverse effects on non-motorised users due to increased travel distance from eight PRoW and two road diversions for a period of up to two years at GMI/79/1 & 2, GMI/12/1 (footpath), Frith Hill, GMI/80/1 (footpath), GMI/23/6, GMI/28/1 & 2 (footpath), GMI/33/3 (footpath) and Hyde Lane. The majority of the diversions are between 100 and 400m in length, apart from the diversions at GMI/33/3 (footpath) of 750m and Hyde Lane of 900m. There will be a moderate adverse effects due to the diversion of LMI/17/2 (footpath) by approximately 1.5km for a period of up to a year. (12.4.22)*

*Temporary closure and associated diversion of nine PRoW and two roads (GMI/79/1 & 2, GMI/12/1, Frith Hill, GMI/80/1, GMI/23/6, GMI/28/1 & 2, GMI/33/3, Hyde Lane and LMI/17/2), during construction will affect non-motorised users due to the increased travel distances required by associated diversions. (12.4.32)*

*There will be minor adverse effects on non-motorised users due to increased travel distance resulting from the permanent realignment of eight PRoW and two roads at GMI/2/1 (footpath), GMI/13/3 (footpath), King's Lane, GMI/33/4 (footpath), GMI/33/2, GMI/33/3 (footpath), B485 Chesham Road, GMI/27/1 (footpath), GMI/23/7 (footpath), LMI/21/1 (footpath). The majority of realignments are less than 400m in length, apart from GMI/2/1 (footpath) at 550m, LMI/21/1 (footpath) and GMI/23/7 (footpath) at 700m and GMI/13/3 (footpath) at 750m. (12.5.8)*

As a resident of the Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, your Petitioner enjoys its peace and tranquillity when regularly walking for exercise and recreation with family and friends along the Public Rights of Way (PRoW) in the area. Your Petitioner is dismayed that so many of these

PRoW will be disrupted by the Bill during construction of the high-speed railway, making it difficult to use them; during operation of the railway your Petitioner will no longer want to use them because of the noise from up to thirty-six passing trains per hour.

- 10 Your Petitioner proposes that the Bill is amended to provide longest possible fully bored tunnel under the Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, which would remove the majority, if not all, of the construction traffic from the roads that will otherwise be affected by traffic congestion, and would prevent disruption to the aforementioned Public Rights of Way, thus preserving the peace and tranquillity of the area. The provision of such a fully bored tunnel would satisfy all the objections of your Petitioner to the Bill.
- 11 For the foregoing and connected reasons your Petitioner respectfully submits that, unless the relevant clauses of the Bill are amended as proposed above, so far as it affects your Petitioner, it 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 her rights and interests and for which no adequate provision is made to protect your Petitioner.

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 she may be heard by her Counsel, Agents and witnesses in support of the allegations of this Petition against so much of the Bill as affects the rights and interests of your Petitioner and in support of such other clauses and provisions as may be necessary or expedient for her 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.

Signature of Agent for Petitioner: .....



BACK SHEET

IN PARLIAMENT HOUSE OF COMMONS SESSION [2013-4] [2014-15]

HIGH SPEED RAIL (LONDON - WEST MIDLANDS) BILL

PETITION OF: Vivian Rowena Bailey

Against the Bill - On Merits - By Counsel &c

Name

Address

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