

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 MR ERNEST ILOTT and MRS SHEILA ILOTT

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 Petitioners are owners of 138 Hoylake Crescent, Ickenham, Middlesex UB10 8JH who have lived there for 60 years. Your Petitioners' property will not be demolished as a result of the Bill but it is located within approximately 150 metres of the line, or construction footprint.
8. Your Petitioners and their rights, interests and property are injuriously affected by the Bill, to which your Petitioners object for reasons amongst others, hereinafter appearing.
9. The Bill includes powers for the Secretary of State and the Nominated Undertaker to do construction works which are estimated to take 10 years to complete and will include lorry movements, the creation of dust and noise, poor air quality, and 24 hour working.

This will inevitably impact Your Petitioners lives greatly as it will be virtually impossible to enjoy the benefits of Your Petitioners garden which has been a source of great pleasure created over many years of hard work. Garden furniture and windows could be permanently covered in dirt and dust. Your Petitioners have concerns about this and the effect this will have on their property and the environmental quality of the neighbourhood.

Additionally it is also going to lead to severe sleep deprivation.

Your Petitioners also have concerns about the impact on their property from vibrations both during construction and operation.

There is no mention of the fields behind Your Petitioner's house being used for construction sites etc at present but Your Petitioners seek assurances that this land will not be affected in anyway.

Due to the high level of lorry movement per day this will lead to severe traffic congestion and would greatly increase the length of time to get to Doctor's surgery, hospital etc.

It is also detrimental to the landscape ruining views and the loss of local facilities like H.O.A.C.

Your Petitioners are aged 84 years and above and the level of noise and traffic will be severely injurious to their health and wellbeing.

Your Petitioners have been good citizens all their lives and served their country in times of war. It is a pity that their retirement years will be ruined by this action which will make it impossible for them to enjoy their property particularly the garden in their twilight years.

The works will affect not only Your Petitioners but a large number of properties in what is a heavily populated area.

Despite Your Petitioners property being extremely close to the works, it is approximately 150 metres, which at present means it will fall into the proposed category 2 for compensation even though they are suffering all of the inconvenience.

10. Your Petitioners object to the powers that are proposed to be provided by the Bill to the Secretary of State and the Nominated Undertaker and respectfully submit that the Bill should be amended or undertakings should be required so that HS2 Limited, the Secretary of State and/or the Nominated Undertaker must review the construction strategy for the project and its related works by considering their cumulative impacts on communities. In particular Your Petitioners feel the tunnel should be extended beyond Ickenham and the Colne Valley to mitigate the noise and greatly improve the visual effect.

If the tunnel is not going to be extended your Petitioners feel the Bill should be amended to provide for further noise mitigation as the existing noise protection is unsatisfactory.

Your Petitioners feel necessary changes should be made to stop 24 hour working.

Your Petitioners respectfully submit that the Bill should be amended to include better compensation for properties which will be affected by the construction and running of HS2.

11. For the foregoing and connected reasons your Petitioners respectfully submit that, unless the Bill is amended as proposed above, so far affecting your Petitioners, 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 Petitioners and their rights, interests and property 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 Petitioners in the premises as your Honourable House shall deem meet.

AND your Petitioners will ever pray, &c.

Ernest Ilott

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[Redacted Signature]

Sheila Ilott

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[Redacted Signature]

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[Redacted area]