

HIGH SPEED RAIL (LONDON TO 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 **Dr Olga Pavlova**

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. Your Petitioner is ***Dr Olga Pavlova*** (hereinafter referred to as 'the Petitioner'), ***the owner of 21 Belsize Square, London NW3 4HT*** ('the Property')

#### **North Bridge House Preparatory School, Camden**

8. There is a school called North Bridge House Preparatory School, for which the entrance is on Parkway. Four A roads and 3 minor roads all coalesce at this point. It is also a planned construction site for HS2.
9. Your Petitioner does not believe it is necessary to have a construction site immediately adjacent to North Bridge House Preparatory School (1 Gloucester Avenue). There is an area of Regent's Park, on the other side of Prince Albert Road, that is close enough to be useful for HS2 Ltd while avoiding being directly adjacent to and under North Bridge House. While this would take a small piece of parkland away for a limited period, it would protect the children at NBH from excessive noise, vibration and air pollution.
10. Your Petitioner believes that children need a quiet environment with clean air to be able to thrive at school and not suffer ill health. Therefore your Petitioner is concerned that the noise limits for HS2 have been set above what the World Health Organisation considers acceptable, and requests that HS2 Ltd be instructed to issue revised noise thresholds which comply with the WHO guidelines. Your Petitioner further requests that Camden Council and other local authorities be provided with enforcement powers to order the cessation of construction activities if the revised, WHO-compliant thresholds are breached.
11. Your Petitioner further requests that HS2 Ltd be required to commit to the same threshold for ground borne noise as the Northern Line Extension- meaning ground borne noise levels no greater than 30dB LpAsmax for urban areas such as in the vicinity of North Bridge House, and 25dB LpAsmax for rural areas (such as the Chilterns, where your Petitioner regularly cycles with her husband and daughters)
12. Your Petitioner is concerned about air pollution from HS2 construction work damaging the lungs and brains of her daughters and other children who attend North Bridge House.
13. Your Petitioner therefore requests that before construction there should be an air quality baseline monitoring study benchmarked against the Air Quality Standards Regulations 2010 and a copy of this report should be made public. Your petitioner submits that thresholds for air quality and an air quality mitigation plan should be produced for each Community Forum Area, to apply both during construction and operation of HS2. Your Petitioner requests that particular attention be given to the consequences of HS2-related air pollution as it affects North Bridge House and other schools.
14. Your Petitioner requests that the Camden Council and similar local authorities should be provided with powers to monitor air quality in accordance with binding mitigation plans and in the event air quality thresholds are breached, your Petitioner submits that the Bill should be amended to enable Camden Council and other local authorities to require the

cessation of construction activities until such point as air quality thresholds are complied with

15. Your Petitioner requests that construction traffic be prohibited from coming within 250m of the main entrance of North Bridge House school during drop-off and pick-up periods on school days.

**Englands Lane, Belsize Park**

16. Your Petitioner is concerned that the construction traffic associated with HS2 will severely damage one the most vibrant and important shopping streets in Belsize Park / Swiss Cottage. Your Petitioner has come across one estimate which suggests that 150 dirt laden truck will traverse Englands Lane each day during the construction period. Your Petitioner requests that Englands Lane be excluded from the routes used by construction traffic, and alternative routes relied on, such as Adelaide Road and Haverstock Hill.
17. Your Petitioner understands that traffic congestion is an inevitable consequence for many streets in Belsize Park. However, your Petitioner would argue that Englands Lane is a special case. It has restaurants (with on-street seating in the summer); a renowned butcher's shop that draws customers from a wide area; a toy shop and other essential retail facilities. Your Petitioner requests that HS2 Ltd give particular and exceptional consideration as to how it may be able to reduce traffic congestion along this street that is so important to the local community.

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 such of the clauses and provisions of the Bill as affect 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 Petitioners will ever pray, &c

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SIGNED



IN PARLIAMENT  
HOUSE OF  
COMMONS  
SESSION  
2013- 2014

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PÉTITION OF *Dr Olga Pavlova*

AGAINST, By counsel, &c

Dr Olga Pavlova

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