

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 SUSAN GILLIAN MUNN

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 Your Petitioner, Susan Gillian Munn of
since 21 May 2007 . Your Petitioner's property will not be demolished as a result of the Bill but it is located within 1280 metres of the viaduct/line, or construction footprint on a residential road which will be used by construction traffic during the construction of the Scheme
- 8 Your Petitioner and their rights, interests and/or property are injuriously affected by the Bill, to which your Petitioner 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 lead to severe sleep deprivation for both myself and for my daughter and health concerns as I suffer with asthma and my daughter suffers with respiratory/allergy problems. I understand Harvil Road and all connecting/surrounding routes will or may be routes for construction traffic which will result in traffic delays travelling to work, for medical appointments, shopping and any other travel. Constant HGV

movements will also result in increased dust requiring more frequent vehicle cleaning, window cleaning, increased laundry and housework.

- 10 Adverse and detrimental affect on the value of my home I own jointly with my daughter and which had expected would be my last home, due to the noise and ruined views during and after construction.
- 11 Damage to the road surface and the possibility of an increase in the already too high number of Road Traffic Accidents.
- 12 The severe and prolonged inconvenience of higher volumes of traffic not only past my home, but through Harefield village and all surrounding routes especially whilst Harvil Road is closed for re-routing.
- 13 The consequent damage that will be caused to the environment and to wildlife habitat; all the indigenous wildlife and native birds including red kites will be driven away from construction sites and HS2 route, as well as badgers, foxes, moles, rabbits, deer and squirrels.
- 14 Current dairy farm fields opposite and other fields near to my home will be used for; construction of HS2 track, soil dump, concrete works, electricity generating station and storage of materials all of which are detrimental to the previously enjoyed views across the fields to woods.
- 15 The loss of enjoyment and amenity of green spaces for dog walking and loss of other local amenity – fishing in Denham Quarry lakes, Hillingdon Outdoor Activities Centre, and Harefield Dog's Trust.
- 16 Historic woodland and farms irreparably lost to the route.
- 17 The lack of consultation with affected individuals and communities, and specific information regarding construction and operation of HS2 rail route.
- 18 The absence/inadequacy of compensation for people such as myself who will suffer severe and ongoing detriment from construction of the route/viaduct and operation of HS2.
- 19 Hours of operation HS2, speed and noise of trains.
- 20 Lighting during and after construction causing severe and constant disturbance of sleep.
- 21 Ruined views and changed landscape along route, particularly viaduct section closest to my home.
- 22 Loss of enjoyment of my garden due to noise and dust during construction and operation of HS2.
- 23 Permancy and area of land take currently woods, farms, fields, roads and lakes in Harefield and surrounding areas.
- 24 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. They need to suggest necessary changes from the results of that review before works design and construction strategies have been finalised or construction contractors employed.

- 25 I would like HS2 to purchase my home which I could then lease back, or move away. My home being in the last row of domestic houses as you leave Harefield village along Harvil Road, adjacent to the proposed site for construction of viaduct.
- 26 To install triple glazing to my home to mitigate increased noise and dust from construction and construction traffic.
- 27 The siting of facilities such as depots, soil dumps, concrete works, materials/construction storage and electricity feeder stations to be located as far from domestic properties as possible.
- 28 To extend the underground tunnelling for the entire length of the route through Harefield to Denham.
- 29 Increased mitigation and any noise prevention measures possible should the viaduct section across the lakes be constructed.
- 30 Any other infrastructure works to be undertaken simultaneously to reduce further disruption/disturbance.
- 31 Barring all HS2 traffic from New Year's Green Lane, Breakspear Road North and South and Rickmansworth Road none of which are appropriate routes for HGV's.
- 32 Diversion of the planned route away from Harefield.
- 33 Additional/increased visual mitigation through Harefield and surrounds.
- 34 Ensure funding is available to maintain mitigation and plantings for the foreseeable future.
- 35 Reduce the number of working hours and vehicle movements through the night and during morning and evening rush hours.

- 36 Reduction of proposed train speeds allowing for greater routing options and a lower carbon footprint.
- 37 Fair and adequate compensation for all the ongoing loss of amenity and enjoyment of my home and garden and all the surrounding loss of green space, views, footpaths, bridle paths, rights of way and open spaces for walking.
- 38 For the foregoing and connected reasons your Petitioner respectfully submits that, unless the Bill is amended as proposed above, so far affecting your Petitioner, should not be allowed to pass into law.
- 39 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.

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