

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 Philip Goss and Christophine Goss

SHEWETH as follows:-

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”

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.

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.

Clauses 37 to 42 of the Bill deal with the regulatory regime for the railway.

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.

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.

*Myself and my wife ( Philip and Christophine Goss ) have lived at : Cowley Old House Barns, Preston Bissett, Buckinghamshire, MK18 4DS for 8 years, our House is 300 metres from the HS2 proposed line and is in a very rural position, a mile from the nearest road, and we bought the house because of its peaceful quite position and great views, being so close to the line would ruin both of these main selling points to the house, as there would be constant noise (pre and post build), light pollution and*

*the view would be taken away, the compensation of 7k ( 300 metres) would be totally inadequate. If we were to try and sell our house it's main features would be removed by hs2, so making it impossible to sell at it's present value, also the line was going to go down the old cuttings which would have hidden it a bit and reduced the sound, but it has been, for some reason, moved closer to our house, with not the same depth of cutting. This seems madness as it will cost far more to do this and there is something there already to use.*

*The minimum changes should be cutting the level to the existing cutting depths, trees to hide it from view and noise buffering, better still build a tunnel or best of all don't build it, or put it along the M40 ( as European countries would ) for minimum impact on noise for people, rather than destroying this beautiful countryside forever*

Your Petitioner(s) and their [rights, interests and/or property] are injuriously affected by the Bill, to which your Petitioner(s) object for reasons amongst others, hereinafter appearing.

*Both our jobs would be effected by the building of hs2 as we travel through where road constructions will be , so it will have a daily effect on our lives. We are also in the process of adopting two children and the primary school is between our house and Twyford primary school, so walking to school via the footpath would be an impossibility which is very sad.*

*We both have quite high stress jobs, so after getting through road works and diversions to work and back and then to return to our home and seeing every thing we have worked for over the passed 20 years being de-valued and destroyed is going to have a big effect on us.*

*Obviously at the present there is no noise at all ( you can not hear any road noise at all, A.V.D.C used our house to record noise levels pre hs2 ) and to come back to construction and dust and noise, also knowing that our house will become harder to sell and reduced in price is very worrying and causing great stress already.*

*The consultation meetings were , put simply, a waste of time, as no one gave us any hope at all of making it better for us, and unable to answer any of our questions as we would have liked, we felt "fobbed off".*

For the foregoing and connected reasons your Petitioner(s) respectfully submit that, unless the Bill is amended as proposed above, so far affecting your Petitioner(s), should not be allowed to pass into law.

There are other clauses and provisions of the Bill which, if passed into law as they now stand will prejudicially affect your Petitioner(s) and their rights, interests and property and for which no adequate provision is made to protect your Petitioner(s).

YOUR PETITIONER(S) 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(s) 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(s) in the premises as your Honourable House shall deem meet.

AND your Petitioner(s) will ever pray, &c.

Signed



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