

IN PARLIAMENT
HOUSE OF
COMMONS
SESSION
2013 - 2014

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 **Joanna Kate Reeves**

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.

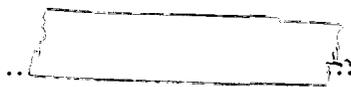
4. Clauses 37 to 42 of the Bill deal with the regulatory regime for the railway.
5. Clauses 43 to 65 of the Bill set out a number of miscellaneous and general provisions, including provision for the appointment of a nominated undertaker (“the Nominated Undertaker”) to exercise the powers under the Bill, 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 **Joanna Kate Reeves**, resident of 49 Fitzroy Road, NW1 8TP.
8. Your petitioner believes that Primrose Hill is a unique and precious oasis on the edge of central London. Its park is a glorious meadow, well-used by locals and people from further afield, and is a particular benefit to those who do not enjoy gardens of their own. The village of Primrose Hill is a true social hub, with a community centred around the Primrose Hill Community Association and the Primrose Hill Community Library, funded by donation and staffed by volunteers. However, these qualities are fragile, and your petitioner believes that HS2 construction traffic would be devastating to this small yet thriving community.
9. Your petitioner is fearful for the noise, pollution and disruption which would be created by the years of building HS2 would require. Currently a quiet backwater, your petitioner fears that Fitzroy Road would be used by construction traffic, including heavy lorries, which would bring noise, pollution and possible damage to your petitioner’s house, and neighbouring properties, through vibration. Furthermore, this road is inhabited by many children, and your petitioner foresees risk to them, in the form of breathing difficulties such as asthma, due to the increased air pollution, and also due to traffic accidents, if lorries and other construction

traffic is allowed onto our road. In any case, construction traffic for HS2 would certainly be using Regent's Park Road, which runs alongside the park and lies 60m from your petitioner's front door.

10. Your petitioner is concerned that journeys around the borough and beyond will become slower. If using the roads, be it in a private car or on public transport, construction traffic will cause delays. For example, your petitioner has a son who is a talented sportsman; for him to train and practise in his chosen sport, he needs to travel from Fitzroy Road to the Swiss Cottage Sports centre three or four times a week, whilst juggling the demands of school and homework; a slower journey would throw difficulties of timing in the way of this dedicated young man.

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 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 Petitioner will ever pray, &c

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SIGNED