

IN PARLIAMENT
HOUSE OF COMMONS
SESSION 2013-14

HIGH SPEED RAIL (LONDON – 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 ISOBEL CONNIE ROBERTSON

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") is specified in clauses 1 and 2 of and Schedule 1 to the Bill. They consist of scheduled works, which is described in Schedule 1 to the Bill and other works, which is described in clause 2 of the Bill.

Your Petitioner

- 7 Your Petitioner is Isobel Connie Robertson and is 10 year's old. She finds being referred to as "Your Petitioner" very strange and wishes to write to you directly in her own words as follows:

- 8 I live at Cherry Tree Cottage, Ballinger Road, Great Missenden, Buckinghamshire HP16 9LA. I am 10 years old and go to the Great Missenden Church of England School in Great Missenden, which is a 12 minute car ride at the moment before the HS2 construction traffic changes that. I will definitely be directly and specially affected, during the building of HS2.

- 9 My life will be "injuriouslly affected by the Bill" and I object as follows.

My Concerns

- 10 It will effect my playtime because when the government are building it, it will be a lot more dangerous for little children like me to go outside to play because of all the lorries and tractors going to and from the building site stirring up lots of dust and creating more traffic, which will lead to more accidents and the injury and killing of more people (and wildlife). This is also the responsibility of the government.

- 11 It will affect my school day because increased traffic will be around the main roads which my school bus travels down to get to my school.

It will affect my friends because I enjoy going for walks or cycle rides with my friends and family, but if HS2 is built it won't be so peaceful or such a great view. The routes will be blocked by the train line.

The most important thing in my life is nature and caring for wildlife - I have two fish and four really sweet cuddly hens. When I grow up I definitely want to be a hard working wildlife vet to protect the wildlife I love. But, if HS2 goes ahead and is built it is going to scare away all the interesting and rare wildlife that my dad and I love spotting. We love nothing more than spotting in the sky red kites, goldfinches, firecrests, bats and on land deer, muntjac, rabbits, hedgehogs, badgers and foxes.

- 12 At school we learn that the government help to fight for the rights of and help to protect the habitats and wildlife. But here now it seems like the government are planning on destroying all their hard work and all the wonderful wildlife.

My Remedies

- 14 Animals can't speak so I'm speaking for them, to save their lives. I am petitioning now to stop HS2. Although, if it does go ahead, I would like government to build a tunnel under our area. Furthermore, if there are no tunnels then it would be a great idea to build green bridges, were wildlife can freely cross the train line safely with out being disturbed.

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 she may be heard by her 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 her 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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