

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 Mr John Meehan
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 Mr John Meehan and his wife Mrs Tessa Meehan is freehold occupier of 5 Putlowes Drive Fleet Marston ("your petitioner's property"). Your petitioner's property is adjacent to the Work 2/53 construction site proposed to be used under the Bill. Therefore your petitioner's residential property will be subject to intolerable noise/dust/ visual impact/ vibrations for an extended period of time.
- 8 Your Petitioner and her rights, interests and property are injuriously affected by the Bill, to which your Petitioners object for reasons amongst others, hereinafter appearing.
- 9 Your petitioner is gravely concerned about the impact of the proposed working site/ construction route adjacent to their property and the open space your petitioner regularly uses. Your petitioner anticipates that the property and open space nearby will be surrounded by intolerable construction activity, and seriously affected by noise, vibration and or dust. There will also be serious visual impacts for the occupant of the building and for people using the open space. All of this will significantly reduce the quality of life for your petitioner and reduce enjoyment for users of the open space including your petitioner.

Your petitioner requests that the area is unsuitable for a worksite but that if it has to be there, then the best means available for minimising noise, dust and/or vibrations both during construction and operation are utilised. Furthermore, your petitioner requests that noise, dust and vibration monitoring equipment is installed at the property {Putlowes Farm, Bicester Road, Fleet Marston, Aylesbury} for the duration of construction, and a monitoring programme agreed with the local authority is undertaken. If monitoring shows that the noise thresholds are exceeded, works should stop immediately/ noise mitigation should be installed into the property, or the nominated undertaker should arrange nearby temporary accommodation.

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

YOUR PETITIONERS 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 Petitioners 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.

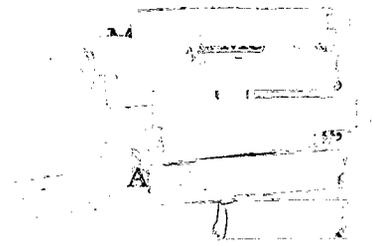
Signature of Petitioner

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AGAINST, By Counsel, &c.



Tel: