

IN PARLIAMENT
HOUSE OF COMMONS
SESSION 2013-14

HIGH SPEED RAIL (LONDON - WEST MIDLANDS) BILL

Against - on Merits - &c.

To the Honourable the Commons of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland in Parliament assembled.

THE HUMBLE PETITION of

Mr David Dundas, Owner and sole shareholder, Lion Industries UK Ltd
Mr Antony Thompson, Councillor
Mr Geoffrey Hanson

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 High Speed Rail (London - West Midlands)"
- 2 The Bill is presented by Mr Secretary McLoughlin.
- 3 The provision of a high speed 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 intermediate stations at Old Oak Common and Birmingham Interchange.
- 4 Your Petitioners are the owners of properties in Lichfield and Whittington, and the owner of a limited company in Lichfield.
- 5 Your Petitioners and their rights, interests and property are injuriously affected by the Bill, to which your Petitioners object for reasons amongst others, hereinafter appearing.
- 6 Your petitioners and their rights and interests are injuriously affected as detailed below, in particular by clause 1(1) of the Bill.

The line will have a detrimental impact upon the Staffordshire countryside and the environment close to Lichfield and Whittington, in particular the views towards the Lichfield Cathedral from the North, which will be spoiled by the high viaduct over the West Coast

Main Line and the A38 road.

The construction of the line will be disruptive, including the movement of materials, both spoil and fill, with the associated noise, dust, and potential damage to historic buildings, as well as traffic congestion.

There is an economic cost to the line passing close to Lichfield and Whittington, including loss in value of properties, both residential and commercial, and disruption to businesses which are well used.

Many high speed services presently using the West Coast Main Line, will be replaced by HS2 trains. As there will be no HS2 station in the Lichfield area, Lichfield will suffer a significant reduction of these services to the detriment of the local economy and inconvenience to local residents.

We therefore support all the relevant parts of the Staffordshire County Council Petition.

A further economic cost comes from the poor access to HS2. The nearest HS2 station is at Curzon Street, but trains from Lichfield come into New Street, the local transport hub, and cannot get to Curzon Street. There is no connection between the two stations.

The Birmingham HS2 station will be on a branch line, which reduces its usefulness. For instance Birmingham to Manchester HS2 trains will have a very roundabout route.

We have used High Speed railway stations on the Continent and note that the majority are located at the local transport hub, the existing main line station, which is in the centre of cities.

We propose changes in Birmingham to allow better connectivity to HS2 from most destinations in the West Midlands including Lichfield.

In particular we propose connections between HS2 and the classic railway close to Curzon Street Station.

We propose building Curzon Street Station in such a way that it can later become a through station, not a terminus, which would allow HS2 trains to run through and beyond Birmingham to, for example, Wolverhampton and Shrewsbury, and allowing HS2 trains to access New Street Station to better provide connectivity.

7 For the foregoing and connected reasons your Petitioners respectfully submit that, unless the Bill is amended as proposed above, clause 1 (1)

so far affecting your Petitioners, should not be allowed to pass into law.

- 8 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.
- 9 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 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.

Mr David Dundas

Mr Antony Thompson

Mr Geoffrey Hanson

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PETITION of: Mr David Dundas, Mr Antony Thompson, Mr Geoffrey Hanson

AGAINST, By Counsel, &c.

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Mr Geoffrey Hanson

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and owner of:

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