

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 AMY ELIZABETH PAUL.

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.

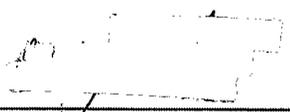
- 5       Clauses 43 to 65 of the Bill set out a number of miscellaneous and general provisions, including provision for the appointment of a nominated undertaker ("the Nominated Undertaker") to exercise the powers under the Bill, transfer schemes, provisions relating to statutory undertakers and the 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 a regular user of Denham Airport for business and recreational purposes, which are liable to be interfered with for the purposes of works authorised by the Bill.
- 8       Your Petitioner and her rights and interests are injuriously affected by the Bill, to which your Petitioners object for reasons amongst others, hereinafter appearing.
- 9       Your Petitioner is concerned that the construction and operation of the high-speed railway and associated development at Denham, in particular the proposed Colne Valley Viaduct, poses a risk to flights at Denham Airport. The Petitioner is concerned that adequate consideration has not been given in the design of the Colne Valley Viaduct to avoid foreseeable risks to the safety of flights at Denham Airport and that the proposed viaduct has not been adequately risk assessed. In order to minimise the impact of the proposal, the Petitioner requests that prior to construction the Petitioner should be consulted meaningfully on the detailed drawings and plans for the Colne Valley Viaduct.
- 10      Your Petitioner submits that those responsible for the design of the Colne Valley Viaduct are best placed to address the risks to flight safety that would be introduced by the viaduct and the Petitioner submits that the nominated undertaker should be required to follow good practice and 'design out' risk. The Petitioner requests that the nominated undertaker should be subject to binding mitigation measures to mitigate the risks.
- 11      HS2 Ltd proposes to create a wetland and plant trees on land that is currently open agricultural land to the north of Denham Airport. This land is at present available as a forced landing area to aircraft which suffer mechanical malfunction, as has happened on multiple occasions. The Petitioner requests that the Petitioner should be consulted meaningfully on the detailed plans for the reinstatement of land to the north of Denham Airport within the Denham ATZ (Aerodrome Traffic Zone).
- 12      The proposed Colne Valley Viaduct is within 1000m of the runway at

Denham Airport. However, HS2 Ltd has put forward no proposals for the rescue of pilots and passengers from aircraft (or indeed the rescue of train passengers) from the proposed Colne Valley Viaduct in the event of an aircraft accident involving the proposed viaduct. Also, HS2 Ltd has put forward no proposals for stopping trains in the event of an aircraft accident. The Petitioner submits that the nominated undertaker should be required to publish a rescue and evacuation plan prior to construction.

- 13 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.



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AGAINST, By Counsel, &c.

Amy Paul