

IN PARLIAMENT

HOUSE OF COMMONS
SESSION 2013-14

HIGH SPEED RAIL (LONDON - WEST MIDLANDS) BILL

PETITION OF DAVID ALEXANDER LOCKE

Against the Bill – On Merits – By Counsel &c

Petitioner's address:

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Telephone number:

Email:@......m

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PETITION

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 DAVID ALEXANDER LOCKE

SHEWETH as follows:-

1. A Bill (hereinafter referred to as “the Bill”) has been introduced and is now pending in your honourable House entitled “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 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 are specified in clauses 1 and 2 of and Schedules 1 and 2 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 and Schedules 2 and 3 to the Bill.
7. Your petitioner resides at 3 Flaxen Field, Weston Turville, Buckinghamshire HP22 5GJ, where he has lived with his wife and children for the past twenty years. Your petitioner's property will not be demolished as a result of the Bill but it is located approximately a mile from the 60 foot high viaduct which it is proposed should pass by Wendover, with flat land in between.
8. Your Petitioner and his rights, interests and property are injuriously affected by the Bill, to which your Petitioner objects for reasons amongst others, hereinafter appearing.
9. The Bill proposes that the railway shall be carried on a viaduct some sixty feet tall, past Wendover. Wendover lies in a gap in the Chiltern Hills. At the foot of the gap, the land becomes flat. The noise of the trains as they pass over the viaduct will carry easily over this flat land. The existing Chiltern Line railway which runs at ground level and with much smaller and slower trains, can already be heard in Weston Turville. The larger and faster trains that are proposed for HS2 will be far more noisy and the noise will carry much further because of its proposed elevated position.
10. The Bill includes powers for the Secretary of State and the Nominated Undertaker to do construction works which are estimated to take 10 years to complete and will include lorry movements, the creation of dust and noise, poor air quality, and 24

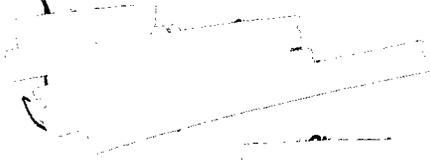
hour working. This will inevitably lead to severe traffic disruption on the A41 and A413 roads which are already jammed with traffic for a substantial part of the day. The disturbance and traffic problems will lead to people avoiding the town of Aylesbury altogether and taking their business to other towns in the area such as Milton Keynes. This will have a detrimental effect on the local economy leading to the loss of jobs.

11. The Chilterns are an area of outstanding natural beauty. The construction of a viaduct which will be 60 feet tall and as wide as a motorway will ruin this part of the countryside for ever.
12. Your Petitioner objects to the powers that are proposed to be provided by the Bill to the Secretary of State and the Nominated Undertaker and respectfully submit that the Bill should be amended or undertakings should be required so that HS2 Limited, the Secretary of State and/or the Nominated Undertaker must review the construction strategy for the project and its related works by considering their cumulative impacts on communities. Your petitioner respectfully suggests that his concerns would be ameliorated by the proposed route being put in a tunnel rather than on a viaduct. This would dispose of the visual impact of a viaduct and would prevent the noise pollution associated with carrying the railway some sixty feet above ground level.
13. For the foregoing and connected reasons your Petitioner respectfully submits that, unless the Bill is amended as proposed above, so far affecting your Petitioner, should not be allowed to pass into law.
14. There are other clauses and provisions of the Bill which, if passed into law as they now stand will prejudicially affect your Petitioner and his rights, interests and property and for which no adequate provision is made to protect your Petitioner.

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 he 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 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.

Signed DAVID ALEXANDER LOCKE



David Alexander Locke