

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 Chris Stubbings

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 The petitioner is Chris Stubbings who lives at 1 Versions Bungalows, Brackley, NN13 7TY hereinafter known as the Petitioner. He owns and lives at a bungalow approximately 30m from the A43 where it is being raised and moved between the roundabout to the North of Brackley and Whitfield and his land abuts the current A43.
- 8 Your Petitioner's rights, interests and property are injuriously affected by the Bill, to which your Petitioners object for reasons amongst others, hereinafter appearing: noise from the A43 which will increase in height; possible use of old A43 by travellers; ecology; possible use of strip between old A43 and new for building; increased danger of unsigned entrance on roundabout which will now have many more users; rental land next to house being unavailable for ponies during construction period; increased traffic during construction, especially HGVs.
- 9 Noise from increased height A43
 - 9.1 Your Petitioner asks for the new road to be surfaced with silent running tarmac.
10. Possible use of old A43 by gypsies/travellers.
 - 10.1 Your Petitioner requests that the old A43 be dug up except for a single carriageway for access to Versions Farm and the Whitfield Auto Transformer Station.
12. Ecology
 - 12.1 Your Petitioner is concerned that the strip between the old A43 and the new raises A43 could become a brownfield development site. He requests that the strip SW of the line should instead become a habitat creation site as it could be genuinely new woodland or rough grassland, helping to compensate for the damage done elsewhere, and the strip NE of the line should be genuinely new grassland creation, grassing over the old A43 completely. Providing the

old A43 is dug up, it will also prevent it being used by gypsies.

- 13 Possible use of the strip between the old and new A43 for building.
- 13.1 Your petitioner requests that the strip be planted with native trees as suggested above and it should be specifically ruled ineligible for new houses or commercial buildings.
- 14 Increased danger of entrance to property on roundabout both during construction (extra traffic) and afterwards once it is being shared with Rachel's Farm Shop customers and other residents at Versions Farm, as well as Whitfield Auto Transformer Station users.
- 14.1 Your Petitioner would like the big A road roundabout sign to show the entrance and for it to be marked 'Versions Only'. This will prevent people using it as a layby, public WC, going in by mistake (which happens once a day), accidents (one a week), people completely blocking the drive. A sign on the roundabout itself saying 'Versions' is also required.
15. Increased traffic during construction
- 15.1 Your Petitioner is concerned about the increased traffic down the A43 during construction. He already takes up to 8 minutes to pull out of his drive. He requests that any extra time wasted waiting to pull out is compensated for at a rate of per £20 per hour.
16. Compensation
- 16.1 Your Petitioner requests that the Bill should be amended to ensure your Petitioner and other persons outside the safeguarding area who are injuriously affected and adversely affected by loss of value should be entitled to claim full compensation.
- 17 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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HIGH SPEED RAIL
(LONDON-WEST MIDLANDS)
BILL

PETITION OF Chris Stubbings

AGAINST, By Counsel, &c.

Chris Stubbings

A series of four horizontal black bars of varying lengths, used to redact the signature and name of the petitioner, Chris Stubbings.