

IN PARLIAMENT

HOUSE OF COMMONS

SESSION 2013–14

HIGH SPEED RAIL (LONDON – WEST MIDLANDS) BILL

Against – on Merits – 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 ROBERT WALTHER & ANNE WALTHER

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, 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       Objection is taken to the works to be undertaken within the Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, and in particular to **works 2.1 and 2.12 to 2.27** ( listed in Schedule 1 of the bill ) in the parishes of Amersham, Little Missenden, Great Missenden, Chartridge and The Lee, and to the clauses of the bill which would authorise these works.
- 8       Your Petitioners resides in Chalfont St Giles adjacent to the Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (hereinafter referred to as "the AONB").
- 9       Your Petitioner and their rights, property and interests are injuriously affected by the Bill, to which your Petitioner objects for reasons amongst others, hereinafter appearing.

### Specific Concerns

- 10 Your petitioners are concerned that the construction compound at the tunnel portal in the Colne valley area will have a serious impact on the residents of Chalfont St Peter. The A412 / North Orbital is accessed by local residents through West Hyde Lane /Chalfont Lane or Rickmanswoth Lane / Horn Hill Road to Watford, Rickmansworth and the M25.
- 11 It is proposed to close Chalfont Lane and build temporary access the fields to join Horn Hill Road.
- 12 Roberts Lane is a single track lane with few passing places which a totally unsuitable for heavy construction vehicles, or indeed any increase in the volume of traffic. Your petitioners require closure of the junction of Roberts Lane with West Hyde Lane to protect its residents.
- 13 Chesham Lane is unsuitable for heavy construction traffic. Your petitioners therefore request that a temporary road is built across the fields from the Chalfont St Peter shaft at Chesham Lane to the A413 and they consider this can be done in an environmentally acceptable manner.
- 14 For the foregoing and connected reasons your Petitioners respectfully submit that, unless the Bill is amended as proposed above (to remove the works noted in paragraph 3 from the schedule) so far affecting your Petitioners, should not be allowed to pass into law.
- 15 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, property and interests 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 Petitioners in person,

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AGAINST, By Counsel, &c.

Mr & Mrs Walther

