**EXHIBIT LIST**

Reference No: HOC/00063  
Petitioner: Matthew Weaver  
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Dear Mr Bedson

HIGH SPEED RAIL (WEST MIDLANDS – CREWE) BILL – HOUSE OF COMMONS SELECT COMMITTEE: PETITION HS2-P2A-000063 – MATTHEW WEAVER, ASTON POOL FARM

I am writing to you in my capacity as the Director of Hybrid Bill Delivery at HS2 Ltd, which is acting on behalf of the Promoter of the High Speed Rail (West Midlands-Crewe) Bill ('the Bill') currently before Parliament. I understand that your client has a number of concerns about the impact of Phase 2A of HS2 (known as ‘the Proposed Scheme’) and have submitted a petition on that basis against the Bill in the House of Commons.

I am writing to you, on behalf of the Secretary of State for Transport, to offer your client the following assurances:

“Additional Provision 2” means an additional provision to the Bill which includes authorisation for the provision of the Overbridge;

“Bill” means the High Speed Rail (West Midlands- Crewe) Bill as deposited in the House of Commons on 17 July 2017;

“Ecological Mitigation” means the ecological mitigation proposed by the Bill to be created within the Red Land;

"Environmental Statement" means the environmental statement prepared for the Proposed Scheme and deposited at Parliament with the Bill;

“Footpath 28” means the footpath to be re-provided on the Overbridge;

“Green Land” means both the land edged green and shaded green and labelled ‘Green Land’ on the attached Plan 1;

“nominated undertaker” refers to the body or bodies appointed by the Secretary of State to exercise the powers conferred by the Bill to construct and maintain the Proposed Scheme. The nominated undertaker may be HS2 Ltd, or it may be another body or bodies appointed to oversee the construction and operation of the Proposed Scheme;
“Overbridge” means the proposed overbridge the position of which is shown labelled ‘Stone Rural Footpath 28 Accommodation Overbridge’ on Plan 1;
“the Petitioner” means Matthew Weaver being the freehold owner of the Property;
“Plan 1” means the attached plan bearing reference ‘C861-ARP-EV-DPL-000-056320 Rev P03’;
“Plan 2” means the attached plan bearing reference ‘C861-ARP-EV-DPL-000-056420 Rev P03’;
“Plan 3” means the attached plan bearing reference ‘P2A-HS2-HY-MAP-A000-000138’;
“Promoter” means the Secretary of State (or any successor Secretary of State or Minister holding the transport portfolio) and includes so far as relevant any nominated undertaker exercising any powers or functions under the Bill once enacted;
“Property” means Aston Pool Farm, Stone, Staffordshire, ST15 0BU as shown for identification purposes only edged red on Plan 3;
“Proposed Scheme” means Phase 2a of HS2 as defined further in the Bill;
“Red Land” means the land edged and shaded red and labelled ‘Red Land’ on the attached Plan 2; and
“Royal Assent” means the date when the Royal Assent is given to the Bill.

1 Overbridge Conduits

1.1 Prior to the completion of the detailed design of the Overbridge the Promoter will require the nominated undertaker to consult the Petitioner regarding the feasibility of incorporating appropriate and necessary services within the Overbridge.

1.2 The nominated undertaker shall use reasonable endeavours, after taking into account all other relevant factors, including other relevant Undertakings and Assurances, associated with the design, construction, maintenance and operation of the Overbridge, to seek to accommodate reasonable proposals from the Petitioner to modify the detailed design of the Overbridge in respect of services conduits.

1.3 Nothing in this assurance shall require any modification to the Proposed Scheme which gives rise to any significant impact on the environment which has not been assessed in the Environmental Statement for the Proposed Scheme but that does not preclude consideration being given to any proposals for such modifications.

2 Ecological Mitigation Relocation

2.1 The Secretary of State will require the nominated undertaker not to exercise the powers of compulsory acquisition conferred by the Bill in relation to the Red Land for the purposes of providing the Ecological Mitigation at that location, subject to the satisfaction of the condition in paragraph 2.2 below.

2.2 The assurance in paragraph 2.1 is subject to:

2.2.1 the nominated undertaker being satisfied that the Ecological Mitigation can be delivered on the Green Land in lieu of the Red Land without giving rise to any new
or different significant environmental effects from those assessed in the Environmental Statement deposited with the Bill;

2.2.2 the nominated undertaker securing any and all necessary consents for delivering the Ecological Mitigation within the Green Land within nine (9) months of Royal Assent;

2.2.3 the nominated undertaker concluding that the Ecological Mitigation can be delivered within the Green Land without prejudicing the safe, timely and economic delivery of the Proposed Scheme;

2.2.4 agreements being entered into in a form satisfactory to the Secretary of State which provides for the construction and ongoing maintenance of the Ecological Mitigation within the Green Land, subject to a management and maintenance agreement between the landowner and the Secretary of State;

2.2.5 the Secretary of State being satisfied that the owner of the Green Land, having regard to the nature and objectives of the Ecological Mitigation required to be provided, to be responsible for securing the maintenance of the Ecological Mitigation; and

2.2.6 the Green Land not being subject to any third party rights of any description which would prejudice the construction, maintenance or the objectives of the Ecological Mitigation required to be provided on the Green Land.”

If accepted, the assurances set out above will be included in the Register of Undertakings and Assurances, which is held by the Department for Transport. Drafts of the Register will be published regularly during the passage of the Bill and it will be finalised after Royal Assent. A nominated undertaker will be contractually obliged to comply with all relevant undertakings and assurances set out in the Register. Further information on how the Secretary of State will ensure compliance with assurances made by HS2 Ltd is set out in HS2 Phase 2A Information Paper BS, Compliance with Undertakings and Assurances.

I hope that the information set out above in relation to the issues raised in your client’s petition to the House of Commons gives your client the comfort required in order to withdraw their petition.

Petitions may be withdrawn by sending an email or letter to the Private Bill Office of the House of Commons informing the Clerk to the Select Committee that you wish to withdraw your petition.

If you have any queries please don’t hesitate to contact Simon Pearce, Head of Operations - Acquisitions, Property Acquisitions, on 020 7944 6290 and simon.pearce@HS2.org.uk.

Yours sincerely

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1 A copy can be found at [https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/understanding-the-hybrid-bill-hs2-phase-2a-information-papers](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/understanding-the-hybrid-bill-hs2-phase-2a-information-papers)

2 Contact details can be found on the Select Committee website at [http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/high-speed-rail-west-midlands-crewe-bill-select-committee-commons/contact-us-17-19/](http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/high-speed-rail-west-midlands-crewe-bill-select-committee-commons/contact-us-17-19/)
Oliver Bayne
Director, Hybrid Bill Delivery
High Speed Two (HS2) Limited
Dear Mr Bedson

HIGH SPEED RAIL (WEST MIDLANDS – CREWE) BILL – HOUSE OF COMMONS SELECT COMMITTEE: PETITION HS2-P2A-000063 – MATTHEW WEAVER, ASTON POOL FARM

I am writing to you in my capacity as the Director of Hybrid Bill Delivery at HS2 Ltd, which is acting on behalf of the Promoter of the High Speed Rail (West Midlands-Crewe) Bill (‘the Bill’) currently before Parliament. I understand that your client has a number of concerns about the impact of Phase 2A of HS2 (known as ‘the Proposed Scheme’) and has submitted a petition on that basis against the Bill in the House of Commons.

I am writing to you, on behalf of the Secretary of State for Transport, to offer your client the following assurance:

“In this assurance:

“Bill” means the High Speed Rail (West Midlands-Crewe) Bill as deposited in the House of Commons on 17 July 2017;

“nominated undertaker” refers to the body or bodies appointed by the Secretary of State to exercise the powers conferred by the Bill to construct and maintain the Proposed Scheme. The nominated undertaker may be HS2 Ltd, or it may be another body or bodies appointed to oversee the construction and operation of the Proposed Scheme;

“the Petitioner” means Matthew Weaver being the freehold owner of the Property;

“Plan 1” means the attached plan bearing reference ‘P2A-HS2-HY-MAP-A000-000138’;

“Promoter” means the Secretary of State (or any successor Secretary of State or Minister holding the transport portfolio) and includes so far as relevant any nominated undertaker exercising any powers or functions under the Bill once enacted;

“Property” means Aston Pool Farm, Stone, Staffordshire, ST15 0BU as shown for identification purposes only edged red on Plan 1;
“Proposed Scheme” means Phase 2a of HS2 as defined further in the Bill; and
“Royal Assent” means the date when the Royal Assent is given to the Bill.

1. **Provision of Conduits**

1.1 The assurance set out in this paragraph 1 supersedes the Assurance at paragraph 1 of the letter dated and issued on the morning of 9 July 2018 from the Promoter to the Petitioner’s agent, Roger Bedson and relating to the subject of this assurance.

1.2 Where existing services on the Property would be severed as a result of the construction of the Proposed Scheme the Secretary of State will require the nominated undertaker, prior to the completion of the detailed design of the Proposed Scheme, to consult with the Petitioner to seek to use reasonable endeavours to provide replacement conduits necessary for the Petitioner’s efficient management of the Property as a farm enterprise.”

If accepted, the assurance set out above will be included in the Register of Undertakings and Assurances, which is held by the Department for Transport. Drafts of the Register will be published regularly during the passage of the Bill and it will be finalised after Royal Assent. A nominated undertaker will be contractually obliged to comply with all relevant undertakings and assurances set out in the Register. Further information on how the Secretary of State will ensure compliance with assurances made by HS2 Ltd is set out in HS2 Phase 2A Information Paper B5, Compliance with Undertakings and Assurances.

I hope that the information set out above in relation to the issues raised in your client’s petition to the House of Commons gives your client the comfort required in order to withdraw their petition.

Petitions may be withdrawn by sending an email or letter to the Private Bill Office of the House of Commons informing the Clerk to the Select Committee that you wish to withdraw your petition.

If you have any queries please don’t hesitate to contact Simon Pearce, Head of Operations - Acquisitions, Property Acquisitions, on 020 7944 6290 and simon.pearce@HS2.org.uk.

Yours sincerely

Oliver Bayne
Director, Hybrid Bill Delivery
High Speed Two (HS2) Limited

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1 A copy can be found at https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/understanding-the-hybrid-bill-hs2-phase-2a-information-papers
2 Contact details can be found on the Select Committee website at http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/high-speed-rail-west-midlands-crewe-bill-select-committee/commons/contact-us-17-19/