

IN PARLIAMENT  
HOUSE OF  
COMMONS SESSION  
2013–14

Transport For London Bill [HL]

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 **THE NATIONAL UNION OF RAIL MARITIME & TRANSPORT  
WORKERS (RMT)**

SHEWETH as follows:-

1. A Bill (hereinafter referred to as “the Bill”) has been introduced and is now pending in your Honourable House instituted “A bill to confer further powers upon Transport for London; and for related purposes.”

2. The Bill is promoted by Transport for London (TfL) .

The Preamble to the Bill recites inter alia that whereas-

(1) It is expedient that the powers of Transport for London should be extended and amended as provided in this Act:

(3) It is expedient that Transport for London should have powers as regards forming, promoting and assisting and investing in limited partnerships:

*Relevant Clauses of the Bill*

3. RMT objects to the inclusion of Clause 5 “Power for TfL to form and invest in limited partnerships” and requests that it be removed from the Bill. Your Petitioner’s and their rights and interests will be injuriously affected by the provisions of the Bill if passed into law in its present form and they accordingly object to this part of the Bill for the reasons hereinafter appearing.

*Your petitioner*

4. Your petitioner, the National Union of Rail, Maritime and Transport Workers, is a trade union representing rail workers and London Underground workers which come under the control of TfL.

5. The RMT also has members at Lille Bridge train depot whose job security and working environment may be affected by the development of Earls Court

*Your Petitioner’s concerns*

6. The RMT has reached agreement with London Underground, a subsidiary of TfL, that access to Lille Bridge depot has been guaranteed for the full duration of the development and also there will be no sale or demolition of Lillie Bridge depot during Phase 1 of the redevelopment. London Underground has also committed to early talks with RMT on phase 2.

7. RMT is concerned that providing TfL with the power to “form and invest in limited partnerships” may mean that responsibility is unclear and that London Underground may be able to negotiate less freely and meaningfully with RMT because of any partnership in which TfL may have become engaged .

8. RMT also believes that the removal of Clause 5 will ensure that the redevelopment is undertaken in a more transparent and accountable way. It would allow affected residents to deal with a body corporate which is a legal person and has substance rather than a limited partnership which is not a legal person and has no covenant strength other than that of its general partner.

9. RMT also notes that TfL has announced it wishes to enter more Joint Ventures on the Earls Court model for many of its other freehold land holdings and, Clause 5, if it were enacted, would become a precedent for allowing Limited Partnerships for similar Joint Ventures which will not have transparency or direct accountability to the public, via the Mayor, who is chair of Transport for London.

10. RMT is not necessarily opposed to TfL using its assets to secure revenues but is concerned that Clause 5 may be used to facilitate asset stripping and sale of TfL London properties, including the sale of places where RMT members work and that the sale of such properties may not provide value for money and that the process will lack transparency and accountability.

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 Honorable House shall deem meet.

AND your Petitioners will ever pray, &c.

**RON PERRY**

**VEALE WASBROUGH VIZARDS**

Agents for

**NATIONAL UNION OF RAIL MARITIME & TRANSPORT WORKERS**

14 March 2014

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Transport For London Bill [HL]

PETITION OF NATIONAL  
UNION OF MARITIME &  
TRANSPORT WORKERS  
Against by Counsel etc

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