

**IN PARLIAMENT**

**HOUSE OF COMMONS**

**SESSION 2015–16**

**HIGH SPEED RAIL (LONDON - WEST MIDLANDS) BILL**

**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 CALVERT GREEN PARISH COUNCIL and CHARNDON PARISH COUNCIL

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.
3. Your Petitioners object to changes proposed by the Promoter, as detailed in High Speed Rail (London – West Midlands) Supplementary Environmental Statement 3 (SES3) and Additional Provision 4 (AP4) October 2015, with regard to Community Forum Area (CFA) 13. Your Petitioners specifically refer to the FCC Environment Ltd.

(FCCL) siding relocation and reconfiguration, FCCL overbridge, pumping station and satellite compound realignment.

4. Your petitioners are Calvert Green Parish Council and Charndon Parish Council. The Bill would authorise the compulsory acquisition of land belonging to Calvert Green parish and severely impact parishioners in Calvert Green and Calvert, part of Charndon parish, to which your petitioners object. Furthermore, part of the area for which your petitioners are a local authority will be injuriously affected by the provisions of the Bill, and your petitioners accordingly object thereto for reasons, amongst others, hereinafter appearing.
5. Having previously petitioned the impact of the proposed FCCL siding relocation and infrastructure, we are more concerned than ever about the proposed SES3 and AP4 amendments. These amendments are:
  - a. FCCL siding reconfiguration.
  - b. Additional Calvert siding overbridge (for use by landfill plant).
  - c. Realignment of satellite compound.
  - d. Pumping station location and access (Brackley Lane).

6. **FCCL siding reconfiguration (a)**

We are concerned that the FCCL rail shunt extension to the north and addition of a semi-static gantry will add to the already identified impacts on residents in Your Petitioners' parishes (noise, visual, vibration, odour, dust etc.).

7. **Additional Calvert siding overbridge (b)**

Your Petitioners are shocked by the introduction of an additional sidings overbridge, 150 metres north and significantly closer to residential properties. The distance to the nearest habitation is closer by over half the original proposed distance and will be higher than the roofline of properties.

We don't believe that the noise fence barriers proposed will protect parishioners from the effects of the sidings operation and all of the above impacts identified in (a).

This amendment will also result in the loss of approximately 300m<sup>2</sup> of irreplaceable ancient woodland, including the destruction of bat maternity roosts.

8. **Realignment of satellite compound (c)**

Your Petitioners have previously opposed locating the School Hill satellite compound on the Calvert Station Local Wildlife Site (LWS), and are dismayed that

the latest proposal intends relocating it on higher ground, but still within the LWS when other options are available.

**9. Pumping station location and access (d)**

During Your Petitioners' appearance before the Select Committee in October, Your Petitioners pointed out that although the access road and pumping station were proposed, they had not officially been identified in the map books. We are dismayed to see that rather than accept our proposal to relocate to the opposite side of the line (by the balancing ponds), The Proposer has instead made it a part of AP4.

10. The amendments in AP4 increase the already recognised devastating effects of blight on residents of Your Petitioners' parishes and, for that reason, Your Petitioners are more determined than ever that the relocation of the FCCL sidings and associated infrastructure must be positioned to the south, by the EfW incinerator, where it is essential to the economics of FCCL operation. We are anxious about the exemption implications for statutory nuisance as identified by FCCL during their presentation to the Select Committee. In particular, removing the right for Part 1 of the 1973 Land Compensation Act, in respect of compensation claims from residents.
11. Failure by the Promoter, to use corrected noise baseline and methodology through which the scheme will be tested in practice by BS4142:2014 has not been used and the general ES approach is inadequate. A "reasonable endeavours" clause in the Bill is not acceptable as it won't protect Your Petitioners' parishioners.
12. The Promoter's intention to increase the rail shunt towards the Infrastructure Maintenance Depot (IMD) reinforces our position that the satellite compound (and materials stockpile) can be successfully relocated to save the Calvert Station LWS.
13. Your Petitioners have identified that there are alternative access points to construct and maintain the proposed pumping station which would avoid opening up a new track and its visual implications for residents.
14. For the foregoing and connected reasons your Petitioners respectfully submit that, unless the Bill is amended as proposed above, so far affecting your Petitioner, 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, 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 Petitioners in the premises as your Honourable House shall deem meet.

AND your Petitioners will ever pray, &c.

Signed PHILIP LESLIE JOHN GASKIN

On behalf of Calvert Green Parish Council.

Signed LESLEY MARION TAYLOR

On behalf of Charndon Parish Council.

IN PARLIAMENT

HOUSE OF COMMONS  
SESSION 2013-14

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PETITION OF CALVERT GREEN PARISH COUNCIL AND CHARNDON PARISH COUNCIL.

Against the Bill – On Merits – By Counsel &c

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