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Our Ref: DNW/11099/92/PFI
Your Ref:

17 June 2014

Dear Sir

**Re High Speed Rail (London - West Midlands) Bill
In respect of petitioners on the attached list**

I am asked by the Chairman of the High Speed Rail (London – West Midlands) Bill Select Committee to send you the enclosed programme for the Committee's July hearings which will start on Tuesday 1 July at 2.00 pm. I also enclose a copy of the Chairman's statement made on 12 June dealing with arrangements for the Committee proceedings together with a guidance note prepared by the House of Commons Private Bill Office providing information on procedures for petitioner appearances.

As stated in the Chairman's statement, a further programme will be issued for the September sittings when the Committee is expected to sit in the weeks of 1, 8 and 15 September. To assist petitioners a general running order for the hearing of petitions will also be prepared. Updated versions of the programme will be posted on the Select Committee website.

As the hearings progress I will contact you to arrange specific dates for your or, if you are acting as Agent, your petitioner's appearance.

Mr Caulfield, the Clerk to the Select Committee has asked me to say that in the first instance questions about the process and timings should be directed to me (my direct line and email address are at the foot of this letter) but if you have any outstanding questions or points that cannot be resolved please contact him on 0207 7219 6008 (email address caulfieldn@parliament.uk).

Mr Caulfield has also asked me to mention that when you and/or your Agent do appear on the day of your appearance you will need to register with him and witnesses will need to be sworn so it would be helpful to allow sufficient time for these formalities.

The Committee will sit in Committee Room 5 in the main Parliamentary building. Public hearings of the Committee proceedings will be broadcast by video and audio on Parliament TV which can be accessed via the Select Committee website:

<http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/high-speed-rail-london-west-midlands-bill-select-committee-commons/>

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A daily transcript of the proceedings will also be posted on the Select Committee website.

If I can be of assistance do please let me know.

Yours sincerely

David Walker

David Walker
Senior Legal and Parliamentary Clerk

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cc Mr Neil Caulfield, Clerk to the Select Committee

High Speed Rail (London - West Midlands) Bill

Agent: Dr James Conboy

Petition Number	Petitioner Name
HOC/00745	A N Hunt
HOC/00751	Andrea Gillian Polden
HOC/00700	Barrie Lucke
HOC/00742	Brenda M Liddiard
HOC/00733	Charles Law
HOC/00696	Chris Honey
HOC/00695	Diana Caudery
HOC/00748	John Naylor-Smith
HOC/00698	Laura Collins
HOC/00740	Lynn Alexandre-Wilson
HOC/00697	Maria Waite
HOC/00743	Nicholas Esson
HOC/00747	Phyllis Chapman
HOC/00694	The Chesham Society
HOC/00752	Ulrike M O Wright
HOC/00746	Christopher Boyd
HOC/00741	Christopher Wilson
HOC/00744	David Sawyer
HOC/00739	Miriam Westendarp
HOC/00699	Richard Brock
HOC/00749	Tony Molesworth

SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE HIGH SPEED RAIL (LONDON – WEST MIDLANDS) BILL

This note provides information on procedures for petition appearances and related matters. Further information on arrangements may be added as necessary.

Witness and evidence arrangements

For a petition to be considered at all by the Committee, a signatory to the petition or a duly appointed agent needs to appear before the Committee.

If you appearing before the Committee, you can call witnesses (e.g. engineering experts) and cite evidence to support your case, including in the form of maps and models. HS2 will need to receive any witness names, and evidence you intend to use, by **5pm, two working days¹ before** you are due to appear, so that this information can be forwarded to the Committee members, and be uploaded for display during the hearings. (Please contact this office well in advance of that if you intend to use models.) HS2 is required to provide its witness names and evidence in accordance with the same deadlines, and these will be sent to you.

You will also need to confirm who will present your case by the same deadline, including if it is a Roll B agent. However, you can change your Roll B agent at short notice if you need to (for instance, because of illness).

Where a series of petitions addresses related issues, the Committee will invite the second and subsequent petitioners to say whether they wish to make points not already addressed by the first petitioner. These petitioners will be asked to address only those further points, unless there are exceptional reasons. Petitioners choosing not to speak will be deemed for formal purposes to have appeared, provided they or their agent are present in the room and identify themselves.

The Committee will take time to hear and understand petitioners' arguments. However, unnecessarily lengthy argument on either side will be deprecated, as will reading out of speeches without good reason. Petitioners should feel free to include in their evidence a summary of their arguments, of no more than two pages. If they do, they can assume the Committee will have read it and that there will be no need to expand on it in the hearing.

During locus standi hearings (on whether petitioner have a right of audience based on the direct and special effect of the Bill on them), the order of proceedings will be:

- Statement from petitioner(s) explaining why they are directly and specially affected by the Bill
- Examination of petitioner(s) by Bill promoters' representatives
- Questions from the Committee
- Short closing remarks by petitioner(s)
- Committee decision (which may be postponed until the end of a sitting if there are several petitioners to be heard)

¹ That is, by 5pm on Thursday if the hearing is on a Monday, 5pm on Friday if the hearing is on a Tuesday, and so on.

During other Committee sittings, the order of hearing petitions will be:

- Swearing in of witnesses
- If agreed by the petitioner(s), an opening statement of relevant background facts, and facts at issue, on behalf of the Bill promoters' representatives
- Petitioner(s) main arguments (may be provided in writing, as explained above)
- Evidence from any petitioner(s) witnesses, such as experts on engineering etc:
 - Petitioner(s) examines own witnesses first. Leading questions should be avoided as much as possible
 - Promoters cross-examine witnesses
 - Petitioner(s) re-examines on points arising from cross-examination
- Evidence from promoters' witnesses:
 - Promoters examine own witnesses first. Leading questions should be avoided as much as possible
 - Petitioner(s) cross-examine
 - Promoters re-examine on points arising from cross-examination
- Closing statement of promoters, if necessary
- Closing statement of petitioner(s), if necessary
- The Committee may intervene with questions at any point
- Committee decision (which may be postponed until a later stage depending on the order of petitions)

Hearings will take place in Committee Room 5 unless otherwise notified. The public, including other petitioners, may attend, but space may be limited. If petitioners wish to attend in large numbers they should contact this office so that alternative viewing accommodation can be provided if possible.

High Speed 2 Select Committee

020 7219 3250

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