# EXHIBIT LIST

Reference No: HOC/00157  
Petitioner: Andrew Rushton  
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Dear Mr Rushton

HIGH SPEED RAIL (WEST MIDLANDS – CREWE) BILL – HOUSE OF COMMONS SELECT COMMITTEE:
PETITION P2A- 000157 & AP1-0016– ANDREW RUSHON – BLACK FLATTS FARM, BLITHBURY,
STAFFORD WS15 3HT

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 you have 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.

As you may be aware, a number of written assurances have been offered to the National Farmers Union (NFU). These are set out in Part A of Annex A to my letter of 2 May 2018 to the NFU1. These assurances cover the following matters: provision of an agricultural liaison service; the prompt payment of compensation by the Promoter; arrangements for paying estimated claims for compensation; relocation matters; liability and claims arising from the Phase 2A works; private water supplies; and borrow pits. Further discussions are taking place with the NFU and the set of assurances offered on 2 May 2018 in Part A of Annex A may be updated following those discussions.

Although expressed to be for the benefit of NFU these assurances will benefit farmers and rural business owners affected by Phase 2A works.

These assurances will be included in a 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.

In addition to the above, you will see that Part B of my letter of 2 May 2018 includes a number of assurances that we have said will be issued to farmers or rural business owner petitioners on a case by case basis. I am therefore also writing to you, on behalf of the Secretary of State for Transport, to

formally offer you a number of specific assurances in response to the following issues raised in your petition:

- Extent of Land (paragraph 4-5)
- Access and Quality of Accommodation (paragraph 19-21)
- Ecological and other mitigation measures on farmland (paragraph 22-27)

In these assurances, “the Nominated Undertaker” refers to the body or bodies appointed by the Secretary of State to carry out the powers conferred under the Bill to construct and maintain the scheme. The Nominated Undertaker may be HS2 Ltd, or it may be another body or bodies appointed to oversee the construction and operation of Phase 2A.

“Detailed design

1.1. Prior to the completion of the detailed design of the works authorised by the High Speed Rail (West Midlands Crewe) Bill ("the Bill"), the Secretary of State will require the Nominated Undertaker to consult an owner/tenant of an agricultural holding regarding the detailed design of works proposed to be constructed upon any part of that holding under the powers of the Bill and the use of land for the provision of ecological and any other mitigation that does not involve the construction of works.

1.2. The Nominated Undertaker shall have regard to the responses received to the consultation undertaken under paragraph 1.1 and in so far as reasonably practicable, after taking into account all other relevant factors, including other relevant Undertakings and Assurances, associated with the design, construction, maintenance and operation of those works and other ecological or other mitigation,

1.2.1 Seek to minimise the loss of Grade 1, 2 and 3a agricultural land as described in the Agricultural Land Classification of England and Wales, published by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food in October 1988; and

1.2.2 Seek to accommodate reasonable proposals from the relevant owner/tenant to modify the detailed design of the works or provision of other ecological mitigation for the purposes of facilitating the efficient management of the agricultural holding in question following the completion of construction of the works.

1.3. In this assurance, “works” means the construction within Bill limits of accommodation works, landscaping and other mitigation works, drainage works and the construction of balancing ponds, embankments, bunds and made-up ground required for Phase 2A purposes.

1.4. Nothing in this assurance shall require any modification to the works which gives rise to any significant impact on the environment which has not been addressed in the Environmental Statement for the HS2 Project but that does not preclude consideration being given to any proposals for such modifications.

Agricultural soils

2.1. The Secretary of State will require the Nominated Undertaker to work with landowners and farmers whose productive agricultural soils are temporarily affected by the construction of the HS2 works and/or are affected temporarily as a result of land-raising, with the intention to bring agricultural soils back to enable their former use before construction of the HS2 works on the relevant land and shall prepare in consultation with
the relevant landowner and relevant planning authority an agricultural soils plan in advance of construction that shall include:-

- A pre-disturbance record of the soil physical characteristics;
- A target specification, set by the Nominated Undertaker and informed by a suitably qualified agricultural soils scientist or practitioner, for agricultural soils being restored to agriculture after temporary use;
- A method of assessing the suitability of handling soils based on plastic limit (i.e. to avoid moving soils when wet and plastic so that they would not compact when replaced);
- Advice on stripping topsoil and subsoil to the correct depth;
- Recommendations of the most suitable equipment for soil handling;
- Advice on soil storage (e.g. heights and management of soil stores);
- Advice on alleviating compaction after replacement;
- A schedule of aftercare maintenance, to include soil testing, appropriate to the target specification for a period of up to five years (subject to paragraph 2.2) following completion of the relevant construction work; and
- A final report to determine the final handover condition of the agricultural soil.

2.2. Should the target specification not be met by the expiry of the period of five years for aftercare maintenance mentioned in paragraph 2.1 (“the initial period”), then, if the landowner has fully complied with a schedule of aftercare, the Nominated Undertaker, informed by a suitably qualified agricultural soils scientist or practitioner, has reasonable grounds to believe that the target specification could be met within a further period (being no longer than a further period of five years), and the initial period shall be extended by that period.

2.3. The reasonable cost of compliance by the relevant landowner with the schedule of aftercare shall be borne by the Nominated Undertaker save where such cost has been compensated under the compensation code.

2.4 The agricultural soils plan will be incorporated in and prepared as part of the Code of Construction. Practice to form part of the Environmental Minimum Requirements undertaking given by the Secretary of State before Parliament.

2.5. Should the target specification not be met by the expiry of the period of five years for aftercare maintenance mentioned in paragraph 2.1 (“the initial period”), then, if the landowner has fully complied with a schedule of aftercare, the Nominated Undertaker, informed by a suitably qualified agricultural soils scientist or practitioner, has reasonable grounds to believe that the target specification could be met within a further period (being no longer than a further period of five years), and the initial period shall be extended by that period.

2.6. The reasonable cost of compliance by the relevant landowner with the schedule of aftercare shall be borne by the Nominated Undertaker save where such cost has been compensated under the compensation code.

2.7 The agricultural soils plan will be incorporated in and prepared as part of the Code of Construction Practice to form part of the Environmental Minimum Requirements undertaking given by the Secretary of State before Parliament.

If accepted, these further assurances will be included 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 Assurances².

It is hoped that these further assurances will address some of the issues raised in your petition and we may write to you further regarding any issues not addressed by these assurances. In the meantime if you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact Ash Matharu, Property Acquisition Manager, on 020 7944 8453 and Ash.Matharu@hs2.org.uk.

Yours sincerely

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

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² A copy can be found at https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/understanding-the-hybrid-bill-hs2-phase-2a-informationpapers
Dear Mr Rushton

HIGH SPEED RAIL (WEST MIDLANDS – CREWE) BILL – HOUSE OF COMMONS SELECT COMMITTEE:
PETITION HS2-P2A-000157 – MR ANDREW RUSHTON – BLACK FLATTS FARM, STONEYFORD LANE, BLITHBURY, STAFFORDSHIRE, WS15 3HT

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 you have 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.

As you may be aware, a number of written assurances have been offered to the National Farmers Union (NFU). These are set out in Part A of Annex A to my letter of 2 May 2018 to the NFU\(^1\). These assurances cover the following matters: provision of an agricultural liaison service; the prompt payment of compensation by the Promoter; arrangements for paying estimated claims for compensation; relocation matters; liability and claims arising from the Phase 2A works; private water supplies; and borrow pits. Further discussions are taking place with the NFU and the set of assurances offered on 2 May 2018 in Part A of Annex A may be updated following those discussions.

Although expressed to be for the benefit of NFU these assurances will benefit farmers and rural business owners affected by Phase 2A works.

These assurances will be included in a 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\(^2\).

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\(^2\) A copy can be found at https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/understanding-the-hybrid-bill-hs2-phase-2a-informationpapers
In addition to the above, you will see that Part B of my letter of 2 May 2018 includes a number of assurances that we have said will be issued to farmers or rural business owner petitioners on a case by case basis.

Finally, your petition also raises a concern about the proposed new overhead electricity line connecting Rugeley Power Station to the Newlands Land Auto-Transformer Feeder Station.

At the request of a number of interested parties we have been considering whether there is an alternative option for the electricity supply required for the Proposed Scheme, which would mean that we would not need to exercise the powers in the Bill in relation to the Rugeley Power Station site and so for the overhead electricity line connecting it to the feeder station. This work is ongoing, and we hope to be in a position to report on progress within the next few months.

It is hoped that this will address some of the issues raised in your petition and we may write to you further regarding any issues not addressed by these assurances. In the meantime if you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact Ash Matharu, Property Acquisition Manager, on 020 7944 8453 and Ash.Matharu@hs2.org.uk.

Yours sincerely

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

Andrew Rushton

Petition No. P2A-000157
Extent of Works on Petitioner’s Land; E7 of CT05/6-207-L1

- Proposal to install 132kV overhead power line to provide the power for the proposed scheme.
- Up to a 200m strip of land may be required as a working area to carry out the installation work.
- It is proposed there will be approximately:
  - 3 No. Wooden Poles
  - 15m high
  - 18m offset between each of the parallel wooden poles
  - 100m span in long section.

Extract from CT05-207-L1 at E7