## EXHIBIT LIST

Reference No: AP2/00059  
Petitioner: West Midlands Bird Club  
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Dear Mr Jackson

HIGH SPEED RAIL (WEST MIDLANDS – CREWE) BILL – ADDITIONAL PROVISION 2 - HOUSE OF COMMONS SELECT COMMITTEE: PETITION HS2-AP2-059 – WEST MIDLAND BIRD CLUB

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 the Club have a number of concerns about the impact of the proposals in Additional Provision 2 (AP2) to the Bill in the House of Commons and have submitted a petition on that basis.

This letter sets out the Promoter's position in relation to the issues you have raised and the measures identified to address your concerns.

Impacts on Blithfield Reservoir

I refer you to the Promoter’s response to paragraphs 1a, 1, 4 and 5 of your petition. I wrote to you on 8 April 2019 to offer the following assurances regarding bird electrocution/collision risk and bird forage impact alongside the River Blithe:

*Bird electrocution/collision risk*

1. The Secretary of State will require the nominated undertaker prior to the construction of the Parkgate Grid Supply Point Connection, to develop a species-specific assessment of bird collision risk from the siting of the overhead lines in the vicinity of Blithfield Reservoir SSSI. This assessment will include consideration of the following measures:

   a. appropriate surveys for all bird species that are relevant to the designation of Blithfield Reservoir SSSI; and

   b. recommendations for the installation of bird diverters where detailed survey work shows installation will be required in accordance with National Policy Statement for Electricity Networks EN-5 2011.
Bird forage impact – floodplain grazing marsh alongside River Blithe

2. The Secretary of State will require the nominated undertaker during the detailed design and construction of the Parkgate Grid Supply Point Connection to limit the loss of floodplain grazing marsh and associated habitats alongside the River Blithe in the vicinity of Little Blithe habitat (as described in Supplementary Environmental Statement 2) to no more than that reasonably required to implement the Proposed Scheme. Where this habitat is lost as a result of construction of the Parkgate Grid Supply Point Connection, the nominated undertaker will be required to implement habitat creation and reinstatement measures to compensate for the loss of floodplain grazing marsh habitat so far as doing so can be done:

   a. within the existing powers of the Bill and without the need for any additional land from that identified on the deposited plans as within the limits of land to be acquired or used for the purposes of the Proposed Scheme;

   b. without introducing any new or different significant environmental effects; and

   c. without prejudicing the safe, timely and economic delivery of the Proposed Scheme.”

I understand that the Club have subsequently asked that bird diverters be installed by the nominated undertaker across the River Blithe valley, along the section of overhead lines (OHL) proposed between Newlands Lane and Glass Lane, based on the species records compiled by the Club, provided as an extract from the Club's 2016 and 2017 bird reports.

The Promoter notes that the Club holds records on bird movements to the east of the SSSI indicating the section of the proposed Parkgate OHL connection corridor along the River Blithe valley is used by notable species at risk of collision with overhead lines. The intended purpose of the Promoter's assessment of bird collision risk is to inform the detail of the type and location of the provision of bird diverters. Whilst there may be data available at this stage to suggest there is sufficient risk of bird collision for the installation of bird diverters in this location, it is our view that the extent of the provision of diverters should be determined by further collision risk assessment work. The cost of providing bird diverters along the Parkgate OHL connection has been estimated to be in the region of £500,000 and to justify the cost to the taxpayer it is the Promoter's view that the methodology and data on bird movements should be considered nearer the time and in light of further surveys.

As such my earlier letter of today builds on the earlier assurance offered to ensure that the Club is involved in those surveys, as follows:

   “1.2. Prior to the completion of the methodology for the surveys referred to at paragraph 1.1.1, the Secretary of State will require the nominated undertaker to consult the Petitioner regarding the methodology of those surveys and to have regard to the responses received.

   1.3. The Secretary of State will require the nominated undertaker to seek to involve the Petitioner's members in the carrying out the surveys referred to at paragraph 1.1.1 to the extent that the nominated undertaker deems the Petitioner's members to be appropriate persons for the purposes of being involved in those surveys having regard to the nature and purpose of those surveys and the relevant qualifications and experience of those members.”

I note that the Club have accepted the assurance in my letter of 8 April on bird forage impacts.
Undergrounding

I refer you to the Promoter’s response to paragraphs 2 and 3 of your petition. I understand that you were informed of the publication of the Parkgate Grid Supply Point addendum report on 2 April. The addendum provides more detail on the environmental and cost comparison between the Parkgate overhead line and underground options.

Ecological assessments

I refer you to the Promoter’s response to paragraph 6 of your petition and the revised assurance sent to you in my earlier letter of today.

If you have any further questions in advance of your appearance before the Select Committee next week, please do not hesitate to contact Rachna Shah, Petition Manager, on 020 7944 0159 or Rachna.Shah@HS2.org.uk.

Yours sincerely

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