

Angela Foster

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From: James Rawdon-Mogg
Sent: 29 May 2018 11:12
To: TRANSPORTANDWORKSACT
Subject: Rother Valley Railway (Bodiam to Robertsbridge Junction) Order)

Dear Mr Grayling,

I am writing to share my opposition and concern regarding the proposed extension of the Rother Valley Railway.

I have following concerns -

- There is no compelling case for Compulsory Purchase powers to be used to acquire land for non-essential infrastructure/hobby railway. This sets a precedent for other non-essential activities demanding the power to CPO land for their purposes.
- No tangible economic benefit to surrounding area. RVR have also admitted that Robertsbridge would not benefit from this project.
- A total of three new level crossings, one of which will be across the busy A21. This will cause huge disruption to motorists and is contrary to the Government's and Network Rail's policy to remove as many level crossings as possible as they are deemed to be dangerous.
- Flooding risk. Reports show increased flooding potential to properties in and around Robertsbridge and Salehurst. These have not been mitigated.
- Destruction of habitats on Moat farm that have been untouched for decades.
- This is a new railway not a reinstatement as claimed by RVR. The track bed does not exist any longer.
- There will be noise, smoke and diesel fume pollution from the trains and emissions from cars held up at the level crossings.

I think that there are grounds for a public enquiry into this issue as the documents appear to be inadequate/out of date. This would bring a lot more clarity to the facts of the matter.

Kind regards
James Rawdon-Mogg

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