

**From:** michael reed  
**Sent:** 17 May 2018 17:15  
**To:** TRANSPORTANDWORKSACT  
**Subject:** Rother Valley Railway (Bodiam to Robertsbridge Junction) Order

Dear Secretary of State for Transport,

I am writing to object to the proposed new Rother Valley Railway (RVR) line that will cross the A21. It would appear that there is no compelling case for Compulsory Purchase powers to be used to acquire land for this non-essential infrastructure which is a hobby railway. RVR claim that this is a reinstatement of the track when in fact the track bed no longer exists.

RVR have confirmed that Robertsbridge would not benefit from this project and the new line would provide no tangible economic benefit to surrounding area. There is evidence to show that it would increase flooding risk to properties in and around Robertsbridge and Salehurst, with no mitigation. The new line and crossing would senselessly destroy habitats on Moat farm.

The A21 is a vital route for residents and businesses of the major towns and the surrounding villages. RVR propose 3 new level crossings and traffic held at the A21 crossings would emit pollution and the noise, smoke and diesel pollution from trains on the line reduce the quality of the air and disturb local residents. This will cause massive disruption to road users and goes against both Government and Network Rail policy to remove as many level crossings as possible as they are deemed to be dangerous.

The documents provided on this proposed new railway appear to be out of date and inadequate. It would therefore seem reasonable to request a public enquiry to assess the full scale and impact of a railway and crossing.

I would be interested to hear from you regarding this matter and have included my address below.

Regards,

Michael Reed

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