

**Angela Foster**

OBJ/694

**From:** Stuart Edlin  
**Sent:** 30 May 2018 14:42  
**To:** TRANSPORTANDWORKSACT  
**Subject:** Re: Objection to the extension of the railway line from Northiam to Robertsbridge

Sure Angela,

The address is

Regards,

Stuart Edlin

On Wed, 30 May 2018 at 10:57, TRANSPORTANDWORKSACT  
<[TRANSPORTANDWORKSACT@dft.gov.uk](mailto:TRANSPORTANDWORKSACT@dft.gov.uk)> wrote:

Dear Sir,

Thank you for your e-mail. In order for us to register your objection formally would you furnish us with a full postal address please.

Kind regards,

Angela Foster

**Mrs Angela Foster | Transport and Works Act Orders Unit | RSSS | Department for Transport**  
Tel: +44(0)20 7944 2474 | Email: [angela.foster@dft.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:angela.foster@dft.gsi.gov.uk)  
Zone 1/14, Great Minster House, [33 Horseferry Road, London, SW1P 4DR](https://www.gov.uk/government/locations/33-horseferry-road)

My usual working hours are 7.30-4.00, Tuesday to Thursday.

**From:** Stuart Edlin [mailto:[TRANSPORTANDWORKSACT@dft.gov.uk](mailto:TRANSPORTANDWORKSACT@dft.gov.uk)]  
**Sent:** 30 May 2018 10:54  
**To:** TRANSPORTANDWORKSACT <[TRANSPORTANDWORKSACT@dft.gov.uk](mailto:TRANSPORTANDWORKSACT@dft.gov.uk)>  
**Subject:** Objection to the extension of the railway line from Northiam to Robertsbridge

Dear Sir,

I would like to add my objection to the proposed project to re-instate this line and upgrade it to take larger 21 tonne steam trains.

The line was scrapped 50 years ago and since then much woodland has developed over the land which would need to be felled for the railway and its accompanying access track, increasing the effect of flooding on this flood plain. The line will not be a Public Transport link or benefit, but merely a vanity project to place larger toys on the backers' train set!

The project would require 3 new level crossings, at least two of which are on national speed limit busy roads. One of these is on a major trunk road (the A21) which should really be a dual carriageway along its entire route to Hastings (but that's another issue!) The increased congestion caused by two way stationary traffic at these crossings would increase journey times for commuters and holiday traffic on routes that are already overcrowded and roads that are too small and narrow for the current volume of traffic. The construction work at these crossings would be significant and long term, causing further negative effects. Level crossings themselves are amongst the most dangerous points on our transport network and where efforts to remove them nationwide are underway, here you now propose commissioning THREE new ones!

The subsequent environmental and congestion effects of the proposed line extension outweigh any positives to the project. The costs involved could be better spent elsewhere on either dualling the A21 to Hastings or upgrading the Ashford - Hastings single track railway line to "High Speed", either of which would bring much needed congestion relief and economic benefits to the local area.

I therefore urge you to look at the negatives to the project alongside the positives "spun" by the backers and their well funded lobbyists. This project will have costly local effects and local people should have a real say in whether or not the development proceeds.

Yours faithfully,

Stuart Edlin

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Sent from the Aye Pad