

From: Jemma Joyce [REDACTED]
Sent: 31 May 2018 20:48
To: TRANSPORTANDWORKSACT
Cc: Jemma Joyce
Subject: Objection to Rother Valley Railway (Bodiam to Robertsbridge Junction) Order
Attachments: 2018-05-30 RVR Objection Letter JJJ.docx

Dear Sir or Madam,

Please find enclosed my formal written objection to the Rother Valley Railway (Bodiam to Robertsbridge Junction) Order on the grounds that the proposal lacks a compelling case for the use of compulsory purchase powers, and fails to offer evidence of benefit to the area.

Further correspondence should be addressed to me at:



I look forward to hearing from your office,

Yours sincerely,

Jemma Joyce



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Secretary of State for Transport,
c/o Transports and Works Act Orders Unit,
General Counsel's Office,
Department for Transport Zone 1/18,
Great Minster House,
33 Horseferry Road,
London,
SW1P 4DR

by email to transportandworksact@dft.gsi.gov.uk

30 May 18

To Whom It My Concern

Objection to Rother Valley Railway (Bodiam to Robertsbridge Junction) Order

I the undersigned wish to object in the strongest terms to the proposal to make use of some form of compulsory purchase powers to acquire land for the Rother Valley private railway (hereafter RVR).

As a local resident, and one very keen to see the best for the County, I can unfortunately see no compelling economic or cultural benefit to Robertsbridge or the surrounding area arising from the connection of the line between Bodiam and Robertsbridge given the spread of findings presented by RVR and others including the Rt Hon Amber Rudd MP in her role as MP for Hastings.

Given the legal significance implied by the compulsory appropriation of land for this activity, akin in powers used for national infrastructure such as HS2, I would have expected to have seen unequivocal benefit demonstrated by RVR as a precursor to invoking these powers with support from the relevant authorities.

Furthermore I would also have expected a great deal more detail on how the impact of this extension is to be managed successfully given the need for three high-impact level crossings over the busy A21 to Battle and Hastings and the broader environmental impact on this area including flooding risk and habitat destruction.

In summary, this proposal appears to be a private aspiration by enthusiasts with money and connections dressed in the garb of public benefit which simply does not stand scrutiny. I urge you to ensure that property owners rights are respected and due process followed with regard to genuine benefits and impacts.

Yours faithfully,

Jemma Joyce *[signed electronically]*