

## **Petitioning Points**

The NFU petition has included high level issues that will affect all landowners and farmers along the line. The main overall request being for members affected to receive better compensation and mitigation measures and treated with a duty of care. The areas covered in the petition included the following:

## **Priority Points**

1. A statutory Duty of Care,
2. The Nominated undertaker to remain liable for its contractors and sub contractors
3. Land taken for habitat mitigation including tree planting and grassy meadows should be on a like for like basis and “not bigger, better and more joined up”. The quality of the area planted is more important and should be on land not in agricultural production and taken on by a volunteer. The NFU does not agree with the HS2 modified metric to measure biodiversity offsetting.
4. Land taken for a temporary purpose during construction should be on a construction lease similar to the license under HS1,
5. Interest to be payable on late payment of compensation and the figure should be 4% and 8%. Payments paid within 30 days,
6. Loss payments within claims to be at 30% and not capped,
7. Tax: There should be a capital gains tax exemption due to the size of the scheme and the land take required. If not the time period should be extended for rollover to 2 years before and 6 years after,
8. Planning consent for replacement buildings and associated dwellings should be as permitted development,
9. Soils to have an after care period of ten years and not five years
10. Object outright to the clause 47 for HS2 to be able to acquire land if there is an opportunity for regeneration or development of that land,
11. Object outright to clause 51 rights for access to carry out surveys which includes land on Phase 2 up to Manchester and Leeds and compensation for access to continue to be paid,
12. No extension to the time period to compulsory acquire land,
13. No extension to time limits for deemed planning permissions,
14. Severance: accommodation works including bridges and underpasses must be provided to severed land to enable businesses to remain viable. Specification to be agreed.

**Second list of points**

15. To acquire no more land than is needed for the project itself,
16. Severed fields should not automatically be taken for tree planting
17. Hedgerow regulations should not apply to fields which are severed.
  
18. Tax: SDLT the time period to claim the cost of SDLT should be extended
19. IHT should not be payable if the farmer has taken reasonable steps to replace the asset at the time of death.
  
20. Embankments to only be created from excavated material where necessary and they should not obliterate large areas of agricultural land. Further the undertaker to remain responsible for any liability associated with the embankments and bunds
21. Noise barriers to be by bunds and fence barriers not just big earth embankments,
22. Land acquisition plans to be colour coded highlighting permanent and temporary land take
  
23. Careful consideration to access off highways
  
24. To consult on the use of roads for construction works and to give reasonable notice,
25. If land to be taken for maintenance then 28 days notice given
26. Day to day disputes to be dealt with by a statutory ombudsman
27. Clarification on access to Stoneleigh Park during construction because as it stands access to the NFU HQ office on a day to day basis will be greatly affected

**Points to be agreed with HS2**

28. To ensure that an agricultural liaison officer and helpline are available 24 hours a day,
29. To revise the rural landowners and occupiers guide,
30. Balancing ponds located after discussions with landowners
31. Drainage systems and water supplies to be reinstated and new systems installed where necessary

