

From: Peter Bristow < >
Sent: 27 July 2018 16:19
To: TRANSPORTANDWORKSACT
Subject: East West Rail proposed start to the west section Bicester to Bletchley

I suggest that this proposal should be rejected by Government as

- (a) there is no cost/benefit analysis that clearly shows profitability,
- (b) the reopening of the line will pollute the environment surrounding the line (noise, fumes etc),
- (c) the line will benefit a relative handful of people who could travel between Oxford and Cambridge by other ways (or otherwise communicate electronically),
- (d) associated new housing is better placed in and beside existing towns, not on land at present open countryside,
- (e) money planned for this project is sorely needed to repair and improve the existing road infrastructure (opportunity cost),
- (f) money earmarked for this project would also be more prudently set aside to fund the HS2 expenditure over-run which is guaranteed to take place,
- (g) the idea that a new railway line will suddenly generate increased growth of Oxbridge joint activity is illusory. If it has not already succeeded in being created, a train journey will not be much help.
- (h) the project, like HS2, is a political trophy project and should be seen as such. There are many other less glamorous areas of public expenditure which will benefit very many more people than this one if the EW money were applied there.

Dr Peter Bristow

Bicester,

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