

# **STIRLING-ALLOA-KINCARDINE RAILWAY AND LINKED IMPROVEMENTS BILL COMMITTEE**

Wednesday 26 May 2004  
*(Afternoon)*

Session 2

£5.00

© Parliamentary copyright. Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body 2004.

Applications for reproduction should be made in writing to the Licensing Division,  
Her Majesty's Stationery Office, St Clements House, 2-16 Colegate, Norwich NR3 1BQ  
Fax 01603 723000, which is administering the copyright on behalf of the Scottish Parliamentary Corporate  
Body.

Produced and published in Scotland on behalf of the Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body by The  
Stationery Office Ltd.

Her Majesty's Stationery Office is independent of and separate from the company now  
trading as The Stationery Office Ltd, which is responsible for printing and publishing  
Scottish Parliamentary Corporate Body publications.

---

## CONTENTS

Wednesday 26 May 2004

	Col.
RIVER TETH CANDIDATE SPECIAL AREA OF CONSERVATION.....	461

---

### STIRLING-ALLOA-KINCARDINE RAILWAY AND LINKED IMPROVEMENTS BILL COMMITTEE

† 10<sup>th</sup> Meeting 2004, Session 2

#### CONVENER

Bill Butler (Glasgow Anniesland) (Lab)

#### DEPUTY CONVENER

\*Rob Gibson (Highlands and Islands) (SNP)

#### COMMITTEE MEMBERS

\*Richard Baker (North East Scotland) (Lab)

\*David Mundell (South of Scotland) (Con)

\*Nora Radcliffe (Gordon) (LD)

\*attended

#### THE FOLLOWING ALSO ATTENDED :

Fiona McClean (Directorate of Legal Services)

#### CLERK TO THE COMMITTEE

Callum Thomson

#### SENIOR ASSISTANT CLERK

Fergus Cochrane

#### LOCATION

Committee Room 3

† 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> Meetings 2004, Session 2—held in private.



## Scottish Parliament

### Stirling-Alloa-Kincardine Railway and Linked Improvements Bill Committee

*Wednesday 26 May 2004*

*(Afternoon)*

[THE DEPUTY CONVENER *opened the meeting at 13:15*]

### River Teith Candidate Special Area of Conservation

**The Deputy Convener (Rob Gibson):** I welcome members to the Stirling-Alloa-Kincardine Railway and Linked Improvements Bill Committee's 10<sup>th</sup> meeting of 2004. Bill Butler has been held up elsewhere, but we have a quorum for the meeting, so that is fair enough. I remind members to switch off their mobile phones and pagers.

I invite the committee to consider the papers on the appropriate assessment for the River Teith candidate special area of conservation. Materials have been circulated and we received more news this morning, on which I ask Fiona McClean to update us.

**Fiona McClean (Scottish Parliament Directorate of Legal Services):** Shortly before the meeting, we received a letter by e-mail and a separate e-mail from Alison Gorlov that said that the bill's promoter and Scottish Natural Heritage had reached agreement in principle on the mechanism by which they would ensure that mitigation measures were put in place and were legally enforceable. Obviously, we still require further details, but the promoter and SNH appear to agree about how to make progress.

**The Deputy Convener:** That helps us to make a statement that will facilitate a decision about the matter before our meeting on 9 June. The committee understands that discussions have taken place between the bill's promoter and Scottish Natural Heritage about appropriate assessment for the River Teith and the mitigation measures that it will be necessary to put in place. The committee also understands that SNH has said that in principle it would be content to be party to the arrangements that have been informally agreed between the promoter and the Scottish Environment Protection Agency.

The committee is pleased that progress is being made and it looks forward to receiving further details as soon as possible. The committee would like copies of the agreement and of the legal framework under which the agreement will be made and confirmation from the promoter on whether amendments to the bill will be required. The committee will then be able to consider the agreement and report to the Parliament on the appropriate assessment before the final stage. Does that cover what members require?

**Nora Radcliffe (Gordon) (LD):** I think so. It is important for us to be assured that the mitigation measures are appropriate, effective and enforceable. It sounds as though the promoter and SNH are nearing something that will ensure that. It would be useful to have sight of the agreement before our meeting on 9 June. How far in advance of the meeting would the papers need to be received to allow them to be circulated, so that we could have a good look at them before the meeting?

**Fergus Cochrane (Clerk):** We would probably ask for the material to be provided by 3 June.

**David Mundell (South of Scotland) (Con):** It is important to convey that urgency, because we are operating to a tight timetable if we are to have the final stage debate in the last week before the summer recess. Any slippage could cause a significant delay. That must be restated to those who are involved.

**The Deputy Convener:** I can only underline what members have said. As we agree to what has been proposed, we will proceed to try to obtain the information before 9 June, under the conditions that we have set.

**Nora Radcliffe:** We want the information by 3 June so that we can consider it properly before our meeting on 9 June.

**The Deputy Convener:** I am sorry; that is correct. Those are the specifics.

We have reached agreement and that is all that we have to discuss today. I thank members for their attendance.

*Meeting closed at 13:19.*



Members who would like a printed copy of the *Official Report* to be forwarded to them should give notice at the Document Supply Centre.

No proofs of the *Official Report* can be supplied. Members who want to suggest corrections for the archive edition should mark them clearly in the daily edition, and send it to the Official Report, 375 High Street, Edinburgh EH99 1SP. Suggested corrections in any other form cannot be accepted.

The deadline for corrections to this edition is:

**Thursday 3 June 2004**

Members who want reprints of their speeches (within one month of the date of publication) may obtain request forms and further details from the Central Distribution Office, the Document Supply Centre or the Official Report.

#### PRICES AND SUBSCRIPTION RATES

##### DAILY EDITIONS

*Single copies: £5*

*Meetings of the Parliament annual subscriptions: £350.00*

The archive edition of the *Official Report* of meetings of the Parliament, written answers and public meetings of committees will be published on CD-ROM.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT, compiled by the Scottish Parliament Information Centre, contains details of past and forthcoming business and of the work of committees and gives general information on legislation and other parliamentary activity.

*Single copies: £3.75*

*Special issue price: £5*

*Annual subscriptions: £150.00*

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO PARLIAMENTARY QUESTIONS weekly compilation

*Single copies: £3.75*

*Annual subscriptions: £150.00*

Standing orders will be accepted at the Document Supply Centre.

Published in Edinburgh by The Stationery Office Limited and available from:

**The Stationery Office Bookshop**  
71 Lothian Road  
Edinburgh EH3 9AZ  
0870 606 5566 Fax 0870 606 5588

**The Stationery Office Bookshops at:**  
123 Kingsway, London WC2B 6PQ  
Tel 020 7242 6393 Fax 020 7242 6394  
68-69 Bull Street, Birmingham B4 6AD  
Tel 0121 236 9696 Fax 0121 236 9699  
33 Wine Street, Bristol BS1 2BQ  
Tel 01179 264306 Fax 01179 294515  
9-21 Princess Street, Manchester M60 8AS  
Tel 0161 834 7201 Fax 0161 833 0634  
16 Arthur Street, Belfast BT1 4GD  
Tel 028 9023 8451 Fax 028 9023 5401  
The Stationery Office Oriel Bookshop,  
18-19 High Street, Cardiff CF1 2BZ  
Tel 029 2039 5548 Fax 029 2038 4347

**The Stationery Office Scottish Parliament Documentation**  
Helpline may be able to assist with additional information  
on publications of or about the Scottish Parliament,  
their availability and cost:

**Telephone orders and inquiries**  
0870 606 5566

**Fax orders**  
0870 606 5588

**The Scottish Parliament Shop**  
George IV Bridge  
EH99 1SP  
Telephone orders 0131 348 5412

**RNID TYPETALK calls welcome on**  
18001 0131 348 5412  
Textphone 0845 270 0152

sp.info@scottish.parliament.uk

www.scottish.parliament.uk

**Accredited Agents**  
(see Yellow Pages)

and through good booksellers