

HORROR NIGHTMARE GHOSTLY FREIGHT TRAINS!

STOP THE COAL TRAINS RUNNING THROUGH THE NIGHT—ZERO TOLERANCE—IRRESPONSIBLE SCOTLAND

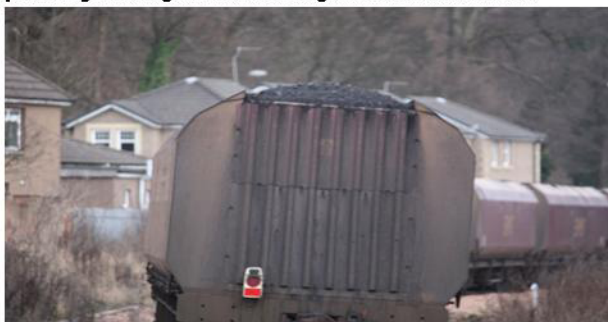
Residents cannot sleep at night due to excessive noise and vibration from freight trains travelling at speed with thousands of tonnes of coal. The situation is unhealthy. Every wagon has 100 tonnes of coal, and screeches like a ghostly sound from hell, each time a wagon passes. There are 23 wagons. Sleep deprivation amounts to torture. Sleep is a basic human right. The 2,300 tonne coal train passes through 24 times per day, mainly through the night. Night trips are set to increase. At a packed Logie Kirk Hall at Causewayhead, on 16th February, over 200 people gathered to express their views on the matter. The Chair could not keep proper order, and a number walked out before the end...disgusted. The panel representation was Network Rail, Transport Scotland, Stirling and Clackmannan Councils, the latter the 'promoter'. None of the representatives accepted any responsibility, however 'collectively' and importantly legally, THEY ARE RESPONSIBLE. Local MSP Richard Simpson probed the panel, exposed numerous flaws, as did members of the public. Dr Simpson pushed Network RAILS rep Ron McCauley who completely refused Dr Simpson's request (twice) to take the matter away merely to 'consider'. Locals were utterly disgusted and could not believe the attitude. The public have been misled. Only half a dozen freight trains were to run through the day. Assurances have been exploited by the collective operators. Mr McCauley refused to dispute a challenge from the public that an insider at Network Rail had confirmed even more trains will run through the night in the future. The panel representatives (most sat back) refused to even consider reducing the speed of the trains, which is still unlikely to reduce the noise and vibration to an acceptable level. Calls from members of the public included shouts of 'liars' and many argued their inability to sleep at night is causing stress and mental health problems. Residents living from 4 metres to over 150 metres from the line can feel vibration.



Too close for comfort for an uninterrupted nights sleep, the heavy coal trains rumble past day and night and buildings are set to crumble.

The noise also travels at night in open spaces, everyone in the rail line corridor is affected. Environmental reports through the consultation are proven as flawed, the goal posts changed through the process with zero consultation.

The problem for the residents along the line is that the EWS (now owned by German company DW Schenker) have carefully engineered their way to have the trains running, along with the collective group of operators, which makes the problem more difficult to change. MONEY was 'contributed' by EWS to use the route for coal, and promises have been ignored allowing more scope for the operators. The collective group of operators were exposed at the public meeting and caught with their trousers firmly down. The only solution is for the collective panel is to honour their promises and not run trains from 23.00hrs to 06.00hrs and slow the trains through the day. Have they any concern for the residents points, it appeared NOT at the public meeting—they're letting everyone down, including themselves, very badly indeed.



Coal dust escapes from 100 tonne open topped wagons as it winds its way through a housing scheme.



Graffiti on a wagon saying GREED, a recent standing room only public meeting, full of irate members of the public who only want a decent nights sleep gave the operators and politicians some in-depth thinking to do.

Follow the details...and write...

Follow the details on local website www.stirling.co.uk/trains and send in your email address to receive regular updates on progress to **STOP** the trains through the night. Also write to: **Dr Richard Simpson MSP** and **Anne McGuire MP**, 22 Viewfield Street, Stirling, FK8 1UA; richard.simpson.msp@scottish.parliament.uk m McGuire@parliament.uk **Alex Salmond MSP, FIRST MINISTER**, Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP firstminister@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

Astonishingly, the collective organisations attitude appears to be to fight the public with QC's and ignore the issues.