

HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

The Rt Hon Robert Jenrick MP
Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government
Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government
2 Marsham Street
London
SW1P 4DF

28 October 2019

Dear Sevetary of State,

Appeal by Britaniacrest Recycling Ltd against

The decision of West Sussex County Council to refuse planning permission for a Recycling, Recovery and Renewable Energy Facility and Ancillary Infrastructure at the former Wealden Brickworks (Site HB),

Langhurstwood Road,

Horsham, West Sussex, RH12 4QD.

Appeal Reference: APP/P3800/W/18/3218965

Application Reference: WSCC/015/18/NH

The planning application for the above proposed Recycling, Recovery and Renewable Energy Facility and Ancillary Infrastructure in my constituency was rejected by West Sussex County Council, a decision that was widely welcomed locally.

That decision made by West Sussex County Council is currently subject to an appeal.



I have been approached by a large number of constituents, including the local Campaign Group, Ni4H on this issue as the Member of Parliament for Horsham. Acting on behalf of my constituents and in that capacity I am writing to request formally that you give consideration for the recovery of the above application.

The application is giving rise to substantial regional controversy with the impact of the incinerator going beyond the Horsham District and is, in the context of national waste strategy, a matter of major importance, having more than local significance. This proposal may also be deemed a matter of major significance for the delivery of the Government's climate change programme and energy policies.

My constituents contend that this is specifically relevant given that the Government wants to maximise the amount of waste sent to recycling instead of incineration and landfill in accordance with the waste hierarchy.

It is expected that the demand for new Energy from Waste (EfW) facilities will reduce, as demand for incineration slows and recycling increases. Government policy on waste is clear and wishes to support recycling. My constituents understand that the introduction of a tax on the incineration of waste may even be considered at a future date as a further step to pursue these objectives following the successful introduction of the landfill tax.

A joint venture is underway which it is believed will lead to the construction of an Energy from Waste facility at Ford in West Sussex (WSCC/096/13/F), only 25 miles from Horsham, demonstrating that an allocated site for an EfW facility is already present within the County.

Avoiding the risk of the creation of overcapacity in incineration may be deemed of major significance given the Government's policy direction on the waste hierarchy and its position within the delivery of climate change and energy policies.

Constituents have stressed to me that they believe that the 'carbon intensity' of energy produced through waste incineration is very substantially more than low carbon emission sources which, especially in the context of the potential for



incinerator overcapacity and its impact on supply and demand for waste for incineration, may well also be directly relevant to the policy framework.

Due to the progressive decarbonisation of the electricity supply, incinerators built after 2020 would have a relatively greater adverse climate change impact (United Kingdom Without Incineration Network report, 'Evaluation of the climate change impacts of waste incineration in the United Kingdom', October 2018, Rev 1.01: April 2019.)

I believe there are wider considerations, which relate to this proposal and accordingly, on behalf of my constituents, I request that this Planning Appeal is considered for recovery in order that issues of wider significance may be considered.

The Appeal Inquiry is due to commence on 29th October 2019 in Horsham, with Inspector Ian Jenkins for an estimated 12 sitting days.

Jeremy Ouin