Comment for planning application WSCC/011/21

Application number	WSCC/011/21
Name	Adele Hohenstein
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Type of Comment	Objection
Comments	My objections stem from environmental concerns and revolve around three issues: Roads, Housing, and Environment. 1. The roads in the area are already heavily congested, (includes existing large lorry traffic negotiating narrow country roads which were not designed for industrial purposes). These roads, including the A roads, are in appalling condition (bordering on 3rd world standards) with pot holes created by the excessive wear and tear being randomly filled using short term solutions. An installation such as this should be located in an area where the road infrastructure meets both the necessary standards and the needs of consistent heavy vehicle flow. There is already a very large plant near Horsham so it seem less than acceptable to have two such plants within one county. 2. Housing. There are major housing developments in the area which will probably result in the populations of Climping, Ford and Yapton more than doubling. This will mean increased private usage of the roads. Building the Ford Energy installation in the midst of housing with the sole benefit being 54 extra jobs and the possibility of energy generation is a poor return if the area is dominated by an enormous chimney of 38.5 metres which will destroy the character of the area and the quality of life of local inhabitants. How can you screen as they suggest in their literature an edifice of that height? Currently when the wind is in a certain direction the smells from the existing plant are evident which is more than unpleasant. The increased tonnage will only add to this pollution. 3. Environment. What happens if something goes wrong in such a densely built up area. West Sussex County Council has a responsibility to ensure that the county develops in a sustainable and ecological way to ensure the well being of existing and future generations. There may be a possible short-term advantage to the revenues the Council would obtain from granting permission but it is important to review it from a long term perspective in terms of the benefits to the local population. It is unlikely that other clean and more desirable businesses will be attracted to the technology park dominated as it would be by the WSTF. Three key questions need to be answered: 1. What are the true benefits of this planned development (not the marketing speak in the Ford Energy brochure) to the community? 2. How is this going to improve Ford and what will be the implications for the proposed housing development which will include a school in terms of quality of life and the enhancement of the countryside? 3. Does West Sussex Council's vision and values in terms of the community they serve include the creation of an installation such as this rather than identifying and recruiting more acceptable new economy enterprises/investors?
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Attachments	