

Comment for planning application WSCC/011/21

Application number	WSCC/011/21
Name	Edward Hodgson
Address	Atherington House Ford Lane, Ford
Type of Comment	Objection
Comments	<p>I wish to object in the strongest terms to the proposed 'Ford energy from waste' proposal by Grundon/Viridor (ref WSCC/011/21). Whilst the application has been amended from that submitted in 2020 (ref WSCC/036/20) it remains wholly unsuitable for a variety of reasons It still fails to comply with Ford Neighbourhood Plan. This plan was worked up with great care over 8 years and was approved by the Government Inspector and West Sussex County Council raised no objections to the plan. The proposed Incinerator development does not comply with the Plan and with 1500 homes, a new school and community buildings being built on Ford Airfield this proposed incinerator is wholly inappropriate and planning for it should be refused Failure to protect the surrounding landscape. The sheer size of the proposed, oversized, building in the application will have a major adverse impact on the surrounding area. It is notable that the proposed building will dwarf any other buildings within this part of West Sussex and whilst the revised application purports to have reduced the height of the buildings it remains that the chimneys will be taller than Chichester Cathedral. Due to its size this proposed incinerator would dominate not only the immediate area but a much wider part of West Sussex. The Ford area retains much of its rural beauty and landscape and there are a number of listed buildings within view of the proposed development. Great care has been taken in the Ford Neighbourhood Plan to protect that landscape whilst accommodating an increased requirement for new homes. This application would destroy that landscape and severely impact other aspects such as the abundant wildlife that flourishes in the area. I fail to see how the proposed incinerator development could ever be considered appropriate for the area and it would also have a major impact on the South Downs National Park by compromising the conservation of views out of the Park - the scale of the incinerator buildings will be clearly visible from the Park and in no way could be regarded as conserving the Park's views. Figure 1 & 2 on Viridor/Grundon's own Community Update in April 2021 clearly show that the proposed plant will be visible for many miles and will dominate the surrounding area. Adverse Impact on Human Health. Incineration produces more CO2 emissions than even standard landfill and more than gas. Air quality for the surrounding area would therefore be severely compromised by this proposed plant. Given the Governments stated objective to move to a net zero Carbon economy I fail to see how approving this application will be consistent with that stated Government policy. There are far more environmentally friendly ways to generate electricity, such as offshore windfarms. 60% of waste incinerated in the UK at the present time could be recycled (Dispatches, Channel 4 8/3/21) and there is, therefore, already excess capacity of incineration in the UK. I fail to see how a further plant such as this is regarded as necessary and if an amount of incineration is required in the UK we should be using the existing capacity and not building new facilities such as the one proposed in this application. Locally, West Sussex already has enough approved incineration sites to meet its needs so there is no need for this additional site at Ford. The application fails to comply with a number of Planning Policies. As well as failing to comply with the Ford Neighbourhood Plan (and other surrounding Neighbourhood Plans) this application fails to comply with several aspects of the National Planning Policy Framework, such as para.148 on the transition to a low carbon future and para.172 on conserving and enhancing the landscape. I understand that it also fails to comply with Policies EH2, EE1, EE10, the SDNP H1.11 to name but a few. Pressure on Local Road Network. The proposal for 210+ delivery movements by lorry each day will place an intolerable pressure on the local road network and compromise highway safety further as well as worsening the quality of life and environment for all those living and working in the Ford, Yapton & Walberton area. Given that the number living in the immediate area is set to rise significantly, how can the application for such an oversized incinerator development be approved? This application is wholly inappropriate and I formally object to it.</p>
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Attachments	