

To Mr. Michael Elkington  
Head of Planning Services  
West Sussex County Council  
County Hall  
CHICHESTER  
PO19 1Rh

Dear Sirs,

## **Objection to Grundon & Viridor Planning Application wsc.011/21**

I would like to strongly object to the above application on the grounds stated below:-

My Objection is on the following grounds: -

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Thus, the whole surrounding area may be characterised as semi-rural, though the new airfield development will change that to some extent. It is also adjacent to the South Downs Country Park and close to the historic town of Arundel.

The new building is of such a size that it will be visible for many miles and will be the dominant feature in the views from the south downs, just as Arundel Castle and Cathedral are from the south at the moment. It's going to be hideous in comparison.

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This is just the main building, not the whole site which is far larger and contains other smaller buildings.

For comparison, the height of the main building is about the same as a 13-storey high block of flats.

The height of the chimney is about 263 feet tall or about the same as a 26-storey block of flats.

There are no other buildings of a comparable size for miles around. At present the main features on the wider landscape are the gas storage tanks at Littlehampton and the Kingmere block of flats, also at Littlehampton which is about the same height as the proposed processing building. Many people regard that as a regrettable 'blot on the landscape' and a big planning mistake! There can be no doubt that a building of this size will dominate the views of the whole area which is currently unspoiled by anything tall, and this helps to retain its rural character.

The visual impact of this new building would totally change that and damage the character of the whole surrounding area and all the villages within it.

My understanding is that waste not just from West Sussex, but also from all the surrounding Counties listed in the submission as: East Sussex, Hampshire, Surrey and the major towns of Portsmouth, Southampton, and Brighton.

So some vehicles will travel quite long distances through West Sussex in order to bring their waste to be processed in this relatively quiet corner of this county. We want a greener environmentally friendly England now unnecessary lorries etc travelling on our roads. It will be an awful lot of extra miles travelled every day throughout the county to get the refuse to the site.

In the future alterations may be made to the site which the County Council can't stop and this is VERY worrying.

The application estimates the lorry numbers to be about 240 HGV's a day, but I understand that this is the same figure as that given when the earlier permission for a much smaller plant was granted. Using a scaling up from the earlier waste tonnage to the proposed 295000 tonnes per year (275000 + 20000 recycling) I would estimate that the daily number of lorries could well be much larger than the applicant's estimate of 240, to perhaps 400 HGV's each day onto a narrow, unclassified, country road. In addition, there would be the ordinary vehicle movement of staff (40 people on 4 shifts per day) and the visitors which might include coaches for schoolchildren or other visitor groups. All of this makes the operator's traffic estimates look very questionable and could make the traffic impact very much heavier than they claim.

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Ford road/Church Lane is a single lane road which runs through the heart of Climping providing the main local route for private cars, cyclist, pedestrians, and cyclists to the local church, playing field, two community halls and the local school, and of course the wider area.

The road currently has a 40mph speed limit which is constantly exceeded at off peak times (we have the speed monitoring figures to prove that with a maximum measured speed of an unbelievable 100mph recorded one afternoon). During the evening peak period the restricted capacity at the roundabout junction with A259 causes extensive southbound queueing in Church Lane which can extend as far back as Ford Prison and causes extensive delays and air pollution.

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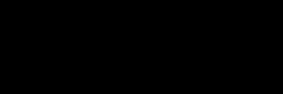
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