

From: [Simon Mortimer](#)
To: [PL Planning Applications](#)
Subject: WSCC/015/18/NH
Date: 21 March 2018 16:31:43

Dear Mr Dumbrell

Following the announcement of the Public Consultation period for the above referenced application, I would like to register my objections specific to the proposals as follows:

Former Wealden Brickworks (Site HB), Langhurstwood Road, Horsham, West Sussex, RH12 4QD

Proposal Recycling, Recovery and Renewable Energy Facility and Ancillary Infrastructure

1 Non-compliance with West Sussex County Council's Waste Local Plan

The size of the construction is excessively large and the structure and chimney very high and will have a major impact on Horsham and the surrounding villages as well as the Surrey Hills area of outstanding natural beauty.

Strategic Objective 5: to make provision for new transfer, recycling and treatment facilities as close as possible to where waste arises.

The scale of this plant is seeking waste from well outside of the local area and will encourage commercial waste being transferred over great distances to feed a very large incinerator, contrary to all current environmental policies on excessive transport movements and therefore in contravention of the policy. With a main railway line running right beside the site that used to serve it in a past usage, why is this not being utilised for the main transfer in of the bulk of the waste? Surely in these days of levels air pollution and traffic congestion this is the one thing that just might make this viable to all. There is plenty of spare capacity on this railway line for this, which if left little used could still be earmarked for closure with the resultant loss of passenger services to Horsham.

Strategic Objective 11: To protect and where possible, enhance the natural and historic environment and resources of the County.

There is nothing to suggest that this will enhance the local area in fact it will detract and blight it being visible from over 15kms away and in designated areas of Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. There is also the pollution from the emissions including lead, mercury, dioxins, the increase in road traffic emissions and the impact it will have on business travel in terms of traffic delays and the detrimental impact on the Horsham district as a whole.

Policy W11: Character. Proposals for waste development will be permitted provided that they would not have an unacceptable impact on: (a) the character, distinctiveness, and sense of place of the different areas of the County.

It is questionable if this policy will be met by this proposal, as it will be seen from rural villages and will have a detrimental impact on Horsham and all the surrounding rural communities.

Policy W12: High Quality Developments. Proposals for waste development will be permitted provided that they are of high quality and, where appropriate, the scale, form, and design (including landscaping) take into account the need to: (a) integrate with and, where possible, enhance adjoining land-uses..... (b) have regard to the local context including: (iii) the topography, landscape, townscape, streetscape and skyline of the surrounding area; (iv) views into and out of the site.

The Britaniacrest proposal does not meet the criteria set out above.

Policy W19: Public Health and Amenity. Proposals for waste development will be permitted provided that: lighting, noise, dust, odours and other emissions are controlled to the extent that there will not be an unacceptable impact on public health and amenity.

In the Britaniacrest application at 3.6.9 it states 'combustion of waste in the thermal treatment facility produces emissions of 51,000 tCO₂ equivalent per annum' This is some 1,275,000 tCO₂ during its expected operational period! Is this concentrated level of poisons and greenhouse gasses emitted into a rural area an 'acceptable impact on public health'? Surely we should be learning the lessons from pollution levels now seen in China and the Far East? These proposals will also require aviation lighting creating light pollution for the area as well as having a night-time noise impact on neighbouring communities.

2 Visual Impact of the development

The proposal does nothing to hide the impact it will have on the rural countryside for which it will sit amongst, being totally overpowering and intrusive day and night as it sits above the natural tree height canopy. The intrusion of the stack will be particularly intimidating at times when exhaust plumes are being emitted. The application documents state that the plume height could range from 6m to over 400m from the top of the 96m chimney!

3 Noise intrusion

At the operational stage it is acknowledged in the application that at night, with low background noise levels, the noise exposure would be increased by 6dB at three

locations. This would seem a significant increase in noise that local residents would have to tolerate.

4 The Environmental Arguments

Britaniacrest suggest that incineration is better than landfill and give the analysis for that.

What is not answered is the specifics for the location they wish to put it in i.e. Horsham and

the surrounding rural areas. It also omits to detail the totality of greenhouses gases, dioxins,

heavy metals etc. for the area of Langhurst Wood Road, A264, A24, A29, and beyond, considering that there are brickworks and landfill facilities which currently already burn off methane gases, a mechanical & biological treatment plant and other distribution businesses on the site that attract high numbers of vehicles movements.

Proposed Energy Generation Facility

There is clearly a worldwide problem with waste disposal but turning one problem into another is not the way to go as can clearly be seen in cities such as Beijing and Mumbai and many others. Air pollution levels are out of control in the UK already without any radical plans so far developed to properly address them. Although there is undoubtedly growing demand for power consumption, our area has no immediate problems with supply, I know my final years were dealing with capacity at UK Power Networks our local power distribution network operator connected to the National Grid. There already exists in the UK an unlimited source of clean free energy that does not rely on wind, sunshine or even waves and that is tidal power. This currently unexploited technology is the cleanest and most unobtrusive power generation facility with little or no visible infrastructure and is available 24/7 unless the moon stops going around us and should be considered before facilities such as the above contribute to poisoning us, our children and our whole future.

My apologies, I was unable to submit even this modestly sized objection online due to strict limits imposed on content volume which have been reduced again, somewhat incompatible with the need to respond effectively to such a complex proposal.

Kind regards

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