

From: [J.Heath](#)
To: [PL Planning Applications](#)
Subject: Planning ref: WSCC/015/18/NH
Date: 17 April 2018 11:21:59

Attention: Planning

As residents of Horsham area we would like to strongly object to the proposed incinerator being built.

Planning ref: WSCC/015/18/NH at Wealden Brickworks, Langhurstwood Road, Horsham, West Sussex, RH12 4QD

The proposals for an incinerator does not meet WSCC waste plan:

Strategic Objective 5: *to make provision for a new transfer, recycling and treatment facilities as close as possible to where waste arises.* The scale and throughput of the proposed plant is incompatible with the disposal of local waste and will attract material from outside of the county.

Strategic Objective 10: *To protect and, where possible, enhance the natural and historic environment and resources of the County.* There is no element of the proposals that will enhance the natural environment.

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.....*

The proposal will have a dramatic effect on the character of Horsham and so we believe it does not meet the criteria.

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.*

This incinerator clearly does not meet this requirement.

Visual Impact

The chimney of the brickworks is 26.5m high. The proposed incinerator building will be taller than this chimney some 35.92m in height.

The building will be bigger than Horsham's shopping center, Swan Walk, and taller than the brickworks chimney, 26.5m.

It will be seen from far and wide, including areas of outstanding natural beauty.

Light Pollution

For the CAA to demand middle and top of the stack is lit at night is due to flight paths. The CAA would not be demanding such comprehensive lighting if the routes did not go over the proposed site. The site would become a permanent hazard for all aircraft.

The stack will be lit like a Christmas tree producing significant increase in light pollution from the plant and the skyline.

Recycle

WSSC have shown a 2% increase in recycling and so to burn would captivate the council into long term contracts to keep a hungry incinerator burning. It is inevitable that recycling will drop, as is the case in London.

The Biffa bio-mechanical digester that taxpayers paid for to deal with household waste will virtually become redundant as the proposer has stated that they intend to burn black sack waste as well as industrial.

Burning waste is short sighted and damaging to the long-term prosperity to the planet on demands for resources.

WSSC taxpayers paid for the Biffa biomechanical digester, and am told by Britaniacrest at their exhibition that this would become redundant due to the incinerator.

Noise Pollution

As the site will be 24/7 it will create noise above the ambient noise enjoyed by rural areas of 30-35dB. This ambient noise levels decrease at night.

Flue Stack

At the Britaniacrest exhibition the organisers detailed that the stack will be similar to a plant in Cornwall. This plant has two larger chimneys and so what is proposed seems to be questionable to its final proportions and subsequently visual impact as it is suggested that the chimney will be far bigger than illustrated by the proposer.

Not Needed

It would seem that West Sussex already has given planning permission for an incinerator at Ford in 2014. With an incinerator already permitted to be built on the coast it is highly questionable why an incinerator is needed on the edge of the county.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-sussex-28486588>

Air Quality

The air quality is declining in the area due to the congestion surrounding our parish. Lack of investment in highways means that we are subjected to cut through traffic on our country lanes every day bring car pollution to our rural doorsteps. WSCC in their recent Connect magazine detailed that vehicles, 80% of nitrogen dioxide concentration at the roadside is caused by road transport.

This proposal would bring lorries on the dangerous A24, congested A264, A29, M23, and so the list goes on, as waste will be imported into Horsham to burn.

It is clear that the small particles are not captured by the current levels of air quality and thus are seen to be causing breathing issues, especially in the young and old.

Operations

Britaniacrest have made it clear that they do not intend to run the site and so we are very concerned about the on going operation of an incinerator as previously experienced with the landfill site before Biffa took over.

Not linked to the national grid

Unlike Germany, which has linked its incinerator to the national grid, there are no plans to do this with this proposal or funding, we therefore presume that it would fall to the taxpayer to pay for any infrastructure that would be required.

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