
From: Colin & Denise
Sent: 27 April 2018 17:37
To: PL Planning Applications
Subject: Planning Application Number: WSCC/015/18/NH - Former Wealden Brickworks (Site HB), Langhurstwood Road, Horsham, West Sussex, RH12 4QD

Dear Mr Dumbrell,

I am corresponding to register my objection to the proposed incinerator, to which your reference above relates, as amongst other issues I do not believe this application meet the WSCC waste plan, and I refer to the following in this regard:

Strategic Objective 5: "To make provision for a new transfer, recycling and treatment facility as close as possible to where waste arises". The size, scale and throughput of the proposed development does not appear to satisfy this objective, as it is likely to have to attract waste from outside of the WSCC boundary, to keep it operating around the clock, and cannot therefore be defined as being placed close to where the waste it will consume will be produced.

Strategic Objective 10: "To protect and where possible, enhance the natural and historic environment and resources of the County". There appears to be no element of this proposal that will enhance the 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". Given the size and scale of the proposed development, it will inevitably have a considerable impact on the character of the area around it, and I would suggest on the town of Horsham itself.

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 etc. (b) have regard to the local context including: (iii) the topography, landscape and skyline of the surrounding area; (iv) views into and out of the site. I would suggest that the proposed incinerator and associated stack do not meet these requirements.

I now refer to other aspects of the proposal:

Noise Pollution – It is proposed that this site will be in operation 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. As such it is likely to create noise levels in excess of the ambient noise levels for rural areas. As the ambient levels decrease at night, any noise pollution will be even more noticeable at these times, and I note that there appear to be issues with this at the existing site, which does not bode well for the scale of development proposed.

Air Quality – Coupled with the proximity to Gatwick Airport, and road infrastructure in this area, which no doubt already have an effect on air quality, there is likely to be a further deterioration due to the emissions produced from this proposed development.

Flue Stack – The height of the proposed stack is I understand 95 metres, which will dwarf buildings/landscape in the area, and for a considerable distance beyond. The plume from this stack is also likely to be visible for a considerable distance further.

Light Pollution – As it is a CAA requirement that warning lights are placed on the stack, this is likely to significantly increase the light pollution in the area.

Visual Impact – Given the proposed incinerator building will be around 36 metres tall, it will be some 10 metres taller than the existing brickworks chimney, which is itself already visible from some distance away.

Vehicular Movements – I would suggest that there would be a need for more lorry movements, to and from this site than there are at present due to the fact that this would be a 24 hour operation, and it is likely that a number of these would be from outside of the West Sussex area, due to the need to feed this plant, and remove ash waste. This in itself is likely to increase road congestion and pollution in the surrounding areas.

In closing I was also amazed to learn that this proposed incinerator will replace the existing bio – mechanical plant which will then be shut down. I was under the impression that the bio-mechanical installation would be able to deal with the waste produced in the County for years to come. There is a considerable difference in the scale and operation of the bio-mechanical site and a proposed incinerator, and just because one type is already in operation on a site doesn't make that site suitable for every other type of waste disposal methodology.

Yours Sincerely,

Mr C. Panton