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**BY EMAIL ONLY**

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Your reference: EN010083

23 March 2020

Dear Mr. Kean,

**Re: Application by Wheelabrator Technologies Inc. for an Order Granting Development Consent for the Wheelabrator Kemsley Generating Station (K3) and Wheelabrator Kemsley North (WKN) Waste to Energy Facility Development Consent Order (DCO) – Additional Submission**

It has been brought to the attention of the County Council as Local Highway Authority that an application for a new Incinerator Bottom Ash processing plant has been made to Kent County Council as the Waste Planning Authority under reference KCC/SW/0008/2020. The application is made for a processing plant capable of 400,000 tonnes of imported IBA with an expected export of 360,000 tonnes of IBAA/metals. 50,000 tonnes of IBAA/metals would be exported through the adjacent Ridham Dock. The Applicant (Fortis IBA Ltd) has made reference in their Transport Assessment to a “symbiotic relationship” between the IBA application and that of the DCO application reference EN010083. As Local Highway Authority, KCC raised concerns that this application causes a direct impact on the Local Highway Network in combination with those caused by the Wheelabrator Kemsley Generating Station (K3) and Wheelabrator Kemsley North (WKN) Waste to Energy Facility (“the DCO”). KCC is concerned that the cumulative assessment, that the Planning Inspectorate had specifically directed, would be undermined unless the IBA planning application is considered alongside the DCO.

Explanations of Wheelabrator or Fortis IBA Ltd will be required as to the prescribed symbiotic relationship of movements between the IBA plant and those of the consented Sustainable Energy Plant (K3), the expansion of K3 and WKN. The County Council requests sight of clear evidence of the following:

- The consented number of IBA export movements and tonnage from K3, assumed to cater for 165,000 tonnes and how they were accounted for in that application.
- The expected IBA export movements and tonnage from the proposed K3 expansion and how they were accounted for in the application.
- The expected IBA export movements and tonnage from the proposed WKN application and how they were accounted for in the application. This facility stands on the footprint of the previously applied for IBA and it would therefore need to take account of the additional exported IBA waste vehicle movements from the consented SEP.
- The net expectation of export movements from all above sites that would now be assumed to come to this application as imports.

It is also noted that the applicant for the new IBA proposes to use the Ridham Dock to export 50,000 tonnes of IBAA metals. This is very much welcomed by the County Council. However, within the DCO application the - Rail and Water Transportation Strategy - paragraph 7.4 states that *“there would be the need to upgrade the existing facilities at the dock to accommodate the additional freight necessary to make this a viable option and this would require significant investment.”* If the dock is now capable of accepting 50,000 tonnes of IBAA, then it could be assumed that the DCO could equally have accommodated that level of freight if not more. The County Council would therefore question what the actual capacity of loading and unloading at the dock is and the validity of the statement in the submitted Rail and Water Transportation Strategy.

The County Council, as Local Highway Authority has now had chance to review the IBA application, which inevitably, had raised questions and an unclear picture as to what the actual cumulative impacts of the DCO and the IBA planning applications are.

KCC would therefore urge the Inspectorate to consider the ramifications of this further application, and in particular the highway impact associated with HGV movements related to the removal of the consented IBA and application of the new IBA.

In addition, the Examiner may wish to satisfy itself that there is an appropriate management facility for the IBA arisings to support the DCO facility. The WKN plant affects the site of the permitted IBA facility.

The County Council will continue to work with the applicant and Examining Authority and welcomes the opportunity to comment on matters of detail throughout the Examination.

Should you require any additional information or clarification, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely



**Barbara Cooper**  
Corporate Director – Growth, Environment and Transport