

Medworth_OFH1_22 FEB

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FULL TRANSCRIPT (with timecode)

00:00:05:10 - 00:00:08:14

Good evening. Good evening, everyone.

00:00:10:12 - 00:00:10:27

Hello.

00:00:12:08 - 00:00:14:21

Good evening, everyone. Welcome.

00:00:20:01 - 00:00:33:00

Thank you. Thank you very much. So good evening. Can I just confirm that everybody can hear me clearly, please? Thank you. Can I also confirm with Mr. Stuart Davis that the live streaming of this event has not commenced?

00:00:35:03 - 00:00:35:27

Thank you very much.

00:00:37:14 - 00:01:00:19

For those people watching the livestream, can I also advise that should we at any point adjourn proceedings this evening? We will have to stop the livestream in order to give us clear files. As a result, at point at which we recommenced commence meeting and we started The Livestream will need to refresh your browser page to view the restarted stream and we will remind you of this again should we need to adjourn.

00:01:02:08 - 00:01:38:10

It is now 6 p.m. and it's time for this hearing to begin. I would like to welcome you all to the first open for hearing. Open for hearing one in relation to the application made by Matt Worth, CHP Ltd, who we will refer to as the applicant for an order granting development consent for the Met with Energy from Waste combined Heat and Power facility. The development proposed comprises of the construction operation and maintenance of the energy from waste combined heat and power facility with associated with connection, CHP, connection, water, connection, access improvements and temporary construction compounds.

00:01:40:15 - 00:02:09:14

Thank you all for this hearing. My name is Andre Pinto and I am a chart town planner employed by the Planning Inspectorate. And I have been appointed by the Secretary of State for levelling up Housing and Communities as a single examining inspector to examine this application. We will also you will also hear me being referred to as the examining authority, and I will be reporting to the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy with the recommendation as to whether the development consent order should be made.

00:02:11:27 - 00:02:39:01

The case manager for this project is Tracy Williams. Tracy is being supported here today by Mr. Taylor Bursar's and Ms.. April Coombes. We also have Phoebe Charles providing support remotely. If you have any queries about the examination process or the technology we are using for virtual events, they should be your first point of contact. The contact details can be found at the top of any letter you have received from us on the project page of the National Infrastructure website.

00:02:41:02 - 00:03:13:01

I will now deal fairly quickly with a few housekeeping matters for those attending in person. First of all, can I please ask everyone to put their phones to silent and also to inform that the closest trial, such as thought site to the left of this room and there are no plant fire evacuation tests today. Should the fire alarm sound, please make your way to the nearest fire exit and make your way downstairs to the right hand side of the building. Fire for questions. Simply point is by the lamp post with red and green sign outside.

00:03:14:06 - 00:03:27:07

Today's the blended event and it comprises an in-person meeting as well as a virtual event being held onto Microsoft teams platform. For those people observing or participating through streams, can you please make sure that you stay muted unless you are speaking?

00:03:28:26 - 00:03:55:03

If you are participating virtually and you wish to speak at relevant points in the proceedings, please do use your hand up function and I will try to pull you into the conversation as soon as I can. In addition to the live stream, a recording of today's hearing will be made available on demand with energy from waste, Combined Heat and Power Facilities section of the National Infrastructure Planning website as soon as practicable after the meeting has finished.

00:03:56:19 - 00:04:29:00

With this in mind, please make sure that you speak clearly into the microphone stating your name and who you are representing each time before you speak. For those that will join me at the table, you can you can do that by pressing the large buttons that are the basis of those microphones. If you are not at the table, there are going to be some roving microphones for the room as well. And please wait for one of those to be brought to you so you then can speak. If you are attending virtually and don't want your image to be recorded, you can switch off your camera for those in the room

00:04:31:02 - 00:05:09:11

that do not want to be recorded. There is an area to the back outside of camera shot, so please do that area as well. Use the TV as well because the digital recording that we make is retained and published to form a public record that can contain your personal information and to which the General Data Protection Regulation applies. All in the rarest of circumstances. Might we ask you to provide personal information of the type that most of us would prefer to keep private or confidential? Therefore, to avoid the need to edit any digital recorded things, please try your best not to add information to the public record that you would wish to be kept private or that is confidential.

00:05:12:03 - 00:05:26:11

If you feel that personal information is necessary, please provide this in a written document that we can redact before publication. The planning Inspectorate's practice is to retain and publish recordings for a period of five years from Secretary of State's decision.

00:05:28:00 - 00:05:39:26

A link to the Planning Inspectorate. Specific notice was provided in the Rule six letter alongside a notification for this hearing. And please speak to the case manager, Tracy Williams, if you have any queries about this.

00:05:41:20 - 00:05:58:07

I will now explain the purpose and conduct for this meeting. So this will be an open floor hearing and you'll have the opportunity to raise anything directly with the examining authority that is important and relevant in that you think that we should know about and consider.

00:05:59:29 - 00:06:36:22

They are not particular. They're not. It's not about a particular location or topic. The topics of of your representations about proposal is therefore up to you yourself. We have a challenging schedule today and we must conclude this hearing by 8:00 at the latest. Estefania will close at her time. Therefore, I am proposing the following. I will start by calling those types joining us virtually that have informed us in advance that you wish to speak. I will allow a maximum of 5 minutes per IP giving giving you a three minute warning to put your points across.

00:06:36:24 - 00:06:58:27

And I urge you to respect this time limit for the reasons previously stated. Once this group of IP has spoken, I will then ask the applicants to reply to the points made focusing on high level matters in both issues rather than addressing every issue on a point by point basis. I'll give the applicant 10 minutes to reply to the points made focusing on the high level issues being raised.

00:07:00:14 - 00:07:10:25

I don't propose to call on those that have joined us in person. And as for the previous group, I will then give each IP a maximum of 5 minutes to put the points across again with a three minute warning.

00:07:12:23 - 00:07:18:21

Once all I have been called, I will then give again 10 minutes to the applicant to respond to all the points being made.

00:07:20:12 - 00:07:53:09

Following from these two groups and only if we still have time. I will then open to discussion more loudly to nine apps that have registered their wish to speak, giving a right to reply to the applicant as well as for previous hearings. All participants will be asked for post hearing written submission of their oral cases as heard on this opened for hearing. The applicant will be given an opportunity to respond to any matters raised. Once all speakers have been heard either orally or in writing by deadline one, which is the 10th of March 2023.

00:07:53:22 - 00:08:11:08

If you wish to make only a written submission because of time constraints, please do so as well by the same deadline. So if you do not have time to actually hear your representation, please do so in writing. Does anyone have any comments to make on this proposed way forward?

00:08:14:27 - 00:08:46:04

Right. I am aware that at two individuals I have been informed by the case team have particularly asked and required that I present in the courtroom today to be prioritized to to a private urgent engagements. Can I just clarify if that is the case and if. Okay. And it could those people please put their hands up just so that I. So two, is it the two gentlemen here? Right.

00:08:46:26 - 00:09:00:02

In that case, I propose that actually, I start with two gentlemen that have actually made that request. I will then move on to the factual, and then I come back to the room. Is that okay with everyone? Okay. Thank you very much.

00:09:02:19 - 00:09:24:23

So I have a list of people who have registered an interest to speak this evening. When I call your name, please turn on your camera or microphone if you are joining as virtually and introduce yourself. If and if you are representing someone who you represent as well. If in person, then I call you. Please introduce yourselves. And when you come up to speak, if you are representing someone who you represent as well.

00:09:26:09 - 00:09:40:15

So first of all, I would like to call. To the floor in light of what I have just agreed. I believe it will be Councillor Richard Blunt.

00:09:51:27 - 00:09:52:15

Good evening.

00:09:54:12 - 00:10:09:27

If you could. If you could. Good evening. If you could then confirm your name for the record and also the organization that you represent. And then as I starts, please, 5 minutes and I'll give you a three minute warning, if that's okay. Okay. Thank you.

00:10:11:02 - 00:10:35:25

Good evening. I am Richard Blunt. I am Kingsland and West North Borough Council's cabinet member responsible for planning and regeneration. I'm also Borough Council for the wards of well-spoken Worsfold and Walpole Highway, The Whirlpools and. And also I live in the War Pulse area of West Norfolk. Most affected by this application is where I live and work.

00:10:37:17 - 00:10:47:20

I have an excellent knowledge of the area and the communities. I want to share my thoughts or your consideration. The Met with request planning application before you today.

00:10:49:05 - 00:11:27:10

Firstly, why the edge? The site on the edge of Wisbech. If I was considering an energy for waste site from waste site, I would. Firstly I would consider firstly, is there sufficient waste to feed the plant located near the site? And secondly, is there sufficient demand on to use the energy being generated? On the first point on the need to transport several loads of waste to the site every day, there is clearly not enough waste generated locally to need to meet the needs of the site in Wisbech.

00:11:28:15 - 00:11:34:17

Therefore look for sites where sufficient waste is generated to feed the demand now and in the future.

00:11:36:02 - 00:12:07:17

On the second point, is there enough demand locally for any energy generated either steam or electric power? The area has limited demand for steam to be used in the local factories, and the electric power will be generated, will be fed to the national grid and we used anywhere the need arises. Therefore, there is no real reason why the plant needs to be here. Build it where the need is high and require for steam as high.

00:12:08:28 - 00:12:43:17

Next has alternative sites visited by the applicant. Based on the lack of need for a site in Wisbech, but has the applicant suggested a sites that with a local need is for incinerating waste? I know it may be. I know it may be the same number of loads, but the low mileage could greatly reduce the site if it's generated near its need. Has the applicant said any sites with a demand for steam generated by the plant is higher? And.

00:12:43:21 - 00:12:45:21

And now. And in the future.

00:12:47:27 - 00:13:11:09

Thirdly, the impact on people in the surrounding areas, including Wisbech in West Norfolk. The fact that the a47 is being used to bring waste to the site is currently, which is a currently heavily congested road, seems to have been ignored when travelling north. The traffic on the stretch of the a47 from Tesco roundabout to Elmhurst.

00:13:11:11 - 00:13:12:03

Units Council.

00:13:13:03 - 00:13:40:05

Is is regularly at the complete standstill. This is the main southern entrance into Norfolk from East Midlands. The route with business traffic visitors come and support the economy of Norfolk. I believe the impact of the proposed application will have a major impact on the economy of all of Norfolk, because it is the gateway from Peterborough and the East Midlands to Norfolk and beyond.

00:13:41:25 - 00:14:19:12

Has any been anything being considered or given about the two schools that are in one mile of this location of the location, The Thomas Clarkson Academy. The Medical Medical Academy. Elm Road School. Primary School. Romance Road School. Wisbech Grammar School. Part of the Primary School. Orchard Church. Church of England School. These are where most of the children of Wisbech are educated. All these sites or majority of these sites are to the north of the proposed site and in the direction of the prevailing winds from the site.

00:14:20:29 - 00:14:38:26

I could go on, but my comments are making this decision. Finally, I'd like to think you will be looking at methods of that in current solutions that reduce the production of waste and encourage the use of renewables. Therefore, to reduce the need for this plant to be built. Thank you very much.

00:14:39:08 - 00:14:40:02

Thank you very much.

00:14:45:04 - 00:14:50:07

Now, I would like to ask, I believe, counselors to talk to.

00:14:51:28 - 00:14:53:11

Come in as well, please. Thank you.

00:15:02:01 - 00:15:02:27

Good evening, counselor.

00:15:03:02 - 00:15:03:17

Good evening.

00:15:03:25 - 00:15:09:09

Same situation, please. So, 5 minutes overall with a three minute warning. Thank you.

00:15:09:19 - 00:15:40:16

When you're ready. Okay. Thank you for allowing me to address you this evening when I'm sure you all can vote. I'm the leader of Kingsley in West Norfolk Borough Council. I ask to speak here at this early opportunity as there is considerable community concern re this proposal, not just among the residents and elected term and parish bodies in my council area, amongst all the employees, county

councils and all surrounding districts. There will be further detailed and technical responses by Kingston West Norfolk Borough Council offices at relevant times as this application progresses.

00:15:40:27 - 00:16:26:20

But believe it is right to select the level and the areas of concern with you at this early stage. To put this concern into context, to my knowledge, at this point in time. There is not one, and I'll repeat that not one elected body or MP locally victim 24 of this large, commercially driven scheme with many like ours. Norfolk County Council already publicly stated there in principle opposition to it. This specific areas of scheme are those specific areas of concern. Now this scheme is coming through you for to you for decision rather than local planning authorities on the premise that you should both vitally need it for waste burning and will deliver sufficient electricity into the national grid to make nationally strategic infrastructure.

00:16:27:10 - 00:17:01:15

However, there is scepticism at the significant energy figures quoted are actually achievable and sustainable in the long life of the plant and concern that there is already seemingly a sufficiency of incineration for national waste and local waste removal and waste disposal. Public authorities like ours and the county councils, all with published ambitious targets to reduce waste and increase recycling, making demand for residual waste burning intuitively decrease nor increase over the coming years.

00:17:02:03 - 00:17:38:07

Backs in line with government targets and priorities. There is concern that such a large site as this would therefore be relying on commercial waste and will disincentivise businesses from actually reducing them recycling more in line with government objectives. It is my honest, earnest hope on behalf of the communities I represent, that you look very carefully at whether the threshold for nationally needed is reached in terms of waste removal. Need impact on environmental green initiatives at a national level and power generation.

00:17:39:06 - 00:18:13:03

Well, it's not actually in our district. The site is in such close proximity to its border, a matter of millimeters and a story of large towns and villages. King's Lynn has a population of 50,000 people, is nearby. And you've heard with schools, open countryside, triplex, there's always sites for issues such as particular look, claims, initial construction, and then long term waste delivery and removal traffic on already congested country roads that link this rural area to the rest of the UK for business and travel.

00:18:13:15 - 00:18:46:23

Make it a real, not remote issue of concern for all residents. I respectfully draw your attention to the fact that both Kingston West, Norfolk Borough Council, Norfolk County Council have already long longstanding no incinerator complexes. Despite this known proximity, local parish councils residents felt that they were excluded from having their say in the earlier published consultation. With parameters being drawn very close by the applicant. So a small radius from the site was not there. Making this consultation nonetheless took place during the pandemic.

00:18:47:01 - 00:19:30:12

And these two factors combined making people fearful that you will not be seeing the true extent of local failing or the challenges caused by this development as it progresses. And I am really pleased that you have decided to have these hearings and open to thank you for that encourages for going forward. But we respectfully ask that your minutes. Councillor Thank you. We respectfully ask that you direct further stages examined by process to be more inclusive so that more people can have their say. In summary, it is felt at this stage by the Council and the community that I represent that this proposed facility, driven by commercial interest, is too large, not needed by the public sector and in the wrong location.

00:19:30:19 - 00:19:32:10

Thank you. Thank you.

00:19:33:07 - 00:19:35:14

Thank you very much. Council to attack.

00:19:37:08 - 00:19:52:26

Thank you for that. As I have mentioned before, then I propose that now I will actually perhaps give a quick opportunity to the applicant to come back on these two interventions. Before I go to

00:19:54:12 - 00:20:07:10

the actual people waiting for us. But perhaps considering the number of interventions and restrictions of time, if the applicant could possibly reduce it to, say another 5 minutes, please. The response?

00:20:25:24 - 00:20:26:13

Good evening.

00:20:27:29 - 00:20:30:27

Please introduce yourself and your organization. Thank you.

00:20:31:13 - 00:20:36:06

Good evening. My name is Claire Patrick. I'm a solicitor at Pinsent Masons, acting for the

00:20:37:29 - 00:20:38:14

fact

00:20:40:09 - 00:20:40:24

that.

00:20:41:25 - 00:20:44:03

The mic is on. If you're trying again, please.

00:20:44:05 - 00:20:45:20

I'll try again. Is that better? Yes.

00:20:46:03 - 00:20:47:09

Simple and clear now?

00:20:48:06 - 00:21:23:28

Yes. Good evening. My name is Claire Patryk. I'm a solicitor at Pinsent Masons acting for the applicant. The applicant? Considering the number of people both in-person here this evening and online, would very much appreciate the opportunity be given to everyone to have their say this evening if possible. And therefore, the applicant will provide its comments at the end of the evening if there is time. We are making a very detailed note of everything that everybody says this evening and we'll be responding in writing, but we are very keen that we don't run out of time and let's have.

00:21:24:00 - 00:21:41:20

An acceptable yes. Thank you very much for that. That will actually give us opportunity to hear from other people. Thank you very much, Mr. Brodrick. All right. I will now propose that we actually go to those joining us virtually.

00:21:44:10 - 00:21:49:00

So can I call? First of all,

00:21:50:15 - 00:21:52:05

I believe we have.

00:21:54:16 - 00:22:10:23

A representative from Cambridgeshire County Council that mentioned that wanted to speak to us today and is joining us virtually. Um. I believe, Catholic Central camp.

00:22:12:15 - 00:22:15:20

Yes, I'm actually from Norfolk. Norfolk.

00:22:17:06 - 00:22:21:02

County and borough councillor. Yes. Yes. Apologies. Yes. Thank you.

00:22:22:04 - 00:22:22:19

To.

00:22:24:00 - 00:22:25:03

Well, I would like.

00:22:25:06 - 00:22:26:04

Would you like to

00:22:28:08 - 00:22:30:16

produce yourself in your concession that you represent? Please.

00:22:30:25 - 00:23:01:28

My name is Alexandra Kemp and I am a county councillor from Norfolk, and I'm also on the the Borough Council of Kingston in West Norfolk. And I represent areas around King's Lynn and Schwartz and South and West Lynn and West Winch, which are quite coast to Wisbech in the sense that we have very strong prevailing southwesterly winds and we are an area in the wash where things can be carried.

00:23:02:00 - 00:23:35:11

We have problems with air pollution regularly as it is where we have, we have dust and we have sand from the Sahara. This happens very often in the in the spring and it has caused a lot of issues. We already have pollution from agricultural and from industrial areas locally and also across from the river in Germany. So we are a concentration already of great concern that there should be something else which could put particulate matter out into the air.

00:23:35:18 - 00:24:19:14

We experienced a great problem ten years ago when another firm tried to build an incinerator very close to the town and for five years the community became more and more aware. And finally the county council voted not to be in the contract with this incinerator firm for planning, solely voted against it, and voted to have a no incinerator Norfolk policy. And last May, the County Council also voted to object in principle to this incinerator on the Norfolk border because we also have a no incinerator policy we brought in 2015 and we feel it's wrong that something should be so close.

00:24:19:16 - 00:24:52:07

And the reasons, having done a lot of research on this matter. So the problem is that we know that incinerators tend to be built in areas of poverty and deprivation, and the the health effects from these

incinerators can be masked by existing health defects and health problems. And we know that Bedworth is very deprived and so is South Lynn and Westland in my my wards. I asked for there to be consultation from the applicant with these with my areas.

00:24:52:09 - 00:25:23:00

And this this was refused in the manner we wish to have this. But since then the old parliamentary group on Air Pollution published some papers in December 2021, looking at recent research and finding links to health problems. For example, near incinerators. There were dioxins from the nearby incinerator embedded in children's toenails with links to cancer issues and problems with lungs.

00:25:23:02 - 00:25:56:21

We were very concerned about this and also the issue with farming, because we are a farming area and the all parliamentary group on air pollution have also found research suggesting there would materials from incinerator pollutants embedded in eggs in farms ten kilometres away. Now we believe this is an issue of great concern. We know that there are greater refinements and detections of these pollutants, but we also know that they they don't degrade in the atmosphere.

00:25:56:23 - 00:26:17:12

Once they're put out, they can blow around, then become embedded in the soil and they are a problem. I would also say that in our area we have particularly strong winds. We were the location of the great flooding, 53 and also the the storm surge of 2013. So near Kingsland, we have a problem with

00:26:19:04 - 00:26:28:16

very strong winds and we do not believe that the applicant has used the proper meteorological data in order to ascertain what.

00:26:28:18 - 00:26:29:03

Councillor.

00:26:29:05 - 00:26:30:02

Would be. Yes.

00:26:30:04 - 00:26:36:12

Can you please confirm to me that I'm giving you a full four minute warning now? Thank you. One more minute left, please.

00:26:36:19 - 00:27:13:06

Thank you. That's very helpful. So we're saying as a matter of social equity, we should not be putting these areas in areas of deprivation, areas with health concerns and also areas of great natural importance. There are 300,000 wintering birds in the wash, which is very close to this site, downwind of it on the prevailing south westerlies and also many important protected species. We believe firmly in recycling and indeed Norfolk County councillors report a decrease in its waste recently.

00:27:13:08 - 00:27:43:16

And we're doing all we can to recycle. So we believe that there is definitely an oversupply of incinerators in the east of England and it would be wrong to bring waste from 2 hours away to. Areas close to Norfolk. We believe that this is wrong from a point of view of traffic on the roads, but also we are wasting the Earth's precious resources, things made of plastic and oil which cannot which take thousands of years to chew, composed in the Earth's crust. And therefore we should not be burning them.

00:27:43:18 - 00:27:49:06

We should be using something much more environmentally friendly. Therefore, we believe that this shouldn't kill. Thank you.

00:27:49:08 - 00:27:55:27

Councillor. I'm afraid we have reached our five minute mark, but thank you very much for your contribution. Thank you. Thank you.

00:28:00:13 - 00:28:06:13

Do we have? Alan Wheeldon virtually from Wales, we now believe.

00:28:06:24 - 00:28:07:09

Yes.

00:28:09:06 - 00:28:12:17

I was told that it was that you are joining us virtually now.

00:28:15:12 - 00:28:32:18

Welcome. Either way, can I please ask you. That we keep to that we keep to the system that I have highlighted before. And actually, I would just like to go through everyone that is joining us virtually, and then I'll call people into a room, please. Thank you very much. Apologies.

00:28:41:26 - 00:28:44:18

Marvin. Sergeant, virtually.

00:28:44:20 - 00:28:47:07

I believe that I'm dead. But I'm speaking.

00:28:50:23 - 00:28:51:24

Right. Okay.

00:28:52:18 - 00:28:57:03

Right. Let's. David Gutteridge, I believe, joining us virtually.

00:29:00:22 - 00:29:01:07

No.

00:29:03:05 - 00:29:06:20

Oh, yeah, actually. So. Yeah. Well, that's sweet.

00:29:06:22 - 00:29:18:26

Good evening. Good afternoon. Can I ask to please introduce yourself and also confirm, if applicable, if you're representing an organization, what organization you're representing, please.

00:29:20:04 - 00:29:25:14

No, I'm trying to go through it. I'm like, Listen, I'll only be speaking for myself.

00:29:27:11 - 00:29:27:26

Okay.

00:29:29:12 - 00:29:33:19

So 5 minutes, please, Mr. Gutteridge, then. Thank you.

00:29:34:08 - 00:30:09:22

Yep. Everything on the outside is buying opinion. I can find links on some pro-choice site. Boy, Bill. Such a huge incinerator in such a small town. Why was his speech selected on what Honorable State Voters website? It states 300 calories a day would come to his speech the weeks it would take, which is so a new which access line which is said in an early meeting. So even though it lowers a day, significantly increases the flow of traffic into his speech using these rights.

00:30:11:00 - 00:30:50:12

Can push more traffic onto other rides, such as Cuomo Rides and Freedom Bridge roundabouts. I think this is why the term gridlocked. Has been used. These rights are already very busy from the afternoon. I fear the wait will exacerbate this incident way too loud. Significant pollution to this area. The extra is on the right and the pollution from the incinerator directly. If the incinerator is built, I fear the epicenter for pollution in the area, young and old, from Nepal to elderly and everything in between will be affected.

00:30:50:22 - 00:31:23:22

The levels will significantly rise. Not to mention the increased costs and the trends and fine particles that will also enter our local air supply. So many nurseries, schools and care homes locally. I hope the plans, if they are approved, do not affect us like Plymouth has been affected. Those concerned with speech Royal could be affected by the incinerator. The plans will put the Wisbech road project at risk, I believe.

00:31:23:24 - 00:31:35:22

With which rail? Is needed in with speech. In my opinion, there's been a lack of communication between them, these ages, the public. I think they had to.

00:31:37:27 - 00:32:08:17

Consultations in private. In my opinion, the harm to his speech is immense. There was a high level of public opposition here. The pollution the incinerator could add and the damage to the public, young to old and to our rights. I believe who speaks needs the whale project. I believe he doesn't want this incinerator. I believe we speak. It doesn't need this incinerator. Planning Inspectorate.

00:32:08:24 - 00:32:14:23

I hope in your wisdom. You will recommend their plans be rejected. Thank you.

00:32:16:18 - 00:32:17:20

Thank you, Mr. Gutteridge.

00:32:20:00 - 00:32:34:17

Thank you. Right. Um. Continuing. Can I please check if Mr. Michael Ian Michael Rales from the Friends of Jett is joining us virtually.

00:32:35:12 - 00:32:37:03

Yes, here I am. Thank you.

00:32:38:09 - 00:32:41:07

But we're back on track. Perfect. Um.

00:32:44:07 - 00:32:57:15

Would you like to please introduce yourself, confirm the organization that you represent, please. And as per my four previous interventions. 5 minutes, please, and I'll try to give you a three minute warning. Thank you. Thank you.

00:32:58:00 - 00:32:59:25

My name's Ian. Rules on the energy.

00:32:59:27 - 00:33:01:27

Campaigner for Cambridge. Friends of the Earth.

00:33:02:05 - 00:33:05:24

Can return to the Earth has been established for almost 50 years, and that.

00:33:07:08 - 00:33:08:24

Obviously can be friends of the Earth is.

00:33:08:26 - 00:33:24:11

Somewhat concerned about this application. Our concerns can be summarized as follows, starting with particulate emissions from the incinerator. UK report entitled The Health Effects of Waste Incinerators by the British Society for Ecological Medicine.

00:33:24:13 - 00:33:52:20

Apologies, Mr. Ross, I'm just can I just ask you to just hold for a second? I would like to ask Councillor Alexandra Camp. We can only see and we can only see your camera now unless you have something else to add. I would actually hand over to Mr. the council that is intervening now, if that's okay. So if you could try and turn off your camera so that we don't have distractions. Thank you. Over to you again, Mr. Ross, please.

00:33:53:06 - 00:33:53:21

A fine.

00:33:54:05 - 00:34:26:04

Yeah. Concerning particulates, A UK report entitled The Health Effects of Waste Incinerators by the British Society for Ecological Medicine was conducted in 2005 and updated in 2008. The preface to the latest version of the report states. Since the publication of this report, important new data has been published strengthening the evidence that fine particulate pollution plays an important role in both cardiovascular and cerebrovascular mortality, and demonstrating that the danger is greater than previously realized.

00:34:26:26 - 00:35:04:12

More data has also been released on the dangers to health. Ultrafine particles particulate three and about the risks of other pollutants released from incinerators with each publication. The hazards of incineration are becoming more obvious and more difficult to ignore. A further telling statement from this report states Large studies have shown that higher rates of adult and childhood cancer and also birth defects around municipal waste incinerators. The results are consistent with the associations being causal. A number of small epidemiological studies support this interpretation and suggest that the range of illnesses produced by incinerators may be much wider.

00:35:05:00 - 00:35:36:17

We believe the conclusions of this report alone should be enough to turn down the exclusion. Diesel cars of diesel vehicles are pretty much in the process of being legislated off the roads on account of their particulate emissions and other things, obviously. And yet here we have a potentially huge source of particulate pollution, including PM 2.5 and below being proposed in addition to particulate pollution. We're also concerned about heavy metal emissions, regardless of the sorting and separation employed on the waste stream. Sources of heavy metals will inevitably be added to the incinerator.

00:35:37:10 - 00:35:41:25

For example, cadmium from nickel company batteries led from soldier in electrical goods and.

00:35:41:26 - 00:35:42:11

Mercury in.

00:35:42:13 - 00:36:03:28

Batteries. The small size of many of these sources makes the removal from the incinerators made virtually impossible, and the ease with which they become attached to fine particulates from the incinerator makes their emission a deviation from the environment or inhalation virtually a foregone conclusion. Also dioxins. As previously mentioned, the typical waste stream consists of a huge variety of materials.

00:36:04:09 - 00:36:05:15

Each of which has an optimal.

00:36:05:17 - 00:36:14:22

Temperature of which it should be burned to preclude the formation of hazardous compounds as a result of their incomplete combustion. How can the correct individual temperature we see.

00:36:15:03 - 00:36:16:00

These trials.

00:36:16:15 - 00:36:58:03

Take root? Thank you. For each particular element of the waste, simultaneously, the hazardous and notorious examples of such compounds other potentially carcinogenic God creates impurities which can be reduced from the incomplete combustion of, among other things, chlorinated hydrocarbons, for example, PVC. What is the accepted temperature for safety? Spiders look at a minimum of 850 degrees centigrade maintained for at least 2 minutes. We went. How were indeed if every piece of snake PVC we subjected to these conditions, given an incinerator constantly be fed by tons of possibly wet waste at ambient temperature, we accept that at any given moment, the concentration of such pollutants in an incinerator is emissions will be very low.

00:36:58:26 - 00:37:07:11

The heavy metals and dioxins, a persistent in the environment, would therefore like to accumulate in the soil and water over the life of the incinerator. Potentially dangerous levels.

00:37:09:09 - 00:37:23:06

An additional irony is the fact that more effective, the more effective the scrubbing and filtering of the emissions from the incinerator, the more hazardous the retained filtrate. Such a far right foot sorry fly ash becomes as more toxins are captured.

00:37:23:28 - 00:37:25:00

Speaking of filtering.

00:37:25:17 - 00:37:57:15

Information from a multinational waste management company, Veolia, who also operate incinerators, shows a bag how filter collection packets essentially than the type proposed for this application. The efficiency is 95 to 99% for PM10 particles. That's ten micrometers across 65 to 70% with PM 2.5 and only three 5 to 30% for particulates more than 2.5 microns. In other words, while there won't be much visible smoke, perhaps invisible and possibly.

00:37:57:17 - 00:38:00:06

More dangerous particles will also will be admitted.

00:38:01:11 - 00:38:19:25

Without filtration virtually. Bottom of fly ash amount to at least 25% by volume at the original waste percentage of this is now highly toxic. Recourse to transportation to specialist toxic landfill sites, which partially at least is likely the argument that incineration is a replacement for landfill.

00:38:21:27 - 00:38:34:25

Is troubling. I'm afraid that we have reached the 5 minutes mark. That's fine. I'm going to have to ask you to actually stop your oral submission there, but to thank you very much for your points.

00:38:35:01 - 00:38:35:16

No problem.

00:38:35:28 - 00:38:46:02

We, as I have mentioned before, we will be expecting and requesting a written submission from all of the or representations that we have heard today.

00:38:46:15 - 00:38:47:12

The police. Thank you.

00:38:48:05 - 00:38:49:11

Thank you very much. Thank you.

00:38:55:14 - 00:38:58:23

But I believe that we have now reached the.

00:39:00:27 - 00:39:12:21

We have now covered all of the interested parties that are joining us virtually, and they have expressed clearly a wish to speak.

00:39:18:11 - 00:39:21:24

Let me just cover and with the case team, please, if that is the case.

00:39:27:28 - 00:39:29:20

There is one hand up one line.

00:39:31:25 - 00:39:33:12

Jennifer Haney.

00:39:34:22 - 00:39:37:02

Apologies if I'm not pronouncing it correctly.

00:39:37:14 - 00:39:44:29

Hello, I'm Jennifer Hayne. Yeah, I was supposed to speak in public, but I've got COVID, so you don't want me there Really? And can I speak?

00:39:45:17 - 00:40:03:01

Thank you. Thank you for. Can I just confirm that you have actually sent us a relevant representation and therefore you are registered your interest as an AP? Yes. In that case, please. Thank you. If you if you would like to, then to get our representation, please.

00:40:04:09 - 00:40:20:25

Okay. So I'm Jennifer Shippey and I'm a general practitioner. I work as Dr. Hain upWell Health Centre. I'm a GP partner there. I'm also a wife and farm manager and a mum of two young boys. And I live in Wisbech.

00:40:22:14 - 00:41:07:22

Much the same as and I won't repeat too much of what Ian said, but essentially there is no safe level of particulates. We will be exposed to particulates from the exhaust fumes from the chimneys breathing the contaminated air if disposal goes ahead and eating contaminated food potentially. But we will also be exposed to an increase in particulate matter from the increase in road vehicle emissions during the construction and day to day running of this incinerator. A large study was printed in the British Medical Journal in 2019 and analysed hospital admissions in adults over 65 from the year 2000 to 2012 and the United States.

00:41:08:15 - 00:41:43:01

It confirmed the previous established associations between short term fine particulate matter PM 2.5 concentration and respiratory cardiovascular, Parkinson's disease, diabetes and found diseases also not previously associated with PM 2.5. These diseases included septicaemia, fluid and electrolyte disorders, renal failure or kidney failure, the infections of urinary tract skin and subcutaneous tissue.

00:41:43:28 - 00:42:06:09

The study went on to find for each one micrograms per meter cubed increase in PM 2.5 was associated with two and 2050 extra hospital admissions. 12,216 days in hospital and an increase of of approximately £24 million in care costs.

00:42:08:09 - 00:42:40:16

The study went on to show that these associations remained even when these analysis was restricted to days when the PM 2.5 concentration was below the World Health Organization's guideline. And thus confirming the conclusion of the author that there is no safe level of particulates. So in our area, any ink release or increase in particulates in the local sphere will adversely affect the local, the health of the local population and the surrounding areas.

00:42:41:00 - 00:42:45:05

It will increase hospital admissions and increase care costs.

00:42:46:20 - 00:43:13:20

We know Wisbech and the surrounding areas have very severe deprivation and as a consequence of this and known to have worse health outcomes, I also question why this area has been chosen. Is it because any deterioration in those health outcomes following the building of an incinerator may be possibly easier to hide than in a more affluent area where the health outcomes are potentially better?

00:43:15:27 - 00:43:19:15

I also like to ask NPV, where are the studies that show 3.

00:43:19:17 - 00:43:22:08

Minutes or 3 minutes? Thank you for the three minute warning.

00:43:22:26 - 00:43:31:04

Thank you. Where are the studies that show what happens to your health in these circumstances following 30 years of increased particular exposure?

00:43:34:04 - 00:43:50:27

I won't repeat the same thing that Ian said, but I'm not prepared for my friends and family work, colleagues, patients to be exposed to this. Ultimately, there is no safe level of particulates. This incinerates it will cause increased ill health and deaths and it cannot be allowed to be built.

00:43:53:01 - 00:43:55:06

Thank you. Thank you very much for your submission.

00:43:57:03 - 00:44:05:18

Thank you very much for that. I have one more hand up. Now, virtually, I believe. Mr. Mitchell. Bob Mitchell.

00:44:06:19 - 00:44:07:22

Yes, that's correct.

00:44:10:09 - 00:44:22:10

Same situation as all of us. If if you have joined us, if you are with us for previously thought. 5 minutes, please, and I'll give you a three minute warning.

00:44:23:17 - 00:45:00:29

Thank you very much. Thank you. My name's Robert Mitchell. I made a presentation in writing on the 10th of November 2012. But having watched the live feeds since the beginning of your process, I've come up with another item that I think needs looking at in addition to my earlier concerns. Today. It was mentioned by the applicant that there were going to be some 300 lorry movements per day and they were going to be driven in by vehicles.

00:45:02:13 - 00:45:30:06

That would come over to a driving period, which is roughly 200 miles. They have also stated that access to the site would be via the a47 into the new Bridge Lane site. Which means that they would be crossing oncoming traffic if they turn right into the site, or they would have to go down to the Cromwell Road roundabout, turn around and come back up and turn left.

00:45:33:22 - 00:45:39:13

This road is closed regularly three or four times a year.

00:45:39:18 - 00:45:41:04

Probably even more than that.

00:45:42:09 - 00:45:53:13

Between Golden and the Elm Roundabout. Four Fatal accident investigations. Assuming 300 vehicles are en route to this.

00:45:55:04 - 00:46:18:03

Incinerator. And someone's killed at 7:00 in the morning. What are we going to do with 300 lorries that are en route? Will arrive in Wisbech. Will not be allowed to enter the site because the road is closed and there are no lorry parks anywhere in the King's Lynn or Wisbech immediate areas.

00:46:20:17 - 00:46:25:20

The applicant has conveniently forgotten to mention what he's going to do in that situation.

00:46:29:24 - 00:46:39:21

So we have chaos now when even one action year would close the road. What are we going to have with all these extra 300 lorries?

00:46:41:08 - 00:46:41:23

Thank you.

00:46:43:26 - 00:46:44:24

Thank you, Mr. Mitchell.

00:46:48:20 - 00:46:57:21

Right. I believe that that actually concludes everyone that is joining us on line. That is an IP and have registered an interest to speak.

00:46:59:16 - 00:47:22:28

I will respect the process that I have outlined at the beginning of this meeting because there were no objections or comments to it. So I would actually ask again the applicant if they would like to comment on any of these issues or if they are happy to just continue wielding the floor to other participants. Can I just get a quick confirmation?

00:47:25:19 - 00:47:39:15

Thank you. Thank you very much. Right. So that will move them to people that are in the room? I believe so. I will start by calling now, Mr. Muffin Sergeant, then in person.

00:47:42:08 - 00:47:42:23

That.

00:47:58:14 - 00:48:07:24

Good evening. Good evening, Mr. Sergeants. If you could confirm your name, how you like to be addressed and which organization you're representing, if applicable.

00:48:08:02 - 00:48:13:22

My name is nothing, so you can call me when you perform. Oh, sorry. You hear me now? Yeah.

00:48:14:14 - 00:48:19:03

I think you need to speak and the light needs to be done. So if you press it again.

00:48:19:18 - 00:48:20:03

No.

00:48:20:09 - 00:48:26:08

No, no, it's not on. I can. And now it's on. And just speak a little bit closer to the mic, if you can, please.

00:48:26:10 - 00:48:33:07

Thank you. Fine. Okay. So my name is Mervin, Sergeant. You can adjust me as Mervyn or Mr. Sergeant. I don't. My wish.

00:48:34:28 - 00:49:16:03

My company is here. World UK Limited and has been trading for the past 40 years. And was which 19 of those years have been in our purpose built premises and our goes away, which is very relevant because it is right opposite where the planned incinerator is being built or proposed to be built. We supply ladies wigs to the National Health Service and trade outlets throughout the UK, mainly for cancer patients. We also see patients by private employment premises in our causeway for the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in King's Lynn Peterborough, just District City Hospital and Hinchinbrook Hospital, along with many private patients from all over the UK.

00:49:17:09 - 00:49:40:04

If this mega incinerator is granted permission to be built here, it will have a significant impact on our business. The patients we see are generally unwell and undergoing chemotherapy treatment, not being able to easily get access and parking at premises during the four years of construction will mean a loss of business for us. But much more importantly, a loss of a much needed service for the patients.

00:49:42:15 - 00:50:20:21

Moving on from that, we will be faced with this huge waste burning facility directly opposite our premises, spewing out dioxins above people that are coming to us for cancer purposes. My business here was UK Ltd number 353. Al Gore's way is on a land plan sheet 13 and on the access and rights of way sheet one of four alone there works plan sheet one of four showing works for I and for B directly opposite my entrance in Midwest Book of Reference Part three.

00:50:20:23 - 00:50:47:23

It lists the names and addresses of those persons whose entitlement to enjoy private easements or rights that will be extinguished, suspended or interfered with. I've looked for. I've looked through these 400 pages, if not more. And there's no mention of how old UK Ltd, and yet more premises are directly opposite the planned incinerator. Can met with. Advise me why there is no mention of my access as the one that is affected.

00:50:51:13 - 00:51:23:29

Meadows has not provided any clear plan or time frame showing how they will allow the many businesses in Al Gore's way to continue trading unhindered and access their premises during the four years of construction. I'm unsure if the inspector is aware of the hand delivered letter dated the 10th of February received by the businesses of Al Gore's way from Mr. Kerry. It appears to be an attempt to quell the opposition regarding the compulsory purchase of Al Gore's way. However, the compulsory purchase order of Al Gore's wife remains and is a major concern for all the businesses.

00:51:25:11 - 00:51:33:12

If there is to be no major interference with our business over the next four years, then remove the compulsory purchase order of Al Gore's way from the application.

00:51:35:20 - 00:51:53:00

Is a major concern. If this incinerator is approved, Meadows will be free. It's a compulsory purchase. I was way along with any heiress too close by that they decided it suddenly requires it will lead to businesses having to close or being unable to operate as the road will be controlled by meadows at their will.

00:51:54:15 - 00:52:18:04

I believe the only reason we're here today having this meeting regarding a mega incinerator, is because Meadows was advised that a normal incinerator plant would not be accepted by the local care and so and the local residents of Wisbech. Therefore, to overcome this they needed to apply for a mega incinerator that then becomes a national infrastructure project and bypasses local council councils and county councils.

00:52:20:04 - 00:52:36:20

I disagree with parts of met with statement of reason. Having a mega incinerator in a small rural town like this will lead to waste lorries unnecessarily having to negotiate unsuitable the rows which are already in poor condition poorly to feed this mega incinerator from far away is 200.

00:52:36:22 - 00:52:37:22

Miles 3 minutes.

00:52:38:11 - 00:53:23:00

It would create a huge carbon footprint from the hundreds of lorry movements up and down the country transporting the waste daily, removing the toxic, volatile bottom ash that will go into landfill. There is already an incinerator in Peterborough, some 90 miles away. And also, as you aware, another national infrastructure project is in progress in Boston, only 28 miles away. This is due to be determined in July and will be an even larger incinerator than the one planned for Wisbech. If this is passed, why would we need yet another mega incinerator so close to Boston and contributing to yet more global warming? If it's refused, then why grant this one? It will create a much larger impact on the roads than the one planned in Boston, which is being fed by ships, not lorries.

00:53:24:07 - 00:54:01:07

The number of jobs that met with state will be created are only relevant in the construction stages. After this, it will be built. It will be manned by minimal staff of 40 to 50 people. The loss of the local employment resulting from business closures that will occur if this is built in Wisbech where much greater the land in question is much needed for the expansion of the local industrial area as it is already that the industry has already filled. Having been in business in Wisbech all my life, I feel if this megatons generator is allowed to be built here so close to our schools and shops, it will destroy our Georgian market town forever and decimate a main industrial estate.

00:54:01:18 - 00:54:05:23

I ask that you recommend the refusal of this mega incinerator to the Secretary of State.

00:54:06:22 - 00:54:08:10

5 minutes discussion. Thank you.

00:54:14:10 - 00:54:28:21

But before I invite the next person, can I just ask Mr. Bob Mitchell? You still have your hand up on our virtual presence, so I'm adjourned. Maybe it's the legacy. Thank you. Thank you very much.

00:54:31:02 - 00:54:34:18

It's still on now. Mr. Bob Mitchell, if you can hear me.

00:54:36:25 - 00:54:38:26

But it's off now. Thank you very much. Thank you.

00:54:44:16 - 00:54:50:22

What can I now ask Mr. Fred Leach then to actually come to the floor, please?

00:55:02:23 - 00:55:33:25

Thank you. Hello. My name is Fred Leach, and I'm here representing well-spoken parish council residents. Our parish lies a couple of miles down the prevailing wind from the proposed incinerator. And like many in the Fens, has some of the most productive and fertile land in the country. Walkers, joggers, cyclists travelling around our parish, especially in winter months, can identify which properties are being heated by wood, coal or kerosene.

00:55:34:09 - 00:55:43:11

From the smells on the ground. Proving in the most simplistic way that smoke fumes and particles from chimneys don't only go up but also come down.

00:55:44:29 - 00:56:02:19

Our area not only supports agriculture, but also many horticultural farming and processing businesses. These food processing businesses being one of the key reasons why, and they want the incinerator to be cited in Wisbech to sell steam to processes.

00:56:04:25 - 00:56:36:15

A considerable part of this farmland in our parish and beyond is dedicated to tree fruit, soft fruits and vegetables, mainly eaten in their raw state as harvested. Its fresh fruit is regularly and rigorously tested to ensure substance is applied to them, are legal, don't exceed maximum residue levels and to check for non-approved traces of chemicals and contaminants. Any breach causes that produce to be contained to landfill.

00:56:37:10 - 00:56:53:00

And in fact, this has happened locally to a good friend. When his fruit was found to contain traces of a pesticide approved for use on cereals. Turned out that this originated from a neighbor and drifted across the field to his fruit. His business didn't recover.

00:56:54:23 - 00:57:26:27

It's our biggest concern that air quality for our residents and potential pollution from this proposed incinerator, including the poor, mentioned dioxins, heavy metals and acid rain will seriously affect not only the health of residents but the quality of soil and produce. The residents also don't want to put up with the likely smells and flies, which, according to reports, seem to accompany these facilities and drift on the wind reports, not least from Plymouth.

00:57:26:29 - 00:57:31:24

A smaller incinerator than that proposed here, which is operated by Mvb

00:57:33:20 - 00:57:40:13

Inspector. We don't want this facility blighting our parishioners quality of life, our crops, or our land.

00:57:41:12 - 00:57:42:25

Thank you. Thank you very.

00:57:48:12 - 00:57:48:27

Thank you.

00:57:56:12 - 00:57:57:01

So.

00:57:59:11 - 00:58:03:15

A. Do we have a councillor? Samantha Hawley.

00:58:05:05 - 00:58:14:02

Would you like to come forward, please? As I mentioned before, if you could confirm your name, how you'd like to be addressed, endorse the organization that you represent, please.

00:58:14:10 - 00:58:53:28

Yes, Thank you. I'm Samantha Hawley. And call me Sam or Samantha. I'm on the town district and county councils, so I've been watching some of the hearings today, which I found very interesting and some of the things I thought could go into so many things today. And I've only got 5 minutes, so I won't know about what was said. But one thing that saddened me is it felt the MVP don't seem to know much, if anything, about this speech. One thing that I found most amusing was when they talked about 700 people coming to support the local hotels. And I wondered what hotels because there aren't any hotels and maybe they think that someone's going to build loads of hotels for these 700 people.

00:58:54:00 - 00:59:27:13

But I'm unsure that in 18 months they're going to get planning, permission and construction. But there we are. And one thing as well that I also heard on the livestream was they were talking about them not using our way. And I think it was poor care. We said, Oh, well, we will tell all contractors not to use. We will tell them this, will tell them, tell them that that was exactly the same with the cold store and that that didn't make any difference. They told the lorry drivers did want access and the lorry drivers just ignore it. They tend to use where the satnav tells them because they aren't from the local area or the fastest route.

00:59:27:15 - 00:59:39:26

So it's very difficult. There aren't really any enforcement powers that can be used. I also saw about the access being via Newbridge line. This is a b-road. It's entirely unsuitable for that large number of vehicles. Many people have said.

00:59:41:17 - 01:00:19:27

But one thing I wanted to raise I didn't hear mentioned today and I think it's quite a new development. Is the free school this a free secondary school being built in Wisbech and the original site was on Barton Road, but the Department of Education, after the County Council cancelled it themselves and left it to the DFI to build the DFI are building that on the existing Thomas Clarkson site, which as you know, is exceptionally close to the incinerator. That will add many more hundreds of children to the school. And not only will that have health impacts for those children, but as we've already seen, there's been a traffic assessment and the Thomas Clarkson additional numbers were not in that traffic assessment because that decision wasn't then made.

01:00:21:12 - 01:00:59:02

I also find it very worrying about if this is Bill, I believe that this will end the chances for free speech. It clearly says in the Group three study that the most viable option for a rail line is to have a station in the town centre. If this is built, that won't be possible. I also think the visual aspect is really notable. You asked, and I think it was today or perhaps yesterday you were asking where people should think that you should view. I would suggest that you go from this report to Ely and you drive along the I-10 and you say as soon as you kind of get onto that roundabout from little Porth, when you come out of well, now you see Ely Cathedral in the skyline because it is such a big building and it's a beautiful building.

01:00:59:29 - 01:01:32:12

This isn't going to be a beautiful building. And you will see this in the skyline. And some people have said, we've got the cold. So what does it matter? Well, one bad decision doesn't mean that you should make more bad decisions. I also wanted to touch on the consultation. Over 30% of the population of our town are from Eastern Europe, and they were given a very tokenistic consultation centre which everyone says, Oh, the Eastern Europeans go to. I think that's actually quite insulting. A number of people don't go to that. You can't just say that's the kind of place they congregate to. That's a very unfair thing to say.

01:01:33:19 - 01:01:57:27

And I also want to know why are we having the largest incinerator in in the country? I haven't seen one larger being put here. Not only is it unsuitable in planning terms, which people who have far more expertise than me, I'm sure will articulate in the coming days, I want to talk about as a local representative how people feel. A lot of people expressed to me that they feel Wisbech is a dumping ground now. I love Wisbech, I think it's a great place. I don't.

01:01:57:29 - 01:01:59:00

3 minutes, Councillor.

01:01:59:07 - 01:02:30:26

There are, there are problems with it and a number of people are working to improve those problems. But it doesn't help when everything, everything you do, you feel like there's someone working against you and things are going to be put here and if this is done to people that can afford to move out, will move out. And people that can't afford to move out will have to stay here and they'll feel like they're trapped here. And finally, just a small point. I find the fact that they call themselves mad were actually, frankly, very insulting. Joseph Medhurst came to this town and made many wonderful improvements, such as the crescent, the castle.

01:02:30:28 - 01:02:38:20

He did a lot of things for this town. So to try and suggest that they are in any way similar is absolutely insulting. This will not be an improvement. It will be awful.

01:02:39:27 - 01:02:41:03

Thank you very much.

01:02:49:12 - 01:02:50:21

Can I now have?

01:02:53:01 - 01:02:55:28

Mr. Alan Wheeldon, please. From within.

01:03:08:23 - 01:03:09:10

Good evening.

01:03:10:27 - 01:03:13:27

It was actually on. So if you could press the button.

01:03:14:11 - 01:03:16:12

Testing, testing, testing, testing.

01:03:16:14 - 01:03:21:08

Perfect. Thank you very much. If you could actually confirm your name and your organization, please.

01:03:21:10 - 01:03:53:18

Yes, certainly. My name is Alan Wheeldon. I'm a scientist and a local resident of eight years. I'm also a member of Brisbane, a local anti incinerator group. And also the Wisbech Wisbech town council working party against the incinerator. I expect it to allow me this opportunity statewide. I think this isn't right. It's not in the national interest and its operation would directly conflict with national policies directed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions and climate change. In Chapter 14 of their planning application.

01:03:53:20 - 01:04:38:01

On climate, every state that incinerator will be responsible for the release of a combined total of 11,157 kilotons of carbon dioxide equivalent into the atmosphere at the end of the planning application chapter on climate envy. Then assess the likely effects of the proposed development with respect to our climate. And we concluded that in spite of being responsible for the net release of over 11 million tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent into the atmosphere, the proposed development will have a significant beneficial effect on the climate and that the proposed development will have a positive impact on the Government meeting its carbon budget targets.

01:04:38:26 - 01:05:16:11

This seems an incredulous claim, so I looked into how they could come to this conclusion, and the reason we can claim this is that they've calculated that the incinerator will prevent CO2 from being released from landfill and from fossil fuel generated electricity, and so they offset the CO2 as avoidable emissions, thus claiming a net benefit by the incinerator. However, their calculations are highly flawed. The reasons entry fees calculations are flawed is to envy. They fail to incorporate into their calculations the fact that the Environment Act of 2021 legislates that from 2026.

01:05:16:20 - 01:05:49:15

All food and green waste must be removed from municipal waste heading for landfill, and that food and green waste is the primary source of greenhouse gas, such as methane and carbon dioxide, making up a total of 30.3% of all municipal waste. In addition, NVP have failed to incorporate the scheduled rapid decarbonisation of the power generating industry. The Government have announced plans to completely remove gas as a fuel for generating electricity by 2035.

01:05:49:28 - 01:06:18:29

However, in their calculations, NPP have assumed that gas and other fossil fuels would continue to be used to generate electricity from 2026 to 2066. Throughout the whole 40 year lifetime of the incinerator, both these omissions falsely elevate the amount of carbon dioxide generated. In the absence of an incinerator, and thus greatly exaggerate the reduction in carbon dioxide that results because of the incinerator. While note taking 3 minutes.

01:06:19:11 - 01:06:19:29

3 minutes.

01:06:20:15 - 01:06:52:14

But not taking into account both of these factors, NPP have skewed the data in their favor by falsely elevating the carbon dioxide release from landfill and by force increasing the carbon dioxide produced from fossil fuels. In the absence of the incinerator, this exaggerates the amount of carbon dioxide that incinerator would reduce by burning that waste by showing a false net benefit of operating the incinerator, which allowed NPV to reach the incorrect conclusion that the incinerator was of significant benefit to the climate and would have positive effect on carbon budgets and targets.

01:06:53:23 - 01:07:31:11

However, had they used the correct calculations which would have removed the greenhouse gas emissions from generating from generated from green and food waste from 2026 to 2066, and by removing the contribution made by burning gas from 2035 until 2066, the correct figures show there are only 7334 kilotons of carbon dioxide would be generated in the absence of the incinerator, But a much larger 10,456 kilotons will be generated with the incinerator in operation.

01:07:31:29 - 01:07:58:21

This corrected calculation allows the correct conclusion that M.V. should have made that operating this incinerator would result in an extra 3121 kilotons of carbon dioxide being generated than if the incinerator was not built. This incinerator would therefore have a significant negative and detrimental effect on the climate and a negative impact on the UK Government being able to meet its carbon budget targets by 5 minutes.

01:07:59:01 - 01:08:00:19

Apologies, but thank you very much.

01:08:07:21 - 01:08:23:16

But thank you very much for that, Mr. Wheeldon. Could I now please ask Councillor Stephen Tierney to. Come. Oh, boy Two, please. Thank you. If you could confirm your name and your organization, please.

01:08:23:19 - 01:08:30:18

Yeah. I'm Counselor Steve Tenney, representing the people of Medway, which is the area where the proposed incinerator would be built if given permission.

01:08:32:15 - 01:09:04:04

So it's my intention to avoid speaking on the detail of this proposal today. There are experts aplenty who have done so and will be doing so, and I see no value in repeating their words. Instead, I would like to address something which I believe I do have some expertise in, and that is the democratic landscape and how it relates to this proposal and process. I'm aware that talking about the democratic process is not strictly a planning matter, but I beg your indulgence and I hope you will consider my words as they are. Absolutely how I feel and many others feel. I remember when I decided to move to the area.

01:09:04:19 - 01:09:41:21

I was in Guian just up the road, and I was looking out over the landscape and it was dusk and the sun was setting over the endless flat landscape and there was a light mist hung over the ground. And I remember it taking my breath away. And I thought that this is a special place. And I know it's not everyone's cup of tea, but for those many of us who appreciate the fence, it's very beautiful. But I made the same decision. If a dark industrial monolith was casting a shadow over the entrance to Wisbech, I do not know, but it would certainly have had an effect. For over a decade I've been an elected councillor in which pitch and I am presently the representative of the people of Medway on the town, District and County Council.

01:09:42:03 - 01:10:14:25

And when I first heard about this proposal, I communicated it to local people and solicited their views. And like me, it was clear there was strong opposition. But, sir, let me assure you that I don't take anything for granted. Ever since I've been a council, I put out regular newsletters, questionnaires and surveys. And I like to make sure that I'm properly representing the views of my constituents. And let me tell you for sure that in Mid-Wales, it's tough to find anybody who doesn't oppose this incinerator proposal. So I followed the proper channels as clearly instructed by my residents of the area. I took a motion to Wisbech town council pledging we would oppose the incinerator.

01:10:15:13 - 01:10:47:06

The Conservatives and independent councillors who make up the town council voted in support of the motion. I took a motion to Fenland District Council for the same reason and FTT is a very political council. And yet despite that, the Conservatives, Liberal Democrats, Independents and the Green Party councillor found common cause on this issue and my motion was once again approved to complete the say. I took the same motion to County Council and the County Council. The groups are so upset that they would find disagreement over whether kittens were cute. But let me tell you on this issue once again, there was unanimous support from all the parties.

01:10:47:29 - 01:11:35:00

Now, you may not know this about Wisbech, but it's a town that's face many challenges over recent years social, cultural and economic challenges. But Wisbech people are tough and resilient and they roll with the punches. And so our little town has moved towards despite those issues. But as any boxer will tell you, the more body blows you take, the weaker you become. It's your strength, your will and your resolve. And this application is definitely a body blow. What does it say to people who've done everything in the proper way? They follow the rules and they get a situation like this. A situation where the town council, the district council, the county council, the mayor of the combined authority, and the local MP who is a cabinet member for health, all stand by them and say this proposal is not right for this place where every single elected representative at every level, publicly and utterly agrees with them.

01:11:35:06 - 01:11:55:09

And this proposal still sits on the table, costing each shadow of their home. If approved, they will think, What's the point? What's the point of any of this? This proposal will be a knockout blow for this town, for the fight our people have in the institutions of state. And I don't know if we would ever recover. I can only hope and pray that it's rejected. Please. Thank you.

01:11:59:26 - 01:12:01:03

Thank you for tuning.

01:12:02:20 - 01:12:03:05

Right.

01:12:05:12 - 01:12:07:07

Councillor Andrew Michael Dawley.

01:12:12:25 - 01:12:17:27

Thank you, sir. I'm Andrew Michael. I am a councillor for Gayton.

01:12:17:29 - 01:12:18:23

Christian Ward.

01:12:19:04 - 01:12:26:26

In both council Kingsland, West Norfolk and I have received concerns from my ward constituents.

01:12:28:18 - 01:12:31:10

So you seem to be doing better than I am. I've been trying to get.

01:12:31:12 - 01:12:45:00

A GP to speak to me since Monday, 8:30 a.m.. Now, you may well, may well reasonably ask what this has got to do with the waste incinerator in Wisbech. Well, ten years ago

01:12:46:19 - 01:13:00:18

a number of West Norfolk GP's and doctors expressed their concerns about incineration in the local media. At least one said that they would leave the area if it was ever built.

01:13:03:04 - 01:13:18:03

My GP practice is already short of GP's and struggling to recruit. Attracting skilled and professional workers to this area is somewhat challenging. Wisbech and Fenland district

01:13:19:22 - 01:13:49:13

are areas of significant multiple deprivation, according to Cambridge Insight. Not least with child poverty and particularly educational attainment. Greenpeace reported in 2020 that waste incinerators are three times more likely to be built in the UK's most deprived neighbourhoods than in the least. Incinerators do blight the areas where they are built.

01:13:51:03 - 01:14:05:14

The social socio economic impact is masked. In areas of significant deprivation. It is notable how many local companies have expressed their concerns at this proposal.

01:14:08:06 - 01:14:13:00

The lower the level of regional opposition is intense.

01:14:14:29 - 01:14:19:23

In the past. Incinerators proposed at Waterbeach Norwich.

01:14:21:12 - 01:14:35:26

And in King's Lynn, where a borough wide poll attracted an overwhelming no vote of 92%, that was 65,516 people who said no to incineration.

01:14:38:17 - 01:14:41:05

How will Wisbech attract skills and.

01:14:41:07 - 01:14:43:10

Businesses in the face.

01:14:43:12 - 01:14:51:11

Of such strong opposition? Will the local schools be able to recruit the teachers they need?

01:14:52:26 - 01:14:54:24

The applicant, to their credit.

01:14:54:29 - 01:14:56:15

Is clearly doing.

01:14:56:17 - 01:15:09:19

Their best to support the community. But I genuinely fear that this is a drop in the ocean compared to the disability from this proposal.

01:15:14:06 - 01:15:23:03

I believe. As many others do, that this will this proposal will greatly disadvantage the area.

01:15:25:02 - 01:15:33:15

And as such, I do not believe this proposal is consistent with the Government's levelling up agenda.

01:15:34:15 - 01:15:35:01

Thank you.

01:15:36:23 - 01:15:37:12

Thank you very much.

01:15:40:04 - 01:15:41:20

Thank you. Wally.

01:15:49:22 - 01:15:53:25

Can I call? Helen. Pen to Lou, please.

01:15:59:17 - 01:16:00:06

Good evening.

01:16:00:21 - 01:16:01:07

Good evening.

01:16:01:09 - 01:16:05:06

If you would like to confirm your name, please, and organization.

01:16:05:29 - 01:16:46:06

My name is Helen Pence Lowe. I'm a business owner, a member of West Wing Group and arrested in the town for 42 years. Our family business was established in 2008 on Europe Way. Ten years later, we expanded with the introduction of a second business for aircraft premises and moved to our current location on our causeway in 2020. And our workshop is approximately 200 metres from the proposed site of the incinerator. We employ 16 people and we were primarily for the film and transport sectors and our main customers include Warner Brothers and Universal Studios, as well as many other companies nationally and locally.

01:16:46:26 - 01:17:20:05

On an average day we would have around 30 vehicles visit visiting our premises to either drop off raw materials or to collect goods we've manufactured. Our main customers from the film industry I mentioned earlier are all based in London. They use our company in Wisbech as we offer exceptional service and a quick turnaround. There are clearly other businesses in London offering the same services as they choose to use our business in Wisbech over 2 hours away, which we are immensely proud of. The lorries drive from London on a regular basis to collect the goods we've manufactured.

01:17:20:24 - 01:17:52:18

Delays of any nature are not acceptable to these multinational companies, so any disruption to our causeway for whatever reason would affect our business and all the others along there. Inevitably, due to the proposed four year build of such a huge project. Our causeway would without doubt be considerably affected with road closures, decaying noise and constant construction traffic. A number of businesses on the roads need access to their premises 24 hours a day due to the nature of their business with twilight shifts.

01:17:53:00 - 01:18:29:27

Therefore, if potential road closures were in place at night, this could be catastrophic to these businesses. There would be potentially 500 construction workers on site at any one time, just 200 metres from my business, and many of those there are over 40 businesses located on our causeway. I knew right away combined and they all rely on the road we know, without disruption to run their businesses effectively. There are approximately 400 people employed on our Causeway and Europa way significantly more than the alleged 32 jobs generated by the proposed incinerator.

01:18:30:27 - 01:19:06:10

In this difficult financial climate. The companies on the industrial estate cannot afford disruption to their business for one week, never mind four years in the movie documentation. Compulsory purchase of alcohol has been mentioned. This is extremely concerning to all businesses involved. As you can imagine, businesses require assurances that they would be able to access their premises at all times and not have this revoked at any time in the future and that their access would not be affected in any way, shape or form at any time by anything relating to the construction.

01:19:06:12 - 01:19:40:25

3 minutes in and writer. There has been much confusion and worry regarding this proposed compulsory purchase, and it wasn't mentioned at the many consultations I attended initially. Business owners feel there has been a clear lack of consultation throughout this process, especially given our location within metres of the proposed facility. Having spoken to many companies in the area over the last three years, they feel that businesses and livelihoods will be put at risk by the major disruption caused by the four year build.

01:19:41:03 - 01:20:11:17

Not to mention the traffic issues once it's actually built. Our causeway is a small, narrow road in the middle of our town centre and not at all suitable for the access for construction, traffic, for a national significant infrastructure project. This is a small Georgian town excuse me, not a large city like

Plymouth. Outgoing ways access via Wisdom Lane, very well known in Wisbech for its road closures, sinkholes, burst water mains and other issues.

01:20:12:12 - 01:20:53:20

M.V. has stated that lorries would only travel a certain way to the incinerator and that locals should report any vehicles they see not adhering to this, which I find unbelievable. Decision makers on this and I saw I have no idea the destruction this incinerator would cause to local business in our small town because they don't know the town and it would be catastrophic for many businesses on now goes away. I'm just one business owner, but I speak on behalf of many others and we feel the incinerator would result in the demise of many businesses in our town and would have a major impact on our local economy and employment.

01:20:54:03 - 01:20:59:18

The effect on local businesses, scuse me, cannot simply be. Be swept under the carpet.

01:21:00:20 - 01:21:04:07

I'm going to perfect, perfect timing. Thank you very much. Thank you very much.

01:21:11:07 - 01:21:14:22

But can can I call on Wayne Cooke?

01:21:23:19 - 01:21:33:06

Good evening, Mr. Cook. Welcome. If you could confirm your name and an organization that you represent. If. If you're representing an organization.

01:21:33:23 - 01:21:42:15

I'm Wayne Coke. Oh, come on. Come on. On behalf of myself. And I'm here in support of MVP.

01:21:43:24 - 01:21:44:09

Okay.

01:21:44:28 - 01:21:50:21

Um, I believe some of the arguments in regards to the rights situation are not really valid.

01:21:52:12 - 01:21:59:05

Like that I'm used to very situation now anyway. And the roads are in a total.

01:22:00:01 - 01:22:00:16

Mess.

01:22:00:18 - 01:22:06:12

Anyway, so I don't see how that can be justified as an argument to to this cause

01:22:08:19 - 01:22:17:27

as far as the pollution goes and as it's already been highlighted. There's already pollutants anyway and not not can only be controlled by.

01:22:19:19 - 01:22:31:24

Just for a moment. Sorry, I'm hearing a lot of noise in the back of the room. Can I just ask that we let this oral submission go through, please? Thank you. If you would like to continue, please, Mr. Cook.

01:22:32:22 - 01:22:48:05

Um, which I can only say could only be controlled by regulation. Um, I just think some of the arguments have been raised in regards to this is just, you know, and, and,

01:22:50:04 - 01:23:21:04

and you know, we're running out of space to then everything really and needs to come down before that. We can't just keep. Put things in landfill. We have to have alternatives to the to the problems fighters and what no one's mentioned. It's a cost. It's a it costs to send it forward and everything else.

01:23:22:04 - 01:23:29:07

We need to start taking responsibility for our own waste. We are supposed to be an independent country now.

01:23:29:18 - 01:23:33:29

And from what I can see, there's not much independence at all.

01:23:36:19 - 01:23:54:16

And and as I said, I'm fully in favor of MVP operating. It will create jobs which we desperately need, which we lost, and that the shops in town are closing down. And moving out with speech now. So anything that can bring more jobs.

01:23:54:18 - 01:23:55:05

To the town.

01:23:56:07 - 01:23:58:12

Is of great benefit to the ten of you.

01:24:00:15 - 01:24:05:19

And now they firmly recommend that you approve MVP. Come in. Okay.

01:24:06:24 - 01:24:09:25

Thank you very much, Mr. Cook. Thank you.

01:24:15:08 - 01:24:21:28

I have one final request. I believe in the room. Um, Jenny Perryman.

01:24:35:07 - 01:24:47:24

Good evening. Good evening. Welcome. If you could confirm your name and then an organization that you represent, if that is if you're representing organization. So if it is applicable. Thank you.

01:24:48:21 - 01:24:51:02

You're correct. My name is Jenny Perryman.

01:24:52:25 - 01:24:54:15

I'm a local.

01:24:57:01 - 01:25:12:01

Person localized in the sense of local, as in less than 15 miles away, though, this planning application appears disingenuous and lacks candor throughout. It does not comply with key elements of policy, including the national policy experiment.

01:25:12:03 - 01:25:22:01

I'm sorry to interrupt you, but yes, I think that you perhaps need to push the mike a little bit closer to you so that people in the back can hear you more clearly. That's all right.

01:25:22:03 - 01:25:22:21

Is that better?

01:25:22:28 - 01:25:28:25

I believe. Know, can I get a sign in the back if they can hear now? Sounds, period.

01:25:29:04 - 01:25:33:04

Can you hear me? Oh, yeah, that's right. Is that too loud?

01:25:34:15 - 01:25:38:15

I think that's perfect. I think you got it now. So. Yes. If you would like to continue, please.

01:25:38:29 - 01:25:40:19

Thank. Gosh.

01:25:43:00 - 01:26:16:09

Including the national policy statements for Energy, the National Planning Policy Framework for Waste. The UK adopted six carbon budget recommendations in the Paris Agreement. Given its enormous capacity, this planning application does not need robust arguments to demonstrate to prove a need for this waste incinerator. Nor has it demonstrated a proven need for the plant to be located in Wisbech or indeed Cambridgeshire. Moreover, no other locations appear to have been considered on entering Number ten, Cenac pledged to lead a government with integrity, integrity, professionalism and accountability at every level of government.

01:26:16:27 - 01:27:00:12

When assessing the DCO for this proposed development, the Inspectorate and the Secretary of State should be mindful that the government's lack of action since it came to power for over a decade is wholly responsible for the shocking, escalating amounts of household and commercial industrial waste in the UK. Any need for this proposed development covering a large region with a large existing capacity will be down to the Government's failure and its role in inflating that need. Further, in October 2013, Deff will remove Norfolk's pest boy for their 279,000 energy waste incinerator just 15 miles from the proposed development on the basis that Norfolk's facility was not needed following that latest forecasted future waste risings.

01:27:00:29 - 01:27:35:15

The removal of the PFI by DEFRA directly led Norfolk County Council members to follow the recommendations of officers and cancel contract in April 2014 because it was no longer financially viable without the PFI. This resulted in a compensation payment of 34 million from Norfolk taxpayers pockets, which still affects every man, woman and child in the county to this day. It is inconceivable under these circumstances how the Secretary of State could maintain there is a need for such a vast facility just 15 miles from the one his own government department deemed as not needed.

01:27:36:05 - 01:28:07:06

The local authority has not asked for this proposed development. These democratically elected representatives of local and county councils are opposing it, along with democratically elected constituency MPs. So by making this facility over twice the size of either MP, these other two in the UK, the applicant is bypassing the decision of these democratically elected representatives by going straight to the government to decide on. However, this government devolved waste and air quality to those authorities opposing this proposed development.

01:28:07:22 - 01:28:31:10

Devolving is just another way of the government offloads accountability. Air pollution from any source directly affects air quality and does not conform to local authority boundaries. It will not just affect the responsibilities of Wisbech or Cambridgeshire, but other local authorities opposing the proposed development. Who will remain responsible and accountable for all their air quality? The very fact that in February 2023 the.

01:28:31:12 - 01:28:33:00

Government's misogyny.

01:28:33:03 - 01:29:10:05

Is failing to take any meaningful action to follow the waste hierarchy and still favour supports and makes this easy as possible for any waste to be incinerated. All being now done under the guise of generating electricity shows it puts its own values, concerns and interests and those of corporate lobbyists above the values, concerns and interests of the people it is supposed to serve. In turn, the public funded organisations like the Environment Agency, Natural England, Historic England, the EPA, PHC, puts the values, concerns and interests of the government and its corporate lobbyists above values and concerns and interests of the people they are supposed to serve.

01:29:10:26 - 01:29:48:12

This grim decades of taking the easy way out, buying down to corporate lobbyists and favouring project projects for short term economic boost results in discrimination. Discrimination goes to the very core of this proposed development for an energy for waste incinerator. Whilst discrimination is generally associated with things like particular ethnic groups and minorities, there is no hard and fast boundary within which it has to be contained. This planning application discriminates against the waste hierarchy. It discriminates against the environment, discriminates against local authorities to whom waste and air quality are devolved.

01:29:48:21 - 01:29:56:11

It discriminates against local plans, road maintenance. It discriminates against sectors of the population. The health and wellbeing is paramount.

01:29:56:13 - 01:30:02:02

I'm sorry, but we have much to 5 minutes. But thank you very much for for your submission. Thank you.

01:30:10:00 - 01:30:15:03

I have one final one final request from Drew and I believe Paul Merrill.

01:30:29:06 - 01:30:30:00

Hello? Can you hear me?

01:30:30:10 - 01:30:43:00

I can hear clearly. Thank you very much. Welcome. Mr. Merrill, can I ask you to please confirm your name for the record and also state your organization that you represent? If. If you're representing, I'd say my name.

01:30:43:02 - 01:30:43:21

Is Paul Merrill.

01:30:45:15 - 01:31:07:16

I represent my family. The Merrill family. And I'm here to talk more emotionally about this town because my family lived here for 500 years. And that's a long, long wall to live here, to see two steel structures that look awesome, absolutely horrible. In my town, when my family were born.

01:31:09:17 - 01:31:46:15

My mother, who died a year ago, was an academic. She died at 90. Going back to what Sam was saying, we need more of the real. My mother was a big advocate of education and basically our youngsters need education, not this sort of rubbish coming into our town. We're just the tipping zone for everything. Myself, I actually worked as electrical engineer in my former life for 37 years, and in the latter years I coached top sports people in the world and basically I've never seen such this even being discussed in TED.

01:31:47:12 - 01:32:17:18

You know, if all the people knew about this, there'd be loads of people out here looking at these people and saying, What the dickens are you doing as electrically electrical engineer? One of the questions I would say to you is you were talking about this morning on the live feed about engineers. You can't you can't get engineers to work in the factories here. Why? Because there isn't enough of them. So you get and servicing and whatever and stuff like that long term. 34 people as jobs this morning you said 34 people. That's not big jobs.

01:32:19:19 - 01:32:28:24

Contract is coming in. That would mean you have contractors coming from y electrical because you haven't got the skills here. That's another thing. There's going to be morale.

01:32:28:29 - 01:32:32:10

You could, Mr. Merrill, if you could face me. Sorry. Thank you.

01:32:32:12 - 01:32:34:21

Sorry. I was posing the question here as well.

01:32:34:26 - 01:32:39:09

Yes, I understand. But if you could actually just make your submission to me. Thank you very.

01:32:39:11 - 01:33:20:24

Much. Okay, fine. But I feel very personal, angered by all this, because having a family that's lived here for 500 years in business and everything else in my life that this is taking place, it's an it's a nightmare, an absolute nightmare. The questions I'm listening to today, Mr. Booth, who acted on behalf of Mr. Carey. One of the questions was asked to him, Why did you put it in Wisbech? He said because there was a greater need for energy in Wisbech What greater need for you? What four more light bulbs is not great and he's going to pump more electric into the grid systems and the byproduct is steam.

01:33:21:14 - 01:33:32:00

Now that the big companies here, Perine, have already said they don't want it. So as fun westerns, all the big factories don't want the steam.

01:33:33:27 - 01:34:07:10

Mitsubishi who owned the Canning Factory Princess. They don't want it. They've got their own ballers that would take piping everything to get to these factories. This is just a byproduct of what they're doing. We got our power station eight miles down the road on the river. Nene, that's derelict. It sits there empty because they went bust. And this will be another one of them because so many years down the road, it'll be a big block on the landing and they won't even be producing nothing. So this is a big choice for the government to make.

01:34:08:02 - 01:34:40:20

Listening to everything that we say, because this is all about people here know about people outside of Wisbech, all that rubbish is coming into our town. Do they want it there? Does this gentleman, Mr. Carey, want that factory near him? No he doesn't. So I'll feel very strongly about this. So I'm going to end on that because personally I'm going to get emotionally upset and I don't want to do that. You know, I've worked with a lot of high class people in the world, but these people tough. Sorry, I don't want to insult them.

01:34:41:12 - 01:34:42:16

So I do apologise.

01:34:42:22 - 01:34:44:12

Please don't know if you.

01:34:44:27 - 01:34:47:02

Think they've insulted me for bringing this here.

01:34:47:07 - 01:35:01:14

Okay. Okay. If I please understand the nature of of this hearing. So I appreciate. I appreciate everything that you have said today. And thank you very much for your participation. But.

01:35:15:22 - 01:35:30:15

I would just like to very quickly ask now, as I have outlined previously on today's agenda, if the applicant would like to come back at any point or shall I just continue wielding the floor to the local community, if I could just get confirmation.

01:35:52:05 - 01:36:01:06

I'm Paul Carey. If you're managing director of MVP investment, Mr. Pinto, if you don't mind, I would prefer to face the audience as well.

01:36:01:12 - 01:36:03:23

That is absolutely fine by me. Mr. Carey, Please do.

01:36:06:28 - 01:36:07:13

I'm.

01:36:09:25 - 01:36:44:27

Let me start by saying I will come to some of the specific points that have been raised tonight and maybe can't cover them all. We do understand that there are many fears and concerns raised by people here tonight, and we understand why you are concerned and we would ask you to take the time to attend some of these, what are called issue specific hearings that are going to come up in the next few months, some in April, because that is where all the detail that we proposed that we consider to be our part of our case will be discussed.

01:36:44:29 - 01:37:03:04

And that is where yourselves and other experts in the room can take an axe to them. If you wish to have a look at them and to challenges and repeat some of the things that have been said today and we were trying to address those in a more structured manner rather than trying to do them all tonight.

01:37:05:12 - 01:37:22:12

I'm guessing that I'm the most unpopular person in the room tonight. Yes. And I was the same in many meetings like this in Plymouth. And well, I can tell you this. The days that I'm considered Mr. Unpopular in Plymouth are long gone. I am.

01:37:22:14 - 01:37:32:16

Like, Can we please try and not get into a direct dialogue, if you wouldn't mind. So if you could just continue. Yes, please. Thank you.

01:37:32:29 - 01:37:34:14

I'm just trying to set some context.

01:37:36:14 - 01:38:12:18

The prime purpose of this facility is to divert waste from landfill, of which there is too much. And if you've ever been to a landfill, you'll realize why they're not so good. I would urge you to go and visit the landfill. And I. They're not nice things, but the prime purpose is to divert waste. That residual waste is left over after everyone's done their recycling and to turn it into useful energy. Be that in the form of electricity or heat. Now, you may not believe this, but Wisbech is in a region where there is a shortage of energy recovery capacity and too much waste go into landfill.

01:38:12:20 - 01:38:39:04

And that is a matter of fact that we will demonstrate and be able to demonstrate in our documents. And this site is, despite what you might feel an ideal site for the use, the useful use of this energy that we would create. Some of it will go into the national grid, of course. Yes, it will. But electricity can be used locally, as can the heat. And and that's something we've also proven to good effect in Plymouth.

01:38:41:11 - 01:39:00:22

I do find it a little ironic that Norfolk County Council, despite having a no incineration policy, manages to send its waste to an energy from waste facility some hundred or so miles away in Bedfordshire. I don't know whether you know that. And much of it goes past this site, this facility. So it is all too

01:39:03:05 - 01:39:25:26

ironic that that is the case. And Cambridgeshire sends its waste basically to landfill. Again, government policy at the highest level supports the removal of waste away from landfill and what's screwed up the hierarchy to energy recovery. And that's exactly what we are trying to prove to you here. This is the case in our application.

01:39:27:28 - 01:39:46:24

Concern has been raised on a number of things. I'll go through them briefly. Emissions. I would urge you again to come to the issue specific hearing about this. But people like the Health Protection Agency have confirmed that these facilities are not a risk to the public, to the health. And I know I can.

01:39:46:26 - 01:39:52:06

Can I please ask us to Let's let Mr. Kerry finish his our submission in response. Thank you.

01:39:53:26 - 01:40:12:09

And I heard the comments from Dr. Hayne earlier and I would urge her to look at our human health risk assessment in the documents. And if she recovers from COVID to come along to the issue specific hearing about that, because that is where these issues will be discussed in a lot more detail. We do need facilities like this because

01:40:13:26 - 01:40:44:07

and you'll know about Mr. Putin and his antics. We are trying to increase and then this again, is government policy, trying to increase the level of security of energy that we have in this country. Everyone wants to go home and put the lights on. Everyone wants to know that they can do that. And everybody complains when there's a power cut. And we need more facilities like this. I know we have a lot of wind turbines and solar farms in the area, but they're not all running at the same time tonight. Probably not enough wind to generate that much.

01:40:44:09 - 01:41:02:21

And there's certainly no sun. So you do need facilities like us that provide a baseload of electricity into the local grid. On the traffic front, I would stress that our our assessment is that the road network is capable of taking these road traffic. I know I'm going to get valid for that.

01:41:03:08 - 01:41:05:17

Can we please let Mr. Kerry finish?

01:41:06:08 - 01:41:39:09

One thing I do want to stress is that we will not disrupt the railway if the railway is going to come. It will come. And we would very much like it to come because then we could bring waste in by rail. There certainly are plans. Do not stop the railway coming in and I can give you my guarantee on that. There was a gentleman from Friends of the Earth joined virtually. I can tell him that his colleagues and friends of the Earth in Dundee had no problem with our facility up there. There was another gentleman. It was the same gentleman who mentioned fly ash being at 25%.

01:41:39:11 - 01:41:49:27

I'm sorry, there are some factual mistakes. It is not 25%. It's no more than 5% for the total of what we call air pollution control residues. There really does need to be.

01:41:50:13 - 01:41:57:07

Can we please let Mr. Carey finish your submission? As per highlighted at the beginning of this hearing. Thank you.

01:41:57:23 - 01:42:34:04

There really doesn't need to be a fact check on some of the things that are being stated about us. For example, you will not smell our facility. There will not be flies generated by our facility. And I'm happy to demonstrate how that happens. One of the issues specific hearings the gentleman from the weed company should not be concerned about. Of course I know Mrs. Pentland concerns about us buying Al Gore's way. We're not buying Al Gore's way to block other people using it. We will want to take it over and then hand it over to the Highways Authority so that it becomes a public highway.

01:42:34:06 - 01:42:42:24

Because today the southern part of Al Gore's way is not a public right of way. And maybe you don't know that, but it is not. And we would want to make it a public right of way.

01:42:44:13 - 01:43:02:13

There are lots of other things I would like to talk about. As I said, we want to be a good neighbour in Wisbech. We will be a good neighbour if we get consent. We have become a good neighbour implemented in Dundee and I would urge you to give us the time in the issue specific hearings to hear how we would achieve that.

01:43:04:20 - 01:43:18:11

I did ask point by Mr. Merritt. I do understand, sir, your emotional feelings. We we honestly want to become a good member of the community and I think we have proven that's been the case in Plymouth and in Dundee.

01:43:19:29 - 01:43:21:15

Yes, I understand that, sir.

01:43:21:19 - 01:43:32:05

Now, I must clarify this point. I said 10 minutes for the applicant after everyone else has actually spoken for 5 minutes each. And we are in 7 minutes at the moment. Please, Mr. Kerry, Continue.

01:43:32:14 - 01:44:04:27

Okay. Well, I think I've almost finished what I want to say. I. I am. I'm just looking through my notes to see what are the specific facts I can tell you. Just going back to Mr. Morrow's point about training engineers across the country, at the moment we have seven apprentices. We thoroughly played in training young people, giving them the opportunity. That's what seven people out of 152 is quite a good number to be having as apprentices. And we also have young people as interns for a year or so in our facility.

01:44:04:29 - 01:44:31:00

So we truly believe in training up our young people and we would certainly bring all that to Wisbech if we were given consent and we're not taking this consent for granted, we're not taking this process for granted. We have to do our job. We have to prove that what we've said in our application documents remains true. To summarise, we are definitely compliant with government policy on all of these.

01:44:31:20 - 01:44:33:27

Mr. Kerry for two more minutes. Thank you.

01:44:33:29 - 01:44:45:04

Thank you. We are definitely compliant with government policy on waste incineration moving waste up the hierarchy. We will not impact on recycling. We will

01:44:46:24 - 01:45:11:18

provide useful energy into the local economy and we'll provide some very good quality jobs. And. The secondary impact of that of of carrying out all of the maintenance type I have to do will have a direct impact on the local economy. And I would finish by saying that one day I hope we will meet again and you will not regard me as Mr. Unpopular anymore. Thank you very much.

01:45:13:02 - 01:45:15:14

Thank you, Mr. Kerry. Thank you very much. Thank you.

01:45:15:24 - 01:45:16:09

And.

01:45:25:24 - 01:45:26:23

Just a moment, please.

01:45:29:15 - 01:45:59:28

But I have two more people that are registered to speak. We have 15 minutes left roughly, so I will allow those people to speak. As I understand, these are two people that have actually said that they want to speak, but they are not registered before you as like piece as interested persons. Therefore, I did make it clear at the beginning of the hearing that it would be up to all of the parties have actually had a chance to participate. So now I will invite non-actors to actually come in, please. I have Rema Black.

01:46:03:08 - 01:46:03:28

Good evening.

01:46:07:16 - 01:46:13:14

If you'd be so kind as to confirm your name and then any organization that you represent, if that is applicable. Thank you.

01:46:14:12 - 01:46:49:12

Good evening. I'm Rena Black. I'm a resident in King's Lynn and Wisbech area and I would first like to say I oppose this incinerator being built and any proposal in the future in this area. So there is little hope that one finds when thinking about the enormity of the climate crisis as a sense of the problem is much larger than one person can solve. Larger than yourself. Larger than your family. But where we cannot protect the entire world and fight every battle we can defend our own corners of the world.

01:46:49:14 - 01:47:30:27

And that is what we are doing here today. And I hope that you will hear us. So to put it plainly, incinerators actually produce recycling. A lot of what has already been said tonight, but I'm just going to quickly go over it. So this plant promises is to have the capacity to burn 625 600 tons of waste per annum. I'm sorry, but where is that waste going to come from? There is no capacity on the roads for this waste. Secondly, studies indicate that most of what is currently in the residual waste stream is relatively recyclable material, meaning a significant portion of what is currently incinerated could have actually been recycled and posted.

01:47:32:00 - 01:47:59:00

A report published in August 2020 say that a total of residual waste from household sources in England, estimated at 53%, could have actually been recycled. This is unbelievable. If incinerates is limited their feedback stock to generally residual waste and it would free up more than half of what is their current capacity undermining the rationale for this incinerator to be built in Wisbech.

01:48:00:26 - 01:48:34:04

The government has a target for England to achieve 65% of recycling for municipal solid waste by 2035 and no more than 10% landfill as some residual residual waste is not compostable, compostable or combustible. The government's 65% recycling target implies that the rate of incineration should be no higher than a maximum of 30% in the UK. However, in 2020 it sat at 45.5%. Incineration is already at overcapacity.

01:48:34:08 - 01:48:42:15

In the UK, there is absolutely no need for this incinerator to be built. Other than profits for this company at the expense of us.

01:48:44:10 - 01:49:18:06

The argument that burning waste can be used to recover energy makes very good greenwash sales promotion for companies like this. Unfortunately, the reality is that saving energy and creating energy really was the goal. The more energy can be saved by society in actually reusing objects and recycling materials than can actually be recovered from burning anything. It's important to note the fossil carbon intensity of electricity exported from incinerators on the grid has been found to be 49% higher than predicted.

01:49:18:23 - 01:49:48:13

Of the plants studied in 2020, the UK is 55. Generators released a combined total of 40 million tonnes of CO2 and around 6.4 million tonnes of which of which were from fossil fuel services such as plastic. The 6.4 million tonnes actually cost the UK 1.5 billion in money from their taxpayers to clean up the waste generated by these plants.

01:49:50:21 - 01:49:56:27

Over half the capital cost of an incinerator build. And by the way, this one has a price tag of 300 million.

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But today it goes into air pollution control equipment. Ironically, if this waste were not burned in the first place and properly recycled, the tremendously expensive equipment would not be necessary, nor with the toxic ash collectors. And these devices have been sent to an expensive hazardous waste landfill because, by the way, it still goes to landfill. You do not solve the landfill problem with incinerators, nor would the air emissions be subjected to very costly monitoring.

01:50:30:01 - 01:51:05:09

In addition to the greenhouse emissions that will further exacerbate the climate crisis. Incinerators emit many toxins and pollutants that have been said here today. If this plant goes ahead, you are looking at a room full of cancer patients in the future. And that is the plain truth. I don't care how good they say that their monitoring is and how much they have to look at pipes for these particles. Unfortunately, the better the air filtration systems in incinerators, more can be said that the finer the particles, the higher concentration of toxic metals is produced.

01:51:05:23 - 01:51:24:18

That means that these toxic metal metals are 100 times more toxic than their counterparts that are tested for. And these are released into the atmosphere, into the surrounding areas that go into the cell membranes of the people in these communities. I do not wish to be subjected to this. I would like to breathe clean air.

01:51:24:20 - 01:51:27:15

Sorry. Those are your 5 minutes. Thank you. Thank you very much.

01:51:33:21 - 01:51:46:08

But I had one more request from a non IP to actually speak to not pertain to stated that person is no longer with us. Can I just confirm that that is the case with the case team?

01:51:48:01 - 01:52:26:05

Yep. Thank you. Thank you very much. Considering the time, then I will actually conclude the hearing now. So I just wanted to say thank you very much all for contributing so fully and usefully to this meeting today and will consider all the submissions made very carefully. Can I just remind you to submit your post hearing submissions, including written submissions of the oral cases by deadline one, which will be the 10th of March. The time is now 1954 and the open floor hearing one for the Met with energy from waste.

01:52:26:07 - 01:52:29:08

Combined heat and power facilities is closed. Thank you very much.