

Post-hearing submission of oral case from the Open Floor Hearing 1

Councillor Blunt, the Borough Council of King's Lynn and West Norfolk

Good evening

I am Kings Lynn and West Norfolk Borough Council's Cabinet member responsible Planning and Regeneration.

I am also the Borough councillor for the ward of Walsoken, West Walton, Walpole Highway and the Walpoles and I also live in the Walpoles.

The area of West Norfolk most affected by this application is where I live and work.

I have an excellent knowledge of the area and the communities

I want to share my thoughts for your consideration re the Medworth Planning application before you today.

Firstly, why this site on the edge of Wisbech

If I was considering an Energy from waste site

I would consider firstly is their sufficient waste to feed the plant, located close to the proposed site. Secondly is their sufficient demand to use the Energy being generated.

On the first point, by the need to transport several loads of waste to the site every day, there is clearly not enough waste generated locally to need the site in Wisbech.

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

On the second point is their enough demand locally for the energy generated either steam or electric power. This area has a limited demand for the steam to be used in local factories and the electric power generated will be fed into the National Grid and be used anywhere the need arises. Therefore, there is no real reason why the plant needs to be built here, build it where the demand for steam is high.

Next have alternative sites been considered by the applicant. Based on the lack of need for the site in Wisbech, has the applicant considered sites where there is a local need for incinerating waste. I know it may be the same number of loads, but the load mileage could be greatly reduced if the site was closer to where need is greater. Has the applicant considered any sites where the demand for the steam generated by the plant is high either now or in the future?

Thirdly the impact on people of the surrounding area including Wisbech and West Norfolk

The fact that the A47 that will be used to bring waste to the site is currently heavily congested seems have been ignored. When travelling north the traffic on the stretch of the A47 from the Tesco roundabout to the Elme House roundabout is regularly at a complete standstill.

This the main southern entrance into Norfolk from the East Midlands. It is a route for business traffic and visitors supporting the economy of Norfolk.

I believe the impact of the propose application will have major impact on the economy of the area especially as it is the gateway from Peterborough and the East Midlands in West Norfolk and beyond.

Has any consideration been given that within 1 mile there are several schools. The Thomas Clarkson Academy, Meadowgate Academy, Elm road Primary School, Ramnoth Road Junior, Wisbech Grammar School, Peckover Primary School Orchard Church of England School. That is where most of the children of Wisbech are educated

All these schools are north of the proposed site and in the direction of the prevailing winds from the proposed site.

I could go on so please consider my comments when making your decision

Finally, I think we should be looking at methods that encourage solutions that reduce the production of waste and encourage the use of renewables and therefore reduce the need for such a plant to be built.