

WRITTEN TRANSCRIPT OF CAMBRIDGE FRIENDS OF THE EARTH'S ORAL CONTRIBUTION TO ISSUE SPECIFIC HEARING 3 (ISH3) ON ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS, 16TH MAY 2023, REGARDING:

APPLICATION BY MEDWORTH CHP LIMITED FOR AN ORDER GRANTING DEVELOPMENT CONSENT FOR THE MEDWORTH ENERGY FROM WASTE COMBINED HEAT AND POWER FACILITY

Additional to written submission already received by Planning Inspectorate

Cambridge Friends of the Earth's Unique Reference Number: 20032947

Initial statement from ourselves that we considered that Medworth's business model was based on a lack of ambition by both themselves and waste authorities with respect to recycling; recycling being a much more efficient way of recovering embodied energy from a waste stream. Furthermore, we also stated that incomplete combustion of the individual components of the waste stream could result in the production of dioxins.

The potential for incomplete combustion of the waste stream was emphasised by the Applicant stating that that paper and plastic would be recovered from the Bottom Ash.

We stated that landfill would still be required, as incineration still leaves 25% by volume of the original waste as ash which, additionally has increased concentrations of dioxins and heavy metals.

In response the Applicant didn't deny that dioxins may be present in the Bottom Ash, but said that only Fly Ash (approximately 3% by volume) would be landfilled.

The Applicant then stated that Bottom Ash could be recycled into building materials etc to which we responded that recycling such potentially contaminated material was a very bad idea.

With regards to CO₂ emissions, we quoted figures (included in our Written Submission) which showed that electricity generation from waste incineration produced higher CO₂ emissions than either gas or coal. We also queried the feasibility of offsetting the CO₂ produced from the 565,000 tons of waste which the Applicant stated would be burnt per annum, given the accepted figure of 1 ton of CO₂ produced per ton of waste burnt.