

From: Angela Risebrow <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Wednesday, January 31, 2024 5:30 PM
To: Medworth <Medworth@planninginspectorate.gov.uk>
Subject: Incinerator planned for Wisbech, Cambs - Medworth Energy From Waste Combined Heat & Power Facility

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Dear Madam

I implore you to refuse the application for the Wisbech Mega-Incinerator planned to be built by Medworth CHP Ltd (MVV).

Having read the recent responses I note there is no mention of the schools in the immediate vicinity and the impact on the students and everyone who works there.

No mention of the impact on the surrounding fruit farms. This is not just a risk to food locally but also nationally.

No mention of the effect on the nearby food processing factories and their personnel situated in close proximity to the incinerator.

Potential flood risk appears to have been glossed over.

No consideration that Wisbech, a Georgian town that is the birthplace of the National Trust and Octavia Hill, and has more listed buildings than Bath will be impacted by such an eyesore and health risk.

No consideration for the poor road infrastructure and poor state of the actual roads.

There is no rail link to ease road congestion.

There is little consideration to the air pollution from traffic and of course the incinerator.

Surely the lack of consideration in these areas makes this a flawed application.

This monstrosity is planned to be built in an entirely unsuitable location. It is to be situated on the outskirts of a historic Georgian market town, close to several schools, thousands of houses, many food manufacturing plants, on land that is surrounded by the highest quality agricultural land much of which is growing fresh fruit on trees, and this is totally inappropriate. There is concern from local fruit and vegetable growers that the fallout from the chimneys will land on the produce and therefore make it unusable. This would have a major impact not only on local jobs but on the UK's food supply chain. Our town is known for food production and many factory operators have expressed grave concern about the impact on their business from an environmental view as the incinerator is planned to be built next to these businesses.

The residents of the town, the local councils and MPs are all opposed to this monstrosity.

I would question why MVV have proposed this site for such a large incinerator rather than locating it nearer to the source of the waste to be incinerated?

Apart from all the pollution from burning the waste, much pollution will be created by transporting the waste many miles from source to incinerator, plus transporting the waste ash for disposal. MVV have been very cagey about their plans to dispose of this ash and also glossed over how this would be stored prior to disposal.

Our local councils have said they will not use it for their waste - if larger cities (Norwich and/or Cambridge?) wish to incinerate their waste they should build their own incinerators in their own cities rather than dumping it in a small town which doesn't want it.

MVV have admitted that they did not investigate alternative sites so how can they say this location is best suited? Surely this makes their application flawed?

MVV have continually stated that several large firms in Wisbech will be using the power generated yet the same firms continue to state that they have no use for this power and have informed you of this. Yet again another area that indicates the application by MVV is flawed.

The height of the chimneys will be an absolute eyesore for this Georgian town despite MVV claiming it would have no impact. The incinerator is planned to be built practically in the town and you only have to visit the flat Fenland area to understand that there will be an impact.

Furthermore, an incinerator has just been agreed for nearby Boston. This had little opposition from residents or local councils due to its more modest size. When it is built surely there will be no need for a mega-incinerator to be built only 30 miles away.

Surely such large mega-incinerators should not be built so close to populated areas. This gives rise to so many potential health, social and economic issues in what is now described as a deprived area.

IF they are required, why not locate them somewhere more suitable, such as next to existing or mothballed power stations.

These locations tend to be in remote or industrial areas, are (by their very design) connected to the National Grid, are well away from populated areas, are near sources of plentiful water for cooling purposes, and are rail-connected which could be used as a more environmentally-friendly way of transporting the waste for incineration and the waste ash.

Also relevant to this are government aspirations for the development of the whole area, centred on Cambridge and including the Wisbech area, for the UK's fastest growing technology and research zone.

Michael Gove, Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, recently made a speech emphasising this, including mention of linking Wisbech with Cambridge. Building

such a monstrous incinerator in the middle of this town is hardly a way of attracting people to the area.

There are already plans in place for hundreds of new homes to be built in very close proximity to where the incinerator would be built. Reviewing various health studies it is hard to understand how this monstrosity could be allowed to be built so close to residential areas. This is just setting us up for major health problems which would then have an impact on an already overstretched NHS, that is apart from the health implications for the local residents.

If you give the go ahead for this monstrosity it will kill the town and the opportunity to develop the whole area which as Michael Gove has said is much needed to help with the expansion of the technology and research zone for Cambridge and the surrounding area.

The detrimental impact of building this incinerator would be felt in particular across the whole of East Anglia but actually the whole of the UK will be impacted by the issues with food production and health issues as I have described.

I implore you to refuse the application to build this incinerator.

Thank you.

Angela Risebrow

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