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From: autobarn <[REDACTED]>
Sent: Saturday, February 3, 2024 12:32 AM
To: Medworth <Medworth@planninginspectorate.gov.uk>
Subject: Fwd: Re: EN010110 – Medworth Energy from Waste Combined Heat and Power Facility - 20033415 comments

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Your Ref Interested Party Reference number: 20033415

I write regarding the proposed MVV Medworth Energy from Waste Incinerator facility at Wisbech. My comments are as follows:-

- 1) The proposed facility will stifle future economic growth vital for the area. The proposals will acquire the majority of the available land zoned for business in Wisbech for the creation of only a few jobs. This will mean the potential for new opportunities and new employment by local businesses will be curtailed as there will be no space available for business creation and expansion. Valuable opportunities will be lost as businesses will be discouraged from the Wisbech area. Existing businesses seeking to expand will be forced to leave.
- 2) The nature of the proposed facility will significantly detract from the nationally significant historic built environment of Wisbech. The town features some of the finest Georgian buildings in the country, one of the jey tourist destinations in the area and the historic area is situated a short distance from the site.
- 3) Local transport infrastructure is not sufficient to cope with the potential demands of the facility. Wisbech is a relatively isolated rural location served by an already at-capacity road system, There being no other viable local transport links, the facility will rely entirely on road haulage for its operations.
- 2) The facility is planned to be the largest in Europe, with a capacity of over 500,000 tons annually. In order to service these requirements the site will require several hundred heavy goods vehicle movements daily for both delivering its feedstock and the back-haul of the resulting "fly ash" and other post combustion waste products.
- 3) The local road system is already heavily congested and would require significant and costly capacity upgrades at public expense - together with continual repairs to offset the damage that would be caused by the volume of heavy goods vehicle movements.
- 4) Delivery vehicles would be travelling for unnecessarily long distances. The capacity of the plant is greatly in excess of that required locally or for the whole of Cambridgeshire (which already has a smaller facility in Peterborough). The proposed catchment area of the facility is set to cover a very large area that will result in delivery trips of 100+ miles or more. This will result in unnecessary carbon emissions and further waste of resource. Back-haul of the toxic post-combustion waste will also require daily long-haul trips to specialist disposal /treatment facilities.
- 5) The post-combustion waste produced is toxic and will need specialist hazardous waste processing and specialized secure transport facilities. It will require continual removal by road haulage which will represent a considerable risk to public safety at all stages of its handling and storage.
- 6) The proposed facility is set to rely on potential third parties to make use of the considerable

waste heat generated by the facility - however it now appears that in fact there is no local demand for this with any existing local business therefore the excess heat would have to be disposed of otherwise and effectively wasted.

7) The proposed facility is to be located in a known flood zone – this has been flooded on several occasions in recent years and the risk will only increase in the future due to the impact of climate change and sea-level rise – the site being adjacent to the tidal section of the River Nene and particularly vulnerable.

8) The proposed facility is to be located within close proximity to several local schools and educational facilities including a local grammar school and primary and secondary schools (eg Thomas Clarkson Academy and College of West Anglia are within a km of the proposed site)

9) The proposed facility is also to be located within close proximity to several major food processing factories. There is also a long established local brewery (Elgoods) in close proximity to the site that relies on clean air to ferment specialist alembic beers. This will no longer be possible to produce if the proposal proceeds.

10) The proposed facility would risk dispersal of combustion pollutants across a wide area – Wisbech is also at the centre of nationally important food production with many major fruit and vegetable growers located in the immediate and surrounding areas– all potentially contaminated by toxic emissions from the facility, such as Dioxins and heavy metal particles, particularly if any of the facilities emission controls fail.

11) Air pollution - the facility will emit large quantities of pollutant emissions, including greenhouse gases and particulates including PM2.5, PN10 and nano-particles which are all now well known to be hazardous to health.

12) The proposed facility will generate significant Greenhouse gas emissions - the burning of 500,000+ tons of waste material will generate in excess of 650,000 tons of CO₂ annually, making this proposed facility an internationally significant source of CO₂, oxides of Nitrogen and other pollutants that are an inevitable result of the combustion process

13) The excessive level of CO₂ emissions from the proposed facility and those that would be generated from its road-haulage requirement are not in accordance with the Government's net-zero aspirations or national and international legal commitments to reduce carbon emissions. In fact, the level of carbon emissions from this facility will exceed those of many smaller nation states (for example Liechtenstein or Somalia)

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