Submission ID: 28861

Urgent Argument Against Rampion's Proposed Project

Rampion has severely underestimated the impact of their project on traffic. Their figures fall short when compared to Rampion 1, which was 30% smaller. Crucially, Rampion has not accounted for the additional water tankers needed to wash HGV and LGV wheels or the lorries required to transport ballast and hardcore, given that the Oakendene site is a floodplain.

Rampion has also failed to adequately consider the potential for water pollution affecting the Cowfold stream, which feeds the River Adur. A diesel spill impacted Rampion 1, and the cables used in this project are cooled by oil, which can leak and devastate local wildlife. Rampion has downplayed the presence of badgers, great crested newts, turtle doves, and other thriving species on this site.

Alternative sites, such as Wineham Lane, do not present these issues. Unlike Oakendene, which is a floodplain flooding annually, Wineham Lane is a well-draining two-lane road built in the 1960s to accommodate the National Grid. It has no streams or watercourses running through it, minimizing the risk of water pollution. The environmental damage from Rampion 1 has already occurred at Wineham Lane, so there is less to save or salvage, impacting only about six businesses compared to over 80 at Oakendene.

Rampion's plans pose a significant threat to traffic flow, local wildlife, and water quality. The alternative sites at Wineham Lane offer a more viable and less harmful solution. We must protect our community and environment by holding Rampion accountable and urging them to reconsider their project location.