

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Southampton to London Pipeline Project](#)
Subject: NSGP Response to Environment Agency submission dated 19-Aug-20
Date: 14 September 2020 08:29:31
Attachments: [NSGP submission of additional relevant info Sept 2020.docx](#)

For the attention of Gareth Leigh

Dear Mr Leigh

Please find attached the response by North Surrey Green Party to the Environment Agency's submission dated 19-Aug-20.

Yours

Malcolm Beecher
North Surrey Green Party

[REDACTED]

Additional information in relation to the response of the Environment Agency (EA) to Gareth Leigh's request of 5.08.2020 (Head of Energy Infrastructure Planning, Department of Business Energy and Industrial Strategy: Reference EN070005) for an update of progress on their concerns with regard to the Thames River Scheme.

From North Surrey Green Party
Interested Party Reference: 20022412 NS

Dear Sirs,

We note in Clark Gordon's response on behalf of the EA (Dated 19.08.2020 Ref: EN070005) that the EA have '*no further updates to provide since the end of the examination and our concerns remain outstanding*'.

In the EA's Representation to the Consultation dated 26.07.2020 (EA Ref: HA/2019/121344/01-L01) at River Thames Scheme 2.1 it states:

2.2. The intake for Channel Section 3 of the River Thames Scheme is connected to the left bank of the River Thames at Thames Side in Chertsey. The Channel is aligned east from the intake through the channel then continues through Brett Aggregates Limited land where it is proposed that there will be an intake control structure with associated infrastructure. The channel then crosses Littleton Lane, Shepperton. The area of conflict is within the DCO Plans - Volume 2 Land Plan Sheet 118 (see also Figure 2 below). There is uncertainty within the submitted plans as to where the new pipeline will go within the area subject to the compulsory acquisition within the DCO. We acknowledge that an Approval in Principle is in place for the existing Esso pipeline.

We note that in Esso's Environmental Statement (Volume 6 - Contamination of Land - Appendix at Table B49: Lavenders Landfill / ES Site No.30 – Site History) it states:

'The site is reported to have been subjected to flooding during early 2014 and was subject to investigation as part of the inquest into the death of a child in a neighbouring house in February 2014 (Travers, 2016). The inquest considered whether the death may have been caused by hydrogen cyanide entering the house from a source in the Lavenders Landfill site. The inquest found that none of the land/soil or water testing conducted at the house or the land behind it found any evidence of a source of hydrogen cyanide (or any other toxic gases). The inquest concluded that the death was accidental as the result of carbon monoxide poisoning resulting from the use of a petrol pump in the house.'

We feel it is our duty and responsibility to draw your attention to the fact that the Coroner's finding in relation to the death of the child, [REDACTED], is highly contested by, among others, the Fire Brigades Union, the Communication Workers Union, the Public and Commercial Services Union, the Trades Union Congress,

UNITE, UNISON, the National Education Union, the Labour Party, the Green Party, Sir Keir Starmer MP, Leader of the Opposition, 51 MP's supporting an Early Day Motion calling for an Independent Panel Inquiry into the cause of [REDACTED] death (<https://edm.parliament.uk/early-day-motion/53103/independent-panel-inquiry-for-zane-gbangbola>) Baroness Natalie Bennett and, at the time of writing, 109,933 petitioners. Furthermore, at a Special Emergency Meeting of Spelthorne Borough Council, held on 10 September 2020, the Council voted unanimously for a motion which stated that *'crucial evidence on the potentially toxic nature of the site (i.e. Lavenders Landfill) has been ignored'* and they committed within 14 days *'to write in the strongest possible terms to the government expressing their deep concern and anger at the way this issue has been dealt with so far and call for an immediate, full and open Independent Panel Inquiry into this tragedy and all the events surrounding it'*.

We offer the following points in relation to reports included in the 'Inquest Case Bundle' prepared by Leigh Day Solicitors for the Inquest of [REDACTED], in 2016.

Documents evidencing landfill risks and adverse impacts on people and the environment at Chertsey include the following:

1. **1961-62** Multiple references documented in local Middlesex County Council (MCC) Public Health Committee reports of *'Application and approval for "Experimental tipping into wet pits"'*. A 2016 report by Paul Mobbs titled *'Lavenders Pit, Chertsey: A review of its potential polluting legacy'*, states *'Experimental Waste'* was tipped into landfill in the area, during this period.
2. **1966** A Middlesex County Council Public Health Inspector's report was commissioned following residents' complaints of a nasty, nuisance smell coming from the local gravel pit. The report documented 'Hydrogen Sulphide' as being the cause, which can cause death. It was 'neutralised' by depositing 2.5 tonnes of Sodium Dichromate into the gravel pit. Both substances are highly toxic.
3. **1972** A South East Region Scientific Services Laboratory (Cockfosters) report on *'Contaminated Water Tests'* stated that a metal canister was struck within borehole BH4 (BGS ref TQ06NE 14, located directly on the proposed Esso Pipeline route). The borehole log states: *'Struck a substance at 3.00m which effervesced strongly, giving off a noxious smell... Spoil was thrown up causing the earth to bubble and giving off an acrid smell affecting personnel'*. Analysis showed the chemical to be *'hostile to steel'*. The infra-red absorption spectrum of the residue was characteristic of Ethanoic Acid (Acetic Acid) which, if inhaled, destroys internal organs and can kill.
4. **2005** A report from SLR Consulting Ltd (Ref 401/1009/00003/ESID) was commissioned by Brett Aggregates Ltd. The report cited multiple test boreholes had revealed that many different highly elevated toxic gases and materials were present in the land. Ground gas monitoring within well

(GGW51) at the M3, found methane concentrations of 9.3% v/v, more than nine times greater than the 1% threshold above which 'a risk of harm should be considered'. Further wells north of the M3 indicated harmful concentrations of ground gas and hazardous substances, including Amoniacal-N concentrations, Chloride, Cadmium, iron and Manganese, Zinc, Copper, CO₂, Nickel, Potassium, mecoprop and naphthalene, the list of contaminants is extensive.

5. **2010** A geotechnical 'Ground Condition Report' on land known to have been landfill (and located adjacent to the proposed route of the Esso Pipeline) was commissioned by the Environment Agency (EA) from Peter Brett Associates, in relation to their proposed construction of 'Lock Keepers Facilities. Chertsey Lock'. The report stated that there was an 'Unacceptable risk from migrating landfill gases' the Consequences 'serious injury and Death'. The facility was subsequently built with a protective gas membrane; the requirement to comply with the Environmental Protection Act Part 2a was breached. Local residents were not informed of this danger by the authorities and they continue to live in unprotected properties.
6. **2011** A noxious substance was found on a child's dress from the Denman Drive landfill area by parents, who reported the incident to the Council. This land was owned by the same company that owned Lavenders. They had the same licence for dumping Section 222 of the MCC 1944 Act. The land was tested and found to be contaminated by Cyanide and remediated. Full documentation about this incident was available to be viewed by the public, via the Planning Portal of the local authority, up until 2016, when it was removed. (Coincidentally, at around the time of [REDACTED] delayed Inquest).
7. **January 2014** A Category 1 National Incident at the Kingfisher Pub, Chertsey. During serious flooding, two chemical drums with contents Cypermethrin Doa (causes seizure and death) were found 30 yards from [REDACTED] home (adjacent to the Lavenders landfill site).
8. **February 2014** Hydrogen Cyanide gas was found and recorded by the Surrey Fire and Rescue HAZMAT team (National Incident Recording System) in the Chertsey home of [REDACTED], who died. [REDACTED] was diagnosed with paralysis due to Hydrogen Cyanide poisoning. The family had been found unconscious and the area was evacuated for several weeks. Extensive information about this fatal incident, proof of the hazardous nature of the landfill adjacent to [REDACTED] home, of the local authority's abdication of responsibility and the family's campaign to uncover the truth about what happened is available on the [REDACTED]
9. **July 2014** A report from GeoEnvironmental was commissioned by the Insurers of the [REDACTED] family. Hazardous migrating gases were detected in [REDACTED] home and the cartilage. The report concluded that the house would cause death and injury, could not be occupied, and the insurers paid for a gas proof membrane to be installed. Porton Down had

reported Hydrogen Cyanide in [REDACTED] home instructing no return on the day [REDACTED] died as a notification on medical records.

10. **August 2014** [REDACTED] who was no more than a metre away from his son at the time of the above incident, was diagnosed with '*Rhabdomyolysis due to hydrogen cyanide*' by Dr Adrian J Fowle FRCP Bsc, Consultant Clinical Neuropathologist, GMC No. 3007945, in his concluding report.
11. Reports of horses having regularly died on the landfill site adjacent to the [REDACTED] home have been made, over a number of years.