

Representation to Issue Specific Hearing on Planning Policy and Environmental Matters

Stephanie Lakin – long term resident of Brennan Road, Tilbury. Ref TIL2 – AFP1482

Following my recent meeting with Peter Ward and discussions with other residents and local councillors at the Tilbury Forum meeting I wish to make the following representation in keeping with the request made to you previously.

I am deeply concerned that the impact of Tilbury2, one of three National Significant Infrastructure Projects in Thurrock, will have a far reaching and detrimental impact on the local environment. Residents are witnessing the rapid disappearance of open spaces as we become an island, engulfed by expanding industry and extensive building works.

Air quality in Thurrock has, historically been an issue of concern as raised in Parliament for example by Thurrock MPs Leslie Solley 29th April 1948 and Dr McDonald 26th April 1984. Air Quality in Thurrock (2012) reported that there had been little change in levels of pollutants due to the increasing number of vehicles. Dust and emissions from processing of aggregates are a health hazard, and, despite the Port of Tilbury London reporting that, 'Operational emissions from the CMAT and associated facilities will be controlled through mitigation measures secured through the DCO, to ensure that any effects will not be significant,' **the continued failure to effectively address issues surrounding noise and dust emissions from the tenant European Metal Recycling site are compelling. Reference Abi Armstrong, Environment Officer reporting to Tilbury Forum following repeated breaches. Residents should not have to suffer the detrimental fallout of business enterprise nor should they be required to police the actions of others and suffer the ignominy of chasing those responsible for redress.**

Additionally, residents are increasingly intimidated by the growing number of HGV and other vehicles which, in addition to raising levels of emissions cause chaos and damage to roads and property when they use alternate routes through the town, park indiscriminately and deposit rubbish, including bottles of urine.

The area of the ferry fields is unique, environmentally and historically. I am not convinced that the long term ecological impacts of disruption can be dismissed so readily and that there will be 'no net loss of biodiversity' based on relatively short term studies and successes in some areas.

The Planning Inspectorate has a responsibility in, 'Supporting communities shape where they live.' Gov.UK. As the Inspectorate fulfils its role of implementing, 'the government's aims of sustainable development and through shaping positive local planning' it is vital that the residents of Thurrock and, most particularly Tilbury itself, are not sacrificed because there may be a benefit for people elsewhere. The welfare and well being of residents must be paramount in the Inspectorate's process of ensuring that, 'Through the local plan process, communities and developers can prepare accordingly for the future.'

Thank you