Secretary of State for Trade & Industry
c/o Bay 2121
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Dear Sir or Madam

Town and country planning act 1990 Application Number 07/00068/ELC
Consent to Construct and Operate an Energy from Waste Combined Heat and Power Generating Station on Land owned by INEOS at Weston Point, Runcorn, Cheshire.

As a resident of Halton, I am writing to lodge my strong objection to the proposed construction and operation of an energy from waste combined heat and power generating station in this area.

Runcorn is already one of the highest polluted areas in the Country, as a result of its industrial heritage and extensive soil pollution, air pollution associated with traffic emissions, and increasing pollution arising from the expansion of air traffic to and from the Liverpool John Lennon Airport. Together, these are particularly prevalent in the area identified for the construction of the proposed generating station, and can only increase the threat to the health and well being of residents who live in an area which has one of the highest standard mortality ratios (SMR's) and levels of cancer, heart and respiratory diseases in the United Kingdom.

The arguments presented against a previous application for a similar plant in this area will still apply to the proposed plant in Weston Point. There can be no denying that some dioxins and poisonous gasses will be formed. The operation of an incinerator burning waste derived fuel, that will contain carbon from paper, wood and card and will also include chlorine compounds in the plastic contents, are potentially dangerous building blocks for the formation of carcinogenic compounds such as dioxins. To then extend the residence time in the 600-300 degrees centigrade phase by passing the fumes through a heat exchanger guarantees their formation.

Even if the proposed Plant operated under all relevant regulations and laws, the siteing of this potential source of cancer causing and birth defect poisons at the bottom of a fifty metre hill within a residential area and a primary school on the slopes of the hill, poses a real threat and potential harm for the residents of the area of Halton as a whole and would have a very detrimental environmental impact on our lives.

Apart from this, any further development, especially of this kind, envisaging twenty four hour traffic, seven days a week, would overstretch the already overcrowded roads of Halton, furthering traffic pollution and noise and adding to the problems of maintenance to the Borough's road systems. If rail were to be used, this would again add to the current high level of noise pollution in the area.

To date, as Halton Borough Council's Officers already know, in the light of strong, relevant objections other similar plants have been denied permission to build or operate in this area, and I do not see why this application should not similarly be rejected.

I would urge all concerned to consider this application very carefully indeed in the light of all the evidence of previous applications and refuse approval for the building of this incinerator.

Yours faithfully

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