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Planning Services
Trading Standards and Planning Services
Business and Environmental Services Directorate
NYCC
County Hall
Racecourse Lane
Northallerton
DL7 8AH

Re: NY/2009/0176/FUL - 86 Marston Business Park, Tockwith
Applicant Name: BCB Environmental Management Limited

Dear Sir or Madam

I wish to object to the above application to develop a waste incinerator and power station on Marston Moor Business Park for the following reasons:

1. The application does not meet with NYCC Waste Strategy.

The existing NYCC waste strategy does propose that an incinerator should be erected in this part of North Yorkshire.

2. The proposed site is in an unsuitable location.

It is on a business park, not an Industrial Estate, and I believe that this application would have a detrimental effect on our local economy encouraging more industrial businesses to the area.

3. There would be a detrimental visual impact.

This hazardous waste incinerator will have a chimney of at least 31 metres in height. This considerably taller than the existing water tower and will have a negative visual impact on the village and surrounding area. However, an expert in has told me that that the chimney will actually need to be around 50 m to give the correct dispersal of emissions.

4. The site is too close to local residents.

The emissions from the incinerator will discharge from a point will be less than 500 m from the homes of Tockwith and 1000 m from the local primary school. Therefore, it is just too close to a human population.

5. There may be harmful health effects.

This could affect all residents but children and infants are ten times more sensitive to the effects of pollution than adults are. The site is even closer to housing than the school.

6. The existing operation does not have a good safety record.

Last year, on two separate occasions numerous fire engines arrived on the business park to deal with incidents at BCB. There is a potentially high risk with this sort of operation and BCB do not always have control over what is being delivered to their site. A cul-de-sac like the business park would be very difficult to evacuate and could be impossible if the wind was in the wrong direction.

7. The facility does not support the waste hierarchy of reduce, re-use and recycle.

Incineration is considered by Friends of the Earth as detrimental to the gold standard of waste management, reduce, re-use, and re-cycle.

8. The road infrastructure is unsuitable.

This application will result in an extra 10,587 HGV journeys per year on Rudgate. This will present an increased safety risk.

9. The emissions levels are uncertain.

According to the Environmental Statement of the planning application, the emissions will include arsenic, nickel, chromium, cadmium, lead, mercury, other heavy metals and dioxins. There has not been any mass or energy balances presented which really account for all of the various chemical waste inputs and where they are discharged.

10. The environmental impact will be significant

Despite the claims of BCB, this incinerator is not environmentally friendly, is not carbon neutral and is not an energy efficient process. Scientific evidence shows that these incinerators are a worse source of carbon emissions per kWh of energy than coal powered power stations.

11. There is uncertainty over the noise pollution.

I understand that the engineering of cooling tower fan and gearboxes has not been disclosed and so the noise emissions cannot be modelled. Residents are at risk from having their amenity significantly reduced.

12. The developers are not experienced in the proposed technology

I question the technical competence of the developer who does not have any experience of building or operating a gasification and power generation facility. These potentially dangerous installations require skilled managers, engineers and operators and whilst some of these skills can be hired, the technology will be out with the controlling minds of the individuals within the corporate body (ie the directors responsible for health and safety) and hence they will be incapable of discharging their legal responsibilities adequately.

This application should be turned down.

Yours sincerely



Martin Jenkins
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