



Tockwith Residents' Association

**Secretary:
7 Lucas Grove North
Tockwith
York
YO26 7QZ**

Email: jane@leefamily7.wanadoo.co.uk

31st May 2009

Planning Services
Trading Standards and Planning Services
Business and Environmental Services Directorate
North Yorkshire County Council
County Hall
Racecourse Lane
NORTHALLERTON
DL7 8AH

Dear Sirs

Re: Planning Application NY/2009/0176/FUL – 86 Marston Business Park, Tockwith

Demolition of existing warehouse and erection of energy from waste facility with associated air cooled condensers and chimney stack, provision of new weighbridge, drum store, electricity sub-station, new means of enclosure and access gates, car parking and landscaping at 86 Marston Business Park, Tockwith.

I am writing to you on behalf of Tockwith Residents' Association (TRA) in relation to the above planning application.

Although we feel that 21 days in which to respond to this application is wholly inadequate, particularly when taking into account the huge amount and complexity of the documentation accompanying the application (and particularly with relation to an application which potentially carries health related risks) , we wish it to be down on record that we strongly OBJECT to the above proposal on the grounds of:

1. **Safety**

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 don't always have control over what is being delivered to their site. A cul-de-sac like the Business Park is also very difficult to evacuate.

2. **Proximity**

The chimney from the proposed incinerator would be less than 500m from the nearest homes in Tockwith and 1000m from the local primary school.

3. **Health**

Children and infants are 10 times more sensitive to the effects of pollution than adults. The site is even closer to housing than the school. Anyone who is at home all day is at greater risk from emissions from the chimney because they will be inhaling its fumes 24/7.

4. **Visual Impact**

This hazardous waste incinerator will have a chimney 31m in height. That is considerably taller than the water tower on the Business Park and will have a huge visual impact on the village and surrounding area. However, for such a facility this is still too low. A 40m chimney would halve some of the ground level concentrations of emissions.

5. **Unsuitable Location**

Tockwith has a Business Park, not an Industrial Estate. We think this application would have a detrimental effect on our local economy, encouraging more industrial business to the area and causing existing businesses to relocate. We have been copied in an objection from a Company on the Business Park stating that they would consider relocation should the application be given the go-ahead. Several other businesses raised similar concerns with us last time.

6. **Noise Pollution**

Excess heat generated from the incinerator will be dispersed into the atmosphere using air cooling, ie large turbines. These will run 24/7 and no doubt harder in the summer. With BCB's site only 400m from homes on Prince Rupert Drive, we do not want this extra noise.

7. **Environmental Impact**

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!

8. **Reduce, Re-use, Recycle**

When we can't recycle cardboard and plastic from our doorsteps like other counties we must question NYCC's waste strategy. Incineration is considered by Friends of the Earth as detrimental to the gold standard of waste management - reduce, re-use, recycle.

9. **Emissions**

According to the Environmental Statement included within the planning application, the emissions will include arsenic, nickel, chromium, cadmium, lead, mercury and worst of all dioxins. This is unacceptable.

10. **Unsuitable Road Infrastructure**

This application will result in an extra 10,587 HV lorry journeys per year on Rudgate. During periods of rainfall, puddling occurs in various places along the B1224 and Rudgate (lane down to the Business Park). The lack of operating cats eyes over some lengths and the dangerous twisting bends are also potential hazards. We understand that the B1224 was closed twice in April of this year due to serious accidents and a fatal accident occurred only a few weeks ago on Rudgate. This, in our opinion, causes us to come to the conclusion that the road infrastructure is completely inadequate for this increase in HGV traffic.

11. **Temperature Inversions**

We have written confirmation from the Met Office that Tockwith is "particularly susceptible" to temperature inversions. We understand that these unusual conditions could adversely affect the air quality modelling undertaken by the applicant, potentially to the extent that the figures are no longer applicable. We are greatly concerned about this situation and fear that the relatively low stack height could result in residents being trapped under the inversion layer with the pollutants from the plant for prolonged periods.

Please note, the above reasons for objection are in a brief format only. We have employed the services of The Land & Development Practice (Planning Consultants) to go through the documentation and will be reporting our objection in considerably more detailed form at a later date.

We would be grateful if you could acknowledge receipt of this objection.

Yours faithfully

Mrs Jane Lee
Secretary, Tockwith Residents' Association