

From: maria [mailto:xxxx@xxxx]
Sent: Tuesday, September 13, 2011 2:49 PM
To: IPC Enquiries
Subject: Brig Y Cwm

Dear Sirs,

I am increasingly concerned about the planning process in Britain. As a Planning Commission I would like to draw your attention to the following three items:

- 1) I read in the Sunday Times of 11th September 2011 that three advisers who drafted key parts of the controversial new planning regulations are linked to the building industry. See quote below:

“Now it has emerged that the draft National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) signed off by Greg Clark (Planning Minister) was largely drawn up by a group of four advisers, three of whom are involved in the building industry.”

“The framework’s “presumption in favour of sustainable development” has infuriated rural residents, who fear it will become a developer’s charter”.

Approval of the framework is not due until next April.

The above item although written with regard to housing development illustrates the direction that planning policy is taking.

- 2) A concern for those of us who are against the proposed Covanta Brig y Cwm Development is that Dr Mark Broomfield has apparently been appointed as an expert on emissions from energy from waste.
Dr Broomfield is Technical Director of Enviros Consulting Ltd

A core business activity of Enviros is obtaining planning permission for incinerators. The following quotes are taken directly from www.enviros.com

“We have an enviable track record of delivering planning permissions and Environment Agency permits. This applies to all types and scales of waste projects; from small scale composting schemes to large municipal Energy from Waste projects” [meaning incinerators].

“It is our aim to lead debate, influence policy and shape development to achieve outstanding client success.”

Enviros cannot be considered impartial or independent of their incinerator industry clients, when they produced pollution estimates used in their report. Enviros estimated pollutants such as dioxin to be insignificant however, the American Environmental Protection Agency still find ‘modern’ incinerators are a very significant source of dioxin despite improvements in technology and higher standards than we have in the UK. www.epa.gov/ncea/pdfs/dioxin/2k-update/ (updated in 2005). The Royal Society reviewed the Enviros report their criticism covered many pages.

The news that Imperial College London was to study the Health Impact of incineration was welcomed in many quarters, until the following appeared on a parliamentary page about energy. You will note from the following that a newly formed coalition which came together to promote energy from waste includes not only Covanta, but also Imperial College London. So much for impartiality!!

Point 3

2. ABOUT ENERGY FROM WASTE UK

2.1 Energy from Waste UK is a newly formed coalition of academics, trade associations and waste companies who have come together to promote energy from waste in the UK. The coalition believes that energy from waste technology provides the UK with an opportunity for a cost effective waste solution that complements recycling while simultaneously helping the country become less dependent on foreign sources of energy.

2.2 As of June 2011, the membership of the coalition included the following organizations: The British Plastics Federation; CEWEP; Combined Heat and Power Association; **Covanta; Imperial College London**; Institution of Mechanical Engineers; MVV; Renewable Energy Association; Packaging and Film Association; Plastics Europe; Ramboll; SITA UK; University of Northampton; Veolia Environmental Services; Waste Recycling Group; and Wheelabrator Technologies Inc.

[Publication: Associated Memorandum submitted by Energy from Waste UK \(EN16\)](#)

It appears that as far as planning is concerned the decision making process is increasingly informed by vested interests. I hope that the vast amount of scientific research and evidence from doctors, about the serious health effects of incineration, will stand alongside those put forward by Dr Broomfield.

Yours faithfully

Maria Harris

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