

From: [Shlomo Dowen](#)
To: [North Lincolnshire Green Energy Project](#)
Subject: Late submission on Defra's 25 May EfW statement - for North Lincolnshire NSIP Ref: EN010116
Date: 26 May 2023 11:55:42
Attachments: [Waste Incineration - Hansard - UK Parliament.pdf](#)

Dear Examining Authority,

We appreciate that the Examination formally closed on the 15th of May, but in line with the Applicant's late submission of their Closing Statement in the name of completeness, we would now like to draw to the Examination's attention the attached Government statement to the House of Commons made yesterday (published today) which appears relevant to the determination of the North Lincolnshire NSIP application.

In particular, we would like to draw attention to the statement made on behalf of the Government by the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Rebecca Pow) that: "We [the Government] want to see less waste being sent to incinerators, which is why we set a statutory target to halve the 2019 level of residual waste by 2042..."

The Statement from Defra's Under-Secretary of State went on to refer to incineration plants as "energy from waste plants", making it clear that EfW plants, such as the EfW plant proposed for North Lincolnshire, are within the scope of her statement.

The Government's explanation that sending less waste to incinerators is a reason for their introduction of the target to halve residual waste supports UKWIN's interpretation of how to assess the impact of that target on the North Lincolnshire Applicant's need case and the weight to be given to current and proposed (emerging) Government policies. Such policies include policies to protect the top tiers of the Waste Hierarchy, prevent EfW overcapacity, fulfil the duties under the Environment Act 2021 in relation to environmental targets, and to have regard to policies set out in the Government's Environmental Improvement Plan.

Thank you in advance for your consideration of this late submission from UKWIN.

Yours sincerely,
Shlomo Dowen
UKWIN

Planning Inspectorate Ref: EN010116
Registration Identification Ref: 20031828


Waste Incineration

Volume 733: debated on Thursday 25 May 2023

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(Carshalton and Wallington) (Con)

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6. What steps she is taking to reduce the environmental impact of waste incineration. (905123 (Unique identification number))

The Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs >
(Rebecca Pow)

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We want to see less waste being sent to incinerators, which is why we set a statutory target to halve the 2019 level of residual waste by 2042. The Environment Agency inspects and audits energy from waste plants to ensure that they are complying with the requirements of their environmental permits, which include strict emissions limits and associated strict requirements to monitor those limits.

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Only about 20% of the waste that goes into the Beddington incinerator in my constituency is plastic, but it makes up three quarters of the harmful particulates that come out of the chimney stacks. Technology is available to extract plastic before it is burnt, and is being trialled around the country. Does the Minister agree that all waste incineration plants should be installing this technology as soon as possible?

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We have legislated to prevent incinerators from accepting separately collected paper, metal, glass and plastic unless they have gone through a recycling facility first. We are trying to reduce all our waste but particularly plastic, and our plastic packaging reforms, which are under way, will mean that, overall, less waste will be incinerated.

 >
(Bristol East) (Lab)

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As the Minister has said, we need to reduce the amount of waste that is being incinerated. One way of doing that would be to develop a truly circular economy, which could also result in the creation of many more green jobs. This is a DEFRA responsibility, but we do not hear much from DEFRA about its plans. Will the Minister tell us what action she is taking?

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The hon. Lady is right, and we are committed to measures to introduce a much more circular economy. We must cut the amount of resources that we use, and recycle more, reuse more and refill more. Work is under way, and data is being gathered on our extended producer responsibility scheme, which we will introduce in 2024, and the deposit return scheme will be introduced in 2025. Those, along with consistent collections, will reduce the amount of waste that we, as a society, throw away.

Mr Speaker >

I call the shadow Minister.

>
(Newport West) (Lab)

Waste incinerators are three times more likely to be built in the UK’s most deprived neighbourhoods than in the least deprived, and people in those communities are twice as likely to have a lung condition and seven times more likely to die from one. Is the Minister confident that she has enough monitoring in place to provide accurate, timely and consistent data to ensure that these incinerators do not breach our emissions targets and thus put local people at risk of further harm?

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It is crucial for waste incineration plants to have the correct permits and to be correctly monitored, which is why the Environment Agency has imposed strict emissions limits and applies the permit scheme to a number of pollutants to ensure that people who live near incinerators are completely safe. All operators of incinerator plants must carry out their own monitoring and report back constantly on the safety of their plants, because human health is, of course, critical.