

Stop Portland Waste Incinerator

Cover letter for submission of PETITION as an OBJECTION to the planning application

Dear Mr Smith

The Stop Portland Waste Incinerator campaign hereby formally submits its petition in **OBJECTION** to planning application WP/20/00692/DCC.

The petition is formed of two parts: an online version on Change.org and a paper petition sheet version. The online signatures total 5,597 and the signatures on paper sheets total 1,142. This makes a **TOTAL SIGNATURE COUNT of 6,739**.

Petition respondents had full knowledge of the material impact of the proposals from:

- the Powerfuel Portland (PfP) exhibition on Portland on 5th December 2019
- advertisement features promoted by PfP
- information – regularly updated - on PfP's website
- PfP's Scoping Report and Dorset Council's Scoping Opinion made available on 24 February 2020
- planning application documents several of which were made available by PfP to the public on Tuesday 8th September 2020 (the rest being available to the public from Friday 25th September)
- information supplied in a PfP leaflet distributed widely to local homes

The planning documentation accompanying the application does provide greater detail for the proposals. However, this does not change the material considerations concerning the detrimental impact that these proposals will have on the environment and the well-being of the area's residents and visitors. It is these principal matters of concern to which the respondents are objecting and these cannot be overcome by minor matters of detail. We therefore submit that the petition reflects informed objection to Powerfuel's application based on valid planning grounds.

This is a **huge democratic statement** and we trust that it will be accorded the attention and consideration it deserves.

The online petition can be viewed here:

<https://www.change.org/stopportlandwasteincinerator>

The file of online signatures is attached. The file with the many strongly expressed comments will be forwarded separately due to its large size. We understand from your team that this file of comments will be available to view on the application's planning page.

Your team have confirmed that, due to the Covid situation, a file of the scanned images of the paper sheets is acceptable. This can be downloaded via this link (please do **not** click on this link if you are cc'd into this email):

Please let us know if there is any problem with accessing this file. NB This file contains information which needs to be treated in accordance with GDPR.

The core text of the petition is:

"This facility really isn't needed - the UK already has enough incinerator capacity and doesn't need more. Our research has shown us that this incinerator will:

- release tiny dangerous particles into the air - that cannot yet be monitored
- increase health risks - however small - for our children
- bring more lorries thundering along our busy roads (esp. Portland Road)
- possibly need to be 'fed' in the future by waste imported from outside the UK
- create a big, unsightly blot on our beautiful landscape and coast
- discourage recycling
- possibly not create many jobs for local residents at all!"

These matters of concern relate to a number of planning policies, for example in the adopted West Dorset, Weymouth and Portland Local Plan; the Portland Neighbourhood Plan (which is now a material consideration); the BCP and Dorset Waste Plan 2019; and the Jurassic Coast Partnership Plan 2020 to 2025. In addition, the proposal is contrary to guidance contained in the National Planning Policy Framework.

Consequently, there is a wide range of planning policies and guidance to justify refusing to grant planning permission for the proposed development of a waste fuel incinerator on the Isle of Portland. These are reflected in the range of valid objection comments contained in the petition.

These policies and guidance are concerned with:

- the damage to landscapes and seascapes of national and international importance, and to international and national protected sites, and to the setting of the Jurassic Coast Unesco World Heritage Site
- adverse impacts from pollution both air and water borne
- logistical and environmental considerations determining the most appropriate locations for development of such a waste treatment facility
- loss of amenity for residents and visitors
- adverse impacts on road networks and road safety from additional HGV traffic generation

Some of the relevant policies and guidance references are:

- Adopted West Dorset, Weymouth and Portland Local Plan: Policies ENV1, ENV2, ENV9, ENV16
- Portland Neighbourhood Plan: Policies EN0, EN2, BE3, BE6
- BCP and Dorset Waste Plan 2019: Policies 4, 6, 14, 18
- Jurassic Coast Management Plan 2020 to 2025: Strategic Aim 1 and Regulation Policies 2 and 4; IM Policy 3; Strategic Aims 2 and 4
- National Planning Policy Framework: Paragraphs 172,173, 174, 175, 176, 177, 193, 194

Yours sincerely

Lucy Grieve, on behalf of Stop Portland Waste Incinerator