

Richard Drax MP
Chesil House
Dorset Green Technology Park
Winfrith Newburgh
Dorchester
DT2 8ZB
9th January 2021



Dear Mr Drax

Parliamentary Debate Westminster Hall Tuesday 12th Jan 2021 4:30pm
debate called by Elliot Colburn MP on Waste Incineration and Recycling Rates

we thank you so much for allowing our Campaign to present our concerns to you over the proposed Portland planning application for an Energy from Waste Incinerator. We do so very much appreciate your letter of Objection to planning and submission of our Petition to Parliament.

We trust that writing so near to the time on the above issue is not too late. The debate in Parliament next Tuesday is we are sure in your diary so you may speak on our behalf.

Given the inconsistencies in Government legislation we look to you to represent our serious concerns that the refuse derived fuel content is left unscrutinised as a commercial issue between the RDF provider and the Incineration Plant. Control of the content of RDF is now urgently needed.

To reach Net Zero as planned biogenic material should be diverted via composting and thence to the soil. The incorporation of biogenic material being burnt is the element which allows the trade to be labelled renewable; this status needs to be changed as it encourages green washing. People wish to buy green electricity with confidence.

Government support to manufacturers to move to make only products that can be completely recycled has started. The circular economy is the best way of securing our diminishing resources and embodied energy. But where there is an EfW Incinerator recyclable material is being burnt. Once built these plants need constant feeding. Overseas Incinerators import our refuse fuel to feed their operations and reduce prices to make this commercially attractive; this slows recycling rates and removes resources too.

Recycling generates more jobs than EfW Incineration. The Ellen MacArthur Foundation shows how high skilled innovative employment will arise from the circular economy. Recycling secures our material resources rather than polluting our air. Recycling keeps the carbon and energy in the products rather than emitting greenhouse gases.

EfW Incineration is not CLEAN ELECTRICITY. The UK is changing from the carbon economy and stopping biomass and plastics being burnt is the next phase. We need to stop EfW Incinerators receiving subsidies and relief from emissions tax.

In December the Government published the Energy white paper: **Powering our net zero future** where the key commitment is for affordable CLEAN ELECTRICITY. Government goes on to pledge “to consult over all thermal plants to be technically and economically feasible to retrofit CCUS”. The Committee for Climate Change published the 6th Carbon Budget 9th Dec 2020 setting out the UK’s path to Net Zero requires all remaining thermal power stations to be CCUS fitted. Please stress to Parliament that to consult an industry is not enough. It is change and legislation that is needed to get to Net Zero as clearly set out by the CCC and others. Carbon capture needs to be installed to all power stations within a strict timeframe.

We trust this information is of use in your work to support your constituency. Please do not hesitate to contact us if we may assist further.

Yours sincerely

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of Paula Klaentschi.

Paula Klaentschi

Coordinator

Stop Portland Waste Incinerator Campaign