

Mike Garrity
Head of Planning
Economic Growth and Infrastructure
Dorset Council
County Hall
Dorchester
DT1 1XJ



Letter via email planningteama@dorsetcouncil.gov.uk
6th April 2021

Dear Mr Garrity

Energy from Waste Incinerator

Planning Application WP/20/00692/DCC Portland Port, Castletown, Portland DT5 1PP UK

SPWI strongly Object to this application on the grounds of adverse economic impact on local businesses.

As you know “The risk of not valuing non-market environmental goods and services is that positive and negative environmental outcomes get ignored in decision-making, resulting in losses to welfare and wellbeing. Valuation of often “hidden” benefits can contribute to enabling decision-makers to understand the contribution that an ecosystem makes to an area, or determine whether an intervention is justified, or determine priorities. It can also clarify who the beneficiaries or losers might be.”¹

The Government advice to support and quantify Natural Capital makes clear how our environment affects people and the economy. The document published 19 Nov 2020 entitled: “**UK natural capital accounts: 2020 Estimates of the financial and societal value of natural resources to people in the UK.**”² has these main points:

- In 2018, the asset value of the aspects of UK natural capital we can currently value was estimated to be £921 billion.
- Living near publicly accessible green and blue spaces added £3,146 to the average property price.
- Over 5 billion nature-related visits within the UK were made in 2018, amounting to 10 billion hours.
- There were nearly three times the number of hot days in UK city regions in 2018 compared with 2017; urban green and blue space helps to mitigate the associated costs.

We can all see how interconnected all these issues are especially with regard to Global Warming and COVID. We all have a responsibility not to exacerbate the problem and cause further stress to the businesses supported by our beautiful locality.

David Walsh, Service Manager, Economic Growth & Regeneration, Dorset Council has advised SPWI by email dated 01.03.21 enclosed, that his department is in dialogue over this application with Planning Services and yet they have not made a formal comment on the application. We quote David Walsh “*You are quite right in stating that any assessment of the implications of the proposal on the local economy must take into account the potential benefits and disbenefits of locating a waste incinerator at Portland Port.*”

The assistance of Dorset Council's department of Economic Growth & Regeneration in the interpretation and assessment of evidence must surely be essential and made public. The lists of key assessment and responses "not aware" provide the opposite from assurance. Rather, they raise the question what value does the public purse have from the department of Economic Growth & Regeneration?

In our opinion the department of Economic Growth & Regeneration should evaluate the situation presented by the applicant in light of all the local businesses that have objected and the Government guidance and make clear the range of issues for public scrutiny in a formal comment. The Chamber of Commerce is a closed forum of commercially sensitive secrets. The public look to their paid employees at the County Council to provide scrutiny of so-called economic pressures applied by private businesses whose priority is personal gain.

If this application were to succeed the cruise ship operators would be tied up close to a stack emitting noxious fumes being drawn inboard by the ships ventilation system. The visitors remaining onboard enjoying the open-air swimming pools and entertainments at almost the same height as the flue emissions in the down draft of the Island hill and the noise of 3 very large cooling fans to add to their holiday. This and the health of staff working onboard will surely prove to be a disincentive for the passengers and the operators?

We ask the planning team if there have been any public subsidies provided to the applicants from the Dorset Local Enterprise Partnership or Low Carbon Dorset?

The Application cites the employment created by the incinerator as a positive thing. However, those numbers are modest compared to jobs in tourism and spin-offs from re-cycling. Against incinerator jobs, the Planning Department scrutiny must be heed the businesses, (new and future enterprises) in this area. They will be dependent on the Natural Capital demand that cannot be mitigated against for the 30+ years life time of such a plant. SPWI also draw your attention to the coalition of local businesses and groups opposing the proposal and shown on the Portland Association web site under this banner:

COALITION AGAINST THE BURNER Launched by the Portland Association, the Coalition Against The Burner is a group of local businesses and stakeholders who are opposed to Powerfuel Portland's plans to build a rubbish burner on Portland. Shipping rubbish in from around the UK and abroad to feed the furnace year-round. Turning Portland and Weymouth into a centre for rubbish incineration. The businesses in the coalition believe that building the burner would be a disastrous step in the wrong direction for the area, and would change the face of Weymouth and Portland for generations. ³

PORTLAND

b-side arts organisation
Dorset Shellfish
Chesil Chippie
Dive Beyond
O'Three
Dorset Sea Salt Co.
Portland Joinery
Scimitar Diving
Paracademy Extreme
Quiddles Café
Taylor's Messdeck Cafe

PORTLAND continued

Portland Alpacas
ArtSpace82
LJK Resources
Mike Young Personal Training
Portland Magic
Balti Island
Perceptive Protection
Mark White Roofing
White Stones Art Cafe

stoppwi@gmail.com

PORTLAND continued

David Nicholls Art
Adventure4All
Martyn Davies Decorating
Fancy's Farm
Postal Logistics International
JAIC
Mocean
Rob McIlroy Soft Tissue Therapy
Fish-On! Angling Charters
Portland Cottage
Chesil Creative

WEYMOUTH

Weymouth Civic Society
Rossi's Ice Cream
Weymouth Hoteliers Guesthouses &
Leaseholders Association
Old Harbour Dive Centre
Weyfish
Belvedere Inn
The Chatsworth
Offshore Rebel Charters
Stone Pier Café
Cove Gallery
Weymouth Rubbish Removals
Amarisa Deep Sea Fishing
Weymouth Bike Hire
South West Coast Refills
The Bay Guest House
Statue Insurance
Gladstones Family Jewellers
Weymouth Vintage
Netherfield Cattery
Skelly Construction
Weymouth & Portland Scaffolding
Weymouth Bouncy Castles
The Library House Cafe
A Spoonful of Honey
Aunty Vi's Café
The Eastney
Signet Aerials
Titan Manufacturing,
S&W Shellfish
Sally Ann Charters
Acorns Childminding Service

WEYMOUTH continued

Hand Picked Shellfish Company
Dorset Entertainments
The Harbour Terrace
Townsend's Amusements
Seashells Soft Play
Marden Guest House
Remarkable Carpets
Graham's Motor Services
Supanova Charters
Bob Summerhayes Fisheries
Ryan Casey Marine Services
Weymouth Angling Centre
Dorset Seaweeds
Weymouth & Portland Rugby Club
Les Enfants Terribles
Snapper Charters
Weymouth & Portland Licensed
Skippers Association
Garreg Lwyd
Al's Spirit Charters
Fins-up Fishing Charters
Flamer IV Charters
Olivers Guesthouse
Helen's Famous Wholefoods Store
PlayYard
C Me Care
The Monarch Guest House
Whitesands Properties
The Ocean Guest House
Wadham Guest House
Weymouth
Bridge Fairtrade Shop
Nanna Moon's Café Bar
Wessex Aerials
The Cavendale Guest House
The Warwick Guest House
Weymouth Sands Guest House
Beach View Guest House
The Seacrest Guest House
Aaron Guest House
Real World Services
Good as Gold
The Window Doctor
C.A. Aerials

WEYMOUTH continued

Bosworth Glass
 Direct Removals of Weymouth
 Mason Gas Services
 South Coast Alarms
 Cavendish House
 The Bedford Guest House
 King of the castles
 The Dorset Grill
 Attic Designs

WYKE REGIS

Wyke Regis Horticultural Society
 Pebble Bank Caravan Park
 The Fat Badger
 Sirius Business Services
 Dorset Phone Repair Service
 Swallows Rest
 Lee Electrical Installations

WAREHAM

Longthorns Farm
 Terra Organics Cafe
 Huff and Puff Construction
 The Salt Pig

BRIDPORT

Little Toller Books
 Soulshine Cafe
 Common Ground

DORCHESTER

The Thomas Hardy Society
 Down to Earth
 Bright Button Productions
 Annie's Gardening
 Dorset's Kiwi Butcher

AND BEYOND

Barton Cottage,
 Broadmayne
 Marren B&B, Holworth
 GB Roofing, Ilminster
 The Open Air Dairy, Littlebredy
 Heritage Seeds, Osmington

The data is clear– zero waste creates over 200x as many jobs as landfills and incinerators! Let's stop throwing away the chance to create thousands of good jobs. It's time for our leaders to invest in solutions that work for us *and* our planet.⁴

SPWI have noted that some Councillors consider that Tourism is simply sessional and low paid; the same view is often directed to the arts and creative ventures but actually this is not the case. The list of businesses who have stood up and said NO are wide ranging and the income derived come from years of experience and dedication come from highly skilled people, each a specialist in their own field and each and every one is essential to their business and to Dorset. Please help protect our diverse rich heritage and future wellbeing.

Since COVID the ability to live and work here and have a great holiday in green Dorset has become even more valuable. Since COVID everyone has come to respect a wider section of the community for their worth.

It is SPWI's view that the risk of this incinerator already blights future development in and around the harbour. The proposed kelp farm in Portland Harbour, Green Ocean Farming, will need to convince their customers of clean water. SPWI urge that risking the rejuvenation of Castletown with ever more traffic of 80 lorries a day carrying waste in and toxic ash out is unconscionable and especially disrespectful to the military history of this important place. Visitors want to take a wholesome day out to projects like Portland Eden and MEMO and even

the cruise ships visitors themselves want fresh air. The economics are most definitely all against this application.

Yours sincerely,


Paula Klaentschi BA Hons Dip Arch retired Architect
Coordinator on behalf of Stop Portland Waste Incinerator Campaign

Cc David Walsh
Richard Drax MP
Cllr Robin Cook

Cllr. Sue Cocking	Cllr. Mark Tewkesbury	Cllr. Pete Barrow
Cllr. Sandy West	Cllr. Ann Weaving	Cllr. Jean Dunseith
Cllr. Rob Hughes	Cllr. Jon Orrell	Cllr. Tony Ferrari
Cllr. Pete Roper	Cllr. Tia Roos	Cllr. David Gray
Cllr. Paul Kimber	Cllr. Ken Whatley	Cllr. Brian Heatley
Cllr. Lesley Saunders	Cllr. Jan Bergman	Cllr. Ryan Hope
Cllr. Jim Draper	Cllr. Tony Ferrari	Cllr. Howard Legg
Cllr. Giovanna Lewis	Cllr. David Gray	Cllr. Louie O'Leary
Cllr. David Thurston	Cllr. Peter Barrow	Cllr. Jon Orrell
Cllr. Charlie Flack	Cllr. Howard Legg	Cllr. Clare Sutton
Cllr. Carralyn Parkes	Cllr. Kevin Brookes	Cllr. Gill Taylor
Cllr. Bernard Parkes	Cllr. Alex Fuhrmann	Cllr. Kate Wheller
	Cllr. Ryan Hope	Cllr. John Worth
	Cllr. David Harris	Cllr. Graham Winter
	Cllr. Christine James	Cllr. Graham Lambert
	Cllr. Roz Kanji	Cllr. Colin Huckle
	Cllr. Trefor Morgan	Cllr. Richard Nickinson
	Cllr. Gill Taylor	Cllr. Michael Frost
	Cllr. David North	Cllr. Lucy Hamilton

Sources and references;

1. https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/869801/natural-capital-enca-guidance_2_March.pdf
2. <https://www.ons.gov.uk/economy/environmentalaccounts/bulletins/uknaturalcapitalaccounts/2020>
3. <http://coalitionagainsttheburner.org/>
4. https://zerowasteworld.org/zerowastejobs/?fbclid=IwAR1z_7sap5W7GgbRJ1qxEmGo8-dMbWNzQivTO5AocY05s2milr43oKP6nok