

From: HINDS, Damian
Sent: 28 November 2021 15:22
To: Strategic Planning
Subject: Objection: Application Reference 33619/007

Dear Sir/Madam

I object to Veolia's application on the grounds mentioned in my two previous objections and now too on air quality grounds.

The Environment Act 2021 was passed by Parliament earlier this month and has received Royal Assent. It establishes a legally binding duty on government to bring forward at least two new air quality targets in secondary legislation by 31 October 2022.

In setting air quality targets, my ministerial colleagues have sought advice from the Committee on the Medical Effects of Air Pollutants (COMEAP). COMEAP's advice includes that:

1. a focus on reducing long-term average concentrations of PM2.5 is appropriate
2. newer evidence indicates that PM2.5 pollution can have harmful effects on people's health at lower concentrations than had been studied previously
3. the studies have not indicated a threshold of effect below which there is no harm
4. reducing concentrations below the World Health Organization's Air Quality Guideline would benefit public health [the WHO guideline was 10 µg/m³ when the COMEAP advice was published in July 2021 but has since been halved to 5 µg/m³]
5. reducing exposure of the whole population would achieve the greatest overall public health benefit
6. the health benefits of reducing other pollutants, such as nitrogen dioxide, should not be overlooked

Given these findings, there must be a likelihood that the WHO Air Quality Guideline for PM2.5, halved this year, will be reduced again, perhaps successively, during the expected lifetime of the EfW facility that Veolia now wishes to add to the three EfW facilities already operating in Hampshire.

I have grave concerns about the public health implications of the proposal due to the potential adverse effects on air quality and very strongly urge the Council to refuse this application.

Yours faithfully

Damian Hinds