

Warboys Landfill Action Group

Betty Ball
1 Fenton Road, Warboys,
Cambs, PE28 2 SD
9 February 2018

Planning Application No H/5002/18/CW

Extra objections

Dear Sir/Madam

I wish to add the following objections to the proposed planning application for a CHP plant at Warboys Landfill Site on behalf of Warboys Landfill Action Group. This letter should be read in conjunction with the previous submission by WLAG.

Perceived Risk to local environment

Warboys Landfill Site has caused much anxiety and disruption over nearly 25 years. Hazardous waste was already being tipped in the old brickworks site before local people discovered this in 1999. Warboys Parish Council had not been informed of the change from low level waste and this caused much distress in the village. The hazardous tipping was allowed to continue at great speed until Cambs C. C. stopped the hazardous category being tipped and Fenside Waste Management Ltd appealed the decision in 2004. It became clear that 250,000 tonnes of hazardous waste already in the site would cause more problems for the community to remove than to leave in the site. The villagers have since then remained nervous that a leak in the badly engineered site could cause further problems.

Also when a loaded lorry on its way to the site crashed, it caused further worries that this could happen again at any time. In 2017 with the closure and capping of the waste pit in sight, the village was feeling a little relieved.

The announcement that another unknown applicant was applying to bring a new threat to the village again has brought all these worries to the fore again.

The number of letters sent in response to this application is an indication of the anxiety created.

The perceived threat in the Warboys Community constitutes a planning consideration.

Waste Hierarchy and Useable energy

In 'Defra Energy from Waste Feb 2014' it states that:

'The most common way to generate energy is to use hot gases from the thermal step to boil water to create steam. This is then fed into a steam turbine to generate electricity and/or used for heating. This is the only route for incineration.'

In 'Defra Energy from Waste Feb 2014' it states that:

'Unless the energy output can be effectively used then there is no benefit from maximising its production. Ensuring sites for energy from waste are available that allow potential connection to heat customers is an essential part of maximising the benefits. The updated national planning policy "Planning for Sustainable Waste Management" is expected to reflect this, encouraging local authorities to consider siting, through their local plans, energy from waste facilities in areas which allow them to use heat as an alternative or additional energy output to electricity.'

The application appears to achieve both electricity and heat generation. However the amount of electricity created and available via the Grid is very small. As previously discussed in my original letter,

'of the energy generated, less than 5% equivalent will be as electricity exported to the grid (using the application figures) or 8% if the figures reported to the village are used.'

Most of the energy generated is as heat, some of this will be used in the waste water (leachate) evaporation which appears to comply. However this is only a small part and it would seem that the vast amount of heat produced will not be useable on this site and will escape to the atmosphere.

Heat energy can be used in some scenarios to heat homes or buildings but this is not the case in Warboys. I challenge that the vast amount of the energy produced 'cannot be used effectively and hence there is little benefit'. Such a site would be better sited near to where excess heat could be used productively.

The problems created for the village of Warboys in terms of traffic issues, health issues and environmental pollution with little benefit are unreasonable. The energy used in the construction of such a plant would far outweigh the small amount of useable energy which could be produced in this location.

We believe this application should not be a delegated decision but should be decided at a full meeting of the County Planning Committee where all parties can express their concerns and an open discussion take place before a decision can be made.

We object to this application for many reasons quoted and urge Cambridgeshire County Council to refuse permission on behalf of the people of Warboys.

Your faithfully,

Betty Ball

Betty Ball on behalf of Warboys Landfill Action Group.