

Powerfuel Appeal

Good morning,

Please see the submission below.

Kind regards

Helen

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From: Laura Baldwin <>

Sent: 11 December 2023 11:46

To: Skinner, Helen <HELEN.SKINNER@planninginspectorate.gov.uk>

Cc: enquiries@dcms[REDACTED]; richard.drax.mp[REDACTED]

Subject: Case number APP/D1265/W/23/3327692 Portland Incinerator - VIP - New Information

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Dear Inspector Paul Gritths,

CC'ing MP Richard Drax and DCMS

I am writing to inform you of an important new development, plans for a flag ship training centre within the grounds of the Weymouth and Portland National Sailing Academy.

[Please read the press release](#) and note; this development would build upon the Olympic sailing legacy, it is a long-term commitment to Weymouth and Portland, one of the best places in the world to sail and the **spiritual home of the British Sailing Team**.

The aim of this centre is to bring everyone together here in Portland, to reduce the need to travel to reduce cost and emissions and the building is built with sustainability at the forefront.

"This project is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to ensure that our Olympic gold medal aspirants are afforded the greatest possible chance of success and will set up our programme to do so for decades to come." RYA Performance Director, Mark Robinson.

As an Olympic sailor and two-times Olympic sailing coach, I know how much effort is made to ensure every possible aspect is covered to the highest degree to ensure peak performance at Olympic level. Having our current and next generations of sailors training here for extended periods of time, many making this their forever home, buying property and creating community, worries me deeply should this incinerator go ahead.

I would not, if I was Performance Manager (I was scouted to take over Mark Robinson's role as Performance Manager in Australia when he left to join the RYA in 2017), I would not choose a training base next to an incinerator, especially not

one so close and with such topography as Portland that will force emissions in concentrated gusts across the harbour and the base in winds from a wide compass range as they wrap around the island and funnel through the grounds of WPNSA. The sea fogs and mushroom clouds that hug the island and waters hold the air trapped in situ at ground and low level on such days.

Sailing is demanding of cardiovascular fitness in anything above 8 knots (for windsurfers it is increasingly demanding of cardiovascular fitness the lighter the winds), athletes breathe deeply as they work hard to sail fast. Sailors also participate in outdoor cardiovascular training including running and cycling.

Breathing in fine and ultra-fine particulates PM 2.5 and PM 10 and less than PM 2.5 as well as dioxins and brominated dioxins which have no safe limits and are 'non-threshold' pollutants, causing harm at any level. It is documented even in the application for this incinerator that no filter can currently filter all pollutants out of incinerator emissions.

The goal surely has to be to IMPROVE AIR QUALITY, not to reduce its quality, especially at the base of a World Class Sailing Venue and the spiritual home of British Sailing.

Insert from a document from UK Without Incineration:

Considerable research in recent years has shown the wide-rangin pollutants, such as fine particulate matter and nitrogen dioxide, at previously understood. In 2021, in response to overwhelming scienti Health Organisation (WHO) slashed its long-term Air Quality Guidan nitrogen dioxide and fine particulate pollution (PM_{2.5})²⁰.

Pollutant	2005 WHO AQG (µg/m³)	2021 WHO AQG (µg/m³)	Thre (µg
Nitrogen Dioxide	40	10	
PM_{2.5}	10	5	

The 2021 WHO guidelines, based on a thorough analysis of the sc significant harm is expected at levels just a quarter of UK nitro thresholds. In 2019, the government declared an Air Quality Health E tighten the current thresholds²².

Defra has acknowledged that pollution has been a significant burdo country's population even where current UK air quality thres exceeded²³ and according to the UKHSA "Evidence continues to bl low concentrations of air pollution can cause a variety of health lifetime, it is a significant public health burden"²⁴. Air pollution is re Nations as the greatest environmental threat to public health²⁵.

Thank you for taking the time to read and consider this information.

Kind Regards,

Laura Baldwin

British Sailing Team reveals
performance centre plans
britishsailingteam.rya.org.uk



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