

Stephen Coggins

81 Wakeham

Portland

DT51HW



Waste Incinerator Appeal 14th Dec 2023

Objection subject - Loading Bottom Ash via ship and
the potential hazardous in doing so ...

My name is Stephen Coggins and I am a resident of Portland .

I object to the planned waste incinerator for all the reasons you are hearing today , the incinerators exhaust plume , increased traffic , damaging Portland's silhouette on the horizon , prolonged potential health issues , adverse effect on tourism but for me also is transportation of the Bottom Ash .

What is Bottom Ash ? – It is a very fine dust produced from the Waste incineration process and tons and tons of bottom ash is produced daily as the Waste Incinerator burns it way through RDF waste ie single use plastics , chip board , commercial waste , black bin rubbish etc are incinerated 24/7 for the next 30 years .

Power fuel have quoted transportation of Bottom Ash either by Road or ship or combination of both . If using ship transfer for the bottom ash I am concerned about the unavoidable air born disruption by the wind and spillage from the mechanical grab as both scenarios can lead to contamination to the sea , seabed , very near areas of scientific interest plus affect our delicate marine life to include Sea Horse , sea grass , Dolphins , seals, local shell and fish farms not to mention our fish caught locally for human consumption.

As a qualified HSE Commercial diver with 2000 hours experience I have seen first hand working in Avonmouth Docks near Bristol how areas of loading Animal Feed & coal via a Mechanical grab or conveyor will cause spillage, seabed contamination and wind-swept contamination around the local loading areas within the dock area .

I was working at Avonmouth docks for a few years and those docks are massive compared to Portland Docks and are in sheltered locations away from any community or homes but here in Portland we are in a very exposed area with very little run off and very close proximity to the sea and local residence .

You can see the affects of loading ships "now" if you monitor the Animal Feed process here at Portland Docks as after each ship has been loaded or unloaded the whole area must be jet washed down on the quayside because of unavoidable spillage but it not a real issue with Animal Feed the material is organic and inert where as the bottom ash can contain heavy metals , unburnt material , small quantities of corrosive and lethal toxins that can build up over the years not to mention all the material that cant be burnt or filtered out like asbestos or glass fibre that if allowed to be spilt or carried by the wind would be a major concern for the marine life , water condition and human health over a period of 30 years .

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Portland Port Authority has a fantastic core business offering a secure berthing facility for Cruise ships which are good for the area , tourism , income but if I was spending £2000 on a cruise and in Portland dock, I opened my windows to see a massive Waste Incinerator churning out smoke and noise night and day outside my cabin I would not be a very happy Holiday maker and negative reviews of Portland as a Cruising location would no doubt happen .

Portland Port should be thinking green for its ship to shore power as cruise ships already have a bad environmental reputation and they should use the spare grid cable already installed in chesil beach to get access to the emerging Green UK main grid supply or work with Green partners that want to develop wind and solar power and take advantage of battery storage for when the Cruise Ships are in .

Please refuse this waste Incinerator because its not needed by Dorset waste Plan or wanted by us or the fragile environment .