



Department
for Culture,
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Ms Paula Klaentschi
Co-ordinator, Stop Portland Waste Incinerator
Campaign
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23 October 2023

Our Ref:
TO2023/09931/RS

Dear Ms Klaentschi,

Thank you for your correspondence of 2 October to the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport, the Rt Hon Lucy Frazer KC MP, regarding the proposed Energy Recovery Facility at Portland Port, and the Jurassic Coast World Heritage Site. I am responding as a member of the Ministerial Support Team.

As England's only World Heritage Site inscribed for natural criteria, it is vital that the site remains protected from a wide range of threats, such as climate change and harmful planning and infrastructure developments. As you highlight in your letter, the area also has an important sporting legacy, the significance of which should be recognised and appreciated.

I understand that since your last letter to the department, and the previous response from the then Heritage Minister Nigel Huddleston MP, the application for the proposed waste incinerator was refused by the Local Planning Authority and the applicant has now lodged an appeal against this decision. This department's position remains the same: we concur with the views of Historic England as well as the Jurassic Coast Trust and others, that the development would negatively impact the World Heritage Site.

Although the Department for Culture, Media and Sport does not have a statutory role in the planning process, we are aware that Historic England, the UK government's expert advisers on World Heritage Sites, will be offering a statement to the Planning Inspectorate regarding the impact of the proposals on the outstanding universal value of the World Heritage Site, as will the Jurassic Coast Trust, to ensure that this is fully considered under the appeal process.

We will continue to monitor this case closely. I would encourage you to continue to engage with the planning and appeals process via the Planning Inspectorate.

I hope this information is helpful.

Yours sincerely,

Rhiannon.
Ministerial Support Team

