



Cambridgeshire
& Peterborough
Campaign to Protect Rural England

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Ms Ann Barnes
Economy, Transport & Environment
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CPRE Cambridgeshire and Peterborough is our
local branch of CPRE, a national charity. We
speak up for the English countryside: to
protect it from the threats it faces, and to
shape its future for the better

Dear Ms Barnes

**Planning Application Ref: S/3372/17/CW for a Waste Recovery Facility
Levitt's Field, Waterbeach Waste Management Park. Ely Road, Waterbeach, Cambridge CB25 9PQ**

CPRE Cambridgeshire objects to this application.

(1) The proposal would have significant and adverse visual impact on the local character and surrounding countryside due to its prominence, large scale and industrial appearance. The 80 metre high chimney would be clearly visible from public viewpoints on higher ground such as to be had on the Haddenham ridge and Ely Cathedral tower. It would be visible for miles across the surrounding low-level and open fenland. It would have a serious impact on the Fen Edge District Landscape Character Area (Fig.5b of the applicant's submission).

(2) It is noted that the proposed development would require external lighting for safe movement of vehicles and pedestrians (Chapter 4, para.4.2.54). It is also noted that para.4.2.55 states there will be continuous (24 hour/7-day per week) operation. We are therefore very concerned that night-time lighting, including the permanent red light on the stack requested by Cambridge International Airport, will illuminate the main body of the building and the proposed 80 metre chimney stack and thus has the potential to cause light pollution and visual impact on the surrounding landscape, neighbouring settlements and Denny Abbey.

(3) The required built form to enable the incinerator to operate will cause significant harm to the Denny Abbey English Heritage site. That site also contains other listed buildings whose setting will be significantly harmed by the proposal. There are other rare historic features within the Abbey that would be significantly compromised.

(4) We concur with English Heritage's view, given in its objection letter of 11 January 2018, that "the historic setting of Denny Abbey is that of an historic medieval institution deliberately sited at the fen edge" and "originally sited on a small raised island until the fens were drained". We agree with English Heritage who express the importance of the setting which still has characteristics visible today of its original intention as an Abbey.

(5) We submit that the proposed incinerator would overbear, overwhelm and completely destroy the fragile setting in which Denny Abbey dwells.

(6) We urge the County Council to refuse the application.

Yours sincerely

Shirley Fieldhouse

CPRE Cambridgeshire & Peterborough

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