

DR. CAROLINE LUCAS
Green Party

for the South East of England

Mary Thompson
Planning Officer
Oxfordshire County Council - Speedwell House
Speedwell Street
Oxford OX1 1NE

February 22nd 2006

Dear Ms Thompson,

Thank you for informing me that RWE Npower have submitted a new application in relation to Radley Lakes. I am still opposed to the Radley Ash Disposal Scheme and would like to make the same point that I raised in my previous correspondence.

I trust that Oxfordshire County Council will ensure that a complete Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) is carried out, assessing the overall impact of the scheme on the area. I believe that, with relation to the previous planning application for Lakes E&F, RWE NPower argued that an EIA was not appropriate. Given that the application is significantly different to that which was granted planning permission in 1982, I do not accept that this is simply a variation of an existing application and, therefore, believe that an EIA is required. It has also been brought to my attention that there may be rare bat species that will be affected should the planning application be given the go ahead, so I would urge you to review the council's obligations under the EU Habitats Directive.

PFA dumping is an unsustainable activity that is being phased out across the EU. By granting planning permission you are sending a clear message to NPower that failing to recycle more of their waste is acceptable. It is clearly not.

There have been a number of pollution incidents recently associated with the dumping of PFA in the area, including the killing of thousands of fish at Radley and the leaking of contaminated water through the inadequately engineered protective clay bund around a recently lost lake.

There is a potential pollution threat with respect to the local ground water and the wildlife dependent on clean water. I am advised by people living locally that there have been a number of pollution incidents associated with current PFA dumping activity and the risk will be increased if a further lake is used in this way.

I have concerns about how the proposals will further impact on an area already at risk of flooding - I understand that the current PFA dumping has already been blamed for increased flooding in the locality.

I trust that you will bring my objection to the attention of the relevant committee and look forward in due course to hearing the outcome of the application.

Yours sincerely,



Caroline Lucas - Green Party MEP for South East England.

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