

DR. CAROLINE LUCAS

**Green Party Member of the European Parliament
for the South East of the UK**

Clive Inwards
Council Offices
Planning Department
Market Street
Newbury
RG14 5LD

January 17th 2005

Dear Mr Inwards,

I am writing with reference to planning application no. 04/02978 - Proposed new IT buildings at AWE Aldermaston.

I would like the planning committee to consider that a full chemical and radiation check should be done at the site before planning approval is granted. This check is essential and must be carried out and published by the Environment Agency to determine whether or not contaminated soil will be disturbed by the proposed developments. If the report determines that contaminated soil is present then the planning application must contain details as to how it will be removed, disposed of, or Stored.

I understand that the site has been identified as polluted with legacy solvents but that AWE refer only to an absence of excess metal levels. Given the investigation by EU officials into radioactive discharges from the AWE it seems prudent to take a precautionary approach to the possibility of further contamination.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,



Dr Caroline Lucas, Green Party MEP for South East England