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Letter to Hani El-Quasem

Chair of the Residents Association

Dear Hani El-Quasem,

It has been brought to my attention that you have published on your website commentary and a link to an article that you claim to be "recent". You have repeated this on your campaign's Facebook page.

The article that you have linked to was published on the Daily Mail website on 29 May 2003, which a quick search reveals despite there being no timestamp on the article itself. The article related to a study compiling data from the 1950s through to 1993. A similar article was also published in the Independent on the same date.

The study is therefore not recent, and it is misleading to represent it as being recent.

Not only is the article itself not recent, but as noted above the data covers a period prior to the imposition of much tighter controls on waste incinerators, and so has no bearing and relevance in relation to today's modern, efficient and highly regulated facilities.

A long time ago, it was recognised that uncontrolled combustion of waste at incinerators was allowing pollutants to escape into the air in Europe and from operations in other countries, which is why incineration came to have a bad name. The EU moved to regulate these activities with the introduction of the 1989 Municipal Waste Incineration (MWI) Directive, which was superseded in 2000 by the even tighter current Waste Incineration Directive (WID). The old forms of incineration were decommissioned in the 1990s as a result of the 1989 Directive.

The requirements of the WID (2000/76/EC) apply to virtually all waste incineration and co-incineration plants, going beyond the requirements of the 1989 MWI Directives. The WID requirements have been developed to reflect the ability of modern incineration plants to achieve high standards of emission control more cost effectively. It is worth noting that the standards of emission control are much tighter than for other power generation facilities.

In that the study the Daily Mail report refers to is for the period before the introduction of EU standards it therefore has no relevance to the Green Lane proposals and it is misleading to suggest that it does.

We respectfully request that you make this clear on your website and your Facebook page, and suggest that you instead link to the most up to date information on these matters, published by the

Government's Health Protection Agency:

www.hpa.org.uk/web/HPAwebFile/HPAweb_C/1266228112244.

Our applications contain a very large amount of information about air quality and emissions controls, with the assessments carried out by a leading independent environmental consultancy. There have been no objections to the proposals from the Government's regulator, the Environment Agency. We would be happy to talk through this information with you; we remain open to discussing this along with other aspects of the proposals with you and a small, representative group of local residents if this would help. A copy of the planning applications can be found here: www.greenlanecopark.com/planning-applications.php.

I look forward to your response.

Yours sincerely

Anthony Hirsch

Sky Properties