

Consultation on petition P-04-341 Waste and Incineration
Response from Councillor Anne Blackman

Abigail Phillips
Clerk to the Petitions Committee
Welsh Assembly Petitions Committee
Cardiff Bay
Cardiff
CF99 1NA

P/04/341 Project Gwyrdd Petition 21 + 13286

3rd January 2012

Dear Ms Phillips,

I support the statements and questions raised by Professor Howard, Newport SINC and others who have in their submissions raised concerns about the health impacts of the Energy from Waste Incineration process.

Having said that, on behalf of the constituents of Nelson Ward and Caerphilly County Borough in general, I wish the Petitions Committee to identify the following and answer the following question.

1. To identify the legal authority which permitted the Welsh Assembly Government to require the Unitary/Local Authorities of Wales to combine to form Regional Waste Policy?
2. To identify the legal authority that requires Local Authorities to work in consortium before they can take advantage of Welsh Assembly Funding – Tax Payer money – in relation to the provision of waste services such as Project Gwyrdd - £9.25 for each year of the 25 year Contract?
3. Noting from its Web Site that there is no Welsh Assembly Government representation listed on the Project Gwyrdd Committee and £9.25 each year for 25 years being a very big financial commitment. What action is the Welsh Assembly Government taking to protect this financial interest on behalf of the peoples of Wales?
4. What evidence can the Welsh Assembly Government provide to bear witness to the fact that its contribution of £231.25mln over the life of the Project Gwyrdd Contract will provide council taxpayers/constituents with Best Value and Best Environmental Option?
5. At this time of austerity can the Welsh Assembly Government evidence how it can afford this subsidy and what other services, if any, will be cut to provide this financial aid to Project Gwyrdd?

Cllr Mrs Anne Blackman
Nelson Ward
CCBC