



Ein cyf/Our ref LG/00890/17

XXXXXXXXXX
Docks Incinerator Action Group

31 May 2017

Your emails regarding the construction of a biomass incinerator plant within the Barry Docks regeneration area have been passed to me to reply, as this issue falls within my Ministerial portfolio. I am, therefore, replying to your emails of 5 and 6 May to Rt Hon Carwyn Jones AM First Minister of Wales, of 6 May to me, of 4 and 6 May to Mark Drakeford AM Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Local Government, of 6 May to Vaughan Gething AM Cabinet Secretary for Health, Well-being and Sport, of 2 May to Ken Skates AM Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Infrastructure and of 6 May to Kirsty Williams AM Cabinet Secretary for Education.

I understand the strong feelings that exist about this development and the heavy workload you have taken on as Chair of the Action Group. I note you have asked Welsh Government Ministers to support your action group's cause. However, I must explain that Welsh Government Ministers are not able to comment on the specific aspects of planning permission or environmental permit cases. This is to maintain the independence of the consideration process.

The Welsh Government is generally supportive of renewable and low carbon energy generation proposals. We are aware of the benefits of generating green energy and the considerable jobs these projects can bring to Wales. However, this must be without endangering human life and impacts on the environment and local amenity must be avoided, or mitigated to acceptable levels.

I understand that planning consent for the biomass energy plant has been granted. During the environmental permitting processes, Natural Resources Wales (NRW) must fully consider the impact of the proposals on public health and the environment. To do this, it takes account of evidence and relevant representations from stakeholders. As you are

Bae Caerdydd • Cardiff Bay
Caerdydd • Cardiff
CF99 1NA

Canolfan Cyswllt Cyntaf / First Point of Contact Centre:
0300 0604400

Gohebiaeth.Lesley.Griffiths@llyw.cymru
Correspondence.Lesley.Griffiths@gov.wales

Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

probably aware, the application for an environmental permit is currently subject to public consultation. You can follow progress of the application on the NRW website:
<https://naturalresources.wales/permits-and-permissions/permit-applications-consultations-and-decisions/current-consultations-environmental-permit-applications/biomass-uk-no-2-limited/?lang=en>.

As you have acknowledged, the First Minister recently visited Barry and met with residents. As a result of some concerns which were raised with him, he wrote on behalf of residents to the Chair of NRW to ask if it was possible to extend the deadline for representations on the application. NRW has extended the determination date for the environmental permit application beyond the initial deadline of 8 May. NRW will publish the new closing date shortly.

I am grateful to you for taking the time to write in detail about the concerns and actions of the Docks Incinerator Action Group.

Lesley Griffiths AC/AM

Ysgrifennydd y Cabinet dros yr Amgylchedd a Materion Gwledig
Cabinet Secretary for Environment and Rural Affairs

**To: Lesley Griffiths AM, Cabinet Secretary
for Environment and Rural Affairs**

**From: Caroline Darbin, E&RA Government
Business Unit**

Tel: 03000 253 460

Date: May 2017

[LG/00890/17]
CC: E&RA Directors and DDs
Madeline Brindley
Ross Hockey
Miranda Lewis
John Kirkham
Joanne Smith
E&RA Comms
E&RA GBU

**LG/00890/17 Alexis Liosatos, Chairman of Docks Incinerator Action Group (DIAG)
regarding the Barry Docks Incinerator**

1. Mr Liosatos has written to several Welsh Government Cabinet Ministers to raise his concerns about the construction of the Waste Wood Gasification Facility at Woodham Road, Barry.
 - First Minister of Wales - 5 May *
 - First Minister of Wales - 6 May
 - Cabinet Secretary for Environment and Rural Affairs - 6 May *
 - Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Local Government - 4 May
 - Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Local Government - 6 May
 - Cabinet Secretary for Health, Well-being and Sport - 6 May *
 - Cabinet Secretary for Economy and Infrastructure - 2 May
 - Cabinet Secretary for Education - 6 May *
2. The content of the emails marked with an * are the same.
3. A draft response is attached.