

A waste management partnership between Bracknell Forest,  
Reading and Wokingham Borough Councils.



Slough Borough Council  
Planning Department  
St Martin's Place  
51 Bath Road  
Slough  
SL1 3UF

26 August 2019

Dear Sir or Madam,

**Planning Application Ref: P/17826/000**

I am writing on behalf of the re3 partnership in relation to the potential replacement of the Lakeside Energy from Waste (EfW) facility at Colne Brook, Slough. re3 is a waste management partnership between Bracknell Forest, Reading and Wokingham Borough Councils in Berkshire. The three councils work together in managing the waste of over 420,000 residents.

The Lakeside EfW facility represents a crucial and proximate element in overall waste management provision for the re3 partnership, and has done so since it was commissioned 10 years ago. According to the terms of our shared, waste PFI, contract, re3 sends at least 71,200 tonnes to be processed at Lakeside. That represents approximately 39% of re3 domestic waste. The re3 partnership is proud to be associated with a facility which so successfully generates energy and utilises its by-products to avoid landfill (e.g. via the recycling of ash, glass and metal). In the event that Lakeside EfW was dismantled to accommodate the expansion of Heathrow Airport, but not replaced, alternative treatment could not easily found, and would likely result in increased costs for re3.

The importance of Lakeside EfW should be considered within a regional and national waste management context. As such we believe the following factors should be taken into account, in support of the above referred planning application:

**CHAIRMAN re3 JOINT WASTE DISPOSAL BOARD**  
Bracknell Forest Borough Council, Easthampstead House, Town Square, Berkshire, RG12 1AQ  
T: 01344 532048 E: [www.re3.org.uk](http://www.re3.org.uk)

- Reports such as those by Suez<sup>1</sup> and Tolvik<sup>2</sup> identify a shortfall in UK EfW capacity. Both reports identify that the shortfall is pronounced in the south of the UK. The latter report specifically identifies that regional imbalances between capacity and demand could result in having to haul waste north, over greater distances (with financial and environmental impacts), as a result.
- The impact of Brexit, changes in processing demand and the introduction of potential tax instruments<sup>3</sup> within the EU appear likely to *increase* the need for processing of waste by EfW or RDF within the UK.
- Government's Resources and Waste Strategy welcomes further 'market investment in residual waste treatment infrastructure' and, in respect of landfill, wants 'to see its use minimised as much as possible'<sup>4</sup>. Neither of these objectives would be supported by a loss of existing EfW capacity.

I have explained the direct impacts on re3 and the wider considerations that pertain to the potential loss of an important regional facility. I also understand that the proposed replacement facility would have even lower emissions and operate more efficiently than the existing Lakeside facility. Accordingly, on behalf of the Joint Waste Disposal Board of the re3 partnership, I am writing to express our support for the above planning application.

Yours faithfully,



**Councillor Mrs Dorothy A S Hayes MBE**  
**Chairman re3 Joint Waste Disposal Board**

<sup>1</sup> [Mind The Gap \(2017-2030\)](#), Suez

<sup>2</sup> [Filling The Gap](#): The Future for Residual Waste in the UK, Tolvik

<sup>3</sup> [Exporters face wait over Dutch RDF tax](#), letsrecycle.com

<sup>4</sup> [Resources and Waste Strategy](#), UK Government (page 79)