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15 August 2005

Mark Sitton
Lower Trent Area Manager
Environment Agency
Scarrington Road
West Bridgford
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Dear Mr. Sitton,

Unauthorised emissions breaches from Eastcroft Incinerator (AH0653, Variation BR9162)

You are aware that Eastcroft waste incinerator, operated by Waste Recycling Group (WRG) has frequently breached the authorised emissions limits defined by its IPC licence.

I wrote to you on 20 March 2003 regarding this matter however the plant has continued to operate without regard to its licence. I write to you again as the regulator of this plant.

Eastcroft clearly cannot continue to operate without breaching its defined emission levels. Last year there were seven self-reported breaches on the public register and there have been three since March this year, almost 1 a month!

On 10 March 2005 during annual routine checks carried out on your behalf, the dioxin level emitted into the atmosphere was found to be nine times the authorised amount.

You are no doubt aware that dioxins are extremely toxic and cancerous and are classified by the World Health Authority as the most cancerous substance known to science. Yet the amount released into the atmosphere is only measure twice a year for a few hours and independently checked annually!

This is clearly unacceptable and completely inadequate, we should not have to wait up to a year before finding that the plant is belching out dioxins way in excess of its operating licence!

As a spokesperson for NAIL and a local resident of the plant, I demand to know what action the Environment Agency, the regulator of this plant is doing regarding these continual breaches?

We urge you to use your powers to protect the public and the environment from this highly polluting plant and issue a prohibition notice if it cannot clearly demonstrate that it can operate within its licence all off the time, not just for certain periods!

I urge you to take the appropriate action to enforce the plant to operate within its licence or close down immediately until it can.

Could you please inform us of what action you are taking to ensure immediate compliance and what steps you will be taking to ensure that, if it is allowed to operate, it does so in compliance with its licence.

Yours sincerely,

Mr J Beresford MIIE