

STOP THE WESTBURY INCINERATOR NOW!

5 REASONS WHY IT'S TIME TO THINK AGAIN

Damning BBC investigation highlights growing concerns over UK's use of incinerators - here's what they found...

1 EMISSIONS INCREASED

Increased greenhouse gases

The amount of harmful greenhouse gases pumped out of England's network of 52 major incinerators has increased by 40.4% in just five years.

40.4% INCREASE IN EMISSIONS OF GREENHOUSE GASES

As bad as coal

Tonne-for-tonne, the pollution from those sites has been on a par with coal in terms of emissions produced.

TONNE-FOR-TONNE POLLUTION ON A PAR WITH COAL

We should stop considering these things as power stations, because they're not good examples of power stations, their principal objective is to get rid and to reduce the volume of waste.

Dr Dominic Hogg
Environment campaigner and founder of the consultancy company Eunomia

If the current government is serious about clean power by 2030 then... we cannot allow ourselves to be locked into just burning waste

Prof Keith Bell
UK Climate Change Committee

Worse than landfill

The waste being burnt is increasingly made up of plastic. Because plastic is produced from fossil fuels, it is the dirtiest type of waste to burn. According to the government's own statistics, burning plastic produces 175 times more carbon dioxide (CO2) than burying it in landfill.

175 TIMES MORE CO2 THAN LANDFILL



The current practice of the burning of waste for energy and building more and more incinerators for this purpose is at odds with our desire to reduce greenhouse gas emissions... increasing its use is disastrous for our climate

Professor Ian Williams
University of Southampton

2 RECYCLING DECREASED

Incineration increases & recycling declines

Incineration has become the main method of waste disposal, whereas the proportion we recycle has fallen by 2% during that time.

We've got too many [incinerators], and we shouldn't have any more - they begin to distort our ability to recycle

Lord Deben
Former environment minister speaking to the BBC

CHANGES IN WASTE DISPOSAL ACROSS THE UNITED KINGDOM

2014-15 FINANCIAL YEAR

43% of waste was RECYCLED

30% of waste was INCINERATED

25% of waste was LANDFILLED

2022-23 FINANCIAL YEAR

41% of waste was RECYCLED

49% of waste was INCINERATED

7% of waste was LANDFILLED



We have this insane situation where in England, we've already got more than 45% incineration in most regions of the country, which means we can't possibly theoretically meet our recycling target the next year and we're planning to build more incinerators which will take us further and further away from our own targets.

Professor Ian Williams
Professor of applied environmental science, associate dean and head of centre for environmental science at the University of Southampton