

Hilary Breakwell
Portland Resident

LIGHT POLLUTION... Plumes are often more apparent at night, and accentuated by the red aviation lights will be very apparent to tourists. The 24 hours lighting of the stack will be unrelenting, and nocturnal lighting would deter bat use, and have an impact on nocturnal insects such as glowworms and pollinating moths.

ODOUR POLLUTION... Odorous emissions may occur during the delivery of waste, reception of waste and the storage and handling of waste prior to processing. Odour annoyance will have more impact in the summer, when temperatures are higher and people are outdoors and more likely to be exposed to odour, this may have an impact on the local holiday accommodation, the docked cruise ships, outdoor activity participants and those at outside eateries. Waste incinerator odours impact on flora and fauna, as incinerator odours can affect animal scents such as pheromones, which are often used to attract potential mates. Plants too can suffer adverse impacts, as plants use scents to tempt insects towards their pollen-rich flowers in order for pollination and fruiting to take place, scents that can be masked by air pollution.

NOISE POLLUTION... The setting of the plant will have an impact on how the noise is experienced in the locality, with a cliff behind the site rising to 140m above the proposed incinerator, amplifying the noise from the roar of the flue exit, the exterior vents/fans, the turbine hall and delivery lorries, the sound will bounce off the cliff and resonate across the harbour to residential properties along the Weymouth shoreline. Replacing 396 hours of cruise ship engine noises with 8000 hours of waste incinerator noises does nothing to help shipping reduce noise levels whilst at port, as required under DIRECTIVE 2014/94/EU. It appears Powerfuel have under-predicted the noise impacts on residents of both Portland and along the shoreline of Portland Harbour and beyond.

The thing about the proposed incinerator it will be droning away for 24 hours a day, 7 days a week relentlessly, whereas other port noises are intermittent, not constant and for the most part do not go through the night. At night the silence here is tangible, you can hear the crashing of the waves on the Chesil Beach, but no industrial noise.

Consider the noise that starts up on a sunny Sunday afternoon in the summer, the sound of the grass lawnmower... it might not be above the permitted decibels, but it is a constant drone in the background, and I don't know about you, but when the lawn mower noises stop, it is a relief to have that niggling noise gone. The incinerator will never stop, it will drone for 24/7, albeit within legal permissive noise levels.