

Rob Cheeseman, 41 Hardy Avenue, Weymouth, DT4 0RQ [REDACTED] / [REDACTED]). 14th December 2023.

Resident member of the Weymouth Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group; trustee of Weymouth Climate Hub; founding member of Weymouth Transport Action Group; founding member of Repair Café Weymouth; local business owner.

I cycled here along the Rodwell Trail and Portland Beach Road, the main cycle artery between Weymouth and Portland where, in the future, if this enquiry finds in favour of the applicant, **I can look forward to worsened air quality** as the toxic emissions of unknown constitution blow across Portland Harbour from this site. I can also look forward to worsened air quality on Boot Hill and Lanehouse Rocks Road in Weymouth as increased volumes of HGVs belch their way to Portland and back on a daily basis.

And let's also not forget:

1. These HGVs will also have emissions from their tyres and brakes: one of the biggest source of micro plastics globally is from tyre and brake emissions (www.theguardian.com/environment/2022/jun/03/car-tyres-produce-more-particle-pollution-than-exhausts-tests-show).
2. There have been cyclist fatalities in recent years involving HGVs on the likely HGV route to Portland involving cyclists; one involving a school-aged cyclist on the Portland Road (www.dorsetecho.co.uk/news/16274070.appeal-witnesses-14-year-old-boy-killed-crash-portland-road-weymouth/) and another on the Portland Beach Road (www.dorsetecho.co.uk/news/23735034.man-30s-killed-collision-lorry-portland-beach-road/).

I and many people in Weymouth and Portland **work voluntarily literally almost daily** within our communities and wider, to deal with the consequences of the climate and ecological emergencies including working towards low and zero carbon lifestyles.

“Protecting our natural environment, climate and ecology”. This is the headline intent of Dorset Council's climate and ecological emergency plan originally declared in 2019.

However, despite that context, **Powerfuels** wants to come into this community, aided by their wealthy friends in Portland Port, and...**burn rubbish for profit**. What a genius contribution to the climate and nature crisis!

If this scheme goes ahead it will leave our communities with the **legacy of poorer air quality and degraded natural environments** directly from the site and indirectly from the associated transportation of rubbish to the site.

Powerfuels are therefore nothing less than **“Pollutocrats”** to quote George Monbiot. Namely, those who exert power to continue their quest for profit at the expense of our earth systems which are collapsing before our very eyes.

But what's worse in all of this sorry episode is that, win or lose, Powerfuels will be happy to see **every last penny** squeezed out of this community through this onerous process and

inquiry. A community which is one of the most socially deprived communities in the country.

Powerfuels will also be happy to see **every last ounce of determination, hope and love** squeezed out of this community in this process before they move onto the next unsuspecting community in their tawdry and greedy crusade for profit at any cost.

Therefore, I also stand with everyone here in rejection of Powerfuel's scheme and particularly in rejection of the claim that this scheme benefits local people in any way whatsoever and also in rejection of the claim that it will cause no detrimental harm to our natural environment.