

*Please reply to:*

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Our ref: VL  
Date: 8 February 2012

Dear Resident/Local Group

### **Eco Park**

I am writing to you as an individual or group that has shown an interest in this very important topic.

I am very pleased to be able to tell you that Surrey County Council (SCC) has taken the decision to consider this matter in public rather than delegated to County planning staff in private.

Spelthorne feels very strongly that this decision has been made as a result of the strongest possible representations that we have made on behalf of the local community to ensure that the County Council's decision is based on facts.

During the application process we made a number of significant objections including the following key points:

1. inadequate justification to build on this Green Belt site
2. height and design has an unacceptable impact on the area

Subsequently new information has come to light about air quality, Spelthorne's first nature reserve and the Advertising Standards Agency ruling that SITA's pre application consultation on the application was misleading.

Spelthorne Council has now done everything within its remit – including writing to the Secretary of State, but we have no power over the final decision. However you can now write to the County Council (deadline 24 February 2012), attend their Planning and Regulatory Committee on 9 March at 10.30am in County Hall, Kingston, or make your representations in whatever way you wish, leaving them in no doubt as to the extremely strong feelings of the local community.

I have set out some further information for you on the following pages.

Yours sincerely

Vivienne Leighton  
Leader of the Council

For more information on the Eco Park see the Spelthorne Council web site:

[http://www.spelthorne.gov.uk/environment\\_\\_\\_planning/planning/ecopark.htm](http://www.spelthorne.gov.uk/environment___planning/planning/ecopark.htm)

or Surrey County Council's web site:

<http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/environment-housing-and-planning/planning/planning-applications-register/online-register-of-planning-applications-for-minerals-waste-and-our-development/eco-park-planning-application>

Extract from the County Council Eco Park web page:

## **Eco Park Planning Application**

Sita Surrey Ltd submitted a planning application for the following proposal at Charlton Lane in Shepperton:

- Development of a Waste Management Eco Park, comprising: a gasification facility; anaerobic digestion facility; community recycling facility; recyclables bulking facility; Education / Visitor Centre and offices; other associated infrastructure including infiltration basin and landscaping; and the diversion of public footpath 70.

This application for planning permission went before the [Planning and Regulatory Committee](#) on Thursday 30 June 2011 when Members resolved to grant planning permission subject to planning conditions set out in the Committee report and referral to the Secretary of State as a departure from the development plan. The Secretary of State confirmed on 2 December 2011 that he does not wish to call in the application, and that the decision as to whether to grant planning permission remains with Surrey County Council.

The County Council's standard practice where there is a delay in issuing a decision notice following a committee resolution is to assess whether any new factors have arisen which might rationally be regarded as a material consideration and might require the committee to consider the application again. In this case the application will be considered at the Planning and Regulatory Committee meeting on 9 March 2012 at 10.30am because the following new factors have arisen since the resolution to grant.

First, the Advertising Standards Authority issued an Adjudication on 26 October 2011 upholding a complaint about a misleading newsletter produced by the applicant. The complaint related to claims made about the reliability of the technology to be used in the gasification facility proposed for the Eco Park. Second, in a letter dated 15 December 2011, Spelthorne Borough Council provided new information including a Technical Note on Air Quality and reference to two draft reports prepared on behalf of the Borough Council given their duties relating to the Air Quality Management Area for Spelthorne. If the draft Air Quality reports are subject to any change in the interim, this will be detailed in the Committee report or updates presented at the meeting on 9 March 2012.

The Advertising Standards Authority Adjudication, the letter and Technical Advice Note on Air Quality and the two draft Air Quality reports from Spelthorne Borough Council are available for download at the bottom of this page.

If you wish to express a view on these and/or any other new factors which you consider have arisen since the resolution to grant planning permission on 30 June 2011, please do so in writing to Alan Stones, Planning Development Control Team Manager, Planning & Development Group, Surrey County Council, County Hall, Kingston upon Thames KT1 2DY or email [MWCD@surreycc.gov.uk](mailto:MWCD@surreycc.gov.uk) by **24 February 2012**.

## **Files available to download**

[Advertising Standards Authority Adjudication](#) (178.0 KB)



[Spelthorne letter](#) (47.5 KB)

Letter from Spelthorne dated 15 Dec 2011



[Spelthorne Technical Note on Air Quality](#) (518.1 KB)

Dec 2011



[Draft Spelthorne Air Quality Report 2 August 2011](#) (1.3 MB)



[Draft Spelthorne Air Quality Report 9 December 2011](#) (1.2 MB)

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