

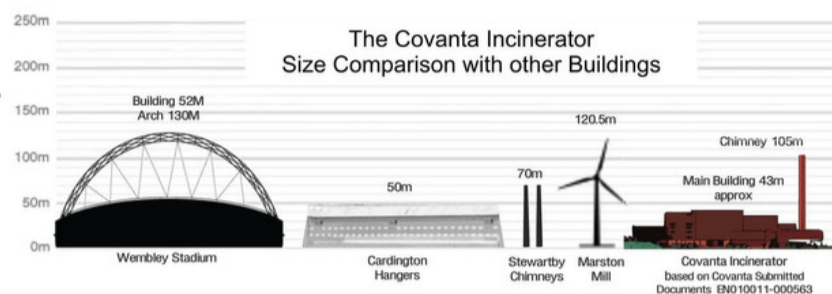
THE COVANTA INCINERATOR

Overview of the Rookery South Incinerator Project



SIZE

The Main Building will be 43 meters tall – nearly the height of the Cardington Hangers. The Chimney Stack will be 105 meters tall – considerably higher than the remaining Stewartby Brickwork Chimneys. The Incinerator will be dominating feature from all parts of the Marston Vale, Millbrook, Ampthill Park and the Greensand Ridge



HEALTH

There is a lack of information regarding emissions from the incinerators chimney(s) and considerable concern regarding long-term health implications given the plants 40 year lifespan. It has recently been highlighted by UKWIN that there are limitations to the monitoring achievable for some of the most concerning air emissions of incinerators - nano-particles. This has resulted in concern at the accuracy of emission data provided in the UK. There is further concern regarding Covanta's Vale location and 'normal' dispersion of these emissions. One of the by-products of the incinerator is Ash. Accounting for nearly 25% of the original mass burned. A proportion of this is classed as TOXIC waste which will need to be transported to a toxic waste landfill via road through Bedfordshire. Covanta as an operator has a long documented history of repeatedly being fined over toxic emissions

TRAFFIC

Planning permission granted in 2013 allows HGV movements of up to 594 a day. Vehicles would be arriving and departing between 7am and 11pm – 6 days a week down a village road and directly past a Sixth Form College Campus. The volume of HGVs and associated traffic needed to sustain such a large scale industrial area will be beyond the capacity of the roads in this area. There are also additional concerns about what happens when there is an issue on the preferred routes for the HGVs.



- Location of Incinerator
- Location of Forest Centre

LOCATION

The Plant will be sited against the railway line at the edge of the Millennium Country Park/Forest Centre - a local family destination. The surrounding area is currently rich with wildlife incorporating various habitats. The plant will emit a great deal of light 24/7 – in a previously non-lit rural setting. The plant will emit noise 24/7 – in a previously quiet rural location. There is also concern that the nearby sensitive water bodies have not been considered in emission controls

OTHER CONCERNS

Covanta's Development Consent Order does not define a catchment area. In contrast to land fill - Incinerators need feeding the same amount of waste from Day 1 to Year 35- 40 to be economically viable. This has the potential to damage the push for increased recycling. Consultancy Eunomia reported in 2017 that the UK's capacity to burn waste had doubled since 2010 - but the amount of residual waste suitable for Incineration had dropped from 30 million tpa to 28 million tpa.