

16 October 2024

To: The Case Officer Hampshire County Council

Dear Sir

Re: HCC/2024/0503 – Funtley Tip and Solar Farm, Funtley

On behalf of the members of the Wickham Society, I write to express our continuing objection to the proposal to include additional inert waste at the above site, resulting in high numbers of lorry movements as they access the site.

Whilst this application is suggesting that most of the traffic to the site will come from the south, this still leaves the door open for traffic from the north. This northern route has a 7.5-ton restriction, for very good reasons; any additional lorry movements will significantly increase road deterioration and reduce road safety for all users, particularly as the width of the road in some areas is hardly capable of taking the width of 2 cars. It is a road that has become much more heavily used as a commuter route in the last 40 years, since the site was previously used as a tip. The access route from the south is barely better placed to accept high volumes of lorry traffic.

We do not believe that there is a need for additional waste to be dumped at this site. Whilst there is a significant development being undertaken nearby at Welborne, Buckland Development have confirmed that they intend to recycle their own waste.

The original application to install solar panels on the site WCC/2013/01247/FUL claimed that only a small amount of imported material would be needed for site remediation. We therefore do not understand why there is any need to include additional waste on the site to enable the installation of solar panels. We are concerned that that any additional waste will compromise the existing cap and be a risk to the water course, wildlife and planting in the surrounding area.

We believe this application, as it currently stands, has no virtues and would be a risk to the immediate environment and traffic safety on the approach roads and should not be allowed to proceed. However, we can see merit in reverting to the original lapsed application to install solar panels on the site as originally proposed to Winchester City Council in 2013.

Yours faithfully

Wendy Greenish

Wendy Greenish Chairman of Wickham Society 33 Manor Close, Wickham, Hampshire PO17 5BZ