

Statement of Evidence.

Re: Rufford E.R.F. Public Enquiry.

Presented by Mr Adrian Wilson, Founder and Governor of the Friends of Sherwood Forest.

Good Evening Sir, Ladies and Gentlemen, I am the Founder and one of the Governors of the Friends of Sherwood Forest a Charitable Organisation with concerns not only for Sherwood Forest but also the community. The Friends group has a non contributory membership on Facebook of over 1,200 while I have a personal friends page with just over 1,500 friends. I am an accomplished Professional Photographer as well as a level one Nurse on part three of the N.M.C. register, my registration at present is not active. I have been a life long resident of Nottinghamshire, being born just down the road in Mansfield.

My Daughter Doctor Evans, is a registered Medical Practitioner and Medical Scientist, she acts as advisor to the Board of Governors.

Diane Wilson is also a fellow Governor, qualified level one on parts one and three of the N.M.C, register, Diane currently works as a Health Advisor for the N.H.S.

It is our considered opinion that there will be long term hazards associated with the Rufford E.R.F. both for the Public and the Environment.

I would respectfully suggest that this proposed project constitutes a violation of Article two of the Human Rights act, the right to life. Everyone should be able to reasonably expect to live their life to the fullest extent possible and not suffer any undue harm, without the threat of premature death due to cancer or lung disease, both real hazards posed by this project.

The emission of fumes however toxic or sanitised they may be into the atmosphere is unacceptable in today's world and represents an abhorrent legacy for our successors considering this facility has a designed working life of fifty years.

I regard the design of this E.R.F. as Hideous, resembling a sort of mechanoid alien monster, knowing the ways of the world, if heaven forbid this project reaches the point of fruition the designer may in all probability receive an award for the structure, if only for the publicity it has attracted.

The ERF features two 250 foot chimney stacks that are dwarfed by the sheer magnitude of the building itself. Please bear in mind that these two stacks are designed or supposed to carry fumes out of the reach of the human population but not necessarily the Avian populous.

There is only one man to my mind who had a passion for chimney stacks and that was the late Mr Fred Dibnah, God rest his soul, his passion was for knocking them down. It should also be noted that Fred died of cancer, that in all probability was work related with constant contact with the products of combustion.

I refer you to the two enclosed photographs of the Major Oak, 50mm shows the trees " Umbrella " marked over in red. Photograph 10mm shows the Oak with no " Umbrella " The closer you get to a structure the less visible it becomes, at 10mm I am stood at the fence and very close to the Oak at 50mm I am stood on the Green the tree is visible to it's fullest extent, and this is so with the ERF, the further back you get the more of a Blot on the Landscape it will become, while wind Farms can be likened to Windmills there is nothing aesthetically pleasing about stacks, they represent a **Major** impact on the landscape. View this in conjunction with a building that is so huge it cannot be screened by trees and boasting twin stacks, there can be no doubt at all about the status of it's impact on the Landscape, whatever Architects or computer modelling may suggest.

There are only two instances where incineration can possibly be justified, one is the disposal of Clinical waste where disposal should always be carried out on site, the second is a worse case scenario such as an epidemic of Avian Flu or H5N1 virus in the human population, where an immediate requirement for mass cremation would arise, however this is unlikely to happen as thankfully the Health Service has adequate stocks of vaccines together with associated contingency plans to cope with this situation.

I would agree in **part** that it would be unlikely that any effects would be directly noticeable if this ERF were operative, just as smoking a cigarette would not produce any visible effect on the smoker, however the long term effects are now well known and accepted, to the point that Smoking Kills, so will nano particles emitted from Incinerators however sophisticated they may be. We must not overlook the prospect that hazardous materials may be disposed of at this facility, if not now, there is nothing to stop Veolia applying at a later date to handle and dispose of dangerous materials when it feels fit to do so.

A serious combination effect will be created in relation to the Incinerator located in Nottingham i.e. Eastcroft. Veolia are proposing to build their incinerator inside the footprint or fallout area of the Eastcroft incinerator. This will create a tract of land located directly between the two facilities of some 75 to 150 square miles known as Incinerator Alley, resulting in wind from the South taking fallout from Eastcroft over the area, and when the wind changes direction, wind from the North will take fallout from the Rufford facility over the same area, resulting in residents and Farms in Incinerator Alley having little or no respite as they are battered by the products of combustion by one or another facility.

It has been noticed that Veolias record regarding Health and Safety is not squeaky clean, instances of accidents and even Death can be found all over the Internet, and this raises concerns regarding hazardous materials at the plant and also the location of the Rainworth Water course adjacent to the proposed plant, pollution of a water course can lead to heavy fines by the Environment Agency running into thousands of pounds and the watercourses themselves can take years to recover. Rainworth water runs into Rufford Abbey Lake and then joins up with the Rivers Meden and Maun, important water courses for the East Midlands..

Veolia constantly cites landfill as an excuse to justify this plant, however the real option of recycling and high tech approaches towards the recovery of materials is constantly swept under the carpet. The same can be said regarding the toxic bottom ash that this facility will generate, I understand this is destined for landfill.

I have sat and listened to the arguments regarding Woodlarks and Nightjar, and the arguments and opinions regarding sound levels, but nothing related to the nature of sound itself. I would suggest that even very low levels of sound can disturb wildlife, and that tonality should be taken into account. For example could you stand to listen to a piece of classical music on poor quality equipment, consider being forced to tolerate this situation, just how acceptable would this be, would you not look to move elsewhere. The main birds around Eastcroft are the hardy or predatory type such as Crows or scavenger Pigeons, The thoughts of seeing Woodlarks or such like would be regarded as a joke.

It was my objective in 2008 to place Sherwood Forest on the Internet for everyone to see and enjoy, I have achieved this aim with superb galleries of Images not only in conventional format but also in H.D.R. (High dynamic range) and Infrared on Facebook, it is wrong to cite Sherwood Forest as an area of outstanding Natural Beauty, it is an area of UNIQUE natural beauty. The ecology of the Forest is fragile, with rare species of moths and insects present, there is a long way to go to preserve the Forest and ensure it's future, this Incinerator is right on the doorstep and represents a significant threat to the future of the Forest and it's inhabitants.

Wildlife have far more sensitivity to sound and vision than we imagine, they will be the first to move out of the area, industrial sirens, alarms and warning bells will clear any adjacent heath or woodland faster than a twelve bore.

Please do not discount this possibility, there is a hearing disorder in the human population that can incapacitate the suffer by the simple ringing of a telephone or the sound of an alarm chime. This disorder is known as Hyperapheresis, where the suffer can converse freely but will suffer anything up to and including total incapacitation if subjected to a certain audible pitch.

By the same token birds do not understand Mitigation or set aside, they are creatures of instinct and if they are robbed of their habitat and find relentless noise and fumes in it's place they will go elsewhere to breed, they do not have mortgage ties and the threat of diminishing house prices, they are as free as the wind and just a likely to follow.

Rainworth could be an up and coming commuter town for the City of Nottingham and has always been regarded as a " Suburb " of Mansfield, this one single project will blight the future of Rainworth that was built around a mining community with a sense of Loyalty and Tradition that was an unrivalled feature of the Nottinghamshire Coalfields, it will see Rainworth destroyed as Rubbish City.

Sir, I would ask in conclusion that you convey to the Secretary of State that the proposal by Veolia for the Rufford E.R.F. be declined.

I Adrian Allan Wilson a Professional Photographer and the Founder and Governor of the Friends of Sherwood Forest resident at XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX Nottingham, do solemnly and sincerely declare that this Statement of Evidence some four pages long including Images (2) is to the best of my knowledge and belief true.
I make this solemn declaration believing the same to be true and by virtue of the Statutory Declarations Act 1835

Signed:

Adrian Allan Wilson.

6th October 2010.