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Environmental Appeals Enforcement & Specialist Casework Division
The Planning Inspectorate
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Our Ref: CW/VP23993

7 September 2020

Dear Mr Gordon

Suspension Notice in relation to the acceptance of waste in cell 10 of the landfill operated by Opes MRF 2013 Ltd

PINS Ref No.: APP/EPR/571

I am writing in relation to the recent appeal made to the Secretary of State against the Suspension Notice at the Finmere Landfill Facility.

Issues with the operator at the facility were first brought to my attention last year. Residents in Finmere and the surrounding villages of Mixbury and Newton Purcell contacted me to complain about the unpleasant odours emanating from the site. Following discussions with the Environment Agency as well as a site visit, it became clear that the operator had not been managing waste materials properly. This has led to over-tipping in a number of cells at the facility.

While a Suspension Notice was issued to the operator in April it is my understanding that the Environment Agency has seen very little evidence of any attempt to rectify the situation. Remedial work has not been completed and the odour remains a problem for local residents. It is virtually impossible to speak to or engage with the operator.

It comes as no surprise that Opes MRF 2013 Ltd has submitted an appeal given the lack of action and continued mismanagement at the Finmere site. It strikes me that this appeal is nothing more than a delaying tactic.

I feel very strongly that this appeal should be refused.

Yours

Victoria Prentis

Victoria Prentis MP

Cc: Rt Hon Robert Jenrick MP, Secretary of State, Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government

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