

16 From Dr Pippa Maslin

To the Cabinet Member for Local Environment and Green Spaces

In December 2020, the Beddington incinerator/‘EfW facility’ was granted a permit for a 15% increase in tonnage throughput. Now, Sutton Council says that there is an application for a further increase. What has Merton Council been told about this and what is the Council’s position on the matter?

Reply

We are disappointed that Viridor is making this application just 12 months after the Environment Agency agreed to increase the maximum capacity of the facility by 15%. Whilst we recognise the need for additional energy from waste treatment capacity in London and the southeast (significant volumes of non-recyclable waste continue to be landfilled or exported to energy from waste facilities in mainland Europe) we are concerned about the impact that any increase in capacity at the Beddington facility would have on the intensification of local traffic congestion and residents.

We expect the Environment Agency to view this as a ‘Substantial Variation’ to the permit, which means there will be a period of consultation, most likely taking place in summer 2022. This will be an important opportunity for local residents and stakeholders to review the technical information that has been submitted by Viridor in support of the application, and share feedback with the Environment Agency directly, who will ultimately make the decision on whether to approve the application or not.”