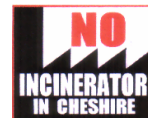


CHAIN

Cheshire Anti Incinerator Network



NEWS RELEASE

8 MAY 2013

NORTHWICH INCINERATOR – OUR FIGHT GOES ON

On 25 April, CHAIN took part in a hearing at the High Court in Manchester to consider our application to delay the Judicial Review that was due to take place on 1 May by at least three months. This would have given us time to obtain the funding required to engage legal representation and prepare our case. The application was opposed by TATA/E-ON who were represented by a barrister. The Government, whose decision we intended to challenge at the Judicial Review, had previously stated that they would not oppose our application, and were not represented. Regretfully, the judge did not grant our request. Consequently, CHAIN advised the court that it wished to discontinue its challenge.

Brian Cartwright, Chairman of CHAIN, has made the following statement:

“ We regret having to take the decision to discontinue our legal action on behalf of the people of Northwich but there was no realistic alternative. Quite simply, despite all of our strenuous efforts, CHAIN did not have the financial resources to continue. We arrived at that conclusion after two High Court hearings where we represented ourselves and were up against qualified barristers representing the government and TATA/E-ON. It must be stressed that the strong case that we know we had against the waste incinerator was not tested in court.

This situation might have been avoided if CWAC Council had positively responded to the various suggestions we put forward to find a way of providing a financial solution acceptable to all parties. However they were all refused despite many direct pleas to senior members from CHAIN and local residents. A number of individual councillors made donations from their members budgets for which we were very grateful and Rudheath Parish Council also made a significant contribution towards our legal expenses.

One astonishing revelation by TATA/E-ON in the court was that they are pursuing contracts to burn municipal waste in Lostock from Cheshire West, Cheshire East and the East Riding of Yorkshire and Hull City. We intend to check this out with CWAC and Cheshire East councils and if there is any possibility that either would betray the people of Northwich by awarding contracts to TATA/E-ON they will have a fight on their hands.

Finally, CHAIN will continue to use every lawful method it has at its disposal to prevent this project from proceeding because of the harm it could cause to the health of the people of Northwich for decades and the potential damage to our environment. We are not going away.”