



Member of Parliament for Preseli Pembrokeshire

Rt Hon Vaughan Gething MS
First Minister of Wales
5th Floor
Ty Hywel
Cardiff Bay
CF99 1NA

26th March 2024

Dear First Minister,

Re: Withyhedge Landfill site

Firstly, congratulations on becoming First Minister of Wales.

As you will be aware, the odour from the Withyhedge Landfill site in Rudbaxton in my constituency continues to make the lives of local residents a misery. This unacceptable situation has dragged on for many months now.

I have received many complaints about the landfill site from constituents. You will appreciate that people living near the site are concerned about the health implications arising from the local air quality. They are also deeply concerned about the extraordinary number of Atlantic Recycling lorries arriving at the site each day bringing waste to Pembrokeshire from other areas of South Wales. Both the unpleasant odour and the daily lorry movements are unacceptable.

I wrote to the Minister for Climate Change and to Natural Resources Wales (NRW) on 18th January about these issues and to express my disappointment that the concerns of my constituents were not being adequately addressed. The replies I received provided no real assurances that the Minister understood the seriousness of the situation.

You will know that the company which owns Withyhedge Landfill Site, Resources Management Ltd (RML), is owned by Mr David Neal and part of the larger Dauson Environmental Group who recently donated £200,000 to your election campaign. I am sure that you would wish to dispel any perception here in Pembrokeshire that Mr Neal's company are receiving a light touch from NRW due to his financial contributions to yourself.

While the enforcement notice gives RML a deadline of 5th April to complete the necessary works to contain the emissions from the site, local people affected have little confidence in this process. Much stronger enforcement action is required. The fact that the site is essentially allowed to self-regulate, as Dauson Environmental Group is responsible for monitoring the air quality at the Withyhedge Landfill site, is not satisfactory. Given the track record of the site and the companies involved, you will understand that my constituents and I are troubled



by this arrangement. I hope that you will agree with me that strict independent regulation is required here.

I would be very grateful if you could take a strong personal interest in stopping the stench which is coming from Withy hedge landfill. I look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stephen Crabb".

Rt Hon Stephen Crabb MP

cc: Will Bramble Chief Executive, Pembrokeshire County Council
Clare Pillman Chief Executive, Natural Resources Wales