



environmental
services
association

ESA responds to new report exploring health effects of energy recovery in London

LONDON, 22 October 2020

The Environmental Services Association (ESA) has today responded to a recent report produced by Air Quality Consultants Ltd entitled *Health Effects due to Emissions from Energy from Waste Plant in London*. Please see the below statement.

Statement issued by the Environmental Services Association (ESA)

"This report echoes the well-established scientific consensus that any health risks associated with modern, well-run, energy recovery facilities are extremely low, if detectable at all. It is therefore disappointing that its authors have chosen to extrapolate emissions data to produce an entirely notional, yet emotive, outcome that only serves to raise unnecessary concern and opposition towards a technology that successfully serves a vital public function.

"In accordance with the waste hierarchy, energy recovery facilities divert millions of tonnes of UK waste from landfill every year. Their operation is approved by Public Health England and permitted by the Environment Agency and each plant is only granted a permit if the Agency determines it is in an appropriate location; any and all appropriate risk mitigation is in place; and the plant can meet its permit conditions. In particular, very strict emissions limits are imposed upon them and performance against these limits is monitored closely by the Environment Agency."

ENDS

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