

Battersea against Biofuels **biofuelwatch**

Battersea Against Biofuels Media Release – for immediate use Tuesday 25th June 2013

Campaign Public Meeting Wednesday 10 July, 7.30pm, Garden Room, Bread and Roses Pub, 68 Clapham Manor Street, SW4 6DZ

Media Contact: Duncan Law on 07958635181

Battersea Against Biofuels Public Meeting against plans for a biofuel (palm oil) power plant at the Battersea Power Station development.

On Wednesday 10th July, local people will gather to share information and plan how to stop the bio-oil power plant planned for the Battersea Power Station development. There will be a panel of great speakers followed by time to plan how we take the campaign forward, sharing skills and resources. The speakers include:

Duncan Law, Biofuelwatch and Battersea Against Biofuels who will update on the current plans at the Power Station site and the campaign so far.

Helen Buckland, director of Orangutans SOS who will show what the expanding market for palm oil for fuel is doing to the planet's precious rainforests, biodiversity and habitats, including the Orangutan's.

Kenneth Richter, biofuel campaigner for Friends of the Earth who will speak about the climate impacts of palm oil, and the human rights record of Sime Darby, owner of Battersea Power Station and the worlds largest palm oil producer.

Simon Birkett, founder director of Clean Air in London who will look at air quality impacts this new source of diesel pollution in the heart of a very polluted area.

There will be time for questions and discussion about building the campaign in the second half of the meeting. We hope to show a couple of very short films.

Battersea Against Biofuels meets every 2 weeks at the Victoria Pub, 166 Queenstown Road, SW8 3QH, next one Thursday 27 June 7.30-9.30. Updates appear on the campaign facebook page. [1] Biofuelwatch is supporting the campaign and has produced a briefing paper. [2]

Biofuelwatch Campaigner Duncan Law said: "Burning palm oil to heat and light this huge new development will damage the climate, destroy rainforest, biodiversity and habitats including for the orangutan and many endangered species and pollute local people. It will be the equivalent of several thousand new diesel cars driving their annual mileage in Battersea. This must not go ahead."

A similar biofuel project in Ealing in 2010 was unanimously refused local planning permission and refused at appeal by the Planning Inspectorate and the Secretary of State on air quality grounds. A passionate local campaign had educated planning committee members on the issues.[3]

Notes to editors:

[1] <https://www.facebook.com/BatterseaAgainstBiofuels>

[2] <http://www.biofuelwatch.org.uk/2013/battersea-biofuels/>

[3] http://www.ealingtimes.co.uk/news/8250668.Biofuel_power_station_plans_rejected/

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