

## **OBJECTION TO APPLICATION:**

To: [Pollution.Inquiry@newham.gov.uk](mailto:Pollution.Inquiry@newham.gov.uk)

Re: Beckton Energy Ltd's application for an environmental permit in respect of a proposed new power station off Armada Way, Beckton

I am writing on behalf of Biofuelwatch to object to Beckton Energy's application for a Part B Installation Permit.

In April this year, both Beckton Energy's owners, 2OC, and Thames Water announced that they had signed a legal agreement according to which the new power station would supply energy to Thames Water produced from burning biofuels made from fatbergs as well as other waste products from food manufacturing and processing, including tallow (see for example <http://phys.org/news/2013-04-thames-2oc-power-london-fatbergs.html>, <http://www.thameswater.co.uk/media/press-releases/16966.htm>).

According to 2OC, no virgin biofuels would be used in the plant (<http://www.waterbriefing.org/home/company-news/item/7231-thames-water-and-2oc-in-%C2%A3200m-deal-to-turn-%E2%80%98fatbergs%E2%80%99-into-energy>).

According to the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations 2010, as amended in 2012, a Part B permit does not apply to power stations of the size proposed by Beckton Energy which burn waste oil and recovered oil or other waste products. Biogas from waste and products that have ceased to be waste are excluded from this rule, but neither of those exclusions appears to apply in this case.

Our understanding is that all or most of the fuels which 2OC and Thames Water have publicly said will be burned in the power station require a permit under the Waste Incineration Directive from the Environment Agency, not a Part B Permit from the local authority. The only exception would be used vegetable oil which has not been in contact with meat or fish, however this does not apply to fatbergs and most used cooking oil.

Furthermore, our reading of [Defra's Environmental Permitting Guidance: The Waste Incineration Directive](#) as well as Defra's guide to [Animal by-products: collection, storage and disposal](#) strongly suggest that the fuels which 2OC has publicly stated would be burned in the plant would all or mostly fall under the Waste Incineration Directive.

We are greatly concerned at the apparent contradiction between the types of fuel which Beckton Energy's owners publicly state will be burned and the type of environmental permit the company has applied for.

We would be grateful if you could advise us whether you have any information/advice from the developers that suggests that non-waste fuels, i.e. ones to which a Part B permit would apply, will be burned and, if so, which quality protocols would be held to apply to those. Many thanks in advance.

Best regards,

Almuth Ernsting  
Biofuelwatch