

Dear Parliamentary Candidate

I am contacting you on behalf of the single-issue community group Bedfordshire Against Covanta Incinerator (BACI). Benefitting from Local Authority and widespread public support, BACI has led campaigns against Planning Permission and an Environmental Permit for the Rookery South Incinerator that culminated in a controversial Lawsuit at the High Court. Despite losing the court case, BACI continues to argue the case for the Government to impose lower levels for permitted pollutants and more robust enforcement by the Environment Agency.

BACI is a non-political group and is seeking comments from all the candidates standing in the Mid-Beds by-election to allow our membership and supporters to understand your views on Waste Incineration, pollution, Rookery south and enforcement in order to make an informed decision to vote.

We would be interested to hear your thoughts on how you intend to engage, monitor and influence the continued presence of the Encyclis (formerly Covanta) Rookery South Incinerator within the Mid Bedfordshire constituency - if elected to post.

We are especially interested in hearing your thoughts on the implications surrounding the inclusion of Waste Incinerators into the UK Emissions Trading Scheme in 2028.

We understand from Covanta's literature that Rookery Pit South was chosen from a list of 340 potential sites. However - the location has always been cited as an expense barrier for waste delivery via train and effective heat export. It appears likely that the location will mitigate against RSL fully participating in the necessary Carbon Capture from the Incinerator due to transportation and storage costs.

With this much-needed change to legislation - now is the time that Mid-Beds Residents need an MP who will ensure that having this massive independent Incinerator (that currently takes waste from Bedfordshire and areas as far away as Norfolk and Wales) thrust upon them - that Bedfordshire does not continue to pay the price of the ill-conceived location - and that Encyclis/Covanta perform the required Carbon Capture upgrades and processes at their expense - and not through a hand-out from the Government which translates as a subsidy from Bedfordshire residents.

All replies received will be published on the BACI website, www.bedsagainstincinerator.com and shared on social media platforms as soon as possible after receipt. 'No Comment' will also be reported.

Nicola Ryan-Raine on behalf of BACI bedsagainstcovantaincinerator@gmail.com