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4th February 2026

Planning Department
Wiltshire Council Bythesea
Road Trowbridge
Wiltshire
BA14 8JN

Dear Mr Sims,

**Re: Application PL/2025/09889 – Variation of Condition 2 of PL/2022/01141
Kingsdown Farm, Lords Hill, Longbridge Deverill**

I am writing to object to the above application, which seeks to extend the time limit for the deposit of inert waste and associated earthworks at Kingsdown Farm.

I am a Director of Lower Pertwood Farm, which lies immediately adjacent to the application site, and I know this land and the surrounding public routes well.

Prolonged activity and planning creep

Although this application is presented as a further extension of time only, it must be viewed in its full context. Waste deposition and land reprofiling at Kingsdown Farm began following permission granted in 2010 and have now continued for approximately 16 years, with the works still incomplete.

Repeated extensions of time-limited permissions are widely recognised in planning as giving rise to planning creep, where development approved as temporary becomes effectively long-term through incremental extensions. What may once have been tolerated as a short-term disruption has, over time, become an entrenched and ongoing activity.

Granting a further extension would move this site towards a 20-year period of disturbance, fundamentally undermining the purpose of time-limited permissions and eroding confidence that this activity will ever come to a proper conclusion.

Amenity and enjoyment of the countryside

The continued operation of this site has a real and lasting impact on local amenity. The surrounding countryside is used daily by walkers, riders and families who value it for its peace, openness and rural character.

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Ongoing HGV movements, noise, dust and general industrial activity detract from the enjoyment of public footpaths and byways, and from the sense of tranquillity people reasonably expect when using this landscape. While such impacts may have been presented as temporary, their continuation over many years has made them increasingly difficult for the local community to accept.

Extending the operational period would simply prolong these impacts further, with no clear or credible endpoint.

Site suitability and community confidence

Over time, it has become clear that this site is not suitable in practice for prolonged waste deposition. The long history of extensions, enforcement action, appeals against conditions, and continuing controversy demonstrate that the impacts have not been successfully resolved.

The level of public concern has grown over time, not diminished. This reflects not short-term opposition, but the cumulative effect of a development that has continued far beyond what was originally presented to the community. Planning case history recognises that tolerance for "temporary" harm reduces as impacts persist, particularly in sensitive rural areas.

Changed environmental context

Since the original permission was granted, the environmental context has materially changed. The area now forms part of the Cranborne Chase National Landscape and has been designated an International Dark Sky Reserve (2019), recognising its exceptional tranquillity and night-time environment.

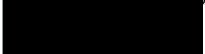
These designations raise expectations that development decisions will actively protect peace, darkness and rural character. Allowing waste deposition and associated vehicle movements to continue for many more years conflicts with those objectives and with current planning policy.

Conclusion

While this application seeks only an extension of time, its effects on the community and the landscape are significant. Granting further time would prolong disturbance, entrench planning creep, and further undermine confidence in time-limited permissions.

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the Council to refuse the application.

Yours sincerely,


Joanne West
Director