

Dear Sue

In response to your query I am advised that the Wallingford Plant in Connecticut was not built by Covanta. Covanta purchased the plant in 1990 but we accept full responsibility for its performance. The plant has three relatively small streams – or units - which together process about 125,000 tonnes of waste a year. The design and technology is not the same as that proposed for Rookery South Pit. When a routine check was made on the stack emissions in the summer one of the three units failed because of dioxins – although the level did not represent a danger to health. Covanta immediately shut down that unit and is working with the environment agency and the Attorney to determine the best course of action.

Kind regards

Rachel Ness  
Director of Planning  
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**From:** Susan Marsh [mailto:[Susan.Marsh@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk](mailto:Susan.Marsh@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk)]  
**Sent:** 21 September 2010 07:23  
**To:** Ness,Rachel  
**Cc:** Roy Romans; James Delafield; 'Kate Fairweather'  
**Subject:** FW: Covanta sued again for dioxin pollution in the US \* UK Without Incineration Network

Susan Marsh  
Principal Minerals & Waste Planning Officer  
Rachel

I have been forwarded this by one of the parish councils. Can you provide me with the background to this please - how old is the plant, are there any particular circumstances etc. I may well get asked about this by others. Or have it pointed out by others.

regards

Susan Marsh  
Principal minerals and Waste Planning Officer

Operating a Shared Minerals and Waste Planning Service for Central Bedfordshire and Bedford Borough Councils

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**From:** Fran [mailto:fran.fry@zen.co.uk]

**Sent:** 21 September 2010 00:42

**To:** Susan Marsh

**Subject:** Fw: Covanta sued again for dioxin pollution in the US - UK Without Incineration Network

----- Original Message -----

**From:** [Ian Pickering](#)

**To:** [Sue Clark](#) ; [Fran Fry](#)

**Sent:** Monday, September 20, 2010 11:44 PM

**Subject:** Covanta sued again for dioxin pollution in the US - UK Without Incineration Network

In case you haven't seen this.

Ian

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## [Covanta sued again for dioxin pollution in the US](#)

Sat, Sep 4, 2010 at 8:36 am Posted in [Campaign Updates](#), [News](#), [UK WIN 0 Comments](#)

According to Abby Gruen of The Star-Ledger, [Covanta is being sued by Connecticut's attorney general](#).

Covanta Energy, the operator of three incinerators in New Jersey, is being sued by the Connecticut State Attorney General Richard Blumenthal for emitting excessive levels of a carcinogen for the second time in three years at its incinerator in Wallingford, Connecticut in the USA.

The lawsuit was filed in August 2010 against Covanta on behalf of the state Department of Environmental Protection. **The lawsuit explicitly names dioxin as the pollutant.**

This is the second time the state of Connecticut has sued Covanta for exceeding emissions standards. The previous legal action was settled for \$355,000 in 2009.

Paul Gilman, Covanta's chief sustainability officer is reported as saying that the excess emissions of dioxin "were unacceptable to Covanta." He said the emissions problem was caused by a failure of a system in one of the plant's three generating units that inject carbon into emissions before they leave the plant's smokestacks.

It is understood that the Wallingford incinerator has been shut down since 2nd July 2010 when Covanta noticed the excess dioxin emissions.

According to the New Jersey-based website:

Covanta operates waste-to-energy plants in Newark, Oxford and Rahway. The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection is currently reviewing an air operating permit for the Covanta waste-to-energy plant in Newark's Ironbound neighborhood in Essex County. The plant has a long history of pollution violations. A DEP spokeswoman said the decision to renew the permit is still under consideration.

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