

**Clive Inwards
Planning Officer
Council Offices
Market Street
Newbury
RG14 5LD**

Dear Clive Inwards,

I am writing to object to the planning application 07/01686/COMIND for new small-scale components manufacturing facility, associated plant and landscaping at the Atomic Weapons Establishment at Burghfield.

I believe the development and associated vehicles will cause significant environmental and traffic management problems in the local area, which will negatively affect the quality of life of local residents.

However, I am also concerned that such an application if agreed will lead to a number of significant risks. In particular, in light of the fact that HM Inspectors (Nuclear Installations Inspectorate) have been consulted on this application, I am concerned that there is a radiation risk to this activity which is not disclosed in the application. The Land Contamination Statement states that contamination has been found, and that there is a "high" risk of explosion during excavation of the site, including a risk of explosion from residue in drains and from disturbing buried ordnance. I think the public needs to know what the dangers are involved in the remediation works needed in advance of construction to remove contamination from the site and I am equally concerned that no indication is given in the application about the storage on site of low-level radioactive waste materials from redundant buildings and excavated materials.

I believe that the MoD should not be allowed to proceed with this scheme, which proposes that they would monitor such risks "as they go along," particularly in light of the recent report in the New Scientist that AWE Burghfield has been unable to comply with instructions from the NII to rectify known faults.

It is not acceptable to allow developments which are likely to cause serious health and safety risks without those risks being identified, managed, controlled and removed before development. I firmly believe this application should be called in for a public inquiry on the grounds that sufficient detailed information about the serious risks to health and safety has not been provided by the applicant.

Yours sincerely,