

Copeland and Workington Liberal Democrats

Question	Response
Emailed letter	<p>Concerns on the MRWS Consultation and the way forward.</p> <p>Copeland and Workington Liberal Democrats met last night to consider the consultation and the further implications of the proposals. We felt the consultation was thorough in the aspects that it covered but that there were issues that were not covered that could affect the way forward and the views of the community.</p> <p>In particular:-</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. No details were given of the possible engineering process to convert the waste, especially the legacy waste, into a form suitable for transfer to the GDF or other storage. This could be already happening but there is no indication of the work involved. The local interest would be in the long term jobs to undertake this process.2. The geology would appear to raise concerns but could these concerns be ameliorated by better, and more expensive, engineering of the facilities of the GDF? What would be the cost and job implications?3. The assumptions of the time that the GDF would need to be safe did not include any discussion of the impact of emerging technologies, such as transmutation, on the half life of the waste. Has any work been done on this?4. Though withdrawal from the process is said to be possible up to stage 5 it would appear to be increasingly difficult/unlikely.5. We believe there must be a presumption against any activity either above or below ground in the Lake District National Park. <p>We realise it is not possible to consult on every aspect and that some of these decisions eg on cost, are matters for Government but any decision that affects the economy of West Cumbria should be discussed with the community whoever is making it.</p>