

Coventry Telegraph Letters to the Editor Published Tuesday 8th July 2008

Dear Editor

It's great news that 93% of Warwickshire residents want the county to produce its own renewable energy.

The proposed replacement of Coventry's incinerator provides just this opportunity, but only if the council chooses the latest green technology.

The latest technology is Mechanical Biological Treatment plants (MBTs) which separate plastic, paper, metal and garden waste for recycling. The residual organic waste, including food waste, is processed in sealed containers where methane is produced for energy production and the remaining solid waste is used as a soil improver.

However, Coventry City Council favours incineration. The energy generated by this involves burning plastics which, being made from oil, are non-renewable.

Coventry Council has promised a 'full and extensive consultation exercise' beginning in August. Unfortunately the results of this will be too late to influence the type of technology chosen to replace the present incinerator.

The council has to submit its bid for a £197 million waste facility by September. To ensure that the public's views are heard a campaign and petition has been started, 'CRACIN' – Coalition for Recycling and against Coventry Incinerator. It's web-site is <http://www.cracin.co.uk/> I urge anyone with an interest in truly renewable energy and maximum recycling rates to visit this site.