



News Information

EMBARGO: 1800hrs, 15 NOVEMBER 2001

GARLAFF LANDFILL SITE – DECISION BY SCOTTISH EXECUTIVE

The Scottish Executive today issued a Direction specifying that ash from the continuous incinerators which were used to burn animal carcasses in Dumfries and Galloway during the Foot and Mouth outbreak will be disposed of at Garlaff Landfill Site in Cumnock.

East Ayrshire Council formally objected to the Executive's proposal when it was initially raised as there was a possibility that the ash could contain prions which have been linked to Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy (BSE). It was felt that the risk to public and animal health arising from the disposal of the ash in East Ayrshire was unacceptable.

Councillor Drew McIntyre, Leader of East Ayrshire Council, said: "We are deeply disappointed that the representations made by the council and the community have not been heeded despite our best efforts.

"Such a Direction is a reserve power held by the Scottish Executive, but the council is currently seeking Queen's Counsel's opinion to determine the viability of any legal challenge."

ends



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