



**SAVE
RADLEY LAKES**

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RWE NPOWER READY TO PROCEED WITH PLANS TO DUMP FUEL ASH AT RADLEY

The giant electricity company RWE npower has informed Councillors that it intends to proceed with its plan to destroy Thrupp lake at Radley and turn it into a dump for over half a million tonnes of fuel ash from Didcot Power Station.

In a letter sent to local councillors, RWE npower says:

“Preparatory work is therefore likely to begin again in mid-September and initially will entail laying a pipeline, which will eventually be used to drain the lake. The pipeline will be underground and will not impact upon Lake E (Thrupp Lake). However, it has to cross the BOAT (Byway Open to All Traffic), which runs alongside the western edge of the lake.

To lay this pipeline safely it will be necessary to temporarily divert the BOAT a short distance from its current path while work is ongoing. It is anticipated that the diversion will last for two weeks.

In order to divert the BOAT we must submit a formal application for temporary road closure to Oxfordshire County Council. We submitted this application on 6th August, and public notices will appear from Thursday 30 August. Work will begin on creating the diversion on 10th September, and a section of the BOAT will be closed for two weeks from 17th September.

During works around the BOAT, every effort will be taken to minimise disruption and the normal route will be restored as soon as possible.”

A spokesperson for the Save Radley Lakes group, which has been campaigning against RWE npower’s plan to destroy Thrupp Lake (Lake E) for over two years, said:

“This is the next stage of npower’s plan to destroy the lake. The vast majority of people in Oxfordshire think it is wrong for such a beautiful place to be destroyed quite needlessly. RWE npower has lost the battle for public opinion hands down. However they still intend to bulldoze through this, possibly the worst piece of environmental vandalism that Oxfordshire has ever seen, in total disregard for the will of the people.

The Power Station has functioned without dumping any fuel ash in other lakes at Radley for more than two years now, yet they still claim they need this site on a 24/7 basis”.

The report by Vivian Chapman QC on the Town Green Public Inquiry is expected imminently. If the application to have the site registered is upheld, the site will be protected from development in perpetuity.

For further information contact: Marjorie White on 01235 216428 or 01235 530174, or visit www.saveradleylakes.org.uk or the news pages at www.radleyvillage.org.uk .