



www.saveradleylakes.org.uk
email: admin@saveradleylakes.org.uk

Dear Supporter

Welcome! Thank you for offering to support and help the campaign to Save Radley Lakes – your support is hugely valuable and appreciated.

This 'action pack' includes details about:

- [What we have, together, achieved so far](#)
- [The present situation](#)
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Anything you can do to help the campaign – from simply writing one letter, through to something major like organising a fund-raising event – will contribute to achieving our goals. Everything and anything you do – however small or large – will be valuable, and valued!

What we have achieved so far

- We haven't saved the Lakes yet, but we have already achieved a lot.
- We have forced RWE npower to abandon its original plan to destroy the Bullfield Lake as well as Thrupp Lake.
- We managed to delay the issuing of planning permission by many months.
- The planning permission contains 36 conditions, which will make the development far more difficult and expensive for RWE npower to carry out.
- We have made an application to have the Lakes registered as a 'Town Green', which would protect them from development (see below for more details).
- We have got widespread media coverage, and this is generating lots of bad publicity for RWE npower.

None of this would have been possible without the help and support of, literally, hundreds of people who, like you, don't want to see the Lakes destroyed.

The present situation

Oxfordshire County Council finally granted planning permission on 5 January 2007. However, RWE npower still need to obtain a number of detailed approvals before they can start work. They also have to obtain an 'IPPC' (pollution prevention and control) licence before they can start dumping ash in Thrupp Lake.

In October 2006, we made an application to Oxfordshire County Council to have the Thrupp and Bullfield Lakes and land immediately around registered as a 'Town Green' under the Commons Registration Act 1965. Under this act, if local people have used an area for recreation 'as of right' for at least twenty years, it can be registered as a town or village green. That protects it from development. The application (which was supported by lots of evidence from local people) has been accepted as 'duly made' by the County Council. That means that they think there is case that needs to be looked at. They are currently seeking objections from the landowners (including RWE npower!). It is likely that a public inquiry into the application will be held in later this year.

We believe we have a good case. Two other similar Oxfordshire cases (the Glebe Land at Sunningwell and the Trap Grounds in Oxford) both went to the House of Lords. In both cases, the Law Lords ruled in favour of the campaigners, and the land was protected from development.

In the meantime, RWE npower has simply said that it intends to start work 'in the spring'.

Right at the end of December 2006, a group of people moved into 'Sandles' (the empty house, owned by RWE npower, by Thrupp Lake. The group (who we like to refer to as 'the settlers') say that they are homeless. They are also committed to trying to save the Lakes. RWE npower's first attempt to have the group evicted failed because RWE npower bungled the legal paperwork! However, we understand an eviction order has now been obtained, and we await developments. Whilst it remains lawful, we welcome the resulting attention brought by this group, which is independent of Save Radley Lakes.

It is also very gratifying that support for the campaign has been growing, rather than falling away, since RWE npower were given planning permission. We are getting increasing numbers of offers of help and support from people, both locally and further afield. The more support we get, the more likely we are to win!

So, the present situation is that – although RWE npower have got their planning permission – there are plenty of things which may still stop them from going ahead.

One of the most important of those is public pressure on RWE npower and the fear of bad publicity!

What we are trying to achieve now

The two main things which may stop the development are the Town Green application (if that is successful) and public and media pressure on RWE npower.

If (as seems very likely) there is a public inquiry into the Town Green application, people who have used the Lakes should be able to come and give evidence.

We will incur legal costs in fighting the inquiry and, if the outcome of the case is challenged in the courts (as happened at Sunningwell and the Trap Grounds) we may have further legal expenses. Having sufficient funds is going to be very important to us in the months ahead.

The other thing which may make RWE npower change its mind is public and media pressure, and the fear of bad publicity. Today, all big companies have to try and maintain a 'green' image. If RWE npower feels that its image will be too badly tarnished by destroying Thrupp Lake, it will give up the idea. That's why it's so important to keep up the pressure.

What you can do to help?

There are lots of ways in which you can help, depending on how much time you have to spare.

Write a letter!

One of the simplest and most effective things you can do is to write to Andrew Duff, the Chief Executive of RWE npower telling him what you think!

Write a letter and send it by post – e-mails are too easy to ignore, and letters have a much bigger impact. Write it in your own words and be polite but firm!

- Say why the Lakes matter to you.
- Say what you think of RWE npower's claim that it has 'no alternative' for its ash disposal, and say what you think of their promise to 'restore' the Lakes to nature conservation.
- Say what you think of RWE npower's claims to be a socially and environmentally responsible company.

You could also send a copy of your letter, with a covering note if you have time, to:

Alison Cole, Director of Communications
Anita Longley, Head of Corporate Responsibility
Yvonne Constance, Independent Chair, Corporate Responsibility Committee.

The address for all these people is:

RWE npower
Windmill Hill Business Park
Whitehill Way
Swindon,
SN5 6PB

Or write a separate letter to Harry Roels, the Chief Executive Officer of RWE AG (the German Parent Company of RWE npower) at the following address:

RWE AG,
Opernplatz 1,
D-45128 Essen,
Germany.

Change your energy supplier

If you get your electricity or gas from **npower**, change to another supplier, and telephone RWE npower (01793 877777), or contact them via their website www.rwenpower.com and tell them why you've done it.

Tell all your friends and relations about what's happening at Radley Lakes, and ask them to think about changing away from **npower** as well.

Help with fund-raising

We need fighting funds! There are many ways you can help. Donate a prize for a raffle. Provide food for an SRL social event. Do a sponsored event. Make a donation!

Help with ideas

If you have an idea for doing something that could help the campaign, or have contacts who might be willing to help, either let us know or – better still – have a go yourself!

Let us know if you can spare some time to help

We may need more hands to help in the future. Helping to fund-raise, organising social events, leafleting, collating paperwork if there is a public inquiry into the Town Green and many other tasks: we will need help with these.

If you think you might be able to spare some time and are willing to help, let us know how we can contact you, and (if you have particular preferences or skills that might be useful) tell us about those. We'll be in touch!

Contact Information

Town Green Contact Jo Tel 01235 534424

To help with Ideas Contact Marjorie Tel 01235 530174

To help with set tasks Contact David Tel 01235 529151

To make a donation Contact Lynda Tel 01235 559752
Cheques to be made payable to
"Save Radley Lakes" and sent to
The Treasurer, Save Radley Lakes,
3 Shaws' Copse, Radley, OX14 3GZ

Email admin@saveradleylakes.org.uk

Thousands of people think that the Lakes are worth saving for the present generation and for future ones. If enough people get actively involved in the campaign, we will almost certainly win. Anything that you can do – however small – will help. Thank you so much!