

Pochin's PLC hereby advises that it has today written to the Secretary of State for Communities & Local Government, the Rt Hon Hazel Blears MP, and to the Housing Minister, the Rt Hon Caroline Flint MP in connection with the proposal for an eco development at Wardle/Barbridge, Cheshire.

Pochin's PLC is a long established Cheshire based company. It regards itself as a considerate employer and a responsible member of in the local and regional communities.

The eco towns scheme required applications to be made to central government for consideration for inclusion on a shortlist. If the Wardle site had been short listed by Central Government there would then have been an opportunity for full local consultation.

The strong local opposition to the Wardle proposal is now clear, and in response to this Pochin's PLC has today withdrawn the application, by writing the letters referred to above.

Pochin's acknowledges the part which the local action group has played in representing the views of the community.