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Dear Andrew,

Thank you for your letter of 16 November to the Secretary of State about waste. I am replying as the Minister responsible for this policy area and the Secretary of State has asked me to thank you on his behalf for your kind words of congratulations.

Defra officials are in the process of assessing residual waste treatment capacity needs as a result of Defra's Collection and Packaging Reforms (Simpler Recycling, Extended Producer Responsibility for packaging and a Deposit Return Scheme for drinks containers) which we intend to publish early next year. The Government is clear that proposed developments must not result in overcapacity of Energy from Waste treatment at a national or local level.

Furthermore, the Government is committed to tackling the climate impacts of waste incineration and energy from waste. Defra officials are working closely with the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero on the forthcoming expansion of the UK Emissions Trading Scheme to cover fossil carbon emissions from waste incineration and Energy from Waste.

Should you wish to meet in person to discuss any of the points within your letter, I would be more than happy to arrange a mutually convenient time.

With kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

ROBBIE MOORE MP Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs

