Discover what's beneath.

Gas, Granite and Groundwater

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# GAS – cremation and the carbon crisis

#### CARBON EMISSIONS FROM A CREMATION



**1000** cremations per annum = 150 tonnes per year of carbon

= 1,229,508 car carbon kilometres annually

# C D S

#### GAS – cremation and the carbon crisis

- In 2018 in the UK there were 481,712 cremations
- Each cremation produces on average 150kg of CO<sub>2</sub> from gas consumption
  - = **72,256** tonnes of  $CO_2$  PA
  - = **592,268,852** carbon car kilometres (14,807 times around the world)
  - =272,045 kg (NOX) PA from chipboard coffins
  - =1,787,159,227 car kilometre equivalents of NOX (44,680 times around the world)

#### C D S GAS – cremation and the carbon crisis

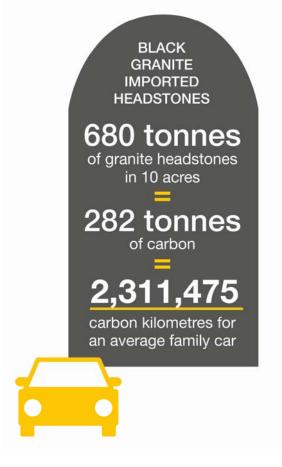
- Electric cremation using zero carbon energy from sustainable sources will reduce carbon production from fuel consumption by 100%!
- The remaining carbon is resultant from the body and the coffin, approximately 40kg.











#### Granite carbon

- In the UK it is calculated that there is **6,079 tonnes** of embodied carbon through the use of granite memorials for burial annually.
- To sequester this amount of carbon, requires 4,600 acres of mature trees.
- Or approximately **99,000** acres of saplings

#### Granite carbon

- Embedded carbon in imported stone is much greater than UK quarried stone.
- Health and safety practices in quarries and processing plants is at vey low levels
- Environmental protection in quarries negligible
- Use of child and bonded labour in quarries and stone processing plants in India (and possibly China), still goes unchecked despite promises to UK suppliers

## C D S

### Groundwater-protection

- Cemeteries discharge the chemical remnants of their embalmed dead and the treatment of their coffins not just in the short timeframes of body decomposition, but long after the cemeteries closure.
- In groundwater toxins may come from;
  - Natural decay
  - Embalming
  - Coffins

### Groundwater-protection

Natural decay

Approx 2 kg per body
assume 16,000
burials in 10 acres =
32 tonnes of nitrogen =
sufficient to fertilise
392 acres of wheat

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#### Embalming Fluid

Safety data sheet

Skin Sens. 1;H317 May cause an allergic skin reaction.

Muta. 2;H341 Suspected of causing genetic defects.

Carc. 1B;H350 May cause cancer.

STOT SE 2;H371 May cause damage to organs. Specific Target Organs: (Not Available)

Aquatic Chronic 2;H411 Toxic to aquatic life with long lasting effects.

#### 2.2. Label elements

Using the Toxicity Data listed in section 11 and 12 the product is labeled as follows.











#### Danger

H226 Flammable liquid and vapor.

H302 Harmful if swallowed.

H312 Harmful in contact with skin.

H314 Causes severe skin burns and eye damage.

H317 May cause an allergic skin reaction.

H318 Causes serious eye damage.

H332 Harmful if inhaled.

H341 Suspected of causing genetic defects.

H350 May cause cancer.

H371 May cause damage to organs.

H411 Toxic to aquatic life with long lasting effects.

### Groundwater-protection

Embalming

#### **EMBALMING FLUID**

**55%** of bodies are embalmed using **14 litres** of embalming fluid.

In 10 acres this equates to 123,000 litres of embalming fluid at 3% w/v formaldehyde

= 3,690 kg of formaldehyde LD50 (lethal dose for 50% of test population) = 48 gms for the average human

=potentially enough formal dehyde in the ground to kill **38,437 people** 

# CDSI

## Groundwater-protection

- Coffins
- Melamine-urea formaldehyde (MUF) resin used as the bonding agent.

