

Comments for Planning Application 2022/1108

Application Summary

Application Number: 2022/1108

Address: Deal Farm Kenninghall Road Bressingham Norfolk IP22 2HG

Proposal: Construction of an Anaerobic Digestion facility (part retrospective), comprising: 1 no. digester tank and 1 no. secondary digester/digestate storage tank, silage clamps, liquid and dry feed system; digestate separation, handling and pasteurization, biogas upgrading and mains gas-grid connection; carbon capture, CHP, agricultural building; office buildings, weighbridge, 2 no. covered digestate storage lagoons, and associated plant, vehicular accesses, roads and landscaping (including earth bunds). Revised application following withdrawn planning application 2021/2788.

Case Officer: Tim Barker

Customer Details

Name: Mrs Wendy Benson

Address: The Cottage, Ashfield Green, Stradbroke IP21 5NL

Comment Details

Commenter Type: Parish Council

Stance: Customer objects to the Planning Application

Comment Reasons:

Comment: Roydon Parish Council OBJECTS to this application.

Roydon Parish Council notes that the previous application for an Anaerobic Digestion facility (221/2788) has been withdrawn and replaced with a new application (2022/1108). The difference in the two applications appears to be one factor: a reduction of feedstock into the facility. This reduction is reflected within the application for two digestate storage lagoons rather than the three in the previous application.

The parish of Roydon is less than 1 mile from the Deal Farm site. Due to this proximity developments on this site will have a direct impact on the residents of the parish and our local environment. It has been noted that the applicant is no longer the farm business (application approved under 2015/0595) but a large international company and that there remain significant differences from the original approved plans. The Parish Council forward the following concerns to the application:

Traffic to and from the site.

This is an area of "Quiet Lanes" - as designated by Norfolk County Council - which as such are not designed nor is it desirable for large, heavy vehicles to use them on the regular basis that the proposed AD plant would need. The road networks surrounding this site are suitable for the size of the villages only, mostly single-track narrow lanes with no footpaths. These country lanes are unsuitable for the increase in HGV and large farm vehicles that would need to use them and be dangerous to all other road users not only vehicles but pedestrians, dog walkers, cyclists, horse

riders and the mobility impaired. Who would be responsible for ensuring agreed routes are adhered to? The size and volume of vehicles would be highly damaging to the structure of the road, with the possibility of extensive subsidence and potholes, creating the need for additional resources for ongoing repairs.

Reducing feedstock but not the facility size

As noted, the substantive difference between the previous application and this current one is the reduction in feedstock. However, there is no planned reduction in size of the already built industrial scale facility. If this application is approved, what measures would be in place to ensure that the feedstock quantities were not gradually increased over time? Would the district council be able to monitor and enforce the commitment to reduced feedstock? Any increase in feedstock would lead to more traffic movements as the feedstock would need to be obtained from further afield, thus leading to an increase in the aforementioned dangers to the local roads, both structurally and for all users.

This continues to be an application for a large industrial site, albeit it with a reduced feedstock, in the heart of a rural location. In order to protect the village of Roydon, and the other villages surrounding this site the Parish Council submits these objections.