



Northamptonshire County Council

Please ask for: Phil Watson
Tel: (01604) 366638
Our ref:
Your ref:
Date:

Dear

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) (ENGLAND AND WALES) REGULATIONS 2011: REGULATION 13 SCOPING OPINION

**PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT: Creation of an facility comprising Advanced Conversion Technologies (incorporating pryolysis) and Anaerobic Digestion facility.
LOCATION: Shelton Road, Willowbrook East Industrial Estate, Corby, Northamptonshire**

I refer to your e-mail dated 27th March 2013 and the accompanying scoping report. The scoping report has been the subject of consultation in accordance with the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations and copies of several of the responses received have previously been forwarded to you. I attach all of the responses received to this letter.

Overall I can confirm that the approach that you are advocating and the topics you address in the scoping report are considered to be acceptable and appropriate and this is reflected in the nature of the consultation responses. To avoid unnecessary repetition, broad guidance provided by consultees has not been duplicated in this letter. You will note the specific points which have been made in the responses and you are required to have regard to these. In particular I would draw your attention to the following:

Air Quality

Please note and take into account the comments of the Corby Borough Council. The residential receptors at Priors Hall are brought to your attention to be taken into account. In addition there are other existing residential properties in Corby, outlying villages (Gretton, Deene and Weldon) and any other residential properties outside of the villages. Natural England also raise comments on the assessment of air quality which it considers should take account of the risks of air pollution and how these can be managed or reduced.

Planning Services, Floor 3,
Guildhall Road Block, County Hall,
Northampton, NN1 1DN

w. www.northamptonshire.gov.uk

t. 01604 366638

f. 01604 366065

e. gpwatson@northamptonshire.gov.uk



Corby Borough Council also raises a question about the intention not to include bio-aerosol assessment. The Environmental Statement (ES) should justify why this is not necessary.

Odour nuisance potential has been an issue in respect of other anaerobic digestion sites and I note that a qualitative assessment will be undertaken. The EA also raise the issue of odour at every stage of the plant process. And make detailed comments to be taken into account. It is suggested that an odour management plan is submitted at the application stage to help address these issues up front.

Noise and Vibration

Given that parts of the plant will operate on a 24/7 basis, the noise and vibration assessment should ensure that the impact on noise sensitive receptors during night-time hours is covered. A noise and vibration management plan is suggested to address any issues identified in respect of both day and night-time impacts.

Ecology

Comments on your proposals are provided by both Natural England (NE) and the County Councils Senior Environmental Planner (Tina Cuss). NE requires the ES to give consideration to the wider context of the site, for example in terms of habitat linkages and protected species populations in the wider area. Opportunities for overall biodiversity enhancement should be sought. Corby Borough Council also makes comments on the ecology considerations for the ES.

The Environment Agency (EA) also make the link between biodiversity and green infrastructure and this should also be factored in to the ES given in particular the proximity of the site to a watercourse.

Townscape (Landscape) and Visual Impacts

Comments are provided by Corby BC and NE for your information.

Water Quality, Hydrology and Flood Risk

The EA has provided detail comments in respect of these matters.

Archaeology and Cultural Heritage

I can confirm that the County Archaeological Advisor is satisfied with the approach proposed in respect of archaeology. You should note the comments of Corby BC regarding the inclusion of Kirby Hall and Rockingham Castle in respect of heritage assets.

Soils, Geology, Contaminated Land and Waste

Corby BC support the Phase I and Phase II survey proposed and make further comments to be taken into account. Comments are also provided by the EA detailing what should be covered and how works should be undertaken.

Transportation

I have not received any response from the Highway Authority and will establish whether there are any comments and forward these as soon as possible. Corby BC has drawn attention to the Corby Northern Relief Road which has been partly constructed and which runs to the northeast of the site has not been included in the scoping report.

Cumulative Impacts

The proposed development ES should address likely cumulative impacts on sensitive receptors and the environment in respect of other energy plants operating or planned in the northeast of Corby. In particular the existing gas powered station and the permission off Gretton Brook Road for a waste transfer and Refuse Derived Fuel facility with associated pyrolysis plant (not yet constructed).

Alternatives

An outline of the main alternatives considered should be addressed in accordance with the requirements of Schedule 4 (Part 2) of the EIA Regulations 2011.

There were a number of consultees who did not respond, in particular the East Northamptonshire Council and the parish councils of Gretton, Deene and Weldon. East Northamptonshire Council indicated they would reply so if I receive any response I will forward this on along with any received from the Highway Authority which I mentioned earlier.

Yours sincerely



Development Control Manager