

**From:** donal sullivan [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 25, 2023 2:07 PM  
**To:** Andrew Rutter [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** SCC/0045/23SE - Objection to Anaerobic Digester.

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To: Andrew Rutter, Case Officer, Suffolk County Council

**Application Number: SCC/0045/23SE**

**Construction and operation of an anaerobic digestion facility, associated infrastructure and new access road, connecting pipeline and covered digestate lagoons**

Applicant: Acorn Bioenergy Limited/Thurlow Estate

Dear Mr Rutter,

I am writing to strongly object to the proposed development of an anaerobic digester at Spring Grove Farm, Haverhill above.

As a resident of Haverhill I was surprised to be informed that an industrial type process facility was even being considered. After reading the application submission I have the following specific objections including but not limited to :

1. This proposal is at direct odds with the existing Haverhill Vision 2030 approved planning guidelines.
2. It would appear the use of Agricultural land is being proposed for an industrial process development.
3. The Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) does not reflect the floodplain classification and the original intent for this area to be a run off area in times of excess rainfall. Building a concrete structure will affect the percolation and run off characteristics of the area, prejudice the safety of the existing flood protection measures, and potentially cause pollution of

hydrogen sulphide into the existing watercourses. It is my understanding that Acorn are obliged to provide reasons and rationale within the EIA, discounting other areas and demonstrating why their choice of location to be the best alternative. This has not been comprehensively undertaken or worse worded to appear to classify best case scenarios in superficial statements.

4. The proposed site is near heavily populated housing areas, and the potential smell will percolate via the prevailing wind over Haverhill. This will impact on the enjoyment of the area for families and business, leading no doubt to an exodus from the areas which are intended to be a regeneration zone.
5. There are many factual inconsistencies within the application. Acorn dismissed the issue of smell, whilst an independent specialist report commissioned by the Epi Centre Developer and issued previously to yourselves, confirmed odours would be an issue. There are also references to A43 in Oxfordshire throughout the document, which are not relevant and confusing.
6. The Traffic Impact Assessment has not fully represented the volumes of vehicles entering the site, agricultural vehicles to bring raw materials in, as well as tankers and 8 wheel lorries to distribute materials around the site. These will have an adverse impact on the already congested roads, potentially cause a further safety issue around the Spirit of Enterprise Roundabout, and need constant road cleaning to avoid local contamination. The existing extremely poor condition of the A1307 will be further impacted by increased and heavy goods vehicles with a detrimental effect of the existing road network which are currently unsuitable for this volume of traffic.
7. Has the risk of methane leakage in heavily populated areas been fully assessed ?
8. Noise and light pollution from an industrial operational plant impacting on the local inhabitants, especially out of hours.
9. Acorn also appears to be a recently formed Company with limited if any expertise in the delivery of such an establishment. This is borne out by the inaccuracies and inconsistencies within their submission.

Please consider the above fundamental objections to the proposal in your review and rejection of the above application.

Donal Sullivan MRICS

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