

From: Melissa Draycott [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, October 23, 2023 5:08 PM
To: Andrew Rutter [REDACTED]
Subject: Acorn Bioenergy Objection SCC/0045/23SE

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Dear Andrew,

I am writing to object to the proposed Acorn Bioenergy plant at Haverhill. Reference: **SCC/0045/23SE**

I am Managing Director of a UK company of 30 people. I work from home, Hertfordshire and London regularly and I moved to Hanchett End/Haverhill from Bury St. Edmunds so I was nearer to work but also still near to my family in Suffolk who sometimes need my support. My father, Dr. Philip Draycott is a well-known Suffolk farmer, international agricultural consultant of 60+ years. He knows about these plants from visiting smaller ones on farms in East Anglia and has told me how much they smell, and especially if they put animal and food waste in them. He agrees with me that this one has been proposed for the wrong location.

It should not be situated anywhere near where people live for reasons of safety (pressurised gas storage tanks), disgusting smell and unsociable noise pollution. It would be completely environmentally unfriendly, the opposite of what it is claiming to be, if it is located where people live and work. I moved into my newly purchased home in August 2022, to receive only 2 weeks later a planning proposal by Acorn Energy. Reading it all in detail and attending the September 2022 Acorn representation in Withersfield, my elation on moving to a new house turned to deep concern about the awful smell and noise that this area and my home would be faced with if this was allowed to go ahead. All my new neighbours are very worried and upset, some already want to move house and are trying to sell.

The Acorn personnel told me at the consultation event, that the proposed plant does not smell. This is a huge lie. I drive to work at times along the A505 and saw the construction of the Bio Energy plant there. I often have to breathe in as I drive past it for a mile or two as the smell is repulsive. This A505 plant is located nowhere near homes. This proposed plant is about one third of a mile from my house. It is actually unbelievable that Acorn want to put a plant even bigger than the A505 one so near to a residential area and which is expanding with new homes being built currently.

The leaflets we get from Acorn are littered with typos, mistakes and misleading information and diagrams. Who is checking everything they say is factual and correct? Have environmental experts checked all their claims and experience in this field? All the diesel lorries required to take gas produced to Milton Keynes does not sound at all environmentally friendly. It surely should be situated nearer the area the gas is needed to be taken?

Have environment experts checked the flood situation in Haverhill and Sturmer, and assessed what knock-on effects and problems could be caused by building this plant? Also what about potential leaks into waterways and our green space for walks nearby?

The first benefit in the Acorn leaflet says that it will provide jobs for the area, but only 4-5 long term on site (apart from tradesmen to build it who are in short supply anyway), however the amount of people that would want to move out of the EPI Business centre would more than offset this, along with other local businesses and home workers that may be forced to close down or leave. There is a children's nursery right by the proposed site. There are also 2 pubs which have outside tables. I guess they would not have any custom. Do they really want to put them out of business? The neighbourhood would miss them, and cause more job losses.

I understand that it was one of these plants that was struck by lightning recently in Oxfordshire, and the only reason there were no casualties is because it was situated miles away from residential areas. It's very concerning to potentially suddenly living near to one, and Acorn's lack of expertise in all this from what's I reading and hearing is not filling me with confidence.

The other major concern is the noise it will make. If there is a new factory noise in the area then it will be impossible to work and sleep here. It is currently very peaceful and one of the reasons I chose this road to live. Will the landowners and Acorn compensate us for the loss of value in our properties which is bound to happen when there is a max exodus of this side of Haverhill and Withersfield if this goes ahead? Please make sure this plant is located miles away from people's homes not in this wrong location.

Thank you for your time,

Melissa Draycott.

Melissa Draycott
Managing Director


Gonzalez Byass UK Ltd. The Hyde, Woodcock Hill, Coopers Green Lane, St Albans, Herts AL4 9HJ
www.gonzalezbyassuk.com

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