

From: planning@suffolk.gov.uk
Sent: 06 October 2023 13:05
To: SCC Planning Mailbox
Subject: New comments for application SCC/0045/23SE

New comments have been received for application SCC/0045/23SE from Michael Horton.

Comments:
Objection to Acorn proposal ref SCC/0045/23SE

Dear Mr Rutter,

I wish to lodge my objection to the above planning application. Under the Suffolk minerals and waste local plan, the Suffolk waste study indicates that there is no identified shortfall in waste management facilities at the present time. In addition to this, I have serious objections for the following reasons:

Size, location

The proposed location is on land designated for agricultural use not industrial use. It is a large space in a green corridor which has previously been considered for development as a public leisure space, I understand, and guarded as such for the future. The submission gives no serious indication that other viable sites have been considered.

It is located on a flood plain with all the attendant risks of using such land. The proposal to dig deep to mitigate the impact of the size of the structure could only exacerbate potential flooding issues.

The size of the proposed facility is enormous (12.5 hectares, with five tanks 16.5 m high, as well as other storage tanks), as large or larger than any other between Cambridge and the Suffolk coast. It would inevitably have a massive visual impact despite the disingenuous disclaimers to the contrary.

It is much too near to the entrance to the town of Haverhill with its new and proposed housing developments, little more than 500m from the Epicentre which it would overwhelm. Such a development could not avoid a significant increase in the population of pest species which would be difficult to control.

Air quality

Such facilities (if the example of the facility on A505 is anything to go by) inevitably produce unpleasant and unhealthy odours which would affect housing, local businesses (e.g. Sainsburys), a nursery and people enjoying the local park. Hydrogen sulphide pollution does not seem to have been considered.

Transport, especially the impact on roads and cost. A significant increase in heavy and potentially hazardous traffic, affecting the A1307 and connecting minor roads (which are already in a poor state of repair), would create a serious risk of road degradation and the cost of continual repairs would be borne by W Suffolk and S Cambs councils (is there a budget for this?).

The transportation of waste from considerable distances to the site and onwards does not make good environmental sense and calls into serious question the reason for this particular (unsuitable) location. Why here?

Local benefit

There seems to be virtually no economic benefit to Haverhill and almost no employment possibilities. All the benefit seems to belong the landowners and anonymous foreign venture capitalist investors.

Yours sincerely,

Michael Horton

(The Revd. Michael Horton, Long Cottage, Church Street, Withersfield, CB9 7SG [REDACTED]

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