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Haverhill

Suffolk

CB9 9DL

24th October 2023.

Dear Mr Rutter,

Application Number

SCC/0045/23SE

Location

Land to the north of Spring Grove Farm, Withersfield, Suffolk, CB9 7SW

Anaerobic Digestion Facility

I write to you with regard to the proposed new biogas plant application in Withersfield and very close to the western borders of Haverhill.

I am dismayed by such a proposal sited in this location particularly as this end of the town has been scheduled for the development of specialist/research enterprise at the nearby Epicentre and its links with the developing technologies of Cambridge.

Following the years of the Haverhill town expansion project in the 1960's Haverhill did not enjoy the best of images and more recently prior to the millennium much effort has been made to lift the profile and also encourage more higher technology industry to set up here.

Knowing that there was a pool of skilled labour available locally I set up my own engineering company, on the Haverhill industrial estate, which has run successfully for some years and provides a living now for in excess of 100 employees.

When it came to the designation of the research park at the western end of the town this was actively encouraged by the industrial groups and my own company was a major contributor to the "Spirit of Enterprise" sculpture on the town's approach roundabout and we also carried out the manufacture and erection of it.

This has been followed by the construction of the research park and now the Epicentre building there with offices, conference accommodation, and purpose-built laboratory space.

Being sited at this end of town is obviously aimed at attracting business linked to the rapidly expanding Cambridge technology cluster not far away.

The Spirit of Enterprise sculpture as its name implies was intended to lift the profile of the town and the take up within the Epicentre is coming along nicely.

Great effort has been made over recent times to enhance the approach to our town from Cambridge and I am appalled that after all the efforts here that anyone would propose a large agricultural waste biogas plant, with heavy and dusty lorry movements and potential smells, to be located in this vicinity. There are other sites not so far away and in the same ownership, please do not destroy the effort that so many have put in by allowing this ill sited proposal to proceed.

Yours faithfully,

S.P.Sadler