

From: Rosemary Fletcher [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, October 22, 2023 9:25 PM
To: Andrew.Rutter@suffolk.gov.u
Subject: Acorn Biomass Digester - Haverhill - SCC/0045/23SE

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Dear Sir,

I wish to object to the above proposal/development on the following grounds:

1. Location

The proposed location is, in my opinion, dangerously close to the town of Haverhill, in particular to the homes, children's schools and nurseries as well as businesses, in the west of our town in terms of risk from explosions. The recently developed business centre called The Epicentre would also be, as would the above properties, adversely affected by noise, smells, pollution and increased traffic. I would like to see an alternative site proposed by the Vestey estate further away from the currently rapidly expanding town and Cambridge corridor.

2. Traffic

An estimated 148 traffic movement a day onto an already over-used and congested main road between Haverhill and Cambridge is, to my mind, unacceptable. Additional housing is currently being built in the town and along the A1307 road towards Cambridge. The town and that road, a main commuter route to Addenbrookes Hospital, a major employer in the area, would be hard-hit by such an increase in traffic movement.

3. Flooding

The proposed site is adjacent to the Stour Brook/River and the Meldham Washlands/the Floodpark, a local flood plain which serves to accommodate excess water thus protecting our town from flooding. This area is already classed as a Flood Zone 3 and I would ask that Acorn submit a Flood Risk Assessment for that area.

4. Environmental Impact

The site proposed by Acorn for their Biogester is, as already mentioned, very close to the Stour Brook and the edge of the West Town Park. Their development would, in my opinion, be a major threat to the wildlife and plant life in this Park, which is one of our town's main recreational areas, as well as to the very local countryside.

5. Visual Impact

One's environment is very important to one's mental health, an ongoing epidemic since the Covid pandemic. The visual impact will be detrimental to the residents of local housing whose upstairs windows are likely to view the planned development. The very busy entrance to our town , as well as the flagship business centre, The Epicentre, will be unreasonably and unnecessarily dominated by Acorn's planned biodigester. I feel that our residents will be adversely affected by the visual impact of this development.

6. Employment

I understand that there will be negligible employment benefit to the people of our town.

7. Output

As a nation and a world we need to consider alternative energy supplies but at what cost. The gases produced will not benefit this area and do not need to be produced on this particular site. I would ask that the vast Vestey estate be asked to consider an alternative site further away from the town so that it would have less impact of the lives of us living here.

I trust that you will give due consideration to my objections to this proposal and I look forward to a better outcome for the people of Haverhill.

Yours faithfully,

Rosemary Fletcher
Haverhill Resident

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