

Representations from Mr. P. King CC

As the CC for the adjoining division of Gartree, which includes the Parish of Welham, and also as one of the HDC Cllrs for the Kibworth's ward, which includes, the parishes of West and Thorpe Langton that adjoin this site, I wish to register my objection to this proposal and I urge members of the DCRB to defer or reject this application.

There are several references to the fact that currently there is a free range poultry farm further down the Welham Lane, which MAY be a major supplier of feedstock for the AD Plant, but that is not backed up by confirmation of commercial agreements between Great Bowden Green Energy Ltd and the operators of that site.

If, this poultry farm isn't now or in the future ever to be the major contributor of poultry waste to this AD plant, then this means that there will be a need to have significantly more heavy, large and potentially slow moving vehicles accessing this constrained site, than the proposed 52 per day.

In any event, the 52 limit per day, as per conditions is allowed at ALL times and is not restrained to particular months of the year, despite what is implied in the officers report.

Such traffic, even with the proposed junction improvements, will from my knowledge as a regular use of this road, due to the curvature of the A6 at that point, mean that slow moving large vehicles will be regularly turning right across the highway, on a 60mph road. It is locally known that this section of road is a very FAST road, and there have been several serious accidents, including fatalities over the years, due to speeding traffic, and overtaking. More slow moving traffic will mean more accidents will happen.

This junction is also the junction used by HDC's waste contractor and the intensification of this junction with significantly impact upon their working operations. This junction is also used by leisure users to drive/cycle down to Welham Lane to enjoy the walks and cycle route. I donot agree that there will be no significant impact. The volume of additional vehicle movements, the noise, dust along with the residual noise of this proposed industrial gas production site will have a negative impact on this countryside location, as well as potentially impacting on the District Council's proposed plan for re-wilding the adjoining area of land which it recently purchased.

As I understand no improvements to the A6 Macdonalds's roundabout north of this junction is proposed, nor to the roundabout south of the proposed site. Nor are any improvements being proposed for the A6 through Kilworth's. This is very concerning as again if there is an increase in large slow moving traffic through these junctions and along the A6 north, this will add to traffic congestion and slow down the movement of traffic along this route, which will have a very significant impact if the movements are concentrated at certain times of the day.

Finally, the rationale for this proposal is that poultry manure is a good feed for AD and straw. My understanding is that this is not the case and that presently such

plants are not being supported by DEFRA, as they believe Agricultural Land should be used primarily for Food Production rather than Energy.

The Dept of Energy only supports AD plants if they use waste, but as this report admits it's self the amount of waste being used by this plant is not that high.

My final concern is around the financial viability of this proposed site, given that there is already a large AD plant at Rothwell and another one under construction off the A508 south of Market Harborough.

Is there really enough substrate materials ie poultry waste and straw available in the local agri-economy to feed all of the nearby current sites along with this proposed one?

If that's not the case, then for the proposed site at Great Bowden/Welham Lane to be commercially viable, many more large and slow vehicle movements will be necessary from a much wider radius than is currently suggested by this application or to be allowed by the conditions, than is currently being suggested.

I therefore urge the committee to at least defer this decision pending receipt of further information that clarifies the queries that I and many others have raised or rejects this based on the fact that it only partially meets the policy requirements, which the report admits itself.

Thank you

Phil King
County Councillor for
Gartree Division.