

**FAO: Mark Niland**  
South Holland District Council  
Planning & Development  
Council Offices Priory Road  
Spalding  
Lincolnshire  
PE11 2XE

**Our ref:** AN/2023/135168/04-L01  
**Your ref:** H16-1096-23  
**Date:** 24 June 2024

Dear Mark Niland

**Proposed anaerobic digester plant  
Land between A16 and Rangell Gate, Spalding**

Thank you for re-consulting us on the above application, on 04 June 2024 following the submission of additional information.

**Environment Agency position**

The submitted Preliminary Drainage Strategy dated 21 April 2024, ref: '0371-REP-3000 Rev 00' and Proposed Drainage Strategy ref: '0371-JCE-00-SI-DR-C-3000', prepared by Jackson Consulting Engineers do not satisfactorily address our earlier concerns.

We therefore maintain our objection set out in our response dated 10 January 2024.

**Reasons**

As outlined in our previous response dated 10 January 2024, only where, having taken into account the cost and/or practicability, it can be shown to the satisfaction of the local planning authority that connection to a public sewer is not feasible, should non-mains foul sewage disposal solutions be considered.

The Preliminary Drainage Strategy states that the length of connection to the rising mains sewer situated to the south of the site would be approximately 0.70km. However, the rising mains sewer network line lies within 15 metres of the sites red line boundary. In addition, the Strategy has stated that the connection is not reasonable in terms of cost; however, no evidence has been provided to support this.

Therefore, following review of the submitted information, we do not consider that the provision of non-mains foul sewage disposal is adequately justified. Further information is required on the cost and/or practicability to assess whether the mains connection for foul sewage disposal is unfeasible.

## **Overcoming our objection**

To overcome our objection the applicant should address the points highlighted above and either revise their application to propose a mains connection or submit evidence that demonstrates that this is not feasible.

## **Informative**

### Notes on Preliminary Drainage Strategy

We would like to point out that the submitted Strategy is titled 'Plant Based Protein Extraction Facility, Rangell Gate, Spalding, Lincolnshire' and refers to the extraction facility throughout. However, this application is for an anaerobic digester plant and therefore this should be amended in any updated Strategy.

### Consultation with AWS

We advise the applicant to consult and liaise with Anglian Water Services (AWS), through their pre-planning service, to inform their assessment of whether mains foul drainage connection is feasible or not.

### Surface water drainage

We support the measures outlined on the Proposed Drainage Strategy to reduce the risk of pollution to surface water, in the event of a spillage.

Should you require any additional information, or wish to discuss these matters further, please do not hesitate to contact me on the number below.

Yours sincerely

**Danielle Maclean-Spencer**  
**Sustainable Places Planning Advisor**

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