

From: planningcomments@staffs Moorlands.gov.uk
To: [Planning Comments \(SMDC\)](#)
Subject: Comment Received from Public Access
Date: 25 January 2023 12:37:08

Application Reference No. : SMD/2022/0662

Site Address: Crossways Farm Morridge Top Road Onecote Staffordshire ST13 7QD Leek

Comments by: Mrs. Harvey

From:

Bottom Lane
Bottomhouse
Leek
Staffordshire

Phone:

Email:

Submission: Objection

Comments: I object to this application on several grounds.

1. Noxious smells. These are unavoidable and given its open and elevated position the smells will affect a wide area noted for its beauty and tourist appeal. I live some 7 miles from Pointons in Cheddleton, and in the past smells from their plant has been overpowering. It took many years of actions to stop these smells, but on rare occasions we can still smell their operation. I live less than a mile away from the proposed application, so I will be severely affected by noxious smells. It is worth noting that the smells seep into my house, so there will be no escaping them.

2. Traffic. I note that the Highways agency have stated that no significant accidents have occurred on Morridge Top. However, this completely ignores access to Morridge Top, the closest main road being the A523 Ashbourne Road. The Bottomhouse crossroads (A523/B5053) has seen numerous accidents, some of which have been serious. The increase in traffic can only mean greater risk of serious accidents.

3. Maintenance. The facility will have equipment and plant associated with the intended purpose to control any effluent, runoff, etc. The tanks to contain the runoff will need to be emptied on a regular basis. This relies upon the owner to be vigilant, and whilst I have no knowledge or experience on the owners vigilance, if runoff is allowed to contaminate the surrounding landscape it will take potentially years of objections and actions to correct this.

4. Local economy. There are a number of businesses associated with tourism within an area likely to be affected by noxious smells (within a radius measured in miles rather feet or yards). If Staffordshire Moorlands aim is to maintain or increase this area of business/income, my view is that the proposed application will damage the local economy in both the short and long term.

5. Not Needed. There are three other facilities dealing with fallen animals, all within a radius of 15 miles of the proposed application. If all of these facilities are running at or beyond their capacity, then I could understand the need for another facility. However I don't believe this is the case, and I believe three facilities provide enough competition.

6. Support/Objections. From reading the comments both supporting and objecting this application, the majority of support comes from farmers not in the locale, whilst the majority of objections are from people within the locale. It is easy to support applications of this nature whilst not living close to adverse effects.

7. Lack of Notification. I only found out about this application by reading an article by Les Jackson on Stoke Live. Surely an application of this nature should have had a wide range of notification to gauge public opinion. There is a potential for adverse effects over a considerable area, affecting many people and households.

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