

Application Reference No. : SMD/2022/0662 Site Address: Crossways Farm Morridge Top Road
Onecote Staffordshire ST13 7SF Leek Comments by: Colin Agar Lady Meadows Farm

From:

Lady Meadows Lane

Bradnop

Leek

Staffordshire

ST13 7EZ

Submission: Objection

Comments: Whilst disposal of fallen stock is an absolute requirement in rural areas we are already well served in this area by other local fallen stock specialists. Indeed the closest provider, which I use, is less than 4 miles from this site. Whilst I understand that FFS is well regarded amongst some local farmers I object on the following grounds:

Foul odours: Whilst it is accepted that smells associated with rendering are not present, that does not mean the site will be odour-free and although they assert they will have strict odour management plans in place there would inevitably be unpleasant odours in the immediate vicinity. The Application acknowledges that the decomposition process of fallen stock regularly occurs. This coupled with the Applicants need for an odour suppression system particularly during summer months when temperature increases will almost certainly lead to the release of highly unpleasant odours to be endured by local residents and businesses. It should be noted that the village of Onecote, under a mile away has a population of around 220 people. The occurrence of such odours being unavoidable is readily admitted in the Application itself.

Environmental Impact: The Application proposes to continue using a Processing Plant in Bradford. This is a round trip by HGV lorries in excess of 160 miles from the Application Site. This will have a negative impact on the environment in terms of emissions and carbon footprint and is in direct conflict with the Government's own targets for the reduction of both. There is already a large rendering plant in Cheddleton just 6.4 miles from the Application site.

Impact in local economy: There is little evidence in the application that this will have a net impact on job creation. Local people, including many farmers who have already had to diversify to survive seek to make their living from the hospitality industry. The presence of a holding area for fallen stock may well deter tourists and negatively impact the economic situation of already struggling rural areas. It is unnecessary to erect such a large, visually out of keeping structure in such a prominent place when the needs of the local farming community to deal with fallen stock are already well met.
