

From: John Cook
Sent: 14 January 2009 17:52
To: Rhiannon Edwards; Christopher Morgan
Cc: Denis Canney
Subject: RE: Anaerobic Digester letter to members draft
Attachments: image001.jpg; image002.gif

Rhiannon

Looks fine to me – thanks for doing this so quickly. Some very minor suggestions as follows:

Dear Members,

Re: Anaerobic Digester Great Porthamel

As you may be aware a question was raised in relation to the area of land on which the product of the anaerobic digester (the digestate) would be spread.

As a result officers had to consider whether Members had been inadvertently misled during the PAROW meeting of 30th September 2008 and also whether Members had been provided with enough information to make a decision on this matter.

John Cook, Chris Morgan, Denis Canney and I had a meeting with the applicants on Monday 12th January 2008. The meeting established that the planned storage capacity of digestate from the anaerobic digester is limited to two 3000 tonne tanks. It is possible with the minimum recommended retention period of 80 to 90 days to produce 24,000 tonnes per year. However, it is the applicants intention to have a longer retention period as in practice it is not possible to apply digestate or indeed any material to land 365 days per year and the intention therefore is to produce only 12,000 tonnes of digestate per year. The quantity spread is carefully controlled and monitored by the Environment Agency.

Should the applicants need to increase their storage capability with additional tanks they will need to apply for planning permission.

In relation to the area of land over which the digestate will be spread, a condition in the planning permission prevents spreading taking place anywhere other than the 450acre site at Great Porthamel Farm. **12000 tonnes of digestate spread over 450 acres will required an application rate of 26 tonnes per acre which is within the typical range of 30 to 50 tonnes per acre.** Further the applicants are prevented by condition from exporting/removing digestate from the site.

Officers are satisfied that Members were not inadvertently misled over the area of land to the extent that the matter needs to go back to Committee. Further officers are satisfied that the imposition of conditions restricting the area of land on which the digestate may be spread addresses the concerns raised by Members during the Committee meeting.

Many thanks

John Cook
Director of Countryside & Land Management /Cyfarwyddwr Cefngwlad a Rheolaeth Tir
Brecon Beacons National Park Authority/Awdurdod Parc Cenedlaethol Bannau Brycheiniog
Plas y Ffynnon
Cambrian Way/Ffordd Cambrian
Brecon/Aberhonddu
LD3 7HP