Sarah Humphries

From: Simon Smith

Sent: 05 August 2009 16:07

To: Sarah Humphries

Subject: Carbonaceous Fire Training Facility - Caterpillar, Peckleton Lane, Desford

Sarah,

Following our meeting earlier and the viewing of the DVD of the above activity, I can confirm my comments on this application as follows;

I do have serious concern over the proposed location of this facility. It is clear to see from the DVD that the facility will generate a great deal of smoke that has the potential to cause smoke/odour nuisance to those living in the nearest residential premises 240m away and the village of Desford 330m away. This concern is added to by the fact that the prevailing wind is from the south west which will direct smoke predominantly towards the sensitive residential dwellings. On the occasions when the wind blows from a north easterly direction, the smoke will affect the caterpillar site.

It is proposed that the facility would be used up to 200 times per year. It is anticipated that two burns of up to one hour will occur on operating days and so it can be expected that the facility will operate about 100 days per year. There is therefore the potential for local residents to be exposed to smoke/odour for about one third of the days of the year.

Owing to the fact that chipboard is set fire to, the smoke generated is dark, acrid smoke which will have a strong odour associated with it. The burning of such wood will produce a degree of air pollution including formaldehyde, particulates and sulphur dioxide. Obviously this pollution can not be contained by the very nature of the facility. Such a facility is unarguably required, but should not be located where pollution generated does not have maximum distance to dilute before residential dwellings.

For the above reasons, I do not feel that this is a suitable location for this facility and would recommend refusal of the application owing to the likely impact on the amenity of local residents.

Regards

Simon