

APPENDIX CRM

Correspondence, Electronic newsletter, news media statement and newspaper coverage of extension to period for receipt of responses to consultation until 8 January 2021.

PINS project reference: WS010005

PINS document reference: 4.2.13

From: Eleanor Nicholson
Sent: 08 December 2020 16:38
To: chris.harby@iliffepublishing.co.uk
Subject: Augean ENRMF - consultation extension

Hi Chris

Many apologies that it has taken me so long to get back to you – I have had to talk to a number of people in order to get their agreement to extend the consultation. As you will see from the statement set out below they are happy to do so.

Please give me a call if you need anything clarifying

Kind regards

Eleanor

Augean Statement

8 December 2020

Augean public consultation on the extension to the East Northants Resource Management Facility

Augean has been consulting about its proposals to extend the operational area of the East Northants Resource Management Facility (ENRMF) since the end of October. The company recognises the importance of giving the local community the opportunity to engage and help inform the proposed development before the application for a Development Consent Order (DCO) is finalised and submitted to the Planning Inspectorate.

Peter Oldfield, Augean, Head of Planning said: “We had hoped to present the proposals for the extension to the ENRMF together with information about the site and its operations in physical exhibitions held locally, however this has not been possible due to current Covid-19 restrictions. We recognise that in the current circumstances members of the local community have had other concerns to deal with and may need further time to respond. I’m pleased to say that although the formal consultation deadline is 14 December 2020, Augean will take account of any further consultation responses received before 8 January 2021.”

So that members of the public can participate in the consultation Augean has made the public exhibition available online at www.augeanconsultation.co.uk

The exhibition includes opportunities to send in questions about the proposed development which the Augean professional team will be pleased to answer and an online comments sheet so that responses to the consultation can be submitted. There are links to all the consultation documents that explain the proposals in detail.

If anyone is unable to access the exhibition online, they can ring the Telephone Helpline 01904 654989 to request a hard copy exhibition pack which contains a booklet version of the exhibition boards together with all the response forms.

Copies of the consultation documents maybe inspected free of charge using online facilities only at Stamford Public Library and Oundle Public Library. Please check the opening times as these are subject to change due to the current circumstances.

ENDS

Notes for Editors

- Augean is a leading company in the specialist waste management sector. It delivers a wide range of services in order to recycle, treat, recover and dispose of difficult to manage waste materials in a sustainable and responsible way.
- The company operates 15 sites across the UK and has owned and operated the East Northants Resource Management Facility (ENRMF) since 2004.
- Augean places a great importance on ensuring that it meets high standards of health and safety and regulatory compliance so that it can deliver its services in a way that is safe for local communities.
- The ENRMF is a nationally important facility which is recognised as playing a significant role within the nation's specialist waste management infrastructure.
- The existing ENRMF site is an active hazardous waste and low level radioactive waste (LLW) landfill site together with a waste treatment and recovery facility. The new area that is proposed to be included in the operational area is immediately west of the existing site and is currently predominantly agricultural land.
- The proposals at ENRMF are classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) under the Planning Act 2008 and consent must be granted by the Secretary of State in the form of a DCO. Augean therefore will submit the DCO application to the Planning Inspectorate (PINS) rather than to Northamptonshire County Council or the emerging North Northamptonshire Council. PINS is an impartial public body whose role is to consider all important and relevant matters and advise the Secretary of State whether consent should be granted for nationally significant infrastructure projects.
- The application for the proposed development requires that it is supported by a suite of Environmental Impact Assessments, therefore for the purposes of the consultation a Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) has been prepared which sets out the details of the current site and the surrounding environment, describes the proposed development and includes the technical studies that have been undertaken to date to assess the potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed development.
- Further information regarding the DCO application process can be found on the National Infrastructure Planning website: <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/application-process/the-process/> or by telephone on 0303 444 5000.

9 December 2020



ENRMF Planning Application

Augean is currently preparing an application for a Development Consent Order (DCO) for an extension in the area and life of the East Northants Resource Management Facility (ENRMF).

The proposals at ENRMF are classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) under the Planning Act 2008 and consent must be granted by the Secretary of State in the form of a DCO.

Augean has been undertaking a formal pre-application statutory consultation for the project as required by Section 42 and Section 47 of the Planning Act 2008 since the end of October.

The company recognises the importance of giving the local community the opportunity to engage and help inform the proposed development before the application for a DCO is finalised and submitted to the Planning Inspectorate.

We understand that some people in the local community feel that they have had other concerns of greater priority and need extra time to consider the application documents and their responses to the consultation. Although the formal consultation deadline is Monday 14 December 2020, Augean will take account of any further responses received before **Friday 8 January 2021**.

So that members of the public can participate in the consultation, Augean has made an exhibition available online which is available [here](#). Further information about the application, including the Preliminary Environmental Information Report and supporting documentation, can be found on the Augean website [here](#).

If anyone is unable to access the exhibition online, they can ring the Telephone Helpline 01904 654989 to request a hard copy exhibition pack which contains a booklet version of the exhibition together with the Non-Technical Summary and all the response forms.

Copies of the consultation documents may be inspected free of charge using the online facilities only at Stamford Public Library and Oundle Public Library. Please check the opening times as these are subject to change due to the current circumstances.

An analysis of the responses we receive will be included in a Consultation Report that will accompany the application for the DCO. We will report back to the local community to let you know how we have responded to the comments we have received during the consultation process when we submit the application.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any difficulties accessing the documents or if you have any queries on the Telephone Helpline 01904 654989 or by email at ENRMF@augeanconsultation.co.uk.

Yours sincerely

Gene Wilson

Augean PLC, Director of Corporate Stewardship

PROPOSAL

Waste landfill plans cause stir

Concerned villagers have been given more time to have their say on plans to expand a landfill site for hazardous and low-level radioactive waste.

Specialist waste management company Auegan want to extend their East Northants Resource Management Facility (ENRMF) site, at King's Cliffe, into two neighbouring arable fields of about 90 acres, the boundary of which falls within a mile of Duddington.

The current site was opened in 2004 and serves as a landfill site for active hazardous waste and low level radioactive waste, together with a waste treatment and recovery facility.

Auegan say the expansion of the facility, which last year announced profits of more than £2m, would give them enough extra capacity to continue there for another 25 years. Their current consent to operate at the site runs until the end of 2026.

But the proposals have raised concerns from neighbouring villages as well as woodland conservation group

Friends of Fineshade.

Part of the proposed expansion falls in a channel of land separating the ancient woodlands of Fineshade and the national nature reserve at Collyweston Great Wood, designated a site of Special Scientific Interest.

Friends of Fineshade, which is awaiting SSSI designation, say it could threaten a number of species which inhabit the two woods including adders, dormice and newts.

The group had hoped to link the two woods, but believe it would take decades to fill, cap and restore the top surface of the proposed deep pits back to natural habitat.

They have lodged their own proposals for two alternative fields to the south of the current site which they say would limit the impact on wildlife.

Residents of Collyweston have also raised several concerns, including increased traffic on the A43 and A47, and extra light and noise pollution.

Auegan began consulting about its proposals at the end of October and plan to finalise

and submit their Development Consent Order (DCO) to the Government's Planning Inspectorate agency by late spring.

But Covid-19 lockdown and tier restrictions have prevented them from holding public exhibitions in affected neighbourhoods.

Formal consultations end on Monday, but after appeals from residents, the company will accept further consultation responses received before January 8, 2021.

You can lodge your response to the consultation online at www.aueganconsultation.co.uk where links to all the consultation documents and detailed plans are available.

Hard copy exhibition packs, including response forms, are also available by calling (01904) 654989, and copies of the consultation documents can be seen online, free of charge, at Stamford Library and Cundle Library.

Visit www.fineshade.org.uk to see Friends of Fineshade's alternative proposals.

CHARITY



Donation of tools will support shed project

College staff have donated a selection of tools to the Bourne-based charity Don't Lose Hope. Stamford College lecturer Ian Sargent and technician Martin Stapleton responded to a call for help on social media.

They gathered some of their own personal tools for the charity to support its community shed project.

Charity volunteer Dom Brister said: "Thank you to Stamford College construction department for the amazing generosity. These tools have already been put to use

and they will allow us to provide an amazing service and support the workshops we do when we get fully up and running."

Don't Lose Hope provides free or affordable counselling for children and adults at its premises in Bourne.

The charity opened a gift shop in South Street earlier this year to boost its income.

A range of Christmas gifts are currently available including some items made just for the charity. The shop is open Monday to Saturday.

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* maximum also applies, messages which exceed this size will incur extra charges.

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Friends of Fineshade, which is awaiting SSSI designation, say it could threaten a number of species which inhabit the two woods including adders, dormice and newts.

The group had hoped to link the two woods, but believe it would take decades to fill, cap and restore the top surface of the proposed deep pits back to natural habitat.

They have lodged their own proposals for two alternative fields to the south of the current site which they say would limit the impact on wildlife.

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Visit www.fineshade.org.uk/augean to see Friends of Fineshade's alternative proposals.

NEWS

Residents have little time left to have a say in the consultation for East Northants facility

Landfill site for radioactive waste could be expanded

BY ALISON BAGLEY
Community reporter
alison.bagley@nctd.co.uk

A hugely divisive landfill site could expand near to a county beauty spot in East Northamptonshire.

East Northants Resource Management Facility (ENRMF)'s owner Augean is preparing an application for a development consent order for an extension on to fields next to the existing site, which could extend the time it will be active as a landfill site, and which doubles the area in size.

The proposal could see the expansion of the deep pits, where hazardous waste and low-level radioactive waste are disposed of, in to fields between the present landfill site and Fineshade Woods, north of Kings Cliffe.

Members of Friends of Fineshade woods have encouraged residents and users of the ancient woodlands to voice their opinions on the expansion plans by tomorrow (Friday).

A spokesman for Friends of Fineshade said: "Friends of Fineshade have long wished to see the two woods linked more firmly, but the proposed deep pits filled with hazardous waste would separate the two important woodland areas as much as completely."

"It will be decades before the pits are filled, capped and the top surface restored to natural habitat; by then it may well be too late for some of these locally threatened species."

"Both Collyweston Great Wood and Fineshade Wood have a rich diversity of wildlife and have many unusual and threatened species. For example, there are small populations of adders in both woods. There are also omei, newts and many unusual insects and plants. Currently the two arable fields provide a means - albeit imperfect - for some of these populations to interact."

In an online exhibition supporting its proposal Augean has set out its plans for

the landfill site and the restoration of the area scheduled to take place by December 2046.

Augean said: "We are carrying out an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) of the proposal. As part of this pre-application consultation a Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) has been prepared to explain the potentially significant impacts and benefits of the proposed development. The purpose of this consultation is to seek views on this information from the local community as well as statutory consultees before finalising the design and the studies."

"The PEIR presents the environmental information collected to date and provides an initial assessment of any likely significant environmental effects."

The company estimates an extra 2 million cubic metres of landfill space would be created by the project to allow an increase of the tonnage of waste currently processed annually, including items with a level of radioactivity of up to 200 Becquerels per gram.

Radioactive waste is produced by the nuclear power industry and comes from other sources such as hospitals.

Augean says the hazardous waste disposed of in the landfill site at ENRMF is contaminated soils, asbestos, stabilised wastes and residues from recovery or treatment operations.

No liquids, explosive, flammable, oxidising, corrosive or infectious wastes are accepted at landfill sites so Augean does not dispose of solvents, paints etc or electrical equipment into the landfill.

Augean said in a report to Northamptonshire County Council: "This is a very low level of activity and even in worst case assessments will result in additional radioactive exposures that are at insignificant levels and represent a tiny fraction of exposure that the public receives from natural background levels."

"The waste from the power stations largely comprises

'Wrong location for an extension'

The spokesman for Friends of Fineshade added: "We understand that the two arable fields belong to Howard Farms and they have offered Augean an option to purchase. But the same landowner farms the fields immediately to the south, and east, of the current site. Using that land to the south would be far less damaging for wildlife, as it will not cause further fragmentation of the woodland areas. "We realise that extending to the south could lead to the two western fields being left 'stranded', with no connections to the rest of the farmland. Therefore it would be preferable for the two western fields to be converted to woodland or wood pasture, making a significant new wildlife area in mitigation for a profitable southern extension to the landfill facility."

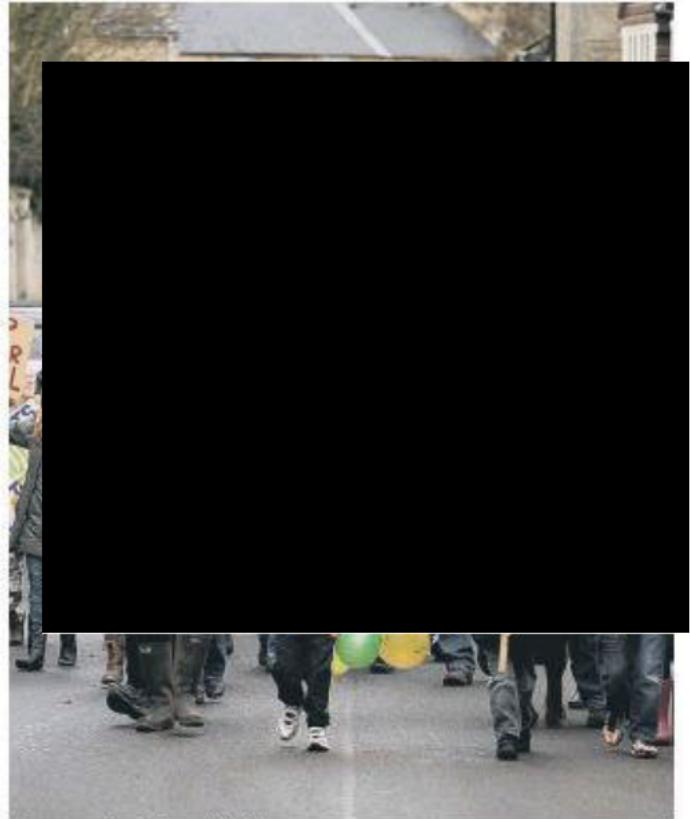
"This is the wrong location for an extension to the landfill site. Augean should be using their opportunity to connect the two species-rich woodlands now, not to separate them by deep pits and steel fences. The disconnection would create a significant biodiversity loss."

"The proposed restoration plans look good, but it won't come about until 2046, by which time it will be too late for threatened species. There is an alternative - the fields to the south of the existing site, need to be properly assessed."

To have your say email ENRMF@augeanconsultation.co.uk, write a letter to ENRMF Project Office, 52 The Tannery, Lawrence St, York, YO10 5WH or call the office on 01904 654939 by Friday, January 8, 2021.

slightly contaminated soils and building rubble, but as they contain low levels of radioactivity they have to be disposed of under specific controls.

"Nationally there is need for disposal capacity, mainly to enable the decommissioning of the current nuclear power industry and other



The protests against the Augean site in 2011



Augean's Kings Cliffe site with the new proposed area for landfill (highlighted in yellow) and the existing site (red)

sources of this type of waste such as hospitals".

The proposals at ENRMF are classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) under the Planning Act 2008 and consent must be granted by the Secretary of State in the form of a Development Consent Order (DCO). Augean will submit the

DCO application to the Planning Inspectorate (PINS) rather than to any local council.

PINS is an impartial public body whose role is to consider all important and relevant matters and advise the Secretary of State whether consent should be granted for nationally significant infrastructure projects.

In 2011, hundreds of protesters took to the street of Kings Cliffe in opposition to the site taking low-level radioactive waste. Six people were arrested on suspicion of aggravated trespass at a protest. Augean won the right to use the original site after a ruling by the Court of Appeal in January 2012.