



**30<sup>th</sup> September 2014**

**Agenda Item:9**

**REPORT OF CORPORATE DIRECTOR POLICY, PLANNING AND  
CORPORATE SERVICES**

**REQUEST FOR LOCAL ACTION GROUP TO MAKE A SPECIAL PRESENTATION IN  
CONNECTION WITH PROPOSALS FOR THE BILSTHORPE ENERGY CENTRE, LAND AT  
BILSTHORPE BUSINESS PARK, OFF EAKRING ROAD, BILSTHORPE**

**Purpose of Report**

1. To seek approval, in line with the Code of Best Practice, to allow a local action group to make a special presentation at a future meeting when Committee considers a planning application for the Bilsthorpe Energy Centre.

**Background**

2. Officers are presently assessing a planning application submitted by Peel Environmental for the development of Bilsthorpe Energy Centre (BEC) to manage unprocessed and pre-treated waste materials through the construction and operation of a Plasma Gasification Facility, Materials Recovery Facility and Energy Generation Infrastructure together with supporting infrastructure. The site relates to 4.35ha of land at the Bilsthorpe Business Park, off Eakring Road, Bilsthorpe. Members will recall attending a site visit earlier in the year.
3. The application has given rise to considerable public interest including representations received from a local action group, Residents Against Gasification Experiment (RAGE). It is anticipated that the application be considered at the Committee meeting of 21st October 2014 as a single item agenda given the nature and complexities of the proposals and the significant level of interest generated.
4. Representatives from RAGE have also expressed to Officers a desire to utilise the special arrangements for public speaking, whereby appropriate local action groups can take advantage of an extended public speaking slot of ten minutes as allowed for by the Code of Best Practice. One or more representatives of such groups are then able to address Committee and, should they wish, make use of visual aids such as a PowerPoint presentation. A reciprocal period of time would be afforded to the applicant. Normal public speaking arrangements would still apply for other parties.

5. Officers can confirm that RAGE have submitted written representations in relation to the proposed development and meet the requirements to make such a presentation subject to Committee approval. This report therefore seeks to secure that formal approval.

### **Other Options Considered**

6. No other options have been considered.

### **Statutory and Policy Implications**

7. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of finance, the public sector equality duty, human resources, crime and disorder, human rights, the safeguarding of children, sustainability and the environment, and those using the service and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

8. It is RECOMMENDED that Committee agree to allow Residents Against Gasification Experiment (RAGE) to make a special presentation at the future meeting when the application for the Bilsthorpe Energy Centre is to be considered with reciprocal rights given to Peel Environmental as applicant.

**JAYNE FRANCIS-WARD**

**Corporate Director Policy, Planning and Corporate Services**

### **Constitutional Comments**

‘Planning and Licensing Committee is the appropriate body to consider the content of this report.’

[SLB 08/09/14]

### **Comments of the Service Director - Finance**

‘There are no specific financial implications arising directly from this report.’

[SEM 08/09/14]

### **Background Papers Available for Inspection**

The application file available for public inspection by virtue of the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985.

**Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected**

|                      |                          |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
| Rufford Division     | Councillor Peck          |
| Farnsfield & Lowdham | Councillor Roger Jackson |
| Southwell & Caunton  | Councillor Laughton      |

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For any enquiries about this report, please contact the report author.

15 Sep 2014