

4R Group Organic Waste Recycling Plant

Application No **EPR/GB3202XN/A001**

30 April 2019

Our role is to protect and improve the environment so that everyone can enjoy the benefits of a clean safe and healthy place to live.

We are responsible for granting or refusing environmental permits and regulating sites that deal with waste. We will not issue a permit if current evidence suggests that the operation will be harmful to health or the environment.

This briefing is a follow up to the one issued on 22nd March 2019.

Current situation

We are now in the process of determining an Environmental Permit application from 4Recycling Ltd, also known as 4R Group for an organic waste recycling plant at The Old Peat Works, Reading Gate, Swinefleet, DN14 8BT. The application number is EPR/GB3202XN/A001.

- The application is now being technically assessed by experienced specialist officers. We are gathering comments from all relevant parts of the Environment Agency, such as our flood risk management officers, waste specialists and biodiversity colleagues. An experienced permitting officer is overseeing this process.
- There is still time for members of the public to respond to the consultation which is open until 8th May 2019
- Our Permitting Technical Officers will be seeking further information from the applicant
- We will issue further information once we have completed our assessment of the application and consultation comments

Making your comments:

- You are able to make comments in writing until **8th** May 2019. We accept comments in three ways:
- Via this website: <https://consult.environment-agency.gov.uk/psc/dn17-4bl-4recycling-ltd>
- By email to: pscpublicresponse@environment-agency.gov.uk
- By writing to: Environment Agency, Permitting and Support Centre, Land Team, Quadrant 2, 99 Parkway Avenue, Sheffield, S9 4WF.

Normally we are required to put any responses we receive on the public register. This includes your name and contact details. Please tell us if you do not want your response to be public.

Our assessment:

After completing our assessment and taking account of all relevant consultation responses we will advertise our draft decision document and draft permit - this is known as our 'Minded to Decision'. You will be able to see our response to your comments raised during the consultation in our draft decision

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0800 80 70 60

floodline
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document. We will consider any further representations made at this point before we make a final decision on whether to issue the permit.

What sort of comments are we able to take into account?

We use environmental permits to minimise the environmental impact of local industry. Certain activities, such as waste treatment, cannot take place unless a permit has been obtained. These permits have conditions that are designed to prevent or reduce pollution and prevent harm to human health.

Legally we have to grant a permit if the applicant satisfies all the relevant criteria. If we grant a permit, we will monitor the operator's compliance with these conditions, to make sure the activity is operated correctly to protect the environment and human health.

There are two ways that you can help us when we are considering a permit application.

1) You can give us information relevant to our decision that we have not been made aware of in the application. For example, you might be aware of local health issues, or a sensitive local habitat, which you think means we should impose particularly strict conditions in the permit.

2) You can also make us aware if you think there are inaccuracies in the application.

Whilst we legally have to grant a permit if the applicant satisfies all the relevant criteria, your comments can help us make sure that the conditions in the permit are strict enough to protect your local environment and health.

We can take account of	We can't take account of
Relevant environmental regulatory requirements and technical standards.	Issues beyond those in the relevant environmental regulations.
Information on local population and sensitive sites.	Whether a site should have a formal designation under Habitats Directive or other conservation legislation.
Comments on whether the right process is being used for the activity, for example whether the technology is the right one.	Whether the activity should be allowed or not as a matter of principle. For example we won't consider whether wood, gas, or coal should be burnt to produce electricity; only that the options and environmental impact of say wood has been considered. We will not consider whether a waste incinerator proposal should be turned into a sorting and recycle proposal, only that the incinerator options and effect have been considered.
The shape and use of the land around the site in terms of its potential impact, whether that impact is acceptable and what pollution control or abatement may be required.	Land use issues when determining a permit application, even if changing the location of the activity would improve its environmental performance.
The impact of noise and odour from traffic on site.	The impact of noise and odour from traffic travelling to and from the site.

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Our Regulatory Officer can assist you with any specific queries not covered in this newsletter.

You can contact us through our National Customer Contact Service number 03708 506506 or enquiries@environment-agency.gov.uk