

Groundwork Lincolnshire Eco2 Consultation Report Brigg: December 2008



Index:

Page 2	Current & Historic issues in the local area Overview of consultation with residents
Page 3	Overview of consultation with residents (continued)
Page 4	Frequently asked questions during consultation
Page 5	Survey Results
Page 6	Survey Results
Page 7	Survey Results
Page 8	Resident Recommendations
Page 9	Resident Recommendations

1.0. PHASE ONE

Letters offering a consultation session and an accompanying Groundwork Lincolnshire brochure were hand delivered to approximately 120 houses on Scawby Road, Brook Lane and Church Lane, Brigg.

32 households requested and took part in consultation.
3 home run businesses requested and took part in consultation.

2.0 Current & Historic issues in the local area

Traffic

There are problems with congestion from the A18 coming onto the mini roundabout from both the A180 and centre of Brigg during peak time traffic. Residents feel that the current roundabout and road system at this junction is inadequate to cope with current demands.

Flooding

There are current (well documented) problems with regards to flooding of the Gas Plant and homes and gardens adjacent to the plant on Brook Lane as well as land and road networks along Scawby Road / Brook Lane and Silversides.

A number of planning applications made by residents and businesses located on Scawby Road / Silversides and Brook Lane have been turned down because of the flood risk.

Houses located on Brook Lane have had insurers revoke policies because of flooding issues.

Littering Straw Debris

There have been previous problems regarding straw debris from farm vehicles travelling along Scawby Road, straw debris blocks grates / drainage outlets as well as blowing into gardens on Scawby Road.

Gas Plant

When consultation was carried out to build the gas plant, residents were assured by local Councillors and representatives from the plant that it would be screened from view; however this was never carried out.

Road Safety

There have been a number of traffic accidents / incidents at the Scawby junction beyond the sugar beet factory entrance.

Road Infrastructure

18 months ago the main gas pipe that is under Scawby Road fractured leaking gas into the local area.

3.0 Overview of consultation with residents.

The main areas of concern expressed by residents are regarding traffic, flooding, fire risk and quality of life.

Residents feel that their views & opinions have not being taken into consideration with regards to the Eco2 development. There are a number of issues as detailed above already affecting the local area and they feel that the positioning of the proposed Eco2 Plant at the former sugar beet factory site will greatly impact and add to the current issues primarily with regards to congestion and flooding.

Residents feel that their quality of life will be adversely affected and that the local environment is being destroyed to benefit the wider environment under the guise of a 'green' energy source.

Residents are sceptical of Eco2 intentions; as far as they are concerned Eco2 is just a company jumping on the green band wagon to make money for its shareholders.

Residents feel that no effort has been made to look at local road infrastructure or the effect the plant will have on the local community and residents. They feel that the site was picked purely because of the already in place link up to the grid through the existing gas plant.

Residents believe that they were deliberately not told of the consultation at the Swann Centre because they would have been the loudest objectors.

Neither North Lincolnshire Council, Brigg Town Council nor Scawby Parish Council have carried out impartial consultation with residents to obtain their views and opinions regarding the proposed plant. Residents believe this is because no council member from either group live along Scawby Road or in the vicinity of the proposed plant site.

Residents do not believe that adequate or recent assessments of the following have been carried out in relation to the proposed site.

- Transport Routes / Road Networks / Traffic Flow.
- Site Fire Risk / Hazard.
- Flood Risk.

Residents believe that the increased traffic will:

- Pollute and have an impact on local air quality.
- Increase risk of accidents.
- Increase congestion.
- Reduce house prices.
- Have a detrimental effect on quality of life for those who live along proposed traffic route.
- Residents believe that the plant build will cause excess rain water to flow from the site onto land / dykes / streams nearby causing further flood risk to properties and land nearby.
- Three residents claim to have put their properties up for sale because of the proposed site.
- All of the residents who said that they had attended previous consultation regarding the proposed site at which Eco2 representatives were present found them to be rude / arrogant and not really interested in their opinion.
- Residents stated that documents submitted to planning or for public consultation contained maps which had road names from the Eco2 Sleaford plant site, so it looked as if the plans had simply been cut and pasted for the Brigg site. As a result of this they had come to the conclusion that the Brigg site was just a backup plan in case the Sleaford plant did not obtain planning permission. This is why they believe that not enough preliminary work has been carried out by Eco2 with regards to surveying local road infrastructure / flood risk / local environmental effect.
- Residents believe that once the plant is built Eco2 will sell the site.
- Residents are extremely angry and totally disillusioned with regards to Brigg Town Council / Scawby Town Council / North Lincolnshire Council and Eco2.
- They feel that regardless of what they say the plant build will go ahead.

4.0 Frequent questions asked by residents during consultation:

- What sites other than the Sugar Beet Factory site were looked at?
- What are the reasons for sitting the proposed Eco2 Plant on the sugar beet site?

Transport Routes

- What exact transport routes will plant traffic be taking, and why has it been decided to use these specific routes?
- Have any surveys been carried out in relation to traffic flow, proposed routes and road networks?
- If Eco2 intend using just the one route to transport straw / ash to and from the plant what happens if that route is blocked?
- How will Eco2 police transport routes, how will they know plant traffic is using designated routes?
- How does Eco intend negating the impact of congestion that the plant traffic will have on the local area?

Straw

- Transport of Straw: How will the straw be bailed? Will the straw be wrapped? What size and weight are the straw bales?
- How long, how wide and how tall are the lorries that will be transporting straw to the plant site?
- Approximately what is the minimum and maximum number of plant traffic journeys on a daily basis for lorries / employees / service support / in and out?
- How do Eco2 propose to deal with the straw littering issue for gardens and waterways?
- How will straw at the site be stored?
- What other things could be burnt at the site?

Plant Build / Flood Risk

- How do Eco2 intend to address flooding / drainage / rain water runoff that the plant will encounter / cause?
- Does Eco2 intend on screening the site from view to lessen the impact on homes adjacent to the site?
- As straw is to be stored on site how do they intend to secure against arson attack? What fire hazard risk assessment protocol will be in place to prevent / protect / minimise fire hazard?
- What risk assessments have been carried out in relation to sitting the proposed plant next to an operational Gas Plant?
- As the proposed site is near to a residential area what emergency procedures have Eco2 put in place should a fire breakout?

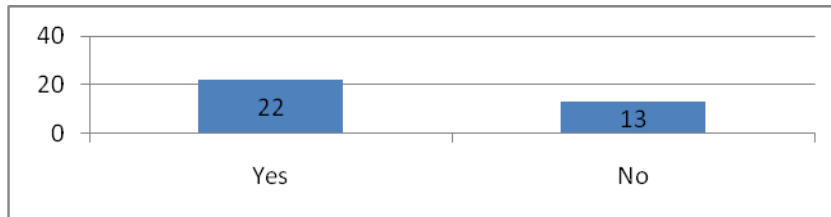
Local Environment:

- How does Eco2 propose to negate the impact of carbon emissions made by lorries and burning of straw in the local area?

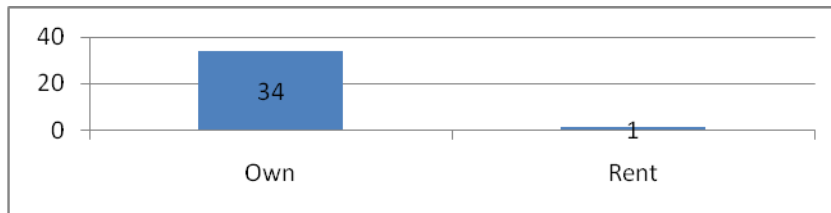
5.0 Survey Results

Survey Question:

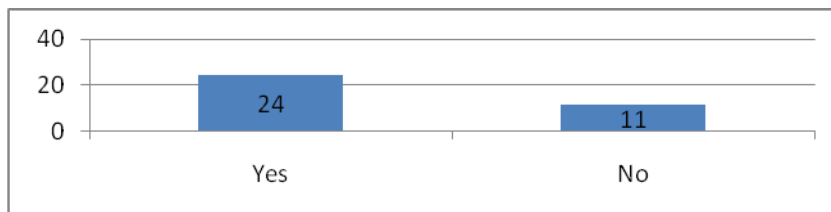
Have you taken part in any consultation other than this one regarding the proposed Eco2 Development?



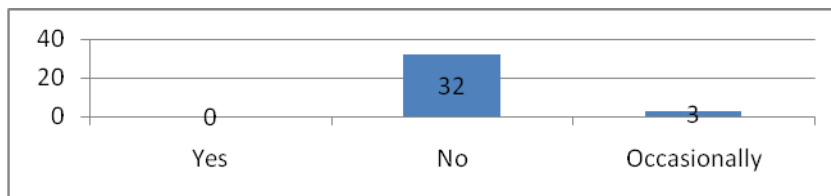
Survey Question: *Do you own or rent your property?*



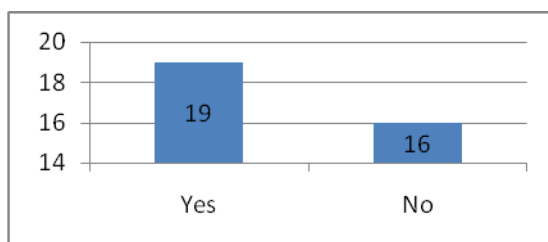
Survey Question: *Does the property have direct access onto Scawby Road?*



Survey Question: *Do you park your vehicles on Scawby Road?*



Survey Question: *Does your Property face Scawby Road?*



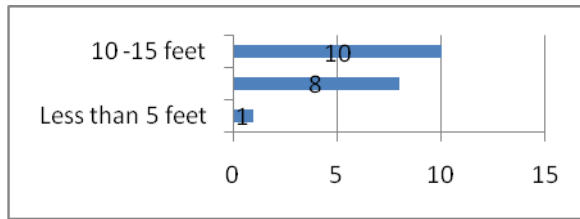
Survey Question: *How far from the property boundary is Scawby Road?*

*19 Households answered this question

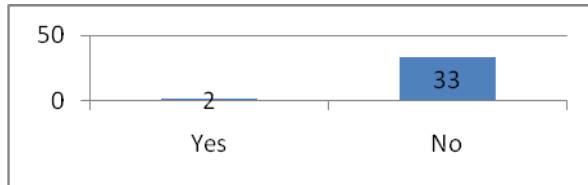
Less than 5 Foot= 1 Property

Between 5 -10 Foot= 8 properties

Between 10 -15 Foot = 10 properties

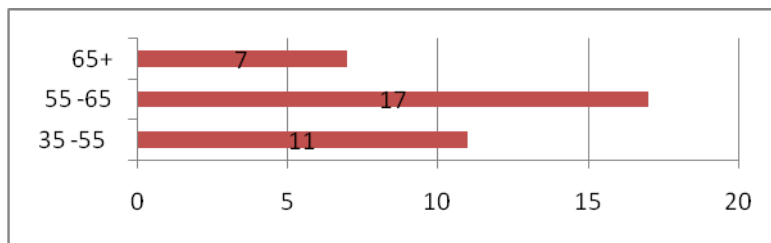


Survey Question: Does anyone at your property work 'night shifts'

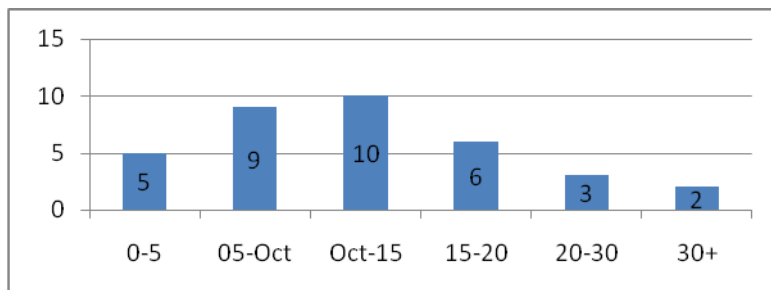


Community Profile

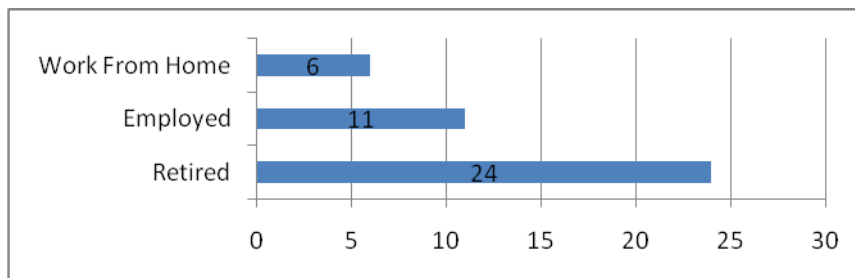
Age Range of households who took part in survey:



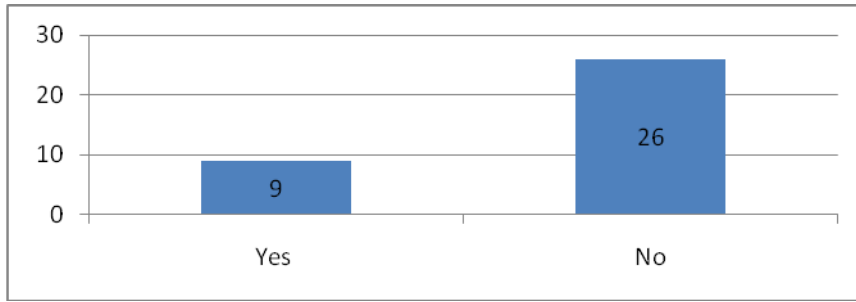
How long people have lived in the property:



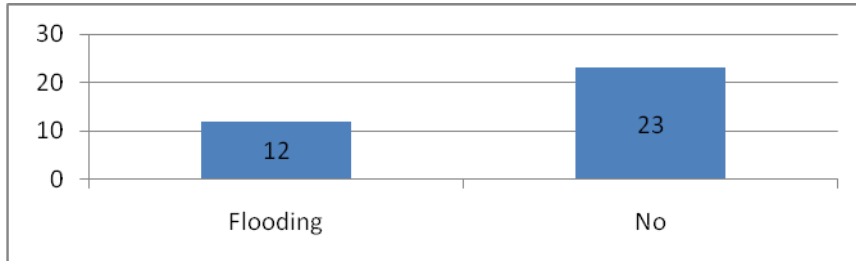
If residents are Retired - Employed - Work From Home



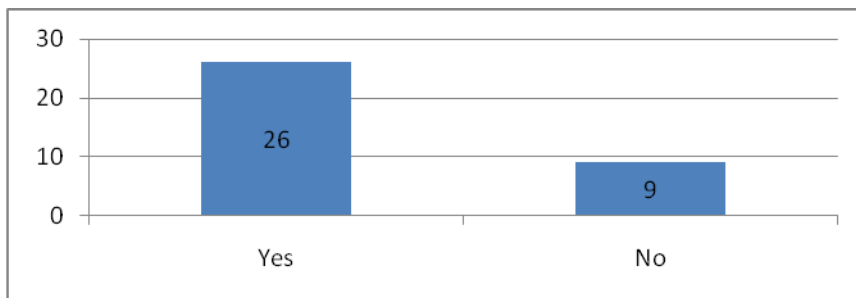
Households with children under the age of 16



Properties that have problems with flooding:



Survey Question: *Can the proposed Eco2 site be seen from the property?*



End of Survey Results

6.0 Resident Recommendations

- Residents do not feel that adequate provision has been made in relation to fire risk or threat from arson; residents recommends that full risk assessments and evacuation procedures should be carried out and published in relation to this issue.
- Residents do not feel that adequate provision has been made in relation to flood risk; residents recommend that full risk assessments and evacuation procedures should be carried out and published in relation to this issue.
- Residents do not feel that an appropriate up to date traffic survey has been carried out in relation to current traffic use on Scawby Road or a full concise and clear projection of use by proposed plant traffic. Residents recommend that an up to date independent survey should be carried out and published in relation to this issue.
- Residents do not feel that the practicalities of having such a large volume of lorries using the transport route suggested have been explored in any depth. Residents feel that a demonstration is required.
- Residents do not feel that an adequate transport route and road structural surveys have been carried out in relation to road use by plant traffic. Residents recommend that an up to date independent survey should be carried out and published in relation to this issue.
- Residents recommend that Eco2 provide an emergency procedure plan on what routes they will use if the Scawby Road route from Brigg to the plant is ever blocked, and maps denoting the routes that plant traffic will take if this was to occur.
- Residents recommend that an appropriate and independent environmental and air quality survey be carried out and projections of how they will be affected by a fully operational plant and associated traffic.

Proposed Transport Routes / Traffic Noise

- Residents recommend that: ECO2 utilise all transport routes into the plant from Redbourne / Scawby etc rather than just Scawby Road to lessen the amount of vehicles travelling on Scawby Road thus reducing noise / pollution / litter / risk of accident to residents / properties and the environment of Scawby Road.
- To operate a no lorry travel policy during rush hour / peak traffic times to lessen effect on congestion.
- To offer properties within close proximity to the road free incentives such as fencing / hedging / glazing to minimise visual / noise / pollution impact.
- Speed restrictions to be placed on lorries.
- The widening of and installation of traffic lights at Scawby / Brigg roundabout to minimise congestion.
- The widening / slip road / possible dog-leg to at the entrance to the power plant.

Straw

- Residents recommend that: Straw is to be wrapped / covered whilst in transport to minimise straw litter along route.
- Eco2 plant to operate a road sweeper which would come out twice daily; once during lunch hour and once at end of each evening to clear way straw debris.
- Straw to be stored on site in a manner so that there is no risk to residents from fire / arson.
- Address the issue of vermin control which they believe will be exasperated by storage of straw at site.

Flooding

- Plant to do all possible to ensure that they do not add to the flooding issues. Install rain water harvesting and water runoff technologies within the plant and site development.

Plant Visual / Noise

- Plant to be screened with planting to minimise visual and noise impact on surrounding area.

Plant entrance / Road signage

- Plant entrance to be effectively signed / warned for motorists travelling along route near to plant entrance.
- Site access / entrance to be more prominent with lighting / signage etc again to warn on coming motorists.