

Christopher Osborne

From: McFerran, Kathryn <Kathryn.McFerran@doeni.gov.uk>
Sent: 07 March 2011 09:40
To: Christopher Osborne
Cc: Crilly, Yvonne
Subject: Ref: MISC/30040 [Scanned]
Attachments: UFU Chris Osborne 30040.pdf

Dear Chris Osborne,

Further to your emails to Planning Service on the 11 February 2011 and the 14 February 2011, please find attached Planning Service's response.

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Regards

Kathryn McFerran

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Date: 7 March 2011
 Our Reference: MISC/30040



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Please Contact: Dr K McFerran
 Direct line: 028 9041 6833

Query in Relation to Planning Fees for Anaerobic Digestion Facilities

Dear Chris Osborne,

I acknowledge receipt of your emails to Planning Service dated 11 February 2011 and the 14 February 2011 in which you query planning fees for anaerobic digester facilities.

Further to your query, I wish to confirm and clarify that the Planning Service's position in relation to anaerobic digestion facilities is that they all require planning permission regardless of their location, size, scale or the waste to be processed (in your query you refer specifically to agricultural crops, maize and grass silage). Planning Service is of the view that anaerobic digestion facilities are not reasonably necessary for the purposes of agriculture within a farm unit and therefore would not satisfy the criteria for permitted development under Schedule 1 Part 6 (Agriculture) of the Planning (General Development) Order (Northern Ireland) 1993. Planning permission is therefore required even where anaerobic digestors are of small scale and providing energy for the farm unit alone. Anaerobic digestors involve the processing of waste to generate energy which is not considered reasonably necessary for the purposes of agriculture within that unit.

The fee for a planning application for an anaerobic digester facility, if based externally, falls within Category 8 (d) at £1,775 for each 0.5 hectare of the site area subject to a maximum of £38,400 or if the anaerobic digester facility is housed within a building, the fee is based on Category 4 at £237 where no floor space is created or £237 for each 75 sq.m of floor space subject to a maximum of £11, 834. If an anaerobic digester facility is to be housed both internally and externally on a site, the highest fee is applicable.

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Kathryn McFerran



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