

Comments for Planning Application 143194/JO/2025

Application Summary

Application Number: 143194/JO/2025

Address: Suez Ts & Hwrc Longley Lane Sharston M22 4RQ

Proposal: Variation of condition 9 (hours) attached to planning permission 083920/FO/2007/S2 to allow operational hours of the site to change to 06:00 to 22:00 Monday to Sunday (including bank holidays) for material reception and 24 hours Monday to Sunday for materials processing

Case Officer: David Lawless

Customer Details

Name: Not Available

Address: Not Available

Comment Details

Commenter Type: Group

Stance: Customer objects to the Planning Application

Comment Reasons:

Comment: We are writing to you in connection with the proposal by Suez to increase site processing time to operate 24 hours per day 365 days per year and in addition to extend deliveries to 06.00- 22.00 at their facility on Longley Lane, Sharston M22 4RQ

In their proposal there are a number of very severe "errors"

Firstly, they state there has only been one complaint in the last 3 years regarding noise. This is totally wrong. In fact, there were more than 50 complaints regarding odour and more than 15 complaints concerning noise in 2023 alone. The number of complaints and the lack of any progress to resolve issues by Suez was taken up by our then MP, Mrs Mary Robinson, who met with the residents on Lorna Grove and Dingle Grove along with senior representatives of Suez at which a number action plans were put in place. Very few of these plans were carried through by Suez.

In their Quality Manual concerning complaints it states that Suez must give a written response within 28 days. Nobody has ever received any response or follow up.

In 2024, we (the local neighbourhood residents) attempted to set up a meeting to discuss the ongoing problems with both odour and noise. No meeting was forthcoming and if anything the situation has got worse. On many occasions it has been impossible to spend an evening in our garden due to odour. The noise issue isn't just the sound but we can feel the "thud". The other aspect of noise is the heavy lorries entering the site which also generates a considerable amount of background noise. During pleasant evenings it is not possible to sit in the garden as the smell is intolerable and if we have our grandchildren to stay they refuse to go in the garden on days when

the smell is bad.

Suez said they had employed a third party company to monitor odours. At one of very many meetings we had with Suez they had agreed to have an "open book" and share all the findings with the local residents. Despite requesting this on numerous occasions we did not receive the report.

They submitted information to the Environment Agency concerning the level of complaints and once again they did not share this information with us despite agreeing to do so on many occasions.

One cause of odour was identified in 2024 - this being the large containers coming onto the site and especially when they were parked overnight. This practice was supposed to have stopped but it is noted it still continues. One of the consequences of this means we and other residents cannot sleep with bedroom windows open due to the dreadful odour. During the day we are often forced to keep exterior doors closed to keep the smell out.

Over the last three years we have had at least 14 meetings at the site and a number of meetings at our house to complain and discuss and to try to find a way forward. Many promises were made by Suez but very few followed through. There are very many emails & SMS messages between Suez and myself on the various complaints and topics that I have mentioned. These can be made available but at this stage I am attempting to avoid data overload and just to provide you with a dashboard overview of the many problems we are facing with Suez. We are more than happy to have a face-to-face meeting to go into detail on the various complaints / issues.

We already have issues with light pollution from the site, which during the winter months illuminates our bedrooms. If the site is operating 24/7 then this will be a major issue for us.

In conclusion, the situation today is intolerable and restricts the lives of local residents to enjoy their homes and their gardens. To potentially expand the throughput of the Suez site is just not acceptable with the consequential increase in odour and noise. We have been seeking to have the throughput and working time reduced and certainly not extended.

A petition strongly objecting to this proposal has been signed by more than 200 people and will be posted to Mr David Lawless.