



WELCOME

Farm Biomethane is proposing an anaerobic digestion (AD) biomethane plant on a site at Beanston Farm, north of the A199 and west of East Linton.

The following boards provide information on what is being proposed. We welcome your views on the proposal and any questions or comments you may have.

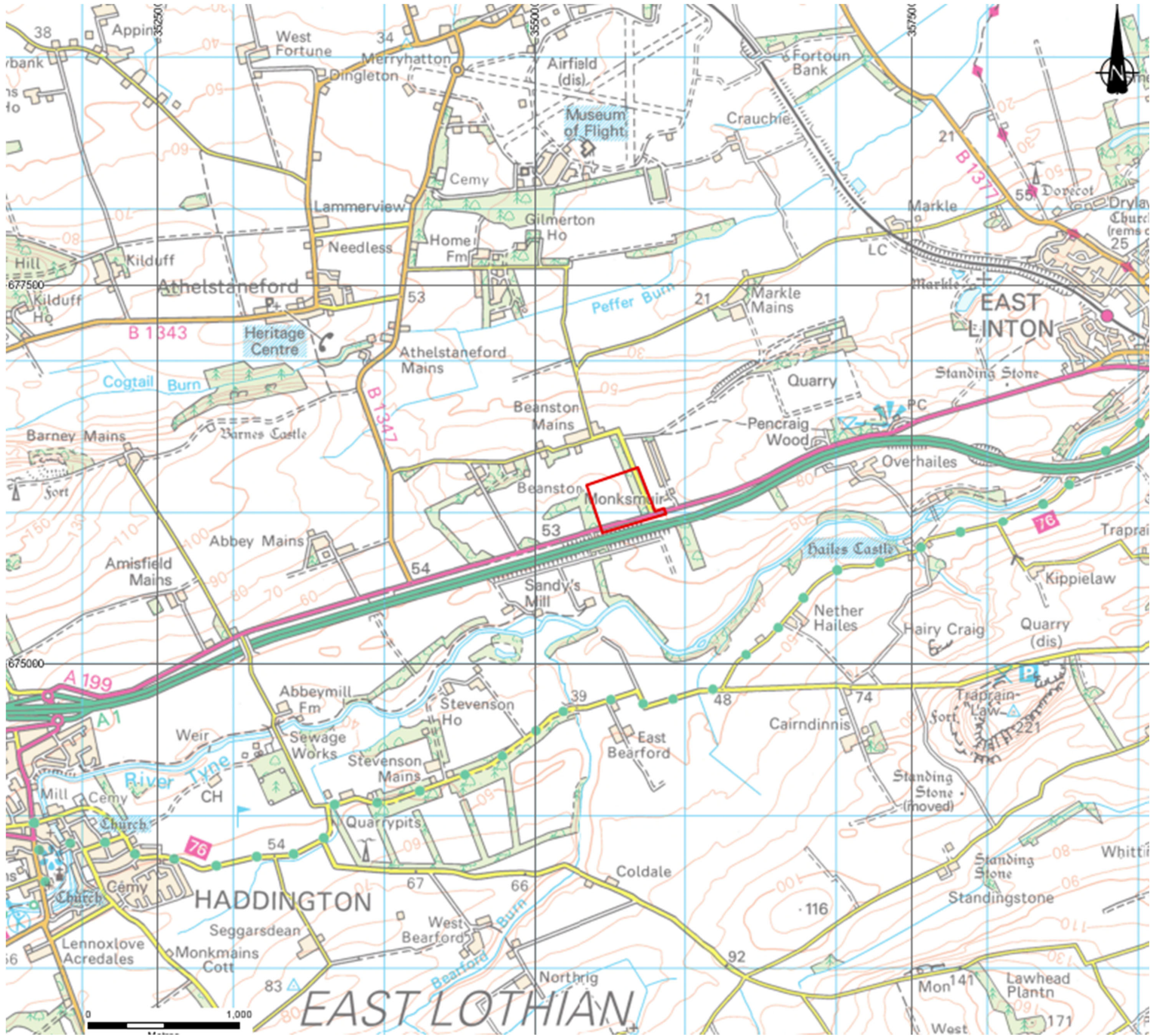
About us

Farm Biomethane partner with farmers and landowners to develop, operate and invest in sustainable clean energy anaerobic digestion, contributing towards the UK’s renewable energy & carbon emission reduction targets.

Farm Biomethane are the development partner of SWING Biomethane in Great Britain.

Fam Biomethane is currently developing 3 AD sites in Scotland, three in England and one in Wales. Additionally, FBL is the Asset Manager for Bangley Quarry Biogas and we are investigating a further 4 potential AD sites.

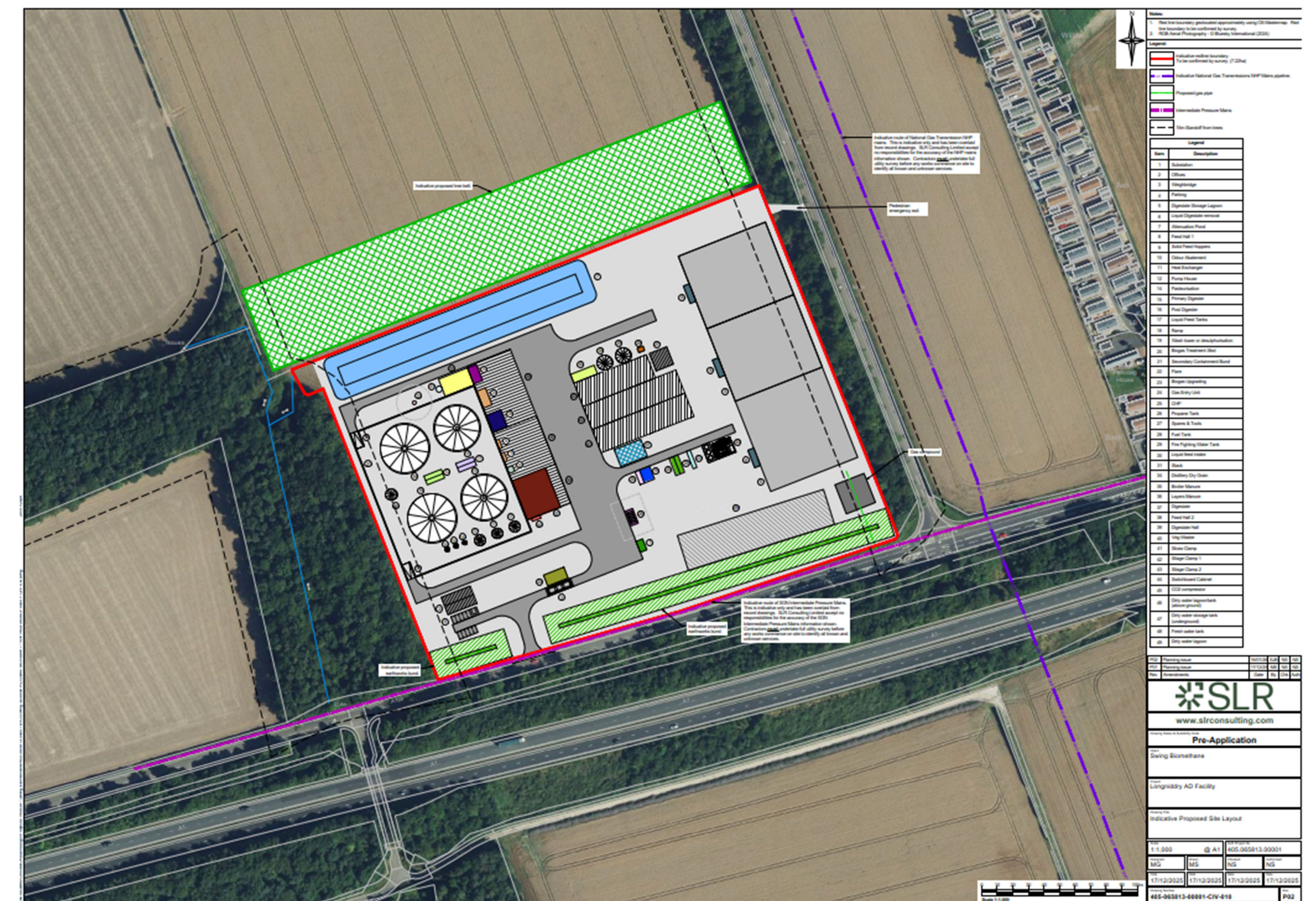
www.farmbiomethane.co.uk





SITE & PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

- In order to deliver a successful Anaerobic Digestion project you require suitable local feedstock, a willing landowner and access to the gas grid.
- There are local farmers and businesses who are keen to secure a route to reuse farm and organic waste. The land is owned by Wemyss and March Estates and will be leased for 40 years, allowing long term contracts to be made with local farmers and businesses.
- The site is very accessible. A new access onto the A199 would ensure that traffic impacts are minimised.
- The site sits at a junction with a high pressure gas pipeline running immediately to the east and a lower pressure gas pipeline running immediately to the south of the site.
- There are no environmental or heritage designations within the proposed site.



Indicative Site Layout



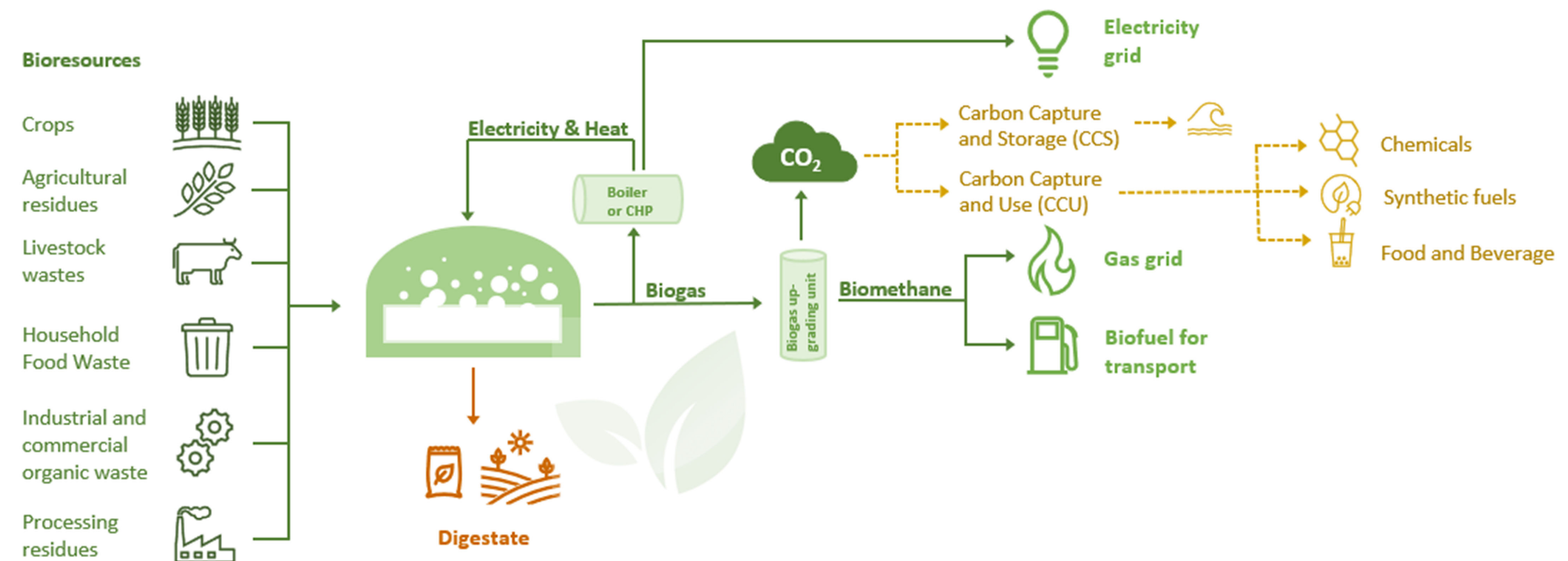
WHAT IS 'ANAEROBIC DIGESTION'?

Anaerobic digestion (AD) is a natural process by which organic waste is converted into clean renewable energy and digestate (biofertilizer). The purpose of the proposed AD plant is to take agricultural and biodegradable commercial waste and crop, digest it, and inject the gas directly into the local gas grid.

The process is safe, sustainable and helps decarbonise the gas grid, assisting in tackling the climate emergency.

The proposed AD plant will support East Lothian farming and other local businesses by:

- Providing a local long-term market for grown crops used as feedstock
- Providing organic fertiliser from the plant to improve their soil structure
- Reducing the farmers' reliance on purchased chemical fertilisers
- Taking residues and waste from local business for use as feedstock



The diagram above shows potential feedstock and outputs and uses. The proposed Beanston AD plant will not take household food waste and will export biogas into the grid (Image source: Alder Bioinsights).



Example AD plant



ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENTS

Any future planning application would be supported by a range of technical environmental assessment, including the following :-

LANDSCAPE & VISUAL

A Landscape & Visual Appraisal (LVA) will be undertaken to consider potential impacts on the local area from a range of viewpoints. The LVA will inform proposed landscape mitigation such as tree planting and bunding along site boundaries.

ECOLOGY

An ecological assessment will be undertaken to identify what flora and fauna are present on site. Ecological enhancement is proposed along site boundaries via new native species tree planting.

AIR QUALITY

An air quality assessment will be undertaken. The findings of which will feed into the final scheme design to ensure there are no unacceptable air quality impacts as a result of the scheme.



HERITAGE ENVIRONMENT

An assessment of potential impacts on heritage assets in the wider area will be undertaken. This will include a consideration of designations such as Listed Buildings, Scheduled Monuments and Conservation Areas amongst others.

TRAFFIC

A Traffic Statement will be prepared. This will consider vehicle movements to and from site and potential impacts on the local road network.

FLOOD RISK ASSESSMENT & DRAINAGE

A Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Impact Assessment will be undertaken to support the application. The AD plant will be designed so as to manage surface water appropriately.

NOISE

A Noise Impact Assessment will be undertaken to assess potential noise generation from the AD plant.



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Will it smell?

- The AD process takes place inside sealed tanks and so no odour is generated from there. The feedstock (organic material fed into the process) will be predominately farm waste and organic waste from East Lothian businesses. That feedstock will not generate significant smell.
- No domestic food waste will be taken (which can generate significant smell).
- The main building will have fast closing shutters and negative air pressure to ensure any smell that does arise within the building is contained within the building.
- We will be undertaking odour modelling as part of the planning application. The operation will be controlled by permit from SEPA. That will include control of smell to ensure that there are no harmful impacts in the area on an ongoing basis.



Will it be noisy?

- The design of the AD Plant will ensure that noise from the site is minimal. We will be undertaking a noise assessment to check this is the case.
- Deliveries will not take place at night which will help ensure noise is minimal in the evening/night when the background noise level will be quieter.
- The noise impact will be controlled through the planning application and through the SEPA licence.

Will there be lots of traffic?

- The feedstock will be delivered by farm vehicles and HGVs, predominantly from within East Lothian. We are undertaking a traffic assessment which will include a calculation of the number of vehicles that would enter and leave the site.
- We anticipate the volume of traffic will be small in respect of the traffic using the A199 and will be well within the design capacity for the road.
- Our proposed new access directly off the A199 will ensure that we do not need to create a vehicle access to the east which would face towards Monks Muir Park.



What will it look like?

- The process takes place in domed tanks. There will be various small buildings and some lagoons which also form part of the process. A larger shed will take deliveries and store feedstock, ready for use within the process. The buildings and AD tanks can be coloured brown or green to help them blend into the surrounding area.
- Tree planning to the north and south, and an earth bund to the south, will help the site fit into the landscape. As planting matures its visual impact will reduce.
- We will be undertaking a Visual Impact Assessment as part of the planning application.



PROJECT PROGRAMME



Next Event

Friday 27th February 2026, 3:30pm-7:30pm, East Linton
Community Hall, 75 High St, East Linton EH40 3BQ.

Contact

Further details about the proposals and the pre-planning application public consultation events can be requested by email to hello@beanstonfarmAD.co.uk, by writing to Orbit Communications, 42 Charlotte Square, Edinburgh EH2 4HQ, or by telephone on 0131 202 3259.

Please note, comments made to Farm Biomethane do not constitute representations to East Lothian Council as the Planning Authority. A further opportunity to make representations to East Lothian Council will be available following formal submission of the planning application.



EVENT 1 QUESTIONS & FEEDBACK

Below we have summarised and provided some further information in relation to a number of the key topics raised during the first consultation event.

Comments raised regarding access and road safety on the A199

- We are in the process of a pre-application consultation with East Lothian Council. They are aware of concerns but do not propose to change road speeds at the moment.
- The Council wish to provide a cycle lane along the A199 and have asked that our design allows for that possibility.
- The site will operate for 10 hours per day. In the summer we predict around 3 vehicles in and 3 vehicles out of the site per hour, and in the winter 1 in and 1 out per hour.

Queries with regard to operational impacts such as noise, odour and lighting

- A full assessment of all operations impacts will be provided as part of the planning application. The plant is selected to ensure that impacts are minimised. Importantly the feedstock will not include food waste which can smell.
- The site will not be lit at night outside of operating hours, unless required for maintenance.
- The site will operate under a SEPA license which will control noise and odour.

Comments regarding landscape and visual impact

- We have prepared an indicative visualisation. To create this image in time for this consultation we have only included the tallest building. This and other visualisations will be fully worked up for the planning application.
- We have prepared elevations of the site (see next board). These are subject to change but provide a good overview of the likely range of plant proposed.

Why here?

- Proximity to local gas networks to the east and south, enabling gas supply to local properties on the gas network.
- Proximity to A199/ A1.
- Proximity to local feedstock and end users of digestate.
- Available land (which is not under agricultural tenancy).
- No environmental designations on proposed development site.



FURTHER DESIGN DETAIL

