



Nature Energy US LLC
2550 University Ave. West
Suite 320-S
St. Paul, MN 55114

BEHA@nature-energy.com
www.nature-energy.com

Plan Commission, Village of Roberts
107 E. Maple Street
Roberts, WI 54023

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Att. Mr. Willard Moeri, Chair

Village of Roberts Responses to Common Questions Raised

Nature Energy via their attorney Mr. Nicholas Vivian, Esq of Eckberg Lammers, understands there are additional questions and concerns have arisen from the public, the Board, and Plan Commission officials, regarding Nature Energy's proposed biogas facility (Project) in the Village of Roberts. In order to address the question surrounding the potential for environmental impacts resulting from the proposed project (construction and operation), Nature Energy has conducted a comprehensive review of the potential environmental impacts during construction and operation of the proposed Project. Nature Energy has enclosed the "Nature Energy Biogas Facility Roberts, Wisconsin Environmental Summary" (Environmental Summary) with this correspondence. This document presents comprehensive information and details regarding the various natural and human/social resources in proximity to the planned facility location and an assessment of the potential for impacts to these resources as a result of construction and operation of the facility. Please refer directly to this document where indicated below. For all questions not addressed directly in the Environmental Summary document, please see our response to each below.

In addition, Nature Energy received comments from the Village or Roberts Agronomist with respect to the proposed Project, dated April 26, 2022. Nature Energy's responses to questions/comments raised by the Agronomist are enclosed.

How many buildings will be located at the facility, and what are the building/structure heights?

Attachment 1 of the Environmental Summary includes the conceptual illustrations of how the Roberts facility will look after construction. Just like Nature Energy's successful operations in Denmark, the new Roberts facility will feature state-of-the-art technology to generate biogas in clean and safe facility. We want to be good neighbors in the new location, including use of trees around the property to reduce noise and visual impacts, and the trucks transporting materials to and

from local farms will be kept clean and in good condition. The Roberts facility will consist of a total of 22 building structures, the majority, including the two enclosed flares, between approximately 40 and 50 feet tall. The site will include four stacks, ranging in height from 35 to 197 feet tall, eight (8) 82-foot-tall digesters, and a 15-foot-tall administration building. No underground tanks are proposed as part of the facility components. Please refer to Attachment 1 General Facility Layout rendering infographic in the attached document “Environmental Summary”.

What are the anticipated traffic impacts?

Please refer to Section 2.11 (Traffic and Transportation) of the attached “Environmental Summary”.

What is the volume of water usage through the Village Treatment Plant?

Please refer to Section 2.1.2 (Water Quality) of the attached “Environmental Summary”.

What are the anticipated environmental impacts associated with the proposed project?

Please refer to Section 2 (Environmental Impacts) of the attached “Environmental Summary”.

How does the facility work?

Please refer to Section 1 (Nature Energy Biogas Facility Overview) of the attached “Environmental Summary”.

What is coming in, and where is it coming from?

The Roberts facility is proposed to process approximately 600,000 tons of raw waste material per year. This includes approximately 450,000 tons of dairy manure from 5,500 to 6,500 cows within a 18-20-mile radius from the facility. Raw material inputs will also include 100,000 tons of turkey litter and 30,000 tons of food processing solids from a regional turkey production facility in western Wisconsin. Nature Energy is committed to working with local dairy farms that have 60 to 2,000 cows all located within a 18-20-mile radius of the Roberts location on 130th Street.

What is being transported from the facility, and where is it going?

The anaerobic digestion process produces biomethane (CH₄) and carbon dioxide (CO₂), and a residual manure product. The renewable natural gas (RNG) produced by the facility will be transported via pipeline to an interstate pipeline system for market sale. Nature Energy intends to refine the CO₂ to food grade quality for sale to various commercial entities throughout the region. The residual product (digestate) would be recovered as a slurry-like residual of solids and process water, which would be separated into a liquid portion and a solid portion. The separation process helps to ensure that the residual product contains the correct amount of phosphorus for use by farmers to be used as manure, as requested. Depending on their specific nutrient needs, farmers may use the digestate as produced or receive the fiber fraction or nutrient water, as separated.

For more information regarding the reclamation of digestate, the separation process, and the end use of the residual product(s), please refer to Sections 1.5 and 1.6 (Reclamation of Digestate and Nutrient Water and Solid Separation, and End Use of Digestate and Nutrient Water and Solid Separation, respectively) of the attached “Environmental Summary”.

What is coming out of the ventilation stack, and is it harmful in any way?

Please refer to Section 2.7 (Air Quality and Odors) of the attached “Environmental Summary”.

Will it be trucked in from outside of St. Croix County and dumped into St. Croix County?

The Roberts facility will process dairy manure, turkey litter, and food processing waste, and produce raw biogas, liquid fertilizer, nutrient water, and phosphorous-rich solids which are valuable to local agriculture. All digestate material will be delivered back to participating farms after processing that will be able to be use in their agricultural processes. No landfilling or “dumping” will occur as part of the facility processes.

How is the remnant product delivered? If it is not ready to be spread, how will it be stored?

The digestate will be hauled via truck back to the participating farmers and stored prior to field application. Each individual farmer will spread the manure in accordance with their farm’s nutrient management plan and stored in accordance with state and local standards for manure storage.

Will there be any impact on the Ellsworth Biosolids Plant?

There are no anticipated impacts to the West Central Wisconsin Biosolids Facility located in Ellsworth resulting from the proposed construction or operation of the Roberts Biogas Facility. Nature Energy is committed to working with poultry (turkey) and dairy farmers located within a 20-mile radius of the Roberts facility location. The West Central Wisconsin Biosolids Facility is located approximately 25-27 miles south of the Roberts facility location. In addition, the Roberts facility will process raw waste materials sourced from turkey and dairy farms, whereas the West Central Wisconsin Biosolids Facility uses and processes sludge extracted from the water at a wastewater treatment facility (biosolids).

How will the manure and litter be stored in the facility? How does Nature Energy ensure it does not seep into the ground?

Please refer to Section 2.3 (Groundwater Resources) of the attached “Environmental Summary”.

The site is upstream from the Village’s wellhead and private wells. How do we ensure protection of these resources?

Please refer to Section 2.3 (Groundwater Resources) of the attached “Environmental Summary”.

Best regards,

Ben Hach

Ben Hach
Nature Energy
Project Support Manager

Enclosures:

1. Nature Energy Biogas Facility Roberts, Wisconsin Environmental Summary
2. Response to Agronomist's Questions