

01st July 2021

To:

**Councillors and Senior Officers at WSCC and ADC
MPs Nick Gibb, Gillian Keegan and Andrew Griffith
Directors at Grundon/Viridor,**

RE: GRUNDON / VIRIDOR, ENERGY RECOVERY FACILITY (ERF), FORD

Further to our introduction by the West Sussex Grower's Association (WSGA), this letter sets out our interest in the above proposed development.

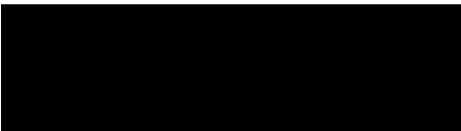
Agricultural Investments Ltd is based in Ford, West Sussex. We are a horticultural business which currently operates 6.1 ha glasshouses, growing predominantly soft fruit with a retail value of approximately £4.9 M. We anticipate expanding our UK operations by approximately 550 % over the next 5-10 years.

It is fundamental to our operational strategy & customer requirement that we transition fully to low-carbon heat and power sources in due course. Direct, local sources of low carbon energy are the most efficient model.

The facilities at Ford are of a modern innovative designed to produce low carbon soft fruit. However the heat source for the growing crop is still a major contributor as this energy source is fossil fuel derived. Before we progress with any significant production expansion we are focused on finding a reduced impact heat source.

The proposed ERF at Ford could offer us both the land and direct source of low-carbon heat and power we require for the future horticultural development.

We would be very pleased to meet the key stakeholders of this project to demonstrate the phylosify behind the ways of working in respect of low carbon soft fruit production & to discuss the possibilities of an operational partnership further.



David Moore
Director of Agriculture