

Saputo Dairy UK Davidstow Creamery Environmental Pollution

BBC report on 12th November 2018:

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-cornwall-46177370>

A "pungent fishy stink" wafting from a creamery during the night is making people feel sick and keeping them awake, say residents in north Cornwall.

The smell has also been described by those living near the Davidstow plant as like cheesy sewage.

The Environment Agency said the smell was coming from the waste-water treatment plant and ordered the firm to reduce odour and noise pollution.

Dairy Crest said it was working to cut its environmental impact.

Dairy Crest Ltd. Fined £1.52 million at Truro Crown Court on 23 June 2022:

<https://Davidstow.info/2022/06/dairy-crest-given-record-fine/>

Ever since the site changed production to focus on whey processing, particularly to produce powder used in baby milk and other products, the effluent being discharged into the River Inny has been more challenging to treat. This has resulted in unacceptable pollution of the local river, which is a tributary of the River Tamar, causing significant harm to fish and other aquatic wildlife. Another issue has been foul odours which have often affected the lives of local residents.

Photograph 5 Discharge 26/11/21



Environment Agency compliance assessment report on August 2022 pollution incidents:

An unplanned inspection of the WPF was made following a high number of complaints of odour over the weekend 13/14 August 2022.

On Saturday 13/8/22 an officer substantiated odour pollution described as an 'effluent smell' impacting the Trewassa area and also out as far as the A395 in the south east breeze.

On Sunday due to ongoing public reports an inspection was conducted on the WPF and there was a strong sulphurous odour.

Meeting with EA, Saputo, Parish Council and residents on January 27th 2023:

<https://Davidstow.info/2023/01/saputo-plans-to-clean-up-its-davidstow-act/>

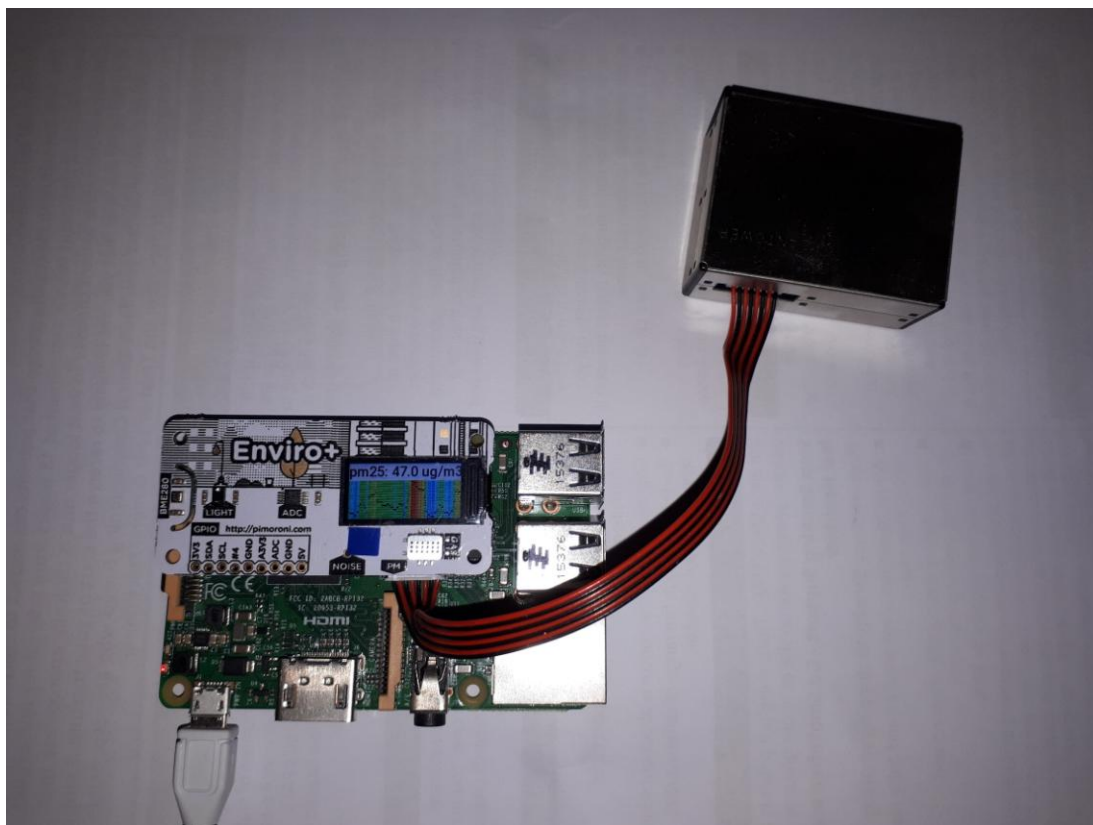
According to the Environment Agency representatives at the meeting, Saputo's "subsistence charges for waste activities and installations" are still in "Band F", which is the lowest of the low.

The EA stated that the latest Saputo action plan is "credible". I asked Saputo for details of the plan, but have had no response. The EA have now sent me a statement, which is downloadable from the article linked to above. However it contains no details of the "credible plan" for the WWTP. At the meeting with residents Saputo said that they have recently installed "continuous monitoring" equipment. I asked if they would make that data publicly available. Once again I have had no response.

I am now considering a crowdfunding campaign to allow residents to install comparatively low cost "[internet of things](#)" based continuous environmental monitoring equipment. Here is a map showing V2G Limited's publicly accessible LoRaWAN communication gateway:



Here too is an example of a "low cost" environmental monitor based on a Raspberry Pi single board computer:



It would need to be attached to an additional sensor in order to measure the concentration of hydrogen sulphide gas which the Environment Agency has confirmed has been emitted from the Saputo waste-water treatment plant at Davidstow from time to time.

See also:

Davidstow Residents Action Group: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/dragforum>

Change.org online petition – <https://chng.it/JB2bKFybMV>

Jim Hunt – Jim@Davidstow.info

<https://Davidstow.info>

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