



## CASE STUDY

### ANAEROBIC DIGESTION FACILITY PLANNING AND APPEAL

CLIENT: CONFIDENTIAL

LOCATION: UK

#### HIGHLIGHTS

- Modular AD system
- Distillery Effluent Reuse
- Onsite Bioenergy
- Waste-to-Energy

### THE CHALLENGE

Arthian was engaged to lead the planning process for a proposed anaerobic digestion (AD) plant at Fearn, designed to convert agricultural feedstock and distillery co-product into renewable energy and biofertiliser. This project aimed to support Scotland's renewable energy targets and promote sustainable farming practices in the Highlands.



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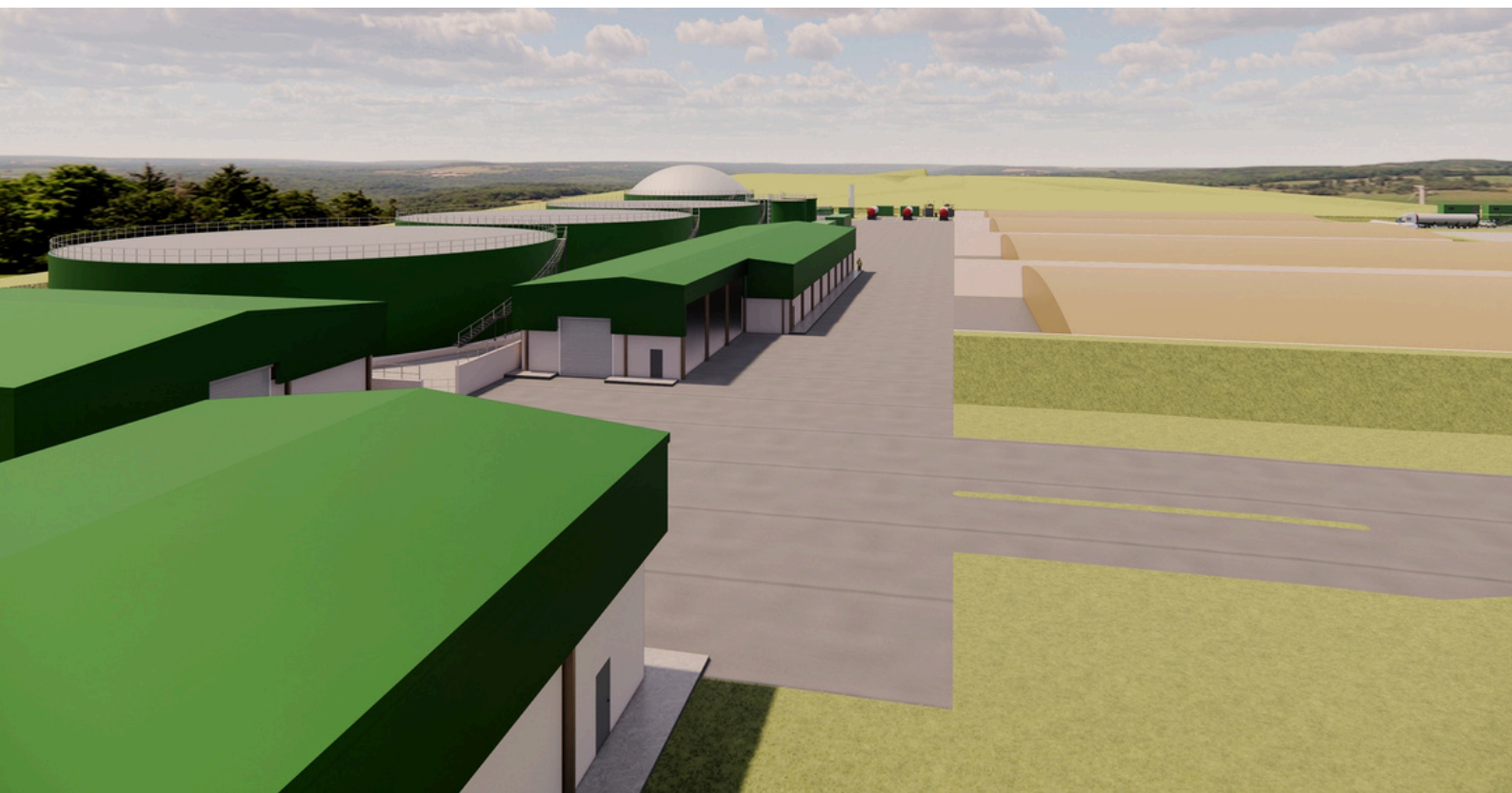
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## Key contributions included:

- **Planning Application:** We prepared a comprehensive planning submission, incorporating environmental assessments and technical reports to demonstrate compliance with local and national policy.
- **Stakeholder Engagement:** Arthian facilitated consultations with Highland Council, statutory bodies, and local residents, ensuring transparency and addressing community concerns.
- **Planning Appeal:** When the initial application was refused, Arthian managed the appeal process, preparing robust evidence and expert statements to support the case. Our strategic approach focused on policy alignment, economic benefits, and environmental sustainability.

Through detailed analysis and proactive engagement, Arthian successfully navigated the complexities of the planning system. The appeal highlighted the project's contribution to Scotland's net-zero ambitions, its role in reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and its benefits for local agriculture.

The Fearn AD Plant case demonstrates Arthian's resilience and expertise in overcoming planning challenges for renewable energy projects. By securing approval through the appeal process, we enabled the delivery of infrastructure that supports clean energy generation and rural economic growth.



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# THE SOLUTION

Arthian provided targeted solutions to overcome planning challenges and secure approval for the Fearn Anaerobic Digestion Facility:

## Comprehensive Planning Application

We prepared a detailed submission that integrated environmental assessments and technical reports, ensuring full compliance with both local and national planning policy. This demonstrated the project's alignment with Scotland's renewable energy and sustainability objectives.

## Transparent Stakeholder Engagement

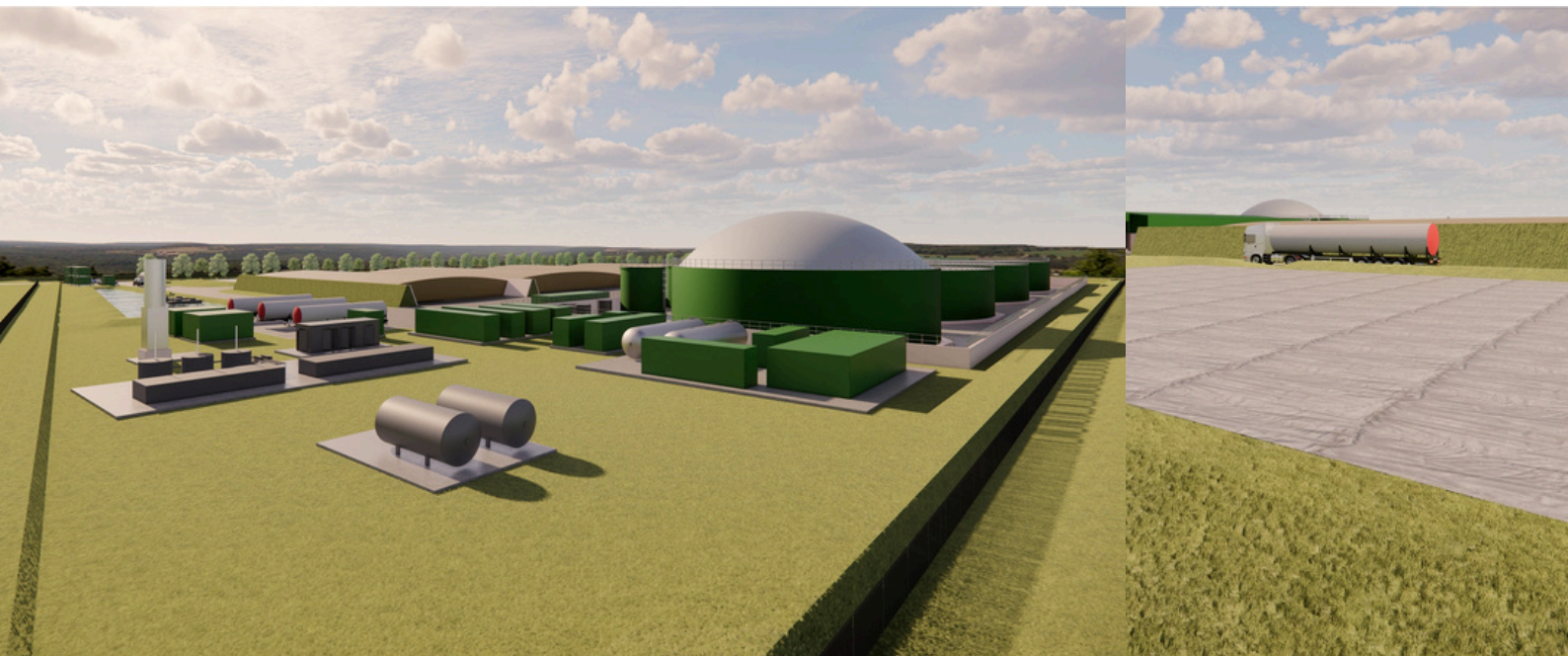
Our team facilitated open consultations with Highland Council, statutory bodies, and local residents. By addressing concerns directly and maintaining transparency, we built trust and strengthened community support for the project.

## Strategic Planning Appeal

Following the initial refusal, Arthian led the appeal process with a robust evidence base and expert testimony. Our approach emphasised policy alignment, economic benefits, and environmental sustainability, ultimately securing approval for the facility.

## Policy & Technical Advisory Support

Throughout the process, we provided strategic guidance to ensure the project's design and operation met regulatory standards while maximising its contribution to Scotland's net-zero ambitions and rural economic growth.



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