

Tuesday 10 June 2025

The Rt Hon Sir Keir Starmer KC MP Prime Minister 10 Downing Street London SW1A 2AA

Dear Prime Minister,

Re: Vivergo Fuels

I am writing to request an urgent meeting about the future of Vivergo Fuels in Hull.

We are in a race against time to save more than 4,000 jobs, the majority of which are in Hull and East Yorkshire, and 12,500 farms.

The Government needs to join me and intervene now to change the US-UK trade deal - or thousands of British jobs and the UK's bioethanol industry will be lost.

Vivergo Fuels is the major buyer of wheat which can't be used for milling. They have purchased wheat from over 12,500 UK farms since 2012. The closure of Vivergo would destroy a vital income stream for thousands of farmers.

As our biggest bioethanol plant, and one of the most advanced in Europe, Vivergo is a vital part of both our national energy security and the green, clean CO2 supply chain.

This is a bad deal for British industry and jobs. The late clause to remove tariffs on US ethanol products could decimate two vital sectors.

I am asking you, The Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Secretary of State for Business and Trade to convene an urgent meeting with me, the business, and sector representatives impacted, to find a solution.

We are not calling for bailout funding - just a level playing field and a policy change.

I understand the first steps towards its closure are just days away. We risk losing British industries, thousands of jobs and part of our national resilience and energy security.

This is unacceptable and I urge you to intervene urgently to ensure the survival of this strategically important industry.

Your sincerely,

Mayor Luke Campbell, MBE Hull and East Yorkshire Combined Authority

Mayoral Office, The Guildhall, Hull, HU1 2AA