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Our ref: PM11/56335.1/MUNRO

Your ref: EN010103

23 August 2022

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Dear The Planning Inspectorate

## Application by Net Zero Teesside Power Limited and Net Zero North Sea Storage Limited for an Order Granting Development Consent for the Net Zero Teesside Project Planning Inspectorate Ref: EN010103 CATS North Sea Limited (Registration Identification Ref: 20029916) Deadline 6 Response

This response is submitted on behalf of CATS North Sea Limited ("**CNSL**") to the Examining Authority for Deadline 6 of the above examination.

## Comments in response to the ExA's Q2 - CA.2.9

i) Can CATS North Sea Limited and/or PD Teesport provide comment on the Applicants' response [REP3-012 and REP5-028] and confirm if they are satisfied or have any further concerns or comments on this matter

CNSL has considered the Applicants' response and still has concerns in relation to this matter. The Applicant's response at para 4.1 of REP3-012 states:

"The Applicants' selected plot 112 based on its strategic location being in close proximity to the National Transmission System (NTS), the CATS terminal, the TGPP terminal and the Seal Sands Road easement corridor."

It remains unclear to CNSL why the Applicants consider that the National Grid compound within the CATS terminal is the only possible connection point to the NTS. This explanation does not contain any detail on why proximity to the CATS terminal and the TGPP terminal are relevant considerations. As set out in CNSL's Deadline 4 response, if this location was chosen to allow sourcing of natural gas from the CATS terminal, this would require a commercial agreement and be subject to technical commercial feasibility. No such agreement has been reached.

The Applicants' response in REP3-012 and REP5-028 does not explain whether they have considered other sites for a connection to the NTS. CNSL maintain that it has not been fully demonstrated by the Applicant that all reasonable alternatives have been considered.

CNSL also note that the Applicants state in REP3-012 that "[t]he Applicants anticipate operating the above ground installations in a similar manner to National Grid Gas plc's compound located within the CNSL terminal

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*boundary*". However, it is noted that the land over which rights are sought to be acquired compulsorily through the DCO does not include the access road that is used by National Grid Gas. It is therefore unclear to CNSL how the Applicants are proposing to gain access to plot 112 and how this would be "in a similar manner to National Grid Gas plc's compound located within the CNSL terminal boundary".

*ii)* Can the Applicants, CATS North Sea Limited and/or PD Teesport confirm that if a sub-lease is agreed voluntarily, would the issue of a preferred alternative fall away?; and

If an agreement could be reached between the Applicants, CNSL and/or PD Teesport that allowed a sub-lease to be entered into then the issue of a preferred alternative would no longer be relevant, as CNSL would only enter into such an arrangement if the Applicants had provided suitable comfort that the location selected was (i) the preferred location of both parties and (ii) that it was technically suitable.



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