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Cory Decarbonisation Project Case Team Planning Inspectorate

CoryDP@planninginspectorate.gov.uk
(Email only)

MMO Reference: DCO/2023/00007

Planning Inspectorate Reference: EN010128

22 October 2024

Dear Sir or Madam,

# **Proposed Cory Decarbonisation Project Order**

# **Response to Examining Authority's Rule 6 Letter**

On 18 April 2024, the Marine Management Organisation (the "MMO") received notice under section 55 of the Planning Act 2008 (the "PA 2008") that the Planning Inspectorate ("PINS") had accepted an application made by Cory Environmental Holdings Limited (the "Applicant") for determination of a development consent order for the construction, maintenance and operation of the proposed Cory Decarbonisation Project (the "DCO Application") (MMO ref: DCO/2023/00007; PINS ref: EN010128).

The Applicant seeks authorisation for the construction, operation, maintenance and decommissioning of a carbon capture facility, including supporting plant and ancillary infrastructure.

The MMO received a Rule 6 letter on 07 October 2024. Please find the MMO comments below on the following topics;

- 1. Preliminary Meeting Attendance
- 2. Comments on Examination Timetable
- 3. Anything further required from Examination Authority
- 4. Notification that the MMO will not be attending ISH1 or ISH2



# Yours faithfully



Marine Licencing Case Officer

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## 1. Preliminary Meeting Attendance

1.1. The MMO will not be attending the Preliminary Meeting on Tuesday 05 November 2024. The MMO has reviewed the draft timetable for the examination of the application and would like to highlight the following concerns for consideration by the Examining Authority (ExA).

### 2. Comments on Examination Timetable

- 2.1. With regard to the draft examination timetable, the MMO notes that the first issue specific hearing (ISH1) is the day after the preliminary hearing. The MMO questions the practicality of having these hearings consecutively. The MMO requests that the ExA considers rearranging these hearings to allow all participants to fully attend when there is a change in position or further discussion is required.
- 2.2. The MMO notes that at the majority of the proposed deadlines, the ExA has requested a 'dDCO (If required)'. The MMO would ask for greater clarity on this point in order to factor in the time to review the documents and would suggest that firm dates for the submission of a dDCO are offered to allow for necessary preparations to be made. This approach was done on the recent Immingham Eastern Ro-Ro Terminal Examination, and the MMO strongly suggests that this examination timetable is updated to have dedicated deadlines for submissions of updated DCOs.
- 2.3. The MMO requests that documents published at each deadline are made available on the PINS website as soon as possible after submission. This is especially important for the Deadline 6 documents as the final deadline, Deadline 7, is only 3 days after and review of the documents provided will need to be undertaken prior to this.

### 3. Anything further required from Examination Authority

3.1. The MMO has nothing else to raise at this stage.

### 4. Notification that the MMO will not be attending ISH1 or ISH2

- 4.1. The MMO notes that the Examination is principally a written process. The MMO understands that some issues need to be discussed in person to ensure understanding by the ExA. At this stage, the MMO is not planning on attending any ISH, however, will keep a watching brief and respond to any questions posed by the ExA on completion of the ISH. This is to ensure resource is spent on providing detailed written responses and resolving any issues with the Applicant.
- 4.2. If the ExA requests MMO attendance for an ISH, the MMO would ask that hearings are organised to minimise the need for the MMO to be in attendance for all hearings, (e.g., discussing both offshore matters and onshore matters). In addition to this, the MMO would welcome any discussions on the DML or offshore DCO sections to be discussed at the earliest opportunity within the agenda. For example, in East Anglia One North and East Anglian Two, the agenda was rearranged to enable MMO involvement at the start of the hearing. This would enable better time utilisation, allowing for a more efficient and effective examination.