

HID Policy - Land Use Planning  
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National Infrastructure Directorate  
Temple Quay House  
2 The Square  
Bristol  
BS1 6PN

31<sup>st</sup> May 2012

Dear Sir / Madam,

**Planning Act 2008 (PA 2008) and the Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010**

**Planning Inspectorate Reference number: EN030001**

**Re. Notice of procedural decisions made at and following the Preliminary Meeting regarding an application for the proposed Underground Gas Storage Facility at Preesall Saltfield, Lancashire**

Thank you for your letter of 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2012 notifying the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) in its capacity as an Interested Party, of the procedural decisions made at and following the Preliminary Meeting for the application for the proposed Underground Gas Storage Facility at Preesall Saltfield.

Confirmation of the position of HSE after the questions raised at the preliminary meeting for the proposed underground gas storage facility.

HSE agrees to all the points within the Statement of Common Ground with Halite Energy Group Limited on the topic of deemed Hazardous Substance Consent, version 2 dated May 2012, received by the HSE on the 21<sup>st</sup> May 2012

HSE response to the Landscape impacts question raised by the examining authority

HSE can confirm that an alternative storage location for the gas processing plant was considered and discussed at a meeting at HSE's offices in Bootle on 10 July 2010. The meeting was attended by representatives from Canabx (Halite), their risk assessment consultants and Lancashire County Council. It was agreed at this meeting that the west bank of the Wyre estuary would not be a suitable for the facility and that on public safety grounds, HSE is likely to advise against granting of consent if the proposed location were anywhere along the west bank of the river. It was agreed at the end of the meeting that the proposal will be revised by the applicant and HSE will again provide advice as required.

Yours faithfully,

  
Laura Evans  
HID Policy - Land Use Planning