ATTN HEAD OF NATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE CONSENTS
Department of Energy and Climate Change

Dear Mr Scott

The Secretary of State turned down this project for planning permission against the advice of his planning inspector professionals. I read that he has now been advised to go back and think again by the High Court in London on the matter of whether or not to approve this new gas storage project. Well good. Please do your best to help him think this through properly this time around and get him to approve the building of this gas storage.

As a pensioner I am concerned that, even though we may be having a mild winter this year, what about next year, and the year after, etc, etc.

Many of my friends already cannot afford their gas bills, imagine what it would be like if we have another bad winter, and another problem of maintenance to the gas pipelines from Europe, and imagine President Putin decides to put the price up. All realistic scenarios, and this country only has a small amount of gas in reserve compared to similar European nations.
As a resident of Lancashire I am deeply worried by unemployment and deprivation. On trips to places like Blackpool, which is close to where this project needs to be built, you cannot help notice the scars of unemployment on what could be nice neighbourhoods.

Halite Energy have stated very clearly they will employ hundreds of local people over several years to build this, they have already shown a commitment to young people looking for work in Blackpool by funding training in construction skills. Most of all it makes good business sense to employ locally.

I urge you not to be persuaded by some local politicians (who are only concerned by their incorrect perception of local vote winning or losing), and so will take the side of the noisy minority of people who have the time and money to be NIMBYs.

You are the professional who has to weigh judgements in the best interest of the country, and can see that a few local scaremongers should not weigh heavily against the needs of millions of pensioners nationally and hundreds of youngsters looking for work locally.

Please do your utmost to ensure planning permission is granted for Halite's gas storage plant.

Yours sincerely