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Your Ref:

Our Ref: EN030001

Date: 17 July 2015

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Dear Sir/Madam

**Planning Act 2008 (as amended) – Sections 116 and 117 and The  
Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations  
2009 (as amended) – Regulation 23**

**Application by Halite Energy Group Limited for an Order Granting  
Development Consent for the Preesall Underground Gas Storage Facility**

**Notice of the decision by the Secretary of State**

I write to notify you of the publication of the Secretary of State's decision and statement of reasons and the Order granting development consent in relation to the above application.

The application was for the construction of an Underground Gas Storage Facility with associated development in Preesall, Lancashire. The application also sought a direction for a deemed marine licence and powers of compulsory acquisition of land and rights.

A separate parallel application was submitted for a deemed Hazardous Substances Consent direction under section 12 of the Planning (Hazardous Substances) Act 1990 as amended by Schedule 2, paragraphs 42 and 45 of the Planning Act 2008.

The Secretary of State has decided, following consideration of the report of the Examining Authority, who conducted an examination into the application, and the further representations received pursuant to Rule 20(2) of the Infrastructure (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 and otherwise that development consent should be granted for the project. The Secretary of State has therefore decided to make an Order under sections 114, 115, 120, 122, 123, 142 and 149A of the Planning Act 2008 which contains powers of compulsory acquisition of land and a deemed marine licence. The Secretary of State has also decided to give direction that deemed Hazardous Substances Consent be granted.

Electronic copies of the decision documentation, including the Secretary of State's

decision letter and the text of the made Order can be viewed at:

<http://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/north-west/preesall-saltfield-underground-gas-storage/>

The report submitted to the Secretary of State by the Examining Authority is also available at the same link.

Hard copies of the decision documentation will also be available to inspect at the Planning Inspectorate's offices (by appointment using the contact details below).

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Temple Quay House  
2 The Square  
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enquiries@pins.gsi.gov.uk

If you wish to receive a copy of the Secretary of State's decision letter and the text of the Order, please write to or email us using the contact details provided at the top of this letter. No charge will be made if you wish us to send you a copy.

There is no right of appeal under the Planning Act 2008. The High Court may entertain proceedings to question an Order granting development consent from the day on which the Development Consent Order is published or (if later) the day on which the decision letter is published. The procedure is to make an application for judicial review. This must be done within the statutory period of time set out in s118 of the Planning Act 2008. Please contact the Administrative Court Office for further information on 0207 947 6655 or follow this link:

<http://www.justice.gov.uk/courts/rcj-rolls-building/administrative-court/applying-for-judicial-review>

If you have any queries about the Secretary of State's decision letter or the made Order please contact:

Giles Scott  
Head of National Infrastructure Consents and Coal Liabilities  
Department of Energy & Climate Change  
3 Whitehall Place  
London  
SW1A 2AW

Alternatively, if you would like to find out further details about the project you can visit the applicant's website at <http://www.halite-energy.co.uk/> or contact the applicant on 0122 334 5555.

Yours faithfully

*Giles Scott*

**Head of National Infrastructure Consents and Coal Liabilities**