

Tel. [REDACTED]

JOSEPH COOPER

Personal Reference No. 10015278

6<sup>th</sup> May, 2014.

Dear Sirs,

PLANNING APPLICATION FOR THE PREESALL  
(UNDERGROUND GAS STORAGE FACILITY) ORDER

Further to my submission of the 28<sup>th</sup> May, 2012, I wish to add additional observations following the report by the Planning Inspection Team dated 5<sup>th</sup> April, 2013.

The Inspection Team would appear to have concerned themselves mainly with gas storage caverns, but, since the development is at the centre of residential developments, I am also concerned about evacuation of the area should a mass evacuation be necessary. This should have been considered in more detail, and agreed with Halite developers, before any permission is granted. In recent times there have been two occasions when lorries have overturned on the A588 near Throbble Nest Farm and the A588 was impassable. Traffic was diverted to Lancaster via the A588 through Stalmine to the A586 and A6 at Garstang, also an accident near the River Wyre Hotel on the A585 and traffic over Skerd Bridge to Blackpool and Preston was held up for over 5 hours. What a catastrophe if this had coincided with an emergency evacuation.

Also, I mentioned the fact that a bond should be required before commencement of any works, should Halite run into financial difficulties during construction, also for maintenance in perpetuity when the caverns are no longer required. The scheme is estimated to cost £660 million, and I cannot understand, if the scheme is to be profitable, why Bcentreea/British Gas do not use their ~~existing~~ existing

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depleted gas caverns under the Irish Sea, which they could do without  
the necessary infrastructure outlay.

J. Hooper.

The National Infrastructure Consents Team.

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