

Our Reference : G103/DW

Your Reference :

25th June 2014

**Mr Giles Scott
Head, National Infrastructure Consents
Department of Energy and Climate Change
3 Whitehall Place
London SW1A 2AW**

Dear Mr Scott,

Preesall Gas Storage - Halite Energy Group's Underground Gas Project

PSA Design offers design and consultancy services across the spectrum of civil, structural, geotechnical, architectural and environmental engineering to both public and private sector clients. We are based in Preston, Lancashire and therefore very interested in Halite's gas storage project and what it can do for the Northwest.

I understand the Department of Energy & Climate Change (DECC) is currently re-examining Halite's application for a new gas storage project in Preesall, Lancashire.

PSA Design supports the Halite application. This project represents a £600m injection of private sector investment into the UK and local northwest economy with a construction program spanning seven years. This will yield many work opportunities for firms such as ours in providing a range of goods and services.

Lancashire's economy also has a pressing need for diversification. Both data and policy suggest an over-reliance on public sector employment and a variety of lower value sectors, and a significant difficulty in attracting private sector investment such as Halite's to the area.

I recently met the Halite Chief Executive Officer, Keith Budinger. Halite is seeking permission from you to develop a fast cycle gas storage facility at Preesall. This facility could add materially to the level of gas storage in the UK as a whole, enhancing the security of UK's gas supplies and mitigating price volatility (and help keep gas prices down!).

Please give Preesall fair consideration in your redetermination of its planning application.

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Yours sincerely,



Dave Wallbank
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