



11 August 2014

Dear Mr. Scott

*Re: Halite Energy Group's Underground Gas Storage project at Preesall*

I am writing as a resident within the vicinity of the site where Halite Energy Group to support its proposed underground gas storage facility in Preesall, Lancashire.

Since 2011 I have remained a member of the Community Liaison Panel (CLP) that was established to provide feedback to Halite on their proposals. I had an open mind on this project in the initial days, but now remain assured that underground gas storage at Preesall can be constructed safely, reliably and securely.

The UK currently has just 14 days of gas stored. By comparison France has 87 days, Germany has 69 days and Italy has 59 days. The extreme weather conditions in recent winters (such as 2013) have highlighted the need for more UK gas reserves to meet demand and avoid potential supply emergencies. Coincidentally at the time of me writing this letter, the Financial Times has recently reported that Russia and China have inked a long-term gas supply agreement. Apparently Europe and the UK should be worried because Russia exports pipeline gas from a few large gas fields in the Urengoy region in the Siberian Arctic.

A pipeline from this region to Western China would run mainly north-south and change the dynamics, as Western Europe will be competing with China for the same natural gas, which has UK gas price and geo-political gas security of supply ramifications. I am a concerned gas user who is worried by what all this means for gas prices.

Please grant this project consent.

Yours sincerely

Lesley Middleton (Mrs)