

Giles Scott
Head, National Infrastructure Consents
Department of Energy & Climate Change (DECC)
3 Whitehall Place
London SW1A 2AW

30th July 2014

Dear Mr. Scott,

RE: Preesall Gas Underground Gas Storage Facility: Halite Energy Group Kirkham.

Boulting Group is writing to you to offer our support for the Preesall Gas Underground Storage planning application that currently resides with DECC. Boulting has successfully delivered engineering services, projects and solutions for nearly 100 years. We employ over 1,000 people with a £90m turnover. Our clients include Sellafeld, BP and Shell; we would like to add Halite Energy Group to our client list.

Recently we have engaged with Halite to discuss the proposed construction of their £600m facility. Our experience providing a wide scope of project services from project management, design, fabrication and installation to commissioning and ongoing maintenance services to multi-national, multi-disciplinary projects will significantly help Halite, particularly as they have committed to ensuring, wherever possible, to procure goods and services locally in the North West.

On the 25th October 2011 the Parliamentary Committee on Energy and Climate Change published its recommendations on UK energy security of supply. The Committee's primary concern was that the UK faces a shortage of gas storage capacity.

Whereas the debate around government intervention to support gas storage in September 2013 was concluded when DECC stated there was not a case for interventions, a critical outcome was that market investment in projects like Preesall would be key to delivering security of gas supply for gas customers. It is also clear that as the UK's domestic gas production declines, new sources of supply and flexibility (as provided by Preesall's fast cycle facility) will be required.

There is no doubt the UK has made significant progress in recognizing the need for increased gas storage in recent years. After a detailed analysis, the case for awarding a DCO for Preesall is quite compelling from both a national need and local benefit perspective.

Yours sincerely


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