

COTTON COURT

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

5th September 2014

Dear Mr. Scott

Preesall Gas Underground Gas Storage Planning Application

We understand the Secretary of State for the Department of Energy & Climate Change (DECC) is soon to make a decision on the application of Halite Energy Group for its proposed Underground Gas Storage Facility in Preesall, Lancashire.

Cotton Court Business Centre wishes to lend our support to Halite. Cotton Court is based in Preston, Lancashire. We offer a vast range of services for businesses, regardless of their size or industry. Conference facilities can accommodate up to 200 delegates with additional space available for exhibitions or delegate registration.

Our training and meeting rooms offer the latest audio-visual equipment provide the perfect setting for training programmes or smaller meetings. A project the size of Halite's would invariably need the services we provide, hence our commitment and willingness to support them.

Lancashire's economy grew by 11 percent in real terms between 2000 and 2013, however this was substantially below the rate of growth in the UK as a whole (20 percent). This region would embrace Halite's £660m investment. It gives firms like Cotton Court opportunities to provide services and facilities of a significant size for a considerable period of time (Halite's construction program spans 7 years). Reading your literature, both DECC and OFGEM have openly expressed its concerns as to the potential security of supply risks associated with a lack of gas storage. Nationally Preesall would bring forward investment in storage capacity, which would help mitigate these risks.

To Cotton Court, Halite's project is an ideal opportunity to get a facility built that can be used for a long time, helping secure the UK's energy supply. It gives Lancashire a chance to really boost its local economy and growth. This all makes perfect sense to Cotton Court so please give this project fair consideration and approval.

Yours sincerely

Rob Binns
Owner
Cotton Court Business Centre