National Infrastructure Consents Team
Department of Energy and Climate Change
2nd Floor Kings Buildings
3 Whitehall Place
London
SW1A 2AW

9th September 2014

Dear Secretary of State

Preesall Saltfield Underground Gas Storage – EN030001
My reference: 10015245

In response to the invitation to interested parties to make any further representations on “the independent geological report” produced by Senergy (GB) Limited on the above Development, I wish to make the following comment:

Geological information provided by the applicant Canatxx/Halite relating to potential volumes of gas storage capacity, (ie backed up by comprehensive testing), appears to have been inadequate and inconsistent from the start of the repeated planning processes over the last 12 years, bringing uncertainty and fear over the future and safety of the area. In previous representations I have included comments about the instability of the ground conditions and its unsuitability for gas storage from local people who have farmed and lived on the land in question over previous decades. The least people would expect is that rigorous data could provide evidence of supporting geological data from the applicant; they’ve had plenty of time to do this.

Yet, Senergy’s independent report states that, “The data Senergy received was sometimes incomplete or late and delivered in obscure formats. Examples of this are missing or very late arriving log data, improperly formatted seismic data, seismic interpretations at Base Salt with mistakes, an absence of fault interpretations, and an absence of the intra-salt mudstone interpretation within the geological model.” In addition Senergy now estimates working gas volumes of 203 million sm³ and suggest there is less than a 2% probability of achieving a working gas volume of 300 million sm³ but there is a 90% probability of only 124 million sm³.

Unless it is proven that the land can safely support a gas storage project, with comprehensive details as to its size and impact on the area, it shouldn’t even be under consideration; let common sense prevail once again and please refuse the application.

Yours sincerely

Marilyn Mulroy