

Ref: W.15a-110-82 AF/CJ

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**VIA POST AND EMAIL**The Planning Inspectorate Case Team  
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Dear Sir,

**RIVER HUMBER GAS PIPELINE – EN060004**

I would like to update the Planning Inspectorate with regard to ABP's discussion with National Grid as follows:-

- 1) Negotiations are ongoing with National Grid with regard to the grant of an Underlease of bed and foreshore of the River Humber. This will facilitate the construction and subsequent use of the tunnel for the River Humber Gas Pipeline Replacement Project. It is expected that Heads of Terms will be agreed shortly which will enable Solicitors to be instructed accordingly.
- 2) National Grid Gas plc. currently hold an Underlease for the existing pipeline which expires 30 September 2016. As sections of the pipeline have already become exposed on the bed of the River Humber and raised concerns with regard to safety of navigation, National Grid undertook, with the Harbour Master's consent, remedial works to the exposed sections of the pipeline in December 2011. Head of Terms have now been agreed with National Grid's Agent for the grant of a Supplemental Underlease, in respect of the additional area occupied by the remedial works and Solicitors are due to be instructed with regard to completion of the Supplemental Underlease.

There have also been discussions with regard to the proposed renewal of the existing Underlease and the proposed Supplemental Underlease. As to whether ABP will be agreeable to the renewal of the Underlease etc. will be dependent upon the physical state of the existing pipeline nearer to the date of renewal. On the basis that the pipeline is in a satisfactory condition it is anticipated that ABP will be agreeable, subject to ABP Harbour Authority and Crown Estate approval, to the renewal of the Underlease etc. for a period to be agreed and to be consistent with the period required for the construction of the new tunnel and the commissioning of the pipeline to be laid therein to ensure continuity of supply. Upon successful commissioning of the tunnel/new pipeline it is presumed that the existing pipeline will become redundant in which case removal of the same, is considered appropriate to ensure there are no future navigational safety implications.



Navigational safety is considered by ABP to be of paramount importance.

Yours faithfully



Capt. A Firman  
**HARBOUR MASTER, HUMBER**

*Copies to: Catherine Jefferson, ABP  
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