



Meeting note

Project name	HyNet North West Hydrogen Pipeline
File reference	EN060006
Status	Final
Author	The Planning Inspectorate
Date	18 January 2024
Meeting with	Applicant - Cadent Gas Limited
Venue	Microsoft Teams
Meeting objectives	Project update meeting
Circulation	All attendees

Summary of key points discussed, and advice given

The Planning Inspectorate (the Inspectorate) advised that a note of the meeting would be taken and published on its website in accordance with section 51 of the Planning Act 2008 (the PA2008). Any advice given under section 51 would not constitute legal advice upon which applicants (or others) could rely.

Project and Programme Updates

The Applicant provided the Inspectorate with an update on the current position of the project and the planned programme. The previously anticipated submission was expected during 2024 and this has now moved to an anticipated submission during 2025. This is due to be announced to the public shortly.

The Inspectorate advised that the project submission date on the website will remain as it currently exists until the Applicant advises which new date should be used.

Early Adopters Programme

Due to the delay in the planned submission date for the application, the Applicant had previously raised a question regarding whether it would no longer be able to participate in the Early Adopters Programme due to a submission being outside of the submission window that had qualified this project to be able to participate.

The Inspectorate requested confirmation of formal withdrawal as part of the Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIP) Reform Early Adopter Programme. The Applicant is working on a formal withdrawal letter. The Applicant advised that this would be drafted and will be provided to the Inspectorate. The Applicant queried whether this letter would be published as this may influence the drafting. The Inspectorate advised it would seek clarification and feedback to the Applicant on this point, but that the important aspect was

to explain that the submission date had slipped, and the Applicant was withdrawing from the Programme as they would be outside the time window for submission.

The Inspectorate also advised that withdrawal from the programme did not prevent the Applicant from continuing development of elements they had started work on as decisions on the content and approach it wished to take on their submission was up to them.

Post Meeting Note: The Inspectorate Case Team followed up with the Early Adopters Programme team and advised by phone that the letter should be prepared on the basis that it would be published.

Actions and any other business:

A further meeting is expected in the next couple of months. The Inspectorate and Applicant will liaise to organise the next meeting. The Inspectorate will require a one month notice period to organise and resource this meeting.