

## **APPLICANT'S WRITTEN SUMMARY OF ORAL SUBMISSIONS TO THE PRELIMINARY MEETING**

### **HyNet Carbon Dioxide Pipeline**

**Planning Act 2008**

**The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 Rule 8(1)(c)**

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# 1. INTRODUCTION

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## 1.1. PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT

- 1.1.1. This document has been prepared on behalf of Liverpool Bay CCS Limited ('the Applicant') and relates to an application ('the Application') for a Development Consent Order (DCO) that has been submitted to the Secretary of State (SoS) for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ) (formerly BEIS) under Section 37 of the Planning Act 2008 ('the PA 2008'). The Application relates to the carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) pipeline which constitutes the DCO Proposed Development.
- 1.1.2. This document provides the Applicant's written summary of oral submissions made at the Preliminary Meeting on 20 March 2023. This document does not purport to summarise the oral submissions of parties other than the Applicant.

## 1.2. THE DCO PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

- 1.2.1. HyNet (the Project) is an innovative low carbon hydrogen and carbon capture, transport and storage project that will unlock a low carbon economy for the North West of England and North Wales and put the region at the forefront of the UK's drive to Net-Zero. The details of the project can be found in the main DCO documentation.
- 1.2.2. A full description of the DCO Proposed Development is detailed in Chapter 3 of the Environmental Statement (ES) **[APP-055]**.

## 2. **AGENDA ITEM 4: PROCEDURAL DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE EXA**

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- 2.1.1. The Applicant commented on the list of parties from whom the Examining Authority (ExA) is seeking a Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) as set out in the Rule 6 letter **[PDA-011]**. The Applicant noted that the Maritime and Coastguard Agency had advised that it does not wish to enter into a SoCG and there had been no engagement with the Applicant from the UK Health Security Agency so the Applicant has been unable to progress a draft SoCG with either of these parties.
- 2.1.2. The Applicant also submitted that it expected a number of utility operators would be more focused on Protective Provisions than a SoCG and therefore there may not be a SoCG for all of those operators.

### 3. **AGENDA ITEM 5: DRAFT EXAMINATION TIMETABLE**

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- 3.1.1. The Applicant noted Flintshire County Council's need to amend the timing of the submission of its local impact report to allow Cabinet to consider the final draft. The Applicant suggested this could be accommodated by creation of a Deadline 1A around 26th May 2023 and that it would have no objection to that, but would seek a new Deadline 2A following Deadline 2 to respond to those submission.
- 3.1.2. The Applicant confirmed it would support early submission of a draft local impact report with a later submission of the final report if that was what the ExA felt was appropriate.
- 3.1.3. The Applicant outlined its requests for proposed changes to the draft timetable which were set out in its Procedural Deadline A submission **[PDA-001]** as follows:
- To move the hearings from week commencing 05 June 2023 to week commencing 22 May, as some of the Applicant's team are in hearings for another DCO scheduled for the same week and two specialists (air quality and noise) may not be available. The lead advocate is also unavailable later in that week. If the request cannot be accommodated the Applicant suggested that issue specific hearings be held on the Monday and Tuesday, a DCO and Compulsory Acquisition on Wednesday, using Thursday for an open floor hearing and Accompanied Site Inspection (ASI), and Friday ASI. The Applicant noted it would prefer blended hearings to purely virtual hearings to allow these to operate in the most effective way.
  - The Applicant suggested that more than one day may be required for the ASI.
  - That Deadline 6 is moved from 11 July to week commencing 17 July to maintain the consistency of times between the deadlines.
  - Given the status of local impact reports, where updated reports are sought, the Applicant submits that it is appropriate that the Applicant is given an opportunity to comment on these. Accordingly, the Applicant asked that submission of any updated report be moved from Deadline 8 to Deadline 7.

## **4. AGENDA ITEM 8: ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

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- 4.1.1. The Applicant noted that, as set out in its Procedural Deadline A submission **[PDA-001]**, it is intending to propose a material change request. That will be a composite request and includes changes to the locations of block valve stations and an above ground installation. These changes are primarily being proposed in response to landowner requests and include compulsory acquisition changes. The Applicant submitted that, as in its view some of the changes will be material, the whole request is being treated as a material change.
- 4.1.2. The Applicant advised it would submit the change request on 27 March. Assuming that is accepted, the Applicant would carry out a 6 week consultation between week commencing 24 April and 09 June, with a consultation report submitted on 26 June. This would give an opportunity for the issues raised to be addressed in the hearings provisionally scheduled in August.