

## **DRAFT STATEMENT OF COMMON GROUND WITH ROYAL MAIL GROUP LTD**

### **HyNet Carbon Dioxide Pipeline DCO**

Planning Act 2008

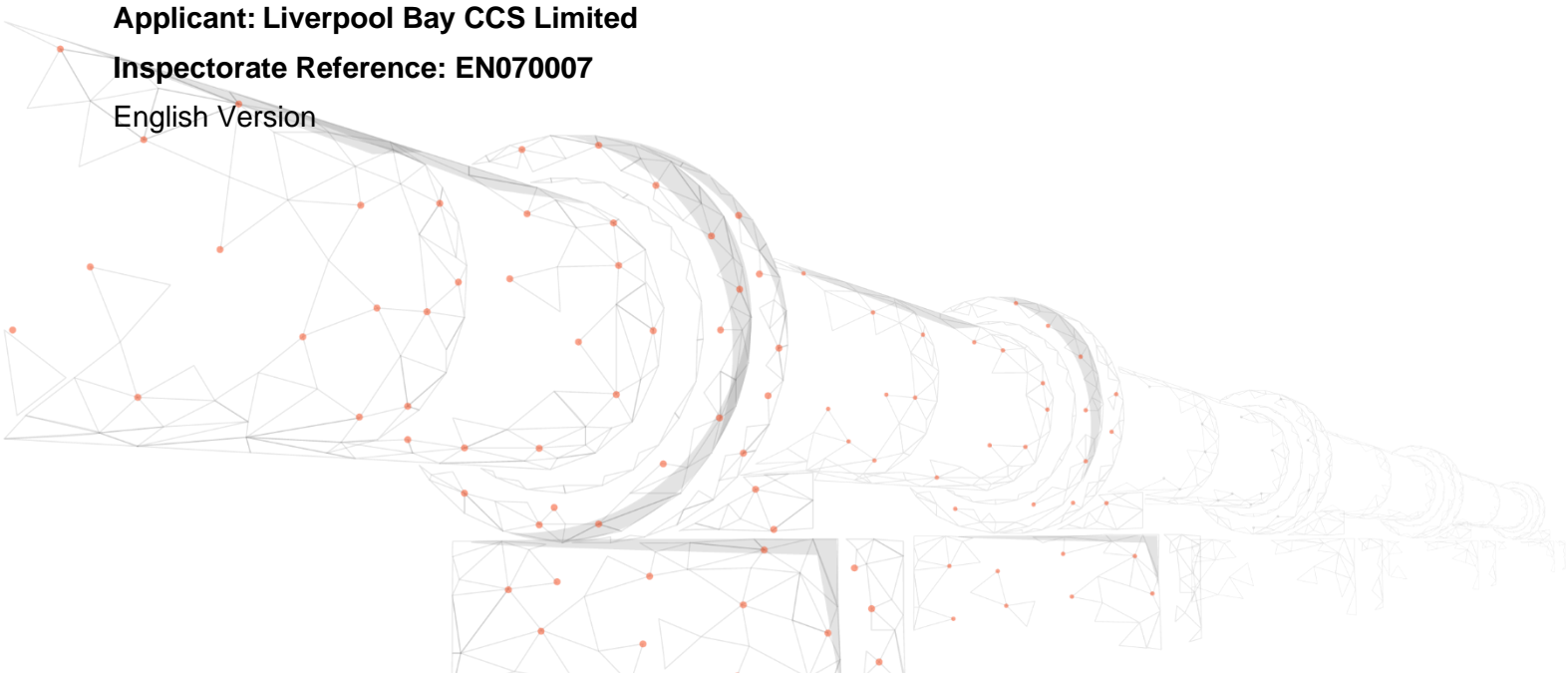
The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 - Rule 8(1)(c)

Document Reference Number D.7.2.32

Applicant: Liverpool Bay CCS Limited

Inspectorate Reference: EN070007

English Version



REVISION: A

DATE: May 2023

DOCUMENT OWNER: WSP UK Ltd

PUBLIC

## QUALITY CONTROL

---

<b>Document Reference</b>	<b>D.7.2.32</b>				
<b>Document Owner</b>	<b>WSP</b>				
<b>Revision</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Comments</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Check</b>	<b>Approver</b>
A	May 2023	Deadline 3	DW	AV	AH

DRAFT

**STATEMENT OF COMMON GROUND**

**This Statement of Common Ground has been prepared and agreed by (1) Liverpool Bay CCS Limited and (2) Royal Mail Group Ltd**

Signed .....

**[NAME]**

**[POSITION]**

on behalf of Liverpool Bay CCS Limited

Date: **[DATE]**

Signed .....

**[NAME]**

**[POSITION]**

on behalf of Royal Mail Group Ltd

Date: **[DATE]**

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

---

<b>1. INTRODUCTION.....</b>	<b>1</b>
1.1. Purpose of this document.....	1
1.2. The DCO Proposed Development.....	1
1.3. Terminology .....	2
<b>2. RECORD OF ENGAGEMENT .....</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>3. ISSUES.....</b>	<b>6</b>

## TABLES

---

Table 2-1 – Record of Engagement in relation to the DCO Proposed Development	4
Table 3-1 – Engagement, ES & Other Application Documents	7
Table 3-2 – Issues related to the DCO Proposed Development - Draft DCO (including requirements to the draft DCO)	7

# 1. INTRODUCTION

---

## 1.1. PURPOSE OF THIS DOCUMENT

- 1.1.1. This draft Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) has been prepared by Liverpool Bay CCS Limited ('the Applicant') and Royal Mail Group Ltd (Royal Mail).
- 1.1.2. For the purpose of this draft SoCG, the Applicant and Royal Mail will jointly be referred to as the 'Parties'.
- 1.1.3. The purpose of this draft SoCG is to set out the agreement that has been reached between the Parties in respect of a number of matters related to the Development Consent Order (DCO) Proposed Development. It also lists any points on which discussions are ongoing. SoCGs are an established means in the Development Consent Order (DCO) planning process of allowing all Parties to identify and focus on specific issues that may need to be addressed during the examination.
- 1.1.4. **Chapter 2** of this draft SoCG records the consultation undertaken with Royal Mail by the Applicant. **Chapter 3** of this draft SoCG sets out the areas of agreement in relation to the above matters, and any areas of ongoing discussion between the Parties.

## 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 detail of the project and the DCO Proposed Development can be found in the main DCO documentation. The DCO Proposed Development and this SOCG relate to the onshore CO2 pipeline element of HyNet only. Other elements of HyNet are subject to separate consenting processes and are not addressed here.
- 1.2.2. The DCO Proposed Development (DCO) impacts Royal Mail primarily as a postal service provider.
- 1.2.3. A full description of the DCO Proposed Development is detailed in Chapter 3 of the Environmental Statement (ES) **[APP-055]**. On the 21 March 2023, the Applicant's submitted a Change Request which includes '2023 ES Addendum Change Request 1' **[CR1-124 to 126]** and ES Addendum Chapter 3 provides an update to the description of the DCO Proposed Development **[APP-055]**.

### 1.3. TERMINOLOGY

- 1.3.1. In the Issues tables in **Chapter 3** of this draft SoCG, 'Agreed' and 'Not Agreed' indicates a final position, and 'Under Discussion' indicates where these points will be the subject of on-going discussion wherever possible to resolve or refine, the extent of disagreement between the Parties.

DRAFT

## **2. RECORD OF ENGAGEMENT**

---

- 2.1.1. This chapter provides a summary of the engagement undertaken to date between the Parties in relation to the DCO Proposed Development.

DRAFT

**Table 2-1 – Record of Engagement in relation to the DCO Proposed Development**

Date	Form of Correspondence	Key Topics Discussed and Key Outcomes
17/03/2023	Meeting between Royal Mail and the Applicant	<p><b>Key Topics</b></p> <p>Introduction to the project and request to be sent to the correct department to progress SoCG discussions.</p> <p><b>Discussions and Outcomes</b></p> <p>Royal Mail have provided the correct internal link to the appropriate personnel and have committed to make contact with the Applicant.</p>
17/04/2023	Email Correspondence	<p><b>Key Topics</b></p> <p>Deadline 1 Representation</p> <p><b>Discussions and Outcomes</b></p> <p>Royal Mail Group Limited Deadline 1 Representation which included matters such as the CTMP, impact to assets and road closures. The Applicant Responded accordingly within the Applicant's Reponse to Relevant Representations [REP1-042].</p>
26/04/2023	Email correspondence from Royal Mail to the Applicant	<p><b>Key Topics</b></p> <p>Confirmation that the correct lead contact in Royal Mail has been established.</p> <p><b>Discussions and Outcomes</b></p> <p>The Applicant confirmed receipt of the Deadline 1 Submission comments from Royal Mail and suggested a meeting after the Applicant completed its review of Royal Mail's comments; Royal Mail agreed with this approach.</p>
17/05/2023	Microsoft Teams Meeting between Royal Mail and the Applicant	<p><b>Key Topics</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DCO Proposed Development and wider HyNet Project update; and</li> <li>• Introduction and run through of SoCG draft.</li> </ul> <p><b>Discussions and Outcomes</b></p> <p>Royal Mail enquire as to whether there would be any major road closures, the Applicant confirms that by utilising trenchless crossing techniques that this can be avoided. Closures are limited to smaller, rural roads only. The Applicant is engaging with National Highways on this matter.</p> <p>Royal Mail are supported by a Universal Service Order.</p> <p>Royal Mail confirm that they will agree to item 3.1.3. subject to the Applicant providing evidence of a referencing search which confirms no assets are impacted. Royal Mail raise that assets such as postboxes are typically affected.</p> <p>Royal Mail agree to 3.2.1 subject to some amended wording which is agreed by the Applicant.</p> <p>Royal Mail agree to 3.2.3 subject to a clarification sentence added signposting the relevant paragraph of the Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan (OCTMP) [REP2-019].</p> <p>The Applicant agrees to notify or signpost Royal Mail to any updated OCTMP during the examination.</p>



Date	Form of Correspondence	Key Topics Discussed and Key Outcomes
19/05/2023	Email Correspondence between the Applicant and Royal Mail	<p><b>Key Topics</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Royal Mail provided the Applicant with its previous representation regarding the DCO Application to include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ EIA Scoping consultation holding statement – July 2021;</li> <li>○ S42 consultation rep/holding statement – March 2022;</li> <li>○ Further consultation reps – July 2022;</li> <li>○ Interested Party registration Relevant reps – Jan 2023; and</li> <li>○ Deadline 1 Rep – April 2023.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Discussions and Outcomes</b></p> <p>The Applicant acknowledges the correspondence provided by Royal Mail to include its previous submissions on matters such as EIA Scoping, the application’s Section 42 consultation in July 2022, Royal Mail registering to be an Interested Party to the Examination in order to protect its position and ensure that the future CTMP secures mitigations for Royal Mail and its Deadline 1 response which was responded too accordingly within the Applicant's Reponse to Relevant Representations <b>[REP1-042]</b>.</p>

DRAFT

### **3. ISSUES**

---

- 3.1.1. This chapter sets out the areas of agreement in relation to specific issues relating to the DCO Proposed Development, and any areas of ongoing discussion between the Parties. The topics discussed between the Applicant and Royal Mail are as follows:
- Engagement & Other Application documents; and
  - Issues related to the Draft DCO.

**Table 3-1 – Engagement & Other Application Documents**

Ref.	Description of Matter	Current Position	Status
<b>Engagement</b>			
<b>Royal Mail 3.1.1</b>	Project Support	Royal Mail Group Limited supports this proposed Hynet Carbon Dioxide Pipeline, but is seeking to secure mitigations to protect its road based operations during the construction phase.	Agreed
<b>Other Application Documents</b>			
<b>Royal Mail 3.1.3</b>	Other application documents	Royal Mail agree that they have no land interests in the scheme and are therefore not listed within the Book of Reference <b>[REP2-012]</b> . The Applicant has formally confirmed this to Royal Mail.	Agreed

**Table 3-2 – Issues Related to the DCO Proposed Development - Draft DCO (Including Requirements to the Draft DCO)**

Ref.	Description of Matter	Current Position	Status
<b>Royal Mail 3.2.1</b>	Draft Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan	<p>Royal Mail supports the proposed Hynet Carbon Dioxide Pipeline but is seeking to secure reasonable mitigations to protect its road-based operations during the construction phase. Royal Mail and its advisor BNP Paribas Real Estate have reviewed the Outline Construction Traffic Management Plan (OCTMP) Revision A document dated September 2022 as included within the Environmental Statement (Volume III).</p> <p>Royal Mail has 4 operational properties within 8 miles of the proposed HyNet Carbon Dioxide Pipeline:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BE 2472 Flint DO;</li> <li>• BE 2475 Chester MC;</li> <li>• BE 2454 Chester DO; and</li> <li>• BE BE2528 Ellesmere Port DO.</li> </ul> <p>The OCTMP (2022) <b>[APP-224]</b> as submitted, states that construction traffic will use the M53, A55, A494, B roads, and other adjacent local roads. In exercising its statutory duties, Royal Mail vehicles use all of these roads on a daily basis for access to the Delivery Offices and for deliveries. Any periods of road congestion, disruption / closure, night or day, on or to the roads immediately connected to the Pipeline or the surrounding highway network will have the potential to adversely impact Royal Mail operations.</p> <p>The Applicant has invited Royal Mail and its advisors to review Chapter 17 Traffic and Transport of the 2022 Environmental Statement (ES) <b>[APP-069]</b>, the Environmental Statement Addendum Change Request <b>[CR1-124]</b>, and Appendix 17.13 Transport Assessment <b>[CR1-042]</b>.</p> <p>The Applicant notes that the conclusions of those assessments are that, with the implementation of appropriate mitigation measures outlined in those documents and the OCTMP <b>[REP2-019]</b>, and as submitted at Deadline 2, the construction traffic associated with the DCO Proposed Development can be accommodated without compromising the safe and efficient operation of the local and strategic transport networks.</p> <p>Royal Mail agrees that reasonable measures to minimise construction impacts have been taken.</p>	Agreed

Ref.	Description of Matter	Current Position	Status
<b>Royal Mail 3.2.2</b>	Royal Mail's Performance of the Universal Service Provider	<p>Royal Mail's performance of the Universal Service Provider obligations is in the public interest and should not be affected detrimentally by any statutorily authorised project. Accordingly, Royal Mail seeks to take all reasonable steps to protect its assets and operational interests from any potentially adverse impacts of proposed development.</p> <p>The Applicant acknowledges Royal Mail's obligations as set out in their representation at Deadline 1 <b>[REP1-076]</b>.</p>	Agreed
<b>Royal Mail 3.2.3</b>	Notice on any proposed road closures / diversion / alternative access arrangement	<p>Royal Mail does not wish to stop or delay the HyNet Carbon Dioxide Pipeline from coming forward for development. However, Royal Mail does wish to ensure the protection of its future ability to provide an efficient mail sorting and delivering service to the public from and to the above identified operational facilities in accordance with its statutory obligations.</p> <p>In order to achieve this, the Applicant confirms that Royal Mail will be consulted on the details of any proposed road closures, diversions and/or alternative access arrangements at least one month in advance. This is secured in the updated OCTMP <b>[REP2-019]</b>, as submitted at Deadline 2, specifically shown in paragraph 8.1.4. The Applicant agrees to send links to future revisions the OCTMP when issued.</p>	Agreed
<b>Royal Mail 3.2.4</b>	Transport Review Group	<p>The Applicant confirms that Royal Mail will be invited to join as a stakeholder of the Transport Review Group referenced in the OCTMP <b>[REP2-019]</b>. The Applicant will advise Royal Mail of appropriate contacts and the details of the Transport Review Group no less than two months before the date on which the first of any construction activity resulting in road closures/diversions will commence. This is secured in the updated OCTMP <b>[REP2-019]</b>, as submitted at Deadline 2.</p> <p>The Applicant will review the statement in the OCTMP and update for Deadline 3, to either ensure Royal Mail attendance at the Transport Review Group or at least receive information from it to ensure that Royal Mail is kept up to date with construction plans and developments.</p>	Under Discussion
<b>Royal Mail 3.2.5</b>	Consultation	<p>The Applicant confirms that Royal Mail will be pre-consulted by the Applicant or its Construction Contractor(s) on the content of the final Construction Traffic Management Plan secured by Requirement 6 of the dDCO <b>[REP1-004]</b>. This is secured in the updated OCTMP <b>[REP2-019]</b>, as submitted at Deadline 2.</p> <p>The Applicant's Construction Contractor will contact the Royal Mail legal team to link the appropriate contact to the Transport Review Group no less than 2 months prior to construction starts.</p> <p>The Applicant will review the statement in the OCTMP and update for Deadline 3, to either ensure Royal Mail attendance at the Transport Review Group or at least receive information from it to ensure that Royal Mail is kept up to date with construction plans and developments.</p>	Under Discussion