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Date: 3 November 2023

Dear Ms Hopewell

**Planning Act 2008 (as amended) – Section 55
Adequacy of Consultation Request**

Thank you for your letter dated 24 October 2023 requesting a response from Lincolnshire County Council on the adequacy of consultation for the above project. Taking into consideration the requirements of Section 42 (Duty to consult), Section 47 (Duty to consult the local community) and Section 48 (Duty to publicise) of the Planning Act 2008 (As Amended) the Council confirms that Chrysaor Production (UK) Limited has carried out adequate pre-application consultation in accordance with the provisions set out in Sections 42, 47 and 48 of the Act.

The applicant commenced early engagement with the Council in November 2021. Meetings with the Head of Planning, the Lincolnshire Wolds Countryside Service and technical meetings with Council officers relating to Heritage and Highway matters have taken place throughout the pre-application stage up until the submission of the Development Consent Order (DCO) application in October 2023.

The Council were consulted on the draft Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) on 4 August 2022 and provided comments on 30 August 2022. The Council's comments were adequately addressed in the published SoCC.

The applicant undertook their Section 42 consultation between 22 November 2022 and Tuesday 24 January 2023, and allowed nine weeks for consultation responses rather than the 28 days minimum period. The Council raised a number of points which are captured and responded to in the applicant's 5.2.5 Consultation Report Appendix E: Appendices to Chapter Six Document Reference: EN070008/APP/5.2.5 dated March 2023.

During the statutory consultation period a face to face briefing took place with Councillors on the Planning and Regulation Committee Councillors and other interested Councillors on 5 December 2022.

A period of additional targeted consultation with the Council commenced on 10 October 2023 in respect of land that the applicant has identified as being owned by the County Council with a request for any comments by 9 November 2023.

The applicants Consultation Report and Appendices (October 2023) meet the requirements of Section 49 of the 2008 Act. This report sets out the full consultation programme undertaken by the applicant and I am satisfied that Viking CCS Project has undertaken an extensive and inclusive consultation programme in respect of their project.

I therefore confirm that the County Council considers that the Viking CCS Project has undertaken adequate pre-application consultation pursuant to Sections 42, 47 and 48 of the 2008 Planning Act.

Yours faithfully

Justine Proudler

**for Neil McBride
Head of Planning**