

The Examining Authority  
National Infrastructure Planning  
Temple Quay House  
2 The Square  
Bristol  
BS1 6PN

**Our ref:** AN/2023/135033/06-L01  
**Your ref:** EN070008  
**Date:** 30 August 2024

Dear Members of the Examining Authority

**Application by Chrysaor Production (UK) Limited for an Order Granting Development Consent for the Viking Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) Pipeline**

In accordance with the Examination Timetable, please find below the Environment Agency's Deadline 5 submission in respect of:

1. Responses to Examining Authority's 2<sup>nd</sup> written questions (ExQ2)
2. Comments on any other information and submissions received at Deadline 4
3. Responses to the Examining Authority's proposed schedule of changes to the draft Development Consent Order

**1. Responses to Examining Authority's 2<sup>nd</sup> written questions (ExQ2)**

**Hydrology & Groundwater**

**Q2.10.2 Hydrogeological Risk Assessment**

*A revised assessment was not provided at Deadline 4, although a revised Flood Risk Assessment was [REP4-016]. Set out the implications for the Examination if the revised assessment is not received prior to close of the Examination, given that the last iteration of the Statement of Common Ground indicated very little dispute between the parties on major/ fundamental issues.*

The Applicant has provided the Environment Agency with a revised version of document EN070008/APP/6.4.9.3 (Revision A, August 2024) and advised us that this document will be submitted into the Examination at Deadline 5. Therefore, we have already had an opportunity to review this, and we can confirm that this document includes all the information/clarity requested. Accordingly, we can confirm that there are no outstanding issues in respect of the Hydrogeological Risk Assessment, and we are satisfied that, with the implementation of all the identified mitigation measures, the risk to controlled waters is low.

## **Waste & Minerals**

### **Q2.17.1 Waste - Revised ES Chapter 18**

*The Applicant revised ES Chapter 18 at Deadline 2 [REP2-012]. Following these revisions, are there any comments or observations arising on waste matters that the ExA should be aware of, or have any/ all issues been resolved? Explain with reasons.*

The Environment Agency has no comments to make on the Revised ES Chapter 18 for waste, and raised no waste related issues that needed resolving.

## **2. Comments on any other information and submissions received at Deadline 4**

### **[REP4-012] Draft Bentonite Management Plan**

The Environment Agency has reviewed this plan and has no concerns/comments to make on it.

### **[REP4-016] Flood Risk Assessment tracked & [REP4-015] clean**

The Environment Agency has reviewed Revision B of the flood risk assessment and confirms that all outstanding issues in respect of flood risk have now been addressed. Accordingly, it is our view that the assessment is now appropriate for the scale, nature and location of the development proposed and complies with the requirements of planning policy in respect of flood risk.

Please note that our advice relates to the risk from fluvial and tidal sources only and has not considered the risk of flooding from ground water, drainage systems, reservoirs, canals or ordinary watercourses. The relevant Lead Local Flood Authorities will need to provide advice in respect of flooding from these sources.

### **[REP4-020] Chapter 15 - Climate Change tracked**

The Environment Agency has reviewed this chapter and is satisfied that the issue raised in paragraph 9.1 of its Relevant Representation [RR-034] has now been addressed. We have no outstanding concerns in respect of this assessment.

### **[REP4-051] Applicant's comments on the submission made at Deadline 3**

We would like to thank the Applicant for providing us with signposting in respect to our comments made at Deadline 3.

## **3. Responses to the Examining Authority's proposed schedule of changes to the draft Development Consent Order**

PC013 – The Environment Agency welcomes the Examining Authority's proposed change in respect of Requirement 22(3), to allow additional time for consultation to take place during the Requirement discharging process.

### **Protective Provisions**

The Environment Agency has been in the process of reviewing its standard protective provisions and apologises for the delay in this respect. The review is almost complete and our solicitor will be liaising with the Applicant in the coming week with a view to reaching agreement on this matter before the close of the Examination. We will provide a further update on this matter at Deadline 6.

Should you require any additional information, or wish to discuss these matters further, please do not hesitate to contact me at the number below.

Yours faithfully

**Annette Hewitson**  
**Principal Planning Adviser**

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