



To:

Our Ref: EN070008

Chrysaor Production (UK) Limited

Date: 7 March 2025

Dear Sir or Madam,

Planning Act 2008 and The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010

Application by Chrysaor Production (UK) Limited (“the Applicant”) for an Order granting Development Consent for the proposed Viking CCS Carbon Dioxide Pipeline Project (“the Proposed Development”)

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION

1. Following the completion of the Examination on 26 September 2024, the Examining Authority (“ExA”) submitted a Report and Recommendation in respect of its findings and conclusions on the above application to the Secretary of State on 5 December 2024. In accordance with section 107 of the Planning Act 2008 (“PA 2008”), the Secretary of State has three months to determine the application.
2. On 5 March 2025, the Secretary of State decided to extend the statutory deadline to 5 June 2025. The extension has been confirmed in a statement to Parliament in accordance with section 107(7) of the PA 2008.
3. Without prejudice to the Secretary of State’s final decision, the Secretary of State requests the **Applicant** to answer the requests set out below.

Shipping Movements

4. The Secretary of State notes, from the Environmental Statement, that vessels may transport liquified CO₂ to Immingham for onward transport by the Proposed Development, but that any potential environmental effects associated with operational shipping movements have not been defined or assessed in the Environmental Statement.
5. The **Applicant** is requested to clarify the extent to which vessels may import CO₂. The **Applicant** is requested to explain whether it considers updates to the Environmental Impact Assessment and Habitats Regulations Assessment are necessary to include the assessment, alone and cumulatively, of any potential

indirect upstream effects of operational shipping movements, including any greenhouse gas emissions of the ships, and to provide updated documents as necessary.

Draft DCO: 'Pipeline' Definition

6. The draft DCO defines the term 'pipeline' as "the existing pipeline and the new pipeline and includes all of the authorised development including all AGIs and BVSs". The Secretary of State considers this definition to be problematic. If the term 'pipeline' includes all the authorised development, it is not clear why this definition is needed in addition to the definition of 'authorised development'. The Secretary of State notes, for example, that Article 6 (limits of deviation) refers to "pipeline works" and "works other than the pipeline", but given the way 'pipeline' is defined, it is unclear what each of these terms includes. The Secretary of State also notes the extensive references to 'pipeline' in e.g. Schedule 1, where it appears that in many places it is the 'new pipeline' (as defined) that is being referred to. The **Applicant** is asked to reconsider the current definition of 'pipeline' and to propose any amended wording it considers would address these issues.
7. Responses to the requested information should be submitted by email only to vikingccspipeline@planninginspectorate.gov.uk by **23.59 on 21 March 2025**.
8. Responses will be published on the Viking CCS Carbon Dioxide Pipeline project page of the National Infrastructure Planning website: <https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/EN070008> as soon as possible after **21 March 2025**.
9. This letter is without prejudice to the Secretary of State's consideration of whether to grant or withhold development consent for the Proposed Development or any part of the project. Nothing in this letter is to be taken to imply what the eventual decision might be or what final conclusions the Secretary of State may reach on any particular issue which is relevant to the determination of the application.

Yours faithfully



John Wheadon

Head of Energy Infrastructure Planning Delivery

On behalf of the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero