

Cadent Gas Limited (Cadent) - HyNet North West Hydrogen Pipeline ("the Project")

SECTION 47 AND SECTION 48 PLANNING ACT 2008

REGULATION 4 INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (APPLICATIONS: PRESCRIBED FORMS AND PROCEDURE) REGULATIONS 2009

REGULATION 13 INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) REGULATIONS 2017

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION OF STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY CONSULTATION (SoCC)

PUBLICISING A PROPOSED APPLICATION FOR A DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER ("DCO")

Have your say on Cadent's Hydrogen Pipeline proposals in the North West that will transport low carbon hydrogen to industrial customers

Notice is hereby given that Cadent (the "Applicant") of Pilot Way, Ansty CV7 9JU intends to make an application to the Secretary of State for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) under Section 37 of the Planning Act 2008 for development consent (the "Application"). Cadent is the UK's largest gas distributor and is currently developing a number of projects to support future hydrogen use across England and is the Applicant for this project.

The Project

The Project includes the construction, operation and maintenance of up to 125km of new pipelines to distribute hydrogen to industry, power stations and locations on the existing natural gas network in the North West, where hydrogen could potentially be blended with natural gas. The pipeline network would connect to a newly constructed Hydrogen Production Plant at the Vertex Hydrogen site, as the initial source of hydrogen for onward distribution through the network, as well as to a proposed underground Hydrogen Storage Facility.

A Central Hub connects the four main pipeline corridors that stretch across Cheshire, Warrington, parts of Merseyside and Greater Manchester in all four compass directions. Branching off from each main corridor there would be spurs - smaller pipelines - that provide connections to some of the customers identified as part of the Project. The pipeline would be buried below the ground along the entire route, apart from short sections within secure compounds at locations where Hydrogen Above Ground Installations (HAGIs) and Block Valve Installations (BVIs) are required.

A Section 35 direction has recently been provided by the Secretary of State for BEIS, which determines the Project's status as an NSIP.

The Project comprises:

- an onshore network of new pipelines to transport low carbon hydrogen from a Hydrogen Production Plant in Cheshire, to industrial customers, and for potential blending into the existing natural gas network in the North West;
- a number of HAGIs and BVIs to allow sections of the pipeline to be isolated for maintenance;
- areas of mitigation, restoration and/or reinstatement; and
- further development to enable the construction of the Project, for example, construction sites, lay-down areas and site access.

The DCO application will also cover:

- operation and maintenance and decommissioning of the Project;
- the compulsory acquisition of land including rights in or over land required for the purposes of the Project, land required to facilitate or is incidental to the Project;
- the application and/or disapplication of legislation relevant to the Project including that relating to the compulsory acquisition of land; and
- further provisions, permissions or consents as are necessary and/or convenient.

The Project is an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) development as defined in the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017. Consequently, the Applicant will submit an Environmental Statement as part of the Application.

The Applicant has made initial environmental information available in the form of a Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) and a non-technical summary ("NTS") of the PEIR.

The Applicant has also prepared other reports, documents, plans and maps which show the nature, location and proposed extent of the Project. The documents referred to will be available for inspection on the project website until 10 November 2022.

SoCC and public consultation

Cadent has published a Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) for the Project, in accordance with Section 47 of the Planning Act 2008 (as amended). The purpose of this notice is to provide details of when and where the SoCC can be inspected, in accordance with Section 47(6)(a) of the Planning Act 2008.

The SoCC explains the public consultation Cadent intends to undertake and how people can comment on the Project.

The SoCC is available on our project website (www.hynethydrogenpipeline.co.uk) from 5 September 2022 and at the below reference locations in the project area from the start of, and for the duration of, our consultation (**12 September to 10 November 2022**). The reference locations provided have been the subject of consultation with relevant local planning authorities.

If you are unable to access the website, please contact the community relations team on **0800 860 6261** or via email to: info@hynethydrogenpipeline.co.uk.

Reference location	Opening Times
Frodsham Library Princesway, Frodsham, WA6 6RX	Mon-Fri: 09:00-18:00, Sat: 09:30-13:00, Sun: Closed
Grappenhall Library Victoria Avenue, Grappenhall, Warrington WA4 2PE	Mon: 14:00-16:00, Tues: Closed, Weds-Thurs: 10:00-12:00, Fri: Closed, Sat: 10:00-12:00, Sun: Closed
Northwich Library Witton Street, Northwich CW9 5DR	Mon-Weds: 09:00-17:00, Thurs-Fri: 09:00-19:00, Sat: 09:00-13:00, Sun: Closed <i>Northwich Library is closed for building work, expected to re-open 24 September 2022. Documents will be displayed at this location when it re-opens.</i>
Partington Library Central Road, Partington, Manchester M31 4FY	Mon-Tues: 10:00-17:00, Weds: Closed, Thurs-Fri: 10:00-17:00, Saturday: 10:00-16:00, Sun: Closed
Rainhill Library View Road, Rainhill, Prescott L35 0LE	Mon: 10:00-19:00, Tues: 10:00-17:00, Weds: Closed, Thurs-Fri: 10:00-17:00, Sat: 10:00-13:00, Sun: Closed
Runcorn Old Town Library Granville Street, Runcorn WA7 1NE	Mon: 10:00-17:00, Tues: 10:00-18:00, Weds: Closed, Thurs: 09:30-17:00, Fri: 10:00-17:00, Sat: 10:00-14:30, Sun: Closed
St Helens Library The World of Glass, Chalton Way East, St Helens WA10 1BX	Mon: 10:00-19:00, Tues: 10:00-17:00, Weds: 10:00-13:00, Thurs-Fri: 10:00-17:00, Sat: 10:00-13:00, Sun: Closed
Warrington Library Golden Square, Sankey Street, Warrington WA1 1TD	Mon-Tues: Closed, Weds-Fri: 10:00-16:30, Sat: 10:00-16:00, Sun: 11:00-15:00
Knutsford Library Toft Rd, Knutsford WA16 0PG	Mon: 09:00-17:00, Tues: 09:00-19:00, Weds: 09:00-13:00, Thurs: 09:00-19:00, Fri: 09:00-17:00, Sat: 09:00-13:00, Sun: Closed
Thatto Heath Library Thatto Heath Road, St Helens, WA10 3QX	Mon: 10:00-19:00, Tues: 10:00-13:00, Weds: Closed, Thurs: 13:00-17:00, Fri: 10:00-17:00, Sat: 10:00-13:00, Sun: Closed
Chester Lane Library Four Acre Lane, St Helens, WA9 4DE	Mon: 10:00-19:00, Tues: 10:00-17:00, Weds: Closed, Thurs: 10:00-17:00, Fri: 10:00-17:00, Sat: 10:00-13:00, Sun: Closed
Weaverham Library Russet Road, Weaverham, CW8 3HY	Mon: 09:30-13:00 and 14:00-19:00, Tues-Weds: 09:30-13:00 and 14:00-17:00, Thurs-Fri: 09:30-13:00 and 14:00-19:00, Sat: 09:30-13:00, Sun: Closed

(Opening times correct August 2022)

If government advice or local circumstances change as a result of COVID-19 such that it is necessary to adjust the approach to the reference locations above, we will engage with the relevant host local authorities. Communications will take place to agree suitable alternative arrangements for the display of hard copies of the SoCC, if possible, with the SoCC remaining accessible on the project website as an alternative.

The Planning Act 2008 requires that consultation is carried out so communities and stakeholders potentially affected by the Project can help to inform the way it develops. Cadent will be consulting on the entire project, during this statutory consultation, and any other relevant issues people think are important and should be considered.

Details of how to access the consultation documents are set out in the SoCC. From the start of the consultation, copies of the documents, plans, maps and preliminary environmental information will be available free of charge on the project website in accordance with the requirements of the Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 (as amended).

Requesting hard copies of the PEIR, SoCC and other materials

Copies of all the project documents and further details about the Project will be available to download free of charge on the Applicant's website at the start of the statutory consultation on **12 September 2022**: www.hynethydrogenpipeline.co.uk/our-current-proposals/knowledge-hub/. Details of consultation events are also available on this website.

Although no longer a statutory requirement, paper copies of the consultation brochure and PEIR NTS can be viewed at various reference locations in the project area from the 12 September 2022. A full list of reference locations can be found above. A full set of hard-copy consultation documents will be provided for reference at consultation events.

Alternatively, they may be obtained by calling the community relations team on **0800 860 6261** or by emailing info@hynethydrogenpipeline.co.uk following the launch of consultation and may be requested as an electronic or paper copy. A reasonable copying charge will apply for paper copies only (up to a maximum of £150 for the full suite of documents). An electronic copy will be free of charge.

The documents will be available until 23:59 on 10 November 2022.

Have your say

The consultation will run from 12 September to 23:59 on 10 November 2022.

Responses must be received by 23:59 on 10 November 2022.

There are several ways to submit responses:

- **Feedback form**
Available on the project website (www.hynethydrogenpipeline.co.uk), at community events or by request from the community relations team
- **Interactive map**
Available on the project website
- **By email**
info@hynethydrogenpipeline.co.uk
- **In writing**
FREEPOST HYNETH
(please be advised it is not possible to send registered post to a freepost address)

Details of how to respond will also be set out in the SoCC.

Cadent Gas Limited