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Your ref: 13626

Our ref:

17 January 2020

Dear Mr Bullock,

NET ZERO TEESSIDE PROJECT: REQUEST FOR DIRECTION UNDER SECTION 35 OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008

Thank you for your letter of 25 November 2019 to the Secretary of State on behalf of Oil and Gas Climate Initiative Climate Investment Holdings LLP ("the Applicant") requesting that she should exercise powers under section 35 of the Planning Act 2008 ("the Direction request") to direct that certain specified elements of the proposed Net Zero Teesside Project, as set out in the Direction request, should be treated as development for which development consent is required.

The Secretary of State requested supplementary information from the Applicant on 20 December 2019 to assist in deciding whether to give the Direction sought. Further information was received from the Applicant on 24 December 2019.

In light of the information contained in the Direction request and in the Applicant's supplementary information provided on 24 December 2019, I can confirm that the Secretary of State has agreed to the request for a Direction to be made. A signed Direction to that effect is attached. The Direction is given without prejudice to the Secretary of State's consideration of any application for development consent which is made in relation to the proposed Net Zero Teesside Project.

The Direction will be published on the Planning Inspectorate's web page for the Net Zero Teesside Project (or the "Teesside Cluster Carbon Capture and Usage Project" as is

currently displayed on the web-site). I will also arrange for publication of the Direction on the "Energy Infrastructure Development Applications: decision page" on the GOV.UK web-site¹.

Yours sincerely

GARETH LEIGH Head of Energy Infrastructure Planning

¹ <u>https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/energy-infrastructure-development-applications-decisions</u>