

## Acorn CCS Project

**Document Title:** D02 Stakeholder Engagement and Communications Plan

**Document Number:** ACCS-X-00-PB-PM-KK-0001

**KKD Date of Issue:** September 2021

**BEIS ref. no:** CS336

**Knowledge Category:** Carbon Capture and Storage

Produced by Pale Blue Dot Energy Ltd. (a Storegga Group company) as part of the BEIS CCUS Innovation Programme, these documents represent the suite of Key knowledge Deliverables produced during the Acorn CCS FEED Project under the Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) Carbon Capture Utilisation and Storage (CCUS) Innovation Fund. The documents are reflective of the status of the project at the time of writing and are thus sequential and the material presented could have been subject to change as the project matured. These documents should not be considered a full representation of the final Acorn CCS project upon completion of FEED.

### Important Notice

Information provided further to the Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) Carbon Capture Utilisation and Storage (CCUS) Innovation Fund. The information set out herein (the Information) has been prepared by and on behalf of Pale Blue Dot Energy Limited, with support from the project industry partners (together the Project Team) solely for the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy in connection with the Programme. The Information does not amount to advice in any respect, including regarding CCS technology or any CCS engineering, commercial, financial, regulatory, legal or other solutions. Accordingly, no member of the Project Team makes (and the UK Government does not make) any representation, warranty or undertaking, express or implied as to the accuracy, adequacy or completeness of any of the Information and no reliance may be placed on the Information. In so far as permitted by law, no member of the Project Team or any company in the same group as any member of the Project Team or their respective officers, employees or agents accepts (and the UK Government does not accept) any responsibility or liability of any kind, whether for negligence or any other reason, for any damage or loss arising from any use of or any reliance placed on the Information or any subsequent communication of the Information. The Information has been prepared without taking account of the objectives, financial situation or needs of any particular organisation. For this reason, neither the Project Team nor the UK Government endorse or recommend any investment, financing or equivalent decisions based on information provided in it. Each person to whom the Information is made available must make their own independent assessment of the Information after making such investigation and taking professional technical, engineering, commercial, regulatory, financial, legal or other advice, as they deem necessary.

Document Title	Date Originally Issued	Document Title	Date Originally Issued
D02 Stakeholder Engagement and Communications Plan	31/08/2019	D12 Environmental Assessment (onshore)	
D24 Concept Options Report	08/11/2019	D13 Environmental Impact Assessment (offshore)	
D06 Permits & Consents Register	20/12/2019	D18 Risk Management Plan	
D11 Onshore Site Selection Report	28/02/2020	D21 Financing Plan	
D25 Concept Select Report	08/05/2020	D03 CO2 Capture Plant Design	
D10 Well Operating Guidelines	30/09/2020	D14 Economic Model & Report	
D08 Operations and Maintenance Philosophy	30/11/2020	D15 FEED Close-out Report	
D09 Well Design Report	30/11/2020	D16 FEED Lessons Learned Report	
D05 Storage Development Plan	31/03/2021	D17 Acorn CCS Development Plan & Budget	
D22 East Coast Deployment Report	31/03/2021	D19 Whole Chain Cost Estimate	
D04 Whole Chain BoD		D20 Project Schedule	
D07 Health, Safety and Environment Report		D23 Project Summary Report	



Signed by Storegga COO

# Pale Blue Dot.



## **Acorn CCS Project**

D02 Stakeholder Engagement and Communications Plan

ACCS-X-00-PB-PM-KK-0001

Original Issue Date: August 2019

KKD Issue Date: September 2021

[www.pale-blu.com](http://www.pale-blu.com)

## Contents

### Document Summary

<b>Client</b>	Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy		
<b>Project Title</b>	Acorn CCS Project		
<b>Title:</b>	D02 Stakeholder Engagement and Communications Plan		
<b>Distribution:</b>	BEIS	<b>Classification:</b>	Public
<b>Original Date of Issue:</b>	31 August 2019		
<b>KKD Date of Issue:</b>	17 September 2021		
<b>Prepared by:</b>	Charlotte Hartley (Regulatory Pilot, Pale Blue Dot Energy)		
<b>Approved by:</b>	Alan James (Project Director, Pale Blue Dot Energy)		

### Amendment Record

Rev	Date	Description	Issued By	Checked By	Approved By
V0.1	21/08/19	Draft	C Hartley	W Hazell	A James
V0.2	29/08/19	Incorporated comments	C Hartley	W Hazell	A James
V1.0	30/08/19	Issue to client	C Hartley	W Hazell	A James
R01	25/03/21	Revision to KKD	R Jennings	W Hazell	W Hazell
A01	17/09/21	Issued to client	R Jennings	W Hazell	D Clarkson

**Disclaimer:** While the information contained in this document is believed to be accurate at the time of printing, no representation or warranty, express or implied, is given by Pale Blue Dot Energy Limited ("PBD") or any of its respective affiliates or any of PBD's or its respective affiliate's directors, officers or employees or any other person whatsoever on the completeness, accuracy or fairness of the information contained in this document, nor is any responsibility accepted for any errors, misstatements in, or omissions from, this document or any direct or consequential loss howsoever arising from any use of, or reliance on, this document or otherwise in connection with it. No responsibility or liability is accepted for any loss, cost or damage suffered or incurred as a result of reliance on any such information, opinions or beliefs. Where third-party information has been used in this document, PBD has not independently verified such information and PBD does not represent or warrant that this information is accurate. This document does not and is not intended to constitute, and should not be construed as, an offer, inducement, invitation or commitment to purchase, subscribe to, provide or sell any securities, services or products of the PBD in any jurisdiction, or any part of any solicitation of any such offer, inducement, invitation or commitment, or to provide any recommendations for financial, securities, investment or other advice or to take any decision. Nothing in this report constitutes investment, legal or insurance advice from PBD. Certain statements in this presentation may be forward looking statements. By their nature, forward looking statements involve risks, uncertainties and assumptions from PBD and investments that could cause actual results or events to differ materially from those expressed or implied by the forward-looking statements. Forward looking statements contained in this presentation regarding past trends or activities should not be taken as a representation that such trends or activities will continue in the future. This document is strictly confidential and is being provided to you solely for your information and none of the material, nor its content, nor any copy of it, may be altered in any way, transmitted to, copied or distributed to any other party, without the prior express written permission of PBD. in whole or in part, for any purpose. All material presented in this report, unless specifically indicated otherwise, is under copyright to PBD.



**Table of Contents**

CONTENTS ..... 3

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY ..... 8

2.0 THE ACORN CCS PROJECT ..... 9

3.0 ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATION OBJECTIVES ..... 14

4.0 STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT APPROACHES ..... 16

5.0 IDENTIFICATION AND MAPPING OF KEY STAKEHOLDERS ..... 19

6.0 COMMUNICATIONS PLAN ..... 21

7.0 THE ACORN CCS PROJECT BRAND ..... 23

8.0 GOVERNANCE ..... 24

9.0 REFERENCES ..... 26

10.0 APPENDIX 1: STAKEHOLDER REGISTER ..... 27



<b>CONTENTS</b> .....	<b>3</b>
TABLE OF CONTENTS.....	4
FIGURES .....	7
TABLES.....	7
<b>1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY</b> .....	<b>8</b>
<b>2.0 THE ACORN CCS PROJECT</b> .....	<b>9</b>
2.1 PROJECT SUMMARY .....	9
2.2 PROGRAMME OF WORKS .....	10
<b>3.0 ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATION OBJECTIVES</b> .....	<b>14</b>
3.1 STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT OBJECTIVES .....	14
3.2 COMMUNICATION OBJECTIVES .....	15
<b>4.0 STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT APPROACHES</b> .....	<b>16</b>
4.1 STATUTORY CONSULTEES .....	16
4.2 LOCAL ENGAGEMENT .....	16
4.3 NATIONAL ENGAGEMENT .....	17
4.4 INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENT.....	17
<b>5.0 IDENTIFICATION AND MAPPING OF KEY STAKEHOLDERS</b> .....	<b>19</b>
<b>6.0 COMMUNICATIONS PLAN</b> .....	<b>21</b>
6.1 DIGITAL PLATFORMS .....	21
6.1.1 <i>E-newsletter</i> .....	21
6.1.2 <i>Project website</i> .....	21
6.1.3 <i>Social media</i> .....	21
6.2 MEDIA.....	21
6.3 OTHER PLATFORMS .....	21



---

6.3.1	Events .....	21
6.3.2	Working groups.....	22
6.3.3	Papers.....	22
<b>7.0</b>	<b>THE ACORN CCS PROJECT BRAND.....</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>8.0</b>	<b>GOVERNANCE .....</b>	<b>24</b>
8.1	RESPONSIBILITIES .....	24
8.2	WORKING WITH PARTNERS.....	24
8.3	STEERING COMMITTEE .....	24
8.4	ACORN MEDIA PROTOCOL .....	24
8.5	COMMITMENTS, ISSUES AND GRIEVANCES.....	25
<b>9.0</b>	<b>REFERENCES .....</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>10.0</b>	<b>APPENDIX 1: STAKEHOLDER REGISTER .....</b>	<b>27</b>



**Figures**

FIGURE 2-1: ACORN CCS PROJECT MAP ..... 9

FIGURE 2-2 ACORN CCS PROJECT WORK PACKAGES ..... 10

FIGURE 2-3 ACORN CCS PROJECT PHASE 1 INFRASTRUCTURE ..... 12

FIGURE 2-4 ACORN PHASE 2 BUILD-OUT OPTIONS ..... 13

FIGURE 4-1 ACORN CCS STAKEHOLDER AND COMMUNICATIONS SCHEMATIC ..... 18

FIGURE 7-1 ACORN CCS PROJECT LOGO ..... 23

FIGURE 7-2 ACORN HYDROGEN PROJECT LOGO ..... 23

**Tables**

TABLE 5-1 STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT PURPOSE ..... 19

TABLE 5-2 STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT TYPE ..... 19

TABLE 5-3 STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT FREQUENCY ..... 20



## 1.0 Executive Summary

---

*The Acorn CCS project has benefitted from strong media coverage during its feasibility phase and this Stakeholder Engagement Strategy and Communications Plan builds on that already established profile.*

*Effective communication planning is essential for supporting the successful implementation of the project and confirming its role in contributing to meeting the UK's climate targets.*

*Stakeholders are enthusiastically supporting the Acorn CCS project and its drivers to support the decarbonising of industry, deliver part of the energy transition and present opportunities for the local community.*

*The project benefits from an elevated profile as a result of the European Project of Common Interest status, as well as previous media engagement and communication activity during its feasibility phase.*

The Acorn CCS project ('the project') is recognised as a low-cost, low-risk carbon capture and storage (CCS) project, designed to be built quickly, taking advantage of existing oil and gas infrastructure and a well understood offshore CO<sub>2</sub> storage site.

If developed on its current timelines, the project can significantly contribute to the UK meeting its net-zero climate targets. It has a key role in the industrial decarbonisation of Scotland, the UK and Europe, which is important for meeting our global climate change mitigation commitments, as well as delivering a just transition and maintaining a thriving industry in the UK.

During its feasibility phase, the project benefitted from positive media coverage, both in an individual capacity and alongside other CCUS announcements, such as the UK Government's Department for Business Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) Accelerating CCUS Summit in November 2018, and the launch of the Scottish Government's Scottish Energy Strategy in 2017. Going forward, the project will continue to engage with key stakeholders and the media, to build on this profile, maintain strong channels of communication with important stakeholders and at an appropriate time, communicate the evolving aspects of project development and decisions in order to effectively position the project for the execution stage of the project delivery.

This document explains the main plans for engagement and communication while acknowledging that some activities must remain fluid and easy to adapt as situations arise.





## 2.0 The Acorn CCS Project

### 2.1 Project Summary

The Acorn CCS project is a phased carbon capture and storage (CCS) project based in the northeast of Scotland as shown in Figure 2-1. The Acorn CCS project intends to securely store captured CO<sub>2</sub> in the Acorn CO<sub>2</sub> Storage Site licenced area, as defined by the Oil and Gas Authority (OGA) Licence Agreement and the Crown Estate Scotland (CES) Lease Option.

It is proposed that St Fergus, located 64km north of Aberdeen, will be the onshore focus for the Acorn CCS project and that existing, redundant, offshore gas pipelines will be re-purposed for transporting CO<sub>2</sub> to the Acorn CO<sub>2</sub> Storage Site licenced area. The Acorn CCS project is the anchor CO<sub>2</sub> transport and storage solution for the Scottish industrial cluster and plays a key role in Scotland's journey to decarbonisation.

This current programme of work is being delivered by the project team, which includes Pale Blue Dot Energy (PBDE) and its industry partners. PBDE is responsible for the management and delivery of this activity. It is being funded by the United Kingdom (UK) Government, via the Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) as part of the CCUS Innovation Fund. Other aspects of the project are supported by the European Union (EU) as a Project of Common Interest (PCI) and Industry.

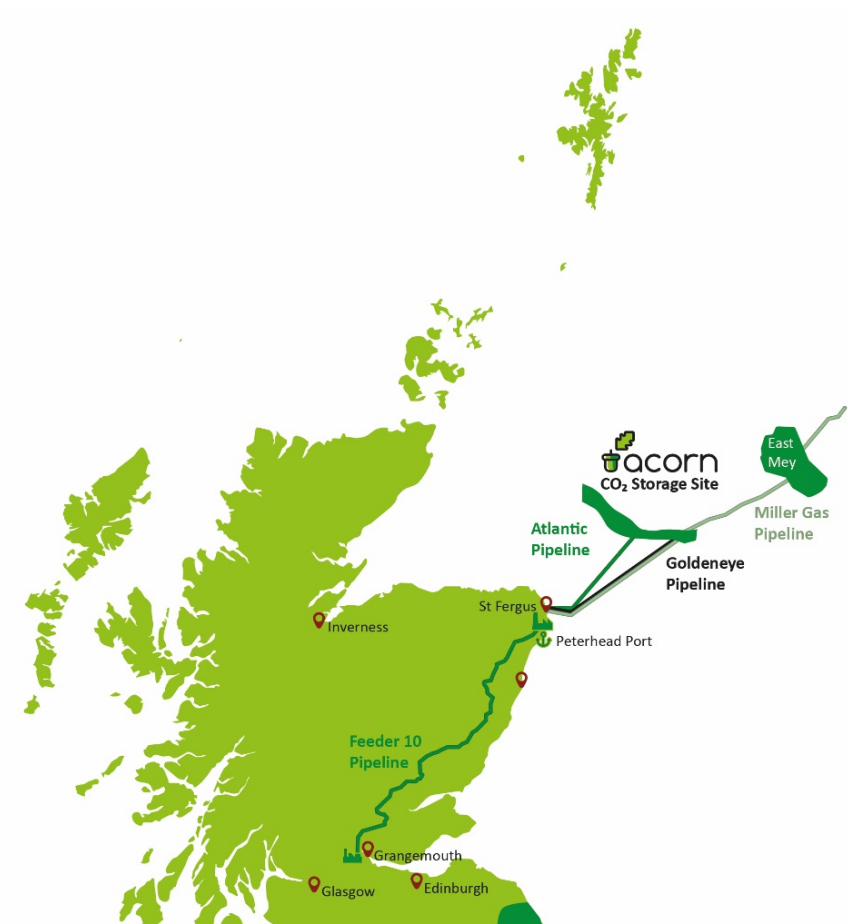


Figure 2-1: Acorn CCS Project map



## 2.2 Programme of Works

This current Concept phase comprises a programme of works, which is focused on progressing the full chain Phase 1 CCS infrastructure (see Figure 2-3) to inform a final investment decision which will allow operations to commence in accordance with UK Government’s plan to have an operational CCS project in place by mid 2020s. This would be a significant contribution to the UK achieving Net Zero by 2050. The Phase 1 infrastructure includes:

- Flue gas collection from one or more existing St Fergus industrial emitters and transport of the flue gases to the CO<sub>2</sub> capture plant
- CO<sub>2</sub> capture plant using a liquid solvent
- Transport of the CO<sub>2</sub> from the CO<sub>2</sub> capture plant to the low pressure (LP) compression plant, conditioning of the CO<sub>2</sub> to remove oxygen and water, high pressure (HP) compression and subsequent chilling to meet the pipeline specification
- Onshore control and utilities infrastructure to control, support and power the onshore plant such as, power, instrument and plant air, water, drain systems and water treatment, etc
- Onshore tie-in to the offshore pipeline
- Offshore infrastructure, including the re-use of the existing Goldeneye pipeline, a manifold capable of expansion to a further well at Acorn South and tie-in of the well to the manifold
- Drilling and completion of 1 well capable of injecting Carbon Dioxide complete with the subsea X-tree and well control infrastructure and chemical injection, if required
- Subsurface work for the full Acorn CO<sub>2</sub> Storage Site

The programme of works for the Phase 1 infrastructure will be delivered across seven work packages as shown in Figure 2-2. These work packages will allow the project to identify and develop the technical definition of the Phase 1 preferred concept, whilst also developing the commercial route to market for the project in parallel (to the extent possible given the Government’s developing position on proposed business models for CCUS and Hydrogen).

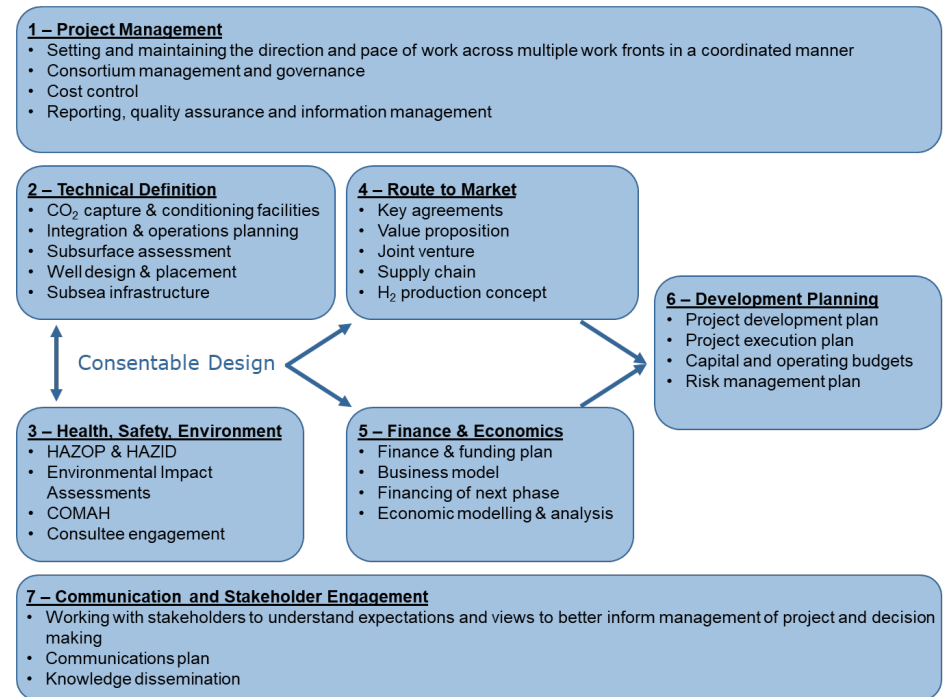


Figure 2-2 Acorn CCS Project Work Packages

Some further work will also be undertaken on the Phase 2 build out option at Peterhead Port (see Figure 2-4) to develop the opportunity for the project to



provide strategic transnational CO<sub>2</sub> transportation infrastructure that could benefit the wider North Sea Basin.

The progression of the other Phase 2 options shown in Figure 2-4 will depend on market demand and the timing of other projects around the North Sea basin which are largely associated with CO<sub>2</sub> capture systems at power and industrial plants. The Phase 2 build out options include:

- Carbon capture from a new hydrogen plant (reforming natural gas) at St Fergus
- Re-deployment of the National Gas Grid (NGG) Feeder 10 pipeline and infrastructure to transport CO<sub>2</sub> from the industrial centres around Grangemouth to St Fergus and onwards to the Acorn CO<sub>2</sub> Storage Site licenced area
- Re-using the existing Peterhead port infrastructure (where feasible) to receive CO<sub>2</sub> by ship and installation of new infrastructure to support import of CO<sub>2</sub> to the St Fergus Acorn facility
- Using the Peterhead shipping infrastructure to support export of CO<sub>2</sub> for operational resilience.
- Drilling and completion of a further well at Acorn South
- Offshore infrastructure, including new in-field flowline to second Acorn South well
- Drilling and completion of a further four wells at Acorn Central
- Offshore infrastructure, including the re-use of the existing Atlantic pipeline, new in-field pipelines and a manifold capable of expansion to a further four wells at Acorn Central
- An international interconnection utilising the Miller Gas System pipeline

Development of the offshore infrastructure and drilling of additional wells will be on the basis of a just in time model to match the timing of new sources of CO<sub>2</sub> becoming available.

The project as a whole has a long-term outlook to 2060. This aligns well with UK and EU visions for CO<sub>2</sub> emissions reduction targets, and there is no reason why this initiative cannot continue beyond this timeframe due to the very large potential capacity within the North Sea for the permanent, safe and cost-effective storage of CO<sub>2</sub>.



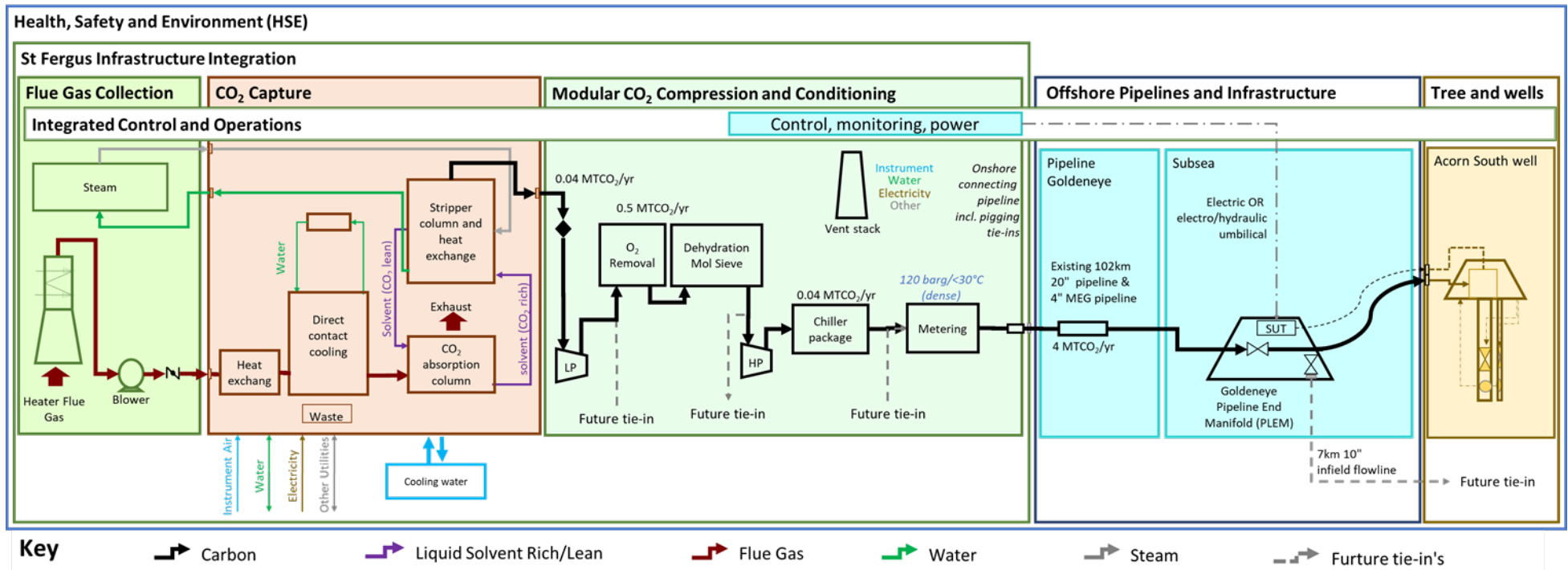


Figure 2-3 Acorn CCS Project Phase 1 Infrastructure



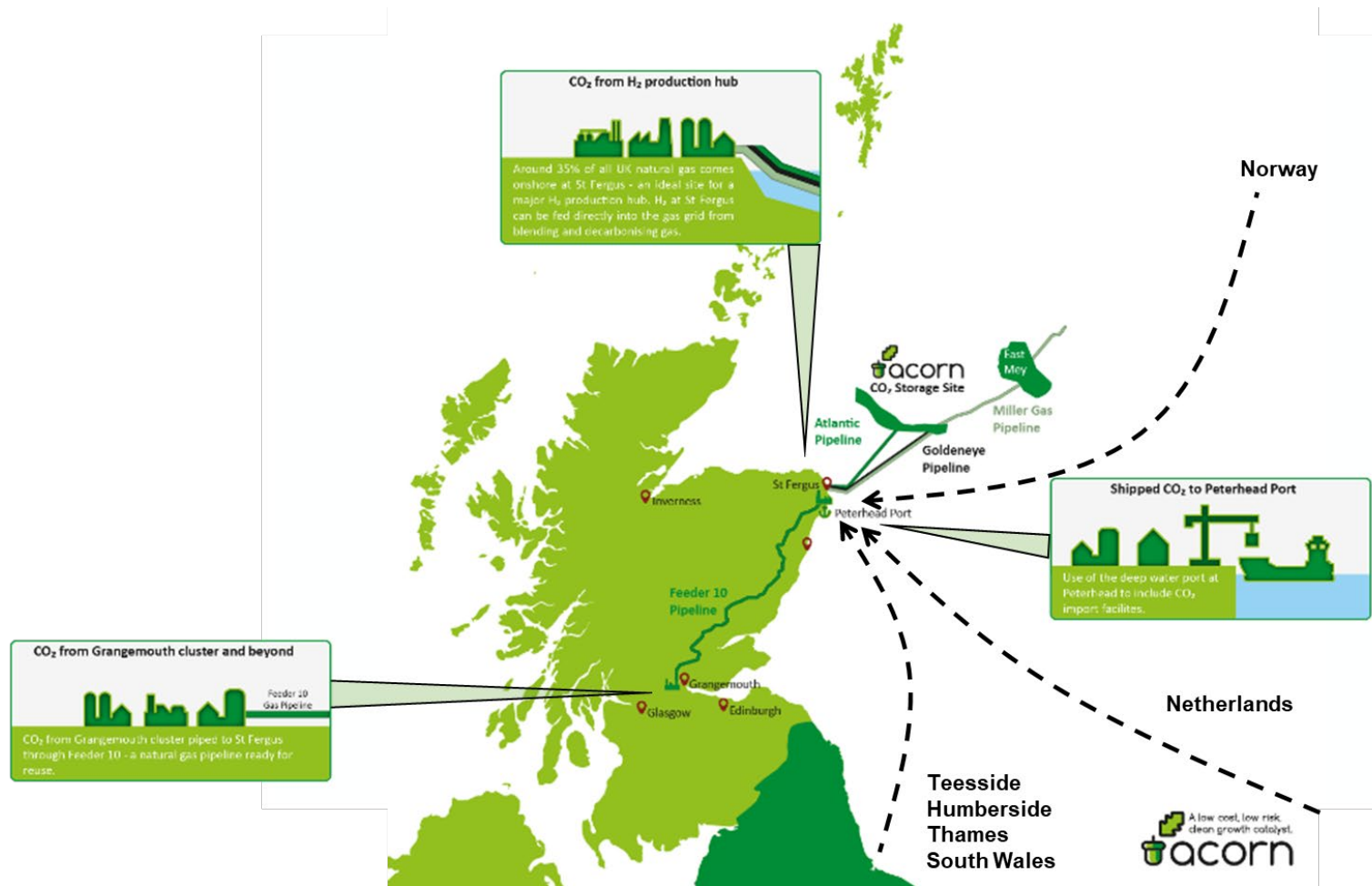


Figure 2-4 Acorn Phase 2 Build-out Options



## 3.0 Engagement and Communication Objectives

The Acorn CCS project has several key drivers that underpin the value of the project to its stakeholders.

The Acorn CCS project aims to develop the CO<sub>2</sub> transport and storage industry in the UK by the mid-2020's. This will be done with the development of a low-cost, full-chain carbon capture and storage project in North East Scotland. This is a low capital cost project (relative to other CCS projects), through its reuse of existing redundant O&G assets and focus on the transport and storage of CO<sub>2</sub> in well-established world class CO<sub>2</sub> storage areas. It is also intended to support multiple build out options which can react to and stimulate CO<sub>2</sub> capture activity across the UK and North Sea basin. The project will make an important contribution to UK achieving its commitment to be Net Zero by 2050.

The Acorn CCS project key messages are

- Acorn CCS can contribute to the UK meeting its net-zero climate targets
- Acorn CCS has a key role in the industrial decarbonisation of Scotland, the UK and Europe, which is important for meeting global climate change mitigation commitments under the Paris Agreement, as well as delivering a just transition
- Acorn CCS is a full-chain CO<sub>2</sub> transport and storage system at the heart of the Scottish industrial cluster with opportunities for access from across the North Sea Basin
- Acorn CCS makes best use of the North Sea's natural assets and offers a CO<sub>2</sub> storage solution for other countries who do not have a national CO<sub>2</sub> storage resource

The stakeholder engagement and communications objectives for the current programme of works have been developed with these key messages in mind. The project also recognises that there has been considerable dialogue regarding CCS in the project location, and the UK more generally, over several years. It will be important that the project builds on the strong foundations of previous engagement activity whilst also emphasising the value drivers of this project and changing policy landscape to gain traction with long term CCS stakeholders.

### 3.1 Stakeholder Engagement Objectives

Stakeholder engagement is active consultation and engagement with key individuals and groups who have a role or specific interest in the project. This includes (list not exhaustive) local, national and international authorities, agencies, potential investors, and project funders.

The stakeholder engagement objectives are:

- To seek alignment of interest and support from key stakeholders, particularly those that have an ability to shape and influence the development of the project
- To instil confidence in key stakeholders about the project team and its ability to deliver the Acorn CCS project
- To identify early any potential issues that may arise during the project and methods to address these
- To contribute and gain expertise and learnings with others in the CCUS industry



- To demonstrate the role of Acorn CCS project in delivering the UK's target for net-zero emissions
- To build relationships with key stakeholders to identify and maximise opportunities for the project to deliver local, national and international benefits

### 3.2 Communication Objectives

The purpose of the communications plan is to raise awareness and support for the Acorn CCS project, and CCUS more broadly. The target audience of the communications plan is generally interested parties and the public. Stakeholders will also be encouraged to engage in the communications, e.g. follow social media accounts.

The communications objectives are:

- To establish and maintain a strong brand for the Acorn CCS project, that aligns positively with its partners
- To support progression of the Acorn CCS project and fulfil its objectives.
- To raise the profile of the project and CCUS in the UK and Europe
- To foster long term interest in the project, and CCUS more generally
- To effectively disseminate project information and messages





## 4.0 Stakeholder Engagement Approaches

The stakeholder engagement approach has been developed following the project delivery team's extensive dialogue with stakeholders during the feasibility phase of the Acorn CCS project. This has allowed the project team to recognise and understand the needs of different stakeholder groups and develop an approach that effectively manages these requirements. Throughout the consultation to date stakeholder's interests are broadly driven by:

- National and international level discussions on climate change and the role of CCUS in decarbonising industry, responding to the climate emergency, and delivering a just transition
- Local level discussions about the Project's effects on the local economy and environment

Figure 4-1 illustrates the stakeholder engagement and communication strategy for building out the communications through this programme of work. This strategy will be subject to regular review and update by the project team.

### 4.1 Statutory consultees

Stakeholder engagement with statutory consultee will be focused on awareness raising, undertaking effective dialogue in relation to the regulatory requirements of the project and supporting the effective consenting of the project in line with project timelines.

To date, PBDE has had initial meetings with several regulatory bodies, where the project has been introduced and the consenting requirements from specific regulators has been confirmed.

The team has established relationships with all the main regulators and sought their preferences regarding frequency of engagement.

### 4.2 Local engagement

Stakeholder engagement at a local level will be focused in three areas:

1. Working with asset owners to develop long term working relations that support the implementation of the project
2. Engaging local political representatives, business organisations and trade associations and media representatives to raise awareness, and inform and gain support for the project
3. Communicating with the public to understand local issues, raise awareness, inform and gain support for the project

Local engagement has been to date, and will continue to be, with local Members of Parliament (MPs), Members of Scottish Parliament (MSPs), local businesses and business organisations such as Peterhead Port Authority, Opportunity North East and the asset owners/operators at the St Fergus Gas Terminal.

Public engagement, such as presentations at conferences and events, public exhibitions and engagement in local schools and community groups will be undertaken throughout the programme of works. The project team recognises the critical value of local support and the requirement to effectively engage at this level as the permitting and consenting processes progress.





### 4.3 National engagement

Stakeholder engagement at a national level will be focused in two areas:

1. working with Scottish and UK Governments to develop the policy environment, in line with the Acorn CCS project timeline, that will enable commercially ready deployment of full-chain CCUS projects in the UK
2. working with industrial clusters around Scotland and the UK to maximise the opportunities for industrial decarbonisation and establish a collaborative environment where several CCUS projects in the UK are progressed in parallel

Engagement will focus on the national significance of the project including cost, benefits and its role in decarbonising UK's industry, as well as demonstrating the project's leadership position in the UK. Engagement will also focus on the importance of industry collaboration at a national level to achieve the national targets for net-zero emissions by 2050. The Acorn CCS project is the anchor CO<sub>2</sub> transport and storage project for the Scottish industrial cluster.

### 4.4 International engagement

The Acorn CCS project is a European Project of Common Interest (PCI) and as such there is an international angle to the stakeholder engagement. PCIs are key cross border infrastructure projects that link the energy systems of European Union (EU) countries, intended to help achieve their energy policy and climate objectives. Knowledge exchange and collaboration between projects is an important part of the PCI structure, and demonstrating this (among other factors) facilitates access to European funding. The Acorn CCS project is committed to

meeting this obligation. Stakeholder Engagement at the international level will focus in three areas:

1. working with potential international carbon capture projects to provide transport and storage solutions and thereby develop the commercial opportunities of the future build-out options
2. working with other carbon transport and storage projects to establish operational profiles and specifications for project development which maximise the opportunity for an integrated EU CO<sub>2</sub> network.
3. Engagement with international policy makers to develop a supportive policy environment for the international movement of CO<sub>2</sub>

To date, the Acorn CCS project has had exploratory discussions with CO<sub>2</sub> capture projects in countries around the North Sea Basin. The project is also working closely with the Northern Lights Project in Norway, to find routes of mutual support and collaboration.

The Acorn CCS project is a member of the European CCUS Projects Network, which aims to accelerate delivery of industrial projects in order to reach the net-zero 2050 climate targets. The project team will continue to have a presence at relevant European events and engage in discussions via these platforms.

The PBDE team have attended events in Japan to present the Acorn CCS project and provide an update on the status of CCUS in the UK and is a Member of the International Advisory Board for the Japanese Ministry of Environment's Sustainable CCS Project. The project's industry partners are also active in the international CCUS sector.



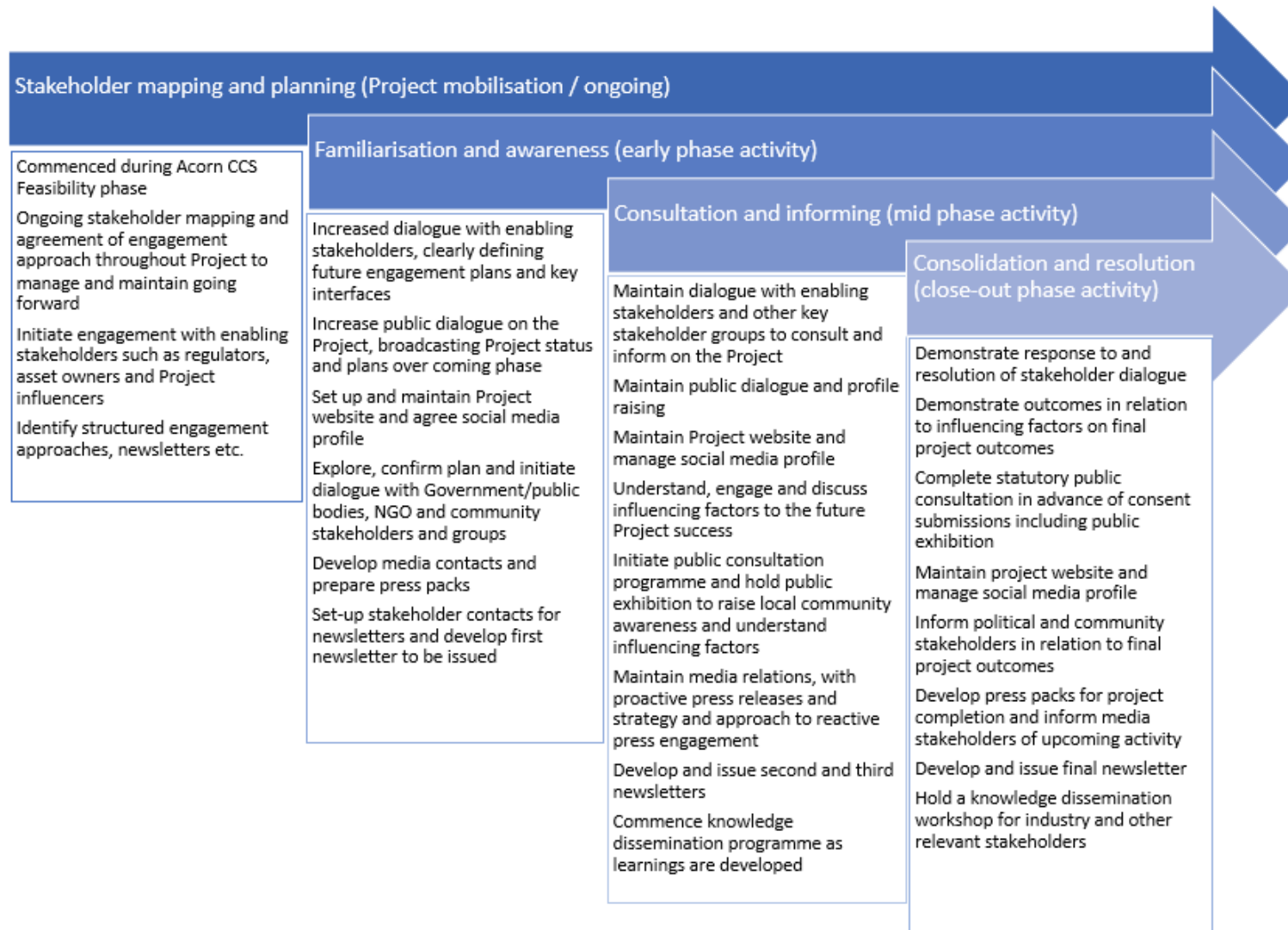


Figure 4-1 Acorn CCS Stakeholder and Communications Schematic



## 5.0 Identification and Mapping of Key Stakeholders

The PBDE team recognise that the Acorn CCS project has a diverse range of stakeholders including academia, political, media, regulatory, public, private and landowners, NGOs and others. The PBDE team mapped stakeholders with whom engagement will need to be undertaken during the project. These stakeholders are included in the Acorn CCS Stakeholder Register (Appendix 1: Stakeholder Register). The Stakeholder Register will be reviewed and updated periodically during the project.

The engagement purpose, engagement type and engagement frequencies for each stakeholder were also identified and are described in Table 5-1, Table 5-2 and Table 5-3, respectively. It is recognised that some stakeholders may fall into more than one stakeholder type and engagement purpose category. At present, the project team has identified what is considered to be the primary categories. The categorisation of stakeholders may change as the project develops.

Engagement purpose	Definition
<b>Relationship building</b>	General relationship building.
<b>Regulatory requirement</b>	They are a statutory consultee - engagement is compulsory to meet the regulatory aspects of the project.
<b>Interested party</b>	Stakeholder who is interested in the project and would like to be kept updated.
<b>Project influencer</b>	A stakeholder who could influence the direction or pace of project development.

<b>Explore</b>	Further effort required to understand the stakeholder's position
----------------	--

*Table 5-1 Stakeholder Engagement Purpose*

Engagement type and frequency categories are hierarchical and represent an increasing level of engagement activity and focus. The actual nature and frequency of engagement will vary over time and in response to project needs. Some structured engagement tools such as project newsletters will be scheduled into the programme.

Engagement type	Definition
<b>Reactive</b>	There is no engagement planned (or requested), and queries will be responded to as they arise.
<b>Broadcast / 1-way</b>	A digital newsletter or email that is not personalised and a response from the stakeholder is not expected.
<b>Personalised broadcast</b>	Communication via phone or email with a project update tailored to the stakeholder's interests.
<b>Face to face dialogue</b>	Engagement will be as required, face to face and tailored to the stakeholder's needs.
<b>Explore</b>	Further effort required to understand the stakeholder's position and most suitable type of engagement.

*Table 5-2 Stakeholder Engagement Type*



Engagement frequency	Definition
<b>As necessary</b>	High frequency of engagement is not expected and will principally respond to stakeholder inquiries.
<b>Quarterly</b>	Planned frequency of contact with the stakeholder would be once per quarter
<b>Monthly</b>	Planned frequency of contact with the stakeholder would be once per month.
<b>As required</b>	Stakeholder engagement activities will be driven by the project needs and are expected to have periods of intensity over and above monthly engagement.
<b>Explore</b>	Further effort required to understand the stakeholder's position and most suitable frequency of engagement.

*Table 5-3 Stakeholder Engagement Frequency*



## 6.0 Communications Plan

---

The Acorn CCS project communications approach will be a blend of proactive and reactive elements, utilising several platforms.

Figure 4-1 illustrates the stakeholder engagement and communication strategy for building out the communications through this programme of work.

### 6.1 Digital platforms

The following platforms have been identified for use during the project. This will be subject to periodic review to ensure that the right platforms are being used and that the use of these platforms is achieving the objectives set out.

#### 6.1.1 E-newsletter

A quarterly e-newsletter will be issued through the programme of works. This will be used to share developments/outputs and build relationships with a variety of stakeholders. The newsletter will also cross-promote the project website and social media channels. Through the project lifecycle the circulation of the newsletter will be monitored and maintained. The establishment of an effective local distribution list for the newsletter will be important as, in time, this will aid the execution stage of the project.

#### 6.1.2 Project website

A project specific website will be managed by Pale Blue Dot Energy throughout the programme of works.

To date, web access to information on the project has been managed as a page within the Pale Blue Dot Energy website. Going forward, it is planned to have a

specific project website (a domain name has been secured) which will be a focal point for all information relating to the Acorn CCS project. The website will include the project overview and key messages, project objectives and activities, information about partners, news and events feed, social media links and the subscription link for the quarterly newsletter. The website will also have a contact form for comment on the project to be made to the project team.

#### 6.1.3 Social media

The social media accounts for the Acorn CCS project are Twitter, @AcornCCS, and a LinkedIn Showcase page, The Acorn CCS project, which sits under the Pale Blue Dot Energy Company page.

### 6.2 Media

Effective engagement with the media is critical for delivering the project's communications objectives and communicating the project's key messages. As the Project moves forward, it will engage both proactively and reactively with local, national, international and industry-specific media. A project specific Media Protocol, agreed with Partners, for the project team will be developed (see section 8.4).

### 6.3 Other platforms

#### 6.3.1 Events

The project team will present the Acorn CCS project at relevant events, such as key energy and industry related conferences, young professionals' events,



seminars and debates. The approach to identifying presentation and panel opportunities will be a combination of actively seeking opportunities and responding to invitations. The project team has been very proactive in this space to date and it has been a fundamental part of raising and maintaining the profile of the project.

### 6.3.2 Working groups

The team will endeavour to support the work of Government and industry taskforces, research groups and think-tanks. These fora are often important for informing the evolution and development of policy and it will be important for the project to provide detailed input to these groups. The project recognises that the representation of its views, relative to the corporate views of the individual partner organisations may vary at times and this will require careful management through the representation process.

### 6.3.3 Papers

The project team recognises that authoring research papers and/or contributing to journals is an important professional development step for some professionals in technical roles and will support this where requested/required.



## 7.0 The Acorn CCS Project Brand

The Acorn Project brand benefits from an established and well-known identity. The CCS Project will continue to use this brand, as it is considered advantageous to maintain this consistency, it also is corporate neutral and will allow partner brands to associate with the project throughout the project lifecycle. However, the project team has recognised that to date, the Acorn CCS project, the Acorn Hydrogen project, and the various build-out phases, have been presented under a single brand and logo, Figure 7-1, which has on occasion caused confusion amongst stakeholders.

It will be important for this programme of works that the Acorn CCS project is recognised independently from other project activities (whilst acknowledging the interrelationship and holistic benefits of the multiple phases and build-out options). This is important to maintain clarity with stakeholders. All future activities that are related but separate to the Acorn CCS project will benefit from closely related but distinct public brands and logos. The Acorn Hydrogen Project logo is shown in Figure 7-2.



Figure 7-1 Acorn CCS Project logo



Figure 7-2 Acorn Hydrogen Project logo

## 8.0 Governance

---

Effective governance of the stakeholder engagement and communications plan is essential to its success, with multiple parties involved in the project as funders and industry partners.

### 8.1 Responsibilities

The stakeholder engagement and communications for the Acorn CCS project will be managed and delivered by PBDE as the project developer. This will be led by the dedicated project Stakeholder Engagement and Communications Manager. This person will be accountable, from a project perspective to the Project Director, and responsible for the timely and effective implementation of this plan.

In addition to this, Acorn CCS project team members will be available to interface with stakeholders as required, for example as technical experts.

### 8.2 Working with partners

The project benefits from having a variety of industry and funding partners. It is intended that there will be regular interface around project messaging and stakeholder engagement activities with all project partners.

It is also recognised that project partners will need to be able to maintain their own stakeholder relationships and will on occasion be approached directly to comment on the project. The co-ordination and management of these situations will require a collaborative approach which will be defined within a working protocol between parties. It is anticipated that a suitable point of contact will be available in each partner organisation to be approached and support

engagement activity by the project team, as required. It is also expected that prior to any individual organisation undertaking specific stakeholder or media activity related to the project that this will be discussed and agreed with the project team in advance. A Project Steering Committee is already in place with industry partner to facilitate this type of collaborative activity and there will be an Acorn Communications working group which will meet bi-weekly.

### 8.3 Steering committee

A steering committee has been established for the duration of the project and is made up of key representatives from PBDE and the industry partners. The Acorn CCS Steering Committee meets quarterly and is chaired by PBDE. The steering committee agrees the key messaging for the project. If ad hoc or reactive communication activity is required, the Steering Committee membership will provide the support and sanction of their individual organisations.

### 8.4 Acorn Media Protocol

To date, media engagement for the Acorn CCS project has been managed in line with the PBDE Media Protocol. Going forward, a specific Acorn Media Protocol will be developed and adopted by the project partners. This protocol is likely to include information about engagement with partners, approval of key material, standard practice for responding to media enquiries, and key communication contact information.





## 8.5 Commitments, issues, and grievances

The project will implement an effective issues and grievance management protocol. There will be an ability through the website for any concerned party to contact the project team. The contact details for the Stakeholder and Communications Manager (or other suitable representative e.g., community liaison officer) will also be made available on publications to facilitate an individual point of contact. The project team will maintain a Commitments Register, managed by the Stakeholder and Communications Manager, which will be used to track requests from stakeholders and commitments made by the project team.

Any issues or grievances that arise will be reviewed in relation to the immediacy of the action required and a subsequent response process put in place. As an illustration there will be a stakeholder section within the weekly project team meeting where such matters can be raised. Where appropriate and required, matters can be escalated to the project steering committee prior to resolution.

There will be a close interface between the stakeholder engagement and communications plan and the project risk register.



## 9.0 References

---

Pale Blue Dot Energy Ltd. (2019). *Feasibility Study for Acorn CO<sub>2</sub> SAPLING Transport Infrastructure Project: Stakeholder Engagement and External Communication Plan*.

Shell U.K. Limited. (2015). *Peterhead CCS Project: Stakeholder and Public Engagement and Communications Plan*.



## 10.0 Appendix 1: Stakeholder Register

The Stakeholder Register will be a live register and therefore will be subject to regular review and update by the project team.

Organisation	Stakeholder Type	Second Stakeholder Type (if applicable)	Engagement Purpose	Engagement Type	Engagement Frequency
BEIS	Government/Public Body, Regulator	Funder/Industry Partner	Regulatory requirement	Face to face dialogue	As necessary
Aberdeenshire Council (planning)	Regulator		Regulatory requirement	Personalised broadcast	As necessary
Crown Estate Scotland	Regulator		Regulatory requirement	Personalised broadcast	As necessary
HSE	Regulator		Regulatory requirement	Personalised broadcast	As necessary
Joint Nature Conservation Committee	Regulator		Regulatory requirement	Face to face dialogue	As necessary
Marine Scotland	Regulator		Regulatory requirement	Personalised broadcast	As necessary
Oil & Gas Authority (OGA)	Regulator		Regulatory requirement	Personalised broadcast	As necessary
Scottish Natural Heritage	Regulator		Regulatory requirement	Personalised broadcast	As necessary
SEPA	Regulator		Regulatory requirement	Personalised broadcast	As necessary



Organisation	Stakeholder Type	Second Stakeholder Type (if applicable)	Engagement Purpose	Engagement Type	Engagement Frequency
Ancala	Asset Owner	Neighbour	Project influencer	Face to face dialogue	As required
National Grid	Asset Owner	Neighbour	Project influencer	Face to face dialogue	As required
North Sea Midstream Partners	Asset Owner		Project influencer	Face to face dialogue	As required
Gassco	Asset Owner		Project Influencer	Face to face dialogue	As required
Peterhead Port	Asset Owner	Government/Public Body	Project influencer	Face to face dialogue	As required
SSE	Asset Owner		Project influencer	Face to face dialogue	As required
Chrysaor	Funder/Industry Partner	Industry Business	Project influencer	Face to face dialogue	As necessary
INEA	Funder/Industry Partner		Project influencer	Face to face dialogue	As necessary
Shell	Funder/Industry Partner	Asset Owner	Project influencer	Face to face dialogue	As necessary
Total	Funder/Industry Partner	Industry Business	Project influencer	Face to face dialogue	As necessary
DEFRA	Government/Public Body		Project influencer	Broadcast / 1-way	quarterly



Organisation	Stakeholder Type	Second Stakeholder Type (if applicable)	Engagement Purpose	Engagement Type	Engagement Frequency
Dutch Government	Government/Public Body		Project influencer	Explore	As required
European Commission (PCI)	Government/Public Body	Funder/Industry Partner	Project influencer	Personalised broadcast	Quarterly
HM Treasury	Government/Public Body		Project influencer	Personalised broadcast	Quarterly
Ministry of Defence/Defence Estates	Government/Public Body		Project influencer	Reactive	As required
Scottish Government	Government/Public Body		Project influencer	Personalised broadcast	As necessary
CCUS Advisory Group	Industry body		Project influencer	Personalised broadcast	As necessary
Scottish industrial cluster	Industry body		Project influencer	Face to face dialogue	Monthly
Bellona	NGO		Relationship building	Explore	As required
Friends of the Earth	NGO		Relationship building	Explore	As required
Green Alliance	NGO		Relationship building	Explore	As required
Greenpeace	NGO		Relationship building	Explore	As required



Organisation	Stakeholder Type	Second Stakeholder Type (if applicable)	Engagement Purpose	Engagement Type	Engagement Frequency
RSPB Scotland	NGO		Relationship building	Explore	As required
Scottish Wildlife Trust	NGO		Relationship building	Explore	As required
WWF Scotland	NGO		Relationship building	Explore	As required
Local residents	Public		Project influencer	Explore	As necessary
Public	Public		Project influencer	Explore	As necessary
MSPs and MPs	Government/Public Body		Relationship building	Face to face dialogue	Quarterly
Oil and Gas Technology Centre (OGTC)	Industry body		Relationship building	Broadcast / 1-way	Quarterly
Opportunity North East (ONE)	Industry body		Relationship building	Broadcast / 1-way	Quarterly
European Marine Energy Centre	Industry Business		Relationship building	Broadcast / 1-way	Quarterly
National Physical Laboratory	Industry Business		Relationship building	Broadcast / 1-way	Quarterly
Other Hydrogen Supply Competition Parties	Industry Business		Relationship building	Reactive	As necessary
BBC Scotland	Media		Relationship building	Personalised broadcast	As necessary



Organisation	Stakeholder Type	Second Stakeholder Type (if applicable)	Engagement Purpose	Engagement Type	Engagement Frequency
Carbon Capture Journal	Media		Relationship building	Personalised broadcast	As necessary
Energy Voice	Media		Relationship building	Personalised broadcast	As necessary
Financial Times	Media		Relationship building	Personalised broadcast	As necessary
Institute of Gas Engineers and Managers (Gas International)	Media		Relationship building	Personalised broadcast	As necessary
Natural Gas World	Media		Relationship building	Personalised broadcast	As necessary
Press and Journal	Media		Relationship building	Personalised broadcast	As necessary
STV	Media		Relationship building	Personalised broadcast	As necessary
Heriot Watt University	Academia		Interested party	Broadcast / 1-way	Quarterly
Scottish Carbon Capture and Storage	Academia		Interested party	Personalised broadcast	Quarterly
The University of Edinburgh	Academia		Interested party	Broadcast / 1-way	Quarterly
University of Aberdeen	Academia		Interested party	Broadcast / 1-way	Quarterly
Aberdeen City Council	Government/Public Body		Interested party	Broadcast / 1-way	Quarterly



Organisation	Stakeholder Type	Second Stakeholder Type (if applicable)	Engagement Purpose	Engagement Type	Engagement Frequency
Aberdeen Grampian Chamber of Commerce (AGCC)	Government/Public Body		Interested party	Broadcast / 1-way	Quarterly
Aberdeenshire Council (non planning)	Government/Public Body		Interested party	Personalised broadcast	Quarterly
Community Councils	Government/Public Body		Interested party	Broadcast / 1-way	quarterly
Highlands and Islands Enterprise	Government/Public Body		Interested party	Broadcast / 1-way	Quarterly
Scottish Development International	Government/Public Body		Interested party	Personalised broadcast	Quarterly
Scottish Enterprise	Government/Public Body		Interested party	Face to face dialogue	As necessary
Scottish Futures Trust	Government/Public Body		Interested party	Explore	Quarterly
Scottish National Investment Bank	Government/Public Body		Interested party	Explore	Quarterly
Carbon Sequestration Leadership Forum	Industry body		Interested party	Personalised broadcast	Quarterly
CCSA	Industry body		Interested party	Broadcast / 1-way	Quarterly
Decarbonised Gas Alliance (DGA)	Industry body		Interested party	Broadcast / 1-way	Quarterly
Decom North Sea	Industry body		Interested party	Reactive	Quarterly





Organisation	Stakeholder Type	Second Stakeholder Type (if applicable)	Engagement Purpose	Engagement Type	Engagement Frequency
GCCSI	Industry body		Interested party	Broadcast / 1-way	Quarterly
Innovate UK	Industry body		Interested party	Broadcast / 1-way	Quarterly
OGCI	Industry body		Interested party	Broadcast / 1-way	As necessary
Oil & Gas UK	Industry body		Interested party	Broadcast / 1-way	Quarterly
Port of Rotterdam	Industry body		Interested party	Explore	As required
Scottish Carbon Capture and Storage (SCCS)	Industry body		Interested party	Broadcast / 1-way	Quarterly
SHFCA	Industry body		Interested party	Face to face dialogue	Monthly
South Wales Cluster	Industry body		Interested party	Face to face dialogue	Monthly
Teesside Collective	Industry body		Interested party	Face to face dialogue	Monthly
Zero Emissions Platform	Industry body		Interested party	Personalised broadcast	Monthly
Clean Gas Project	Industry Business		Interested party	Explore	As necessary
Drax	Industry Business		Interested party	Reactive	As necessary
Equinor (Northern Lights)	Industry Business		Interested party	Personalised broadcast	Quarterly
Ervia / Whitegate project	Industry Business		Interested party	Personalised broadcast	Quarterly



Organisation	Stakeholder Type	Second Stakeholder Type (if applicable)	Engagement Purpose	Engagement Type	Engagement Frequency
Exxon Mobil	Industry Business	Asset Owner	Interested party	Personalised broadcast	As necessary
Gassnova	Industry Business	Government/Public Body	Interested party	Personalised broadcast	Quarterly
Guangdong CCUS Centre	Industry Business		Interested party	Broadcast / 1-way	Quarterly
Northern Gas Networks	Industry Business		Interested party	Broadcast / 1-way	Quarterly
Oil and Gas Technology Centre	Industry Business		Interested party	Broadcast / 1-way	quarterly
Opportunity North East	Industry Business		Interested party	Broadcast / 1-way	quarterly
Peterhead Port Authority	Industry Business		Interested party	Broadcast / 1-way	As necessary
PX Limited	Neighbour		Interested party	Personalised broadcast	As required

