



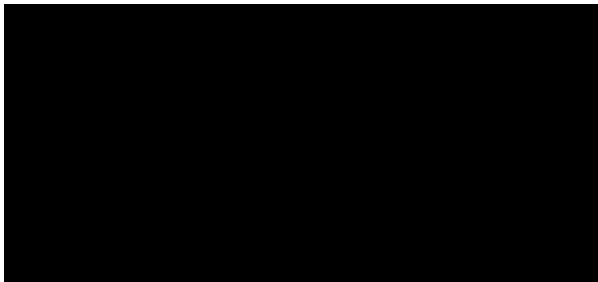
**DIRECTION BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR ENERGY SECURITY AND NET ZERO (“THE SECRETARY OF STATE”) UNDER SECTION 35 OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008 RELATING TO THE HUMBER HYDROGEN PIPELINE PROJECT**

1. By letter to the Secretary of State received on 29 April 2025, CMS Cameron Mckenna Nabarro Olswang (on behalf of Humber Hydrogen Transmission System Ltd (“the Applicant”)) formally requested (“the Direction request”) that the Secretary of State exercise the power vested in him under section 35(1) of the Planning Act 2008 to direct that the Humber Hydrogen Pipeline Project as set out in the Direction request, be treated as development for which development consent under the Planning Act 2008 is required.
2. The following elements of the Humber Hydrogen Pipeline Project constitute the “Proposed Project” for the purposes of this Direction—
  - circa 50km of hydrogen pipeline connecting hydrogen production and storage comprising the following:
    - a hydrogen pipeline from Aldbrough Hydrogen Storage to Burstwick;
    - a hydrogen pipeline from Saltend Chemicals Plant to Burstwick;
    - a hydrogen pipeline from Easington Terminal to Burstwick; and
    - a terminus at the south bank of the River Humber, together with a pipeline crossing of the River Humber from a location in east Yorkshire to a terminus on the south side of the River Humber in North Lincolnshire.
3. The Secretary of State is satisfied that—
  - a. The Proposed Project is in the field of energy and will be wholly within England, waters adjacent to England up to the seaward limits of the territorial sea, or the Renewable Energy Zone (in relation to which the Scottish Ministers do not have functions) when completed;
  - b. The Proposed Project is of national significance;
  - c. The Proposed Project may not fall within the existing definition of a “nationally significant infrastructure project” at the time of determination and therefore it is appropriate to consider use of the power in section 35(1) of the Planning Act 2008; and
  - d. The Direction request constitutes a “qualifying request” in accordance with section 35ZA(11) of the Planning Act 2008.
4. Having considered the details of the Direction request and the further information provided on 15 May 2025, the Secretary of State concludes that the Proposed Project is nationally significant, for the reasons set out in the Annex below.
5. The Secretary of State considers that if the details of the Proposed Project materially change before submitting any application to the Planning Inspectorate,

the Applicant may wish to seek confirmation from the Secretary of State that the development that is the subject of the proposed application is the same as that for which the Direction is hereby given.

6. The Secretary of State notes the Applicant included associated development as part of the Proposed Project; however the Secretary of State considers the question of whether works are associated development is one that should be decided on its own merits once a development consent application has been submitted and the parameters of every aspect of the project are known.
7. The Secretary of State has taken the decision having regard to the further information referred to in section 35A of the Planning Act 2008, and issues this Direction accordingly under sections 35(1) and 35ZA of the Planning Act 2008.
8. THE SECRETARY OF STATE DIRECTS that the Proposed Project is to be treated as development for which development consent is required.
9. This 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 Project.

Signed by



David Wagstaff OBE  
Deputy Director, Energy Infrastructure Planning Delivery  
For and on behalf of the Secretary of State for the Department for Energy Security and  
Net Zero

10 June 2025

## **ANNEX**

### **REASONS FOR THE DECISION TO ISSUE THE DIRECTION**

The Secretary of State is of the opinion that the Direction should be issued because—

- The Proposed Project is of national significance, taking into account that it is a large-scale hydrogen pipeline project of approximately 50km in length that would facilitate the movement of low carbon hydrogen between production, storage and usage in the Humber region.
- The Proposed Project will play an important role in enabling an energy system that meets the UK's commitment to reduce carbon emissions and the Government's objectives to create a secure, reliable and affordable energy supply for consumers.
- By progressing the Proposed Project through the Planning Act 2008 development consent process, it would provide a fixed timescale for determining any application for development consent that might be brought forward and provide the certainty of a single, unified consenting process.