



# Keuper Gas Storage Project

Application Form

November 2015

Application Reference No:  
EN030002





## Application for Development Consent for Nationally Significant Infrastructure under the Planning Act 2008

\* required information

### Application Form

Please read guidance documents relating to the submission of applications prior to completing this form including guidance issued by the Department of Communities and Local Government and the advice note relating to application submissions by the Planning Inspectorate (Advice Note 6)

\* Do you have a reference number?

Yes  No

\* Reference number

### 1. Applicant



\* Organisation

### Address

\* Building number or name

\* Street

\* City or town

County or administrative area

\* Postcode

\* Country

\* Name of contact

\* Telephone number

Fax number

\* Email



### 2. Agent

\* Are you an agent acting on behalf of the applicant?

Yes  No

\* Organisation

*Continued from previous page...*

## Address

* Building number or name	<input type="text" value="60 Cygnet Court"/>
* Street	<input type="text" value="Timothy's Bridge Road"/>
* City or town	<input type="text" value="Stratford upon Avon"/>
County or administrative area	<input type="text" value="Warwickshire"/>
* Postcode	<input type="text" value="CV37 9NW"/>
* Country	<input type="text" value="United Kingdom"/>
* Name of contact	<input type="text" value="Paul Zyda"/>
* Telephone number	<input type="text" value="01789 413 949 or 07957 143 911"/>
Fax number	<input type="text"/>
* Email	<input type="text" value="paulzyda@zydalaw.com"/>

## 3. Fee

\* State the arrangement for the application fee payment:

BACS       CHAPS       Cheque

\* Please provide payment reference details

## 4. Confirming why the Planning Inspectorate should receive the application

\* Brief statement to explain why this application is, or is to be treated as, a development for which development consent is required under the Planning Act 2008

This Application is for development consent to authorise the construction of an Underground Gas Storage ("UGS") facility and Associated Development at Holford Brinefield, Cheshire, England ("the Project"). The Project is a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project ("NSIP"), and thus requires development consent, by virtue of:

- Sections 14(1)(c) and 17(1) of the Planning Act 2008 ("the Act") as the Project is in England and is expected to have a working capacity of at least 43 Million Standard Cubic Metres ("mcm"); and
- Sections 14(1)(g) and 21(1) of the Act, as the system of pipes that form part of the Project and are required to convey Brine, nitrogen and natural gas are cross-country pipelines that would, but for s.33(1) of the Act, require authorisation under s.1(1) of the Pipelines Act 1962 (being in excess of 16.093 kilometres in total aggregate length), and begin and end in England.

## 5. Non-technical description of the Development Proposal

\* Brief non-technical description of the development proposal

The Project involves the construction and operation of an UGS facility with capacity to store up to 500mcm of natural gas and with an import and export capability of up to 34mcm per day. The total gas stored on site, including 'cushion' gas (gas permanently held within the cavities until decommissioning) will be up to 800,000 tonnes, with an operational period of up to 50 years.

The Project is intended to improve security of gas supply to the UK. It will accept gas from the National Grid's gas network, the National Transmission System ("NTS"), during periods of low demand and store it in new gas storage

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cavities in the southern part of the Holford Brinefield. The geological suitability of creating cavities for gas storage in this area has been demonstrated through seismic surveys and has been presented in the Geology Report (Doc ref. 9.1-9.3) accompanying the Application.

During high gas demand from consumers, the gas will be withdrawn from storage, conditioned and exported to the NTS. The Project therefore provides an important function in managing variations in the supply / demand balance to provide flexibility, reliability and competitive prices for consumers.

The Project comprises:-

19 gas storage cavities constructed at a depth of between 450 and 850 metres below ground surface level, formed by controlled Solution Mining; 19 gated access wellhead compound areas, a network of water, gas, nitrogen and brine pipelines, solution mining compound, a network of power, communication and fibre optic cables, site access road network, pumping tank and surge vessel to connect to existing pump system, pipebridge and brine outfall at Runcorn, recommissioning of Whitley Pumping Station (including installation of pumphouse equipment and electrical supply), connection to the NTS, a gas processing plant, an office control and maintenance building, construction laydown areas, car parking spaces, sewer pipelines, two gas marshalling compounds, electrical compounds, substation compounds and supply cables, diversion of existing overhead cables, a series of precise level points, and further works falling within the scope of the Environmental Impact Assessment and within the Order limits.

A more detailed description of the Project is contained in Schedule 1 of the Development Consent Order ("DCO").

**6. Location or Route of the Development Proposal**



\* Description of location of application site(s), or route of development (reference to appropriate plans)

The Order limits are in Cheshire, with the main gas cavity area centered about 3km due west of the M6 and approximately 3km north of Junction 18. The Order limits are bounded to the west by the A530 (King Street) and to the east by the B5081. The nearest village is Byley (SJ 721 694), which is to the east. The surrounding land use is primarily agricultural. There are, however, two existing gas storage facilities in close proximity to the Main Development Area.

The Main Development Area is centered around grid reference E - 370920 N - 369577 (OS grid reference SJ 709 695). The Whitley booster station works are centered around grid reference E - 360278 N - 378426 (OS grid reference SJ 602 784). The Runcorn pipe bridge is centered approximately around grid reference E 349 781 N - 380 666 (OS grid reference SJ 497 806).

The location of the site is edged red on the location plans detailing the Order limits (Doc ref. 2.1.1 to 2.1.8)

\* Is the site a single site or a linear site?

Single site

Linear site

**Grid reference**

\* Easting

\* Northing

\* Document reference

*Continued from previous page...*

\* Document reference

## 7. Associated development ?

\* Associated development is included within this application:

Yes  No

\* Document reference

## 8. a) Consultation report ?

\* Document reference

## 8. b) Copies of newspaper notices ?

\* Document reference

## 9. Draft Order ?

\* Document reference

## 10. Explanatory Memorandum ?

\* Document reference

## 11. Land Plan ?

\* Document reference

## 12. Works Plan ?

\* Document reference

Continued from previous page...

Add another reference

### 13. Compulsory acquisition of land or an interest in land or right over land



\* Issues are relevant for this application:

Yes  No

Statement of reasons document reference

4.1

Add another reference

Funding statement document reference

4.2

Add another reference

Book of Reference document reference

4.3

Add another reference

### 14. a) Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)



\* Environmental Statement (ES) required:

Yes  No

\* ES Document Reference

6.1

\* ES Document Reference

6.2

Remove this reference

\* ES Document Reference

6.3

Remove this reference

Add another reference

### 14. b) Screening Opinion/Direction and Scoping Opinion/Direction



\* Screening opinion sought, or direction received:

Yes  No

\* Scoping opinion sought:

Yes  No

Document reference

Annex B of Doc ref. 6.2.

Add another reference

Continued from previous page...

**14. c) Publicity required under Regulation 11 of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2009**



In addition to publishing the notice, a copy of the notice was sent to:-

\* the consultation bodies

\* Yes

\* the persons notified to the applicant in accordance with regulation 9(1)(c) of The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2009:

Yes  No, not applicable

**15. European sites (to which Regulation 48 of the Conservation (Natural Habitats, & c.) Regulations 1994 applies) or a Ramsar site**



\* Report required for this application:

Yes  No

\* Document reference

5.4

Add another reference

**16. A plan, with accompanying information, identifying any statutory or non statutory sites or features of nature conservation, geological or landscape importance; habitats of protected species, important habitats or other diversity features; and water bodies in a river basin management Plan - together with an assessment of any effects likely to be caused by the development.**



\* Issues are relevant for this application:

Yes  No

\* Document reference

6.1, Chapter 8

\* Document reference

6.1, Figure 8.1

Remove this reference

\* Document reference

6.1, Figure 8.2

Remove this reference

\* Document reference

6.1, Chapter 25

Remove this reference

\* Document reference

6.1, Figure 25.1

Remove this reference

\* Document reference

6.2, Ecology Annexes A - I

Remove this reference



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Add another reference

**17. A plan, with accompanying information, identifying any statutory or non statutory sites or features of the historic environment such as scheduled monuments, World Heritage sites, listed buildings and other historic structures, archaeological sites and registered battlefields, together with an assessment of any effects likely to be caused by the proposed development**



\* Issues are relevant for this application:

Yes  No

\* Document reference

\* Document reference

Remove this reference

\* Document reference

Remove this reference

Add another reference

**18. Flood Risk Assessment**



\* Flood risk assessment required:

Yes  No

\* Document reference

Add another reference

**19. Matters set out in section 79 (1) (statutory nuisances etc) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990**



\* Statement required for this application:

Yes  No

\* Document reference

Add another reference

**20. A plan with any accompanying information identifying any Crown land**



\* Issues are relevant for this application:

Yes  No

**21. A plan identifying new or altered means of access, stopping up of streets or any diversions, extinguishments or creation or rights of way or public rights of navigation**



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\* Issues are relevant for this application:

- Yes  No

\* Document reference

Add another reference

**22. Additional information for specific types of infrastructure**



\* Additional information is required to be submitted in accordance with regulation 6 of the Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009:

- Yes  No

\* Provide a brief description

A Pipelines Statement is submitted in accordance with the requirements of Regulation 6(4) of the Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009. This document provides details of the pipelines forming part of the Project, including those required by Regulation 6(4).

\* Document reference

Add another reference

Regulation 6 of the Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedures) Regulations 2009 requires additional information to be submitted with the following types of development.

\* Please check any of the following boxes that apply:

- Construction or extension of an offshore generating station (Reg. 6 (1a))
- Construction or extension of a non offshore generating station (Reg. 6 (1b))
- Highway related development (Reg. 6 (2) (part 1))
- Construction or alteration of a railway (Reg. 6 (2) (part 2))
- Construction or alteration of harbour facilities (Reg. 6 (3))
- Construction of a pipeline (Reg. 6 (4))
- Construction or alteration of a hazardous waste facility (Reg. 6 (5))
- Construction of a dam or reservoir (Reg. 6 (6))

**Construction of a pipeline (Reg. 6 (4))**

Enter details of the name of the proposed pipeline

\* Name

\* Owner

\* Start point

\* End point

\* Length (in kilometres)

**Continued from previous page...**

\* External diameter (in mm)

\* What will be conveyed by the proposed pipeline

Please see Pipelines Statement (Doc ref. 7.1).

\* State whether the grant of any rights in land or consents to road or river crossing works are required:

Yes  No

\* Provide details of whether they can be obtained by agreement

There will be a number of "main river" crossings, in respect of which consent has already been granted by the Environment Agency. In addition, there will be a number of watercourse crossings that require consent from Cheshire West and Chester Council ("CWCC"), in respect of which discussions are ongoing. Consents to cross roads are required from CWCC. Consents to cross private roads are required from individual third party landowners. Please see the Pipelines Statement (Doc ref. 7.1) for further information.

**23. Any other plans, drawings and sections necessary to describe the proposal for which development consent is sought, and any other documents, reports or information to support the application**



Provide a brief description of any other plans, drawings and sections that are being submitted with this application

Plans have been produced showing landscaping, design and external appearance of buildings, drainage and surface water management, vehicular access and car parking (Doc refs. 2.5.1 to 2.8.33).

Plans showing the Order limits have been produced (Doc ref. 2.1.1 - 2.1.8).

Document reference

Document reference

Provide a brief description of any other documents considered necessary to support the application

- (a) Glossary (Doc ref. 8.5), which lists all relevant terms and acronyms used throughout the Application documents;
- (b) Document Index (Doc ref. 1.3), which lists all of the documents submitted in relation to the Application, together with their document reference numbers;
- (c) Policy Statement (Doc ref. 8.2), which outlines relevant national and local policy and contains a policy appraisal;
- (d) Design and Access Statement (Doc ref. 8.3), which sets out relevant design considerations, principles and objectives and also considers access to and from the site.

Document reference

Document reference

**Continued from previous page...**

Document reference

8.2

Remove this reference

Document reference

8.3

Remove this reference

Add another reference

Provide a brief description of any other information provided that is in support of the application, but which has not been explicitly required

Document reference

Add another reference

## 24. Other consents/licences required under other legislation



\* Other consents/licences are required:

Yes  No

\* Provide a list of consents/licences

Please see the Consents Management Plan ("CMP") (Doc ref. 5.3) for a full list of required consents.

You must cite the document references as appropriate

\* Document reference

5.3

Add another reference

## 25. Declaration



I declare to the best of my knowledge that the information given in this form and enclosed maps, plans and other documents are true.

Please note there is a requirement for one hard copy of the form to be signed. Please ensure that when you submit you include at least one signed copy. Further copies do not require the hand written signature.

Signature

(For and on behalf of the Applicant)

\* Name

RICHARD STEVENSON

(In block letters)

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\* Date  /  /   
dd mm yyyy

\* Organisation

\* Position within the organisation

In order to complete this form, it must be checked to ensure all information has been entered correctly. Click the following button to check the form.