

Your Ref: **RIIO-2 NZASP**
Date: **24 April 2025**

North Lincolnshire Council

Mr Allan Rankine
Ofgem
10 South Colonnade
Canary Wharf
London
E14 EPU

Church Square House
30-40 High Street
Scunthorpe
North Lincolnshire
DN15 6NL

Dear Allan,

We are grateful for the opportunity to provide our feedback on Ofgem's decision to provide £71m in funding for the early design, development and general pre-construction work related to the three projects in the East Coast hydrogen cluster.

North Lincolnshire Council agree with the assessment of the needs case for the East Coast North Pipeline Project. The Council welcome this decision from Ofgem to allow Cadent Gas to progress with the early design, development and general pre-construction work. A project of this size and scale will fundamentally transform the supply and operation of energy in a traditionally carbon intensive cluster for generations. It is widely recognised that the Humber is the place to do business and the Council have been strongly advocating for this through relevant channels for many years, the development of the Humber Freeport, establishment and effectiveness of the Humber Energy Board are exemplar cases of how the Council has supported in shaping the region towards a new low carbon, sustainable future.

It is widely accepted by North Lincolnshire Council that hydrogen has a vital role to play in decarbonising industry and the regional Economic Growth Plan 2023 – 2028 includes this with the prioritisation of the move to a net zero economy. As an authority, the Council want to see thriving businesses and communities which means we must work diligently in ensuring decarbonisation does not lead to the deindustrialisation of a region. The opportunity presented to the region via the East Coast North Project will enable this to happen. It is also worthy to note, that the economic benefits from a project of this size will be significant to the regional economy, through the creation of new high skilled jobs, as well as enabling existing business invest in new cleaner, greener solutions that include hydrogen as a source of fuel. All of this has will continue to put the Humber on the global map.

We welcome the next steps of the consultation and will seek to hear views from residents across our communities here in North Lincolnshire.

Yours Sincerely,



David Boreham
Assistant Director of Assets and Development