

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1.1. The Runcorn Spur Pipeline Proposed Development involves construction of a new carbon dioxide pipeline and an associated Above Ground Installation (AGI) in Runcorn, Cheshire. The new carbon dioxide pipeline will connect the Viridor Energy from Waste (EfW) Facility located in Runcorn, Cheshire to the Ince AGI located in Ince, Cheshire. The Ince AGI was consented in March 2024 as part of the HyNet Carbon Dioxide Pipeline DCO (EN070007).
- 1.1.2. Construction for the Runcorn Spur Pipeline Proposed Development is anticipated to commence in January 2027 and continue until December 2028.
- 1.1.3. The key elements of the Runcorn Spur Pipeline Proposed Development are:
 - Runcorn Above Ground Installation (AGI); comprising a compound housing equipment designed to receive carbon dioxide from the Viridor EfW facility and ensure the safe and efficient operation of the pipeline. The AGI would be approximately 35m x 40m in size and would be located within a fenced area covering approximately 40m x 43m on industrial land adjacent to the Viridor EfW plant;
 - Runcorn Carbon Dioxide Spur Pipeline; a pipeline approximately 8.7km in length, connecting the Viridor EfW facility to Ince AGI. The pipeline would typically be installed above-ground through industrial land and buried through agricultural land.;
 - Additional equipment at Ince AGI;
 - Other infrastructure, including telecommunication connections, Cathodic Protection (CP) equipment, leak detection equipment, and pipeline marker posts; and
 - Temporary works to facilitate the construction of the Runcorn Spur Pipeline Proposed Development, including construction compounds and temporary access tracks.

1.2. OBJECTIVE OF THIS TECHNICAL NOTE

1.2.1.

This consultation technical note provides an update on the EIA process carried out so far on the Runcorn Spur Pipeline Proposed



Development. It has been produced to provide stakeholders and members of the local community with the most up-to-date information on the activities carried out, and what further assessments will be undertaken, so that they can provide an informed response to the Applicant's pre-application consultation.

1.2.2. The full outcomes of the EIA will be reported in an ES, to be submitted as part of the Planning Application, which the Applicant plans to submit to Cheshire West and Chester (CWCC) and Halton Borough Council (HBC) in Summer 2025.



2. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT PROCESS

2.1. PURPOSE OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT (EIA)

2.1.1. EIA is a means of drawing together an assessment of a project's likely significant environmental effects. This helps to ensure that the importance of the predicted environmental effects is considered in the design process. It also provides a mechanism for the public and Local Planning Authority to understand how these effects have been identified, avoided, prevented, reduced, or, where removing or mitigating effects is not possible, how they have been offset. It is governed by the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (The EIA Regulations). In accordance with Regulation 5(2)(a) of the EIA Regulations, the Runcorn Spur Pipeline Proposed Development is an EIA development, therefore it requires an Environmental Statement (ES) to be produced.

2.2. THE EIA PROCESS FOR THE RUNCORN SPUR PIPELINE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

- 2.2.1. An EIA Scoping Report was produced and sent to both CWCC and HBC on 16 April 2024, with Scoping Opinions received on 23 August 2024 and 04 July 2024 respectively. The comments in the councils' Scoping Opinions have been taken into consideration in the ES, and any deviations explained within the relevant chapters where necessary.
- 2.2.2. Following design development and discussions with landowners in August 2024, an alternative route emerged to the route submitted within the EIA Scoping Report. The alternative route was considered to facilitate discussions between the Applicant and Cubico who are developing the Frodsham Solar Farm. A high-level environmental appraisal was carried out and it was determined that this alternative route would be feasible from an environmental perspective. It was therefore decided to proceed with this route. This alternative route alignment follows the same route north of the River Weaver (within the Inovyn site) as the original route. However, after crossing the River Weaver, instead of continuing south through the proposed Frodsham Solar Farm, the pipeline routes west, parallel to the Manchester Ship Canal, before rejoining the original alignment to the south east of Rake Lane. The change in route has been discussed with CWCC, HBC and Cubico. Any deviations from the EIA Scoping Report or Opinion due to this route change will be highlighted in the corresponding technical chapters of the ES, which are currently being prepared.



- 2.2.3. The ES is being produced based on this alternative route (hereafter referred to as the Red Line Boundary) in accordance with Schedule 4 of the EIA Regulations. Schedule 4 specifies what environmental information must be included in an ES. The final assessments will be included within the ES submitted as part of the Planning Application in Summer 2025.
- 2.2.4. The ES is also intended to enable other interested parties who have a role, or wish to participate in the statutory decision-making process, to understand the nature of the Runcorn Spur Pipeline Proposed Development.

2.3. STRUCTURE OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT

2.3.1. The structure of the ES will be:

Volume I: Non-Technical Summary

Volume II: Main Text

- Chapter 1 Introduction;
- Chapter 2 The Project;
- Chapter 3 Description of the Runcorn Spur Pipeline Proposed Development;
- Chapter 4 Consideration of Alternatives;
- Chapter 5 EIA Methodology;
- Chapter 6 Air Quality;
- Chapter 7 Climate Resilience;
- Chapter 8 Cultural Heritage;
- Chapter 9 Biodiversity;
- Chapter 10 Greenhouse Gases;
- Chapter 11 Land and Soils;
- Chapter 12 Landscape and Visual;
- Chapter 13 Major Accidents and Disasters;
- Chapter 14 Noise and Vibration;
- Chapter 15 Population and Human Health;
- Chapter 16 Traffic and Transport;
- Chapter 17 Water Resources and Flood Risk;
- Chapter 18 Combined and Cumulative Effects;
- Chapter 19 Summary of Likely Significant Effects; and
- Chapter 20 Glossary.

Volume III: Supporting Technical Appendices



Volume IV: Supporting Figures and Plans

2.4. CONSULTATION PROCESS WITHIN EIA

- 2.4.1. As part of the EIA process, consultation is undertaken with statutory bodies such as Local Planning Authorities, Environment Agency and Natural England whilst the assessments are undertaken. Consultation with these parties is currently ongoing, and any discussions will be included within the ES where relevant.
- 2.4.2. In England, there is currently no requirement for consulting with nonstatutory consultees prior to the submission of a planning application. However, Liverpool Bay CCS Limited (the Applicant) is carrying out a non- statutory consultation to provide an opportunity for any questions or comments on the Runcorn Spur Pipeline Proposed Development prior to the submission of the Planning Application.
- 2.4.3. The EIA assessments are still in progress, so this technical note offers an update on the work completed so far to inform the non-statutory consultation. Information on the assessment outcomes will be included in the Planning Application.



3. SUMMARY OF BASELINE FEATURES

3.1.1. This section provides a summary of the baseline features along the Runcorn Spur Pipeline Proposed Development, as shown on Figures 1 and 2. The specialist teams producing the EIA have used these baseline features to produce their assessments.

3.2. AIR QUALITY

- 3.2.1. An Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) is declared for an area where the local air quality is unlikely to meet the Government's national air quality objectives. CWCC has declared four Air Quality Management Areas (AQMA), one of which is located within 100m of the Red Line Boundary of the Runcorn Spur Pipeline Proposed Development. This is the Thorton-le-Moors AQMA which encompasses the village and industrial processes surrounding Thorton-le-Moors and has been declared for exceedances of short-term (15 minute) concentrations of Sulphur Dioxide (SO₂).
- 3.2.2. There are currently no declared AQMAs in HBC. The two previously declared AQMAs in Widnes town centre were revoked in November 2023 due to sustained improvements in air quality, with nitrogen dioxide levels now within UK legal limits. These two previously declared AQMAs are outside the study area of the Runcorn Spur Pipeline Proposed Development.

3.3. CULTURAL HERITAGE

3.3.1. The following Statutory and Non-Statutory historic assets have been considered in the baseline:

- Scheduled Monuments nationally important archaeological sites or historic building, given protection against unauthorised change.
- Listed buildings a building, object or structure that has been judged to be of national importance by virtue of its special architectural or historic interest.
- Registered Parks and Gardens this designation safeguards a broad range of planned open spaces, including public parks, cemeteries, the grounds of private houses, and town squares. Like Listed Buildings, Parks and Gardens are assigned one of three grades to indicate their significance.
- Non-designated assets including potential archaeological features identified through LiDAR data analysis and Historic Environment Record data.



- 3.3.2.Of these assets, the following are identified within 500m of the Red
Line Boundary:
 - Ince Manor monastic grange and fishpond Scheduled Monument (National Heritage List of England (NHLE):1009635) located approximately 420m northwest.
 - Around 50 Listed Buildings with nearest Christ Church and Churchyard Railings Grade II Listed Building (NHLE:1271140) located approximately 30m north at Weston Port.
 - Castle Park Frodsham Grade II Registered Parks and Gardens located approximately 270m southeast.
 - Potential archaeological features including Bronze Age find spot, postmedieval transport and infrastructure assets, including the several landing stages and a former railway/tram line, and post-medieval military buildings including two former rifle ranges, and a number of possible palaeochannels identified through LiDAR data analysis that may be representative of historic watercourses.
- 3.3.3. Conservation area applies to an area of special architectural or historic interest, the character of which is considered worthy of preservation or enhancement. Within 1km of the Red Line Boundary there are five Conservation Areas including Frodsham Town Conservation Area (CHER DCH1399); Overton St Lawrence's Conservation Area (CHER DCH1400); Castle Park Conservation Area (CHER DCH8659); Higher Runcorn Conservation Area (CHER DCH1434); and Weston Village Conservation Area (CHERDCH1436).

3.4. BIODIVERSITY

3.4.1.The following designations have been considered as part of the
baseline:

- Local Nature Reserve (LNR) designated for nature conservation by Local Authorities;
- Local Wildlife Sites (LWS) designated as areas that are important for their wildlife, selected by Local Authorities, Wildlife Trusts and statutory agencies.
- Ramsar Site wetlands of international importance designated under the Ramsar Convention;
- Special Protection Area (SPA) are protected areas for birds;
- Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) are areas of conservation, consisting of protected areas, recognised for their biological or geological significance).



- 3.4.2.Of these designations, the following are located within 2 km of the Red
Line Boundary (see Figure 2.1 and Figure 2.2):
 - Three LNR- Helsby Quarry LNR, Runcorn Hill LNR and Pickerings Pasture LNR;
 - Mersey Estuary Ramsar Site and SPA;
 - Five SSSIs Dunsdale Hollow SSSI, Frodsham Railway and Road Cuttings SSSI, Flood Brook Clough SSSI, Beechmill Wood and Pasture SSSI and Mersy Estuary SSSI;
 - There are four locally designated sites (LWSs) within the Red Line Boundary and along the access route for the Runcorn Spur Pipeline Proposed Development: Frodsham Field Studies Centre LWS; East Clifton Tip LWS, Sutton Bridge Unused Lagoon LWS and Frodsham, Helsby and Ince Marshes LWS; with several other LWSs and Potential Local Wildlife Sites (pLWSs) within 1km.
- 3.4.3. Priority habitats identified within the Red Line Boundary include coastal saltmarsh, good-semi-improved grassland, coastal and floodplain grazing marsh, deciduous woodlands, reedbeds, and open mosaic habitat on previously developed land.
- 3.4.4. Habitats found up to 2km from the Red Line Boundary include mudflats, lowland meadows, ancient woodlands, coastal and floodplain grazing marsh, good-semi-improved grassland, lowland calcareous grassland, lowland dry acid grassland, purple moor grass and rush pastures, lowland heath, lowland fens, traditional orchard and wood pasture and parkland (see Figure 2.3).
- 3.4.5.14 European Protected Species licences have been issued for bats and
great crested newts within 2km of the Red Line Boundary. These
licences indicate records of presence within the area.
- 3.4.6. The following surveys have been undertaken within the Red Line Boundary and relevant study areas:
 - habitat surveys; and
 - protected species surveys (including badger, great crested newts, water vole, otter, breeding birds, wintering birds, aquatics, bats).
- 3.4.7. These surveys inform the baseline for the Runcorn Spur Pipeline
 Proposed Development that will be used within the assessments for
 the Biodiversity chapter of the ES and the Biodiversity Net Gain
 Assessment that will support the planning application.



3.5. LANDSCAPE

- 3.5.1. Most of the Runcorn Spur Pipeline Proposed Development falls within the National Character Area 60, Mersey Valley. National Character Areas refer to the natural subdivision of England based on a combination of landscape, biodiversity, geodiversity and economic activity.
- 3.5.2. The Mersey Valley landscape is low-lying. The Mersey Estuary is a central point in the landscape and has expansive mudflats and marshes along its banks. Trees and woodland are mostly near settlements, with isolated areas of parkland and community woodlands. There are large areas of both arable and dairy farmland within the landscape. Major towns within NCA 60 include Runcorn, Widnes and Warrington, which are home to large scale industrial development.

3.6. NOISE

- 3.6.1. Noise Important Areas (NIAs) are noise hotspot locations identified by Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) as locations experiencing the highest noise levels. The following NIAs have been identified within 500m from the Red Line Boundary:
 - ID 7133, N Cheshire Motorway, within administrative area of CWCC within Red Line Boundary;
 - ID 8198, A56, within administrative area of HBC;
 - ID 7129, A56, within administrative area of HBC;
 - ID 7128, A56, within administrative area of HBC; and
 - ID 7127, A56, within administrative area of HBC.

3.7. TRANSPORT

- 3.7.1. The highway network within the Zone of Influence (ZoI) comprises a range of roads of varying classification, from the Strategic Road Network (SRN) including the M56, to unclassified minor roads. Baseline traffic flows have been established through Automatic Traffic Count (ATC surveys) and Department for Transport (DfT) statistics.
- 3.7.2. There are 21 Public Rights of Way (PRoW) within the Zol comprising footpaths, bridleways, restricted byways, and byways open to all traffic that are expected to interact with the Runcorn Spur Pipeline Proposed Development.



3.8. CLIMATE RESILIENCE

3.8.1. The current baseline describes the climate trends over the past three decades (1991-2020) for temperature, precipitation (rain and snow), wind, humidity, and solar radiation. This provides an understanding of how recent climate trends have impacted the study area. These are checked against measurements from the local climate station, regional averages and UK-wide averages to confirm the conditions.

3.9. POPULATION AND HUMAN HEALTH

Population Characteristics

3.9.1. Cheshire West and Chester ranks 183rd out of 317 local authority districts in England in terms of deprivation (where 1 is the most deprived and 317 the least deprived), whereas Halton ranks 39th out of 317 local authority districts in England.

Land-use and Accessibility

- 3.9.2. There are a number of areas of community land and assets located within the 500m from the Red Line Boundary (within both CWCC and HBC), however, none are located within the Red Line Boundary itself. The nearby community assets encompass several sports facilities including one cricket club, two bowls clubs, and one football club, one primary school and one nursery, six places of worship; and a number of parks and playgrounds. There are several businesses parks located within and adjacent to the Red Line Boundary, including two within the Red Line Boundary. A variety of agricultural fields will be crossed by the Runcorn Spur Pipeline Proposed Development and there are several farms located within or adjacent to the Study Area.
- 3.9.3. There are no private properties within the Red Line Boundary, however, there are several residential properties located in the following towns and villages:
 - Helsby, located adjacent to the south of the Red Line Boundary;
 - Frodsham, located adjacent to the south of the Red Line Boundary; and
 - Higher Runcorn located 300m east of the Red Line Boundary.

<u>Human Health</u>

3.9.4. Human Health is considered in Office of National Statistics figures on a local and national scale. The number of adults who are 'bad' or 'very bad health' in Cheshire West and Chester is in line with the national



figure, however the proportion of people in 'bad' or 'very bad' health in Halton is higher than nationally.

3.10. GREENHOUSE GASES

3.10.1.

The baseline conditions focus on those sources of emissions subject to change between the baseline scenario and the Runcorn Spur Pipeline Proposed Development. To provide additional context, the emissions from 2021 within Cheshire West and Chester, Halton and nationally are presented in **Table 3-1**.

Cheshire West National (UK) Emission Halton (ktCO₂e) and Chester (ktCO₂e) Source (ktCO₂e) Industry 185.8 74.8 17,109.1 Electricity 225.9 85.6 Industry Gas 20.037.1 Large 1,250.0 52.4 29,267.6 Industrial Installations Industry 156.5 40.2 17,927.3 'Other' 252.9 84.341.1 Industry Total 1.818.2

Table 3-1 GHG Emissions in Cheshire West and Chester, Halton and Nationally (2021)

3.11. MAJOR ACCIDENTS AND DISASTERS

- 3.11.1. Major accidents or disasters are events or situations that have the potential to affect the Runcorn Spur Pipeline Proposed Development causing immediate or delayed serious damage to one or more of the following: human health, welfare, and the environment. The assessment considers the risks of major accidents and disasters during construction and operation of the Runcorn Spur Pipeline Proposed Development caused by natural hazards or manmade hazards.
- 3.11.2. The baseline comprises:
 - Features external to the Runcorn Spur Pipeline Proposed Development that contribute a potential source of hazard to the Runcorn Spur Pipeline Proposed Development, such as flood risk or weather patterns;
 - Sensitive environmental receptors at risk of significant effect; and



• Current (without the Runcorn Spur Pipeline Proposed Development) major accident and disaster risks for the existing locality.

3.12. WATER RESOURCE AND FLOOD RISK

SURFACE WATER

3.12.1. There are nine Main Rivers (larger rivers and streams designated by the Environment Agency) within the Red Line Boundary, with three additional Main Rivers located downstream of the Red Line Boundary. Additionally, there are 26 ponds located within 500m of the Red Line Boundary.

HYDROGEOLOGY

3.12.2. The area within the Red Line Boundary has been classified as having a 'medium' and 'medium to high' groundwater vulnerability. Groundwater vulnerability refers to the overall risk to groundwater from a particular activity, development or pollution incident. Activities in 'medium to high' areas may require additional measures over and above good practice to ensure they do not cause groundwater pollution. Such measures may include safe storage of potentially hazardous construction materials in bunds with appropriate cut-off drainage and fuel stored in double-skinned tanks with 110% capacity, and prompt reporting of any pollution incidents if any should occur.

FLOOD RISK

- 3.12.3.The Runcorn AGI lies entirely within Flood Zone 1 (identified as land
having less than 0.1% annual probability of flooding).
- 3.12.4. A small proportion of the above ground section of the Runcorn Spur Pipeline is located within Flood Zone 3 (identified as land having more than 0.5% annual probability of flooding). This is attributed to the Weaver Navigation. The remaining section of the above ground pipeline is located within Flood Zone 1.
- 3.12.5. The below ground section of the Runcorn Spur Pipeline is located within the vicinity of the River Mersey which is a tidally influenced watercourse. Approximately 50% of the below ground section lies within Flood Zone 1 (River Weaver to Lordship Lane). The remaining 50% (Lordship Lane to the Ince AGI), lies within Flood Zone 3.
- 3.12.6. An Environmental Features Map showing the Red Line Boundary and key features is available in the consultation materials (see Figure 1).



4. ELEMENTS SCOPED INTO THE ASSESSMENT

- 4.1.1. The receptors listed in Table 4-1 have been included in the EIA. Likely significant effects on these receptors will be evaluated by specialist teams in the assessments presented in the ES. Elements excluded from the EIA are those considered unlikely to cause significant effects, as outlined in the EIA Scoping Report, and therefore will not be assessed as part of the EIA.
- 4.1.2. **Receptors** are the elements of the environment that could be affected by a proposed development or project. Examples of receptors include people living or working in the area, wildlife, watercourses, and human health.

Table 4-1: Elements Scoped into the Assessment

Торіс	Construction	Operation	Decommissioning
	Impacts of Dust on Human Health,	Impacts of Odours from Venting Operations at the AGIs	Impacts of Dust on Human Health,
Air Quality	Dust Soiling and Ecological Sites		Dust Soiling and Ecological Sites
	Impacts of Emissions from Construction Plant		
Climate Resilience	Carbon dioxide below ground pipeline: Drought, sea-level rise, storms (snow, hail and lightning) Runcorn AGI: Drought, extreme precipitation events, gales and extreme events, storms (snow, hail and lightning), sea level rise	Operation is scoped out of the assessment.	Decommissioning workers: Extreme precipitation events, extreme temperature events, Gales and extreme wind events, Storms (snow, lightning, hail), sea level rise.



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Торіс	Construction	Operation	Decommissioning
Cultural Heritage	Non-designated heritage assets within the Red Line Boundary.	Operation is scoped out of the assessment.	Decommissioning is scoped out of the assessment.
Biodiversity	Statutory Designated Sites International (Ramsar, Special Protection Area(SPA) and Special Area of Conservation(SAC) and National (Site of Specific Interest (SSSI)), ,	Birds	Statutory Designated Sites International (Ramsar, SPA and SAC) and National (SSSI),
	Priority Habitats		Priority Habitats
	Watercourses and Waterbodies		Watercourses and Waterbodies
	Non-Statutory Designated Sites (LwSs and pLWSs),		Birds
	Badger, Bats, Otter, Water Vole, Other Mammals,		
	Amphibians (incl. great crested newt), Reptiles, Terrestrial Invertebrates,		
	Fish, Aquatic Macroinvertebrates (incl. white-clawed crayfish		
	Austropotamobius pallipes), Macrophytes,		
	Invasive non-native species,		
	Impacts on existing arboricultural features (Removal of Trees) and		



Торіс	Construction	Operation	Decommissioning
	Impacts on existing arboricultural features (Where trees are retained) Birds		
Greenhouse Gases	Land use and land use change and forestry (A5) Product stage (manufacture and transport of raw materials to suppliers) (A1-3),	Land use, land use change and forestry (B8), Venting (B8),	Decommissioning is scoped
	Transport of materials to site (A4), Plant and equipment use during construction (A5), Transport of waste (A5),	Fugitive gas emissions (B8), Avoided emissions (D)	out of the assessment.
Land and Soils	Agricultural Land, Human Health – contaminated land, Controlled waters – contaminated land Ground stability	Ground stability	Decommissioning is scoped out of the assessment.
Landscape and Visual Amenity	Changes to local landscape character within the Red Line Boundary and Study Area due to construction activities and associated plant, Changes to existing visual amenity of surrounding sensitive receptors due to construction activities and associated plant	Changes to local landscape character within the Red Line Boundary and Study Area due to new built form, use of new infrastructure, and landscaping	Decommissioning is scoped out of the assessment.



Торіс	Construction	Operation	Decommissioning
Major Accidents and Disasters	 Technological or Manmade Hazards Transport Accidents- Aviation Utilities failures- Electricity Utilities failures-Gas 	 Technological or Manmade Hazards Industrial and Urban Accidents- Major Accident Hazard Pipelines 	Decommissioning is scoped out of the assessment.
	Technological or Manmade Hazards • Industrial and Urban Accidents- Major Accident Hazard Pipelines	 Technological or Manmade Hazards Industrial and Urban Accidents-Fires Pollution accidents- Air 	
Noise and Vibration	Noise and vibration impacts arising from the construction of the Runcorn Spur Pipeline Proposed Development	Noise impacts arising from the operation of the Runcorn Spur Pipeline Proposed Development	Noise and vibration impacts arising from the decommissioning of the Runcorn Spur Pipeline Proposed Development
Population and Human Health	Private property and housing, , Businesses and their employees and customers Users of PRoWs	Operation is scoped out of the assessment.	Decommissioning is scoped out of the assessment.
Traffic and Transport	Severance, Driver Delay, Pedestrian Delay, Pedestrian Amenity, Fear and Intimidation, Highway Safety	Operation is scoped out of the assessment.	Decommissioning is scoped out of the assessment.



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Торіс	Construction	Operation	Decommissioning
Water Resources and Flood Risk	Protected Areas- River Weaver (Dane to Frodsham) Nitrate Vulnerable Zones (NVZ), Peckmill Brook, Hoolpool Gutter at Ince Marshes, NVZ, River Weaver. Urban Waste Water Treatment Directive (WWTD) and Mersey Estuary: Ramsar, SSSI, SPA	Operation is scoped out of the assessment.	Protected Areas- Peckmill Brook, Hoolpool Gutter at Ince Marshes, NVZ
	Main Rivers, Ordinary Watercourses and Ponds / Lakes- Helsby Main Drain Trib 1, Helsby Main Drain Elton Lordship Lane Ditch 3, Elton Lordship Lane Ditch 1, Moorditch Lane Ditch 3, Elton Lane Ditch 2, Elton Lane Ditch, Elton Lane Ditch 3, Hool Pool Gutter, Hool Pool Gutter Trib 1, Hool Pool Gutter Trib 2, Hool Pool Gutter Trib 3, Hool Pool Gutter Trib 4, Hool Pool Gutter Trib 5, Manchester Ship Canal, Weaver Navigation, River Mersey, River Weaver, Elton Lane Ditch 1, West Central Drain, Ditch 1 East Central Drain	Operation is scoped out of the assessment.	Main Rivers, Ordinary Watercourses and Ponds / Lakes- River Weaver, Elton Lane Ditch 1, West Central Drain, Ditch 1 East Central Drain



Торіс	Construction	Operation	Decommissioning
	Water Framework Directive (WFD) Receptors- Weaver (Dane to Frodsham) water body (GB112068060500), Peckmill Brook, Hoolpool Gutter at Ince Marshes water body (GB112068060330), Weaver Navigation (canal section Frodsham to Weston Point Docks) water body (GB71210545), Manchester Ship Canal water body (GB71210004), Mersey (GB531206908100) transitional water body, Wirral and West Cheshire Permo-Triassic Sandstone Aquifers water body (GB41101G202600)	Water Framework Directive (WFD) Receptors- Wirral and West Cheshire Permo- Triassic Sandstone Aquifers water body (GB41101G202600)	Water Framework Directive (WFD) Receptors- Peckmill Brook, Hoolpool Gutter at Ince Marshes water body (GB112068060330), Weaver Navigation (canal section Frodsham to Weston Point Docks) water body (GB71210545), Manchester Ship Canal water body (GB71210004)
	Groundwater- Principal Aquifer (Kinnerton, Chester, Wilmslow and Helsby Sandstone Formations), Secondary A Aquifer (Shirdley Hill Sand Formation), Secondary Undifferentiated Aquifer (Tidal Flat Deposits), Groundwater Abstractions	Groundwater- Secondary Undifferentiated Aquifer	Decommissioning is scoped out of the assessment.
	Flood Risk- Environment Agency (EA) fluvial flood zones 1, 2, & 3, Weaver	Flood Risk- Environment Agency (EA) fluvial flood zones 1, 2, & 3, Weaver	Decommissioning is scoped out of the assessment.



Торіс	Construction	Operation	Decommissioning
	Navigation, River Weaver	Navigation, River Weaver	
	(Manchester Ship Canal	(Manchester Ship Canal	
	section), East Central Drain 2,	section), East Central Drain	
	Helsby Main Drain, Hornsmill	2, Helsby Main Drain,	
	Brook / Hoolpool Gutter,	Hornsmill Brook / Hoolpool	
	Hoolpool Gutter Trib 1,	Gutter, Hoolpool Gutter Trib	
	Moorditch Lane 3, Lordship	1, Moorditch Lane 3, Lordship	
	Lane Ditch 2, Elton Lordship	Lane Ditch 2, Elton Lordship	
	Ditch 3, Elton Lane Ditch 2,	Ditch 3, Elton Lane Ditch 2,	
	Elton Lordship Ditch 1,	Elton Lordship Ditch 1,	
	Hoolpool Gutter Trib 3,	Hoolpool Gutter Trib 3,	
	Hoolpool Gutter Trib 2, and	Hoolpool Gutter Trib 2, and	
	Elton Lane Ditch 1, EA surface	Elton Lane Ditch 1, EA	
	water flood zones (pluvial),	surface water flood zones	
	Construction workers, and	(pluvial), Construction	
	residents and users of the	workers, and residents and	
	surrounding land	users of the surrounding	
		land	



4.2. **Table 4-2** below shows some of the embedded mitigation measures that have been incorporated into the project and form an inherent part of the project design. They will help to minimise potential effects on receptors and ensure the Runcorn Spur Pipeline Proposed Development adheres to safety measures.

Table 4-2: Embedded	mitigation	measures
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Embedded mitigation	Purpose
Construction works will utilise existing accesses wherever practicable. Where new temporary construction accesses are required in existing hedgerows, the width to be lost will be kept to the minimum practicable and will not exceed 17m. Hedgerows, trees and woodland outside of this 17m will be protected and retained. Protective measures will be detailed within a site-specific Arboricultural Method Statement and shown on a Tree Protection Plan and where necessary, working methods will be monitored by a suitable Arboricultural Clerk of Works.	To reduce the impacts on ecological receptors, including trees and protected species.
For complex pipeline crossings, to avoid disruption to utilities, major highways, watercourses and/or particular environmental sensitivities, specialist trenchless installation techniques will be used. These techniques enable the pipeline to cross underneath certain features.	To reduce the impacts on environmental features, including watercourses and reduces disruption to major highways.
The principles of inherent safe design have been incorporated into the design of the pipeline as per relevant industry codes of practice and standards and the requirements of the Pipeline Safety Regulations 1996.	To avoid potential effects on sensitive environmental receptors and nearby populations.
24-hour remote monitoring of pipeline operation to detect leaks and enable remote shut down of the pipeline if required.	To avoid potential effects on sensitive environmental receptors.
The pipeline will be designed to industry standards and safety	To ensure the resilience of the assets to climate change events,

Runcorn Carbon Dioxide Spur Pipeline Proposed Development

Embedded mitigation	Purpose
regulations. Equipment will be weather-sealed to prevent water ingress and there will be a HVAC system installed to ensure the electrical equipment at Runcorn AGI does not overheat.	including droughts, extreme precipitation and temperature events, wind/storm, lightning and snow.
There will be no nighttime construction working on the pipeline, other than for certain periods at the trenchless crossings and with prior agreement from the LPA.	To avoid potential effects on human health and sensitive ecological receptors.
The lighting columns at the Runcorn AGI will incorporate measures such as louvres, to minimise light-spill on the occasions that the lighting is required.	To avoid potential effects on nearby populations and sensitive ecological receptors.

5. NEXT STEPS

- 5.1.1. Prior to the submission of the planning application, the Applicant is holding a non-statutory consultation about the Runcorn Spur Pipeline Proposed Development to ensure that the best possible project is developed for local communities, the surrounding landscape and the environment. This consultation will run from 13 March to 10 April 2025.
- 5.1.2. Take part in the pre-application consultation by:
 - Visiting the project website: hynethub.co.uk and submitting your feedback through our online feedback form.
 - Sending written feedback to our freepost address: Freepost LBCCS.
 - Sending an email to: hello@hynethub.co.uk.
 - Attending one of the following consultation events;
 - 15 March 2025, 11am -3am, Christ Church Hall, WA7 4EU
 - 18 March 2025, 6.30pm 7.30pm (Online Webinar, via Microsoft Teams),
 - 28 March 2025, 2pm -6pm, Christ Church Hall, WA7 4EU
 - 29 March 2025, 11am -3pm, Elton Community Centre, CH2
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 - 2April 2025, 3pm -7pm, Helsby Sports Club, , WA6 OFX
 - 4 April 2025, 12.30pm -1.30pm, (Online Webinar, via Microsoft Teams),
- 5.1.3. The Applicant plans to submit the planning application to CWCC and HBC in summer 2025. At this stage, members of the public and stakeholders will have the opportunity to comment on the full planning application.



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