

Liverpool Bay CCS Limited (LBCCS), a member of the Eni SpA group, is developing three carbon dioxide spur pipelines (Proposed Developments), allowing carbon dioxide to be transported from capture plants through new and repurposed infrastructure to safe and permanent storage in depleted natural gas reservoirs, located under the seabed in Liverpool Bay.

Welcome to our May 2025 newsletter

In April, we hit a significant milestone, with the public consultations on the Runcorn and Padeswood Spur Pipeline Proposed Developments coming to a close. We are currently reviewing all feedback and revising the planning application documents in preparation for submission this summer.

In this month's newsletter we provide a summary of the public consultation for the Runcorn and Padeswood Spur Pipeline Proposed Developments, give an update on next steps for the HyNet Hub, provide information on reaching financial close for the project and celebrate some of our existing community initiatives.

Plus, we introduce Akshat Vipin, the Design Integration and Planning Lead for the three Spur Pipeline Proposed Developments and Pipeline Lead for the Padeswood Spur Pipeline Proposed Development. Akshat gives us an insight into his role and describes the planning process for the Proposed Developments. To keep up to date with all the latest information please visit the [HyNet Hub](#).

**Community feedback shapes Runcorn Spur Pipeline Proposed Development
planning application**



Image of Frodsham Wind Farm near the location of the Runcorn Spur Pipeline Proposed Development

Between 13 March and 10 April 2025, stakeholders and members of the public were invited to have their say on the plans for the Runcorn Spur Pipeline Proposed Development.

During the consultation, LBCCS hosted four in-person and two online webinars, offering the opportunity to meet the team and ask any questions. The key themes raised from the feedback included comments on the construction methods, as well as measures to protect the community and safeguard the environment.

We are currently considering all feedback to finalise the plans and mitigation measures, ahead of submitting planning applications to Cheshire West and Chester Council (CWCC) and Halton Borough Council (HBC) in summer 2025. The planning applications will be supported by a Statement of Community Involvement (SoCI), which will outline all consultation and engagement activity, and summarise the responses received through the feedback form, emails and through our meetings with political stakeholders. It will also provide LBCCS's response to the feedback and comments received.

Thank you to all who responded to the consultation, attended the events and engaged with the project team. There will be an opportunity to comment on the plans again once the planning applications have been submitted and CWCC and HBC start the statutory consultation in the summer.

Padeswood Spur Pipeline Proposed Development: consultation wrap up



Padeswood Spur Pipeline Proposed Development – red line boundary of construction area

The statutory Pre-Application Consultation for the Padeswood Spur Pipeline Proposed Development ran from Wednesday 26 March until Tuesday 29 April. We received feedback from the public, landowners and specialist consultees (technical and governmental organisations). The feedback included:

- opinions about carbon capture and storage technology as a means to help reduce carbon dioxide emissions in the UK
- request for public rights of way access during construction
- questions about mitigation planting
- suggestions for environmental mitigation
- questions about construction traffic
- community funding suggestions.

We held two in-person events and one online event where there was an opportunity to learn more about the Proposed Development and meet members of the project team.

As for our next steps, we are preparing to submit the final planning application to Flintshire County Council in June 2025. We are considering the feedback we have received as we finalise the design of the Proposed Development.

All the consultation activities, analysis of feedback and LBCCS response to the issues raised during the consultation will be presented in the Pre-Application Consultation report, which will be submitted as part of the planning application. There will be an opportunity to comment on the final planning application directly to Flintshire County Council, through its planning portal, once the application has been validated by Flintshire County Council.



The Point of Ayr Gas Terminal, which will be repurposed as part of the Liverpool Bay CCS project

At the Future of Energy Security Summit in London on 24 April 2025, it was announced that LBCCS had reached financial close with the Department of Energy Security and Net Zero for the Liverpool Bay CCS project. This milestone allows LBCCS to start constructing the CO₂ transport and storage system to serve the HyNet industrial cluster, creating an estimated 2,000 jobs during the construction phase alone.

The project will transport CO₂ from capture plants across the north west of England and north Wales to safe and permanent storage in depleted natural gas reservoirs under Liverpool Bay. With a storage capacity of 4.5 million tonnes of CO₂ per year in the first phase, and the potential to increase to 10 million tonnes of CO₂ per year in the 2030s, the project will make a significant contribution towards meeting the UK's net zero goals.

You can find out more about this news [here](#).

Aberystwyth Students Explore CCS Transition at Point of Ayr Terminal



Rob (left) and Cerys (right) presenting to 65 students from Aberystwyth University

On Wednesday 30 April, a group of students from Aberystwyth University's Environmental Science and Environmental Earth Science course visited the Point of Ayr Terminal for their annual field trip. Since 2014, we have supported the University with their educational field trips around the area and this year 65 first year students joined us at the DangerPoint Centre as part of their visit to explore north Wales' ecological and environmental landscape.

This year the group had a focus on CCS and the visit provided an insightful look into the Point of Ayr terminal's transition from gas production to CCS operations from the Terminal Manager, Rob Pointon, and Cerys Percival, Community and Communications Coordinator for Eni. Students learnt about the ecological land management obligations in Talacre, emphasising our sustainable and environmental practices in the region.

Toad-ally Triumphant: Talacre's Natterjack Comeback Turns 30



A Natterjack Toad in the Gronant Dunes and Talacre Warren Site of Special Scientific Interest

It's been thirty years since the Natterjack toad, Wales' rarest amphibian, was successfully reintroduced at Gronant Dunes and Talacre Warren Site of Special Scientific Interest. Known for its bright yellow stripe and distinctive running style, the Natterjack toad is Europe's loudest amphibian, due to the male's large throat sac used during breeding calls.

The re-introduction programme began back in 1995 and was a commitment included in the original land management agreement for the development of the Point of Ayr Gas Terminal. Eni, along with partners Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Trust, Natural Resources Wales and Flintshire Countryside Services Coastal Rangers, planned to restore the Natterjack population using colonies from Sefton and Ainsdale National Nature Reserves in Merseyside. Over time, more than

22,000 tadpoles were introduced to specially created ponds in Eni UK's landholdings at Talacre Dunes.

Since then, the Natterjack population has reached 248 spawn strings and 219 adult toads. With ongoing commitments to ensure that the Natterjack population continues to thrive, our land management team continue to deliver habitat management activities in Talacre dunes. The project has fostered a community spirit, bringing together volunteers, school children and locals to learn about the toads to ensure they thrive for years to come.

The HyNet Hub is evolving



HyNet Hub website landing page.

With the consultation and engagement periods ending for the Protos, Padeswood and Runcorn Spur Pipeline Proposed Developments and each project moving to the next stages, it is time for the HyNet Hub to evolve.

In the coming days the HyNet Hub will present a broader picture of LBCCS activity in the north west of England and north Wales, featuring information about Point of Ayr, and the construction of the HyNet Carbon Dioxide Pipeline.

The HyNet Carbon Dioxide Pipeline is a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project which was granted a Development Consent Order by the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero in March 2024. Construction on the pipeline will start in summer 2025, and relevant updates will be provided on the HyNet Hub and through this newsletter.

We will shortly be undertaking pre-application consultation on the Point of Ayr Cable Route Foreshore Works Proposed Development to slightly modify and realign the cable route consented under planning permission FUL/000246/23 from the existing facilities at the Point of Ayr Terminal in Flintshire to operate with CO₂.

Alongside the website content, this newsletter will also evolve to provide updates about LBCCS's wider activities and ongoing engagement with stakeholders and the community. If you would like to stay up to date, you don't need to do anything

however, if you would like to unsubscribe, you can do this by clicking 'unsubscribe' in the small text at the bottom of this newsletter.

Meet the team... Akshat Vipin



Akshat Vipin, Technical Director at WSP.

1. Please tell us about your role on the Carbon Dioxide Spur Pipeline Proposed Developments

I wear three hats, first as the Design Integration lead; second as the Planning Lead across the three Spur Pipelines, and third as the Pipeline Lead for the Padeswood Carbon Dioxide Spur Pipeline Proposed Development.

As the design integration lead, I am responsible for managing the liaison between the consultant's (WSP) planning, land and environment disciplines, and LBCCS's design team working across the three Spur Pipelines. This role involves managing the process of reaching the preferred route for the Spur Pipelines; making sure any subsequent design changes that come through consultation and engagement with landowners and key stakeholders are robustly reviewed and assessed by the legal, land, planning and relevant environmental disciplines, and incorporated into the design and application area subject to planning permission.

As the Planning Lead, I lead the WSP Spur Pipeline Town Planning teams working across the three Spur Pipelines, and as the Padeswood Pipeline Lead, I am responsible for and manage the WSP team (Land, Environment and Planning) working on the Padeswood Spur Pipeline Planning Application.

2. What does a typical day of working on the Proposed Developments look like for you?

The reason I love my role is because no two days are the same. On a typical day I liaise with LBCCS and report on progress of key deliverables; manage and work with the team in resolving any project related issues and review and sign off planning application documents. And then there are fun days like today, where I've been tasked with writing about what I do.

As a planner, I enjoy working with and learning something new (pretty much daily) through my work with multiple disciplines and being involved in a wide array of subjects, right from project and financial management to environmental disciplines, to land matters, to engineering, to legal and finally culminating to town planning...

3. Could you give us an overview of the process that LBCCS is going through to get planning permission for the Proposed Developments?

LBCCS is preparing three planning applications under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 for the Spur Pipelines (Protos, Runcorn and Padeswood). The Protos (West AGI) application is currently being considered by CWCC, following application submission in March 2025. The other two applications (Runcorn and Padeswood) have recently undergone public consultation and are due for submission this summer.

To prepare robust planning applications, LBCCS commenced the optioneering stage for Protos, Runcorn and Padeswood Spur Pipelines in late 2023 and arrived at the preferred route in early 2024. This helped with finalising the draft planning application area boundaries (or Red Line Boundaries), which were used to commence environment surveys for the environmental assessment work. At the same time, LBCCS engaged with landowners along the pipeline routes explaining and responding to their queries on the construction process, and how the Proposed Development may impact them. All this work informs the preparation of three planning applications, which will be considered by the relevant planning authorities.

4. What inspired you to pursue a career in infrastructure planning?

Interestingly, it was the game SimCity that attracted me to infrastructure planning.

5. What are your hobbies and interests outside of work?

Outside of work I play cricket, badminton, and squash, enjoy cycling, travelling and the child in me still loves building Lego.

Stay connected



If you have any comments or questions about the Spur Pipeline Proposed Developments or would like us to feature a specific topic in our next newsletter, please get in touch by emailing hello@hynethub.co.uk.

You can also follow the wider HyNet project using these social media channels:



[Terms & Conditions](#) | [Privacy Policy](#) | [Contact](#)

If you would like to unsubscribe from receiving this email, please [click here](#)