

Salinae Hydrogen Storage project

Section 51 Advice Log Version: 20 July 2026

This document comprises a record of the s51 advice that has been given by the Planning Inspectorate to the applicant (Uniper) during the pre-application stage. It will be updated by the Planning Inspectorate after every interaction with the applicant within which s51 advice has been given.

The applicant will always be given the opportunity to comment on the Planning Inspectorate's draft record of the s51 advice given before it is published on the relevant project page on the [Find a National Infrastructure Project website](#).

The role of the advice log at the acceptance stage

Section 55(4) of the PA2008 requires the Planning Inspectorate to consider, amongst other things, the extent to which the applicant has had regard to the s51 advice given by the Planning Inspectorate in connection with the application when deciding if the application can be accepted for examination. Section 51 advice includes:

- advice given about applying for an order granting development consent
- advice given about making representations about an application for an order granting development consent

The applicant will use this advice log as the tool for demonstrating:

- regard to the s51 advice given to the applicant by the Planning Inspectorate
- regard to any s51 advice given to others by the Planning Inspectorate

The applicant will submit a final version of this advice log which demonstrates regard to all s51 given by the Planning Inspectorate at the pre-application stage as part of the application.

Salinae Hydrogen Storage project – Applicant meeting index

Date of meeting	Meeting overview
5 November 2025	Inception Meeting Note • Consenting programme and introduction to the pre-application programme document • EIA scoping • Next steps • Post Meeting Note • AOB
20 July 2026	Email Advice - Planning and Infrastructure Act 2025

Salinae Hydrogen Storage project – Log of s51 given to the applicant

Meeting date: 5 November 2025

Topic	s51 advice given	Applicant regard to s51 advice given
Consenting programme and introduction to the pre-application programme document	The Inspectorate advised the applicant against scoping over the Christmas period due to the possibility of reduced capacity of the consultation bodies which could result in a less meaningful scoping response. The Inspectorate noted that the applicant's indicative timetable anticipated receipt of a scoping opinion in February 2026. It explained that an opinion must be adopted within 42 days of receipt of a scoping report, and therefore submission of a scoping report in early January would still result in adoption of a scoping opinion in February. The applicant highlighted its concern about maintaining the pace of the project with the timeline which is aligned to the bid timescales for government funding and confirmed it would reconsider the timing of the scoping report submission. The Inspectorate reminded the applicant to provide a GIS shapefile to the Inspectorate	

	at least ten working days prior to the submission of the scoping report. The Inspectorate asked the applicant to provide any programme updates from DESNZ and highlighted the importance of keeping the programme document updated. The Inspectorate suggested the submission of draft documents around August 2026 and requested the draft documents be submitted together rather than individually, for a fuller approach and review. The Inspectorate confirmed it is happy to answer queries and look at documents throughout the pre-application process as well as have the potential for an inspector to look over any documents, if required.	
EIA scoping	The Inspectorate queried whether traffic and transport would be considered as an EIA topic. The applicant confirmed it would not be including a separate traffic and transport chapter within the ES but would assess transport impacts within a Transport Assessment, to be submitted with the DCO application. The Inspectorate advised that this should be explained within the scoping report.	
Next steps	The Inspectorate advised that feedback on the Programme Document would be	

	provided, which the applicant should incorporate into the new Programme Document template, as published within the Pre-application Prospectus.	
Post Meeting Note	The Inspectorate advises that the initial Programme Document broadly complies with the Planning Act 2008: Pre-application stage for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects Guidance. It would be helpful if the Programme Document could provide approximate timescales for project update meetings with the Inspectorate, as well as any future meetings with key stakeholders, as this enables resources to be deployed effectively. It is also useful for the Programme Document to highlight key issues for consideration, with an issues tracker provided in due course. The applicant may find it helpful to refer to the Issues Tracker template provided in the Prospectus. The applicant is advised that a public version of the Programme Document will be hosted and maintained on the Applicant's website. The Programme Document is an iterative document that should be kept up-to-date with key milestones for the project which should be shared with Local Authorities and Statutory Consultees.	

AOB	The applicant requested clarification on the approach to advice provided throughout the pre-application process. The Inspectorate advised the applicant that, with the Standard tier service, six meetings a year will be offered. The Inspectorate also advised that flexible and open communication between meetings is welcomed, and the Inspectorate are available to answer any questions if necessary.	
Meeting date: 20 July 2026		
Topic	s51 advice given	Applicant regard to s51 advice given
Email Advice - Planning Infrastructure Act 2025	In light of the amended legal framework which will be introduced from 24 July 2026 by the Planning and Infrastructure Act 2025, the Planning Inspectorate issued written advice to the applicant on 20 July 2026 requesting for: evidence within the submitted application in relation to duties under s46 and s48 of the PA2008 to be provided as an appendix to any engagement summary document that the applicant may choose to submit or, where the applicant chooses not to submit such a document, as a discrete document titled 'Section 46 and section 48 information'	

	evidence within the submitted application in relation to new s55(4)(e) of the PA2008 to be provided in a submission version of this expanded advice log template.	
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Salinae Hydrogen Storage project – Log of s51 advice given to others		
Person s51 advice given to	s51 advice given	Applicant regard to s51 advice given
Kistos Energy Storage Ltd	The Inspectorate has advised Kistos Energy Storage Ltd that as a government body, the Planning Inspectorate performs its consultation duties in accordance with legislation which has been drafted and passed through the UK parliament. The Planning Inspectorate's approach reflects that set out in the relevant legislation and advice page and is consistent for each project. The Planning Inspectorate has no powers to amend legislation. The Inspectorate does have the capacity to consult non-prescribed consultees (bodies not subject to the statutory duty to share relevant information referred to above) – for the sake of transparency and to make it clear which bodies can expect to be consulted on scoping reports, at present the	

	Planning Inspectorate only consults the bodies listed in our advice page on Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) notification and consultation which is available here Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects: Advice on EIA Notification and Consultation - GOV.UK The Inspectorate acknowledged that Kistos Energy Storage Ltd may hold information relevant to the production of the Environmental Statement (ES) and we recommend you send comments on the scope of the ES directly to the applicant. Please be assured that Kistos Energy Storage Ltd will not be excluded from the decision-making process, with the opportunity to voice your comments on the project during the applicant's pre-application statutory consultation and, should the project be accepted by the Planning Inspectorate, during an examination of the project.	
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