Planning Inspectorate

H2East Pipeline: Humber to Nottinghamshire

Section 51 Advice Log
Version: 25 August 2026

This document comprises a record of the s51 advice that has been given by the Planning Inspectorate to the applicant (Cadent Gas) 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 Planning Act 2008 (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 in connection with the application to the applicant
- regard to any s51 advice given in connection with the application to others

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

H2East Pipeline: Humber to Nottinghamshire – Applicant meeting and advice index	
Date of meeting	**Meeting overview**
10 February 2026	**Agenda points as follows:** • Detailed description of the proposed development • Early engagement with statutory bodies and local authorities, and other stakeholder engagement to date • EIA scoping • Environmental surveys • Land and rights: Scope of compulsory acquisition etc powers sought and potential constraints and issues • Consultation (statutory and non-statutory) • The service tier requested by the applicant, including justification • Use of supplementary components (and availability of templates) • AOB
16 June 2026	**Agenda points as follows:** • Project update • Consultation approach overview • Key themes from consultation • Other stakeholder engagement • Environment and surveys update • Lands update
15 July 2026	Email advice - Planning and Infrastructure Act 2025

H2East Humber to Nottinghamshire – Log of s51 advice given to the applicant		
Meeting date: 10 February 2026		
Topic	**s51 advice given**	**Applicant regard to s51 advice given**
Detailed description of the proposed development	The H2East project is part of a wider consortium including National Gas, Northern Gas Networks and Cadent Gas. The objective of the project is to identify and deliver the network infrastructure required to support the deployment of low-carbon hydrogen. Cadent Gas will be developing proposals for the H2 East Pipeline south of the Humber and the delivery of hydrogen to existing industrial customers, with an initial focus on those with the highest gas demand. Cadent has around 40,000 gas sites connected to the natural gas network. The project will connect to hydrogen production in Immingham and High Marnham. The DCO for this project will cover only the route from Immingham to Nottinghamshire, but Cadent Gas may seek further DCO's in future to take advantage of other expansion opportunities in the wider area. These possible extensions would be into South Yorkshire and into Leicestershire, Derbyshire and the Midlands. Currently the proposed route is 150km, generally using	

	42-inch diameter pipe, but in some areas the pipes are as little as 4-6 inches. While most of 1 the pipe infrastructure will be underground, the project will include a number of above ground installations. Demand for Gas in heavy industry i.e. the steel industry in areas such as Scunthorpe has advised the decision to seek the DCO for this route now. Further expansion routes would be part of another DCO or appropriate consenting routes. S35 is for the main backbone of the project and associated development will be used for the "spurs" of the project. Cadent Gas and Project Union may gain further information from DESNZ in the future on which customers their projects are expected to connect. The applicant c will not include connections to domestic supply. Some overground infrastructure could (subject to discussions) be linked between Cadent Gas and Project Union. The applicant has been working with the below users to understand their demand profiles. Below is a list of some of the already existing industrial users: • British Sugar • British Steel • Forterra • Heidelberg Materials • Knauf • Singleton Birch • Tayto Cadent Gas has partners providing support including, Worley: Engineering design and partner integration, Murphy's: Construction, Fisher German: Land Rights, Camargue: Communication	

	and Stakeholder Engagement, SLR: Environmental, Planning and Consent. The applicant confirmed they are waiting for a timescale for the Hydrogen Transport Business Model. They are also waiting for updates to the UK hydrogen strategy.	
Early engagement with statutory bodies and local authorities, and other stakeholder engagement to date	The Applicant confirmed many pre-FEED consultations have been made over the years and further consultations will be conducted on the proposed pipeline corridor. The Planning Inspectorate advised the applicant not to undertake consultation at the same time as The Inspectorate' scoping to prevent confusion. EIA views expressed to Applicant can't be considered with The Inspectorate's EIA scoping. The applicant confirmed they have held introductory meetings with LPA's, NE and EA.	
EIA scoping	The Applicant confirmed the EIA surveys will take place in 2026, also confirming relevant Landowners will be contacted. 2 The applicant was advised not to undertake consultation at the same time as The Inspectorate scoping to prevent confusion – this is because EIA views expressed to Applicant can't be considered with The Inspectorate's EIA scoping. This also prevents other matters being brough up in	

	the consultation responses, as only EIA matters are considered in the Scoping Opinion. The applicant was advised they need to submit the shapefile which needs to be provided 10 days before – only 13 left days now. The applicant confirmed the Shapefile is ready to be sent to The Inspectorate. Both applicant consultations likely to be completed at the same time, due to other consultations on other projects happening in the area. The Inspectorate advised the MMO needed to be contacted as the River Trent is partially tidal. As the pipeline crossing of the Trent will be trenchless, the applicant believes they will apply for exemption similar to other projects in Lincolnshire. The Inspectorate advised the MMO will likely still like to comment.	
Environmental surveys	The applicant confirmed EIA surveys will take place in 2026 and confirmed Wintering Bird surveys have started. Geotechnical Investigations will also take place this year. Although the proposed route goes through predominantly rural land, access to highways will still be needed, including some rural roads. The Inspectorate advised that Nottinghamshire and Lincolnshire should be contacted as early as possible regarding archaeology. The Inspectorate reminded the applicant that noise survey	

	work could be undertaken while atypical noise from other projects being constructed in the area is present, so the applicant should take this into account. The Planning Inspectorate advised the applicant to provide updates to the Inspectorate regarding progress on the HRA to prevent too much time being taken up in examination.	
Land and rights: Scope of compulsory acquisition etc powers sought and potential constraints and issues	The applicant confirmed Land referencing has been completed. They also confirmed they will look for temporary and permanent land rights for the construction and running of the project. The Inspectorate reminded it is important to explain to landowners how the land needs to be used and why it is needed. It is also important to explain how the red line boundary will shrink over time from the current Scoping boundary. The applicant confirmed leaflets are being drafted to help explain this. The applicant confirmed Land Agent briefings have been held. 3 The applicant subsequently confirmed some sites will need temporary construction areas, which will form part of the DCO. The temporary construction areas include compounds, haul roads and crossing works.	

Consultation (statutory and non-statutory)	**January 2026 – Project Launch** **03 March 2026 – Consultation and EIA scoping** This will include public exhibitions and consultation documents. The consultation will also be used to set out the broad corridor preference and investigate the alternatives considered. Also included in this consultation is the scope of environmental impact assessment. **Q2 2026 Onwards - Field surveys, scheme design and EIA assessments** **Q4 2026 to 2027 – Engagement on early findings and mitigation** **Submission date Q4 2028**	
The service tier requested by the applicant, including justification	The intention of Cadent Gas is to begin with Tier 1 Basic. This will be monitored throughout the project and a move to Tier 2 may be required at a later point. Cadent Gas and the Planning Inspectorate agreed placeholder meetings could be worked into the timeline and that a meeting around May-June would be useful.	
Use of supplementary components (and availability of templates)	The applicant has proposed the use of PADSS, Policy Compliance Documents and	

	a Design Approach Document (Design Evaluation Report).	
AOB	The Planning Inspectorate advised the applicant that documents need to be uploaded to their project website and that the website needs to be updated with any milestones. The Programme Document is not only handy for The Inspectorate, but also for the applicant to point out key issues during the project.	

H2East Humber to Nottinghamshire – Log of s51 advice given to the applicant		
Meeting date: 16 June 2026		
Topic	**s51 advice given**	**Applicant regard to s51 advice given**
Section 35 Direction	The Inspectorate asked the applicant to provide a copy of the section 35 request and direction made by the Secretary of State as soon as practicable, so that the documents could be published on the project webpage of the Inspectorate's website. In answer to a question from the Inspectorate, the applicant was content with the description of associated development being sought in the s35 Direction but would revisit any substantive issues on what may (or may not) constitute associated development at future meetings, where necessary. Additionally, the applicant added that while the submission of the application would likely be in 2028, it would be reviewing the government's hydrogen strategy as soon as it is published and would liaise on any adjusted programme timeline where needed.	

Consultation approach overview	The applicant provided an update on its consultation approach and overview of its recent consultation activities. The applicant explained that there was general support for the scheme but issues around ecology were raised and were currently being addressed. In answer to a question from the Inspectorate, the applicant added that it was considering cumulative effects with other major developments such as Great North Road Solar and how to avoid overlaps with such schemes. The applicant added that the development and discussions of draft protective provisions with statutory undertakers were well advanced.	
Environment and surveys update	The applicant gave an update on their environmental surveys following the publication of the Inspectorate's Scoping Opinion, where approaches on the scope of surveys needed to assess visual impacts and minerals extraction were being considered. The applicant added that it was also reviewing the scope and need for surveys on Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) following feedback from Natural England.	

Meeting date: 15 July 2026		
Topic	**s51 advice given**	**Applicant regard to s51 advice given**
Email Advice - Planning and 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 15 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.	

H2East Humber to Nottinghamshire – Log of s51 advice given to others		
Person s51 advice given to	**s51 advice given**	**Applicant regard to s51 advice given**