

PRESS RELEASE

9th June 2021

First chance for communities to have their say on ground breaking net zero decarbonisation project.

The North West and North Wales have ambitions to become cleaner, and greener. To achieve the aim of becoming net zero emitters of carbon dioxide before 2050, big steps need to be taken, and they need to happen quickly.

HyNet North West is the UK's first hydrogen and carbon capture cluster, which will support a reduction of emissions in the region whilst unlocking a clean energy economy.

From Wednesday the 9 June 2021, local communities have the opportunity to learn more about the project and to have their say on a proposed carbon capture pipeline which will remove carbon dioxide from regional industry. Information on the project and the consultation process can be found at www.hynethub.co.uk

The project is set to revolutionise the North West of England and North Wales' journey to hitting regional emissions targets, establishing the area as a world-leader in clean energy technology, and strongly contributing to the UK's national climate objectives.

David Parkin, Director of HyNet North West said: "This is the first step in our exciting plans to develop a pipeline to safely transport carbon dioxide (CO₂) away from industrial areas to be permanently stored under the seabed. The project has the potential to help to decarbonise one of the UK's largest industrial clusters and, by helping local industry to reduce their carbon emissions, will play its part in ensuring organisations remain viable as the UK moves to net zero emissions.

"This is the chance for those living and working within the North West and North Wales to support the decarbonisation of their region. The first part of the infrastructure we will need is a pipeline which will remove CO₂ from regional industry. We are inviting local communities to give their initial feedback at this early planning stage for the pipeline, and the overall project, from 9 June."

From 2025, HyNet North West will decarbonise the North West of England and North Wales through the creation of state-of-the-art infrastructure. In addition to capturing the carbon from industry, HyNet will produce, store and distribute low carbon hydrogen to power the regions' industry, electricity generation, transport and homes.

The mix of hydrogen production and carbon capture and storage (CCS) has the potential to cut the region's carbon emissions by 25% in just five years – the same as taking over four million cars off the road. In the longer term, HyNet North West will provide a genuine solution to the national climate emergency: by 2030, it could already be delivering 80% of the government's national target for low carbon hydrogen for power, transport, industry, and homes by itself.

HyNet North West

David Parkin continues: “The mix of local industrial experience, and cutting-edge science, provides the perfect base from which to create a hotspot for clean growth and innovation, providing a wide range of training and skills opportunities for local people, and creating over 6,000 local jobs. All this while making the region – and eventually the entire country – cleaner, greener and safer for future generations.

“We’re delighted to be taking this first public step in our plans to bring the region to the forefront of clean energy innovation. By reaching out to and hearing what local people, business and industry have to say about the project, and bringing them along for the journey, we can deliver something that is not only truly innovative but a testament to the communities who will benefit from it for years to come.”

ENDS

Notes to editors

- Public consultation on the first stage of the HyNet project, the carbon capture pipeline, will open on 9th June 2021.
- The project will kick start a low carbon hydrogen economy, protecting and creating jobs, setting the region on course to be the world leader in clean energy innovation.
- HyNet North West will create over 6,000 new, permanent jobs, HyNet North West will protect and retain jobs in existing high value manufacturing industries. Workers will develop fresh skill sets and train in exciting new sectors, fostering regional growth and inward investment.
- HyNet North West aims to reduce regional carbon dioxide emissions by up to 10 million tonnes every year by 2030 – the equivalent of taking four million cars off the road. By that time, HyNet North West alone will already be delivering 80% of the Government’s UK-wide target of 5GW of low carbon hydrogen for power, transport, industry and homes.

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About HyNet North West

HyNet North West is an innovative hydrogen energy and carbon capture, usage and storage (CCUS) project which aims to reduce carbon emissions from industry, homes and transport and support economic growth in the North West of England and North Wales.

The project is being delivered by a consortium of partners, each of which will lead a different part of the scheme

For more information, visit www.hynet.co.uk.