

25 March 2024

Lord Callanan visits Padeswood to learn more about plans to create the UK's first net zero cement works

- **Minister for Energy Efficiency and Green Finance Lord Callanan has visited Heidelberg Materials' Padeswood cement works in north Wales.**
- **Heidelberg Materials and the UK Government's Department for Energy Security and Net Zero have signed a statement of principles and now enter final negotiations for carbon capture at Padeswood.**
- **The company is intending to build a carbon capture plant to capture almost all the CO₂ produced during cement manufacture at the site.**
- **Once operational, the facility would provide net zero building materials for major projects across the country, helping to decarbonise the construction industry.**

Heidelberg Materials has signed a statement of principles with the UK Government's Department for Energy Security and Net Zero for its planned carbon capture plant at Padeswood cement works.

The agreement marks a milestone for the project and Heidelberg Materials and the UK Government will now enter final negotiations, with the aim of making a final decision by April 2025.

Minister for Energy Efficiency and Green Finance Lord Callanan visited Heidelberg Materials' Padeswood cement works in north Wales to hear first-hand about plans to upgrade the existing plant to become the UK's first net zero cement works.

If the industry-leading project goes ahead, it would be the first facility of its kind in the UK and would set the UK's construction industry on the path to net zero.

Cement is a key component of concrete, the most widely used building material in the world, but its production is carbon intensive. A large proportion of these CO₂

emissions come from the chemical process involved in making cement, so the only way to remove them is by capturing them before they enter the atmosphere.

Heidelberg Materials is intending to build a carbon capture plant at Padeswood, which would capture almost all the CO₂ produced during cement manufacture, equating to up to 800,000 tonnes annually, and enabling the production of evoZero carbon captured net zero cement from the site as early as 2028.

The Padeswood scheme is part of the HyNet North West decarbonisation cluster, which aims to create the world's first low carbon industrial cluster through its development of a hydrogen and carbon capture and storage (CCS) project. Carbon captured at Padeswood would be transported via the HyNet underground pipeline and stored safely under the seabed in Liverpool Bay.

Lord Callanan said: "By moving into final negotiations with the project at Padeswood, we are working to deliver our ambition of capturing carbon before it reaches the atmosphere and storing it safely underground, helping us achieve net zero.

"We're backing the exciting potential of these technologies with £20 billion and companies like Heidelberg Materials are helping lead the way with plans to use carbon capture to cut UK emissions even further."

Simon Willis, CEO at Heidelberg Materials UK, added: "We were delighted to welcome Lord Callanan to Padeswood and have the opportunity to showcase our plans for the site.

"Once operational, it will provide net zero building materials for major projects across the country, enabling us to help decarbonise the construction industry and meet our ambitions to become a net zero business, while also securing the long-term future of hundreds of highly skilled jobs."

About Heidelberg Materials

Heidelberg Materials is one of the world's largest integrated manufacturers of building materials and solutions with leading market positions in cement, aggregates, and ready-mixed concrete. We are represented in more than 50 countries with around 51,000 employees at almost 3,000 locations. At the centre of our actions lies the responsibility for the environment. As the front runner on the path to carbon neutrality and circular economy in the building materials industry, we are working on sustainable building

materials and solutions for the future. We enable new opportunities for our customers through digitalisation. [heidelbergmaterials.com](https://www.heidelbergmaterials.com)

In the UK, Heidelberg Materials (formerly Hanson UK) is split into five business lines – aggregates (crushed rock, sand and gravel), concrete, asphalt and contracting, cement and recycling – which together operate around 280 manufacturing sites and employ more than 3,500 people. [heidelbergmaterials.co.uk](https://www.heidelbergmaterials.co.uk)

Contact

James Reed Public Relations Limited
Madeleine Hardman/Samantha Stagg, 0117 428 8725
madeleine@jamesreedpr.co.uk