

Carbon Capture and Storage: consenting

The Peak Cluster is an innovative collaboration to capture, transport and permanently store carbon dioxide (CO_2) emissions from the cement and lime industry in Derbyshire and Staffordshire, as well as neighbouring industries in Cheshire.

Five cement and lime plants across Derbyshire, Staffordshire and Cheshire, owned by Tarmac, Breedon, Lhoist and Aggregate Industries, together with Lostock Sustainable Energy Plant in Cheshire, known locally as LSEP, have come together with Progressive Energy to form Peak Cluster.

What is the planning process for Peak Cluster?

As the proposed Peak Cluster pipeline will be over 16km long, it will be classified as a 'Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project' (or 'NSIP') under the Planning Act 2008. This means that Peak Cluster will be applying to the Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero for a Development Consent Order (DCO) to allow us to build a new pipeline and other infrastructure. We expect that planning permission will also be needed from Local Authorities for some of the proposed infrastructure, such as the carbon capture plants at the industrial sites.

How do we go about being granted a DCO?

The DCO process is mandatory for nationally significant infrastructure projects. It ensures that communities and stakeholders are given opportunities to contribute their views into the planning process.

The DCO process ensures that applicants carry out a range of environmental studies and assessments to help shape the project. It also encourages collaboration with local authorities and other stakeholders to develop plans to manage any potential impacts on the environment or local communities, particularly during construction.

In addition to our response to the engagement with communities and stakeholders we will have undertaken, our application for a DCO will be supported by the results of our environmental studies and assessments in a detailed 'Environmental Statement', plans and drawings to provide details on our proposals.

As part of our application process, we will need to meet certain requirements as we progress through the different stages.

You can find more information on the DCO process online on the <u>Planning Inspectorate</u> website.

Will I have a say in the process?

Yes, at all stages.

We are absolutely convinced that the Peak Cluster project will be a better project if it is a joint effort between ourselves as developers, the various local authorities along the route, and the adjacent communities and relevant stakeholders.

This process starts now as we introduce Peak Cluster as a solution to decarbonise key industries in the region and explain how we will build the plants which capture the carbon dioxide emissions and the underground pipeline which will transport them to permanent storage.

We want to hear feedback from all stakeholders so that we can incorporate views into our plans wherever possible.

In addition to our ongoing continuous engagement, we will hold at least two phases of formal consultation on our plans, during which everyone will have the opportunity to comment and help to shape the design of the project. At each stage, we will explain the latest developments in our design process and share updates on our environmental assessment.

We will also be engaging with all relevant landowners along the proposed routes to explain our proposals and understand their views.

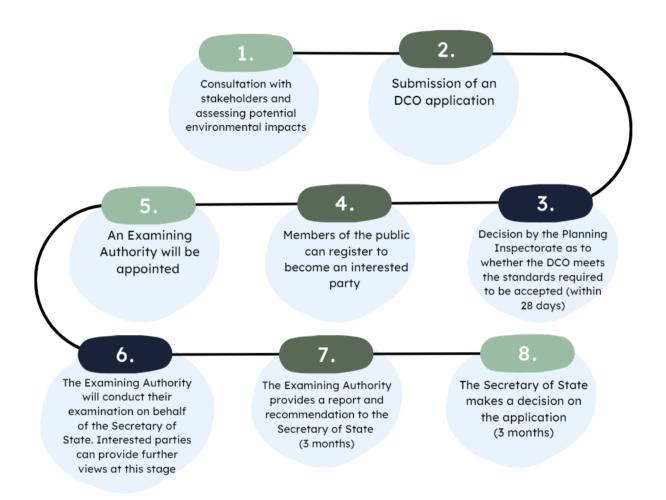
Who makes the final decision?

It is the Secretary of State for Energy Security and net zero who will make the final decision on whether to grant or refuse permission for our CO₂ pipeline project, based on the recommendation of independent planning inspectors.

DCO application stages

Following a thorough environmental assessment and development of the design, we will make an application to the Planning Inspectorate (PINS). PINS will appoint independent planning inspectors to run a rigorous examination process and prepare a recommendation report for the Secretary of State.

The Secretary of State for Energy Security and Net Zero will then make the final decision on whether to grant or refuse permission for the project.



An explanation of the process, including a short video, can be found here.

We want to hear from you

If you have any questions, queries or comments on Peak Cluster, please do chat to us. You can find the ways to contact us on our website: www.peakcluster.co.uk.