

Press Release

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Peel NRE strikes partnership with Progressive Energy to explore new low carbon projects at Protos

Peel NRE and Progressive Energy are set to explore new projects at Protos, the strategic energy and resource hub near Ellesmere Port in the heart of the North West region.

The two organisations have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to explore the design and delivery of vital new hydrogen and CO₂ infrastructure at Protos, capitalising on its proximity to HyNet.

This step comes after Peel NRE, part of Peel L&P, revealed plans to design a local CO₂ network at Protos to capture carbon from energy generators and surrounding businesses. Peel NRE and Progressive Energy will now work jointly on plans for further Protos plots of land, initially looking at delivering:

- A CO₂ receiving terminal capable of accepting deliveries of CO₂ by road and/or rail, before exporting to the HyNet carbon transport and storage infrastructure;
- Hydrogen production through electrolysis;

Jane Gaston, Protos Development Director at Peel NRE, said:

“It’s brilliant to be working together with Progressive Energy as part of the next chapter for Protos. We’re collaborating to explore how critical new infrastructure could produce low carbon hydrogen on the Protos site, as well as facilities to generate electricity to be fed into the grid - helping increase security of our energy supply.”

“Not only that, we’ll also tackle how we can extend the benefits of HyNet’s carbon capture infrastructure by linking it to a local CO₂ network at Protos, helping cut carbon dioxide emissions from existing energy generators and surrounding businesses.”

“This is yet more progress at Protos, where we’ve a track record in securing sustained investment in the low carbon technologies.”

David Parkin, Director at Progressive Energy, said:

“Protos is on the doorstep of HyNet, at the centre of the North West industrial heartland, and is therefore the perfect location for new, low carbon infrastructure.”

“We’ll be working closely with the Peel NRE team to plan and design projects to support the decarbonisation of the region’s industry as we move into a net zero future.”

“We’re already working with some of the biggest employers in the region who see the switch to hydrogen and carbon capture as the route to cut their carbon emissions whilst maintaining operations.”

“Delivering such innovative projects at Protos will further strengthen HyNet’s position as the UK’s leading decarbonisation cluster to retain, and attract, business to the North West as we lead the growth of the UK’s hydrogen and CCS economies.”

HyNet is the UK’s leading decarbonisation cluster project, spanning the Liverpool City Region and Greater Manchester Combined Authority, Warrington, Cheshire, Flintshire and Wrexham. It will supply low

carbon hydrogen to fuel industry and transport and to heat homes across the region – enabling a switch away from fossil fuels starting from the mid 2020's. It will also capture, and lock away, CO₂ emissions from regional industry who are unable to operate without producing CO₂.

The new projects at Protos will complement and strengthen HyNet's currently planned hydrogen and carbon capture infrastructure. The CO₂ terminal would extend HyNet's reach, enabling communities and businesses not on the planned pipeline network to link up to HyNet CO₂ storage infrastructure, helping to further cut carbon emissions.

The MOU will kick-start a nine month period of feasibility studies before detailed designs are carried out with each project being explored requiring individual planning consent.

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Notes to editors:

About Peel NRE – Re-energising Natural Resources

Peel NRE, part of Peel L&P, is at the heart of the nation's activity around clean growth and the circular economy – helping the UK achieve net zero by 2050 and supporting regions in their actions to achieve climate emergency targets.

We reuse, repurpose and re-energise natural resources to develop and maintain vital infrastructure across the UK and are experts in renewable energies, district heating, waste to value, water management, materials management and electric vehicle charging.

Our Protos Cheshire energy and resource hub leads the way in low carbon energy and waste management through innovative technologies including the UK's first plastic-to-hydrogen facility, a 50MW windfarm, a 26MW biomass plant, a 49MW energy from waste plant in construction and a plastic park blueprint to revolutionise plastic recycling nationwide.

More about Peel NRE at www.peellandp.co.uk/peelnre

About Peel L&P - Realising Possibility

We are an ambitious regeneration business with generations of history, heritage and expertise in our DNA. First established in 1972, Peel L&P is now responsible for some of the most transformational development projects in the UK today.

Owning and managing 12 million sq ft of property and 20,000 acres of land and water, our holdings are concentrated in the north west of England but we also own and manage significant assets throughout the UK with a total portfolio value of £2.4 billion.

As a part of the Peel Group; we are integral to a business that strives to make a positive impact on people's lives.

Our legacy matters. We take great pride in the outcomes we achieve, the people we work with, the way we go about our business and the transformational projects we deliver.

Our specialist teams have a proven track record in delivering high-quality, legacy projects across land, property, water and airspace. This includes airports, hotels, waterways, media hubs, event spaces, leisure facilities, retail, workspaces, residential development, industrial & logistical space, public realm, historic gardens and the renewable energy sector. We also believe a prosperous future depends on our ability to harness nature to create sustainable growth.

Through market-leading solutions, we support government and local authorities to reach their carbon reduction and waste management targets. We help businesses to achieve their commercial goals while managing the transition towards net-zero carbon. We engage local communities and support them in their ambition to thrive by re-energising regional economies.

Peel L&P is an agile and ambitious business with a legacy of success for a long-term, sustainable future. We see possibility. We deliver transformation.

For more information visit: www.peellandp.co.uk or follow us on Twitter @PeelLandP

About Progressive Energy

Progressive Energy are experts in project development and implementation with extensive experience of overcoming the technical and commercial challenges associated with bringing new technologies to market.

The team are passionate about tackling climate change by creating meaningful and deliverable projects. Progressive Energy translate innovative technologies, such as hydrogen and carbon capture, and storage (CCS), into concepts and ideas all the way through to their deployment to make a material difference to climate change.

Progressive Energy originated and leads the development of the HyNet decarbonisation cluster.

For more information, visit www.progressive-energy.com

About HyNet North West

HyNet North West is a low carbon energy project at the forefront of the UK's journey to a Net Zero future, being developed by a consortium of world-leading organisations. From 2025, HyNet North West will produce, store and distribute hydrogen as well as capturing and storing carbon. It will decarbonise the North West of England and North Wales through the creation of state-of-the-art infrastructure.

This game-changing project has the potential to reduce carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions by 10 million tonnes every year by 2030 – the equivalent of taking four million cars off the road. HyNet North West will create and maintain thousands of local jobs, as well as enable long-term sustainability for businesses and financial security for communities across the region. The HyNet North West consortium includes Progressive Energy, Cadent, Essar, INOVYN, Eni, University of Chester, Vertex Hydrogen, CF Fertilisers, Viridor and Hanson.

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