

Hydrogen Storage: Q&A's for each presentation

General overview – Inge de Groot

1. Q: What will be the commercial basis to take FID on?

A: This has not been determined yet; but you can imagine that the investment costs have to be covered by a combination of tariffs and necessary subsidies/grants.

2. Q: Does the planning of the storage project depend on the progress which is made by the backbone?

A: Yes. In the end the storage project depends on the backbone to connect it to its clients and to get the large amount of cushion gas in the initial phase of operations.

3. Q: Is it possible to use the current gas caverns in the future as hydrogen caverns?

A: Yes this is possible, but based on the current expectations this will not be before the first part of the twenty-thirties because the gas market will need flexibility in the future.

4. Q: Do you expect issues with regards to the social acceptance of the planned activities due to the current discussions about mining activities in the province of Groningen?

A: the project team is completely aware of the sensitivities about mining- and new energy projects in the province of Groningen. We will use the current way of working with regards to communication with our local stakeholders to involve them in the decision making process of the hydrogen storage.

Technical info – Bert

1. Q: Is the planning as presented achievable?

A: As with every large project also this project will face uncertainties about the activities as planned. But we are confident that with the experience that the team has, the current planning is achievable.

2. Q: Are there discussions with the government and the state supervisory of the mines about the planned testing program?

A: The project team is in close contact with the permit authorities and SodM about the scope of the testing program. A permit has been given already to execute the first tests in the borehole.

3. Q: Do you have concerns about the materials needed for the hydrogen installation; are suppliers capable of delivering materials to be used for hydrogen storage?

A: We are in contact with potential suppliers about these questions and are confident that we will manage this together. We involve suppliers in the tests on borehole A8. Hydrogen is not new for industrial companies.

Commercial info – Gareth Noble

Q. What's the relationship between The Backbone and the Hystock Storage?

- A. Although the two will obviously be physically connected, the backbone and Hystock storage will be run as independent activities. There were synergies in the kick-off. However, they will subsequently follow separate commercial paths.

Q. Why can't we just do one questionnaire?

- A. The two projects are being run independently of each other. We also anticipate that there may be other potential storage service providers who may also wish to do their own market research.

Q. How is our information going to be kept safe?

- A. The data will be collated under a non-disclosure agreement. The information will not be shared with the outside world unless in aggregated and fully anonymised form.