

GDF Storage Ltd News

GDF Storage Ltd.... a new Company in Cheshire !



I am delighted to introduce to you GDF Storage Limited, a subsidiary of GDF SUEZ Group, newly established in England. Our growing team is based in Gadbrook Park in Northwich and we are in charge of the development of gas storage activities in the UK.

At the end of last year we bought the Stublach Gas Storage Project (SGSP) from Ineos who had started to develop this facility at Holford. Our Group has more than 50 years of experience in development and safe operation of gas storage. We own and operate 12 storage facilities in France and 7 in various other countries.

Our ambition is to develop our business in a sustainable manner and to contribute to the security of gas supply to British customers. We are proud to embark upon our first project in Cheshire and to be involved in the development of the local economy.

Jacques Badet, Managing Director

The Stublach Project

When complete this facility will provide a storage capacity of 400 Million m³. This quantity of gas represents the annual consumption of 300 000 households. The gas will be mainly injected during the summer and withdrawn during the winter peak demand.

The gas will be stored in 28 salt cavities at a depth of 600 meters. We have started the first phase of the project which consists of 10 cavities. We will keep you up-dated about the development in each Construction Progress Report of our newsletters.

Construction progress

The construction activities are on programme with the field activities planned to be completed by the end of October. The drilling contractor has now completed 5 of the first 10 wells. All the outlying under ground pipework is installed

Editorial

We are pleased to present our first public newsletter.

We hope you will find the articles included both interesting and informative as we attempt to keep you updated on the recent events and achievements from within the company.

We are already looking ahead to our next issue and would welcome any suggestions and feedback you may have. These can be sent to Keith Harsham at the address provided overleaf.

Keith Harsham, Editor



Gas Storage - Tersanne, France

and is being tested. Weather permitting, reinstatement of the top soil associated with the pipeline corridors and re-seeding is scheduled to be completed by the end of October. The Solution Mining Compound is progressing well with the brine tank and pump house due for completion in October.

The current number of men on site stands at around 200 with a considerable proportion of these using local bed and breakfast accommodation and other amenities which all contribute towards the local economy.

Health, Safety and the Environment

We are delighted to announce that GDF Storage has received a silver award from the RSPOA (Royal Society for the Prevention Of Accidents) for the work conducted to date on the Stublach development. This prestigious award is a great tribute to the hard work and dedication of our team to health and safety in the workplace.

The great crested newt is Britain's largest newt species and has been protected in the UK since 1981. The newts live across the farmland associated with the site and as a protected species extensive measures have been taken to protect them as they journey between land and the ponds. A well known local ecologist continues to provide valuable advice and assistance. Part of the protective measures included the construction of special plastic fences to keep them safe.



The site is also home to 2 Black Poplars of which there are only about 600 in Cheshire. Given the rarity they are protected by fencing and great care is taken to ensure construction activity do not encroach and impair wellbeing.

During the planting season some 12,000 trees have been planted across the site. Respecting local species these include Field maple, Ash, Silver Birch, and oak.

At the same time Hawthorn, Holly, Blackthorn and Hazel were used for new hedgerows.



Environmental fund

The GDF Storage Environmental Fund was officially launched in April during a Local Liaison Committee (LLC). This fund demonstrates our commitment to the environment and local communities that are affected by our project. Residents from the affected areas are welcome to apply to the fund for financing projects which have a genuine impact upon the environment and which in turn produce beneficial results in their local area.

Further details of the scheme can be found on the Cheshire Community Action website: <http://www.cheshireaction.org.uk/gaz-de-france.php>, by post at: The GDF Storage Environmental Fund, C/O Cheshire Community Action, 96 Lower Bridge Street, Chester, CH1 1RU, or by telephone, Cheshire Community Action on: **01244 323 602** or GDF Storage Limited on: **01606 814 680**

Contributions to Projects approved to date include the installation of a new suspended ceiling with energy efficient lighting and insulation at Allostock Social club and the refurbishment of a junior play area with facilities for both able bodied and disabled children at Rudheath Parish Council.

Local Liaison Committee (LLC) site visit

SGSP have held 3 LLC meetings since the beginning of the project. As part of the second meeting members of the LLC were taken on a site tour of the Stublach facility which included a visit to the drilling operations.

Contact details

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