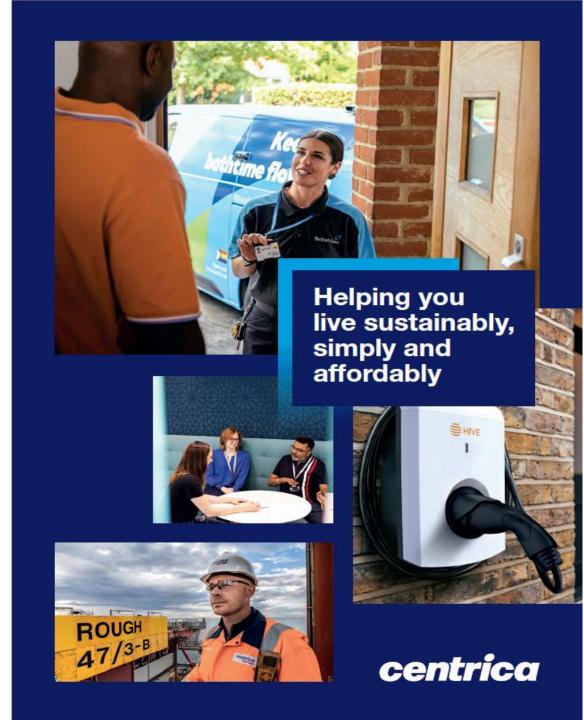




# Transforming Rough for large-scale hydrogen storage

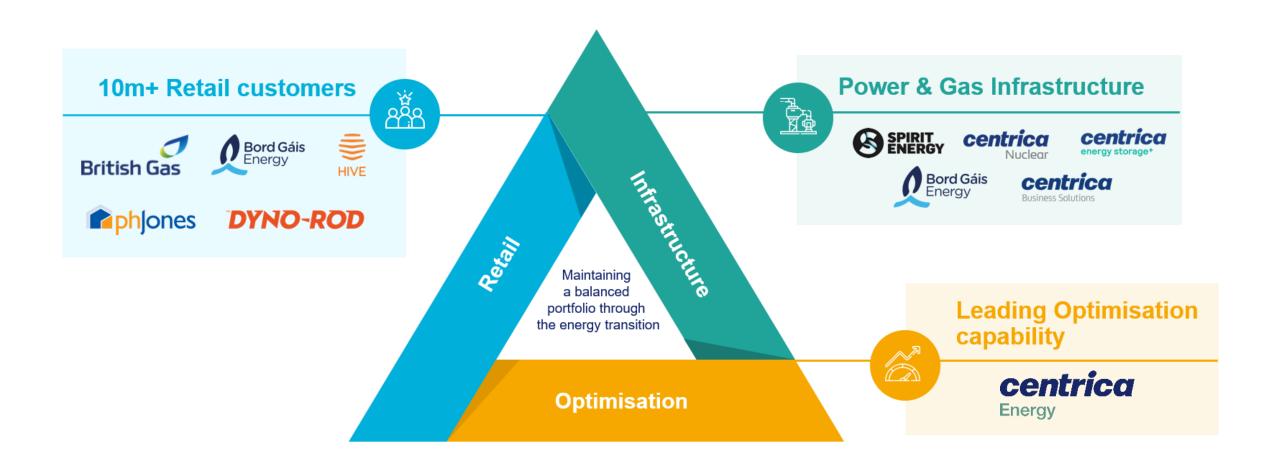
**Chris McClane Project & Interface Manager** 

**UKES2024** 



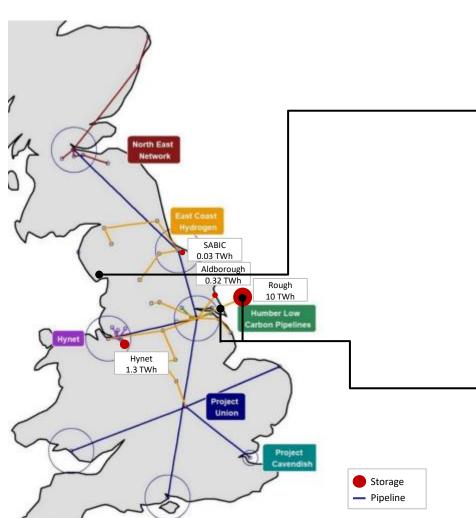


# We are an integrated energy & services business



# Centrica's large-scale UK infrastructure projects

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18 MAY 2023

Spirit Energy welcomes licence award for world-leading carbon storage facility



03 NOVEMBER 2022

Centrica and Equinor sign co-operation agreement for East Yorkshire hydrogen hub



28 OCTOBER 2022

Centrica re-opens Rough storage facility

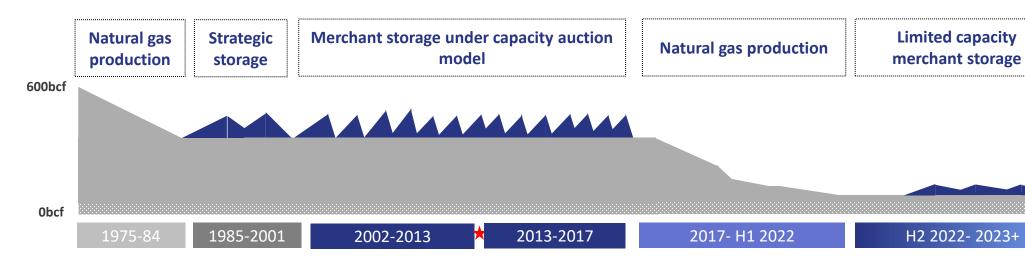


30 JUNE 2023

Centrica bolsters UK's energy security by doubling Rough storage capacity

# The way Rough is used has evolved over its lifetime...

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Production (Amoco) until 1984, converted for largescale (150bcf) strategic storage by British Gas until 2001



Centrica buy Rough in 2002, operated as a profitable merchant storage site until around c.2015 subject to 'undertakings'



New UK gas import infrastructure reduces seasonal price spreads, undermining fundamental economics...



...and the UK government did not see a case for public support for storage capacity...



... the decision to stop storage taken in 2017 and convert back to gas production



Following market shocks, short-term signals for storage returned, and limited storage capacity (30bcf) was reopened





★ Asset life extension

2024 – Capacity now @ 54bcf

#### Rough Facts...

30 km² reservoir, c.3km under seabed

Only proven large scale storage site in the UK

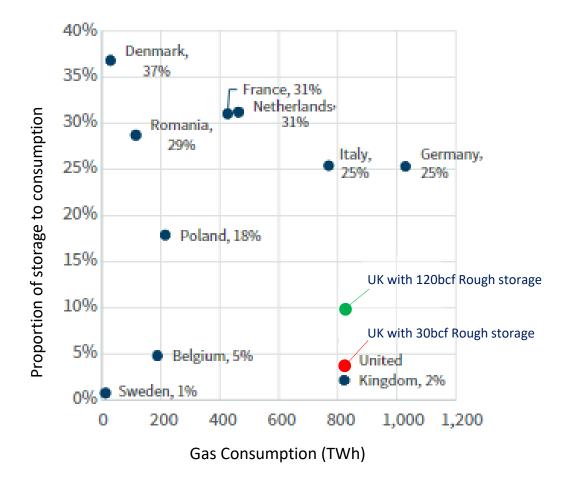
"Goldilocks" of the sector as it meets requirements on temperature, dryness, size and proximity to land – the only proven offshore gas storage reservoir in the UK

Up to 200bcf storage (66 LNG Tankers)

Easington terminal—can process up to 20% of UK peak as demand

# How do you factor in the value of gas storage?





- UK has ~2% of total gas demand covered by existing operational gas storage
- Other European countries with similar demographics have enough gas storage to meet more than 20% of annual demand
- This leaves UK consumers more exposed to global price changes
- Rough has potential to increase UK gas storage up to 10% of total gas demand



£2.4 bn

Total gas and electricity wholesale cost saving if Rough had been fully operational in Winter 21/22

Centrica plan to install new facilities at Rough to support increased natural gas storage capacity whilst ensuring new facilities are hydrogen-ready to support the UK's energy transition



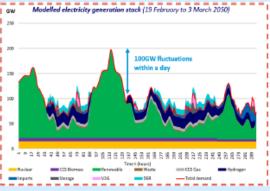
### There is increasing focus on the concept of long-term, strategic energy storage as a critical component of a resilient Net Zero energy system...



national grideso

- The ESO's FES this year explored 'Dunkelflaute' events in a decarbonised system for the first time...
- ...with a focus on investigating how system resilience could be met...
- ...and found that 11 TWh of H2 storage could be used within a two-week period

- This sits on top of wider modelling of the volatility of generation in a decarbonised system...
- ... which will require a balancing role that storage is uniquely well-placed to support







NATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE COMMISSION

- A minimum of 8 TWh H2 storage is needed by 2035...
- Lead times for developing H2 storage can reach 10 years - so action is needed now.
- By 2040, 25 TWh strategic storage should be maintained under the government's control

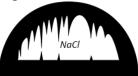


- Analysis of multi-decade weather patterns suggest that 100 TWh storage capacity is required to prepare for wind droughts ...
- .. H2 storage is well-positioned as it has low costs and stores large amounts of energy for years.

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Total existing GB salt cavern storage capacity =  $c.3.5TWh of H_2$ storage...

...but much of this capacity will continue to be required for gas storage.



In contrast. Rough can provide up to c. 16TWh of H<sub>2</sub> storage capacity (equivalent to c.80 salt caverns) ...

...without cannibalising near term existing gas storage (i.e. phased build-out with minimal downtime)



... and Rough is uniquely well placed to provide this service in GB

# Rough could store up to 16TWh of hydrogen via phase development...equivalent to 80 salt caverns





#### **Existing Offshore Asset**

- 40yr old asset
- 10yr remaining lifespan
- 54 billion cubic feet capacity
- High CAPEX to maintain safe, reliable operations
- High OPEX
- 100-120 PoB



#### **New Hydrogen-ready Offshore Asset**

- 45yr lifespan
- 120 200 billion cubic feet capacity
- Potential as a UK strategic gas store
- Single jacket, remotely operated
- Design for flexible storage operations
- Low OPEX



#### **Onshore Gas Processing**

- Modification at Easington gas terminal for higher capacity storage operations
- New onshore hydrogen terminal (hydrogen compression & gas processing equipment)



Focus is on natural gas storage but making the asset hydrogen-ready to avoid having to wholesale replace infrastructure within 10 years.

The project will be circa. £2bn investment for redevelopment of offshore & onshore facilities.



New infrastructure should be constructed in parallel with running existing gas storage operation, minimising downtime on switchover.



Flexible infrastructure supports government options for a longer-term UK energy and price security and allows hydrogen economy to scale



Potential to create over 4800 project jobs and safeguard existing workforce – creating over £1.5bn in GVA<sup>3</sup>



Hydrogen storage in depleted reservoirs has first of a kind risks and CES+ are developing a scheme to reduce risk and meet business model requirements.

# However, there are still challenges to overcome for geological storage projects like Rough...





Department for Energy Security

Hydrogen Storage Business Model: Market Engagement on the First Allocation Round

December 202





H2 storage in depleted fields is estimated at TRL3-4 (IEA, 2020)

How do we address the TRL gap?

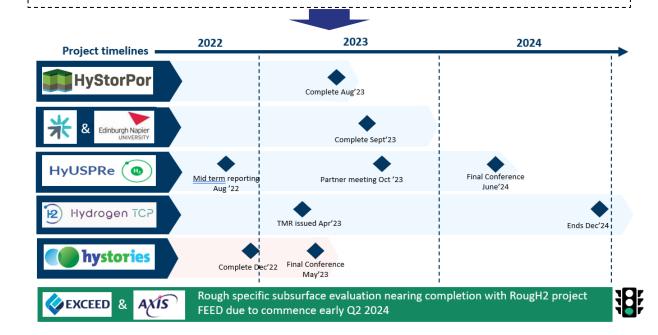
HSBM eligibility criteria required minimum TRL7 for project support (December 2023)

Ensure regulatory approvals (licence, Safety Case, planning etc) can be obtained by project aligning with regulatory requirements

Mitigation of subsurface and facilities risks via lab and industrialscale testing, and desk-top modelling and engineering studies

- Seal Integrity
- Storage Performance
- Microbial risk
- Geochemical Risk
- Legacy Well Integrity

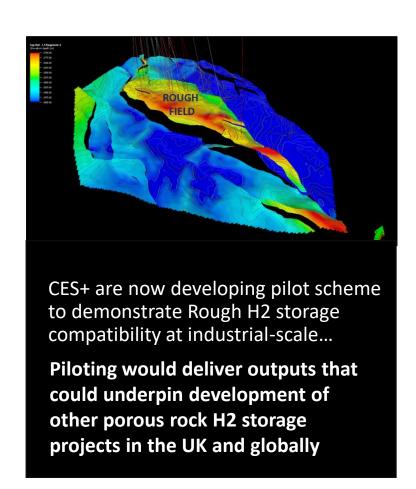
 Engineer onshore and offshore facilities suitable for high pressure H2 storage operation, capable of processing withdrawn H2 to required purity specification





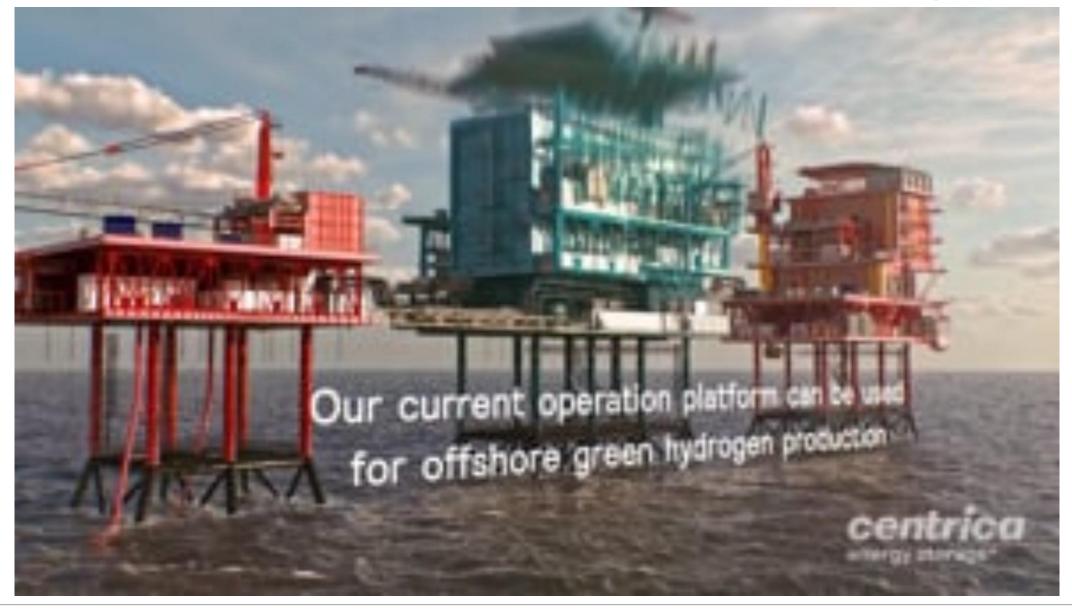
# Through collaboration with academia and industry specialists we have carried out risk mitigation work scopes...

Investigation topic	Rough specific findings	Status
Geomechanics & Storage Integrity	<ul> <li>Containment assessment complete – Leakage/communication of any Rotliegendes fluid/pressures is not considered possible</li> <li>Hydrogen does not reach the top of the Rough caprock boundary over 40yr simulated period, even with addition of a damaged fault scenario (SPARK-2177)</li> </ul>	•
Geochemical	<ul> <li>Core samples from Rough field show no geochemical reactions with hydrogen at field representative temp &amp; press (HyStorPor WP1 &amp; HyUSPRe WP2)</li> </ul>	
Microbiological	<ul> <li>Rough temperature (&gt;90 DegC) at higher end of Methanogen &amp; sulpher-reducer survival range.</li> <li>Rough categorised as 'low risk' and paleosterile (Thaysen et al., 2023)</li> <li>Fluid sampling planned for 2024/2025</li> </ul>	•
Storage Performance	<ul> <li>&gt;89% H2 conc% achieved on cycle #1 withdrawal with additional H2 cushion gas 'bubble' during cycle #1 injection (SPARK-2177)</li> <li>CES+ now have a fully history-matched multi-compositional reservoir model. Dynamic modelling now complete and development forecast ongoing to optimise H2 purity.</li> </ul>	•



# We have some big ambitions.....

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# Annex



# Vision for the future in the Humber ...an integrated energy hub

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