



## **Vertex Hydrogen signs agreements to supply over 1,000MW of hydrogen to decarbonise leading UK industries**

Vertex Hydrogen (“Vertex”) is a leader in the energy transition, developing the UK’s first large scale, low carbon hydrogen production hub at Essar’s site in Ellesmere Port – the heart of the HyNet North West cluster.

Vertex has now signed agreements to supply over 1,000MW of low carbon hydrogen to leading industrial names in the region. This is a similar amount of energy that powers a major city like Liverpool, secures the entire initial hydrogen production capacity of Vertex and enables the vital hydrogen infrastructure investments in the region. This milestone reflects Vertex’s status as the largest and most advanced low carbon hydrogen hub in the UK.

The Project will capture some 1.8 million tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> per annum to be stored by the HyNet project to reduce more than 10% of the region’s industrial emissions - the equivalent to taking 750,000 cars off the roads.

The Project will see over £2 billion of direct investments in the hydrogen plant and associated regional hydrogen transport and storage infrastructure – securing and growing vital jobs in the region.

The hydrogen demand comes from global businesses operating in the region, who are looking to become the first low carbon operations in a number of key sectors by switching their current high carbon fuels to low carbon hydrogen. These consumers are substantial direct and indirect contributors to the 340,000 people employed in manufacturing in the North West. It also includes innovators in the sustainable aviation fuels, glass and cement industries.

**Adrian Curry, Managing Director of Encirc, said:** “This partnership with Vertex Hydrogen will help us to change the face of glass as we aim to produce Net Zero bottles by 2030. Glass is an incredible material and sustainable in so many ways. It has been around since 3500 BC, and by using hydrogen to decarbonise it, we believe it will be the packaging choice for centuries to come.”

**Deepak Maheshwari, CEO of Essar Oil UK, added:** “This offtake agreement, and our other initiatives, are continuing examples of us taking clear actions to deliver our strategic goals. We are proud to be a leader in the region and the UK more broadly in industrial decarbonisation.”

**Martin Ashcroft, Managing Director of Tata Chemicals Europe, commented:** “We have been supporters of Vertex and the low carbon hydrogen segment as a real opportunity to further reduce emissions at our world class CHP facility. This agreement marks the next step in our relationship as we continue our journey as a leader in industrial decarbonisation.”

**Neil Syder, Managing Director of Pilkington United Kingdom Limited said:** “We are fully committed to our NSG Group target of achieving carbon neutral by 2050. Firing the float glass furnace using hydrogen instead of natural gas is a key part of our strategy to reduce carbon emissions.”

**Jeff Ovens, Managing Director of Fulcrum BioEnergy said:** “As a leader in pioneering waste based sustainable aviation fuels (SAF), we are working closely with Vertex to supply low carbon hydrogen for our Fulcrum NorthPoint SAF facility at Ellesmere Port. SAF is the only realistic solution to decarbonise aviation and using low carbon hydrogen as part of our SAF production process, will further improve the overall net CO<sub>2</sub> reduction benefits of Fulcrum’s fuel.”

**John Lewis MBE, Managing Director of SOG Group, commented:** “Access to reliable sources of low carbon energy is absolutely vital to our Net Zero aspirations. The agreement we have now signed



with Vertex Hydrogen ensures our entire Heath Park project will be ultimately powered by low carbon energy. I view this as a landmark agreement that will enable us to deliver a world-leading business and community environment in the North-West which will benefit future generations.”

**Mo Moussaoui, Carbon Reduction Manager, Carrington Power, ESB, said:** “In line with our Net Zero to 2040 strategy, we are decarbonising the carbon intensity of our generation fleet. We are delighted to work with Vertex Hydrogen as we work towards decarbonising our Carrington plant, and the many benefits that will bring.”

**Darren Elsom, Director of Hydrogen Operations at Cadent said:** “We warmly welcome the announcement that Vertex has signed agreements for over 1000MW of low carbon Hydrogen, which is a major step in decarbonising industry in the North West. At Cadent we remain focussed on developing the pipeline infrastructure in readiness to connect and transport Hydrogen to industry whilst protecting the planet for our customers and the communities we serve.”

**Paul Shelley, Site Manager at Warrington Ingevity:** "Ingevity is proud to partner with HyNet Northwest and Vertex as we work towards reducing greenhouse gas emissions associated with the manufacture of our Caprolactone range of specialty chemicals at our site in Warrington."

**Joe Seifert, CEO of Vertex Hydrogen, said:** “We have always said that Vertex is demand-led from leading industrial companies and we have now signed agreements for over 1000MW of hydrogen - our entire expected production capacity from the initial phases of our project. This milestone gives us huge confidence in the economics of the project and the long-term demand for low carbon hydrogen in the coming decades.”

**Prashant Ruia, from Essar, said:** “Securing over 1000MW of low carbon hydrogen demand from leading UK industrial sites and innovators is a vital step in delivering this world class project. Essar continues to invest in an array of industry leading projects from hydrogen production, biofuels, industrial decarbonisation and infrastructure leveraging our infrastructure, expertise, capital and desire to be a world leader in decarbonisation.”

Vertex Hydrogen Limited is a joint venture between Essar and Progressive Energy.

## **ENDS**

### **Media contacts**

Amy Bodey, Head of Communications, Progressive Energy: [amy.bodey@progressive-energy.com](mailto:amy.bodey@progressive-energy.com)  
+447754 852979

Michelle Lewis, Director of Corporate Affairs, Essar Oil UK: [michelle.lewis@essaroil.co.uk](mailto:michelle.lewis@essaroil.co.uk) +447805  
85416

### **About Vertex Hydrogen**

Vertex Hydrogen is a leading player in the energy transition which is developing the first large scale, low carbon hydrogen production hub in the UK. This will produce (in its initial phases) 1000MW of hydrogen capacity (enough to power a city like Liverpool) and capture some 1.8 million tonnes of carbon per annum (equivalent to taking 750,000 cars off the roads).



By 2030, Vertex expect to deliver nearly 4GW of low carbon hydrogen – 40% of the UK Government's national target. The organisation is investing an expected £1bn in the UK's largest industrial region (the North-West) to enable businesses to switch from fossil fuels to low carbon energy, helping to secure and grow vital industries and jobs and unlocking billions of pounds of related investment.

An integral part of HyNet, one of two of the UK Government's Track 1 clusters for industrial decarbonisation that was included in the UK Government's Plan for Growth, Vertex has been selected as one of four hydrogen projects to proceed to the due diligence phase in the Phase-2 Cluster Sequencing Process by the UK Government.