A statutory 28-day public consultation period followed the submission and is now closed. The council is expected to make its final determination on the application in the coming weeks.

“Submitting the onshore environmental statement and the planning application is the culmination of a huge amount of technical and design work by the whole Peterhead project team over the last year. It has been informed by all the feedback we received through the three phases of public consultation,” said Bill Spence, Business Opportunity Manager, Peterhead CCS, Shell. “We are very pleased to have reached this milestone.”

OFFSHORE PERMITS
Meanwhile, the offshore environmental statement covering all offshore activities, including the new section of pipeline to be built and some work to the wells and the Goldeneye platform, was submitted to the UK Department of Energy & Climate Change in January and is now undergoing regulatory assessment. A carbon storage permit application for the Goldeneye reservoir has also been submitted to the Oil & Gas Authority. Final decisions on both are expected later this year.

If there are positive outcomes for the offshore applications, we will look to address any planning conditions imposed by the regulators during the detailed design and construction phase.

CONSULTATION
In the lead-up to submitting the applications, the Peterhead CCS team carried out extensive consultations locally, as well as engaging more widely with the public, to keep everybody up to date with our plans as they progressed. There were three phases of local public consultation over a 13-month period, during which we sought and received a lot of feedback, which we then endeavoured to build into our plans.

“Peterhead CCS is set to be a first-of-a-kind, nationally significant project and we are very keen, where possible, for people and businesses in the local area to be involved in and benefit from its development,” said William Lindsay, Project Manager, Peterhead CCS, Shell. “We will continue to engage with local communities throughout the project’s development to ensure that we manage our construction impacts, in particular traffic, in a way that is informed by local insights and up-to-date local information.”

WE ARE VERY KEEN, WHERE POSSIBLE, FOR PEOPLE AND BUSINESSES IN THE LOCAL AREA TO BE INVOLVED IN AND BENEFIT FROM THE PROJECT’S DEVELOPMENT.”
All businesses in the Boddam, Peterhead and wider Aberdeen city and shire regions are invited to attend a Peterhead CCS Local Business Engagement Event on Thursday, 11 June. Here, we will share details, based on the latest available information, about the main contracts that are being tendered for the project and the associated work packages and subcontracting opportunities that are likely to arise from these contracts.

SSE, our strategic partner in the project, will explain how its Open4Business portal operates and how it will be used to advertise the available opportunities throughout the project’s construction period.

Members of the Scottish Enterprise team and representatives of Aberdeenshire Council’s Tackling Poverty and Inequalities and Economic Development teams will also outline how they can support local small and medium-sized businesses to compete for work on the project.

Tendering is currently under way for the project’s four main work scopes. The selected contractors will then be responsible for subcontracting. “The purpose of the engagement event is to equip local businesses with the information and support necessary to ensure they are in a competitive position when bidding for the packages that will arise if the project progresses to construction,” said Mairi Joss, Project Contracts and Procurement Lead, Shell. “We encourage all interested local businesses to attend.”

THE EVENT WILL BE AT THE BUCHAN BRAES HOTEL IN BODDAM FROM 11:45 TO 14:00.

Bookings for the event are being managed by Aberdeen and Grampian Chamber of Commerce through their central booking system. To make your booking, please visit http://bit.ly/1cKBhdq.

For queries related to bookings, please call 01224 343901 or email events@agcc.co.uk.

SCOTTISH ENTERPRISE BOOST

Chris Bryceland, Senior Executive for Thermal Generation and CCS, Scottish Enterprise, is currently seconded to the Peterhead project two days per week specifically to support the development of local content and a local supply chain.

“There is a real opportunity through the Peterhead project to identify businesses in Aberdeenshire and the North East that could compete for work on this project and create a local supply chain to support a CCS industry in the region,” said Chris. “We are available to support these businesses at an early stage to help them close any gaps that might prevent them from competing.”

PETERHEAD POWER STATION SECURES NATIONAL GRID CONTRACT

SSE has won a contract for Peterhead power station to assist National Grid with voltage control of the electricity network. The agreement, which will run from April 2016 to September 2017, will enable National Grid to call on 385 MW of Peterhead power station’s 1,180-MW capacity to help maintain the set day-to-day limits of the electricity system and to provide back-up in the case of system faults.

“SSE is pleased that Peterhead will continue to play an important role in ensuring National Grid can provide system stability and resilience,” said Tony Thomas, Peterhead Power Station Manager.

SSE INVESTS £15 MILLION IN UPGRADING STATION

SSE is investing £15 million in a project to upgrade Peterhead power station that will enable the site to become more flexible and operate at lower output levels. The work, due to be completed in October 2015, will not affect the CCS project but will help the site to operate in a complementary manner to it.
Eight Peterhead primary schools brought their Primary 7s along to two recent full-day events for boosting educational awareness of CCS in the local area.

More than 200 children had the chance to conduct fun experiments from the Global CCS Institute’s CO2 degrees Education programme to find out more about low carbon energy and carbon capture and storage. Balloons, chocolate biscuits and modelling dough played crucial roles in getting some of the key messages across throughout these fun and educational events.

Community arts group Theatre Modo put on afternoon performances involving juggling acts that helped to bring CO2 to life. Presentations from the University of St Andrews’ GeoBus programme also provided some fascinating information on the geology of the Peterhead area, and there was a short presentation on the Peterhead CCS project. The Primary 7s were also challenged to get creative in their own classrooms through competitions aimed at showing what CCS means to them. The winning entries will be showcased at our Peterhead CCS event for Peterhead Scottish Week (see “CCS fun day planned for Peterhead Scottish Week”).

“With a potential world-leading CCS project being developed on their doorstep, these education initiatives provide important opportunities to get local pupils engaged in learning about their energy future,” said Kirsty Anderson, Public Engagement Manager, Global Carbon Capture and Storage Institute.

The workshops were held in May at Peterhead Central School. The following schools took part: Peterhead Central, Buchanhaven, Clerkhill, Port Erroll, St Fergus, Meethill, Anna Ritchie and Dales Park.

**PRIME YEAR 7TH GET CREATIVE WITH CCS**

**CCS FUN DAY PLANNED FOR PETERHEAD SCOTTISH WEEK**

The Peterhead CCS project is planning a fun-filled, family-friendly event to celebrate Peterhead Scottish Week.

On 20 July, between 12:00 and 16:00, you can take part in experiments and challenges on energy and the environment, and test your skills on the popular CCS pinball machine. Theatre Modo will put on a CCS-related performance, and we will display the work local children produced at the recent CCS educational events.

There will also be a Peterhead CCS project information point for anyone who wants to find out more about the project.

**THE EVENT WILL BE AT APEX CHURCH, CHAPEL STREET, PETERHEAD.**

Peterhead Scottish Week has been running annually for more than 50 years and attracts locals, businesses and tourists to the area to make it “the week to be in Peterhead”.

"IT WAS GREAT TO HAVE THE GEOBUS TEAM JOIN US FOR THE WORKSHOPS TO HELP THE PUPILS DISCOVER MORE ABOUT THE LOCAL GEOLOGY AROUND PETERHEAD. I CANNOT WAIT TO SHOW THE OTHER SCHOOLS WE WORK WITH AROUND THE WORLD ALL THE GREAT LEARNING ACTIVITIES THAT PUPILS HAVE UNDERTAKEN IN PETERHEAD." Kirsty Anderson
Provincial-government-owned electric power company SaskPower kicked off operations at the world’s first commercial-scale post-combustion carbon capture project at a coal-fired power plant late last year. The Boundary Dam project, in Saskatchewan, Canada, which uses the post-combustion Shell CANSOLV® CO₂ Capture System proposed for the Peterhead project, is already performing above expectations. Approximately 135,000 tonnes of CO₂ were captured during the plant’s first 130 days of operation. The project has the capacity to capture up to a million tonnes of CO₂ in 2015 and is on target to meet that goal.

“The project is generating vast amounts of data. The numbers are very impressive,” said Mike Monea, SaskPower President of Carbon Capture and Storage Initiatives. “People used to say that there is no proof that CCS works: a claim that is no longer valid.”

The CCS project is capturing the CO₂ produced at the Boundary Dam coal-fired power station using the Shell CANSOLV® CO₂ Capture System. The Peterhead CCS project will use the same technology to capture the CO₂ from a gas-fired power station for the first time.

“The opening of the SaskPower Boundary Dam CCS project marks an important step for the CCS industry, as it demonstrates the viability of large-scale post-combustion CO₂ capture,” said Lori Motherwell, President and General Manager at Shell Cansolv. “It is also an important moment for Shell Cansolv, as it is our largest CO₂ capture project so far and is proving the technology at industrial scale and paving the way for future developments like the Peterhead CCS project.”

The first CCS project for an oil sands operation in Canada is nearing the finish line and is expected to be fully on stream later this year.

The Shell-operated Quest CCS project near Edmonton, Alberta, will capture more than one million tonnes per year of CO₂ from the Scotford upgrader, a facility that processes bitumen (extra-heavy crude oil) produced from the Athabasca Oil Sands project into a wide range of synthetic crude oils.

Once captured, the CO₂ will be transported by pipeline and injected more than 2 km underground into a porous rock formation called the Basal Cambrian Sandstone, which lies beneath several layers of impermeable rock.

Quest is the world’s first commercial-scale CCS project to tackle CO₂ emissions from oil sands and the first CCS project in which Shell will have majority ownership and act as designer, builder and operator.

“Quest is important because it is a fully integrated project that will demonstrate existing capture, transportation, injection and storage technologies working together for the safe and permanent storage of CO₂,” said Tim Witwatar, Quest Manager.

“It is exciting to be part of a project that will reduce the carbon footprint of Shell’s oil sands operations and will also help to enable much wider and more cost-effective application of CCS throughout the energy industry and other sectors in years to come.”
Glaswegian Natalie Ghazi is one of the newest members of the Peterhead CCS project team and will become a familiar face in the local community in the coming months.

Natalie joined the team at the start of May as an outreach and communications adviser. Her initial focus will be on running the project’s busy summer schedule of community events. Later in the year, she will start planning further educational and awareness-raising initiatives for roll-out during the construction phase of the project.

Natalie, who recently completed a master’s degree in corporate social responsibility in energy at Robert Gordon University, is very enthusiastic about applying her skills in this new role.

“As CCS is something new for the communities of Boddam, Peterhead and the surrounding areas, it offers a wonderful opportunity for us to do some creative educational and engagement work with young people and other age groups. Based on what I have heard through local conversations so far, there is a real appetite for this,” says Natalie.

“It is also a chance for me to apply some of the knowledge from my course in very practical ways on an exciting new project. I am really looking forward to the work ahead.”

Natalie secured her new role after a competitive secondment/work placement process run in conjunction with the Edinburgh-based UK Carbon Capture and Storage Research Centre. The job was advertised primarily as an opportunity for students engaged in courses relevant to CCS, corporate social responsibility and community development, or for young graduates with similar or related backgrounds.

Natalie Ghazi will be organising outreach and engagement activities on the Peterhead CCS project.

BRIGHT SPARKS OF THE FUTURE

Pictured are Chloe Arthur and Sam Strachan of Clerkhill Primary School in Peterhead, which won the Regional Primary Club of the Year award at the Celebration of Engineering and Science event held at Shell’s Woodbank House in Aberdeen in March. The event, which was run by Young Engineers and Science Clubs (YESC) and supported by Shell and BP, featured projects from pupils of all ages in the fields of engineering, science and maths. Over 100 pupils from 14 primary and secondary schools across the north-east took part in the event, which was aimed at sparking interest in science and technology. William Lindsay, Shell’s Project Manager of the Peterhead CCS project, was among the judges on the day.
Steve Diamond of the Peterhead CCS team masters the delicate art of stilt-walking, under the watchful eye of Theatre Modo Director, Martin Danziger.

Shell’s entire CCS project team recently spent a day in Peterhead dedicated to boosting their awareness of the safety and environmental aspects of the proposed CCS project and their understanding of the local community.

The team addressed safety and environmental matters on-site in the morning and spent the afternoon around town completing puzzles on all things Peterhead. They also met with Theatre Modo to learn how the group uses circus skills to engage young people across Aberdeenshire and to help change their lives for the better. The team enjoyed fun sessions on juggling, stilt-walking, plate spinning and tightrope walking.

“This event aimed to make sure that the whole team fully understands the proposed CCS design and the associated implications for health, safety and the environment,” explained Bill Spence. “But it was also really important for them to spend time in and around Peterhead to become familiar with the town, the setting, the spirit and, most importantly, the people.”

The event in Peterhead took place on 7 May as part of the wider Shell Global Safety Day initiative, when the company holds annual safety days with its contractors and employees to help strengthen its safety culture.

GETTING INTO THE PETERHEAD SPIRIT

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“"This event gives local residents and visitors a chance to hear about the history behind the Goldeneye reservoir and how it presents such a great opportunity for carbon capture and storage in the central North Sea,” said James Welsh, Energetica Development Manager.

This journey will take place on 15 August and will kick off with an introduction at Boddam Public Hall, Church Place, Boddam. Booking is essential. For more information or to book your place, please contact Natalie Ghazi on 07773 209572.

The Peterhead CCS project team invites everyone to put on their walking boots and join them on a 2.5-km geological journey of discovery along the Peterhead/Boddam coast.

The length of this coastal walk represents the depth of the Goldeneye reservoir under the North Sea, which is where the CO₂ captured at the Peterhead power station will be stored. Participants will learn about the rocks that overlie this vast reservoir and their fascinating 145-million year history, which spans everything from asteroids to sea monsters.

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Members of the Peterhead CCS team enjoying a walk along the coastal pathway that runs behind Peterhead power station.

For more information on the Peterhead CCS project, please visit www.shell.co.uk/peterheadccs