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Report: Peak Cluster to provide £180 million per year economic boost starting this decade

- A new report shows that Peak Cluster will impact very positively on Derbyshire, Staffordshire and Cheshire, delivering a £180m GVA (Gross Value Added) boost each year.
- In addition, Peak Cluster will protect thousands of existing jobs and create many more.
- The project will capture carbon emissions from industry and transport them via pipeline to be permanently locked away.

A collaboration of industry, located in Derbyshire and Staffordshire, along with neighbouring industries in Cheshire, Peak Cluster will decarbonise 40% of the UK's cement and lime industry.

The newly released report, by [Mott MacDonald](#), into the economic benefits of Peak Cluster locally and nationally.

The report highlights Peak Cluster as generating an additional £180 million GVA every year, starting from the latter part of this decade. This is a major boost for the regional and national economy.

Peak Cluster will safeguard over 2,100 existing jobs and create a further 1,500 roles throughout the construction and lifetime of the project.

Peak Cluster is made up of four of the UK's leading cement and lime producers - Tarmac, Breedon, Lhoist and Aggregate Industries, alongside the Lostock Sustainable Energy Plant, working together with Progressive Energy, a low carbon energy project developer. A partnership with the Morecombe Net Zero Cluster for storage of the captured carbon was recently announced.

Production of low carbon cement and lime will create value here in the UK as sustainably produced materials are essential for construction of critical infrastructure, such as roads, hospitals and schools.

The need for an acceleration of delivery of new dedicated infrastructure to facilitate carbon capture and storage was highlighted in the National Infrastructure Assessment published on 18 October. The assessment specifically highlighted the need for the Peak District to be part of that infrastructure.

John Egan, Peak Cluster project director, Progressive Energy said: "This report unequivocally demonstrates that decarbonisation of this vital sector is an economic, as well as an environmental, imperative. We have the opportunity to decarbonise 40% of the UK's cement and lime, to reduce CO₂ emissions from Derbyshire and Staffordshire by nearly a quarter and to enable domestic supply of sustainable construction materials - all whilst protecting and creating thousands of jobs."

Dr Diana Casey of the Mineral Products Association, Executive Director, Energy and Climate Change, said: “Production of mineral products represents the largest flow of materials in the UK economy. The cement and lime sectors are an important part of this material flow and generate in the region of £300 million in GVA each year (MPA).

“To secure the low carbon future of these vital industries, carbon capture projects, including Peak Cluster, are necessary. Now this report demonstrates that decarbonisation also brings significant additional economic opportunity, providing further justification to accelerate deployment.”

More information on Peak Cluster is available at: www.peakcluster.co.uk.

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Notes to Editors:

Full report on our website: [Link](#)

Progressive Energy

Progressive Energy are experts in project development and implementation with extensive experience of overcoming the technical and commercial challenges associated with bringing new technologies to market. The team is passionate about tackling climate change by creating meaningful and deliverable projects. Progressive Energy translates innovative technologies, such as hydrogen and carbon capture, utilisation and storage (CCUS), into concepts and ideas all the way through to their deployment to make a material difference to climate change. Progressive Energy originated and coordinates the development of the HyNet decarbonisation cluster.

www.progressive-energy.com

Tarmac

Tarmac, a CRH company, is the UK's leading sustainable building materials and construction solutions business. Tarmac combines the knowledge and expertise of two of the construction industry's most iconic brands: Tarmac, the pioneers of the modern asphalt road 120 years ago, and Blue Circle, the company that patented Portland Cement.

Its innovative products and solutions not only safely deliver the infrastructure needed to grow the UK economy today but also help to create a more sustainable built environment for the country's long-term future. Tarmac has an ambitious target to reduce CO₂ emissions by 30% by 2030 and reach net zero before 2050. It has contributed to some of the UK's biggest construction and infrastructure projects. These include HS2, The Sainsbury Laboratory, Wembley Stadium, Heathrow Terminal 5, Blackpool Sea Defences, The Shard and London 2012.

Tarmac directly employs around 6,000 people across a nationwide network of over 350 sites. Its solutions span aggregates, asphalt, cement, lime, readymix concrete, offsite manufacture, road contracting, highways maintenance and infrastructure services, building products and recycling services. This unique combination of people, technology and assets enables it to offer customers unrivalled choice, innovation and flexibility.

For more information, visit: www.tarmac.com

About CRH

CRH (LSE: CRH, ISE: CRG, NYSE: CRH) is the leading provider of building materials solutions that build, connect and improve our world. Employing c.75,800 people at c.3,160 operating locations in 29 countries, CRH has market leadership positions in both North America and in Europe. As the essential partner for road and critical utility infrastructure, commercial building projects and outdoor living solutions, CRH's unique offering of materials, products and value-added services helps to deliver a more resilient and sustainable built environment. A Fortune 500 company, CRH is a constituent member of the FTSE 100 Index, the EURO STOXX 50 Index, the ISEQ 20 and the Dow Jones Sustainability Index (DJSI) Europe. The company is ranked among sector leaders by Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) rating agencies. CRH's American Depositary Shares are listed on the NYSE.

www.crh.com

Breedon Group plc

Breedon Group plc, a leading vertically-integrated construction materials group in Great Britain and Ireland, delivers essential products to the construction sector. Breedon holds 1bn tonnes of mineral reserves and resources with long reserve life, supplying value-added products and services, including specialty materials, surfacing and highway maintenance operations, to a broad range of customers through its extensive local network of quarries, ready-mixed concrete and asphalt plants.

The Group's two well-invested cement plants are actively engaged in a number of carbon reduction practices, which include utilising alternative raw materials and lower carbon fuels. Breedon's 3,700 colleagues embody our commitment to 'Make a Material Difference' as the Group continues to execute its strategy to create sustainable value for all stakeholders, delivering growth through organic improvement and acquisition in the heavyside construction materials market.

Lhoist

Since 1889, the Lhoist Group has been a world leader in lime (including dolomitic lime), limestone and mineral solutions for an ever-growing range of applications. As a family-owned business, it combines a traditional industrial culture with a dynamic and entrepreneurial approach. With roots and a head office in Belgium, the Lhoist group has grown from generation to generation and is now present in more than 25 countries with more than 165 sites around the world, delivering to more than 80 countries from sites in Europe, North America, Latin America, and Asia-Pacific.

Lhoist's solutions are used in a wide variety of traditional and emerging applications due to their unique chemical and physical properties. Lime is a critical and necessary product for the development of the energy transition. Lhoist's 6,600 employees focus their activities on manufacturing high quality products to meet current and future market needs. The Lhoist Group has continuously placed Sustainable Development at the heart of its actions and within its long-term vision. Reducing its carbon footprint is part of an overall commitment to position Lhoist as a sustainable business. The group recognizes its responsibility to anticipate and be a player in the global transition towards a low carbon economy.

Lostock Sustainable Energy Plant

The Lostock Sustainable Energy Plant (LSEP) is a £480m Energy from Waste facility located at the Lostock Works site near Northwich in Cheshire. The nationally significant project is currently under construction following consent being granted in 2012 under Section 36 of the Electricity Act. LSEP Ltd is a joint venture between Copenhagen Infrastructure Partners (CIP) and FCC Environment. Connecting into the Peak Cluster pipeline allows Lostock to continue to further decarbonise the waste sector.

About Aggregate Industries

Aggregate Industries, part of Holcim, is delivering growth through sustainable thinking. Committed to playing a significant role in enabling the UK to transition to net zero, Aggregate Industries is driving decarbonisation across the construction materials sector. With a broad, established range of low carbon solutions and a focus on the circular economy, Aggregate Industries continues to invest in R&D and innovation, working in partnership with sustainability-focused stakeholders, with the goal of becoming the UK's leading supplier of sustainable construction materials. It is the first company to be certificated to BES 6001, The Framework Standard for the Responsible Sourcing of Construction Products, developed by the BRE (Building Research Establishment).

About Holcim

Holcim builds progress for people and the planet. As a global leader in innovative and sustainable building solutions, Holcim is enabling greener cities, smarter infrastructure and improving living standards around the world. With sustainability at the core of its strategy Holcim is becoming a net zero company, with its people and communities at the heart of its success. The company is driving circular construction as a world leader in recycling to build more with less. Holcim is 70,000 people around the world who are passionate about building progress for people and the planet through four business segments: Cement, Ready-Mix Concrete, Aggregates and Solutions & Products.