



# Associated British Ports

## News Release

9 February 2015

### **ABP withdraws planning challenge**

Associated British Ports (ABP) will not be applying for a further review of planning consent which allows Able UK to compulsorily purchase development land with deepwater access owned by ABP at the Port of Immingham.

The decision reflects the reality that ABP has been unable to convince Able UK of the merits of its compromise proposal, which would have allowed both AMEP and ABP's own

Immingham Western Deepwater Jetty project to be developed in tandem, bringing more jobs to the Humber.

John Fitzgerald, ABP's Director Humber, commented: "The Humber Estuary has a great opportunity to lead the UK's developing offshore wind and renewable energy industry.

"ABP is spearheading this drive by investing heavily, whether in offshore wind operations and maintenance at the Port of Grimsby, biomass handling in Immingham, or, most significantly, in spending over £310m in conjunction with Siemens to deliver over a thousand new jobs at Green Port Hull."

From the outset of the application procedure ABP has not opposed the development of the AMEP offshore wind manufacturing project but has consistently objected to Able UK's proposed seizure of ABP's riverside development land at the Port of Immingham.

Mr. Fitzgerald added: "We are clearly disappointed not to have convinced Able UK that a compromise could deliver the best outcome for the Humber region.

"Like everyone on the Humber, we are keen to see the offshore wind industry grow and create new opportunities for the region and its young people.

"ABP and its customers have led the way on offshore wind thus far.

"Able UK's clear commitment to the offshore wind industry is welcome and many will be looking forward to them delivering on their promise to create over 4000 direct jobs at AMEP and help cement the Humber Estuary's position as the UK hub for this developing industry."

Speaking about ABP's decision, chairman of the Humber Local Enterprise Partnership

(LEP) Lord Haskins said: “ABP has taken a positive step to bring this dispute to a close and it is a move which will be widely welcomed.

“ABP are and will continue to be, crucial to the success of the renewables industry on the Humber and I look forward to continuing to work with them and Able UK to support the development of the sector across the region.”

Also welcoming ABP’s decision, Martin Vickers MP for Cleethorpes said: “ABP’s commercial position in respect of the compulsory acquisition of their development land at Immingham has been understandable. Their decision to now draw a line under the issue provides a strong foundation for us all to move forward and promote the Humber’s position as a major renewable energy hub.”

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