



Herrn Ministerpräsidenten  
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Staatskanzlei  
Planckstraße 2  
30169 Hannover  
Bundesrepublik Deutschland

Herrn Minister  
Olaf Lies MdL  
Niedersächsisches Ministerium für Wirtschaft, Verkehr,  
Bauen und Digitalisierung.  
Friedrichswall 1  
30159 Hannover  
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Herrn Minister  
Christian Meyer MdL  
Niedersächsisches Ministerium für Umwelt, Energie und  
Klimaschutz  
Archivstraße 2  
30169 Hannover  
Bundesrepublik Deutschland

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Reference</b>	<b>Date</b>
Joint Statement with ONE-Dyas	202407001/KO/CT	5 July 2024

Dear Prime Minister Weil,  
Dear Minister Lies,  
Dear Minister Meyer,

As we have informed you before, the interim injunction judge of the Administrative Jurisdiction Division of the Council of State, the highest general administrative court in the Netherlands ruled that ONE-Dyas can go ahead with offshore operations for the N05-A project, with the expectation to produce first gas in December 2024 for both the Netherlands and Germany.

My colleagues and I have personally discussed our project N05-A with all of you in recent years. With Minister Meyer, it has unfortunately remained a mere encounter in 2022 and 2023 in Hannover, despite our attempts to schedule a meeting to discuss Minister Meyer's views on the project, the energy transition and the security of supply. Minister Lies and I have spoken a number of times, and as Minister for the Economy, Minister Lies expressed his support for this project as well, highlighting the benefits for Lower Saxony and Germany in

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terms of economy, security of supply and cross-border cooperation. This is also in line with the joint statement that ONE-Dyas signed with the Lower Saxony government on 4 July 2022: an agreement that is supported by the Landtag and government. This has been confirmed by Prime Minister Weil as well when I spoke to him at a dinner of the German ambassador to the Netherlands in February 2023. I was very pleased that Prime Minister Weil assured me then that the Lower Saxony government supports this project and will do everything possible to speed up the permitting procedure, so that both Lower Saxony and Germany can take maximum advantage of this gas development in the North Sea. This is furthermore reflected in the joint declaration of 27 March 2023 of the governments of Germany and the Netherlands, which were and still are both committed to continue close cooperation on energy projects and security of gas supply.

On 1 June 2022, the Dutch government expressed full support for the project and granted the permits. As mentioned, the highest court has ruled that this was done lawfully. We aim to produce the first gas with the lowest CO<sub>2</sub>e emissions (incl. methane) by the end of 2024 from a platform that is future-proof and the most sustainable in the North Sea: also suitable for the development of green hydrogen and future carbon capture storage (CCS).

Yet it seems we are now at a crossroads, due to the fact that the outspoken support of both Lower Saxony and Germany, which is key to the success of this cross-border energy project, is seemingly not being provided at this moment due to lack of action. Right now the NLWKN does not show the urgency in granting the requested approvals needed to start the activities during the installation window this summer.

Together with our partners including the Dutch state owned energy company we have invested € 300 million in this project. In the weeks to come we are going ahead with the planned activities: the newly built gas processing platform is being transported this month, in July, by a heavy lifting and crane vessel to the N05-A location in the North Sea, next to that the pipeline to connect the platform with the existing Dutch gas infrastructure will be laid in August and a mobile drilling rig will start drilling wells as of mid-August. This is all executed so we can realize "1st gas" by December 2024. Since the installation activities in both the Netherlands and Germany are closely connected to each other, the issuance of the requested decisions by the NLWKN at very short notice is a key component to effectuate installation in full.

In view of the above, I hereby kindly request you for a meeting at short notice. I would like to share with you the procedures that have been gone through, the contracts and commitments we have made to ensure that this project can still deliver gas this year, and to explain the consequences for us as a company as well as for both Lower Saxony, Germany and the Netherlands if this project is delayed - despite all permits necessary for first gas production being granted in 2022, including the German permits for the cable to the Riffgat wind farm. In that context, our recent applications with NLWKN for granting immediate enforcement of the 2022 German cable permits and a precautionary reef biotope exemption

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are of utmost urgency for the timely implementation of the project. As you will understand, in view of the careful processes we have been gone through and the installation works that are going to start imminently, it is our aim and our obligation to protect ONE-Dyas from significant financial losses due to further delays outside our responsibility.

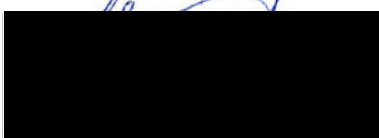
We have demonstrated towards NLWKN that all requirements for the requested approvals are met. There is no reason not to grant these approvals now. ONE-Dyas would appreciate if the requested decisions are issued quickly to avoid clarification through legal proceedings. At the same time, we will not hesitate to exhaust the legal options to protect our legitimate interests. This includes action for interim legal protection to enable the work to be carried out on time and, if necessary, the assertion of official liability claims due to any damage caused by delay as a result of the failure or refusal to grant the requested approvals.


Since this is a pressing matter, I would like to suggest scheduling an online conversation very soon. In half an hour, we can clarify to each other how we can fulfil the conditions of the joint declaration of 4 July 2022. If you feel that a physical meeting is more appropriate, then we are also available at a time convenient to you.

We are fully committed to deliver our part and have first gas available for Lower Saxony and Germany by the end of this year.

Looking forward to your prompt response.

Kind regards,



Chris de Ruyter van Steveninck  
CEO ONE-Dyas