Carbon capture, utilisation and storage

An overview

Osborne Clarke

The UK is pressing ahead with the development of carbon capture and storage.

This is an exciting development, after a recent history of false starts and aborted projects. The UK government has selected two projects to bring forward for priority, track one development. These are in UK industrial clusters, being HyNet at Liverpool Bay and the East Coast cluster linking up the Teesside and Humber Regions. A Scottish cluster has been designated as a reserve project, and indications are its development will not be far behind those allocated to track one. Commercial operations for the first projects may begin as soon as the mid-2020s. Within the cluster regions, development activities are moving fast. Gas power plants, existing gas hydrogen production facilities and industrial emitters such as chemical and cement plants are in the process of applying for government support. The UK government has allocated over £1 billion in initial funding.

Carbon capture, utilisation and storage (CCUS) represents an exciting opportunity for the UK to become a global market leader in an innovative technology that is part of the transition plan to reach net zero. This will involve developing a world-leading supply chain and technology industry, generating employment and investment opportunities in UK regions and opening up the potential to sell the UK's skills internationally.

Osborne Clarke are market leaders in UK renewables and energy transition. We have over two decades of experience in the sector, spanning the production of electricity from fossil fuels, nuclear and renewables.

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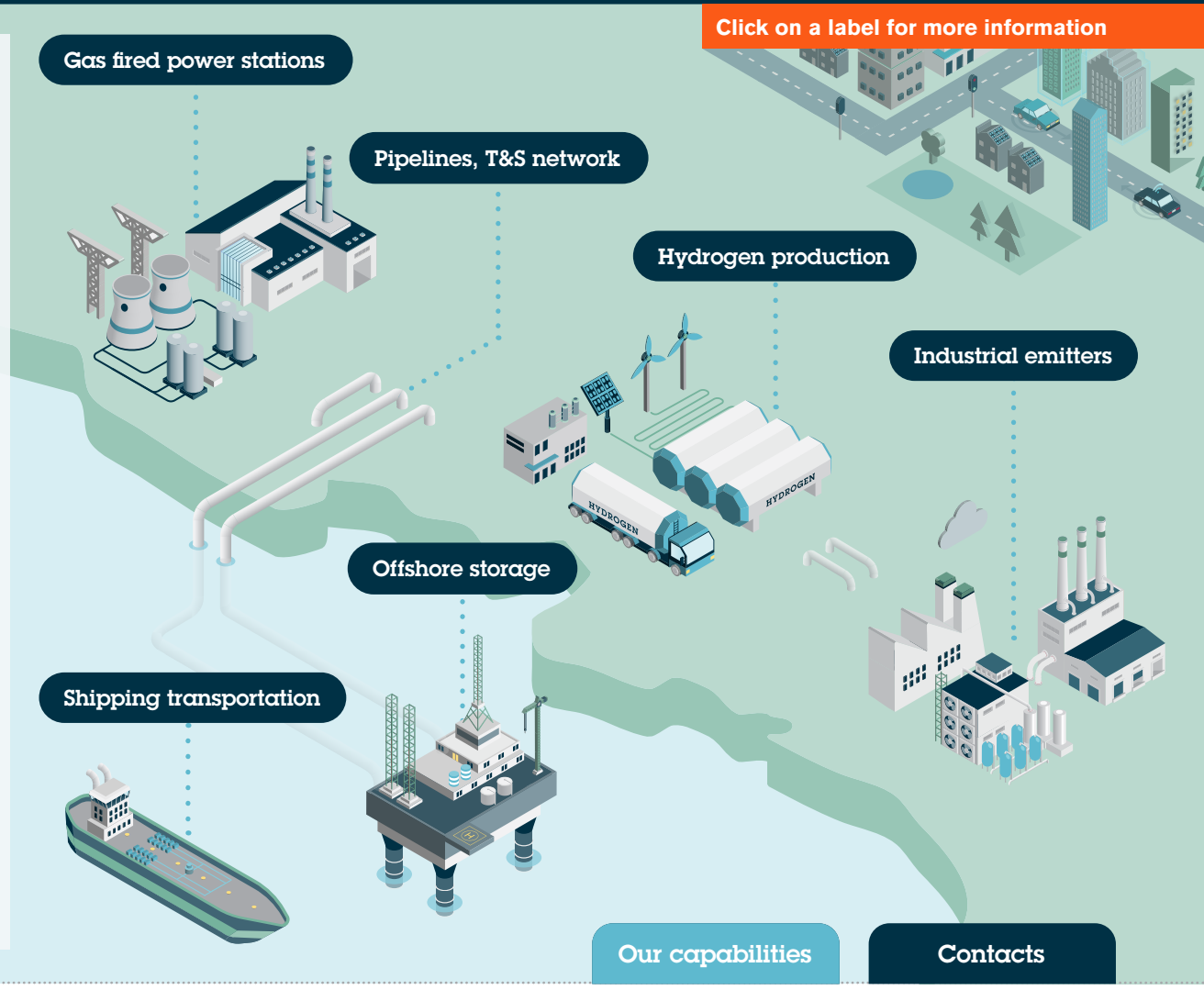
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