

Jacobs appointed as the Pre-FEED contractor for Cadent's East London Hydrogen Pipeline



[Capital Hydrogen](#) announces the appointment of [Jacobs](#) as the lead contractor for the Pre-Front End Engineering Design (Pre-FEED) phase of [Cadent's](#) East London Hydrogen Pipeline project. This phase is crucial in setting the technical and strategic direction for a project that will significantly contribute to the UK's hydrogen infrastructure and clean energy goals.

The East London Hydrogen Pipeline (ELHP) is a key project within the Capital Hydrogen programme being delivered by Cadent, National Gas, and SGN. Spanning through East London, north of the River Thames, the ELHP will connect major industrial zones to a hydrogen supply, enabling the decarbonisation of critical industries, like food and drink, construction materials, manufacturing, transport and power generation.

Cadent's East London Hydrogen Pipeline will directly support the UK's net zero target by providing a reliable, scalable hydrogen network that reduces carbon emissions in one of the country's most industrialised regions. [Jacobs](#) has been chosen as the Pre-FEED contractor after a competitive selection process. Its expertise in delivering complex critical infrastructure projects across advanced manufacturing, water, global security and beyond, coupled with a strong focus on delivering efficient, sustainable and secure energy solutions, made them the ideal choice for this vital phase.

The project will culminate in the production of a comprehensive Pre-FEED report, which will guide the next phase of the project, inform key decisions, and underpin its overall success.

Adam Knight, Project Director, Major Projects at Cadent, said:

"We're thrilled to begin this exciting and crucial phase of the project with our contracted partners to understand how we can connect a hydrogen supply to key industrial customers positioned along the proposed route of our East London Hydrogen pipeline. Industry needs a resilient pipeline network that connects them to production sites and our Pre-FEED will start to provide options and a pathway on how we can deliver this"

Angela Needle, Director of Strategy at Cadent, said:

"Our industrial customers along the north bank of the River Thames have made it clear that hydrogen is essential to decarbonise their operations – often it is their only viable option. The potential carbon savings are enormous. By ensuring a secure and reliable supply of hydrogen, we're not only supporting the transition to a net zero future but also helping to secure the long-term viability of these major employers, safeguarding and creating jobs and driving economic growth in the region."

James Nash, Vice President, at Jacobs, said:

"As Pre-Feed consultant on this project, our role is to help Cadent bring its vision of decarbonising this traditionally carbon-heavy area to life through innovative and scalable hydrogen solutions. This project builds on our longstanding relationship with Cadent to propel this crucial East London decarbonisation project forward and helps the country meet its net zero targets while benefitting the community and industry in the region."

Jacobs will work alongside specialised sub-contractors and leverage decades of experience helping evolve the way energy is generated, moved and used to ensure a comprehensive approach to the Pre-FEED phase. To support a unified approach, a project charter has been signed by Cadent, Jacobs and all key subcontractors involved. This agreement was the result of a two-stage planning session, during which the project scope, responsibilities and milestones were defined. This collaborative approach ensures that all aspects of the project are meticulously planned and executed, minimising risks and ensuring a clear path forward.

- Apollo will be providing specialist pipeline and installation design services under Jacobs' direction
- ERM will be providing process safety inputs to the design
- United Living will be providing specialist constructability advice from their gas contracting experience

Cadent has already identified 18 potential users along the pipeline, with an estimated hydrogen demand of up to 5060 GWh from 2035. Current production estimates, from producers in the region, stand at 1,100 GWh, underscoring the need for additional producers. Interested hydrogen producers are encouraged to contact Cadent as soon as possible to be included in the Pre-FEED planning process.

Upon completing the Pre-FEED, the project will advance to the full FEED phase, where final engineering designs will be developed in preparation for construction.

Notes to Editors

The East London Hydrogen Pipeline: The East London Hydrogen Pipeline is a Capital Hydrogen Pipeline and is being developed by Cadent. The technical feasibility study for the pipeline has been developed and several proposed routes for the hydrogen pipeline have been identified. Cadent now has the critical data required to commence the Pre-FEED design exercise and has contracted Jacobs to deliver this. Outcomes of the Pre-FEED will be reviewed once complete, with the next phase of FEED planned to commence in 2025/2026.

Pre-FEED importance: The Pre-FEED phase is critical in assessing the feasibility of large-scale engineering projects, helping to identify risks and optimise designs early in the process.

About Cadent: Cadent is the UK's largest gas distribution network with a 200-year legacy. We are in a unique position to build on strong foundations whilst encouraging the curiosity to think differently and the courage to embrace change. Day to day we continue to operate, maintain and innovate the UK's largest gas network, transporting gas safely and protecting people in an emergency. Our skilled engineers and specialists remain committed to the communities we serve, working day and night to ensure gas reaches 11 million homes from Cumbria to North London and the Welsh Borders to East Anglia, to keep your energy flowing.

Future of Gas:

Here at Cadent we support the Government's plans to reach Net Zero by 2050. That means we're backing the introduction of hydrogen as a low carbon alternative to natural gas for the future. We know people love the controllability of gas and, with our network already in place, it makes sense to switch to the lower carbon alternative offered by hydrogen, which we believe can keep homes and businesses warm for generations to come.

Cadent manages the national gas emergency service free phone line on behalf of the gas industry - **0800 111 999***

Cadent Gas Ltd is owned by a consortium of global investors.

About Jacobs: At Jacobs, we're challenging today to reinvent tomorrow by solving the world's most critical problems for thriving cities, resilient environments, mission-critical outcomes, operational advancement, scientific discovery and cutting-edge manufacturing, turning abstract ideas into realities that transform the world for good. With approximately \$16 billion in annual revenue and a talent force of more than 60,000, Jacobs provides a full spectrum of professional services including consulting, technical, scientific and project delivery for the government and private sectors. Visit [jacobs.com](https://www.jacobs.com) and connect with Jacobs on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [X](#).

About Capital Hydrogen: Capital Hydrogen is a collaboration between Cadent, National Gas and SGN. It is a 15–20-year programme that will allow a transition from a natural gas network to a hydrogen network in the Capital Hydrogen Region (London, the East of England, and the South East). By working with key stakeholders, the Capital Hydrogen project team's mission is to identify and realise the potential of hydrogen as a key component in the transition to a low carbon economy in the region. Visit capitalhydrogen.co.uk and keep updated on the project milestones on [LinkedIn](#).

Additional Resources:

www.capitalhydrogen.co.uk

[Capital Hydrogen: Overview | LinkedIn](#)

For more information about Capital Hydrogen membership, please contact capital.hydrogen@gemserv.com

Anyone interested in producing hydrogen within the East London region is encouraged to email kelly.manders@cadent.com

For all media enquiries, please contact: capital.hydrogen@gemserv.com