



Able UK Ltd

Head Office: Able House  
Billingham Reach Industrial Estate  
BILLINGHAM  
Teesside TS23 1PX  
United Kingdom

 01642 806080  
Fax 01642 655655  
Email [info@ableuk.com](mailto:info@ableuk.com)  
Web [www.ableuk.com](http://www.ableuk.com)

## **NEWS RELEASE**

**PLEASE NOTE THE CONTENTS OF THIS RELEASE ARE EMBARGOED UNTIL 00.01 WEDNESDAY, JUNE 3<sup>RD</sup>**

### **ABLE UK PROJECT SET TO DELIVER MASSIVE BOOST FOR SOUTH HUMBER**

Plans for what will be one of the biggest port related developments in the country—covering almost 1,500 acres on the South Bank of the Humber—have been submitted to North Lincolnshire Council.

Able UK Limited, which has already completed the first phase of its Able Humber Port Facility (AHPF), is now putting forward proposals for land north of Immingham which will eventually create around 5,000 jobs and provide what the company's Executive Chairman Peter Stephenson describes as the 'vital impetus in exploiting the enormous potential of the South Humber Bank'

Included in the proposals are plans for a wide range of developments designed to provide the services needed for the continuing development of the South Humber Bank which in recent years has been the UK's fastest growing ports and logistics centre.

These include the creation of transport depots, warehousing and external storage areas, together with offices, a business park and a motel. There will be road and rail links to Immingham Port and the Humber Sea Terminal and a large part of the site will also provide landscaping and provision of areas for wildlife and ecology.

The land, which is the largest site available for port-related developments in the UK, is earmarked for industrial use in the Local Plan and Able sees it as the next stage forward following on from the 200-acre 'southern' development where vehicle storage specialists GBA are the main tenant.

The proposals have been the subject of public consultation, as well as discussions with the Statutory authorities, local business community, Yorkshire Forward and environmental and wildlife interests.

Says Peter Stephenson "We have been developing our interests in the area over the past decade and share the views of Central Government, Yorkshire Forward, North Lincolnshire Council, and the newly created South Humber Gateway Board that development of the South Humber Bank is of national and international importance.





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“Already, for example, it is the location of the UK’s largest port, complex, home to over a quarter of the UK’s refinery capacity, and is very much the preferred investment location for an increasing number of potential clients. We are able to offer a big space in the right place and even in current economic circumstances we are handling a number of exciting enquiries.

“Crucial to meeting the ambitions for fully developing the area’s potential has to be in providing the right business environment and the types of facilities and buildings required to attract new companies and inward investors. This is a great place to do business—ideally placed for both UK and European markets—and with transport links set to further improve we are well placed to take advantage of economic recovery and ensure that the Humber remains the largest tonnage port in the UK.

“We have demonstrated our confidence in the potential of the South Humber through our £50m investment in the existing ‘south ‘ Able Humber Ports Facility. We expect to invest a further £100million into the development of the ‘north’ facility and the overall investment coming into the area is likely to be the region of £1.5billion, with in the region of 5,000 jobs created by the time the project is completed in 2020.

“We have been greatly encouraged by the very positive reception we have already received from all of the agencies involved in working to bring jobs and investment to the South Humber and North Lincolnshire area and we hope that we can build on that support and move forward with our plans as quickly as possible.”

**INFORMATION NOTE FOR EDITORS:** Able UK is a privately-owned, ambitious and successful organisation operating in a variety of existing and challenging areas. From being a leading and innovative specialist in complex demolition processes, the company has developed into a major player across fields including full site reclamation and associated property development into regenerating new from old.

At the same time Able has established itself as the market leader in the decommissioning and recycling of marine structures, including oil and gas platforms and ships and operates a number of riverside facilities on both the Humber and the Tees, providing ports and logistics services

The South Humber Bank is the last remaining strategic development site fronting a deep water estuary in the UK and the largest employment land allocation in Yorkshire and Humber. It is attracting significant global interest, with a predicted £3billion of investment over the next ten years.

The Able Humber Port Facility is central to the future strategy of the public authorities and a principal feature in the Yorkshire Forward-sponsored South Humber Masterplan.

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**NOTE FOR EDITORS:** For further information please contact Neil Etherington, Able UK, telephone 07768 405464, or Peter Dodson, telephone 07753 910536.

