



FORTH PORTS LIMITED

## **MEDIA RELEASE – For Immediate Release**

# **New London port gets go-ahead**

## **Forth Ports Group receives planning consent for new port on the River Thames**

**20 February 2019**

The Port of Tilbury, the UK's fastest growing port, has today (20 February 2019) received development consent from the Secretary of State for Transport to build Tilbury2 – a new multimillion pound port terminal adjacent to the current 930 acre site in Thurrock, on the outskirts of Greater London.

With construction scheduled to commence in a matter of weeks, the privately funded port, Tilbury2, will be built on a site covering in excess of 150 acres, which was part of the location of the former Tilbury Power Station. When operational in Spring 2020, Tilbury2 will be the UK's largest unaccompanied ferry port and the country's biggest construction processing hub, with AEO-trusted trader status.

Expansion is essential for the Port of Tilbury to cope with rising demand for construction materials and aggregates from Britain's construction sector, imported and exported cars, as well as an increase in commercial ferry traffic, which carries consumer goods, perishables (food and drink) and steel between Europe and the UK.

Construction of the port, which will include a new rail and road connection, deep water jetty and pontoon, will bring the project cost to in excess of £200 million. The tender process for a contractor to complete this build has been completed and an announcement will be made shortly.

Tilbury2 will comprise:

- A roll on/roll off ferry terminal for importing and exporting containers and trailers to northern Europe, in partnership with P&O Ferries
- A facility for importing, processing, manufacturing and distributing construction materials
- A strategic rail terminal which can accommodate the longest freight trains of 775m
- Storage areas for a variety of goods, including exported and imported cars.

Tilbury2 is central to the Port of Tilbury's £1billion investment programme during 2012-20. Tilbury has doubled the size of its business in the past 10 years and is projected to double the volume of cargo across the quay (from 16 million to 32 million tonnes) and increase direct employment (from 3,500 to 12,000 jobs) over the next 10-15 years.

**Charles Hammond, Chief Executive of Forth Ports Group** (owner of the Port of Tilbury), said: *"This is great news for the UK at a time when the country needs its ports more than ever before. Tilbury2 will deliver much needed port capacity to support businesses importing and exporting to and from Europe and the rest of the world. The terminal will be fit-for-purpose for the UK's departure from the European Union, utilising the latest technology and streamlined border processes, in support of continued market demand created by business growth."*

*"By 2020, £1billion will have been invested in Tilbury's expansion plans, including Tilbury2 and the 55-acre London Development Park, with the full backing of our shareholders."*

**Link to Charles Hammond talking about the consent for Tilbury2:**

<https://vimeo.com/318209146/cf4bf0cb41>

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**Notes to editors:**

1. **Forth Ports Ltd** owns and operates Tilbury, alongside seven other commercial ports on the Firth of Forth and the Firth of Tay: Grangemouth, Dundee, Leith, Rosyth, Methil, Burntisland and Kirkcaldy.

In October 2018, PSP Investments became majority shareholder in Forth Ports Limited, to along with other minority co-investors, GLIL Infrastructure, First State Super, Construction and Building Unions Superannuation.

2. **The Port of Tilbury is the number one UK port** for forestry products, construction materials, paper, grain, recyclables and warehousing space. The port has a strong market presence in bulk

commodities, ro-ro, cars and cruise vessels. The port's London Container Terminal handles a mix of short and deep sea services, is the UK's number four port for containers and has the greatest reefer (refrigerated container) point connectivity in Europe.

Tilbury's strategic location makes it a natural point for distribution, with nearly 20 million people living within 75 miles. Serving the UK's market, the port offers customers excellent transport links to and from the UK's capital and across the South East where over 50% of the population live and work.

The port is a diverse multi-modal hub, covering around 1,000 acres (850 acres and the London Distribution Park, in addition to the Tilbury2 application site) and is well positioned to access the M25 orbital motorway and the rest of the UK's national motorway network. In addition, there are direct rail connections within the port and dedicated barge facilities.

3. Following Brexit, **Authorised Economic Operator / AEO (customs, safety, security) trusted trader accreditation**, combined with our I.T. systems, security systems and frontier agency facilities at the port, should limit border formalities and friction. AEO allows the Port to waive duty guarantees for goods held at its facilities and could also speed up the process of applying for other types of customs accreditations in the future.

4. For more information about **Tilbury2**, go to [www.tilbury2.co.uk](http://www.tilbury2.co.uk)

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