2nd March 2018

Dear Chair

Carbon Capture and Storage

Thank you for your letter of 28 February 2018 following the recent evidence session on carbon capture, usage and storage (CCUS) on 31 January 2018.

As I set out at the evidence session, we are working closely across Government and with industry to deliver the commitments outlined in the Government's new approach to carbon capture usage and storage which was published in the Clean Growth Strategy last October.

Since the session in January I am pleased to confirm that the CCUS Cost Challenge Taskforce has been established and met for the first time on 7 February, bringing together over 40 experts. The taskforce will report to Government in July and following this, Government will publish a Deployment Pathway by the end of the year setting out the steps Government believes need to be taken to meet the stated ambition of deploying CCUS at scale during the 2030s, subject to costs coming down sufficiently. This will be the delivery report that was highlighted at the evidence session.

I would be happy to provide the Committee with an update on CCUS, particularly following publication of the Government's Deployment Pathway for CCUS at the end of the year.

I am copying this letter to the Comptroller and Auditor General and to the Treasury Officer of Accounts.

Yours faithfully,

Alex Chisholm