



# PRESS RELEASE

## **DBA Bilbao Port presents a project to expand its port terminal to store renewable energies and hydrocarbons in Bilbao Port, with an investment of over €40 million**

- The modern facilities and technical features proposed by DBA Bilbao Port for the new plant would allow it to increase Bilbao Port's storage capacity for renewable energies and hydrocarbons by 500%, for their subsequent shipping by land and sea.
- The project would have an estimated impact of over €100 million annually in tax receipts for the Diputación Foral de Bizkaia (Provincial Treasury of Bizkaia).
- The expansion project has been presented in the tender being run by Bilbao Port to extend its activity across a plot of 46,000 square metres in Punta Sollana, and thus increase the traffic of goods entering and leaving by sea.

### **Bilbao, 9 July 2020.**

The company DBA Bilbao Port has presented Bilbao Port with a project to build, on a plot of 46,000 square metres in Punta Sollana (Zierbena) adjacent to its current facilities, a new port terminal for the storage of renewable energies (bioethanol, biodiesel, hydro-biodiesel, etc.) and hydrocarbons that would increase the storage capacity in Bilbao Port by 500%, up to 315,000 cubic metres, with the consequent increase in land and sea traffic. The project, involving an investment of over €40 million, would have an impact of over €100 million annually in tax receipts for the Diputación Foral de Bizkaia (Provincial Treasury of Bizkaia).

Thus, the new project, that is "strategic for Bizkaia and the Basque Country", would, as outlined by the Chairman of DBA Bilbao Port, Enrique Guzmán, enable, among other advantages, the creation of "a high-capacity strategic storage centre in Atlantic Europe for national and international operators". Furthermore, Guzmán states that "the design of the modern and advanced facilities and their technical and technological features would allow our region to take a quantitative leap in the storage and subsequent use of renewable energies". All of this would facilitate the operation of "large ships" and encourage "shipping by sea to other terminals". It would also feed through into the "inflows and supply flows via large vessels to others of lesser depth for logistics operations". For Guzmán, who is very excited about the potential expansion of DBA Bilbao Port's facilities in Bizkaia, this new investment "strengthens the company's roots in our region", at a time when "we all need to do our best to work hard and reactivate the Basque economy as quickly as possible".

Moreover, Ignacio Martínez de Lejarza, Director of DBA Bilbao Port, states that "the reciprocal contribution with the whole of Bilbao Port, and in the logistics activity for hydrocarbons, could boost commercial relations with large operators in the oil sector". The company is currently holder of a port concession in the outer area of Bilbao Port, to adapt and manage port logistics activities for fuels and hydrocarbons, operating across a surface area of 22,000 square metres in Punta Sollana. With the



proposed project, in addition to the activity that DBA Bilbao Port is already carrying out at Bilbao Port, the facilities would allow for minimum traffic of more than 900,000 tonnes per year.

The proposal would allow for interconnection to the Port's terminals, by means of a network of pipelines, and would include access to berths for ships of up to 300 metres LOA and 100,000 DWT. It has been presented as an option as part of the public tender called by Bilbao Port to use a plot in the Punta Sollana area, with the ultimate goal of generating traffic through goods entering and leaving by sea. The Port Authority wants to use that plot to build a large terminal for liquids or a logistics-industrial terminal that will expand the current fuel storage capacity in Bilbao Port, as well as boost the marketing activity.

Responding to these objectives, DBA Bilbao Port has commissioned the project from the engineering company IDOM Consulting, Engineering, Architecture, which has extensive experience in projects for the oil & gas sector, which proposes to use this plot to build a new port terminal for the storage of fuels. DBA Bilbao Port already has experience in this activity which has involved the operational and functional conversion of a former biofuel plant in Bilbao Port, transforming it into a port terminal for storage and logistics of 54,000 cubic metres.

#### **DBA BILBAO PORT**

DBA Bilbao Port has its head office in Bilbao and is the holder of a port concession in the outer area of Bilbao Port, granted by the Board of Directors of the Bilbao Port Authority, to adapt and manage port logistics activities for fuels and hydrocarbons across a surface area of 22,000 square metres in Punta Sollana (Zierbena).

The port terminal performs its main activity through pipelines directly connected to the ship loading/unloading dock in Punta Ceballos, as well as with all other port terminals, as a result of its administrative authorisation and classification as a hydrocarbon tax warehouse authorised by the Provincial Council of Bizkaia. With this, it provides a service that oil operators can trust and they have seen their activity grow sharply, by over 160,000 tonnes in 2019, and with forecasts suggesting they will exceed 200,000 tonnes in 2020.

Moreover, and within its commitment to Corporate Social Responsibility, in December 2019, DBA Bilbao Port became one of the main sponsors of the **Fundación Euskadi cycling team**. "We share and participate in their philosophy of teamwork, their values, closeness, and their ambition and vision for the future, which are typical of the people from this area", says the Chairman Enrique Guzmán.

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