

Why We Need More Renewable Energy

UK Energy Security

Renewable energy is proven to be one of the most cost-effective methods of producing reliable, non-carbon emitting power while reducing the UK's reliance on imported electricity and helping protect energy security.

The recent publication of the June 2023 Climate Change Committee (CCC) report to the UK Parliament, emphasises the need for the expansion of onshore wind energy and Scotland's Energy Strategy and Just Transition Plan: Ministerial Statement published January 2023 lays out plans to deliver a decarbonised, affordable and secure energy system.

Dumfries and Galloway Climate Emergency

In June 2019, Dumfries and Galloway Council (DCG) officially recognised its responsibility to tackle climate change by declaring a Climate Emergency. A 12-point plan was set out, to reinvigorate the pursuit of net zero carbon emissions in the area, alongside the protection of the local biodiversity and natural environment.

Additionally, in March 2024, DGC agreed to support the region to achieve net zero status on or before 2040, with a move to become a carbon negative region by 2045.

Delivering UK Net Zero

The UK Government has made a legally binding commitment to achieve net zero, which means creating a power grid with no carbon emissions and moving away from fossil fuels. This commitment is bolstered by an ambitious target to double onshore wind energy by 2030 and increase solar capacity nearly fivefold to 70 gigawatts (GW) by 2035.

These targets can only be achieved through a significant increase in reliable renewable energy sources, including onshore wind, battery energy storage systems, and solar power.

Renewable energy projects, such as the proposal for Lairdmannoch Energy Park, will make a significant contribution towards local and national targets as well as help secure the UK's energy security.

¹ According to the International Energy Agency's World Energy Outlook 2020.

² "New solar capacity 10 times cheaper than gas, says Rystad", PV Magazine



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wind²

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