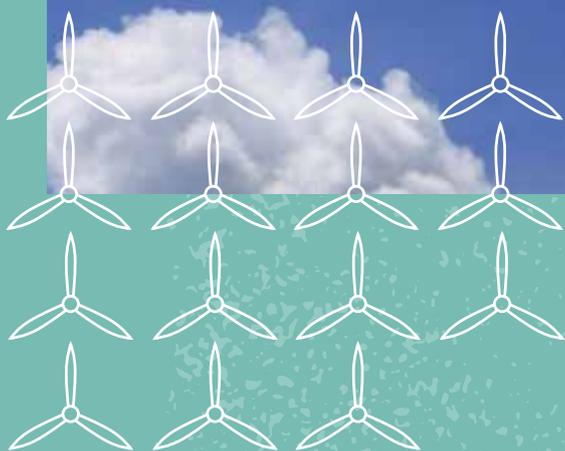


SSE plc Biodiversity Report 2022



About SSE

SSE plc is a UK-listed energy company that operates throughout the United Kingdom, Ireland and carefully selected international markets in East Asia, Europe and North America. It is involved principally in the generation, transmission, and distribution of electricity, and in the supply of energy and related services to customers. SSE's core businesses of economically regulated electricity networks and provision of electricity from renewable sources, complemented by provision of electricity from thermal sources, have crucial roles to play in the transition to net zero emissions. Underpinning this transition are SSE's refreshed 2030 Goals, which focus the company in addressing the challenge of climate change in a just and sustainable way.

About this report

This is SSE's seventh Biodiversity Report, which outlines for stakeholders the policies, practice and performance of its efforts to protect and restore nature and to support the 'Natural Environment' priority of its Environment Strategy. Covering a longer time period than usual, the report is focused on SSE's activities over 2021/22 and is supplemented with disclosures over the period to December 2022 too.

The report is split into three core themes of focus for SSE – protecting, restoring and enhancing biodiversity; contributing to knowledge and research; and, connecting people to the natural world – and outlines its contribution to the UN's Sustainable Development Goals 14 Life below water and 15 Life above land.

SSE welcomes and encourages feedback on the initiatives outlined within this report. Feedback and comments can be provided by emailing sustainability@sse.com.

A Principle Partner of COP26

SSE was a proud Principal Partner of the UK Government's presidency of the COP26 UN climate summit, which was held in Glasgow in November 2021. The urgency of the climate emergency from the conference was clear - the window of opportunity to prevent temperature rise above 1.5°C is closing. As a Principal Partner, SSE believes that decarbonisation of the energy system could go further and faster. At COP26, SSE provided a practical real-world example of accelerated climate action and engaged with global decision-makers, to encourage urgent and ambitious international action on climate change.

A key theme of the conference was 'Nature' and the key role that preserving biodiversity must play in tackling climate change and vice versa. One of the headline outcomes of the conference was the creation of the Glasgow Leaders' Declaration on Forests and Land Use. Over 140 leaders, accounting for more than 90% of the world's forests, committed to work together to halt and reverse forest loss and land degradation by 2030. World leaders recognised the critical and interdependent roles of biodiversity and sustainable land use in enabling the world to both mitigate and adapt to climate change, whilst also maintaining other ecosystem services.

This report demonstrates the ways in which SSE works to protect and enhance biodiversity in the natural environments in which it operates.

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2021/22 Highlights

New Group-level biodiversity net gain target

All SSE Business Units have committed to achieving no 'net loss' in biodiversity by 2023 and 'net gain' in biodiversity by 2025 on onshore Large Capital Projects. **See page 11**

SSE Renewables launch biodiversity net gain toolkit

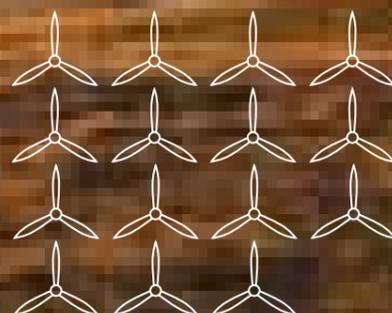
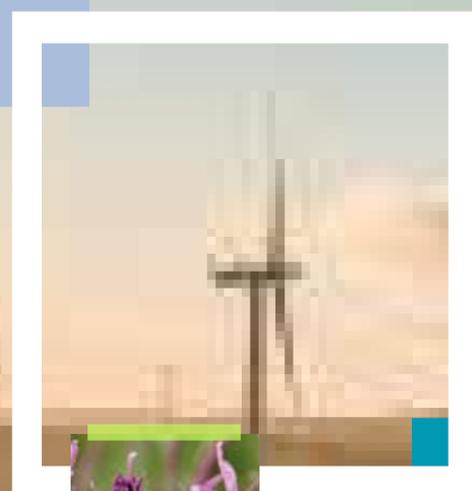
SSE Renewables launched its new site optioneering toolkit and project biodiversity net gain metric. **See page 11**

A strategic approach to compensatory tree planting

100ha of trees in the Scottish Highlands and Argyll, SSEN Transmission is developing a strategic approach to compensatory tree planting for the 650ha it will need to plant over the next five years. **See page 21**

Applying circular economy principals to biodiversity enhancement

SSEN Distribution is reusing waste materials from one of its projects to create nesting boxes for the dwindling population of black guillemots on Loch Linnhe. **See page 18**



A critical decade for biodiversity

SSE's latest report on its impact on nature and biodiversity report is published in the aftermath of the UN Conference of Biological Diversity (COP15) which took place in Canada, in December 2022. COP15 has seen nations around the world come to – what is being described as – a historic agreement to protect a third of the planet for nature by 2030. It is hoped that this landmark deal will do for biodiversity what the Paris Agreement is achieving for climate.

COP15 is a culmination of the increasing ambition to protect and conserve biodiversity we have seen around the world in recent years. In all of these ambitions, 2030 stands out as a critical milestone. Much like the fight against climate change, this decade is a critical one for nature too.

Recognising this increasing importance, SSE stretched its own ambitions, introducing a new commitment covering all of its business units to achieve no 'net loss' in biodiversity by 2023 and 'net gain' in biodiversity by 2025 on onshore Large Capital Projects. This Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) approach has been embedded in SSE's electricity transmission business for the past few years, and SSE's renewables business has developed its own BNG toolkit, launched in November 2022 at COP27 in Egypt.

It is imperative, however, that all of these ambitions, whether set at global, national or company-level, are more than just words on paper and that real action is delivered.

SSE expects to invest up to £25bn by 2031, and it is increasingly operating in, and interacting with, new, less familiar environments, such as marine ecosystems.

We must ensure that the delivery of this scale of infrastructure is done in a way that incorporates biodiversity considerations at all stages of an asset's lifecycle.

We are also acutely aware that we must be open and transparent with our stakeholders around our approach to protecting and enhancing biodiversity, and our progress towards targets. Being able to measure and monitor our impact on biodiversity is key in holding us accountable to achieving our BNG targets.

In order to do this, SSE has been harnessing the power of artificial intelligence in some ground-breaking initiatives, such as species monitoring and creating environmental 'digital twins' in our renewables business, and using satellite earth observation techniques to establish a biodiversity baseline in our electricity distribution business.

These are just a couple of examples of the initiatives which you can read about throughout this report, which shares our efforts to protect and enhance the natural environment that we operate within. Feedback, both on the content of the report and the quality of the interventions made is very welcome.



Rachel McEwen
Chief Sustainability Officer, SSE

Time to meet the ambitions to reverse nature loss

A year of ambition

Nature has a central role in supporting the achievement of net zero greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 2050 and limiting global temperatures rises to 1.5°C. It can provide a range of solutions that not only help address the root cause of climate change, but which can also increase resilience to its adverse impacts.

2022 has been dominated by the war in Ukraine and the global energy crisis that has ensued, making the threat of the nature crisis moving down the political agenda very real. Despite this, international consensus remains around the need to address the nature and climate crises hand-in-hand, and some significant steps forward for biodiversity have been made. This has included the introduction by the European Commission of a new Nature Restoration Law, with an overarching obligation to restore 20% of the EU's land and sea by 2030, and most recently the landmark deal made at the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (UNCBD) in Canada, to protect a third of the planet for nature by 2030.

2030 is being recognised as the 'line in the sand' by which the decline in biodiversity must be halted and reversed. Significant action will be required this decade if these ambitions are to be realised.

Delivering on ambition

The increased ambition that has been seen globally is welcomed, however, focus must be given to action needed to deliver on this ambition. The UNCBD's Aichi Biodiversity Targets (20 global biodiversity targets that were agreed in 2010) were not met by the 2020 deadline, with biodiversity instead declining over the decade.

The landmark agreement at COP15 provides renewed hope around international cooperation to address the nature crisis and drive meaningful action. However, the question of how to finance efforts to deliver on this ambition proved, similarly to the COP27 climate summit in Egypt in November, to be a sticking point in the negotiations.

Investments in initiatives, such as nature-based solutions, are still significantly under-financed, however efforts are being made to encourage greater investment into biodiversity initiatives. This includes the Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosures (TNFD), which seeks to develop a framework that will increase nature disclosures and encourage a shift in global financial flows away from nature-negative outcomes and toward nature-positive outcomes. The third iteration TNFD's beta framework was released in November 2022, with the framework to be finalised until late 2023.

Progress must be measurable

Measurable, science-based data is key in ensuring that biodiversity is fully considered in decision making, and progress is made towards preserving and protecting nature. However, there remains uncertainty and a lack of standardisation around how to measure biodiversity information. With frameworks such as TNFD and the EU's Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive, which entered into force in December 2022 and includes reporting standards for biodiversity and ecosystems, best practice in measurement and disclosure will continue to develop further. Building on the momentum of the Science Based Targets Initiative (SBTI) for climate, the Science Based Targets Network (SBTN) is also supporting the drive towards improved disclosures and practice by working to develop methods and resources for science-based targets for nature.

SSE will monitor the how these frameworks and standards develop and work to improve its own disclosures, including against its biodiversity net gain metrics.

1 United Nations Environment Programme (December 2022). State of Finance for Nature. <https://www.unep.org/resources/report/state-finance-nature-2022>.



Jul 2021

Nature positive ambitions in UK

The UK Government commits to delivering a nature positive future for England by 2030, and ensuring that economic and financial decision-making support this ambition, in response to the Dasgupta Review. The Scottish Government has also established plans for Scotland to be Nature Positive by 2030, and to have restored and regenerated biodiversity across the country by 2045.

Oct 2021

Towards a new global biodiversity framework

The first part of UN Conference on Biological Diversity (UNCBD), also known as COP15, is held in China to review the progress against the CBD's Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and to lay the groundwork for the post-2020 global biodiversity framework.

Jun 2022

A landmark Nature Restoration Law for the EU

The European Commission proposes a new nature restoration law with an overarching obligation to restore 20% of the European Union's land and sea by 2030.

Sep 2022

Consulting on Ireland's National Biodiversity Action Plan

Irish Government opens a public consultation on Ireland's 4th National Biodiversity Action Plan.

Dec 2022

A lack of investment into Nature-based Solutions

UN Environment Programme publishes its State of Finance for Nature report which highlights that investment in nature-based solutions needs to triple by 2030.

Dec 2022

A new biodiversity strategy for Scotland

The Scottish Government publishes its draft Biodiversity Strategy (2022 – 2045) aiming to halt biodiversity loss by 2030 and reverse it with large-scale restoration by 2045.

Dec 2022

A historic deal to protect nature

The second part of UNCBD (COP15) is held in Canada to finalise the post-2020 global biodiversity framework, and sees a landmark deal by nations to protect a third of the planet for nature by 2030.



SSE'S approach to biodiversity

SSE's approach to biodiversity is influenced by the high environmental standards in the countries in which it operates. It has robust governance and policies in place and works constructively with stakeholders to produce sustainable environmental outcomes.

Understanding SSE'S impact on biodiversity

Core to SSE's business strategy is developing, operating and owning energy and related infrastructure. This means that, in delivering its strategy, SSE interacts with the environment and biodiversity in a number of ways and impacts on a wide range of issues, from global climate change down to local habitats.

SSE's various business units have different interactions with, and impacts on, the environment. Understanding the ways in which SSE interacts with the environment across its business units is crucial in informing SSE's approach to managing its impacts. As a result, each business has its own environment plan and goals that supports the Group Environment Strategy.

For more information on SSE's different business units and their activities, see SSE's Annual Report and Sustainability Report.

Adhering to high environmental standards

Operating in the UK and Ireland, SSE is subject to some of the world's strictest environmental standards. Complying with government legislation in the countries in which it operates is paramount to SSE's operations. The standards to which SSE's operations must comply can be roughly split into three types:

- **Licenses:** dictate active management of its operations that SSE must undertake. These will dictate, for example, how many cubic meters of water pass through hydro-electric stations or screens to protect migrating salmon.
- **Legislation:** dictates what SSE's operations must not do, such as have a negative impact on protected species.
- **Regulations:** stipulate the processes which must be followed to inform decision making on a project and its potential environmental impact, such as Environmental Impact Assessments.

By adhering to these standards, and exceeding them where feasible, SSE works to mitigate the impacts of its operations on biodiversity.

Considering biodiversity at all stages

SSE manages impacts from its activities by taking a strategic approach and adopting methods that take account of the environment at the point of project initiation and design, as well as during construction and operation of the asset. As some of SSE's assets near the end of their lives, SSE also needs to consider environmental impacts during decommissioning.

Underpinning SSE's decisions are statutory obligations governing designated sites and protected species, but where possible and practical, it seeks to go beyond minimum requirements.

Project development

When developing new or existing projects, SSE begins by considering options such as reusing or extending existing assets and/or factoring in future growth requirements. Assessing different options for infrastructure sites and routes at this early stage can significantly reduce the impacts of a development. SSE meets planning obligations by undertaking detailed Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA) for large projects and completing an environmental assessment for projects where an EIA is not a statutory requirement. The four stages of the mitigation hierarchy – avoid, minimize, restore and offset – are embedded into the principles of Environmental Impact Assessment. Where projects are expected to have significant impacts on biodiversity, SSE strives to offset these impacts through actions such as developing Habitat Management Plans for renewable developments in the EIA stage, or funding conservation activity conducted by other groups. SSE also provides mitigation measures as part of planning proposals for all construction projects.



Construction

During construction of major projects, SSE adopts detailed measures to mitigate adverse environmental impacts, often under the guidance of a professional ecologist. These include implementation of relevant Species Protection Plans and Habitat Management Plans, that allow SSE to progress construction while protecting sensitive species. This could involve only undertaking aspects of work during certain times of the year, to reduce disruption to species during mating season. SSE will undertake any monitoring of biodiversity during construction that has been committed to during the planning phase, with additional measures taken if required.



Operation

SSE focuses on meeting permit conditions associated with the operation of its assets, and prioritises minimising any negative impact of operations in environmentally sensitive areas. Many of SSE's assets operate to an Environmental Management Systems (EMS) to manage environmental impacts and to drive continuous improvement in environmental performance. As with construction, during the operational phase of a project any monitoring commitments made in the planning stages are undertaken. This may be underpinned by a Habitat Management Plan for example. Detail of SSE's Habitat Management Plans can be found on page 24.



Decommissioning

SSE operates many long-term energy assets in the UK and Ireland. As these assets come to their end of life, SSE follows detailed guidelines on how to decommission these projects in a way that minimises and mitigates adverse environment impacts. Some actions undertaken when decommissioning can be site-specific as they depend on the habitats and species present in a given location. See page 16 for an example of environmental considerations SSE is taking during the decommissioning of its Ferrybridge coal-fired power station.

Working in partnership

SSE recognises that a sustainable strategy is one which is reflective of stakeholder views and input. It therefore promotes an open and transparent approach to stakeholder engagement, ensuring that the perspectives, insights and opinions of stakeholders are understood and considered in both long-term plans and day-to-day decision making.

SSE seeks to realise environmental opportunities, such as enhancing or creating new habitats or harnessing natural resources for renewable energy generation, through working closely with stakeholders to ensure it does so in a sustainable way that creates value for all. The problems facing different species, habitats and ecosystems are often complex and require people and institutions to work together to find optimal solutions. The case studies outlined throughout this report seek to give practical evidence of the way in which SSE approaches its stakeholder relationships to protect biodiversity. More information on SSE's approach to stakeholder engagement can be found in SSE's Annual Report and Sustainability Report, available at [sse.com](https://www.sse.com).

Robust environmental management

SSE has a well-established approach to environmental management, supported by robust policies and procedures to guide its day-to-day operations and interactions with the environment.

Environmental policy and governance

SSE has a Group Environment Policy that guides decision making within the company and outlines its commitments around protecting the environment, preventing pollution and operating in a sustainable way. This policy is signed-off by SSE's Chief Executive and is available publicly for SSE's stakeholders at [sse.com/sustainability](https://www.sse.com/sustainability).

SSE's Chief Executive has overall lead responsibility for environmental performance, including at Board-level. The Safety, Health and Environment Committee (SHEC) advises the Board on matters relating to safety, health and environment (SHE). The work of the SHEC is designed around SSE's eight SHE Enduring Goals, one of which is Environment: Protecting the environment and operating in a sustainable way. The SHEC is responsible for setting SHE performance targets, which include environmental performance.

SSE has an Environment Subgroup which advises the business on the Environment Enduring Goal. At business level, the heads of individual business units are accountable for environmental performance and for managing environmental impacts by applying SSE's SHE Management System.

SSE's Group Environment Strategy

In 2021/22, SSE refreshed its Environment Strategy to ensure its environmental objectives remained stretching and its approach ambitious. The Environment Strategy provides a guide for its businesses when undertaking their daily activities and seeks to ensure that the environment in which it operates is protected and, where possible, enhanced.

Like SSE's business strategy, the Environment Strategy is linked to the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which focus SSE's efforts for environmental improvement on the areas that have been identified as key for sustainable development.

The strategy has three pillars – environmental management and governance; responsible production and consumption; and, the natural environment – which are underpinned by an ethos of compliance.



As part of the Environment Strategy, SSE has a robust environmental management system supported by governance at both the Executive and Board level – the Safety Health and Environment Committee (SHEC) and the Safety, Sustainability, Health and Environment Advisory Committee (SSHEAC), respectively. The strategy provides a pathway to engage internal and external stakeholders while holding SSE accountable for performance. SSE has set Group-wide environment goals, targets and indicators to measure success. Supporting these are Business Unit specific goals and management plans, as each of its businesses have different interactions with, and impacts on, the environment.

SSE's Group Environment Strategy provides enduring principles to guide SSE's individual business units when undertaking their daily activities, encouraging consideration of the environment and ensuring that SSE takes responsibility for any impacts it may have on biodiversity, whether negative or positive.

As each of these businesses has different interactions and impacts on the environment, they all have their own detailed environment plan and goals specific to their activities that supplement the Group Environment Strategy. This means their efforts are focused on the areas in which their most material environment risks and opportunities arise, and they have greatest potential to influence.

SSE's Group Environment Strategy is underpinned by an ethos of compliance. SSE is committed to complying with all relevant legal and regulatory obligations and seeks to go above and beyond this and meet additional relevant voluntary standards where possible and feasible. More detail on SSE's Environment Strategy is available at [sse.com/sustainability](https://www.sse.com/sustainability).

Environmental management

To ensure effective environmental management, SSE operates an environmental management system (EMS) certified to ISO14001, including controls, processes and procedures, across all its business activities that interact with the environment. All SSE businesses are covered by SSE's EMS. In the last 12 months, SSE was externally audited and has maintained existing ISO14001 accreditation, and plans to extend accreditation to SSEN Distribution, Distributed Energy and Energy Customer Solutions in 2022/23. This means SSE is currently ISO14001 certified for around 61% of its business activities that interact with the environment by reported revenue (based on 2021/22 figures). SSE's ISO14001 certificates are available at [sse.com/sustainability](https://www.sse.com/sustainability).

Environmental auditing

As part of implementing its EMS, SSE undertakes regular internal safety, health and environment audits of its activities to ensure



standards are being met. SSE's internal audit process is guided by SSE's Audit Standard.

To be certified to ISO14001 standard, businesses must have an environmental management system in place that meets these requirements and be externally audited to achieve the standard.

Environmental training

All relevant employees are provided training in environmental management. Determination of which employees are relevant is undertaken on a local-level basis and training is relevant to the nature of the business they are involved with. A quarterly forum consisting of relevant individuals from each relevant business unit has also been established to drive improvement and share best practice.

Environmental monitoring and reporting

SSE monitors environmental incidents on a continuous basis through its internal SEARS reporting. These incidents are published internally, split by business unit, on a monthly basis in order to monitor SSE's environmental performance and highlight any issues as they arise so that action can be taken. Annual key performance indicators (KPIs) are reported externally in SSE's Annual Report and, in more detail, in its Sustainability Report's supporting data tables. The breadth of SSE's operations means that its activities are subject to a number of environmental regulations. Therefore, where necessary, SSE regularly reports environmental performance

to the environmental regulators in the countries it operates in.

SSE's employees can report incidents of suspected environmental wrongdoing through both internal and external mechanisms with no recriminations, remaining anonymous if they choose. If employees are not comfortable raising incidents with their line managers, they can contact one of the five designated senior managers who have been trained to take calls for whistleblowing incidents. SSE also has an externally hosted 'Speak Up' phone line and email service, hosted by SafeCall, through which incidents can be reported anonymously.

In 2021/22 the number of environmental permit breaches as a result of SSE's activities totalled seven, compared to four incidents in 2020/21. There was also an increase in SSE's total number of environmental incidents (major, serious and minor) to 60 incidents from 44 last year. This includes an increase of two incidents classified in the Serious Category.

The increase in incidents recorded reflects the growth in Business Unit activity as well as SSE's focus to improve reporting of incidents. A future focus on enhanced analysis of environment incident data using Microsoft Power BI aims to identify trends and opportunities for improvement, investment and innovation. A breakdown of environmental incidents by severity category can be found in the Sustainability Report's supporting data tables on [sse.com/sustainability](https://www.sse.com/sustainability).

Biodiversity Net gain

Expanding biodiversity targets

SSE operates in some of the UK and Ireland's most remote areas which are home to a wide variety of valuable ecosystems and habitats. SSE works to actively manage its environmental footprint and take careful consideration of biodiversity in its activities to ensure that it maximises positive and minimises negative impacts.

In support of this, in 2021/22:

All SSE Business Units committed to achieving no 'net loss' in biodiversity by 2023 and 'net gain' in biodiversity by 2025 on onshore Large Capital Projects.

SSE has focused on terrestrial habitats to date, and is beginning to explore marine net-gain, recognising the complexities but also the potential benefits. SSE Renewables is actively engaged in several forums to discuss how net gain could be delivered in the marine environment.



Measuring biodiversity net gain

Measurement and baselining of biodiversity is an important focus for business units in SSE that interact with the environment; due to the varied nature of operations and geographical locations, approaches are continually evolving and aligning with emerging recommendations and best practice.

In 2020, SSEN Transmission developed a site optioneering toolkit as part of its biodiversity net gain approach, which allows a rapid assessment of the baseline biodiversity of different sites or routing options. The toolkit was successfully embedded within the business in 2021 and has allowed the team to accurately establish a biodiversity baseline at new developments, such as the Kintore

substation in Aberdeenshire, and implement measures to ensure 'no net loss' and to encourage 'net gain'.

SSE Renewables also developed a site optioneering toolkit and project biodiversity net gain metric in 2021/22, which has adapted the SSEN site optioneering toolkit and the Defra Biodiversity Metric 3.1. The site optioneering toolkit allows for rapid assessment of baseline biodiversity values using high level data and the metric allows for more detailed measurement.

Looking ahead, SSEN Distribution will be



collaborating with SSEN Transmission to develop a biodiversity reporting toolkit of their own. As the business operates the southern portion of its licencing area in England, Natural England's Biodiversity Metric 3.0 will be used to establish the biodiversity baseline and to calculate the units required to deliver the soon to be mandatory 10% Biodiversity Net Gain for new developments in England. While Scotland has not yet adopted Natural England's biodiversity net gain metric and model, it has been used as a proxy for measurement in England and Scotland. SSEN Distribution are also developing a Habitat Creation Specification for suppliers and project managers to ensure that construction and maintenance projects are delivered with No Net Loss and enhance Biodiversity Net Gain.



SSE's biodiversity approach in action

The following section highlights examples of SSE's approach to managing its environmental and biodiversity impacts in action. The map on the opposite page shows the locations of the projects outlined in the following pages. The examples provided are focused on the 'Natural Environment' priority of SSE's Group Environment Strategy, which is aligned to SDG 14 Life Below Water and SDG 15 Life Above Land.

It is structured around three core themes:

Protecting, restoring and enhancing biodiversity

SSE actively manages its environmental footprint and takes careful consideration of biodiversity in its activities to ensure that it maximises positive and minimises negative impacts.

Contributing to knowledge and research

Plans to manage biodiversity must be evidence-based to be effective and SSE actively contributes to knowledge and research to support informed decision-making and better environmental outcomes.

Connecting people to the natural world

SSE works to raise awareness and understanding of biodiversity and conservation, encouraging both employees and communities to connect with the natural environment around them.



Case Study

1	Embedding Biodiversity Net Gain at Noss HVDC Switching Station	15	13	Supporting birdlife at Creag Riabach	18
2	Embedding Biodiversity Net Gain at Rothienorman Substation	15	14	Monitoring Puffins on the Isle of May	19
3	Chalk grassland regeneration in Dorset	16	15	Monitoring Puffins in Caithness	19
4	Heathland regeneration in Hampshire	16	16	Creating a 'Ecological Digital Twin' in the Netherlands	19
5	Ancient woodland regeneration in the Scottish Borders	16	17	Fish Counting using AI in the Scottish Highlands	19
6	Ash lagoon remediation at Ferrybridge	16	18	Establishing a biodiversity heatmap for SSEN Distribution's networks	19
7	Sandeel fisheries management at Berwick Bank	16	19	Habitat Restoration at Great Island	21
8	Seagrass restoration around SSEN Distribution's coastal networks	17	20	Compensatory tree planting in Argyll	21
9	Collaboration on the Upper Garry Salmon Restoration Project	17	21	Non native species management in the Scottish Highlands	21
10	Contributing to the PrePARED Research Project	17	22	Developing the Seanamhac Nature Trail in County Galway	22
11	Supporting the Nature+ Energy Research Project	17	23	Establishing the Rosscahill Wood Doon Nature Trail in County Galway	22
12	Preserving Black Guillemots on Loch Linnhe	18	24	Funding the Cobbs Road Animal and Birds Trail in County Limerick	22
			25	Establishing a Community Woodland in South Lanarkshire	22



Protecting, restoring and enhancing biodiversity

SSE actively manages its environmental footprint and takes careful consideration of biodiversity in its activities to ensure that it maximises positive and minimises negative impacts.

Expanding low carbon infrastructure and boosting biodiversity

Embedding SSEN Transmission's Biodiversity Net Gain approach

Noss HVDC Switching Station

SSEN Transmission is constructing a HVDC Switching Station at Noss Head in Caithness in the Scottish Highlands as part of the Shetland HVDC project. A world first outside of China, the switching station will act as a junction point, collecting energy from Shetland and Spittal HVDC circuits and then transporting that energy via subsea and land cables to Blackhillock in Moray and allowing for further transmission to areas of demand across Great Britain.

SSEN Transmission is seeking to maximise the landscaping potential and habitat creation through ponds or other water features on the site. Together with contractor BAM Nuttall, the aim is to build on any opportunities during construction and reinstatement to maximise biodiversity gains. Earth landscape bunds will be planted with scrub woodland, rich wildflower meadow mix seeding with a security fence inside of the bunded area thereby further minimising visibility from the site boundary.



Overhead line upgrades at Rothienorman

As part of SSEN Transmission's reinforcement of the transmission network in the northeast and east coast of Scotland, a new substation and overhead line upgrades will be developed at Rothienorman. As part of the commitment to biodiversity net gain, SSEN Transmission and its contractors have created habitats on site which will deliver a significant improvement in biodiversity. This has been done primarily through the planting of native species on the landscape bunding, which will further reduce the visual impact of the substation as well as enhancing the local environment. Once the landscaping has been completed, SSEN Transmission's Biodiversity Toolkit's metric predicts that there will be a 60% net gain of biodiversity units compared to the habitats found on the site before construction.

Habitat enhancements during network upgrades

SSEN Distribution must undertake upgrade works as part of maintaining and improving the electricity network. During these upgrades, it may also work to enhance the surrounding habitat particularly if it finds endangered and protected species present.

At SSEN Distribution's new underground 132kV cable development, which will replace an existing oil-filled cable in Poole, Dorset, it has put habitat enhancement plans in place to remove hardstanding to expose underlying chalk substrate and enable chalk grassland regeneration. Chalk grassland is the perfect habitat for kidney vetch colonisation. Kidney vetch is the only larval food plant of the small blue butterfly, which is listed as a Species of Principal Importance in England.

Further cable replacements are underway in Liphook, Hampshire. This work will involve replacing a 2km stretch of overhead lines with new underground cables, all within a protected heathland area. The site is home to a population of sand lizard (*lacerta agilis*); this is a rare reptile with a restricted distribution in the UK. Habitat enhancement plans are in place to improve areas of sub-optimal heathland habitat adjacent to an existing sand lizard population. This work will facilitate the wider dispersal of this species, which is in decline due to a loss of habitat.

Promoting natural tree regeneration

As part of SSE Renewables' habitat management plans (HMPs) for its Toddleburn wind farm in the Scottish Borders, it manages an offsite habitat management area called Airhouse Wood Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).

Airhouse Wood is one of the few relatively large examples of ancient woodland sites in the Borders, and one of only two known indigenous woodlands in the area. The site comprises relic birch and oak woodland with hazel and juniper and characteristic ground flora of local distribution in the Borders. Historically, Airhouse Wood tree regeneration has suffered due to overgrazing from livestock. In more recent years, the lack of tree canopy providing shade has meant that a grass-like plant called greater woodrush has expanded over much of the site, restricting the ability for tree seeds to establish. This has been further compounded by an increase in deer eating buds and leaves of regenerating trees, reducing their growth. This means that the site is dominated by mature trees that if lost may mean the end of the woodland.

The Airhouse Wood SSSI HMP aims to reverse this trend and promote the natural tree regeneration within the site. A number of measures are being used, including preparing the land and exposing the soil in some areas to allow for enhanced seed germination and the installation of deer fencing to reduce the pressure on young trees. With these targeted interventions, in 2022 and beyond, SSE Renewables expects to see tree saplings coming through at Airhouse Wood to secure the longevity of a unique site in the Scottish Borders and improve the health of the SSSI.

Enhancing biodiversity during decommissioning

Rewilding the ash lagoon at Ferrybridge

As part of its strategy to transition to a low-carbon future, SSE closed its Ferrybridge C coal-fired power station in 2016. In August 2021, COP26 President and Government Minister Alok Sharma pressed the button to demolish two chimney stacks and the main boiler house at the site. This followed the demolition of five cooling towers in two separate blowdowns in 2019. Final demolition work was completed in 2022 and to address the legacy associated with the closed coal power station, remediation and restoration work was undertaken on the site of the former ash landfill at Brotherton Ings.

The project plan will secure a 30-year land management agreement providing biodiversity enhancement at the site. The land restoration on site will focus on enhancing three target habitat areas: open mosaic habitat with areas of bare ground, sparse grassland and limited scrub; tussocky and sparse neutral grassland with areas of bare ground and developing hawthorn, birch, willow and bramble scrub; and seasonally inundated vegetation with pools of retained water, marshy grassland and swap vegetation with longer term willow scrub development. The vegetation establishment will be monitored over 30 years to verify rewilding and manage any non-native invasive species, with plans to grant access to the public in the longer term.

Advocating for better wildlife conservation

Conserving Sandeels to support seabird populations

SSE Renewables' proposed 4.1GW Berwick Bank wind farm located in the outer Firth of Forth will be one of the largest offshore renewable energy developments in the world when complete. The site at Berwick Bank contains many important bird populations and legally protected colonies, and SSE Renewables is seeking to implement a nature positive approach to the management of sandeel fisheries, with a view to improving seabird populations whilst also supporting efforts to develop sustainable fishing over the longer term.

Sandeels play a key role in the health of the North Sea's marine ecosystem, acting as a food source for vulnerable marine species. However, due to the increasing effects of climate change and industrial fishing, the sandeel population has experienced significant declines in recent years which is negatively impacting several species of birds, particularly the black-legged kittiwake. SSE Renewables is working alongside the UK and Scottish Governments and other stakeholders to improve how Scottish sandeel fisheries are managed to both help restore the health of the wider marine ecosystem and allow for the development of offshore wind projects.

Contributing to knowledge and research

Plans to manage biodiversity must be evidence-based to be effective and SSE actively contributes to knowledge and research to support informed decision-making and better environmental outcomes.

Leading on collaboration and knowledge sharing

Breaking below ground with Project Seagrass

For Distribution Network Operators (DNOs), current legislation calls for a net gain on terrestrial projects at above ground assets, but there is a gap in legislation for below ground assets. In its RII0-ED2 business plan, SSE Distribution proposes creating a partnership with delivery specialists, such as Project Seagrass, and local community organisations to undertake a significant and ground-breaking programme of activity around its coastal networks with the aim of replanting up to 17 hectares of seagrass meadows by 2028. Seagrasses, a functional group of marine flowering plants rooted in the world's coastal oceans, support marine food webs and provide essential habitat for many coastal species, playing a critical role in the equilibrium of coastal ecosystems. Despite their importance, 92% of the UK's seagrass has disappeared

over the last century from threats such as pollution, decreased water clarity, and physical disturbance. By restoring seagrass meadows, not only will SSE Distribution encourage wildlife numbers including fish and seabirds, but it will also enable the sequestration of a large volume of carbon dioxide.

Contributing to offshore wind farm ecology research

During 2021/22, SSE Renewables participated in the Predators and Prey around Renewable Energy Developments (PrePARED) research project. The study assesses predator (seabird and marine mammals) and prey (fish) distribution and behaviour in and around offshore wind farms in Scotland, providing insight into the whole-ecosystem effects of offshore wind developments. Several SSE Renewables offshore sites participated in the study and have been crucial to the ongoing success of the project. The PrePARED activity is conducted by a consortium of research

institutes and universities led by Marine Scotland Science in collaboration with NatureScot and is co-funded by Crown Estate Scotland. This is one of the largest investigations into offshore wind farm ecology being undertaken worldwide, and there is confidence that the results, which will be released over the remaining three years of the PrePARED programme, will provide scientific validation of the positive impact that marine renewable infrastructure can have for increasing both diversity and abundance of ecological features within site boundaries and surrounding areas.

Developing an environmental monitoring system for onshore wind farms

SSE Renewables in Ireland is actively contributing to an innovative project called Nature+Energy, which is focused on developing an environmental monitoring system that incorporates natural capital accountancy and management tools to help maximise ecosystem services, such as carbon sequestration, water filtration, pollination, and habitat provision, from onshore wind farms. It is a collaboration of actors in the Irish onshore wind energy sector, bringing together Ireland's leading biodiversity researchers from Trinity College Dublin and Maynooth University in partnership with Wind Energy Ireland and a consortium of wind energy companies representing 60% of Ireland's onshore wind energy generation. Funded by MaREI*, Nature+Energy is founded on the idea that wind farms provide more benefits than renewable energy generation alone.

SSE Renewables takes practical mitigation actions at its sites to support biodiversity, such as heather management for red grouse and pollinators; pools for dragonflies; blocking drains and working with farmers to control stocking densities and restore peatlands. It believes these projects will enable learning on how to limit and avoid negative impacts of wind farm developments while promoting the positive ones and facilitating research and collaboration.

Applying circular economy principals to biodiversity enhancement

Preserving Black Guillemots on Loch Linnhe

SSEN Distribution's subsea consents team is working with the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) to install nesting boxes for black guillemots on Loch Linnhe. As part of SSE Distribution's zero-waste approach, waste polyethylene ducting has been repurposed into suitable accommodation in support of dwindling guillemot populations on the loch in the hope of growing the population from six existing breeding pairs into 30 breeding pairs. By sealing up a short section of tubing, drilling some holes and adding a handful of gravel, the team has been able to provide safe and sustainable homes for the black guillemot. Local primary schools and community members decorated the boxes before their installation, giving rise to a key education opportunity. The ongoing monitoring on the success of these boxes will be handed back to the RSPB and the community, with the studying of the boxes being passed to local ornithology groups and interested residents.



Supporting birdlife at Creag Riabach

In 2021, SSE Transmission continued its work to expand the transmission network in the north of Scotland. Several new overhead lines and substations to facilitate new renewable generation were under construction during the year and some wooden boxes used to store equipment were identified as having reuse potential. If the wood could be re-used it would reduce waste and an opportunity was identified to build nest boxes for birds. In many areas in Scotland there is a lack of suitable nesting sites such as old trees with cavities or old buildings.

Discussions were held with Forestry and Land Scotland and the Highland Raptor Study Group about the possibility of creating bird boxes for use in the local area as well as further afield. Forestry and Land Scotland used some crates to make nest boxes for use in local woodland and the Highland Raptor Study Group built 36 boxes for use in the Scottish Highlands for a variety of birds, including barn owls, tawny owls and kestrels. The boxes will help support raptor populations, particularly kestrels which have been showing recent steep declines in numbers. The initiative has already proven to be a success, with two tawny owl chicks hatching in one of the repurposed boxes and recently ringed by Highland Raptor Study Group for monitoring purposes.

Upper Garry Salmon Restoration Project

The abundance of salmon in the Upper River Garry has declined over the last fifty years and had been showing little sign of recovery. The Upper Garry Salmon Restoration Project, a collaborative partnership between SSE Renewables, the Ness District Salmon Fishery Board, SEPA, Mowi and the UHI Rivers and Loch Institute, seeks to restore a sustainable population of Atlantic salmon by rearing a brood stock of young wild salmon to adulthood in a hatchery facility. When the female salmon reach adulthood, the eggs that they produced are introduced upstream of the Garry dam (a process known as stocking). Genetic profiling is conducted to ensure that only native wild fish are used as brood stock after it was identified that some salmon in the River Garry had significant Norwegian genes,

which was likely due to mixing between local populations and escaped salmon from fish farms.

Stocking began in 2018 and by 2021 close to 300,000 eggs were produced from the brood stock and introduced into the upper river catchment. In 2021, juvenile surveys were conducted in the upper river catchment, which showed a marked increase in the density of juveniles present. During the same year, it was first observed that there was a significant increase in the number of young salmon heading to sea. At a time when Atlantic salmon numbers are in a perilous position, with less than 5% of juvenile fish returning as adults, the project aims to bring some stability to the population of this iconic species in the River Garry.

*MaREI is the Science Foundation Ireland Research Centre for Energy, Climate and Marine research and innovation co-ordinated by the Environmental Research Institute (ERI) at University College Cork.

Harnessing technological innovation to monitor biodiversity

Species monitoring using artificial intelligence

Technology solutions are increasingly being considered as an effective means of gathering, analysing, and sharing biodiversity data. In May 2020, SSE Renewables installed four cameras on the Isle of May to pilot the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) to accurately monitor local puffin colonies as part of planning conditions for its Beatrice offshore wind farm. The AI technology gathers footage and automatically detects and counts the birds during their breeding season and has learned not to count the same puffin twice in the field of view.

Following successful completion of initial trials in 2020/21, a camera will be retained at the Isle of May to maintain a data feed from this location. The AI-based camera technology will also be used to monitor an offshore puffin colony stack at Dunbeath, approximately 20 miles south of Wick in the East Caithness Cliffs Special Area of Conservation. A camera and supporting power supply will be installed by November 2022 and will continually collect puffin colony attendance data during the upcoming 2023 puffin breeding season. This initiative will run for a further four years to enable long-term puffin population trends to be analysed and to support discharge of Beatrice Offshore Wind Farm licence conditions. Combined, the Isle of May and Dunbeath cameras will contribute to valuable scientific data on the status of puffin populations on Scotland's east coast, providing important information to SSE's consenting and conservation stakeholders such as NatureScot and Marine Scotland Science.



Creating ecological 'Digital Twins' to understand real-time impacts

In April 2022, SSE Renewables submitted a bid to tender for the 1.4GW Hollandse Kust (west) Wind Farm Zone located about 53km off the west coast of the Netherlands in the North Sea. To understand the impacts of the wind farm on the surrounding ecosystem, the bid proposes using LIDAR, Sonar, hydrophones, and AI, amongst other technologies, to create an ecological 'digital twin' of the site that will show in real-time what is happening below the surface of the water, enabling cause and effect to be modelled in a transparent way. The Dutch Government requires that the captured information is to be shared via an open-source channel, this would involve the sharing of an unprecedented volume of data, meaning that this activity could be the world's largest digital research project of its kind.

Expanding horizons to monitor salmon

With the success of the puffin monitoring project, in autumn 2021 a proof-of-concept project was undertaken to assess the possibility of using AI technology as a means of counting salmon moving through fish passes and ladders at SSE Renewables' hydro dams. The introduction of the AI system was a success, and the software was counting fish more accurately than the resistivity system that was previously used. SSE Renewables began expanding the AI technology trial to a further four sites over the summer of 2022, with the intention to roll out AI counting technology to other sites where SSE Renewables count migrating salmon numbers. SSE Renewables has been counting fish numbers since the 1950s and the use of state-of-the-art technology will allow the provision of important data on salmon migration numbers to various stakeholders such as the District Salmon Fishery Boards and Marine Scotland Science, whilst continuing to also demonstrate that fish passes and ladders enable migratory fish to pass through dams.

Using GIS to establish a biodiversity heatmap

SSEN Distribution is developing technology solutions to help establish a biodiversity baseline by using Earth Observation techniques. Satellite earth observation enable the mapping and monitoring of a variety of aspects on habitat distribution, quality and change in different spatial and temporal scales, thereby helping to enable SSEN Distribution to better assess and monitor performance in their natural capital portfolio. Throughout the RII0-ED2 price control, SSEN Distribution will introduce methods to establish a biodiversity baseline of its network and utilise existing geographic information system (GIS) models to develop a biodiversity heatmap.



Connecting people to the natural world

SSE works to raise awareness and understanding of biodiversity and conservation, encouraging both employees and communities to connect with the natural environment around them.

Employee action on biodiversity

Enhancing biodiversity at Great Island

In October 2021, 25 site volunteers supported biodiversity enhancement activities at SSE Thermal's Great Island Power Station situated on the shores of Waterford Harbour at Great Island, Co. Wexford in Ireland. Great Island is a highly industrialised site, however there are landholdings that support a diverse range of habitats and species. Recognising the impact they could have on the area, the team at Great Island has taken a number of measures to improve the biodiversity at the site over the years, which included the establishment of a wildflower meadow in 2017. Over 2021/22, they have undertaken further activities, including: installing 25 bird nesting boxes and 15 bat boxes around the power station site; constructing bug and bee hotels from old steel containers, left over construction material and old firebricks; making four hedgehog homes from leftover packaging material; and, sowing a further strip of land with Irish wildflowers, expanding on the existing wildflower meadow.

Compensatory tree planting

Over the course of 2021, SSEN Transmission was focusing on finalising compensatory planting for a number of its projects which are part of the current RIIO-T1 price control. A strategic approach has been developed and there are agreements in place to plant 70ha of forests in the Scottish Highlands and a further 30ha in Argyll. SSEN Transmission is committed to compensatory tree planting, replacing every tree that it needs to remove with a native species. This includes supporting Scotland's rainforest in Argyll, where SSEN Transmission is working with the Argyll Coast and Countryside Trust (ACT) to deliver the 30ha of new woodland. The business also provided funding to ACT for a woodland officer role to help develop plans for the planting activities. Over the next five years, SSEN Transmission will need to plant approximately 650ha of woodland and will be developing a strategic approach to deliver on this plan.

Managing non-native species to improve local access

SSEN Distribution is responsible for two 33kV and one 11kV cables near Loch Linnhe that deliver essential electricity supplies to the stunning, yet remote, Ardnamurchan Peninsula. In March 2020, one of the cables failed and the project team were required to think outside of the box to provide a resilient solution that would deliver generational security of supply across this growing area.

The team decided to underground these cables for added resilience, however this required the removal of a section of a dense matting of non-native rhododendron shrubbery which needed careful planning in order to eliminate any potential impact on local nesting birds and other fauna. A local contractor was employed to carve a 1km long corridor through the invasive growth and the team also instructed the removal of a further section of rhododendron that had impeded a local walking path, at the request of the local community. Delivering this additional bit of work increased accessibility for local residents by reintroducing a bridle path connecting communities that had all but become impassable, supporting local exercise and mental health needs during the challenges of lockdown.

It was also discovered that an area of Japanese Knotweed had established itself just yards from the historic Corran Lighthouse, close to where the replacement cable running under Loch Linnhe was required to surface on the foreshore. A local business was employed to manage this highly invasive, non-native plant which can destroy mortar and ultimately destabilise buildings.

Providing better access to nature for communities

Supporting local nature trails in Galway

Over 2021/22, SSE Renewables' Community Investment Funds in Ireland provided support for two nature trail projects in the Connemara Gaeltacht areas of Galway to provide local communities with better access to nature.

Seanamhac Trail

The Seanamhac Trail traverses areas of rich biodiversity, however the current classification of the trail would be considered very poor quality as an amenity for walkers or cyclists. Large sections are affected by potholes, sections of the roads are flooded, and sections of key access routes onto the trail are in a state of disrepair, being grassed over and barely visible. The SSE Renewables' Community Investment Funds have provided funding for the development of two additional access routes onto the trail. The project aims to have a positive impact on the area in terms of environmental sustainability, it is hoped this trail will allow people to make more of a connection with, and hold a stake in, nature and natural heritage. It is also hoped it will provide scope for encouraging the area to be used as a site to promote projects studying forest flora and fauna.

Rossachill Wood

The Rossachill Wood surrounds Ross Lake near the townland of Doon West and is home to a wide variety of biodiversity, such as the lesser horseshoe bat, one of the smallest mammals in Ireland. SSE Renewables' Community Investment Funds have provided funding to the Rossachill Wood Doon Development Project, which will include the development of 872 metres of new trail and upgrading 867 metres of the existing trails. As the trails run through areas of rich biodiversity, waterways and a ring fort, it allows for the scope of encouraging this area as a site to promote projects studying forest flora and fauna. The project will also provide the opportunity to connect local residents with nature, which can have positive impacts on health and wellbeing.

Cobbs Road Animal and Birds Trail

SSE Renewables' Community Investment Funds in Ireland financed the development of areas of environmental and wildlife interest in sections of an existing woodland trail, known as the Cobbs Road in County Limerick. The funding will help deliver lighting to a wildlife display unit, which will also keep exhibits dry in an area of high humidity. Part of the funding will also go towards developing a new wildflower meadow and to build a bird watching 'hide'. The Cobbs Road Animal and Birds trails is located in a specially Protected Area of Conservation and there are nesting sites of Hen Harriers close by, as well as the many smaller bird species. The voluntary group have already received numerous phone calls from local schools who are interested in walking the trail and viewing the native birds and animals for educational purposes.

Douglas West Community Wood

SSE Renewables is supporting the community of Douglas, South Lanarkshire, to purchase a 17.8ha piece of land located 2km north of the village. Finance from SSE Renewables Community Investment Fund will facilitate the transfer of a community woodland and the employment of a development officer/ forest ranger for two years to support the acquisition, development and sustainability of the site. The Douglas REAL Group (DRG) want to increase the perceived value of the community woodland and offer the inhabitants of Douglas greater incentives to join in, visit, engage, support, return and recommend the woodland to others. DRG want to support people facing barriers to inclusion and being able to contribute to their community. Through asset based, person-centred principles they will help people engage with real 'dirty hands' experiences, learn practical skills, improve their health, well-being, and confidence. The work will support the South Lanarkshire Local Biodiversity Strategy 2018-2022 and the Glasgow and Clyde Valley Forestry and Woodland Strategy.



Environmental disclosure

Disclosure of SSE's environmental impacts is an important way to increase transparency to its stakeholders and to ensure the company is accountable for its actions and decisions.

ENVIRONMENTAL INCIDENTS

SSE has adopted an internal classification of environment related incidents, which reflects their scale and impact and are aligned with those used by SSE's principal regulators.

	2021/22	2020/21	2019/20
Number of major environmental incidents	0	0	0
Number of serious environmental incidents	13	11	12
Number of minor environmental incidents	47	32	42
Number of environmental prosecutions	0	1	0



Protected area key

ASSI	Areas of Special Scientific Interest
MCZ	Marine conservation zone
MPA	Marine Protected Areas
NHA	National Heritage Areas
NNR	National Nature Reserves
RAMSAR	Wetlands of international importance designated under the Ramsar Convention
SAC	Special Areas of Conservation
SPA	Special Protection Areas
SSSI	Site of Special Scientific Interest
Wild Land Areas	Areas considered to represent the most extensive areas of high wildness and given national importance in Scottish Planning Policy

Site	HMP Details	HMP Area (ha)
Scotland		
Achary	Black grouse and water vole habitat enhancement, peatland habitat enhancement (with focus on foraging ground for upland waders), maintain populations of dwarf birch and mountain bearberry.	c. 2
Balmurrie Fell	Peatland habitat enhancement.	2.6
Bhlaraidh	Native woodland replanting, grouse habitat enhancement.	18
Calliachar	Management of wetlands, scrub, water margins, habitat mosaics, moorland management, bracken control, wild bird cover, late-mown grassland, open grazed grassland, woodland creation and extended hedge management.	223
Clyde ¹	Native woodland replanting, blanket bog and heathland restoration, grazing reduction, experimental Molinia control/heather seeding.	c. 2,880
Clyde Extension ¹	Native woodland replanting, blanket bog restoration, predator control.	2,411
Dunmaglass ²	Habitat management, ditch blocking for blanket bog creation, deer management, heather cutting rather than muirburn, predator control.	1,899
Fairburn	Habitat management for hen harrier, merlin and golden eagle, heather management, bracken control and broad-leaved planting, ditch blocking.	4,711
Gordonbush	Forestry removal, moorland restoration, heather management, drain blocking, native woodland restoration, small scale agricultural activities, deer management.	5,350
Griffin	Native woodland planting, black grouse habitat enhancement, enhance habitat for mammal species.	892
Strathy North	Hen harrier enhancement, peat restoration, riparian native woodland, short sward.	1,020
Stronelaig ³	Management for eagles.	481
Toddleburn	Enhancement of existing woodland SSSI, native woodland planting in other areas, create mix of wetland areas and tussocky grassland.	c. 70
Northern Ireland		
Slieve Divena ²	Habitat and bird surveys, red grouse, peat and snipe management.	17
Slieve Kirk Wind Park - Ardmore	Peatland and bird monitoring, grazing management, invasive species removal, aquatic habitat creation, watercourse protection.	580
Slieve Kirk Wind Park - Glenconway	Peatland management, drain blocking, invasive species removal, habitat and bird monitoring, bat monitoring.	21.6
Tievenameenta	Habitat and bird surveys, habitat restoration, ditch blocking, peat management.	42
Ireland		
Athea	Extensive habitat, bird and amphibian monitoring, habitat restoration and invasive species management.	250
Coomatalin	Breeding bird monitoring and waterbird monitoring of the nearby lakes.	N/A
Curragh	Peatland restoration, heather and grassland management, hen harrier and hydrological monitoring.	24
Dromada	Forestry removal, peatland restoration, drain blocking and hen harrier monitoring.	3.3
Galway Wind Park ⁴ - Cloosh	Conifer felling, replanting offsite, drainage blocking, bog reinstatement and monitoring.	59
Galway Wind Park ⁴ - Lettercraffroe	Conifer felling, fencing, drainage blocking, blanket bog reinstatement, enhancement of riparian corridors and monitoring.	2
Galway Wind Park ⁴ - Secon	Conifer felling, replanting offsite, drainage blocking, bog reinstatement and monitoring.	174
Galway Wind Park ⁴ - Uggool	Fencing, grazing management and quadrat vegetation monitoring.	16

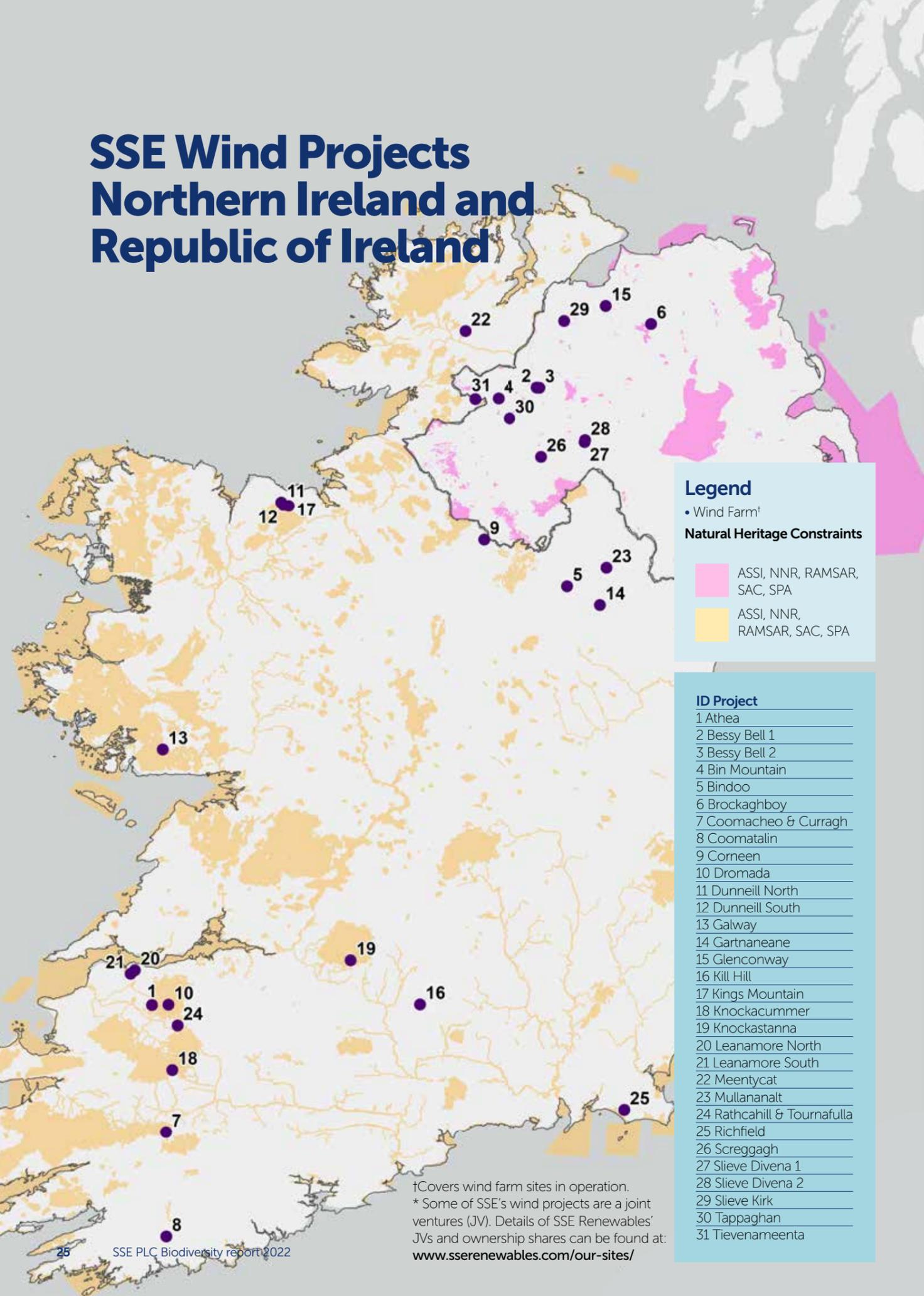
¹ Clyde Windfarm (Scotland) Ltd is a partnership between SSE Renewables (50.1%), Greencoat UK Wind Holdco Limited (28.2%) and GLIL Corporate Holdings Ltd (21.7%)

² Dunmaglass Wind Farm Ltd is a partnership between SSE Renewables (50.1%) and Greencoat UK Wind plc (49.9%)

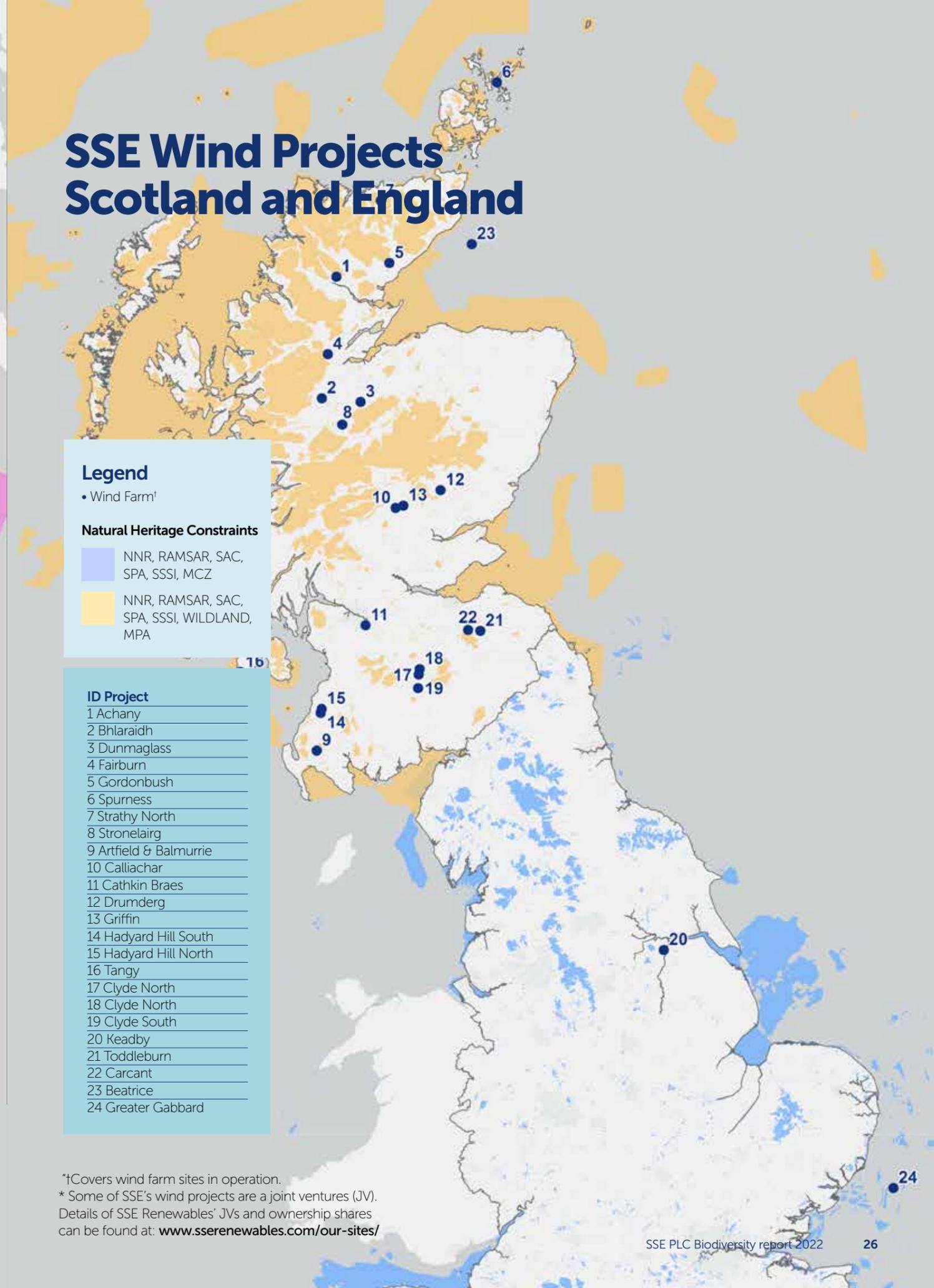
³ Stronelaig Wind Farm Ltd is a partnership between SSE Renewables (50.1%) and Greencoat UK Wind plc (49.9%)

⁴ Galway Wind Park is a partnership between SSE Renewables (53%) and Greencoat Renewables (47%)

SSE Wind Projects Northern Ireland and Republic of Ireland



SSE Wind Projects Scotland and England



SSE Hydro Projects Scotland

Legend

• Hydro Site

Natural Heritage Constraints

Scotland - NNR, RAMSAR, SAC, SPA, SSSI, WILDLAND

ID Project

- 1 Cassley Power Station
- 2 Duchally Power Station
- 3 Shin Power Station
- 4 Grudie Bridge Power Station
- 5 Achanalt Power Station
- 6 Luichart Power Station
- 7 Lairg Power Station
- 8 Culligran Power Station
- 9 Deanie Power Station
- 10 Aigas Power Station
- 11 Kilmorack Power Station
- 12 Mullardoch Power Station
- 13 Fasnakyle Power Station
- 14 Quoich Power Station
- 15 Invergarry Power Station
- 16 Tummel Power Station
- 17 Rannoch Power Station
- 18 Pitlochry Power Station
- 19 Clunie Power Station
- 20 Errochty Power Station
- 21 Trinafour Power Station
- 43 Clachan Power Station
- 22 Livishie Power Station
- 23 Glenmoriston Power Station
- 24 Sloy Power Station
- 25 Inverawe Power Station
- 26 Nant Power Station
- 27 Lochay Power Station
- 28 Cashlie Power Station
- 29 Finlarig Power Station
- 30 Sron Mor Power Station
- 31 Loch Ericht Power Station
- 32 Nostie Bridge Power Station
- 33 Morar Power Station
- 34 Kerry Falls Power Station
- 35 Striven Power Station
- 36 Lussa Power Station
- 37 Storr Lochs Power Station
- 38 Gaur Power Station
- 39 Loch Dubh Power Station
- 40 Ceannacroc Power Station
- 41 Kilmelford Power Station
- 42 Allt Na Lairige Power
- 44 Mossford Power Station
- 45 Vaich Power Station
- 46 Dalchonzie Power Station
- 47 Lubreoch Power Station
- 48 Lednock Power Station
- 49 St Fillans Power Station
- 50 Chiostair Power Station
- 51 Loch Gair Power Station
- 52 Mucomir Power Station
- 53 Foyers Falls Power Station
- 54 Foyers 300 MW Pump
- 55 Claddoch Power Station
- 56 Cuileig Power Station
- 57 Glendoe Power Station
- 58 Kingairloch Power Station
- 59 Orrin Power Station
- 60 Torr Achilty Power Station
- 61 Gisla Power Station
- 62 Loyne Power Station
- 63 Misgeach Power Station
- 64 Stronuich Dam Comp Set
- 65 Falls of Lochay Power
- 66 Cuaich Power Station

SSE Thermal Projects England, Scotland and Republic of Ireland

ID Project

- 1 Peterhead 2
- 2 Aldbrough
- 3 Keadby 1
- 4 Keadby 2
- 5 Keadby 3
- 6 Seabank
- 7 Chickerell
- 8 Marchwood
- 9 Burghfield
- 9 Atwick
- 10 Slough
- 11 Medway
- 12 Peterhead
- 13 Tawnaghmore
- 14 Rhode
- 15 Tarbert
- 16 Great Island
- 17 Fiddler's Ferry
- 18 Ferrybridge

Legend

• Thermal Site

Natural Heritage Constraints

Scotland - NNR, RAMSAR, SAC, SPA, SSSI, WILDLAND

Republic of Ireland - NHA, SAC, SPA, RAMSAR

England - NNR, RAMSAR, SAC, SPA, SSSI, MCZ

* Some of SSE's thermal projects are a joint ventures (JV). Details of SSE Thermal's JVs and ownership shares can be found at: www.ssethermal.com/who-we-are/our-sites/



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