

SSE Environment and Climate Change Policy



Through this policy, SSE commits to protecting the environment, preventing pollution and minimising adverse environmental impacts. Furthermore, where possible, SSE will seek to bring about positive environmental outcomes.

SSE recognises the complex global challenge of climate change and the role an energy company has to play in taking action on climate change and helping the UK and Ireland move towards a less carbon intensive energy system. We believe that removing carbon from electricity generation in an affordable way is essential to mitigate the worst affects of climate change.

Standards

The key principle and enduring goal is to protect the environment and operate in a sustainable way. To achieve this SSE will:

- As a minimum, comply with all relevant legal and regulatory obligations, and seek to go above and beyond this and meet additional relevant voluntary standards where possible and feasible.
- Commit to reduce our carbon impact and look at new technologies to support the transition to a low carbon energy system.
- Commit to reduce resource, energy and water consumption impacts and improve efficiency in these areas in our operations.
- Assess the environmental impact of new development projects and work to mitigate negative impacts.
- Advise and engage our value chain on energy efficiency and demand reduction.
- Assess the risks and opportunities from the impact of climate change on the business and implement climate adaptation and mitigation plans to address these impacts.
- Manage, protect and enhance biodiversity.
- Apply the waste hierarchy to prevent, reduce, reuse, repurpose, recycle and recover our waste.
- Manage emissions that affect air quality and seek to minimise amenity impacts such as noise and dust.

Process

To meet these environmental standards SSE will:

- Identify SSE's material impacts, set challenging targets to continuously improve performance and measure and report progress publicly.
- Manage SSE's environmental risks by applying and continually improving the Safety, Health and Environment (SHE) Management System and drive towards best practice standards.
- Engage positively with key stakeholders on environmental and climate change issues and take responsibility within the wider community for improving the environmental impact of our business.
- Collaborate, invest in and develop new technologies to be more environmentally sustainable.
- Work with supply partners to improve the environmental performance.
- Implement climate adaptation measures in operations to address the local impact of climate change.
- Address the risk of severe weather events in business continuity and crisis management plans.
- Integrate environmental improvements into our everyday decision making.
- Engage and train our employees to ensure they have the skills, knowledge and resources to support them to deliver our environment commitments.

Governance

The Safety Health and Environment Committee monitors environmental performance indicators and incidents with high potential and ensures effective action is taken to manage environmental risks.

The leadership teams of individual business units are accountable for environmental performance and for managing environmental impacts by applying the SHE Management System.

The Safety, Health and Environment team is responsible for providing environmental support to SSE businesses.

The Managing Director, Corporate Affairs and Sustainability is responsible for reporting SSE's sustainability and climate change impacts to stakeholders.

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PO-COR-054

Issue date: March 2019
Review date: March 2020