

Statkraft UK Ltd have 19 contracted projects, totalling approx. 1.5GW of onshore wind and PSH in SSEN Transmission's network area. Several of the projects included in their T3 plan, and thus their relevant expenditure, are required to be completed in order to connect our projects. We are currently reviewing connections reform proposals and methodologies, with a plan to apply for gate 2 offers for the majority of our projects across our portfolio.

Mossy Hill

Mossy Hill is identified as one of the load projects within SSEN Transmission's T3 plan.

Mossy Hill Wind Farm is a 12 turbine development located near Lerwick, in Shetland. The project was granted consent by Shetland Islands Council in 2019.

Mossy Hill Wind Farm was consented with a 12 turbine layout and an installed capacity of approximately 48MW – generating enough renewable electricity to power the equivalent of over 34,000 homes.

Since purchasing Mossy Hill Wind Farm from Peel Wind Farm Ltd in 2023, we have been working to optimise the design of the scheme.

A new planning application for the scheme was submitted in December 2024 for the required SSEN Transmission substation which Mossy Hill is connecting into.

Construction is expected to start late 2025, and therefore regulatory approval of this scheme is paramount in order to achieve the current energisation date of November 2028.

Statkraft UK Ltd has a large portfolio across the island of Shetland, with an additional 200MW of onshore wind (all land and planning consented) and 800MW of demand (land negotiations nearing conclusion) in addition to that of Mossy Hill.

Through conversations with SSEN Transmission, we are aware that further Shetland reinforcements (including the second HVDC link to the mainland) are being considered under CP2030 proposals, and are collaborating with the TO to deliver these projects within a timeframe that meets both CP2030 and T3 business plan requirements.

Gills Bay/Regulatory Framework

We have consent to build Slickly wind farm located 8km south west of John O'Groats, near the operational Stroupster wind farm.

The project consists of 11 wind turbines with a maximum tip height of 149.9 metres. We have designed the project carefully, avoiding cumulative effects by ensuring turbine height and proportions work with the existing Stroupster Wind Farm.

An application was submitted to The Highland Council for in December 2019 for 11 turbines with a maximum tip height of 149.9 metres. In March 2021, the project was slightly revised, including reducing the height of two of the turbines to 135 metres. The project was granted consent in August 2022. The project holds a CfD in AR5 for delivery in 2027/2028.

Slickly wind farm will be connecting into a new 132kV Switching Station at Gills Bay, via a new 132kV double circuit overhead line and underground cable from Thurso South 275/132kV substation, which has faced challenges in obtaining regulatory funding approval.

Having previously been a sub £100m project, the initial route was an MSIP (Medium Sized Infrastructure Project), which was limited to a submission window of once a year in January. The project evolved into a post £100m project, changing to route to a LOTI (Large Onshore Transmission Infrastructure). Though a LOTI is more flexible in terms of submission windows to Ofgem, the regulatory funding position has been paused due to three factors:

- Not enough evidence to submit to Ofgem (in terms of capacity consented and with route to market across all projects in the area).
- CP2030
- Connections Reform

Though our wind farm is consented and has a clear route to market, the Gills Bay reinforcements as of this moment in time remain uncertain due to the current environment with CP2030 & connections reform (both of which are still to be approved by the regulator/government).

SSEN Transmission rightly recognise that the uncertainty mechanism framework requires enhancement to cater for the dynamic nature of our industry, to “ensure timely delivery of all projects, including those required for accelerated Clean Power 2030”.

We see the Gills Bay reinforcement as being critical to providing the development of several renewable projects in the area (circa 5 projects totalling approx. 500MW of onshore wind, tidal and battery).

Should Gills Bay be included within the approved CP2030 plan, we would like to see a mechanism implemented similar to what was seen with ASTI, where regulatory funding approval is provided swiftly. Should Gills Bay not be included within the approved CP2030 plan, then this project would fall under the Load-Related Reopener (LRR) mechanism. The business plan does not make it clear as to what efficiencies are being sought by SSEN Transmission, however this needs to be more time efficient/effective than it's current predecessors (MSIPs & LOTIs).

Outside of T3 Plan

Loch Na Cathrach

Long duration energy storage (LDES) has been identified as a key project under CP2030, and our PSH scheme Loch Na Cathrach can support this.

Similarly to Coire Glas, Loch Na Cathrach has land acquired and planning consented. The project is made up of two phases:

- 450MW connecting in July 2028
- Additional 100MW connecting in October 2030As ready as Coire Glas

This project fits within CP2030 plans and the T3 price control period.