

PROJECT UPDATE

February 2026

Welcome
to our project update
for the consented Wind
Farms, Energy Isles
and Beaw Field
in Yell.



Statkraft is Europe's largest generator of renewable energy, with origins in Norwegian hydropower going back over 130 years. In the UK, we are active in developing and building wind, solar, hydro, storage, hydrogen and grid stability projects, and also have a thriving markets business. We own the consented Mossy Hill Wind Farm near Lerwick and the consented Energy Isles and Beaw Field Wind Farms in Yell.

Beaw Field Wind Farm

This project was acquired by Statkraft from a previous developer, Peel Energy, in 2023. It was consented by the Scottish Ministers in 2017 for 17 turbines with a tip height of up to 145m. It is expected to have an installed capacity in excess of 70MW.



Energy Isles Wind Farm

This project was created by a consortium of over fifty, mainly Shetland based businesses, who took the project so far before seeking outside investment. In 2019 Statkraft was announced as the development partner to develop, construct and operate the project. It was consented by the Scottish Ministers in 2023 for 18 turbines with a tip height of up to 180m. It is expected to have an installed capacity in excess of 120MW.

A meteorological mast is currently in place on the site to record wind speeds at the height of the proposed turbines. The mast is expected to remain on site until 2027.

The project is expected to be operational by the end of 2032.

Statkraft has been looking at a possible re-design of the site, which could lead to fewer but higher turbines. Any major changes to the site would be consulted on locally and subject to the public planning process.

The project is also expected to be operational by the end of 2032.



Getting Wind Turbines to Yell – Access Study

Statkraft has commissioned NORN Alliance to undertake an access study on delivering key wind turbine components to Yell. NORN is a collaboration between LEF, Malakoff, Ocean Kinetics and Voar Energy. NORN combines the expertise of the four Shetland engineering firms with a deep knowledge of operating in a marine environment. By combining the logistics for both projects, we expect to reduce the overall construction impacts.

The scope of the study includes both maritime vessels and port facilities, and is considering the following key areas:

- Impacts on the local community including inter island ferry service
- Engineering and technical requirements
- Planning and consenting
- Practicalities and constructability
- Land requirements
- Capital costs of any new infrastructure
- Legacy benefits for the local community

During the development and consenting of Beaw Field and Energy Isles, Ulsta was considered the preferred landing point, using either the ferry link-span or new infrastructure at the terminal. This and other potential landing points are being considered as part of the access study. The findings will be shared locally when the study is completed.

Project Team

John Thouless *Principal Project Manager*
Ciaran Black *Project Manager*
Tracey Leslie *Assistant Project Manager*
Seumas Skinner *Community Liaison Manager*
Doug Wilson *Communications Consultant*

Timelines & Pre-construction Activities

The construction of both projects is linked to the grid connections timeline. On this basis, construction of the wind farms is not expected to commence until 2029/30. Before construction work begins, we will carry out further surveys and studies including a ground investigation campaign. These will help inform our detailed design for the sites and ensure they are built in compliance with their respective planning conditions, and adopt environmental best practice during construction. We will keep the local community updated on our plans as they develop.

Local Engagement

A community liaison group was set-up covering both projects, which meets every quarter and includes representatives from Yell, Unst and Fetlar Community Councils. We propose moving to a six-monthly meeting schedule, complemented by a bi-annual newsletter like this one to ensure the wider community remains informed between meetings.

Statkraft, and our project stakeholders, are considering combining some of their local engagement activities where there are common areas such as construction logistics and local accommodation requirements. Further engagement events will be planned and communicated locally as the projects move towards construction.

Contact us



Write to us for free at
FREEPOST Statkraft



Phone the project hotline:
0800 772 0668



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beaw-field.co.uk

Grid Connections

Energy Isles and Beaw Field both have contracted grid connection dates in October 2032. This is the date that the National Energy System Operator (NESO) expect us to have the wind farms commissioned. NESO is responsible for providing connections across the GB market at transmission voltage. As the regulated licenced asset owner for the transmission system in Shetland, SSE Networks (SSEN) are then responsible for developing and building the new connections between the Shetland Mainland and Yell. SSEN are engaging locally on their plans for the new connection.

Statkraft is committed to engaging with local suppliers.



Please register your interest to be a supplier via our project webpages.

