

# The need for onshore wind

## Net zero carbon targets

A climate emergency was declared by The Highland Council, Scottish Government and the UK Government in 2019. The UK Government has set a legally binding target for reducing greenhouse gas emissions to 'net zero' by 2050 and the Scottish Government has a net zero target of 2045. Renewables, and specifically onshore wind, will play an important role in helping achieve these targets.

To support net zero delivery across all sectors, including heat, transport and industrial processes, which are currently heavily reliant on fossil fuels, it is expected that there will be a substantial increase in demand for electricity in the coming decades. National Grid's Future Energy Scenarios<sup>1</sup> forecast that Scotland's peak demand for electricity will at least double within the next twenty years. This will require a substantial increase in installed capacity across all renewable technologies, including onshore wind.

Scotland currently has around 9.3GW of installed onshore wind capacity. The Scottish Government has set a target of 20GW of onshore wind by 2030 in order to help meet their legally-binding net zero targets. This is a substantial increase and will require significant deployment of new onshore wind projects in order to meet this extra demand for green, zero-carbon electricity.

## Energy security

Wind energy is a free and inexhaustible resource that has an important role to play as part of a balanced energy mix. It increases energy security by reducing our reliance on imports and builds our resilience to sudden fossil fuel price fluctuations and the uncertainty of global markets.



Solwaybank Wind Farm near Langholm – for illustrative purposes only.

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.nationalgrideso.com/future-energy/future-energy-scenarios>

## Clune Wind Farm Proposal

[www.clune-windfarm.co.uk](http://www.clune-windfarm.co.uk)

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