



Accelerating a **net zero** future where **clean energy** powers our lives

Our priorities for the next UK Government



About EDF Renewables UK

EDF Renewables UK is a subsidiary of EDF Group, one of the world's largest low carbon electricity companies, and our investment and innovation is reducing costs for consumers and bringing significant benefits for communities. With our operating portfolio of 43 renewable energy sites across the UK including battery storage, onshore and offshore wind (together totalling 1.5GW) we are providing much needed affordable, low carbon electricity. We have an expanding portfolio with almost 14GW of projects in planning and development, including wind, battery and solar PV.



Here is what **needs to happen now** to get to net zero:

1. A roadmap to net zero by 2050 is required immediately

Dealing with climate change is urgent – 2050 is only 26 years away. The UK will not meet its climate obligations without a major mindset shift within our political leadership. The UK has set stretching targets for reducing climate emissions as well as for the deployment of every renewable technology, but with no road map to get there, and as things stand, we will not meet our targets. Political leaders must listen to industry and be creative in delivering change to the regulatory environment to encourage rapid deployment of emissions reduction measures, and be clear that communities also have a part to play in tackling the challenge by hosting renewable energy projects in their area.

2. Improve the Contracts for Difference (CfD) mechanism

It is vital that the budget for Allocation Round 6 is reviewed at the next available opportunity, following the completion of the final valuation of qualifying applications. The announced budget, while higher than previous rounds, lacks the ambition we need to reach national net zero targets, in the area of both existing technologies such as onshore wind and solar and emerging technologies like floating offshore wind. The CfD must leverage the strong pipeline of projects that have been developed by industry and be used as a mechanism to get a high volume of projects through the system. New emerging technologies such as our Blyth 2 Demonstrator could help the UK to secure a head start in the global race to develop floating offshore wind, and the CfD needs to be bolder to avoid the next round being another missed opportunity.

3. Deliver the Grid

The current grid situation is slowing us down in getting to net zero. Transmission capacity needs to be vastly expanded, and Ofgem empowered to enable anticipatory grid investment. We believe National Grid and Distribution Network Operators should be held to promised timelines as there are often significant delays in getting projects online. We need more certainty around this. To tackle climate change, cut consumer bills and provide energy security we also need to help people understand they will see more pylons, power lines and substations which will keep their homes warm and ensure the lights stay on.

4. Renewables skills, education and training focus

We already have our own apprenticeship and graduate schemes in place in addition to an award winning college course, Destination Renewables, in Wales. We are doing our bit to ensure young people are thinking about a career in our industry. But we want to work with government to ensure young people know at an early stage they can have a long-term career in renewables and which roles are on offer directly and indirectly. Right now we need electrical engineers and we need planners UK wide – a new generation of people doing these jobs and others is critical to our net zero future.

5. An ambitious and robust UK Industrial Strategy

Leadership is required to match the ambition for the UK's service sector, by building a manufacturing economy capable of supporting ambitions for renewables growth. Without this, we will lose the opportunity to develop supply chain manufacturing capacity, and we will put the UK's renewable sector at significant risk.

Our **commitment** to you:

We're committed to continuing the investment we make beyond our jobs and contracts - to the natural environment, the UK's energy security, partnerships with local communities, and supporting the transformation of our energy system to achieve net zero emissions, through clean electricity and hydrogen.

What's more, we're committed to doing this at the lowest cost to consumers – ensuring bill payers see the maximum benefit of their commitment to developing the lowest cost form of new generation.

However, we cannot achieve any of these goals without a regulatory environment that supports the growth of renewables, and the supply chains that underpin them, right across the UK.

Working **together**:

It is in the interests of everyone across the UK to find urgent solutions to these key industry issues - not just in terms of decarbonisation, but also because it provides the best value for consumers. At EDF Renewables UK, we're dedicated to making this ambition a reality and we hope to work with you to achieve it.

**We'd be pleased to discuss this in further depth or organise a site visit.
To speak to one of the team contact us at: externalaffairs@edf-re.uk**