North Sea Transition Authority

Overview 2023


Pioneering Spirit
Allseas

Contents

Introduction from the Chief Executive

The North Sea has been the crown jewel at the heart of the UK's energy story for half a century. Oil and gas have kept the lights on, homes heated and sustained UK industries. The sector has created hundreds of thousands of jobs and hundreds of billions of pounds of revenue for the country.

The next chapter in the North Sea's story will show its diversity as its strength. It is resource rich with offshore wind, world class carbon storage potential and oil and gas reserves. Together, with technological advancements these can be the catalyst to a new hydrogen economy.

At a time when a global energy crisis has shone a fresh spotlight on the security of UK supplies and the cost of energy, and the need to tackle the climate crisis is as urgent as ever, the North Sea can provide a solution.

Its true potential lies in an integrated energy basin, delivered through an alignment on the planning, technological and regulatory landscape between the different energy sectors.

The North Sea Transition Authority has a major role to play in realising this vision. We will aim to be the integrating force on the UKCS, while remaining focused on helping deliver domestic energy security, driving down production emissions and accelerating the transition to net zero.

Oil and gas still meet three quarters of UK energy needs. Even as demand declines the UK is projected to remain a net importer out to 2050 and LNG imports have more than twice the carbon footprint of domestically produced gas.

Last year the NSTA opened the first oil and gas licensing round for three years. Overall production will continue to decline even with new fields, but new developments, as well as being cleaner, will keep the import gap stable while anchoring the capital and skills needed for the transition in the UK.

CCS is set to take off in the UK and 2023 will see us awarding licences from the first carbon storage round. The UK has enough storage capacity to sequester the equivalent of all of the UK's emissions since the industrial revolution – a nation able to reach geological net zero.

Industry needs to accelerate its efforts to decarbonise production. Our proactive stewardship and guidance have helped deliver early progress with emissions in the basin down by more than 20% since 2018. A real focus on advancing electrification projects can ensure we accelerate momentum.

There are billions of pounds of global investment ready to invest in the energy transition – the UK needs to remain open and hospitable to attract this opportunity. We must move beyond polarised debate and work together to realise the vision of the North Sea as an integrated energy basin.

Stuart Payne
Chief Executive

Our role

We regulate and influence the oil, gas and carbon storage industries. We help **drive North Sea energy transition**, realising the significant potential of the UK Continental Shelf as a critical energy and carbon abatement resource. We hold industry to account on **halving upstream emissions by 2030**.

ENERGY SECURITY

Helping meet UK energy demand

Oil and gas licensing and stewardship

EMISSIONS REDUCTION

Regulating for emissions reduction

Promoting electrification and zero routine flaring and venting

ACCELERATING THE TRANSITION

Carbon storage licensing and stewardship

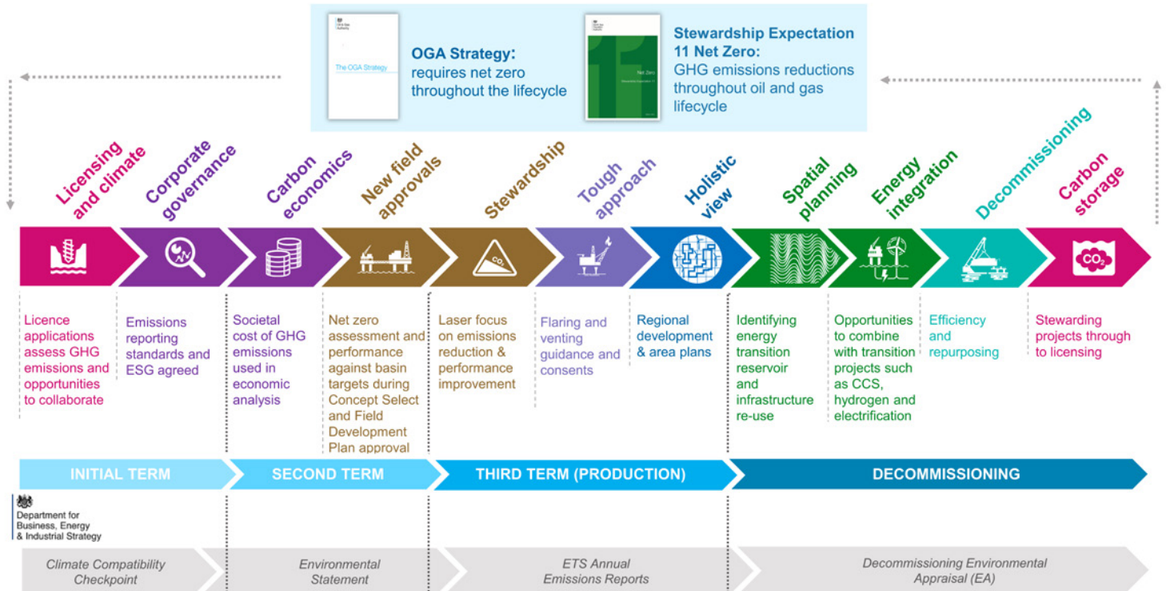
Promoting energy integration

Providing open access data

We aim to be an **integrating force in the UKCS,** helping realise its **full economic potential**. We champion **the supply chain** and **job creation** across the UK.

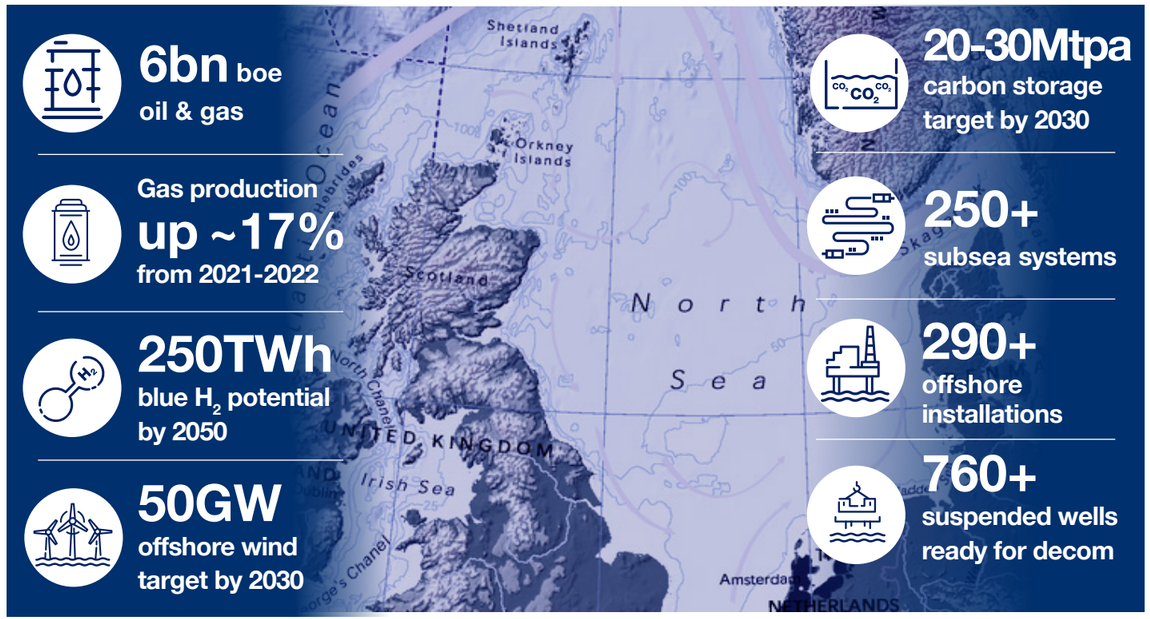
Net zero lifecycle

The NSTA takes a lifecycle approach to net zero regulation, including through our strategy and a range of regulatory levers. This ensures net zero is considered at every stage of the development of a field.



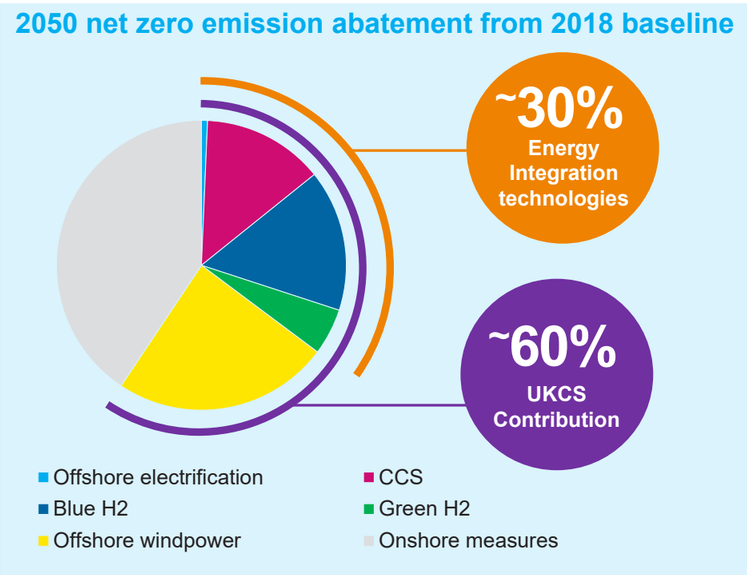
UKCS – integrated energy basin

The seas around the UK contain an abundance of opportunity. The real prize is in harnessing these rich resources and infrastructure to deliver an integrated energy basin and a new economic success story.



Transition in action

NSTA analysis shows the UKCS can make a major contribution to net zero. Oil and gas infrastructure and capabilities can be leveraged for CCS, offshore wind deployment, and hydrogen transport and storage.



78Gt of CO_2 storage potential

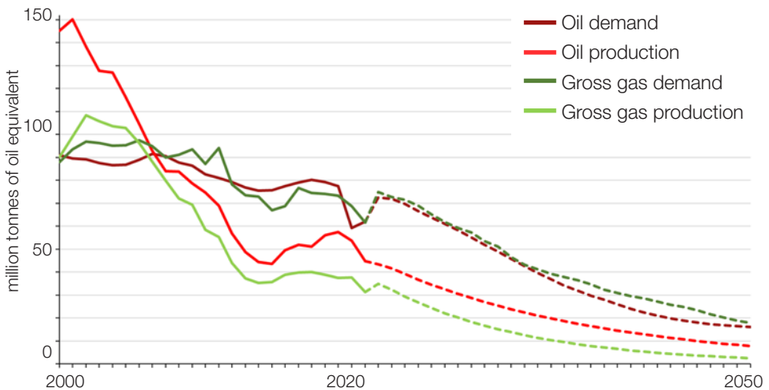
100+ pipelines with repurposing potential

1.4Mt lifetime CO_2e avoided since 2021

Helping meet demand

Oil and gas meet three quarters of UK energy requirements and all forecasts point to them being needed for heat, power and transportation in the future. The UK is expected to be a net importer of both out to 2050.

CCC Balanced Net Zero Pathway demand and our production projections

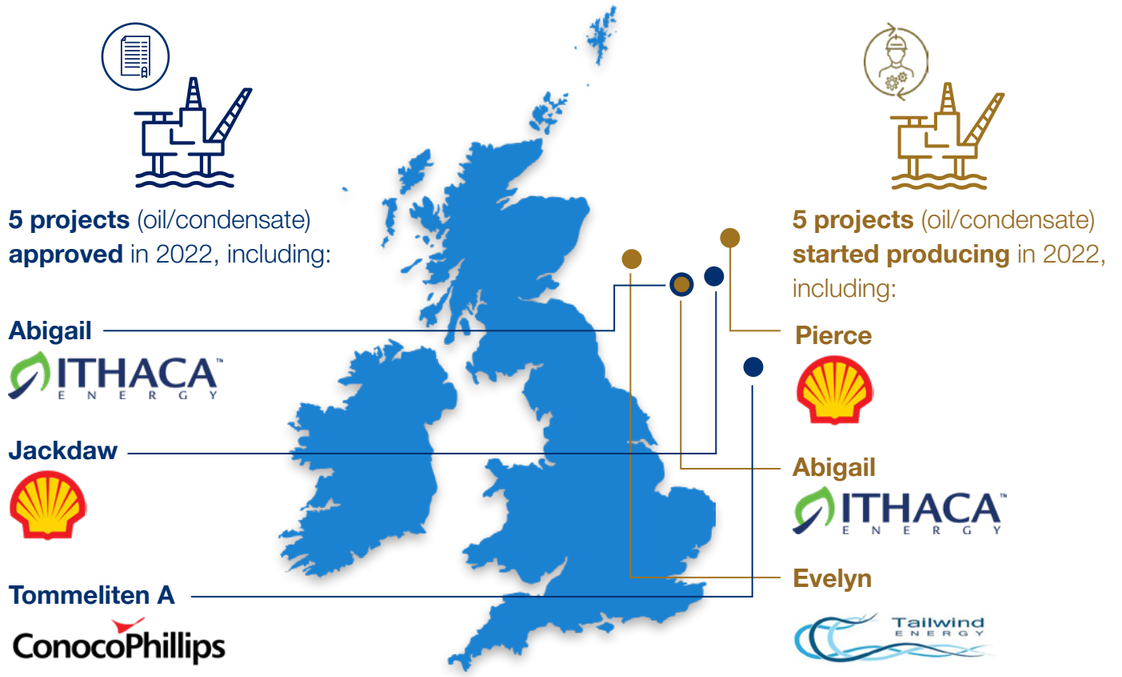


UK demand for oil and gas exceeds production from the UK Continental Shelf. NSTA analysis shows this will still be the case in 2050.

This means the UK will continue to be a net importer of both oil and gas, even when factoring in new field developments.

Gas from the UKCS meets 40% of the UK's total gas demand and on average has less than half the carbon footprint of imported LNG. Declining production from the UKCS will continue to contribute to the UK's energy security.

Security of supply in focus



5 projects (oil/condensate) **approved** in 2022, including:

Abigail

ITHACA ENERGY

Jackdaw

Tommeliten A

ConocoPhillips

5 projects (oil/condensate) **started producing** in 2022, including:

Pierce

Abigail

ITHACA ENERGY

Evelyn

Tailwind ENERGY

North Sea Transition Deal

The landmark North Sea Transition Deal is an agreement between industry and government to deliver an orderly energy transition. The NSTA is helping deliver on many of the aims of the deal.

Supply decarbonisation

Emissions reduction targets:

– 50% by 2030 as a minimum

– interim targets throughout 2020s

Methane Action Plan

Carbon capture and storage

Deploy four clusters by 2030

Capturing 20-30Mt CO_2 by 2030

New business model for transport and storage

Hydrogen

- **Aim to deliver 10GW Hydrogen by 2030 (5GW Blue, 5GW Green)**
- **New business model, markets and planning**

Supply chain transformation

People and skills

- **50% local content target for all new energy related projects**
- **Develop low carbon industrial capability**

Delivering the deal: NSTA action

Spatial mapping – tackling co-location issues with wind

Launched first CCS licence round

Stewarding carbon storage licences

Updated flaring and venting guidance

Pressing industry and government on electrification

Annual Emissions Monitoring Report

Repurposing analysis – 135 pipelines identified with potential new use

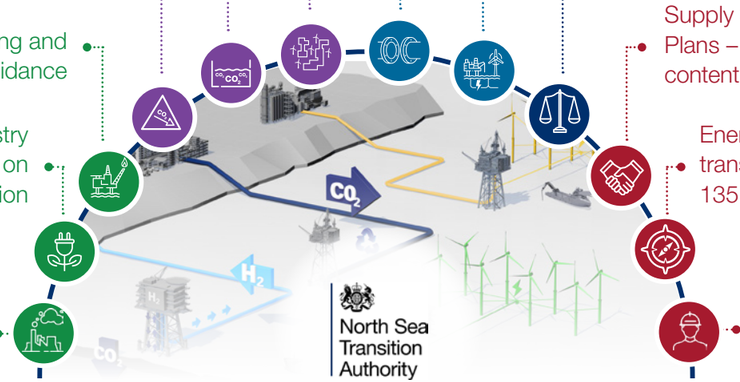
Supporting 30+ energy integration projects

Regulatory streamlining

Supply Chain Action Plans – monitoring local content targets

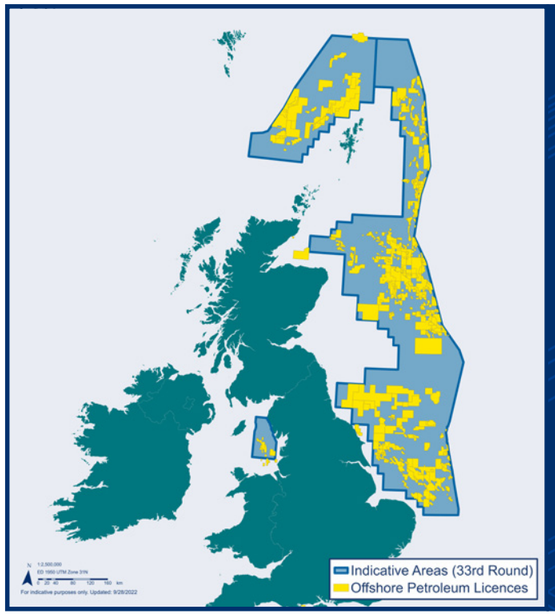
Energy Pathfinder: transparency of over 135 live projects

Supporting development of offshore skills passport



Oil and gas licensing

Without new licensing the UK's reliance on imports will increase, impacting on security of supply. All licensing rounds must comply with the UK Government's Climate Compatability Checkpoint.



33rd Offshore Licensing Round

The NSTA opened the 33rd UK Offshore Licensing Round on 7 October 2022 with a total of 932 blocks or part blocks available. The round closed in January 2023 and saw a total of **115 bids across 258 blocks from 76 companies**.

Four priority cluster areas in the Southern North Sea will be fast-tracked and could see production within **18 months**.

The average time between discovery and first production is now 5 years, with several recent projects coming online even quicker.

Any new projects will need to meet the NSTA's rigorous **net zero considerations** when seeking approval.

Carbon storage licensing

CCS is critical to achieving the UK's net zero target. A significant number of stores need to be licensed and appraised to realise the potential of the UKCS storage capacity.

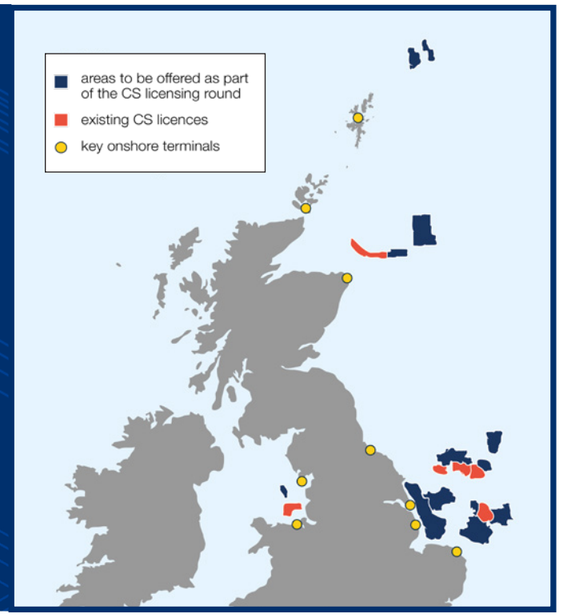
1st Carbon Storage Licensing Round

In June 2022 the NSTA launched the UK's first Carbon Storage licensing round, offering **13 areas** around the UK coastline.

The areas were offered following consultation with several external bodies including the Ministry of Defence, The Crown Estate and Crown Estate Scotland, taking into consideration the requirements of other seabed users.

Strong interest saw the round attract **26 bids from 19 different companies** and licence awards are anticipated in early 2023.

The new storage areas could make a significant contribution towards the aim of storing **20-30 million tonnes of CO_2 per year by 2030**.



Exploration

Government forecasts suggest oil and gas will remain part of the UK's energy mix for the foreseeable future, as we transition to net zero. Industry must continue to find, develop and produce UK resources.

Public data release continues to grow via our Data Centre and the UK National Data Repository.

33rd round opened on 7 October 2022 and includes 931 blocks and part blocks on offer for application.

Relinquishment reports and E&A well results updated regularly and easily accessible.

Recent low activity levels have resulted in several mature, undrilled prospects becoming available in open acreage.

Exploration success rates

	No. exploration wells	Technical success rate (%)	Technical finding costs ($/boe)	Technical volumes (mmboe)
2014	24	29	8.8	83
2015	28	39	5.2	115
2016	15	47	4.7	65
2017	20	45	5.0	131
2018	7	43	3.04	124
2019	17	35	3.7	243
2020	7	71	2	212
2021	4	75	8.9	<50

Note: exploration well count and volumes are calculated by year of well completion.

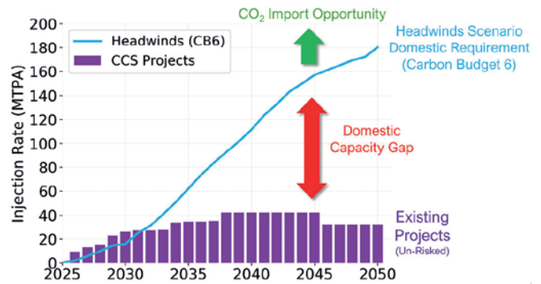
CCS – the time is now

Our role

- Licensing and permitting authority for offshore carbon storage
- Stewardship of issued carbon storage licences
- Collaboration with other key external bodies, including on spatial coordination
- Using our technical expertise to build a portfolio of carbon storage opportunities
- Consultee to OPRED on operators' decommissioning plans
- Maintain carbon storage public register

UKCS potential

- 78 Gt CO_2 potential storage capacity on the UKCS, sufficient to meet centuries of UK demand
- Big gap between existing projects and future demand to hit net zero targets.

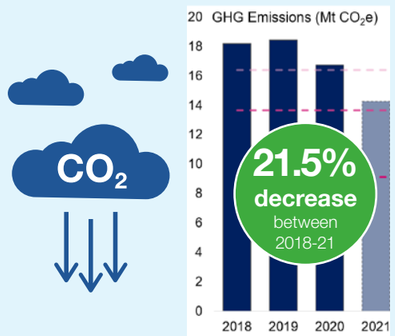


Current projects

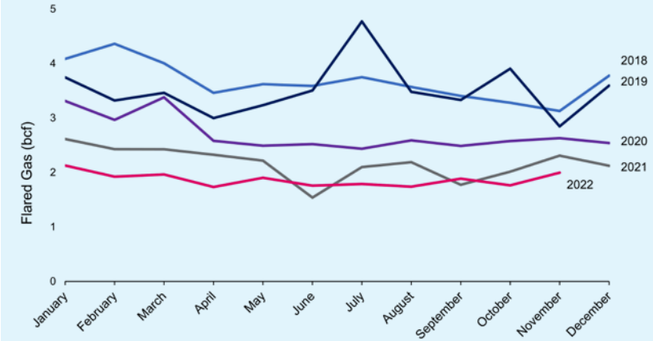
UK upstream oil and gas GHG emissions

The North Sea Transition Deal commits industry to reduce emissions 10% by 2025, 25% by 2027 and 50% by 2030. Early progress has been made but bold measures are needed to surpass the 2030 target.

GHG emissions reduction



Declining gas flaring



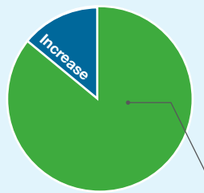
Upstream GHG footprint

Emissions from upstream oil and gas operations equate to **4% of UK total**

Power generation accounts for over 70% of upstream emissions. Platform electrification is crucial.

UK upstream oil and gas GHG emissions

Offshore facilities emissions change



79% of facilities reduced emissions between 2020-2021

Methane

CH_4

14% reduction between 2020-2021

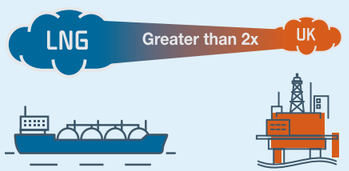
38% reduction since 2018

Emissions intensity varies

Installation Age	Small Platform	Floating	Large Platform
0-10 Years	6	19	12
11-25 Years	24	39	31
> 25 Years	23	45	62

Older, larger platforms usually have higher emissions intensity. New platforms are cleaner by design.

UK international comparison



Per unit of gas, LNG imports are on average over double the emissions intensity of UK gas production

Niki Obiwulu
Senior Analyst

"Our annual emissions monitoring report shines a light on industry performance and keeps track of progress against the NSTD targets. It's an important tool in focusing attention on the pace of progress."

Electrification is crucial

Powering installations using electricity either via nearby offshore wind farm or a cable from shore could cut carbon dioxide emissions from operations by 2–3 million tonnes per annum by 2030.

Expected timeline

2050
Net Zero

2030
-50% Emissions Reduction
Zero Routine Flaring

2025
-10% Emissions Reduction

2022 Concept select
2021 O&G / Power engagement & workshops
2020

Hitting emissions reduction targets

- Critical to 50% emission reduction target by 2030

More collaboration required, at pace

- Alignment between partners, governments and other sectors
- Regional schemes in CNS & WoS
- Ongoing work to refine and resolve barriers
- Innovation and Targeted Oil and Gas decarbonisation (INTOG) leasing round from Scottish Government completed. Wind developers and oil and gas operators collaborating to deliver platform electrification projects (see map on right).

Infrastructure legacy

- Investment in offshore transmission
- Grid capacity expansion
- Supporting offshore wind growth (+50GW by 2030 and 5GW floating wind)

Offshore electrification may unlock **faster growth of renewables**, expansion of offshore transmission infrastructure, and establishment of floating **wind power technologies** in the UK, contributing to offshore renewables' **50GW capacity target** by 2030.

Electrification project potential*

INTOG

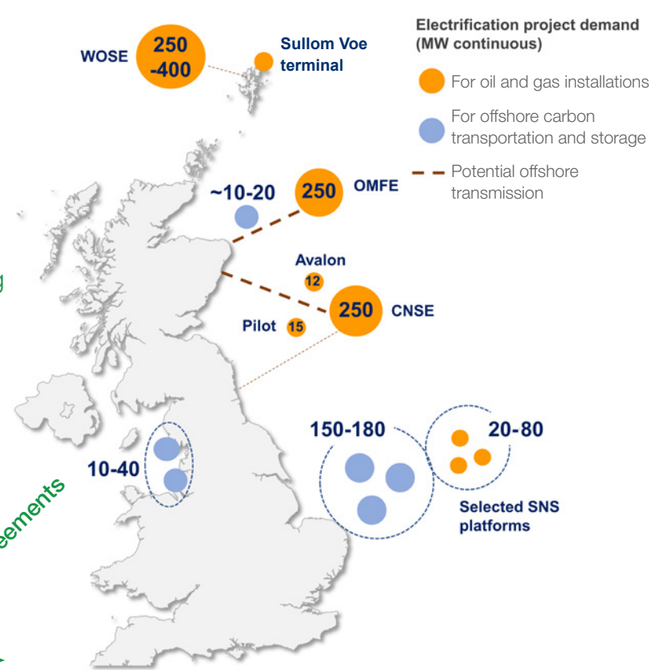
Crown Estate Scotland
Oighreachd a' Chrùin Alba

Innovation and Targeted Oil & Gas (INTOG) is a leasing round managed by Crown Estate Scotland for offshore wind projects that will directly reduce emissions from oil & gas production and boost further innovation.

The NSTA is providing technical support utilising our knowledge of the oil and gas sector.

19 Applications received:
– **10** for Innovation (IN) leases
– **9** for Targeted Oil and Gas (TOG) decarbonisation

Opened August 2022
Closed November 2022
Exclusivity Awards April 2023
Option Agreements Q1 2024



* Based on electrification projects being considered, and current information available to the NSTA

Bacton Energy Hub

The Bacton Catchment Area can play a significant role in the UK's energy future through a combination of blue and green hydrogen, offshore wind power, nuclear and carbon storage.

The natural gas fields of the Southern North Sea and the Bacton gas terminal have been part of the UK's energy backbone for more than 50 years. Since 2004, offshore wind power has also contributed to the energy mix in the area.

The NSTA Bacton Energy Hub Area Plan has demonstrated that Bacton is ideally positioned to become a significant hydrogen production site to support meaningful decarbonisation of industry and heating from 2030, whilst enabling long term viability for the terminal and associated infrastructure.

The published Business Opportunity Report highlighted that:

- The technical readiness levels for both CCS enabled and electrolytic hydrogen production facilities can support the current Energy Hub schedule assumptions.
- The estimated cost of hydrogen generation at Bacton compares favourably with the most recent ESNZ forecast.
- Bacton benefits from connections to multiple potential CO_2 stores, which could provide an opportunity to re-use existing gas pipelines for CO_2 transport, or hydrogen storage.
- Electrolytic hydrogen generation at Bacton could support alternative revenue streams for offshore wind developers in the future.

Up to **2 trillion cubic feet** Incremental Hydrocarbon production. **Significant NPV from carbon abatement**

1.2 Mt CO_2 abatement by 2030 – **600,000 cars' worth**

18 Mt CO_2 abatement by 2050 – **8.7 million cars' worth**

Potential for a very significant hydrogen demand: from 7TWh (2030) rising up to 90TWH (2050)

Potential offshore hydrogen storage in depleted reservoirs

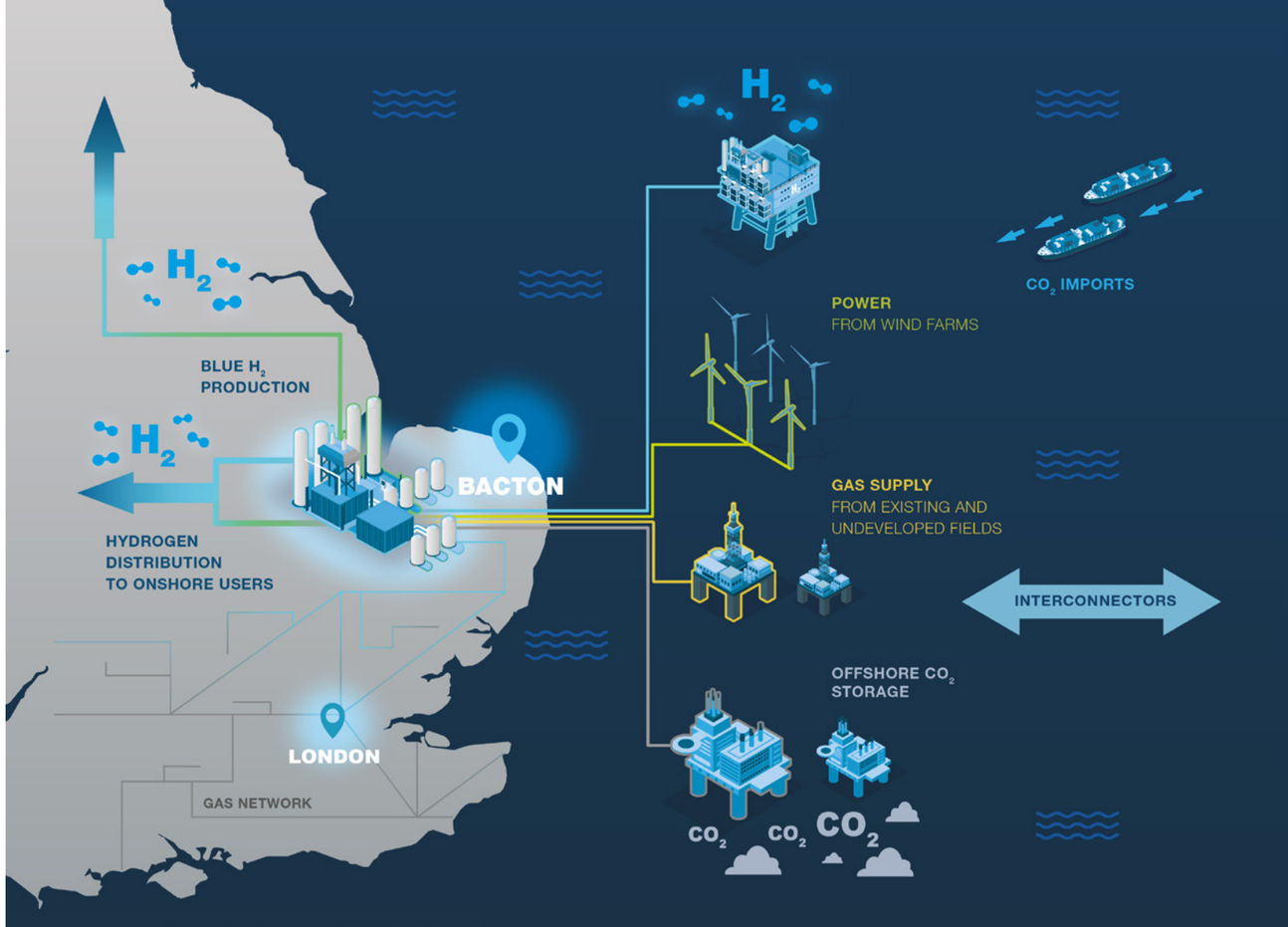
Potential onshore storage in salt caverns

Progressive Energy, Sumitomo Corp, Xodus, Petrofac/Turner&Townsend and Storegga/Energy Transition Advisory have led the Special Interest Groups, supported by a wide group of industry contributors to further develop the Bacton vision, and the following milestones:

2023: Industry consortium(s) form by H1

2025: Final investment decision on energy hub concept

2030: First hydrogen generated from Bacton project



Asset stewardship – driving improvement

Integrated approach using tiered stewardship reviews, informed by robust industry information and data.

Stewardship Expectations

Embedded through regular interface with industry

Scan to see our SE webpage:

Tiered stewardship reviews

Strategic engagement through tiered approach

Tier Zero
- Progress of opportunities
- Key industry themes
- Benchmarking
- Collaboration
- T0 is a once per annum gathering of senior leaders over performance, T1 is an MD level intervention

Tier One
- Resource progression
- Maximise reserves
- Embedded stewardship
- Operator scorecard

Tier Two
- Operators Exploration
- New developments
- Technology
- Decommissioning
- Collaboration (CBQ)

Tier Three
- Asset specific
- Non-generic
- Production efficiency
- Flare/vent consents

Net zero, emissions reduction and CCS

Rationalised industry surveys

Robust data covering the whole life cycle

Performance analysis and benchmarking

We produce a number of regular industry performance and benchmarking reports for both internal and external stakeholders, and have created new interactive benchmarking dashboards, including for Production Efficiency.

The UKCS Production Efficiency 2021 report can be accessed **here**.

Loraine Pace
Head of Performance, Planning and Reporting

"Benchmarking plays a significant role in driving efficiency and performance improvements across the lifecycle of UK upstream operations. Showing operators where they rank against their peers helps identify areas where they can step up."

* Image shows screenshot of Power BI interactive dashboard which tracks hubs efficiency and production losses

Technology Leadership Board

The UKCS has been a leader in offshore technology for 50 years. As the energy transition gathers pace the UK can leverage this experience to develop and deploy the technologies of the future.

technology leadership board

NSTA co-chairs the TLB, focal point for oil & gas and offshore energy technology on the UKCS

Provides strategic direction & clear demand-led priorities aligned with industry commitments.

Three main workstreams:

- Accelerate Deployment
- Digital
- North Sea Transition

Recent Highlights

Launched collaboration with the UK Energy Technology Platform

- Open access database of latest offshore technology
- Raises operator awareness of developers' technology which can solve their technical challenges

Chaired Offshore Energy Data Strategy Taskforce

- Report aims to improve co-ordination and collaboration of offshore energy data across all sectors
- NSTA chairing resulting Digital Strategy Group

NZTC, Accenture and TLB report on Net Zero technology gaps and opportunities

Focus on technology deployment

Wells Insight report – boosting supplies

Emissions reduction

Robotics and automation

- Technology Managers' Network
- Circa 200 strong network of technology managers from Operators and supply chain
- Meets every 2 months
- TLB, NSTA, NZTC report progress of their activities
- TLB Workstreams host topics in rotation
- End users share challenges & technology deployment experiences
- Technology providers present on products, services and capabilities
- Forum for dialogue on offshore energy technology matters

Andy Brooks
Director of New Ventures

"We will continue to be focused on the opportunities of the future. Whether helping industry find technological solutions to boost supplies and reduce emissions, or opening more of the sea bed to carbon storage, we will be forward looking and innovative."


TAUROB
TOTAL
TAUROB
TAUROB
TAUROB

Significance of the supply chain

We use our influence and initiatives to give UK supply chain firms the clearest possible picture of upcoming tendering opportunities for oil and gas and energy transition projects, while also promoting fairer treatment by customers.

Significant opportunities

- **Enable and drive** global CCS, offshore wind and hydrogen projects
- Leverage the UK as an **exporter of skills and services** vital to the global energy transition
- UK upstream sector supports **30,300** direct and **99,700** indirect jobs

Our support includes:

Stewardship Expectation 12

Published in June 2021, SE-12 outlines how companies should collaborate with supply chain contractors.

Companies must demonstrate they are:

- Adopting industry standard payment terms: 30-day period
- Publishing upcoming work and tenders on our Energy Pathfinder portal
- Using standardised tendering practices
- In alignment with cross-industry initiatives, including the North Sea Transition Deal

Supply Chain Action Plans

In August 2022 the NSTA published updated SCAP guidelines to take account of SE-12, the updated NSTA strategy, Net Zero and the North Sea Transition Deal. The guidelines for the first time also include a template to aid in SCAP submission. They require operators to show they are:

- Delivering maximum value from project activity in line with our Strategy
- Driving decommissioning costs down through innovative and collaborative contracting
- Contributing to Total Value Add through supply chain engagement

Energy Pathfinder

Energy Pathfinder

Scan to see how it works:

- One stop shop providing visibility of supply chain opportunities across more than 135 developments
- Gives overall view to the industry of UKCS activity throughout the lifecycle of projects, including oil and gas and energy transition – CCS, hydrogen, low carbon power and offshore power generation
- Allowing operators and developers to highlight challenges and seek solutions from the service sector
- Details of which Tier 1 supplier has won a contract helps smaller suppliers bid for sub-contracts
- Forward work plans, which provide details of upcoming tenders for operations and maintenance contracts

Our work with the Supply Chain and Exports Taskforce

Promoting and delivering the North Sea Transition Deal	The NSTA and industry agreed the metrics on how Local Content will be defined and applied to all energy transition and decommissioning projects.

Bill Cattanach OBE
Head of Supply Chain

"With a growing portfolio of UKCS projects, it is inevitable we are heading towards a much tighter market and potential bottlenecks. If we are to avoid significant cost and time over-runs, the operating community must adopt a more proactive partnership with the supply chain and be prepared to provide early and detailed visibility of requirements."

Data and digital

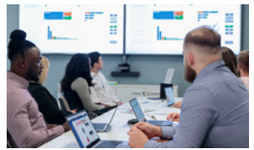
Unleashing the power of data and digital for industry, government, academia and the supply chain.

Quality open data

Open by default

- High-quality data resulting in better decisions
- Data validation at reporting stage
- Data cleansing
- Getting data to users through a wide range of products
- API integration removes duplication
- Spatial data
- Surfacing legacy data
- Decoupling data and systems

User-centric approach



Digital Energy Platform

- Digital system for businesses to apply for Pipeline Works Authorisations
- National Data Repository provides a vast quantity of easy-to-access information for industry, academia and government
- Improved Energy Pathfinder portal providing supply chain with details of opportunities
- Repurposing existing data for identifying carbon storage sites and offshore wind locating

Insights & analysis

Insights leading to action

Data is collected, analysed and disclosed to inform and encourage action

- Energy integration
- Production efficiency
- Unit operating costs
- Recovery factor
- Flaring & venting
- Tier 0
- Emissions data
- Data compliance and use

Influence

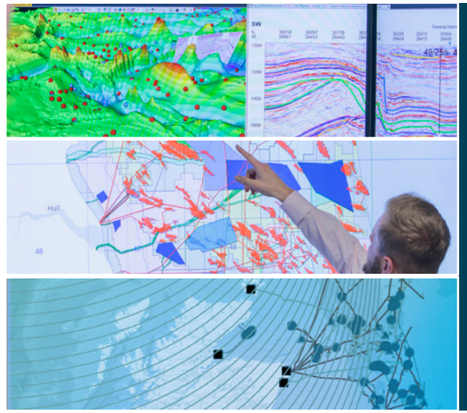
Catalyst for change

- Benchmarking to encourage positive action
- Creating the conditions to enable digital, data and technology changes to take hold
- New Offshore Energy Digital Strategy group set up to enhance cross sector collaboration
- Robust compliance on data quality and completeness to add value and enable use for AI and machine learning

Providing enhanced digital tools to enable improved decision-making

Data, digital and technology for everyone

Our refreshed and up to date Digital Energy Platform offers a vast range of information and analysis to users.



National Data Repository

Innovative cloud based technology enabling more than 50 years' worth of crucial, free North Sea data to be used to help businesses make better informed decisions as part of the transition to net zero

Open data site – GIS apps, spatial planning

Free open data using GIS technology to enable spatial planning of the basin to encourage an integrated offshore energy system

Pipeline Works Authorisation portal

The digitised Pipeline Works Authorisation portal makes consents quicker and easier to request and saves time and money for industry users

Nic Granger

Director of Corporate and Chief Financial Officer

"We are increasing the scope and power of our digital capabilities to help industry and academia realise the massive opportunities of the energy transition and energy integration. The NSTA's digital leadership has been recognised with our inclusion on the Net Zero 50 list"

Decommissioning

We work with industry to minimise the costs and emission impacts of decommissioning.
As decommissioning activity intensifies, there are signficant opportunities for the UK supply chain.

New cost estimate for 2023–2028

10% saving agreed with industry

Real spend to peak at **£2.5bn a year** within next 20 years

NSTA digital tools give supply chain clear sight of upcoming work giving them confidence to invest

Savings of **20–25%** in 2017–2021

Money saved for the exchequer which can be reinvested

Net zero and commercial transformation

Decommissioning is making a contribution to the UK's net zero strategy

Reuse and repurposing infrastructure, including for CCS

Ensure reuse considered before decommissioning programme submitted

Developing framework and tools to support realising repurposing opportunities

Screening UKCS oil and gas infrastructure for repurposing viability

Initiating repurposing stewardship with oil and gas operators

Industry is responding to the opportunity

NSTA promoting a step change in well decommissioning

150–200 wells to be decommissioned p.a.

£0.7–£1bn forecast well decom spend p.a

NSTA expects wells will be decommissioned within two years of initial suspension

Emerging barriers to campaigning

Legal & contractual challenges ⇄ **Non-collaborative behaviours**

Pauline Innes
Director of Supply Chain and Decommissioning

"Our Decommissioning Strategy emphasises the contribution the late life and decommissioning phase can make to the UK's transition to net zero, including through the reuse or repurposing of infrastructure and reservoirs. We also pressed the case for cultivating a more collaborative culture, including the development of new procurement models, and the adoption of well P&A campaigns."

Key publications*

Scan the QR codes to view

We have developed a series of strategies which set the direction for our organisation and wider industry to follow. We also regularly publish reports and analysis to drive greater efficiency in the UKCS.

OGA Strategy

Stewardship Expectation 11: Net Zero

Corporate Governance Guidance

Flaring & Venting Guidance

UKCS Energy Integration Project

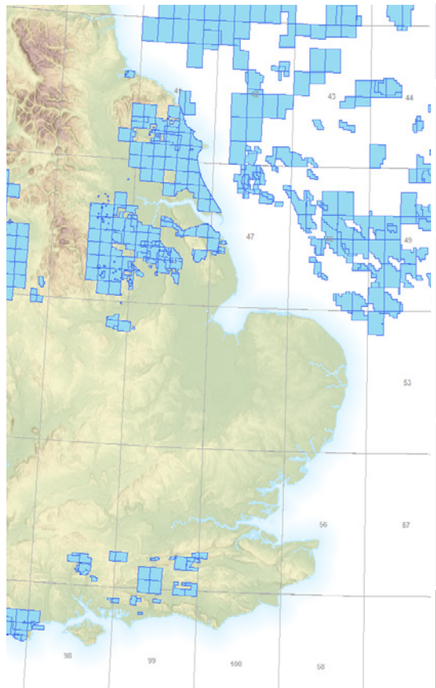
Stewardship Expectation 12: Supply Chain

Bacton Energy Hub Study

Decommissioning Strategy

* all our publications can be found here – North Sea Transition Authority (NSTA): Publications - News &
publications (nstauthority.co.uk)

Onshore licensing and consents



Our onshore role for oil and gas includes:

Regulation: Ensuring an effective licensing system with guidance and controls in place, and making information available in the public domain

Stewardship: Working with licensees to review their existing well stock to secure a progressive plan for the decommissioning of redundant suspended wells

Collaboration: Recognising that high levels of public interest demand transparency, active engagement and close working with government and other regulators

Net zero: Encouraging low carbon initiatives to be integrated in future developments

Features of our onshore activity include:

Licensing: Manage licence activity and commitments for 150+ Petroleum Exploration and Development Licences in England

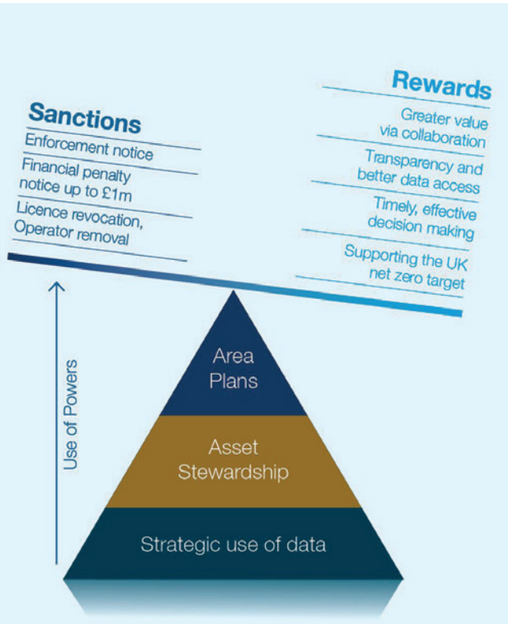
Ongoing exploration and appraisal: At least two new wells expected to be drilled in the next year

Production: Over 51 oil and gas fields undergo annual consent approvals for production, flaring and venting. New field proposals are also considered

Subsurface data: Developing plans to integrate information gathered onshore into our data centre to ensure that this important archive is preserved for the future

Exercise of our powers

Striking the right balance



Our interventions

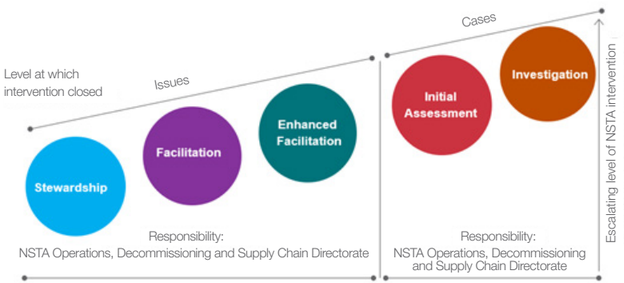
We use 'measured escalation' to manage 'issues', where we seek primarily to influence the outcome, and 'cases' where we will consider intervention with regulatory powers.

Separately, we enforce licence obligations and deadlines to drive the pace of delivery and ensure that the right assets are in the right hands.

We are stepping up the use of our regulatory power to clamp down on poor behaviour in the basin and deliver the objectives of the Strategy.

In 2022 we issued fines to operators in excess of £250k for a range of lcience breaches including excessive flaring.

NSTA's measured escalation process



Further details on the measured escalation process can be found in our Enquiry Guidance.

Measuring success

96 success stories recorded between Feb 2021* and Jan 2023, 536 since inception

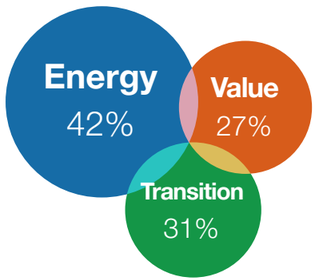
* revised Strategy came into force Feb 2021

Success metrics

*Successes since inception in brackets

Emissions prevented (tonnes CO_2e) Emissions prevented data was first captured in 2021	Tripartite barrels (mmboe)	Value of investments (£bn)	Decom cost savings (£M)	Time saved to industry (fast tracked consents days)
1.4M	203	0.6	353 (870)	433 (5028)

Primary Delivery



Impact on Industry

28 successes	28	9	6	6	5	3	2	1	1
Production Volume	Emissions Prevention	Supply Chain Initiatives	Decom Cost Reduction	Exploration Opportunities	Decom Opportunities	Technologies	Commercial Alignment	Cost savings	Barrier Free Data

Our success tracker, dashboard and methodology quantify impact (relative to what would have happened in the absence of support or intervention) using key metrics aligned with our obligation to support the Energy Transition.

Tripartite working

Tripartite working between our organisation, government and industry aims to stimulate investment, secure jobs and position the UK Continental Shelf as a centre of innovation and expertise.

Fiscal regime

UK government

- 2023 review of long term tax regime
- New investment allowance for exploration and decarbonisation
- Transferable tax history

Supporting decarbonisation

UK government and industry

- North Sea Transition Deal
- Net Zero Strategy
- £1m electrification competition
- CCS and hydrogen business models

Excellence in innovation

UK and Scottish government support

- Net Zero Technology Centre
- National Decommissioning Centre
- Global Underwater Hub
- Energy Transition Zone

North Sea Transition Forum Steering Group and Task Forces

The North Sea Transition Forum	The North Sea Transition Forum brings our organisation together with government ministers and senior industry leaders to provide strategic direction and oversight on oil and gas industry issues. The group meets at least twice a year to drive key priorities, including the North Sea Transition Deal, the vital transition to a low carbon economy and the achievement of net zero.
The North Sea Transition Steering Group	The Steering Group oversees and co-ordinates the task forces, discusses and reviews strategic issues and ensures the task forces' priorities include the UK energy transition and the North Sea Transition Deal. Members include representatives from our organisation, Offshore Energies UK and senior representatives from industry including the task force leads.
Asset Stewardship Task Force **Decommissioning and Repurposing Task Force** **CO_2 Storage and Transportation Taskforce** **Exploration Task Force** **Supply Chain & Exports Task Force** **Technology Leadership Board** **Wells Task Force**	Each task force is led by an industry representative with support from our organisation and other representatives from across industry, trade associations and government. The task forces are focused on core areas and are important vehicles for driving and delivering innovation and improvements. Following a review all task forces have extended their remits to build net zero, collaboration and cultural change into their work scopes as enablers of the North Sea Transition Deal.

Who does what in Government?

Energy transition including:	
Carbon storage licensing and permitting authority	**NSTA**
UK energy policy, including CCS, hydrogen, renewable energy, legislation	**ESNZ**
Seabed leasing	**The Crown Estate (England and Wales), Crown Estate Scotland**
Marine leasing	**Marine Management Organisation (England), Marine Scotland, Natural Resources Wales**
Offshore transmission, expected economic regulator for CCS	**OFGEM**

Oil and gas policy including:	
Overall oil and gas policy Legislation	**ESNZ**
Oil and gas parliamentary processes	**ESNZ & NSTA** shareholder team
Offshore decommissioning	**ESNZ – OPRED, NSTA, Her Majesty's Treasury(HMT)**
Fiscal and taxation	**HMT** (NSTA providing expertise and evidence)
Supply chain and business impact	**ESNZ & NSTA**
Environment	**ESNZ – OPRED**
International relations and trade	**ESNZ, Department for International Trade NSTA, Foreign and Commonwealth Office**

Exploration and production including:	
Offshore, onshore, gas storage and gas unloading licensing Field development plan consents Offshore pipeline works authorisation Infrastructure Commercial matters and changes of control Flaring and venting consents Metering and allocation Production outages Offshore decom efficiency, costs, technology Supply chain action plans Effective net zero test Emissions benchmarking	**North Sea Transition Authority (NSTA)**
Offshore decom programme approval, execution and monitoring	**ESNZ – OPRED**
Offshore environmental management and inspection	**ESNZ – OPRED**
Health and safety management	**HSE**
Environmental aspects of onshore regulations	**Environment Agency (England)**

Key:
ESNZ: Department for Energy Security and Net Zero
OPRED: Offshore Petroleum Regulator for Environment and Decommissioning

Experienced leadership

Board of Directors and Company Secretary

Chairman
Tim Eggar

Chief Executive
Stuart Payne CBE

Non-Executive Director
Sara Vaughan

Non-Executive Director
Malcolm Brown

Non-Executive Director
Dr Sarah Deasley

Non-Executive Director
Iain Lanaghan

Shareholder Representative Director
Fiona Mettam

Shareholder Representative Director
Vicky Dawe

Director of Corporate and Chief Financial Officer
Nic Granger

Company Secretary and General Counsel
Dr Russell Richardson

Accountable to ESNZ Secretary of State

Executive Team

Chief Executive
Stuart Payne CBE

Director of Operations
Tom Wheeler

Director of Regulation
Jane de Lozey

Director of Strategy
Hedvig Ljungerud

Director of Supply Chain and Decommissioning
Pauline Innes

Director of New Ventures
Andy Brooks

Director of Corporate and Chief Financial Officer
Nic Granger

Head of HR
Suzanne Lilley

Company Secretary and General Counsel
Dr Russell Richardson

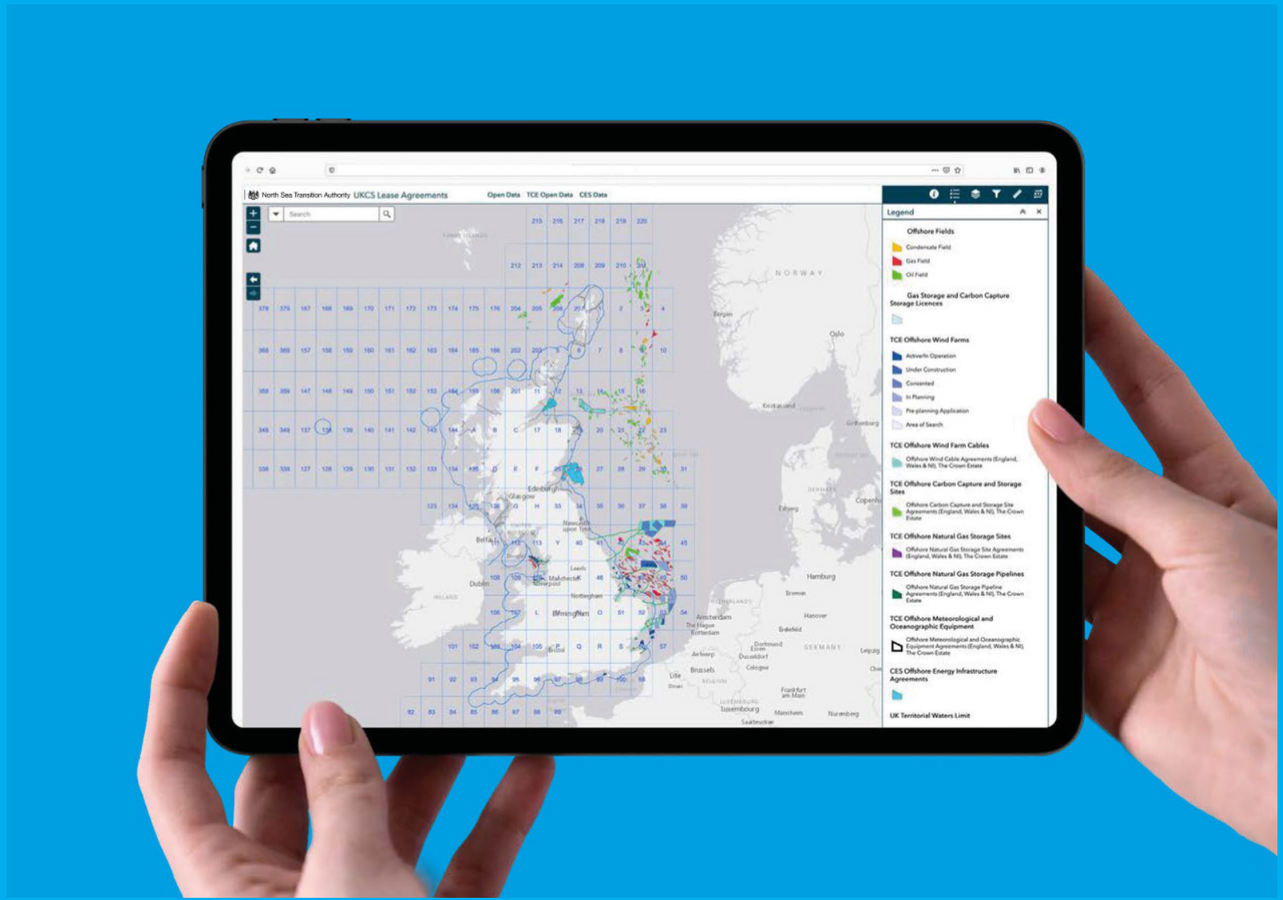
Interactive energy map for the UKCS

We have worked with The Crown Estate (TCE) and Crown Estate Scotland (CES) to create the app, which, at launch, listed more than 60 in-construction or active wind, wave and tidal sites on the UKCS as well as recently awarded CCS licences and 489 petroleum licences.

The application is automatically updated as each organisation logs new information and is the first time that the locations of all oil and gas and renewables sites have been presented together.

The application shows the proximity of existing oil and gas infrastructure to wind farms, electrical cables and CCS sites, which will assist in gauging the potential for reuse when decommissioning assessments are being made. It has also provided valuable information in prioritising areas for seismic shooting before a wind farm development is built.

Scan to see how it works:



North Sea Transition Authority

The North Sea Transition Authority is the business name for the Oil & Gas Authority, a limited company registered in England and Wales with registered number 09666504 and VAT registered number 249433979.
Our registered office is at Sanctuary Buildings, 20 Great Smith Street, London, SW1P 2BT.

www.nstauthority.co.uk