DELIVERING IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST
DELIVERING IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST

Scottish and Southern Electricity Networks (SSEN) has been serving its communities for decades, keeping the lights on in over 4m homes and businesses across the north of Scotland and central southern England.

Now we are looking to the future. The low carbon energy transformation is underway, bringing with it new economic opportunities and greater agency for communities to manage their energy at local level.

There are differing views as to how the country can best deliver this energy transformation. We must put forward a new and different proposition for our sector – one that is reflective of our customers’ needs and the country’s energy future.

Private investment in electricity networks and a clear focus on efficiency have consistently delivered for customers and for society. As the energy system evolves into the flexible, smarter grid of the future, we are committed to providing an energy system that delivers firmly in the public interest.
50% fewer power cuts since 2002, across the industry

17% Networks costs on electricity bills have fallen by 17% since 1990

£120m invested in trialling flexible future tech

£8.55bn contribution As part of SSE plc, £8.55bn contributed to UK GDP in 2017/18 and £484.1m tax paid to the public purse

We’ve connected enough renewable electricity to power 4m homes
A RECORD OF CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

Our customers rightly expect the lights to come on at the flick of a switch and for network operators to deliver value for money. We’re doing this more than ever before – and we intend to do it even better in the future.

Since 1990, the number and duration of power cuts has reduced steadily and significantly meaning our networks are now amongst the most reliable in the world.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Interruptions</th>
<th>Minutes lost</th>
<th>Networks costs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(per 100 customers)</td>
<td>(average customer)</td>
<td>(transmission and distribution)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>2018</td>
<td>2008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>66</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>72</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Southern Electric Power Distribution (SEPD)  Scottish Hydro Electric Power Distribution (SHEPD)

Networks costs as % of electricity bill
17% reduction in networks costs on electricity bills since privatisation in 1990.

Daily electricity networks costs 34p compared to daily telephone line rental at 50p.

Costs estimated to stay flat over the next 10 yrs.

50% fewer power cuts since 2002, across the industry.

30% quicker average restoration time than in 2007.
PAYING A FAIR SHARE OF TAX

SSEN delivers an essential service which means we have a substantial responsibility to our communities and wider society.

As part of SSE plc, we’re committed to fair and transparent tax practices and are proud to contribute to the public purse through tax every year; supporting the services society needs to thrive.

We were the first, and remain the only, FTSE 100 company to receive the independent Fair Tax Mark and have been reaccredited every year since 2014, meaning customers can be sure we’re paying the right tax, at the right time and in the right way.

More importantly, we want to work with Ofgem and our energy networks peers to ensure standards of transparency, like the Fair Tax Mark criteria, are widely adopted across the industry or embedded in the regulatory framework.
We contributed £8.55bn to the GB economy in 2017/18 – 0.5% of total UK GDP*. 

£484.1m tax paid to the public purse in 2017/18*. 

*as part of SSE plc
INVESTING IN THE FUTURE
ENERGY NETWORK

SSEN, and other energy networks, are making a significant investment in vital infrastructure which is essential to improving service and reliability for customers, and delivering cleaner, greener energy.

Since 1990, £100bn has been invested by electricity network operators to upgrade Britain’s ageing energy infrastructure. This equates to a 50% real terms increase in investment, with customers paying less.

SSEN typically invests over £800m each year – over £2m per day – in developing and maintaining critical national infrastructure, whilst driving economic growth and helping meet the UK’s decarbonisation goals.
SSEN has connected over 3GW of clean, renewable electricity generation – enough to power 4m homes.

Over 30GW of generation now connected to local distribution networks.

75% reinvestment of distribution business profits since 2005, improving reliability and resilience.

221% reinvestment of transmission business profits since 2005, enabling the highest level of renewable connections in Great Britain.
This £1.1bn project is the largest investment in the north of Scotland electricity network since the hydro development era in the 1950s and the largest capital investment project ever undertaken by SSE.

The High Voltage Direct Current (HVDC) subsea cable is being installed under the Moray Firth rather than over land to reduce the visual impact in this area of natural beauty. The cable will have the capacity to carry up to 1.2GW of electricity generated by renewable energy projects in the north of Scotland to help Great Britain move towards a low carbon future.

Estimated contribution of £643.3m of value added to UK GDP

10,971 years of employment supported

160km of subsea and underground cabling
Photo: The Caithness-Moray subsea cable on the purpose-built NKT Victoria cable-laying vessel.
SKILLED JOBS FOR LOCAL PEOPLE

Our skilled teams are based in the heart of the regions we serve, some of which are in the most remote areas of the country.

From linesmen to engineers to skilled customer service representatives, we offer a wealth of employment opportunities.

We are a real Living Wage Employer, paying all staff and contractors a salary calculated to be reflective of the cost to live. We know that without our employees, there is no company, and their hard work is rewarded with competitive pay and benefits, a strong and secure pension scheme, training programmes, a healthy trade union voice and share programme.

We’re also recruiting and training the workforce of tomorrow with 362 apprentices taken on in the last decade, ensuring we are creating highly skilled, well paid jobs which will help plug the UK skills gap.
A leading real Living Wage Employer since 2013

Employ

4,200 people across the north of Scotland and central southern England

65% of employees are shareholders in SSE

362 apprenticeships completed since 2008
LEADING THE TRANSITION TO A SMART, LOW CARBON SYSTEM

As a country, we are committed to a low carbon future, and SSEN is playing a key part in delivering the infrastructure needed in a greener Britain.

Since 2005, generation connected in the north of Scotland has more than doubled with over 90% low carbon – all connected to the grid by SSEN. The revolution is continuing with everything from electric vehicles and smart household appliances to automation in the workplace, changing how and when we use energy.

SSEN is using its energy expertise, coupled with financial investment, to deliver smarter, more efficient and locally-tailored ways to support homes and businesses.
£120m spent on innovation since 2010

We’re trialling how electric vehicle uptake will impact the energy grid, giving us, government and Ofgem key data on changing needs

Flexible grid connections to ensure shovel-ready projects get access first in areas under constraint

Led innovative managed charging pilot, to ensure ‘clusters’ of electric vehicles don’t overload the network

First to introduce laser scanning of electricity lines as business as usual, helping to reduce costs and improve reliability

Ground breaking 1MW storage battery on Shetland, as part of a pioneering trial which has increased the islands’ renewable energy capacity by 300%

Photo: Hjaltland Housing Association on Shetland partnered with the SSEN innovation trial.
SSEN used first-of-its-kind technology to connect more generation on the Isle of Wight, and stop it overloading the electricity network at the same time.

Microwave links, commonly used by mobile phone operators, send signals to the island’s generator to tell it to either continue generating power or to switch off. This simple, fast and highly versatile technology enables more generation, whilst ensuring the grid doesn’t become overburdened when faults and outages occur.

This Active Network Management (ANM) solution on the Isle of Wight builds on SSEN’s leadership in network innovation which includes the world’s first ANM for electricity generation on Orkney, and the world’s first ANM for electricity demand on Shetland.
Photo: Isle of Wight.
HELP US LEAD THE ENERGY REVOLUTION

The UK’s energy networks are a huge success story, but the world is moving forward. As our industry changes around us, we must also be open to change.

We can, and should, go further. SSEN is committed to working with government, the regulator and other stakeholders to design a network fit for the future.

SSEN wants to hear your views. Please do get in touch with us.

poweringthefuture@sse.com
SSEN at a glance

- **4,200 employees**
  working across the country

- **134,000km**
  of overhead lines and underground cables

- **Over 100 subsea cables**
  powering island communities

- **106,000**
  substations and 85 depots

- **Handling 550,000 calls**
  from our customers each year

- **Over £2 million donated**
  to community projects since 2015

You can read more about our work at
SSEN.CO.UK/PoweringTheFuture