
Planning, Monitoring & Review of Renewable Energy Projects

Quarterly Review UK Summary, June 2007 – August 2007.

This report has been prepared to provide a brief overview of the current situation with regards to the delivery of renewable energy schemes across the whole of the UK. It covers the period June 2007 to August 2007. More detailed information on progress within England, Northern Ireland, Scotland, and Wales can be obtained from the quarterly reports prepared by Entec for each of the countries, available at <http://restats.org.uk>.

The information provided in this report is based solely on the information held in the programme monitoring database. Whilst the project contributors have made every effort to ensure this database is accurate and up to date, they do not accept responsibility for any inaccuracies in the data, which are ultimately derived from third-party sources.

Overview of Progress

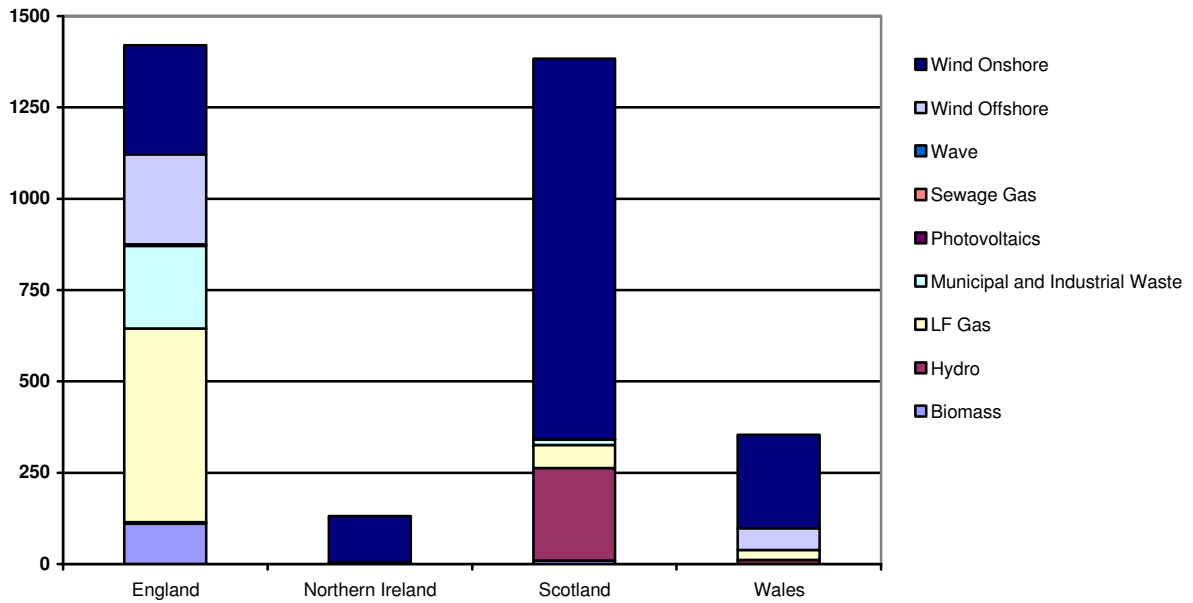
England received and approved the greatest number of renewable energy planning applications (total 466 and 332 respectively) in the UK between 1999 and end of August 2007; this is a reflection of the large number of landfill gas schemes which have been processed in England. Since 2005, although the number of planning applications submitted in England has reduced, the total installed capacity of the applications has remained at a similar level. This is primarily due to the higher number of applications for large capacity offshore wind developments. Northern Ireland has received the lowest number of planning applications between 1999 and end of August 2007 (71 applications) but has the highest rate of planning approval (with only one application refused) of all the UK countries.

There are currently 227 renewable energy developments with submitted planning applications in the UK. The total installed capacity of these projects is 12,058MW, with 51% of this capacity located in Scotland (110 projects).

There are 278 renewable energy developments which have achieved planning approval but which are not yet operational. The total installed capacity of these projects is 5,938MW, 58% of which is located in England, and 40% of which can be attributed to offshore wind projects.

England currently has the greatest value of operational installed renewable energy capacity of any of the home nations (1,420MW), with the main contributor being landfill gas (37%). Scotland has the next highest (1,383MW) with onshore wind providing the most significant contribution (75%). The dominant renewable technology in Wales and Northern Ireland (measured by number of projects or installed capacity) is onshore wind, the total installed operational capacity is 354MW and 132MW respectively.

Figure 1 Operational projects by technology type and country (installed capacity, MW)



Across the UK as a whole, onshore wind is the renewable technology with the most significant operational, installed generating capacity, with a total of approximately 1,722MW. This represents 52% of the total renewable energy generating capacity in the UK. It is the dominant technology in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

All the projects currently in the planning system in the UK have an estimated installed capacity of 12,057MW. Approximately 71% of this value (8,556MW) is from onshore wind, and almost 6,053MW is from onshore wind in Scotland alone. England is the only country in the UK where offshore wind energy looks set to become the dominant source of renewable energy; 6 projects, with an estimated potential installed capacity of 1,875MW are currently being considered in planning. To date, there have been no planning refusals of offshore wind applications in any country of the UK.

Across the UK, there are currently 278 renewables projects that have achieved planning approval but have not yet been commissioned. These projects represent 5,938MW of potential installed capacity. In Scotland (2,032MW) and Northern Ireland (214MW) the majority of this capacity would be derived from onshore wind. In England (3,341MW) and Wales (351MW) the majority of this capacity would be derived from offshore wind.

For more information on the status of renewable planning applications in England, Northern Ireland, Scotland or Wales, please refer to the individual quarterly review reports for the period June 2007 - August 2007.