



# reNEWS

## LIVE @ ALL-ENERGY 2026

SPONSORED BY **REBLADE**

### COLLETT

EXPERTS IN MOTION

[www.collett.co.uk](http://www.collett.co.uk)

12 May 2026

### WEDNESDAY HIGHLIGHTS

#### Bank on Shanks

UK Energy Minister Michael Shanks will give the opening ministerial address at this year's All-Energy event, followed by an in-depth fireside chat. **Lomond Auditorium, 0930-1025**

#### Go go NESO

NESO boss Fintan Slye will outline the system operator's work in the UK. Delegates will be hoping for an update and some clarity around Gate 2. **Lomond Auditorium, 1030-1050**

#### A tale with McGrail

Great British Energy chief Dan McGrail outlines the progress the public energy company has made almost one year since the GB Energy Act 2025 received Royal Assent. **Lomond Auditorium, 1100-1120**

#### Back in the black?

Is offshore wind back on track? That's the question a panel of speakers including RWE project director Adam Ezzamel and Ocean Winds man Mark Baxter will try to answer. **Lomond Auditorium, 1130-1230**

#### Shaken, not stirred

Enjoy a drink at the networking evening and civic reception after a busy Day 1. Courtesy of the Lord Provost of the City of Glasgow. **SEC Hall 2, 1800-2030**

### NSTA sets out North Sea transition vision

The UK's North Sea Transition Authority (NSTA) plans to highlight the ways in which energy strands can cooperate in the transition to clean energy. **p2**

# 'Digital trust key to power AI use'

Establishing 'digital trust' will be key to managing the risk and opportunities AI presents for energy systems, new research that will be released at All-Energy 2026 has found.

"As energy networks become more digital, automated and data-driven, trust in these systems is now as critical as trust in physical infrastructure," DNV state in the study that taps into a topic which will be widely discussed this week in Glasgow.

"AI, advanced analytics, and digital twins already influence how networks plan, operate and invest today. The question is no longer whether these technologies will shape the future of energy systems - they already do.

"Without explicit frameworks for digital trust, the growing use of AI introduces new risks - from system resilience and operational control to consumer outcomes and regulatory confidence."

Twenty-five years ago, when the first All-Energy conference took place, most practical applications of artificial intelligence were a pipe



**RISK ASSESSMENT: Hari Vamadevan, DNV energy systems senior vice president and regional director for UK and Ireland**

Photo: DNV

dream. Now the International Energy Agency backs the potential for AI to accelerate the move away from fossil fuels in myriad ways.

But when powerful algorithms tackle competing demands in the same energy system, specific risks can include impaired outage management, poor investment decisions, struggling existing regulatory frameworks and low transparency, the research finds.

Establishing trust will involve systematically building confidence by using data to show that AI-enabled systems will behave predictably, remain under control, and align with public interest outcomes throughout

their lifecycle, it adds. This would mirror the way that regulators have long assessed the reliability of physical infrastructure, at a time when renewables and electrification mean more dependence on real-time data and algorithmic optimisation.

"Scaling AI without assurance creates new and very real risks," said Hari Vamadevan, the DNV energy systems senior vice president and regional director for UK and Ireland. "Digital trust is what allows operators to deploy AI with confidence - knowing systems will behave as expected."

The AI theme will be reflected throughout the conference this week.

On Wednesday, a panel of experts from Microsoft, Ofgem and the Net Zero Technology Centre will discuss how to design grids, markets, and policy so that AI accelerates rather than undermines the transition.

Several companies will also showcase their technology, including Keen AI, which designs programs for energy companies to assess and analyse their assets.

### THE INTERVIEW reNEWS

Vattenfall UK country manager Claus Wattendrup discusses a crucial year for English onshore wind, the need for clarity from policymakers and why London must 'double down' on renewables. **p4**



### Repowering UK wind offers clear M&A opportunity

Britain's aging wind fleet offers a significant opportunity for new market entrants to take a portfolio approach to repowering, writes Gneiss Energy vice president Andrew Ellis. **p5**



**reNEWS.biz**  
for rolling industry news updates on your PC and mobile

# The Power of Legal Expertise

Delivering cutting-edge legal advice on groundbreaking clean energy projects for over 35 years

**SW** Shepherd + Wedderburn

Headline sponsor





## Sponsor's welcome

Twenty-five years ago, All-Energy was launched to bring a fledgling industry together, writes *Reblade* chief executive *Fiona Lindsay*.

The wind farms that were being built across Scotland that same year are now approaching the end of their operational lives. It's a timespan that demonstrates the maturity of our industry.

Scotland has led the way in building so much of the UK's wind energy capacity, and it has a responsibility to lead the way in managing it responsibly at end of life.

Decommissioning and repowering are the next chapter for this industry; a stage of the wind energy lifecycle that's complex, consequential, and full of opportunity.

As a Glasgow-based business, we are proud to sponsor the **reNEWS** All-Energy Show Dailies, and we are looking forward to our home city becoming the centre of the renewable universe for a couple of days.

Enjoy the conference, and we hope to speak with many of you this week.

# NSTA sets out North Sea transition vision

The UK's North Sea Transition Authority (NSTA) plans to highlight the ways in which energy strands can cooperate in the transition to clean energy, including repurposing decommissioned oil and gas infrastructure for renewables and co-locating technologies.

"This landmark 25th edition of All-Energy brings together diverse sectors, all of whom have a role to play in creating the integrated energy future of the UK," NSTA chair Liz Ditchburn told **reNEWS** ahead of the Glasgow conference.

She will discuss delivery of the energy transition on Thursday alongside panellists from the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero, SP Energy Networks, Consumer Scotland and the National Wealth Fund.

The panel will weigh up the roles of government, regulators and system operators in removing

barriers to investment, and discuss the importance of spatial planning.

The NSTA works alongside the Crown Estates, the UK and Scottish governments, and the National Energy System Operator to balance the interests of the various energy industries in the crowded and historically fossil fuel dominated area.

Decommissioning is intensifying on the Continental Shelf, and repurposing oil and gas infrastructure "can provide value to industry and the UK, reducing waste and accelerating energy transition", according to the regulator.

Pauline Innes, the group's director of supply chain and decommissioning, will moderate a panel on the energy supply chain in transition on Wednesday. Panellists will include delegates from SSEN

Transmission and Global Energy Group.

■ This year's conference features a new 'scale-up zone' where emerging firms will showcase their solutions to some of the challenges facing the clean-power industries.

Alice Johnson, business lead for innovator support at Energy Systems Catapult, which is organising the space, said the idea is that these firms will be able to build partnerships with more established energy companies.

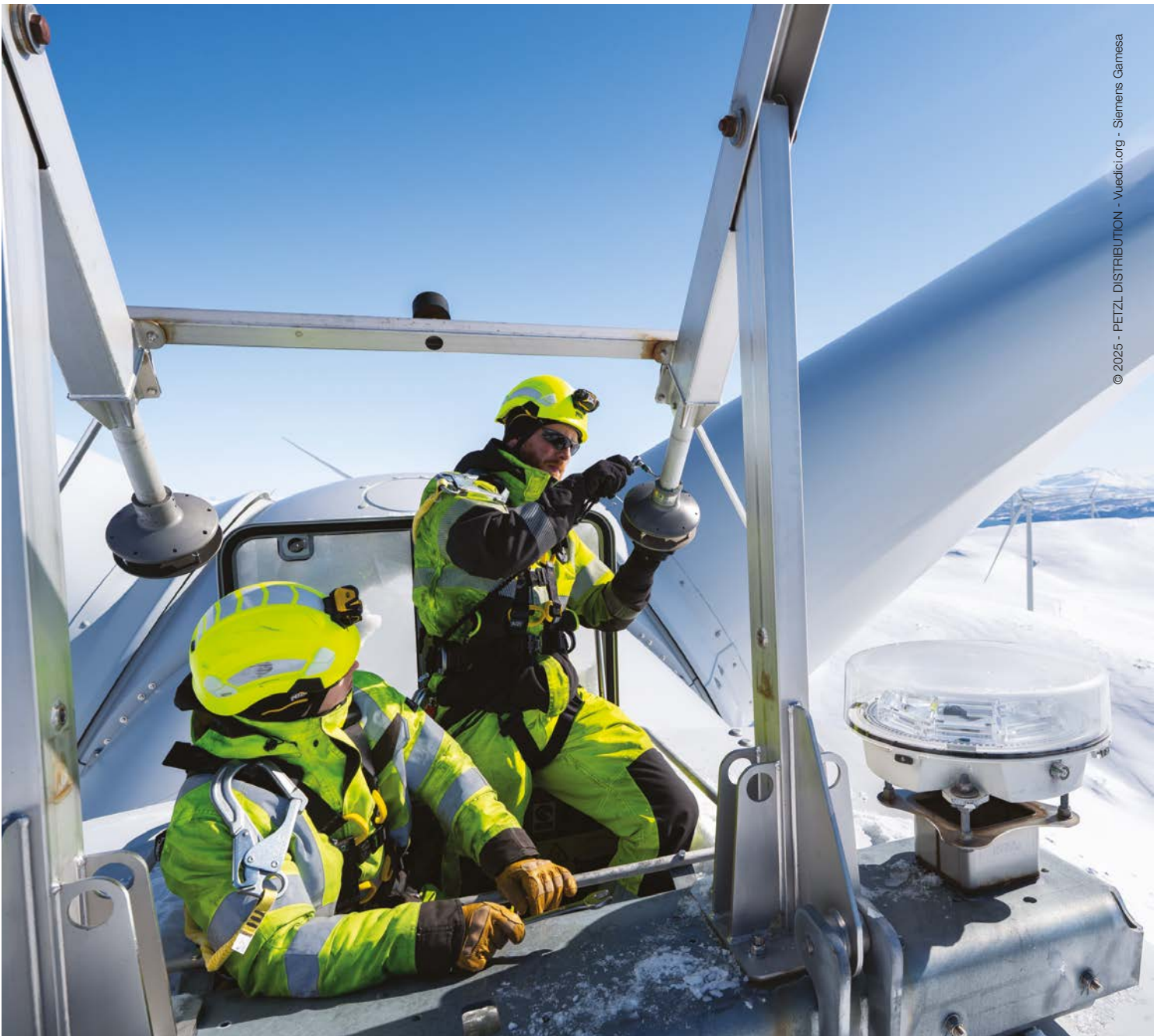
"As the energy system evolves at pace – shaped by clean energy targets, market uncertainty, rapid technological change and unparalleled opportunities for economic growth – the need to accelerate innovation and scale-up high potential UK innovators has never been greater."

## DECOMMISSIONING DONE RIGHT.

If your windfarm is approaching end of life, let Reblade take care of it. From decommissioning strategies to planning documentation; stakeholder liaison to project design; onsite asset removal to material management and site remediation. As your Principal Contractor, we look after everything, keeping your project compliant, on schedule and on budget.

**ONE EXPERIENCED TEAM.  
TOTAL PEACE OF MIND.**

info@reblade.co.uk | www.reblade.com



# PETZL WORK AT HEIGHT SOLUTIONS

📷 Climbing to the highest point of a wind turbine to perform maintenance operations hundreds of feet off the ground — sometimes in extreme conditions? A job like that can only be done by talented and seasoned professionals with the right equipment. At Petzl, we put our expertise to work so they have the best possible equipment to get the job done. Providing a practical demonstration, the RES team is carrying out maintenance on a wind turbine at Norway's Kvitfjell wind farm.

NEW 2026



This solution for wind turbines includes a VOLT® WIND harness, VERTEX® HI-VIZ helmet, ABSORBICA®-Y fall-arrest lanyard, and a GRILLON HOOK work positioning lanyard and PIXA® R headlamp. [www.petzl.com](http://www.petzl.com)



Access the inaccessible®

# THE INTERVIEW reNEWS



Vattenfall UK country manager **Claus Wattendrup** (left) discusses a crucial year for English onshore wind, the need for clarity from policymakers and why London must 'double down' on renewables

**Q** What is Vattenfall's key message to attendees at All-Energy 2026?

**A** We're racing to secure the UK's energy future by breaking our addiction to expensive fossil fuels - yet energy has been dragged into a pointless culture war.

Everyone at All-Energy knows the system is complex, but the direction is clear: electrify and cut costs. There's too much noise from alpha males with big egos but little knowledge. Let's make sure they understand that slowing the energy transition now would be sheer madness.

**Q** How do you see the UK onshore wind market evolving over the next 12 months?

**A** The next year will be crucial, with progress in England firmly in the spotlight.

Vattenfall has just launched Ray 2 - our first English project since the de facto ban was lifted - and we have up to 700MW in development in England which could enter the system this year. That's alongside the build-out of Clashindarroch 2, plus an 800MW Scottish pipeline.

The main challenges remain though: grid delays, consenting times and global cost pressures.

**Q** What are the biggest barriers to deployment, and how can these be addressed?

**A** Grid queues and slow connections are holding back build ready projects. Grid reform is welcome, but it must be delivered quickly, transparently and win developers' confidence.

In planning, consistency matters as much as speed - clear policy, predictable decisions and properly resourced authorities reduce risks for developers. Aviation is another major blocker, especially in England: early engagement from the military side, plus a clear civil aviation framework on industry costs are essential.

**Q** What are the main asks of policymakers ahead of AR8 to make the auction a success?

**A** The priority for AR8 is a framework that supports investment. That means strike prices that reflect today's costs, risks and financing conditions. Clear auction parameters, realistic delivery milestones and confidence that projects can move smoothly through grid and planning are also critical. A strong AR8 would reinforce the UK's

CfD success and send a clear signal that the UK remains open for renewable investment.

**Q** Are there any lessons to be learned from NESO's connections reform process?

**A** The shift away from "first come, first served" toward strategic alignment with system needs is the right direction. But now we need clarity on how decisions are made, how projects are prioritised and how risks are managed during the transition.

If developers understand the pathway and the criteria, they can adapt.

**Q** How can the UK remain attractive for renewables investment amid global economic volatility?

**A** Policymakers must reduce the UK's exposure to volatile international gas and power markets by doubling down on domestic renewables. That clarity alone would boost investor confidence. Beyond this, investors want two things: a Strategic Spatial Energy Plan that prioritises low cost renewables in the best locations, and reformed national pricing that delivers predictable, transparent grid charges during the transition.



## LAST CHANCE TO ENTER! FREE TO ENTER

### SUBMIT ENTRIES BY FRIDAY 15TH MAY 2026

*Celebrating excellence  
in the UK's onshore and  
offshore wind industries*



Awards Ceremony:  
Thursday 17th September,  
Hilton London Bankside

[www.nationalwindenergyawards.co.uk](http://www.nationalwindenergyawards.co.uk)

BROUGHT TO YOU BY



HEADLINE SPONSOR



Nordex UK & Ireland

EVENT SPONSORS



# Repowering UK wind offers clear M&A opportunity

Over the next decade, a large share of early-generation wind farms across the UK will reach the end of their original subsidy regimes and consent lifetimes.

By 2030, 3.2GW of onshore wind capacity will face end-of-life decisions; whilst by 2035, this rises to over half of the fleet, implying roughly 7-8GW of capacity at risk.

In Europe, we can already see the emergence of a functioning repowering M&A market with dedicated platforms, and the UK could soon follow the same path. In the first half of 2025, 35% of all new onshore wind capacity in Germany came from repowering.

In January ERG completed the c.£97m purchase from OnPath Energy of seven operational onshore wind farms in northern England (all with ROCs) totalling 73MW, whilst in 2021 Orsted purchased a 389MW operational/under

Britain's aging wind fleet offers a significant opportunity for new market entrants to take a portfolio approach to repowering, writes Gneiss Energy vice president **Andrew Ellis**

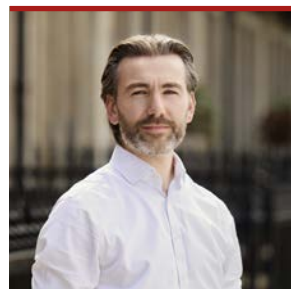
construction portfolio across Scotland and Ireland from Brookfield Renewable Ireland for €571m.

What is notable on the UK side is the volume of strategic activity that isn't M&A yet: Nadara with 1.1GW of UK onshore wind is repowering Beinn Ghlas and Novar 1; EGT has acquired Earthmill/WEP to access a £19m repowering services pipeline; whilst ScottishPower Renewables has completed the UK's first major repower at Hagshaw Hill, lifting capacity from 16MW to 80MW.

The UK has a complex interplay of lease lengths, CfD and planning rules, community concerns and

grid constraints. ROC accreditations begin expiring from March 2027. In January 2026, the government switched RO indexation from RPI to CPI, compressing the value of remaining subsidy cashflows. Then in April it proposed to raise the Electricity Generator Levy from 45% to 55% and setting out plans for a voluntary Wholesale CfD for legacy generators not already on fixed-price contracts, with EGL exemption as an incentive.

On the other side, repowered onshore wind is now CfD-eligible from AR7 onwards on 20-year, CPI-indexed terms, and over 1.3GW of onshore wind



cleared AR7 at £51.85/MWh.

The economics of holding aging ROC assets are being squeezed from multiple directions while the economics of repowering are increasingly being supported, but what's missing is the capital and the platform to aggregate these opportunities at scale.

More than 200 onshore wind farms across Great Britain, representing over 3.2GW of capacity, will face end-of-life decisions by 2030, with more than half of today's fleet doing so by 2035.

Country-wide, there are around 770MW of sub-5MW sites which are effectively excluded from

the CfD mechanism and therefore more likely to be life-extended, sold or decommissioned without a specialist repowering approach.

For investors willing to take a portfolio approach the sites exist, the grid connections are in place and the planning history is established. The question is not whether UK repowering will happen, but who moves first. ■

**reNEWS**

Publisher  
**Lewis Business Media (Arts) Ltd**  
Suite A, Arun House, Office Village, River Way, Uckfield, TN22 1SL

ISSN 1478-307X

© All articles appearing in reNEWS are protected by copyright. Any unauthorised reproduction is strictly prohibited.

[editorial@renews.biz](mailto:editorial@renews.biz)  
[renews.biz](http://renews.biz)

## reNEWS

### UK Energy Storage 2026

- ✓ Examination of the project pipelines and the developers behind rapid growth
- ✓ Analysis of the country's existing approx. 60-70GW pipeline
- ✓ Focus on key projects in construction, planning and development



BRAND NEW FOR 2026!

Published to all **reNEWS PREMIUM** subscribers on 22 October  
Advertising booking deadline: 1 October

Click above to view a sample of the 2025 European Solar Report

Enhance your presence in this market by advertising in our annual special report

For more information contact [sales@renews.biz](mailto:sales@renews.biz)

Sponsorship opportunities are also available