

EASTERN GREEN LINK

Eastern Green Link 1

From Torness, East Lothian to Hawthorn Pit, County Durham

Welcome to the summer EGL1 project newsletter for Scotland

EGL1 is a two-gigawatt high voltage direct current (HVDC) electrical 'superhighway' that will run from the Torness area in East Lothian, to Hawthorn Pit in County Durham, via the North Sea.

In the Torness area, we will build a new onshore converter station connecting into a new substation near Branxton to tie into the existing transmission network. Underground electricity cables will be installed to connect the substation to the converter station, and from the converter station to the landfall point south of Thorntonloch beach.

The converter station will be built on land between Dunbar Energy Recovery Facility and Dunbar Landfill by a consortium of GE Vernova and Metlen Energy & Metals.

Enabling works commenced earlier this year to ready the site in Scotland, and we are pleased to share that construction of the Torness converter station is now underway.

In the coming months, construction will begin on the 10 km onshore underground cable in Scotland.

It's fantastic to see the beginnings of work on EGL1. The importance of this project to the UK's energy system cannot be understated. I'm incredibly grateful to the communities which will host our works over the coming years, and I am committed to our promise to leave these communities a positive legacy.



Matthew Barton, Project Director for EGL 1



What is EGL1?

EGL1 is a two-gigawatt high voltage direct current electrical connection between Torness in East Lothian, Scotland and Hawthorn Pit in County Durham.

The multi-billion-pound project is being developed through a joint venture between SP Energy Networks and National Grid Electricity Transmission.

The project will unlock Scotland's vast renewable energy reserves by scaling up the UK's capacity to transport clean energy from where it is generated to where it is needed. It will also increase the resilience and stability of the UK's transmission networks.

Works to construct EGL1 commenced in March 2025, with the aim of being fully operational by 2029. Connection works started in Scotland in 2024.

Once complete, EGL1 has the capacity to deliver enough electricity for two million homes.



In the Community

On Thursday 5th June, colleagues from across the EGL1 project teamed up for a beach litter pick in North Berwick to mark World Environment Day.

This year's theme, "Beating Plastic Pollution" inspired our group of volunteers to collect nine full bags of rubbish from the shoreline playing a vital role in protecting marine life and preserving our beautiful coastline.



Project updates

Traffic management – Dunbar Park and Ride Planning Application

Metlen Energy & Metals will be submitting a planning application in the summer for a park and ride facility in Dunbar Business Park. This facility is intended to minimise the traffic impact by allowing workers and their vehicles to be collectively transported to the site.

As with all planning decisions, all relevant documentation must be submitted to East Lothian Council for a final decision. You can visit the planning portal for more details by going to the East Lothian website: www.eastlothian.gov.uk

Torness Converter Station & enabling works



Our contractor, Metlen Energy & Metals, have begun to prepare the ground for the temporary welfare area delivering over 500 tonnes of stone per day in order to build the platform.

The main construction works on the convertor station site are set to get underway this summer. These works will be subject to factors such as East Lothian Council's planning approval of the reserved matters and associated conditions.

Offshore works



The installation of the subsea cable from Thorntonloch Beach, Scotland, to Seaham Hall Beach in England is a key part of EGL 1.

Beginning in July, a Jack-Up Barge will be sited off Thorntonloch Beach in Scotland to take core samples of the seabed to help inform the design of the cable installation.

1. Existing network 2. Substation

4

Torness area,

East Lothian

3. Converter station

4. Underground cable

5. Submarine cable

HVAC electricity

Earlier in February, we held an EGL1 Groundbreaking Ceremony in Torness and North Berwick, East Lothian.

Torness, SP Energy Networks CEO, Nicola Connelly and National Grid Electricity Transmission President of Strategic Infrastructure, Carl Trowell, were joined by former Minister for Housing and MSP for East Lothian. Paul McLennan, to mark the start of construction.

At the ceremony, they confirmed an £8m fund has now been approved by Ofgem to support communities and deliver social, environmental and economic benefits where the cable meets land in East Lothian and County Durham. Set to open later this year, the fund recognises the important contribution communities will play in hosting vital energy infrastructure and strengthening energy security.

Energy partnerships

EGL1 is one of multiple energy infrastructure projects being constructed or in planning in the East Lammermuir area. An Energy Projects Partnership is being forged between SPEN, the energy developers, East Lothian Council and East Lammermuir Community Council, to facilitate joined-up working in which the local community which is hosting these developments has a strong voice.

The ambition is for these projects to provide improvements to the guided by community priorities. To find out more, visit the East Lammermuir Developments website. For more information about community benefits, visit the East Lammermuir Community Council website where residents in East Lammermuir can sign up for email updates.



Marine works



Project high level timeline

Scottish onshore works



English onshore works



Minimising disruption

Due to the nature of these works, some disruption to local communities is unavoidable.

However, we are working to ensure that this is kept to a minimum and will get in touch with impacted communities closer to the start of works in their area.

Keep in touch

If you have any questions about the EGL1 project, please get in touch using the contact details below:

contact@easterngreenlink1.co.uk

0808 196 8405 - our phoneline is open between 9am and 5pm on weekdays

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You can find out more about EGL1 by visiting our website:

www.easterngreenlink1.co.uk