Strategic Spatial Energy Plan

Mapping the future



The National Energy System Operator

The National Energy System Operator (NESO) is an independent, public corporation at the centre of the energy system.

We take a whole system view to create a world where everyone has access to reliable, clean and affordable energy.





Our duties

Primary duties



Net Zero



Efficiency & economy



Security of supply

Secondary duties



Facilitating competition



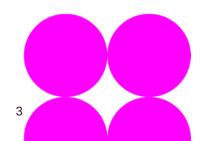
Consumer impacts



Whole system impacts

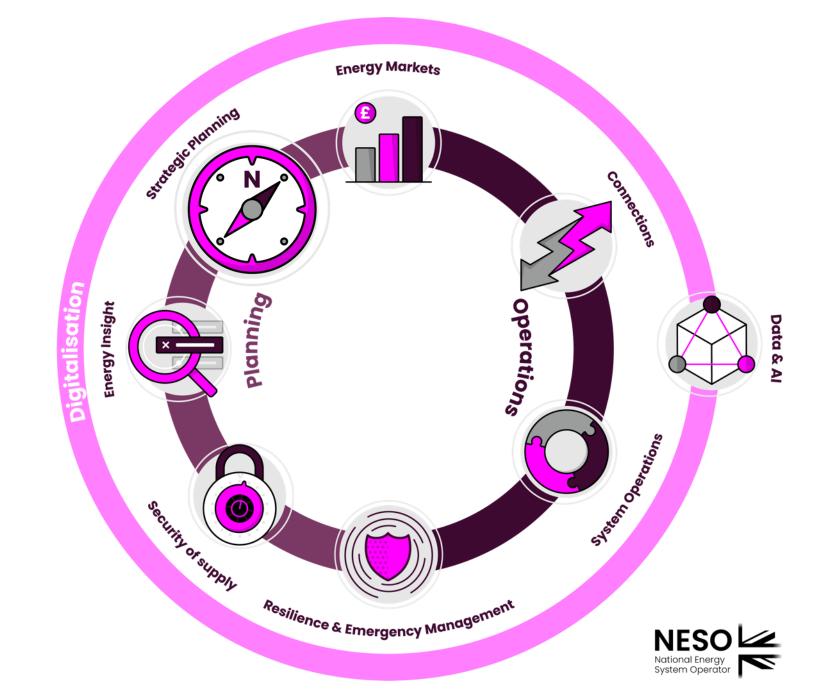


Facilitating innovation





What we do

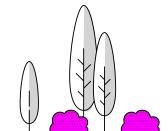


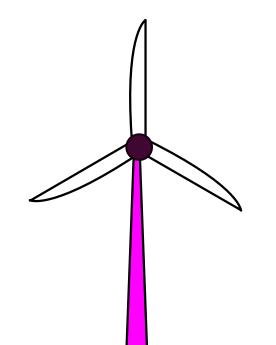
Strategic Spatial Energy Plan

The Strategic Spatial Energy Plan (SSEP) will accelerate clean, affordable and secure energy through greater certainty.

The plan will assess the best locations for generation and storage of electricity and hydrogen on a zonal basis.

This will provide a government and Ofgem-endorsed plan that firmly sets the context for the nation's energy requirement.







Parameters

Scale

A strategic energy infrastructure plan for land and sea across Great Britain

Purpose

High-level, zone based; sets out future capacities for technologies

Process

Mix of evidence and assessment to develop robust general proposals

Outlook

Long-term and adaptive, monitored and updated



What the SSEP will consider

- Community/societal views
- Decarbonisation targets
- Economic costs
- Environmental protection
- National priorities
- Network needs and operability
- Other sea/land uses
- Practical delivery
- Secure supply





Public

Data centres

Technologies





Long and shortduration storage

Offshore wind







Power CCUS

Onshore wind



In-scope technologies



Bioenergy (BECCS)

Nuclear





Interconnectors

Hydrogen





Unabated gas



Strategic energy planning (SEP)



Strategic planning

Map potential
electricity and
hydrogen generation
and storage
infrastructure for GB



Networks planning

Develop and assess
onshore and offshore
electricity
transmission, onshore
gas transmission, and
hydrogen
infrastructure



Regional planning

Work across Wales, Scotland and English regions to develop whole system, crossvector regional energy plans at a distribution network level, with input from local actors

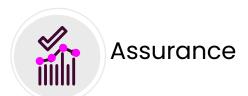


Delivery

Prepare Model Appraise Consult Refine Publish



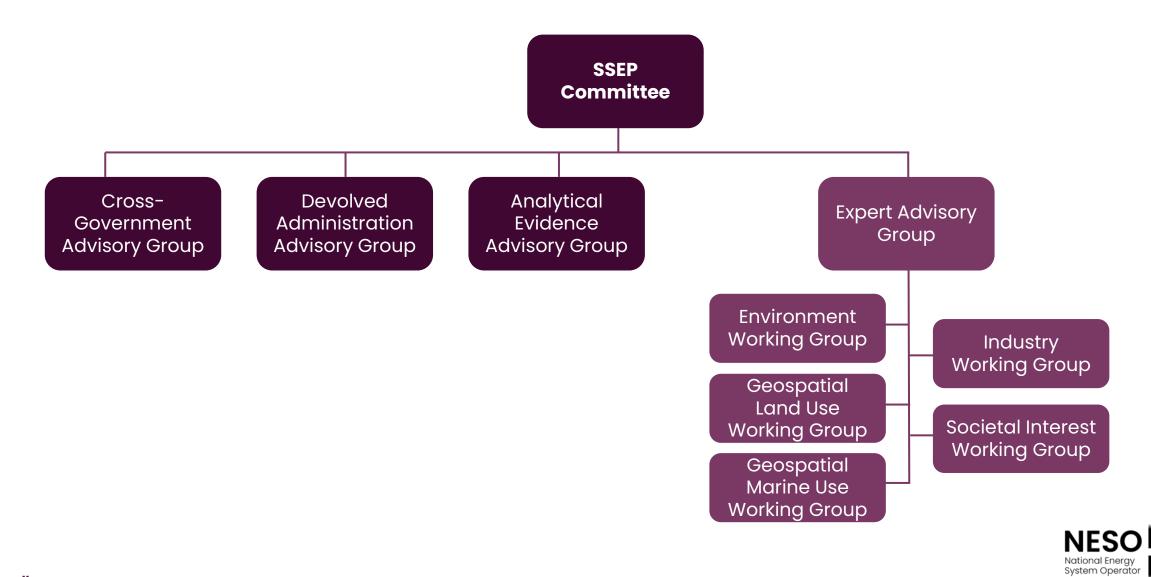








Governance



Prepare

Baseline

UK Government's Clean Power 2030 Action Plan and projects with regulatory funding

Policy framework

- Agree key questions to explore
- Model options to optimise

Data

- Determine datasets to use
- Decide use of technologies

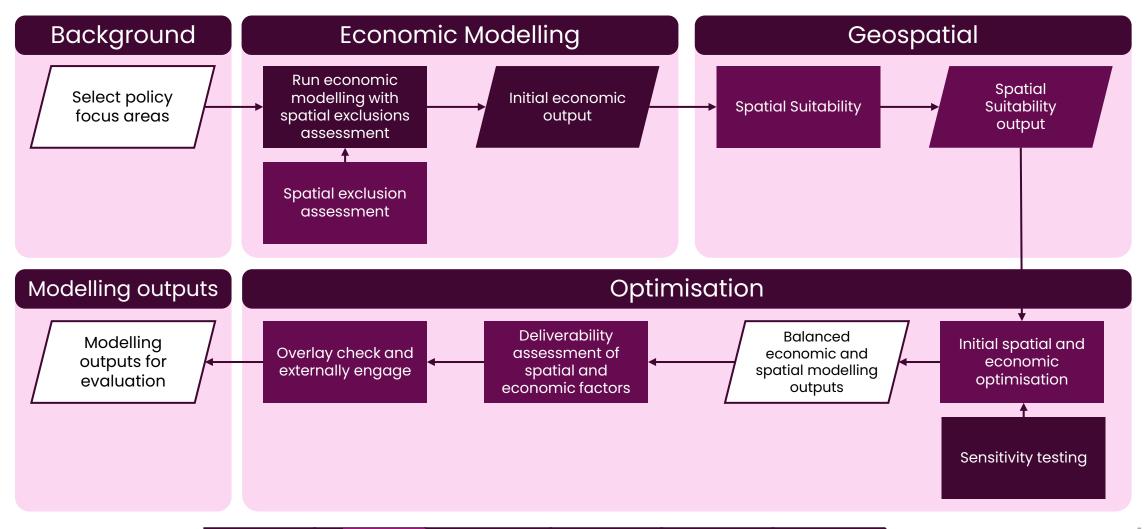
Economic modelling and spatial suitability assessments

- Develop the spatial evaluation approach
- Stakeholder engagement
- Environmental assessments
- Policy scenarios and data inputs
- Testing and sensitivity analysis

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Model



Consult

Model

Prepare

Appraise



Publish

Refine

SSEP and the environment



Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)

Assessment of SSEP output



Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA)

Assessment of likely SSEP effects on European designated sites



Spatial Evaluation Framework

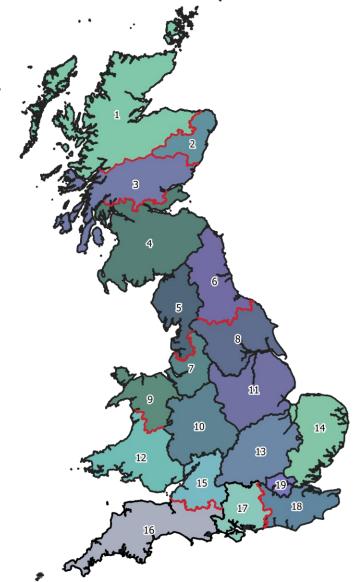
Identifying and scoring relevant environmental constraints to determine the best location for in-scope energy infrastructure



Onshore publication zones

The SSEP will be split into 19 zones for publication

This takes a balanced view of the planning principles and energy system principles





Spatial evaluation - exclusions

Identify relevant indicators within four spatial "Pillars"

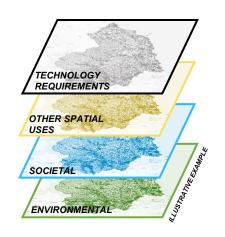
Technical Design Engineering Requirements

Other Spatial Uses

Societal

Environmental

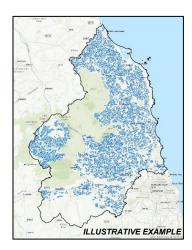
Gather spatial data representing indicators



Map spatial exclusions for each technology



Calculate potential developable area



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Spatial evaluation - suitability

Identify relevant indicators within four spatial "Pillars"

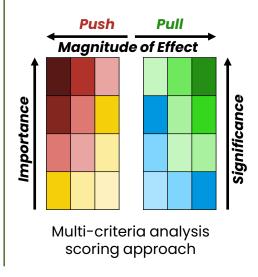
Technical Design Engineering Requirements

Other Spatial Uses

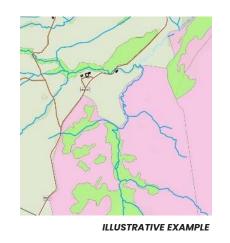
Societal

Environmental

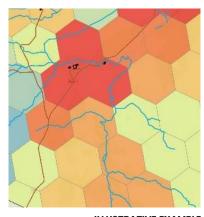
Score indicators as constraints (push) or opportunities (pull)



Gather spatial data representing constraints and opportunities



Apply and aggregate scores into spatial suitability heat maps



ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLE

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Appraise

Principles and process guiding the SSEP pathway options







Consult

Developing the SSEP through conversations

Industry engagement

Industry Working Group, workshops, webinars, surgeries and bilaterals



Societal engagement

Opinion survey, focus groups, society-based 1:1s and topic-based forums



Host areas

Conversations with political, developer and community stakeholders



Environmental assessment

Scoping, evidence gathering, consulting on and reporting the HRA and SEA



Formal consultation

Overview of the chosen pathway development, and what it means for GB



Prepare

Model

Appraise

Consult

Refine

Publish



Refine and Publish

Refine

- Evaluate options
- Evaluate changes
- Stakeholder feedback
- Governance forums
- Lessons learned

Publish

Submission to:

- UK Energy Secretary
- Scottish Government
- Welsh Government
- Ofgem







SSEP key dates and milestones

