

We OWE more attention to Offshore Wind Energy in Lancashire

Sep 2025

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Residents of Lancashire and their councils need to take action soon to prevent unnecessary land grabs for multiple new underground cabling routes and massive substations, which will impact Lancashire's environments, communities and economies for the foreseeable future. Promises of lower energy costs will not become reality, instead higher energy costs and construction carbon emissions will offer zero consolation to Lancashire residents.

In a push to meet 2030 net zero targets, the Government are planning for 3 major offshore wind farms to land their transmission cables across Lancashire's shores, before electricity is pushed inland over huge new 30km of cable corridors and massive sub-station complexes. All of this will involve land grabs, because it fails to use the existing already provisioned infrastructure.

However, it could all be avoided if we unite to take action to secure faster, cleaner, greener alternatives already available, but currently getting missed by lack of use of local knowledge, local plans and constraints being missed or ignored when plotting cable corridors.

NESO, National Grid & Developers favour routing everything 30km inland to Preston (Penwortham) which means repeated conflicts, land-grabbing and higher costs to consumers and investors.

There is, however, a smarter, greener, coastal alternative. Stanah/Hillhouse EZ (Wyre) is already developed for energy use and would save over £1.5bn, it's faster, less harmful and would bring even more benefits to Lancashire.

The time for action is now, before our communities get torn up due to unfinished thinking that will only increase costs on all of us.

Bottom Line ...

Offshore wind could be a game changer in Lancashire, it could bring jobs, skills and clean energy to benefit our communities.

If handled badly, we risk losing greenbelts (already under threat for housing demand), disruption to our communities, economies & environments, higher energy costs and loss of confidence & trust in government.

Lancashire is up for cleaner, greener energy - We'd just rather save £1.5bn and do it as faster, smarter green energy, so we all win.

Key Sites Planned

Morgan
1.5 GW

Morecambe
0.48 GW

**Moor Vannin East Irish Sea
Transmission Project**
1.32 GW

Windfarm Development

**JEREA-Nex-bp,
EnBW, CIP, Ørsted**
Desire quick approvals to realise returns on their investments

Government, Regulators & Key Operators

Energy Secretary
Final approval after Planning Inspectorate assessment

OFGEM
Regulates the sector, reports to Parliament

NESO
Plans, manages and advise on the system. Now civil servants, ex-National Grid PLC

National Grid
Decides where to connect the cables onto their network, and onto consumers

Planning
DCO (Development Consent Order) processes bypass local council planning and community voices

Turn over for opportunities >>> £12.8 supply chain investment, 30+ years of jobs, P.T.O for more...

Standing up for Stanah/Hillhouse EZ is standing up for smarter greener energy in Lancashire - the energy of the future Lancashire residents deserve



£12.8 bn development investment for existing and new local supply chains to win



Hundreds of jobs for over 30 years in aerodromes and ports; operations, maintenance & decommissioning services



Boost for colleges and training as part of overall growth strategy e.g. Blackpool, Fylde & Wyre Economic Prosperity Hub



Clean energy hub potential building on hydrogen, data centre and other Hi-energy sectors



Fighting living costs and protecting local jobs by backing cheaper, greener electricity for local employers and communities

Risks and issues we need to avoid at all costs

Greenbelt loss	Construction disruption	Environmental damage	Budget clashes	Weak local voices	Missed thoughts
Huge cable corridors and converter sub-stations will cut through the countryside that is already under pressure for housing and new roads	Land grab, above & below ground infrastructure installation constraints, noise, traffic and disruption will blight communities for long and multiple construction periods. All for plans not fully thought through	Birds, marine life and our landscapes will suffer damage that cannot be undone, and some solutions will remain expensively out of reach	Local farming, equestrian, aerospace and tourism sectors risk significant losses to business and opportunities – so a handful of companies can grab at cash	National processes can ignore, or even avoid, local communities and voices who have valuable insights to offer. Ignoring local people, to benefit foreign investors who take profits elsewhere	If you've got a thought you think we've missed please share it with us, so we can ensure we present the strongest plan for Lancashire

NECESSARY NEXT STEPS

INDIVIDUALLY	PARISH COUNCIL/AREA CTTE	LALC & NALC
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lobby online and in-person: Seek out influential networkers and voices online and ask them to join the campaign for smarter, cleaner, greener energy in Lancashire • Engage government representatives: Make representations to hold advisers and decision-makers to account so opportunities are realised and issues avoided 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coastal areas need to unite: Fylde, Wyre and South Ribble need to share knowledge and actions • LALC needs to link up: Area Committees across Lancashire need to link up and petition MPs and other stakeholders to lobby for action on Stanah/HTEZ being a better option for Lancashire and the wider UK 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Push back: Lobby Govt and Ofgem to re-visit Stanah/HTEZ as a better option as an exemplar for wider good practice • Support councils: Help people understand jobs and investment potential – and local impact • Build partnerships: Work with councils, enterprise & MPs to ensure skills and jobs for Lancashire • Lead a campaign for smarter energy choices for Lancashire

For more information on this briefing: secretary@lalc.org.uk or your LALC Area team