Climate Policy Engagement Review

2025/26

Contents

About this report

Shareholders, customers, and broader stakeholders are interested in the openness of an organisation regarding its policies and support for climate change advocacy, not just directly, but also through the trade associations it is associated with. SSE's stakeholders want to establish whether our strategy and guiding principles in addressing climate change are aligned with those of the trade associations of which we are members.

Providing this evidence demonstrates SSE's commitment to actively managing our indirect influence on climate policy and assures stakeholders that we maintain integrity in our approach to addressing climate change.

This report builds upon SSE's previous reviews of our trade associations' climate related advocacy activities. This 2025/26 review evaluates the alignment of these associations with SSE's net zero principles and the goals of the Paris Agreement. In line with best practice and increasing stakeholder interest, this report also summarises our direct climate-related advocacy for this financial year.

SSE welcomes and encourages feedback on the result and the approach it has taken for this review. Feedback and comments can be provided by emailing sustainability@sse.com.

About SSE

SSE plc is a leading UK-listed energy company that invests in, develops, builds and operates electricity infrastructure and businesses needed for a clean, secure and affordable energy system. Our diversified portfolio includes onshore and offshore wind farms, hydro-electric power, solar and batteries, flexible thermal generation and electricity transmission and distribution networks. We also provide products and services for businesses and other customers.

SSE's strategy is to create value for shareholders and society in a sustainable way by building, operating and investing in the infrastructure and businesses that are critical to a clean power system.

For more detail about SSE's strategy and business activities, visit **sse.com**.

Introduction

The role of responsible climate advocacy

Responsible climate advocacy is increasingly important as governments, regulators and industry seek to accelerate the energy transition. The Global Standard on Responsible Climate Lobbying sets a clear expectation: that all lobbying efforts, whether conducted directly or through intermediaries such as trade associations, must actively support the achievement of the Paris Agreement goals, including limiting global temperature rise to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels and ensuring that greenhouse gas emissions peak and decline as soon as possible.

Transparent and credible advocacy plays an important role in shaping the policy frameworks needed to deliver the transition and meet stakeholder expectations. SSE seeks to ensure that our direct and indirect advocacy activities align with the goals of the Paris Agreement and our net zero commitments, supported by ongoing engagement with trade associations and this annual review process.

The purpose of this 2025/26 review is to **assess whether our indirect climate advocacy through our trade associations is aligned with the 1.5°C goal of the Paris Agreement**. The review assesses the climate policy positions of our key trade associations, new memberships and presents an alignment assessment for each association. It also presents a summary of our direct climate advocacy activities.

A more challenging context for the energy transition

The transition to a cleaner energy system is becoming ever more important but also increasingly complex. While the long-term direction towards net zero remains clear and geopolitical events and market shocks over the past year have given added impetus to the transition, external factors, such as political consensus, policy and market conditions are shaping the pace of the transition.

Recent scientific assessments have also indicated that the goal of limiting global warming to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels, established by the Paris Agreement ten years ago, has become increasingly unattainable. The World Meteorological Organization states there is now a 70% probability that the global average temperature for the period 2025 to 2029 will exceed 1.5°C. Therefore, responsible and consistent engagement with policymakers and industry stakeholders is essential to help create the conditions needed to accelerate the transition to net zero.

SSE’s approach to advocacy and the transition to net zero

SSE’s strategy is tackling climate change head-on by building the energy assets and grid infrastructure needed for the clean energy transition. Our £33bn five-year investment plan is focused on building a cleaner, more secure and more affordable energy system, with around 80% directed towards electricity networks that enable the connection and distribution of low-carbon power. Through this investment, we are helping to unlock electrification across the wider economy and support the long-term decarbonisation of energy systems.

SSE identifies climate change as a principal risk, and we continue to make the case for investment in clean energy and the benefits it brings to the economy and society. Our Political and Regulatory Engagement Policy sets out how we advocate for the goals of the Paris Agreement: **“SSE will only undertake advocacy activity that is in line with the goals of the Paris Agreement and its own net zero strategy, both aligned to limiting global temperature rises to 1.5°C.”**

Through this report, we aim to demonstrate how our advocacy activities support climate goals, provide transparency on engagement with policymakers directly and indirectly through trade associations, and contribute positively to the clean energy transition.

SSE's direct climate policy engagement

Governing political & regulatory engagement

Responsibility for SSE's political advocacy lies at the highest levels of the organisation, with the Board approving our Political and Regulatory Engagement Policy and overseeing corresponding advocacy priorities. The Board monitors supporting engagement activity, including dialogue with regulators, to ensure that strategic, financial, investment and operating frameworks align to the external landscape.

The Group Executive Committee (GEC) is responsible for discharging strategic, political and regulatory engagement activities and the communication of our advocacy priorities, working closely with management across SSE's Business Units in doing so.

Supporting the Board and GEC, SSE has dedicated Public Affairs, Policy, Regulation, Legal and Compliance departments which lead constructive engagement with regulators, politicians, officials, and other stakeholders on a regular basis. These teams provide advice, guidance and assurance to each of our Business Units regarding the interpretation of political, regulatory and legislative change.

The Group Corporate Affairs, Regulation and Strategy teams oversee our core advocacy priorities. These Group advocacy priorities are focused on cross cutting policy issues as well as policy issues which are specific to our Business Units and are aligned to delivering investment in clean power infrastructure. There is regular engagement with the Board and GEC on political and regulatory developments which may impact SSE's operations or strategy. This is in addition to regular updates on advocacy priorities and policy outcomes resulting from advocacy activity, provided by the Group Public Affairs team.

Government and regulators are identified as one of SSE's six key stakeholder groups, and updates on engagement activities and priorities are provided in our Annual Report each year.

Ensuring SSE's political & regulatory engagement is Paris-aligned

To ensure that our approach to regulatory and political engagement is transparent and has integrity, we have a publicly available Group Political and Regulatory Engagement Policy. The policy holds SSE to the highest standards of probity and respect in our dealings with regulators, non-departmental public bodies and the institutions of government, recognising their key role in the sector in which we operate. This gives SSE's stakeholders confidence in our approach to regulatory and political engagement.

Within this policy, **SSE commits to only conduct lobbying and advocacy activity that is in line with the goals of the Paris Agreement and our own net zero strategy, both aligned to limiting global temperature rises to 1.5ºC.** This commitment includes our direct advocacy activities and advocacy that is conducted through our trade association memberships and industry representative bodies. This policy is applicable to all jurisdictions in which we operate, subject to legal or regulatory requirements of the relevant international domain, and relevant local policies and supporting procedures.

SSE's Climate Advocacy Statement

SSE advocates for fair, just and accelerated actions to achieve net zero through working with policy makers, trade associations and other key stakeholders.

SSE commits to conduct its policy advocacy activity in line with the goals of the Paris Agreement and its own net zero strategy, both aligned to limiting global temperature rise to 1.5ºC.

SSE's approach to climate advocacy and its policies apply to all jurisdictions in which it operates.

Policy positions & advocacy priorities

SSE engages with legislators to influence market design in support of our role in the energy transition. Energy affordability is a key driver of transitioning to a cleaner, homegrown energy system. SSE's direct engagement with government and regulators this year has allowed constructive dialogue on market design, energy affordability and the delivery of the UK Government's Clean Power 2030 Plan.

We are committed to a strategy that is aligned to the clean energy mission, but mindful of the cost of the transition to the billpayer. Building homegrown electricity infrastructure and then using more of that electricity to power homes, businesses and industry will drive down energy bills while ensuring consumers are protected from price spikes caused by global events. Within this context, we will continue to advocate for the buildout of renewable capacity and speeding up consenting times for grid upgrades.

Our principal advocacy priorities in 2025/26 focused on supporting the delivery of the UK Government's Clean Power 2030 Action Plan, engaging with the UK Government on the potential impacts of zonal pricing and collaborating with the UK Government on Ofgem's RIIO-T3 Final Determination.

Our long-term strategy remains closely aligned with the direction established by the UK Government and its Clean Power 2030 Plan, and as set out in our Net Zero Transition Plan, SSE seeks to be a constructive partner with governments and will advocate for the following key developments in climate-related energy policy:

• **Decarbonisation of flexible power generation:** SSE will advocate for policies that support carbon capture and storage (CCS) and hydrogen fired power generation. We recognise that supportive government policy and constructive engagement is essential to deliver CCS and hydrogen projects and to maintain system flexibility and resilience.

In the UK, further detail is pending on the mechanisms to procure new-build dispatchable capacity, including the Hydrogen to Power Business Model, any adaptations to the Capacity Market and further allocation of Dispatchable Power Agreements for CCS projects. These options could support investment in SSE Thermal's flexible generation pipeline, including Keadby Next Generation and Ferrybridge Next Generation, Keadby CCS and Peterhead CCS.

However, during 2025, SSE reviewed our hydrogen development strategy and, in response to material policy delays to the roll-out of low-carbon hydrogen, took the decision to pause its standalone hydrogen production projects.

• **Accelerating offshore wind deployment:** SSE will promote policies that drive progress in establishing offshore wind as the backbone of the UK's energy system and will support ambitious capacity targets in the upcoming Contracts for Difference (CfD) auctions rounds. We welcome the steps taken over the year by the UK Government to accelerate the energy transition, including the announcement of the intention to run CfD Allocation Round 8 in the second half of 2026.

• **Strategic network expansion:** SSE will advocate for strategic network planning to support investment in the expansion of the grid in order to connect new sources of clean power and support electrification of the wider economy. Ofgem's strategic approach to regulation has provided welcome visibility on investment to 2030 via the ASTI and LOTI programmes. In March 2026, SSEN Transmission confirmed its acceptance of Ofgem's Final Determination for the RIIO-T3 period, which commenced on 1 April 2026, recognising it as an investable and deliverable settlement overall. RIIO-T3 plan is centred on the delivery of 11 major projects across the price control period, from 2026 to 2031. Attention will now turn to working towards submission of the RIIO-ED3 plan later in 2026.

• **Responsible, phased reduction of unabated gas generation:** SSE will engage policymakers to progress the reduction of unabated thermal generation output in a measured and controlled way at an industry level in order to ensure security of supply as the energy system decarbonises. This year SSE's Board supported proposals to develop options to extend the life of existing Combined Cycle Gas Turbines in Great Britain and enable disciplined participation in Capacity Market auctions. We recognise existing assets have a role to play in backing a renewables-led system, especially in light of policy delays on low-carbon alternatives. This year, Keadby 1 Power Station secured a provisional Capacity Market agreement for 686MW de-rated electricity generation capacity, running from 1 October 2029 to 30 September 2030.

• **Advancing pumped storage hydro:** SSE will continue to support policy makers to deliver a practical and workable mechanism that will enable the deployment of long-duration electricity storage projects. Evolution in fair market design will also enable us to continue investing in the UK's energy future. For example, we are keen to progress with our pumped storage project at Coire Glas in Scotland if viable to do so. The project progressed to the Project Assessment stage of Ofgem's Cap and Floor scheme for long-duration electricity storage, under the new long duration energy storage cap and floor mechanism. In June 2026, Coire Glas was included as one of 16 Long Duration Electricity Storage (LDES) projects named in Ofgem's 'Minded-to-Decision' list for receipt of cap and floor investment support. We will now assess the outcome of the LDES project assessment and will engage fully with Ofgem to resolve identified issues before the project can progress.

• **Pathway for decarbonised heat:** SSE will champion the development of investable policy frameworks that enable a cost-effective transition to low-carbon heating technologies. We continue to advocate for supportive policy, funding, and innovation to break down the barriers to heat decarbonisation. Last year we responded to Northern Ireland's Draft Climate Action Plan urging prioritisation of electrification of domestic heat.

Direct climate advocacy during 2025/26

Over the past year, SSE has continued to engage the UK and Irish Governments and regulators to support the delivery of clean power systems.

We contributed to numerous government consultations and responded to calls for evidence and parliamentary enquiries while also liaising with UK and Irish governments to support growth, deliver energy security and meet climate goals whilst mindful of the affordability challenge. SSE also co-hosted the Business of Leading the Energy Transition summit in London, bringing together senior representatives from government, finance and industry to discuss practical actions required to accelerate delivery of clean energy infrastructure. The event focused on overcoming investment barriers, enabling decarbonisation and supporting delivery of the UK's clean energy ambitions. Meanwhile, on the global stage, we attended conferences such as COP30 and New York Climate Week helping to drive widespread climate action.

Our presence at COP30 included many panel discussions, roundtables, bilateral meetings and other events. Described as the 'implementation COP', the energy transition was at the heart of this event. SSE's COP30 engagement included co-chairing the Utilities for Net Zero Alliance (UNEZA) with UAE utility TAQA. UNEZA brings together more than 70 utilities and partners to advance cleaner energy, with members focusing on reliable, resilient and flexible grid infrastructure as a key enabler of clean power and wider decarbonisation. At COP30, UNEZA launched "delivery mechanisms" to accelerate grid investment and address capital flow constraints. SSE also worked with the COP Presidency and Green Grids Initiative to develop principles to help green finance providers, including multilateral development banks, lend to grid projects in developing countries.

SSE also played an active role in shaping the policy framework ahead of Allocation Round 7 (AR7) of the UK's Contracts for Difference (CfD) scheme, advocating for an auction design that would sustain investment in large-scale offshore wind, particularly addressing structural barriers facing Scottish projects. The improved policy environment helped AR7 deliver a record amount of renewable capacity and support the UK's 2030 clean power goals.

SSE played a leading role in the Review of Electricity Market Arrangements (REMA), advocating for Reformed National Pricing, with reforms to strengthen locational signals. We opposed a proposal for Locational Marginal Pricing (LMP) or zonal pricing on the basis that it would increase uncertainty, push up the cost of infrastructure delivery for consumers and delay the transition to a clean power system. We welcomed the government's decisions to instead adopt Reformed National Pricing (RNP) which provides greater stability for low-carbon investment.

SSE has also advocated for the Scottish Cluster through the Comprehensive Spending Review, which marks progress in enabling CCS. For SSE, this supports development of the Peterhead Carbon Capture Power Station, which is designed to enable emissions abatement and reflects the importance of policy as a key enabler in reducing our emissions.

Furthermore, SSE engaged with policy makers and regulators regarding the development of Ofgem's LDES cap and floor framework, advocating for investment in LDES technologies, specifically pumped storage hydro. LDES is integral to reduce curtailment of renewables generation, maintaining system resilience and transitioning our energy systems away from fossil fuels.

SSE’s indirect climate policy engagement

Climate advocacy through trade associations

Being a member of trade associations is an important way in which SSE advocates for accelerated progress towards net zero. Trade associations act as a representative body for industries, by putting forward the collective view and position of its members to government, regulators, and the media. They also provide their members with products and services, including training and educational materials, technical advice, and the opportunity to shape standards and guidance for their industry. Participation in these associations allows us to collaborate with our industry peers and provides a means to engage with key policy makers and other stakeholders.

As well as holding regular membership for these trade associations, we are often represented on the boards and committees of key trade associations.

SSE does not contract organisations to undertake lobbying activity for the purposes of influencing public decision making and we regularly review our trade association memberships to ensure that they are still relevant for SSE’s business activities.

We seek to ensure that the trade associations of which we are a member also undertake advocacy that aligns with the goals of the Paris Agreement and our own net zero ambitions, both aligned to 1.5^{o}C. We work closely with these trade associations, engaging with them on a continuous basis, and as a result, they are usually well aligned.

Defining climate change standards for alignment

To assess the alignment of trade associations with the Paris Agreement and our net zero strategy, we have established five key principles to reach net zero. These principles were drawn from SSE's Climate Change Policy, which aligns with the goals of the Paris Agreement, and further public statements of principle. SSE, itself, upholds these measures and advocates for others to embed them too. All trade associations included in the scope of the review were assessed against these five key principles. See Appendix A for the full scope and methodology of this review.

1. Acknowledges the serious threat of climate change

SSE recognises the serious threat that climate change poses to the natural world and, therefore, to people and the economy. Physical impacts, such as increased extreme weather, could have an adverse impact on SSE's operations and interrupt the supply of energy to its customers. SSE expects the organisations it is a member of to recognise the serious threat that a climate changed world presents.

2. Supports the goals of the Paris Agreement

SSE welcomed the landmark agreement in 2015, which aims to combat climate change and to accelerate the actions and investments needed for a sustainable low carbon future. SSE supports the overarching aims of the agreement and specifically calls on its trade associations to endorse Article 2.1a to hold the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels and Article 4.1 which aims to reach global peaking of greenhouse gas emissions as soon as possible.

3. Supports a strong carbon price

SSE has long advocated for robust carbon pricing, believing it is one of the most effective tools to support the decarbonisation of the UK and Irish economies. SSE has publicly urged the UK Government to commit to a carbon pricing trajectory that will incentivise negative emissions. Given the critical importance that a price on carbon makes to enabling climate action, SSE expects relevant trade associations to advocate for a strong carbon price.

4. Promotes innovation

The scale of SSE's investment in net zero requires continuous innovation, and its approach is to partner with others to develop the technologies, experience and skills that it needs to accelerate projects in support of net zero. SSE is involved in a number of key innovation projects that are helping to trial new technologies and demonstrate their potential business applicability, including smart grid demonstrations and zero-carbon clusters. Trade associations play a very important role in fostering innovative practices at an industry level and, as a result, SSE expects its trade associations to play an active role.

5. Seeks a just transition to net zero

SSE is actively seeking to manage the social impacts of the transition to net zero. In November 2020, SSE published its Just Transition Strategy – 20 principles to support the transition to net zero in a way that is fair to working people, communities, and consumers. The 20 principles sit under five pillars: good green jobs, consumer fairness, building and operating new assets, looking after people in high-carbon jobs and supporting communities. In 2024, SSE refreshed its Just Transition Strategy, committing to developing a 'place-based' approach, recognising how important it is that the transition is grounded where it will happen and informed by the views of the people who will be most affected. This is an area of significant importance to SSE, and it believes trade associations provide an excellent framework from which industries can collaborate to bring about fair social outcomes for consumers, working people and communities.

Defining principal trade associations

SSE identifies principal trade associations as outlined in our Political Engagement Statement. In 2025/26, the SSE Group was a member of 12 principal trade associations in our home markets of the UK and Ireland.

The SSE Group is a member of eight principal trade associations in Great Britain: Energy Networks Association, Energy UK, RenewableUK, the Confederation of British Industry, Scottish Renewables, the Carbon Capture and Storage Association, Hydrogen UK and Solar Energy UK. We have representatives on the Boards or Executive Committees of each of these organisations to support good and transparent conduct by these trade associations. Each of these organisations has established committees to oversee their advocacy activities, and we are also represented on each of these committees.

In Ireland, we are a member of four principal trade associations: Electricity Association of Ireland, Wind Energy Ireland, Ibec and RenewableNI. Our employees participate with each of these organisations at either a Board or committee level, thereby ensuring that we have oversight of the advocacy activities of these associations.

SSE's current Political Engagement Statement can be accessed through our Group Political and Regulatory Engagement Policy, available at **sse.com/sustainability**.

Framework for addressing misalignment

SSE is committed to ensuring that our climate policy engagement is aligned with the goal of limiting global temperature rise to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels, in accordance with the objectives of the Paris Agreement.

To support this commitment, we have implemented a framework to identify, assess, and address any misalignments between our own climate ambitions and the policy positions of the trade associations to which we belong. This process includes an annual review of each association's climate-related advocacy, public statements, and lobbying activities.

Where misalignments are identified, we engage proactively with the relevant associations to advocate for policy positions that are consistent with a 1.5°C pathway. Continuous policy improvement is important and maintaining membership of trade associations, even if certain positions are misaligned, can provide an opportunity to constructively influence their policy positions and drive meaningful climate action. In circumstances of misalignment, the engagement process is as follows:

- **Sharing SSE's own climate policy principles** - Clearly set out SSE's expectations for policy alignment with the goals of the Paris Agreement and our net zero principles.
- **Understand the root cause of any misalignment** - Initiate dialogue with the trade association to clarify its positions on SSE's net zero principles.
- **Requesting any non-public evidence that may demonstrate alignment** - Ask the trade association to provide any internal papers, presentations or meeting minutes which can better demonstrate alignment with our net zero principles.

If such evidence cannot be provided, further steps will be taken:

- **Develop specific recommendations for addressing policy misalignment** - Work collaboratively with the trade association to develop transparent policy positions that are aligned with goals of the Paris Agreement and our net zero principles.
- **Develop plan to implement recommendations** - Collaborate with the trade association to develop appropriate plan for implementing agreed recommendations and supporting progress towards alignment with the goals of the Paris Agreement and our net zero principles

- **Regular monitoring** - SSE employees responsible for maintaining the relationship with the misaligned trade association will regularly monitor whether the trade association's policy positions evolve to align with the goals of the Paris Agreement and our net zero principles.

If the trade association is unable to provide evidence of demonstrable change in their policy engagement in support of limiting global temperature rise to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels, the matter will be escalated. Continued misalignment would result in noncompliance with the expectations set out in SSE’s Group Political and Regulatory Engagement Policy. As the named owner of SSE’s Group Political and Regulatory Engagement Policy, evidence of misalignment will be escalated to the Managing Director of Regulation and Policy, with continued membership of the misaligned trade association assessed on a case-by-case basis.

Actions taken as a result of previous review

Following its previous assessment, we undertook targeted improvements to our climate policy engagement review, strengthening our alignment with the Global Standard on Responsible Corporate Climate Lobbying and reinforcing our commitment to responsible climate advocacy. In the 2025/26 review, SSE:

- Updated our scoping assessment to consider not only membership fees, but also the sector and country focus of each trade association. This enables a more targeted review of associations with the greatest potential to influence climate policy in our key markets and ensures that all principal trade associations are consistently included in the annual review. Details of the updated scoping assessment are provided in Appendix A.
- Strengthened our framework for addressing misalignment supporting alignment with the Global Standard on Responsible Corporate Climate Lobbying and providing a clear escalation mechanism where potential misalignment is identified.
- Expanded the detailed assessment of trade associations within scope, moving beyond disclosure of principal trade associations assessments only. This enhances transparency and provides stakeholders with clearer, more comprehensive insight into the rationale for each assessment.

As a result of the revised scoping assessment, three trade associations previously assessed in 2024/25 are no longer within the scope of the review, primarily because the sectors they represent are not considered core to SSE’s activities. Two of these associations, the Association for Decentralised Energy and the Association of University Directors of Estates, were assessed as aligned with SSE’s net zero principles in previous years and were therefore considered to present a low risk of holding positions contrary to those principles this year. Charge UK, a trade association focused on electric vehicles, of which SSE is a member through its joint venture, Source, was previously assessed as partially aligned due to limited public evidence of support for SSE’s five net zero principles. However, given its focus on decarbonising transport, the risk of misalignment was also considered low.

In addition, following the updated scoping assessment, the British Chambers of Commerce, the International Hydropower Association, and UK Emissions Trading Group were included in the review for the first time. Detailed assessments of these associations are provided in Appendix D.

Finally, we considered whether to incorporate the climate policy engagement review within our mainstream reporting. However, we concluded that the level of detail required to align, on a best endeavours basis, with the Global Standard on Responsible Corporate Climate Lobbying would be more effectively provided through this dedicated report.

Summary of findings from 2025/26 review

Principal trade associations

The 2025/26 review assesses the alignment between SSE's principal trade associations and our net zero principles. Full details of the associations assessed, and membership costs are provided in the appendices, with principal trade association results summarised in Table 1.

Table 1: Alignment of principal trade associations to SSE's individual principles to reach net zero.

Trade Association	Acknowledges the serious threat of climate change	Supports the goals of the Paris Agreement	Supports a strong carbon price	Promotes innovation	Seeks a just transition to net zero
Carbon Capture and Storage Association	🟢	🟢	🟢	🟢	🟢
Confederation of British Industry	🟢	🟢	🟢	🟢	🟢
Electricity Association of Ireland	🟢	🟢	🟢	🟢	🟢
Energy Networks Association	🟢	🟢	🟢	🟢	🟢
Energy UK	🟢	🟢	🟢	🟢	🟢
Hydrogen UK	🟢	🟢	🟢	🟢	🟢
Ibec	🟢	🟢	🟢	🟢	🟢
RenewableNI	🟢	🟢	🟢	🟢	🟢
RenewableUK	🟢	🟢	🟢	🟢	🟢
Scottish Renewables	🟢	🟢	🟢	🟢	🟢
Solar Energy UK	🟢	🟢	🟢	🟢	🟢
Wind Energy Ireland	🟢	🟢	🟡	🟢	🟢

🟢 Aligned 🟡 Partially aligned 🔴 Misaligned

During 2025/26, we were members of twelve principal trade associations, and all associations were assessed as being aligned overall with our five principles to reach net zero.

Consistently strong alignment with our net zero principles were identified across the principal trade associations assessed. Associations recognised climate change as a significant risk requiring urgent action, with many underscoring the economic consequences of inaction on climate change and highlighting the need for climate adaptation and resilience.

All principal trade associations supported net zero pathways consistent with the goals of the Paris Agreement. While the Paris Agreement is not always referenced explicitly in public-facing materials, associations commonly express support for its key objective through advocating for net zero. Additionally, principal trade associations continued to advocate for decarbonisation as a means of improving energy security, supporting economic growth and reducing exposure to fossil fuel price volatility.

The assessment also found broad alignment with our expectations regarding the promotion of innovation and investment in technologies required to deliver the energy transition. Associations further emphasised the need for skills development and workforce capability to support innovation and enable the successful deployment of low-carbon technologies.

Similarly, principal trade associations generally recognised the importance of ensuring the energy transition is delivered in a fair and inclusive manner, with consideration given to consumers, communities, workers and wider economic opportunities. While the principles of a just transition are widely acknowledged, the extent to which they were explicitly addressed varied across trade association publications. Some associations could strengthen their alignment by publishing clearer or more detailed policy positions on delivering a just transition.

The majority of principal trade associations demonstrated support for a strong carbon price, with many explicitly advocating for the linkage of the UK Emissions Trading System (ETS) with the EU ETS. This position reflects a shared recognition that robust and stable carbon pricing is an important mechanism to incentivise decarbonisation and unlock low-carbon investment.

As in previous reviews, Wind Energy Ireland did not explicitly advocate for a strong carbon price and was therefore assessed as only partially aligned against this individual principle. However, it demonstrated broader support for emissions reduction and low-carbon generation and remained aligned overall with SSE's net zero principles.

Overall, the review did not identify any principal trade association advocating positions that were materially misaligned with SSE's net zero principles or the objectives of the Paris Agreement. Full details of the evidence supporting each assessment are provided within the detailed trade association assessments in Appendix D.

Other trade associations

A further seven trade associations were considered within scope of this review. Table 2 below provides a summary of the results for the other trade associations detailed assessments.

Overall, the review did not identify any additional trade association advocating positions that were materially misaligned with SSE's net zero principles or the objectives of the Paris Agreement. The six trade associations assessed as aligned generally demonstrated strong support for climate action, the goals of the Paris Agreement and the deployment of innovative low-carbon technologies. Associations representing renewable energy sectors and international emissions trading markets showed particularly strong alignment with SSE's net zero principles, recognising the need for rapid decarbonisation and the role of clean energy and carbon markets in delivering net zero.

The UK Emissions Trading Group (UK ETG) was assessed as partially aligned due to limited publicly available evidence demonstrating support across all five of SSE's net zero principles. While it showed clear support for emissions trading, decarbonisation and carbon pricing, its positions on the goals of the Paris Agreement and a just transition were less explicit than those of other associations assessed.

Full details of the evidence supporting each assessment are provided within the detailed trade association assessments in Appendix D.

Table 2: Alignment of all other trade associations to SSE's individual principles to reach net zero.

Trade Association	Acknowledges the serious threat of climate change	Supports the goals of the Paris Agreement	Supports a strong carbon price	Promotes innovation	Seeks a just transition to net zero
British Chambers of Commerce	🟢	🟢	🟢	🟢	🟢
Global Wind Energy Council	🟢	🟢	🟢	🟢	🟢
International Emissions Trading Association	🟢	🟢	🟢	🟢	🟢
International Hydro Association	🟢	🟢	🟡	🟢	🟢
NedZero	🟢	🟢	🟢	🟢	🟢
UK Emissions Trading Group	🟢	🟡	🟢	🟢	🟡
Wind Europe	🟢	🟢	🟢	🟢	🟢

🟢 **Aligned** 🟡 **Partially aligned** 🔴 **Misaligned**

Conclusion and next steps

The climate policy landscape became more complex during 2025/26, with political consensus on climate action continuing to fragment, increased scrutiny of the 1.5°C goal achievability, and a growing emphasis on energy security, affordability and competitiveness. Against this backdrop, transparent and responsible climate advocacy remains essential to support effective policymaking and the transition to a low-carbon economy.

SSE's direct and indirect climate advocacy continues to align with our net zero commitments and the goals of the Paris Agreement. Through investment in clean energy infrastructure, emissions reduction and engagement with policymakers, regulators and industry bodies, we continue to support the transition to a cleaner, more secure and more affordable energy system.

This review found that all twelve of SSE's principal trade associations remain broadly aligned with our five net zero principles. No association was identified as advocating for positions that conflict with our climate ambitions or the objectives of the Paris Agreement. While some organisations could strengthen their public positions on issues such as carbon pricing and a just transition, no material decline in alignment was identified.

The review also reinforces the value of continued engagement. We believe constructive participation in trade associations is effective in advancing climate policy alignment and supporting practical decarbonisation solutions across the energy sector.

This year, we further strengthened transparency by providing a more detailed account of our direct climate advocacy activities, trade association alignment assessments and policy for advocacy misalignment. In addition, the trade association assessment framework has also been strengthened. These improvements seek to provide further clarity on SSE's climate advocacy and our approach to maintaining alignment with our net zero commitments.

Looking ahead, climate advocacy will remain an important part of our Net Zero Transition Plan, to support the delivery of clean power, network expansion, offshore wind, long-duration energy storage and the decarbonisation of flexible generation.

During 2026/27, we will:

- Continue to review our trade association alignment and publish an update on our climate advocacy annually.
- Apply our misalignment framework where policy differences are identified.
- Engage constructively with trade associations to support continued alignment with the Paris Agreement.
- Enhance transparency on direct and indirect climate advocacy.
- Support policies that accelerate clean power infrastructure and the wider energy transition.

SSE remains committed to ensuring our advocacy activities, both direct and through trade associations, support an orderly, fair and accelerated transition to a net zero energy system.

Appendix A: Scope & methodology for trade association review

Scope

Representatives from Sustainability, Policy and Regulation, together with relevant Business Units, provided details of trade association memberships held between 1 April 2025 and 31 March 2026. These memberships were screened to determine whether they fell within the scope of the review.

Our objective is to focus detailed assessment on trade associations that are most relevant to our operations, and which have the greatest potential to influence climate-related policy outcomes. To support this, each organisation was assessed against a scoping matrix covering membership cost, geographic relevance and sector relevance. Associations meeting the inclusion threshold, were subject to detailed climate advocacy assessment.

Associations where assigned a score out of five for each of the following categories:

a) **Membership cost**: Our annual membership cost.
b) **Geography:** Both our operations in the given market and the potential for advocacy in the market to influence global climate policy.
c) **Sector:** How the sector contributes to our strategy.

Score	1	2	3	4	5
Membership cost	**Very Low:** < £10,000	**Low:** £10,000 - £29,999	**Medium:** £30,000 - £49,999	**High:** £50,000 - £99,999	**Very High:** > £100,00
Geography	**Emerging Markets:** Japan, Netherlands, Poland	**Smaller Markets:** France, Greece, Italy, Spain	**Devolved Markets:** England, Northern Ireland, Scotland	**National & Regional Markets:** United Kingdom, Republic of Ireland, European	**Global Markets:** Worldwide
Sectors	**Business & Industry Support:** Chambers of Commerce, Engineering, Land Use, Other	**Customer Solutions:** Heat Networks, EV Charging, Energy Sales	**Emerging Technologies:** Solar, Batteries, Hydrogen, Carbon Capture	**Generation Projects:** Offshore Wind, Onshore Wind, Hydropower, Thermal	**Electricity System:** Electricity Networks, Energy Market Design

The scores for each of the three categories were added to obtain a total score out of 15. All associations scoring 9 or above were included within the scope of this review.

We were members of 78 trade associations during 2025/26. Appendix B lists these associations, indicating whether each was included in or excluded from the review and, where included its alignment status.

Following the assessment of trade associations using the scoping matrix, 19 trade associations were identified, and detailed climate advocacy assessments where then carried out for these trade associations, which are included in Appendix D.

Methodology

For the trade associations considered within scope for this review, we applied a bespoke methodology to assess our associations' positions on climate change. The detail of this methodology is provided below.

Determining key principles on climate change

To assess the alignment of trade associations with the goals of the Paris Agreement and SSE's net zero strategy, we established five key principles to reach net zero. These principles were drawn from SSE's Climate Change Policy, which aligns with the goals of the Paris Agreement, and further public statements of principle. All trade associations included in the scope of the review were assessed against these five key principles.

Data collection and analysis

All data collection was carried out by our core project team using desk-based research methods. We accessed open-source information available through publicly accessible websites, official publications, organisational policies, and media statements made by spokespersons. Where possible, we attempted to find data sources which were published within the 2025/26 financial year. However, sources produced prior to 1st April 2025 were also considered for this assessment. We maintained all collected data in a centrally stored database, which was subsequently used to support the data analysis phase of the review.

During the research phase, we utilised primary data sources and applied informed subjective judgement to assess each trade association's alignment with our five key principles for achieving net zero. To substantiate their judgement, each researcher provided direct evidence and a link to the source text where alignment was deemed to be achieved. The links were then peer reviewed.

Scoring methodology

Once the data was collected and validated, we applied a weighted scoring framework to the information gathered. A higher weighting was placed on trade associations' support for the goals of the Paris Agreement. Each trade association needed to show explicit support for the goals of the Paris Agreement and meet at least two of our key principles on the acknowledgement of the threat of climate change, support of a carbon price, embrace innovation and seek a just transition to be considered as aligned to our climate strategy and ambitions. Trade associations were categorised into one of the following classifications based on their weighted scoring:

Aligned

Trade associations were deemed aligned overall with our key principles on climate change if they:

- Support the goals of the Paris Agreement; and met two of the following criteria
- Acknowledge the serious threat of climate change;
- Support a strong carbon price;
- Seek a just transition to net zero; or
- Promote innovation.

Partially aligned

Trade associations were deemed to be partially aligned with our key principles on climate change if they:

- Did not explicitly support the goals of the Paris Agreement; and/or
- Did not meet the threshold to be considered aligned to SSE's principles on climate change but did not hold opposing positions.

Misalignment

Trade associations were deemed to be misaligned if they were found to be advocating in contradiction to any of our five key principles on climate change.

Appendix B: SSE's trade association memberships

Trade Association	Alignment Status	Scope
British Chambers of Commerce	Aligned	Included
Carbon Capture and Storage Association	Aligned	Included
Confederation of British Industry	Aligned	Included
Electricity Association of Ireland	Aligned	Included
Energy Networks Association	Aligned	Included
Energy UK	Aligned	Included
Global Wind Energy Council	Aligned	Included
Hydrogen UK	Aligned	Included
International Emissions Trading Association	Aligned	Included
International Hydropower Association	Aligned	Included
Ibec	Aligned	Included
NedZero	Aligned	Included
RenewableNI	Aligned	Included
RenewableUK	Aligned	Included
Scottish Renewables	Aligned	Included
Solar Energy UK	Aligned	Included
UK Emissions Trading Group	Partially Aligned	Included
Wind Energy Ireland	Aligned	Included
WindEurope	Aligned	Included

Trade association	Alignment Status	Scope
Aberdeen and Grampian Chamber of Commerce	n/a	Excluded
Amorce	n/a	Excluded
Arklow & District Chamber of Commerce	n/a	Excluded
Asociación de energías renovables	n/a	Excluded
Asociación de Energías Renovables de Andalucía	n/a	Excluded
Asociación de Promotores de Energía Eólica de Castilla y León	n/a	Excluded
Asociación Empresarial Eólica (AEE)	n/a	Excluded
Association for Decentralised Energy (ADE)	n/a	Excluded
Association of Scottish Visitor Attractions (ASVA)	n/a	Excluded
Associazione Nazionale Energia del Vento (ANEV)	n/a	Excluded
British Controls Industry Association	n/a	Excluded
British Electrotechnical and Allied Manufacturers' Association	n/a	Excluded
British Irish Chamber of Commerce	n/a	Excluded
British Ports Association	n/a	Excluded
Caithness Chamber of Commerce	n/a	Excluded
Chambers Ireland	n/a	Excluded
Charge UK	n/a	Excluded
Cluster de la Energía de Aragón	n/a	Excluded
Community Energy England	n/a	Excluded
Community Energy Scotland	n/a	Excluded
Cumann Trachtala Corcaighe (The Cork Chamber of Commerce)	n/a	Excluded
Decarb Scotland	n/a	Excluded
Dublin Chamber of Commerce	n/a	Excluded
Electricity Storage Network (Regen)	n/a	Excluded
Ellinikos Syndesmos ESIAPE	n/a	Excluded
Energie Nederland	n/a	Excluded
Energy Networks Association	n/a	Excluded
Energy Storage Ireland	n/a	Excluded
Fédération Française des Producteurs Agrivoltaïques	n/a	Excluded

France Renouvelables	n/a	Excluded
Heat Networks Industry Council	n/a	Excluded
Hellenic Wind Energy Association	n/a	Excluded
Hydrogen Ireland	n/a	Excluded
Industrial & Commercial Shippers & Suppliers	n/a	Excluded
Inverness Chamber of Commerce	n/a	Excluded
Irish Solar Energy Association	n/a	Excluded
Japanese Wind Power Association	n/a	Excluded
Letterkenny Chamber of Commerce & Industry	n/a	Excluded
Limerick Chamber	n/a	Excluded
Marine Renewables Industry Association Ireland	n/a	Excluded
Midlothian and East Lothian Chamber of Commerce	n/a	Excluded
Moray Chamber of Commerce	n/a	Excluded
National Farmers' Union of Scotland	n/a	Excluded
NedZero	n/a	Excluded
Northern Ireland Chamber of Co	n/a	Excluded
Polish Renewable Energy Association	n/a	Excluded
Polish Solar Association	n/a	Excluded
Polish Wind Energy Association	n/a	Excluded
Prosper	n/a	Excluded
Regen	n/a	Excluded
Renewable Energy Association for Sustainable Power Supply	n/a	Excluded
Scottish Chambers of Commerce Ltd	n/a	Excluded
Scottish Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Association	n/a	Excluded
Scottish Land & Estates	n/a	Excluded
Spanish Storage association	n/a	Excluded
Syndicat des Energies Renouvelables	n/a	Excluded
UK District Energy Association	n/a	Excluded
UK 100	n/a	Excluded
Underground Energy Storage Operators	n/a	Excluded

Unión Española Fotovoltaica	n/a	Excluded
West Highland Chamber of Commerce	n/a	Excluded
Wicklow Town & District Chamber of Commerce	n/a	Excluded

Appendix C: Trade association membership costs

Membership cost (£)	Trade association
> 500,000	Energy Networks Association
250,000 - < 500,000	Energy UK.
100,000 - < 250,000	Ibec.
50,000 - < 100,000	British Chambers of Commerce; NedZero; RenewableUK.
30,000 - < 50,000	Electricity Association of Ireland; Global Wind Energy Council; Scottish Renewables; Solar Energy UK.
15,000 - < 30,000	Carbon Capture and Storage Association; Confederation of British Industry; Hydrogen UK; International Emissions Trading Association; Wind Energy Ireland; WindEurope.
10,000 - < 15,000	RenewableNI.
< 10,000	International Hydropower Association; UK Emissions Trading Group.

Appendix D: Detailed assessment of SSE’s trade associations

Carbon Capture & Storage Association	The Carbon Capture and Storage Association (CCSA) is a European association accelerating the commercial deployment of carbon capture, utilisation and storage (CCUS) through advocacy and collaboration. It works with members, governments and organisations to ensure CCUS is deployed at the pace and scale needed to meet net zero goals and deliver sustainable growth across Europe.
Alignment	**Aligned**
Change since previous assessment	No Change
Influence Map Score	C-
Detailed assessment against SSE’s climate principles	
Acknowledges the serious threat of climate change	CCSA recognises the threat of climate change and the need for global mobilisation to meet net zero targets. It underscores CCS’s role, highlighting that CCS can “*achieve net zero emissions and potentially net negative emissions because they don’t just prevent CO2 reaching the atmosphere, they also remove CO2 that was already there*”. CCSA argues CCS is crucial for counteracting the warming effects of past and ongoing emissions.
Supports the goals of the Paris Agreement	CCSA recognises the Paris Agreement goal of a “*climate neutral world by mid-century*”. CCSA warned at COP30 without remobilisation, the 1.5°C target risks being overshot. CCSA highlights that the IEA, IPCC and CCC see CCS as essential and enduring for limiting warming to 1.5°C. Its 2026 GGR position paper showed how GGR can deliver net zero, offset residual emissions, and stimulate carbon credit markets through strategic CCS infrastructure and policies, including VCM and low-carbon product standards.
Supports a strong carbon price	CCSA supports a robust, stable carbon price, stating that a rising, durable price is important for investment in CO_2 transport and storage networks, cluster projects, and large capture installations. It strongly advocated linking the UK and EU ETS to increase certainty, reduce volatility, and encourage low-carbon investment.
Promotes innovation	CCSA recognises the need for innovation, focusing on closing skills gaps through workforce development and training so the carbon capture sector can flourish, as set out in its Workforce & Skills Position Paper: 2026 Update. CCSA also supports pilot and demonstration-stage technologies such as DACCS and BECCS.
Seeks a just transition to net zero	CCSA acknowledges the need for a just transition, arguing that CCS-equipped gas power stations can support a resilient, reliable low-carbon energy system, including through the upcoming position paper: *Next Steps for CCS-enabled Power*. CCSA has called on the UK Government to embed workforce reskilling, regional investment, and community regeneration in energy transition plans. CCSA highlights that the CCUS sector could support skilled jobs and “*offers opportunities for a transitioning workforce*”, particularly in the UK’s industrial heartlands.
Actions required	Overall alignment confirmed; continue engagement with the trade association.

Confederation of British Industry	The Confederation of British Industry (CBI) is a prominent business organisation in the United Kingdom that serves as a voice for businesses, advocating for their interests and contributing to the formulation of economic and business policies. The association's membership consists of a wide range of businesses from various sectors such as manufacturing, services, finance, and technology. The CBI has expressed a commitment to support the UK's transition to a net zero economy. This involves advocating for policies and initiatives that contribute to reducing greenhouse emissions across industries in a manner that supports economic growth and a just transition across society.
Alignment	**Aligned**
Change since previous assessment	No Change
Influence Map Score	B-
Detailed assessment against SSE's climate principles	
Acknowledges the serious threat of climate change	CBI explicitly recognise the need for net zero in order to combat the serious threat of climate change, highlighting that inaction will result in *"worsening extremes",* and also that inaction will have negative economic implications. CBI have publicly supported the Climate Change Act and consider tackling climate change imperative for both government and business.
Supports the goals of the Paris Agreement	CBI displays alignment with the goals of Paris Agreement via consistent support for the UK's binding target to reaching net zero by 2050. CBI also supports the acceleration of the energy transition, and growth of low-carbon technologies which are essential to achieving the reduction of emissions and meeting the goals of the Paris Agreement.
Supports a strong carbon price	CBI support linking UK ETS with the EU's - the EU's ETS is designed to push the price of carbon up hence support of this scheme is indicative of support for a robust carbon price. CBI also highlight that linking UK ETS to the EU's will reduce price volatility and cut decarbonisation costs thus supporting the energy transition.
Promotes innovation	CBI is supportive of and highlights the need for innovation - it suggests the use of tax credits to contribute towards R&D and innovation in various low carbon technologies such as hydrogen. CBI also underscores that renewable energy is a sector which is unlocking new area of innovation while emphasising the need for continued investment in R&D, and workforce upskilling for the UK to become an established global leader in green innovation.
Seeks a just transition to net zero	CBI recognises that the transition to net-zero offers the potential of high-quality jobs, and reduced energy costs - thus highlighting the economic, and social benefits of such a transition. CBI argue reform is needed to address barriers to adoption of low carbon technologies to ensure the transition is equitable and inclusive, thus aligning with this principle of a just transition. Furthermore, CBI has states lower energy bills is a matter of "*fairness*", while emphasising the economic benefits which would occur as a result.
Actions required	Overall alignment confirmed; continue to monitor CBI's position through the energy transition.

Energy Networks Associations	The Energy Networks Association (ENA) is the industry body for energy network operators in the UK and Ireland. It supports members to meet the challenge of delivering energy to communities across the UK and Ireland safely, sustainably and reliably.
Alignment	**Aligned**
Change since previous assessment	No Change
Influence Map Score	N/A

Detailed assessment against SSE's climate principles	
Acknowledges the serious threat of climate change	ENA recognises the serious threat of climate change, and the consequences of this such as extreme weather – this is highlighted in their 2025 Annual Innovation Report, stressing the importance of infrastructure which can withstand extreme weather and is climate resilience. Moreover, ENA underscores the need to decarbonise and move to net-zero emissions and are supportive of low carbon technologies.
Supports the goals of the Paris Agreement	ENA acknowledges the Paris Agreement and underscores their role in facilitating the UK's net zero carbon emissions targets by 2050. ENA further highlights their support for deployment of LCT, and the reduction of carbon emissions through increased use of renewable energy, and decarbonisation of sectors like transport and heating goals which align with Paris Agreement's 1.5°C goal.
Supports a strong carbon price	ENA displays limited explicit evidence of support for a strong carbon price. However, their support for decarbonisation and move to net-zero signals support for a strong carbon price. Moreover, ENA expressed in their 2024 General election manifesto the need for alignment between the UK and EU Emission Trading System (ETS). The EU ETS is designed to push up the price of carbon thereby making decarbonisation more cost effective - hence ENA's support for alignment with EU ETS displays indirect support for a carbon price.
Promotes innovation	ENA underscores the role of innovation in their Sector Growth plan. Detailing their ambition to create an enabling environment, which will encourage innovation. ENA specifically highlights driving innovation through procurement by reducing barriers for new entrants and encourage the development of new products. ENA demonstrate further alignment to this principle via the innovation page on their website - ENA coordinates the Electricity Innovation Managers Group (EIM), which brings together innovation managers from across the sector to share knowledge and work collaboratively.
Seeks a just transition to net zero	ENA recognise the need to provide a fair and just transition and highlight in their Sector Growth Plan 2025 the career opportunities which will arise throughout the UK as a result of networks expansion. In the same document ENA also stresses the importance of delivering value for consumers and bringing economic benefit to communities as part of the transition.
Actions required	Overall alignment confirmed; continue engagement with the trade association.

Energy UK	Energy UK represents companies leading on modernising and decarbonising the whole system to those focused on developing better products and services for consumers. It supports members from growing start-ups to major electricity suppliers, helping to drive change across power, heat, transport and flexibility.
Alignment	**Aligned**
Change since previous assessment	No Change
Influence Map Score	N/A
Detailed assessment against SSE's climate principles	
Acknowledges the serious threat of climate change	Energy UK acknowledges the serious threat of climate change, underscoring the detrimental impact severe weather could have on energy infrastructure, thereby affecting operations and the ability to supply reliable energy. Energy UK highlights the need also to build in adaption and resilience into Energy infrastructure to combat the threat of climate change Moreover, Energy UK recognises the far-reaching environmental consequences, and health and social implications of climate change too.
Supports the goals of the Paris Agreement	Energy UK displays alignment with the goals of the Paris Agreement via its support of reaching net zero targets by 2050. Energy UK recognises the fracturing political consensus on tackling climate change but reaffirm their commitment to the "*green agenda*" in their 2025 Annual Report.
Supports a strong carbon price	Energy UK explicitly advocates for a robust carbon price, highlighting that this will play a key role in decarbonisation and meeting net zero targets. Energy UK also call for the UK's ETS to be linked with the EU ETS to reduce volatility and provide a strong signal in favour of low carbon investment.
Promotes innovation	Energy UK promotes innovation in the energy industry through direct collaboration with the Department for Science. Innovation and Technology (DIST), while also promoting the development of low carbon technologies. Energy UK also promotes the need to ensure we have the correct skills and competencies across the energy sector that is needed to accelerate the energy transition.
Seeks a just transition to net zero	Energy UK explicitly aligns with this principle stating they *"advocate for a fair and just transition to Net Zero*". Energy UK underscore they need for consumer protections, explaining that consumers must be insulated from spikes in energy prices and that the energy transition should deliver more stable bills. Energy UK further highlights the need for targeted regional investment into reskilling and training to ensure no one is left behind in the energy transition.
Actions required	Overall alignment confirmed; continue engagement with the trade association.

Hydrogen UK	Hydrogen UK supports organisations across the UK to develop, scale up and deploy hydrogen solutions, providing the UK opportunity to decarbonise hard-to-abate sectors and delivering secure resilient energy systems.
Alignment	**Aligned**
Change since previous assessment	No Change
Influence Map Score	N/A
Detailed assessment against SSE's climate principles	
Acknowledges the serious threat of climate change	Hydrogen UK acknowledges the need to decarbonise, and how Hydrogen can lead *"the charge against climate change"*, and its ability to reduce emissions across sectors.
Supports the goals of the Paris Agreement	Hydrogen UK supports 2050 net zero ambitions, and advocates for the use of Hydrogen to decarbonise hard to abate sectors such as: chemicals, steel and critical minerals - which are energy intensive and dependent on fossil fuels. This supports delivery of CP2030 targets and net zero by 2050, in alignment with the goals of the Paris Agreement.
Supports a strong carbon price	Hydrogen UK express support for a strong and stable carbon price and highlight a strong price as an important tool to decarbonise industrial sectors. They also express support for linking UK - EU ETS to create a more predictable and less volatile carbon market.
Promotes innovation	Hydrogen UK advocates for R&D grants to stimulate innovation and technology development in the sector. Hydrogen UK advocates for the use of emerging technologies such as carbon capture, utilisation, and storage (CCUS) to store carbon emissions from blue hydrogen production. Moreover, hydrogen is an emerging technology and as such Hydrogen's UK work to advocate for the industry in inherently supportive of innovation. Hydrogen UK also explicitly welcomes businesses and innovators to accelerate the hydrogen's sector.
Seeks a just transition to net zero	Hydrogen UK underscores the employment and economic opportunities which can arise from hydrogen, and also highlight the potential hydrogen has to rejuvenate regions with a strong industrial heritage. Hydrogen UK advocates for job creation to be fair, inclusive and accessible and highlight the need to *"invest in retraining and upskilling the existing workforce in adjacent sectors such as oil and gas".* Hydrogen UK also emphasis how hydrogen can bring consumer benefit through low-cost energy for communities and businesses.
Actions required	Overall alignment confirmed; continue engagement with the trade association.

RenewableUK	RenewableUK is the voice of the UK's renewable energy industry. Representing close to 500 companies spanning the full supply chain, our members develop, operate and maintain the UK's wind, tidal, storage and flexibility infrastructure. As a trade association, RenewableUK supports the UK renewable energy sector by actively collaborating with members to advocate for policies that address challenges and unlock investment in renewable energy and by advocating passionately for the sector to the public, driving awareness, supporting net zero goals, and highlighting the sector's benefits.
Alignment	**Aligned**
Change since previous assessment	No Change
Influence Map Score	N/A
Detailed assessment against SSE's climate principles	
Acknowledges the serious threat of climate change	RenewableUK acknowledges the serious threat of climate change, highlighting the risk of extreme weather to energy infrastructure., while also underscoring the cost of inaction. RenewableUK also highlight the need, and benefits of transitioning to low carbon electricity.
Supports the goals of the Paris Agreement	RenewableUK advocates for renewable energy and the journey to net zero thus supporting the goals of the Paris agreement. Moreover, RenewableUK has emphasised explicit support of the Prime Minister's pledge at COP29 to reduce UK's emission by at least 81% of 1990 levels which explicitly contributes to the goal of limiting warming to 1.5°C, in line with the Paris Agreement.
Supports a strong carbon price	RenewableUK displayed strong support for the agreement between the UK and EU to enter negotiations to link their Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS). The EU's ETS is designed to push the price of carbon up hence support of this scheme is indicative of support for a robust carbon price.
Promotes innovation	RenewableUK demonstrates explicit support of emerging low carbon technologies such as batteries, green hydrogen, and floating offshore wind. RenewableUK in a joint report with Offshore Wind Industry Council also highlight the skills and work force needed in order for innovation and transition to occur within the Offshore Wind sector.
Seeks a just transition to net zero	RenewableUK advocates for a just transition to net zero, explicitly stating that it must be a *"just and inclusive*" transition and underscoring the role of renewables in insulating consumers from the volatility of fossil fuels, and price shocks caused by geopolitical events. Moreover, RenewableUK also highlights the need for transparency with communities and how community funds and co-ownership models can ensure the benefits of the energy transition are felt by all.
Actions required	Overall alignment confirmed; continue engagement with the trade association.

Scottish Renewables	Scottish Renewables is an organisation dedicated to growing Scotland's renewable energy sector and sustaining its position as a leader in the global clean energy industry, delivering investment, jobs and social benefits while reducing carbon emissions. Its members work across all renewable energy technologies, in Scotland, the UK, Europe and around the world.
Alignment	**Aligned**
Change since previous assessment	No Change
Influence Map Score	N/A
Detailed assessment against SSE's climate principles	
Acknowledges the serious threat of climate change	Scottish Renewables recognise the *"accelerating impacts of climate change"* and clearly advocate for renewable energy as a solution to combating the effects of climate change. Scottish Renewables also explicitly support the Scottish Government's commitment to net zero, and recognition of a climate emergency.
Supports the goals of the Paris Agreement	Scottish Renewables highlight the UK's legally binding target to achieve net zero emissions by 2050, in line with the Paris Agreement - Scottish Renewables also explicitly calls out the role of renewable energy to achieve decarbonisation.
Supports a strong carbon price	Scottish Renewables expressed strong support for the linkage of UK and EU ETS, stating it would lower costs of decarbonisation and enable the acceleration of clean energy. Support of linkage of UK & EU ETS is indicative of support of a strong carbon price.
Promotes innovation	Scottish Renewables underscore the need for innovation in their 2026 manifesto for emerging technologies. They highlight the need for skills and investment in areas such as decommissioning, and they place particular emphasis on the need for innovation and investment in green hydrogen.
Seeks a just transition to net zero	Scottish Renewables explicitly supports a just transition in numerous publications. In a joint publication with other Scottish trade association, they underscore the need for a managed energy transition which protects skilled and regional economies, particularly in Northeast. In their own 2026 manifesto they emphasise how the energy transition can provide high-quality employment opportunities, community investment and more stable, affordable energy bills.
Actions required	Overall alignment confirmed; continue engagement with the trade association.

Solar Energy UK	Solar Energy UK represents the interests of businesses operating in the solar energy sector in the UK, including solar PV and energy storage technologies. The association has a diverse membership that includes solar energy companies, manufacturers, installers, developers, and other stakeholders involved in the solar and energy storage value chain. Solar Energy UK engages in advocacy and works with policymakers to influence energy policies and regulations and advocates for a supportive policy environment that encourages the growth of solar and energy storage technologies.
Alignment	**Aligned**
Change since previous assessment	No Change
Influence Map Score	N/A
Detailed assessment against SSE's climate principles	
Acknowledges the serious threat of climate change	Solar Energy UK recognise the urgency and immediate threat posed by the *"climate crisis"*, they also underscore the role of Solar in boosting agricultural resilience amid climate pressures. Solar Energy UK also expresses support of the Climate Change Act, via their condemnation of opposition parties' proposal to remove the act.
Supports the goals of the Paris Agreement	Solar Energy UK expresses explicit support of UK government's net zero strategy, both Clean Power 2030 and achieving net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050. These strategies are required to meet the commitments under the Paris Agreement, Solar Energy UK also expressed strong condemnation of opposition parties' proposal to repeal the Climate Change Act.
Supports a strong carbon price	Solar Energy UK underscores in a consultation response the value of carbon pricing, specifically highlighting that carbon pricing creates a financial incentive to reduce emissions and invest in greener practices—consistent with SSE's expectation that relevant trade associations advocate strong carbon pricing.
Promotes innovation	Solar Energy UK promotes innovation in a multi-dimensional fashion, via direct support of emerging technologies such as battery storage, smart solar in homes and AgriPV. Solar Energy UK also advocate for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion and make clear the positive impact this can have on innovation in an organisation.
Seeks a just transition to net zero	Solar Energy UK highlight the benefits of solar and battery for consumers, advocate to reduce barriers in accessing this technology, and to ensure the nation benefits fully from the clean energy transition - this is in line with the concept of a just transition. Solar Energy UK is mindful of the solar industries impact on agriculture, and they underscore the benefits solar can bring to farmers allowing this sector to share in the benefits of the energy transition. Moreover, Solar Energy UK champion inclusion to ensure employment opportunities are open to all.
Actions required	Overall alignment confirmed; continue engagement with the trade association.

Electricity Association of Ireland	The Electricity Association of Ireland (EAI) is the representative body for the electricity industry and gas retail sector operating within the Single Electricity Market (SEM) on the island of Ireland.
Alignment	**Aligned**
Change since previous assessment	No Change
Influence Map Score	N/A
Detailed assessment against SSE's climate principles	
Acknowledges the serious threat of climate change	EAI recognises the serious threat of climate change, highlighting the need to decarbonise and electrify. While also underscoring that failure to act will exacerbate current economic and environmental challenges.
Supports the goals of the Paris Agreement	EAI supports Ireland's target to reach net-zero emissions by 2050 and reduce emissions by 51% in 2030 compared to 2018 levels. EAI highlights the role of electrification in unlocking a low carbon future in order to meet these targets which are in line with the goals of the Paris Agreement.
Supports a strong carbon price	EAI expresses support of utilising carbon pricing to assist in transitioning away from fossil fuels. EAI also underscores that any uncertainty with regards to carbon pricing and ETS risks slowing down investment toward low carbon alternatives.
Promotes innovation	EAI is supportive of innovation, expressing that electrification can be achieved via competitive markets which foster investment and innovation. EAI has also funded pieces of work such at MaREI SFI Research Centre for Energy, Climate and Marine research and innovation to investigate what the all-island electricity system needs to look like in 2030. EAI has also advocated for government support in the development of low carbon technologies.
Seeks a just transition to net zero	EAI recognises the need support the most vulnerable consumers and communities through the energy transition, ensuring appropriate grants and information are accessible. EAI also expresses that electrification, and decarbonisation can be achieved in the overall interest of society.
Actions required	Overall alignment confirmed; continue engagement with the trade association.

Ibec	Ibec is Ireland's largest business group and represents firms in nearly every sector of the Irish economy. Its purpose is to help members navigate challenges and seize opportunities and deliver for business success, building a better, more sustainable future for all. Ibec is committed to playing an active and constructive role in Ireland's transition to a competitive net zero economy.
Alignment	**Aligned**
Change since previous assessment	No Change
Influence Map Score	N/A

Detailed assessment against SSE's climate principles	
Acknowledges the serious threat of climate change	Ibec acknowledges the consequences of climate change, and the impact of severe weather such as floods and wildfires on doing business. Ibec describes climate change as the "greatest challenge facing humankind today", hence displaying explicit alignment with this principle.
Supports the goals of the Paris Agreement	Ibec is supportive of the goal to meet zero by 2050 and reducing GHGs by 55% versus 1990 levels. These objectives are in line with the goals of the Paris agreement.
Supports a strong carbon price	Ibec believes that a strong carbon price is required to drive the transition to renewables and low carbon alternatives, provided businesses and households have access to adequate supports to decarbonise and reduce their exposure to the carbon price. Ibec lobbied for an upward carbon tax regime before its introduction in 2020. and long recognised the ETS as the central instrument for decarbonisation of European energy and industrial sectors. Ibec supports a linking of the UK ETS and EU ETS.
Promotes innovation	Ibec emphasises the need to invest in innovation, research and development advocating for public investment in research and innovation to reach 1% by 2035. It also underscores the need for skills investment and innovation in order to realise net zero transitions in I-SEM.
Seeks a just transition to net zero	Ibec fully supports a just transition evidenced through a senior Ibec executive sitting on Ireland's Just Transition Committee. The Just Transition Committee acts as an advisory board to the Irish Government which aims to ensure a fair and equitable transition to climate neutrality. Ibec's own media output also seeks to educate and provide support to businesses on how they can successfully transition and adapt.
Actions required	Overall alignment confirmed; continue engagement with the trade association.

RenewableNI	RenewableNI is the voice for the renewable electricity industry in Northern Ireland. Through the development of policy, best practice and public communications, it represents those engaged in wind, solar and battery storage development.
Alignment	**Aligned**
Change since previous assessment	No Change
Influence Map Score	N/A
Detailed assessment against SSE's climate principles	
Acknowledges the serious threat of climate change	RenewableNI acknowledges the serious threat of climate change, and the need to decarbonise and transition to net zero to tackle the climate emergency. RenewableNI recognises that inaction risks severe weather such as droughts, floods and heatwaves.
Supports the goals of the Paris Agreement	RenewableNI explicitly recognises the goals of the Paris Agreement and underscores the need to uphold these targets. It does this by highlighting the need to decarbonise, take advantage of Northern Ireland's wind power potential and transition to net zero by 2050, to prevent warming exceeding the 1.5°C threshold.
Supports a strong carbon price	RenewableNI expresses supports in linking UK and EU ETS, believing it will improve carbon markets. RenewableNI also endorses a report from Wind Energy Ireland which demonstrates that carbon pricing under the EU ETS materially increases the system and consumer benefits of renewable electricity by increasing the costs avoided when fossil fuel generation is displaced and thus reflects an implicit recognition of the economic value of carbon pricing.
Promotes innovation	RenewableNI promotes the need for innovation to meet future climate and biodiversity challenges and underscore the need for research and development in emerging low carbon technologies such as floating wind, and floating solar. RenewableNI also emphasises the need to address the skills shortage in electrical engineering to facilitate the transition to net zero.
Seeks a just transition to net zero	RenewableNI supports the principle of a just transition to net zero and advocates for these principles to be embedded in processes. Renewable NI has also explicitly stated in response to a government consultation they agree with the focus on affordability, fairness, and putting consumers at the centre of the energy transition.
Actions required	Overall alignment confirmed; continue engagement with the trade association.

Wind Energy Ireland	Wind Energy Ireland (WEI) is committed to the promotion and education of wind energy issues and plays a leading role in advocacy in support for the development of wind energy on the island of Ireland. WEI is committed to promoting the use of wind energy in Ireland as an economically viable and environmentally sound alternative to thermal or nuclear generation.
Alignment	**Aligned**
Change since previous assessment	No Change
Influence Map Score	N/A
Detailed assessment against SSE's climate principles	
Acknowledges the serious threat of climate change	WEI explicitly recognises the effects of climate change, and the extreme weather it causes intense storms, droughts and the subsequent loss in biodiversity. WEI acknowledges the need to decarbonise in order to tackle climate change and secure our future.
Supports the goals of the Paris Agreement	WEI support the Irish and EU legally binding target to meet net-zero by 2050, and reduce emissions by 51% by 2030, these targets are in line with the goals of the Paris Agreement to limit temperature rising to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels.
Supports a strong carbon price	WEI highlight the savings in carbon credits through use of low-carbon technologies such as wind. Hence, WEI displays implicit support of strong carbon pricing as its incentives the use of low-carbon technologies, while penalising the use of fossil fuels such as gas.
Promotes innovation	WEI explicitly state in their 2026-2030 strategy that they embrace innovation and recognise that new ideas and solutions ensure resilience and lasting positive impact. WEI also advocate for investment in low carbon technologies such as LDES, and for investment in the infrastructure which supports their build out and development such as ports and grids.
Seeks a just transition to net zero	WEI supports a just transition, highlighting the need to provide grants and support to allow lower-income households to adopt new low-carbon technologies, as well as tax-relief for those in this fishing industry to repurpose vessels to service the offshore wind sector. WEI also highlight the employment opportunities which will arise because of the energy transitions, and WEI work to raise awareness and visibility of these opportunities across all of society.
Actions required	Overall alignment confirmed; continue engagement with the trade association.

British Chambers of Commerce	The British Chambers of Commerce (BCC) is the UK's leading business network, representing Chambers of Commerce across the UK and internationally, and supporting businesses through policy advocacy, economic insight, trade support and engagement on issues affecting growth, competitiveness and the low-carbon transition.
Alignment	**Aligned**
Change since previous assessment	New Assessment
Influence Map Score	N/A
Detailed assessment against SSE's climate principles	
Acknowledges the serious threat of climate change	The British Chambers of Commerce demonstrates alignment with this principle. It recognises climate change as an existential challenge for the UK and the world, highlighting the risks climate impacts pose to businesses, infrastructure and the economy, including flooding, extreme temperatures and pressures on rural and coastal communities. Its evidence also acknowledges the urgency of climate risks and the need to support businesses in the transition to net zero.
Supports the goals of the Paris Agreement	The British Chambers of Commerce demonstrates broad alignment with this principle through its support for net zero, low carbon transition and green growth. While the evidence does not appear to explicitly reference the Paris Agreement or 1.5°C, BCC calls for bold government action to accelerate the UK's low carbon transition, meet net zero targets and support green jobs. This indicates alignment with the wider objectives of decarbonisation and climate action underpinning the Paris Agreement.
Supports a strong carbon price	The British Chambers of Commerce demonstrates some alignment with this principle through its support for understanding and complying with the EU Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism. The evidence explains that CBAM imposes a carbon price on imported goods to prevent carbon leakage, promote fair competition and encourage emissions reductions. However, the evidence is more focused on business compliance and awareness than direct advocacy for a stronger carbon price.
Promotes innovation	The British Chambers of Commerce demonstrates strong alignment with this principle. It advocates for increased support for low carbon technology innovation across early-stage, mid-stage and late-stage commercialisation, including funding for emerging innovations, smoother pathways to market readiness and support to overcome the "*valley of death*" in clean technology development. This shows active support for innovation and the scaling of low carbon technologies.
Seeks a just transition to net zero	The British Chambers of Commerce demonstrates strong alignment with this principle, particularly through its work on the North Sea transition. It explicitly supports a just transition that protects communities, jobs, infrastructure and supply chains while enabling a renewable energy future. The evidence highlights the need for a coherent plan that gives businesses, investors, workers and the public confidence in a sustainable future for the North Sea.
Actions required	Overall alignment confirmed; continue engagement and monitor BCC's alignment throughout the energy transition.

Global Wind Energy Council	The Global Wind Energy Council (GWEC) is the international trade association for the global wind energy sector, representing industry stakeholders across more than 80 countries and advocating for policies and investment that accelerate wind power deployment and the clean energy transition worldwide.
Alignment	**Aligned**
Change since previous assessment	No Change
Influence Map Score	N/A
Detailed assessment against SSE's climate principles	
Acknowledges the serious threat of climate change	GWEC demonstrates clear alignment with this principle. It recognises climate change as a major global challenge and identifies volatile weather conditions, extreme heat, extreme cold and changing energy demand as impacts of climate change. GWEC also frames renewable energy, and wind in particular, as central to addressing climate change, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, improving air quality and safeguarding the planet's future.
Supports the goals of the Paris Agreement	GWEC demonstrates strong alignment with this principle. It explicitly references the need to keep the world on track to meet Paris Agreement goals and the 1.5°C global warming limit. GWEC states that wind installations need to double by 2030 to limit global warming to 1.5°C and supports the scale-up of wind and renewable energy capacity required to meet global climate commitments.
Supports a strong carbon price	GWEC demonstrates alignment with this principle. It supports carbon pricing mechanisms for fossil fuels and calls for the proceeds of carbon pricing to be directed towards grid, storage and flexibility services to support a renewables-based system. Its 2025 evidence also supports well-structured carbon pricing mechanisms and expanded carbon markets as tools to improve wind project bankability and monetise avoided emissions.
Promotes innovation	GWEC demonstrates strong alignment with this principle. It promotes continuous technological innovation across the wind sector, including floating offshore wind, advanced composite materials, wind-plus-storage, wind-plus-hydrogen, smarter grids, artificial intelligence and advanced data analytics. GWEC identifies innovation as essential to scaling offshore wind, increasing system flexibility and delivering reliable large-scale renewable energy generation.
Seeks a just transition to net zero	GWEC demonstrates clear alignment with this principle. It explicitly recognises the importance of a just and equitable energy transition, including the need to manage labour disruption and economic dislocation associated with the shift to clean energy. Recent evidence also highlights local ownership, benefit-sharing mechanisms, community investment, local hiring, education initiatives and ESG standards as ways to ensure wind development delivers positive social outcomes.
Actions required	Overall alignment confirmed; continue engagement with the trade association.

International Emissions Trading Association	The International Emissions Trading Association (IETA) is a global business organisation that promotes market-based climate solutions, bringing together companies across the carbon market value chain to advance emissions trading, carbon pricing and policies that support the transition to a net-zero economy.
Alignment	**Aligned**
Change since previous assessment	No Change
Influence Map Score	C
Detailed assessment against SSE's climate principles	
Acknowledges the serious threat of climate change	IETA recognises the urgency of climate action and the real-world impacts of climate change, including wildfires, floods, droughts and heat waves. Its mission and public positioning are focused on accelerating emissions reductions and enabling net zero.
Supports the goals of the Paris Agreement	IETA demonstrates strong alignment with this principle. Its 2026 European Climate Summit report explicitly states that carbon markets must scale to meet the ambition of the Paris Agreement. Moreover, IETA mission explicitly states, "*Empower business to engage in climate action and pursue net zero ambitions to advance the Paris Agreement's objectives*".
Supports a strong carbon price	IETA demonstrates strong alignment with this principle. It directly supports carbon pricing and emissions trading, including the continued role of the EU ETS as Europe's central climate instrument and the launch of ETS2. IETA advocates for predictable, rule-based market governance, harmonised implementation, early auctions, market readiness and public understanding of carbon pricing. It also warns against interventions that could undermine system credibility, investor confidence or market functioning. This shows strong support for a robust carbon price as a key mechanism to deliver cost-effective decarbonisation.
Promotes innovation	IETA demonstrates strong alignment with this principle. It promotes innovation through digital carbon market infrastructure, AI-driven verification, digital MRV, blockchain registries and emerging carbon removal technologies such as biochar. Its 2025 Greenhouse Gas Report describes technology as an "*indispensable catalyst*", while its 2026 Biochar Business Brief and Innovate4Climate partnership show IETA supporting scalable low-carbon technologies and convening stakeholders to accelerate climate innovation.
Seeks a just transition to net zero	IETA. demonstrates implicit alignment with this principle. Its ETS2 policy recommendations recognise the need to protect and support vulnerable groups, mobilise financial support through Social Climate Plans and invest early in low-carbon solutions for road transport and buildings. This shows IETA supports social safeguards alongside carbon pricing, although its evidence is stronger on consumers and vulnerable groups than on workers, suppliers and communities.
Actions required	Overall alignment confirmed; continue engagement with the trade association.

International Hydropower Association	The International Hydropower Association (IHA) is the global voice of sustainable hydropower and is active in more than 120 countries. IHA promotes the sustainable development and operation of hydropower through advocacy, research, knowledge sharing and the promotion of industry good practice. It works with governments, international organisations and civil society to support hydropower's role in renewable energy systems, climate change mitigation and water resource management.
Alignment	**Aligned**
Change since previous assessment	New assessment
Influence Map Score	N/A
Detailed assessment against SSE's climate principles	
Acknowledges the serious threat of climate change	IHA demonstrates strong alignment with this principle. IHA's core statement (the San José Declaration on Sustainable Hydropower) states that *"Sustainable hydropower is a clean, green, modern and affordable solution to climate change."* IHA recognises the need for urgent decarbonisation and states that the world is already facing severe effects from climate change. IHA highlights that hydropower infrastructure is experiencing climate impacts through changing hydrological patterns and extreme weather events, while advocating for climate adaptation.
Supports the goals of the Paris Agreement	IHA demonstrates alignment with this principle. It explicitly states that limiting global warming to 1.5°C requires reducing carbon emissions to net zero, and that sustainable hydropower will play a vital role in international efforts to achieve this target. Its World Hydropower Outlook also tracks hydropower development against net zero pathways, indicating support for the wider aims of the Paris Agreement.
Supports a strong carbon price	Limited alignment. IHA does not appear to advocate directly for carbon pricing mechanisms such as carbon taxes, emissions trading schemes or carbon border adjustment mechanisms. However, IHA supports policy and market frameworks that recognise carbon performance, prioritise low-carbon technologies, and incorporate embodied carbon considerations into procurement, investment and electricity market design.
Promotes innovation	IHA demonstrates alignment with this principle. IHA supports innovation across the global hydropower sector by facilitating knowledge exchange and industry collaboration. Modernisation is a strategic priority, supported through member working groups, innovation webinars, EU-funded demonstration projects, and its Innovations Hub, which showcases advances in hydropower technology, renewable energy, environmental performance, social practices, and governance.
Seeks a just transition to net zero	IHA demonstrates alignment with this principle, through its Paris Pledge, promoting long-duration energy storage, reliable electrification and a just energy transition. IHA highlights job creation, workforce development, inclusion and community involvement and wellbeing. IHA supports the Hydropower Sustainability Standard which assesses the net environmental and social benefits of projects. SSE's Coire Glas was certified as Gold under the Standard, and won the 2025 IHA Blue Planet Award for Pumped Storage
Actions required	Overall alignment confirmed; continue engagement with the trade association

NedZero	NedZero is the Dutch wind energy association, representing organisations across the wind power sector and working with industry, government and other stakeholders to accelerate the transition to a CO_2-free energy system. NedZero supports the deployment of wind energy, alongside complementary technologies such as solar power and battery storage, to help achieve net-zero emissions in the Netherlands.
Alignment	**Aligned**
Change since previous assessment	No Change
Influence Map Score	N/A
Detailed assessment against SSE's climate principles	
Acknowledges the serious threat of climate change	NedZero demonstrates alignment with this principle. NedZero recognises "*the cost of doing nothing*" with regards to climate change, highlighting the economic and social impacts of climate related extreme weather events. NedZero advocates in favour of renewables to meet climate goals and move at C02 free energy system. NedZero demonstrates alignment with this principle. NedZero recognises the threat of climate change, highlighting the economic and social impacts of climate-related extreme weather events and sea level rise. NedZero advocates in favour of renewables to meet climate goals and to move towards a clean power energy system.
Supports the goals of the Paris Agreement	NedZero demonstrates alignment with the Paris Agreement. While it does not explicitly endorse specific Paris Agreement articles, it supports the Netherlands' Climate Plan 2025-2035 which directly references the need to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050, rapidly expand renewable energy, and reduce fossil fuel consumption. These positions are consistent with Paris Agreement objectives.
Supports a strong carbon price	NedZero shows alignment with this principle. The association discusses and appears broadly supportive of EU's Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) which strengthens demand for low-carbon electricity. More explicitly Ned Zero has expressed support to maintain a strong and stable European Emissions Trading System (EU ETS), highlighting its role in energy security and industrial transformation.
Promotes innovation	NedZero demonstrates strong alignment with this principle. It actively supports innovation ecosystems, promoting floating offshore wind innovation, battery storage, smarter grid connections, and provides platforms that connect emerging technology developers with investors and industry leaders.
Seeks a just transition to net zero	NedZero demonstrates strong alignment with SSE's just transition principle. It promotes local ownership, stakeholder participation, fair distribution of benefits and burdens, community engagement, social acceptance, and explicitly discusses ensuring the energy transition is embedded within society in a fair and inclusive way.
Actions required	Overall alignment confirmed; continue engagement with the trade association.

UK Emissions Trading Group	The UK Emissions Trading Group (UK ETG) is a business-led association representing organisations involved in emissions trading and decarbonisation, providing a forum for industry and government engagement on carbon pricing, the UK ETS and net-zero policy.
Alignment	Partially Aligned
Change since previous assessment	New Assessment
Influence Map Score	N/A
Detailed assessment against SSE's climate principles	
Acknowledges the serious threat of climate change	UK ETG shows partial alignment with the principle, but the evidence is less direct than for trade associations that explicitly discuss the climate crisis or physical climate risks. UK ETG recognises climate change as a material policy and economic issue through its focus on the path to net zero, carbon emissions trading, decarbonisation, greenhouse gas removals and the UK's net zero target. UK ETG states that "*an important focus" of the organisation is "the path to net zero and the means by which it can be achieved*", indicating recognition that emissions reduction and decarbonisation are important policy objectives.
Supports the goals of the Paris Agreement	UK ETG shows implicit alignment with the principle, but the evidence is less direct than for trade associations that explicitly discuss the climate crisis or physical climate risks. ETG recognises climate change as a material policy and economic issue through its focus on the path to net zero, carbon emissions trading, decarbonisation, greenhouse gas removals and the UK's net zero target. ETG states that "*an important focus*" of the organisation is "*the path to net zero and the means by which it can be achieved*", indicating recognition that emissions reduction and decarbonisation are important policy objectives.
Supports a strong carbon price	UK Emissions Trading Group demonstrates clear alignment with this principle. UK ETG explicitly states that it is "*overall supportive of emission trading as the primary policy tool to price carbon emissions*" and highlights that it and its members were instrumental in establishing the original UK Emissions Trading Scheme and influencing the design of the EU ETS.
Promotes innovation	UK Emissions Trading Group demonstrates alignment with this principle. ETG recognises that the ETS cannot operate in isolation and that wider measures are needed to support decarbonisation, including development of technologies such as electrification, CCUS and hydrogen. It also states that greenhouse gas removals will have an important role in helping the UK reach net zero, particularly where industry does not yet have access to the infrastructure needed to decarbonise.
Seeks a just transition to net zero	UK Emissions Trading Group shows implicit alignment with this principle. ETG does not appear to use the term "just transition" in the, nor does it explicitly discuss fairness for consumers, workers or communities. However, it does recognise the economic and industrial consequences of decarbonisation policy, calling for a "*holistic/joined-up approach*" from government to ensure UK businesses remain internationally competitive.
Actions required	Insufficient evidence to determine alignment; continue engagement with the trade association to clarify its position on SSE's net zero principles.

Wind Europe	Wind Europe is the leading trade association for Europe's wind energy sector, representing developers, manufacturers, utilities and supply chain companies, and advocating for policies, regulation and investment that support the growth of sustainable wind energy across Europe.
Alignment	**Aligned**
Change since previous assessment	No Change
Influence Map Score	B+
Detailed assessment against SSE's climate principles	
Acknowledges the serious threat of climate change	Wind Europe demonstrates clear alignment with this principle. It recognises the power sector as the largest contributor to global greenhouse gas emissions and states that swift transformation of national energy systems and increased investment in renewable energy are essential to limit global temperature increases. It also promotes wind energy as a key solution for reducing emissions, supporting decarbonisation and reducing the threat posed by climate change.
Supports the goals of the Paris Agreement	Wind Europe demonstrates alignment with the goals of the Paris Agreement. It explicitly describes the Paris Agreement as the start of a fundamental transition in global economies and supports long-term climate targets to limit temperature rises. The evidence also shows Wind Europe supporting ambitious EU climate targets, including greenhouse gas emissions reductions consistent with a 1.5°C pathway and a socially acceptable 2040 climate target.
Supports a strong carbon price	Wind Europe demonstrates strong alignment with this principle. It advocates for a robust and predictable EU Emissions Trading System, supports maintaining an ambitious cap trajectory, and states that a trajectory towards robust and high carbon prices is needed for the ETS to support renewable energy generation, advocating for the ETS to act as "*Europe's electrification engine*". Wind Europe also identifies the ETS as a key decarbonisation signal for electrification and supports preserving a stable carbon pricing framework.
Promotes innovation	Wind Europe demonstrates clear alignment with this principle through its support for research, innovation and industrial scale-up across the wind sector. It calls for public funding for innovation, including through the EU Innovation Fund, and supports research into digitalised operations, grid integration, floating offshore wind, sustainable materials and recyclable turbine technologies. Its 2025 competitiveness reporting also tracks Research & Innovation expenditure as a key sector indicator.
Seeks a just transition to net zero	Wind Europe demonstrates strong alignment with this principle. It recognises that the energy transition must be just and jobs-rich, with no one left behind, and supports reskilling workers from fossil fuel sectors into renewable energy. Recent evidence highlights workforce development, skills planning, local economic benefits, job creation and community benefit mechanisms, with Wind Europe stating that wind helps deliver an inclusive and just energy transition.
Actions required	Overall alignment confirmed; continue engagement with the trade association.