



SSE plc **AGM 2025**

Pre-submitted shareholder questions



The following questions from shareholders were submitted in advance of SSE plc's Annual General Meeting held in Perth and online on 17 July 2025.

Please note: Answers to questions regarding specific shareholdings, customer relations and any other personal matters have been communicated directly with the relevant individuals.

Decarbonisation pathways

Q

The following question was submitted in advance on behalf of CA100+ and read out at the AGM by Simonetta Spavieri of Schroders.

We support your efforts to limit further capex in 'unabated' fossil generation and support SSE's £17.5 billion investment plan through 2027. We believe that expanding renewables and strengthening the grid will help deliver cleaner, more affordable, and secure energy, addressing the energy trilemma we all face. We commend SSE for its continued commitment to climate and just transition goals and for being open about the challenges ahead. For the first time, showing to investors your 2030 targets for decarbonised power (scope 1 and 2 emissions) may be at risk.

Transparency like this is key to progress. You have commended government progress on power sector policy. What additional conditions, in your view, will you be asking government to enable SSE to deliver fully decarbonised flexible power generation in the 2030's ahead of your 2040 target?

A

What follows is the reply provided during the AGM by SSE's Chair, Sir John Manzoni.

Thank you for your question. And thank you for more than 10 years of constructive engagement with CA100+, which we value greatly. You are correct. SSE is encouraged by the direction government has taken in the past 12 months with its Clean Power 2030 plan. This clarity is rare and welcome. That said, we need accelerated action. SSE sees the dependencies for the Government achieving its clean power mission and SSE achieving its 2030 climate targets as being identical.

In terms of our asks of government, I'd make three points:

First, modernising and strengthening the Grid is absolutely vital. Many brand-new high voltage transmission circuits need to be built across the UK. In the north of Scotland those projects are well developed, with routes identified and supply chains in place. To stay on track, we need timely decisions on consenting and land rights – specifically within a 12-month period from submission. And we will continue to work constructively to ensure Ofgem's Final Determination on RIIO-T3 delivers an investible, financeable and ambitious price control settlement.

Second, the Government needs to meet its target of between 43 and 50GW of installed offshore wind. To achieve that there needs to be quicker consents for the next tranche of offshore development – not just

for SSE, but for all developers. And, the next – crucial – auction round for Contracts for Difference needs to deliver at least 8 to 10 GW of new capacity – and the one after, even more.

And third, the last piece of the jigsaw relates to low carbon flexible generation. To ensure this is in place to support a 2030 clean power system, there needs to be a clear line of sight on government contracts for low-carbon power, and the CCS and hydrogen infrastructure that supports this. However, given the timeframes, it's unlikely a significant volume of these will come onto the system for 2030.

So to ensure that the country is primed to deliver low-carbon power, high standards need to be embedded in policy and regulation to ensure any new-build gas-fired power stations are truly CCS- or hydrogen-ready, to prevent carbon lock-in.

Coire Glas pumped storage hydro

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The following question was submitted in writing by a retail shareholder:*

Has the Board considered the possibility of funding the (Coire Glas) scheme without the use of the HM Government's "Cap and Floor" mechanism? From the documentation on the project site it would appear to be an excellent investment and with the increasing move to renewables that are not as predictable as fossil fuel power sources, one wonders if it would be more profitable to the Company and ultimately shareholders if the scheme were implemented as a true, what might be termed, "capitalist" scheme.

A

SSE's response:

While Coire Glas is the most advanced large-scale pumped storage scheme in the UK, it faces several barriers to investment which are common for all pumped storage schemes, including high upfront capital costs, a lengthy build time and therefore a lack of revenue certainty once delivered. We have long called for a supportive framework to enable investment in long-duration electricity storage technologies such as pumped storage, and we remain actively engaged with Ofgem on how to ensure the Cap and Floor mechanism is investable for projects by providing investors with the right balance between capital risk and commercial reward. However, we continue to monitor and review other commercial opportunities for this project to maintain optionality.

Dogger Bank offshore wind farm

Q

The following question was submitted in writing by a retail shareholder:*

It is almost two years since "first power" was achieved at Dogger Bank A, yet it would appear that at least one third of the Wind Turbine Generators (WTG) are yet to be installed. The foundation and transition

pieces are fully installed at Dogger Bank B and it looks as if Dogger Bank C will reach this milestone by Autumn. If I understood the notes in the Annual Report, it does not look as though there will be any additional resources for WTG installation at Dogger Bank B & C until sometime in 2Q26. Considering that it appears that £2.5bn has been allocated to this project, and presumably much of it already spent, is the Board concerned about the fact that this project is taking so long to complete? Clearly the interest payments on monies already spent are a considerable, yet regrettably one imagines the income from electrical generation is so far, fairly low.

Will the challenges in the DB A, B & C projects be identified and lessons learnt applied to other SSE offshore wind farm projects?

A

SSE's response:

Dogger Bank wind farm will be the world's largest offshore wind farm and a world-class renewable energy project for SSE. Despite well-publicised delays in the first half of the last financial year, the Group has made strong progress on Dogger Bank A over the winter months with turbine installation and commissioning work. At the Preliminary Full-year Results in May, the turbine installation campaign on this first phase had passed the halfway mark with 55 of the 95 turbines installed, and steady progress is continuing. This progress is testament to our project team and our supply partners who have worked in difficult conditions to identify and implement lessons learned from the delays which mean the project is on track for completion in the second half of calendar year 2025.

On Dogger Bank B, material progress has also been made, with all 95 foundations installed, while inter-array cable laying work is expected to complete this summer. As you have noted, a second turbine installation vessel has been contracted, and we expect it will commence installation work during Q2 2026.

On Dogger Bank C, we commenced installation of foundations in April with more than half of the total 87 monopiles now installed.

SSE has always been mindful of the risks associated with delivery of complex projects on the scale of Dogger Bank and manages those risks through disciplined procurement, contracting and project management processes in addition to project contingencies for remaining risk. The combination of these factors – coupled with the dedication of our delivery team – means we continue to expect to deliver all three phases for Dogger Bank in line with our return requirements. And these factors – which incorporate the learnings from delivery of Dogger Bank, Seagreen and other offshore wind projects – will continue to be implemented within future offshore wind developments.

*Names and contact details of retail shareholders have been withheld for privacy reasons.

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