UK Energy and Data Centres Weekly

What public Facebook campaign groups posted about wind, solar, battery storage, hydro, grid links and data centres from 10 to 16 November 2026

THIS WEEK

Onshore wind: building
Garbet, Strathy South, Windy Standard III, Priestgill. p2

Onshore wind: planning
Calderdale delay, Back Fell, Oliver Forest, Eskdalemuir. p3

Offshore wind and grid links
£12bn go-ahead, ScotWind warning, Dogger Bank, EGL4/5. p4

Solar, batteries and hydro
Botley West refused, a margin warning, Lochay. p5

Data centres
Dunbar, a council NDA, Holyrood's call for views. p6

LEAD STORY

Thousands march in Edinburgh against hyperscale data centres



March poster attached to a Dunbar Against Massive Datacentres post of 12 November. A campaign graphic.

Campaign groups across Scotland posted all week about the Stop AI Data Centres march on Saturday 14 November. Action to Protect Rural Scotland gave the plan: meet at the top of the Royal Mile at 11.30am, march at noon, rally at 1pm. It said no one voted for AI data centres at the Holyrood elections and called for a national conversation before any decisions are made.

After the march, Dunbar Against Massive Datacentres put the turnout at 6,000 people from more than 80 organisations, marching from the Royal Mile to the Scottish Parliament. It said they wanted a national public consultation on the 23 hyperscale data centres it says are proposed in Scotland. Its list includes Friends of the Earth Scotland, Greenpeace, trades union councils and local groups from Larbert, West Calder, Hunterston, Chapelcross, Cockenzie, Dunbar, the Lammermuirs, Ravenscraig and the Gyle.

The same group said Scottish Green MSPs joined the march to call for a pause, and that its own local petition passed 5,000 signatures that day. A later post says the actor Sam Heughan used his speech at the rally to urge the Scottish Government to keep data centres away from Scotland's landscape. Figures are the campaigners'.

Rural Scotland (APRS); Dunbar Against Massive Datacentres (DAMD) · 14 Nov 2026

6,000
marchers in Edinburgh on 14 Nov, per a campaign post

£12bn
investment in two offshore wind projects, per the UK Government

208MW
Strathy South, 35 turbines, due late 2027, per the post

1 Dec
representations close on Dalfad Wind Farm, East Ayrshire

ONSHORE WIND: BUILDING

Turbine deliveries in Moray and Dumfries and Galloway

Garbet, Moray: turbine parts arriving at a seven-turbine site



Earthworks at Garbet, as shown in the post. The post does not state the photo's source.

A post in Scottish Electricity Generating Stations says major turbine components were delivered in October and November 2026 to Garbet Wind Farm, about 6 km south-east of Dufftown in Moray. It gives seven turbines of up to 200 m to tip and 49.2 MW in all: 46.2 MW of wind and a 3 MW battery.

As the post gives it, the scheme was developed by Energiekontor UK, consented with a tip-height increase to 200 m in February 2024 and acquired by Capital Dynamics Clean Energy; construction began in 2025.

Scottish Electricity Generating Stations · 14 Nov 2026

Strathy South: 35 turbines, 208 MW, due late 2027

A post in Scottish Electricity Generating Stations profiles SSE Renewables' Strathy South, about 12 km south of Strathy in Sutherland: 35 Vestas V162-6.2 turbines of up to 200 m to tip and 208 MW, consented by Scottish Ministers in November 2021.

It says SSE took the final investment decision in December 2024, building from spring 2025 towards commercial operation in late 2027, with a community fund of £1 million a year, peatland restoration and the removal of more than 1,000 hectares of commercial forestry. It adds that Scottish Ministers have confirmed SSE's compulsory purchase order.

Scottish Electricity Generating Stations · 16 Nov 2026

Windy Standard III: all 344 turbine parts delivered

A post in Scotland Against Spin shares a reNEWS report that Collett has finished delivering 344 turbine components for the 87.6 MW Windy Standard III extension in Dumfries and Galloway: 20 Enercon turbines across the Waterhead Hill and Meaul Hill clusters, brought in two phases in 2026 through King George V Dock in Glasgow and the Port of Ayr.

Scotland Against Spin · 12 Nov 2026

Also building or proposed

Priestgill: a post in Scottish Electricity Generating Stations describes Muirhall Energy's seven-turbine, 46 MW Priestgill Wind Farm north-east of Abington, South Lanarkshire, consented in 2020, with RJ McLeod as civil contractor and a community fund of about £218,000 a year.

Cumberhead: the same group profiles the operating 50 MW Cumberhead Wind Farm (12 Nordex turbines, running since March 2023) and says the neighbouring Cumberhead West scheme would add 21 turbines of up to 200 m, 126 MW and 40 MW of storage.

Scottish Electricity Generating Stations · 10 Nov 2026

SCHEMES AT A GLANCE, AS THE POSTS GIVE THEM

Scheme	Place	Size	Stage
Garbet	Near Dufftown, Moray	7 turbines; 49.2 MW incl. 3 MW battery	Building; parts arriving
Strathy South	Sutherland	35 turbines; 208 MW	Building; due late 2027
Windy Standard III	Carsphairn Forest	20 Enercon turbines; 87.6 MW	All turbine parts delivered
Priestgill	Near Abington	7 turbines; 46 MW	Building
Cumberhead West	Near Douglas	21 turbines; 126 MW + 40 MW storage	Proposed

ONSHORE WIND: PLANNING AND OPPOSITION

A delay at Walshaw Moor and objections in Ayrshire

Calderdale Energy Park: application pushed back to July 2027

Worth Valley against Walshaw Moor Wind Farm says the developer has moved its Development Consent Order application for the Calderdale Energy Park on Walshaw Moor from November 2026 to July 2027. A Scotland Against Spin post shares a BBC report that the 34-turbine scheme, between Hebden Bridge and Haworth, paused after consultation raised matters needing further consideration.

The Worth Valley group says the developer has admitted its peat landslide assessment for Crow Hill was wrong, and argues the delay will not allow a redesign. These are the group's claims.

Worth Valley against Walshaw Moor Wind Farm; Scotland Against Spin · 10 Nov 2026

Back Fell objection, Oliver Forest hearing, Novar repowering

Back Fell: a Scotland Against Spin post says South Ayrshire Council is recommended to keep its objection to E Power's 10-turbine Back Fell Wind Farm near Maybole: turbines up to 200 m, about 92 MW.

Oliver Forest: the same group linked the first day of the public hearing, on 10 November, into the Section 36 application for seven turbines of up to 200 m, a substation and a battery store in the Scottish Borders.

It also lists an application to repower the Novar 1 Wind Farm about 11 km north of Dingwall and reminds readers that representations on Dalfad Wind Farm in East Ayrshire close on 1 December (ECU00006322).

Scotland Against Spin · 11 Nov 2026

Eskdalemuir: the seismic array limit

An article shared in Scottish Electricity Generating Stations says turbines within 50 km of the Eskdalemuir Seismic Array interfere with its monitoring of nuclear tests, that the area's seismic 'budget' is used up, and that this was one reason the Rowantree wind farm was refused. It says Community Wind Power is taking the Ministry of Defence to court for more capacity. It argues there is plenty of space elsewhere in the UK for onshore wind and that the Ministry of Defence will not compromise a national security asset. These are the author's views.

Scottish Electricity Generating Stations · 14 Nov 2026

DATES IN THESE POSTS

Date	What	Where / who
10 Nov	Hearing day 1, Oliver Forest Wind Farm	Scottish Borders (DPEA case WIN-140-12)
1 Dec	Representations close, Dalfad Wind Farm	Energy Consents Unit, ECU00006322
Jul 2027	Calderdale Energy Park DCO application, as rescheduled	Walshaw Moor, West Yorkshire
Late 2027	Strathy South commercial operation expected	Sutherland

OFFSHORE WIND AND GRID LINKS

A £12bn go-ahead in the south, a grid test for the north

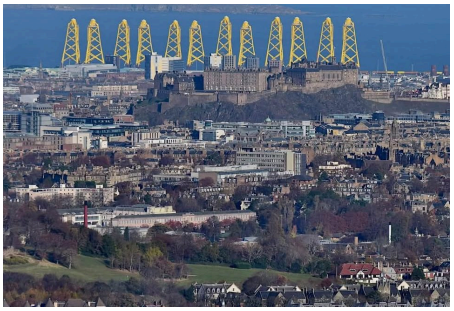
£12bn for two offshore wind farms, and a warning for ScotWind

Scotland Against Spin shared the UK Government's announcement that the Prime Minister welcomed the green light for two major new offshore wind projects, with what it calls a £12 billion investment, ahead of the COP31 summit. A press report shared by the group places them off the Norfolk coast.

A Scotsman report shared on 14 November says UK ministers signalled that future projects, including ScotWind and floating offshore wind, may not be backed unless they bring cheaper power and have guaranteed grid connections; about 60% of ScotWind proposals are floating. Critics quoted in the report warn that support could shift to projects nearer south-east England, where grid access is better. The report says the SNP and industry leaders called it an attack on Scotland's renewables sector.

Scotland Against Spin · 11 Nov 2026

Dogger Bank and Inch Cape



Inch Cape foundations at Leith, seen from the Pentland Hills, as shown in the post.

A post in Scottish Electricity Generating Stations says Ofgem named a Diamond Transmission UK and Chubu Electric consortium preferred bidder on 5 November for the transmission assets of the 1.2 GW Dogger Bank B, valued at about £1 billion. It says the 3.6 GW Dogger Bank Wind Farm is owned by SSE Renewables, Equinor and Vårgrønn. Another shows the Seaway Ventus loading turbine parts for Dogger Bank C at Nigg on 10 November.

The group also shows the Inch Cape jacket foundations stored at the Port of Leith: up to 83 m tall and over 2,000 tonnes each, for the wind farm off Arbroath due in 2027.

Scottish Electricity Generating Stations · 10 Nov 2026

Four subsea links move on

Western Link 2: a post in Scottish Electricity Generating Stations says SP Energy Networks is seeking a scoping opinion for a 2 GW, 525 kV link from a new converter station by Kilmarnock South substation, via a landfall near Monkton, about 195 km to Gwynedd and a converter station near Pentir. South Ayrshire Council is being asked whether an environmental impact assessment is needed.

Eastern Green Links 4 and 5: the group describes EGL4, a 2 GW link with 530 km of subsea cable from Kinghorn in Fife to Anderby Creek and on to Walpole in Norfolk, and EGL5, a £3 billion, 2 GW link from Aberdeenshire to Lincolnshire with a Development Consent Order application expected in 2027. It says EGL1 and EGL2 are consented and being built.

Orkney Link: it says Nexans has completed factory tests of the 220 kV subsea cable, with full energisation targeted for 2028.

Scottish Electricity Generating Stations · 10 Nov 2026

60%
of ScotWind proposals involving floating wind, per the report

1.2GW
Dogger Bank B, whose grid link has a preferred bidder

2GW
each for Western Link 2, EGL4 and EGL5, per the posts

2028
full energisation targeted for the Orkney Link

SOLAR, BATTERY STORAGE AND HYDRO

Botley West refused, and batteries under the spotlight

Botley West solar farm refused

Essex Suffolk Norfolk Pylons welcomed the Secretary of State's refusal of the Botley West solar farm in Oxfordshire. It quotes the decision: substantial harm to the Green Belt and to heritage assets including the Blenheim Palace World Heritage Site, landscape harm, aviation-safety risk and the applicant's approach to best and most versatile land.

7000 Acres Group shares CPRE's call for a moratorium on solar farms over 30 MW until a national spatial energy plan is in place. Scotland Against Spin shares an STV report of a Solar Energy Scotland survey: 70% of Scots want solar panels on public buildings and 43% would support a solar farm near their home, against 22% opposed.

Essex Suffolk Norfolk Pylons; 7000 Acres Group; Scotland Against Spin · 11 Nov 2026

Batteries, a margin warning and the cost of balancing

Scotland Against Spin shares an analysis of the Electricity Margin Notice NESO issued on Sunday 8 November for the next morning: a forecast shortfall of 1,388 MW, cut to 500 MW and then 200 MW before the notice was cancelled shortly after 9am. The analysis asks whether the way NESO accounts for batteries explains the warning.

The group also shares a report that balancing costs rose 16%, in which NESO says it now takes more than twice as many balancing actions per unit of electricity used as in 2018.

Batteries near data centres: the Cato group reports a 100 MW battery application by Apatura near Little Glenniston Farm, a company it says is behind several data-centre applications. It says earlier Apatura battery applications were followed by data-centre applications.

Scotland Against Spin; Say No To Cato Data Centre · 12 Nov 2026

Hydro: Lochay repowering and a Tummel Bridge award



Lochay Power Station, Killin, as shown in the post. The post does not state the photo's source.

A post in Scottish Electricity Generating Stations describes SSE Renewables' £80 million repowering of Lochay Hydro Power Station at Killin, whose turbines date from around 1958, which it says will extend the station's life by at least 40 years.

The group also reports that the Tummel Bridge Replant Project, a £50 million restoration of the 1930s Category A listed station, won the British Hydropower Association's award for heritage and restoration.

Scottish Electricity Generating Stations · 13 Nov 2026

70%
of Scots want solar on public buildings, per the survey

30MW
threshold for CPRE's proposed solar moratorium

1,388MW
NESO's first forecast shortfall for the morning of 9 Nov

£80m
Lochay hydro repowering, per the post

DATA CENTRES

Dunbar's fields, a secrecy deal and Holyrood's call for views

Dunbar: 60 hectares of farmland and a growing petition



The fields at Dunbar, as shown in the group's post.

Dunbar Against Massive Datacentres says the proposed hyperscale AI data centre would cover 60.2 hectares of grade 2 farmland, from the Spott roundabout to West Barns, which it puts at a fifth of the town. It names the promoter as Thistle Sands Ltd.

The group says 47 bird, 15 butterfly and 12 mammal species have been recorded in and around the fields since last year, and asks people to log sightings so the records reach the council when an application is made.

Dunbar Against Massive Datacentres (DAMD) · 12 Nov 2026

A council secrecy deal and a halt to letters

A Scotland Against Spin post shares a report from The National that a Freedom of Information request shows West Lothian Council signed a non-disclosure agreement with an unnamed AI data centre firm in 2025-26. It says three councils with live hyperscale applications, for Chapelcross, Hunterston and near Dunbar and Cockenzie, would not confirm or deny signing one.

Another report shared by the group says the Scottish Government asked Larbert campaigners to stop writing to it about data centre development, saying it could provide no more information than its letter set out.

Scotland Against Spin · 16 Nov 2026

Holyrood asks for views, and a word on water

Two Scottish Parliament committees asked for views on hyperscale data centres: the Climate Action Committee on their environmental impact, and the Economy, Tourism and Energy Committee on their economic and energy implications; the Dunbar group reminded members the call closed at midnight on 15 November.

Scotland Against Spin shares a report that Scottish Water told MSPs it would prevent water 'horror stories'.

Dunbar Against Massive Datacentres (DAMD); Scotland Against Spin · 13 Nov 2026

60.2ha
proposed data-centre site at Dunbar, per the group

5,000
signatures on the Dunbar petition on 14 Nov, per the group

3
councils that would neither confirm nor deny an NDA, per the report

15 Nov
Holyrood committees' call for views closed

ABOUT THIS NEWSLETTER

How this newsletter was made

A weekly issue. Posts dated 10 to 16 November 2026: 40 posts from 8 groups were used. They were chosen from 146 candidates by tag or keyword: 77 onshore wind, 16 offshore wind, 11 solar, 11 battery and 60 data-centre (posts can fall under more than one).

Selection. Included: UK wind, solar, battery, hydro, grid-link and data-centre proposals, consents, deliveries, decisions and events. Left out: US and other overseas posts, nuclear and coal history, readers' letters, opinion with no project in it, video-only links, posts naming private people and photo-only posts.

Balance. The posting groups are campaign groups, so the posts lean one way. Officials are named only by role; no private individuals are named.

Reliability. Campaigners' views, not checked; figures as the posts give them. Five photos come from the posts, whose sources are not always stated: check rights before publishing. Not advice.

Posts used (public group posts; the address opens the post)

Date	Group	Post
10 Nov	Scottish Electricity Generating Stations	slava.it.com/?sel=1429531829339058
10 Nov	Scottish Electricity Generating Stations	slava.it.com/?sel=1429870209305220
10 Nov	Worth Valley against Walshaw Moor Wind Farm	slava.it.com/?sel=1436426484729458
10 Nov	Rural Scotland (APRS)	slava.it.com/?sel=1589673186538723
10 Nov	Scotland Against Spin	slava.it.com/?sel=30092705496998459
10 Nov	Scotland Against Spin	slava.it.com/?sel=30093076430294699
11 Nov	Scottish Electricity Generating Stations	slava.it.com/?sel=1429997205959187
11 Nov	Essex Suffolk Norfolk Pylons	slava.it.com/?sel=1854275582279355
11 Nov	Scotland Against Spin	slava.it.com/?sel=30106743325594676
11 Nov	Scotland Against Spin	slava.it.com/?sel=30108205438781798
11 Nov	Scotland Against Spin	slava.it.com/?sel=30111048118497530
12 Nov	Scottish Electricity Generating Stations	slava.it.com/?sel=1431097755849132
12 Nov	Scottish Electricity Generating Stations	slava.it.com/?sel=1431139902511584
12 Nov	Scottish Electricity Generating Stations	slava.it.com/?sel=1431851992440375
12 Nov	Dunbar Against Massive Datacentres (DAMD)	slava.it.com/?sel=1493553655967423
12 Nov	Dunbar Against Massive Datacentres (DAMD)	slava.it.com/?sel=1493614609294661
12 Nov	7000 Acres Group	slava.it.com/?sel=1824867601920840
12 Nov	Scotland Against Spin	slava.it.com/?sel=30122134180722257
12 Nov	Scotland Against Spin	slava.it.com/?sel=30122473890688286
12 Nov	Scotland Against Spin	slava.it.com/?sel=30122814357320906
12 Nov	Scotland Against Spin	slava.it.com/?sel=30122971797305162
12 Nov	Scotland Against Spin	slava.it.com/?sel=30127659413503067
13 Nov	Scottish Electricity Generating Stations	slava.it.com/?sel=1432159165742991
13 Nov	Say No To Cato Data Centre	slava.it.com/?sel=1606949754046300
13 Nov	Scotland Against Spin	slava.it.com/?sel=30137681152500893
13 Nov	Scotland Against Spin	slava.it.com/?sel=30138310285771313
13 Nov	Scotland Against Spin	slava.it.com/?sel=30146303871638621
14 Nov	Scottish Electricity Generating Stations	slava.it.com/?sel=1433095578982683
14 Nov	Scottish Electricity Generating Stations	slava.it.com/?sel=1433591402266434
14 Nov	Scottish Electricity Generating Stations	slava.it.com/?sel=1433749018917339
14 Nov	Scottish Electricity Generating Stations	slava.it.com/?sel=1433779302247644
14 Nov	Scottish Electricity Generating Stations	slava.it.com/?sel=1433901178902123
14 Nov	Dunbar Against Massive Datacentres (DAMD)	slava.it.com/?sel=1495503615772427
14 Nov	Dunbar Against Massive Datacentres (DAMD)	slava.it.com/?sel=1495629555759833
14 Nov	Scotland Against Spin	slava.it.com/?sel=30152940837641591
15 Nov	Dunbar Against Massive Datacentres (DAMD)	slava.it.com/?sel=1496599695662819
16 Nov	Scottish Electricity Generating Stations	slava.it.com/?sel=1435005245458383
16 Nov	Scottish Electricity Generating Stations	slava.it.com/?sel=1435035368788704
16 Nov	Dunbar Against Massive Datacentres (DAMD)	slava.it.com/?sel=1496794418976680
16 Nov	Scotland Against Spin	slava.it.com/?sel=30180818158187192

The project map, all posts and search

slava.energy