# UK Energy and Data Centres Weekly

What public Facebook campaign groups posted about wind, solar, batteries, the grid and data centres, 16 to 22 November 2026

THIS WEEK

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LEAD STORY

## Ministers approve the 67-turbine Muir Mhòr floating wind farm; fishing bodies object



*Offshore turbines, the BBC News image attached to the post. It does not necessarily show the Muir Mhòr site.*

A post in Scotland Against Spin says the Scottish Government has approved a floating offshore wind farm of 67 turbines at a site about 39 miles (63 km) from Peterhead in Aberdeenshire. As the post gives it, the developer, Fred Olsen Seawind, says the 1 GW Muir Mhòr project could produce enough electricity each year for more than a million homes.

Two more posts, one in Scotland Against Spin and one in Communities B4 Power Companies, share a Fishing Daily report headed 'SFF blasts ministers over Muir Mhòr floating wind farm consent'. The Scotland Against Spin post says fishing bosses warned ministers the consent is a 'serious blow' to the industry and will make catches 'impossible'. The Communities B4 Power Companies post adds its own comment that the Scottish Government 'simply doesn't care'. These are the groups' and the fishing body's views, not findings.

*Scotland Against Spin; Communities B4 Power Companies · 19 – 20 Nov 2026*

**67**
turbines in the Muir Mhòr floating wind farm approved, 1 GW

**£744m**
UK constraint payments for October, per a post

**6,000**
marchers in Edinburgh on 14 Nov, per APRS

**220 m**
tip height now sought for each of Divot Hill's nine turbines

ONSHORE WIND

# Four Highland cases, taller turbines in Galloway, blades on the road

## Highland North committee to weigh four wind farm cases

Communities B4 Power Companies says the Highland North Planning Applications Committee meets next Wednesday, 25 November, on four wind farm and battery proposals, three of which officers recommend objecting to. A Wind Energy's Absurd post lists the same agenda, and a Scotland Against Spin post says councillors previously voted unanimously to object to the first of them.

Glen Ullinish II on Skye (Muirhall Energy): 47 turbines up to 200 m for 40 years, with battery storage; objection recommended. Golticlay Extension at Latheron (RWE): six turbines up to 180 m with a battery; objection recommended. Coille Linne near Lairg (Energiekontor): up to 15 turbines, six of them up to 230 m, with a battery; objection recommended. A news item shared by Scotland Against Spin says Coille Linne could power almost 115,000 homes a year.

Lochluichart Extension II redesign near Garve (Bluebell Wind Farm Ltd) asks to vary the timescale for starting work, and officers recommend granting it. The Communities B4 Power Companies post argues it would extend the line of turbines across the view from Wyvis towards the Fannaichs.

The Wind Energy's Absurd list also carries Highland Council's own application to use parts of Broadford Aerodrome on Skye to store turbine components, with a grant recommended.

*Communities B4 Power Companies; Wind Energy's Absurd; Scotland Against Spin · 18 – 21 Nov 2026*

## Divot Hill: nine turbines to rise from 200 m to 220 m

A Scotland Against Spin post says Energiekontor UK wants to raise all nine turbines at its Divot Hill Wind Farm, in forestry about four miles north-east of Dalry, from 200 m to 220 m.

As the post gives it, Dumfries and Galloway Council's planning department recommends approval while admitting a 'significant visual impact' on the area and some homeowners. The council's archaeologist warned that the extra height and the new position of turbine two would badly affect the setting of the scheduled monument White Cairn at Corriedoo Bridge.

*Scotland Against Spin · 20 Nov 2026*

## Mid Hill: a public update on Tuesday 24 November

A post in Scotland Against Spin, signed by the Borthwickwater Landscape Conservation Group, announces a public update on the Mid Hill Wind Farm at Forman Hall, Roberton, on Tuesday 24 November: doors 6.30pm, presentation 7pm.

The post says Invenergy plans 13 turbines, each 200 m high, in the Borthwickwater and Teviot valleys. It says objections so far include the Ministry of Defence, RSPB Scotland and the council's own landscape architect, and that the planning committee will consider the application in February.

*Scotland Against Spin · 19 Nov 2026*

## Sanquhar II: blade convoys from Glasgow's docks next week



*A blade convoy on a road, the image of the Cumnock Chronicle link in the post.*

A post in Scotland Against Spin says blade delivery schedules for the 44-turbine Sanquhar II Wind Farm, which spans parts of East Ayrshire and Dumfries and Galloway, are confirmed for the week after the post.

As the post gives it, the blades travel from King George V Docks in Glasgow to the project's transfer area on Monday to Thursday (23 to 26 November), leaving from 9pm each evening. No deliveries are planned for Friday 27 to Sunday 29 November. The post says delays have been reported on the transfer route and credits the timetable to CWP Energy.

*Scotland Against Spin · 21 Nov 2026*

### SCHEMES IN THESE POSTS

| Scheme | Place | Size | Stage |
|---|---|---|---|
| Glen Ullinish II | Skye | 47 turbines to 200 m | Committee 25 Nov; objection recommended |
| Golticlay Extension | Latheron | 6 turbines to 180 m | Committee 25 Nov; objection recommended |
| Coille Linne | Near Lairg | Up to 15 turbines | Committee 25 Nov; objection recommended |
| Lochluichart Ext. II | Near Garve | Not given | Variation; grant recommended |
| Divot Hill | Near Dalry | 9 turbines, 200 to 220 m | Planners recommend approval |
| Sanquhar II | East Ayrshire, Dumfries and Galloway | 44 turbines | Under construction |

OFFSHORE WIND, BATTERIES AND SOLAR

# Faults at Dogger Bank A and battery cases in Moray and beyond

## Dogger Bank A: faulty turbines delay construction




*Offshore turbines, the Telegraph image of the link in the post.*

A Scotland Against Spin post shares a Telegraph report that faulty turbines are causing months of delay at the Dogger Bank A wind farm, off England's north-east coast. The post says SSE said problems with equipment were slowing construction, and that SSE is no longer on track for its 2030 goal of 50 TWh a year of green electricity.

Environmentalists Against Wind Turbines shares a US news item on GE Vernova turbine faults at Dogger Bank and recalls a 2024 blade failure at the Vineyard Wind project in Massachusetts.

*Scotland Against Spin; Environmentalists Against Wind Turbines · 18 – 19 Nov 2026*

## A Highlands factory for offshore wind, and an ocean-impact essay

Communities B4 Power Companies shares a National headline, 'Plans for major offshore wind manufacturing facility in Highlands revealed', with the comment 'How many more offshore wind turbines do they want?'. The post gives nothing else about the plan.

Scotland Against Spin shares a new Sealetters essay on how large offshore wind farms can change ocean dynamics and what that means for the marine environment. The post says tens of thousands of turbines are planned for the North Sea alone.

*Communities B4 Power Companies; Scotland Against Spin · 18 – 19 Nov 2026*

## National Wealth Fund to back two Matrix battery projects

A Scotland Against Spin post shares a re-NEWS report that the National Wealth Fund will back a pair of Matrix Renewables battery energy storage projects in Eccles and Kilmarnock, Scotland. The post gives no sizes or costs.

*Scotland Against Spin · 19 Nov 2026*

## Elgin: a battery on the edge of town and a possible substation

A resident's post in Communities B4 Power Companies, new to the group, says a 30 MW battery store is proposed on the north edge of Elgin, with a possible 132 kV substation for the town on neighbouring fields. Two of the substation sites in SSEN's consultation are within 100 m of houses.

The post says the battery was permitted in 2023 and the new Section 42 application (26/01356/APP) asks to extend the permission from 3 to 5 years and alter the drainage plan, which it reads as sending drainage to the Sey Burn, the main water source for Loch Spynie. It gives 3 December 2026 as the deadline for objections to Moray Council.

*Communities B4 Power Companies · 18 Nov 2026*

## Batteries beside data-centre fights

Say No to West Calder Hyperscale Data Centre shares a petition for 'another Scottish village' at Newhouse and Hareshaw threatened by a hyperscale data centre and a battery on green belt. The post gives no developer or size.

Say No To Cato Data Centre shares a post that Apatura is proposing a 100 MW battery near the Cato proposal.

*Say No to West Calder Hyperscale Data Centre; Say No To Cato Data Centre · 16 – 21 Nov 2026*

### PROJECTS IN THESE POSTS

| Project | Place | Size | Stage, as the posts give it |
|---|---|---|---|
| Muir Mhòr (floating) | About 63 km from Peterhead | 67 turbines, 1 GW | Approved by the Scottish Government |
| Dogger Bank A | Off England's north-east coast | Not given | Construction delayed by turbine faults |
| Matrix Renewables batteries | Eccles and Kilmarnock | Not given | National Wealth Fund backing |
| Elgin battery | Edge of Elgin | 30 MW | Section 42 application; objections by 3 Dec |
| Apatura battery | Near the Cato proposal | 100 MW | Proposed |

GRID AND PYLONS

# Ministers overturn two councils; hearings and a settlement

## Ministers overturn two councils: Carnaig and Hurlie substations approved

Several posts report that Scottish Ministers have approved SSEN Transmission's Carnaig 400 kV substation near Loch Buidhe, Bonar Bridge, and its Hurlie substation in Fetteresso Forest, Stonehaven, on appeal against refusals by Highland and Aberdeenshire councils. SSEN's statement, as a post quotes it, says ministers granted consent after considering the appeal, that Highland Council's planning officer had recommended approval, and that Carnaig will add network capacity.

A Wind Energy's Absurd post says the Reporter recommended granting Carnaig, that the council's concerns became conditions, and that the Reporter accepted a loss of peat as national infrastructure with no other suitable site. A Scotland Against Spin post says the Hurlie appeal decided that Aberdeenshire Council must pay SSEN's costs because its reasons for refusal were insufficiently specified. An Angus Pylon Action Group post says the Emmock substation and the overhead line are still awaited.

*Communities B4 Power Companies; Wind Energy's Absurd; Angus Pylon Action Group; Scotland Against Spin · 18 – 19 Nov 2026*

## Spittal to Beauly line: hearing dates, times and speakers

Communities B4 Power Companies lists the DPEA hearings on the Spittal to Beauly overhead line, from landscape and visual on 24 November at Dornoch to conditions online on 16 December (dates in the table).

A later post gives the DPEA's revised times: Halkirk opens at 1pm on 30 November; Tain has sessions from 2pm and 6pm on 1 December; Strathpeffer has sessions from 1.30pm and 6pm on 2 December. The posts say the public may attend and the sessions may be webcast on the DPEA's YouTube channel.

*Communities B4 Power Companies · 16 – 19 Nov 2026*

## Kintore to Tealing: wayleave hearing called off

Deeside Against Pylons says the hearing of 17 November on 11 necessary wayleave applications by SSEN to Dunecht Estates, for the Kintore to Tealing line, was cancelled at the last minute after the estate withdrew its opposition following an undisclosed settlement with SSEN.

The post says late settlements are common and do not bear on the Section 37 decision for the line, which the group still opposes.

*Deeside Against Pylons · 17 – 19 Nov 2026*

## Aberdeenshire roads under SSEN construction traffic




*A heavy-haulage convoy, the image of the news link in the post. It is not necessarily the SSEN works.*

A Scotland Against Spin post shares a Press and Journal report that grid upgrades have left Aberdeenshire officials scrambling to protect roads and bridges, with more closures or restrictions possible. SSEN is spending billions on new substations and subsea cables across the north-east.

Roads officials said maintenance has fallen drastically behind and that council funding would need to double to catch up.

*Scotland Against Spin · 22 Nov 2026*

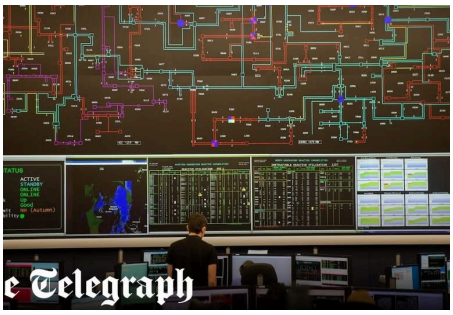
### DATES IN THESE POSTS

| Date | Event |
|---|---|
| 24 – 27 Nov | Spittal to Beauly OHL: landscape, then cultural heritage hearings, Dornoch |
| 30 Nov | Spittal to Beauly OHL community hearing, Halkirk |
| 1 Dec | Community hearing, Tain |
| 2 – 3 Dec | Community hearing, then traffic hearing, Strathpeffer |
| 14 – 16 Dec | Ecology (online), then conditions (online) |

COSTS AND CONNECTIONS

# Constraint bills, Ofgem's inquiry and better use of lines

## Constraint payments: £470m in Scotland, £744m for the UK in October




*A grid control room, the Telegraph image of the link in the post.*

Scotland Against Spin says Scottish wind farms were paid £470 million in constraint payments in October 2026, about £182 for each of Scotland's 2.57 million households, and that the UK total was £744 million. The post adds that households across the UK pay these costs, and says NESO recognises too many wind farms are planned in Scotland. A Daily Mail link in another post calls the £744 million a record.

The group also shares a Telegraph report that NESO has been granted a £1 billion Treasury loan as balancing costs reached £2 billion this year, and a Herald report that Scotland's grid bottleneck costs could reach £2.23 billion this year, almost nine times five years ago, on nuclear-industry estimates.

*Scotland Against Spin · 16 – 21 Nov 2026*

## Ofgem opens an inquiry into grid connection reform

Wind Energy's Absurd says Ofgem has launched an urgent inquiry into why the connection reforms led by NESO have not delivered the improvements promised. The post says the original queue held more than 2,000 projects of about 800 GW and that hundreds of gigawatts of 'zombie' projects were removed.

It quotes NESO figures that, of the first priority projects, only 15.7 GW was offered earlier dates: of 194 items, 114 moved by less than a year, 46 by one to two years and 34 by more than two. It adds an analysis saying more than 60% of larger projects were pushed out, by about two years on average. Scotland Against Spin shares a Times report of delays despite the reforms.

*Wind Energy's Absurd; Scotland Against Spin · 16 – 20 Nov 2026*

## Dynamic line rating: using existing lines better

Wind Energy's Absurd asks how much more could be done with existing lines before building new ones, and uses dynamic line rating as its example. The post explains that conductors have usually been run to fixed limits, while wind speed, air temperature and sunshine change how much current a line can safely carry, and that sensors can track this.

The post follows an earlier summary of a Public Accounts Committee session and says it is returning to the subject.

*Wind Energy's Absurd · 21 Nov 2026*

## Mid-Wales: the case against Green GEN Cymru's 132 kV lines

Wind Energy's Absurd summarises a piece criticising the case for Green GEN Cymru's proposed 132 kV overhead lines across mid-Wales, including the Towy to Usk route of about 98 km. As the post gives it, the piece calls the £1.3 billion benefit figure circular, doubts the demand forecasts and argues the lines should be paused until the demand case is reassessed.

*Wind Energy's Absurd · 16 – 18 Nov 2026*

## Power cuts blamed on birds hitting cables

Essex Suffolk Norfolk Pylons shares a BBC report that power cuts on Sheppey were blamed on birds flying into cables, saying it has made detailed submissions on bird collisions with overhead lines.

*Essex Suffolk Norfolk Pylons · 20 Nov 2026*

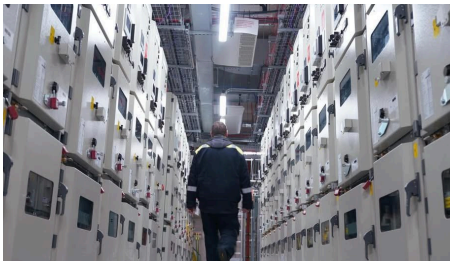
### FIGURES IN THESE POSTS

| What | Figure | As the post gives it |
|---|---|---|
| Scotland, October 2026 | £470m | Constraint payments to wind farms |
| UK, October 2026 | £744m | Total constraint payments |
| NESO, this year | £1bn loan; £2bn costs | Treasury loan; balancing costs this year |
| Scotland, this year | Up to £2.23bn | Grid bottleneck costs, a nuclear-industry estimate |
| Connection queue | 15.7 GW earlier | Priority projects offered earlier dates; 194 items |

DATA CENTRES

# A march, a secrecy deal and calls on Holyrood

## Six thousand marched against hyperscale data centres, says APRS



*Switchgear hall, the image of The National link in a data-centre post. It is not a particular site.*

Action to Protect Rural Scotland (APRS) says in a post that six thousand people marched down Edinburgh's Royal Mile on Saturday 14 November to demand a say on AI data centres, with a rally at the Parliament. Its director's Scotsman article, quoted in the post, says five new applications totalling 2,150 MW have landed since September, joining the 213 MW Edinburgh Gyle proposal, with about 5,000 MW in pre-planning.

The post says Parliament voted in September to pause data centre decisions until guidance exists, that two applications, Larbert and Chapelcross, are still under consideration, and that the Larbert decision is imminent.

*Rural Scotland (APRS) · 16 – 18 Nov 2026*

## A council signed a secrecy deal with an unnamed data centre firm

Scotland Against Spin and Say No To Cato Data Centre share a report that a Freedom of Information request showed West Lothian Council signed a non-disclosure agreement with an unidentified data centre developer in 2025-26.

The report says most councils said they had signed none, but three with live hyperscale applications would not confirm or deny: Dumfries and Galloway, where a very large site is proposed at Chapelcross; North Ayrshire (Hunterston); and East Lothian (near Dunbar and at the former Cockenzie power station).

*Scotland Against Spin; Say No To Cato Data Centre · 16 Nov 2026*

## Children's Commissioner warns ministers over data centre guidance

Say No To Cato Data Centre shares reports that Scotland's Children's Commissioner has written to the public finance minister, warning that the impact of AI data centres 'clearly interacts' with children's rights and calling for an impact assessment and a consultation with children and young people before guidance is issued.

The posts say the Scottish Government has stopped short of a moratorium but expects guidance by the end of the year, and that the Scottish Greens called it a 'huge failure' that no public consultation is planned. A member's post adds that the Auchtertool action group asked local primary pupils for their views on the Cato proposal.

*Say No To Cato Data Centre · 16 – 20 Nov 2026*

## A Scottish Enterprise report 'quietly' published

Posts from Say No To Cato Data Centre and Say No to Cockenzie Data Centre share an APRS article headed 'Damning report on hyperscale data centres quietly published amid public outcry over frenzied rollout'.

The Cockenzie post says the Scottish Enterprise report, published on the agency's website, warns of the harmful impacts hyperscale data centres could have on Scotland.

*Say No To Cato Data Centre; Say NO to Cockenzie Data Centre · 18 – 22 Nov 2026*

## SNP members and a blocked data centre debate

Say No To Cato Data Centre shares a National report that SNP leaders left a motion calling for 'sensible regulation of AI hyperscale data centres', with seven requirements for any project, off the agenda of the party's national council on 5 December. It quotes an SNP insider calling the leadership 'remarkably out of touch'.

Scotland Against Spin shares a National opinion piece calling the Scottish Government's abrupt turn on hyperscale data centres, against a moratorium passed by SNP members weeks earlier, a 'severe political miscalculation' ahead of next year's local elections.

*Say No To Cato Data Centre; Scotland Against Spin · 18 – 21 Nov 2026*

## A UK petition for a public consultation

Say No to West Calder Hyperscale Data Centre promotes a UK Parliament petition for a UK-wide public consultation before any further expansion of AI data centres.

The post says the government met 137 businesses to shape the policy and no environmental or campaign groups, citing a 'Zoned Out' report by Spotlight on Corruption published on 27 October 2026. It is the group's claim, not checked.

*Say No to West Calder Hyperscale Data Centre · 19 Nov 2026*

ABOUT THIS NEWSLETTER

# How this newsletter was made

**A weekly issue.** Posts dated 16 to 22 November 2026: 46 posts from 11 groups were used, out of 161 Facebook posts added to slava.it.com for those days. Counts come from the site data, not from memory.

**Selection.** Included: UK wind (onshore and offshore), batteries, solar, grid and pylon proposals, consents, hearings, costs and data-centre schemes and campaigns. Left out: overseas stories (a US fishing-boat wreck near an offshore wind farm, a Western Australian coal plant, France's reactor plans, pylons in an Australian storm, Pakistan's solar), industrial and mining history posts, memes, embedded videos from other pages, photo-only posts, posts that name a private person, and general politics with no project. No hydro project appeared in the week's 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. Photos are news-site link images from the posts: check rights before publishing. Not advice.

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

| Date | Group | Post |
|---|---|---|
| 16 Nov | Communities B4 Power Companies | slava.it.com/?sel=1143143561448758 |
| 16 Nov | Wind Energy's Absurd | slava.it.com/?sel=1576628967827731 |
| 16 Nov | Rural Scotland (APRS) | slava.it.com/?sel=1596922269147148 |
| 16 Nov | Say No To Cato Data Centre | slava.it.com/?sel=1609625610445381 |
| 16 Nov | Say No To Cato Data Centre | slava.it.com/?sel=1609639017110707 |
| 16 Nov | Say No To Cato Data Centre | slava.it.com/?sel=1609688027105806 |
| 16 Nov | Scotland Against Spin | slava.it.com/?sel=30180517904883884 |
| 16 Nov | Scotland Against Spin | slava.it.com/?sel=30180818158187192 |
| 17 Nov | Communities B4 Power Companies | slava.it.com/?sel=1144647821298332 |
| 17 Nov | Deeside Against Pylons | slava.it.com/?sel=2444113923061253 |
| 17 Nov | Deeside Against Pylons | slava.it.com/?sel=2444970799642232 |
| 17 Nov | Scotland Against Spin | slava.it.com/?sel=30195588743376800 |
| 18 Nov | Communities B4 Power Companies | slava.it.com/?sel=1145116511251463 |
| 18 Nov | Communities B4 Power Companies | slava.it.com/?sel=1145429784553469 |
| 18 Nov | Communities B4 Power Companies | slava.it.com/?sel=1145504521212662 |
| 18 Nov | Communities B4 Power Companies | slava.it.com/?sel=1145509521212162 |
| 18 Nov | Angus Pylon Action Group | slava.it.com/?sel=1162558810042799 |
| 18 Nov | Wind Energy's Absurd | slava.it.com/?sel=1578577934299501 |
| 18 Nov | Say No To Cato Data Centre | slava.it.com/?sel=1611298350278107 |
| 18 Nov | Say No To Cato Data Centre | slava.it.com/?sel=1611770116897597 |
| 18 Nov | Scotland Against Spin | slava.it.com/?sel=30219929034276104 |
| 19 Nov | Say No to West Calder Hyperscale Data Centre | slava.it.com/?sel=1174622124904605 |
| 19 Nov | Wind Energy's Absurd | slava.it.com/?sel=1579238127566815 |
| 19 Nov | Environmentalists Against Wind Turbines | slava.it.com/?sel=29224532680533478 |
| 19 Nov | Scotland Against Spin | slava.it.com/?sel=30224688917133449 |
| 19 Nov | Scotland Against Spin | slava.it.com/?sel=30225306123738395 |
| 19 Nov | Scotland Against Spin | slava.it.com/?sel=30226305550305119 |
| 19 Nov | Scotland Against Spin | slava.it.com/?sel=30226851826917158 |
| 19 Nov | Scotland Against Spin | slava.it.com/?sel=30227239040211770 |
| 19 Nov | Scotland Against Spin | slava.it.com/?sel=30229142540021420 |
| 19 Nov | Scotland Against Spin | slava.it.com/?sel=30232345943034413 |
| 20 Nov | Communities B4 Power Companies | slava.it.com/?sel=1147613327668448 |
| 20 Nov | Say No to West Calder Hyperscale Data Centre | slava.it.com/?sel=1175644514802366 |
| 20 Nov | Wind Energy's Absurd | slava.it.com/?sel=1580384617452166 |
| 20 Nov | Say No To Cato Data Centre | slava.it.com/?sel=1613399816734627 |
| 20 Nov | Essex Suffolk Norfolk Pylons | slava.it.com/?sel=1863488624691384 |
| 20 Nov | Scotland Against Spin | slava.it.com/?sel=30238263819109292 |
| 20 Nov | Scotland Against Spin | slava.it.com/?sel=30238905862378421 |
| 20 Nov | Scotland Against Spin | slava.it.com/?sel=30244675065134834 |
| 21 Nov | Wind Energy's Absurd | slava.it.com/?sel=1581499404007354 |
| 21 Nov | Scotland Against Spin | slava.it.com/?sel=30251421224460218 |
| 21 Nov | Scotland Against Spin | slava.it.com/?sel=30252142174388123 |
| 21 Nov | Scotland Against Spin | slava.it.com/?sel=30254371747498499 |
| 21 Nov | Scotland Against Spin | slava.it.com/?sel=30258187323783608 |
| 22 Nov | Say NO to Cockenzie Data Centre | slava.it.com/?sel=1657209725881979 |
| 22 Nov | Scotland Against Spin | slava.it.com/?sel=30263723443229996 |

The project map, all posts and search

slava.energy