Appendix 6C

Tarbert Next Generation Power Station Banners

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Tarbert Next Generation Power Station

Public Consultation

Thank you for attending SSE Thermal's public consultation on the proposed Tarbert Next Generation Power Station.

Our public consultation runs from July 10th to August 2nd. Our banners provide an overview of the proposed new development, to be located at the site of the existing power station at Tarbert Island, Tarbert, County Kerry. In addition to our in-person consultation activities, you are also welcome to visit our online consultation room and provide your feedback there. That consultation room can be found via the SSE Thermal website, at the following weblink:

www.ssethermal.com/flexible-generation/development/tarbert-next-generation/

Find out more

Explore our consultation boards to discover more about:

- The project and SSE Thermal.
- What the new station will look like and the recent T-4 Capacity Auction.
- The site of the Tarbert Next Generation Power Station.
- Our choice of fuel: Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO).
- How the proposed station will work.
- Key local issues linked to the project.
- Our commitment to safety through design, construction and operation.
- The next steps for the project.
- Other SSE developments in the wider Tarbert area.

Feedback

We value your feedback and are committed to an open dialogue with all our stakeholders. Please let us know what you think, ask questions, or leave comments through our online feedback form or at our in-person consultation evenings.

About Tarbert Next Generation Power Station

What is Tarbert Next Generation Power Station?

SSE Thermal would like to introduce you to the proposed Tarbert Next Generation Power Station. This project proposes to develop a new 350MW Open Cycle Gas Turbine (OCGT) power plant at the site of the existing power station at Tarbert Island, Tarbert, County Kerry. The proposed development will help to maintain security of supply and provide flexible backup to renewable generation sources such as wind and solar. As the existing, oil-fired Tarbert Power Station must close by the end of 2023, in line with environmental requirements, this proposed development has the potential to contribute to the security and future of power generation in North Kerry and ensure that the central role which Tarbert has played in electricity generation since the 1960s is continued into the future.

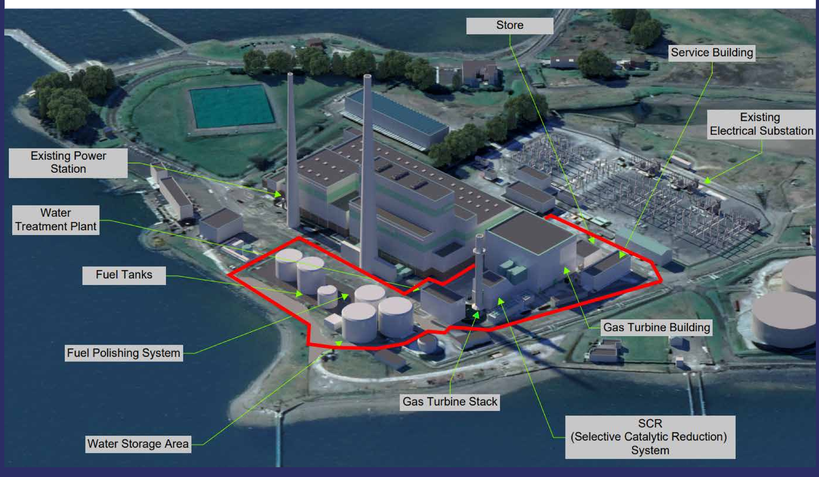
Who are SSE Thermal?

SSE Thermal are the thermal power generation subsidiary of SSE plc.

In SSE Thermal, our mission is to provide the energy needed today while building a better world of energy for tomorrow. We operate an industry-leading fleet of flexible generation and energy storage assets, with over 600 direct employees across Ireland and the UK.

We believe flexible and efficient thermal energy will play a critical role in the transition to a net zero future, complementing renewable generation and maintaining security of supply. Our vision is to become the leading provider of flexible thermal energy in a net zero world.

Project Overview



Note: *Indicative visual for Tarbert Next Generation Power Station. New development enclosed by red line.*

SSE Thermal is proposing that the site of our existing power station in Tarbert will provide the location for a new power station which would run on 100% sustainable biofuel, Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO). The proposed development consists of a 350MW Open Cycle Gas Turbine (OCGT) fuelled by HVO. An OCGT plant has been selected for the proposed development as it is able to respond rapidly to changes in electricity demand by starting up quickly and achieving full output within a short period of time.

Earlier this year, the proposed new station in Tarbert secured a 10-year capacity agreement in the T-4 Capacity Auction, to commence in 2026/27. Capacity auctions are a key element of the all-island electricity market, designed to deliver reliable electricity supply into the future. Our intention is to apply for planning permission later in 2023 and the new station could be operational by 2026.

The proposed development will:

- support the security of electrical power supply,
- the continued expansion of Ireland's renewable generation capacity,
- would provide essential support and flexible generation capacity to the electricity supply system at times of peak demand,
- and at times when other generation sources are not sufficient to meet demand.

It is anticipated that the proposed plant will remain on stand-by for the majority of the time and will be run mainly as required to complement inherently intermittent renewable power generation technology such as wind and solar.

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Flexible Generation

The transition to a greener, net-zero world will be renewables-led. Nevertheless, we need 'on-demand' flexible generation – power that can be turned on and off when the system needs – as a backup to support our electricity system when the wind doesn't blow, or the sun doesn't shine. This will make sure the lights stay on, the engine of industry is kept firing and connectivity is maintained in our increasingly digital world.

Hydrogen Potential

While we are proposing that this station would run on 100% biofuel (HVO) and our forthcoming planning application is for an OCGT plant fuelled by HVO only, we are conscious that hydrogen has the potential to play a major role in the future as a fuel for flexible power stations such as this. As an energy vector that does not contain carbon, there are no carbon dioxide emissions at point of use. Instead, when burned with oxygen, the by-product is water.

Commitment to Safety

At SSE Thermal, we do everything safely and responsibly or not at all. We have operated an industry-leading fleet of flexible generation and energy storage assets for decades. We can ensure that our commitment to safety remains an absolute priority in everything we do. This is demonstrated by our Safety, Health and Environment (SHE) policy that our CEO signs and commits to, in order to prevent major accident, injuries and harm to the environment.

Site Location

The site for the proposed Tarbert Next Generation Power Station is within the boundaries of the exiting Tarbert Power Station site in the townland of Tarbert Island, Tarbert, County Kerry.

The site is suitable for several reasons:

- It is located on brownfield land within an existing power station context.
- It benefits from existing electricity transmission and fuel supply infrastructure.
- It is directly accessible by sea and the national road network.
- It is in close proximity to key infrastructure such as Shannon Foynes Port.

In addition, the site is located on the Shannon Estuary, a crucial location in Ireland for onshore and offshore energy generation which could contribute to sustainable economic growth.

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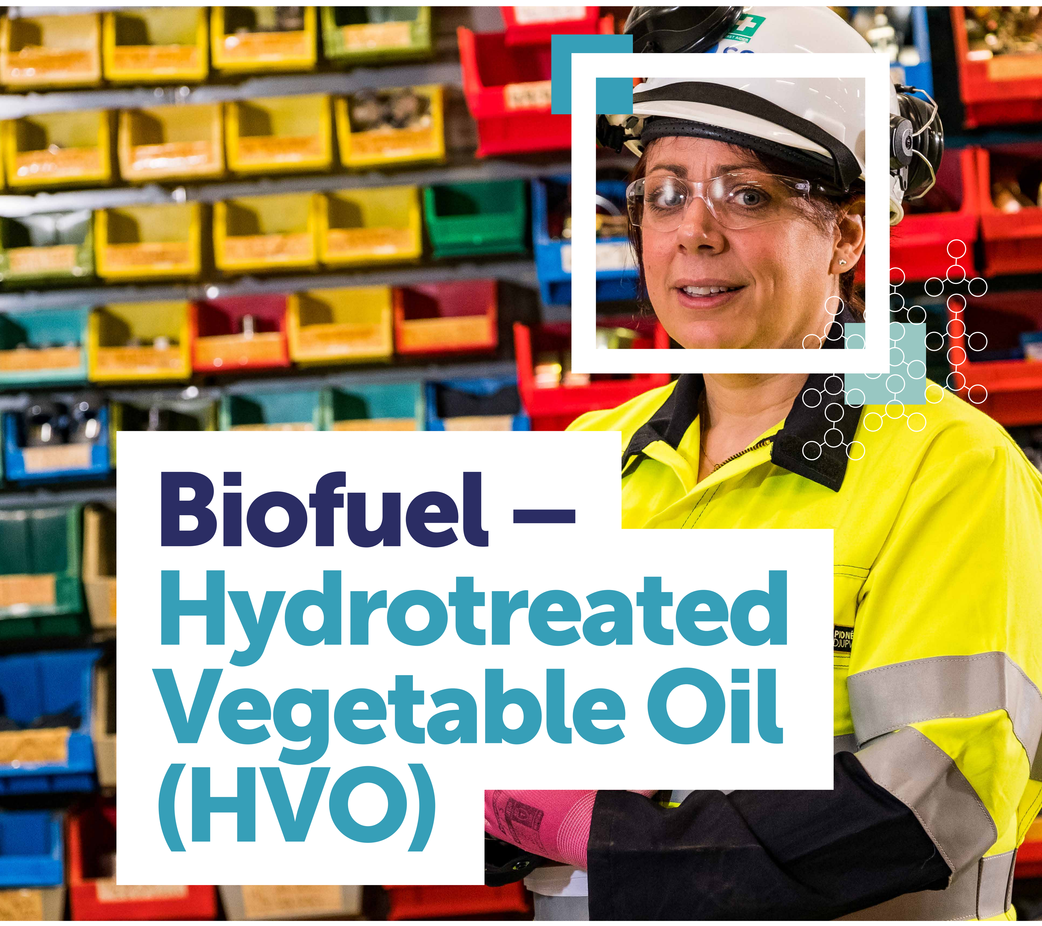


Biofuel – Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO)

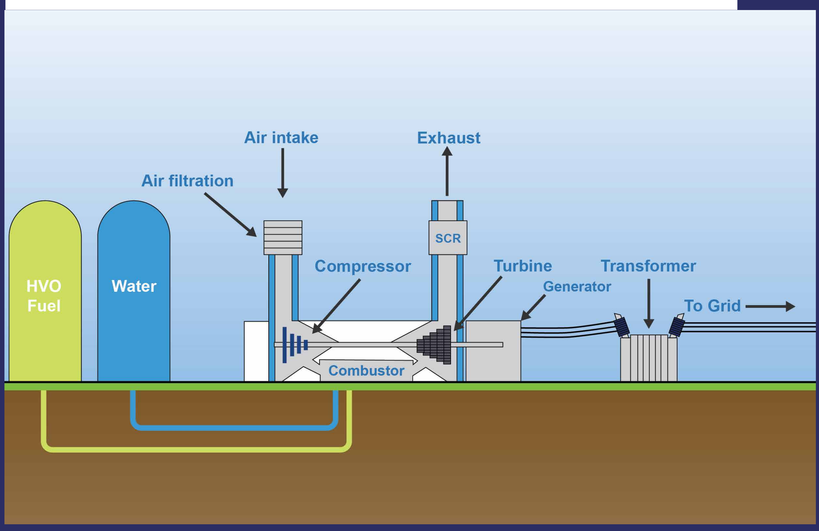
Biofuel provides a lower net carbon option for use in power stations, using waste feed stocks, to produce valuable flexible electricity, making it an important transitional solution as plans for widespread use of hydrogen develop. The proposed station in Tarbert will run on Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO), which is a type of biofuel that is produced by processing waste oils to create a fossil-free alternative to distillate-oil and natural gas, in accordance with EU sustainability standards.

HVO is a waste by-product and does not involve any food displacement. It has a lower greenhouse gas emissions profile across its lifetime compared to alternatives such as diesel and natural gas.

What are the benefits of HVO?

- Lower net carbon option for use in power generation.
- Fossil free, derived from vegetable crops and other waste oils.
- Does not involve food displacement.
- Key role in ensuring security of supply in Ireland.
- Key solution as we transition to a low-carbon world.
- Potential bridge to hydrogen use in the future.

How will the Station work?



Note: *The above visual outlines a simplified version of how an Open Cycle Gas Turbine (OCGT) power station operates.*

Open Cycle Gas Turbine (OCGT)

The proposed development is for an OCGT plant. The plant will include one single OCGT unit and will be used as a 'peaking' plant, operating for short periods of time as a backup power source when demand is high and there is a shortfall in supply from renewable sources such as wind and solar. The gas turbine technology proposed facilitates fast plant start-up and can provide the response capability to meet sudden fluctuations in electricity demand on the grid.

Gas Turbine Technology

The main components in a gas turbine are: air compressor section, a combustion chamber, turbine section, and a rotor shaft. The air compressor section compresses the incoming air, raising its pressure and temperature before it enters the combustion chamber and is mixed with the fuel. In the combustion chamber, the fuel/air mix is ignited, producing hot gases that expand and drive the turbine section and rotor shaft. The turbine extracts energy from the hot gases, converting it into mechanical energy to drive the compressor and the generator, which converts mechanical energy to electrical energy for export to the grid.

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Key Local Issues

We appreciate that any new development is a matter of great importance to the local community. Listed below are some key issues which we know will be of interest in Tarbert and the wider area.

Socio Economic Impact

The existing Tarbert Power Station has been a key employer in Tarbert and the wider North Kerry area since the 1960s. The proposed Tarbert Next Generation Power Station has the potential to secure power generation at the site, and resulting employment, into the future. Furthermore, during construction and operation there will be inward investment to the region, with employment and expenditure in the local economy.

Air Quality and Noise

Comprehensive air quality and noise modelling will be completed as part of the assessments for the planning application and will factor in surrounding plans, projects, residences and businesses in the immediate area. The potential effects of the proposed development will be evaluated including how the air quality will be controlled so as to not affect local residents and biodiversity. Improvements will be sought as a result of transitioning from heavy fuel oil to HVO generation. Air Quality emissions will be controlled through the environmental permit for the power station issued by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). With regard to noise and vibration, any impact which the construction and operation of the proposed development will be designed and controlled to ensure it does not affect the local environment.

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Traffic

The design of the project will take full account of potential concerns about both traffic safety as well as traffic loads and associated noise and air emissions – both in the vicinity of the site, as well as the wider community. Mitigation measures to reduce the impact of traffic from the proposed development will be put in place. Furthermore, construction traffic will operate in accordance with a Construction Environment Management Plan that will include measures to avoid and minimise construction traffic disruption where possible.

Visual Impact

The proposed development will require a new emissions stack which will be lower in height than the stacks at the existing Tarbert Power Station. The new power station will be designed to blend into its setting within an existing power station. A landscape and visual impact assessment will be undertaken, and photomontages prepared to assess the design.

Biodiversity

Ecology surveys are being undertaken to identify habitats and species present within the development site and assess the potential impacts of the construction and operational phases of the proposed development on terrestrial flora and fauna. There are a number of designated sites close to the proposed development including The Shannon and River Fergus Estuaries Special Protection Area (SPA) and The Shannon Estuary, a Special Area of Conservation (SAC). A Natura Impact Statement will be prepared and submitted as part of the planning application.

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A Just Transition for Tarbert

Change of the scale and nature needed to achieve net zero brings social consequences, impacting people, employees, consumers, communities, suppliers, and wider society – in many different ways.This can include both positive and negative impacts.

SSE has a responsibility to influence those impacts as we transition out of high-carbon activities and into a net zero world, minimising potential negative impacts while at the same time seizing the opportunities to increase value and share economic prosperity. That is why we published the world's first business Just Transition Strategy in November 2020. Our strategy will ensure that the actions and investments required to decarbonise energy systems attract long-term public and social legitimacy are delivered.

Our Just Transition Strategy will help us to reach net zero in the fairest way possible for working people, consumers and communities, ensuring that the benefits of climate action are shared widely whilst preventing unfair burden of the costs on those with the least.

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The Just Transition in Tarbert

The Tarbert Power Station has a prominent history of power generation and the SSE Thermal team at the station can take pride in their stewardship of the plant over many years. As we look to the future, we believe the Tarbert site can be home to a new generation of flexible power assets; namely the Tarbert Next Generation Power Station. The closure of the the existing station is required by the end of 2023, in line with environmental requirements and is being managed in line with SSE's just transition principles (see below).

SSE'S 20 PRINCIPALS FOR A JUST TRANSITION

TRANSITIONING INTO A NET ZERO WORLD			TRANSITIONING OUT OF A HIGH CARBON WORLD	
 SSE'S PRINCIPLES FOR GOOD GREEN JOBS	 SSE'S PRINCIPLES FOR CONSUMER FAIRNESS	 SSE'S PRINCIPLES FOR BUILDING AND OPERATING NEW ASSETS	 SSE'S PRINCIPLES FOR PEOPLE IN HIGH CARBON JOBS	 SSE'S PRIORITIES FOR SUPPORTING COMMUNITIES
1. Guarantee fair and decent work 2. Attract and grow talent 3. Value employee voice 4. Boost inclusion and diversity	5. Co-create with stakeholders 6. Factor-in-whole-system costs and benefits 7. Make Transparent evidence-based decisions 8. Advocate for fairness	9. Support competitive domestic supply chains 10. Set social safeguards 11. Share value with communities 12. Implement responsible developer standards	13. Re-purpose thermal generators for a net-zero world 14. Establish and maintain trust 15. Provide forward notice of change 16. Prioritise retraining and redelployment	17. Deliver robust stakeholder consultation 18. Form partnerships across sectors 19. Promote further industrial development 20. Respect and record cultural heritage

Note: SSE's 20 Principles for a Just Transition, as outlined in SSE's Just Transition Strategy, published in November 2020.

Tarbert Next Generation Power Station – Securing Power Generation in North Kerry

The existing Tarbert Power Station has been a key employer in Tarbert and the wider North Kerry area since the 1960s. The proposed new Tarbert Next Generation Power Station has the potential to secure power generation at the site, and resulting employment, into the future. Furthermore, during construction and operation there will be inward investment to the region, with employment and expenditure in the local economy.

Next steps

Indicative timeline for
the Tabert Next Generation Power Station

Autumn 2023
Planning application submitted to An Bord Pleanála.

Spring/Summer 2024
Site mobilisation and construction starts.

2026
Power station becomes operational.

What's happening now?

Our online public consultation room for the Tarbert Next Generation Power Station has been open since July 10th and can be found via:

www.ssethermal.com/flexible-generation/development/tarbert-next-generation/

We are also holding two in-person consultation events in:

- Tarbert Community Centre, Tarbert (July 18th, 5:30pm-9pm); and
- The Listowel Arms Hotel, Listowel (July 19th, 5:30pm-9pm).

During these online and in-person consultation events we are eager to hear your views and answer any question you may have, so please examine our banners, take the opportunity to meet the Project Team, ask any questions you may have and leave your feedback via our Feedback Form or our online consultation room.

What's happens next?

The statutory consultation period for formal comment and submissions will open once the planning application has been lodged. This will be publicised through notices at the site entrance and newspaper advertisements.

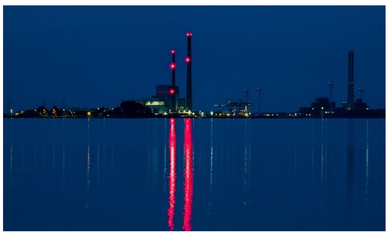
As you can see from the above timeline, we intend to submit the planning application in Autumn 2023. It is anticipated that the application will be submitted to An Bord Pleanála as a Strategic Infrastructure Development. An Environmental Impact Assessment Report and a Natura Impact Statement will form part of the submission.

Construction could start in 2024 and the station could be operational in 2026.

Other SSE developments in Tarbet

Temporary Emergency Generation

Following a request from Irish authorities, SSE Thermal is proceeding with a Temporary Emergency Generation (TEG) project at Tarbert, which will provide an additional 150MW of generation capacity and cease operations no later than 2028. This project was consented in April 2023 with construction due to start shortly.



Tarbert Offshore Wind Farm

Earlier this year, our colleagues in SSE Renewables announced that they are seeking an investigative foreshore licence to facilitate survey work for a proposed new offshore wind farm in the Atlantic Ocean, off the coast of Tarbert, which could generate up to 1GW of clean, renewable energy. This marks SSE Renewables' first licence application for an offshore wind project off the west coast of Ireland.

Tarbert Battery Energy Storage Systems

SSE's Solar and Battery are seeking to deploy at least 100MW | 200MWh of Battery Storage at Tarbert. This project was granted planning permission in 2019. This project is strategically important as it can assist in stabilising the electricity network and maximising renewable energy output.