

 MORAY FIRTH OFFSHORE WIND · RISK AND RETURN

Who carries the risk, and what the public gets

Paid for by the public: as electricity billpayers, and as taxpayers standing behind the loans.

[The running subsidy meter](#) · [How the money works](#) · [Money leaving the UK](#) · [The missing figures](#)

Revenue per unit delivered

Each farm's total revenue divided by the electricity it generated, from its own filed accounts, set beside its contract price today. Revenue includes power sales to private buyers and, for Moray East, £87.4m of other income; the levy-funded part of Beatrice's figure is £114.85/MWh (£244.5m of CfD payments ÷ 2,128,900 MWh).

BEATRICE

£195.88/MWh

COMPUTED, FILED FIGURES

Current contract price:
£205.70/MWh (22 Sep 2026,
indexed)

► Arithmetic

MORAY EAST

£187.07/MWh

COMPUTED, FILED FIGURES

Current contract price:
£82.34/MWh (22 Sep 2026,
indexed; £79.95 from Apr 2025
to Mar 2026)

► Arithmetic

In 2025 the market reference price averaged about £81/MWh, slightly above the £79.95/MWh strike that applied for most of the year, so the net CfD payment for the year was

slightly negative (–£0.94m): on balance money flowed back to billpayers.

MORAY WEST

Not computable

GAP, NOT A ZERO

Contract prices awarded:
£37.35/MWh (AR4) and
£54.23/MWh (AR6), 2012 prices,
neither yet started

► Why

Who carries which risk

RISK	BEATRICE	MORAY EAST	MORAY WEST	CALEDONIA	SSEN TRANSMISSION
Price	Public (billpayers) – two-way contract: the farm receives a fixed price per MWh; billpayers pay or receive the difference from the market price	Public (billpayers) – two-way contract, same mechanism; in 2025 the market price averaged just above the strike, so the net payment for the year was a small amount back to billpayers	Investor – full market-price exposure until its CfDs start (2027/2028)	Not established – no CfD secured yet	Public (billpayers) – regulated allowed revenue, not a per-unit price sold to the public
Volume (wind)	Investor – paid per	Investor – paid per	Investor – paid per	Not established –	Public (billpayers) –

RISK	BEATRICE	MORAY EAST	MORAY WEST	CALEDONIA	SSEN TRANSMISSION
	MWh actually generated	MWh actually generated	MWh actually generated	no generation yet	Ofgem's volume-driver mechanism flexes SHET's allowed revenue with connection volumes, within a threshold
Curtailment	Not established – no per-farm figure found; not named among the largest- curtailed in sources checked	Public (billpayers) – named among the most- curtailed Scottish wind farms; constraint payments are funded by billpayers via NESO balancing costs	Public (billpayers) – reported in press aggregations among the most- curtailed Scottish wind farms (not verified against a local copy), same mechanism	Not established – no generation yet	Not established – not researched for this entity
Construction overrun	Investor – generating under its contract since November 2018, risk already resolved; CfD	Investor – operational, risk already resolved	Investor – its accounts record minor delays and an anticipated increase in costs from vessel and	Not established – not yet under construction	Shared – Ofgem's Totex Incentive Mechanism splits cost-risk exposure between investors and

RISK	BEATRICE	MORAY EAST	MORAY WEST	CALEDONIA	SSEN TRANSMISSION
	milestone/longstop rules put overrun risk on the generator generally		vendor delays during construction		consumers; Ofgem has also raised its detailed-scrutiny threshold from £100m to £300m, relying more on the company's own assurance
Financing	Investor – project-finance bank debt (13 banks plus EIB), Danish EKF guarantee on part of it (the 2016 construction financing; the debt was refinanced in July 2019 and the current lenders are not named in a local source)	Investor – JBIC plus commercial-bank syndicate, Danish EKF guarantee on part of it	Investor – 18-bank syndicate, plus a growing capitalised shareholder-loan and guarantee-fee component	Investor – wholly funded by an intercompany /shareholder loan from its parent; no third-party bank debt	Public (taxpayers, via guarantee) – £2.0bn of new facilities agreed in FY2025/26, including an £800m UK National Wealth Fund guarantee (plus Swedish EKN and Italian SACE guarantees); none drawn at 31 Mar 2026, a contingent

RISK	BEATRICE	MORAY EAST	MORAY WEST	CALEDONIA	SSEN TRANSMISSIO N
Classes throughout this page: FILED = read directly from the company's or regulator's own document; COMPUTED = arithmetic on filed figures, shown in full; ALLOWED = a regulatory allowance, not an outcome; ASSESSMENT = this report's own reasoning					not actual exposure
Decommissioning	Investor – Energy Act 2004 "polluter pays" regime; company already accruing a provision	Investor – same statutory regime	Investor – same statutory regime	Investor – same statutory regime, as a future obligation	Not established – out of scope for this report

Return achieved

Beatrice

Investment Contract (CfD-equivalent), two-way, strike £140/MWh (2012 prices)

Op. profit margin 56.1% of revenue COMPUTED

PAT 33.8% of revenue
COMPUTED; 64.3% of closing equity COMPUTED

Dividends £84.1m, 59.7% of PAT
COMPUTED

Credit rating None found for the SPV; its 40% shareholder SSE plc
Moody's Baa1 / S&P BBB+, both stable FILED

Moray East

Three CfDs (AR2), two-way, base strike £57.50/MWh (2012 prices)

Op. profit margin 38.3% of revenue
COMPUTED

PAT 14.0% of revenue
COMPUTED; 10.3% of closing equity COMPUTED

Dividends £104.2m, 231% of the year's PAT, funded substantially from reserves
COMPUTED

Credit rating None found for the SPV; no group-level rating
(consortium, not SSE-led)

Moray West

Merchant exposure until its two CfDs start (2027/2028)

Op. profit margin 14.5% of revenue COMPUTED

PAT Loss after tax, -41.6% of revenue COMPUTED; -35.5% of closing equity COMPUTED

Dividends None paid

Credit rating None found

Caledonia

Pre-construction/consented; no CfD secured, no revenue

Op. profit margin Not applicable – no revenue

PAT Loss £(23)k on negative net assets; no return ratio is meaningful FILED

Dividends Not applicable

Credit rating None; not applicable to a company with no third-party debt

SSEN Transmission (SHET)

Regulated return: Ofgem RIIIO-T3, allowed cost of equity 5.70% CPIH-real ALLOWED

Op. profit margin 63.5% of revenue COMPUTED

PAT 43.0% of revenue COMPUTED; 18.5% of closing book equity COMPUTED, several times the 5.70% allowed cost of equity – though the research file flags the two figures as not computed on an identical basis (CPIH-real return on Regulatory Asset Value, versus nominal return on statutory book equity)

Dividends None paid; profit retained for capex

Credit rating Moody's Baa1 / S&P BBB+ per SHET's own regulatory filing FILED; 'stable' outlook per SSE plc's announcements

Risk rating

These ratings are this site's assessment from the filed figures, not a published credit rating.

Beatrice - Low ASSESSMENT

Generating under its contract since November 2018; investor downside is mainly refinancing/interest-rate risk, not volume or price.

Risk carried by the public: billpayers already carry the two-way CfD price risk – they can pay out or claw back depending on the market.

Moray East - Low-medium ASSESSMENT

Operational and contracted, but weaker interest cover than Beatrice, and its £104.2m dividend was funded from reserves rather than the year's earnings.

Risk carried by the public: billpayers already carry the two-way CfD price risk, same as Beatrice.

Moray West - Medium-high ASSESSMENT

Full market-price exposure today, the highest leverage of the three operating farms, and loss-making after tax.

Risk carried by the public: billpayers carry no CfD risk yet – only the state-guaranteed lending exposure described under SSEN Transmission's financing row applies elsewhere, not to Moray West itself.

Caledonia - Very high ASSESSMENT

Consented but undeveloped; outcome depends on a future CfD auction clearing at a price the sponsor accepts, and on raising third-party project debt.

Risk carried by the public: none yet – no generation, no billpayer payment of any kind.

SSEN Transmission – Very Low ASSESSMENT

Regulated monopoly revenue, licence-backed cost recovery, an investment-grade rating, and government-guaranteed lending facilities; 25% owned by Ontario Teachers'.

Risk carried by the public: billpayers carry the full regulated-return cost through network charges, and UK taxpayers carry a contingent, undrawn exposure through the £800m National Wealth Fund guarantee; Sweden's and Italy's export credit agencies stand behind two further £0.5bn facilities.

What is not established

- **No per-farm curtailment figures.** Constraint/curtailment payments are not available from an openly-fetchable primary source for any of the four generators; only aggregate, press-sourced estimates exist.
- **No SPV-level credit ratings.** SHET carries its own Baa1/BBB+ rating; Beatrice's 40% shareholder SSE plc is rated; Moray East, Moray West and Caledonia have no rated company or anchor shareholder in the sources checked.
- **The 15-year CfD term is not confirmed from a document.** LCCC's portfolio-status dataset gives a start date but no contract-end-date field, so only start dates and indexed strike prices are stated as fact.
- **Moray West's generation volume (MWh/GWh) was not found** in its FY2024 accounts, so £/MWh cannot be computed for that farm.

SOURCES

Companies House accounts: Beatrice Offshore Windfarm Ltd (SC350248), year ended 31 March 2025; Moray Offshore Windfarm (East) Ltd (07101438), year ended 31 December 2025; Moray Offshore Windfarm (West) Ltd (10515140), year ended 31 December 2024; Caledonia Offshore Wind Farm Ltd (13844888), year ended 31 December 2025; Scottish Hydro Electric Transmission plc (SC213461), year ended 31 March 2026. Low Carbon Contracts Company (LCCC) portfolio-status and actual-payments datasets. Ofgem, RIIIO-3 Final Determinations (Finance Annex and SHET-specific determinations). SSE plc rating announcements (Moody's and S&P affirmations). SSEN Transmission's own regulatory financial performance report commentary. DESNZ, CfD Allocation Round 8 Government Response, July 2026. BEIS/DESNZ decommissioning of offshore renewable energy installations guidance. Ofgem RIIIO-3 Sector Specific Methodology Decision Finance Annex, 18 July 2024 (Totex Incentive Mechanism); Energy Voice, 13 Jan 2025; IJGlobal and Pinsent Masons announcements on the Beatrice and Moray West financings. Full citations with file and line are in research/RISK-AND-RETURN.md.

For information and debate. Not financial, legal or investment advice. Figures are as published by the sources named, at the dates shown; estimates and opinions are labelled as such. No wrongdoing is alleged against any person or company. This site is not funded, not run for profit, carries no advertising, and is not connected to any energy company, regulator or campaign group. Corrections, with the document that shows the right figure, to justsayinmin@proton.me.

[Disclaimer](#) · [Downloads \(PDF\)](#) · [Evidence register](#) · [About](#)