

Kier is first UK business to mandate Battery Storage Units to help achieve its net zero carbon goals

3 years ago



Kier, a leading UK infrastructure services, construction and property group, is the first UK business to mandate the use of Battery Storage Units (BSUs). It is working in partnership with its supplier, Sunbelt Rentals, to achieve this.

Generators are widely used to provide temporary power on sites across the construction industry, creating significant greenhouse gas emissions from the fuel consumption, which have a detrimental impact on the environment.

A BSU works alongside a generator as the main source of electricity to site operations. When the battery is running low, the generator automatically starts and recharges it, turning off once fully charged. This means generators can be downsized, leading to significant fuel savings, reducing both costs and carbon.

Following a strategic trial of ten battery storage units on Kier sites, Kier has established a monthly saving per unit of seven tonnes of carbon, an overall reduction in generator run time of 59%, and a cost saving of over £2,000, after BSU hire costs are accounted for.

This all contributes to Kier's targets laid out in its [Building for a Sustainable World framework](#). To achieve net zero carbon, Kier has pledged to introduce new technologies and ways of working which reduce and eliminate carbon emissions from its business operations and reduce and rebalance carbon emissions from its value chain. This includes Kier's target to have a 65% reduction in business operations carbon by 2030.

Chris Lilley, Kier Group health, safety, wellbeing and sustainability director, said: "This is a positive step

forward for us to achieve the commitments laid out in our Building for a Sustainable World framework. It will help us to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions in line with our pathway to net zero, outlined in our [carbon reduction plan](#). Not only that, but it will allow us to significantly lower our fuel costs.

“We are grateful to be working alongside Sunbelt Rentals on our combined business journey to create a cleaner future within the construction industry.”

Mark Bown, national account manager at Sunbelt Rentals said: “This BSU agreement between Sunbelt Rentals and Kier dovetails with our on-going strategic capital investment in clean energy solutions. It also allows us the scalability to be able to provide cost-savings for our customers while lowering noise and carbon emissions.

“As a business we have the desire, the belief and the evidence to demonstrate that our clean energy solutions are not only market leading, but commercially, environmentally, and operationally successful. The agreement with Kier certainly aims to deliver just that.”

Kier has recently announced its newly created [Responsible Business leadership team](#), which will drive forward the Group’s sustainability ambitions, as well as lead the health, safety and wellbeing agenda across the Group.