

Government hydrogen boost towards 100% green energy target

3 years ago



Three green hydrogen projects that Kimberly-Clark is developing with energy industry partners have won places on the UK Government's Hydrogen Business Model Strategy (HBMS) shortlist.

The scheme will kickstart the UK's low carbon hydrogen economy by funding a first-round allocation of 250MW of electrolytic hydrogen projects across England, Scotland and Wales.

The company expects to reduce its natural gas consumption in the UK by 61% when these projects are operational at the end of 2025, subject to final government contract.

The three hydrogen projects selected by The Department for Energy Security and Net Zero (DESNZ) include a green hydrogen hub in Barrow-in-Furness. Being developed in partnership with Carlton Power, the Barrow Green Hydrogen hub will power the company's Cumbria manufacturing facility.

The other two projects are being developed in partnership with Hyro, a joint venture between Octopus Energy Generation and renewable energy company RES, and will see green hydrogen supplied to the company's manufacturing facilities in Flint, North Wales, and Northfleet in Kent. In total, the three schemes are expected to provide a total of 50MW of green hydrogen.

The shortlisting of all three green hydrogen projects coincides with the switch-on this week of a new purpose-built onshore wind farm expected to generate around 80% of its UK electrical power needs.

Located in Cumberhead in South Lanarkshire, Scotland, the 12-turbine wind farm has taken just 18 months to build. It is the result of a power purchase agreement (PPA) between the company and Octopus Renewables Infrastructure Trust (ORIT), a company managed by Octopus Energy Generation. It is also the

first wind farm to supply the business outside of North America. Furthermore, RES was recently awarded the full-scope asset management contract for the wind farm which will see it provide technical, commercial and financial asset management for the site.

The company will take 160,000 megawatt hours from the wind farm every year, the equivalent of taking 37,000 vehicles off the road. The power will be used at its manufacturing facilities at Barrow-in-Furness, Flint, and Northfleet, as well as its distribution centres in Chorley and Northfleet.

These renewable energy initiatives combined will enable it to achieve a total reduction of its greenhouse gas emissions in the UK & Ireland by 86% by the end of 2025 (vs 2015 baseline).