GB RENEWABLES: STATE OF PLAY | Q2 2026

Renewables supplied more than half of GB electricity. Network capacity and flexibility still need to keep pace.

ENGINEERING POWER SOLUTIONS

THE RECORD

Montel, Q2 2026

53%

of GB electricity came from renewables in Q2 2026

34.2 TWh
total renewable generation in the quarter

18.9 TWh
generated by wind, around 55% of renewable output and 7% higher than Q2 2025

8.0 TWh
generated by solar, the highest quarterly total on record

THE CONSTRAINT

Montel, Q2 2026; 2025 Curtailment Report

2.4 TWh

of potential wind generation was curtailed in Q2 2026, equivalent to around 15% of potential output.

Over 10 TWh
of renewable electricity was curtailed in Great Britain during 2025

8.8 TWh
of 2025 curtailment concentrated in northern Scotland

15.42 GW
instantaneous solar output on 23 April. Steep evening drop-offs at this scale are now a flexibility problem the system has to cover every day.

June 2026's heatwave showed the shape of the problem: tight evening margins as solar dropped off, CCGT output falling in high temperatures, and increased reliance on batteries and imports to hold the system together.

DELIVERY AND FLEXIBILITY

NESO, Ofgem, DESNZ & Modo, 2026

Connections reform is moving projects forward, but storage and other flexibility still depend on timely grid access and network delivery.

713 of 1,223 pre-2030 projects had received formal connection offers by 10 June 2026 — 58%

210 of 340
protected projects were affected by changes to their original connection date and/or point of connection

7.3 GW vs 23–27 GW
grid-scale battery capacity in June 2026, compared with the government's Clean Power 2030 capacity ambition

7.6 GW /136.9 GWh
provisionally selected across 16 long-duration electricity storage projects under Ofgem's cap and floor scheme

17 GW → 22.8 GW
modelled range for operational GB battery capacity by the end of 2029, depending on progress resolving connection delays

ENGINEERING POWER SOLUTIONS

As generation and operating conditions become more variable, projects need earlier clarity on connection assumptions, equipment capability and the conditions the network may need to accommodate.

SPEAK TO AN ENGINEER

- Power System Studies
- HV/LV Electrical Design
- Grid Code Compliance Studies
- Earthing Design & Site Testing

Sources: Montel, GB Electricity Market Summary Q2 2026 | Montel, 2025 GB and Ireland Curtailment Report | NESO and Energy Networks Association, connection offers update, 10 June 2026 | Ofgem, update on delays affecting TMO4+ protected projects, 6 February 2026 | DESNZ, Clean Flexibility Roadmap: July 2026 Update and Clean Power 2030 Action Plan | Modo Energy, GB BESS Buildout Q1 2026, 10 April 2026