

Cancel Berwick Bank Offshore Windfarm

Offshore wind could play a vital role in tackling the climate crisis and building a clean, green industry in Scotland - but it must be developed in harmony with nature. The proposed Berwick Bank offshore windfarm is set to be located on Scotland's East coast in an important foraging area that supports globally significant seabird colonies. As currently planned, the development is projected to result in the deaths of thousands of seabirds in its first year alone, with tens of thousands more over its lifetime. Despite these concerns, the Scottish Government consented Berwick Bank in full in August. However, they have stated that the project cannot progress without an acceptable plan to compensate for its impacts on wildlife.

That's why we've joined forces with [RSPB Scotland](#), the [Scottish Wildlife Trust](#), the [National Trust for Scotland](#) and the [Marine Conservation Society](#) to tell SSE and the First Minister to Cancel Berwick Bank.

Community pressure on local decision makers is essential, and you can help by writing to them and asking them to support calls to cancel Berwick Bank. Below is a draft letter for you to use and send to local MSPs. Please feel free to adapt the text in your own words.

Please remember to keep your letter polite and respectful! If you have any questions don't hesitate to contact me, Fanny Royanez, at froyanez@seabird.org.

Who do I contact?

In Scotland we have a local constituency MSP and 7 regional MSPs. You can email the same letter to all 8.

You can find their names and contact by entering your postcode <https://www.theyworkforyou.com/>

Draft letter

Please use and edit this draft letter as you see fit

Dear XXX, MSP

I'm writing to you, as my representative, to ask that you take urgent action to ensure that the proposed Berwick Bank offshore windfarm does not proceed as planned.

The developer's own impact assessment projects that this development could kill 261 Gannets, 2,808 Guillemots, 815 Kittiwakes, 66 Puffins, and 154 Razorbills in the first year alone, and tens of thousands more over its lifetime. This is against a backdrop of 70% of our seabird species being in decline.

Building Berwick Bank as planned would be a huge setback for Scotland's natural heritage. Its impacts are so severe, it could fast track species like Kittiwake to local extinction. Berwick Bank has the potential to be one of the deadliest windfarms for birds anywhere in the world. I understand that consent for the project is conditional on these impacts being compensated for, but do not consider this to be either realistic or acceptable, especially since we are still waiting for SSE to publish a "seabird compensation Plan".

This is not the kind of global leadership any of us would wish Scotland to be known for, and as well as doing irreversible damage to wildlife, it will undermine the good reputation of both Scotland and SSE around the world.

This is a key issue for me and many in my community. I am seeking your clear commitment to champion Scotland's seabirds and ask that you call on the Scottish Government to halt this devastating project and get behind nature positive offshore wind instead.

Kind Regards,