

Bowland Ecology Ltd has provided the ecological input to a range of energy projects, this input has been at every phase of the planning process from feasibility and scoping, through initial ecological appraisal, species specific survey and into construction phase where we have provided the ecological clerk of works role.

Grid Connections

Client: National Grid

Project: Mid-Wales Connection Project

This project centres on an extensive power line connection to onshore and offshore wind farms in Wales. This process involved surveying a development corridor, requiring extensive coordination and organisation to efficiently survey the corridor to a high standard to aid the design of the final route and identify the requirement for further surveys.

Wind Energy

Key effects of wind farms on birds are often related to bats and birds; we have experience of undertaking surveys and assessments of these species, following the latest guidance.

Client: EnergieKontor Ltd

Project: Oswaldtwistle Wind Farm

Bowland Ecology was commissioned by Hyndburn Borough Council to provide an Ecological Clerk of Works throughout the project to ensure that development followed the principles and recommendations outlined in the Environmental Statement. Construction works minimised impacts by adopting specific working practices to protect peatland habitats and minimise impacts on the hydrological conditions in the area.

Hydro-power

We have assessed the ecological effects of a number of hydro-power schemes in Lancashire, Cumbria, Gwynedd and Perth and Kinross. In addition to the potential ecological issues relating to construction, these schemes require consideration of the effects of rapidly changing water levels on species that rely on the specific conditions along the river, such as fish, mosses and liverworts.

Biomass

Client: Atkins Ltd/Air Products plc **Project:** Tees Valley Renewable Energy Facility
Ecological assessments of two renewable energy facilities, which will generate 49.8 MWe of renewable energy by processing up to 350,000 tonnes per annum of waste feedstock, and associated utilities. The site is close to European sites designated for their bird populations; the Environmental Statements included assessments of the effects of construction and operational noise on these populations. As a result, to avoid any significant effects, Air Products plc used a different type of piling that is quieter and a Construction Ornithological Management Plan (COMP) was compiled to monitor birds during construction. The first REF is currently under construction; we monitored bird activity during the piling operations and no disturbance effects were observed.

