

NIE NETWORKS ANNUAL ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT 2025-26

RP7 Year 1 Performance Report

Issued by:
Sustainability & Environment, NIE Networks
31/07/2026



Welcome to NIE Networks' Annual Environmental Report 2025/26. This report provides insights into the sustainability and environmental aspects of our business.

NIE Networks is responsible for the safe, reliable and secure transportation of electricity to the 932,000 homes, farms and businesses across Northern Ireland.

Our vision is to "deliver a sustainable energy system for all." We are reshaping Northern Ireland's electricity system through our corporate strategy, which focuses on three key objectives:

1. Meeting future energy needs with electricity,
2. Developing a sustainable and reliable network, and
3. Transforming our business so it can operate efficiently in a rapidly evolving energy landscape.

As the people of Northern Ireland become more reliant on electricity to meet their energy needs, we recognise the responsibility placed upon us to facilitate and enable the achievement of the Climate Change Act targets and other national objectives for the benefit of the environment, our people, and wider society by:

- Expanding network **capacity** for connection of low carbon technologies to facilitate the electrification of heat, transport and industry.
- Maintaining **reliability** and improving network **resilience** by increasing levels of automation and refurbishment of electricity network equipment; and
- Reducing network constraints and facilitating **access** for increased connection of renewable generation.

During the current price control period, RP7 (2025-31), we will invest £2.23bn to strengthen resilience and prepare the electricity network for rising demand and greater renewable integration. This includes refurbishing 14,000km of network, deploying modern equipment and digital tools, and enhancing the networks' ability to withstand more frequent climate-related weather events. We also recently initiated a strategic programme to review severe weather resilience, taking a technology-led approach to strengthening network resilience and improving emergency response.

We recognise that our activities in electricity transmission and distribution can have potential environmental and societal impacts. We are committed to managing these responsibly, with the aim of avoiding or mitigating adverse effects while supporting sustainable economic development.

We apply externally certified ISO management systems across our organisation to drive continuous improvement and ensure compliance with all relevant legal and regulatory requirements.

As a responsible business, we are committed to maintaining high standards of environmental management and embedding sustainability across all our activities.

This Annual Environmental Report outlines our progress in delivering our core environmental commitments and managing our most significant environmental impacts. Section 1 provides an overview of Sustainability and Environment at NIE Networks. Section 2 outlines our RP7 environmental commitments. Section 3 summarises our stakeholder engagement activities, and Section 4 presents our progress and how we have managed environmental impacts during the first year of RP7.



Ciaran McManus
Managing Director, NIE Networks

1. SUSTAINABILITY & ENVIRONMENT AT NIE NETWORKS

NIE Networks' internal People, Planet, Places Plan (2025-31) plays a central role in supporting our corporate strategy and creating long-term value for the communities we serve, the environments in which we operate, and the planet as a whole.

By combining long-term infrastructure investment, environmental stewardship, innovation, and a customer focused approach, NIE Networks aims to deliver a reliable, modern energy system for future generations.

Key Focus Areas:

Climate Change & Energy

- Decarbonising our operations, with a target to halve Scope 1 and 2 emissions by 2030 (including SF₆, fleet, facilities, business travel, and related sources).
- Achieving net positive carbon status by 2050, or sooner where possible.
- Strengthening network resilience to the impacts of climate change and extreme weather events.

Resource Use & Circularity

- Sourcing materials sustainably, including the use of repurposed and recycled materials, and embedding circular end-of-life solutions.
- Implementing a new Procurement Sustainability Strategy.

Biodiversity

- Operating with a nature-positive approach, including responsible site acquisition, careful tree management that protects biodiversity, and appropriate replacement planting.

Pollution & Water

- Preventing and mitigating air, water, and soil pollution.
- Promoting the efficient and responsible use of water resources.

People-centred Sustainability

- Continuously improving the health, safety, and wellbeing of our workforce.
- Collaborating proactively with local communities to support green growth.
- Supporting customers in achieving Net Zero through their energy use.
- Ensuring strong protections for workers across our value chain.
- Upholding high standards of ethical business conduct, including risk management, anti-bribery measures, and whistleblowing protections.

Key Achievements:

- Certified to ISO 14001 for 26 years.
- Achieved Platinum status in Business in the Community Environmental Benchmarking Survey for 10 consecutive years.
- Accredited as a Wildlife Aware organisation by Ulster Wildlife.
- In partnership with The Conservation Volunteers (TCV), planted 48,000 trees since November 2023.
- Launched a company-wide electric vehicle scheme for company cars in 2023.
- Consolidated five rented office locations into a single site in 2023.
- Connected an additional 139MW of grid scale renewables to the network, bringing the system total to 1.9GW and approximately 48% of electricity demand being met from renewable sources in the year.
- Provided over 8,200 new customer connections.



1.1 Sustainability & Environmental Governance

Governance of sustainability and environmental activities is embedded across Board, Committee, and Executive levels, with clear accountability for delivery and disclosure. Over the past two years, additional management structures and roles have been introduced, including the refreshed Sustainability & Environment Management Committee (SEMC).

This Executive-appointed committee, chaired by the Head of Sustainability and Environment and sponsored by the Corporate Services Director, is responsible for overseeing sustainability and environmental governance across the organisation. It includes senior representatives and subject matter experts from all areas of the business involved in delivering sustainability and environmental performance.

The role of the SEMC is to ensure that the organisation achieves its environmental and sustainability ambitions by:

- Managing, reviewing, and reporting progress on the development and delivery of the [People, Planet, Places Plan \(2025–2031\)](#);
- Overseeing, coordinating, and reviewing the effectiveness of the Environmental Management System (EMS) in line with ISO 14001, ensuring it remains suitable, adequate, and effective; and
- Providing assurance to the Board that appropriate governance arrangements and management processes are in place to deliver these commitments.

Audits are carried out at NIE Networks depot locations and on-site, focusing on a range of sustainability and environmental topics relevant to these areas, including compliance against international standards and legislative requirements.

As audits are completed in collaboration with relevant staff, any resulting actions can be implemented promptly. The audits review internal processes and ensure that regulatory requirements continue to be met.

1.2 Data Assurance

Routine internal quality audits are conducted on source data to ensure accuracy and compliance. In addition, this Annual Environmental Report has been subject to a limited assurance review by an independent third party.

1.3 Other Sustainability & Environmental Reporting

NIE Networks is committed to transparency and compliance in its sustainability and environmental reporting. The company currently reports in line with Streamlined Energy and Carbon Reporting (SECR) within its Annual Financial Statements and submits reporting under the Energy Savings Opportunity Scheme (ESOS) via the online portal.

NIE Networks also collaborates with its parent company, ESB Group, providing data for inclusion in its Group Sustainability Report 2025, which is voluntarily aligned with the European Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (EU CSRD).

In addition, the company is monitoring the development and application of the UK Sustainability Reporting Standards (UK SRS), with the aim of enhancing the transparency and usefulness of sustainability information provided to stakeholders over time.

1.4 Monitoring Tools

NIE Networks is currently upgrading its dedicated greenhouse gas emissions reporting tool to enhance data capture, improve accuracy, and support more transparent and auditable reporting. During the period, we also expanded our use of Power BI dashboards to track key sustainability and environmental metrics in real time. These enhancements provide improved visibility of performance, support more informed decision-making, and strengthen our ability to monitor progress against targets and reporting requirements.



2. RP7 PRICE CONTROL (2025-31)

The RP7 price control commits NIE Networks to a multi-year programme of regulated investment to maintain and upgrade Northern Ireland's electricity networks.

Delivery priorities include maintaining [reliability](#) and improving [resilience](#), increasing [capacity](#) and [access](#) to support renewable generation and electrification, and transitioning towards a more flexible [Distribution System Operator](#) (DSO) model.

The commitments set out in the RP7 Business Plan, and overseen by the Utility Regulator, are designed to deliver best practice and meet stakeholder expectations. They aim to enable Net Zero in Northern Ireland, protect consumers, support economic growth, and ensure a secure and affordable electricity system for all.

2.1 RP7 Sustainability & Environmental Commitments

NIE Networks' internal People, Planet and Places Plan (2025–2031) is aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly Goals 7, 9, 11, 12, 13, and 17. These six SDGs provide a recognised framework and benchmark to guide the delivery of our commitments.



	<i>Affordable and Clean Energy</i>	Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all.	Supply Chain
	<i>Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure</i>	Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialisation, and foster innovation.	Embodied Carbon Footprint; Fluid Filled Cables; Creosote; Supply Chain
	<i>Sustainable Cities and Communities</i>	Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable.	Supply Chain
	<i>Responsible Consumption and Production</i>	Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns.	PCBs; Supply Chain; Resource Use & Circularity
	<i>Climate Action</i>	Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.	Carbon Footprint; Biodiversity; Climate Resilience
	<i>Partnerships for the Goals</i>	Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalise the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development.	Biodiversity; Stakeholder

NIE Networks is part of the [European Association for Distribution System Operators Sustainable Grid Charter](#), which seeks to translate the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) into commitments specific to the electricity industry. Although the Charter does not impose legally binding obligations, we have adopted its principles to help guide and strengthen our sustainability efforts.



This Annual Environmental Report provides an update on NIE Networks' Sustainability and Environmental commitments under RP7 (set out in Section 4). These commitments were co-developed with our stakeholders and are summarised below:

- **Carbon Footprint:** Halve our internal business carbon footprint by 2030 (including network losses) to limit the climate impact of our activities.
- **Network Losses:** As Northern Ireland progresses towards its 80% renewable electricity target, an increasing proportion of network losses will be supplied from renewable sources. The RP7 Plan focuses on highly utilised areas of the network, alongside investment in low-loss equipment.
- **SF₆ Management:** Limit SF₆ losses to less than 1% of total network volume, recycle 90% of recovered SF₆, and collaborate with industry partners to develop alternative technologies to reduce overall reliance on SF₆.
- **Fluid-filled Cables:** Reduce oil leakages from fluid-filled cables by 10% across the regulatory period (excluding third-party damage), compared with RP6 performance, and replace 5 km of the poorest-performing circuits with non-oil alternatives.
- **Embodied Carbon Footprint:** Establish a baseline and reduction target for the embodied carbon of new projects and monitor and report performance while working with our supply chain to drive reductions.
- **Supply Chain:** Engage with suppliers to ensure that over 80% of our top 250 suppliers publicly demonstrate high standards of environmental management.
- **Resource Use & Circularity:** Achieve a recycling rate of over 96% for waste (excluding civil and demolition waste).
- **Biodiversity:** Deliver measurable biodiversity improvements at dedicated sites.

Embedding these commitments within our People, Planet and Places Plan (2025–2031) during RP7 is essential to ensuring that we contribute effectively to a Net Zero future, while also enhancing social responsibility, improving productivity, and reducing waste.

The People, Planet and Places Plan (2025–2031) is not a standalone document; rather, it forms part of a broader suite of ambitious, interconnected strategies that will be implemented throughout the RP7 period.

3. STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT



3.1 Key National Stakeholder Insights

Northern Ireland Executive Programme for Government (PfG) (2024-27) prioritises its aim to 'Grow a Globally Competitive and Sustainable Economy' by addressing the four key pillars of productivity, good jobs, decarbonisation and regional balance.

Deloitte's State of the State – Northern Ireland (2026) report reinforces the need to demonstrate tangible progress on sustainability, resilience, and affordability, rather than ambition alone. Deloitte's findings reinforce that the challenge for Northern Ireland is no longer setting sustainability ambition, but delivering it at pace, affordably, and fairly, placing networks infrastructure, resilience, and measurable outcomes at the centre of a credible just transition.

Consumer Council's Corporate Plan (2021-2026) is fundamentally about protecting consumers, improving affordability, and ensuring fair access to essential services, including energy. For NIE Networks, sustainability must be delivered in a way that is affordable, inclusive, and clearly benefits consumers.

Institute of Directors NI Action Plan (2026) – Getting Infrastructure and Investment Back on Track reinforces that achieving net zero and economic growth in Northern Ireland depends on rapid, coordinated investment in infrastructure, particularly energy networks. It reinforces the need for grid capacity expansion, renewable integration and electrification of heat and transport.

Summary

NIE Networks faces a fundamental opportunity to deliver the infrastructure required for the energy transition at pace, whilst ensuring that investment remains affordable and fair to consumers.

These national insights place the energy transition not only as an environmental objective, but a fundamental economic and social delivery challenge, requiring system-wide collaboration.

Network infrastructure and resilience remain at the centre of Northern Ireland's sustainability agenda.



3.2 What Stakeholders told us, and what we've done

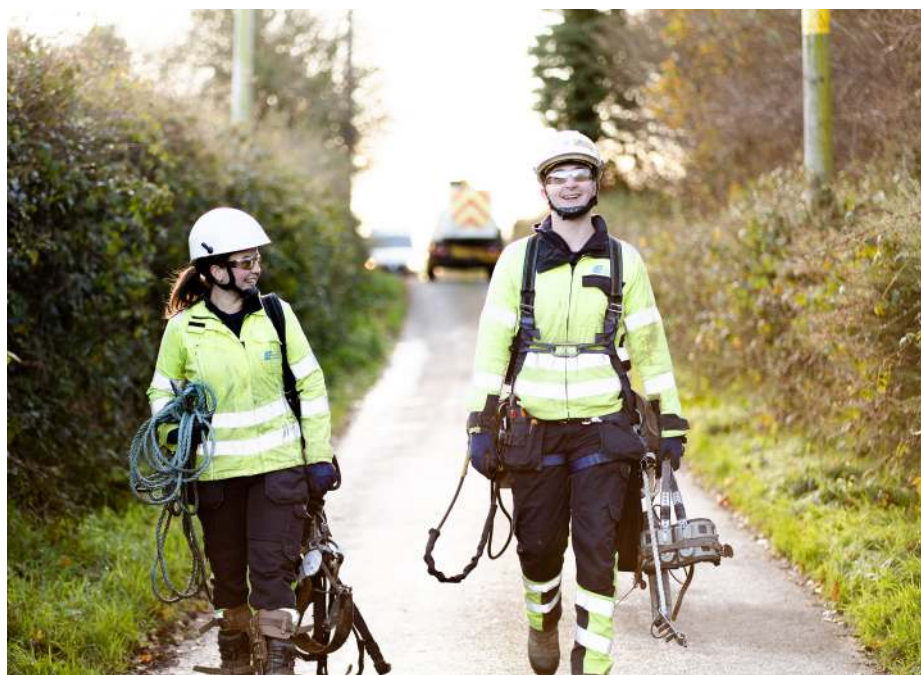
In preparation for the development of the NIE Networks Sustainability & Environmental commitments under RP7 (set out in Section 4), the company undertook several stakeholder engagement activities.

As part of this process stakeholders were asked to provide comment on our environmental commitments and rank our priorities, including identifying any areas missing.

Stakeholders ranked top priorities, as follows:

1. Reducing our Business Carbon Footprint
 2. Decarbonising our Fleet
 3. Helping reduce the Environmental Impact of our Supply Chain
 4. Reducing Network Losses
 5. Moving away from SF6 gas use
 6. Quantifying and Reducing Embodied Carbon Footprint
 7. Minimising Waste to Landfill
 8. Quantifying and Improving Biodiversity / Natural Capital
 9. Reducing Worst Performing Fluid Filled Cables
 10. Reducing Fluid Leaked from Fluid Filled Cables
- We've made sure all our priorities have clear targets, timelines, and measurable outcomes.
 - We're focusing on reducing our carbon emissions, not just offsetting them.
 - We're working to make the network more resilient to climate risks like storms and flooding.
 - We track progress regularly and report on how we're doing.
 - We've introduced a Sustainable Procurement Strategy to help improve our sustainability within our supply chain.
 - We're applying circular economy principles by cutting waste, reducing single-use materials, and aiming to recycle over 96% of waste.
 - We're protecting biodiversity, avoiding damage to sensitive habitats, and looking for opportunities to improve nature on our sites.
 - We're prioritising replacing or managing older fluid-filled cables in sensitive areas to reduce environmental risks.

Stakeholder feedback has been embedded throughout the People, Planet, Places Plan 2025-31, resulting in clearer targets, stronger climate ambition, and improved accountability. Key actions include:



4. RP7 YEAR 1 PROGRESS 2025-26



4.1 Carbon Footprint

4.1.1 Science Based Target

In October 2021, NIE Networks announced its intention to commit to a Science Based Target (SBT). In May 2022, it submitted its Commitment Letter, which was accepted in June of the same year. NIE Networks has since developed and continues to maintain a comprehensive greenhouse gas emissions inventory covering Scopes 1, 2, and 3, while also accounting for committed future emissions.

NIE Networks' programme of work is expected to expand significantly to support the energy targets set out in the Climate Change Act (NI) 2022. In 2024, Scope 3 emissions accounted for over 40% of total emissions, exceeding the threshold for inclusion in an SBT¹, prompting NIE Networks to withdraw its commitment to the Science Based Targets initiative (SBTi) in the interim.

In 2025, the company updated its spend-based model for Scope 3 Categories 1 ("Purchased Goods and Services") and 2 ("Capital Goods"), transitioning to a more accurate methodology. Work to further refine this approach remains ongoing.

In any case, a significant proportion of Scope 3 emissions arise from NIE Networks' supply chain, which sits outside the company's direct operational control. NIE Networks aims to influence these emissions through supplier engagement and evolving procurement standards. While progress continues across a range of supply chain sustainability initiatives (see Section 4.5 Supply Chain and Section 4.6 Resource Use and Circularity), it has not been possible to commit to an SBT at this time, our renewed commitment is to keep this under review.

NIE Networks remains committed to achieving Net Zero by 2050. The company remains committed to halving its controllable greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 to reduce the climate impact of its operations.

Emissions can be categorised three ways:

Scope 1: Direct emissions from owned or controlled assets.

Operational transport (diesel used in fleet vehicles), Other fuel combustion (LPG, petrol used for tools and equipment, generator fuel), Office building energy use (gas and heating oil), Fugitive emissions (SF₆ and air-con refrigerant)

Scope 2: Indirect emissions from purchased electricity used in company operations and the emissions associated with all the electrical losses on our network.

Office building energy use (electricity), Network Losses

Scope 3: Indirect upstream and downstream emissions that occur in the value chain. Other Scope 3 categories are under development.

Business travel (road, air), Water consumption, Waste

NIE Networks Carbon Emissions



¹ To set a valid Science-Based Target (SBT), the SBTi requires that Scope 3 emissions be included in the target if they account for 40% or more of total Scope 1, 2, and 3 emissions.

4.1.2 Progress of Greenhouse Gas Emission Reductions

In accordance with the Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Protocol, NIE Networks has adopted the operational control approach and therefore accounts for all emissions from operations over which it has operational control. All NIE Networks' activities take place within Northern Ireland and, during the reporting period, included three main depots, three offices, five Local Incident Centres, three stores, and one workshop.

Progress against our target to reduce controllable emissions by 50% by 2030 is monitored annually against our established 2019 baseline. In 2025/26, emissions under the operational control approach showed a reduction of 21% compared with the baseline year, with the reduction in emissions being mainly attributed to reductions in SF₆ leaks and buildings energy use.

NIE Networks reports annually in compliance with the Streamlined Energy and Carbon Reporting (SECR) Regulations, with its disclosures independently verified by a third party.

4.1.2.1 Buildings Energy Use

Following a range of energy efficiency improvement initiatives across the office building portfolio, overall electricity consumption has decreased by 11% over the past six years.

When compared with the previous year, office electricity consumption increased by 2.3%, while gas consumption decreased by 10.0%. The rise in electricity use is attributable to workforce expansion and higher levels of office occupancy, primarily at the Belfast headquarters. Additionally, electricity usage increased at the Craigavon depot due to the ongoing construction of a new building.

The reduction in gas consumption reflects the impact of earlier refurbishment works at the Belfast depot to improve energy efficiency, along with further energy reduction measures implemented at the Craigavon stores.

4.1.2.2 Fleet Vehicle Emissions

After a long-term initiative to reduce fuel consumption of NIE Networks' fleet vehicles, the company continues to seek to maintain usage at the lowest possible level whilst meeting the operational needs of the business.

NIE Networks is currently in a growth phase to accommodate the increased workload associated with supporting the decarbonisation of Northern Ireland's electricity network. As a result, additional staff and fleet vehicles are being mobilised. The company continues to optimise fleet utilisation by reviewing vehicle occupancy before committing to any expansion required to support increased headcount. Over the year, the fleet grew from 438 vehicles to 456 in the period, an increase of 18 vehicles, comprising 11 diesel and 7 electric vehicles.

Progress in electrifying the fleet has been slower than anticipated due to current limitations in battery technology, particularly in relation to driving range, payload capacity, and towing capability. The company is reviewing its fleet electrification approach to update vehicle transition targets. There are currently 28 electric vans in the fleet, which will contribute to reducing carbon emissions over time.

A vehicle tracking system, introduced in 2020, provides data to support more sustainable driving practices. This information is also used to identify vehicles suitable for replacement with electric alternatives as part of the wider transition plan. In parallel with the continued expansion of the electric vehicle fleet, the company has approved the installation of ultra-rapid charging infrastructure across its offices and depot sites. This investment will support further fleet electrification by providing a reliable internal charging network. Enabling works to increase electrical connection capacity will begin to facilitate the rollout of this infrastructure.

NIE Networks has also continued the rollout of Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil (HVO) for suitable vehicles.

When compared with the previous year, these combined measures resulted in an approximate 1.3% reduction in fleet fuel consumption, despite a 4% increase in fleet size.



4.1.2.3 Network Losses

4.1.2.3.1 Background

A significant proportion of greenhouse gas emissions from the electricity network arises from transmission and distribution losses.

Network losses are modelled based on the difference between the amount of energy entering the transmission and distribution network and the amount of energy delivered to end users.

Technical losses are inherent and unavoidable, typically occurring as heat during the transmission and distribution of electricity. Non-technical losses relate to energy that is consumed but not paid for, such as through theft.

Technical losses on the network increase as:

1. Demand becomes more electrified;
2. Distributed generation grows, leading to increased reverse power flows; and
3. Network utilisation rises.

Conversely, network reinforcement helps to reduce losses. The installation of newer, lower-loss assets, such as 'Eco Tier 2' transformers, can significantly improve efficiency. In addition, smart metering, combined with well-designed Time of Use (ToU) tariffs, can help flatten demand profiles and further reduce losses.

However, investment in asset replacement is unlikely to be justified based on loss reduction alone. In any given regulatory period, only a small proportion of the network is upgraded, which limits the overall impact on losses.

As a Distribution System Operator (DSO), NIE Networks aims to maximise efficiency and minimise losses. Over time, the carbon impact of these losses will decrease as more electricity is generated from low-carbon and renewable sources, meaning that any residual losses will increasingly be low- or zero-carbon in nature.

4.1.2.3.2 Progress in Network Losses

The company has advanced several innovation projects, particularly in voltage management, which aim to provide cost-effective alternatives to traditional network reinforcement. While these smart solutions can help manage constraints and defer upgrades, they may in some cases increase losses by extending the life of older assets.

To ensure optimal investment decisions, NIE Networks applies the ENA's Common Evaluation Methodology, which considers factors such as network losses, carbon emissions, and wider societal impacts. Where conventional reinforcement is undertaken, installing larger and more efficient assets will help reduce losses.

Additional measures include setting minimum asset sizes, replacing smaller transformers, investing in low-loss equipment, and reviewing the energy performance of substation buildings to identify efficiency improvements.

The emissions associated with losses are modelled using data from the most recent full tariff year i.e., for the 2025/26 period, Distribution Loss Adjustment Factors (DLAFs) from October 2023 – September 2024 were used. Similar is true for Transmission Loss Adjustment Factors as provided by System Operator for Northern Ireland (SONI). The total losses are then multiplied by the relevant Department for Agriculture, Environment & Rural Affairs (DAERA) conversion factor to calculate carbon emissions from Network Losses.

For October 2023 – September 2024, Network Losses were modelled at 756GWh, which is equivalent to 7.1% of units entering the network.



	Oct 21 – Sept 22	Oct 22 – Sept 23	Oct 23 – Sept 24
Energy Entering the Network (GWh)	10,550	10,337	10,668
Energy Exiting the Network (GWh)	9,768	9,565	9,912
Losses (GWh)	782	772	756
Losses % Energy Entering Network	7.4	7.5	7.1

4.1.2.4 SF₆ Management

4.1.2.4.1 Background

SF₆ is widely used in high-voltage equipment due to its strong insulating properties, but its high global warming potential means strict controls are required to minimise emissions. While complete removal of SF₆ equipment is not currently feasible due to limited alternatives and the cost and carbon impact of replacement, NIE Networks employs robust management practices. These include strict handling procedures, regular inspections, centralised monitoring, prioritised maintenance, and recycling of recovered gas, all in line with regulatory requirements. The company also continues to work with industry partners to develop viable alternatives.

Under EU Regulation (EU) 2024/573, a phased ban on new SF₆ equipment will be introduced, including:

- No further installation of 6.6/11kV Ring Main Unit equipment containing SF₆ from 1st January 2026 – in place.
- No further installation of 110kV and 22kV circuit breakers containing SF₆ from 1st January 2028 – in place where alternatives exist².
- No further installation of 33kV circuit breakers containing SF₆ from 1st January 2030.
- No further installation of 275kV or 400kV circuit-breakers containing SF₆ from 1st January 2032.
- No further installation of new SF₆ equipment from 1st January 2035.

4.1.2.4.2 Progress in SF₆ Management

Significant improvements have been made in the management of SF₆ at NIE Networks in recent years. Key measures include:

- Recovering and recycling SF₆ from the network for reuse, reducing the need to purchase new gas. In 2025/26 close to 100% of reclaimed gas was recycled at our dedicated in-house facility.
- Draining SF₆ transmission equipment held as strategic spares and filling with dry air to eliminate potential leakage.
- Continued removal of all 275kV SF₆ Current Transformers (CTs) and replacement with non-SF₆ equipment.
- All new 6.6/11kV switchboards now use vacuum insulation, with vacuum circuit breakers accounting for approximately half of the installed units at this voltage level.

- All new 6.6/11kV pole-mounted sectionalisers and reclosers now utilise solid insulation instead of SF₆ gas.
- NIE Networks is also engaging with suppliers and participating in industry working groups to support the development and adoption of SF₆ alternatives.
- During the year, innovation trials were carried out at 33kV to test retro-filling, and new non-SF₆ circuit breakers were installed at both 33kV and 110kV for assessment.

Overall performance remains strong (see Figure 1 below), with SF₆ losses at 0.80% of the total bank (against a target of less than 1%) and recycling rates close to 100% (exceeding the target of 90%).

In 2025/26 150.35 kg of SF₆ was removed from the network, which is equivalent to 3,533 tCO₂e.

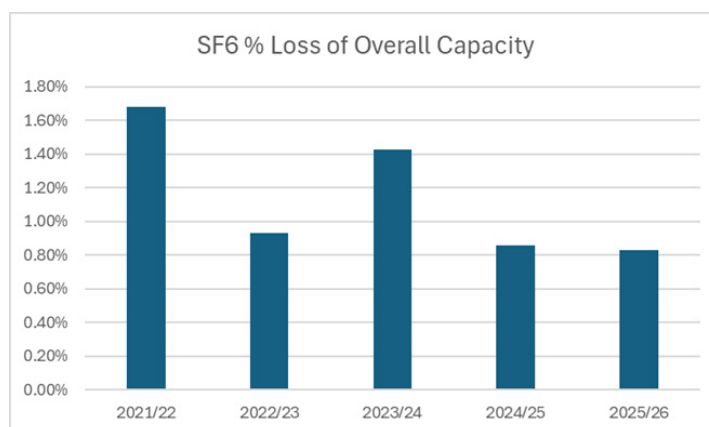


Figure 1: SF₆ Percentage Loss of Overall Capacity



² All 110kV single pole operation circuit breakers are now non-SF₆. For specialised units (e.g. shunt reactors) where there is currently no suitable alternative, SF₆ is used.

Case Study: SF₆ retro-filling trial

Throughout the year, NIE Networks trialled the retro-filling of a type of 33kV outdoor circuit breaker by replacing SF₆ with a modern synthetic air mixture of nitrogen and oxygen. As this alternative gas has a significantly lower global warming potential than SF₆, the environmental impact of any potential leakage is greatly reduced.

The initiative aligns with F-Gas Regulations and supports NIE Networks' commitment of reducing

reliance on SF₆. Recovered SF₆ is then recycled in-house and reused in other equipment, reducing the need for new gas for other maintenance activities.

This approach goes beyond regulatory requirements and supports circular economy principles by extending asset life, minimising waste, and reducing transport emissions. Retro-filling is completed on site by NIE Networks staff, helping to retain specialist skills and reduce reliance on external manufacturers, keeping costs down.

The trial demonstrated operational carbon reductions of 99.9% per circuit breaker. Following its success, NIE Networks is exploring further opportunities to apply similar solutions across the network, including at other voltage levels. This initiative highlights the benefits of using existing technologies and assets to reduce environmental impact, improve efficiency, and build internal capability.

4.1.2.5 Embodied Carbon Footprint

Embodied carbon refers to the total greenhouse gas emissions associated with the production, transportation, construction, maintenance, and end-of-life processes of materials used in buildings or infrastructure, excluding operational emissions.

Throughout the year, NIE Networks trialled several methodologies and tools to measure the embodied carbon of new projects and connections. These approaches aim to support more sustainable decision-making by incorporating carbon considerations into project option selection. NIE Networks also piloted life cycle assessments to estimate the embodied carbon that can be deferred using flexible connections.

The first pilot project involved calculating the deferred carbon associated with a flexible connection for a small-scale generation scheme. Deferred embodied carbon represents the difference between the emissions associated with the manufacture, transportation, and installation of the additional assets required for a potential firm connection, compared with the reduced number of assets needed for a flexible connection.

NIE Networks continues to collaborate with the Energy Networks Association (ENA), along with suppliers and manufacturers, to develop consistent methodologies, enhance data quality, and promote lower-carbon solutions.



4.2 Fluid-filled Cables

4.2.1 Background

Fluid-filled cables are among the highest-performing assets on the network. However, if they are damaged by third parties or deteriorate over time, insulating fluid can leak into the surrounding environment, which requires remediation to avoid causing pollution.

Many of these cables have been in service for over 50 years, and age-related wear can occur at joints, terminations, or, less commonly, along the outer sheath, leading to leaks and potential ground contamination.

Ongoing monitoring and performance management have identified the need to replace approximately 5km of fluid-filled cables during the RP7 period.



4.2.2 Fluid-filled Cable Performance

In 2025, NIE Networks carried out six repairs to fluid-filled cables, five on the 33kV network and one on a 110kV circuit. All contaminated ground was removed and remediated as part of the repair works. A number of these repairs were necessitated by ground disturbance associated with construction works at a substation.

All 33kV circuits identified for future works have experienced limited recent issues, with none reported in the past 12 months. However, they have been prioritised due to the potential environmental risk should leakage occur. One of these interventions is subject to landowner agreement.

Over the course of the year, a net total of 3,970 litres of insulating fluid, equivalent to 0.90% of the total fluid volume, was added to fluid-filled cables. In addition, 590 meters of fluid-filled cable was removed from the network in the period. Planned future works are expected to improve performance in this area, with the aim of achieving the target of less than 3,600 litres lost by 2031, which equates to 10% improvement on the RP6 baseline (4,000 litres). See Figure 2 below showing the trend over the last five years.

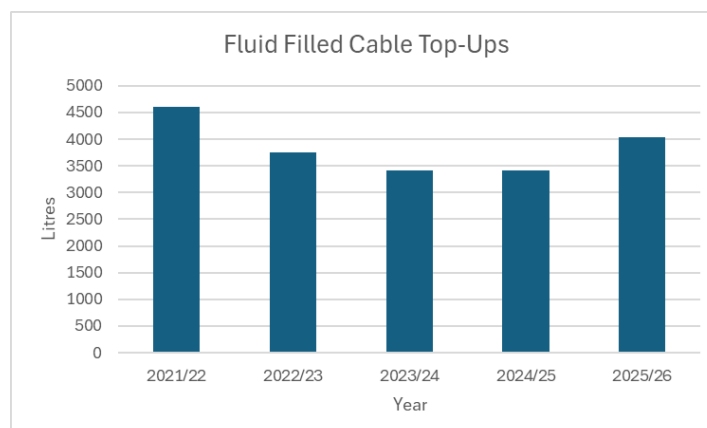


Figure 2: Fluid Filled Cable Top-Ups

4.3 Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs)

4.3.1 Background

Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs) are a category of Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) that during manufacture unintentionally contaminated electrical equipment such as transformers.

Due to their toxicity, persistence, and ability to accumulate in living organisms, PCBs are recognised as a significant environmental hazard. NIE Networks is therefore committed to removing PCB-contaminated equipment from its network. The company regularly monitors and reports on equipment suspected of containing PCBs and has implemented a structured programme to ensure the identification and removal of all assets exceeding the 50ppm threshold.



4.3.2 PCB Management Progress

In line with the probabilistic model, which identifies equipment likely to be contaminated with PCBs, NIE Networks has already removed a significant volume of contaminated oil from the network.

All known ground-mounted transformers suspected of PCB contamination underwent an oil replacement programme in the early 1990s. While asset information has improved since then, there remains a small possibility that some units were missed. These assets are tested as part of routine maintenance, with any identified issues promptly addressed and asset records updated accordingly. During 2025/26, one ground-mounted transformer was confirmed to contain PCBs above the 50ppm threshold, contaminated oil was quarantined and disposed of by a licensed contractor.

Pole-mounted transformers identified as potentially contaminated form part of a wider asset replacement programme. As reported to the Northern Ireland Environment Agency, there are currently 167 pole-mounted transformers statistically likely³ to contain PCB levels above 50 ppm, which are being prioritised for testing and replacement where necessary. Encouragingly, none of the units replaced in recent years have tested positive for PCBs. A further 273 pole-mounted transformers are currently under review and are treated as potentially contaminated until confirmed otherwise.

Historically, testing of these units has only been possible following removal from service. However, NIE Networks is planning to trial new technology that will enable in-situ testing of the remaining units. This will support a more efficient and targeted approach to identifying and removing PCB-contaminated assets across the network.

³ 'Statistically likely' is an industry term used to categorise pre-1987 oil-containing assets with potential to contain PCBs. This does not mean that a unit actually contains PCBs, rather that it should be treated like it does until proven otherwise.

4.4 Creosote Poles

4.4.1 Background

Overhead line support poles are predominantly treated with creosote to extend the lifespan of timber. However, creosote poses potential risks to human health and can act as an environmental contaminant, with the potential to leach into soil and groundwater. As a result, its use is subject to increasingly stringent regulation under chemical, waste, and environmental protection legislation, creating the need to identify compliant alternatives.

A ban on the use of new creosote-treated poles in Northern Ireland is expected to come into force in 2029. Potential alternatives include poles treated with copper oil and engineered composite pole solutions. NIE Networks is actively assessing these options to identify a suitable replacement for use across the network. In addition, redundant poles are stored and disposed of in accordance with applicable legislation and best practice guidance.

4.4.2 Creosote Alternatives

Trials are currently underway to assess alternatives to creosote-treated poles, ensuring preparedness for anticipated legislation changes.

To date, 30 poles using various alternative preservatives have been installed across three low-voltage circuits in Coleraine, Derry/Londonderry, and Newtownards. These poles will undergo periodic inspections to monitor their condition and long-term performance.

In addition, 1,200 Southern Yellow Pine (SYP) poles were imported from the United States to address supply shortages. These poles are treated with 4,5-Dichloro-2-octylisothiazol-3(2H)-one (DCOI), a modern wood preservative with improved environmental performance compared to creosote. However, it is too early to assess the long-term suitability of this material or treatment. SYP is a new species for use in UK and Irish networks, and DCOI treatment is not yet commercially available within Europe, although suppliers are exploring local treatment options.

NIE Networks is also investigating composite poles as an alternative to timber. These may be particularly suitable in high public-contact areas or locations prone to damage, such as from woodpeckers.

Separately, NIE Networks continues to collaborate closely with BT Openreach. As part of a wider UK trial of alternative wood preservatives, 15 poles have been installed in Campsie.



Case Study: Composite Pole Trial

In September 2025, NIE Networks started a trial of composite poles as a potential alternative to traditional wooden poles treated with creosote as a preservative. Composite poles are made of a fibreglass-reinforced polyester with a polyethylene coating which gives a high resistance to chemicals, moisture, vermin, and pests, as well as other forms of impact. NIE Networks teams erected several composite poles to understand how to handle and install poles, as

well as install different types of pole-mounted equipment. Composite poles will become one of several new pole types on the network, with applications on LV circuits, Very High Risk ESQCR sites or areas prone to woodpecker damage.



4.5 Supply Chain

4.5.1 Sustainability in Procurement

NIE Networks is committed to integrating sustainability into all its activities, including procurement. To support this, a Sustainable Procurement Strategy has been developed to ensure that purchasing decisions deliver long-term environmental, social, and economic value, while minimising environmental impact.

NIE Networks' Sustainable Procurement Objectives are to:

- Embed Sustainability and circular economy into procurement practices;
- Update supplier and contractor Due Diligence; and
- Promote responsible procurement.

The proposed new strategy provides a framework to embed sustainability and circular economy principles into procurement practices, strengthen supplier due diligence, and promote responsible sourcing. It applies to all procurement activities and contract management across the organisation.

While sustainability considerations are already included in procurement processes, the strategy introduces a more structured approach, including the development of a Sustainable Procurement Toolkit and the integration of sustainability criteria and key performance indicators (KPIs) into contracts. Future procurement activities will increasingly focus on areas such as carbon reduction.

NIE Networks also recognises the importance of building internal capability, providing training, and enhancing governance to ensure sustainability objectives are effectively implemented and managed across its supply chain.

Evaluation panel members, acting as subject matter experts, determine the sustainability focus areas to be included in procurement activities, while contract managers are responsible for ensuring that post-award key performance indicators (KPIs) are effectively monitored and managed.

NIE Networks' RP7 environmental commitment to implement carbon reduction targets across the supply chain will be reviewed further as several procurement renewals are completed using this enhanced approach. Given that many existing contracts have already been awarded, it is not practical to retrospectively introduce new requirements, such as carbon reduction targets, without revisiting contract terms and considering the potential implications for the original procurement process.

As a result, the objective for 80% of the top 250 suppliers to adopt carbon reduction targets and mitigations will be applied primarily to new and renewed contracts, where suppliers can do so. This will be supported by new sustainability reporting requirements, which will be incorporated into works contracts, providing clear guidance to suppliers on the data to be reported and the method of submission.

Recruitment of additional contract managers is currently underway to strengthen contract oversight. In parallel, procurement evaluation panel training has been updated to reflect the requirements of the Procurement Act 2023, along with enhanced focus on sustainability considerations.

All staff who participate in a Tender Assessment Panel are required to complete mandatory training. This training includes updates on the Procurement Act, which introduces a shift from the "most economically advantageous tender" to the "most advantageous tender." This change encourages contracting authorities to consider relevant award criteria beyond cost, including environmental and social value factors.

At the procurement initiation stage, procurement staff also direct colleagues to the Sustainable Procurement Toolkit, which provides guidance on how sustainability considerations can be incorporated throughout the tendering process.



4.5.2 Supplier Engagement

A sustainability survey of NIE Networks' top 250 suppliers (based on 2024 spend, category, and location) was completed during the year. The findings indicate that NIE Networks' suppliers generally have a strong understanding of sustainability, although interpretations vary depending on individual organisations and the legislative frameworks within their respective regions.

To support ongoing improvement, a Sustainable Procurement tracker has been established to record sustainability measures included in tenders and the types of criteria applied. The insights gathered from this process are helping to inform and refine the development of the Sustainable Procurement Toolkit for future contracts.

4.5.3 Supplier Code

The RP7 environmental commitment to introduce a new Supply Chain Code of Conduct has been carefully reviewed alongside existing policies, procedures, and guidance. This review considered a range of documents, including current terms and conditions, requirements for contractors, the Code of Business Ethics, and the environmental and specification documentation issued with tender materials.

A comprehensive review and update of NIE Networks' contract terms and conditions, undertaken by our in-house Legal team, confirmed that they meet, and in some areas exceed, current ethical, environmental, and governance standards. In addition, the Procurement team has developed a suite of "Working with NIE Networks" documents, which are issued with all tender opportunities. These clearly outline supplier expectations and are subject to regular review and updates.

On this basis, it was concluded that introducing a separate Supply Chain Code of Conduct is not currently necessary, as it would duplicate existing controls without enhancing supplier governance. However, the development of a standalone code may be considered in the future, should a clear need and added value be identified.



4.6 Resource Use & Circularity

NIE Networks seeks to operate using the minimum materials necessary to safely conduct its operations, while taking full account of the lifecycle impacts of those materials. Its approach to circularity focuses on sustainable sourcing, the use of repurposed and recycled components, and incorporating end-of-life considerations into design to reduce landfill waste and maximise reuse. This commitment is demonstrated through refurbishment activities both at the Plant Workshop and on-site, where the lifespan of equipment is extended, costs are reduced, and the need for material transportation is minimised.

Resource Use and Circularity is a core focus area within NIE Networks' People, Planet, Places Plan (2025–2031). This includes:

- Sustainable sourcing of materials;
- Increased use of repurposed and recycled components; and
- Embedding end-of-life planning within asset design, alongside ongoing asset modernisation.

The Plant Workshop in Lurgan provides a practical example of circularity in action. The work carried out there helps extend the operational life of equipment, reducing environmental impact and improving the sustainability of NIE Networks' operations.

During RP7, NIE Networks will use a combination of new and refurbished equipment to expand network capacity and enhance resilience. Refurbishment activities at the Plant Workshop and on-site:

- Extend asset lifecycles through repainting, replacement of insulation media (including oil and SF₆), and minor design improvements;
- Reduce costs and transportation requirements; and
- Help manage supply chain risks by maintaining availability of critical equipment.

This approach aligns with key policy frameworks, including the Northern Ireland Circular Economy Strategy (2023), Waste (Circular Economy) (Amendment) Regulations (NI) (2020), F-Gas Regulations (2024), the Climate Change Act (NI) (2022), and NIE Networks' wider Net Zero and circular economy commitments.

By prioritising reuse and rapid response, NIE Networks:

- Reduces its environmental impact;
- Maintains in-house specialist refurbishment capabilities, reducing reliance on original equipment manufacturers;
- Enhances operational resilience; and
- Improves response times for critical repairs.

Circularity practices include refurbishing transformers, ring main units, and circuit breakers to extend their lifespan, as well as proactive oil testing to assess equipment condition and prevent faults. Even at end of life, assets are dismantled to recover and reuse viable components, with remaining materials recycled. Insulating oil is recovered and reprocessed at the workshop, while SF₆ gas is reclaimed for reuse, reducing both environmental impact and procurement costs. Tools and equipment are also repaired and recalibrated rather than replaced, further improving lifecycle performance.

In addition, NIE Networks has established a Strategic Asset Modernisation Programme to accelerate improvements across its asset base. This programme reviews the lifecycle of all asset types to ensure they are used to their full potential, including at end of life, while embedding sustainability principles into procurement from the outset. Enhanced material specifications will define expectations around whole-life performance and the sustainability of materials.

In 2025/26 a recycling rate of 98.31% was achieved against the 96%⁴ target.

⁴ This waste recycling target current excludes civil and demolition waste.



4.7 Biodiversity

Biodiversity refers to the variety of living life that surround us, and everyone in Northern Ireland has a role to play in protecting it. As NIE Networks delivers electricity across both rural and urban environments, its operations bring us into daily contact with natural habitats and wildlife.

Northern Ireland is currently experiencing significant biodiversity loss, and NIE Networks is committed to minimising the impact of its activities on protected sites and species, while enhancing biodiversity wherever possible. Although a formal Biodiversity Net Gain policy has not yet been introduced to Northern Ireland, the company continues to follow best practice by avoiding or reducing impacts on habitats, supporting protected species, and progressing biodiversity improvements on its own sites. It also aims to plant replacement trees for those removed through mandatory tree cutting to achieve safety clearances.

NIE Networks works in partnership with organisations such as RSPB NI and The Conservation Volunteers to deliver projects including bogland restoration and tree planting. NIE Networks is also accredited by Ulster Wildlife as a “Wildlife Aware” organisation, with both staff and contractors undertaking specialist and refresher training on an ongoing basis. These initiatives benefit both the environment and local communities.

Despite limited regulatory funding, biodiversity remains a key priority within NIE Networks’ People, Planet Places Plan (2025-31). This is reflected in the approval of a Biodiversity Policy in March 2026, which provides a structured approach to protecting and enhancing ecosystems across its operations.

The company ensures compliance with all relevant legislation, applies the mitigation hierarchy (avoid, mitigate, compensate, enhance), and implements environmental management plans for projects in designated areas.

Collectively, these actions demonstrate a commitment to integrating biodiversity considerations into operational planning and decision-making, ensuring alignment with broader environmental objectives and regulatory expectations.



380 hours volunteered

£67k invested

Biodiversity improved at 42 sites

*Tree
planting*

*Peatland
restoration*

*Wildflower
sowing*



Case Study – Tree Planting in partnership with The Conservation Volunteers (TCV)

NIE Networks has a legal obligation to manage vegetation near overhead lines for safety purposes, and unfortunately this often means removing trees. To create a nature-positive approach, we wanted to offset the impact. NIE Networks launched one of Northern Ireland's most ambitious biodiversity programmes, partnering with The Conservation Volunteers (TCV). The project restores habitats and enhances local ecosystems through large-scale tree planting.

Volunteers are planting birch, willow, oak, alder and other native varieties to support biodiversity and climate resilience. Tree planting sites include community spaces, schools and council-owned lands across Northern Ireland – strengthening community ties.

TCV provides expertise in native species planting and habitat restoration. NIE Networks supports TCV with resources, including an electric vehicle for low-carbon operations and collaborates on seed collection and nursery cultivation to make sure the trees are local.

So far, volunteers have planted 48,000 trees since 2023, with a target of planting 30,000 trees during the 2026/27 season. The project also supports employee engagement and involvement. For example, the Give a Tree a Home campaign encourages staff to plant saplings at home. The project also sees a new tree planted for every new NIE Networks employee, symbolising growth and sustainability.



Case Study – Peatland Restoration in partnership with RSPB NI

For centuries, human activity has degraded vast areas of peatlands by draining them for agriculture, forestry and peat for fuel and compost. When peatlands dry out and become damaged, they lose their ability to store carbon and instead release it, contributing to climate change.

With support from NIE Networks, RSPB NI are working with local farmers and landowners to restore peatland bogs using various techniques including rewetting. This involves blocking drainage ditches and recreating a waterlogged environment using dams, bunds, or natural barriers. As a result, the peatland bogs are seeing new growth of sphagnum moss. This moss is a key component of a healthy bog; it holds water, slows decomposition and enables carbon rich peat to form.

Biodiversity improvements are also apparent, with a greater number of species now present. Other benefits include increased carbon capture and improve water quality in the immediate area.



4.8 Climate Resilience

4.8.1 Storm Response Process Improvements

Since Storm Éowyn in January 2025, digital improvements to the coordination of unplanned network outages have strengthened how we respond to severe weather events.

Enhanced real time visibility of faults through our Network Management System enables teams to respond more quickly and coordinate restoration activity more effectively. Field crews now benefit from improved access to live information, helping them make faster and more informed decisions on site.

We are also enhancing how we support key stakeholders during storm events through improved mapping and data sharing. Critical infrastructure, including water treatment facilities, telecoms sites, and schools, are being digitally mapped and linked to our network data. This enables us to provide real time visibility of electricity supply status, alongside estimated restoration times.

By giving stakeholders greater certainty, they can better plan their own storm response, supporting a more coordinated and efficient response across essential services.

Together, these improvements enhance the overall customer experience through clearer and more timely updates, improved call handling, proactive notifications, and more accurate estimates of restoration times.

4.8.2 Vegetation Management and Network Resilience

NIE Networks has a legal obligation to maintain safe clearances between overhead lines and vegetation. Our vegetation management programme is designed to strengthen network resilience while recognising the importance of protecting biodiversity.

Targeted and responsible cutting across the network has already contributed to a reduction in tree related faults during recent storm events.

We are currently exploring the use of LiDAR technology and enhanced asset data to provide high resolution insight into the proximity of vegetation to overhead lines to avoid unnecessary cutting. This more targeted approach helps to protect existing habitats and natural vegetation structure.

This work is complemented by our tree planting programme, which helps to offset impacts by supporting new planting in appropriate locations and contributing to long-term biodiversity enhancement.



4.9 Sustainability & Environmental Training

NIE Networks recognises that training plays a key role in ensuring employees and contracting partners understand their environmental responsibilities and can carry out their work in a safe and environmentally responsible manner.

During the reporting period, a range of environmental training courses were delivered, including refresher Wildlife Aware training and Environmental Responsibilities for Contracting Partners.

Wildlife Aware

Developed in partnership with Ulster Wildlife, this training provides practical guidance on protecting Northern Ireland's wildlife and habitats while carrying out our work activities.

Environmental Responsibilities for Contracting Partners

Ensuring that those undertaking work on NIE Networks' behalf live up to the environmental standards, procedures and expectations that apply across all of our operations.



As I reflect on the year, I am proud of the progress NIE Networks has made in advancing our sustainability and environmental ambitions, particularly during a period of significant growth and change for the company.

In 2025/26, we continued to play a central role in enabling Northern Ireland's transition to a low-carbon future. The connection of an additional 139MW of renewable generation to the network represents a meaningful step forward, contributing to approximately 48% of electricity demand being met from renewable sources. At the same time, we also connected over 8,200 new customers.

Meanwhile, we achieved a 21% reduction in directly controllable emissions compared to our 2019 baseline, an important milestone given the expansion of our work programme.

We have also strengthened the resilience of our network in response to the increasing impacts of climate change. Following the severe weather events experienced during the year, we established a new strategic programme focused on enhancing our approach to weather resilience, using digital tools and innovation to better prepare for the challenges ahead.

Equally important has been our continued focus on environmental stewardship and collaboration. Our tree planting programme, delivered in partnership with The Conservation Volunteers and supported by our employees and communities, has now reached 48,000 trees planted over the past three years. This is just one example of how we are working collectively to deliver meaningful environmental benefits.

Looking ahead, our focus for 2026/27 is on building further maturity in how we embed sustainability across all areas of our business. Sustainability and Environmental stewardship are not the responsibility of one team; it is a shared effort across NIE Networks and our Contracting Partners. I am continually encouraged by the commitment of our colleagues, partners, and stakeholders in driving this agenda forward.

This report highlights the breadth of activity underway across NIE Networks. If there is one key takeaway, it is that delivering a sustainable energy future requires collective action, innovation, and a long-term commitment. We are proud of the progress made to date, and we remain focused on continuing to deliver positive environmental, social, and economic outcomes for the people of Northern Ireland.



Judy McElroy

Head of Sustainability & Environment, NIE Networks

APPENDICES: DATA DISCLOSURES

Routine internal quality audits are conducted on all source data to ensure accuracy and compliance. In addition, a limited assurance review has been undertaken by an independent third party.

All data is relevant for the period 01 April 2025 to 31 March 2026

1. CARBON FOOTPRINT

Scope and Categories	Energy Consumption (kWh) ⁵	Greenhouse Gas Emissions (tCO ₂ e)
Scope 1		
Combustion of Natural Gas	240,626	49
Combustion of Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG)	45,803	10
Combustion of Diesel for Transport Purposes	14,265,941	3,487
Combustion of Diesel for Generator Use	1,240,664	303
Combustion of Petrol for Plant and Equipment	158,004	35
HVO	345,092	1
Gas Oil	2,460	0.63
Heating Oil	225,240	56
Fugitive Emissions from SF ₆	-	3,422
Fugitive Emissions from Air-conditioning	-	0.00
Scope 1 Total	-	7,363
Scope 2		
Purchase of Grid Electricity	3,023,330	671
Electricity for Transport Purposes	22,984	5
Network Losses	756,000,000	167,832
Scope 2 Total	-	168,508
Scope 3		
Grey Fleet Mileage	3,394,257	855
Grey Fleet Mileage – Electric Vehicles	34,508	6
Business Air Travel (incl. radiative forces)	-	44
Business Taxi Mileage	516	0.1
Waste Management	-	14
Scope 3 Total	-	920
Total (absolute)	-	176,791
Total (normalised by headcount)		106

⁵ Equivalent kWh figures for individual emission categories are included where appropriate.

2. NETWORK LOSSES

	T&D Losses Oct 23 – Sep 24 ⁶	Explanation
Total Units Entering NI T & D network	10,668 GWh	Volume of units entering the Transmission & Distribution networks (includes export from power stations and generators connected to T & D networks and flows into NI through interconnectors)
Total Units Exiting NI T & D network	9,912 GWh	Volume of units leaving the Transmission & Distribution networks (includes import/demand from power stations, demand from customers connected to T & D networks and flows out of NI through interconnectors)
Network Losses (GWh)	756 GWh	Volume of electricity losses from the Transmission & Distribution networks (i.e. Units Entering T & D networks minus Units Exiting T & D networks)
Network Losses as a % of Units Entering	7.1%	Network Losses as a % of Units Entering Network
Network Losses as a % of Units Exiting	7.6%	Network Losses as a % of Units Exiting Network
NI CO2 Intensity Factor (kg/kWh)	0.222	DAERA Carbon Intensity Report (2025)
Tonnes CO2e from T&D Losses	167,832	tCO2e

⁶ The emissions associated with losses are produced using data from the most recent full tariff year (October 2023 – September 2024).

3. SF₆ MANAGEMENT

Category	Sub-category	2025/26
SF ₆ Bank (transmission)	275, 110kV	2,372.92 kg
SF ₆ Emissions (transmission)	275, 110kV	11.57 kg
SF ₆ Emissions (transmission)	275, 110kV	0.49%
SF ₆ Bank (distribution)	33, 11, 6.6kV	15,917.25 kg
SF ₆ Emissions (distribution)	33, 11, 6.6kV	134.04 kg
SF ₆ Emissions (distribution)	33, 11, 6.6kV	0.84%
Total SF ₆ Emissions as a % of the bank	275, 110, 33, 11, 6.6kV	0.80

4. FLUID-FILLED CABLES (FFC)

Fluid-filled cables	Unit	2025/26
FFC in service (circuit length)	Metres	171,494 ⁷
Fluid in Service	Litres	440,449 ⁸
Cable Fluid Top Up	Litres	4,135
Fluid Recovered	Litres	165
Net Cable Fluid Top Up	Litres	3,970
Net Fluid Used to Top Up Cables as a percentage of volume in service	%	0.90
Removal of FFC	Metres	590
Leak Reduction	Litres	0

⁷ NIE Networks is currently digitising its original book records from fluid-filled cables and cable accessories, therefore this figure is estimated.

⁸ NIE Networks is currently digitising its original book records from fluid-filled cables and cable accessories, therefore this figure is estimated.

5. PCBS

PCBs - Pole-Mounted Transformers	Units	2025/26
Number of assets suspected to be PCB contaminated (i.e. no. remaining on PCB register held with environmental regulator)	Number	167 ⁹
Number of assets tested positive for PBC contamination	Number	0

⁹ The information relating to an additional 273 pole-mounted transformers is currently under review; therefore, these assets are also assumed to be PCB-contaminated until proven otherwise.

PCBs - Ground-Mounted Transformers	Units	2025/26
Number of assets suspected to be PCB contaminated (i.e. no. remaining on PCB register held with environmental regulator)	Number	0 ¹⁰
Number of assets tested positive for PCB contamination	Number	1 ¹¹

¹⁰ All known ground-mounted transformers suspected of PCB contamination were subject to oil replacement programmes in the early 1990s. Since then, the quality and availability of asset information have improved. However, there remains a small possibility that some units were not included in the original programme.

¹¹ Routine maintenance includes ongoing testing for PCBs >50ppm, with any identified issues promptly rectified. During 2025/26, one ground-mounted transformer was confirmed to contain PCBs above the threshold.

6. WASTE RECYCLING

Waste Destination - Non-Hazardous/Non-Special	Unit	2025/26
Total Waste Produced directly by Licensee	Tonnes	1,133.22
% Reused/Recycled	%	96.46
% Energy from Waste	%	0.00
% Sent to Landfill	%	3.54
% Other	%	0.00
% of Waste Diverted from Landfill (excluding civil and demolition waste)	%	96.46%

Waste Destination - Hazardous/Special	Unit	2025/26
Total Waste Produced directly by Licensee	Tonnes	1,253.04
% Reused/Recycled	%	99.99
% Energy from Waste	%	0.00
% Sent to Landfill	%	0.01
% Other	%	0.00
% of Waste Diverted from Landfill (excluding civil and demolition waste)	%	99.99

	Unit	2025/26
Total % of Waste Diverted from Landfill (excluding civil and demolition waste)	%	98.31



nienetworks.co.uk

120 Malone Road, Belfast, BT9 5HT.

03457 643 643