

Countdown to 2035: can we meet net zero energy system targets?

The race to Net Zero is well underway. Are we building fast enough to deliver a **net zero energy system in 2035**?

What are the 2035 UK energy system targets?

260GW

Total energy
system capacity
needed by 2035

187GW

New energy
capacity needed
by 2035



50GW

UK Government Offshore
Wind target by 2030



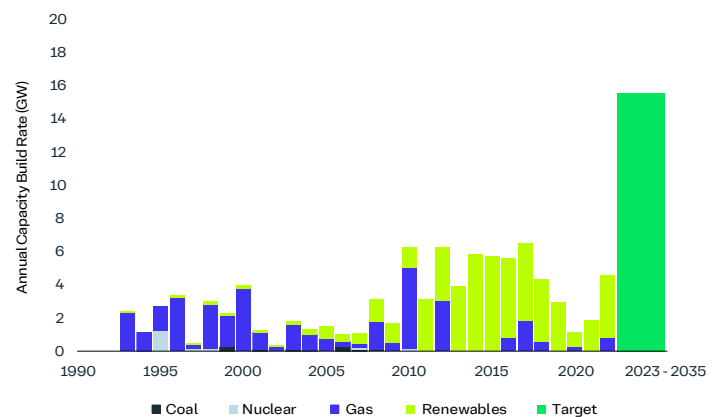
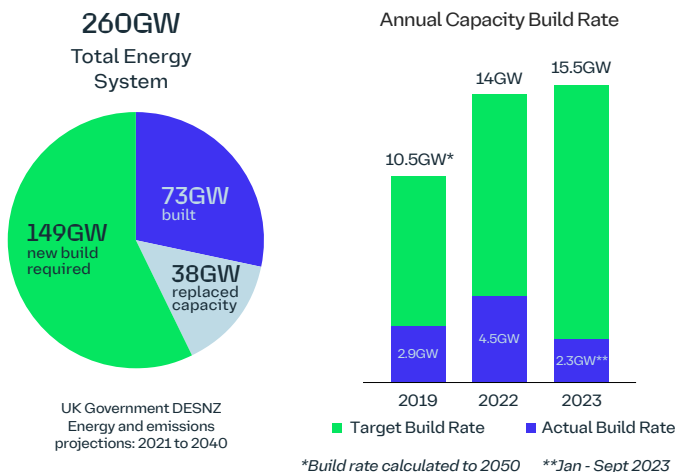
24GW

UK Government
Nuclear target by 2050

The build rate challenge:

AtkinsRéalis has calculated the required build rate needed to enable our transition to net zero at regular intervals to track progress. As you'll see, more needs to be done, and quickly, to reach government targets.

The build rate is increasing year on year – the 2023 build rate is **344% higher** than the 2022 actual build rate of 4.5GW – and we're running out of time.



What if we keep missing the recommended build rate?

Muted progress has been made so far. However, the slower we ramp up the build rate now, the larger the required future **peak output** becomes:

A 15% year-on-year increase in any actual build rate below the 2023 minimum would mean we'd need 25GW/yr from 2032, rising to 40GW/yr by 2035 if we only increase actual build rates by 10% each year.

If build rates for low carbon electricity continue to be missed, not only do we not achieve net zero goals, with continued reliance on gas for longer, but there is also a risk to energy security - as much of the existing stable generating capacity is retired.

