Drax hydro CPPA supports leading UK manufacturer
“We’re delighted to partner with Allied Glass to provide them with 100% renewable source power, as well as Renewable Energy Guarantees of Origin (REGOs) from our Galloway hydro scheme.

Renewable energy is increasingly important to organisations as they look for ways to decarbonise – and being on supply with our 100% renewable source power is a simple first step.

Our Galloway CPPA presents another opportunity for our customers to demonstrate their Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) credentials while making significant progress towards achieving net zero.”

Valpy Fitzgerald
Renewables & Sustainable Commodities Director, Drax
About Allied Glass

Allied Glass is a premium glass packaging manufacturer based in Yorkshire that supplies brands such as Johnnie Walker, Harrogate Spring Water and Tanqueray Gin.

The company has three main sites, two of which are for production while the third is a dedicated bottle decoration plant. Working 24 hours a day, Allied Glass has the capability to produce 14 million innovative and distinctive glass containers each week.

Alan Henderson, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) at Allied Glass, explains the company’s approach. “We produce glass packaging for our customers. Whether that’s food or drink, we’re ultimately concerned with the quality of the product, and producing it in an environmentally low-impact way.”

Why Allied Glass chose Drax

As part of this commitment to operating sustainably, Allied Glass chose the UK’s largest renewable electricity supplier by volume. Drax provides 100% renewable source power to its customers.

For Allied Glass, the supplier was also able to set up a Corporate Power Purchase Agreement (CPPA). This establishes a link to the Drax run-of-river hydro scheme at Galloway in Scotland, which is certified with Renewable Energy Guarantees of Origin (REGOs).

Thanks to the CPPA, Allied Glass can offset its electricity consumption against these REGOs, which prove the provenance of the power generated at Galloway. This helps to reassure the manufacturer’s employees, customers and investors about its sustainability commitments.
Reducing carbon emissions

With this bespoke Galloway CPPA in place, Allied Glass can report its carbon emissions as zero under Scope 2 of the Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Protocol. Over the course of its contract, this saves an estimated 12,000 tonnes of carbon emissions versus the grid average.

“We work closely with our suppliers to ensure that the materials and resources we use are sustainable. Renewable electricity is very much part of that process,” says Alan Henderson, CEO at Allied Glass.

“We’re very happy that we can say our operations are powered by 100% renewable source electricity. It’s important for us as a business to be able to operate with a low impact on the environment. Electricity and renewable certification from Drax helps us to demonstrate that to our customers, which is becoming more important.”

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Alan Henderson
CEO, Allied Glass
Allied Glass has a comprehensive sustainability programme with six core areas of focus – each with its own set of specific targets. Since 2015, the manufacturer has achieved an 18% reduction in raw material use, and a 10.5% reduction in carbon dioxide (CO$_2$) emissions. Over the coming years, it’s looking to make further improvements across these areas, including resource efficiency and closed-loop recycling.

Allied Glass already sources over 80% of its raw materials from the UK, to ensure a lower environmental impact as well as compliance. It also reuses waste products from the UK’s iron industry to improve energy efficiency in glass making. This change replaces other raw, extractable materials and, in making the overall process less energy intensive, also reduces carbon emissions.

Selomit Gomez from the Batch and Furnace Technical Department at Allied Glass says, “We are determined to offer the best glass packaging and realise it must go hand in hand with a determination for a sustainable future. So we are reducing our CO$_2$ emissions by developing technologies to reduce the environmental impact of every bottle that we produce.”
Aligning values

Alan Henderson, CEO at Allied Glass, says: “We chose Drax as our electricity supplier as its Galloway CPPA means that we know where our power comes from. Demonstrating the provenance of our power helps us continue towards our 2025 sustainability targets.”

“It’s clear that our values, and the values that drive Drax, align very closely. We’re both committed to supporting local charities. We’ve got a shared focus on operating safely and keeping our colleagues safe and well.

“As a company, we’ve got a history of advancing environmentally sustainable solutions and integrating sustainability into our operations and our culture.

“We’ve got a clear position on the climate crisis. It’s a challenge today and it’ll be even more of a challenge in the future. We’re committed to reducing our carbon footprint and reducing emissions from our operations.”
More about Galloway

Completed in 1936, Galloway was the UK’s first large-scale run-of-river hydro scheme. Since then, it’s generated power in response to rising demand, providing grid stability in an environmentally low-impact way.

Generating around 260GWh of electricity annually – enough to power about 200,000 homes – Galloway receives from Ofgem a total of 260,000 accredited REGOs.

The Galloway hydro scheme’s infrastructure comprises:

- 6 power stations
- 4 pumping stations
- 8 dams
- 1 barrage gate
- 12 turbines
- 22 bridges
- 16km of tunnels and pipelines

The dams store the water in reservoirs and, when that demand peaks (usually between 5pm and 7pm), the water’s released and used to spin the turbines that generate the renewable electricity.

Galloway is one of several dispatchable, low-carbon generation assets that Drax operates – including the renewable power generated at Drax Power Station with sustainably sourced biomass.
Operating sustainably and safely across Drax hydropower sites

Drax works closely with landowners, local authorities, and the Scottish Environment Protection Agency to help preserve the natural beauty and heritage of the landscape around Galloway, and to protect its future.

Sharing weather forecasts and reservoir levels with relevant authorities can mitigate the risks of natural flooding, and help with planning when adverse weather’s expected. It’s vital to protect the native wildlife that navigates the waterways. North Atlantic salmon and trout migrate upstream from the ocean through Galloway’s rivers, using purpose-built fish passes to move more easily through the system.

Drax is committed to operating sustainability and responsibly, driving value in the local economies where it operates. This includes a £6m refurbishment project at the Galloway Hydro Scheme, to ensure it continues providing renewable electricity for years to come.
About Drax

We're Drax, the largest provider of renewable electricity to UK businesses and owner of the UK's largest renewable power station.

Through our energy supply and services - asset optimisation, fleet electrification, and renewable power purchasing - we’re helping organisations across the UK to decarbonise their operations.

This helps to reduce the impact of the climate crisis and helps these organisations take positive action.
Drax - sustainability as standard

Drax Power Station provides 12% of the UK’s renewable power, and is the largest decarbonisation project in Europe

We have partnerships with over 2,300 renewable generators across the UK

Our ambition is to be carbon negative by 2030

Get in touch

To find out how we can help you reduce your carbon footprint across your operations, contact our team today.

energy.drax.com/CPPAs

contactteam@drax.com